

Uralla Wordsworth

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urallawordsworth@gmail.com

www.urallawordsworth.com.au

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Congratulations & Thank you ZNET Uralla!

The spillway is again about to open on the discussion in spaces and on roadworks. I fully endorse what Z-NET is Uralla around how to secure future water supplies in the seeking to achieve through this process and look forward to the release of its findings.

support a community consultation program being run by cont'd p 4

ZNet Uralla.

During the height of the drought Uralla had come within weeks of running out of water and steps needed to be taken to secure future supply for the next inevitable drought.

Throughout Uralla's water crisis Z-NET was one of the main conduits of information between Uralla Shire Council and the community. Z-NET wants to continue that advocacy by working to build a community consensus on how to transition the town to a more secure water supply.

Over the next eight months it will engage residents through focus groups and workshops and discuss the various pathways available for water delivering. Those measures could include increasing the capacity of the existing water storage, financial assistance to supports residents to install tanks or embark on a program of recycling water.

I am one of the most vocal supporters of local councils exploring recycled water as a means of off-setting dwindling town water supplies.

Even if communities don't support recycled water for potable use there are other options like watering public



ZNet Legends from Left to Right - Bob Crouch, Sandra Eady and Carol Shantal, with Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall second from right

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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.

Vale Trevor James (Jim) Wagner. Jim came to work with me at Uralla Shire Council in the early 90's after a long stint at Dumaresq Council. He was employed as a Design Engineer and was responsible for the survey and design of all Uralla Shire roads and kerb and gutter for over twenty five years. Jim was meticulous in his work. He and I often had robust discussions around more economical designs for projects he was working on. Jim was a Vietnam veteran, and proud member of the RSL and Legacy. Linda and my thoughts are with Jill and her family at this difficult time.

Congratulations to Z-Net Uralla in partnering with Global Water Institute and Council to deliver the Blueprint for Water. The community consultation program being run by Z-Net Uralla will receive \$30,000 from the State Government to carry out this work. Adam Marshall MP stated he supported community discussion around increasing the capacity of the existing water storage, financial assistance for residents to install water tanks, as well as embark on a program of recycling water.

One of the current problems for Uralla is the lack of developed land ready to build on. Council has approved over one hundred development applications for residential lots; however only a handful have been fully approved. Maybe fresh eyes can identify why this is occurring.

The latest advice on the Men's Shed is the frame and cladding will arrive in the next couple of weeks and is due to be completed by the end of August. In my last column, I neglected to acknowledge our Federal Member, Hon Barnaby Joyce MP for the funding which was made available under the Federal Government's Drought Communities Program. This program also included upgrades at the BMX track and the refurbishment of the Uralla Visitor Information Centre.

Transport for NSW is currently carrying out a road classification review and transfer. This occurs every five years or so. Uralla Shire has 3 regional roads; Thunderbolt's Way, Barraba Road and the road from Armidale to Yarrowyck. These roads receive State Government funding for the maintenance and some construction costs. While the Barraba Road has the lowest traffic count, it does meet the criteria of "Connects smaller towns with each other." The Bingara Road, from Bundarra to Bingara and the Bendemeer Road from Kingstown to Bendemeer also meet this criteria. Reclassification of these roads would depend on support from neighbouring Councils. The other issue for Council to watch out for is

that if a number of additional roads are added in as regional roads across the state, the funding per kilometre does not decrease for our existing network.

When you read this, we will have had our first weekend of Soccer for the 2020 season at the Uralla Sporting Complex. A big shout out to Ashleigh Ayre and the Uralla United Football Club for being able to organise games and also comply with all the Covid-19 restrictions. Council staff have done a great job ensuring the fields are in top order.

Neoen has advised Council that they have commenced preliminary investigations and initial environmental studies for a wind and solar farm to be known as the Thunderbolt Energy Hub. We look forward to being able to provide more information for Kentucky residents as it becomes available.

Following further negotiations with the Foodworks owner this development application will not go to next Tuesday's Council meeting. It would be wonderful if a workable compromise is reached.

The tenders for the Bundarra Sewer Scheme closed on June 30. Unfortunately the recommendation for the successful tenderer, as well as any proposal for project management for this very important project, are also yet to be considered by Council.

M: 0434 244 774

E: robertbell1055@hotmail.com

**Robert Bell,
Uralla Shire Resident**



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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor can be emailed to: urallawordsworth@gmail.com

Dear Editor,

Having read both Messrs Parker and van Ekert's extreme opposition to the Foodworks redevelopment, please allow me to throw my two bobs worth in. Let me state from the outset, I have not viewed any of the redevelopment plans, so am only commenting on their respective pieces in issue 39 of the Uralla Wordsworth.

The Bridge Street facade is all that the majority of people in/passing through Uralla see. There is nothing amazing about the Salisbury Street frontage. As for the three historic sheds, to me they are an eyesore plus, I believe, totally impractical as storage for the supermarket. There are hundreds of these sheds throughout the New England, and much better examples than these.

Our forbears were not blind to progress, allowing demolition of "historic", impractical buildings, to be replaced by modern buildings better suited to the requirements of a growing town. As far as I can find out, on the site we are talking about, we have had the POST OFFICE STORES, which was demolished to make way for THE NEW ENGLAND STORES. In 1920 a group of local shareholders purchased this business, remodelled the whole building and extended the frontage along Bridge St. Quoting from a newspaper report from the day, the township finished up with a "Well lighted, well appointed store, in every respect Up-to-Date". Why cannot we be afforded the same privilege 100 years later on? I personally would feel a lot safer seeing customers avoiding one delivery truck at a time in the car park than the situation at present. Due to the lack of parking for supermarket customers at the front of the store, a lot are forced onto the opposite side of Bridge St with even more choosing to park on the northern side of the highway in Salisbury St. This then necessitates avoiding more than one delivery vehicle when crossing the highway, yet in my six years in Uralla I have never heard of a pedestrian being hit in that vicinity.

Mr Parker states that the "streetscape in both Bridge and Salisbury Streets will be adversely affected" without stating how. He then says "the development will cause considerable extra traffic that will have an impact on the intersection of Bridge and Salisbury streets". The recent work on the bridge under the highway as well as the resheeting of the highway through town a few years ago had an impact on traffic but we as commuters dealt with it. I fail to see what "peace of mind being given to the neighbours" is all about and lastly, "This development is one thing; to ignore the wishes of the community is another etc". This may have been a misprint and possibly should have said "the wishes of certain members of the community". Definitely not the community as a whole! Then we have "New supermarket- for sure! Just not on this site". The typical North Shore comment, "Not in my

back yard"! Well said McCrossin's Mill.

Just a couple of points in Mr. van Ekert's letter I would like to highlight. Firstly, I fail to see why he felt compelled to name all the councillors who voted for the proposal, other than to "name and shame" because they failed to vote the way he felt they should have, and secondly, he states "Council officers have managed to insult the National Trust"? How? He doesn't say, therefore I am left in the dark.

Now to my personal thoughts on the development. I can see nothing of any historic interest in the interior of the building, other than the historic stairs at the rear of the shop that require the staff to carry each and every item singly down those stairs to be placed on the shelves for our benefit. Chocolate melts on the shelves during summer. What is that doing to the great staff who front up every day in that heat to serve us? Who then freeze in winter? They put up with this for the benefit of the WHOLE town. Now just a vocal few.

If some are so interested in preserving the town's history, 150 years ago Frederick Ward was nothing but a criminal in this area, terrorising the townspeople at the point of a gun.

Why are the modern generation now riding on his back for the sake of the "Queen's Shilling"? Think of the past and honour those who stood up to him. Tear down his statue; consign Pomroy's paintings to the cellar, never to see the light of day again. Don't allow modern day Uralla to profit from the deeds of this criminal.

Yours, **Alex Sherrin**

0429 844 390

P.S. From the S.M.H. web page, Sunday 5th July (concerning one of Sydney's most notable buildings, the Sirius Building): "The 36-year-old owner from Vacluse will sculpt the harbour skyline as he transforms the building into luxury apartments, while preserving the brutalist facade".

Deadline for the next edition is
5pm on Thursday 6th August 2020.
Please email all contributions
including advertising, letters to the
editor and stories to
urallawordsworth@gmail.com

COVID-19 Update

This is an excerpt from the full email update provided by Adam Marshall, Member for the New England on 24.7.20.

Our State is now facing the most critical stage of the COVID-19 pandemic since the initial late-March lockdown.

Currently, there are 131 active cases in NSW, with thankfully none of those in the Northern Tablelands or anywhere near our region. That said, there is now an active case in the Hunter New England Local Health District, on the Hunter Coast, and non-essential travel to this area is NOT advised.

In response to the state-wide spike in cases the drive-through testing clinic at Armidale Hospital will re-open from Monday, 27 July. The testing clinics in Inverell, Glen Innes and Moree will also continue. Anyone with a cough, a sore or scratchy throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste, loss of smell or a fever (37.5° or higher) should be tested for COVID-19, even if symptoms are mild. The Armidale clinic will operate 1pm to 3pm, Monday to Friday, however hours may be extended to meet demand. People should call 0427 923 080 during operating hours to book an appointment before attending the clinic.

Importantly, if we have learnt anything from the outbreak in Victoria, it is the need for people to STAY AT HOME AND ISOLATE until their test results come back negative. In a further bid to keep people safe in public, while allowing businesses to continue operating, additional gathering restrictions are now in effect. Pub compliance measures have been extended to include restaurants, bars, cafes and clubs. This means 10 person maximum for group bookings, mandatory COVID-19 Safety Plan, COVID Safe business registration and the creation of digital visitor records within 24 hours.

Weddings and corporate events will be limited to 150 people, while funerals and places of worship can have 100, all reflective of the 4 square metre rule. COVID Safe registration also applies. Gatherings remain unchanged, with 20 people allowed inside the home and 20 people in public. The NSW Chief Health Officer is now strongly recommending 10 people inside the home as a general principal, as it is a high transmission area. The situation before us is very serious.

For the full and detailed update please email : northerntablelands@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Adam Marshall, Member for Northern Tablelands

Congratulations ZNet Uralla! cont'd from p1

Z-NET Uralla President Sandra Eady said organisation would partner with the Global Water Institute at the University of NSW and Uralla Shire Council to deliver the Blueprint for Water.

“Uralla Shire has just experienced the driest period since rainfall records commenced in the late 1800s, placing extreme pressure on businesses and residents,” Dr Eady said.

“With Kentucky Creek Dam once again full, now is the time the community needs to be talking about what options are on the table to deliver clean and secure water for the future.

“While recycled water is one option, Z-NET wants to generate a wider discussion around water security, whilst empowering the community to be involved in the decision making process.

“Water security is not just an issue facing the Uralla community and on the completion of this program we will share our findings with other rural Councils and communities in the Murray-Darling Basin.

“Whatever options our leaders decide to pursue they must have the support of the community, which is what we are aiming to achieve through the Blueprint for Water.”

Adam Marshall, Member for Northern Tablelands

The Uralla Wordsworth advertising schedule has been updated and the full schedule can be viewed on our website (www.urallawordsworth.com.au). The key price points are listed below :

Business Card Sized Ad	\$18
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Advertising can be emailed in jpg format to urallawordsworth@gmail.com. The deadline for each edition is 5pm on the Thursday before the publication date.

If you enjoy reading the paper and are in a position to make a donation, the Uralla Wordsworth bank details are below :

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New projects for Uralla's latest \$1 million infrastructure upgrade

Mr Joyce said the funding will build on the community confidence following recent rain and help support economic recovery from drought.

"The effects of this drought on farmers and communities in the Uralla Shire are far from over," Mr Joyce said.

"That's why we are continuing to roll out support like this which will create jobs, improve local infrastructure and keep money ticking through our towns, no matter the circumstances.

"We are here for communities like Uralla and its surrounding villages - be it from drought, bushfire or now Coronavirus - and we will be here to support them for as long as it takes."

The Coalition Government has committed \$300 million over four years to the Drought Communities Program Extension, to facilitate immediate economic stimulus in communities facing hardship and support projects that provide local employment to keep money invested in local shops and suppliers.

Barnaby Joyce, Member for New England

New cricket pitch facilities at Bundarra, upgrades to Uralla's BMX park, a new camp kitchen at Queen Street Caravan Park and a new solar system at Kentucky Hall are among the latest projects for Uralla and district under its second \$1 million instalment of the Australian Government's Drought Communities Program. Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, said the new projects will be undertaken by Uralla Shire Council and follow delivery of an initial \$1 million each for all 10 local government areas in the New England.

The first round delivered upgrades to Uralla Court House and the Showground, as well as well improvements to community infrastructure such as Uralla Preschool and Grace Munro Aged Care facility

The second \$1 million investment in drought relief for Uralla will deliver additional community infrastructure upgrades including:

- insulating the ceiling, upgrading kitchenette and ensuite, and upgrading solar assets at the McMaugh Gardens Aged Care, Uralla;
- refurbishment to Uralla Visitor Information Centre;
- installing a camp kitchen at Uralla's Queen Street Caravan Park;
- upgrading the historical Uralla sign/map in Salisbury Street;
- building a shed for the Uralla Men's Shed Group;
- painting of un-rendered brickwork, office and kiosk at the Uralla Swimming Pool;
- upgrades to the Uralla BMX Park, including guttering and roofing of the toilet block, ripping off sections of the reserve, building a road base to allow access to the seating areas, and construction of a children's bike track with shade sail;
- construction of a bore hole at Alma Park, Uralla;
- installing gas/electric barbeques, tables and shelters at Wooldridge Recreation and Fossicking Area, Uralla;
- installation of LED lights and solar panels in council buildings;
- development of a new cricket pitch surface at Bundarra Cricket Club, and installation of practice nets, fencing, sports seating and water stations at Bundarra Sporting Complex;
- greening and installing tables, seats, shelter and rubbish bins for the main street and parks in the Bundarra CBD;
- installation of a grid-connected solar system at Kentucky Hall;
- organising the Bundarra Lions Goat Racing event in October 2020 and sponsoring the Uralla Show 2020; and development of an Adverse Events Plan.

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A Supermarket

The supermarket debate rolls on in Uralla. Peter Hay, the developer, has produced a rather misleading leaflet and has been popping them into shopper's bags. Fair enough if the facts were straight but they are not. Dirty-tricks indeed. He is now setting about trying to sway Councillors to change their minds rather than address the legitimate concerns of this proposal.

I get a bit confused by this guy's actions. First of all, he disregards a considerable weight of professional and community concern by insisting that he can just resubmit the same plan without adjustment. This project needs to be a 'win win' for the whole community.

This guy (from Tenterfield) walks into our town and complains to Council that he has spent \$50,000 in planning already and he won't make any money out of this venture. An amazing display of crocodile tears from the man who bought up the old Coopers Hardware store to block a rival supermarket coming to town. Really? Doesn't sound like he is really hard up. I for one think a bit of healthy competition wouldn't go astray. This move alone blasts his credibility to oblivion. He knows exactly what he's doing. He wants to do this development on the cheap whether the town is with him or not. I don't think he cares about Uralla, it is maximum profit for minimum outlay.

It is interesting how people think that if this proposal doesn't get approved that, "that's it", we won't have a supermarket. This is just not so. If it isn't this supermarket, it'll be another; if it isn't this site, it'll be another. The applicant already has the Cooper's site, so how about putting the supermarket up there? As for the cry that the Curtis Arcade will become just another empty building, well I don't believe that will happen.

Let's think about how business has changed in this town in the past 10 years. Who'd have thought the tyre service in the old hanger would be full of boutique stalls of small local traders (a real draw card for visitors); who'd have thought that there would be the number of interior shops and cafés, all drawing people and creating jobs. There is also Seasons of New England that is providing a vibrant trading opportunity for up to 100 small traders, all of whom

derive at least part of their income from these new opportunities.

How about a bit of blue-sky thinking? How about if the supermarket was in Coopers or some other location? I could see the old Curtis Arcade becoming the gym, and the old sheds becoming a craft training center where young and not so young could train in a range of craft skills from jewelry and ceramics to furniture and textile making.

As Covid wreaks havoc on the economy in cities and drives more people to regional areas, we have to work smarter to get a jump on other communities. It has already forced us to live locally, travel locally and buy locally, and so our point of difference from other communities has become even more critical.

People are not going to travel to a community for a bright shiny concrete supermarket - every city has a bundle of those. Let's not throw away the point of difference we do have, and that is our unique village atmosphere that is already attracting people in droves. Let's not trade that off for the benefit of one business that can go anywhere.

I think it is clear in this debate that we all want a modern supermarket. It is just a matter of the appropriateness of destroying a cornerstone heritage building and compromising a heritage precinct in the process. This would be killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

Andrew Parker, Uralla Resident

You Can Help

If you can help us improve the information in the paper by sending in, or prompting others to send in, information about Uralla Shire businesses or community organisations that may be helpful for the community to know about, please do - email is urallawordsworth@gmail.com.

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JobKeeper and the Coronavirus Supplement

Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, has welcomed the extension of the JobKeeper program and the Coronavirus Supplement for affected businesses and households in New England. "This economic support for local businesses and their workers is unprecedented and is helping the New England community through the COVID-19 pandemic and bolstering our economic recovery. "I've been walking around the shops today in Armidale asking how people are dealing with the economic ramifications of COVID-19 and what we can do to help. As much as we would like to offer so much more, we are restricted by the fact that this is borrowed money, overwhelmingly from overseas, and it has to be repaid. "One thing businesses do understand is that you can't have too much debt and our Government is no different," Mr Joyce said. Under the Coalition Government's next phase of support, the JobKeeper Payment will continue at its current level until 27 September, after which it will be extended for a further six months to 28 March, 2021. A two-tiered payment will also be introduced so as to better reflect the pre-COVID-19 income of payment recipients. Specifically, from 28 September until 3 January next year, the two payments will be \$1,200 and \$750 per fortnight, with the lower payment for employees who worked less than 20 hours a week in the month of February pre-COVID-19. From 4 January to 28 March next year, the two payments will be \$1,000 and \$650. The temporary Coronavirus Supplement for those on income support will also be extended until 31 December, 2020. The \$550 per fortnight Supplement will continue until 24 September. From 25 September until 31 December, the Supplement will be \$250 per fortnight, reducing by the same amount as the JobKeeper payment. The continued support for Australians who are without work and for businesses and their workers will help New England to not only get through this crisis, but recover on the other side. Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said the extension of support recognises that Australia's economic recovery is still in its early stages and a number of local businesses

and individuals remain significantly affected by the global COVID-19 pandemic. "The Coalition Government's focus remains on reopening the economy where it is safe to do so, but the extension of these measures recognises that some parts of the economy will continue to be affected and need continued support," the Treasurer said. "Sadly, as a result of this global health pandemic, businesses will close and people will lose their jobs, but that is why we have extended the Coronavirus Supplement and announced a new skills package to help people transition from welfare to work," the Treasurer said. Mr Joyce said the Government is extending the JobKeeper payment beyond September to help keep businesses in business and Australians in jobs as our economy reopens. "The program has made a difference to local businesses in New England, including coffee shops, hairdressers and hotels, by keeping a connection between employers and employees to help them get to the other side of the crisis," Mr Joyce said.

For more information: treasury.gov.au/coronavirus

Barnaby Joyce, Member for New England



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Uralla Wordsworth Monday 27th July 2020 P7



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Panorama Project

932 SKETCHBOOKS have made their way out across the New England North West as part of Arts North West's Panorama Project.

Arts North West were also able to pay 10 emerging and professional artists to be part of this historic project. With over 30 applications, the following artists were successful:

- Nadia Kliendanze, Inverell
- Maree Kelly, Gunnedah
- Carmel Higgins, Tenterfield
- Paula Jenkins, Walcha
- James O'Hanlon, Armidale
- Trish Petersen, Armidale
- **Jan Clark, Rocky River**
- Joanne Stead, Tamworth
- Isabelle Devos, Armidale
- Sophie Masson, Armidale

"I was delighted to be involved with the project as I thought it was a great initiative from Arts North West to engage with the many creative people living in our region during such a hard time for the arts community in particular. The project was a great way to help keep people inspired and working creatively" said Gunnedah based artist, Maree Kelly.

Arts North West recognised this time of national self-isolation meant countless creative workshops and opportunities have been cut off, postponed or cancelled.

To meet this challenge, the organisation took a scheduled project off the drawing table and reconfigured it as a community project for people to do at home.

"For me personally, I found joy in going back to basics and working in a small sketchbook with drawing media. I found myself rediscovering my 'backyard' and looking more closely at my environment, which I most definitely take a bit too much for granted. It was fabulous to have something to focus on to keep the creativity flowing and to start developing ideas for new work in my own arts practice." Ms Kelly continued.

Arts North West Executive Director, Caroline Downer has been overwhelmed by the success of the project.

"Even though this project spans across 12 council areas

and thousands of kilometers, there is a real sense of community and connectiveness involved with this project" Ms Downer said.

"We were thrilled with the EOI applications we received, and the recipients are a great reflection of the quality and diversity of the New England North West creative landscape." She continued.

The Panorama Project will begin its tour around the New England North West libraries starting around September. Follow the Arts North West Facebook page for more details.

Caroline Downer, Executive Director, Arts North West

Whatever The Weather?

It can be wild

Like a winsome child

Or we can have days so sublime

We are blessed with perfect sunshine!

It can be whimsical

So very magical!

One day this, one day that.

We need to wear all our different hats!

It can be fickle,

Water slowing to just a trickle.

Then with the land all parched and dry

Wildfires light up the evening skies.

Where will it all end?

What next will the weather send?

Will it be more punishment?

Or just maybe, something of wonderment?

Whatever it is,

Whether we greet it with trepidation or bliss,

The weather is always full of surprises,

As it comes to us in its various guises.

Pauline Crouch, Rocky River Resident



Meeting times and protocols will be advised by email to all members. Planning on the usual time and the usual location, social distancing permitting.

Bill Andrews

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0417280634 / FAX : 0267783958

bill@billandrews.com.au

Andrew Murray's Diary

...continued

Sunday April 29, 1860:

Camped all day; went over to his shearing shed. He had a peculiarly-made wool press, the plan of which I took in the afternoon. Our new tent caught fire and was partly burned before we could put the fire out.

Monday April 30, 1860:

Left civilisation this morning. We travelled in a S.W. to S.S.W. direction, over comparatively low ridges and level ground. Timber: poplar, box. Rock: Slate. Ground: in a wet time, boggy. Fixed Robison and self, first watch; Barbra and Duke second, and McCrossin and McKay third watch. Air cool toward morning.

Tuesday May 1, 1860:

Started travelling in same course for a time. About 11 a.m. some of the horses tried again to cast their packs. Barbra, to whom I was close with my pack-horses, let his carbine fall accidentally. The hammer struck the ground and the gun went off. Fortunately no harm was done. Poor Barbra turned ashen pale with fright. I had warned him to take the cap off for fear of an accident. He said he had done so and still it went off. Previous to my telling him, he had been travelling with the hammer down on the nipple, which had loosened the phosphorus. In taking the cap off he had left the phosphorous on the nipple, hence the explosion. We turned to a west course, and north-west, when we made Apis creek. The country is much better here, openly timbered with poplar and box. Camped on Apis creek. Watch again.

Wednesday May 2, 1860:

The country through which we passed today is undulating and openly timbered, chiefly poplar and box. Hilly to mountainous country ahead. All slate rock formation. We got well up into the hilly country and camped. There is water in the larger gullies. The grass is almost all of the variety prevailing throughout Australia in its wild state and known as Kangaroo grass, which is a good drought resister and a good summer but a poor winter grass. Apis creek is a small tributary of the Fitzroy or McKenzie and our camp is on the eastern fall of a series of ridges forming the division between the Apis creek headwaters and the valley of the Isaacs. To the S.S.E. of our camp a high hill rose off the back of the ridge on which we were camped, and being anxious to get a good view of the country ahead I got Duke to go with me, thinking it possible that blacks might be about. We ascended to a considerable height. Strangely, the sand flies were very troublesome and the higher we went the worse they became. At last Duke would not go any higher, so I left him on the side of the hill and went on alone near the top. The view, as far as the eye could discern, one continuous sea of brigalow scrub with its light silvery colour. The courses of the creek and river were plainly defined by the brownish colour of the red

gums along their course. The sun was setting and far away on the Western horizon the tops of the peak ranges were visible, bearing about 5 degrees of North-west. I sketched it.

Thursday May 3, 1860:

Going on our way in a northerly direction, along the range which was very stony, we crossed to the south-west watershed but could not get down owing to the dense scrub which ran parallel with it and about half way up the ridge we were on. We skirted the scrub. Ground less stony; timber: silver-leaved ironbark; grass good to within 5 chains of the scrub. As I was leading and all the party following with the horses, a fine plain turkey walked leisurely out of our way, so I got as close as I could and managed to shot it. All the game was extra and a welcome change from the dried salt beef. We went on a little further and seeing no chance of an opening in the scrub, we struck to the left. A very large bottle tree growing on the edge of a stony ridge attracted our attention. We thought part of it might be good for food and we cut into it. The bark and outside of these trees is comparatively hard, then soft and pithy, but insipid and with no food value. Boiling the pith was a decided failure, as the longer it boiled the harder and more woody it seemed to become. The bottle tree is a species of Kurrajong, useful for makeshift canoes. After a distance of about a mile through scrub, we came out on the back of a creek with good open country on both sides, in places a hundred or more yards wide to the edge of the scrub. We camped on the west bank of this creek. Cooked the turkey a very fat one and got a bottle of oil from it as well as a good meal.

Friday May 4, 1860:

From the extensive view I had of the high hill on the head of Apis Creek I knew there was a belt of openly timbered country along the course of the Isaacs, bearing in the direction we wanted to travel. With the object of reaching it we left camp following the course of the creek we were on and keeping a look-out for an opening in the scrub to get through to the river. The difficulty in getting through a thick scrub with 21 pack-horses, many of them not too tractable is only known to those who have to do it. After failing in every attempt, we camped early on the south bank of a small creek. The night was dark and we heard a noise in the creek. My mate Hamilton Robison walked over and looked over the bank, a very dangerous venture as the blacks could see him easily between them and the sky light, whilst it was impossible for him to see them, giving them the chance of spearing him.

To be continued

Noel Marshall, Uralla Historical Society

Supporting New

England Small Business

Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, has welcomed the Coalition Government's commitment to continue helping New England businesses as they move into the recovery phase of the coronavirus crisis. "The Coronavirus SME Guarantee Scheme will be extended to support small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) to get access to the funding they need to adapt and innovate during the coronavirus crisis. "Similar to the Regional Investment Corporation (RIC), which, as Minister, I set up as a condition of the Coalition Agreement with the then Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, to help farmers, these loans are helping other small businesses in New England. The only solution to our current economic problem is for the economy to become fully operational again and these loans are making that happen," Mr Joyce said. Under the existing Scheme, the Government is providing an unprecedented level of support to SMEs in partnership with 44 approved lenders by guaranteeing 50 per cent of new unsecured loans to SMEs. The Scheme has already seen more than 15,600 businesses accept loans worth \$1.5 billion. The next phase of the Coronavirus SME Guarantee Scheme will help New England businesses move out of hibernation, successfully adapt to the new COVID-safe economy and invest for the future. Key changes to the Scheme include: Extending the purpose of loans able to be provided beyond working capital, so a wider range of investment can be funded; Permitting secured lending (excluding commercial or residential property); Increasing the maximum loan size to \$1 million (from \$250,000) per borrower; Increasing the maximum loan term to five years (from three years); and Allowing lenders the discretion to offer a repayment holiday period. Mr Joyce said the expanded Scheme will shift from providing access to working capital to helping businesses stay afloat during the crisis to now also enabling them to access more affordable and longer term credit so that they can invest for their future. "The initial phase of the Scheme remains available for new loans

issued by eligible lenders until 30 September, 2020. The second phase of the Scheme will start on 1 October, 2020 and will be available until 30 June, 2021. The Coalition Government will continue to support small businesses as they seek to rebuild, adapt and create jobs on the other side of the coronavirus crisis," Mr Joyce said.

Barnaby Joyce, Member for New England

Uralla Bowls Ladies Win

On Wednesday 15th July, 2020 Uralla Women's Bowling Club hosted the New England District Senior Fours Bowling Competition. Three clubs participated (there being one withdrawal), however Covid-19 regulations and restrictions saw a limited use of the greens allowed, and also restricted spectator numbers. Heeding strict Covid-19 health and distancing guidelines, Uralla and Guyra played the first round in the morning, with Uralla scoring a very close win. Uralla then went forward into the second round against Armidale City Bowling Club, who won their first round on a forfeit. Our Uralla ladies again showed their metal and won this game 29-13. Our congratulations go to Ros Rhodes, Phyllis Dade, Judy Bray and Pam Westbury. These ladies now go on to represent the New England District at the Region 3 Play-offs, hosted by Namoi District, at Lightning Ridge in September. The Uralla team of Judy Bray and Pam Westbury will also represent the New England District at the Senior Pairs Region 3 Play-offs, also to be held in September at Lightning Ridge.

Pauline Crouch, UWBC Vice-President



Uralla Ladies Bowling Club at the Uralla Bowling Green

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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 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

Computer Bank New England Computer Classes are each Friday from 9am - 12noon at the Uralla Community Centre

Uralla Hospital Auxillary meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 2pm at the 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 Uralla Bowling Club

Uralla Progressive Cinema meets on the last Tuesday of each month, 6pm at McCrossin's Mill, all welcome, entry is free and donations welcome

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

Tennis is on Wednesday from 6.30pm at the Uralla Sporting Complex

Knattering Knitters meet at Uralla Library on Tuesdays at 10am and Sundays at 2pm

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 Driver Reviver meets on the first Sunday of each month at 2pm at 117 Bridge Street, Uralla.

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

Ascent Community Care

Senior Social Group 9.30am – 2.00pm, Mondays at Uralla Community Centre Ph: 6778 3503

Seniors Exercise Class – 2.00pm -3.00pm, Wednesdays at the Uralla Community Centre Ph: 6778 3503

Uralla Food Pantry, Mondays 12 noon-2pm, Uralla Neighbourhood Centre. Good range dry goods, and fruit/veges. 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

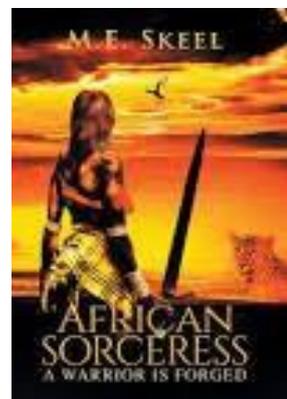
Uralla Shire Council Ordinary Meeting 12.30pm Tuesday 27th July 2020 at the Uralla Shire Council Chambers

Congratulations to Uralla Author!

Uralla author Maggie Skeel has won an award for her latest book. Following is a copy of the good news taken from the E-Mail received by Maggie.

"Congratulations on your Eric Hoffer book award. African Sorceress endured rigorous judging and surpassed dozens of titles within its category. Each winner was ... unique, worthy and well produced... Your title helps maintain the circulation of ideas, which is a vital and necessary function for a thriving society."

**Barry Blair, Uralla Resident
Ed - Congratulations Maggie!**



Uralla Brewhaha
you know the score...

2/16A HILL STREET URALLA

AUCTION

15th August 2020 12.30pm ON SITE



This three bedroom brick veneer strata title unit is situated on a 1341m² block within walking distance to all the town amenities.

The open plan kitchen/dining/living area includes a dishwasher, reverse cycle air conditioning and electric heating. All the bedrooms have built-ins. The bathroom has a bath and shower and there is a separate toilet.

The internal laundry leads to the garage with an electric roller door and the east facing deck. A large storage area with power and rainwater tank is situated under the unit.



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