

Uralla Wordsworth

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Rotary Club of Uralla presents

Inaugural

Bundarra Garden Festival

The inaugural Bundarra Garden Festival, 11 and 12 Nov, 10am-4pm both days - there will be six amazing gardens on display plus the Courthouse and Bottle Museum are open. This is a fabulous opportunity to see traditional Australian, plus dry climate gardens, incredible sculptures (including the Backtrack Ironman Welders' "horse"), artworks, stunning architecture and views - plus a fairy garden! There will be food options available at various gardens and locations and the Bundarra Hotel will be open all weekend (as usual).

Details of addresses and further information will be available. Check the Uralla Rotary Facebook page. The Rotary Club of Uralla is proud to be auspicing this event. For info, contact Andrea Robinson 0451 857 216 and; Tania Swan 0407 054 527



\$20 entry to all gardens
or **\$5** per garden
(per person, children under 18 free)

Event includes:
6 gardens (paid entry)
2 Gardens FREE

10am till 4pm both days

PRIZE
DRAW

Charity Event
all money raised from
garden entries will go to
local charities

Open Gardens in and out of town

Artwork courtesy of Tania Swan

And Be Sure Not To Miss..

COME EXPLORE
The
URALLA ANTIQUE & COLLECTABLES FAIR
EST 2013

URALLA R.S.L HALL
18TH & 19TH
NOVEMBER...2023
PH 0488 559 928

ART BY STEPHEN DOBSON A.C.S.

Details see page 7

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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.

A big shout out to the Kentucky, Diggings and headquarters Rural Fire Service crews, as well as the Uralla Fire and Rescue, for their efforts in containing the Barleyfields Road fire without losing any homes. The closeness of the fire to the Uralla Electricity Substation had everyone on edge. A number of runs by water bombing aircraft assisted in containing the fire, as well as adding to the spectacle.

Council has received an application for a supermarket and shop-top housing on the corner of Rowan Avenue and Bridge Street. This application is currently on public display. Please note that while this is with Council staff to review, it has not been considered by Councillors. Please forward all comments to Council for consideration. Anyone interested can go to "Uralla Shire Council DA tracker" for the proposed plans and elevations.

In a strong show of support for our Aged Care workers, Councillors and staff have unanimously agreed to pre-empt their annual wage review determination while the State and Federal awards are resolved. The anticipated increase will be backdated to the first pay period in September 2023.

Some interest has been shown in obtaining the blue and white property signs that are common in the Walcha area. Armidale Regional Council is now also offering the opportunity to purchase these signs that show the property name, the rural number, and the road. Armidale Regional Council charge \$355 per sign. Anyone interested can see one on Barleyfields Road. Please contact Council if you would be interested in Uralla offering the same. The rural address number is the distance to your property from the road commencement: e.g. 651 is 6 kilometres, 510 metres on the left hand side (odd is left, even is right.)

One of the questions from our recent Kentucky get together was an update on the Kentucky tower to be erected to upgrade internet services. The latest advice is that the entire project of 56 new and co-located fixed wireless towers will be completed by the end of 2025. We will keep an eye on the due by date.

Please note that the Uralla Golf Club will hold an extraordinary meeting on November 21 at 6pm to consider an amalgamation with the Armidale Ex-Services Club. Details of the Memorandum of Understanding are available on Facebook or at the Club. All classes of membership are eligible to attend and to vote on the proposed motion.

With the current El Niño weather pattern, there have been concerns raised regarding our water supply. The good news is the Kentucky Creek Dam is still at 97% capacity. While there is some infill, the level is dropping approximately 1% every two or three days. Council staff are currently

reviewing whether we should wait until the level drops to 74%, as per the current plan for Level 1 restrictions, or to amend the plan. This discussion will take in any change in weather conditions over the next week. I am a supporter of a Level 0 where guidelines on lawn watering, car washing, etc are included. Taylors Pond at Bundarra is currently at 100%.

I have written to the Minister for Local Government, Hon. Ron Hoenig MP, regarding our support for the NSW Rural Fires Amendment (Red Fleet) Bill 2023/24, submitted by our local member, Hon. Adam Marshall MP. It is a shame that the Minister didn't get a chance to see how the RFS functions in the 21st Century. His recent reference to the 1930's suggests he would imagine water balloons being dropped out of a Tiger Moth instead of the current water bombing aircraft.

Polish up your wings, wands and tutus, as the Uralla Fairy Festival is once again in the final stages of planning for Saturday December 2. The program of workshops will be released soon.

I recently completed a first aid course conducted by Paul Tearle and organised by John Buckingham and Chris Barnden through Rotary. Two important things I learnt were that you can get an orange "Emergency Plus" app on your mobile phone that lets you ring 000 and gives your exact location to the emergency services. The second thing was that the wife being advised that she had to suck out the venom when her husband was bitten by a redback spider while on the toilet, does not meet current management protocols for spider bites!

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robertbell1055@hotmail.com
Robert Bell
Uralla Shire Resident





COMMUNITY SOLAR FARM CO-OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Uralla community has an opportunity to become co-owners of, and investors in, a small solar farm that has been developed by a local Uralla business, Meralli Solar.

We want to hear from you to know if Uralla locals are interested in the community having ownership in this project.

Scan the code to find out the project details and fill out the survey or got to bit.ly/3EXrIHq

HAVE YOUR SAY WITH OUR SURVEY

Survey closes 6 Nov 2023





Are You Ready For This Ominous Fire Season?

“A Bush Fire Can Be Terrifying”

If anyone living in the bush needed a reminder about the urgency of making their emergency plans and to prepare their homes for bush fire, the following description from the RFS website may provide the necessary motivation.

A bush fire can be a terrifying situation. Strong gusty winds, intense heat and flames will make you tired quickly. Thick heavy smoke will sting your eyes and choke your lungs. It will be difficult to see and breathe.

The roaring sound of the fire approaching could be frightening. Embers will rain down, causing spots fires all around you. Power and water may be cut off. You may be isolated, and it will be dark, noisy and extremely demanding both mentally and physically.

If you have any doubts about your ability to cope, you should plan to leave early, well before a fire reaches your area and well before you are under threat.

People who are at higher risk, such as children, elderly, disabled or with medical problems, should always leave early. Leaving early is always your safest option.

Learn the New Fire Danger Ratings

A new nationwide fire danger ratings system has recently been introduced. The change was made to incorporate improved understandings of fire behaviour and the vegetation around NSW. Each rating comes with a response for you to take. The ratings are:

Moderate (green) – Plan and Prepare: Stay up to date and be ready to act if there is a fire.

High (Yellow) – Be Ready to Act: There's a heightened risk. Be alert for fires in your area. Decide what you will do if a fire starts. If a fire starts, your life and property may be at risk. The safest option is to avoid bush fire risk areas.

Extreme (Orange) – Take Action Now to protect life and property: These are dangerous fire conditions. Check your bush fire plan and ensure that your property is fire ready. If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts. Reconsider travel through bush fire risk areas.

Catastrophe (Red) – Leave Bush Fire Risk Areas for your survival: These are the most dangerous conditions for a fire. Your life may depend on the decisions you make, even before there is a fire. Stay safe by going to a safer location early in the morning or the night before. Homes cannot withstand fires in these conditions. You may not be able to leave, and help may not be available.

Fire Danger Ratings can be found on BOM, local news and at: rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fdr-and-tobans Or just search online: *fire danger ratings rfs.*

-Editor



Uralla Community Street Store 2024

Applications Now Open

Uralla Shire Council is inviting community groups to apply to book the Community Street Store for a week during the 2024 calendar year.

Uralla Shire Council leases the Community Street Store and makes it available at no cost to local non-profit groups to raise funds for their activities. The Street Store is centrally located at 60 Bridge Street.

Applications are called in October each year for the allocation of the use of the Uralla Street Store for the whole of the following calendar year.

Applications should be forwarded to the Visitor Information Centre by 24 November 2023. Late applications will be considered after all initial allocations are made.

The 2024 bookings schedule will be confirmed in late November or early December 2023. For more information and to apply, please visit the Uralla Street Store page. Queries can be directed to Council's Customer Service Team on (02) 6778 6420 or via email at visit@uralla.com

Wendy Westbrook, Executive Assistant to the General Manager & Mayor, Uralla Shire Council



Uralla Showgrounds
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Careers Quest Success



Uralla Central School held its first Careers Quest on Wednesday 13th September. The day was a huge success, with students from Uralla Central School, Rocky River Public School, Bendemeer Public School and Kentucky Public School engaging with people working in a range of jobs in the community.

Students had the opportunity to learn about different careers, some of which they may not have known existed. They also had hands-on opportunities with TAFE Mobile Training Units, a Rural Fire Service fire truck, a 'heart pumping' activity from the University of New England School of Rural Health, as well as face painting, giveaways, competition prizes and plenty of balloons.

The day would not have been such a success without the support of our school community and the support of the local businesses that were able to be a part of the day. Thank you to everyone who was involved in the 2023 Uralla Central School Careers Quest.

This event was made possible through funding from the *K-12 Rural and Remote Career Education Initiative* grant and support from the *Educational Pathways Program*.

- Kylie Adams, Uralla Central School

Uralla Community Street Store

30 Oct - 5 Nov - Uralla Men's Shed

6 - 12 Nov - Uralla Sub-Branch of RSL NSW

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>

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SUN - 12 NOV - FREE ENTRY TO AUCTION

**SUNDAY MEGA
ANTIQUE FARM
EQUIPMENT AUCTION**

TICKETS

**ADULT \$10
KIDS UNDER 16 FREE**

Stallholder and event participation information

Would you like to participate in this year's event with a display of antique machinery, lost trade or as a stallholder or food truck vendor?

Please contact club secretary Bronwyn on 0408 658 594 or president Rob Taber on 0428 751 275 or email neamcarmidale@gmail.com

Brought to you by the New England Antique Machinery Club



Uralla's Got Talent

Are You the Future of Entertainment in Australia?



Saturday 2 December 12.30 pm

Uralla Central School Hall

Open to all ages. Cash prizes
Send your entries to randerson84@bigpond.com

Monsignor Wilkes

Reflects on 40 Years of Service



Monsignor Ted Wilkes "Mons" Uralla Catholic minister who celebrated forty years of being in the service of God and his community shared what faith means to him.

'Mons' Ted Wilkes on what life is all about.

I was about twenty-one years old, working in Sydney when I seriously started thinking about the priesthood. A big question that I was addressing was what is the purpose of life? What is it that is going to make the world better? I did not want to waste my life. I received a faith and moral information from my home and my Catholic schooling. There is a Holy Spirit that moves someone in that direction.

We spoke of the power of prayer.

Each day I pray; I choose to follow this vocational path in my life. Prayer is for anyone, but especially for those in need and to sustain those who work in areas that are quite easy to 'burn out' in. Praying for people is a matter of faith. God inspires me to pray for people, to enlarge my heart to their needs as well as to do something about their troubles. I pray this might lead to a spiritual change and help the person in need. I am a great believer in prayer. If we all pray, there are results. For example, the person might need accommodation and action will happen resulting in the person having somewhere to stay. I have experienced this in different areas of need.

The difficulties of being a priest

The northwest is where I have spent the time ministering with poor people. We do get people who knock on the door and need money which is difficult to decide on. Some people need to recover from generational damage they have suffered. They may be born into very troubled families. Then they don't have a chance from the beginning.

Another difficulty is that when you are part of the community you become friends with people. Then they pass away, and I am conducting their funerals. Uralla has people in my age group who I have become friends with. You become close to people over time. Here one day and then gone the next. You invest in relationships, you hold memories; then those times go when they go. Part of you goes with them.

Difficulties in religious institutions

It is exceedingly difficult with the abuse issues that have

been revealed within the church. I find it difficult to keep going when others have done things that are reprehensible. It is so hard to be a representative of the morals and standards of ministry that you want to keep when others have behaved so dreadfully. Parishioners may not say anything to you, but they just stop coming to church. People just quietly withdraw, and I respect that decision. Christianity offers a refuge - it is not a real winner to invite people to Jesus when people working in power in this institution have behaved dreadfully. It is difficult then for a priest to invite people into the life of Jesus. So, in a discrete way, if I can help people to find happiness in the church in any way, that may offer them some comfort.

People do have various ways to approach me for a chat, for support and often it is when a significant event has taken place such as a death. The person who comes to talk, is shaken and questions, as I did a long time ago, what is life all about?

Monsignor Wilkes

Interviewed by Jann Karp, Uralla



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/>



Nursing services specialising in home help,
wound care, medication management,
household tasks, palliative care and
primary health care.

Letters to the Editor

Uralla's Court House

It's really wonderful that Council decided to allocate grant funding to the refurbishment of the redundant 1885 Court House. One can only wonder why the NSW government of the 1880's decided Uralla needed such a commodious building, a "Taj Mahal" as a newspaper described it at the time.

Evidently Council has decided that the refurbishment should be tailored to allow use as a "multi-purpose facility", e.g. for meetings, art exhibitions, weddings, display of Court House pieces, celebrations, etc. It's most reassuring to learn that the project will proceed only after advice from our Heritage Adviser, Mr Mitch Mackay. We need to be very careful that we don't treat this building as we would any old redundant church hall, nor provide spaces that are already available.

I've thought long and hard about our huge Court House ever since it closed, and especially since the stage and dressing rooms were removed from the RSL Memorial Hall.

URALLA COURT HOUSE THEATRE

In essence, the Court House was a theatre, featuring the cast of costumed Players, the Judge and Barristers in wigs and collars and capes, and defendants sometimes in bracelets! The audience was composed of the Jury and the Public Gallery. Acoustics was always crucially important in design so that a speaker's voice could be clearly heard. So, our Court House is already a Theatre!

Uralla lacks a designated space for the performing arts. Touring performers use McCrossin's Mill. Typically they express their delight at "the historic ambience" and "the absolutely beautiful garden". That's all very well for a wedding. But not so for performances!

The Mill has a flat floor, low ceilings, the audience view is interrupted by cast iron poles, and there is no stage, no lighting or sound system, and performers have to compete with the sound (and smells) of cattle trucks on Thunderbolt's Way, right outside the door!

The building's spaces can still be used for other community activities, e.g. meetings and exhibitions, art, craft, etc. and yoga, tutorials, etc. Whatever... The full gamut of this proposal won't be possible within the current budget. But it will still provide a basic performance space, and spaces for other activities. Completion of the Theatre/Cinema to a fully professional standard can be achieved when funding becomes available.

Let me point out a few things before you consider this proposal.

I have considerable practical experience in the Theatre as a Director and I am thoroughly conversant with The Burra Charter, the rules which govern the Restoration and Conservation of heritage items in Australia.

STAGE ONE:

1) As per the Council brief in regards to re-roofing, repairs,

painting, and a replica picket fence.

2) Carpet to "Green Room", "Foyer", "Bar" and Hallway. All the floors were originally carpeted; the clatter of leather footwear on floorboards would have been intolerable! As would the "clip-clop, clip-clop" of heels today! The recent suggestion to polish the floorboards may be very "trendy" but it's inappropriate and impractical.

3) The Bar should be of modern design and to include refrigerator, MW oven, Bain Marie, glass and dishwasher, sinks, etc. The recycling of original features into some other purpose and/or decorative element is ill- advised.

4) No kitchen as such. Cooking odours will pervade all the spaces. You'd expect patrons at our Court House might expect canapes/"nibbles"/"finger food", and certainly not a curry or "chicken and chips"!

5) Extension of the existing "Judge's Bench" platform to form "a stage". (Half a stage is already there.)

6) Installation of some basic stage and house lights to enable performances.

7) Provision of sixty stackable padded chairs (e.g. "Temple and Webster", less than \$3000 for the lot!) I figure that sixty is capacity for this space. But in Uralla that's considered to be a healthy audience number. It certainly makes a touring performance financially viable. Anyway, if need be, Taylor Swift, e.g. can do three shows, 1pm, 4pm and 7pm!

8) Opening in one interior wall to join "Bar" and "Foyer", and another in exterior courtyard wall.

9) Decor of local artist Fay Porter's stunning caricature portraits from "Mrs O'Malley's Magnificent Music Hall", framed by Barking Dog Gallery, Uralla. These can be rotated, as there are about one hundred of them. (See examples attached) Hallway, Foyer, Bar, but not in the Theatre. These will add a distinctive Uralla flavour to the whole place!

10) Refurbishing of existing W.C.'s to include Accessible Toilet, and separate "Gents" and "Ladies".

All this completed, the Court House can begin the operations as a place for the Performing Arts (Theatre), and for other community purposes.

STAGE TWO (When funding becomes available.)

Interior:

1) Install Bio-Box, lighting bars, sound system, and cinema projector.

2) Install modern Theatre seating, front row on the floor, then five rows steeply raked on new timber stepped platform over original floor. (As per Armidale Playhouse). These seats, at \$500 each, would be sponsored by individuals, families, business houses, etc. and the donor's name displayed on an attached plaque, as is the proven practice elsewhere.

Finale:

Apart from the obvious benefits to our local community, imagine what The Court House Theatre might do for our

already growing tourist trade. People would flock to see some "Thunderbolt Drama" on stage at our Court House Theatre, and/or the screening of the surviving fragment of the 1908 movie, followed by the 1953 version of "Thunderbolt"!

From all over they came in droves to Mrs O'Malley's, so our Court House Theatre may be just as alluring and habit-forming as "Mrs O'Malley's".



Ross Bell as Thunderbolt
"Thunderbolt" - 1982



Niel Free as Dr Balsam
"The Demon Barber" - 1978

– Kent Mayo OAM, (On behalf of Uralla Arts Council)

kent.mayo@hotmail.com

Mob: 0421 087 574 b.h.

Friends of McMaugh Gardens



Friends of McMaugh held their AGM on 9th October where we celebrated the service to *Friends of McMaugh Gardens* of five members: Kay Clack, Vice President, awarded 15 year Certificates and/or badges to Eileen Gaddes and Norm Gentle, Margaret Ward, Bev Carlon and Graham Carlon, and 10 year badge to Margaret Hogan.

Thank you and congratulations to these valuable members of our group.

We also welcome two new members, Bob Crouch and Madeleine Price. We hope you both enjoy our company and activities raising money for McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre.

Rosemary Reading, Secretary

FIND THE UNEXPECTED IN URALLA! WILD KIMONO

Loved by both quilters and innovative dressers. (Also fairies).

Open Fridays and Saturdays 10am to 4pm.
35 Bridge Street Uralla.

Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is
5pm Thursday 9 November 2023
Please email all contributions including advertising, letters to the editor, 100 Words, and articles to
urallawordsworth@gmail.com

Uralla Antiques and Collectables Fair

Uralla Antiques and Collectables Fair - 17-18 November, 10th anniversary!! in the RSL Memorial Hall, Salisbury St. Open Saturday 17th 9am-5pm and Sunday 18th 9am-2:30pm. Entry by gold coin.

We have a good mix of exhibitors including Japanese antiques, small furniture items, jewellery, statues, vintage clothing, books, collectable toys, crockery, a vast array of military items, bric a brac, glassware, wash basins, hair brushes and more. There are a couple of new exhibitors and plenty of familiar faces as well.

An experienced appraiser can advise people about their special items, there will be live music with Pete Stanley and the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre "High Tea Stall".

Leanne Doran 0488 559 928

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES at Uralla Shire Council

UIN/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 \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://Working at Uralla Shire Council Uralla Shire Council (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



Uralla Men Win Big



Uralla Men's Fours - A winning combination

The Uralla Women's Bowling Club congratulates the Uralla Men's Fours for their spectacular win in the Zone Playoffs held in Tamworth last weekend.

The team of Lyndsay Ward, Matt Fletcher, Peter Leggatt and Paul Hine defeated South Tamworth at South Tamworth Bowling Club in a much-deserved win. The team will now be off to Dubbo in March next year to compete in the BNSW State Fours Championships. Well done guys!

-Pauline Crouch, UWBC

Youth Exchange In Mexico

Ingrid Grace of Guyra is currently on a Rotary International Exchange in Mexico. She is co-sponsored by the Uralla Rotary Club. The following is Ingrid's September report of her adventures and life in Mexico.

My September Report

SCHOOL, PROGRESS & ACTIVITIES

My return to school has been good and I am enjoying it. I understand almost all my classes and can now actively participate. I'm learning to read and write properly in Spanish and my favourite subjects are psychology, rights and administration. For Independence Day at school we spent about two hours playing games. They had mini market stalls set up with traditional Mexican like pozole and enchiladas.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES & FRIENDS

This month I watched *The Nun 2* with my friend Emi, had crepes with my host mum, her friends and the friends' four grandkids, and went to coffee with my host sister and her friend. The movie was OK but not as good as I expected. The crepes were great and we had some really good conversations. The cafe my host sister, her friend, and I had coffee at, was super cute. All the drinks were named after famous artists or their works.

Rotary has had two or three different dinners so far which were all nice. I prefer them a lot more with the new students rather than being alone with all the Rotarians. The four new girls from Hungary, Brazil and France are nice. I am

closer with the Hungarian girl than the others though. Her parents take me to Spanish classes and events sometimes if Karin and Roberto are busy; they are a super nice family.

TRAVEL

This month I visited Malinalco with a friend's family for their dad's birthday and went to the markets, a mezcaleria, a cafe and their aunty's house. Everything was super gorgeous and the food was great. At the mezcaleria they had bottles of tequila with spiders, ants, cockroaches and a snake inside of them – apparently it is a delicacy here.

For the Independence Day long weekend, my friends and I went to Querétaro. We went swimming, spent a day walking through the city centre, ate with their friends and watched the Independence ceremony in Mexico City on the TV. The President and a few different politicians yelled 'Viva México!' – and then there were fireworks.

OTHER

I had to go to the doctor this month and it was different. It looked like a super fancy motel but my prescription was written with a typewriter. The doctor was super nice though and everything turned out OK.

Photos of the Week



Clare Mailler is clearly enjoying a lift in the Thunderbolt Parade on Saturday, and apparently not at all disturbed by who, or what, is in control of the vehicle.



This is why we live in Uralla. Alex and Peter, representing different sides in the recent referendum debate, wish each other well at the start of polling. (Photo by Andrew Toomey)



No Entry sign, but no Yes Entry sign to be found. Vote rigging? No, just a little something to keep us on our toes at the Uralla Polling Booth on Referendum Day.

A Veteran Cricketer's Pitch



Veteran Cricketer Dennis Moran of Quirindi was found enjoying breakfast in Uralla.

Veterans' Cricket NSW held a wonderful event in Armidale on 19 October. I met Dennis Moran from Quirindi, enjoying his mixed omelette special at Toppers Cafe in Uralla.

The cricket season is happening and the carnival is in our locality in the age divisions; 40, 50, 60 and 70's year old categories. "We play inter-regional games between the townships, inland, mid north coast, far north coast, in fact all over NSW."

"I used to be an opening bowler but these days my shoulder and my spine injuries have stopped me doing that. I am restricted to batting only seven overs. The batsmen have a limited number of runs that they can make: 35 runs, and then they have to retire. If you lose batsmen, the previously retired batsmen can come back in and play until you lose a maximum of ten wickets, or the team completes the forty overs".

"I have played cricket, non-stop, for about 65 years. I was born in Manilla; started playing there in the under ten year olds. My father was a batsmen and spin bowler in Manilla as well, but stopped in about 1950. There weren't the same opportunities for him as there are now".

Denis continued, "I was the local bank manager; it was a good time; you could walk into a job. Then I was coaching the junior teams on the weekend. A good rural life".

"I represented Quirindi, and the NSW state team. Then in 1972, I went with the Australian team on a national tour of England. We played all these counties in England. We didn't beat them in that era; they were strong. We played about twelve games, and we won about five."

"Country life is good for advancement and to raise children; to get away from all the distractions".

Cricket is for all people in these age divisions. Contact the NSW Cricket Association if you're interested. We have a local contact in Uralla: Rowan Chandler.

Dennis, who is 72 years of age recommends "Get involved"!

Jann Karp - Uralla

Running Wild – Episode 7 Fred's Done! (Fiction)

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

1. Recap: The bullets had been made and Fred gave his uncle Harry his Ashton .58 flintlock pistol for all his help. But later that night Fred left camp after a thunderous row with Harry. Seems Harry had been pretending to be 'The Captain', holding up travellers on the track near Split Rock.

Down at the 'Thompson Farm', Bill had nicked his left hand with his axe while clearing saplings along the creek. The saplings had come up like hairs on a cat's back, in the soft sediment brought down by the big flood. It had been a week or so now, but the gash hadn't healed well. His hand was red and swollen, hot to touch, and he was feeling unwell. The Thompson Lady had washed and bandaged his wound but was worried he would lose his hand. 'What use would he be here abouts then', she'd said.

The next visit down the mountain Nellie would bring Bill her salve of brewed paperbark and bush honey. She collected bark and honey from the little bee fly, the one with the yellow stripe, from along the small stream that ran at the bottom of Mountain Black. It was Molly's favourite playground and always home to a myriad of colourful birds. There grew plants that healed for those that knew their worth, and Nellie taught her daughter her healing ways. They made a fire and brewed the paperbark with honey on a low heat until it formed a strong-smelling paste. It was cooled and wrapped in a bark sheath for use later.

That night Molly woke in terror, a nightmare. She stumbled to her mother's cot. She blubbered to her Ma – 'I saw it as plain as day Ma, two riders on greys, one was Will. He was trying to push the other rider away from the track, up the slope into the trees, but that one wasn't having a bar of it. Another rider then came up from lower down the track, with pistol drawn. He had bright buckles, like the ones whose come here looking for Fred. Will then rode off up into the trees and the other one was chased by the buckled rider, they headed for the creek. I heard pistol crack.'

Nellie did her best to comfort her girl, but Molly continued, 'But Ma that wasn't the worst of it, I heard you scream in the pitch dark and then we watched as the hut roared with flames. Then I woke up. It was so real, like I was there. What does it all mean Ma?', she blubbered. Nellie replied, 'Only time will tell dear, many of our people see things not yet done. Shh, back to sleep now.' Nell stroked her hair as she guided her back to her cot.

Next day the gals were down the track in the morning chill. With every trip, Bill's hand was responding to Nell's salve, to the point that The Lady had stopped cursing the wound and Bill in the process.

-Daryl Albertson, Kellys Plains

The Mischievously Mischievous Mystery Trip

A month or so ago, the members of the Uralla Seniors and Pensioners Association were given a surprise. Norma, our Trip Coordinator, told us that shortly she would be taking us all on a MYSTERY TRIP. The questions immediately started up. Where will we be going? What will we be doing? But we were merely told that we would know more when it was all organised.

At last, we were told that the day was nigh, and we would be leaving on Tuesday from the Uralla Bowlo at 8.30am. But that was all we were told. Apparently, the mystery had begun!

Anticipation built and the following Tuesday we were all eagerly awaiting the buses at the front of the Bowlo. I was amongst those on the second bus where even the driver didn't know where we were going. His job was to follow the bus in front.

On the dot of 8.30 we set off and followed the first bus up towards the main street, turning left at the corner. We were going north, our first clue.

We finally approached Guyra, with the bus in front slowing and putting on its blinker as we came to the entrance to The Cold Country Plant Nursery which I know provides delicious Devonshire Teas. But no, that was just a tease from those in front.

A bit further on we came to RAFTERS and the two buses pulled in there. We all eagerly tumbled, as much as we were able, out of the buses, our mouths salivating at the thought of morning tea.

We had a lovely break, and while we waited for our orders to be served, Diane sold each of us some raffle tickets, with Shelly and Sara being the lucky winners.

Back on the road, the lead bus headed west, and west, and west, then momentarily made an odd detour down a country lane before returning to the main road. We didn't follow it. Then it was through Tingha and on towards Gilgai. It was amazing to see the way the countryside had rehabilitated itself after the horrific fire of a year or two ago. Just before we reached Gilgai itself, we turned into the WOODTURNING GALLERY. This was a fantastic place to explore. The proprietor here works in both wood and metal and makes

amazing art work from iron fence posts, more of which we saw in sculptures as we drove around Inverell.

Next stop, lunch at the Inverell RSL Club, before we headed out to the Copeton Dam where we drove across the dam wall and began our long trek back towards home though Gum Flat and Bundarra.



-Pauline Crouch

Kentucky Spring Fair Best Ever



The Kentucky Progress Association would like to thank all patrons and stallholders who attended our Spring Fair on the 15th October.

It was a great and successful day, and with the weather gods being kind, was our best Fair yet.

Congratulations to the winner of our wood raffle, Mrs Nellie Apps of Uralla.

We are now taking expressions of interest from stallholders for Kentucky Spring Fair 2024. Please get in touch and we'll make it bigger and better than ever!

-Kel Hughes, Kentucky Spring Fair Coordinator

kentuckyprogressassociation@gmail.com

ATTENTION VETERANS
If you are in need of assistance
of any type
financial, physical, emotional etc
or you just need a chat with someone who knows ...
contact us on 0401 932 107
or email urallasb@rslnsw.org.au
your privacy is guaranteed, we are with you
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The Wisdom of Uncle Dorothy and Aunty Bob

Sound advice when you need it from people you can trust

Dear Uncle Dorothy,

I write this today, 20 October. I tell you this because as I strolled down our main shopping precinct today I heard some music. No problem there, but as I got closer I realised it was Christmas music. Seriously? Already? Do you agree with Christmas music being played at all, or anywhere, at this time of the year? And what should be done about the offending retailer? Looking forward to hearing your helpful words.

Fred Humbug

Well Fred....it seems this short message has revealed a secret that you and I are related...my first name is Bah. Clearly Christmas and music should never have been combined. Bells ringing and jolly reindeers give an unrealistic view of a time that demonstrates the worst characteristics of human beings. Squeezing a very fat person down a chimney and to sing about it... is obviously 'fat-shaming' and that's certainly not acceptable in our town. I suggest that the simplest way to overcome this situation is to pay other traders to play 60's music that will drown out any remnants of these abominable songs. Christmas songs should only be heard behind closed doors of private homes on Christmas Day.

Hope this helps, Fred. Let's have a beer.

Uncle Bah Dorothy

Dear Aunty Bob,

I was so surprised and delighted to see a photo of you in Wordsworth's last edition. What a stunningly handsome woman you are. I simply must ask you about your beauty regime, how you became so wise, and the deportment school you went to. You clearly have so much to share with me, and indeed, all women in the Shire. Please enlighten us. Yours sincerely,

Addi Myra (Please call me "Ad" as my friends do.)

Dear Addi,

I owe my beauty to living clean, eating healthy and not drinking more than two cases of New England pale ale a week. I also exfoliate once a year, but have been told it should be more often. I was top of my class at *Uralla Central*, (I was 25 at the time; Year 10 was a bummer). Then 3 years at *June Dally Watkins Finishing School* and a career in modelling. Sadly the years haven't been kind, and I now find myself writing this column. I can only hope our reader can see fit to pay for my next facelift.

Yours in advice,

The lonely Aunty Bob

Events For Your Diary

You, Me, Everybody, New Zealand Bluegrass, Mon 30 October, McCrossin's Mill

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.

New England Heritage Festival - 10-11 Nov, Armidale Showground, Fri 2-5pm, Sat 9am - till late, Entry \$10 adults, Free Under 16.

Bundarra Garden Festival - 11-12 Nov, 10am till 4pm each day, \$20 entry to all gardens or \$5 each, Under 18 free. Two gardens free entry, 8 gardens altogether.

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.

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

Next Council Meeting - 28 Nov at the Council Chambers.

Uralla's Got Talent - 2 Dec, Uralla Central School hall, 12.30pm

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

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



ADFAS Armidale lecture 16th November

'I don't sound like nobody, Ma'am'

Recognise those words uttered by the iconic Elvis Presley? Almost half a century on from his early death we are still intrigued by his rise to fame, turbulent personal life and of course that incredible voice and music. Our November guest lecturer, Curatorial Manager at Bendigo Art Gallery, Lauren Ellis knows more than most as she put together the blockbuster exhibition on Elvis at the Gallery in 2022. Find out more about this mercurial musician and get insights from the exhibition at the November lecture. TAS Hoskins Centre, 5.30pm Guest ticket \$25, students in school uniform free.

Bookings: www.trybooking.com/CDGOM or www.adfas.org.au/societies/armidale

Uralla Councillor Catch-up

Join us around the Shire for a chat

Arding Reserve	Sunday 12 Nov 2-4pm ★
Kingstown tennis courts	Thursday 30 Nov 5:30-7pm ★
★ Sausage sizzle provided, BYO drinks	

OCTOBER 2023

Last solar panel drilled into place for New England Solar Stage One

It took almost one million installations, but the final solar panel has been fitted and screwed into place for the New England Solar Stage One project.

New England Solar Project Manager Sarah Donan was handed the drill to complete the honours for the panel installation, while her colleagues helped celebrate the milestone.

Construction began on the 400 megawatt Stage One project in 2021. Since then, more than 400 workers have helped to erect around 115,000 piles and lay hundreds of kilometres of electrical cable.

Work is now continuing to complete final commissioning with the approval of the Australian Energy Market Operator.



Pony club rides on with the help of Uralla Grants

Kingston Pony Club was able to put their new storage container to good use last month, with the support of the Uralla Grants program.

The grant went towards the purchase of the new storage facility, which is now helping to safely store track equipment, horse food, bridles, and saddles.

It was trucked to site to coincide with two days of eventing including dressage, barrel racing and other fun events like bare back riding.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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