

Uralla Wordsworth

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USBC Awards Night

The Uralla Shire Business Chamber's fourth annual awards for excellence was held Friday 29 July at the Showgrounds. The Pavilion looked lovely on the evening, thanks to the team and the Pavilion committee for making it look its best. Despite being one of the coldest evenings of the year so far, a good crowd came out and enjoyed the evening which went very smoothly. We all enjoyed catching up with friends whilst sharing a fine meal laid on by Michael from Michael's Café and Catering and enjoying great music from Crooked Tree from Armidale. Thank you to Corinne and her team for making the awards come together so successfully!

The evening opened at 6.30pm with a complimentary drink on arrival and canapes and then we sat down for a delicious service of dinner. The formal part of the evening started at 7pm, opened by the Chamber's President, David Mailler. David introduced Adam Marshall MP, member for Northern Tablelands, who voiced his obvious pride in our lovely Shire of Uralla with his glowing words singing our praises. We were then very fortunate to have the experience of listening to our guest speaker, LCDR Rob Valler from the RAN, who is the Aide de camp to Her Excellency, the Governor of NSW as he spoke about his passion for Uralla and why he chooses to live and operate a business here and the connections he has made to our community.

One of our three independent judges, Derek Tink, from Business Connect NSW, spoke on the high standard of entries from the people and businesses nominated by their customers and the people of Uralla and in particular the standard of excellence from the youth – the trainees and apprentices who were nominated were outstanding.

Nominations for the awards were received from far and



Laura Abbott presenting Outstanding Employee Award to Susan McPhee wide, with each nominee invited to answer some questions about themselves or their organisation. These were then sent to three independent judges, not part of the Uralla community, and ranked and returned to one member of the awards committee, who then collated and calculated the final scores. The results were then scrutineered by another independent member of the Chamber. Results were based on the quality of the responses to the set of questions in each category.

The six categories were: Outstanding Employee, Trainee or Apprentice. Award presented by Laura Abbott, Green Light Elecnor, Platinum Sponsor. The finalists were Susan McPhee, Stephanie Wooldridge and Abby Taylor, Susan McPhee from Uralla Clinic being awarded the winner for her incredibly impressive involvement in the clinic as well as the broader community. Employer of Choice, presented by Kate Adams, Regional Australia Bank, Gold Sponsor. The Finalists were NGC New England, Subway Uralla and Uralla Pharmacy, Amica Riley and Subway Uralla being awarded the winner for demonstrating a commitment to training and support of her workers and her trust and respect of her workers shining through to the judges.

Continued on p. 3

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

Congratulations to the Uralla Shire Business Chamber on an outstanding night for their Annual Awards for Excellence. The Hon. Adam Marshall MP spoke of his strong support for the Uralla community. The guest speaker was Lieutenant Commander Robert Valler RAN, who spoke passionately about his love for Uralla and included some strong words around supporting the heritage value of the shire. Rob and his wife Jane have purchased the Salvation Army Citadel with plans to develop a whisky bar. He was especially glowing in his praise for Andrew and Tara Toomey in winning their fight, on behalf of all home businesses, by having the NSW Local Environment Plan amended to allow online "retail" sales. The guest judge was Derek Tink, who was also very positive about the Uralla business community's energy and ingenuity. Special mention goes to Meralli Solar who won the "Excellence in Business" Award.

The first of the Councillor Community Sessions was an excellent evening held at Kentucky Hall, with approximately 16 residents braving a typical New England winter's evening. Matters discussed in an informal manner included the Thunderbolt Energy Hub, the need for a playground inspection, drainage beside the hall, possible rezoning in Kentucky Village, Council's Workforce Management Strategy, and ROADS. The next session is proposed for Kingstown on Thursday August 18 from 5:30pm to 7pm.

At the July Council meeting, a number of Councillors raised concerns regarding the refurbishment of the Uralla Courthouse. This is a heritage building and the issues related to roofing and solar panels. The Councillors agreed to request additional information before further considering this matter. Subject to this information being available, Council will have an Extraordinary Meeting later this month.

Council approved a submission for grant funding of \$3.9 million through the "Fixing Country Roads Program" for the upgrading of three sections of Thunderbolts Way between Uralla and Bundarra. This work is a very high priority. As part of the consideration of the Capital Works Working Group, Council resolved not to accept any new contracts for civil works unless Council staff are fully tasked. Council also resolved to approach the Local Member, the Hon. Adam Marshall MP, straight away, to request a variation to the grant to look for alternate water supply options to progress before the grant timeline expires. ZNet's public consultation canvassed a number of other options.

Council received the draft Long Term Financial Plan as a

base document and noted that a workable document depends on completion of the Asset Management Plans, completion of the organisation wide service review, and further review of 2022/23 budget for possible income and expenditure adjustments. It is worth noting that since the process began, the interest rates, cost of energy, and materials have all risen sharply.

A confidential report was presented to Council on Kerbside Waste Collection. Council resolved to commit to a preference for a holistic in-house waste management service. This will include undertaking a request for tender for two new garbage collection trucks. The funding is yet to be determined. We have also committed to commence discussions with neighbouring Councils towards a joint long term shared waste service. Council has requested staff prepare a holistic waste service business case. We understand that this is a complicated process and will take up to six months to complete.

The Hon. Adam Marshall MP has advised Council that \$1,302,680 is available for projects in Uralla Shire. \$895,592 is available for Council, with the balance of the allocation open only to community organisations. The guidelines will be released soon.

Councillor Burrows and I recently attended a Zoom Meeting with Essential Energy and their Customer Service Team. If anyone has any matters of concern, please contact me and I will forward them on. Much of our discussion was around the renewable energy development and support for Electric Vehicle charging stations.

Great news about the Uralla Fairy Festival being held on Saturday December 3 this year!!!

M: 0434 244 774
robertbell1055@hotmail.com

Robert Bell
Uralla Shire Resident



Awards Night Committee: Clare & Dave Mailler, Leanne Doran, Russ French, Teresa French, Corinne Annetts, Richard Downes
Uralla Wordsworth Monday 8th August 2022 P2



Kate Adams presenting the Employer of Choice Award to Amica Riley

Cont. from p. 1 Excellence in Sustainability or Innovation award, presented by Mayor Robert Bell. The finalists were Buckingham's Timepiece Repairs, Defence Models and Graphics and Uralla Clinic, with Uralla Clinic being awarded the winner with glowing words from the judges, about their commitment to excellence in service, information and improving their practices that benefit the community and shows their passion for what they do.



Robert Bell presenting the Excellence in sustainability/innovation Award to Clinic staff - Stephanie Wooldridge, Dannielle Batt, & Susan McPhee Outstanding Community Organisation, presented by Laura and Kirsty, Green Light Elecnor, Platinum Sponsor. The finalists were McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre, Uralla Community Co-Operative and Uralla Historical Society with a delighted and surprised Linda Bell accepting the award for the Uralla Community Co-operative, for their new and creative approach to circular economy by generating community and giving back to community through profits.



Uralla Co-op won Outstanding Community Organisation award, presented by Kirsty Blair to Linda Bell Outstanding Business Leader award was presented by Adam Marshall MP, Member for Northern Tablelands. The finalists were Rob Moon from Moons Bakery, Adam

Hayes from The Pie Mechanic and Selina Ryan from Pulse Fitness, who unfortunately wasn't with us on the evening, a comparably fit and trim Tom O'Connor (in Adam's words!), accepted the award on Selina's behalf. The award was given to Selina for creating a new business contributing to health and wellbeing and creating a new concept with a five year vision for the future in Uralla.



Adam Marshall presenting the Outstanding Business Leader Award to Selina Ryan, Pulse Fitness - Tom O'Connor receiving on Selina's behalf Final award Excellence in Business, was presented by our guest speaker Rob Valler. The finalists for this award were The Alternate Root, Meralli Solar and Uralla Clinic. The winner was the Chambers very surprised president, David Mailler from Meralli Solar for their World-leading technology in producing low-cost high-technology and high-return solar farms that give back to the communities that they are part of, employing locals and injecting millions into local economies while taking out thousands of tons of carbon dioxide, a great achievement.



Dave Mailler receiving Excellence In Business Award from Rob Valler The Uralla Business Chamber would like to thank the Awards Committee for making the awards come together so successfully. We would also like to show our appreciation for the businesses and public of Uralla who made this the most successful awards night to date. Thank you also to the speakers, partners, and families and friends of all the nominees, finalists and winners, to all the businesses who participated in the awards process and to the businesses and individuals themselves who won the awards for your terrific contributions in making Uralla the best place to live, work and grow in. See you all again next year! Wish to join the Uralla Shire Business Chamber go to our website; www.urallabusinesschamber.org.au New Members welcome, lets grow Uralla together! Monthly Meeting 1st Thursday of the Month, Uralla Bowling Club.

Teresa French, USBC

Wildlife Tails

Thanks to Lily who is one of our carers, for the following update on three microbats who came into care. Part 1 of this story was printed in Issue 90 if you would like to refer to it.

Frisk, Chester, and Flora – Part 2.

Things were going well with Frisk and Chester until a couple of weeks later when Frisk showed her stubborn streak once more and stopped eating. She started losing weight, then her milk dried up.

I panicked again, and rang Jackie, the Northern Tablelands Wildlife Cares flying fox and microbat coordinator. It was decided that she would take Frisk and get her eating again, and I would keep Chester and feed him. At that point I had another baby microbat in care, a Lesser Long-eared female named Flora who was a week or two older than Chester. I could slot him in with her feed and care regime, and they could keep each other company.

But, Chester had apparently inherited his Mum's stubborn streak, and getting him to take enough milk at each feed was a challenge. Where Flora would only take a few minutes to feed and clean, Chester would take me well over an hour to get a less than satisfactory amount into him. I had to resort to giving him subcutaneous fluid injections several times as he was dehydrating and losing weight.

I went online to get suggestions from other microbat carers on how to get him eating. I could try holding him in different orientations: horizontally, vertically, head down at an angle, on his back. I could try having him all wrapped up in a tissue with only his muzzle poking out, or partially unwrapped with his head more exposed. I could try making clicky noises at him like his mum would, feed him from a tiny canula tip, feed him with a small foam teat for him to suck on. Nothing worked and I was fighting him to get only a few drops at a time into him.

Flora, on the other hand, was a breeze to feed and a delight to have in care. Lesser Long-eared bats are one of my favourite species of microbat. They are so adorable with their little snouty noses and their long, expressive ears. Plus they tend to have a very friendly and calm nature. After feeding, Flora liked to be held in my hand while she had a nap. Then she would wake in her own time and enjoy a stretch and a grooming session in or on my hand.

I was feeding these two babies every three hours around the clock, and grabbing quick naps between each feed. Lack of sleep was not helping my anxiety and frustration with Chester. Then one day, for no apparent reason, he started drinking. With gusto! It was such a relief, and certainly made my life much easier and his life more of a guaranteed thing!

From this point on, he grew well. He and Flora were going for longer between feeds: 4 hours, then five, then

was able to sleep more. And Frisk came back to me in a better mood and with a repaired appetite. Life was good for me and the three microbats in my care.

Megan Robinson, NTWC



Flora stretching her wings, approximately 3 weeks old.



Mumma Frisk and baby Chester when he was about a week old.

If you find an animal in distress or injured please ring **1800 008 290**.

Click on the QR code to visit our website.



A New Look For UWBC

After six years the Uralla Women's Bowling Club has had a change in management. The previous, much valued executive decided that it was time for them to let others take a turn at running our club.

We will now be under the leadership of Rosalind Rhodes. Roz joined the lady bowlers in 2003, and brings a wealth of local knowledge to the club. She tells me that her family has had a long association with Uralla and the Rocky River area. Another, whose family also has a long association with Uralla, is our new Secretary, Jayne Bourke. Her new job as our secretary will be put on the back-burner for a while, as, just this week, she has started a three-month stint in the shearing sheds. While Jayne is occupied with this, Judy Bray will step back in and take the minutes when needed over this time.

Our new Treasurer is Debra Vanden Hoogan. Debbie and I both moved into the Rocky River area at the same time, and finding ourselves living along the same laneway, have become good friends. We decided to take up bowls in 2019 as a way to get to know people in our new town. We discovered a love for the game that takes us back to the club every week. We get exercise for both our bodies and our minds, as we play and mix with the other bowlers in our club, men as well as women. Debbie has kept the books for a couple of groups before she came to us, including being Treasurer of the car club that she and her husband Tony built up here in Uralla.

Phyllis Dade has stepped back to take up one of the Vice President positions. The other is held by Lynne Watts, who is so enthralled by our little club that she travels up from Walcha each week. June Gregory will take the helm of the Match Selection Committee. Together with Judy Bray and Lynnette Dwyer they have the knowledge and experience to lead us to new heights.

The rest of us make up the committee which comes into play whenever some special event is about to occur.

And I will continue to be the....

Publicity Officer

Pauline Crouch

Uralla Women's Bowling Club

In Memoriam

Marcella Heinz O'Connor

10 June 1941 –

18 August 2021

A year has gone since the passing of Marcella Heinz O'Connor, a truly remarkable person left us without the benefit of a farewell due to the restrictions of the pandemic.

On Saturday 29 April 2022, following the opening of our international borders, Tom and the Heinz Family were able to commemorate Marcella's life with a meeting at her parents' grave side on Whitby Island, Washington State USA. As the first anniversary of her passing approaches, a wake will now be held in Australia.

An open invitation is extended to all of Marcella's Australian friends, colleagues and acquaintances to a commemoration of her life in her beloved garden at Bridge Street, Uralla on Saturday 20 August 2022 from 2pm to 4pm.

All most welcome.



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Entitled

Are Council Officers to become more entitled?
And would that create cause for dismay?
I seen it in the last edition of Wordsworth,
The page where our Mayor gets to have his say.

Nearly choked on me mug of cocoa, I did,
Said to the missus, "Struth, strike me pink!"
Then we sat there in confounded silence,
That can happen when yez are having a think.

Fancy title that: "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR"-
Infrastructure and Development"
Licking the cocoa off me lips, as you do,
Wondering what the bloomin hell it meant!

And another! "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-
Corporate and Community Services", too.
Crikey, who thinks up these grandiose titles?
Not me, not you, not us, then who?

Locked away from daylight's common sense,
In that oh so exclusive corporate sector,
To whom are these Officers accountable?
Is there an "EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' INSPECTOR"?!

Them big posh name plates across their desks,
Polished cedar, and sparkly golden gilding,
Filling up all the blooming office space.
Will they be crying out for a bigger building?

Do these people have Key Performance Indicators?
Sipped me cocoa, of course they bloomin should,
Performance? Crikey, you can say that again...
We got more Executive Directors than Hollywood?

Do you reckon we need do something about this trend,
For fear it might further spread?
Until the title "CHIEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR"
Pops out of some corporate genius's head!

You know what happens with these fancy titles,
And a thermometer long list of Degrees?
Will these highly qualified and entitled types say
"We are entitled to much higher pay, please"?

I felt I needed to pose these questions, like, but
Will these Executive Directors share some of the load?
Will they leave their desks to join the outdoor staff,
To start fixing the bloomin pot-holes in the road?

Well there yez go, I've had me say,
As yer allowed when you're wise and old,
But with all them words about Executive Directors...
Struth, me bloomin Cocoa's gone stone cold!!

Kent Mayo
Resident peasant

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

What an honour to be chosen as the Employee of the Year in the Uralla Business Chamber 2022 Awards! At the presentation, mention was made that I have championed cervical cancer screening. Since late 2017, I've been telling women about the changes to the screening test done in the lab. Unfortunately, it hasn't meant any change for us with how the sample has been taken. The discomfort of this invasive test is a major deterrent for many women.

It would be a shame, then, to not deliver this **good news** for women: as of July 2022, there is, for many, **finally**, an alternative. Women who have no symptoms are able to take their own sample on the premises of the doctor or nurse practitioner sending the test to the lab. It's wonderful to be able to encourage women to do what has now become a rather simple and pain-free screening test.

Susan McPhee, Uralla Clinic

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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 at 10am at CWA Rooms in the Literary Institute

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

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

Events for August - September

USC Finance Advisory Committee Meeting Tuesday 9 August, 4 - 6pm Council Chambers

ADFAS lecture Thursday 11th August 6pm at TAS, Armidale. Claudia Chan Shaw will lecture on 'Flappers, Speedos and the New Look: Fashion in Australia in the 1920s - 40s'. Book through Trybooking. Supper provided.

Basic Tool Safety and Simple Timber Repairs Free Workshop 13th August Little Birdy 36 Hill St, Uralla. For bookings Ph - 0420 514 653

Councillor Community Session Uralla Shire Councillors will hold a community engagement session at Kingstown on Thursday, 18 August 2022 from 5:30-7pm.

Bicycle Care and Repair Free Workshop 20th August Little Birdy 36 Hill St, Uralla. For bookings Ph - 0420 514 653

Garden Tools - Care and Repair Free Workshop 20th August Little Birdy 36 Hill St Uralla. Bookings - 0420 514 653

Lisa Richards WTF Release Tour Sunday 21st August, 2 - 5pm, McCrossins Mill. Tickets available through eventbrite.

Uralla Shire Council, Ordinary Council Meeting, Tuesday 23rd August, 4pm Council Chambers

Councillor Community Session Uralla Shire Councillors will hold a community engagement session - free sausage sizzle at the Saumarez Ponds (Barry Munday) Recreation Reserve on Saturday, 17 September 2022 from 11am - 2pm.

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A Cold And Icy Blast

Last Wednesday morning when I awoke
Everything outside was wearing a shiny cloak.
Icicles hung sparkling from gilded eaves.
While trees glimmered with their silvery leaves.

I ventured out onto the deck.
But a cold and icy wind bit right into my neck.
Francis Hill was blanketed in a heavy clinging fog
That silenced the frogs in the cold swampy bog.

The icy wind kept on blowing up along the creek,
Nipping at my fingers, stinging round my cheeks.
It just kept on coming, that cold and icy blast.
It was almost snowing, just as was forecast.

I hastened back inside to the hot and roaring fire.
Warmth was the need to which I then aspired.
At Guyra it was snowing, news was coming forth.
Even on the Devil's mount a little further north.

The temperature lingered around the five.
But as time wore on it began a stealthy dive.
It's no wonder we cancelled bowls that day.
Weather conditions did not allow anyone to play.

I'd dressed up warmly, four layers at the least.
Woollen scarf about my neck, head fully fleeced.
Thick slippers on my feet, now I simply waddled.
But I was staying home coddled and be-swaddled.

I stayed inside before the fire sipping at a brew.
All warm and toasty while outside a blizzard blew.
The sky all around was a cast-iron-metal grey,
The clouds menacing this cold and freezing day.

Sleet blew horizontally, piling up upon the deck.
Not quite snow, but that might be coming next.
Under a layer of ice my fish kept slowly swimming
But the day was drawing in, light slowly dimming.

As I lay snug and warm in my bed that night,
I listened to the rain that was falling out of sight.
I saw the lightning flashes as the room lit up red,
And heard the thunder calling as it rolled above my head.

Pauline Crouch, Rocky River

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Uralla Sub-Branch of RSL NSW

Free Community

REPAIR WORKSHOPS

@Little Birdy, 36 Hill St Uralla

13 AUG: Basic Tool Safety & Simple Timber Repairs

20 AUG: Bicycle Care & Repair*

20 AUG: Garden Tools - Recover & Repair**

No cost

All workshops run from midday - 4pm

*Bring your bike, and tools such as tyre puncture kit & allen keys if you have them - suitable for ages 12 & up

**Bring along a tool you want to repair and get advice for that project

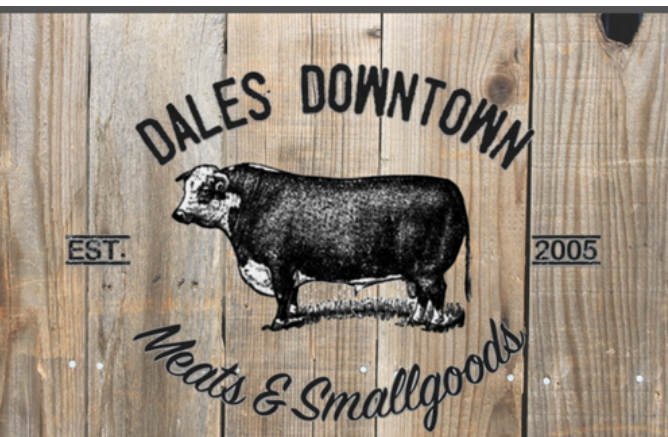
Bookings essential

Contact coordinator@zneturalla.org.au
or 0420 514 653



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Goldfield Earthquake

The Armidale Express reported of a "most distinct shock of earthquake" at the Rocky River on October 11th, 1865. The preceding afternoon was very close and sultry, with those atmospheric appearances which usually denote an approaching thunderstorm, and several whirlwinds were observed gyrating with more than usual force & rapidity. The actual time at which the shock occurred has been variously given between 6.40 and 6.50am. Mr Cleghorn, on noticing the shock at Mount John, immediately noted the time, 6.45, and as he had a recent opportunity of comparing his watch with the standard time in Armidale we may take it as being correct in that locality. From what I can learn, the earth shock was felt also at Salisbury and Gostwyck, and as far as Maitland Point on this place. The degree in which it was felt varied very much, some merely hearing the rumbling noise, while with others the houses vibrated. But the most decided shock that I hear of was felt by Mr. Coleby and myself, the two houses lying nearly East and West from each other.

In both places there was a visible oscillation of the ground, in two distinct waves, from East to West, the best description of which motion being that given by Mr. Coleby "like a ship in a light head-sea." The whole house rocked and cracked, and everything moveable clattered.

Between these two houses there are three others - two to the North of the direction between them and one to the South, but not distant from such line or direction more than 30 yards, and yet no motion was felt by the inmates, although the rumbling noise was heard. It is impossible to describe the noise which immediately preceded the shock; the feeling conveyed was one of awe, and a sense of our helplessness and insignificance beside the mighty works of the great Creator.

Monday evening was calm, with frequent lightning, but no rain followed. On Tuesday evening we had a thunder shower, and on Wednesday thunder and lightning, with rain at intervals, continued throughout the day.

The only instance I have heard of the ground underneath being affected by the earthshock was in Mr. Law's claim, at the head of Sydney Flat, where, at the depth of about 100 feet, the timber was in some places thrown out and the roof appeared shaky.

Kay Adams, Uralla History Hub

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Uralla Historical Society

AGM ... And Book Launch!

Sunday 28 August, 3pm Sharp

Uralla Historical Society's Annual General Meeting, always a brief and enjoyable occasion will have the added attraction of the Book Launch of Ian Handley's "The Land of the McCrossins – A History of Uralla", a fascinating record of Uralla's colonial days. Actually, it is the **ONLY** history of Uralla that has been published! (So far.)

Some of the older generation will remember Lindsay Handley, the affable Shire Clerk at Uralla Council. Good old days, they were. Ian, his son, was a student at Armidale Teachers' College in 1974-75. His interest in local history was nurtured by lecturers such as Dr Lionel Gilbert and Jock Elphick, and by Uralla's very own Arnold Goode.

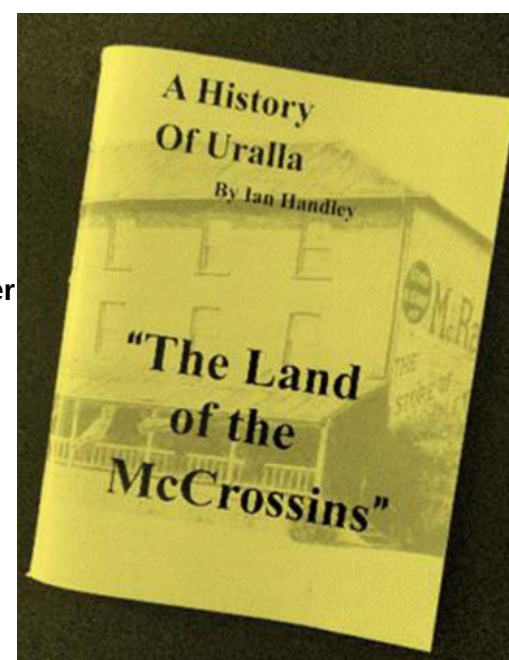
What began as a standard course assignment, rapidly blossomed into a full-on research project, resulting in his rather splendid "The Land of the McCrossins", with original photographs and Ian's own text, published, (and sold out!) in 1975.

Ian recently offered his original proof copy to Uralla Historical Society which, never to miss an opportunity, made some minor edits and had the book reprinted, all with the author's permission, of course. "With any proceeds to be directed to the work of the Society, not to me!" was Ian's firm stipulation. Ian and family, and hopefully Lindsay himself, will be present at the AGM to launch the book immediately following the formalities. This will be a most entertaining event, accompanied by refreshments. Every Uralla family should have a copy of "The Land of the McCrossins" – a great read and a valuable resource to share with visitors.

New members are most welcome to join the friendly team at McCrossin's Mill. Annual subscription is \$15 Single; \$25 Family, which entitles free entry to the Museum and garden at any time, delivery of our classy quarterly newsletter "The Millers' Tales", and advanced notice of special events, including touring performances at the Mill.

Membership forms are available at the Mill counter, open every day 10am to 4pm.

Ann Hacker
UHS Publicity Officer



Northern Inland Koala Conservation Tender



BCT Information sessions

Northern Inland Koala conservation tender

If you're in the Armidale or Uralla LGAs, you could be eligible for the Northern Inland Koala conservation tender. Successful applicants will enter a conservation agreement and earn annual payments to protect koala habitat. These sessions will provide all necessary information about the tender and application process.

RSVP by 4 August 2022 via Eventbrite
<https://nik-bct.eventbrite.com.au> or contact BCT's Jennie Lindsay on (02) 9407 2194 or jennie.lindsay@bct.nsw.gov.au

Armidale

Thursday, 11 August 2022
Armidale City Bowling Club
92-96 Dumaresq Street
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Uralla

Friday, 12 August 2022
Uralla Bowling Club
52 Hill Street
10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Guyra

Wednesday, 24 August 2022
Guyra Bowling Club
192 Bradley Street
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Bundarra

Thursday, 25 August 2022
Bundarra Commercial Hotel
16 Bendemeer Street
10:30 am – 1:00 pm
(*20 person limit)

Drop-in sessions

AgQuip

16–18 August 2022

Wongabinda Hall

23 August 2022
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Kentucky General Store

26 August 2022
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Kingston General Store

31 August 2022
10:00 am – 3:00 pm

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Authorised by Adam Marshall MP, Member for Northern Tablelands. Funded using parliamentary entitlements. September, 2021.

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Running Wild

Big Rains - Episode 3

This episode is the third in the 'Running Wild' series. The second, 'Dam Him all to Hell !', was printed in Uralla Wordsworth 4th April 2022 – 13th June 2022. Fiction.

1. Recap. *Then we had left Molly and mother in their bark hut atop Mountain Black, sodden from the relentless thunderstorms and downpour. During the night Fred and his gang sheltered there for a moment. They smoked their smokes, shared their grog and were soon gone. The robbery of the Cobb & Co coach had the traps close, they headed for the 'Devil's Marbles'.*

Travellers came to the New England from afar, in search of gold hidden in the hills and streams of the district. The rush at Uralla, Sunshine and Nundle made for prosperous settlements, by those lucky enough to discover the golden prize. Soon others came to settle and spread across the valleys, struggling on their small farming blocks to survive. But for anyone who was prepared to 'give it a go' John Robertson's Act of 1861 made it so.

Charles and Mary Thompson were free settlers, buying passage on the clipper route from Plymouth England to Sydney Australia. On arrival they purchased a wagon and team, bundling their possessions onboard for the long hard journey north. They hoped to select good land and make a new life in this virgin country. They got busy straight away with the help of William (Bill) Steed, their indentured convict. Bill was transported for a three-year term, found guilty of fraud of his employee at the dockyards of Chatham, Kent.

All worked long and hard to build the timber cottage, laundry, stock yards and dry store sheds. They then set to work, clearing the fertile creek flats for crops and hopefully their future prosperity. After a few years of toil, the potatoes grown at the Thompson Farm became well known. A large Dutch variety that kept well and good eating. The local Armidale grocer bought most of their harvest and special customers were sold seed potato for next years' crop.

Unlike the Irish varieties, their Dutch spuds were resistant to stem rot, but if the season was too boggy some would spoil in the ground. They all hoped for a good harvest from their few acres planting. Only satisfied when all were safely bagged and packed away in the dry store sheds, waiting for sale.

While they were clearing timber along the creek, Mary's husband Charles was accidently killed, when the convict Bill felled a tree onto him. Some say that Bill had been sweet on the Thompson lady and did well as a result, but Charles' death was recorded as an accident regardless.

... to be continued

By Daryl Albertson

Community Messages

Uralla Historical Society AGM The 42nd UHS Annual General Meeting at McCrossin's Mill Museum & Function Centre SUNDAY, 28 AUGUST, 2022, 3pm sharp. Membership subscriptions payable from 2pm. New members are welcome to join our great team to help conserve and promote Uralla's unique heritage.

Book Launch - Ian Handley's "THE LAND OF THE McCROSSINS" Refreshments served at 4pm.

Nominations for director of the Co-op

Any financial member wishing to nominate for election to the board as a Director should submit a nomination to the Secretary (Linda Bell lindabell525@hotmail.com) before 2pm on Saturday 27 August 2022.

The nomination should

- 1) be signed by 2 or more members;
- 2) provide details of the qualifications and experience of the person nominated;
- 3) be accompanied by a notice in writing signed by the nominee consenting to their nomination.

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

Kingstown, Thursday 18 August 5.30-7pm

Invergowrie/Saumarez at Barry Munday Reserve, Saturday 17 September 11am-2pm.

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.

Mayor Robert Bell, Councillors; Tim Bower, Sarah Burrows, Bob Crouch, Leanne Doran, Bruce McMullen, Lone Petrov, Tom O'Connor, Tara Toomey.

Fuel Watch	ULP	Diesel
Invergowrie	179.0	208.0
Mobil	186.9	216.9
Puma	185.9	217.9
BP	187.9	221.9
Kingstown	215.9	-
Kentucky	219.9	245.9

Uralla Community Street Store

8-14 August
Lodge of Peace No 120 Uralla
15-21 August
St Joseph's School Uralla
Call Uralla Shire Council
to book - 6778 6300

Deadline for the next edition is
5pm Thursday

18th August 2022.

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



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with your resume***

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- HC Truck Drivers wanted

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