

# Uralla Wordsworth

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  urallawordsworth

## Growing RFS Unease Over Upcoming Bush Fire Season



Recent *Get Ready Weekend* events have been conducted across the Shire and the state generally. This event was conducted by the Diggings' Brigade at the Invergowrie Store.

The threat of a severe summer for bush fires is developing into a major concern for the NSW RFS. NSW Chief Superintendent Heath Simpson, talking on ABC Local Radio recently, highlighted the need for people living in the bush to make their emergency plans now and prepare their properties for the worst.

He stressed the upcoming season is looking particularly dangerous for several reasons. The major concern is that after two years of La Niña followed by a dry winter, a large

amount of long dry grass is present on rural properties. Previously burnt bushland in the last drought has almost fully regenerated and previously unburnt areas are dry and vulnerable to fire outbreaks. These fears are shared by local RFS members. Chris Petrov, Diggings' Senior Deputy Captain, has pointed out that already this year local brigades have broken all previous incident attendance records – and the fire season has just begun. Making the situation more concerning are RFS surveys revealing many people in bush fire areas have not yet prepared their emergency plan. Even more alarming is the revelation that more people have decided to stay with their property rather than leave, even when told to by the authorities.

To address this developing situation, our local bush fire brigades have conducted *Get Ready Weekend* community events around the Shire to talk to rural residents about developing their emergency plans. Such events have been held across NSW.

Heath Simpson suggested an emergency plan might best start with a family discussion to decide what is to happen if the property comes under threat. If leaving early for example, at what stage will you leave? (perhaps when a fire is within 5km in severe fire danger conditions.) Where will you go? What will you take? All the information needed to make a fire emergency plan is on the RFS website: [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)

Property owners are encouraged to prepare early by

Continued on page 6.....

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### 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@rslinsw.org.au](mailto:urallasb@rslinsw.org.au)

your privacy is guaranteed, we are with you

Uralla Sub-Branch of RSL NSW

**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.

Congratulations to ZNet, SNELC (Southern New England Landcare) and Stringybark Ecological on putting together an excellent workshop on reducing the sediment flow into Kentucky Creek Dam. The prediction is that between 200 to 800 tonnes per annum is ending up in the town water supply dam. Council has arranged for testing to occur later this year to actually identify how much the dam's 500ML storage has been reduced. Please note there is no appetite to desilt the dam due to the cost, the problem of what you do with the silt and the impact on any species that have made the silt their home. There was interesting discussion on how best to manage the catchment. The positive message is that the catchment grass cover averages well over 80% which is the best way to cut erosion and keep rain in the soil profile. One presentation was given on the work done by Armidale Regional Council and the landowners in the Malpas Dam catchment.

Council has endorsed a Draft Renewable Energy Community Benefit Policy to be placed on public exhibition. This policy is proposed to apply to state significant and regionally significant renewable energy projects. It is essential that we look to deliver a long term dividend for the community. Please note that this policy does not include how these funds will be managed or what projects will be prioritised by the Council. Both these issues will involve extensive public consultation.

The next Councillor Community session will be held at Barry Munday Reserve on Sunday October 8 from 2-4pm. This will also give residents in the area an opportunity to discuss the proposed subdivision north of the reserve. Please note this development has not yet been considered by Council. While the first two sessions at Invergowrie and Rocky River have seen small numbers, they have still been very valuable in discussing all issues in the respective areas.

While the 2022/23 Draft Financial Statements make mostly positive reading, Council continues to focus on the unrestricted cash position. The grants under the Drought, Covid and Flood Recovery Programs have significantly boosted our income, and as a result, expenditure over the last twelve months. I do not expect the level of state government grants to continue. The special flood funding for road repairs has been a tremendous benefit. The Financial Statement will now be sent to external auditors. Once the audit is completed, it will be presented to Council along with the Auditor's Report to a public meeting. It is worth noting that our Electricity bill has increased by 60% from \$159,000 to \$255,000. It seems ironic, as we are part of the Renewable Energy Zone and already produce more power

than the shire uses!

The Federal Government's "Review of Community Engagement Practices" by the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner failed at the most recent hurdle by not meeting with the five New England mayors during his recent visit to the area. Following a number of telephone conversations, the Commissioner, Mr Andrew Dyer, has agreed to a Zoom meeting on Thursday. Not quite the same as meeting us in the region! Council has made a detailed submission to the review, including highlighting that the consultation has been mostly poor. The community needs clear information on what the long term benefits will be. The following statement is included in Council's submission: "A sustainable future for host communities where the benefit of renewable energy can be showcased should be part of long term engagement and planning for renewable energy." Council is looking for not only contributions from developers, but also through partnerships between local, state and Federal government. A full copy of our submission is available for any interested party to view. My thanks go to my fellow Councillors and staff who helped prepare this submission in a short period of time.

Councillors and staff have also been working hard to prepare an application for Regional Housing Strategic Planning Fund – Round 2, to allow Council to prepare a "Uralla Local Housing Strategy." This would be a 10-20 year long term vision review. Council has already been engaging with key stakeholders and I am confident of success. Stay tuned.

M: 0434 244 774  
robertbell1055@hotmail.com  
**Robert Bell**  
**Uralla Shire Resident**



### **QUILTERS ALERT!**

Mixed packages of vintage Japanese  
Kimono silk now available at

**WILD KIMONO**

In the old NAB bank building at  
35 Bridge street Uralla  
Open Fridays & Saturdays 10am-4pm



# Parks and Facility Upgrades for the Uralla Community

Council is pleased to be able to provide this update to our residents regarding exciting news about new and upgraded community and recreation facilities.

Council received NSW State and Commonwealth Government Funding to deliver four community projects for the benefit of our residents and visitors. The NSW State and Commonwealth projects funding arrangement means that these facility upgrades are delivered at no cost to ratepayers.

## Rotary Park Upgrade

The Rotary Park Upgrade Project has reached Practical Completion and is now open to the public. The community is encouraged to drop by and have a look at the new facility. It will serve as a wonderful rest stop for travellers driving north and south. Council is currently looking for solutions to accommodate multiple RV and caravan access.

Council would like to extend special thanks to the community members involved with the Community Garden, which is located in very close proximity to the new park. The Rotary Park Project has had a significant impact on the gardens and its operation. Council is grateful for the ongoing engagement with the Community Garden Group to ensure that this invaluable service continues. Council recognises and appreciates the great work done by the Community Garden Group.

## Pioneer Park Upgrade

Uralla residents and visitors would have noticed that work has commenced at Pioneer Park. The landmark project will deliver a Fibonacci themed walkway with seating, including an entry statement. Captured in the design concept illustration below, it will showcase the unique Uralla postcode 2358, the only postcode in Australia that captures part of the Fibonacci sequence. An exciting component of the project is the proposed inclusion of stenciled artwork, using the conceptual designs by our local school children as part of the pathway feature.

The park will be replanted using tree, shrub and grass species identified in the Council Tree Policy.

## The Glen Precinct Upgrade

This project has two major components:

1. The completion of the *Constellations of the South* Sculptures; and
2. Infrastructure for visitors, including parking and pedestrian facilities

This park will continue to be an off leash dog walking area. Constellations of the South Council has approved several further artwork designs to be commissioned into sculptures for installation at The Glen. The completion of this project will be the culmination of a 20 year vision.

The project will also deliver a new asphalt entrance road leading to a new asphalt car park with designated parking

bays. Two culvert creek crossings will enhance accessibility – one for a connecting pathway to Rotary Park. A new wheelchair friendly BBQ and park furniture will be installed and the information shelter upgraded.

Additionally, Council resolved (subject to funding) to develop a Stage 2 plan which will incorporate elements of the design which reflect the contemporary Aboriginal perspective on astronomy.

Elements identified in Stage 1 which were not delivered will be revisited.

## Courthouse Upgrade

Council received funding for restoration and adaptive reuse of the Uralla Courthouse. Works completed so far include repairs and reinstatement of the verandah, new roof and repairs and painting throughout. Yet to be finalised are the relocation of a kitchenette, repair and rejuvenation of the original flooring, reinstating the original picket fence, reuse of heritage panels as wainscoting, adding disability accessible toilet facilities, refurbishment of the existing toilets and an LED light upgrade incorporating premise rewiring.

Council has resolved to obtain heritage advice from the appointed heritage advisor regarding the completion of the Courthouse Project. The goal is to have the Uralla Courthouse repurposed and available to the public as a multi-functional centre.



Fibonacci themed Pioneer Park – West from the Cnr of Bridge and Salisbury Streets.

## Uralla Councillor Catch-up

Join us around the Shire for a chat.

<b>Invergowrie</b> at the shop	Sunday 10 Sep 2-4pm	
<b>Rocky River</b> Tennis Courts	Sunday 24 Sep 2-4pm	★
<b>Barry Munday Reserve</b>	Sunday 8 Oct 2-4pm	★
<b>Kentucky Hall</b>	Thursday 19 Oct 6-7:30pm	★
<b>Bundarra</b> Church Markets	Saturday 21 Oct 11am-1pm	
<b>Uralla</b> Alma Park	Sunday 22 Oct 2-4pm	★
<b>Balala</b> Schoolhouse	Sunday 22 Oct 5-7pm	★
<b>Arding</b> Reserve	Sunday 12 Nov 2-4pm	★
<b>Kingstown</b> tennis courts	Thursday 30 Nov 5:30-7pm	★

★ Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks

# Letters to the Editor



We would just like to send out a BIG thank you to all the RFS crews and neighbours who helped us last Tuesday (12/9/2023). The fire was fast and fierce.

With all your help we were able to save our horses, cattle and key infrastructure. Sadly the Kentucky crew lost one of their newest trucks due to the ferocity and pace of the fire. The firefighter involved was attended to, and stoically continued on with the job. We are led to believe it took out approximately 500 acres.

We have dealt with fires all our lives in the Blue Mountains, but grass fires are a different animal. Our message to everyone is, accidents happen even if you have all the right things in place when working in the paddocks. It can get away from you. Be ready NOW as it may happen any time, any day, any location.

Thank you again to the RFS crews who came from far and wide. The ones we know of were: Balala, Kentucky, Diggings, Dangarsleigh, Toryburn, the Bundarra guys who jumped in their ute and came on down, and the Armidale Mitigation crews. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

**Pete & Wendy Westbrook, Balala**

Editor,  
Oops! Residents of Dumaresq Road, Mundays Lane and Marble Hill Road in Saumarez Ponds were given only ten days, instead of the requisite 14 days, to respond to da-57-2023-lot-4-mundays-lane-saumarez-ponds-proposed-subdivision and PLAN SHOWING PROPOSED SUBDIVISION OF LOT 4 IN DP590685 - PROPOSED LAYOUT 828 Bundarra Road, SAUMAREZ PONDS NSW 2350. Fourteen days is the time required.

This proposal fails to account for potential environmental impact on the Saumarez Ponds/Ferris Lane Lagoon ecosystem. A list of birds sighted at the Ferris Lane Lagoon is found at <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L18035429>. Frogs identified at 89 Munday's Lane or 828 Bundarra Road, can be found at the Frog id records, Explore FrogID records | Australian Museum FrogID Project. To explore the vegetation growth and water levels in the lagoon, go to the Dynamic Lagoons Earthengine site at <https://jamesbrinkhoff.users.earthengine.app/view/dynamiclagoons>. This page defaults to Dangars Lagoon. From the

dropdown box, select 'Saumarez Ponds' to move to the area under discussion. The graphed data can be enlarged by selecting the arrow within a box icon to the upper right of the box. Data from 1988 for this lagoon is found in Figure 5 (graph c) of the 'Ecosphere paper describing methods' also linked in the text box on this webpage.

The single access road to 19 blocks puts future residents at risk of fires moving with the prevailing winds from SW to NE across that road, blocking the escape route. While the original approval for subdivision was made some years ago, significant climatic changes have occurred since then, raising questions about the appropriateness of two-hectare blocks approval for the whole block at 828 Bundarra Road.

Taking a significant parcel of agricultural grazing land out of production, the planning priorities of Uralla Shire Council: productivity, liveability, sustainability and infrastructure, are not supported by this DA as it has been presented to neighbours of the proposed development.

**Sincerely,**

**Susan McPhee, Invergowrie**

*(Update: Since Wordsworth received this letter, Susan McPhee has reported being contacted by Council with the news that "the notification period for DA-57-2023 for a 19 Lot Subdivision at Lot 4 Mundays Lane Saumarez Ponds has been extended a further week to Wednesday, 5 October.")* -**Editor**

To the editor,

**Helping Children and Families Association (HCFA)**

The volunteers of HCFA wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to the community for their very generous support of our Street Stall.

This, as one of our many fundraisers, allows us, with your support, to continue to assist young families within our community. There is much truth in the saying, "It takes a village to raise a child."

The winners of our raffle were:

Wood - Jan Wood, Doll - Carol Barnden, Body Shop Products - Kay Clack

100 Club: Linda Bell, Fay Lullham

**-Lone Petrov, President**



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**Anthony Kanavakatini**  
0434610480  
Lic 246728C  
ABN 71092559065

# Wollun Church Centenary Celebration



The community of Wollun is celebrating the Centenary of the Anglican Church on Sunday 8th October at 2pm. Our Bishop Rod Chiswell will be in attendance as well as many descendants of original families from the district.

We invite the wider community to join us and share with the local congregation (present and past) the memories that have been created over many years. Please bring any memorabilia you may have to share and discuss over afternoon tea.

**Judy Blanch, Wollun**

**KENTUCKY**  
SUN 15TH OCT 2023  
**SPRING FAIR**

9am - 1pm

BBQ MUSIC  
VARIETY OF STALLS  
VINTAGE DISPLAYS  
KIDS FUN

KENTUCKY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

**KENTUCKY MEMORIAL HALL**

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ph 0403504050 or kentuckyprogressassociation@gmail.com

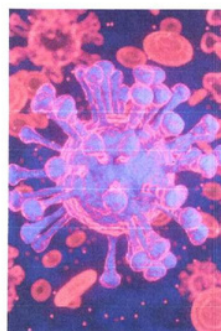
CANASSIST URALLA  
PRESENTS  
*Dr Lesley Andrews*  
MB BS, MMed, Senior Lecturer, Prince of Wales Hospital, Clinical School

**WHEN**  
14th October 2023

**WHERE**  
Uralla Community  
Hall, 27 Salisbury St,  
Uralla

**TIME**  
10am - Tea & biscuits  
10.30am - Presentation  
12pm - Light lunch  
1pm - Follow up &  
questions

Dr Andrews will discuss the developments in research of genetics and how genetics can affect cancer; using tumour genetics for targeted treatment; and who is at risk - early detection, risk reduction and hereditary effects, passing on faulty genes in males and females.



ENTRY BY DONATION TO CANASSIST URALLA

RSVP by 10 October for catering & dietary requirements  
Phone: Maryann Munsie - 6778 4651  
Vicki McLean - 6778 4353  
Rae Andrews - 0437 879 966

**Arts North West**  
**MICRO GRANTS**  
**ROUND 5**

**ARTS NORTH WEST MICRO GRANTS  
APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!**

Arts North West Micro Grants are NOW OPEN!  
Up to \$1,000 for independent professional practising artists and arts organisations across all art forms, can apply for funding to support your creative endeavour.

- ♥ Round Five of this Funding Program opens on Wednesday 6 September 2023
- ♥ Applications close on 11.59 pm Wednesday 18 October 2023
- ♥ Successful recipients will be notified by Wednesday 25 October 2023
- ♥ Projects can begin from Monday 30 October 2023, following the completion of agreement.

Further Information contact: Director Lauren Mackley on 0493 316 463 or via email [rado@artsnw.com.au](mailto:rado@artsnw.com.au)

.....Continued from front page

cleaning gutters, checking that garden hoses can reach all parts of the yard, keeping grass short and removing combustible materials away from buildings. Farm owners should consider establishing fire breaks. Diggings' Brigade President, Bob Crouch, strongly recommends not to rely on electric water pumps powered from the grid in bush fires as they are prone to power blackouts just when they are most needed. Use petrol pumps or generators instead. Talk to your local RFS people if you would like a fire assessment of your property. Fire hazard reduction burns may also be possible during the off-season.

Property owners might consider making up an emergency storage box. In this, you place anything you will need to defend or evacuate your home: change of clothes and shoes for family members, important personal papers, torches, water bottles, first aid kit, battery radio with radio frequencies recorded, passports etc. On the lid, record items that need to be packed at the last moment such as medications, prescriptions, and even perhaps food for pets etc.

Protecting yourself from bush fires is one thing, but preventing them in the first place would be far better. Some issues coming to light in our area include:

- the dumping of hot wood ash on or near dry grass or in wheelie bins. Best to dispose into a metal bucket away from combustible material.
- the use of slashers and the outdoor use of angle grinders and welding equipment without suitable quantities of water or an extinguisher at hand.
- the many properties in Uralla Shire, such as Invergowrie, that are accessed via dead end roads. For people living in such places, decisions about evacuating obviously need to be made early.

Remember to keep key contact numbers and websites on hand, including:

- Emergency Triple Zero (000)
- Bush Fire Informaton Line: 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737)
- NSW Rural Fire Service Website: [rfs.nsw.gov.au](https://rfs.nsw.gov.au)
- Fire Danger Ratings: [rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr](https://rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr)
- "Fires Near Me" Free smartphone app
- Local radio stations (and their frequencies), TV and newspapers
- Social media: [facebook.com/nswrfs](https://facebook.com/nswrfs) and [twitter.com/nswrfs](https://twitter.com/nswrfs)

-Editor

### Uralla Community Street Store

**2 - 8 Oct** - Uralla Senior Citizens & Pensioners Assoc.

**9 -15 Oct** - Thunderbolt Festival Committee

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>



## Operation Christmas Child

Uralla Anglican church would like to extend an invitation to interested community members to join us for a morning of friendship, fun and food while we pack gifts for children in need around the world. This special project, *Operation Christmas Child*, has been working through local churches worldwide to share God's unconditional love with children and communities for 33 years, assisting in many ways to give children hope for a better future on earth and sure hope for eternity through learning of, and trusting in, Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. Bring a 'wow' gift that will delight the heart of a child, or a whole box full of gifts, and join us in filling boxes to help change the course of a child's life. All program costs are being covered by the church. Look up the website: [www.operationchristmaschild.org.au](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.au) for gift ideas, or call local volunteer, Bec Blake on 0447977721.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday 7th October at 10:30am-12:30pm.

-Bec Blake

## EMALENE GEMMELL FAMILY LAW



9/108 Dangar Street **ARMIDALE**

60a Bridge Street **URALLA**

**02 5733 5885**

[office@egfamilylaw.com.au](mailto:office@egfamilylaw.com.au)



Destruction in the recent Balala fire was a timely warning of the dangers of the upcoming bush fire season.

Photo: Pete and Wendy Westbrook

# Ode: "Owed to Fibonacci"

A two, a three, a five, an eight . . .

What a cause to celebrate!

With this gift Uralla's bestowed,

'Cos, that's you-know-whose post code!

No other place can make this claim.

To Uralla alone belongs the fame!

So our new park will be unique,

All and sundry'll want a peek.

The little ones, at school, just startin',

Make pictures for our Fibonacci Kindergarten!

The older children, energy abounding,

Can create mosaic art, yep, outstanding!

And the elderly, the frail, the lame,

Can briefly put aside the walking frame.

So the whole community works as one, y'know,

To decorate Fibonacci Park. Wow, way to go!

Now I've aroused your curiosity,

Let me explain succinctly, nil verbosity.

To forestall your eager queries

Fibonacci is an adding series.

2,3,5,8,13,21. . .

Goes on forever, and lots of fun.

34,55,89, one-forty-four,

Come on, open up that magic door,

'Cos Fibonacci might well be there,

In Nature especially, but everywhere!

E'er the Springtime evening settles,

Choose a flower, count the petals.

Chances are that you will see

That number is, yep, a Fibonacci.

Sometimes arranged row on row,

They are canny little things, y'know.

The sunflower, is clever, really beaut,

Fibonacci petals, spiral seeds, so cute!

And pine cones their spirals proudly show,

Like the branches that they fall below.

Now, here comes a hitherto secret part,  
Concentrate, and we'll make a start.

Meet "Phi", he's 1.618

Here's how the two relate . . .

As Fibonacci's numbers get bigger,

They'll reveal to us this other figure,

By dividing one by the number behind

(It's enough to almost blow your mind!)

You see, that dividend is 1.618

Called "Phi", (No, I dunno why, mate!)

But here is something you need to know,

1:1.618? That's the Golden Ratio!

Now, your mind I'll really mangle . . .

That ratio makes the Golden Rectangle!

I'll keep it simple, no need to hector,

Greeks used it in their architecture.

Like the magnificent Acropolis there,

And lovely temples every bloody where!

This 1.618 event went truly viral,

Found indeed in every spiral.

Our very DNA has hidden tricks,

It's spirals, see, called double helix.

The breakers that the surfers ride?

That's a Fibonacci curve inside.

Loved well by da Vinci, Leonardo,

It gives Mona Lisa her get up and go-go!

Sets of piano keys we all have seen,

8 white, 5 black, add 'em up – thirteen!

Beethoven, Mozart, borrowed Phi,

No mosh-pit, no, but they still got high!

Our Galaxy is "The Milky Way",

A Fibonacci Spiral. There, I've had my say!

You'll share all this in our Fibonacci Park,

And may the lights come on when it gets dark!

**Kent Mayo**

**Poet Lorikeet**

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Regional  
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# What Comes Around, Goes Around



Karin Jackson  
donating to Kay  
Adams (Uralla  
History Project) and  
Erica Barwell (Uralla  
Hospital  
Auxiliary)

The Uralla Community Co-op recently completed its third round of surplus distribution to local charities and organisations that benefit Uralla. This year we distributed \$26,000, making a total of \$52,000 since the Co-op began in 2021.

We would like to send a huge thank you to the people of Uralla and surrounds and our group of hardworking volunteers who have made the donations to the Uralla community possible. The people of Uralla, without whom we could not exist, have donated generously to keep our shop and yard stocked; our volunteers have worked hard, and without their contributions of time, effort and expertise we could not exist; and the board of directors who have overseen the operation and directed our efforts. We thank them all for their contribution to improving the future of Uralla.

**Karin Jackson, Director, Uralla Community Co-op**

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES at Uralla Shire Council

U/INT/22/11373

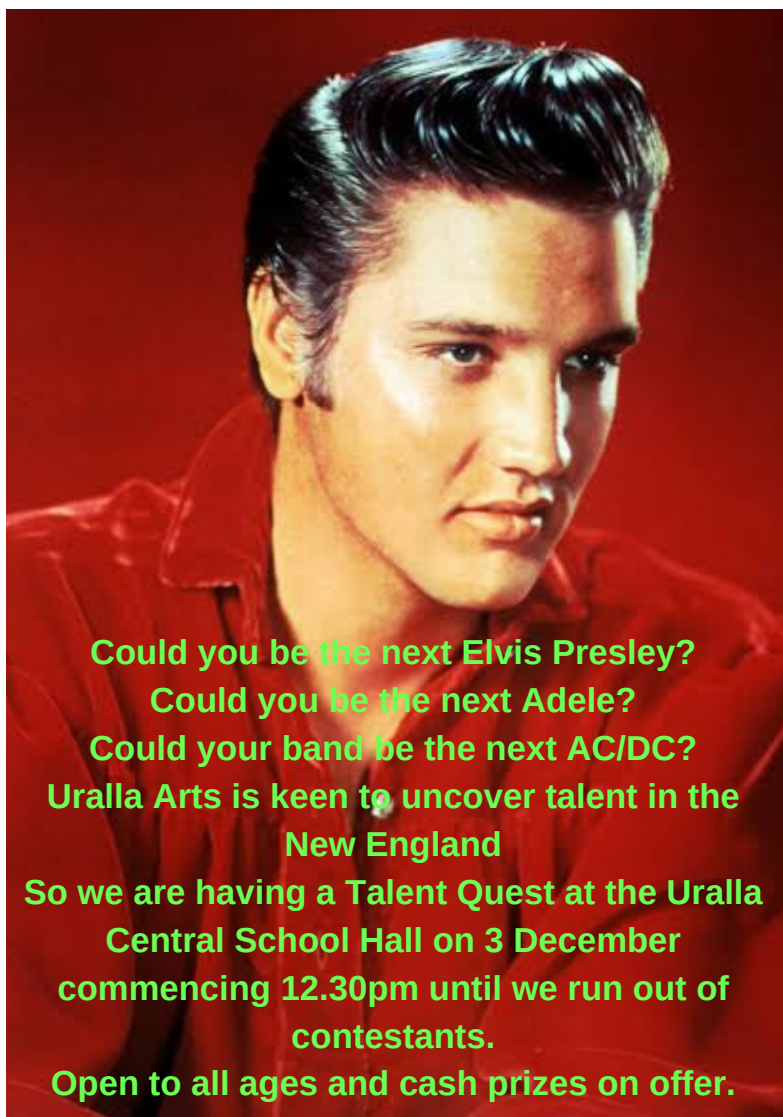
Information about vacant positions and access to Council's interactive application is available on Council's website:  
[Working at Uralla Shire Council Uralla Shire Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au)

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



**Save the date Sunday 3rd  
December  
Uralla Arts presents  
Uralla's Got Talent  
Uralla Central School Hall**



**Could you be the next Elvis Presley?**

**Could you be the next Adele?**

**Could your band be the next AC/DC?**

**Uralla Arts is keen to uncover talent in the  
New England**

**So we are having a Talent Quest at the Uralla  
Central School Hall on 3 December  
commencing 12.30pm until we run out of  
contestants.**

**Open to all ages and cash prizes on offer.**

**SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO [RANDERSON84@BIGPOND.COM](mailto:RANDERSON84@BIGPOND.COM)  
FURTHER INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW AS WE GET CLOSER TO  
THE DATE.**

## GOLLY, "HELLO DOLLY" A FOLLY?

An anxious donor is keen to give Uralla Historical Society her amazing collection of 4000 Australian dolls to go on show in Uralla. The Society (UHS) has neither the space nor the people to take this on. Is there a local organisation prepared to grasp this golden opportunity, if support is given with showcases and expertise?

Please contact UHS Treasurer Ronnie Porter at the VIC or at email [ronniediva@gmail.com](mailto:ronniediva@gmail.com)

**Ann Hacker, UHS Publicity Officer**

# The Wisdom of Uncle Dorothy and Aunt Bob

Sound advice when you need it from people you can trust

**Dear Aunty Bob,**

With heatwaves approaching, El Niño declared, and the next drought already here, I am anxious to know if the Council has contacted you for your creative solutions on how we can survive the summer. I look forward to hearing your unique advice. Yours in appreciation,

**Driole Aarkimant**

**Dear Driole,**

The most important thing to remember for the coming summer is to keep hydrated. So I suggest you get to the brewery post haste and double your usual supply of New England pale. With global warming upon us you don't want to run outdoors. Also I will be suggesting that the Uralla pool opens for 24 hours a day and is granted a liquor licence. The Council should also legalise nudity to assist people to stay cool. Yours in coolness,

**Aunty Bob**

**Dear Aunty Bob,**

I suffer daily from the bad reception I get from my other aunty, the ABC. I am a rusted-on ABC viewer, and I am distraught because the Channel 2 reception is as wobbly as my knees! Every evening it goes down and up for a few seconds, usually during the 7.30 Report. What can I do?

Am I entitled to a partial refund of my \$0.08 daily contribution? Kind regards,

**Eedyot Bocks**

**Dear Eedyot,**

I believe you are retired (all ABC viewers are retired), so "your ABC" is not costing you anything as you don't pay taxes anymore. In fact, you are a drain on the economy. You should be in bed asleep when the 7.30 Report is on. I suggest you start watching Playschool again as your second childhood is about to start. Also, you need to get rid of that 1950's black and white TV.

Yours in advice,

**Aunty Bob**



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/>

## Running Wild – Episode 6 Bullet Cave (Fiction)

**4. Recap.** The day at Bullet Cave was spent casting bullet and ball for Fred's guns. Harry had bought the supplies, the casting pot, lead ingots, paraffin wax and bullet moulds. Will tendered the fire. After all was done, Fred gave Harry his .58 Ashton pistol for all his help. Harry was chuffed with his new prize.

At first the big chestnut protested the halter and being led, but Molly soon found that he liked the daisy flowers from the Murnong Yam that grew wherever the sun shone on the mountainside. Underneath the yellow daisy grew a white yam potato. Dug from the ground it was roasted in the hot coals and was one of 'The Gals' favourite treats. The leaves were also eaten and a little bitter. Across the tablelands this yam had been the staple for Aboriginal people. Now wherever sheep or cattle ranged, the sweet Murnong daisy was no more. Thankfully their Mountain Black had nary seen the white man's herds up until this time.

The Murnong was so prized that Nell kept a garden of daisy, a small plot near where the water was caught from the hut. She weeded and hilled the soft earth, planting little Murnong plants on top. Each plant was well cared, and a rough pole yard surrounded the plot in an attempt to keep the wallabies out. But wallabies were always keen to get at their Murnong and most mornings Molly chased wallabies off the mountain. It was by far one of her favourite jobs, in turn after each one, weaving, bobbing, zigging and zagging. The chase over when she had tagged her quarry before it dived off the mountain top and down its steep side. Nellie would watch her girl from the hut thinking, 'She's just like her father, runs like the wind blows'.

As Ma led the chestnut down the track to the Thompson Farm, Molly fed him daisies. When the homestead came into sight, they could see Bill and The Lady catching their multicoloured chickens, off the laundry roof. They were shoving them back into their laying coop. Once the chestnut was hitched to the house rail, they helped catch the last couple of the stubborn brightly coloured birds. Bill hadn't fixed the coop properly since the big flood had threatened to carry their hens downstream. He had let them out so they could seek refuge on the house roof but now preferred to roost on the laundry roof instead of laying in their coop below.

Bill recognised the big chestnut immediately and asked. 'What yu doing with Fred's chestnut then?'. Molly piped up, 'Fred left it and said you would know what to do. And he's not stolen!'. Nellie added 'Fred said he won it at the Tenterfield races and you's is owed it for helping us with food and what not'. Bill nodded, 'Yes, I knows what to do with him. He'll fetch a fine price, not only because he's a fine big horse, but for he twas The Captain's horse,' he said with a wink.

**-Daryl Albertson - Kellys Plains**

# Friends Of McMaugh Gardens AGM

Friends of McMaugh Gardens will be holding their AGM on Monday 9th October 2023 at 2.00pm, held at the Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club, Hill Street Uralla.

We invite new members to join this fun-loving group, with the commitment to support McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre. We welcome and thank our new members who have joined us this year. We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2pm at the Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club. We fund raise during six months of the year, having recess breaks May/June/July & August and again December & January.

RSVP 6th October 2023

For further information, please contact me, the secretary:

**Rosemary Reading** at [rosemary.reading@bigpond.com](mailto:rosemary.reading@bigpond.com) or 041216344 or

**President Sue Wilkinson** at [suzywilk@live.com](mailto:suzywilk@live.com) or 0403033126

## Save the Date for These Rotary Club of Uralla Events

**Thunderbolts Festival – Saturday 28 October** – commences with street parade at 10:30am, 'Dungeons and Dragons' theme, activities in Alma Park 11am-3pm, Medieval combat re-enactment, live music by the Chilli Jam and Friends, rock climb wall, inflatable giant dual slide and jumping castles (all for just \$2!), markets, face painting, photo booth, hula hoop competition, and New England Antique Machinery Display. There may be a surprise visit by Hemlock or another circus performer! Onsite we have the Alternate Root coffee van, food by local schools, Friends of McMaugh's and Lions' fairy floss. The Uralla Arts Lantern Parade leaves the Showground at 7:30pm, will travel down King Street to Hampden Park and then return to the Showground. Promises to be a magical end to a huge day!

**Antiques and Collectables Fair - 10th anniversary on 18-19 November** – RSL Hall, Salisbury St, Uralla. Open Saturday 18th 9am to 5pm and Sunday 19th 9am to 2:30pm. We have a good mix of exhibitors including Japanese antiques, small furniture items, jewellery, statues, clocks and timepieces, vintage clothing, books, crockery, military collectables, bric-a-brac, glassware, wash basins, hair brushes and more. New to the Fair is valuer Mr David Mann of *Olde Memories and Treasures*. We are very excited to see what he will have to offer.

**Leanne Doran, Rotary Publicity Officer 0488 559 928**

## R U OK? Day Initiative



Free cuppas sparked conversations on mental health in Michael's Café on Thursday, September 14.

Local non-profit HealthWISE donated more than \$6500 to 29 cafes throughout the New England North West and southern Queensland to shout the morning rush for the national initiative *R U OK? Day*.

Owner of Michael's Café, Michael Welbourn, said *R U OK? Day* reminds people of the importance of reaching out to friends and neighbours. Customers were also offered *R U OK? Day* resources on starting conversations about mental health.

"With mental health a big issue in the community, I am proud to help in any way to get the message across," Michael said. HealthWISE Mental Health team leader Tanya Hague recognised that it can be daunting to ask a loved one if they're ok, especially if the answer is no. She said you don't need to be a health professional to help someone who's struggling, and it can be as simple as lending an ear.

"You can absolutely save someone's life just by listening. Just being there with them, showing them that you care, maybe offering to sit down and have a cup of tea with them," she said.

"It is really important to genuinely listen to the person and give them your full attention. Be prepared, because it may be a long conversation," she said.

Tanya recommended visiting the *R U OK? Day* website to learn more about how to respond when someone tells you they are not ok. HealthWISE also runs free Touchpoints workshops, which educate community members on recognising and responding to people at risk of suicide.

HealthWISE is licenced to run Touchpoints workshops through *Roses in the Ocean*. To learn more or request a local workshop, call HealthWISE on 6766 1394. Presentations for emergency services workers can be requested by emailing [RAC@healthwise.org.au](mailto:RAC@healthwise.org.au).

Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is  
**5pm Thursday 12 October 2023**  
Please email all contributions including advertising, letters to the editor, 100 Words, and articles to [urallawordsworth@gmail.com](mailto:urallawordsworth@gmail.com)

# Community Calendar

Please email [urallawordsworth@gmail.com](mailto:urallawordsworth@gmail.com) if you have an event or regular meeting date for your organisation.

## **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 the Uniting Church Hall, Maitland St, Uralla

**Uralla Computer Bank** is open Mon, Tues and 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 Showground

**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 and Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:30pm, 18 Uralla St North, (old Scout Hall site) Phone 0419151253, Hours usually extended in Daylight saving. Email: [urallamensshedcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:urallamensshedcommittee@gmail.com)

**Uralla Community Neighbourhood Centre.** Monday by appointment, Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30 to 3pm, 67711457 0419149244, [Urallacnc@familysupport.org.au](mailto: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 - 12 noon at the Uralla Community Centre. \$5.00. This includes morning tea.

**Uralla Book Club** meets on the first Saturday of each month, 8:30am at the Alternate Root

**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](mailto:office@unc.org.au) Donations welcomed.

**Freemasons (Masonic Lodge of Peace #120, Uralla)** meet the 3rd Tuesday each month, interested persons contact Dennis 0435 727 162 or John 0411 374 334

**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.

**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](mailto:urallagardenclub@gmail.com) or Jenny 0435 593 850

**The Armidale District MS Branch** meetings (including AGM) will be held at Armidale City Bowling Club on the first Monday of the month at 10:30am except for the December when it will be on the second Wednesday at 11am.

**Armidale District MS Branch Support Group Meetings** are held second Wednesday of the month, at Armidale City Bowling Club at 10:30am

## Community Messages

**Play Patch** is a ministry of Uralla Anglican on Fridays 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.urallaanglican.com](http://www.urallaanglican.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](mailto:HNELHD-FarmgateSupport@health.nsw.gov.au)

# Community Solar Farm

Role for community energy



## Co-ownership Opportunity

Community-owned renewable energy projects are a great way for local people to really be involved with and benefiting from renewable energy. Several communities have been working towards establishing their own solar farms, with batteries also becoming a desirable addition to balance their power supply. However, it takes years of work by those communities to turn such a dream into reality.

Uralla is being offered a generous opportunity.

Meralli Solar has a 4.41MW solar farm with an 11MWh battery all approved and ready to start building in the new year. This will supply enough power for 2000 homes and help to stabilise local energy supply. Due to their use of the innovative PEG system for construction, which uses 72% less emissions than standard systems, the project will be completed by this time next year. Meralli has always been interested in supporting regional energy security and where better to make an offer of co-ownership to a community than in the town where they are based, Uralla.

Consequently, they have asked Community Power Agency and ZNET Uralla to work with the community to explore their interest in becoming part of a community ownership group for the solar farm. This would enable local people to be co-owners and investors in the solar farm and get a return on their investment and a stake in decision-making.

The farm is located approx. 2 kms out of town between Racecourse Rd and Thunderbolt's Way, on the site of the 'old pole plant'. No new transmission lines are required, and the power will be delivered straight to the Uralla sub-station. We are keen to canvass interest and comments widely in the community.

To fill in our survey, please click on this QR code or paste this link into your browser:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NXQ7FLR>  
or email: [co-ordinator@zneturalla.org.au](mailto:co-ordinator@zneturalla.org.au) to be sent a copy



While large renewable energy projects are needed, both rooftop solar and community sized projects are also required to meet our emissions target.

### There will be a Community Information Night



TIME: 7pm

DATE: Monday Oct 16 th

WHERE: RSL Hall Salisbury St Uralla

We look forward to sharing this evening and opportunity with you!

## Events For Your Diary

**Friends of McMaugh Gardens AGM** - Mon 9 Oct, Uralla Bowling Club, 2pm

**Armidale Dist. MS Branch Support meetings** - Wed 11 Oct, 10:30am,

**ADFAS Armidale** lecture 12 Oct – Ancient Roots: Classical stories in your garden, by BBC presenter Gillian Hovell. TAS Hoskins Centre, 6pm ticket \$25, students free. [www.trybooking.com/CDGOJ](http://www.trybooking.com/CDGOJ)

[www.adfas.org.au/societies/armidale](http://www.adfas.org.au/societies/armidale)

**Kentucky Spring Fair**, Sat 15 Oct, Kentucky Memorial Hall  
**ZNET Community Solar Farm investment opportunity** - Mon, 16 Oct, 7pm, RSL Hall, Salisbury Street

**Next Council Meeting** - Tuesday 24 October 2023

**Thunderbolt Festival** - Sat. 28 Oct 10am -7pm, Alma Park, Parade at 10:30am, Theme: Dungeons and Dragons

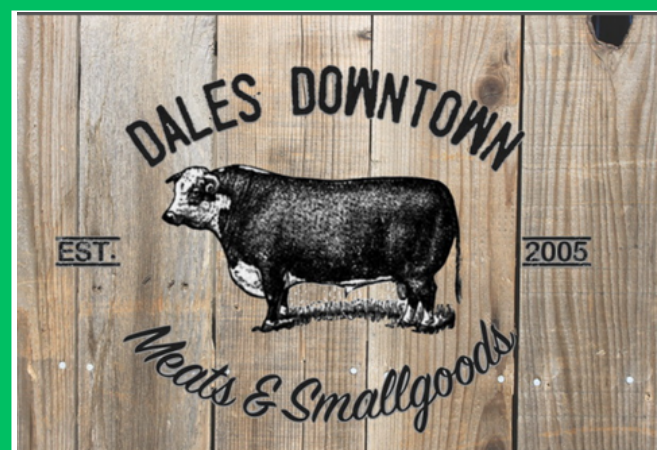
**Lace For Everyone Fashion Parade**, Fri 3 Nov 6.30pm, Alternate Root, Uralla

**Spaces Make Lace II**, 4 & 5 Nov, McCrossin's Mill Museum, Salisbury St, \$40pp. book by 20 Oct Kath Caddy 0412351792

**Melbourne Cup Day Luncheon and Entertainment** - Tues 7 Nov, for Armidale Dist. MS Branch, Armidale Bowling Club.

**Rotary Antique Fair** - Sat and Sun 18 & 19 Nov., 9am-5pm.

**Queen Street Fair** - Sat and Sun 25 & 26 Nov, 10am - 2pm



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