

THE TRIANGLE

COMMUNITY NEWS

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QUAAMA COBARGO BERMAGUI TILBA & LOCALITIES

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Footy returns to Cobargo – a triumph of community spirit



Footy day at the Narira Park clubhouse Photos: Samantha Westaway

It's been nearly a decade since the sound of the whistle, the thud of boots and cheers from the sidelines echoed through Narira Park. But on the weekend of 10-11 May, rugby league finally returned to Cobargo – and what a fabulous weekend it was!

Thanks to the tireless work of local volunteers and the Narira Park Land Managers – especially Barry Benny and Brad Robinson – the community

welcomed back Group 16 rugby league in style. The playing fields and clubhouse, lovingly restored through countless hours of effort, proudly hosted a full round of action. Cobargo delivered a perfect autumn day, setting the scene for an unforgettable return. The Bega Roosters RLFC faced the Narooma Devils in U/18s, Ladies League Tag and First Grade, while the Bombala Blue Heelers battled in Reserve Grade.

After nearly ten years without local league, this day was a powerful reminder of what makes country rugby so special: resilience, mateship and community pride.

Here's to many more great days at Narira Park, filled with footy, friendship and the spirit of sport.

Welcome back to Cobargo, footy. We missed you!

Sandra Benny

Next Game: 29 June 2025

Bega Roosters vs Bombala Blue Heelers



Editorial

It was a friendship that started this local, not-for-profit, community news magazine – between Rosemary Millard and Louise Brown – and friendship has sustained it over 23 years.

I became involved thanks to my dear friend bhagya and, through that involvement, have new friends. My friendship with Jake got him involved, and now we are making *The Triangle* podcast, (we've decided to continue after our six-month trial – remember to subscribe!).

It is thanks to Tikka's friendship with Linda and bhagya that we now have such a beautiful new colourful website, making so much more content available in a form that can be shared and enjoyed. Stuart's friendships with every citizen of

Tilba bubbles up so much news. Sitting next to Angela at Four Winds while music hugged our souls over Easter, I thought about how the gift of friendship arrives by surprise and gets better with time, but it's also very productive because in the safety of friendship, we spark ideas and dare to try new things.

The Committee that pulls this magazine together each month is a friendly and cheerful bunch, but we're also working under the pressure of deadlines while juggling admin, finances and making decisions that are sometimes difficult.

The Triangle has only a few editorial guidelines, one being that we steer away from party politics. This is tricky because everything is political! The policies and

decisions of all levels of government impact our lives, but we don't do party politics in these pages. Following from that, we don't want *The Triangle* used for attacking others or amplifying conflict. This is tricky because we also want to give voice to community concerns and campaigns. While some of the Thumbs Down can upset people from time to time, like the articles airing grievances, they are mostly pleas for constructive change. We don't always get it right, and then need to explain ourselves in print, but we also do our very best to nurture a friendly community spirit that we have in abundance, evidenced once again on every page in this edition – enjoy!

Flick Ruby

Letters

Native Forest Logging

Editor,

As state governments throughout Australia move towards ending logging in public native forests in favour of plantation timber operations, Cr Fitzpatrick is proposing that Bega Valley Shire permit native forest logging in privately-owned rural landscape zones.

This proposal would deliver, I guess, a sugar hit to a few logging contractors but would be bad news for biodiversity and visual amenity, each of which has probably got more to offer the Shire's community in the longer term.

*Jack Miller
Bermagui*

Cobargo Main Street

To the editor,

I would like to express admiration for the directors of the CCDC and the impressive amount of effort these volunteers have dedicated to the life of the Main Street of Cobargo for years now. It is no small project, and to apply such hard work, coordination and persistence is clearly driven by love of the community. The personal time and effort that must go into this is humbling and inspiring. It fills my heart to see so many rooflines popping up in town, and I am excited to see what comes next.

*Sarah Mercieca
Coolagolite*

Disclaimer

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

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

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

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.

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Thumbs UP

To all the volunteers and committee members who have revived the Narira Parklands – the clubhouse and grounds. It's so good to see the area being used and enjoyed.

Thumbs DOWN



A big thumbs down to the dog owners who are not picking up after their pets at Narira Sportsground. Dedicated volunteers are putting in countless hours to maintain and improve the oval so it is a welcoming, clean and inviting space for everyone to use. Please do your part – be responsible and pick up after your pooch.



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

Guidelines for contributors

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

1. Stories should be 300 words or less except by prior arrangement.
2. Images and graphics should be sent as attachments – not embedded into your story. Please send the original digital photo or image, uncompressed, so we have a large file to work with. Generally above 1 mb is large enough. Accepted formats include jpg, jpeg, png and pdf. Please include a caption for your photo at the bottom of the article it accompanies. Contact us for assistance.
3. Send all articles as WORD or other TEXT documents.
4. Please do not send posters or flyers! Instead, write a few paragraphs about your event and include the date, time and venue in that. And attach a photo if you have one.
5. Think about a headline for your story. Please don't leave it to us!
6. Deadline is midday on the 22nd of the month. Please email contributions@thetriangle.org.au and cc lsang333@gmail.com with any questions.

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Wallaga Lake: Merrimans Land Council

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

Deadlines:

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Thumbs / Letters to the editor:

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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 1700 in print plus around 3000 unique online visits each month.



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JUNE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Obelisk, 5 Swallow, 9 Worsened,
11 Nguyen, 12 Flight attendant, 13 Urban
areas, 15 Stan, 17 Ryan, 20 Hyams
Beach, 24 Contemporaneous, 25 Bamboo,
26 Dipstick, 27 Very odd, 28 Crudely.

DOWN:

2 Broiler, 3 Lasagna, 4 Sinatra, 6 Wingers,
7 Lourdes, 8 Oceania, 10 Do the Harold,
14 Boa, 16 Tea, 18 Yeo Lake, 19 Notably,
20 Hammond, 21 Snapper, 22 Exerted,
23 Council.

Has modern AI solved The Bermagui Mystery?

The local Bermagui Mystery (or Mystery Bay Mystery) that has puzzled criminologists and historians for almost 150 years may be a step closer to being solved thanks to the detective work of a local Bermagui resident and the use of artificial intelligence (AI).

As an extensive article in this month's *Recollections* magazine outlines, the original police investigation into the disappearance of five Bermagui men appears to have been seriously flawed. Indeed, it may have even been a cover up.

Investigations in the 1880s concluded that the five men 'were murdered, and their bodies thrown overboard (from a boat travelling north from Bermagui) some distance from the shore in order

to evade detection; but by whom the act was perpetrated or what became of the perpetrator or perpetrators there is no evidence.' Since then, this has been the accepted version of what occurred.

Bermagui resident, Michael Brooke, has recently reviewed all the surviving evidence, including spending three days at the NSW State Archives in Sydney reviewing documents compiled at the time by police, independent investigators and 'witnesses'. He used modern AI programs to analyse available information and suggest possible scenarios about what actually happened to the five men.

His conclusion is dramatically different to the 'official', long-held version of events.

He now believes the five men were poisoned by the Goldfield Warden, John McCrummin Keightley, at his property just north of the Wallaga Lake Bridge and their bodies were disposed of in the adjacent Merriwina Creek that flows into Wallaga Lake or in one of the small lakes north of Wallaga Lake.

At the time, Keightley and Police Magistrate John Thomas Hobbes were leasing their land to gold prospectors, and this profitable arrangement was threatened by the arrival of government geologists, Lamont Young and Max Schneider, two of the men who mysteriously disappeared. Keightley and Hobbes had ample reason for wanting them to 'disappear'.

There is evidence that Young was staying at the home of Keightley the night before he disappeared. Then, conveniently, Keightley was among the first at the crime scene at what would become



There! Bermagui's Michael Brookes points to the spot in Merriwina Creek that ChatGPT identified as a 'genius' spot for disposing of the bodies of Lamont Young and Max Schneider.

known as Mystery Bay and reported back to Sydney that the five men who had disappeared probably drowned at sea. And then he offered a personal reward of £10 to whoever discovered the body of Lamont Young, supplementing a government reward of £300 to anyone catching or identifying the killers!

Circumstantially, a finger could certainly now be pointed to Keightley being the murderer.

Michael Brookes's intriguing AI-assisted, 'who dunnit' story in *Recollections* is definitely worth a read.

Peter Lacey

President, South Coast History Society

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Supporting our community



Explore Fungi Feastival 2025

This June and July, the Fungi Feastival is spreading its mycelial magic throughout the Triangle region. Expect a rich menu of art, food, science and family fun across Bermagui, Cobargo, Dignams Creek, Mystery Bay and Tilba.

Kicking off on Friday 20 June, Café Champignon hosts an evening soirée and book launch by renowned fungi expert Alison Pouliot at the Bermagui Community Centre. Local art lovers can explore fungi-inspired exhibitions at Shop7 ArtSpace in Bermagui and Lazy Lizard Gallery in Cobargo. Also the Bermagui Library will showcase ceramic sculptures by Tika Robinson.



Truffle hunt with Kai and trainer, Elisabeth

For experienced photographers, an Advanced Fungi Photography Workshop will take place 21-22 June at Mystery Bay Cottages. Families can get creative at the Children's Fungi Art Workshops in Bermagui (5 and 19 July) facilitated by local early years educator Caitlin Brown. Cobargo Hotel is hosting a FUNgi paint'n'sip on 12 July.

Ever wondered how truffles are found? Let Gulaga Gold's trained dogs show you the way. Join a truffle hunt with Gulaga Gold in Dignams Creek across several dates. On the food front, don't miss the delicious Truffle Lunch at Mimosa Wines in Bermagui (5 July) and the Fungi Dinners at Central Tilba's Dromedary Hotel (16 July) and Boneless Vegetarian Café in Bermagui (12 July).

In Cobargo, enjoy hands-on cultivation workshops with experienced mushroom farmers Little Acre Gourmet Mushrooms, including oyster mushrooms and lion's mane in cultivation. Plus local truffle farmer Fiona Kotvojs will facilitate a truffle growing workshop.

Film lovers can catch *Fungi – The Web of Life* at Narooma Kinema (21 June) or Four Winds Barragga Bay (20 July). At Four Winds the film screening will



Tasmanian blue mushrooms, Tim Grimsey

be followed by an eclectic musical and visual performance by The Mushroom Whisperers, the Fungi Feastival's grand finale for 2025.

From fungi forays to feasts, painting to photography, the Fungi Feastival celebrates the fascinating world of fungi and creates new community connections.

Explore the full program and book your tickets on the Fungi Feastival website.

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Celebrating Women in Maritime

The International Day for Women in Maritime on Sunday 18 May presented a great opportunity for Marine Rescue Bermagui to invite the community into their Bermagui radio base, where they could see how the base is set up, experience the daily operations first-hand from volunteers working their shifts and sit down for a chat with our local Marine Rescue volunteers about the work they do.

But the day was really about the women who bring their expertise to maritime service organisations and so was mainly focused around recognising and celebrating the contributions women make to the industry, right across the board. Those on the team at Marine Rescue Bermagui saw the day as an excellent opening to talk to other women in the community about the opportunities that an organisation like Marine Rescue can offer them as volunteers.

Marine Rescue provides training across a broad spectrum of roles, from radio operators to those wishing to further their training towards joining the boat crew. The roles offer great opportunities for volunteers to continue to learn and develop new skills while performing a valuable service.

And, for Marine Rescue Bermagui, the day proved to be a success with a number of (mainly) women turning up to have a good look over the base and talk to our volunteers over a cuppa and a tasty selection of snacks. Hopefully, when they left, they



Visitors on the rescue vessel in Bermagui harbour

did so with a greater understanding of just how much women can bring to the table via volunteering in the maritime industry and the unique skill-sets and training available to them.

Many women have found their niche in the maritime industry and the industry is all the richer for their efforts.

Lisa Ashurst

Talking to your doctor about your diagnosis

Whether it's a terminal diagnosis or a health scare, the news can come as quite a shock, and it may be difficult for you to understand what it means for you now and in the future. A number of different health and social care professionals might work together to coordinate treatment and care, and you may feel unsure about when to ask questions, or which of them to ask. You need everyone to understand *what matters most to you* so they can tailor options that will meet your situation and wishes.

You might need to discuss your illness or condition with a specialist such as an oncologist or a haematologist; a

specialist nurse such as a chemotherapy nurse; a surgeon; a radiologist; palliative care professionals; a psychologist, counsellor or social worker; a nutritionist or dietician; or an occupational therapist or physiotherapist.

Tips for talking to your healthcare team:

- When you are first diagnosed you might go into shock and might not know which questions to ask until your head clears, so ask for a follow-up appointment.
- Have somebody you trust go with

you, because you might not always feel well enough to speak up for yourself or may not remember what was said.

- Make a list of your questions beforehand and take notes when you're there or, even better, record the visit on your phone to refer to later.
- You don't have to ask all your questions at once. Book another appointment if you feel tired or have heard enough for one day.
- Speak up if you don't understand and ask them to explain in a different way or to slow down.
- If you feel like you aren't getting the information you want don't give up! You have a right to know what you want to know.

The first questions you might ask:

- What is my illness called?
- How was the diagnosis made and what does it mean?
- What can I expect? How will it affect my quality of life?
- What is my outlook for the future as you see it?
- How advanced is my illness?
- Am I likely to die from this illness?
- If so, how long am I likely to live?
- Might my diagnosis change?
- What are the best things I can do to stay as healthy as possible?

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Death Conversations Café kicks off in Bermagui

In May, we launched our first Death Conversations Café at the Bermagui Men's Shed, bringing locals together for an open, supportive discussion about death and end-of-life planning. The event aimed to break down barriers around these important topics, offering practical advice and real-life stories to help everyone feel more prepared.

A highlight was a session on Advance Care Directives, where we explored the benefits and challenges of documenting our wishes. The consensus: planning ahead makes talking about death less intimidating and gives peace of mind.

We were privileged to have Shanna Provost, a respected regional educator in end-of-life matters, join us. Her insights helped clarify the steps involved in getting affairs in order, leaving everyone better informed.

The group also discussed the differences between dying at home and in hospital, recognising that there's no single right answer – each choice depends on personal preferences and available support.

Participants generously shared their own experiences, creating a strong sense of connection and support. Everyone left with practical resources to continue these conversations at home.



Kerryn and Deepika

Get involved and an upcoming event

If you'd like to help run future Death Conversations Café events, please get in touch!

Our next session focuses on Voluntary



Assisted Dying (VAD) and will feature a VAD Medical Lead from the Southern NSW Local Health District. Join us on Sunday, 15 June, from 2.00 to 4.00 pm at the Bermagui Men's Shed for insights into new legislation and what it means for local families.

Tickets are \$5 (covers hall hire and catering). Book online at Humanitix or RSVP to one of the email addresses below. Doors open at 1.45 pm for a cuppa and nibbles.

For more info or to become involved, email kerryn.davey@icloud.com or deepika.mistry@gmail.com.

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My Triangle – Emma Anderson



Emma with her work truck. Photo: Flick Ruby

Emma is someone I wave to on my road, a neighbour and someone who pops up regularly on the Cobargo mailing list inviting us all to play tennis or come along to a community event. She recently let me into the Cobargo Preschool Bookfair an hour early. I had a bag of books to offer, but she took pity on me mainly because I had a long way to drive home due to the absence of a bridge in Dignams Creek. Little did she know that it was then I decided to ask her for an interview because I've always been curious about how this quietly busy community organiser and electrician came to be such an active member of the Triangle community.

'I grew up in the small town of Captains Flat. I spent most of my childhood there and then moved into the Canberra area where I trained as an electrician with my dad. After I met Heather, we moved back to where she grew up, to her family's nursery, South Coast Flora in Diggies. We decided to bring our young family here, originally for one year, and now, four and a half years later, this area feels like home.'

What Emma loves about being an electrician is solving problems. 'Crawling under the floor and in the ceilings are not the most fun parts of the job, but it gives a real sense of completion to be able to go into someone's house and solve a problem that they're unable to fix themselves. I like being able to help people

in need. I'm a residential electrician, so it's lots of maintenance and also new builds. Pretty much anyone who has something that's not working, I can normally fix it. I'm available on call but because I've got a young family, when those calls come at six o'clock on a Friday night, it's hard to rush out the door, but I'm definitely there to help when people need it.

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My Triangle

‘Yes, electricity is dangerous, but you do training throughout your apprenticeship, lots of technical work at school and four years practical experience. By the time you finish, you know what you can and cannot touch. There are also strong regulations in place now. When I go into a house that’s not up to standard, upgrading it takes the danger out of it for the clients and also for myself.’

Emma had never played tennis before coming to the Triangle but was looking for something to jump into and ended up at the Cobargo Tennis Club. ‘Basketball, which I’d played for thirty years, wasn’t an option when I came here, so I entered the senior tennis comp. I just felt like we could do more with the community and tennis and wanted to build momentum for change. We organised a “Hot Shots” skills session for kids and we’ve had a couple of adult tennis tournaments, with people coming from Bega and Narooma to Cobargo to participate. We’ve held the tournament in summer for two years, but last year it was so hot, so now we are talking about a spring option.

‘There are definitely people around that have been involved in the Tennis Club for much longer than I have, and it’s good to stand on their shoulders. Tennis is a sport that can be very social – it’s really just about getting people together. That’s what it’s all about for me, getting people together and having a hit at tennis at the same time.’

The Cobargo Preschool Book Fair is one of the highlights of my year for the past three years. I asked Emma how that magic happens.

‘I love book fairs. Coming from Canberra, I would always go to the Lifeline Book Fair. When I came here, I joined the Cobargo Preschool Board (a parent- and community-run board) and we needed to raise funds for some playground upgrades and

resources for the children. When discussing how we were going to do this, I thought of a community garage sale event I had previously run. After talking with some friends, I thought what about a book fair? It was just an idea that kind of bubbled up. When we first decided to have the book fair, we thought how are we going to get all the books? We contacted people around the Cobargo community just to make sure we weren’t going to step on the toes of Well Thumbed Books or the Bowerbird. We got a big blessing from all. People liked the idea of having this kind of event in the community. So, we just put the call out for donations and, over the three years, we’ve had thousands of books donated to us. Good quality books, books from deep in the archives – so many little gold mines! We have been able to sell them back to the community and raise money for the preschool. Now it’s just become part of the community calendar.

‘Another great thing about the Book Fair is that it brings families and former preschoolers back because the playground is open. You’re seeing people you haven’t seen in a while and locals can come and see our beautiful preschool – that’s also what it’s about. Yes, we’re raising money, but it’s also just a really nice community day. We have baked goods donated by the families of the preschool, a barbecue and a firewood raffle. The people who have won the raffle have really deserved it – Ivan and Dawn the first year and, this year, some newcomers to Dignams Creek. It’s not a chore to organise the book fair, it’s really fun, and this year we raised \$1900 thanks to our generous community.’

As I finished talking with Emma, she was hit up to do two jobs. I guess that’s what it’s like to be an electrician, always in demand to keep the lights on.

Flick Ruby



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Diggin Diggies

The Dignams Creek Community Group AGM was held early this year to avoid the bitter cold that usually accompanies it. While the formalities are important, it was also great to take stock of what our community has achieved over the previous year and delight in many homemade treats.

Our outgoing President Sally gave a summary of highlights for the group including our very successful car boot sale and raffle as part of the National Garage Sale Trail that raised over \$2300 to contribute to the ever-increasing insurance costs to keep our group running. The Feed Diggies sub-group continued to share the bounty from their fruit and veg gardens through the Share Shed and are making plans for their next working bee.

An update on the Nest Box project designed to provide opportunities for nesting yellow-tailed black cockatoos, glossy black cockatoos, yellow-bellied gliders and greater gliders emphasised the importance of the rare pockets of



The AGM Photo: Kate Gooden

undisturbed habitat around Diggies. Residents have noticed changes in the patterns and species of birds at the creek, especially the increase in sulphur-crested cockatoos from up the valley. Fortunately for the cockies (unfortunately for the humans) there have been several raids on citrus and nut trees, leaving shredded leftovers in their path. This shifting pattern may be due to the loss of feed trees following the fires, with flocks finding a gold mine of delicious backyard fruit trees instead.

The Dignams Creek Landcare Group held a working bee targeting weeds in one of the small tributaries flowing into the creek – vinca, wild tobacco, turkey rhubarb and honeysuckle. The group also held a community event covering mapping and treating weeds, our successful grant and

birdlife in the creek.

The bridgework continues and while an inconvenience for residents past Boundary Bridge, we have been lucky to secure some of the old bridge timbers to build a long table for use by our community. A trusty team was formed to go and take a look at the timbers and make a plan for the table.

The election of office bearers was a topic of much discussion, and after some toing, froing and reluctant acceptances our group is represented by Heather (President), Suzannah (Vice President), William (Secretary), Fiona (Treasurer) and Sally-Anne (Public Officer). A big thank you to outgoing President Sally and we look forward to seeing what the next year will bring!

Heather Anderson



Vice President of DCCG Suzannah and President Heather Photo: Emma Anderson



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Cobargo Conversations

The biggest morning tea has been held in many spaces throughout the district with Julie Welsh hosting one at the Wandella Hall. Throughout the morning Lisa Harrington and Helen Salway recounted their journeys through their battles with cancer. A fabulous morning tea was enjoyed and many fun activities were held. Pauline Blair guessed the correct number of teabags in the jar and a total of \$1,500.00 was raised for the Cancer Council at the event.

The Mumbulla Foundation hosted a collaborative meeting of women's voices seeking interest in forming a giving circle to gather a view on women's needs. Thirty local women were treated to a magnificent high tea catered for by Linda Sang and a day of collaborative discussion took place. More to follow.

Monique Jones from Twig and Feather has just celebrated her tenth year of trade in some of the most demanding



Monique Jones at her shop Twig & Feather, celebrating 10 years of trading.

times in retailing. The fire impacted the town, then COVID affected the freedom of

people to travel and shop but, throughout it all, Monique put her best foot forward and persevered. A lovely day of cheerful celebrations took place with many people popping in wishing her all the best for the future.

Jamie Aitkens received a fortieth birthday present with a little difference – a knock at the door revealing a tractor with a bucket full of firewood to keep her warm in winter as her gift. She was absolutely delighted.

It was fantastic to see the Narira Sportsground at Cobargo hosting some games of rugby league as the Bega grounds are currently out of action due to some building work there. The crowd absolutely loved watching all the grades play their matches and agreed how wonderful it would be to see it all again at Cobargo like in yesteryear.

June Tarlinton

Cobargo Public School celebrates student engagement and community spirit

In an exciting term filled with activities and accomplishments, Cobargo Public School has seen students actively participating in various enriching programs and events, showcasing their talents and commitment to the community.

One of the standout initiatives this term has been the refurbishing of the school's edible garden. Students eagerly participated in enhancing this green space that not only beautifies the school but also serves a practical purpose. Produce from the garden is incorporated into the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program, which sees students engage in making delicious recipes that foster a love for cooking and healthy eating.

In addition to gardening, students showcased their athletic abilities at the PSSA District Cross Country held at Wolumla. Many students ran with determination and skill, with a number of them progressing to the next level of

competition, representing their school with pride.

The creative talents of Cobargo Public School students were on full display during the Talent Quest held at the end of Term 1. The event featured a variety of acts, from singing and dancing to poetry and drama, all highlighting the diverse skills of the students and promoting a supportive and encouraging environment for creativity.

Additionally, the AFL Gala Day, specifically the Paul Kelly Cup, was held in Narooma for Year 5 and 6 students from neighbouring schools. This sporting event not only allowed students to showcase their football skills but also fostered camaraderie and sportsmanship among the participants.

The term concluded with a significant event on the community calendar – the Anzac Day Parade in Cobargo. Students proudly marched to honour and remember those who served in the armed forces, demonstrating their respect and commitment to commemorating this important day.

Cobargo Public School continues to foster a vibrant and engaged school community through these initiatives, encouraging students to grow both academically and personally while connecting with their peers and the wider community

Rebecca Moresi

School Learning Support Officer



The school marches in the Anzac Day procession



Cobargo's students enjoy working in their edible garden then cooking their harvest in the school kitchen as part of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

Narira Parklands – a remarkable revival in Cobargo

Narira Parklands, a beautiful 45-acre space at the northern entrance to Cobargo, is experiencing a vibrant revival. Once home to a nine-hole golf course and a vital base during the Black Summer bushfires, the Parklands are being reimagined as a welcoming community hub for all.

The transformation is already well underway. The clubrooms have been restored and now host a 24-hour gym – The Fitness Factory – bringing fresh life to the site. The sporting fields are fully rejuvenated and ready for football, cricket,

archery, soccer and more. The open parklands and woodland trails are a daily drawcard for walkers, dog walkers and families who come to enjoy the peaceful natural surrounds.

Visitors now enjoy access to a growing range of quality amenities, including a modern canteen, changerooms and showers, toilets, and separate referee facilities – making Narira Parklands a fully equipped destination for both casual use and organised events.

Cobargo is located on the far south coast midway between Batemans Bay and Eden, so Narira Parklands is perfectly placed to welcome schools, clubs and community groups from across the region. If your group needs a space to meet, play, learn or create, we'd love to hear from you. The grounds are available for hire – and if you have an idea you'd like to develop, we're here to help make it happen.

Whether you're there for a game, a casual stroll, a group event or a quiet picnic, Narira Parklands is a place for



Anticipation

connection and possibility. With a strong vision and growing community support, the future is bright.

Volunteers are always welcome, needed and valued, and community input is encouraged. Be part of this great local story.

For more information contact: Narira Parklands Managers at nariraparklands@gmail.com.

Sandra Benny



Barry Benny and Brad Robinson (Robbo) have been a godsend getting the oval to where it is today

At our CWA meetings we love to share what is happening in our gardens, so each month members bring in a 'bloom' (even weeds count!) and everyone votes by putting a small coin by their favourite on display. It is a fun way to raise money for our CWA charities and, hopefully, we learn from each other.

We have four entries in the CWA State Cookery competition this year from two of our members. We wish them well!

As I write, we have three representatives from Cobargo CWA at the State Conference at Wagga. They will be debating some important issues over the three days covering education, health, the environment, agriculture, transport and telecommunications. There are two urgency motions for consideration, both aiming to improve health care outcomes for remote, rural and regional NSW communities. One is for CWA of NSW to advocate for an urgent review of ambulance resourcing in regional, rural and remote communities to ensure a timely medical response; and the other is for improved emergency response protocols to ensure that when an ambulance is unavailable, appropriate alternative medical support is provided.



Floral fundraising – the lucky bloom!

Other motions include urging the conversion of unused buildings into safe accommodation; and a review of the current local council funding model, ensuring that regional, rural and remote councils are adequately funded through equitable state and federal contributions, minimising reliance on ratepayer increases such as Special Rate Variations (of special interest to us in our area!). Also support

for the work of the NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner, actively opposing all forms of modern slavery and raising community awareness, is on the agenda.

The high number and variety of motions that delegates will be asked to vote on this year reflects the commitment from our members across the state to their communities and the importance of highlighting issues impacting the lives of those living in regional and remote areas. CWA of NSW is a strong lobby group that both State and Federal governments listen to and consult. If you would like to be part of this very effective group, please consider coming to meet us. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the CWA cottage on the Bermagui Road at 10 for 10.30 am. We'd love to meet you!

*Mary Williams,
Cobargo CWA*

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Life in Our Cemeteries event at Cobargo

Thirty-five people gathered for the most recent Life in Our Cemeteries event at Cobargo Cemetery on Saturday 10 March. This event was part of a series, organised by Atlas of Life and Bega Valley Shire Council, that is visiting each cemetery in Bega Valley Shire to gather data on the occurrence of flora and fauna in each of the cemeteries. Participants are invited to take photographs of plants and wildlife to enter on the iNaturalist app and help is available on the day for those who want to learn how to upload their photos.

Botanist Jackie Miles and Deb Taylor, Cobargo's own invertebrates expert, led morning and afternoon groups around the perimeter of the cemetery looking



Fiona Firth and group examining old graves

for interesting plants and insects. Jackie found a rare mistletoe (*Dendrophthoe vitellina*) living on two rough-barked apple (*Angophora floribunda*) trees. In spite of its reputation as a killer of trees, Jackie pointed out that mistletoe rarely damages the tree but provides nectar for insects and honeyeaters, berries for some birds, edible leaves for possums, a safe nesting spot for small birds in its dense foliage and it can assist with developing tree hollows for other native species from tree frogs to greater gliders.

After a lunch of fresh sandwiches and fruit provided by the organisers, local Dave Newell gave a very informative talk about the resilience of the community after the fires describing how different local groups formed and acted to help each other in recovery. The fire reached the edges of the cemetery, but did not impact the headstones and memorials as the grass was kept very short.

I led morning and afternoon groups around the cemetery looking at some of the older graves, talking about how and why the cemetery was sited where it is, why the gravestones all point east and telling the tragic stories behind some headstones.



The rare mistletoe, *Dendrophthoe vitellina*

Some of the oldest graves in the cemetery are for four Lonsdale siblings who died within a month of each other in September 1876. It is not known why they died but there was a deadly scarlet fever epidemic (caused by the bacteria *Streptococcus pyogenes*) raging though south-east NSW and Victoria at the time. One of the striking things about Cobargo is the number of graves of different generations of the same family indicating that a very settled community has been in the area for a long period.

*Dr Fiona Firth,
Local historian*

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How a new defibrillator landed at Cobargo School of Arts Hall

I asked Mahamati (Stonewave Taiko's administration officer) to write down a few thoughts on how she came to assist us in getting our own defibrillator for the Cobargo SoA Hall.

Linda Sang



Ready to go, installed at the front of the Cobargo School of Arts. Photo: Linda Sang

'The grant for a defib came across my desk and I thought how both our dojos needed one. The SCAC gym already had one so I contacted Linda at the Cobargo School of Arts Hall, and she enthusiastically said yes, they would love one. So, I filled out the application to the Office of Sport and we were successful in gaining the grant funding. We had to wait ages before the money came through, then ordered the defib specified in the grant (\$2,450) and, voilà, a defib turned up!'

From the application:

The Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program is aimed at providing Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) and associated equipment to NSW sport and recreation facilities and clubs to promote wider access to these devices across NSW and to support local sport and recreational clubs or related incorporated organisations located in the most disadvantaged areas of NSW in purchasing an AED package.

A brief description of Stonewave:

Stonewave Taiko provides taiko training in both Bega and Cobargo. The training is vigorous and very physical. Most of our members are over 50 years of age. We feel that having a defibrillator close by at the Cobargo School of Arts Hall is essential.

Mahamati

Well Thumbed Books and the Fungi Festival

As part of the Fungi Festival in June and July, Well Thumbed Books will be selling mushroom soup on Saturday 28 June, from 11.00 am at the bookshop in Cobargo.

As many of you will already know, our food sells out very quickly, so make sure you come early for a delicious winter warmer.

We look forward to seeing you there and hope you enjoy the festival.

Unique Creations now in Cobargo – a local business with a big heart

Cheryl's Personal Support Services, an award-winning disability support and aged care provider based in Bega, has opened a new shop in Cobargo. Cheryl's store in Cobargo, located at 50 Princes Highway, is an extension of her not-for-profit Bega store, Unique Creations on Carp.

The store, initially established to complement the support services, now empowers clients through skills development, learning opportunities and, most importantly, gainful employment. Cheryl's stores offer unique items, goods handmade by clients, clothing, children's toys, crystals and a variety of other interesting items. You never know what you will find with stock changing all the time! Since the closing of the general store in Cobargo, Cheryl has also introduced a range of grocery items to support the local community.

Currently, Cheryl has opportunities for fully supported, paid employment at the Cobargo store for people with disability, catering to personal needs and NDIS goals. Cheryl and her team use a person-centred approach to enhance



Belle working on her bead designs, Beads by Belle, under the care of support worker, David.



Belle in front of her bead display at Cheryl's store

abilities and also offer micro-business mentoring to budding entrepreneurs.

Access to services in rural areas has always been a challenge for families and Cheryl's in Cobargo is a welcome step towards providing opportunities for people

with disability in the local area. Cheryl's in Cobargo is open Monday to Friday, 10.00 am – to 3.00 pm

For more information about Cheryl's services call or text Cheryl on 0427 761 602.

Grace Concannon

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The Rebuild Cobargo Project continues apace!

With the securing of an extension to the BLERF grant timeline for the Rebuild Cobargo Project, the Cobargo Community Development Corporation (CCDC) can confirm that significant progress on both the Market Hall and Village Square sites is set to continue.

CCDC Chair, John Walters, commented, 'It's all systems go at the Village Square site with the first-floor slab pour completed as well as the pour for the footings at the front of the Market Hall. This is exciting and has provided a real buzz for the main street. This is a major milestone and is one more step towards the rebuild being "rain proofed" and able to continue whatever the weather.'

In the last article, the CCDC introduced Dan Greenlees as the new Skills-based Director on the Board. Dan's appointment is especially significant as it marks the start of the transition from the



West view of work

construction phase of the project to its implementation phase.

The CCDC will soon be calling for initial expressions of interest (EOIs) from individuals and parties who wish to consider commercial opportunities in the Market Hall and Village Square sites. The Post Office will be leased separately.

John Walters also commented, 'The next *Triangle* article will provide further information on the facilities that will be available for an early EOI. The general breakdown will be commercial spaces of varying sizes, allied health facilities, café facilities and a business area for individuals available for hire on an as-required basis.

'Keep in mind that the rebuild also includes five two-bedroom apartments, two of which will be NDIS compliant. These are suitable for permanent living

and, importantly, will only be leased to occupiers and will not be for sub-letting or for Airbnb type activities.'

In addition to updates in *The Triangle*, look out for further information in other local media, through social media and in community email releases. You can also visit our website or make an appointment to visit our project office on most Wednesdays at the Cobargo Innovation Hub next to the Co-op.

For further general information, feel free to contact one of our Community Representative Directors or visit the CCDC website or scan the QR code on the left.

Deb Summer and Steve Williams
Community Representative Directors
Cobargo Community Development
Corporation Ltd (CCDC)
Email: CCDCLimited@gmail.com



Cobargo welcomes Bega Valley Archers

On the second, third and fourth Saturday of every month, the Bega Valley Archers Club is at the oval and encourages everyone to come and enjoy the sport of archery.

All equipment and targets are supplied, so there are no excuses not to come and have a go.

Shoot fees per session are \$5 or \$10, so please bring correct money.

Yearly fees:

Juniors \$20; Seniors 18+ \$30.

Please come along and have fun, but please remember to bring your hat, water, sunscreen, covered-in shoes and food (no nuts).

Reminder NO smoking and, sorry, only guide dogs allowed.

For enquiries email us at begavalleyarcheryclub@outlook.com and check out our Facebook page (called Bega Valley Archers).

Raelene Benny



Tilba Bites

It's been quite a month! Blessed with wonderful weather that is, worryingly, warmer than ever, an agonising election campaign that produced an unbelievable result, and brilliantly green hillsides, we can all get on with living in the present while working for a good future together. The quieter months provide an opportunity to reflect, cosy up with a good book in front of the fire, walk on a deserted beach on a crisp day and, for some, a winter holiday or trip to other places. Whatever your preference, wherever we live in the Triangle – which you may have noticed has spread a bit north to include Narooma – this is home and our special place.

Rekindle Me

Wade Cawley is an inspiration. He describes his business on his website thus – *Rekindle Me is a business born out of the idea that less should be going to waste but instead rekindled. I give old electronics that were destined for landfill a second chance to be passed onto new homes to be reused or taken apart to be recycled for the materials that make up an item. Rekindle Me all started from my hobby tinkering on vintage computers and my passion for recycling.*

Regular readers of this column will recognise Wade's inspirational journey, that has been written about previously and is still going strongly and progressing. Wade does not have the capacity or resources to undertake community collections this far south of Oak Flats so the idea to get one going here has been bubbling away. The first Tilba Community Collection happened on 4 May with a really good response – enough to fill the car with boxes and a trailer with old electronics. The haul was delivered to Wade's Oak Flats warehouse some days later and gratefully received.

The warehouse is an amazing place and already has a small following of people who value vintage electronics – in a recent clearout of a hoarder's home a tiny 1936 electronic screen, probably used to show electrical currents, was found. Wade has been able to indulge his hobby in early computers and his collection has grown. At the back of the warehouse, I spied a windscreen – this turned out to be a 1975 Otis electric van that was used by the old St George County Council. Wade found this in a paddock and asked his mother to buy it for his 21st! It has its original charger, and he hopes to get the time to restore it and get it back on the road.

With the worthwhile response, there are plans to do another community



Local, Tarquin Moore, with the electronics haul

collection later in the year. Other communities have also shown interest so hopefully there will be future collections across the Triangle. More information at rekindleme.net

Dunny with a view

Open Sanctuary at Tilba Tilba is in a magical location at the foot of Gulaga. These days it is home to a



The old dunny



The view with the dunny gone

small contemplative community who are exploring their spirituality together through their relationship with silence, each other, the wider community and the community of the natural world. A few years ago, the old drop dunny, set high up behind the church was replaced with a modern composting toilet in a less obvious place among some shrubbery. Recently, with great enthusiasm, the old dunny was demolished – it was already in a precarious state so this was not a particularly difficult task! Its removal has opened the special view towards Gulaga and also allows a more fitting relationship with the old graves behind the church.

As this is the twentieth anniversary of Open Sanctuary, celebrating its existence and relationship to place is particularly appropriate. Everyone is welcome and there will be special events this year to



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Tora Jong - Zenthai Shiatsu 0419 895 737

Michael Kennedy - Mindfulness Meditation 0433 372 362

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Tilba Bites

celebrate this milestone. Information is available at the Open Sanctuary Tilba website.

Taking a break and a fond goodbye

Central Tilba's long-running, weekly local market has created an inviting vibe at the start of Bate Street since October last year. With gazebos and the verandah space at the Post Office, the market's longest attending stall holders have turned up reliably every Saturday, except when confronted with the most challenging weather. As the mornings get colder and are slower to warm up, the decision has been made with all the stall holders to go into recess until September. At that time, it will reopen as a village market in the street and hopefully later in the year will return to the Big Hall, once work there is completed. The market team thanks all those who have worked to keep the weekly event happening – the stall holders, Dave particularly for set up and pack down, Shanna and the local musicians, John at the General Store/Post Office, Rebecca at Ellen's Pantry and the locals who have turned up week in, week out to get their local supplies.

On a sad note, one of the market's stalwarts, Karin Kruger, recently passed away. Karin with husband Ziggy and Buddy, their beloved poodle, have hardly missed a Saturday since the market started. Even after moving from their property on Punkalla Road to Dalmeny, they didn't miss a beat. An array of vegetables very quickly appeared on their stall, along with the local photography that was their hallmark. Karin's love of nature and

their wide exploring along the Far South Coast was all lovingly documented in her photography. This dedication to place and advocacy for nature, plus their reliable attendance at the market made them many friends.

The service for Karin at Broulee Memorial Gardens was attended by many of the regular stall holders. Both Karin and Ziggy's long membership with the Central Tilba RFS was also honoured by the attendance of Tralee Snape. We thank and honour Karin for her contributions to the local community and indeed to the wider Triangle areas.

EVs – the future

SHASA (Southcoast Health and Sustainable Alliance) is a major resource and advocate for a managed transition to a low emissions future. In this role, it provides opportunities for residents of the Eurobodalla and beyond to learn about Electric Vehicles (EVs), ask questions from existing EV owners and even to test drive an EV. There is compelling data to suggest that driving an EV is a powerful way of demonstrating just how good EVs are and helping people make the decision to buy. As of mid-2025, there are now a hundred different models of EVs to choose from in Australia, mostly Chinese – a vast change from even just a year ago.

Coming up is the second of SHASA's mini EV Expos this year following one at Moruya Markets in March – see their ad on page 27.

SHASA also has an EV group, EuroBEV, that meets every second month. This is for EV owners to share their experiences, ask questions and celebrate



SHASA at Narooma Markets in 2024

everything EV. Those who are exploring EVs are very welcome also. The next get together is 1 June at Grumpy and Sweethearts in Mogo at 12 noon, RSVP andrew.john.everard@gmail.com

Anzac Day at Central Tilba

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. Anzac Day is a commemoration of the landing of those troops – known as ANZACs – at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915. Today, this annual day of remembrance honours and remembers all Australians and New Zealanders who have served in wars, conflicts and peace-keeping operations and acknowledges the sacrifices of those who have died in service.

This important day is a true community event at Central Tilba and, although it follows the accepted order of service, it is a uniquely local commemoration. Significantly, local school children participate in a special way by leading the march from the Drom and acknowledging and honouring local families whose family members enlisted by recounting their family histories. Researched by local historian, Robyn Lucas, two family histories were presented this year.



Buddy Kruger

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The Anzac Day march Photo: Jane Facchetti

The Negus family was represented by Central Tilba Public School children Marcus Toovey, Athena McGrath, Banjo Mulcahy and Gracie Negus. They told the story of the descendants of John and Mary Negus – nine direct descendants, mostly from the Tilba District, enlisted in either World Wars 1 or 2. The Negus family owned and farmed Oceanview and Oakleigh farms at Corunna, with Oceanview still in the family today. The district was extremely lucky to see all of them come home alive. John and Mary are the great-great-grandparents of Gracie and she thinks that her father, Brendan, resembles his grandfather Ellis Negus as described in his medical record on enlistment in 1941. Ellis was the son of Ernest, John and Mary's youngest child. Gracie also sang 'The Travelling Soldier'.

Dali who attends Sapphire Coast Anglican College told the story of Bert Latimer who was born at Glenrock (now Billy McCarthy's property) in 1897, the seventh child of Joseph and Helen Latimer. Bert enlisted in 1916 and saw active service

in France. Wounded in 1918, he spent many months in hospital in both France and England, finally landing back in Sydney in 1919 with both legs amputated below the knee. Arriving home to a hero's welcome, he was granted £100 from the Mumbulla-Dromedary War Service League fund that enabled him to be fitted with artificial legs. After the war, Bert went into business as a hides and skins buyer on the South Coast, purchasing those products from farmers. In 1926, Bert married Dorcas Waldron and, in 1932, the family moved to the Mid North Coast of NSW as did most of his



Gracie, Athena, Marcus and Banjo at Anzac Day Photo: Jane Facchetti

brothers and sisters. In addition to Bert, his older brothers Harold and Frank both joined up in late 1916 and went to France in different units. Both were invalided home to Australia and medically discharged in 1918. Many of Bert's nephews enlisted and served in the second World War.

The school children were also involved in laying the wreaths, performed by Athena and Duke, and the flag raising, executed by William.

The commemoration service, led by Janine Halasz, included laying wreaths and floral tributes, prepared by Yvonn Deitch and others, for several local groups and organisations whose representatives participated in this tribute. Gillian Kearney, who has researched the significant role of animals in war, spoke about the importance of ships' cats, both in rodent control and companionship and David Oliphant spoke about the significance of pastoral care during war and the pivotal and supportive role of Padres in providing pastoral care.

John McMahon not only organised and coordinated this special ceremony, he led the march with the sound of his hauntingly beautiful bagpipes. Special thanks to John and all involved including the school children, especially as Anzac Day was in the school holidays.

Safe Haven Caravans

Chris Scroggy, or just Scroggy as he is better known, is mostly connected in many people's minds with The Quarterdeck and, more recently, Sweetwater at Tilba. A journey started for Chris in mid-2024, prompted by random questions from people enquiring about possible rental properties following repeated unsuccessful attempts to find rental accommodation. Sweetwater is a popular gathering place for locals and, with little awareness of homelessness locally and discussions amongst locals at Sweetwater, Chris decided to do a bit of research. This led to a meeting with



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**Rick Cuthbert and Chris Scroggy –
Safe Haven Caravans**

a local social worker who explained to Chris the extent of local homelessness. He discovered that many people are living in cars, tents and makeshift shelters hidden out of sight in all sorts of out of the way places. Many are women over the age of 60, the largest growing group of homeless people. As often happens with these sorts of discussions, this led to the offer of a caravan and Chris contacted the social worker. This caravan was provided to a man with a terminal illness living under two tarps in the Narooma area.

From little things big things grow, and word got around and a few locals came on board including Smilie Magill and Rick Cuthbert who provide practical assistance in setting up caravans. Safe Haven Caravans was born to assist in providing secure accommodation – there are now fourteen caravans located on private property, in caravan parks and on other vacant spaces.

Chris was recently approached by a person who has a second house on his property at Dignams Creek, having seen a video Chris has put on social media. This

person was going to put this house on Airbnb but instead offered it for long-term rental. A young family whose seven-year rental had ceased and who had had no luck finding another rental, were relieved, excited and grateful that this opportunity appeared after camping locally for four months.

With the severe shortage of rental properties in the Triangle area, Chris urges anyone with an unoccupied house to consider renting it out. Chris can be contacted on 0419 691 854 for more information and donations.

Update on Central Tilba's twin Halls

Driving down the hill to Central Tilba, it's easy to see the huge scaffolding behind the Halls. Work is progressing well, thanks to the marvellous work of Hahn, Tim and their team. Notwithstanding the challenges that unveiling the original structure has brought, here is the current and ongoing work:

The Small Hall has undergone some structural upgrades including wall and roof bracing, strengthening of thin structural members, additional foundations and rectification to termite damaged and rotten studs!

All the wall, floor and roof framing for the extension to the Big Hall is up so we are starting to feel what the space is like.

The Small Hall's Green Room and the Big Hall extension have been roofed and new weatherboards completed above the skillion roof of the extension.

In the pipeline – the Small Hall's front wall and bell roof is in serious need of some work due to water damage and rust. Don't

worry though because it will be replaced like for like!

In addition to the work on the Small Hall's facade, there will be some other action along the pathway as Council will be replacing a water pipe. A new (and less dangerous) concrete path will also be poured soon.

A critical funding milestone has been reached – the committee has submitted a report that will allow access to the remaining funding.

It's very exciting to see and hear how well it is proceeding. Also, the Halls Committee has been selling secondhand building materials and equipment no longer required.

Tilba Titbits

The Tilba Teapot is open. Congratulations to Phillipa Bembo and chef Christian Poulet. More next month but, in the meantime, follow them on Instagram @thetilbateapot or, better still, drop in for coffee or a treat. The revamped café looks great.

Pam's Store at Tilba Tilba will sadly no longer be a general store. However, coffee, drinks and biscuits will still be available, and the Post Office will continue. Sarah and Jay have run a friendly and welcoming place and we are sorry that they are reducing the business. We wish them all the best.

La Galette has expanded its menu. Patricia offers amazing treats from her cute food van and for the winter months a delicious soup will be available. The French onion soup with a cheesy waffle does hit the spot.

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In remembrance of Karin Kruger

Hello, everyone. We are here today to celebrate the life of a great lady and remember her for everything she meant to each of us. For those of you who I haven't had the chance to meet yet, my name is Trish Groger and I am the daughter of Karin. I want to thank you all for joining us today. Both I and my family really appreciate you being here today for this celebration of Mum's life.

Mum was born on 23 February 1940, in a small town in Germany. She was the fifth child of eight born to my grandparents. Mum married Dad on the 31st of December 1959. Oliver was born in 1962, I was born in 1965 and Ole in 1966. My parents moved to Australia in January 1971. We settled in Sydney in a hostel where Mum met some lifelong friends whom she fondly called her family as well.

Through the years, Mum was always a hard worker, and we never went without. Every year we would travel to various

holiday destinations with Rainbow Beach being our all-time favourite.

Mum was always involved in different things. Where she worked, she was involved with the unions to make sure all the workers had their rights met and, if not, she would fight for those rights. There was nothing she would not do for others at her workplace. She had the courage to fight for what is right.

Mum also loved nature. When Mum and Dad retired, they moved down to the Far South Coast to a beautiful country town by the name of Central Tilba. That is where Mum's adventure really started. The beauty of the Far South Coast, the abundance of National Parks and coastlines to explore, nothing was left unturned by her. Mum proudly marched in a logging protest. When she had overseas friends and family visit, she would share her knowledge of what she had learned about the area, her new back yard.



Karin at the Tilba Market. Photo: Lisa Darveniza

Karin's daughter Trish delivered this eulogy at her mother's funeral

Central Tilba School – Young Archie 2025 finalist

Exciting news! Joey Negus's entry in the 5-8 year old section of the Young Archies received an Honorable Mention and will be on display at the SH Ervin Gallery in Sydney from 10 May to 27 July.

Joey wrote about his painting, *My Dad*, saying, 'My dad does stuff with me, like moving the cows. He helps me when I'm struggling to open the gate. He gets baby chickens when I want to hold one. My dad's a farmer.' Congratulations to Joey.

Each year all students in the K1-2 class enter their artwork in the Young Archies that are posted to the Art Gallery. And two of the children this year, Aella and Ino were able to visit the SH Ervin Gallery with their family.

The organisers of the Young Archies invite artists between the ages of 5 and 18 to submit a portrait. The annual competition is judged by the Art Gallery's family programs manager and a guest judge, based on originality and merit. All finalists are displayed at the Art Gallery of NSW in conjunction with the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prizes exhibition and also online.

Stuart Absalom



Aella, Georgia and Joey with their artwork.

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Tilba District Chamber of Commerce news

We're disappointed to share that the Tilba Festival will not be proceeding in 2025 and instead we will see you again in 2026. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, we were unable to find a volunteer to lead the delivery of the festival this year. Even if suitable leads could be found, at this late stage we have passed the window during which relevant permissions and funding support could be approved. After careful consideration, we feel it is in the best interest of the festival and the community to take a pause.

We are committed to the history and community spirit of the Tilba Festival and look forward to reconvening for the 2026 Festival with renewed energy and plans. A committee of volunteers will be formed to begin recruitment, preparations and funding support for Tilba Festival 2026.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support. Please stay tuned for updates regarding future events and information on how to be involved in the 2026 Festival. You can follow our page (VisitTilba on Facebook, Instagram or on the Visit Tilba website) for further announcements or consider one of the following:

- **Attendees:** Add your details to stay informed about the Festival plans for 2026.
- **Volunteers:** Add your name to volunteer for 2026.
- **Performers:** Be the first to hear about performance opportunities in 2026.
- **Stallholders:** Be the first to hear about stallholder opportunities.

Please forward your interest in any of the above to festival@visttilba.com.au.



New committee members Eden, Sally, Dani and Jo

The Tilba District Chamber of Commerce met on 5 May and we are very happy to announce that we have nominated a new committee.

- President – Jo Major
- Vice-president – Dani Hodgeson
- Supporting Vice-president – Erica Dibden
- Secretary – Sally Record
- Treasurer – Eden Ramana

Next meeting will be on the Monday 2 June at 8.30 am at Tilba Sweet Spot.

Jo Major, President

Tilba CWA supporting our community

Tilba CWA members were saddened by the recent passing of Karin Kruger, a long-time Tilba Market stall holder, contributor to Tilba Food Share, and friend of Tilba CWA. When Ziggy Kruger, Karin's husband, asked for support for Karin's wake, Tilba CWA members stepped up.

As a small team of active members, we don't always have our full cooking team on call (and we don't all cook!), but we know how to coordinate. Tilba CWA contacted the Tilba Market stall-holders crew and, with their generous contributions of food and flowers, together we had an abundant afternoon tea to help celebrate Karin's life. The food was delicious, and we hope that Ziggy and his family felt a little comfort from the support of their Tilba community.

Some food standouts were Kate Cerrone's amazing German black cherry cheesecake with local passionfruit, Judy Fraser's mandarin cake with mandarin syrup, Stuart Absalom's almond and berry jam slice, Patricia Coutant's French chocolate slice and Helen Thomson's home-made sausage rolls plus a huge variety of fresh sandwiches. Thank you

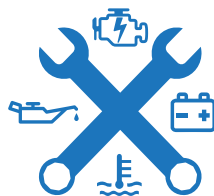
to everyone who cooked. Thank you to Danuta Graham and Judy Fraser for bringing flowers from their gardens. Thank you to Robyn Lucas for helping with the set-up for the afternoon tea plus Linda Newcombe and Natalie Ashkenazi for cleaning up at the end.

Where will you find Tilba CWA if you'd like to join us? Our current place

is in the Barn at the Dromedary Hotel, a family pub that supports our Tilba CWA branch and community. We'll be there for our monthly meeting on Thursday 12 June from 10.00 am, on Thursday 26 June from 11.00 am for craft and again on Friday evening 27 June from 5.00 pm for raffles.

Join us for lunch or dinner at the Drom.

Annette Kennewell



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Bermagui Banter

The last beautiful days of autumn are here, and we are steadily heading toward the cooler months. It is still a great place to be though, as we settle into a quiet time without so many visitors.

Bermagui Stadium will be in use again very soon, providing a place where basketball, wheelchair basketball, netball, badminton, karate and other local activities can take place. This upgrade has been funded by the NSW Government Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund Grant Program.

The refurbishment included replacing all the windows and roof repairs to address water leaks. The floors were completely sanded back and resealed. They are looking great. State of the art basketball hoops and backboards have been installed, and the mezzanine area now has carpet.

Also, the toilets and showers have been retrofitted to meet disability access requirements. A platform lift for wheelchair access has been fitted at the front entry. The kitchen has been upgraded to meet commercial standards and now has modern stainless-steel benchtops.



Bermagui Stadium looking ready for action.

The upgraded stadium will provide a space for all members of the Bermagui community to meet, exercise and connect.

Debbie Worgan

Community gets behind Beauty Point Bushcare planting

Beauty Point Bushcare's fourth annual planting drew in supportive property owners and non-gardeners who enjoy connecting with a diverse group of volunteers. Since Rebecca Rudd initiated the group about five years ago, residents young and old have been meeting twice a month to care for the bush surrounding Beauty Point and the shores of Wallaga Lake. Most of their work is weeding. Unfortunately, some weeds are garden escapees. Beauty Point is part of the Far South Coast Landcare Association. The association supports them by providing a range

of tools, assisting with grant applications plus plenty of moral support and enthusiasm.

The planting on 24 March was funded by a Bega Valley Shire Council Community Environment grant that the association secured on behalf of Beauty Point Bushcare.

They planted 100 natives, with 20 separate species ranging from groundcovers to mid-storey shrubs and trees.

Rather than using traditional green CorFlute guards to protect the young plants, they trialled recycled oyster cages, introducing circularity into their work. The oyster cages are UV-treated and will last 15 to 20 years, compared with the 12-month lifespan of traditional guards.

Rebecca praised property owners like Geoff Mortimore who support the volunteers with the water they need while the plants become established. In doing so, they are supporting biodiversity, coastal revegetation and erosion control. Rebecca said the natives were attracting birds like yellow robins. She also noted a large increase in the bandicoot population. Rebecca said their numbers had dropped massively for about ten years but were now recovering.

As well as having environmental benefits, Beauty Point Bushcare brings social benefits.

Martin Fishwick is not really a gardener but sometimes joins the volunteers. 'I think it is really beautiful that they are looking after the place where I live.'

Marion Williams



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Photo credit: Sonia Rampling

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A new chapter for Drift & Fossick

I am the fresh face behind the counter at Drift & Fossick in Bermagui, as I have taken over from longtime owners Gordon and Leigh Patterson. With new ownership comes a new name Drift Homewares and Gifts (signage coming) and exciting plans for the future.

My husband Tim and I have lived in the area for over 23 years – first in Tilba Tilba, where our four children attended primary school and, for the past eighteen years in Akolele. I have a background in nursing across the Eurobodalla and Sapphire Coast, while Tim, known locally as ‘Tilba Bilda’, now focuses on property maintenance.

Owning a shop has been my dream since childhood. I’m thrilled to be at the heart of Bermagui, with beautiful views from the store and favourite coffee shops either next door or only a short walk away. My vision is to create a warm, welcoming space filled with quality homewares and gifts – mainly sourced from Australia, with some unique old wares from India. With its coastal and country feel, the shop reflects the best of Bermagui living.

Gordon and Leigh, who built Drift & Fossick into a much-loved local business, will continue to run She, their women’s clothing store, right next door, as well as their stores in Narooma and now in Bega.



Carol Hawken outside Drift

I would like to invite locals to drop in, say hello and shop locally. We have so much here in Bermagui. If we don’t have what you need, I’ll try to get it in for you. Exciting things are ahead – come in and see what’s new!

Carol Hawken

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Bermagui Public School report

It’s Term 2 now and we have had so many exciting things happen already! We had Stage Two head off to Kianinny Camp where they did archery, canoeing and flying fox activities. It was the Year Three students’ first overnight school camp and they all said it was so much fun.

On the fifteenth, we had our Paul Kelly Cup for Stage Three. It was so good to see everyone running around with smiling faces. Thank you to Mrs Osgood and Mrs Carmichael and Peta for looking after us on that fun day. On the twenty-second of May, four kids from Stage Three who have shown good behaviour will be heading to Bournda, where they will be doing photography and making videos. Thank you to Bournda for making all of this happen.

Coming up, we have our athletics carnival on the twenty-fourth of June when students will be participating in long jump, high jump and shot put. We even get to do discus, which we haven’t done in seven years! We will also do the 100m, 200m and 800m running races, which is a couple of laps around the oval.

On Tuesday, the thirteenth of May, we raised money for the Do It for Dolly Foundation, where the whole school dressed up in blue and we all brought a gold coin donation. We also sold cookies for fifty cents each. We raised \$250 for the charity, Dolly’s Dream, that helps to create a kinder and safer world for young people and their families.

*Alice K, Prime Minister
at Bermagui Public School*



Stage 2 at Kianinny Camp



Do It for Dolly Day with Stage 3

Marine Rescue search and rescue event

In early May, Marine Rescue NSW Units from Batemans Bay to Eden, gathered for on-water multi-agency search and rescue simulations. Seven Marine Rescue NSW vessels were joined by NSW Water Police, PolAir (Police helicopter), Westpac Life Saver helicopter and members from Surf Life Saving NSW.

Vessels from Batemans Bay, Tuross-Moruya, Narooma, Bermagui, Merimbula and Eden were called out early in the morning from their home ports to take part in simulated search exercises. The two large searches areas covered the ocean between Tathra and Batemans Bay. Also Surf Life Saving, with the use of drones, searched some coastline areas. The helicopters had search patterns incorporating all the areas. All assets were looking for a missing person, dinghy, lifejacket or any other debris in the water.

The Marine Rescue NSW crews spent about seven hours on the water doing parallel search patterns with up to four vessels at a time. Support was provided by radio operators and watch officers at Marine Rescue Bermagui and Marine Rescue Batemans Bay bases. 65 Marine Rescue volunteers took part in the exercise that was overseen by the Zone Duty Operations Manager, Glenn Sullivan, in conjunction with the NSW Water Police. Conditions on the day were excellent and several items were finally located and collected. Interestingly the largest missing item – the dingy – was not found.

The following day all participants gathered at Narooma Golf Club to debrief. Learning about the whole search and what each



Crew of Bermagui Marine Rescue vessel BG30

agency did was very interesting and reassuring.

This was a great opportunity for intra- and inter-agency collaboration. It provided the opportunity to practise skills, work together and prepare for real searches in the future.

Deb Worgan

Marine Rescue Bermagui volunteer

Bermagui Dune Care

Bermagui Dune Care is pleased to report that the rainforest planting undertaken in May last year is doing well. The planting was undertaken in conjunction with Far South Coast Landcare, Foundation for National Parks, Wildlife FireWise Project and BVSC Community Environment Grants and it will provide seeds in the future for the Living Seedbank.

The most recent working bee saw many plants freed from their repurposed

oyster guards, and the same oyster guards reused on other plants that needed a little more protection.

Karen Joynes who coordinated the project said while it is always rewarding to see how well the plants planted by the group have grown, it was incredibly disappointing when the guards are removed by selfish people for their own use.

‘Volunteers put in an enormous amount of work, for free, not only planting and weeding, but also applying for grant funding, so it is upsetting when our efforts at improving biodiversity are set back. The plants that had their guards removed are noticeably smaller.’

‘We’ve put in over 100 hours in the past year, mainly in huge efforts in removing weeds and planted 100 seedlings. We have been focusing on moth



Davey, Francesca, Gail and Barry with a big pile of removed moth vine.


vine, supporting the work undertaken by contractor Brighter Day Landscapes. The Community Environment Grant from Bega Valley Shire Council is very much appreciated as it has funded the contractor and resulted in a tremendous reduction in large moth vines.’

If you would like to help improve the biodiversity of our coast around Cuttagee headland, please contact Karen at bermaguidunecare@skymesh.com.

Karen Joynes




Moth vine, fruit and flower.



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Safe harbour at Bermagui Wharf



Photo credit: Moya Smith

Bermagui Fisherman's Wharf on a stormy May morning with eight fishing vessels tied alongside. Most of the boats were from Ulladulla. They had come into Bermagui harbour to unload their tuna catches due to the bad weather. It was exciting to see such a busy scene at Bermagui Wharf.

Anzac Day

The Bermagui Anzac Day dawn service, timed to commemorate the time of the original landing at Gallipoli, was held at the memorial on the Bermagui headland on 25 April. As usual, it was very well attended. Likewise, many people watched the march later in the day. It was good to see local representatives from the high school and the 7th Light Horse Bemboka Troop in the march. Local Emergency Services were out in full colours too. The march continued along Lamont Street to the memorial where wreaths were laid, the Last Post played and one minute's silence observed.

Deb Worgan



SES and RFS volunteers



7th Light Horse Bemboka Troop



High School students leading the Bermagui Anzac Day march

Bermagui Blue Balls

This year Mother's Day fell on 11 May and so that defined the start of the Bermagui Blue Balls winter swimming season too. The season concludes on Father's Day in September, before it gets too warm.

A large number of people, about twenty, gathered outside the Bermagui Surf Club, for a dip in the clear, calm waters of Horseshoe Bay. Obligatory 'blue' drinks were handed around and mountains of food were on offer after the swim. It was a very pleasant 19.2°C but felt a little cooler on bare skin. Cold water swimming is said to lower stress levels and improve mental health, get the 'feel-good' hormones pumping and there is the satisfaction you feel when you get out – or is that just relief? And there is the social aspect too.

This is the 'warm' end to the season and as the weeks progress the temperature will drop as low as 13°C or 12°C. We meet at 9.00 am every Sunday if you feel inclined to join us in the increasingly chilly salt water.

Deb Worgan



The swimmers toast the cold swimming season



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We look forward to hearing from you at Hear Well - Live Well

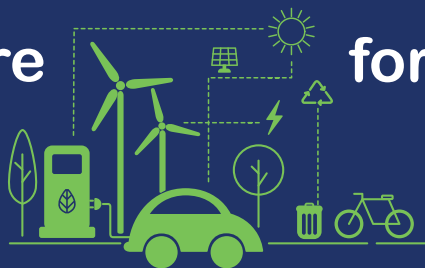
**Please contact Annemarie or Sophia
on 0411 839 414 for more information.**

70s Get-together

A 70s themed get-together is such a fun way to party as some Bermagui locals discovered – the great music, far-out clothes and questionable food. Who remembers toothpick porcupines?



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Service times in June:

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Cobargo at 10.30am -
1st, 8th, 15th, 29th

Quaama at 10.30am- 22nd

Special combined service for
the Blessing of the Animals at
10.30am in Cobargo: on the 15th

Contact:

Vanessa Williams,
Parish Administrator
0408 177 131

Woodwork exhibition at the Narooma Leisure Centre

Love hand-made? Love the look of beautifully crafted timber? Then the annual Woodwork Show is for you. The Narooma Leisure Centre, near the roundabout, will host the 29th exhibition of fine woodwork crafted by artisans from north of Batemans Bay to south of Bega on the June long weekend. Exquisite, handcrafted items will be both on display and for sale, ranging from small toys to cutting boards and serving platters; from fine jewellery boxes to pens; bowls – both functional and decorative, and much more. Come and watch the magic of wood turners at work on the lathes, and stroll through the exhibition space and vote for your favorite piece on display.

Another attraction at the Show is the Dalmeny Quilters who are highly respected artisans and will have their quilts and other

handcrafted pieces on display, some of which will also be on sale.

Entry to the Show is just \$2 per adult and children under 16 are free. You each get to vote for your favourite entry in the exhibition and have the chance to buy raffle tickets to win some great prizes, e.g. a barbecue donated by Bunnings at Batemans Bay and beautifully crafted timber pieces made by our club members.

If you are having visitors to our region and are looking for something to entertain them, then come along to the exhibition and sales days at lovely Narooma. You may recall this event taking place in Tilba over previous years, however they

are renovating their Community Halls so Narooma is the location this year.

So, put the date in your diary – Saturday 7 June from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm, and Sunday 8 June from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm. We look forward to meeting you there.

Chris Birks



This box is made from a burl, a growth on the trunk of some trees.



Paddlesteamer, by Bob Shelley. It took him over two years to complete.



Replica of the Sugarloaf Point Lighthouse. All pieces are handmade and some painted.

This Old House – is it haunted?

Cobargo's SOAPI is performing *This Old House* as part of our writer's development program. SOAPI for Young People encourages writers and performers of all ages to flex their creative muscles.

This Old House is co-written by Robyn Freedman and Stella Toovey. Stella, a very talented actor, has collaborated on this, her first play, to turn the focus to issues of relevance to teenagers. The plot reveals several highly unlikely scenarios, lighthearted fun and 'drama' but the teenage Cali (played by Stella) and her friends work to resolve the problems.

The cast showcases teens and adults including Mia May, Ayla Junor, Abby May, Marcus Toovey, Arion Fitzpatrick, Stella Toovey, Kathryn Ratcliffe, Sophia Moody, Jo Junor, Josephine Darling and me.

Come along for a little mystery and a feel-good ending.

This Old House is playing at Cobargo School of Arts hall on Friday 20 June at 7.00 pm and Saturday 21 June at 3.00 pm. Tea and coffee provided and cabaret-style seating, BYOG.

Bookings: Go to the TryBooking website and enter the venue, town and date to buy tickets.

Tickets: Adults \$15.00, under 18 \$10.00 and those four and under come in free.

Graeme Freedman

School of Arts Players Incorporated (SOAPI) is a not-for-profit community theatre group based in Cobargo, NSW, and meets in the Cobargo SoA Hall.

For more information email soapi@dotintot.com or phone 0403 113 624.

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Plethora of Postcards

Calling all artists. It's on again! The 14th *Plethora of Postcards* at Spiral Gallery, Bega.

All entries must be postcard-size (A6 – quarter of an A4 page) and there are prizes for different age groups – Junior (under 12), Youth and Adult (over 21).

Postcards can be 2D or 3D. If 3D, the base size should be no larger than A6 (so no waving arms or branches, please). Any material can be used – limited only by your imagination and vision.

This year, we have two additional special sections entitled *Eyes* and *Cost of Climate Change* with even more prizes although

you can choose any theme you like and submit it in your age category in the general section.

It's a great chance for young and inexperienced artists to have a go, and for the more experienced artist to explore a new direction.

Submissions are due on 30 May.

Entry forms are available at Spiral Gallery, 47 Church St, Bega during opening hours (Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, Sat 10.00 am to 1.00 pm). You can download the forms from the Spiral Gallery website or contact us via email at spiralpostcards@gmail.com. The exhibition runs from 13 June to 8 July.

Jo Pascall



Untitled, Alexander Seddon



Detail of embroidery work, Linda Davey

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

Art in the Triangle

Celebrating First Nations artists living on Yuin Country



Woven baskets by Andrea Warren and Toni Hill

Come to the exhibition featuring Indigenous artists living on Yuin Country that runs until 11 June. Artists involved include Don Atkinson, Gavin Chatfield, Amanda Close, Sharyn Close, Jidi Cooper, Cheryl Davison, Toni Hill, Stacy Muscat, Bronwen Smith, Emma Stewart, Alison Walker and Andrea Warren. This exhibition is presented with the financial assistance of South East Arts and Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support.

Spiral Gallery, 47 Church St, Bega is open from Monday to Friday from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm and on Saturday from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm. For more information visit the Spiral Gallery Bega website.

Diana Stewart

Art at Shop7 ArtSpace Gallery

June at Shop7 begins with a show by guest artist Pauline Balos, who was a founding member of Shop7 ArtSpace Gallery. She is exhibiting fun and quirky collages until 18 June.

Following Pauline's show, Shop7 ArtSpace Gallery is presenting an exhibition of artworks inspired by fungi. A wonderful collection of special guest artists is included in Shop7's take on fungi, as part of the Fungi Festival.

Come and explore fungi art at Shop7 ArtSpace Gallery, on the upper deck at Bermagui Harbour, from 20 June to 20 July, between 10.30 am and 3.00 pm every day except Wednesdays.

L. Jenkins



Fairy inkcap mushrooms Photo: Ty Smith

What's happening at Cobargo Creators

As the months rush by and the seasons change, it's time to pull up a chair, sit by the fire and enjoy a favourite book. Cobargo Creators are highlighting the work of five local authors in our main window display from 1 June until 15 June. From architecture to travel, adults to children, there is a large range of subject matter and something for everyone.

Celebrate The World Wide Knit In

Public Day on 14 June. All are welcome, bring your woollies and a chair. There will be room outside the gallery and the vets – sit, knit and chat from 9.30 am until noon.

And then ... it's time for Christmas In July. A bit of fun during a colder month and an excuse for a bit of the celebrating that suits Cobargo so well.

Pop in and wander around, we'd love to see you!

Beth Dogan

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Warm farewells and welcomes to the Four Winds Board

Four Winds has appointed two new Board members – Fred Leone and Honor Northam. They each embody the spirit of our unique local cultural institution – creative, courageous and collaborative. They also build on the extraordinary force of departing Board member Dr Moira Scollay AM who has given relentlessly to Four Winds over many years.

Fred Leone has Aboriginal, Tongan and South Sea Islander roots and comes from the Garrwa and Butchulla tribes. He is a musical innovator and cultural leader whose work bridges ancient knowledge and contemporary practice. His role as a Butchulla songman sees him using his voice and musical instruments, as well as tree branches and sand in his sound palette to ensure that contemporary Butchulla stories are embedded in the collective memory and ceremony of the tribe's oral histories in the future.

Fred is also the founder of Queensland's first Indigenous led, internationally-distributed label, Impossible Odds Records, and has been touring the world for over a decade, sharing the stage with the likes of Public Enemy, Xavier Rudd and John Butler. He will greatly enrich the Four Winds vision.



Fred Leone
Photo by Honey Atkinson

Honor Northam is a well-known and well-loved Bermagui-based entrepreneur, co-founder of Honorbread Bakery, and a long-time community advocate. With a background in communications, psychology and governance, she brings deep strategic insight and a lived commitment to collaboration, sustainability



Honor Northam
Photo by Honey Atkinson

and place-based creativity. Her leadership has encompassed cooperative model development, cultural preservation projects and fostering resilient local economies. Her work is grounded in an ethos of care, connection and long-term stewardship – values that align closely with the spirit of Four Winds.

The Four Winds team

The Fibre Sisters at the Lazy Lizard Gallery

We are sisters-in-law who both pursue an active connection with fibre. I am Helen Stafford and I prefer handwork, knitting and felting and Gaila Stafford, my sister-in-law, mostly does machine work with fabric, quilting, appliqué and embroidery.

We both source fibres from far and wide. For me, my wool for knitting is mainly from Bendigo Woollen Mills, as well as other fibres, wool and fabric from many sources but the Old Bus Depot Markets Wool Weekend in Canberra is always a destination. Gaila lives in Victoria and any trip to Melbourne always has a fabric shop on the agenda as is Freddy's when she comes to Cobargo.

Gaila showcases machine embroidery on lavender hearts, notebook covers and matching book-marks. Then there is appliqué on bags and pocket hangers. There are Christmas-themed items like a tablecloth or throw, table runners and placemats. The small child's quilt features fabric bought from Freddy.

I have returned to felting and I have knitted neck cowl in many colours. A new product for me is a body wrap (or very large scarf). The ever-popular knitted, fingerless mittens are still available and there are some new styles, patterns and different wool for hats, sized for small to large heads.

I will be at the gallery on four Sundays – 8, 15, 22 and 29 June.

Lazy Lizard Gallery, Cobargo

M-F 10 am to 3 pm; Sat 9 am to 1 pm.

Helen Stafford



Display of works from the Fibre Sisters Photo: Steve Stafford

Book Review

Funga Obscura: ***Photo journeys among fungi*** **Alison Pouliot** **UNSW Press**

Alison Pouliot, a world-famous expert on fungi, is coming back to the Triangle area to launch her new book during the Fungi Festival on 20 June at the Bermagui Community Hall at 6.00 pm.

Alison spends a lot of time on forest floors to capture breathtaking photos of fungi in all their flamboyant, discreet, drab, disfigured or grotesque glory. She must get pretty wet and muddy to photograph underneath the umbrella-shaped fungi to show us the spores and feathery gills.

‘Every time I enter the forest,’ Alison explains, ‘I discover something new ... if we look and listen, smell and feel beyond the familiar, the extraordinary forms and hues of another forest come into focus – the fungi.’

The essays that intersperse the gorgeous photos provide information about the diversity of fungi that grow everywhere – on lawns and in forests, oceans, deserts and on mountain peaks. Lichens cover seven percent of the earth – who knew? Alison! She describes how



one individual leaf can harbour myriad organisms, including spore-spreading bugs and snails. While they inform, the essays also provoke questions about why fungi are the focus of renewed attention.

The answer is that fungi don't just grow – they help create the soil, they team up with plants like orchids to ensure their survival, they help to recycle forest nutrients and are essential to the ecosystems that sustain the planet. The shift from



thinking of fungus as a disease or destroyer to fungus as vital to our ecosystems is a positive development that Alison's work has helped to encourage. While fungi are able 'to heave their way through the earth', we are ensured food, medicine and a healthy environment.

See you at the book launch on 20 June or at the workshop and foray with Alison on 21 June in Dalmeny!

Annette Kennewell

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Welcome to winter

As winter arrives and the days grow shorter and darker, your garden doesn't have to fade with the sun. You can overcome seasonal dreariness in the short term by adding colour with annuals such as calendula, pansies, primroses, violas or Iceland poppies. But, like a sugar rush, this colour burst is fleeting. To truly satisfy your craving for winter colour, think long-term. Plant perennials that bring lasting vibrancy and sensory joy. Here are three top performers for the winter garden.

If you have a partly shaded spot (under a deciduous tree or on the shady side of the house), hellebore could be just the thing. Sometimes called winter roses, these hardy, cold-tolerant plants (about 40 cm x 40 cm) bloom in a range of colours, from lime green and dusty pink to bold maroon. For gothic flair, try the striking black varieties. Just keep them well mulched through summer.

Want winter colour with a hit of fragrance? Look no further than *Daphne odora*. Ideal for the same shady spaces as hellebores, this shrub (1.2 m x 1.2 m) produces clusters of pinky-white or lavender blooms with an unforgettable scent. Daphnes can be fussy. They prefer slightly acidic soil. If you can grow blueberries or azaleas, you're in with a chance. Even if you've tried and failed before, it's worth another go. When happy, a daphne rewards you with one of the most divine fragrances in the garden.

And then there are camellias, the undisputed queens of



Camellia sasanqua Early Pearly

winter. There are several types, including *Camellia sinensis* (used for tea), but the stars for garden colour are *Camellia sasanqua* and *Camellia japonica*. These varieties can carry your colour display from late summer through to spring. They come in a range of forms and colours, some resembling peonies, others with perfectly symmetrical blooms.

Sasanqua camellias are early bloomers, flowering from late summer through autumn into early winter. They grow quickly, thrive in full sun or deep shade, and are perfect for hedging with their smaller, glossy leaves.

Japonica camellias flower later, starting in late autumn and continuing through winter into spring. They prefer cooler climates and filtered light, avoiding morning sun to protect their delicate petals from dew burn. With their large, shiny leaves and graceful shape, they make excellent feature plants.

Around town, hibiscus still offer cheerful colour after months of blooming. Grevilleas are throwing out another round of flowers. Camellias are showing off their seasonal best and kniphofia (red hot poker) are lighting up gardens like torches.

In the veggie patch, options are thinning. It's your last call for planting garlic. Alliums like onions and shallots can still go in, but that's about it for now.

Got gardening questions, need help identifying a plant or pest, or just want to chat? Email us at gardening@thetriangle.org.au. We're happy to help.

Happy growing!

Mark Evans



Red hot poker are all aflame



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BEST LITTLE OP SHOP ON THE COAST

Fungi Feastival

Manuela Darling-Gansser is a passionate cook and writer of food and travel cookbooks. She has produced several seasonal Italian and Persian cookbooks. Manuela has a large vegetable garden with chickens and bees at her home near Central Tilba.

Nelleke Gorton is a well-travelled pastry chef who delights in hands-on cooking classes in her kitchen near Tanja. Nelleke shares her cooking experiences on her Facebook page – Nelleke's Culinary Adventures.

Annette Kennewell

Mushroom parcels

(4 servings)

Ingredients

100 g wood ear mushrooms
200 g Swiss brown mushrooms
100 g shiitake mushrooms
100 g enoki mushrooms
1 medium Spanish onion, finely sliced
3-4 garlic cloves, finely sliced
1 chilli, some seeds and filaments removed, thinly sliced
fresh sage, Italian parsley and thyme, chopped
150 ml thick Tilba cream
a little butter and olive oil for frying
salt and pepper to taste

Method

1. Pre-heat oven to 180°C.
2. With a paper towel, remove any dirt from the mushrooms and slice them.
3. In a large frying pan melt butter and olive oil and gently fry onions, garlic, chilli and herbs.
4. When the onions are soft, add all the mushrooms and cook for about 5 minutes, stirring the mushrooms around. Add salt and pepper to taste. Add the thick cream to the mushrooms.



5. Cut 4 pieces of ovenproof paper 40 cm x 40 cm and divide the mushrooms evenly between the 4 papers and roll them up. Tie the parcels up with string, making sure they are all well wrapped and bake in preheated oven for 20 minutes.

You can serve these parcels as a first course or to accompany fried eggs or meat.

Of course you can make any other combination of mushrooms, this is just my suggestion.

Manuela Darling

Mushroom Strudel

Ingredients

125g butter
125g Swiss brown mushrooms – thickly sliced
125g button mushrooms – thickly sliced
1 med onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, crushed
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon dry sherry
125g cream cheese (room temperature)
½ cup coarsely chopped toasted almonds
¼ cup chopped parsley
1 tablespoon dried dill (or use fresh if available)
½ tsp mixed dried herbs
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
¼ cup plain yoghurt
8 sheets filo pastry – fresh, not frozen
Poppy seeds to decorate

Method

1. Melt half the butter in a frying pan over moderately high heat. Add all mushrooms, onion, garlic and sauté 4 minutes until tender then add the lemon juice, sherry and cook stirring until all



liquids have evaporated – 5 to 7 minutes.

2. Add the cream cheese, almonds and herbs and mix until cheese has melted – then the yoghurt and the sauce and cool to room temperature (about 30 minutes).

3. Melt the remaining butter in a small saucepan.

4. Stack the 8 filo pastry sheets on a large tea towel and brush some butter over the top sheet. Turn this sheet over on top of the sheet below it and brush again. Next turn 2 sheets over together and brush the top one. Keep turning over 3, 4, 5 etc together until you have a total of 8 buttered sheets.

5. Spoon the mushroom mixture evenly along one long end of the stack, leaving a 4 cm border at the three edges. Tuck in the sides and roll up in Swiss roll fashion.

6. Place on a paper-lined baking sheet and brush pastry roll with any remaining melted butter and sprinkle over the poppy seed. With a sharp knife cut diagonal cuts 2.5 cm apart BUT ONLY half-way through to the base.

7. Bake at 180°C for approximately 30 minutes or until golden and crisp.

Nelleke Gorton

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

ANGLICAN PARISH OF COBARGO

Bermagui: All Saints - every Sunday 8.30am
Cobargo: Christ Church -
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Quaama: Quaama School of Arts Hall -
4th Sunday 10.30am
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Contact Bermagui Country Club on 6493 4340

BERMAGUI CWA

Meeting, first Friday of the Month at 1pm.
CWA Rooms, 10 Corunna St, Bermagui.
Contact: Mrs Kathryn Preston, 0493 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 10am until 12 noon,
venues vary. Phone Christine 0400 301 040

BERMAGUI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum Open Tuesdays & Thursdays
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 12.30pm
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

BERMAGUI SENIORS' SOCIAL CLUB

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

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COBARGO AND DISTRICT ENERGY TRANSITION GROUP INC (CaDET)

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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
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1ST COBARGO SCOUT GROUP

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miknik62@hotmail.com for bookings

COBARGO SHOW MEETING

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Showground dining hall. Contact Naomi 0417
456 354 secretarycobargoshow@yahoo.com.au

COBARGO TOURIST & BUSINESS ASSOC

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cottage. Contact: Janet Doolin 0409 033 828

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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 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, 10.30am
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.
Saturdays 9am to 1pm, Bate St, Central Tilba
Stall booking essential. Phone 0490 130 478.

TRIANGLE TOOL LIBRARY

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

U3A BERMAGUI

Lifelong Learning Opportunities
For a full list of courses and timetable
visit: u3abermagui.com.au

UNITING CHURCH SERVICES

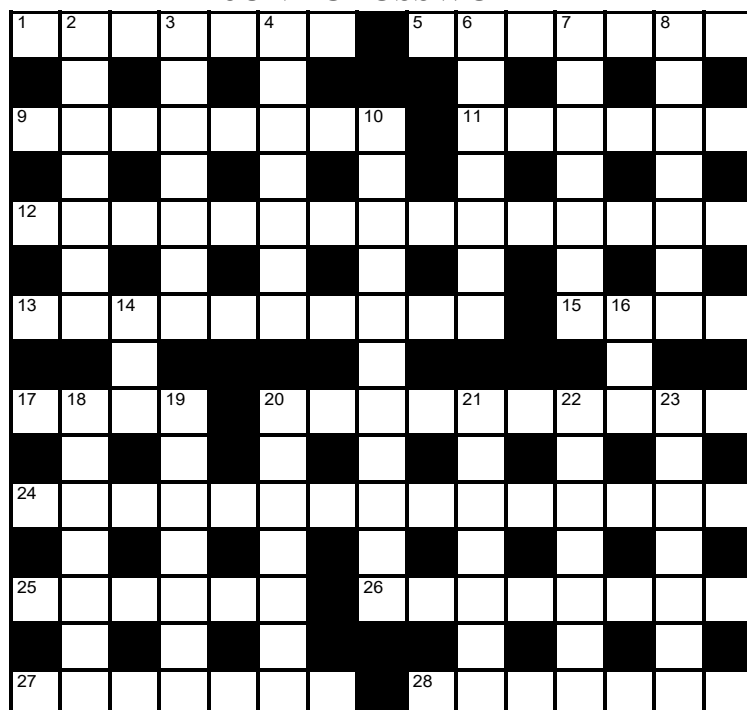
Narooma - Sundays at 9am, 134 Wagonga St.
Cobargo - 2nd Sunday at 11.00am.
4th Sun Prayer & Praise (ecumenical) at 11am.
38 Bermagui Road, Cobargo
Phone Di: 4476 2024 mtdromedary.uca.org.au

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@cobarofolkfestival.com

Game On

JUNE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Four-sided pillar (7)
- 5 Gulp down (7)
- 9 We drones got drunk, went downhill (8)*
- 11 Former South Vietnam's --- Van Thieu (6)
- 12 Sky worker (6,9)
- 13 They're not rural (5,5)
- 15 Ollie's ally (4)
- 17 Tom Clancy hero Jack --- (4)
- 20 Small NSW seaside resort with brilliant white sand (5,5)
- 24 Arising at the same time (15)
- 25 Panda food (6)
- 26 Idiot informally (8)
- 27 Bizarre (4,3)
28. In a tough manner (7)

**Answers on
page 3**

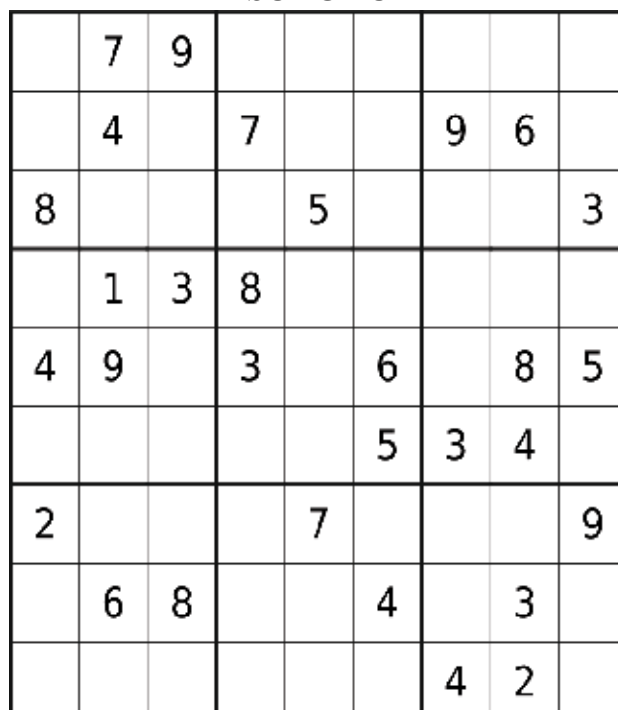
*Indicates a
cryptic clue.

DOWN

- 2 A very hot day (7)
3. Choice in a American-Italian restaurant (7)
- 4 Artisan fixed singer (7)*
- 6 Players at the edge (7)
- 7 Saint Bernadette's city (7)
- 8 Australia is its biggest component (7)
- 10 "--- Holt", and disappear (2,3,6)
14. Feather scarf (3)
- 16 "--- With Mussolini" (1999 Zeffirelli film) (3)
- 18 Salty Western Australia Nature Reserve (3,4)
- 19 In a remarkable way (7)
- 20 Olympic hockey gold-medallist Robert --- (7)
- 21 Australasian ---, a porgie (7)
22. Made an effort (7)
- 23 Local government body (7)

**If you have a game, quiz or
crossword you would like to see
on the Game On page, send it to
contributions@thetriangle.org.au**

SUDOKU



Indian Mandala Art

Literally meaning "circle" in Sanskrit, mandalas are geometric arrangements of symbols and have great significance in Hinduism and Buddhism. Many of these were created as an artistic expression of spirituality and the relationship between self and the universe. Today, mandalas

are a popular representation of focus, meditation and connection with self. Undoubtedly, mandalas are beautiful and can be appreciated in several categories, from the traditional and religious mandalas, to modern ones that are floral and geometric.



For the fridge door

JUNE	WHAT	WHERE	TIME
All June	<i>Fibre Sisters</i> , Helen and Gaila Stafford exhibit various fibre wares pg 34	Side Room, Lazy Lizard	M-F 10 - 3 pm Sat 9 - 1 pm
Fri 30 May - Sun 8 June	<i>Summer of the Seventeenth Doll</i> . Theatre Onset production, bookings through Try Booking	Old Anglican Church, 125 Gipps St, Bega	Opening times on Try Booking website
Sun 1	Bungarri Loop track walk with Auntie Lynne Thomas, ph Cathie 0418 581 944 or Lyndall 0404 118 939	Meet @ Bellbrook Meeting House, 106 Corkhill Drive, Central Tilba	Start 9.45 am for morning tea and talk
Sun 1 - 15	5 local authors featured in the main window display, various subjects pg 33	Cobargo Creators	Sun-Fri 10-2 pm Sat 10 - 1 pm
Sun 1 - 20	<i>Collages</i> , fun & quirky work by Shop7 ArtSpace founder, Pauline Balos pg 33	Shop7 ArtSpace, Wharf Not open Wednesdays	Open 10.30 - 3 pm
Mon 2 - 11	Continuing - Celebrating First Nations artists living on Yuin Country pg 33	Spiral Gallery, 1 Church St, Bega	M-F 10 - 4 pm Sat 10 - 2 pm
Sat 7 & Sun 8	Annual woodworking show, items on display & for sale, demos & raffles. pg 31	Narooma Leisure Centre, at the roundabout in Narooma	Sat 9 - 4 pm Sun 9 - 3 pm
Fri 13	<i>Plethora of Postcards</i> open to all artists, junior, youth and adult pg 32	Spiral Gallery, 1 Church St, Bega	M-F 10 - 4 pm Sat 10 - 2 pm
Sat 14	Worldwide Knit In Public Day, bring knitting and a chair, rug up. pg 33	Outside Cobargo Creators & the vet	Sat 9.30 - noon
Sun 15	Death Conversation Café event - talks about voluntary assisted dying, \$5 pg 7	Men's Shed, Bermagui book online	1.45 for 2 - 4 pm
Fri 20 - 20 July	Fungi inspired artwork, various artists pg 33	Shop7 Artspace, Bermagui Wharf Not open Wednesdays	Open 10.30 - 3 pm
Fri 20 - 20 July	Fungi Forays, Mushroom and Truffle Growing Workshops, Truffle Hunts, Art Exhibitions, Fungi Movie, Photography Workshop, Fungi dinners, Truffle lunch, Children's Fungi Art Workshops, Mushroom Paint'n'Sip pg 5	Various locations - Bermagui, Cobargo, Dignams Creek, Mystery Bay, Central Tilba, Narooma. For details visit www.fungifeestival.com.au	Various times - day & night events

The Triangle Community

NEWS PODCAST

Available where you get
your podcasts, Facebook,
Instagram or
The Triangle website.