

Uralla Wordsworth

Published by Uralla Wordsworth Incorporated

Uralla's FREE Fortnightly Newspaper

Established 2018 Issue 73, 18 October 2021 Estimated circulation: 1,000

Edited by Ross Burnet, Luise Scherer and Louis van Ekert

urallawordsworth@gmail.com

www.urallawordsworth.com.au

  urallawordsworth

\$1M for Road Safety in Uralla Shire

A one million-dollar council road blitz in the Uralla Shire will improve motorist safety on three important travelling routes, with Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall today announcing \$1,010,625 in State Government funding for improvements to sections of the Gostwyck, Kingstown and Northeys Roads.

In the last 12 months, council has received \$2,336,625 through the State Government's Fixing Local Roads program.

Mr Marshall said sections of each road would undergo widening and strengthening, in order to improve the quality of ride for all motorists.

"Uralla is a day-trippers' dream, with people travelling daily on the scenic tourist drives past historic Deeargee Woolshed, Gostwyck Chapel and the scenic Kingstown area," Mr Marshall said.

"Increased traffic on Gostwyck, Kingstown and Northeys Roads in recent years has accelerated the deterioration of the aging pavement, to the point where the roads need more than just routine maintenance to keep them up to a safe standard.

"The three roads have insufficient sealed width, particularly on curves, poor shape and drainage which can cause localised flooding.

"Using these funds, council will widen and resheet selected sections of the roads to improve safety and reduce the financial burden on rate payers for regular maintenance.

As an added bonus the average travel speed is likely to increase, reducing the daily commute time for local traffic, the school bus and agricultural freight."

Uralla Shire Council will also contribute financially to the project for up to 25 per cent of the project costs.

Uralla Shire Mayor Michael Pearce said since these roads were first sealed the traffic using them had increased significantly.

"Each of these roads is an essential route in the Uralla Shire, connecting the farming communities of Gostwyck, Kingstown and Arding with Uralla township and New England Highway," Cr Pearce said.

"For regular road users, widening and strengthening the road pavement will improve the safety, particularly during the night and periods of bad weather, reducing the potential for single vehicle run-off accidents.

"Following completion, the reliability and resilience of the overall road network will be improved due to a stronger, smoother and more robust pavement for these sections of road.



Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall, left, announcing \$1,010,625 in State Government funding

Pursehouse Rural Uralla
176 Bridge St. 02 6778 6500
Mon - Fri 8am to 5pm Sat 8am to 12noon



**CYDECTIN PLATINUM
& MULTIMIN**

PURCHASE
TOGETHER FOR
10% OFF



**THUMPA PNEUMATIC
POST DRIVER**

WIN

Save this spring
with



pursehouserural.com.au

Robert Bell was elected to Uralla Shire Council in September 2016 and has served one term as Deputy Mayor. He was previously Director of Engineering for Uralla Shire, lives in town, and has a grazing block at Kentucky. In his regular column, Cr Bell gives a personal view of some of the more important matters concerning Council and ratepayers in recent weeks.

Tickets are selling fast for the Uralla Business Chamber Annual Awards night to be held at the Uralla Showground on Friday November 5. Guests of honour include Adam Marshall MP and Lou Conway, Director, UNE SMART Region Incubator. This event will give those in attendance a glimpse of how local businesses have survived and flourished under extremely difficult circumstances. At the Business Chamber AGM, David Mailler was elected President. He, and his business partner, Methuen Morgan own Meralli Solar. This company is recognised nationally as a leader in renewable energy. David has also indicated he will be running for Uralla Shire Council at the December 4 election. His entrepreneurial skills would be a huge advantage to the Council.

Uralla Shire Council staff turnover remains a problem, with the current rate of 17% well above the rate for regional Australian councils. The Local Government Workforce and Future Skills Report compiled by the Australian Local Government Association in September 2018, suggested a figure closer to 7% was more appropriate for small rural councils. Recent estimates put the cost of staff turnover at \$20,000 to \$30,000 per position, with advertising, interviews, training and loss of corporate knowledge.

I was fortunate last week to be given a copy of the final edition of "Uralla News", published in May 1988. The aim of this paper is still the aim of the Uralla Wordsworth; "To be a voice for all residents, a medium for community information, and to recognise achievements of community members." One of the amusing parts was Arnold Goode's 'Historical Times', which included the following extract from the April 1938 edition; "Dangars Lagoon, the proposed site for Uralla's future water supply, is now almost dry and Mr Harding Frew, Uralla Council's Consulting Engineer, has suggested that Kentucky Creek be again investigated with a view of determining once and for all the best site for Uralla's water supply."

Congratulations go to Neal, Wayne and Danika Howard for making page 3 of Monday's Daily Telegraph. We are fortunate to have such skilled tradespeople in our shire. Their discussions as part of a renewable economy are well timed. Rumour has it that Neal is looking to retire in the next couple of years.

I had an extremely valuable meeting last week, which highlighted that if Uralla is to grow, we need more land close to town; similar to the Invergowrie area, to expand our rate base. The expansion of services into these areas would benefit our local Council outdoor staff with increased work. As was pointed out to me, we must

maximise our opportunities or other regions will. To do nothing is not an option. The other part of the meeting reflected that the proposed rate increases including water and sewer would have a huge negative impact on all sectors of the shire. The proposal of a small number of business people and rural entrepreneurs to work with the new Council would help maximise these benefits for the whole Uralla Shire community. We have some of the best internationally recognised farmers and graziers in Australia and it would be a shame to not utilise their skills.

With the Council elections still planned for December 4, please remember that, for those considering running, nominations open on Monday October 25, and close at 12 noon on Wednesday November 3. The ballot paper draw will occur at 10am on Thursday November 4. Pre Polling opens on Monday November 22.

Please remember that the final day for commenting on the Long Term Financial Plan is fast approaching. I have been encouraged by the number of residents who have contacted me to discuss this important document.

Covid vaccination rates in Uralla continue to climb, with Adam Marshall's figures as at October 10, of 91.2% first vaccination and 68.4% second vaccination. In my previous column, I omitted the contribution of the Uralla Clinic, and I apologise for this oversight.



M: 0434 244 774

E: robertbell1055@hotmail.com

**Robert Bell,
Uralla Shire Resident**

Deadline for the next edition is
5pm Thursday 28 Oct 2021.

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

**EMALENE GEMMELL
FAMILY LAW**



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

02 5733 5885
office@egfamilylaw.com.au

An Encounter with Thunderbolt

Marion Crotty was in 9th Class at Uralla Public School in 1928 when she wrote this composition about her grandfather Thomas Crotty and Great Aunt and Uncle Kate and Dick Missen. Her composition was printed in the Uralla Times.

An encounter with Thunderbolt by Marion Crotty.

Many years ago, when the pioneers were still on the faint and rough bush roads that were little more than horse tracks, a little party of weary travellers who had come from Maitland formed a camp just on the other side of Bendemeer. Travelling by waggon is not easy and the only woman of the party, my great Aunt Kate Missen retired to her bed beneath the waggon very early.

The men folk had built a huge fire near the waggon and were sitting around talking. A bag had been flung over the waggon wheel to afford a little privacy to the tired woman. Against the wheel sat a cheery, blue eyed man. It was my grandfather, Thomas Crotty. Near him sat a young man like himself. This was Uncle Dick Missen. The other members of the party was a Mr Martin, the father of the well known gentleman, Mr Dick Martin.

They were enjoying themselves thoroughly and their laughter was at its height when a strange laugh joined in.

Thunderbolt had them all covered with his revolver. His pleasant face beamed as he bid them turn out their pockets, apologising for the trouble he had caused them all the while. He did not see a small hand steal to Grandfather's pocket and quickly return beneath the waggon.

'Who's beneath the waggon?' queried Thunderbolt.

'A woman, who is very tired after her long journey,' said Grandfather.

'Oh, I don't interfere with ladies' was the pleasant remark as Thunderbolt mounted and rode away into the darkness.

Aunt Kate kept quiet. Under her pillow reposed a bundle of notes amounting to nearly 100 pounds which she had removed from Grandfather's pocket.

Kay Adams, Uralla History Hub



NATIVE TREES & SHRUBS

Chris & Maria
67787342 or 0457 787 342
www.kentuckyreenursery.com



Righting Writing

Joanna Dolan
Proofreading, Editing, Writing
"Righting your writing"

+61 (0)2 6778 3444
www.rightingwriting.com.au
joanna@rightingwriting.com.au

**Uralla Shire Council
Local Government Elections
Important Dates**

**Lodgement of nominations open:
25 October**

**Close of nominations and registrations:
3 November**

Wordsworth Election Edition: 8 November

Pre-polling: 22 November

**Candidates Forum TBA
(on a date between 8 and 21 November)**

**Reenergising
Regional
Australia**

www.merallisolar.com.au

**PROUDLY HEADQUARTERED
IN URALLA**



**meralli
solar**

The Possible Potential of Uralla's Fairy Festival

Having observed the joyous change of mood, particularly in the main street of Uralla during last year's Fairy Festival, the various costumes donned by both children and adults, I began to think that this very special event could indeed develop further, not only lightening the spirits of our community but also through encouraging visitors to our fabulous town.

Over the last twelve months or more we have seen a building boom of Fairy Houses springing up in all sorts of locations throughout town and now it seems Fairy Residents are also becoming bolder and more evident, especially at The Glen, where proud Fairy Homeowners can be seen standing beside their new abodes. There is even a map of the Fairy village available at our local Visitors Centre on Bridge Street for both locals and visitors alike to explore these fascinating creations.

Being only a recent full time resident of Uralla, my mind wandered back to my time in Brisbane when my wife and I attended an evening at Mt Cootha Botanical Gardens where a group of performers set about at dusk, to entertain those present with their picnic rugs, dinners and candles, the ultimate Fairy Story, A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare.

My thoughts were that this performance could also be considered as a culmination to other Fairy Festival events held throughout the day in Uralla to be enjoyed by our Fairy supporting community into the evening.

Imagine parents and children assembling under those beautiful trees in Alma Park at sunset, picnic baskets and rugs in tow to witness a multi-coloured up-lighting of the forest to turn it into a magical place where Titania, Oberon and of course the mischievous Puck together with their Fairy clan assembled to act out this wonderful story.

We could invite local amateur actors for the performance together with school orchestras to provide the supporting background music, perhaps even having those Shakespearean characters popping up amongst the crowd of spectators at this event to surprise and thrill the audience.

Then I thought of the annual Elvis Festival which is held in Parkes, which has grown and grown with its Elvis Train from Sydney full of Elvis Presleys. Why not a Fairy Express from Sydney to Uralla where passengers would don their wings and regalia and join in on the fun before arriving at our Fairy capital?

The influx of visitors to our town would bring an economic boost to business together with a sharing of joy and the Fairy spirit.

This is just food for thought; I believe that our Fairy Festival has "legs" for further development and community participation and could be expanded beyond the town's boundaries to be enjoyed by both locals and visitors alike.



Photo: the Fairy mailbox situated at Michael's Cafe, and the fairy godmother is looking forward to receiving all your letters again this month

I am sure that there are others out there who might share the enthusiasm for this event and who also have some food for thought on how we can develop this unique event further to the benefit of the town and beyond.

Rob Bowie, Uralla resident

Groups or projects that would like finance should contact Uralla Community Co-operative.
Phone Ross 0412 701 402

TOOMEY & CO.
YOUR PARTNER IN BUSINESS & TAX

ANDREW TOOMEY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

andrew@toomeyandco.com.au / 0402 848 691
www.toomeyandco.com.au / facebook : toomeyco
ABN 18 635 652 612

Tax agent
25999057

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am by nature an optimist and there is plenty to be optimistic about. I reside in a great location and the environment, the heritage and the community is outstanding. Uralla Shire – north, south, east, the west has something for everyone.

I might be a bit parochial, but it strikes me that not all places have what Uralla Shire has. For me, the most important element is the sense of purpose in the community.

In the past twelve years, I have seen this community rise to each challenge and pick itself up and dust itself off and go on. Now we face another challenge from within and what makes it so disappointing is that five of our Uralla Shire Councillors do not have the courage or the capacity to challenge the General Manager and the senior staff on the Uralla Shire Council long term financial plan.

It is clear to me that the Mayor, some Councillors and General Manager use words like communication, consultation, partnership, cohesion, strategy, community and accountability without pausing to reflect on the meaning of these words.

The Uralla Shire Council long term financial plan presented by the General Manager has plenty of economic and services pain for this community whilst insisting on no financial restraint by the council.

Let us be crystal clear, Local Government is the most important level of government. The local Government role is to ensure the development of community social and economic capacity.

Business 101 says the first step in managing a financial tightening is to reduce overheads in the business. There is no evidence that the Uralla Shire Council has attempted to do this, but there is evidence to suggest the Council has increased the overheads by taking on more staff and consultants.

Mayor Pearce, Councillors Dustings, Ledger, Sampson and Strutt have failed in holding senior staff to account and have consequently lost the respect of this community. In my opinion, these members of the council have not acted in the interests of the Uralla Shire community in allowing senior council staff to draft a long term financial plan that does not meet the needs and values of the Uralla community.

The December 4th Local Government elections are an important fork in the road for this community and to quote the Lorax, *'Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better, it's not.'*

Kind regards,

David Mailler, Uralla resident

Dear Editor,

Uralla's Great Museum - McCrossin's Mill Museum - can you help?

Like many others in the Uralla community, we at McCrossin's Mill Museum & Function Centre are going through tough times with our volunteer base. Many of you in our Uralla community would know that over the last 3 years we have "lost" 5 of our beautiful, dedicated members - Mal Boyd, Pammie Simmonds, Arnold Goode, Julie Porter & most recently Phil Irvine.

Almost all of our committed remaining members are getting old, some have health issues, and some are members of several volunteer Uralla groups. I apologise for the doom & gloom, but I'm just stating the truth.

So...is there anyone out there who can join our team? Please don't hesitate to jump on board. Our Museum & Function Centre is a **huge** asset to Uralla, to NSW, and to Australia.

Ideally we would like people to commit to a regular slot on our roster as we are open every day of the year, 10am-5pm, and we want to continue this way. "Regular slot" is three & a half hours per week or per fortnight or whatever you can offer. We will show you the ropes & you don't have to be a Uralla history buff (I'm not!). Just be nice & welcoming (like me-ha ha!).

Maybe you would like to help in a different role at the museum, or with functions, do get in touch.

If you read this as a cry for help...then you are right. I would love to hear from you.

Why not come along to our long awaited AGM to be held at the Mill on Sunday 7th. November at 3pm. Refreshments served after the formalities.

Annie Mayo, Uralla Historical Society

0448 734 367

02 6778 4555

annemayo@bigpond.com



If I say I will be there, I will be there.

Licence No. 346186C

Ralph Luo

☎ : 0431 277 450

✉ : wolfunec@yahoo.com.au

Uralla Community Street Store

Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers Inc.

18 - 24 October

Uralla Men's Shed 25 - 31 October

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The role of audit in any business or organization is obviously important, but in organisations that rely on and spend public money, such as Councils, it is critical.

I have been on the Uralla Shire Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee since September 2018. Currently, this committee is made up of 3 independent members and 2 Councillors elected by Council. The State Government has proposed some major changes to the composition and mode of operation of this committee and has provided the opportunity for public comment on their proposals. I make the following generic observations about the audit process in local government as a concerned community member, and to encourage comment on this important issue.

I believe it is important that robust and independent audit outcomes are presented to Council (the governing body) for examination. While there are certain linkages and reporting requirements in the proposed model, and in many cases there are improvements on the current system, I believe the role of Council (the governing body) is minimised. The true independence of an internal auditor who reports to Council staff as well as to the Audit committee is difficult to see. Naturally, issues raised about audit results by the Audit committee and referred to the auditors, should always be fully examined, including receiving adequate documentary proof to substantiate Council staff claims.

To distance the governing body of an organisation from the role of examining audit findings is to remove the value of the process altogether for the Council organisation as a whole, and for the community.

The independence of our audit function is critical. I believe the current process is falling short and these shortcomings will be exacerbated by some of the proposed changes.

It is critical that everyone gets involved and makes a submission. The details can be found at www.olg.nsw.gov.au (search for Audit Risk and Improvement).

Submissions should be made to olg@olg.nsw.gov.au, labelled 'Draft risk management and internal audit guidelines' and marked to the attention of OLG's Council Governance Team. Submissions should be made before close of business on 26 November 2021.

taratoomeyuralla@gmail.com / 0434 408 163

Tara Toomey, Uralla Shire resident

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on keeping the Uralla Wordsworth ongoing.

Is it possible to have the "Established" year on the front page corrected?

The Uralla Wordsworth was established in 1988 with the first edition being February that year.

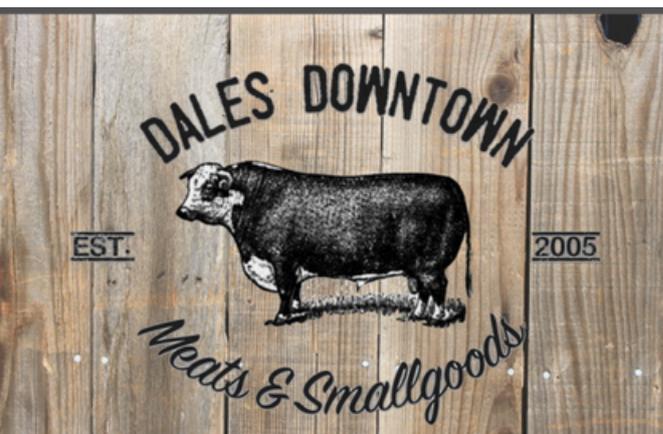
Kind Regards,

David Bracken, Founder and former editor Uralla Wordsworth



According to **NASA's Clean Air Study**, the Snake Plant is so effective in producing oxygen that if you were locked in a sealed room with no airflow (yikes!), you would be able to survive with just 6-8 plants in it. NASA recommends 15 to 18 medium-to-large size plants for a 1,800 square-foot home for optimum air quality.

— source: BBC Gardeners' World Magazine, 2 Feb 2021 —



Specialising in old fashioned service & quality

76 Bridge St, Uralla

Ph 6778 3960

Community Calendar

Please email urallawordsworth@gmail.com if you have an event or meeting for the Uralla Shire

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 the Uralla Bowling Club, dinner optional after the 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 at 10am at CWA Rooms in the Literary Institute

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

Uralla Anglican Church meets at 10am each Sunday for worship, prayer, fellowship and Johnno's (kid's programme) in Park Street

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

Uralla Show Society meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 7.30pm at the Uralla Showgrounds

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

Uralla Town & Environs Committee meets on the second Monday of each quarter from 6-7pm in the Uralla Shire Council Chambers

Uralla Tennis No organised tennis planned during winter. Uralla courts can be booked at play.tennis.com.au/court-hire

Uralla Men's Shed is open each Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am - 1pm in the Old Scout Hall, Uralla North Rd (just off the Bundarra Road).

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 opposite Foodworks

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

Uralla Brewery Book Club meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 5pm at the Brewery

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

Uralla RSL Sub-Branch Veterans and Families Drop in Centre. Open to all Veterans and their families, each Thursday 10am until 12pm at the RSL Rooms, The Uralla Memorial Institute, 55 Bridge Street.

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

Uralla Food Pantry, Mondays 11am - 2pm, Uralla Neighbourhood Centre. Good range dry goods, and fruit/veg. Fill a supermarket coloured bag \$15. New members welcome. Further information from the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre, donations welcome. Ph : 6778 3277 or email : urallaneighbourhood@bigpond.com

Freemasons (Masonic Lodge of Peace #120, Uralla) meet the 3rd Tuesday each month, interested persons, contact Dennis 0448 576 465 or John 0411 374 334

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

Uralla Tigers Supported Playgroup FREE, every Wednesday during school terms, 10am - 12pm, St Joseph's Primary School, contact Sue on 0419149244 or Geneva on 0430440171

Events for October - December

Uralla Shire Council Ordinary Council Meeting 12:30pm Tuesday 26th October, Uralla Shire Council Chambers

Rotary Club of Uralla, Thunderbolts Festival, Saturday 30 Oct 2021, 10:30am - 4pm

Uralla Red Cross Melbourne Cup Garden Party McCrossins Mill on Melbourne Cup day, 2 November 2021. Details to follow.

Uralla Shire Business Chamber Awards Night, 5 November 2021, RSL Memorial Hall, Salisbury Street

Uralla Fairy Festival, Weekend 4-5 December 2021



Cold Country
Property Services
• Domestic • Commercial • Rural

Now offering lawn mowing
0478 238 836



Purcell
CONTRACT SPRAYING

LANDCRUISER UTE, 14M GRAYTILL BOOM,
GPS GUIDED AUTO STEER

Chris Purcell 0408 332 896



NEW ENGLAND SOLAR FARM

OCTOBER 2021

Big Ridge Roadworks complete

The majority of road upgrade and drainage works along 6.4 km of Big Ridge Rd are now complete.

About two thirds of the road has been sealed as outlined in our design plan to provide safe access for construction vehicles on the main solar farm site.



Work continuing along Barleyfields Rd and intersection of New England Highway

Work is continuing along Barleyfields Rd and the intersection of the New England Highway, with road closures on the northern section of the road and speed restrictions on the highway expected to the end of October.

The works include road widening and a new right hand turn bay to allow safe access into Barleyfields Rd for construction and maintenance traffic accessing the New England Solar Farm site. The road closure extension was approved by Uralla Shire Council to allow construction crews to remove material and manage water around the site.

We thank our local neighbours and motorists using the roads for their patience and understanding while the work takes place.

Cultural Heritage

We continue to work closely with the Registered Aboriginal Parties for the project to help us manage and protect culturally significant sites.

This includes securing and protecting items such as this site plus a number of other culturally significant items.

This engagement is also helping us to grow the cultural awareness of all our workers on site, leading to development of a greater understanding of local indigenous culture and a shared connection to land and country.

We would like to acknowledge the Anaiwan People, the traditional custodians of the land of the Anaiwan Nation on which the New England Solar Farm is located.



**KEEPING
YOU
INFORMED**

Laura Abbott
Community Liaison Officer at Green Light Contractors

☎ 0417 261 453
✉ info.australia@elec.nor.com

📷 @newenglandsolarfarm
📘 @newenglandsolarfarm
🌐 newenglandsolarfarm.com.au

The Rotary Club of Uralla Thunderbolt's Festival

This year's theme is Halloween

The 22nd annual community event, Thunderbolts Festival, will be held Saturday 30th October (10:30am - 4pm) at the Uralla Showground, King St, Uralla. The Uralla Shire Council is the major sponsor of Thunderbolts Festival, other sponsors include Phoenix Foundry, Essential Energy, Uralla Bowling Club and Jobs Australia.

Entry fee is by gold coin donation, with QR check in and vaccination status is likely to be required for over 16yr olds as per the NSW Dept of Health rules on the day. Please note; families with kids are not required to donate a gold coin on entry as they will need to pay \$2 to access the activities, the committee want the event to be affordable for everyone to attend.

9:30/10am: Gates will be open to the public. Cars will not be permitted into the showground except for stall holders and those with disability access requirements. There will be some seating and shelter available but participants may like to bring along a chair and please wear a hat, sunscreen and have plenty of water to drink. St John's Ambulance will be onsite throughout the day.

10:30am: Thunderbolt Muster Street Parade (sponsored by Fleet Warbirds) includes; Capt. Thunderbolt, Classic Cars, Oxley Riders, Hot Rods, Antique Machinery, fire engines, local schools and community groups. The Muster will enter the Showground via Dangar St, do a loop of the main arena and form up on display afterwards. The Oxley Riders who lead the parade, will exit via Dangar St to go on the Bail Up Poker Run.

11am to 4pm: The usual kids' activities and just a \$2 wristband to use them all; rock climb wall, giant inflatable castle, mini castle, big dual slide and a 9 hole mini golf course this year.

Local schools Rocky River and St Josephs will provide BBQ food, drinks and snacks, and there will be tea, coffee, sandwiches & slices by Friends of McMaugh's, plus fresh fairy floss.

Markets in the Showground, face painting, photo booth, hula hoop competition and New England Antique & Machinery Display.

Crooked Tree, a band from Guyra, will provide live entertainment through day, playing rhythm & blues.

8:30pm: Holy Smoke Fireworks - at Uralla Bowling Club rear carpark. There is no requirement to QR check in from your car or distanced viewing area if everyone maintains at least 2 square metres per person or family group. If people congregate at the Bowling Club they may need to check in.

The committee will monitor & implement NSW Dept of Health COVID19 safety guidelines. Participants are asked to please be patient as there may be a short wait to enter the Showground. Please note the event could be cancelled at short notice.

Go to www.thunderboltsfestival.com.au for further information. Updates will be provided on the Thunderbolts Festival Facebook page

Leanne Doran

Thunderbolts Festival Coordinator

Rotary Club of Uralla

0488 559 928

Uralla RSL Sub-Branch News

We are often asked what the RSL is all about. Unfortunately a lot of people, especially the younger generations, think it's all about cheap beers and pokie machines. In fact the Returned and Services League of Australia and the often perceived associated RSL Clubs are two very different things and not connected at all.

Of course, here in Uralla. We don't have an "RSL Club" but we do have a very active RSL Sub-Branch. RSL Clubs are generally by name only and use the RSL name and logo from the days when often Sub-Branches did own their club. In some instances, this is still the case but they are two different identities. Our sub-branch has been going in one form or another since 1919.

The Returned and Services League of Australia, under a different title, was started by the men returning from World War 1 to help and support their mates when they returned from the front and often family members left behind if they did not return. It was a place of support and mateship, where a returned serviceman could sit down with his oppo and have a yarn about anything that was on his mind. He could get some help with a chore around the house or maybe even a small handout if he was down on his luck. In a similar way, this is still what the RSL is all about. It is just a little more formal and we have to abide by a lot more rules these days.

Today's RSL is still about what it was set up to do. It is a service organisation to help veterans and their families. It is a charity organisation which has to stay within the rules of the ACNC which administers these groups. In the past few years these rules have tightened to make sure that the RSL is transparent and not what is perceived as a secret society. ANZAC House, where the RSL is administered from, has undergone a huge change in the past few years. Our duty is to the veterans of our community. We raise money to aid veterans and their families, we run commemorative events such as ANZAC Day and Remembrance, social days and get togethers for our veterans and monitor the health and wellbeing of our veterans.

...from previous page...

These are all vital jobs of each and every sub-branch of which there are about 340 throughout NSW and all run by volunteers.

Members of the Sub-branch are generally returned service men and women, however we also have other members who abide by the same rules, that have never served. Most Sub-Branchees also have "Affiliate" members who generally have a family history of service and they are invited to join the RSL. A lot of sub-branches also have an "Auxiliary" which are made up of members of the community. Sometimes they are the partners of service members or just someone who wants to lend a hand and help the veterans. We are fortunate here in Uralla to have both Affiliate members who are very active in our community and help out with the general running of the sub-branch and also an Auxiliary who is part of the fund raising arm of the RSL.

If you would like to be part of the RSL organisation as a veteran, would like to be part of the RSL Auxiliary or want to know any information about the RSL or our sub-branch, please contact us at our office at the Memorial Institute, 55 Bridge Street.

We have fund raising events coming up with a street stall from the 1st of November which is followed by Remembrance Day on the 11th of November.

We look forward to seeing you.

Lest we forget.

Russ French

President, Uralla RSL Sub-Branch.



Urgent. Undercover storage needed for this old "Uralla Shire Council No 3" truck, which has been donated to McCrossin's Mill Museum. Contact Kent on 0421 087 574 bh.



Celebrate Uralla's Stars!

Annual Awards for Excellence 2021

Friday 5th November, 6pm for 6.30pm
at Uralla Memorial Hall

Purchase your tickets for this gala event at Thunder Graphics, IMACKA or online via our website urallabusinesschamber.org.au by Monday 1st Nov - Dress: Glam!
(due to COVID, numbers are strictly limited)

\$40 pp incl sit-down meal and a complementary drink (bubbles or oj) on arrival.
Purchase drinks at bar - live music until 10pm
Welcoming our guests
The Hon Adam Marshall MP and
Lou Conway, Director, UNE SMART Region Incubator

Platinum Partners:



ZNETPlus Greening Uralla 'Adopt-A-Tree' program is happening on OCT 23rd

If you haven't registered yet but would like to contribute to the beautification, liveability and biodiversity of Uralla by planting and caring for a tree planted on your verge then email: znetplus@zneturalla.org.au or MB 0408 080 455 for further information

Kentucky General Store & Licensed Cafe



Rod & Deb McGrath
Owners

Ph: 67787320

Email: kentuckystore@bigpond.com

www.kentuckygeneralstore.com.au

FACEBOOK: Kentucky General Store & Cafe

Cafe & Take Away
Gourmet Picnic Baskets & Catering
Groceries & Bottle Shop
DVD Hire
Bicycle & Party Hire
Petrol, Gas & Ice
Postal & Newsagency
Mobile recharge & EFTPOS

46 Noalimba Ave
Kentucky, NSW, 2354
Australia

Fuel Watch 8 October 2021

	ULP	Diesel
Kingstown	146.9	144.9
Invergowrie	149.0	150.0
Mobil	153.9	153.9
Puma	155.7	155.7
BP	155.9	162.9

The Attack of the Killer Tomato Farm Robots

Crime fiction in multiple parts by Daryl Albertson - Pt 3

The girls looked at each other in bewilderment, how close they had just come to being at Kharl's mercy. They waited before coming out of hiding, moving warily to the hatchway and out to freedom.

Michael had felt that in general all robot functionality and operations were 'fit for purpose' but in the past week, some anomalies had him perplexed. One day all would be going well, then the next not so well. It was as if his flower men were having an 'off day'. They could be slow to respond to manual commands or undertake their auto functions with a 'who cares' attitude; but maybe it was just his imagination.

Then one morning, Michael found that Bill was not in his docking bay. He found him at the far end of the grow house with his metal hook in its retracted position. It seemed as if Bill had been attempting to reach the far wall and had run out of battery. Strangely Ben was in docking Bay A, not Bay B where Michael had left him the previous evening. There was also evidence that Ben too had left the bay during the night, returning with only 10 % battery charge.

Michael had no explanation for these night-time escapades. He also didn't wish to tell the Dutch Tech guys, for fear of what they would think of him.

Things then got serious very quickly. With the flowering period approaching and these latest goings on, Michael decided to update and reboot both robots' software in the hope of a simple fix.

It was Friday evening and Michael had completed both software updates. He finished with a complete full battery re-charge. On his way out he gave Brindle the cat a goodbye pat.

Saturday morning and Michael was having breakfast, marmalade toast and cup of tea., With the sun streaming in through the kitchen windows there seemed to be no need to rush anywhere.

Kharl's phone call brought it to a sudden end. 'Michael !, Come to the Farm Now !, No 1 House'.

Michael kicked the Bluebird into life and was still eating his toast as he drove out of this driveway towards Roma. 'What could Kharl be so worked up about?'

Kharl was waiting at the hatchway to No 1 with a pained look on his normally serious German face. 'What's up Kharl?' 'You go look, its Brindle, my cat, why would someone do that to my poor puss cat?' Kharl said holding back tears.

Entering the hatchway, Michael was confronted with a macabre sight. Bill's metal hook was in the mretracted position for docking, with Kharl's cat 'Bindle' hanging from it. The hook had entered upthrough its lower jaw, pushed up into the brain, exiting the skull at top dead centre. Death would have been instant.to be continued

Inverell & North West

Gwydir

Water Services

Simon Dean

- Service & Repair all Pumps
- Solar Pumps
- Bore Hole Pumps
- Line Drive Helical Rotor /Turbine

0438 791 073

"Lucknow"
Delungra, NSW 2403

SEPTIC TANK CLEANING



0418 693 512

Check us out at:

www.gramarc.com.au

Find us on:



GRAMARC
Domestic & Industrial Waste Specialists



Covid in Uralla Shire

Uralla Shire Council staff have confirmed that recent sewage surveillance tests in Uralla have shown up SARS-COV-2 viral fragments on three separate occasions, as follows: 5th, 7th and 11th of October 2021.

However, no actual cases of Covid-19 infections have been found in Uralla Shire.

Details can be found at the NSW Health web site:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/stats-nsw.aspx#map>

Louis van Ekert, Uralla Wordsworth

Uralla Golf Club

Melbourne Cup

Calcutta



Sunday 31st Oct'21

1:30pm after the Sunday

Meat Raffle

Tickets \$1.00 (join a syndicate to win a prize)

First, second & third prizes paid.

Kitchen Open – Meals available



McCrossin's Mill

URALLA HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
MUSEUM AND FUNCTION CENTRE

URALLA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The forty-first UHS
Annual General Meeting
McCrossin's Mill Museum
SUNDAY, 7 NOVEMBER, 2021
3pm sharp.

Guest Speaker
Ms VICKI TAYLOR
"Spaces make Lace"
(Exhibition of national significance opening soon!)

Refreshments served at 4pm.
Membership subscriptions payable from 2pm.
New members welcome to join our great team to help conserve and promote Uralla's unique heritage.

Kentucky Public School

Kindergarten 2022
ENROLLING NOW!

Kindergarten Orientation and Transition begins Term 4



Please contact
Fiona Uren or Georgia Patterson
at Kentucky Public School

6778 7227

Bill Andrews

ACCOUNTANT & TAXATION
CONSULTANT

ABN 61 560 191 978

bill@billandrews.com.au

P.O BOX 49 / 51 LEECE RD
URALLA NSW 2358

0417280634 / FAX : 0267783958