

Uralla Wordsworth

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Happy 100th Birthday Mary Marshall



years. Mary is hoping that she will receive a letter from King Charles, which may be a first in Uralla.

Mary was born Mary O'Keefe in Walcha and lived there for a couple of years before moving to Nowendoc to live with her grandparents on the property "Spring Gully". Shortly after, the family moved back to Walcha where she met her future husband Jeff Marshall from Woolbrook. At this stage Mary was employed as a tailor's assistant. After marrying, they moved to Common Road, Woolbrook. Unfortunately, their house there burnt down and they had to then move into a Housing Commission house in Armidale.

Mary has been described as a most caring and calm person, not only totally committed to her family, but also willing to help anyone in need. At one stage she was the dedicated carer of her husband's parents. Daughter Lyn reports that she could not remember her mother ever being cranky. To this day Mary has the most amazing memory.

Mary Marshall celebrated her 100th birthday at McMaugh Gardens on Tuesday 15 November and followed it up with a large family gathering at Woodville Oval four days later. Mary had nine children, 36 grandchildren, 78 great grandchildren and 22 great-great-grandchildren most of whom turned up for the family gathering along with brothers from Grafton and Walcha and nieces and nephews from as far away as Brisbane. It was the best ever party according to Mary, not least because she had the chance to meet some of her great-great-grandchildren for the first time. She said she was thankful for her long life and thanked the staff at McMaugh's for their wonderful care over the past eight



Mother and children. Front L to R: Mary Marshall, Lyn, Leona.
Middle: Pat. Back: Kate, Joy, Darryl, Dianne and Kevin

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Robert Bell was elected Mayor of Uralla Shire Council in December 2021, after serving five years as a Councillor. He was previously Director of Engineering for Uralla Shire Council, lives in town, and has a grazing block at Kentucky. Cr Bell gives a personal view of some of the more important matters concerning Council and ratepayers in recent weeks.

Uralla Shire Council has received a Natural Disaster Declaration for flooding and storm damage, effective from September 14, 2022. This allows assistance for primary producers, small businesses, not-for-profit community groups and sporting clubs. As you can imagine, the list covers most of regional NSW. Council staff has been recording road damage to include in our application for additional funding. The list submitted totalled 77 items, with a cost estimate of \$2,006,000 to repair. No doubt this figure is tiny compared with those shires like Forbes and Wagga Wagga. No word yet on what funds will be provided to Uralla Shire.

I was honoured to attend Mrs Mary Marshall's 100th birthday celebrations at McMaugh Gardens recently. Mary raised 9 children, 36 grandchildren, 78 great grandchildren and 22 great great grandchildren. Mary was born in Walcha and has lived in the region most of her life. The staff at McMaugh Gardens did a wonderful job facilitating the party, with the continuing Covid protocols. Mary received a lot of cards, however, no King Charles III card. Maybe it is in the post.

Hon. Adam Marshall was in Uralla last week to announce \$50,000 under the State Government's "Get NSW Active" program. This will allow Council to complete Stage 7 (of 8) sections of cycleway/pathway in Plane Avenue out to the Uralla Sporting Complex. This project is the top priority under the Council's Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan adopted in 2019.

Faulkner Street residents will be pleased to hear that Council has agreed to fund a stormwater system from the street down to Rocky Creek. This funding will be from internal restrictions allocated from the Stormwater Levy. This project will need support from the affected residents and from developers in the area. Council also agreed that we need to develop a section in the Stormwater Asset Management Plan that includes a priorities list of stormwater infrastructure improvements to be funded by grants or from the Stormwater Levy.

The issue of water security remains a key issue for Uralla Shire Council. At the last Council meeting, we resolved to liaise with the funding partner to bring the ground water drilling investigation to an end, with or without the final two bores, no later than February 2023. Council has not had any information on the success or otherwise from the investigations that have been carried out to date. The Regional Water Strategy for the Gwydir Catchment has been released by the Department of Planning and Environment. Uralla's situation is clearly articulated in the

report and includes us seeking innovative water solutions and is listed as Priority 1 for the catchment. Bundarra's security of water supply will need to be included in the long run.

Our Bundarra community BBQ went very well. While there were only approximately fifteen resident, they all had an opportunity to meet the new engineer and show him some of the local issues. Our last community meeting for the year will be held on Thursday December 1 at Alma Park, from 5pm to 7pm. We are well aware this is a busy time of the year; however please drop down for a free sausage sandwich (compliments of the Councillors), if you have time. Four Councillors, including myself, will be attending an Enco meeting at the Armidale Golf Club on November 29. The invitation was provided to Councillors as part of a presentation by Dr John Peatfield on behalf of Red4NE (Renewable Energy Development for the New England). It is important that we have as good an understanding of the issues as possible, given the scale and volume of proposed developments in this region.

Final planning for the Uralla Fairy Festival is well underway. Rumours of yours truly travelling in convoy through town on a motorcycle side car are spreading quickly. I believe most of the workshops are fully booked, but please check online if you wish your children or grandchildren to attend any of them. Great news that a number of Uralla businesses will be open into the evening, to ensure a full day for all. Saturday December 3 is the big day.

M: 0434 244 774
robertbell1055@hotmail.com

Robert Bell
Uralla Shire Resident



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Letters to the Editor

Dear John,
Thank you for bringing to our attention, in your letter to the editor of The Wordsworth of 14th November, that you had missed the performance of The Whitetop Mountaineers on the 25th October. I apologize for not advertising this event in The Wordsworth and I am sorry that you missed their performance, which was well attended. Uralla Arts obviously want to promote their shows to the people of Uralla and we do this in a number of ways. Our main method is by email to our members which we also include on social media and our website. We also have posters at various shops in town and always at The Mill and the information centre. Where possible we also try and advertise on local radio, particularly the ABC, however this is usually done by the touring acts. John if you have an email address, I am happy to include you on our list, just send to randerson84@bigpond.com and that will ensure you are advised of all our events. I will endeavor to ensure that we also advertise acts in The Wordsworth.
John, I can assure you that The Whitetop Mountaineers had a very successful tour of Australia.

Yours sincerely

Bob Anderson, President - Uralla Arts

Dear Editor,
Recent rains on the New England Tableland, exacerbated by the continued burning of fossil fuels, flowed down the streams and spread out over Central NSW, where members of the NSW Farmers' Association lost under floodwater any amenity they may have had. How do they feel about Association members in the New England Renewable Energy Zone, who are worried about losing their amenity in a forest of wind turbines, and are blocking the implementation of substitutes for fossil fuel, with endless demands for consultation. I am reminded of this speech: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country".

John Sutherland, Uralla

To the editor,
Assuming work is continuing on the refurbishment of the interior of the Uralla Court House as a hub for Community

use I had the opportunity to look at the facilities in the former Armidale Library (now NOVA). It is available for the community, business, groups and individuals to book offices, meeting rooms, internet desks, a sound absorbent recording and video room, and a 90 seat workshop space with kitchenette, with free tea, coffee and wi-fi.

Respecting the heritage value of the Court House interior, and incorporating its historical link with the past with (maybe) a diorama wall feature, I am sure, with the increased interest in Uralla as a Heritage Centre, a suitable facility for 'brainstorming, public meetings, local research, functions and launching of new businesses, Art and photographic exhibitions, book launches and various presentations, can be offered.

I recommend a visit to Nova at 122 Faulkner Street Armidale (contact Cherene Spendlove - 0482 949 684.)

Gordon Fuller, local resident

.....continued page 9



Free Fees
available
for 2023

Uralla Preschool is a play based, not for profit community preschool, catering for 3-5 year olds.

Contact **Anne** today on **6778 4510** to discuss this **free fee** initiative through the Affordable Preschool-Fee Relief program.

Free fees are inclusive of all costs, including excursions and activities.

Uralla Preschool
www.urallapreschool.com.

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Frisk, Chester, and Flora (the microbats)

(Continued from 10 September and 3 October editions)

When it came time for Flora and Chester's flight training Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers members, Charlie and Martin, came round to put up the "flight tent" – a mesh-walled camping gazebo. I was so excited to put the bats in there. I could tell that Flora, at least, was eager and ready to fly as every night I could see her hopping, flapping, and flying in their indoor enclosure. Once she was in the flight tent she wasted no time zooming around. But Frisk and Chester once more showed how stubborn they could be. They would only emerge from their pouch if made to do so, and seemed to only fly in order to get back to their pouch again. Stubborn, and lazy! But at least they were still eating!

Then it was time for them to be released. I did Flora first. At dusk on Valentine's Day, Charlie and I drove her to where she was found, and I barely had time to hold my arm up, open my hand, and say goodbye before she was off. She knew exactly where she wanted to be, and I was so happy to have helped her get there. Fly well, sweet Flora, and enjoy your life.

The next night was Frisk and Chester's turn. I was so anxious about their release, and wondered how many nights it would be before this stubborn pair would finally fly off. I decided to release them simultaneously in the hope that if one of them flew it would encourage the other one to fly as well. I held them both up in one hand, and waited. After about a minute, Chester stretched out one wing, seemed to like the feel of the air, put the other one out also, and...took off! When I watched him fly away and be lost among the stars I wanted to dance with happiness, but I still had Frisk in my up-stretched hand. So I stood calmly and told her that it was her turn now... and surprisingly she flew off also! After three months of struggle and anxiety with this stubborn, difficult pair I could not believe that they flew off in under two minutes! It was a lovely parting gift from them. Seeing them fly away, so strong and sure, heading back to their people, was the best sight! Goodbye, stubborn bats! And good luck.

Lily's story

Megan Robinson, Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers

Australia Day Awards Nominations - Uralla

Nominations are invited for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year and Sports Awards, to be presented on Australia Day, 2023. 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, 2023, and Senior Citizen nominees must be aged seventy years or over.

Nomination forms are available from the Uralla Shire office, Uralla Library, Uralla Post Office, Regional Australia Bank or the Secretary, Uralla Australia Day Committee, 14 Dumaresq Street, Uralla, phone 67784328. Nominations will close on Friday, 16th. December, 2022. Nominations received after this date will not be considered.

Bev Niland, Australia Day Committee

BOOK LAUNCH

"CAPTAIN THUNDERBOLT'S FOLLY"

by John Donohue

Thursday, December 8, 2022, 5pm sharp

McCrossin's Mill

Light refreshments supplied.

All welcome. RSVP by Dec.6 to:

Faye Ryan 0419 146 841

E: fryan@bigpond.com

ATTENTION VETERANS

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of any type

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Preparing for the Future as a Community



Christina Goodwin (Uralla Co-op), Brad Hunt (Principal), James Croft (TUFF) display some of the resources purchased with donated funds from these two organisations along with the school's appreciation certificates for them.

Rocky River P&C would like to thank two Uralla-based community organisations for granting us and our school community generous donations this year.

The Uralla Co-op is a community co-operative which relies on donations from the community, and in turn distributes its profits back to the community. The Co-op works alongside other community organisations, including ZNet and the Men's Shed, with a focus on 'Working on Waste'. They promote recycling and up-cycling of building materials, clothing and household items, and actively work towards educating the community on how to think and act for a sustainable future. The Co-op's efforts were recognised by the Uralla Shire Business Chamber, being awarded the 2022 Outstanding Community Organisation.

The Uralla Future Fund (TUFF) aims to support the sustainability and resilience of Uralla. The local business leaders who initiated the Fund are focused on the long term viability of our community. Established to support the educational, social and financial advancement of the town and its residents, TUFF provides a springboard for the Uralla community to bounce into the future with confidence, supporting not only the current residents but future generations to come.

With these donations, we have been able to purchase some educational resources for our students. Even for the students in our small school, it is important to develop the skills and thinking they will need into the future. The new equipment actively engages the students using hands-on, interactive technology to make learning fun!

'In our changing world, it is essential that our students have the skills to use and develop technological devices and systems. Our goal is to provide our students with problem solving skills to be able to use systems and programs effectively'. (Brad Hunt, Principal, Rocky River School)

Beth Platford, Secretary, Rocky River P&C

Uralla Seniors and Pensioners

This past month has kept the seniors and pensioners very busy with a variety of activities. Since our last report we've been to lunch at the "Top Pub" and "53 on Bridge", held our street stall and took ourselves out to Gostwyck Station to enjoy their lovely gardens. Many thanks to the CWA and especially Luise Scherer to allow our older ladies to be transferred direct to the top terrace garden.

After seeing the gardens at Gostwyck, a few of us surveyed our own gardens and found them a bit wanting, myself in particular. But not to worry, Gwen came to my rescue with many plants from her own amazing garden. On our stroll around Gostwyck, often when I enthused about some lovely specimen, Gwen would say, "I've got that at home, I'll get you some". And she did just that. Lots of specimens have now found themselves a new home in my garden. Bob was delighted when I gave him the news, but he saw them all planted just where I wanted. Thank you, Gwen. I do appreciate them, and look forward to seeing them all in bloom.

Our Street Stall saw us cooking lots of cakes and slices, making jams, and raiding our gardens. Thank you to all who helped make it a success. Our enormous raffle was a big winner with the community; thank you to all who bought tickets. However, the goodies all stayed with our own members. And they were simply delighted. First prize, a huge hamper, including a Christmas ham, went to June Partridge, who had to bring along several helpers to get it all home. Second prize went to Norma Faint who also received a ham, and a crocheted blanket to keep her knees warm. The 100 club was won by Richard Croft.

We are now looking forward to our Christmas party at the Golf Club in December.

Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer



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One Hundred Words

To celebrate the achievement of reaching its one hundredth edition, the Wordsworth team decided to give you, the reader, the opportunity to tell us a bit about yourself or something you love or love doing. You can email your 100 words (more or less) to urallawordsworth@gmail.com

I Remember When...

I remember in the early 1950s when Uralla's Roxy Theatre was the main entertainment in town. The theatre was owned by my uncle Maurie Hagan and managed by Mercy and Bing Chapman, daughter Nancy and other family members. The theatre was located where the Pioneer Park is now.

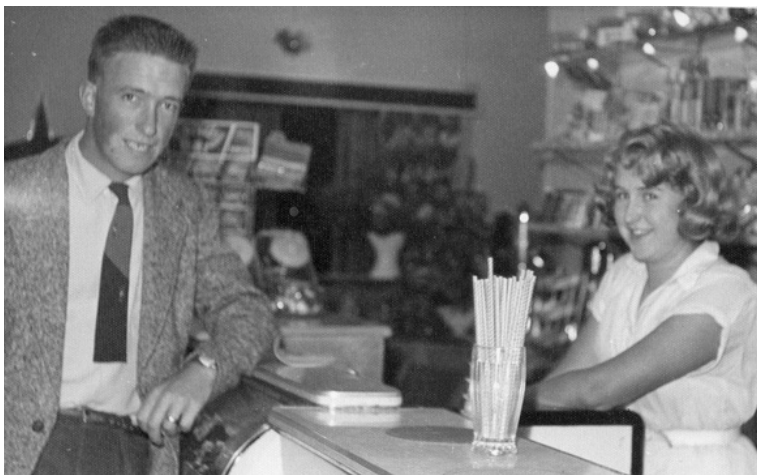
In those days the Uralla shops - including the banks - closed Wednesday afternoons so as to allow them to open all day Saturdays. As a result, everyone seemed to be in the main street making it so crowded you could hardly move.

The theatre was really busy and usually filled to capacity at both the matinee and evening sessions. Two feature movies were shown each session with intermission between. The theatre had its own café. Staff members were rushed off their feet at half-time serving ice-creams and milkshakes. Some people would prefer to walk across Bridge Street to Nick and Marie Psaltis's White Rose Café to buy their refreshments.

The theatre was open six days a week, but not on Sundays of course. Evening sessions also occurred during the week when movies of a similar type were shown - perhaps westerns, murder mysteries or the like.

During those wonderful years I spent most of my nights at the movies, lending a hand where I could help. It became my second home.

Peter Phillips, Uralla.



The Roxy Theatre Cafe with Peter Phillips and his cousin Nancy Chapman later to be Nancy Donaghue

My Life

After coming out of an orphanage at Albury, at the age of 17, I came to the small town of Uralla, knowing no-one. I worked at the boarding house at 51-53 Bridge Street, cooking, cleaning and doing general duties. After twelve months I got a job at NEGS, being the servant of the Head Mistress. I met my husband Carl and later got married. We have five daughters. I used to help on the farm, picking, packing the fruit for market, as well as doing tuck shop for over thirty years, plus being a Brownie leader as well. I also helped with the family home, lighting and decorating for Christmas with over 30 thousand lights.

In 2000 I was delivering parcels around town as well as the mail. I was known to dress up for different days: Australia Day (swagman), Easter (bunny), Mothers Day (handing out flowers), Melbourne Cup (jockey), Halloween (witches), plus playing tennis. I was known as the lady with the bubbly personality, always smiling.

Gloria McMillan, Uralla

Uralla Appeal

We've now been on the road for three months since leaving Alice Springs. The time has been spent meandering through South Australia, Victoria and N.S.W., catching up with friends and relations along the way. Our last night on the road before Lismore, our eventual destination, was to be Armidale.

We crested the hill and looked down on the village of Uralla. How nice does that look, let's call into the V.I.C. and see what it's all about? To cut a long story short, we stayed the night in Uralla, went out for dinner then the following morning went hunting for a coffee. Not only were we spoilt for choices on our search, we saw a street filled with an amazing array of shops and were stunned at the amount of people who acknowledged our presence in their town with a smile and a friendly greeting.

Our visit to Lismore completed, another look at the friendly village of Uralla was called for. It took us a week to secure work, six months to buy a home and nine years later..... What a great decision.

Alex Sherrin, Uralla

Uralla Community Street Store

28 November - 4 December

Lions' Club of Uralla

5 - 11 December

Rotary Club of Uralla

Call Uralla Shire Council to book - 6778 6300

New Thunderbolt Books

John Donohue of Sydney has "the ideal life" he states. As a bushranger buff, apart from writing books, he travels on Cruise Ships as a bushranger story-teller. His latest is "Captain Thunderbolt's Folly", John's take on the bushranger's final and fatal days.

John Donohue is coming to Uralla to launch "Captain Thunderbolt's Folly" (\$34) at McCrossin's Mill on Thursday 8 December at 5pm. Complimentary refreshments will be served by the Mill team. Not to be missed! – both the Launch and the refreshments!

Author Peter Spenser is a direct descendant of Will Monckton who, as a lad of fifteen, ran away from a violent step-father to serve as an apprentice bushranger to Captain Thunderbolt for nine months and, as a result, spent time in Darlinghurst Gaol. Peter's historical novel "Too Young to Hold a Gun" is a colourful and entertaining account of the wild encounters and daring escapes with the fearless Fred Ward. This great book is on sale at the Visitor Information Centre and at the Mill (\$34).

"Boundary Crossers - The Hidden History of Australia's Other Bushrangers". At last, the fiery Mary Ann Bugg receives some long overdue attention! Dr Meg Foster, originally from Sydney's northern beaches, but now a scholar at England's prestigious Cambridge University, cheerfully informed us that her chosen field of study and abiding interest is "banditry".

"No surprise" we joked, "You'd have experienced a lot of banditry on the northern beaches." (There was a chuckle but no denial.)

During her absence (she's back in the U.K.) Meg's book was launched recently in Sydney. (We imagine Meg was busily engaged in holding up a traveller on the motorway, like any self-respecting highwaywoman.)

Mary Ann Bugg renewed her relationship, interrupted by Fred Ward's incarceration in Cockatoo Island prison, after his daring escape in 1863. Mary Ann immediately proved to be a willing accomplice, engaging in robbery-under-arms, fiery encounters with some hapless policemen, and bearing Ward's four children, a remarkably colourful few years. This absorbing chapter is a feature of Meg's book, also available at the Mill. (\$34).

Ann Hacker, Honorary Publicity Officer, Uralla Historical Society

ST. JOSEPH'S FETE

SUNDAY 4TH. DECEMBER

11.00 A.M. TO 2.00 P.M.

In St. Joseph's School Grounds

Barbeque



Drinks, Tea & Coffee

Cakes

Plants

Tombola

Chocolate Wheel



Books

Craft

Face Painting

Family Numbers

Wood Raffle

Santa Claus

Children's Games & Activities

Come along and join in a friendly social gathering, enjoy a tasty barbeque, maybe win a ham on the chocolate wheel, or a raffle prize, check out the variety of stalls, and take the opportunity to buy some Christmas gifts.

Lots of fun activities for children, including a visit from Santa.



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Community Calendar

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

Please check with Event Organisers about the Status of Listed Events

Uralla Rotary Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6.15pm at Uralla Bowlo, dinner optional after meeting

Uralla Lions Club meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 5/5.30 in the CWA Rooms

Uralla Fire & Rescue meet on Tuesday nights at the Uralla Fire Station from 6-7.30pm

Uralla CWA meets on the 4th Friday of each month, 10am at RSL Memorial Hall, 27 Salisbury St, Uralla

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

Uralla Anglican Church meets at 10am each Sunday for worship, prayer, fellowship & Johnno's Kid Club in Park St

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

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

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

Uralla Town & Environs Committee meets on the first Monday of each quarter from 6-7pm in the USC Chambers

Uralla Tennis Social tennis 6:30pm Thursdays. Hot shots Jnr Tennis, Uralla Sporting Complex Sat. 9am – 10am.

Uralla Auto Club Inc. meets at 7 pm on the first Tuesday of each month at The Bowling Club.

Uralla Red Cross meets on the first Friday of each month at 2pm in the CWA rooms in the Literary Institute

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

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

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

Uralla Men's Shed open Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:30pm, 18 Uralla St North, (old Scout Hall site) Ph 0419151253, Hours usually extended in Daylight saving. E urallamensshedcommittee@gmail.com

Uralla Community Neighbourhood Centre Monday by appointment, Tuesday & Wednesday 9:30 to 3pm 67711457 0419149244 E: Urallacnc@familysupport.org.au

Uralla Tigers Supported Playgroup FREE, every Wednesday during school terms, 10am - 12pm, St Joseph's Primary School, contact Nenneh on 0450437068 or Momena on 0481983442

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

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

Uralla Food Pantry, Mondays 10am - 2pm, Uralla Neighbourhood Centre. Good range dry goods, & fruit/veg. Fill a supermarket coloured bag \$15. New members welcome. Uralla Neighbourhood Centre, Ph: 6778 3277 or email : office@unc.org.au Donations welcomed.

Freemasons (Masonic Lodge of Peace #120, Uralla) meet the 3rd Tuesday each month, interested persons, contact Dennis 0448 576 465 or John 0411 374 3341

High Country Markets are held on the 1st Sunday of the month from 8am until 12.30pm at the Uralla Showground

Uralla Combined Pensioners and Seniors Association meets at Uralla Bowlo on the first & third Tuesdays of the month, 10am. New members welcomed, Ph. 0438433735

Uralla and District Uniting Church meets Sundays at 9.30am for worship. Our Church is undergoing renovations and we meet in the adjoining Church Hall 29 Maitland St, Uralla. The 1st Sunday of each month is a communion service. For enquiries, contact Bronwyn Wilson 0403699464

Uralla Garden Club meets every third Saturday of the month at 1.30pm. We have no set permanent venue, but meet at a different member's garden or we visit other Open Gardens. New members are very welcome.

Contact: urallagardenclub@gmail.com or Jenny 0435 593 850

Events for November - December

***Uralla Shire Councillors** will be having a community engagement session at Alma Park Uralla, Thursday 1 December, 5-7 pm

***Melbourne based folk band "Wybie"** are playing at McCrossin's Mill, December 2, Supported by local country/folk band the "Rocky Bottom Girls".

Tickets - <https://www.trybooking.com/CEESY>

***Shop the Street, Eat the Street!** After the Fairy Festival, Saturday 3rd December, until at least 7pm, Bridge St Uralla

***St Joseph's Fete**, St Joseph's School, Sunday 4th December, 11 am - 2 pm

McCrossin's Mill Museum

Museums & Galleries of NSW

"Spaces Make Lace" Category Winner at the IMAGInE Awards

Spaces Make Lace features 180 laces to illustrate centuries of lace history, beginning from 1580 and spanning 400 years. The exhibition showcases the collection of the late Janice Jones who began collecting lace in the early 1980s. Images and equipment on display explored how lace was made, who wore it, and who made it. This helped demonstrate the social, political and economic importance of the European lace industry across history.

Letters to the Editor

.....continued from page 3

Dear Editor,

Court House...What's the Verdict?!

Uralla Council invited the public to suggest future uses for the 1885 Court House – a “Taj Mahal” as described by some cynics of the day. All sorts of ideas went into the pile, the wild and the wise and the wacky ... all in.

But maybe a council officer, let's say “Mr X”, had already decided on “Historic Tours”, rather like, I suppose, they have at the superbly restored 1869 Court House in Port Macquarie.

Mysteriously, Uralla's one time Heritage Advisor, Mitch McKay, who'd been actively involved in the impressive 1993 restoration project in Port Macquarie, was not invited to advise on the Uralla job.

Now we learn that there's been a shemozzle with the roof cladding and solar panels, and another with the exterior colour. The expertise of Mitch McKay would have avoided all that.

The architect for Uralla's refurbishment project seems to have also adopted this “historic tours” idea when he suggests “taking photos of the existing toilets before they are demolished, then displaying the pictures on the walls inside the Court House so visitors can see what used to be there.” Make yourself a cuppa (or pour yourself a rum!) while you consider that stroke of non-genius, eh?

Uralla has no designated, properly equipped public performance space. Therefore there was strong community support for the Court House to be converted to a sixty seat theatre/cinema. Court proceedings are essentially theatre anyway, so the acoustics are always exceptional.

Fortunately I've had a lot of experience in the theatre, and I'm also fully conversant with the Burra Charter, the Australian guidelines for restoration/conservation of heritage buildings.

So, on behalf of Uralla Arts, I submitted detailed sketch plans for the theatre, with raked audience seating, small stage, lighting grid and bio-box, dressing room, foyer, bar, exterior leafy courtyards fronting Hill and Maitland streets, and a new skillion roof over the whole existing courtyard and existing but refurbished toilets.

It seemed the architect had adopted the idea, his most recent plan including an extensive skillion roofed courtyard. Further encouragement came from Mayor Robert Bell's reference to “Entertainment facility”.

What a wonderful community asset this would be, attracting touring theatre companies and musical performances in a comfortable and attractively fitted out space ... “The Court House Theatre” ... with not one photograph of a demolished brick toilet on the walls!

So, Uralla Council, what's the verdict?

Kent Mayo, Uralla 24/11/2022

Live Music In Uralla

Last Saturday evening at The Mill, the Uralla Arts presented The Cary Bennett Trio. This very talented group took its audience on a fascinating chronological tour of a classic era of music from the '20s to the '60s which included such artistic greats as Duke Ellington, Col Porter, Louis Armstrong, Harry Connick Jr and Henry Mancini to mention a few. Judging from the level of audience involvement it would be fair to say the trio made a very positive impression indeed.



The Cary Bennett Trio: James (keyboard), Wendy (bass) and directed by Cary (drums and vocals). How fortunate we are in Uralla to attract such accomplished musicians on such a regular basis.

Top Gong to Peter Barkley



Invergowrie resident, Peter Barkley has been awarded the Southern New England Landcare, 2022 John Winter Irvine Bequest.

The Irvine family decided on a memorial fund in John's name as they wanted to provide an opportunity each year for a person who is involved in and passionate about any aspect of caring for the environment be able to further that passion. The bequest is to be used as a study grant in an activity of the recipients choosing. This could involve natural resource management, rural or regional development or sustainable agriculture.

Peter is very grateful to the people who created the bequest and the ongoing benefits it provides the community, with specific emphasis on land management. He also wishes to acknowledge the support he has received from SNLC over the years. **Alex Sherrin, Uralla**

*Proud to be your
representative
in NSW*



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your Member for Northern Tablelands

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Community Messages

Uralla Shire Councillors will be having a community engagement session at Alma Park, Uralla on Thursday December 1, 5pm - 7pm. Come along, meet your Councillors, talk to us about what concerns you.

Play Patch is a ministry of Uralla Anglican on Wednesdays from 10-12am for children from 0 - school age and their carers. We explore the bible through sensory play weekly during the school term. It costs \$20 a term, per family. Please bring morning tea for your child, a hat and a change of clothes (sensory play can get messy)." www.uallaanglican.com

The **Farmgate Support** program provides peer support, counselling, information and advocacy for rural people living in farming communities or on farm. Our team includes Peer support workers and Social workers. We travel to farms or meet people in their local area across the Hunter New England local health district. People can self refer or be referred with their consent by calling

0477 322 851 or email HNELHD-FarmgateSupport@health.nsw.gov.au

Events/Courses @ "Taylors Run" Kentucky

- Low Stress Stock Handling School with Grahame Rees. Sheep & Cattle. Subsidised Course. 5-6th Dec 2022.
- RCS Australia Field Day with Matt Barton. Pasture management, soil health, budgeting, regen practices etc. Jan 21st, 2023. Free event.

For more information or to RSVP contact Katie Barnett on 0431 636 545 or katiebarnett66@gmail.com



Listen every second Tuesday morning for a live to air interview about the latest edition of the Wordsworth, on FM 92.1 or on the internet: <https://2arm.net.au/listen/>

Fuel Watch ULP91 Diesel

Invergowrie	188.0	225.0
Puma	179.9	219.9
BP	189.9	-
Mobil	169.7	-
Kentucky	219.9	245.9

Prices as of Sun 27 Nov. 2022 Source: NSW FuelCheck



Uralla Women's Bowling Club Hosts District Association Day

Yesterday saw a colourful array of uniforms out on our bowling green where games of triples were being played to begin the activities organised for our District's special day.

Association Day is where we come together to celebrate the New England District Women's Bowling Association. This day has been celebrated since the inception of the Association back in 1946. It is hosted each year by one of six clubs that make up the district. This year everyone came to Uralla.

Following the bowling, we all gathered to enjoy a beautiful lunch cooked by Esther and Water from our Uralla Bowlo Chinese Restaurant. District President Nanette Jemmeson and Uralla Ladies' President Roz Rhodes welcomed our special guests Helen Avery, Secretary/Manager of the Uralla Bowling Club and Pam Meehan, Elder of the local Aniwan people. Pam then made a Welcome to Country, following which Vice-President Phyllis Dade said Grace before we all sat down to eat. The delicious lunch was followed by a presentation of awards for the winners and runners-up of all the events that make up the District Games which were held earlier in the year.

The burgundy and gold colours were this year, unfortunately, to be seen more often on the runners-up side of the podium, having been clipped by just one point in a couple of the Senior events. We congratulate the Armidale clubs whose teams did succeed in their events. The colours of red and blue did seem to be prominent as Servies dominated most of the Open events and City the Senior ones, as was seen when they came up to be presented with their justly deserved awards. Guyra also picked up a runners-up award. However, Uralla did get to stand in the lime light once during the proceedings as three of us strode proudly out to receive our medals for winning the Open Fours. Lyn Buckingham was desolate at not being there as she had succumbed to illness just the day before. She should have been the one to lead us out as she played LEAD. We other three, Pauline Crouch, Lynne Watts and Lynnette Dwyer each received our medal, as well as one on behalf of Lyn B. We four now get to represent the District in the Open Fours in March next year. Wish us luck! **Pauline Crouch, UWBC Publicity Officer**



Uralla's Open 4s Team at the Association Day Presentation

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

at Uralla Shire Council.

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

Council is regularly employing across a wide range of service areas such as: general hand, truck drivers, plant operations, landfill operator, aged care, direct support workers, administrative and professional roles. Ask us about our casual, term and permanent positions.
Tel: 6778 6300



Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is
5pm Thursday 8 December 2022.

Please email all contributions including advertising, letters to the editor, 100 Words and articles to
urallawordsworth@gmail.com

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~2022~ FAIRY

FESTIVAL

SATURDAY
3RD 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

- DRAGON EGGS AND POTIONS
- YOGA FOR THE WEE FOLK
- FIND A FAIRY TREASURE HUNT
- FAIRY AND WIZARD CRAFT
- BUILD A FAIRY GARDEN
- YOGA AND BELLY DANCING
- FAIRY MAIL
- FAIRY DOOR TRAIL
- QUIDELF MATCHES
- FLOWER CROWNS AND HEADDRESSES

Workshop descriptions and online booking forms will be available on our Facebook page
Bookings Essential
www.facebook.com/UrallaFairyFestival
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