

Uralla Wordsworth

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Edited by Ross Burnet, Luise Scherer, Malcolm Airs and Louis van Ekert

urallawordsworth@gmail.com

www.urallawordsworth.com.au

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Wildlife Tails

I have had the privilege of raising a Little Red flying fox for the first time this year. Normally this species of flying fox is born across the top end of Australia. Little Reds (about half the size of the other species) are born in the middle of the year unlike the Grey-headed and Black flying foxes that are born at the end of the year. This little one's mother was found electrocuted on power lines at Inverell. The adults on power lines are usually dead but most often if they are carrying young the youngsters live. This little boy arrived still on his dead mum and was 2 days old.

For the first 2 weeks he was fed specially formulated flying fox milk from a syringe and teat. He had burns in his throat which made suckling painful for him but after 2 weeks he was able to drink from a bottle and teat.

He grew quickly and by 9 weeks old he was beginning to fly. All species of flying foxes bond with their carers and have very different personalities, just like your pet dogs. All wildlife carers have to be vaccinated to rescue and care for these delightful critters.

Every rescued and released native animal, bird or reptile in my view is important. If we want to preserve the native wildlife that remains we need to care for all creatures, so if you see a critter in trouble please take the time to ring your local wildlife hotline.

Go further if you are able and join NTWC. We are always looking for people to help with animal care, for people who are able to transport injured animals, for phone operators and people with computer skills. Training is given and you will become part of a group of caring environmentally aware women and men that will be happy to welcome you, there is no better feeling than seeing a critter released

back into the wild that otherwise would have died a painful death.

Do not touch any bat unless vaccinated, a bat alone in the day is in trouble.

If you find a sick or injured animal, please contact us on 1800 008 29

Thank you to **Jacquie**, one of our wildlife carers for this story.

Megan Robinson, Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers



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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. Clr Bell gives a personal view of some of the more important matters concerning Council and ratepayers in recent weeks.

Council has resolved to review our Local Environment Plan. The current plan was adopted in 2012, and is now due for review. While Council is well aware of the issues at Rocky River and Kentucky Village, it is also keen to determine the community requirements for additional residential properties in Uralla, including small lot rural residential surrounding Uralla. Council has budgeted \$33,000 this year to commence the process. The early community consultation as well as staff details on enquiries will be critical to this being a positive process. Please email your thoughts to council@uralla.nsw.gov.au or send in a letter to Council.

The Community Consultation event at the Barry Munday Reserve at Saumarez was another very informative and positive get together, with a number of Councillors and the General Manager in attendance. Approximately sixteen local residents allowed for frank and friendly discussion over an excellent BBQ lunch. Please note this was not paid for by Council. The main topics included the current state of the roads, waste collection services and the continuing upgrade program for the Reserve, including playground equipment. The successful upgrade of the tennis courts and fencing is to be commended. The need for a map of Invergowrie and Saumarez at Council's office front counter was also discussed. One consideration for the Uralla Local Traffic Committee is a blanket 80km/hr speed limit on the roads in this rural residential area. The next Community Consultation will be held at the Rocky River Tennis Courts on Sunday October 16 from 2-4pm (the venue may change depending on access issues with the ongoing wet weather.)

Council has applied for funding under the NSW Regional Housing Strategic Planning Fund. Council has commenced early discussions around the need and type of Social Housing that may be required in the Uralla Shire. The latest census information showed a population of 5,969 with 1,380 over 65 years of age. It included that there are 2,285 occupied private dwellings and 299 unoccupied private dwellings in the shire, with 95% of these being separate houses. The gaps in information include why so many houses are unoccupied and whether there is interest in reducing that number. Council has attempted to identify the various government and non-government organisations that may have more focused information on this significant issue.

Congratulations to Clr Bob Crouch on being re-elected (unopposed) as Deputy Mayor until the next Council election. His wealth of knowledge and commitment to

detailed research is an enormous benefit to the Council and the community.

In another coup for the Uralla Bowling Club, they now have a "Return and Earn" station at the rear of their car park. It is a great opportunity for anyone wishing to raise a few dollars and keep bottles out of our landfill.

Recently, I attended a public information session at the Armidale Bowling Club to view the proposed Boorolong Wind Farm. The project is proposed by CWP Renewables who also operate Sapphire Wind Farm between Glen Innes and Inverell. The project is planned to include wind turbines, battery storage and ancillary infrastructure. CWP hope to complete their Environmental Impact Statement by the end of 2023, with construction to commence in 2026. There is an existing 330KV power line at the northern end of the proposed project. Councillors and staff have already had preliminary meetings with representatives of the company.

Council has applied for grant funding under the Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Program for ecological restoration activities at the Racecourse Lagoon. Council is keen to continue to work with the Dynamic Wetlands project run by the UNE – Faculty of Science, Agriculture, Business and Law and is funded by the NSW Government.

M: 0434 244 774
robertbell1055@hotmail.com

Robert Bell
Uralla Shire Resident





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Uralla Shire Council Welcomes Its New Executive Directors

After a competitive recruitment process, Uralla Shire Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Christine Valencius as Council's new Executive Director Corporate and Community, and Mr Paul Gallagher as Council's new Executive Director Infrastructure and Development.

Uralla Shire Mayor, Robert Bell said Council welcomes the new Executive Directors and is looking forward to the Directors starting with Council on Tuesday, 4 October 2022.

"Council was pleased to receive a very competitive field of applications including applications from across Australia, emphasising that Uralla Shire is an attractive place to live, work and play."

"Council is eager for our new Executive Directors to take the helm of their respective directorates, and we look forward to working together with Christine and Paul in their new roles at Council," Mayor Bell said.

General Manager Kate Jessep said the new senior staff bring significant experience to their areas of responsibility, the leadership team, the elected council and the broader community.

"Christine and Paul represent a great organisational fit and will bring a wide breadth of knowledge and experience to the Executive Director roles," Ms Jessep said.

"The appointment of the Executive Directors marks a significant step forward in Council's Organisational Transformation Plan.

This plan aims to have the right resources, right people, and right systems in place to be financially sustainable, maintain agreed service levels and be able to consistently respond to customer requests in a satisfactory manner."

"The hard work of transforming our organisation is far from done, however, the appointment of our new Executive Directors represents an exciting milestone," Ms Jessep said.

"With our new leadership team established, and with our committed staff, we look forward to working with our elected Council and the community to make the Uralla Shire an even better place to live."

Gabrielle Stratton, Uralla Shire Council

Friends of McMaugh Gardens AGM and Information

Friends of McMaugh Gardens will be holding their AGM on Monday 10th October 2022 at 2.00pm. at the Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club, Hill Street Uralla.

Friends of McMaugh Gardens are a group of fun loving community members with the commitment to support McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre. We welcome new members to join us in our fun and commitment. 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.

Members of Friends of McMaugh Gardens also wish to thank the generous community of Uralla and visitors for their continual support of our Street Stalls this year.

For further information, please contact myself, the secretary Rosemary Reading at rosemary.reading@bigpond.com or 041216344 or President Sue Wilkinson at suzywilk@live.com or 0403033126

| Fuel Watch | ULP | Diesel |
|-------------|-------|--------|
| Mobil | 176.9 | 214.9 |
| Invergowrie | 181.0 | 215.0 |
| Puma | 179.9 | 214.9 |
| BP | 186.9 | 224.9 |
| Kingstown | 215.9 | - |
| Kentucky | 219.9 | 245.9 |

Prices are accurate as of Saturday 1 Oct, but may be expected to increase as the full fuel excise is reapplied when service stations receive new supplies.

A Night at Deeargee

Gostwyck Road, Uralla

Saturday 22nd October

Tickets on sale at www.seasonsofnewengland.com.au



Southern
New England
Landcare

September saw Southern New England Landcare welcome their newest team member to work on two projects with farmers and graziers across the region.

Aggie (Alexandra) Seiler will be based in Armidale and her work will focus primarily on assisting farmers to build landscape resilience in the face of a changing climate.

When not at work Aggie is finishing her Diploma of Agriculture and working alongside her husband on their family-run cattle grazing enterprise near Guyra.

"Becoming part of the farming community of the New England has been such a wonderful experience," said Aggie.

"My new role with Southern New England Landcare is an opportunity for me give back to the local farming community," she said.

Aggie began her studies in a Bachelor of Science at the University of Queensland, studying plant and animal biology, ecology, genetics, and chemistry.

However, she went on to study nursing and later became a Community Nurse working in rural areas across the top end of Australia.

"My career change into the agricultural sector might seem incongruent, but it's all about health and people... the health of the people is interconnected to the health of the land," she said.

Over the next two years, Aggie's activities with the Resilient Pasture Landscapes project will include working with farmers in the region to build skills in climate forecasting for feed budgeting purposes and pasture management, soil testing, farm water supply and water management and using software tools to monitor and track changes over time.

Aggie will also be working in the role of the Malpas Catchment Coordinator, bringing some 'movement to the Malpas' by working with the well-established Malpas Catchment Group.

Aggie Seiler, Southern New England Landcare

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Armidale office: Suite 1, 175 Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350

Phone: 02 6772 5552

Moree office: Suites 2-6, 161 Bal Street, Moree NSW 2400

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Update from the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre

The Uralla Neighbourhood Centre has continued its fantastic work for the Uralla community over the last 6 months with the help of volunteers, grants and donations from our community alone.

The committee and members made the decision after a public meeting to continue to provide essential services to our community without government funding that had previously been received.

The Uralla Neighbourhood Centre has returned to the operating model that was used for many years before which was never doubted because Uralla has always had an incredible sense of community.

The committee has been overwhelmed with the generosity of donations of time, money and goods and are so pleased to see the great participation at our events including community markets, end of term discos as well as users of the food pantry and those hiring our venue which assists the centre to continue on.

We would especially like to acknowledge everyone that has contributed to our success so far including Michael Batt, The Rotary Club of Uralla, Essential Energy, Uralla Community Co-Op, Uralla Shire Business Chamber, Regional Australia Bank, Uralla Shire Council and so many more!

The committee is glad to report such a positive previous six months and hopes to keep working together for the good of all in our community.

Carol Barnden, Uralla Neighbourhood Centre



Uralla Business Chamber provided a donation so we could get our market signs printed by Thunder Graphics. Our last 3 Markets for this year are 22nd October 2022, 26th November 2022 and 17th December 2022

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Uralla Ladies Turn Out For District Games

For the past four weeks Uralla Women's Bowling Club has been participating in the New England District Games. In the calm, steadfast and unselfish spirit of bowling kinship, every lady in the club made herself available to play in various games. Some even took on the job of umpiring and being controlling body, not just for their own club, but when called upon, for other clubs as well. Uralla has entered a team, sometimes two and three teams, in every event available.

The results have been across the board. Lyn, Lynne, Lynnette, and Pauline had two magnificent wins in the Open Fours against two separate Servies teams. This means we will be off to the Regional Playoffs.

There were other games where we just missed the win by one or two points in some very close competition. After winning their first game decisively, Jayne, Roz, Judy, and Phyllis were unlucky to miss getting a win in a very closely fought final of the Senior Fours. Armidale City came out the winner by a mere one point. We also ended up runners-up in Senior Pairs (Judy/Phyllis), another close game; and Senior Singles (Pauline), due to a forfeit and there being only four entrants.

Several teams in other games won their first round but were unable to repeat the performance in the next. And then there were those of us that just could not seem to get off the ground. We were simply outplayed by the better player/players on the day.

The games though are not yet finished. There is still one event left to play. We might yet get to see another Lyn immerse herself totally in the spirit of the game and bring us home a win in the Open Singles. This will be held over Saturday and Sunday, 8th and 9th of October, at Armidale City. We wish her all the best.

The Uralla Women's Bowling Club is proud that they will be representing our District at the Regional Playoffs.

I want to thank all the ladies for committing themselves to taking part in these District games. It made for a better and more competitive competition. I hope you all enjoyed the rivalry and the friendship that you found.

Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer, UWBC and Secretary, New England District Bowling Association



GIRLS TWILIGHT GAMES Ages 12-16

Uralla Sporting Complex – 26th October

No comp. No coaching just fun activities with your friends

5.15 for 5.30pm-7.30pm

Cost - \$5 **CASH ONLY**

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All equipment provided.

Wear comfy clothes and sports shoes.

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Gostwyck Station Open Garden

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e: urallacwa@proton.me

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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 and third Tuesdays of the month, 10am. New members are warmly welcomed to join us. Phone 0438433735

Uralla and District Uniting Church meets Sundays at 9.30am for worship. Our Church is at present undergoing renovations and we are meeting in the adjoining Church Hall at 29 Maitland St, Uralla. The 1st Sunday of each month is a communion service and we welcome all people to join us. For enquiries, please contact Bronwyn Wilson 0403699464

Events for October - November

Bundarra Lions Club, Billy Goat Races - Saturday 8 October 11am start, Bundarra Showgrounds

Old Time Dance at Kentucky Hall on the 8 October 7.30 pm, tickets (\$15) at the door and supper included.

ADFAS Armidale lecture – 13th October at the TAS Hoskins Centre, starting 6pm followed by refreshments. Robert Ketton will speak about artist JMW Turner, regarded as one of the world's greatest 19th century painters. Robert's wife Catherine will create a painting during the lecture. Guest ticket \$25, students in school uniform free. Book: www.trybooking.com

Uralla Shire Councillors' Community engagement session

Rocky River Tennis Courts, Sunday 16 October 2-4pm

Uralla Shire Council Meeting, Tuesday 25 October 4 pm, Council Chambers, Salisbury Street

Rotary Club of Uralla

* **Antiques and Collectables Fair** 8-9 October at Uralla Neighbourhood Centre/RSL Memorial Hall.

* **Thunderbolts Festival** 29 October, street parade at 10:30am, with markets, music and activities in Alma Park.

* **Fairy Festival** 3 December, various locations Uralla CBD.

Uralla Community Co-operative Ltd AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Uralla Community Co-operative Ltd drew twenty members to the Hill Street shop on Saturday 1 October to hear reports of activity in the financial year recently ended. The Chairman reported that the Co-op is now a registered charity. Premises at 119 Bridge Street have been leased which will house a workshop and offer higher end recyclables and hardware, while Hill Street will continue to house the op shop and a yard of building materials, gardening, etc. Thanks were recorded to the board, the volunteers, the members, and donors and sponsors, all of whom contributed to a significantly successful year. The financial report showed turnover of \$68,000, a surplus of \$48,000, and distributions of \$24,000 to thirty local organisations.

Activity since July shows income of \$21,000 and expenditure of \$15,000 including the acquisition of a van to be used for pickups and deliveries. The meeting appointed Grahame Sharpe to review the financial reports.

All Directors resign at the end of each year. Four current Directors stood for re-election, as did six other members, so an election was necessary to select the eight Directors allowed by the rules. Bob Anderson officiated for the election, assisted by Angus McLean. It was pleasing to see so many members prepared to offer their time and energy to keep the Co-op running smoothly, and that over fifty members voted (about thirty of them by proxy, this being a long weekend of which the Board were oblivious when they chose the date). The successful candidates were Peter Barkley, Ross Burnet, Peter Ellston, Christina Goodwin, Karin Jackson, Leonie Kirwan, Tim Robertson, and Helen Vastenhoud, who will hold their first board meeting within the next fortnight.

The Co-op needs more volunteers. If you can offer a few hours weekly or monthly, or to cover for absence or illness, please contact Karin Jackson 0411 690 570 or Peter Barkley 0481 099 663.

Ross Burnet, Chairman Uralla Co-op



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Uralla Sub-Branch of RSL NSW

Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is
5pm Thursday 13 October 2022.

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

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Running Wild

Big Rains - Episode 3

4. Recap: The floods had wreaked havoc at the Thompson Farm, but not so that it couldn't be fixed. New potato and pumpkin crops were quickly replanted. Nellie's earlier life was with her people, far south on Gweagal Country. It was here she visited the Pleasure Gardens, in the grounds of Sir Joseph Banks Hotel, Botany Bay.

An arena enabled circus acts and musicians to perform and there was a horse riding stables around behind the hotel. Yacht regattas were held on the waters of 'The Bay' and 'Pedestrian Contests', as they were known, became the talk of the colony and all the way back to Europe. International runners came to compete in the Sir Joseph Bank Handicap, against the best of local talent, including aboriginal runners of note. Regular football and cricket matches were played on the oval and the Boxing Day celebration were attended on mass.

It made for a fine 'cultural visit' in these early times, where the common folk and aboriginal people mingled with high society, and where sailors and soldiers let off steam. The grog was always on offer, a card game or dice, but the military kept the high society patrons oblivious to these other world antics, and they were generally none the wiser from their visit.

Mr Blanch was a retired Ships Surgeon, taking up two rooms of permanent lodgings at the Banks Hotel. One of the rooms he converted for patient examinations and dispensed his own brand of medical services to the many visitors of the Pleasure Gardens and local first people.

He was a man in his later years, having seen the theatres of war on many distant shores, while in the service of the Royal Navy, 'from Algiers to the China Sea', he would say. Although his health was likely poorer for a man of his age, due to his liking for rum and the opium that the Chinese hawked in every alleyway of the growing Sydney colony. However, he said the opium numbed his mind when the demons of war came calling.

His practice and treatments were seen as unorthodox by those formally trained physicians, but many folk were grateful for his skills, whether the setting of a broken bone, the stitching of a bullet wound or tending the sick and dying. Often his services were called upon to patch men after brawling, a knife fight or worse.

He accepted payment of all sorts, from gold, foods to opium, making him the doctor of the rich, poor and criminal alike. His interest was also in tending of the local first people, for he had seen first-hand the death and suffering the colony and white settlement had bought upon this proud people.

Nellie became acquainted with Mr Blanch while she was serving as a housemaid at the hotel. On numerous occasions she had helped him to his room, when he had taken a binge of the rum or opium. It wasn't long before Mr Blanch needed the services of a maid and cleaner at his practice, and one who could speak the local aboriginal dialects. Nellie fitted the position perfectly and soon she become indispensable, acting more like his assistant than maid. But outwardly she would always be his servant.

Daryl Albertson

..to be continued

Community Messages

Uralla families with child(ren) five or younger are welcome to self-refer to **Helping Children and Families Association** for the support of a volunteer who can visit for 2 hours per week. Please contact Susan on 0467 580 016 for more information or to request volunteer support.

Uralla Shire Councillors will be having a series of community engagement sessions throughout the Shire. Initially we will hold them at the following venues:

(Free sausage-sizzle compliments of Councillors.)

Rocky River Tennis Courts, Sunday 16 October 2-4pm

Bundarra at the Pub, Thursday 17 November, 6-8pm

Come along meet your Councillors, talk to us about what concerns you.

Uralla Social Dance Group is an exciting new group featuring a wide variety of genres including Old Time, New Vogue, line dances & bush dances. The dances start at 7pm & conclude at 8.30pm, walk-throughs & basic instruction will be provided for each dance. There will be an additional half hour of free dance tuition for beginners from 8.30-9pm. Dances will be held on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month. Free activity! For more information 6778 4192

Bursary - The Uralla Future Fund

\$ \$ STUDENT \$ \$

The Uralla Future Fund offers
\$1,000

to a student leaving Uralla Central
for university, apprenticeship, or
other education.

Contact Ross 0412 701 402

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

Rotary Park

Temporary Closure

Uralla Shire Council advises on its web site that Rotary Park will be closed to the public from 12 September 2022 until the end of January 2023 for refurbishment works.

The park will reopen in February 2023. Council states that it appreciates the community's patience while they deliver important infrastructure upgrades to the park.

For more information on the refurbishment to Rotary Park under the Public Spaces Legacy Program projects funding, this can be found on Council's the PSLP project page [here](#).

Funding under the PSLP will be directed to the redevelopment of Pioneer Park and The Glen Precinct. After community consultation, Council resolved that the Pioneer Park upgrades include a Fibonacci theme, and that The Glen Precinct project components include the 'Constellations of the South' art installation, and model boating lake. The current upgrades to Rotary Park have also been included in the PSLP by Council.

Should you have any questions or queries regarding the closure, please contact Council on by telephone on (02) 6778 6300 or email at council@uralla.nsw.gov.au.

Louis van Ekert, Uralla Wordsworth



Rotary Park near The Glen will be closed until February 2023

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>

The Rotary Club of Uralla Antiques and Collectables Fair

The Fair will be held Saturday 8th October (9am - 5pm) and Sunday 9th October (9am - 2:30pm) in the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre / RSL Memorial Hall, Salisbury St, Uralla.

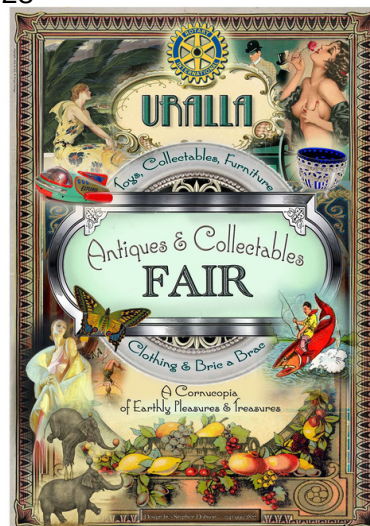
Rotary has been successful in receiving a small grant through Reconnecting Regional NSW – Community Events Program which Uralla Council applied for, to assist the running cost of the Fair.

The 9th annual Antiques and Collectables Fair is a community themed weekend of stall holders showcasing and offering their treasures. We have a good mix of exhibitors including clocks & timepieces, vintage clothing, books, vinyl records & players, cameras, military collectables, bric a brac, Japanese antiques, small furniture items, glassware, crockery and more.

An experienced appraiser can advise people about their special items, it will cost \$5 for 1 item and \$10 for 3 items, limited to 6 items per person so everyone gets a turn.

The entry fee is kept to a minimum by only asking for a gold coin donation & there is a Guess the Mystery Item Competition. Local musician Pete Stanley will provide live entertainment over both days.

For further information contact **Leanne Doran** 0488 559 928



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Helping Children and Families would like to thank the community of Uralla and the many travellers who generously supported our first street stall.

We were heartened not just by the sale of goods and raffle tickets but by the many donations. We thank Bunnings for their generous donation of 3 x \$100 vouchers for our raffles. We would also like to thank Uralla Shire Council for the well equipped facility they maintain for this purpose.

I have been in Uralla long enough to remember standing on the street, with tables set up, either trying to hold everything down in the wind or being freezing cold.

Our stall was held a fortnight ago and was a boost to helping us maintain the administration and training of new volunteers.

The purpose of our organisation is for trained volunteers to go into homes for 2 hours /week to assist mothers of pre-school aged children who may be in need of support.

We have recently trained two new members in Uralla and they look forward to working locally with young families requiring support.

If you know of someone or you may be feeling in need of support or you would like to enquire about this service please contact us on 0467 580 016.

Again thank you for your this wonderful town's generous spirit.

Lone Petrov, President - Helping Children and Families Association

Dear Editor,

According to the September council newsletter, Uralla Court House is to have the recently installed roofing and solar panels removed. To be replaced with galvanised roof sheeting and solar panels removed and installed else where. This was further endorsed by Consultant Gordon Fuller in Wordsworth on Monday 19th September..

My question, is why is this change happening now after both have been installed?

Council's decision to install galvanised sheeting 'just went out the door' to its own and NSW State planning regulations. That no galvanising sheeting is to be installed on any building in residential areas. Because of the glare it creates. This regulation would have been the reason why the roof was re-roofed and the cream coloured installed many years ago.

The time to decide what is to be fitted to the building was when the application for funding was done, as the council has to comply with the approved grant or apply for a change of usage. Why change now after installation has been done. The announcement some time ago that the council received over \$900,000 grant money to improve the vacant building, said:

New roof including installation, solar panels, paint the building and change the interior to make it suitable for

community use will be done to the Uralla Court House building.

One would understand from this announcement, the new roofing would match existing roofing colour and solar panels would be installed on the Court House roof. The roofing and solar panels has been done with other work continuing.

The decision to change the usage of this building, from an empty vacant building, to an asset for the residents and community of Uralla was good and will benefit all.

Because of this change, having solar panels on the roof does not take away from the historic value of the Court House, we must move forward and not live in the past.

Looking to the future to reduce energy costs installing solar panels on any roof on any building will need to be accepted by people. Especially as this building will be used by the community.

The Community Centre roof colour matched the Court House roofing, when this building was constructed some years ago,

The only offending building on this site is a small shed which does not have the colour of the roof matching other buildings. It would be nice to have this roof changed to match the other buildings.

We now have consultant Fuller telling the council and the community it will have to put up with the glare from the Court House roof when the roof is changed to galvanised sheeting. I question the historic value to do this to the detriment effect it will have on this most important intersection of Uralla.

Uralla Shire Council have made announcements that its funds are very tight and they are reviewing their expenditure.

I am concerned as a rate payer that council has now made a decision to change what is happening on the Court House with additional expenditure to remove the sheeting and solar panels then reinstall them.

I ask how Council spending money on changes now, to the Court House building, is a suitable choice when they do not have the money to do so. Is this trading in an insolvent position and should an Administrator be appointed because of their foolish decision?

Darron Phillips, Uralla rate payer & resident



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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I Am Not A Monkey.

I was interested to read respected heritage and disability access architect, Gordon Fuller's piece on the refurbishment of the Old Courthouse in the last Wordsworth. I am very grateful to the Councillors for reviewing the project and intervening to reduce the damage to significant heritage aspects.

This led me to consult Council papers on the project. I was surprised to find the detailed written submission I made in April outlining similar concerns to Gordon's was not provided to Councillors. Council has since advised that my submission was filed in error.

I am awaiting advice on whether my submission was the only one which was sunk without trace.

This brings me to another concern – the use of Survey Monkey emerging as Council's primary tool for feedback. On this occasion, the Survey Monkey responses and one letter (Kent Mayo) were provided to Councillors.

My key issue with Survey Monkey is best explained by the old anomaly: rubbish in, rubbish out. Question writing and analysis of results is a specialist skill. It is too easy to (even inadvertently) skew questions to influence a result.

Survey Monkey, when used well, is a useful form of community engagement but it should not be prioritised over soliciting considered written responses to complex issues. Uralla Shire is lucky enough to be home to people with vast experiences. What a shame it would be to lose voices who take time to examine documentation in detail, and instead depend on a monkey.

Michelle Wade, friend of Uralla

Dear Editor,

Our New England politicians seem to be supporting the NIMBYs who want to block renewable energy projects. If the calamitous weather which struck the northern hemisphere last season comes around to us next season, then the resulting drought, bushfire, deluge, landslide and flood might make a wind turbine seem benign. If they lose their house and the insurance industry declines to pay and the building industry cannot provide tradies anyway, then they will have reaped what they sowed.

John Sutherland, Uralla resident

Uralla Community Street Store

3 - 9 October

Uralla Show Pavilion Committee

10 - 16 October

Thunderbolt Festival

Call Uralla Shire Council

to book - 6778 6300

Hats Off To Her Maj!

Something about our late Queen puzzles me ...
Well, nothing about her you could call "ersatz",
So I'm curious, and maybe most will agree ...
What's the future of all those splendid hats?!

The cost of each hat, I'll be bound,
Because Royal Milliners never work in haste,
May be something like a thousand pound!
Surely all them lovely hats shouldn't go to waste?

Maybe in all them shops near Buck'n'ham Palace
(The cheapest thing is about a hundred guineas,
And to them what can afford it I bear no malice!)
I wonder ... could there be a local Vinnies?

With a big sign in the window for all to see,
"Sale on Today – Deceased Estate!"?
If that were true, then glory be,
Best get a wriggle on, don't be late!

It'd prove the Royal Family is truly caring,
And you couldn't call any of 'em a meanie,
At Vinnies those lovely hats a-sharing,
Not snaffled by Beatrice and Eugenie!

At a Royal Wedding, Eugenie stole the show.
I wasn't invited, but I've heard it said
By Royal followers, those in the know,
"Eugenie wore a big pretzel on her head!"

And this'd surely grab your attention,
If our Queen's lovely dresses, bags, and shoes,
An inventory far too lengthy to mention,
Were in Vinnies, too, for us commoners to peruse.

So here's to your Royal Vinnies shopping,
Whether purchased proper, or nicked by stealth,
As you shop, and shop, and shop, never stopping,
To truly be part of the British Common Wealth.

Would the Toffs too proud to go to a Vinnies sale,
Rub their wounded pride with Ego Ointment?
And sulk in their palaces, faces jealous and pale?
And commoners cry: "My new outfit's - By Appointment"?

Did the Royals ring the UK's Poet Laureate,
Simon Armitage, (not "Simple Simon") that's his name,
For some Royal Vinnies fine verse to create?
Nope, they got a poet of far more dubious fame.

**Kent Mayo,
Poet Larrikin, and ...
Loyal Subject and Predicate.**