

Uralla Wordsworth

Published by Uralla Wordsworth Incorporated

Uralla's FREE Fortnightly Newspaper

Established 2018 Issue **129**, 27 November 2023 Estimated circulation: 1,000

Edited by Luise Scherer, Louis van Ekert and Malcolm Airs

urallawordsworth@gmail.com

www.urallawordsworth.com.au

  urallawordsworth

Uralla Fairy Festival Excitement Fires Up This



Saturday

Calling all fairies and wizards, it's time to stretch out your wings and polish your wands as Uralla becomes Fairyville this Saturday 2 December 2023!!

Fairy workshop bookings are now available on the Uralla Fairy Festival Facebook page. If you can't get into your favourite workshop don't worry, there are lots of 'walk-in' activities at the Subway / Regional Australia Bank (RAB) carpark.

There is a fairy colouring-in competition on the FB page – drop in completed entries to the Uralla Library.

9am: the Official Opening will be in Fairy Alley - the closed road between Subway and the Alternate Root Café.

10am Fairy workshops commence:

Subway / RAB carpark: Fairy Kaleidoscope Wings, Paint a Fairy Door, Wizard Staves, Dragon and Fairy Kites, Fairy Magnets, Badge Making, Magic Fairy Jars and Story Telling.

Little Birdy: Fairy Gardens, Fairy and Wizard Wands, Flower Crowns.

Michael's Café garden: Fairy and Wizard Yoga, Belly Dancing.

McCrossin's Mill garden: Dragon Eggs, Inspiring Mystical Potions

Uralla Neighbourhood Centre, in the RSL Memorial Hall: Fairy Food workshops, walk-in's welcome.

Be sure to drop in to **Piccadilly Coffee** at 31 Hill St, to see their Fairy Garden display and fairy milkshakes, fairy cakes and treats. The Bush Fairies will once again make an

appearance behind the portal next to the **Wild Kimono** shop in Bridge St (old bank building). And the **Bushranger Motel** verandah will be transformed into the Fairy Patch, selling essential fairy supplies including fairy garden items, dresses, wings, flower garlands and wands. **Minnies Tuckshop** will host the Uralla Pre-School doing something fairy special.

There will be a fairy Best Dressed Shop Window competition and a people's choice award – voting will be on Sat 2 Dec only.

Next **Endeavour Dance Theatre** will perform spontaneous Fairy Flash Mob dance routines – *warning* prepare to be surprised and enthralled!!

There will be fairy/elf face painting, free sausage sizzle for wee folk, Fairy Photo Booth, discover the hidden fairy doors – map available, entertainment by buskers and performers plus sample fairy treats by local eateries. So much fairy stuff to see and do!!

At **12:30pm** the Fairy Festival will conclude with the **Fairy Folk Grand Parade**. Fairies and Elves muster at Fairy Alley (between Subway and Alternate Root Café).

The **Uralla Library** will be open as usual 9am-12 and 1-4pm if any wee folk would like to check out the colouring-in and enjoy a chill-down space with friends. There may even be story reading and a fairy snack.

Keep up to date on facebook and Instagram.

-Leanne Doran, The Fairy Festival Committee

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

at Uralla Shire Council



UINT/22/11373

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

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

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

Tel: 6778 6300



Sip + Shop

Wednesday 29th November

4pm - 7pm, 58 Bridge St Uralla

Complimentary gift wrapping &

Hamper packing

Nibbles by

MINNIES



Seasons
of New England

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.

I am pleased to announce that Ms Toni Averay has been appointed as General Manager for Uralla Shire Council. Toni was selected from a strong field of applicants, and brings a wealth of experience, together with a strong desire to work closely with the Council and the community. Ms Averay has a Master of Policy and Administration, Graduate Diploma in Engineering Maintenance Management, and an Australian Institute of Company Director Graduate Diploma.

Toni has held an Executive Director's role with Uralla Shire Council since April this year, and has been Interim General Manager since August.

Applications are now being invited for Uralla Shire 2024 Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the year, and the Junior and Senior (open to all ages) Sports Awards, as part of the Australia Day 2024 celebrations. Application forms are available at the Shire Office or by contacting me and I will arrange a form for you. Applications close on December 8, 2023, and should be addressed to Secretary, Uralla Australia Day Committee, 14 Dumaresq Street, Uralla.

It was wonderful to see the Old Service Station on the corner of John Street and the highway demolished to ground level. Stage 2 of the clean-up including the concrete and underground tanks is programmed for early 2024. Council will invite the owner to discuss any future plans for the site with us. It is currently zoned light industrial.

Great news with the ribbon cutting and official opening of the SouthPAN satellite dish planned for next week. This will place Uralla at the cutting edge of international navigation.

The Department of Planning and Environment has now released the "Draft Wind Energy Guideline" for public comment. While it includes some interesting facts such as that a 7MW wind turbine will provide enough power for 4,000 homes, it will likely be 300 metres high. Any project over \$30million is considered State Significant Development. While developers must consult with relevant government agencies and councils to ensure that issues are fully considered in the assessment process, councils are not the approving authority. The guidelines state that aerial firefighting can continue to be undertaken around wind turbines "if appropriate strategies, emergency management systems and communication protocols are in place." This has been a contentious issue in our region. Local infrastructure contributions are collected by councils to help fund local needs resulting from development, including stormwater drainage, traffic management and community facilities. The major impact is usually traffic and transport.

Benefit sharing is a term used to describe different approaches and mechanisms that aim to distribute proceeds of a project between the applicant and the community, through mutually agreed opportunities. The draft Benefit Sharing Guidelines show that the benefit sharing rate should be \$850 per megawatt per annum for solar energy development and \$1,050 per megawatt per annum for wind energy development, paid over the life of the development and indexed to CPI. Council is preparing a submission on the draft guidelines. Submissions close on December 18, 2023.

Planning for the Uralla Fairy Festival is in full swing. Workshop bookings are now open on the Fairy Festival Facebook page. The festival will take place on Saturday December 2 in Bridge Street and part of Hill Street.

Last week the members of the Uralla Golf Club voted overwhelmingly to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Armidale Ex-Services Club, to take over the management of the Uralla Golf Club. I understand this now needs to be ratified by the Armidale Ex-Services Club members. If ratified, this will be a positive result to ensure the long term viability of the Uralla Golf Club.

M: 0434 244 774
robertbell1055@hotmail.com

Robert Bell
Uralla Shire Resident



ATTENTION VETERANS

If you are in need of assistance

of any type
financial, physical, emotional etc

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

contact us on 0401 932 107

or email urallasb@rslnsw.org.au

your privacy is guaranteed, we are with you

Uralla Sub-Branch of RSL NSW

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



Inaugural Bundarra Garden Festival a Resounding Success



Afternoon tea under the trees, Seekers Garden and Nursery, Bundarra

The inaugural Bundarra Garden Festival hosted by the Rotary Club of Uralla was held this weekend 11th and 12th of November and was a resounding success.

There were 8 gardens open to the public in and just out of town in Bundarra. The Bottle Museum and the Court House Museum were both open all weekend and there were many refreshment options both in town and at many of the gardens.

The event attracted visitors from around the region as well as from further away and also attracted many groups and families. Despite the dry start to the season some last minute rain prior to the festival was a boon to the garden owners and ensured a bit more green for the weekend.

The event saw 300 visitors through the gate and raised over \$7000 for local charities. The bulk of the money raised was for the Inverell Breast Cancer Support Group with a smaller donation to Spinal Injury Research.

We had three lucky gate prize winners for each day that won prizes donated by our sponsors Bundarra Commercial Hotel, McGregor Gourlay Bundarra, Seekers Nursery Bundarra, Black Mountain Nursery Guyra and House to Home, Inverell.

With a budget of zero, some committed work by a team of volunteers, as well as the support of local community groups and *Print Anything* Inverell, we managed to put on this wonderful event for the community. And people are already talking about next year being bigger and better.

-Andrea Robinson, Bundarra



Backtrack Ironman Welders' Horse, Abingdale



Congratulations Lilla Dawson



Left: Lilla taking the pressure of competition in her stride.



Right: Receiving recognition for an outstanding result.

Year 5 student Lilla Dawson of Uralla Central School has proven to be a champion with words when it comes to spelling. On Friday 3 November, Lilla represented her school and the Northwest Region at the NSW Premier's Spelling Bee state finals. Lilla represented the region in the senior competition, competing against other students in Years 5 and 6. Around 180,000 students from NSW public, central and community schools participated in the event, with Lilla competing against the top 30 finalists in her age group. Lilla finished equal 14th in the state and was challenged with words like mahogany and neurology.

Katie Hunt, Teacher, Uralla Central School

A home's biggest asset is its agent.

Your sales and property management experts



Scan to get
in touch

Ronelle Gersbach | 0414 755 557
belleproperty.com/armidale

belle
PROPERTY

Community Solar Farm

Co-ownership

Opportunity: UPDATE

Firstly, we would like to say a big THANK YOU to those members of the community who attended our four focus groups, the Community Information event, and those who filled in the survey. All the important feedback gained from those who participated in these initiatives can now be synthesised into the documents required to move the process forward.

We would like to share with you a summary of the results.

Focus Groups

ZNET Uralla held four focus groups to determine interest in community co-ownership of Meralli's local 4MW (mid-scale) solar farm. These were attended by 35 people, ranging in age from 35 to 75 and comprising representatives from farmers, business, retirees, health care, education, and general community.

The outcomes of the discussions can be summarised as follows:

- There was general support for the concept with agreement that it was a great opportunity for all the community.
- There was excitement to invest, hope that this model might be replicated elsewhere and that some funds might be injected into the community.
- Motivation to become involved included local ownership, expected good returns on investment, associated recycling industries planned for part of Meralli's land, and no additional transmission lines needed.
- Broader community involvement would be possible through returns staying within the local community, but also could include education and activities on site.
- There was a desire for explorations of how to manage equity for residents.
- There was general support for only offering this opportunity to residents of Uralla Shire in the first instance.
- There was discussion of 'next steps' and personal interest in being involved in a Reference Group.

Survey

- The bulk of people submitting surveys were homeowners, with a reasonable proportion living outside the Uralla township in the rural areas of the Shire.
- Over half of respondents had rooftop solar.
- 90% of respondents were over 40 years.
- Over 90% of respondents expressed a desire to have part of Uralla Shire's electricity owned by the community, rather than by corporates or foreign entities.
- The majority of respondents indicated that the following

community benefits of co-ownership were very important: The reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; action on climate change; building more renewables in our region; local electricity reliability and security; keeping financial returns in the local economy; local job creation; opportunity for community investment; using local goods and services; and education on renewables.

- The respondents' preference for investment offers was for local shire residents, with local businesses and not-for-profit groups also important to include.
- All respondents said they would be either willing to invest or would consider investment, with the most important reason being action on climate change.
- The bulk of respondents would consider investing \$1,000 to \$10,000, with some others indicating they would invest more. Preferred rates of return for investment amounts were 5-9%
- Almost half of respondents offered to be involved in some voluntary way to assist with this project as it progresses.

Next Steps

Both Community Power Agency and Meralli Solar have had demanding workloads recently, so we have moved our 'next steps' forward into the new year. Community Power Agency are working with ZNET to take the feedback from the community to date and use it to inform the design of the co-ownership arrangements. January 21st will see a Reference Group formed and work on the documents begin. February (date to be announced) will be the naming ceremony of the project on-site.

We look forward to continuing this project which will bring a more stable and resilient energy supply through the connection to the Uralla sub-station, as well as providing community co-ownership in such an important community resource.

The Uralla community can indeed be a model for other towns and villages to follow towards a more community empowered renewable future.

– Carol Shantal, ZNET

High Country Markets

Uralla Showgrounds
1st Sunday of the month
8am to 12.30pm



"Potholes and Pitfalls: How to fix local roads"



On 14th of this month, ABC New England North West, spoke to Natasha Bradshaw, an associate of the Grattan Institute, about recent research conducted concerning funding for regional and remote roads across Australia. She co-authored the report "*Potholes and Pitfalls: How to fix local roads*", released this month, which put the spotlight on the deterioration of regional roads and the government funding which is meant to help maintain them - a subject especially relevant to us in Uralla Shire.

The research involved, among other things, talking to regional councils about the challenges they have regarding local road maintenance. They discovered most councils were struggling to find the necessary revenue, and also the means of dealing with the complexity of state and Federal grants processes. A lack of resources often resulted in road management being far from best practice. For example, she explained that local councils across Australia were responsible for \$150 billion in roads and bridges but 25 per cent of those councils didn't even know how many bridges they were responsible for.

The study showed that while Australian councils currently spend \$5 billion a year on local road maintenance, that funding was \$1 billion short of what is required. Federal funding has not kept pace with council costs. Funding is usually, but not always, indexed to the CPI, but this does not match the more rapidly growing maintenance costs for councils. The report has calculated that councils are receiving \$600 million less than they would have, if funding had kept up with councils' costs. In addition, councils are increasingly providing other services for their communities such as social services and environmental care, making

even less revenue available for road repairs. In addition to maintaining roads, Councils are now more pressured to expand and develop their road networks. The Grattan research estimates regional councils are under-spending by 45 per cent on roads.

Many councils in regional and remote areas are unable to raise more revenue because of their relatively small population base and the NSW Government's policy of rate capping. Councils are frequently under-staffed and lack the technology to gather the necessary data to manage their roads effectively.

Making a bad situation worse, the Local Government Association estimated the flood damage to roads last year was \$3.8 billion, which is way beyond most councils' resources.

The recommendations of the report suggest the Federal Government should increase current funding by \$1 billion a year, redistribute funding to the bush from more self-sufficient councils in the cities, and to provide support for councils to acquire the technology necessary to gather the data required for efficient road maintenance.

The report can be viewed on the Grattan Institute website.

-Editor

Errata



The Editor,

Thank you for including the wrap up of Thunderbolts Festival in the last edition. Unfortunately the 2nd page was left off. I'm wondering if this could please be included in the next edition as it is really important to thank our volunteers:

Thank you to all the volunteers and helpers on the day, especially the RFS assisting with vehicle and pedestrian traffic, to the Rotarians and friends of Rotary, and thank you to our brilliant graphic designer Nikki.

Lastly a big shout out to Uralla Arts who pushed on with minimal helpers to make the Lantern Parade happen. We are really hoping to boost lantern carrier numbers next year so all the lanterns can be in the parade.

Thunderbolts Festival is run by a small sub-committee of The Rotary Club of Uralla. If you would like to contribute ideas and/or become a volunteer with us, please come along to our meetings held 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at Uralla Bowlo. **-Leanne Doran 0488 559 928**

**Reenergising
Regional
Australia**

www.merallisolar.com.au

**PROUDLY HEADQUARTERED
IN URALLA**



**meralli
solar**



AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Nominations are invited for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year and Sports Awards, Open and Junior Sections, to be presented on Australia Day, 2024. Nominees must be Australian citizens and live in Uralla Shire.

Young Citizen of the Year nominees must be under twenty seven years of age on 26th January, 2024, and Senior Citizen nominees must be aged sixty years or over.

Nomination forms are available from the Uralla Shire office, Uralla Library, Uralla Post Office, Uralla Branch of the Regional Australia Bank, or the Secretary, Uralla Australia Day Committee, 14 Dumaresq Street, Uralla, phone 67784328. Nominations will close at 5.00 p.m. on Friday 8th. December, 2023.

Nominations received after these dates will not be considered.

-Bev Niland, Australia Day Committee

Events For Your Diary

Next Council Meeting - 28 Nov at the Council Chambers.

Wild Kimono Craft Matsuri - Open every day in December 10am to 5pm, locally made goods and gifts, The Old Bank, 35 Bridge Street

Uralla's Got Talent - Please note this event has been postponed until early next year.

Uralla Fairy Festival - 2 Dec, 10am to 2pm

St Joseph's Fete, Sun 3 December, 11am to 2pm

Carols in the Park - Wed 6 Dec, commencing at 6pm, Alma Park, bring a blanket, a picnic and your voice!

Australia Day Awards Nominations - Due by Fri 8 Dec 5pm

Armidale District MS Branch Meeting, 13 Dec 11am (Joint meeting - Xmas Luncheon) Armidale City Bowling Club

Uralla Show - 3 February, 2024, Uralla Showground

Uralla and District Uniting Church meets Sundays at 9.30am for worship. We are now able to meet in our beautiful church conveniently located at the corner of Hill and Maitland streets. First Sunday of each month is a communion service. All are welcome to attend. The first Sunday of each month is a communion service. Contact: Marlene Jacobs 0411805576

Helping Children and Families

invites you to join us for an enjoyable evening of viewing

WONKA

the story of a young Willy Wonka and how he met the Oomp-Loompas.

Friday 15th December, 2023

6.00 for 6.30pm

Tickets available from Belgrave Twin Cinema
\$20.00 a head - \$9.00 being donated to HCFA

Pre-viewing nibbles and children's snack bags available prior to the film for a gold coin donation.
Help us support our local young families.

EMALENE GEMMELL FAMILY LAW



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

02 5733 5885
office@egfamilylaw.com.au

ST JOSEPH'S FETE SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER 11:00AM—2:00PM

There will be a BBQ, raffles throughout the day, many stalls of goodies, and games & activities for the kids.

Santa will also be visiting!



***Cakes *BBQ *Drinks, Tea and Coffee *Crafts *Tombola**

***White Elephant *Face Painting *Plant Stall**

***Children's Games and Activities *Lucky Draw Prizes to be won**

***Wood Raffle *Gift Hamper Raffles**

***Lots of Xmas Hams to be won on the Chocolate Wheel**



How to Build a Renewable Energy Project



Over the past few years, it would have been difficult not to have noticed Uralla Shire becoming the focus for a number of planned, developing and operational renewable energy projects. Currently, there are six in, or partially in, the Shire: the Thunderbolt Energy Hub, Salisbury Solar, Uralla Renewable Energy Hub, New England Solar, Meralli Solar, and Winterbourne Wind Farm. However, many people may not be fully aware of what is required to gain government approval for a project's construction.

Building a renewable energy project is no easy task. It involves years of planning, research, consultations with landholders and rigorous government approval processes – and that's only the part before the first sod is turned.

Projects costing over \$30 million are considered *State Significant Developments* (SSD), and as such, are required to undertake the following approval process.

Scoping Report – The developer reports on the specific details of the proposed project often after years of conducting a huge amount of investigative work, data collection, landholder engagement etc. The report would include details about: the purpose and size of the project, its location and site plan, the landholders directly involved and those indirectly affected, environmental issues, the surveys performed, potential problems and mitigation, plans for public engagement and government consultation, and much more. The scoping plan is lodged with the *NSW Department of Planning and Environment* (DPE)

SEARs (Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements) – SEARs are issued by the DPE to inform

the developer what needs to be included in its *Environmental Impact Statement* (EIS). This generally stipulates specific

details of the project as well as matters related to the ecology of the area (in various seasons), visual impacts, noise, Aboriginal heritage, historic heritage, land use impacts, anticipated traffic and transport issues, telecommunication, flooding and bush fire hazards, aviation safety, waste management, socio-economic impacts on the local and wider communities, and cumulative factors resulting from other projects being established in the area at the same time. The SEARs also stipulates who the developer must consult with: the relevant local LGA, state and Commonwealth Government authorities, service providers, community groups, etc.

Prepare and submit EIS – The developer prepares and submits its EIS to the DPE. Specialist consultants undertake detailed surveys and assessments as required to understand the potential impacts of the project.

Public Exhibition of Development Application – There must be a minimum 28 day public exhibition of the EIS when community members, councils and stakeholders can make submissions to express their views about the plans.

Response to submissions – The developer responds to concerns expressed in the submissions from community members and stakeholders.

Assessment – The NSW DPE assesses the development application including submissions.

Determination – A determination is made by a delegate of the NSW Minister of Planning or the Independent Planning Commission (if more than 50 submissions were made as a result of the public exhibition.)

Approval to connect to the grid – After the DPE approval of the project, the developer needs to seek permission to connect the project to the national grid. And then the developer will

Appoint contractors

Secure finance for construction

Hire workers

Begin construction

This whole process may take many years – and that's not necessarily allowing for pandemics, droughts and La Niña events.

-Editor



Specialising in Custom Shed supply and Construction

Locally owned.

Using quality colorbond and Bluescope steel products

Paul/0437850028

paul@bluewaterbuild.com.au

A Country Phone Call

"They're all dead" the caller said.

"All dead".

I am holding my breath,

In the fog, early morning dew,

On Pinch Road, towards Thunderbolt's palace.

Stressful.

The edge, bitumen to dirt,

the dogs, people in sight

in cold mossy, slippery mud

no stopping, sliding.

Listening out. No response.

We commit.

Police formation,

staying in swerving shape,

structured search.

The body, no blood, no story,

no press.

Give me strength.

Phone in hand,

Alone.

Dead ahead body of interest.

"Where are the others?"

All dead.

Not the person missing,

The caller?

"Where are the dogs?"

Missing.

Reported missing,

One found dead,

Family informed.

Grieving person "Who killed them all?"

"Where are the others?"

Distance mist, dogs barking,

They must be dead.

-Jann Karp, Uralla

(Congratulations to Jann Karp. This poem won her first prize in The New England Thunderbolt Prize for Crime Poetry Competition for a poem up to 60 lines. First Prize: \$500

*The event was sponsored by the New England Writers' Centre.) **Ed.***

Running Wild – Episode 7

Fred's Done! (Fiction)

This episode is the 7th in the 'Running Wild' series. The sixth, 'Bullet Cave', was printed in Uralla Wordsworth August – October 2023

3. Recap: Fred had visited the hut while the gals had been down the mountain working at the Thompsons' Farm. Nellie thought it sweet that on her pillow lay a note and paper daisy from her Fred. Treasure lay in the form of a small black velvet drawstring purse, of gold, coin and jewels. Nellie stashed the loot in a short standing tree stump, behind the hut and over the Devils Pinch.

Each morning Nellie was up before dawn to herald the new day, and the beginning of the first bird chorus. She would walk off behind the hut, to the steep mountain slope, listening far off for the various calls of the fan tailed scrub bird repeated across the mountainside. The dark turkey that sweeps the bush floor, flew long and low across the slope as it left its night's rest. As the first rays hit the mountaintop Nell then left to wake her child, and ready her for the trip down the mountain and their daily chores.

After arriving at the farm Nell went off to find Bill, leaving Molly to get to work building a fire under the copper in the washroom. She found Bill working along the creek, cutting branches with his hand all but healed thanks to the Nell's bush salve. Nell showed him Fred's note, he studied it for a bit then said, 'Nell it is from Fred, and it says, 'Dearest Nell, There is nothing left here for you and your Molly. Bill will take you to Thomas Betts at Moonbi, who will take you to Bernard Josse. Show Josse this letter as way of introduction for he owes me. Hope this helps get you back to your people and start again. I will send you a message when I am settled.

Yours with affection

Fred'

Bill then said to Nellie 'I will take you to Betts and I've have heard of this Josse, a Frenchman. He lives in a mountain hut up Nowendoc way, with his wife and a young house girl, and a dozen or so kids between them all. His trade is cattle duffing. He duffs one or two from mobs on the lower country, so no one notices too much. Then hides them in his hill yards to quietens em down. When he has 10 or 15 head he walks em to Gloucester. He has a man who butchers em into carcasses, so as to erase any signs of owners. It's rough going to get to his mountain hut, but I knows that he comes down to the Jenkins Inn at Nundle about every other month.'

'Fred's note says Betts will take you gals to meet Josse', Bill said. 'But you'll have to wait around until he comes in for the grog and fancy girls. I know Ollie Brookes is the new owner of Jenkins Inn, for she struck it rich. I'm sure she'd give you and Molly room and board, in exchange for chores around the inn. I'll ask Betts to make them arrangements and that don't include being a fancy girl, that it don't! Bill made that final point very clear.

Daryl Albertson - Kellys Plains

Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is
5pm Thursday 7 December 2023
Please email all contributions including advertising,
letters to the editor and articles to
urallawordsworth@gmail.com

Carols in the Park

The Combined Churches of Uralla invite you to join us for *Uralla Carols in the Park* on Wednesday 6th December, 2023 commencing at 6pm in Alma Park

This event has been running for many years and has always been wonderfully attended by families and friends.

Sadly, due to fire restrictions, candles are no longer allowed but a warm glow can be created from phones, small torches or glow bangles.

Bring a blanket or chairs, a picnic, and share in an evening of carols, entertainment by local schools, musicians and a short message as we celebrate the coming Christmas with the Uralla community.

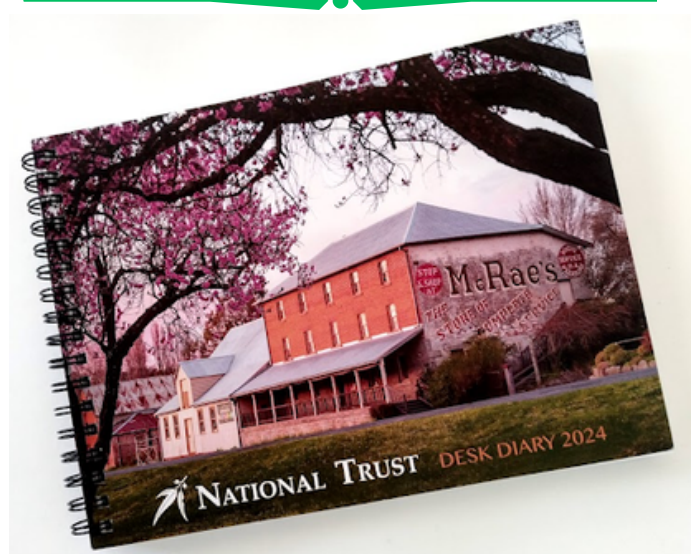
During the evening a donation will be taken up to donate to the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre Inc. Food Bank to help support families in our local area over the Christmas period. Alternately you can bring a non-perishable pantry item to donate.

The evening will conclude with a visit from the local fire brigade delivering Santa bearing small gifts for the children (if they have been good!)

We would love to see you there.

(If it rains the event will not take place.)

Lone Petrov



National Trust Desk Diary 2024

This beautiful photo of McCrossin's Mill taken by local photographer and resident, Jascelyn Taylor, was chosen by the National Trust for the cover of their 2024 Desk Diary.

Christine Rich, from the National Trust, contacted Uralla Historical Society with a view to using a photo of the Mill in the body of the publication, but was so impressed by Jascelyn's image, along with the other members of the group charged with designing the diary, that they insisted that it had to be used on the cover. An honour for the Mill, a credit to Jascelyn's talent, and great PR for Uralla.

These diaries are available for purchase at McCrossin's Mill @\$25each.

Ann Hacker, Hon Publicity Officer Uralla Historical Society

Wildlife Tails

A falcon, towering in her pride of place....was hawked at and killed.... by a mousing owl!

These words from Hamlet, point to the high esteem that Peregrine falcons have had in the minds of people for many centuries. A week or so ago, I was contacted by a wildlife carer in Inverell who had one in his care and that it needed



more experienced help than he could offer. I drove over that afternoon and brought the beautiful, adult female Peregrine home.

Unfortunately the vet who had initially treated her, had not x-rayed the bird and so I booked her for an x-ray for the next day. It has to be noted that worldwide, all species of raptor, have a 65-70 % death rate in their first year of life. In this case, an adult female is an important subject for special care as she had overcome that first year of danger, been a successful hunter and may even have had numerous nests herself.

My first job, given that it is nesting season, was to see if she had the signs of having recently laid eggs. Had she left a nest of young ones? The brood patch of a bird, on the chest above the legs, becomes inflamed and the feathers at that spot are often ruffled, soiled or abraded due to sitting on eggs. She showed no sign of this activity. This also told me that she may have been unwell for a time before being found on the road but her condition was generally good, with no signs of a vehicle impact. She ate well, was active and alert while she was in my care.

The x-ray results however, held bad news. I sent the x-ray to several experienced vets, including some overseas. The general opinion was that the left shoulder joint was degraded, most probably due to cancer in the bones at that point. There were signs of lesions already in the lungs. This would explain how she had managed to feed herself prior to her discovery, perhaps with diminishing success while hunting, until a sudden collapse of the bone occurred, which had brought her to the ground.

The prognosis was for 2-3 weeks survival period but with a very painful death. I had no choice but to have her euthanized.

This side of wildlife care is the hardest to deal with. To make a choice to end a life, for the long term benefit of an animal and to hold them while they slip away, is not easy. The Hamlet quote, I thought, was apt due to the fact that this bird, the most efficient of predators, was eventually brought down by the chance development of a single malignant cell. Life is precious and I think it behoves us all to celebrate and enjoy our lives as best we can.

-Megan Robinson, Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers

Uralla Lady Bowlers to Compete at State Chamionships



Uralla's Winning Senior Fours Team at Lightning Ridge

Our Uralla Senior Fours team can't keep the smiles off their faces, they are just so jubilant. Starting off with winning the District Fours in August, the team of Jayne Bourke, Roz Rhodes, Judy Bray and Phyllis Dade then proceeded to Lightning Ridge earlier in November to compete in the Regional Playoffs. There they successfully fought their way through a round robin, to emerge the outright winners, thus claiming the Regional Championship.

Congratulations ladies! Now, they'll be off to Dubbo in March 2024 to contest the State Playoffs. We all wish you the very best of luck! We also can't stop smiling!

We mustn't forget that they won't be alone on that trip to Dubbo. They will be accompanied on the bus by the Uralla Men's Fours team who also have won their right to vie for State laurels.

RAH! RAH! RAH! URALLA!

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



Uralla Golf Club to Amalgamate

Uralla Golf Club members, at a well-attended meeting last week, voted 77 to 2 to accept a proposed amalgamation with Armidale Ex-Services Club.

Last Wednesday, the same proposal was put to the membership of Ex-Service with the "Yes" vote being passed unanimously. Paper work will now be forwarded to the Department of Liquor and Gaming for approval – a process that is expected to take from a couple of weeks to a couple of months.

Darrell Carson, Manager of the Golf Club, said the amalgamation secures the future of the club. **-Editor**



Uralla's Got Talent

Are You the Future of Entertainment in Australia?



Event Postponed

Please note, owing to unforeseen circumstances **Uralla's Got Talent** has been postponed until early next year. The organisers apologise for any inconvenience and disappointment.

Keep practising, and we will see you before you know it.

-Bob Anderson, Uralla Arts

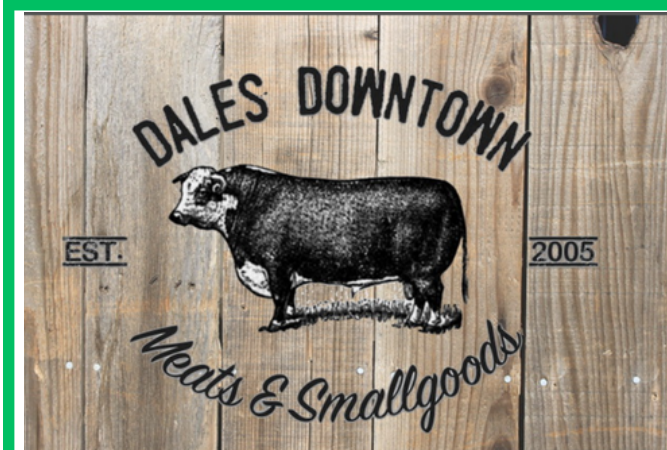
Uralla Community Street Store

27 Nov - 3 Dec – Uralla Garden Club

4 -10 Dec – Rotary Club of Uralla

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>



Specialising in old fashioned service & quality

76 Bridge St, Uralla

Ph 6778 3960

The Wisdom of Uncle Dorothy and Aunt Bob

Sound advice when you need it from people you can trust

Dear Aunt Bob,
With Christmas fast approaching I was wondering what is on your Christmas wish list, apart from world peace and a continuing reliable supply of pale ale. I'm short of gift ideas and desperately need your help. Yours,

Chrissy Prissance

Dear Chrissy,
I want a hippopotamus for Christmas, only a hippopotamus will do. I don't want a lion or rhinoceros, I only like hippopotamuses and hippopotamuses like me too.
Like to see Santa get that down the chimney.

Yours in advice,

Aunt Bob

Dear Aunt Bob,
I am devastated by the result in the World Cup. Despite preparing a dodgy wicket and having 130,000 crazy Indian fans on our side, my team managed to somehow lose. This despite being the best team by far. How can this be? We were destined to win on home soil. I demand an investigation?

Ravi Oli

Dear Ravi,
It could be worse. You could be an England supporter. Unfortunately World Cup finals are played on the field and not in the minds of Indian supporters. You will have to be satisfied with a moral victory or perhaps get in touch with Piers Morgan, because he can convince people their team has won even when they clearly haven't. Regardless, the trophy will be safely in Australia along side the Ashes.

Yours in sport,

Aunt Bob

Dear Uncle Dorothy,
Christmas is coming at a frightening pace and in my household the issue of preparing our home and garden for visitors has raised its ugly head once again. My wife thinks we should make our place look perfect to "create a good impression" – resulting in endless hours of hard labour for me. I think she's just cranking up our visitors' shame about their houses being pretty shabby by comparison. I'm convinced this is why we never seem to get an invitation to visit them. Can you please help? TIA.

Doug Beet

Dear Doug
Christmas craziness.....I have always seen it as a little like 'Brides' disease'.....the wife will know how much reputational

damage can be done by not having it all perfect. Too many cheap lights; too many blown up fat men and ditzy reindeers; carols too loud...you know it. You have a couple of choicesgo with it...fill the yard with sad animals lit from head to toe, edge the lawn, buy the shirt, ice the cake...download the carols and install the speakers....all of this while drinking a couple of ales... Rest assured, your friends and family will still not invite you, as they are scared you might start on their place... maybe you have to explain gently to the wife that this is the reason you're not invited....??

Merry everything to you

Uncle Dorothy

Photos of the Week



Di Chappell of Invergowrie takes a break under one of the remarkable sculptures at Abingdale during the Bundarra Garden Festival



The Observer at the Glen is worth the walk.
Photo: Rob Bowie

URALLA

FAIRY FESTIVAL

2023

SATURDAY
2ND DECEMBER

Calling all fairies and
wizards to join the festivities

Dust off your wings and
shake out your cloaks to
celebrate this day
of magic

Fairy Kaleidoscope Wings
Paint a Fairy Door
Wizard Staves

Dragon and Fairy Kites

Fairy Magnets

Badge Making

Magic Fairy Jars

Story Telling

Fairy Gardens

Fairy and Wizard Wands

Flower Crowns

Fairy and Wizard Yoga and Belly Dancing

Dragon Eggs

Inspiring Mystical Potions

Fairy Food

Welcome to
Fairyrville

THIS WAY

SPONSORS

New England Solar
Renewable Energy from ACEN



Workshop descriptions and online booking
forms will be available on our Facebook page
Bookings Essential

www.facebook.com/UrallaFairyFestival | urallafairy2020@gmail.com

BURNET'S BOOKS • MICHAEL'S CAFÉ • LITTLE BIRDY • SHIMMY IN THE GLEN • SUBWAY
DALES DOWNTOWN MEATS • SEASONS OF NEW ENGLAND • McCROSSIN MILL MUSEUM
URALLA NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE • MELROSE • THUNDER GRAPHICS • THE SWEET PLACE
YOSHI & JILL KIMONO SILK • URAL AUSTRALIA • GRANNY FI'S TOY CUPBOARD • URALLA CENTRAL SCHOOL
REDCO • REGIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK • NEXT ENDEAVOUR DANCE THEATRE • PICCADILLY COFFEE

