

Uralla Wordsworth

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Disabled Access Upgrades for the Showground

UPGRADES to the Uralla Showground are galloping ahead at a rapid pace with the focus now turning to the construction of disabled amenities, funded by a \$44,061 State Government grant, announced by Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall this week. Mr Marshall said growing interest in the Uralla Showground as an events venue had increased the need for accessible amenities. "Over the past 18 months more than \$300,000 has been invested by the government in making Uralla Showground welcoming, safe and more functional," Mr Marshall said. "This new grant initiates the next stage of improvements by building a new accessible toilet and shower block. Funds will account for the cost of the development application, along with the laying of a cement pathway, installation of plumbing and a grey water dump point for caravans and other vehicles."

"These amenities will mean Uralla Showground can engage with important community organisations like Riding for the Disabled and cater for those with restricted mobility. Further work will also be undertaken on the recently completed stainless steel kitchen in Pavilion A with the ceiling to be lined."

"These additions will ensure the showground meets its maximum potential and is utilised by as many people as possible."

Uralla Showground Land Manager Chair Beverly Stubberfield said the amenities would open new doors for events. "Uralla Showground is back in the saddle and enjoying an increase in the number of equine and

community groups hosting events on site," Mrs Stubberfield said. "Since the improvements started four new equine groups have come on board, along with a number of new volunteers willing to give up their time to maintain the grounds - for which we are truly grateful. Our new stable is being put to good use with a trotting trainer basing his operation at the showground. This has provided our board with a regular stable income. "The addition of the new amenities will further enhance the work already undertaken and we expect the project will be complete in time for the 2022 Uralla Show. The showground is a tremendous asset to our community and as the land managers continue to develop the infrastructure, we are getting more people using it, visiting Uralla and supporting our local economy."

Adam Marshall, Member for Northern Tablelands



L - R Bob Crouch, Bev Stubberfield, Adam Marshall, Erica Barwell, Darron Phillips

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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.

The ongoing concern in relation to a building inspector only being employed for half a day a week was highlighted recently. Two families wishing to build in Uralla Shire are becoming very frustrated with the lack of access to necessary building information and inspections. I raised this matter in my first interview with the General Manager, the Business Chamber has raised it with Council's executive, and now the frustrated intending residents have again highlighted the problem. One option being considered by the Business Chamber is to resource share with Armidale Regional Council, similar to our sharing a ranger with Walcha Council. This would be a positive for the New England Joint Organisation of Councils.

The Uralla Shire Local Strategic Planning Statement is currently being reviewed. The community consultation meeting held in the RSL Memorial Hall on Thursday 18 February only saw eight local residents, five Councillors, three staff, and one consultant in attendance. I will report on the Bundarra community consultation evening in the next edition of Wordsworth; however, it is hard to see more residents in attendance on a Friday night. The residents at the Uralla meeting raised concerns in relation to water security, lack of available residential building blocks, unnecessary restrictions on rural land use, and the lack of acknowledgement of the value of festivals and community events in Uralla.

Tamworth Regional Council has included the following strategy in their Local Strategic Planning Statement. "Our strategy is to generate growth by setting priorities that create the right conditions, removing barriers and attracting private, state and public investment. Investing in human capital, infrastructure, technological advancement and population growth and productivity."

Chapter 3 in Uralla's Local Strategic Planning Statement outlines a really positive way for this to work in our shire. I would recommend all residents to have a read and provide comments.

Following discussions with concerned residents of Kentucky regarding the proposed wind farm which is part of the Thunderbolt Energy Hub, Councillor Crouch has placed a Notice of Motion to raise specific concerns for Council to include in the NSW Department of Planning Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs). The early consideration of landscape and visual amenity, biodiversity, water, soils and community impact will be a positive step to ensure their concerns are highlighted.

The recent Uralla Shire Council Budget and Finance Committee rejected a recommendation to engage an independent consultant to undertake a service review of the water service area in this financial year, and vary the 2020/21 water fund budget by \$50,000 to allocate resources for the water service review. Council instead resolved: (a) that the service review information is to be developed in conjunction with the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (already funded) and (b) Council works with ZNet and undertake community engagement on water price model structure options as part of the preparation of the 2021/22 Operational Plan.

Great news for Armidale and our region with the announcement one of the Regional NSW Offices is to be located at the Old Armidale Teachers College. If the promise of up to 100 new jobs comes to fruition, this will be a wonderful boost to the region. It is hoped that this move, combined with the relocation of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority last year should make up for the reduction of staff at the University of New England. The 2016 Census showed that 27% of Uralla Shire's population over 15 years old have university qualifications; hence our residents are well positioned to benefit from these relocations.

If any builders are having trouble using the NSW Planning Portal to lodge plans, I would recommend you contact the NSW Department of Planning Helpdesk.

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E: robertbell1055@hotmail.com

Robert Bell,
Uralla Shire Resident



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Uralla Rotary Art Show

Plans are well underway for the opening of the 43rd Annual Rotary Club of Uralla Art Exhibition to be held at the RSL Memorial Hall, Salisbury Street, Uralla. The Club expects to display around 300 artworks from artists across NSW and Queensland with all artworks for sale. There is also an acclaimed Schools Section of talented, budding artists of all ages. Opening night, which is the social event of the year, is Friday 19th March 2021 at 6:30pm with the Official Opening by Mayor of Uralla Mr Michael Pearce 7:30pm.

We welcome local, well known guest artist, Katherine Miles. Katherine was born in Armidale, educated in Uralla and Armidale. She loved art at school, but in those early years art wasn't considered gainful employment, so studied Nursing and Midwifery. This became her profession and still is, though less so, today. Nursing took Katherine overseas and was lucky enough to visit the wonderful art museums of Europe, she was in awe of the Masters' works. About 10 years ago she took folk art lessons with some friends and this helped to realise the power of the brush and palette. Katherine loves colours, especially the purity of nature and the amazing effects of light and shade on subjects. Acrylics are her choice of medium on canvas and board, subjects are variable: flora, fauna, landscapes and some portraits.

Katherine will be present on the night with an impressive display of her art, including an artwork donated for the raffle.

Delicious finger food will be provided by Michael's Café. Cost is \$20 per person. Subject to Covid19 restrictions, if food and drink not permitted \$5.00 entry fee, with tickets available at the door. The ever popular Pete Stanley will provide music. Everyone is welcome, an invitation is not needed. Chairman Graham Carlon said the whole town is behind the Art Show with overwhelming sponsorship and support. After the crippling drought, terrible fire season and the rain, not to forget Covid19, the past few years have been very turbulent. Opening Daily: 10am to 4pm Saturday 20th March to Saturday 27th March 2021, 10am

to 2pm Sunday 28th March. Entry fees: \$5 Adult, \$4 Seniors, Children under 12 years free. Art Show Contacts: Rae Andrews 02 6778 3751

Bev Stubberfield 0419 607 251

Narelle Solomons email: tonybelbre@yahoo.com

Graham Carlon, Uralla Rotary Art Show

The Senior Bowler

We're rocking and we're rolling, as we walk the bowling greens

It takes a little longer to do what once we did with ease

Our knees are all a 'swell

Our hips don't work so very well

With arthritis in our hands and feet,

We're no longer quite so very fleet

We go now at a slightly slower pace, when we're out upon the greens

We're no longer quite so fiery, so full of pep and beans

You can even sometimes hear our bodies give a yelp,

Crying out aloud for a little bit of help

Maybe more grippo on the bowls,

That might be just enough to put a kick back in our souls.

We aren't so lithe and limber as once before we were

But you might be surprised at what we can make occur

It would be a mistake to underrate us

We don't allow anyone to berate us

Our prowess at our game has stood the test of time

We still reap the laurels of victory even as our ages climb

Amid loud and thunderous applause,

We go out to receive our just rewards

Our pride in our achievements all acknowledge

But to ourselves we privately allege

That all we really want is plain:

A nice hot bath to soak away all those hard-earned aches and pains!

**Pauline Crouch Publicity Officer,
Uralla Women's Bowling Club**

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How Uralla got its name

The site for the village of Uralla was approved on 6th September, 1855 by His Excellency, Sir William Thomas Denison. There are many stories, theories and debates as to how Uralla got its name.

Ian Handley, in his book 'The Land of the McCrossins' wrote that "many believe that it means or is an aboriginal word for either "Rocky" or "A chain of waterholes." Handley also recorded in his book a story from Victor Melvaine of Mount Mutton. The story went that "apparently an Aboriginal had overheard two settlers arguing on the Rocky Creek, below where now stands the Bowling Club, and the most notable statement was "You're a liar" which he interpreted as "Ur-al-lar", and so subsequently we have Uralla."

There are other references that Uralla meant "Big Hill" or "running water" and that the area was the "meeting place or camp" for the local Anaiwan people to discuss and relate stories; Oorala, or Uralla as we now know it.

The Armidale Express recorded an article on the 25th September, 1891 under the heading of Uralla & District 'Names of Towns.' "Less than 30 years ago we used to have camps moving about amongst us, the black-fellow chopping wood, getting honey, and putting away tucker; but now there is scarcely one to be seen, and a camp is never seen about here. The blackfellows, at that time, gave different versions of the derivation of our very pretty name Uralla – some said it was derived from red-gum, or that it meant red-gum, and was given to this locality thereby. The surveyor who laid out the town was trimming a red-gum peg, and, to a blackfellow who was standing by, he put the question – "What name that fellow wood?" The answer was "Uralla," the surveyor remarking that that was a nice name for the town – hence Uralla. Now, Mr Allan, a forest ranger down south, has been for years collecting from the aboriginals the native names of trees, and he gives "Yaala" as the native name for red-gum, so it seems very probable that, though not exactly the word, yet Uralla is derived from the native name of red-gum. I also heard, years ago, that it was the native name for the Rocky, so given because of the numerous granite boulders which appear about the river; also, that Uralla means look-out, and was the name of the hill which, under the very common-place name of "Mount Mutton," stands as a bastion to the north-west of the town. The red-gum derivation seems to stand on the best evidence, and is confirmed by Mr Allen's researches. Some may accept it until some better evidence to the contrary is produced.

I am sure the debate and stories about the origin of Uralla's name will live on with the locals for many years to come.

Kay Adams, Uralla History Hub

Uralla Ladies Bowlers to contest New England District Senior Pairs

On Thursday and Friday, Uralla will join other District bowlers from Armidale City, Guyra and Walcha to take part in the annual District Senior Pairs to be held in Walcha. The Uralla ladies have been successful at holding this trophy for the last three years with the team of Pam Westbury and Judy Bray. This year sees Phyllis Dade stepping up to the mat to replace our sadly departed member Pam Westbury. We wish both ladies the best of luck. By the time this paper is published we will know the outcome. Results next issue.

**Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer
Uralla Women's Bowling Club**



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Running Wild - Run Girl Run

Continued from previous issue ...

RECAP: Molly ran hard from the Thompson cottage, to tend to her mother at the mountain hut.'

Quickly she retraced her crisscross path, to the point upstream where the creek turned to the mountain stream. Here the valleys rock lined walls closed in on both sides. The shortest route back to the hut was now at this point, up the steep mountain path of loose shale. She climbed hand over hand ignoring the prickly undergrowth. Sometimes she slid back, but her heart kept her moving ever forward to its top. Rounding the last section, she could see the familiar tall timber.

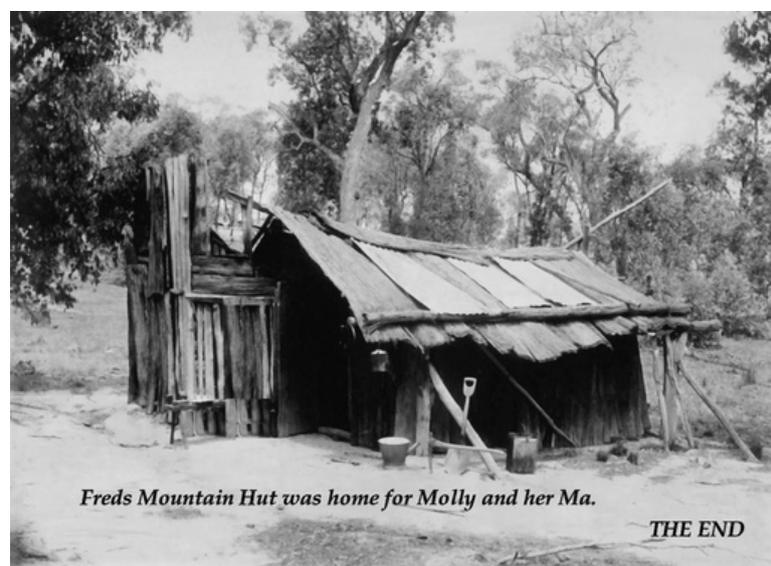
Nell was sitting hunched over the cooking fire, head in her hands. As Molly approached, she looked up through pained eyes. Even from a distance, Molly saw her Ma's freshly bruised face, cut lip and roughed up appearance. The hut had obviously been tossed, with effects strewn around the front dirt landing Ma, are you ok, what did they want?' she said. 'Always the same dear, they want Him !, something about a hold-up of the Cobb & Co Mail, up Inverell way' Nell replied. Molly sobbed, 'when will it all end !?'. Ma replied sternly, 'Dear, when he's finished, when he's done, in the ground or swinging at the end of a gallows rope'. Then we can go back to 'Gwea', away from this cold mountain. Molly felt a sudden warmth that things just might get better for the both of them. The sun shone for a moment as they picked up the furniture and packed up their scattered things. They both felt the evening chill and knew that the cold of night was not far off. The END.

Daryl Albertson Kellys Plains

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Freds Mountain Hut was home for Molly and her Ma.

THE END



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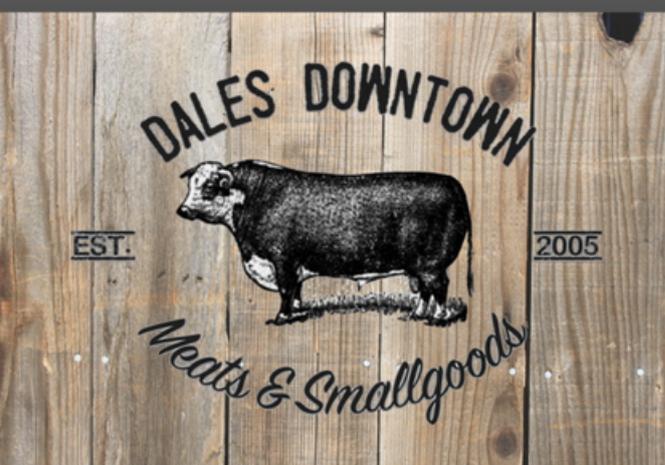
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Railway Station Mural

Through a curious and convoluted path I learned recently that John Holland, the maintenance contractors on NSW rail infrastructure had decided to remove the tiled mural from the bank opposite the platform at Uralla Railway Station and to resite it elsewhere in Uralla. This came as a bit of a surprise as Christine Ball and I were the lead artists on the project back in 1997. The project was part of a Youth Arts and Skills program through Uralla Shire Council with funds from the NSW Government. The project involved 8 or so art students from Uralla Central School.

The rationale for the project, to be sited in the garden opposite the station, was to honour Mr Green, the last stationmaster at Uralla Railway Station. Mr Green kept an immaculate garden on the bank opposite the station. He put in retaining walls made from railway sleepers and irons and stone steps with a handrail painted white. He planted colourful annuals and tended the garden as part of his daily routine. Mr Green remained stationmaster at Uralla through the 1980s before either retiring or, more likely, being made redundant. These were the days when freight still arrived and left Uralla by train. Both Christine and I were potters, receiving clay and other raw materials, tons at a time. We also freighted finished wares to galleries in Sydney, Newcastle and beyond. Long after the freight had disappeared from the rail and Mr Green had departed, the garden fell into disrepair. An opportunity came along to honour Mr Green's garden by placing the tiled mural depicting Australian flora and fauna into the garden, returning a little maintenance free colour to the garden. The mural is glued and grouted to the concrete slab and neither have moved in 24 years and are still in excellent condition.

As it turns out I got the story a little twisted and it was Uralla Rotary who alerted the John Holland contractors to state of the embankment the mural is sited on. The John Holland contractors then decided the mural was a danger and want to remove it. In good faith, the contractors have offered to relocate the slab with the mural in place to another location.

There are three points I would like to make about this well-meaning offer. Firstly, there is a very simple and inexpensive fix to this. I am no engineer, but as far as I can see the slab, designed by a Uralla Shire engineer, has not moved. What I can see is that Mr Green's railway sleeper

retaining wall has all but collapsed. Surely, replacing the retaining wall is the fix. If the John Holland contractors are prepared to crane a 4x2 metre concrete slab off the site and transport it elsewhere in Uralla. Surely they would prefer the cheaper option of simply fixing the retaining wall. Secondly, this artwork was conceived, designed, executed and placed as a site-specific community project honouring Uralla's last stationmaster. To relocate the mural would render its meaning null and void.

Thirdly, the mural has subsequently been listed as part of the Uralla Railway Station precinct, which in turn is listed as a heritage item with Uralla Shire Council and according to Council policy, affording the item protection.

I am sure reason will prevail and the mural will remain where it rightfully belongs.

Andrew Parker, Uralla Resident

PS I would be very interested to talk to anyone in the community about Mr Green's family and to learn a little more about the last stationmaster in Uralla.



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Uralla Arts Gig

Deta and Rob Rayner from The Beez: Stranded in Australia!! That's right! Probably the only international act currently in the country-and loving it! Deta C. Rayner (accordion and vocals) and Rob Rayner (guitar and vocals) unwittingly missed the Last Plane Out of Sydney and will be presenting a yodellin', thigh slappin', lederhosen wettin' fest of Beez music featuring the Beatific Beats of their Bavarian Boombox. You'll thrill to comic classics from the likes of Rammstein and Bonnie Tyler; you'll tear off that dirndl and shake a Teutonic Tailfeather when you catch a glimpse of Nena's 99 Red Balloons; you'll swoon to Marlene Dietrich's Lili Marlene but, most of all, you'll be entertained and that's an order! The Beez 2020 Australian tour was rudely interrupted in March, so here they are to make amends with an evening of Dancefloor -Compatible Deutsche DerringDo, featuring Deta's fabulous „Brunhilde Bass“ accordion. One octave below the conventional accordion bass, this is an Alp-quaking tone of Wagnerian proportions. Melded with Rob's custom Höfner „Blitzkrieg“ guitar, it's an irresistible rockin' polka machine held together by the marching rhythms of a loop machine by the name of Wolfgang Amadeus and, of course, those gorgeous harmonies and cabaret sensibilities which are the icing on the SchwarwälderKirschtorte. Deta and Rob both hail from Berlin; their band The Beez performs around 120 shows a year throughout Europe and Australia. They've appeared on ABC TV's Spicks & Specks. The Beez are coming Save the date March 6th at The Mill 3pm Tickets \$20 0412424718 or randerson84@bigpond.

Bob Anderson, President, Uralla Arts



Deta and Rob Rayner from The Beez

Uralla Arts Report

Here we are in a New Year and we hope that this one will be much better than the disaster of 2020. That said we have to again cancel our very popular lantern parade that is held the last week of March in conjunction with Seasons of New England and earth day. Unfortunately Covid19 restrictions that are still applying to outdoor events make it impossible for us to stage the parade at this time. Hopefully with the roll out of a vaccine this year we may be able to reschedule later in the year.

On a brighter note we are starting to resume live music at The Mill with a concert by the popular band "The Beez" on March 6th at 3 pm. Fabulous cabaret style entertainment. Also in March we have the talented Rob McCrone band from Sydney performing on the evening of 20th March at The Mill. Help us get live music pumping in Uralla by supporting these gigs.

Bob Anderson, President, Uralla Arts

New Generator for McMaugh's

A NEW generator at Uralla's McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre will ensure the health and safety of residents is maintained during power outages or emergency situations, with work now complete on the installation of the \$100,000 State Government-funded permanent power supply. Uralla Shire Council received the grant last year through Round 3 of the NSW Stronger Country Communities Fund. Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall recently inspected the emergency backup generator, which he said would provide sufficient supply for essential care services at the facility when needed. "While losing the lights in a black-out is inconvenient, for those living in aged care the loss of power to important medical devices can be dangerous and life-threatening," Mr Marshall said. "To stop the power going out at McMaugh Gardens, Uralla Shire Council has installed a single 200 KVA emergency backup generator and switchboard, complete with cabling, automatic transfer switch and controls.

Adam Marshall, Member for Northern Tablelands

Bill Andrews

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Community Calendar

Please email urallawordsworth@gmail.com if you have an event or meeting for Uralla, Kentucky or Invergowrie.

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 5.30pm at the Top Pub

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

Uralla Tennis Senior Social tennis, Wednesday 6.30pm at the Uralla Sporting Complex, everyone welcome (\$7 members, \$10 non members), Family Fun Night starts again from Friday 12th Feb 2021

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 11am 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 Competition 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

Uralla Shire Council Ordinary Meeting 12.30pm Tuesday 23rd February, Uralla Shire Council Chambers
McMaugh's Charity Bowls Day 9th March from 12.30pm, register by phone 0412163444 or e-mail rosemary.reading@bigpond.com

Mobile Service Centre 15th and 16th March Salisbury St Uralla 9am - 4pm.

Deadline for the next edition is 5pm on Thursday 4th March 2021. Please email all contributions including advertising, letters to the editor and articles to urallawordsworth@gmail.com

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Letter to the Editor

To the Editor,

The vision and insight by the authors of the recently released Uralla Shire Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) should be applauded, it is overall a gem of a document. It outlines a road map to meeting the aspirations and opportunities that this community deserves.

That said, past behaviour is a good indicator of future behaviour.

Given the recent past behaviours of the Uralla Shire Council General Manager, senior staff along with some Councillors, what will it take for the council to realise the value of the Uralla Shire LSPS. One would quickly assume a fresh council.

The GM backing the senior council staff 'retail from the home' position was a huge mistake. She was on the wrong side of this when she did not listen to the community and dug in deeper. Forcefully explaining to our local State MP his shortcomings on an understanding of local government. Adam Marshall could not have made it any clearer, that the Uralla Shire Council General Manager, senior staff along with some Councillors' interpretation of retail from home was erroneous. The council doubled down and lost.

Adding further insult to the Uralla business community, senior staff and some councillors declined an invitation to the Uralla Shire Business Chamber Public Meeting last year. The council has failed to address in any meaningful way the key points raised from the presentations and submissions in the report which the Uralla Business Chamber diligently provided to Council after the meeting.

The current GM is just another in a long conga line of senior staff at the Uralla Shire Council who continue to erode the community goodwill that they inherited from a previous administration.

As the Uralla Shire council continues to fumble its obligations to this community, it will require a Herculean effort from a fresh council to turn around the past performance undermining the opportunities presented in the Uralla Shire Local SPS.

The very real prospect that it will require a new broom with competent councillors and senior staff to forge a new future behaviour, should not be ignored.

Kind regards

David Mailler, Uralla Shire Resident



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Mens Shed

Developments

Late last year the Uralla Men's shed opened its new large shed in order to house the bigger power tools that could not be installed in the old shed. There were concerns that the old wooden floor of the current shed would not support their weight.

Although this new facility is now in use, the project to modernise the Men's shed has not finished. The old wooden steps from the parking area, down to the shed were badly rotted and presented a danger every time they were used. These have now been removed and a new set of concrete steps with a handrail are soon to be constructed. The ageing and adjoining pine trees are also to be removed as they present a hazard in high winds. Also planned is a metal working section with a welding bay as well as a forge for shaping metal as well as a covering roof on the annexe section of the new shed. This will double as a shaded section for the social barbecues that the members enjoy from time to time.

The Uralla men's shed is a welcoming group who are keen to accept new membership from men as well as women from our community. Mentoring is available in order for new members to gain the basic skills to undertake their own chosen projects.

Chris Baker, Uralla Mens Shed

Family Fishing & Fun Day Update

Uralla CanAssist and the Family Fishing and Fun Day Committee have sadly made the decision to postpone our annual Fun Day which was to be held on 20th February 2021 to a date to be advised.

This decision was sadly made due to the COVID19 rules and regulations.

We hope to hold the event later in the year with our usual fishing, jumping castle, face painting, pony rides and lolly scramble for the kids, golf putting and nearest to the pin, darts, pool comp, yabbie and pig races, raffles, auction and live music, and many more activities.

We thank you all for your support and look forward to a great event as soon as we can proceed.

If you require any further information please call Mary Ann Munsie on 6778 4651

Family Fishing and Fun Day Committee

Dear Uralla Wordsworth Readers,

The Local Government Elections fall on 4th September 2021. The Uralla Wordsworth is already receiving requests around paid advertising for candidates and so have given careful consideration as to how best support our community as they make the important decisions around casting their vote for Mayor and for Councillor in these elections.

The decision has been made to publish a **Special Election Edition of the Uralla Wordsworth on 16th August 2021.**

This edition will be published with the support of our advertising community, from which there has already been strong interest. As a result this edition will be a space for the community to hear from all registered candidates in the Uralla Shire local government elections, without cost to the registered candidates. This means that there will be no fee for registered candidates to send in their written statements in accordance with the guidance below.

The Uralla Wordsworth has also decided not to accept any paid political advertising, for the upcoming local government elections.

All candidates who are registered to stand in the 4th September Local Government Elections for the Uralla Shire local government area are invited to take up the offer of a free column in this special election edition. Registered candidates will be invited to provide a written statement outlining their reasons for standing, their skills and qualifications. They can also provide a photo which will be placed as part of their half page column, space permitting.

This half column would allow around 200-250 words plus a passport sized photo, or around 400 words with no photo. Contributions should be in 11 point arial font where possible, or similar, contained in a word document. Candidates will be listed in alphabetical order by surname.

The Uralla Wordsworth remains committed to publishing editorial that is relevant to the Uralla Shire as a whole, and we encourage the continued submission of these articles in accordance with our Editorial Principles as published on the Uralla Wordsworth website.

Sincerely

Ross Burnet & Louis van Ekert
on behalf of the Uralla Wordsworth Committee

Kentucky General Store & Licensed Cafe



Rod & Deb McGrath
Owners

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FRIENDS of McMAUGH GARDENS CHARITY FUN BOWLS DAY

**YES, IT IS THAT TIME AGAIN,
LETS HAVE SOME FUN!**

FUN DAY – OPEN TRIPLES – NOMINATE YOUR TEAM,
SINGLE ENTRIES ARE WELCOME.

**DRESS UP THEME IS “HAWAIIAN” IF YOU WISH.
PRIZE FOR BEST DRESSED TEAM.
EVERYONE WELCOME**

Venue: Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club, Hill St.
Uralla NSW

Date: Tuesday 9th March 2021

Commences: 12 noon for lunch and registration

Cost: \$20.00 for the day – this includes, sausage sizzle for lunch, A/T & Cold Meat Salad for dinner. Raffles, Auction and prizes.

Friends of McMaugh Gardens have been holding this fun charity event for many years thanks to the kind assistance of the Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club management and staff. This will be organised under the Bowling Clubs' COVID safety plan.

The community have always been extra ordinary in their continual support of this day and for all fundraising we do for McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre, without such a fantastic community these events would not take place.

Looking forward to seeing you all again at this great event, any enquiries please contact Rosemary Reading
– 0412163444 or e-mail
rosemary.reading@bigpond.com



Uralla is talking about water

Regular readers of Wordsworth will recall the Let's Talk About Water project, a joint initiative of ZNET Uralla and the Global Water Institute at the University of New South Wales, in conjunction with Uralla Shire Council.

The project is now moving into a more active phase with the roll out of Stakeholder Interviews in the first week of March 2021. In preparation I wanted to provide some background for readers.

My name is Matt Kearnes – and I'm a Professor at the University of New South Wales and will lead the interviews. I'm originally from the western suburbs of Sydney and trained in human geography at Macquarie University and Newcastle University. I believe that the perspectives of everyday people should inform how we make decisions about environmental change. Over the last few years, I've focused specifically on how communities – be it rural communities, or major cities – might navigate the changing ways in which we use and source water. By partnering with a university, the goal of the project is use community-based research to help inform future choices for water security. We hope to gauge public values and responses to a range of different water supply options for Uralla. Of course, the timing of the project is significant. Over the 2019/20 summer, Uralla Shire experienced the driest period since rainfall records commenced in the late 1800s. This put enormous pressure on water supplies in the region.

An important part of the project will be "stakeholder interviews" and "focus groups". Interviews and focus groups are important methods that have been developed in the social sciences that are designed to enable community members to communicate different perspectives that are relevant to the future challenges of managing water.

From 1 to 5 March, we'll be conducting our first round of interviews. And we would love to hear from you. For the project to be successful it's crucial that we hear a range of views and the stakeholder interviews are designed to give people the opportunity to discuss complex issues in detail.

The interviews will take between 40-60 minutes, and we'll aim to conduct the interviews in a place that's convenient for you. These interviews might be a bit different to other research you may have taken part in. They certainly won't feel like the 7.30 Report or an opinion survey. They will feel more like a conversation, an opportunity to share your thoughts on how water supplies in Uralla could be managed in the future. The results will be shared in a public report for the project however, contributions from interviews and focus groups will be anonymous.

If you'd like to share your perspective – please get in contact with our Project Officer at water@zneturalla.org.au or 0474 297 790.

We'll also be conducting a subsequent round of focus group discussions in late April/early May and we'll be posting more information on the project page (<http://zneturalla.org.au/water/>) in due course too.

Prof. Matthew Kearnes Environment and Society Group University of New South Wales

Footnote: In July 2020, ZNET was successful in gaining a \$30,000 grant from the NSW Government's Increasing Resilience to Climate Change Community Fund to further research and consultation with the Uralla community on water security. The project formally commenced in 2020 and will be running until 2022.



Prof. Matthew Kearnes



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