

Uralla Wordsworth

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Edited by Luise Scherer, Ross Burnet, Louis van Ekert and Malcolm Airs

urallawordsworth@gmail.com

www.urallawordsworth.com.au

  urallawordsworth

Bulk Billing Budget Boost Next Piece in Health Puzzle

Member for the Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall has welcomed the Federal Government's commitment to triple the bulk billing rate for general practitioners, opening up another 11 million possible appointments for patients.

"Tonight's budget finally addresses this huge gap in the system that is quite literally driving people away from their GP – the person that can and should be their point of call for their health – and into our hospitals." Mr Marshall said.

"The challenges for our health system are at their most critical in a generation, but making bulk billing unsustainable for GPs was breaking the system at its most day-to-day level, was seeing many doctors simply retire or close their books as they couldn't cover their basic costs.

"This of course hit the most vulnerable – the elderly, First Nations, those with chronic health issues and those on low incomes like students and single parent families, who simply can't afford to pay full cost regularly, if at all, and were struggling to even find a doctor at all.

"Bulk-billing not being viable was also hitting rural and regional general practise harder than in the city as it made recruitment of new doctors into the regions even more difficult – if not at times almost impossible, without additional incentive programs kicked in by the State Governments.

The Federal Government seems to have got the message that the health of the patient and GP bulk billing model is how we keep doctors' doors open, and relieve pressure on the entire system."

The 2023-24 Federal Budget funds a bulk-billing increase to \$20.65 for city-based GPs and \$39.65 for rural GPs and a 4 per cent increase of the Medicare rebate.

Most of the Northern Tablelands would be eligible for the highest incentive payments to GPs.

"We need people to be able to afford to see their GP, for GPs to be able to offer bulk-billing and all parts of the health system to be working together.

"I have been fighting for better health services since I became the state MP and it was frustrating watching this piece of the puzzle not be addressed budget after budget.

"The Budget also finally recognises that taking pressure off hospitals is crucial – and there will be incentive payments made to GPs who can take on vulnerable patients who are frequently presenting to emergency for primary care reasons, often through a total lack of access to a GP.

"I will be urging the State Health Minister to work with his federal colleague to prioritise the new schemes rolling out in the regions as fast as possible – if not first – while I continue to work on further upgrades for our health infrastructure, recruitment and retention and our course rolling out a working model that makes being a rural GP one of the most rewarding medical professions to take up and ensure everyone in the Northern Tablelands has access to the health care they deserve."

Adam Marshall, Member for Northern Tablelands

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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.

May is proving to be a hectic month for Councillors and staff, as we look to finalise a draft budget for 2023/24. The Draft Fees and Charges for next year will also be discussed at an Extraordinary meeting on Tuesday May 16 at 4pm. Hopefully the Draft Operational Plan 2023-2024 will then be placed on public exhibition.

Last Wednesday I was fortunate enough to be invited to attend the Southern New England Landcare "May Member Muster" which was held at the Uralla Community Centre. With over 40 members in the room, it was excellent to hear of some of the work being carried out in the region. The guest speaker was Dr Sarah Mika, Aquatic Ecology Research Officer, School of Environmental and Rural Science, at the University of New England. She spoke on the "Importance of Protecting Aquatic Habitats in Agricultural Landscapes." This topic is also critical to urban water supplies like the Kentucky Creek Dam. It was also wonderful to hear of the work being led by Des Anderson on the Northern Tablelands Koala Partnerships Project. Des outlines the progress in each of the four main areas:-

1. Restoring habitat on public and private land;
2. Surveying and Monitoring;
3. Community Engagement; and
4. Koala Care.

I have no doubt that koalas will continue to be high on the community and the government agenda.

Last Tuesday, Council staff and I met with Fiona Barden, Investment Manager, North, Office of Regional Economic Development, NSW Government. We were able to show Fiona the current projects on our books, such as the McMaugh Gardens proposed development, the Industrial Land, and the possible uses of our Waste Facility. We will work with Fiona to attempt to bring together the Uralla Shire Innovative/Business Drivers at a forum later in the year.

To round out Youth Week, Lauren Chalmers, Council's Executive Support Officer, and I visited Kingstown Public School with sporting and fishing (I know some of you think it's a sport) equipment. The school is down to eight students, with two more leaving soon. It reflects an overall change in farm staffing levels and also the devastating impact some corporate owners can have on a community with their management policies. On a positive note, the pre-school is going well and should see numbers rise again.

Good news with the Federal Government confirming Uralla Shire Council's funding allocation of \$343,847 for rural road projects. The guidelines will be released in July, and projects must be completed by June 30, 2025.

Keep an eye out for the new "Discovering Aged Care Careers" campaign, which will focus on drawing people to a career in Aged Care, through a series of short videos.

The recent increase announced in Aged Care Workers' pay can also assist in this message. It is essential that the Federal Government match this wonderful announcement with increased funding to cover the costs of the providers. I was interested to see in the latest Federal Government budget that they hope to keep more seniors in their homes with care, rather than entering into Aged Care accommodation. Let's hope it is about dignity, respect and quality of life, rather than budget savings.

Congratulations to the hard working "Friends of McMaughs" on another hugely successful Bowls Day. The latest count shows a new profit of \$10,000. The list of sponsors is huge, and the ongoing support of the Uralla Bowling Club is essential. The local member, Adam Marshall MP, took advantage of the day to announce a \$100,000 grant to the "Friends" for furnishings of the proposed upgrade at McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Facility. At least Adam coming meant I had an excuse not to wear the Hawaiian shirt my wife had bought for me.

Great news with the success of the first "Girls Twilight Games" at the Uralla Tennis Courts. I counted over 30 girls (!) on my way past on Friday evening. I am sure that the event will be repeated once Spring arrives. What a wonderful way to encourage more women into sport.

M: 0434 244 774

robertbell1055@hotmail.com

Robert Bell

Uralla Shire Resident



EMALENE GEMMELL FAMILY LAW

9/108 Dangar Street **ARMIDALE**
60a Bridge Street **URALLA**



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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

It is cold now down in the creek and I'm settling in for the winter inside my boulder scrape by the creek bank, busily pushing dirt into the opening to seal myself off; soon to be drowsily reading something of the 'Wind in the Willows' style, pure contentment. Of late I have been bucolically edging my way through the 'Journals of John Oxley' savouring the delightful descriptions of a pristine New England landscape that is no longer as it was; neither is my creek habitat. Oxley sees New England as the 'finest park imaginable' but our little park here cannot merit that qualification as the eye wanders through not enjoyment but forlorn visions of neglect.

Curiously, I think aloud of the recent past and ask, 'Since 2021 what partnerships has the 'big house' fostered and mentored that have identified new pathways toward achieving improved environmental outcomes for the Uralla creek'? Partnerships have the ability to define healthy group results and are essential in my view.

I wonder, on another level, what response Watkin, and self would receive from the uprights in the 'big house' if we made a fuss over the condition of the Uralla creek - it works in Tasmania!

Perhaps the 'big house' environmental officer may pen a few lines on the Uralla creek subject to you dear editor speaking words of wisdom from a manager's point of view; maybe even a 'Top Pub' napkin concept of a ripper design for us. We do need some help as our habitat is changing, not for the better after each departing summer.

Yours Sincerely,

Reggie Quiver, Uralla Creek Bank.

Dear Editor,

As I wandered from my glorious boulder location, after having a vigorous dance with Reggie, who I must say has a very clear understanding of our habitat and the lack of participation by the large uprights that come and go from the 'big house' and the others that meander through our domain.

I've decided that it is time to get serious about my action plan and put it into progress, I know that Reggie has my back and will be in this 100%, but I'm not convinced about the uprights in the 'big house' and what they have in store for our little region and the neglect that has been going on for sometime now.

My conversation sometimes leads to the beauty of 'The Literary Institute' manicured gardens and how well maintained that particular area is, maybe Reggie and I could move in there and have clean fresh water and lots of glorious bugs and delicacies to eat. I'm not sure how the uprights would affect us moving in though.

You know that these huge machines that the uprights drive are covering the footpath outside the 'big house' and

blocking the way for some of the older uprights who have trouble walking/scooting on those concrete things and are forced to go on the nature reserve, dear me, I hope they don't have an accident and fall over or even worse still roll over whilst driving their scooters, imagine the problems then !! Is this a matter for the police within the township?

Oh well enough from me and the small problems that I face on a daily basis, I will go and enjoy the sunshine and warmth on my beautiful boulder.

Watkins, Uralla Creek

P.S. check out below the photo of my habitat and why I'm complaining



Dear Editor,

Any trouble with Telstra? Recently our service failed. We could not ring out but not only in our area; wider usage was affected and not by the weather. Don't try to email Telstra on any of the emails you receive because they will of course be all NO REPLY.

We don't get any compensation when our communication services do not work. I am sure our recent network failure meant you could not contact any business and those business's lose money. The loss of business is not caused by the business owner.

The Uralla Shire council would benefit from information for the telco about how remediation measures are being targeted towards fixing failures. We know how often they occur does Telstra record or publish these difficulties. If Kentucky is going down the Telstra avenue, then check what responsibility the telco acknowledges about compensating for failures. Uralla Shire needs reliability and dependability not just communication speed.

It is not that long ago that our communications were compromised in local fires. There must be established central hub for bushfire, flood events or any emergency event. I have suggested and maintain we need a central communication hub for community support. Hopefully, this is included in any package the council accepts within the government grant systems.

Jann Karp, Uralla

One Hundred Words

The Old Uralla Swimming Pool



The year was 1952 and the people are L to R: Ruth Quayle, Fran Cooper, Beryl Meredith, Kay Turner, Ron Hall?, Boyd Nelson, Peter Phillips and Roger Turner. In the background is the swimming teacher with the then headmaster Mr Walker.

In 1952 I started my first year of high school. How lucky was I, when for sport, I was allowed to do swimming at the full sized pool directly opposite the school in Park Street. It was owned by Matron McMaugh of the Uralla Private Hospital. Most of us could not swim so we had three years to learn. The cost of entry was 3d (about 2 cents) and 6d for adults. By the end of the swimming season the water would be dark in colour. I sadly remember we had a fatality at the pool one day. We were missing a boy student at roll call at the end of a swimming lesson. The water was so dark they had trouble finding him.

After leaving school – and yes, I did learn to swim – I swam at the pool at night after work. It was my favourite time to swim. The pool had only one or two lights and the cost of entry was extra at one shilling, to pay for the electricity.

The pool was fitted with two dressing sheds, showers and toilets and 50 personal lockers. The pool was built in 1941 by Dave Lindsay and a number of people who owed money to Matron McMaugh for services provided. A lot of the work was done using pick and shovel.

After the hospital was closed, Matron McMaugh ran a very successful boarding house with permanent and overnight accommodation - a favourite for tourist buses and travellers. When Matron passed away, the business was closed – a sad and big loss for the town.

I always had a soft spot for the old hospital. I had a plan that one day I would buy it and restore it to its past glory, but when I realised how much it would cost, I had to dismiss the idea.

Peter Phillips, Uralla

An Allegory

The first few years of its operation were successful with volunteers working together in a considerate and co-operative manner to achieve the co-op's aims.

It grew to such an extent that a manager was appointed. He brought with him the idea that, by attracting customers with notionally higher incomes, it would make the co-op more profitable. This was his measure of success.

The idea caused division among the members - those who thought it a good idea and those who thought he was missing the point of a co-operative's function. In hindsight this change was the beginning of the end of the organisation.

The manager was single minded about implementing his ideas and pressed for its implementation. Dissatisfaction developed among the volunteers. There was gossip, accusations and comments verging on slander. There was confusion about what was happening.

As a result, dissatisfied volunteers started to leave to volunteer elsewhere. The smaller number of volunteers were asked to take on more hours, with the result of creating more dissatisfaction.

Customer numbers decreased because the tensions in the shop became apparent to them and impacted their shopping experience.

The manager encouraged those with his views to join the board, and meetings increasingly became more political in nature. I felt the principles of a co-op were relegated to second place as the need for profit took hold.

Shortly thereafter, I fronted up as usual to do my weekly shopping and found only one box of vegetables on offer in the entire shop. It seemed that suppliers had not been paid for some months and the Co-op was insolvent.

In the wind-up of the co-op when it came, the directors found themselves liable for its debts - costing each several thousand dollars personally.

What did we end up with? A bankrupt co-operative, large numbers of volunteers who left, others who were bitterly disappointed and a manager who disappeared.

A desirable outcome? What do you think? It taught me that a leadership style that is not democratic, collaborative or where collective decisions are not made utilising the vast life experiences of volunteers, is doomed to fail.

There is no place for authoritarian leadership in a co-operative. The arrogance, egotism and an inability to listen to the informed advice of its membership will make it very difficult for the charity to survive.

Pete Barkley, Invergowrie

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Running Wild 4 - 'Shots Fired !'

6. Recap. *In parting with her last few sausages, 'The Captain' gave Ollie a gold sovereign as a token of thanks and to help her continue in her quest for a gold strike. By this time locals knew that 'The Captain' was about the area. Will returned to daily life, dreaming of the bushranger's life.*

It was mid-morning Friday and Will was rounding the top of a low hill, when a large fine chestnut horse jumped from the hillside scrub. The rider was well dressed, pistol tucked into a blue waste sash. 'Any meat for me young lad ?' he said in a firm tone. Will was taken by surprise and took a moment to reply. 'Do you have an order for your meat Sir', he said sheepishly. The rider replied, 'no order son, but if you'll be so kind to sell me some joints and sausages I'll be away before the sun gets any higher. You'll also have the story to tell, of meeting 'The Captain' this fine day'. Will was numb hearing this news. 'This was him, talking to me, what fine luck', he said to himself.

Will didn't let this moment pass, his reply clear. 'My name's Will and yes Captain, what is your fancy? I've smoked ham joints, corned silverside, salted mutton and strings of boiled sausages'. The Captain said, 'Well Will, I'll take one of each and a good round of your sausages'. He paid for his goods plus a handsome tip, which Will wouldn't be passing on to Haworth.

By this time, Will had plucked up some courage, Will said 'Do you think I could join you for awhile ? I've dreamt of the rangers life, riding the bush highway, with no one to order me around.

The Captain lazed in his saddle, his reply cordial, 'What would your Ma and Pa say, hooking up with a bushranger?' 'They wouldn't care' Will said. 'I left them long ago, for my stepfather beat me daily and Ma gave me no mind, otherwise she would have stopped the brute from wailing on me.

Will continued, 'I've been working for the butcher Howarth, but he just uses me to line his own pockets'. 'I sleep with his horses, work all day, hardly get fed and no pay'. 'But I'm good with his horses, I tend them, ride em, help with the breeding and breaking the colts'. 'He has some fancy ones too, bred out of his stallion, from the Bungarribee Stud, of The Barb'. 'Originally Sir Hercules bloodline, I heard him say', Will said.

With this news 'The Captain' pricked his attention, sat upright, leaned towards Will. 'Sir Hercules you say boy, did I hear correctly, are you sure about that ?' he said. 'Yes Sir', Will said, 'from Smiths Doonside Stables, Sydney'. 'Well that changes everything Will', The Captain said. He knew good breeding when he heard it. The chance of acquiring one or maybe two, by whatever means, was too good to pass up.

'Well, I'll be leaving Sunday, an hour after dawn, off Mount Crawney', he said.

'If you're there then you can come for a while, but you'd better be mounted on a good horse and bring a spare'. 'Your life will depend upon it Will'. He touched his hat brim and was gone just as quickly as he had appeared.

THE END until the next episode of Running Wild (Fiction)

Daryl Albertson, Kellys Plains



Save the Date Sunday 28 May

The Legendary Neil Murray live at the Mill 2-4 pm.



Maverick songman Neil Murray originally sprang from Victoria's western district, but in the late 1970's with guitar in hand he set course for the Northern Territory. He emerged at Papunya in 1980 as a founding member of the pioneering Warumpi Band, which over three albums (Big Name No Blankets, Go Bush and Too much Humbug) and twenty years of performing, thrust contemporary indigenous music into mainstream Australia, yielding such classic songs as My Island Home, Blackfella Whitefella, Fitzroy Crossing, Jailanguru Pakarnu, Stompin Ground, From The Bush and Waru.

"One of the finest songwriters this country has ever produced." - Rhythms

Stop Press:

The Saturday 27 May will be a beautiful folky night at the Urralla Mill. The 20+ year old Firebirds community choir led by Chris Purcell will be sharing some of their lovingly chosen songs, followed by Tasmanian-abroad singer/songwriter Teri Young.

Doors from 6pm for a 6:30 start. Bring a plate of supper to share if you like, BYO drinks, cups of tea provided. Tickets \$15 full, \$12 concession, u18 free. Purchase at the door or from: <https://events.humanitix.com/teri-young-and-the-firebirds-community-choir>

Sustainable House Tour Success

People travelled from as far as Narrabri and Tamworth to join over 150 locals on the Sustainable House Tour last weekend, and visited the eight open houses in Kentucky, Invergowrie, Uralla and Armidale.

This was the sixth bi-annual tour organised by Sustainable Living Armidale (SLA) showcasing local houses.

"It was well worth the visit," wrote a Tamworth couple, "we learnt so much over the two days toward our own upcoming home renovation and greatly appreciated the way in which the owners and your members were so generous in opening their homes to us and imparting a wealth of knowledge about their own renovation or new build. What a great program!"

Each of the houses was unique, all were modestly sized, but very different in every other aspect, four newly built, two were existing older houses that had a complete makeover, transforming cold, draughty houses into comfortable, low energy homes and two were extensions.

All of the home owners were pleased with the level of interest in the way they had built, some of them architect-designed, some owner-designed. "People were so intrigued," one owner said, "some making notes of the details of construction and insulation. We were really happy to share what we'd learnt from our building process."

The next SLA House Tour will be in 2025, and there will be a Backyard Garden Tour in 2024. Check out the SLA website for more information: www.slarmidale.org

Barbara Finch, Sustainable Living Armidale



Open house on show in the Sustainable House Tour



Plans on display as one of the hosts explains sustainable details of their house.

Uralla Community Street Store

15 - 21 May - Kentucky Memorial Hall

22 - 28 May - Armidale & District MS Group

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>

Community Messages

Play Patch is a ministry of Uralla Anglican on Wednesdays 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

Notice: If you find a sick or injured native animal please call Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers on **1800 008 290**.

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Joanna Dolan

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Uralla Wordsworth Monday 15 May 2023 P7

UWBC Celebrates 2nd Pam Westbury

Memorial Bowls Trophy

Last Wednesday saw a large gathering from around the New England come to Uralla to show their respect and appreciation of the skill Pam Westbury brought to the game of lawn bowls. Pam's love for the sport of bowls was an inspiration to all those who played with or against her. She was very well known and loved at all levels of the game and was instrumental in setting many beginners on the path to becoming enthusiastic and knowledgeable players. She was a member of the Uralla Women's Bowling Club for 31 years, 17 of which she reigned as Club Champion. We have missed her over the years since her passing, and last year we decided to honour her with her very own memorial trophy day.



Winners of the Pam Westbury Memorial Trophy 2023 - Kootingal

Although a little brisk in the early morning, the sun shone brightly for the rest of the day and it was great to see players from all six New England clubs out on our greens. We were also delighted to welcome players from the Central Northern District. The rinks were awash with colours as everyone lined up to put the show on the road with the traditional start to most social competition whereby you show your skill by capturing a spider with your bowl, and of course to collect a prize for your accuracy.

Then it was down to business as teams paired off and settled down to show what they could do in competition mode. The game was triples and all those involved played friendly and enthusiastic games, with the occasional antics to be seen as some players succumbed to the delight they were feeling and just couldn't hold back from showing it.

But the competition had eventually to come to a conclusion as time ran out and the bell rang to signal the end. Everyone then returned to the clubhouse for a delicious lunch before the presentations. After the score cards were studied and any count-backs taken into account, the winner proved to be the team from Kootingal, who were presented with the Memorial Trophy amid exuberant congratulations. Runners-up were Guyra.

I'm sure everyone had a great time and were happy to be able to catch up with old friends as well as make new ones.

And there were many lucky recipients going home with some lovely goodies resulting from the many raffle and other prizes.

Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer, UWBC

A Tennis Era Ends



The old Uralla Tennis clubhouse, mentioned in the last Wordsworth, was last week dismantled and recycled after over seventy years of rich tennis history.

- Editor

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

at Uralla Shire Council.

Information about vacant positions and access to Council's interactive application is available on Council's website: <https://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/Council/Working-at-Uralla-Shire-Council>

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.

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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, Can you please tell me how to fold a fitted sheet.

Frustrated Nigel.

Dear Nigel, I feel your pain my friend. As a man of leisure, it is my responsibility to look after laundry and that includes making the bed and folding sheets. After years of practice, I have mastered the art of folding a fitted sheet. You carefully pick the sheet up roll it into a ball and stuff in the linen closet before your wife see what you are doing. Whilst on the subject of fitted sheets, I have found that they come in two sizes, either too small or too big. None of them fit. We are fortunate to have a king size bed (this stop us annoying one another) and I am yet to find a fitted sheet that fits properly. I also walk approximately 5 klms every day around the bed making it to the standard that is acceptable to my wife. Hope this give you some insight.

Yours in advice,

Aunt Bob

Dear Aunt Bob, I recently read that the earth is spinning faster and faster. Do you think we are headed to the end of days.

Nervous Nelly.

Dear Nervous Nelly,

I also read that report. In the 1960's, scientists began measuring the planet's rotation with high-precision atomic clocks. And on June 29, 2022 the Earth racked up an unusual record: its shortest day since then, rotating 1.59 milliseconds less than 24 hours per International Earth Rotation. .July 26 neared the newly-set record, at 1.50 milliseconds shorter than usual. So, why is the Earth spinning faster? Scientists are not completely certain, but they have a few possible explanations. Some experts believe the melting and refreezing of ice caps could be contributing to the irregular speed. Earthquakes can also make the days shorter, they added. The 2004 earthquake that unleashed a tsunami in the Indian Ocean shifted enough rock to shorten the length of the day by nearly three microseconds. Also known as the Chandler variation of latitude, the "Chandler Wobble" is a natural shifting of the Earth's axis due to the planet not being perfectly spherical, and could be linked to the spinning speeds, according to three scientists. On the other hand, stronger winds in 'El Niño' years can slow down the planet's spin,

extending the day by a fraction of a millisecond, according to NASA. The name 'El Niño' is used to describe the warming of sea surface temperature that occurs every few years. Basically anything that moves mass towards the centre of the Earth will speed up the planet's rotation. But over the longer term, the Earth is actually spinning more slowly than it used to, compared to when dinosaurs walked this planet, scientists said. Wind the clock back 1.4 billion years and a day would pass in less than 19 hours. On average, then, Earth days are getting longer rather than shorter, by about one 74,000th of a second each year. So as per usual the scientists don't all agree. My take is we are probably 1.4 billion years from the end of days although I can guarantee you and I wont be here to witness that.

Yours in advice,
Aunt Bob

Neil ("Grubby") Doran (in the Pub)

Who's that rowdy bloke over there? ...
Rum and Bonox, florid face and chubby.
Oh, the one entertaining the crowd
Infamous local identity, name of "Grubby".

Always in for a fierce and fiery debate
On any subject you'd care to choose,
And when it comes to opinions "molto forte",
Don't even start, mate, because you'll lose!

The Saturday horse racing is the rowdiest,
Neil and a tribe all madly on the punt,
The language?! It's colourful, well mostly blue,
To write it here may cause affront.

A chorus of screams at the horses on the screen,
A stranger says "Hey, the horses can't hear you, fellahs!"
"Mate, haven't you heard of horse whisperers!"
Quips Neil, "My friend, we're the horse yellers!"

"Grubby"? No idea how he got that name
And frankly I don't really care,
But he'd a keen mind under all that bluster,
And a real gentleman's kind heart in there.

Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is
5pm Thursday 25 May 2023.
Please email all contributions including advertising,
letters to the editor, 100 Words, and articles to
urallawordsworth@gmail.com

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 RSL Memorial Hall, 27 Salisbury 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 Brewery Book Club meets on the fourth Thursday of each month, 5pm at the brewery

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

Events For May and June

***Bundarra Community Markets** - 20 May, Information: Donna McLean 67237178

***Next Uralla Council Meeting** - Tues 23 May 4pm

***McCrossin's Mill** Teri Young and the Firebirds Community Choir led by Chris Purcell, Saturday 27 May 6pm at McCrossin's Mill, tickets at the door. Bring a plate of supper to share if you like,

***Uralla Arts presents Neil Murray**, legendary songwriter, Sun. 28 May, 2-4pm at The Mill.

ANTaR Armidale's Annual Reconciliation Bridge Walk, Curtis Park Sunday 28 May 2023 12 noon

St Joseph's School Uralla, Open Morning, Wednesday 31 May 9:30-11:00 am



Listen every second Tuesday morning around 11 am 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/>

Uralla Seniors & Pensioners

Do Mothers Day in Style

We came from all around the shire.
From towns and villages and off the farm.
In private cars and cabs for hire,
And on foot with neither hindrance nor any harm.

We arrived all dressed up to the nines
with matching parasols or walking sticks in hand.
Some then set themselves up with sparkling wines,
And for others delicious juices proved in high demand.

We came for lunch at the Uralla Golf Club.
Mothers, grandmothers & the great grands.
We all got together at this most exclusive hub,
The best of mates, with the best of plans!

We rustled up our money and put it in for the raffle,
A special one to celebrate this Mother's Day.
The beautiful pink box had us awed and a bit baffled,
As we waited for Maggie and Norma to have their say.

A hand went in and pulled out a ticket.
We crossed our fingers, and some our toes.
We studied our numbers on hearing the picket.
And all except one moaned aloud our woes.

We waited anxiously as the lucky one opened the box,
Carefully unwrapped what was hidden inside
and brought the stylish items out onto the tabletops.
A handbag, wallet and a makeup bag lay side by side.

She sounded somewhat bashful.
As if she couldn't quite believe it.
While the rest of us who had been wishful,
Couldn't quite believe it either, but had to admit

That as well as being lucky she is deserving of the win.
She's a symbol of what a mother should aspire to be.
But it's uncanny to have events take on this spin.
The Mother's Day winner this year you see
Is once again June Gregory!

**Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer,
Uralla Seniors & Pensioners Association**



Maggie Taggart Presenting June Gregory with the Mothers's Day Prize



From Imperial Hotel in 1909 to Bolt Inn in 1923
Photos: Uralla Wordsworth

Friends of McMaugh Charity Fun Bowls Day 2023

I want to thank everybody involved in making the 2023 Bowls Charity Day at the Uralla Bowling and Recreation Club such a successful day. All participants had a wonderful day.

A big thanks to our sponsors, Uralla Bowling and Recreation Club being our consistent major sponsor, Helen, staff and their suppliers, and our other our major sponsors Lockheed Martin, Uni Plan (Nick Kelly), Merali Solar, Peter Dade and Daniel Westbury, Neil Howards Electrical, and Phoenix Foundry. Also many business houses in Uralla of which there is too many to name in this report, however we wish to thank all business houses and individual community members who donated cash or voucher donations, so much for their generosity and continued support. Uralla Women Bowlers a big thank you for all your assistance on the day, and all other aspects of organising the day.

Thank you to all the players, and the community, without you the day would not be such a success and enjoyable. Uralla has the most amazing citizens. \$9757.49 nett was raised on the day.

Members of Friends of McMaugh Gardens also wish to thank the community for their support for our street stall which was held in March. This was another successful day.

This money raised from both these events will be spent on equipment and other items, to enhance the lives of residents and to assist the staff to care for the residents at McMaugh Gardens.

Rosemary Reading, Secretary, Friends of McMaugh

Introducing ... Minnies Tuckshop



Jay Goodwin, owner of Minnies Tuckshop, knows Uralla well. She was born and raised here, moved away, and has now returned to fulfil a dream.

Jay left Uralla to broaden her horizons, first undertaking training in tourism and hospitality and then working at many locations including leagues clubs and night clubs. Following a strong desire to fly, she then joined Virgin Australia where she worked for ten years as a flight attendant, flight cabin manager and at Virgin's head office, involved in the development and running of in-flight retail. The Covid pandemic and the needs of a young family, made the time right for Jay to move on and realise the two dreams she had - becoming her own boss and having her own shop. Those goals became a reality last December when she opened Minnies Tuckshop at 78 Bridge Street.

The brightly coloured and a fresh interior creates an inviting first impression. It is open for breakfast, brunch, smoko and lunch serving up wholesome, filling and, above all, the freshest of food. On the menu there are also smoothies, shakes and the usual cold drinks. The word *healthy* may come to mind when customers see the menu because of the number of healthy options available. Jay says this was intended to help those in a hurry, such as travellers, who usually struggle to find fast, healthy food during the day. This need is met wherever possible, by using fresh produce from local and regional producers.

Since opening, Jay says things have been going really well - and she's having a lot of fun into the bargain. She says the support she has received in Uralla since opening has been amazing, not the least coming from big brother Dale (see *advertisement below. Ed.*) of Dale's Downtown Meats next door,

who provides a broad range of relevant and gratefully received advice. Minnies customers come from far and wide: travellers from interstate, the region, Armidale, as well as her Uralla regulars. The most popular items on the menu are the bacon and egg rolls, the cheeseburger jaffles and - heading the rankings - the must-try acai bowls.

Jay also provides menu items as a catering service for kids' parties, jaffle parties and gatherings of friends, families and the like. Finally, be sure to ask Jay about evening pop-ups which happen about once a month. They're a great option for a casual dine-in or takeaway experience

-Editor



FARMGATE SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Farmgate Support Program provides **free** emotional and mental health support to people living and working in rural & remote communities throughout the Hunter New England Local Health District.

We Travel To You
Visits can be arranged on your farm, home or business OR any other place of convenience like your favourite coffee shop.

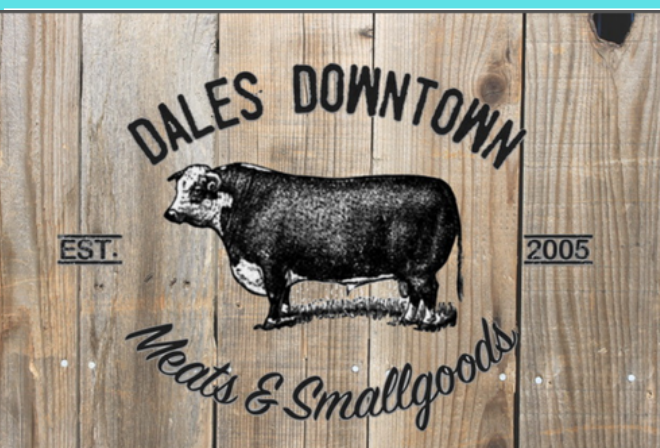
Who Can Get Help
Anyone experiencing stress from drought, fires, floods, COVID or other hardships
Farmers and farming families
Front line workers/business providers
Local Businesses
Contract/seasonal workers



0477 322 851

Email HNELHD-FarmgateSupport@health.nsw.gov.au

Monday to Friday 8.00am – 4.30pm



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