

Uralla Wordsworth

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  urallawordsworth

EnergyCo Answers Our Most Common Questions About Being Part of a Renewable Energy Zone (REZ)

EnergyCo, through its recent community information sessions, brochures and website, have provided some good information about renewable energy generation and transmission in our area. Some common questions and confusions can now be addressed:

What is EnergyCo? The most important thing to understand is what EnergyCo is not. It is not a private company. It is a NSW Government body that is charged with establishing the Renewable Energy Zones in five locations around the state and the associated transmission lines to get power to where it is required.

What's the apparent hurry to get things done? The table below shows when NSW's coal-fired power stations will be shut down. Liddell power station has only recently powered down. These power stations

have served us well for decades but are now approaching the end of their working lives. They currently generate about 75 percent of NSW's power but in about ten years this will reduce to around 20 per cent with only the Mount Piper Power Station remaining in operation. Obviously power must be generated in other ways to maintain power reliability. The renewable energy zones are planned to help replace that lost generation capacity.

Why was a REZ established in our New England area? According to EnergyCo, the region has some of the best natural energy resources in the country and some of the state's finest potential sites for pumped hydro facilities. Access to the existing transmission lines was a strong factor as was the fact that there was strong interest from companies wanting to invest in green energy projects in the area.

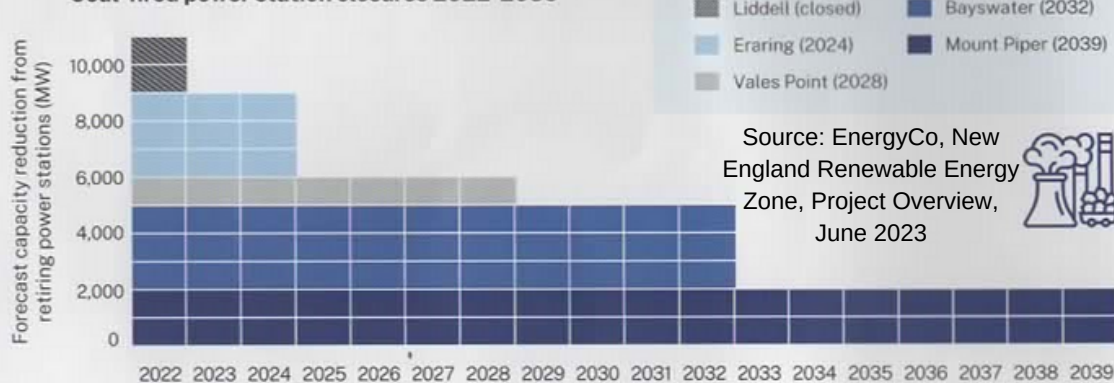
What new infrastructure is needed in the New England REZ? At the moment, planning for the REZ infrastructure is in

the early stages but it will include:

- new transmission lines connecting to Bayswater in the Hunter Valley,
- Energy hubs (substations) that act as a connection between projects and the broader transmission network.

Continued page 7.....

Coal-fired power station closures 2022-2039



ATTENTION VETERANS

If you are in need of assistance
of any type

financial, physical, emotional etc

or you just need a chat with someone who knows ...

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at Uralla Shire Council

UINT/22/11373

Information about vacant positions and access to Council's interactive application is available on Council's website:

[Working at Uralla Shire Council Uralla Shire Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://Working at Uralla Shire Council Uralla Shire Council (nsw.gov.au))

Council is regularly employing across a wide range of service areas such as: general hand, truck drivers, plant operations, landfill operators, aged care, direct support workers, administrative and professional roles. Ask us about our casual, term and permanent positions.
Tel: 6778 6300



Robert Bell was elected Mayor of Uralla Shire Council in December 2021, after serving five years as a Councillor. He was previously Director of Engineering for Uralla Shire Council, lives in town, and has a grazing block at Kentucky. Cr Bell gives a personal view of some of the more important matters concerning Council and ratepayers in recent weeks.

Last Friday I had the honour of being one of the official guests at the table that included Mark Baretta from Channel 7 Sunrise, who is a driving force for Tour de Cure, front man for the latest bowel cancer screening program and a sports tragic, Ali Flynn - owner of Altitude Fitness, Hon Adam Marshall MP, Tristan Whiting – CEO of Headspace, Todd Redwood – Deputy Mayor, Armidale Regional Council, and David Holzigal - interim CEO Centacare and his wife. The celebration was for the Rural Resilience Project arranged by Headspace and Centacare NENW. Charlotte Williams and Josie Hofman did an outstanding job organising and MC-ing this wonderful event. Ali Flynn's keynote address was inspirational and confronting. I found it humbling to be in a room full of people who work daily with the more vulnerable members of our community.

In a new twist in the renewable energy zone, Origin Energy have purchased "Warrane" for renewable energy infrastructure. "Warrane" was originally owned by the Stephen's family and the 7690-hectare property has been valued at over \$35million. It is unclear whether Origin will have wind turbines, solar panels or be used as a biodiversity offset project. This area is slightly east of Squadron's Booralong Wind Farm that is currently proposed. Council will provide further details as they become available. Approximately three kilometres of the access to this property is in Uralla Shire. The property is in Armidale Regional Council area.

One of the frustrating issues of the electricity debate is the 15 – 20 per cent increase in power costs identified in the latest letters to consumers. This will add \$100,000 to Council's operational expenses with the water treatment plants and sewer treatment plants both major users. While they have solar panel banks, this does not significantly reduce the bill. The argument for roof-top solar would be assisted if the feed-in tariff was greater than 20 per cent of the usage charge.

Some of the major capital works included in the 2023/24 budget include upgrading the four kitchens at the Hill Street Units with new carpet and lino also included, replacing the recycling waste bins at the Uralla Landfill, constructing a new transfer station at the Bundarra Waste Depot, water main replacement, and re-lining the sewer manholes in Uralla to cut down stormwater infiltration. Major road rehabilitation projects will be undertaken on Gostwyck Road and Thunderbolts Way near Scrubby Gully, Two Mile Creek, Laura Creek, Tarana Hill and "Fairview".

In a couple of weeks' time, we will receive a visit from the CEO of the Murray Darling Association. We are keen to learn

more about the organisation, the issues across the basin and the effects on Uralla Shire residents. With ten councils to be visited in two days, we can suggest it will be a limited exchange of ideas.

One positive in the 2023/24 budget is the inclusion of a position for an apprentice mechanic. If you, or anyone you know would be interested, you should contact Council. While the TAFE training would commence next year, the position will be advertised later this year. Council provides a full range of plant and equipment to work on.

Last week in constant rain, Kristian Sternbeck carried out a smoking ceremony at the front of the Council Chambers to launch Uralla's NAIDOC celebrations. This is the second year Kristian has battled the cold and the wet. He was able to explain the meaning of the smoking ceremony. This year's theme is "For Our Elders". Special thanks to all those that organised the event and to Kathy Kelly and her wonderful band.

Congratulations to the Uralla Shire Business Chamber for their Main Street Promotion. What a great initiative.

M: 0434 244 774

robertbell1055@hotmail.com

Robert Bell

Uralla Shire Resident



The Eric and Betty Batt Rotary Park near the viaduct is almost ready for use. The upgrade includes new vehicular and pedestrian access, a new toilet facility, parking, barbecue facilities and a sheltered rest area. The construction cost of around \$450,000 was funded through the Public Spaces Grant Program. - **Editor**

Uncle Les Townsend

Wordsworth is saddened to report the passing on the weekend of the much loved, respected and admired

Leslie Raymond Townsend (1942-2023)

A leader of his, and the broader community and a valued supporter of Uralla Wordsworth. He will be sadly missed.

Service: Friday 14 July 2023 at 10am
St John's Anglican Church, Uralla

They are cultural knowledge holders, trailblazers, nurturers, advocates, teachers, survivors, leaders, hard workers and our loved ones.

Our loved ones who pick us up in our low moments and celebrate us in our high ones. Who cook us a feed to comfort us and pull us into line, when we need them too.

They guide our generations and pave the way for us to take the paths we can take today. Guidance, not only through generations of advocacy and activism, but in everyday life and how to place ourselves in the world.

We draw strength from their knowledge and experience, in everything from land management, cultural knowledge to justice and human rights. Across multiple sectors like health, education, the arts, politics and everything in between, they have set the many courses we follow.

The struggles of our Elders help to move us forward today. The equality we continue to fight for is found in their fight. Their tenacity and strength has carried the survival of our people.

It is their influence and through their learnings that we must ensure that when it comes to future decision making for our people, there is nothing about us - without us.

After the smoking ceremony participants moved to the the drier and warmer Community Centre where Auntie Pam Meehan conducted a Welcome to Country. Adam Marshall briefly spoke about the significance of NAIDOC Week which was followed by the traditional cutting of a cake, on this occasion emblazoned with this year's theme, *For Our Elders*. A delightful morning tea was served with live musical entertainment. **-Editor**



Uralla Celebrates NAIDOC Week

National NAIDOC Week celebrations kicked off in Uralla last Tuesday, in less than ideal conditions, with a smoking ceremony and flag raising outside the Council Chambers.



Flag raising ceremony with Auntie Pam Meehan, Mayor Robert Bell, Councillor Bob Crouch and Kristian Sternbeck playing didgeridoo.



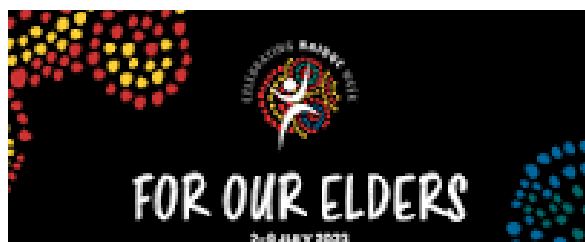
Left: Kristian Sternbeck, Trevor Watkins and Hon Adam Marshall MP



Cutting of the cake.
Mayor Robert Bell,
Auntie Pam Meehan and
Hon Adam Marshall

This year's National NAIDOC Week theme is *For Our Elders*. The NAIDOC Committee issued a timely reminder, especially for us, with the passing of Uncle Les Townsend, of the vitally important role played by Elders in the community:

Across every generation, our Elders have played, and continue to play, an important role and hold a prominent place in our communities and families.



Letters to the Editor

To the editor,

I would like to commend the Uralla Shire Council on their June Monthly Newsletter - Special Edition. As someone who has suggested that it would be useful for residents to have a simple understanding of how much of council's income comes from rates and how much comes from grants, this newsletter has laid that out quite clearly. This benefits ratepayers in having a clearer understanding of how much of council's expenditure our rates cover, and what has to be paid for by grant funding. I feel this is helpful in supporting residents with their understanding of what council may or may not be able to provide in terms of extra services or projects.

Having this understanding provides an awareness of where residents and community groups might be able to help in areas of their concerns. One of the great positive aspects of Uralla is the amount of community engagement. I would encourage council to convene, perhaps 6 monthly, a meeting of all community groups to share ideas of how they and council could work collaboratively towards the Community Strategic Plan of a resilient and sustainable Uralla Shire.

-Carol Shantal, Resident, Barleyfields Rd, Uralla

Dear Editor,

Wake Up Uralla – Transmission Lines or not – WHERE, should be the question.

I attended the Energy Co Community Consultation last month held in the Memorial Hall for residents to engage with and source further information on the proposed transmission lines required to move the power generated from the New England New Energy structures, i.e. Wind and Solar Farms through the state.

I was disappointed to see that not many residents seemed to have taken this opportunity, though the release of the consultation seemed limited, i.e. mainly through e-media that a lot of us do not have or use regularly.

However I did attend and found further disappointment on the information provided, or should I say not provided. The maps showing where the proposed lines were going, to my senses were not good enough in outlining:

a) Clear placement of the transmission structures and lines;

b) Known corridors for Koala habitat not even on the map;
c) Streets/roads/creeks not clearly marked to give a better picture of where they were proposing to go.

I was further disappointed when asking the engineer attending the consultation to show me where 'Wilsons Creek' was on their map, he did not have a clue, he seemingly had not been out there. I was aghast at the lack of basic local knowledge not gathered prior to this event. He then said "that was why we are here to gather that information". Forgive me for not unbelieving this aspect as NSW Planning Department has better maps on their sites, including six maps with better typography and Southern Care New England Landcare have a map of the current Koala Corridors on their site, also I found in my research available on Uralla Shire Council's Site. They seemed to have no idea of where the Koala population is.

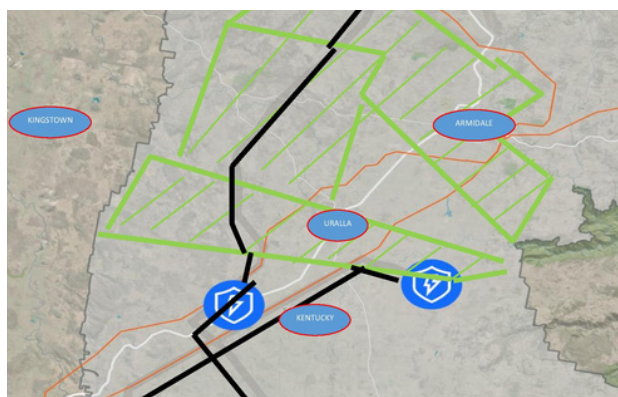
We currently have transmission lines running up both sides of the highway from Tamworth to Armidale. Why do we have to make more mess (clearing of 80 metres either side of 110,000 metres in length being 110km), not to speak of the Koala habitat that would be ruined with the animals not able to pass through the paddock due to NIL vegetation being allowed to be grown on the clearing.

Or, why can they not go underground or set up micro hubs, it is 2023? We seem to be as behind the technology line as we are in mobile tower connectivity. I for one do not want to look at iron structures on my drive to and from work or at home in my lovely outlook that I moved here for. I left the city to get away from all those intrusive structures.

Come on Uralla you can have your say now whether you are for it or against it is up to you. Their contact details are: PH:1800061114| Email: nerez@energyco.nsw.gov.au | www.research.net/r/nerez-communityfeedback

Wendy Westbrook – Balala

(concerned resident - the above is a personal view)



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Letters to the Editor (Continued)

To the Editor,

Opinion

It was some interest I read the Energy Co piece in Wordsworth and have been reflecting on a counterpoint. Some readers will remember the old county councils where communities managed and ran energy generation and distribution.

Let us be frank and honest, the REZs are there to ensure the affordable supply of clean energy to metropolitan communities of NSW (Newcastle Sydney, and Wollongong). The tragedy is that the major party politicians and our senior bureaucracy have continued to disappoint the people of NSW. The once-in-a-generation opportunity for economic and technological transition is being squandered by a vacant dull-eyed political class that is not astute or courageous enough to show leadership for a generation to follow.

The focus on High Voltage transmission (66kV, 132kV, 330kV, and 500kV) does and will continue to benefit multinational interests and has discounted and excluded domestic investment. High voltage transmission suits an energy-dense generation source like coal and gas hence we have a network in NSW that radiates mostly from the Hunter Valley distributing to substations and medium voltage transmission throughout the state.

Medium Voltage (33kV, 22kV, and 11kV) renewables lend themselves to smaller distributed generation capacity and have been largely overlooked by government and bureaucracy. In the past when asked where the medium voltage network is considered in the NSW energy plan, senior NSW policy staff revealed they had been overlooked. The fact is that regional NSW is missing out on a structural investment opportunity that could and would sustain the regional triple bottom line for years to come. It is not too late to invest in regional Australia and employ a strategic shift to smaller renewable generators connected to the medium voltage network. This would have the benefit of strategic local business and community investment.

If the proposed new High Voltage transmission lines go ahead, Australian taxpayers will likely pay to gold plate the network and retail consumers will pay for the gold plating of the transmission network for no net gain in capacity or security. Conversely, this will benefit multinational investors who cannot build their large-scale projects without the new transmission lines and hence make an investment that takes energy generation income and jobs outside of Australian borders.

The energy planning forced upon regional communities in NSW is an example of abject failure by politicians and policymakers. Economically efficient globalisation suggests domestically we are not worthy of investment. This is codswallop and a betrayal of both our forebears who built this country and our offspring who will inherit it. Leadership has the hallmarks of statesmanship none of which has been

evident for a long time in the wider Australian political landscape.

The message to Macquarie Street should be:

- That the regions do not need the large-scale Renewables contained in the REZs.
- That Macquarie Street does not need to Gold Plate the energy distribution network with new HV transmission lines.
- With a distributed energy generation plan there is no need for new High Voltage transmission lines to service the REZ.

What we do need is:

- An investment in the regions.
- Strategic thinking to benefit the people of NSW.
- Funding that is earmarked for High Voltage transmission could be invested in Medium Voltage generation.

David Mailler - Uralla

Community Day at Heritage and Hardware June 17

We were lucky enough to have perfect weather, a terrific band which set the tone for the day, keen stallholders and a great group of volunteers that had the BBQ and firepit simmering away and created a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere for the “last hurrah” at the “home of recycling” which Heritage & Hardware was.

The many people we met who have the recycling ethic made it a pleasure to assist them in finding a treasure to upcycle into something useful and stop it going to landfill. It amazes me that there is such a depth of skills and creativity in our small community.

Hopefully the display of recycled and upcycled items we showcased will whet the appetite of those that are new to the idea of reuse and repurpose. The coffee tables and kitchen blocks all made out of old timber, filing cabinets turned into wood boxes, old metal farm relics that are welded into sculptures of animals and birds for the garden and cement slabs being used in creative ways are only a small selection of what can appear out of the imagination.

A big thank you goes to Sammy, Mark, Suellen, Mick, Ray, Murray & Michelle, Bob, Kath, Brian, Des, Tony, Kait, Kel, Liz, Bec & Nick, Margaret, Brian, Dale for supplying snags and Beca Bakes for the rolls and all who contributed to a lovely day. **-Peter Barkley, Invergowrie**

Happy community members making the most of a great day.



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RSVP 21ST JULY

secretary@urallabusinesschamber.org.au

CONNECT...ENGAGE...NETWORK...SUPPORT

Sad Departure From Uralla

....continued from page 1

- New transmission lines within the REZ, and
- Connections to the new generation projects

How big are the transmission towers? The larger transmission lines will be about 70 metres high erected on an 80 metre wide corridor. The smaller branch transmission lines will typically be 50 - 60 metres tall sited within a 70 metre wide corridor. Transmission towers will generally be 400 to 600 metres apart.

Will communities and landowners be consulted about developments? The community engagement session conducted recently in Uralla was the first of four planned stages of consultation. There will be plenty of opportunity to get information and express concerns.

How much renewable energy is generated in NSW? In 2021, according to EnergyCo, power from renewable generation made up 27 per cent of all NSW power - 4 per cent hydro, 7.6 per cent wind, 1.5 per cent biomass and 13.8 per cent from large scale solar and rooftop solar. Interestingly, the share of wind and solar in the NSW electricity generation mix has tripled in the past five years.

Thirty-six large scale renewable projects have been commissioned in NSW since the start of 2018 producing 4000MW according to EnergyCo. Compare this to the 1500MB that Liddell Power Station generated when it was fully operational. (AGL Macquarie website)

How many more projects are planned for NSW? EnergyCo says there are over 200 large-scale energy projects totalling around 40,000MW, that are either approved or progressing through the approval process.

What type of projects are they? In its overview booklet, EnergyCo has a map of NSW with approved or planned projects. A rough count indicates the project numbers are: about 130 solar, 13 hydro, 33 wind, 15 biomass and 24 batteries.

Will EnergyCo run the the power system? No. Generators will be built and operated by private investors. EnergyCo will not build, operate and maintain the REZ network infrastructure. This will be undertaken by the successful Network Operator appointed by EnergyCo.

How important is small roof top solar? In NSW 840,000 houses and small businesses have installed roof top solar systems - about one in four houses. These installations have a capacity to generate 5,000MW. This represents a combined investment of about \$8 billion.

Transmission towers aren't pretty. Why can't the cables be buried? EnergyCo in its Project Overview booklet points out a number of disadvantages with underground cabling. Underground cables have significantly higher capital and operating cost. Generally they are estimated to be many times more expensive than traditional overhead lines. If there is a failure in a cable, it is more difficult to find the location and repair the cause, and would result in longer outages. Also, cables cannot be uprate to increase their capacity. **-Editor**



Friends and fellow retailers surprised Frank and Alice Li with a visit and gifts to mark their sad departure from Uralla

It was a sad occasion on Sunday 25 when a group of people came together to farewell Frank and Alice Li of the Fung Wah Restaurant who will be moving to retire in Sydney where their son is located near Hornsby. They have worked hard in their restaurant in Uralla having only had six days off in their two and a half years here.

While their arrival coincided with the end of Covid, their business would have still been much affected by it with reduced numbers coming through the doors.

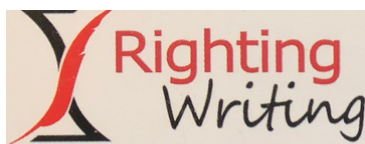
Frank explained that he has had restaurants in three towns in NSW but says - convincingly - that Uralla was the best. He appreciated the friendly people in the town and suggested they were perhaps more clever owing to the University being a nearby influence.

Originally from near Beijing in China, Frank said he and Alice were quiet people who were not good at social media and perhaps didn't engage with locals as much as they would have liked but said, "We tried our best."

Frank and Alice will be missed as they were part of a tight and supportive retail community in Bridge Street. They were presented with gifts of flowers and scotch from the retailers in the area.

A visit to China is planned in the near future by the couple.

-Editor



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Photos of the Week



Above: The day the one-time theatre, hardware store and rural supplies store burnt to the ground, and below, as it was in 1984 captured in Peter Phillip's snow picture.



Do you have a picture you think would be of interest to our Wordsworth readers? Perhaps it's of historic interest - a picture of local people, events or Uralla street scenes or the like. Perhaps you've taken a picture recently of something beautiful, interesting or even fascinating of a scene or object.

If the photo is on your phone, just tap the share icon to go to your email and send to urallawordsworth@gmail.com

If your photo of interest is in a photo album, you can take a picture of it with your phone and follow the directions above. To photograph a photo, place the album/photo in bright but not direct sunlight and try different angles to avoid as much reflection as possible. Do not use a flash for that reason. **-Editor**

Uralla Golf Club Enters Consultancy Agreement With Armidale Ex-Services

Uralla Golf Club has engaged Armidale Ex-Services in a consultancy service agreement with the possibility of amalgamating with the club in the next six months or so. It is well-known that the Golf Club has been struggling financially over recent years, and has been increasingly reliant on volunteers to run the club as a result - especially of late.

A new manager, Ben Jones, was appointed three weeks ago and is being upskilled by Ex-Services in the maintenance of accurate record keeping and other required procedures.

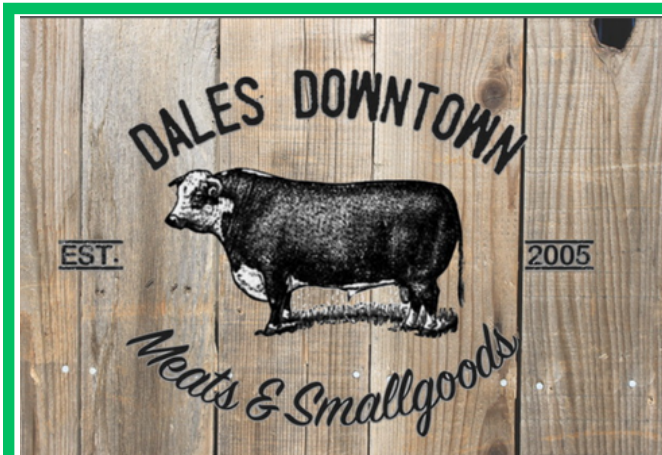
Ex-Services has updated the Golf Club kitchen and starting on 18 July, a chef will be employed to provide meals (lunch and dinner) from Tuesday to Saturday as well as Sunday lunch.

Scott Sullivan, manager of Ex-Services and the Ex-Services' Board, appear keen to act in Uralla's community interest to preserve the Golf Club as the valuable asset it is.

-Editor



Daryl Carson, President of the Uralla Golf Club, and two of the improvement projects currently being undertaken by members - a new deck area on the left of picture and a children's playground out of picture on the right.



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Wildlife Tails

Winter is here and for wildlife carers it's time to relax a bit as the calls for injured and orphaned wildlife slow down. We do get calls for critters caught in chimneys, mainly possums and sometimes birds who are also looking for somewhere to keep warm. Do be careful when lighting your wood burning fireplace for the first time each year and check for any unexpected inhabitants. We have one possum in care that was singed when a fire was lit but fortunately didn't have too many actual burns. He still needed medication and is still in care two months on.

I know it's winter but please keep any bird baths that you have clean and filled. Although birds don't consume as much water in winter, they still need to drink and bathe, and don't forget a shallow dish for our wonderful lizards that keep pesky snails at bay.

We are in need of more carers in all areas and we run quite a few training days and workshops during the less busy months. If you haven't time or your home is unsuitable for raising wildlife we also need people with other skills. If you are competent with computers, or are able to transport animals or are interested in helping with our newsletter, we have a place for you.

Most volunteers meet the costs of caring for themselves but if we have spare money then we try to help carers out with vet costs, fuel and food for their animals in care. Another way of helping if you are able, is to donate a small amount each month. We are a registered charity and donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible for you.

Please look at our website for more information about Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers: www.ntwc.org.au
You'll find membership forms, information on what we do and contact details.

-Jacquie Maisey

Meanwhile, if you find a sick or injured native animal, please do not hesitate to contact us on 1800 008 290.



Local identity George Lee was found celebrating with family and friends at the brewery recently. The question on everyone's lips was: Is that your natural hair colour George?

Editor's note: A forensic inspection revealed it was indeed his own hair colour. (Picture courtesy of Peter Barkley, Invergowrie)

Running Wild – Episode 5 – Off Crawney (Fiction)

4. Recap. *The Captain quickly saddled the black stallion colt 'the Barb' and the two rode off following the bushrangers' highway. They road east, where long ridgelines led across tall mountains and where long blue vistas lay. Then turning north, they reached the outskirts of Moonbi. On nightfall The Captain went down to see his man Betts.*

The moon's arc had moved well into the western sky. Will had kept awake heeding The Captain's instructions. He soothed the horses when an owl flew through the camp making shadows against the low firelight. Will heard a familiar lyrical sound. It was carried on the still night, from far off downslope; it was the 'travellers yodel'. He replied in a similar manner, responding that all was safe and clear to approach camp. A whinny from the grey mare as the scent of her son came to her nostrils on the slight breeze. The jet-black colt emerged from the dark, the blue waist sash, then the figure of The Captain appeared.

Will met The Captain at the edge of the camp's firelight, taking the colt's reins when he dismounted, and taking care in the dark to lead the colt to where the others were tethered. Will asked, 'did all go well Captain?' 'Yes, I've made plans for my women with my man Betts in case I need to get away quick, or if something were to happen to me. The traps are close, damn them !' The Captain handed Will a sugar bag saying, 'There's food in there and it's an hour or so before first light, we'll cook up a meal and get going at dawn. I want to be near Uralla by days end. I'm low on cap, ball and powder and must have more supplies before we head to Mountain Black.'

The trek from Moonbi was uneventful. In the scrub south of Uralla, in sight of Split Rock and Blanches Inn, Will waited for his partner. The Captain had ridden into Uralla on dusk to see his uncle Harry. He left strict instructions that no fire was to be lit and that Will must always keep the horses and himself still and quiet. Will had been left a small brass telescope to help watch the track south from the town. Constable Walker and his men were stationed at the watchhouse, and any whisper of their close whereabouts would have a force set upon them in no time. He was to head west if he saw them coming, then circle back round to the north of Uralla. There to wait for The Captain along the track.

Again, when the moon's arc had moved well into the western sky, The Captain returned heralded by the traveller's yodel, but this time they set off for Mountain Black while the night was still dark. Nothing in Will's belly to calm his hunger but The Captain had said 'We'll eat when we get to my cabin. My woman Nellie always has her surprise stew; it's a hearty meal made from what she finds in the bush nearby. It's good grub it is', he said.

-Daryl Albertson, Kellys Plains

Soup For the Soul Update

Thank you so much to all of you who have opted for some soup for dinner on our first two Thursdays!!!! Your generosity is amazing and we've raised \$630 to date – you are legends, all!!!!

If you've missed out, don't panic! We have three more Thursdays and a raffle on the last night. If you feel like you're missing information, keep reading. \$10 per serve of soup and a delicious bread roll from Beca Bakes picked up from New England Brewing between 5:30 and 6:30 on Thursdays through July.

The options for the rest of the campaign:

Thursday, 13 July: Pasta e Fagioli or Indian Curried Chicken and Rice

Thursday, 20 July: Moroccan Sweet Potato or Potato, Chorizo and Leek

Thursday, 27 July: Spiced Sweet Potato or Chinese Beef, Barley and Spinach

Text your order to Laura on 0428 382 749 to avoid disappointment... and if you really loved the pea and ham, we have a few leftovers in the freezer. Thank you for your contribution to raising funds to increase awareness of Head and Neck Cancers and support for those living with them.

Laura McLean, Uralla

Uralla Book Club Review

Hamnet, A Novel of the Plague (by Maggie O'Farrell)

Maggie O'Farrell's 'Hamnet' (published in 2020) is a historical novel set in 16th century England that explores the life and times of Shakespeare by reimagining the relationship with his wife, Anne Hathaway (known as Agnes in the book) and the events surrounding the death of their 11 year old son, Hamnet, in 1596.

Beautifully written and steeped in scenes of domesticity and everyday life, the reader is transported back to the house on Henley Street, Stratford, where the Shakespeares and their three children (Susannah and twins, Hamnet and Judith) live with his parents. We're immersed from the start, following Hamnet as he rushes down the narrow staircase, out into the street and into his grandparents' house, frantically in search of an adult. He goes in and out of empty rooms, past his grandfather's glove workshop where deer and squirrel skins swing, stools are vacant, and tools lie idle on the bench. Out in the yard, he passes the place where he and Judith had been playing with the kittens just before she fell ill. On his way to find the "physician" he dodges a horse and cart, passes a group of men gathered outside the guild hall, a man whipping the haunches of a donkey. Where is everyone?

Into Hamnet's urgent quest for adult help is woven the story of Agnes and "the Latin tutor". Agnes is other-worldly, connected to nature, wise and intuitive. Before they married, she roamed the forest with a falcon on her wrist. She gave birth to their first child in the forest and now continues with her work as herbalist, respected healer and bee keeper. With her husband spending more and more time in London as his career takes off, her role is pivotal to their family. The children sometimes resent the demands on her time by other townfolk but they know that she is the one that holds their family together, the one with whom they feel safe and loved.

When Hamnet dies suddenly from the plague, the family members experience grief and loss in different ways. Agnes's husband, who distances himself from his family even more, seems to process his grief and loss by writing a play which is performed in London four years later and that is named in honour of his son.

This was a great read: tender, poignant and offering insight into a tragic event in Shakespeare's life, about which little is known. Hard to put down!

Honey Greenwood, Uralla Book Club

Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is

5pm Thursday 20 July 2023

Please email all contributions including advertising, letters to the editor, 100 Words, and articles to
urallawordsworth@gmail.com

Operation Christmas Child

Uralla residents will have the opportunity this year to participate in the incredible international children's project, Operation Christmas Child. This unique project aims to show God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the good news of Jesus Christ. It simply involves filling an empty shoebox with a variety of gifts to delight a child, including but not limited to, toys, school supplies, clothing, and hygiene items. Operation Christmas Child has been reaching out to children who are victims of war, poverty and natural disaster since 1993, and has delivered gifts in over 150 countries around the globe.

From the 24th to the 28th of July, local volunteers will be manning the street stall in Uralla to provide information and resources to interested community members. We would love to have you drop by to find out how you, your family, your community group, your church or craft group can be involved. It's a fun-for-all-ages project! For more information, visit the helpful website www.operationchristmaschild.org.au, or call local team member, Bec Blake, on 0447 977 721.

Community Calendar

Please email urallawordsworth@gmail.com if you have an event or regular meeting date for your organisation.

Please check with event organisers about the status of listed events

Uralla Rotary Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6.15pm at Uralla Bowlo, dinner optional after meeting.

Uralla Lions Club meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 5/5.30 in the CWA Rooms

Uralla Fire & Rescue meet on Tuesday nights at the Uralla Fire Station from 6 - 7.30pm

Uralla CWA meets on the 4th Friday of each month, 10am at the Uniting Church Hall, Maitland St, Uralla

Uralla Computer Bank is open Mon, Tues and Thurs from 9.30am – 3.30pm at Uralla Shire Waste Depot

Uralla Anglican Church meets at 10am each Sunday for worship, prayer, fellowship & Johnno's Kid Club in Park St

Uralla Hospital Auxiliary meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 2pm, CWA Rooms in the Literary Institute

Uralla Show Society meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7.30pm at the Uralla Showground

Uralla Shire Business Chamber meets 1st Thursday of each month at 6pm at the Uralla Bowling Club

Uralla Town & Environs Committee meets on the first Monday of each quarter from 6-7pm in the USC Chambers

Uralla Tennis Social tennis 6:30pm Thursdays. Hot shots Jnr Tennis, Uralla Sporting Complex Sat. 9am – 10am.

Uralla Auto Club Inc. meets at 7 pm on the first Tuesday of each month at The Bowling Club.

Uralla Red Cross meets on the first Friday of each month at 2pm in the CWA rooms in the Literary Institute

Uralla RSL Sub-Branch meets on the last Sunday of the month at 10.30am in the RSL Rooms, the Uralla Memorial Institute, 55 Bridge Street, all veterans welcome.

Uralla Women's Bowling Club 10am Wednesday for club bowls. Mixed social bowls on Sunday mornings, all welcome. Bistro lunch available.

Uralla Historical Society meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 5pm at McCrossin's Mill.

Uralla Men's Shed open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:30pm, 18 Uralla St North, (old Scout Hall site) Phone 0419151253, Hours usually extended in Daylight saving. Email: urallamensshedcommittee@gmail.com

Uralla Community Neighbourhood Centre. Monday by appointment, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30 to 3pm, 67711457 0419149244, Urallacnc@familysupport.org.au

Uralla Tigers' Supported Playgroup FREE, every Wednesday during school terms, 10am - 12pm, St Joseph's Primary School, contact Nenneh on 0450437068 or Momena on 0481983442

Computer Bank New England. Computer Classes are each Friday from 9am - 12 noon at the Uralla Community Centre. \$5.00. This includes morning tea.

Uralla Book Club meets on the first Saturday of each month, 10am at the Alternate Root

Uralla Food Pantry, Mondays 10am - 2pm, Uralla Neighbourhood Centre. Good range dry goods, & fruit/veg. Fill a supermarket coloured bag \$15. New members welcome. Uralla Neighbourhood Centre, Ph: 6778 3277 or email : office@unc.org.au Donations welcomed.

Freemasons (Masonic Lodge of Peace #120, Uralla) meet the 3rd Tuesday each month, interested persons contact Dennis 0448 576 465 or John 0411 374 3341

High Country Markets are held on the 1st Sunday of the month from 8am until 12.30pm at the Uralla Showground

Uralla Combined Pensioners and Seniors Association meets at Uralla Bowlo on the first & third Tuesdays of the month, 10am. New members welcomed, Ph. 0438433735

Uralla and District Uniting Church meets Sundays at 9.30am for worship. Our Church is undergoing renovations and we meet in the adjoining Church Hall 29 Maitland St, Uralla. The 1st Sunday of each month is a communion service.

Uralla Garden Club meets every third Saturday of the month at 1.30pm. We have no set permanent venue, but meet at a different member's garden or we visit other open gardens. New members are very welcome. Contact: urallagardenclub@gmail.com or Jenny 0435 593 850

Uralla Community Street Store

10 July - 16 July - Uralla Red Cross

17 - 23 July - Uralla Fairy Festival

Call Uralla Shire Council to book - 6778 6300

To download the 2023 street stall schedule go to:

<https://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/Community/Community-Information/Uralla-Community-Street-Store>

Events For Your Diary

***Bundarra Community Markets** - Sat. 15 July, Contact: Donna McLean 67237178

***Next Uralla Shire Council Meeting** - Tues. 25 July, 4pm, at the Council Chambers, Meeting open to the public

***Christmas In July** - Tues. 25 July, Olde Memories and Treasures, Bridge Street

***Uralla Shire Business Council "Celebrating Business in Uralla"** - Sat. 28 July, 6pm, The Alternate Root

***High Country Markets** - Sun. 6 August, Uralla Showground

***Monthly Poultry Auction** - Sun. 6 August, Uralla Showground, From 9:30am

***Kentucky Old Time Nouveau Dance** - Sat. 12 August, Kentucky Memorial Hall, 7:30pm - 11:30pm

***Thunderbolt Festival** - Sat. 28 Oct, Parade at 10:30am, Theme: Dungeons and Dragons

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TRANSITION PROGRAM

COMMENCES

WEDNESDAY 19 JULY 2023

- ⇒ **Continues every Wednesday for Terms 3 and 4**
- ⇒ **Full day program from 9:00am to 3:00pm**
- ⇒ **No transition fees**
- ⇒ **No obligation**
- ⇒ **School hat and library bag provided for every child who enrolls for 2024**



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The Wisdom of Uncle Dorothy and Aunt Bob

Sound advice when you need it from people you can trust

Dear Aunt Bob,

I've been thinking. Uralla has really become quite the tourist attraction and wonder if we had a "big thing" like the Big Banana we could be as popular as Paris. What do you think? A good idea? What sort of big thing might do the job?

Regards,
Iva Nyedear

Dear Iva Nyedear, I like the way you are thinking. We need something that is unique to Uralla. The big Bushranger instead of the minute one we currently have. I am thinking one the size of the Colossus of Rhodes. Thunderbolt's horse straddling the highway with the great man with gun drawn and pointing up the highway atop and saying stop here or I will shoot. Let's get a grant. Five or six million should cover it. The tourists will flock in to see that. Yours in advice,

Aunt Bob

Dear Aunt Bob,

I like watching the Ashes being played in England at the moment. It saves me lots of money on sleep medication. All the same, I think the game of cricket could be made more interesting. I know you were an avid player as 12th man for the Bundarra D Grade women's team, so reckon you would have lots of ideas for rule changes that would make the game more interesting. I eagerly anticipate your recommendations. Regards,

Dozy Doug

Dear Dozy, I was interested to see a couple of rules in the last test that I hadn't seen before. First, apparently if you catch a ball sometimes it isn't out? And don't walk down the pitch if the umpire hasn't called over. Apart from that I think that over the fence should be out and there should be a drink break after every over. This will ensure a much friendlier atmosphere. Yours in advice,

Aunt Bob

Hello there.. Uncle Dorothy here... I know you're very busy and in demand for your terrific advice. I have a question for you. Which of the two actions in the great game of cricket is the least honourable?

1. Bowling underarm or,
2. Stumping a popular opponent when he's out of his crease! Not sure.

Dear uncle Dorothy, Thank you for your question. Firstly, I must point out that there is no honour among thieves and cricketers. It is survival of the fittest. Secondly, you were allowed to bowl underarm under the rules when Greg Chappell forced his little brother to do so against our New Zealand cousins, just as it is in the rules to stump a player when he walks out of his crease when the ball is still live. Thirdly the MCC write the rules and in the latter case they have only themselves to blame. Mind you, the mind blowing hypocrisy of the Pommies is evident when you consider they have used this rule themselves on several occasions, including by Johnny "Walker" Bairstow. So Bazball-nil OZball-2. Winners are Grinners. Yours in advice.

Uncle Bob



Listen every second Tuesday morning for a live to air interview about the latest edition of the Wordsworth, on FM 92.1 or on the internet: <https://2arm.net.au/listen/>

Play Patch is a ministry of Uralla Anglican on Fridays from 10-12am for children from 0 - school age and their carers. We explore the bible through sensory play weekly during the school term. It costs \$20 a term, per family. Please bring morning tea for your child, a hat and a change of clothes (sensory play can get messy).
www.urallaanglican.com

The **Farmgate Support** program provides peer support, counselling, information and advocacy for rural people living in farming communities or on farm. Our team includes Peer support workers and social workers. We travel to farms or meet people in their local area across the Hunter New England Local Health District. People can self refer or be referred, with their consent, by calling 0477 322 851 or email: HNELHD-FarmgateSupport@health.nsw.gov.au

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One Hundred Words

Wordsworth receives a lot of positive comments about the stories that appear in *One Hundred Words*. These stories connect with readers because they tell us something about ourselves, old acquaintances, our past or our town's history. However, readers may have noticed that many of these stories come from a small number of contributors.

Wordsworth believes everyone has a number of fascinating stories to tell that would be of great interest to most people in and around Uralla, but for whatever reason, are reluctant to put them down on paper and send them off to us at Wordsworth.

History books don't usually tell you about these stories that delve into, and reveal the true character of Uralla and its people. Stories recorded in Wordsworth are, and will be, recorded for posterity so people into the distant future can gain a better feeling for, and understanding of, how life was lived back in the good old days.

We understand many people aren't comfortable with computer keyboards or know how to send an email with an attachment. To make it easier to contribute to *One Hundred Words*, Ross Burnet has made available his bookshop letterbox for anyone who would like to drop in their handwritten stories. Ross's letterbox is at the bottom of the front door. You should include your name and maybe your phone number in case we need to contact you about clarifying parts of your story.

One Hundred Words is your opportunity to tell us about yourself: a funny incident you have had, interesting things you have done, places you have visited, something you are passionate about, or memories of Uralla from your earlier life.

A great way to be inspired to write, is to dig out your old photo albums, find a picture with a story, and start writing. Experience has shown that most *One Hundred Words* stories are written in this way. We would love to hear from you.

Don't let these stories disappear forever. Get your pen and paper out and start writing. The title *One Hundred Words* shouldn't be taken too seriously. Most contributors need more words to tell their story - perhaps even 300 - 400 words. **-Editor**

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URALLA WOMEN'S BOWLING CLUB NEWS FROM THE GREENS



Ladies from Uralla and Gloucester Bowling Clubs at Gloucester

The cold blustery weather is still hanging around the greens, and now we also have to contend with another rainy spell. This has made it difficult for our ladies to get in a game of bowls over the last couple of weeks. The inclement weather has also had an impact on the players with some succumbing to the innocuous flu. As one recovers, another seems to go down with it.

I'm sure all the ladies remember fondly their trip to Gloucester in early May when the weather was much warmer and the sun shone all day. They tell me they had a fantastic two days of bowling and sight-seeing around the district. I was very envious.

At least we were able to have our monthly meeting yesterday in the warmth of the Uralla Bowling Club. Armed with hot coffee or chocolate, those who could, gathered and got down to business.

The latest championship to be played saw Ros Rhodes and June Gregory take out the Club Pairs. Congratulations ladies! Triples are the next event on the agenda and will be played later in July.

The AGM of Uralla Women's Bowling Club will be held on Wednesday 2nd August 2023, commencing at 10.00am at the Uralla Bowling Club. August will also see us getting involved with the New England Women's District Games. Members of our club will be both playing and officiating in some manner in these games.

Uralla Women's Bowling Club will be hosting the Region 3 Jean McKinnon Friendly Games over two days in September this year. This will mean a lot of bowlers in our town and bowling club from the four districts. We are looking forward to it - to making new bowling friends and connecting again with old buddies on the greens.

Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer, UWBC

A Nasty Game For Nice People



Players assemble briefly before the start of an afternoon of tense and exciting competition.

The excitement of the inaugural paired croquet tournament came to a climax on Sunday. Seven tense and exciting games were played over two days after the Sawtell Thwackers' Croquet Club (STCC) challenged the Royal Uralla Croquet Club (RUCC) to a friendly inter-regional tournament.

Saturday, cold and foggy, opened the tournament on the beautiful Kootingal lawns of Mr. Michael and Mrs. Cheryl Wertheim. The Kootingal members led the opening games strongly with deft strategy, precision shots and good sportsmanship.

Uralla's bruised reputation was soothed by a delicious lunch proffered by Mr. and Mrs. Wertheim in their picturesque garden after which refreshed players of both teams were eager to re-enter the fray.

Play continued, giving The RUCC a slight lead at the end of the day with some thrilling shots by Uralla resident Mr. Ross Scott, Dr. Brendan Jacobs and STCC's Mr. Ken Welham.

Sunday's clear sky and crisp temperatures augured well for the RUCC with the lovely Mrs Marlene Jacob's note-worthy shots prompting the STCC's quick retaliatory strikes by Dr. Dru Haywood resulting in the RUCC going down by two points before lunch was declared.

The day continued to warm, showing Uralla's newest residents Mrs. Amanda and Mr. Steve Williams' verdant gardens and lawn to best advantage. A white cloth covered table of refreshments sparkled in the sunshine as the members of the RUCC and STCC mixed affably with one another and with Wordsworth's special correspondent and photographer.

By general ascent, both clubs reinvigorated and keen to re-enter the mêlée, changed partners and the excitement of the tournament came to a climax with "striking" shots by Mrs Cheryl Wertheim and Ms. Kelly Williams.

The STCC was supplemented in the final game by the skilful Mr. and Mrs. Wertheim battling hard against the persevering Dr. Jacobs and Mr. Scott who won the game by one point.

After general congratulations and a libation to the friendship of the tournament, a large silver perpetual cup on plinth was presented to the RUCC team captain Dr. Jacobs who gracefully accepted it and congratulated all the players on a wonderfully exciting day.

A lovely silver pierced basket on plinth was awarded to the best player over two days: Mrs Cheryl Wertheim.

The RUCC and STCC wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Wertheim and Mr. and Mrs. Williams for the kind hospitality and use of their lovely gardens.

Anyone interested in playing croquet is invited to see David Mann at Olde Memories and Treasures 49 Bridge Street, Uralla. You will be warmly welcomed.

David Mann, Uralla



Uralla team member, David Mann, demonstrates the uniquely Uralla style of addressing the ball.



With laser-like focus Dr Brendan Jacobs lines up what will be another successful shot.



Do you recognise this scene? It's Uralla of course but where has this photo been taken? It's a different perspective.

New England Solar and First Nation partners recognised as award finalist

Our Head of Construction Tim Greenaway will be heading to Sydney later this month representing ACEN Australia as a finalist in the 2023 Clean Energy Council Awards.

ACEN was chosen as a finalist in the First Nation Engagement and Participation award category for its collaborative work with its First Nation partners on the New England Solar project.

The project's Registered Aboriginal Parties have been closely involved in the project since its inception, helping us to better understand their connection to country across the land where the solar and battery project is located.

This close working relationship, supported by our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan, has led to:

- Better access and protection of culturally significant sites.
- Cultural awareness sessions for our people working on the project.
- Opportunities for local Aboriginal people to work with us on the project; and
- Events and activities to promote greater understanding of the First Nations people of Ooralla.

Sharing the solar project site



Our drones flying over the solar project site this month uncovered a nice image of co-habitation with some native wildlife.

The kangaroos were seeking shelter and protection amongst the solar panels, along with a tasty meal of the local grass. This of course also helps to reduce vegetation levels across the site.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Laura Abbott
Community Liason Officer at Green Light Contractors

☎ 0417 261 453

✉ info.australia@elecnor.com



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