

Uralla Wordsworth

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It's Home!

The honour roll of World War 1 veterans, which once adorned the wall of St David's Presbyterian Church, has been returned to Uralla. When the church (at 28 Bridge St) was deconsecrated, a number of artefacts were given on loan to the Uralla Military Museum, which itself closed in 2013. The contents were sold, including the 1914-19 honour roll, another timber honour roll, and a photoboard of the men thereon.

Recently, Kent Mayo of McCrossin's Mill was made aware of an auction in Toowoomba at which one of these pieces was to be sold. After various meetings between Adam Marshall's office, the Uralla RSL Sub Branch and the Uralla Historical Society, Mr Jim Swales, a long time member of the Sub Branch and whose father Alan appears on the roll, attended the auction with Ann Edwards of the Historical Society.

Their winning bid secured the beautiful and historic marble honour roll for the community of Uralla. The elaborately decorated metre-tall tablet arrived back in Uralla with the help of Graham Edwards.

The Sub Branch has been asked to be the custodians of this historic piece, and although its final resting place is yet to be decided it will go on display in the renovated foyer of the Memorial Institute, which houses the RSL meeting room. It will be there for all to see.

It has been a wonderful community effort to get this piece of Uralla history returned to where it should be, and as custodians the Sub Branch will ensure its preservation.

Other pieces from the military museum were sold at the

same auction and we are hopeful that these too will eventually return to Uralla.

I was informed that when the auctioneer announced the winning bid, he told the crowd the honour roll was being returned to the Uralla community, the crowd erupted in applause. What a wonderful ending to this story.

Russ French, President Uralla RSL Sub Branch



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Robert Bell was elected to Uralla Shire Council in September 2016 and has served one term as Deputy Mayor. He was previously Director of Engineering for Uralla Shire, lives in town, and has a grazing block at Kentucky. In his regular column, Cr Bell gives a personal view of some of the more important matters concerning Council and ratepayers in recent weeks.

Congratulations to John O'Halloran, Mary Ann Munsie and Bob Crouch. John has been awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his service to rugby league in the region and in Uralla. While John's profession was school teaching, his passion was always rugby league. I would like a dollar for every metre of Elastoplast that John has wrapped around footballers' ankles, knees and shoulders in his role as a trainer/strapper.

Mary Ann Munsie has been awarded Uralla's Citizen of the Year for 2021, for her leadership of Uralla's Meals on Wheels and Can Assist. Behind the quiet persona is a very determined woman who convinced the Armidale Meals on Wheels not to wind back the support for her volunteer drivers. I was concerned that Mary Ann's role as Fairy Floss (Tinkerbell's helper) at Uralla's inaugural Spring Fairy Dance may have counted against her. I did mention, however, to her husband Peter, that she deserved the award just for managing him!

Bob Crouch received his Australia Day award for his work on the Uralla Showground Trust and the Uralla Goldfields Trust. It was Bob who coordinated the preparation of the Emu Crossing Bridge funding submission which ultimately led to the new \$4 million bridge being constructed just this side of Bundarra.

Linda and I were unable to attend Uralla's Australia Day ceremony, as we were in Coolah to witness our daughter Katie and her husband Adam receive the Coolah Local Heroes Award for their ongoing dedication to the community, by being President and Secretary on nearly every committee and club in town. A very proud moment indeed. Coolah's Australia Day Ambassador was Matt Hall, ex RAAF Top Gun pilot and now the World Red Bull Air Race Champion. Matt gave a very inspiring speech, where he pointed out that he has always been told that he was lucky, to which he replied that he was fortunate, and the only reason he got 'lucky' was by setting his goals and then working very hard to achieve each step towards those goals. His example was that his son wants to fly to Mars, so Matt's response was "that's great....now what do you need to do to achieve this dream?"

Here's wishing Steve Field, Biobank Seed Pty Ltd, good luck in his application for a grant to construct a new shed under the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund. Steve has received letters of support from David Carr, Stringbark Ecological, our local member and Minister for Agriculture the Hon. Adam Marshall, as well as Uralla Shire Council. Biobank Seed Pty Ltd is now a leading national player in

the production of high quality native seed. While the seed is mostly used for restoration projects, the work will continue to expand as biodiversity offsets become a factor in all major developments. This grant will lead to up to four new employees in the business. Steve was telling me how seed can now be spread from drones. This will make rehabilitation in steep and inaccessible country much easier.

Cr Crouch's motion to open up our Strategic Workshops to the public, which was supported by Council, had its first trial last Tuesday. While there were only four residents in attendance, it does allow the information to be disseminated in the community. The actual debate of resolutions will still occur at the monthly meetings. The first presentation was on the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC). This was in response to a number of questions from Cr Toomey in regard to the targeted support that should be provided to local businesses during the current Coronavirus pandemic. We received a presentation from Tony Byrnes, Regional Emergency Management Officer (REMO), and we were also introduced to Inspector James Parsons who is the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON). The Police are the lead combat agency for disasters. Inspector Parsons, who is based in Glen Innes, outlined the new police districts. A number of questions arising from this briefing will be further discussed by Council.

Congratulations to Amy Barraclough for once again being chosen in the Greater Northern Tigers Women's Rugby League side.

There is plenty of excitement (and intrigue) in town at the moment, with surveyors working in the rear car park and also in Hill Street.

Stay tuned for further updates.

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E: robertbell1055@hotmail.com

**Robert Bell,
Uralla Shire Resident**



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Uralla Men's Shed News

What's in a name? Flying under the banner of the Uralla Men's Shed, is a valuable community asset where all are welcome. I have been working on projects over the past couple of years, and enjoy the company of other like minded people who are most agreeable and friendly. The facilities at the Uralla Men's Shed are very good and with the recent construction of the additional new shed, there is ample room for larger projects. The extensive range of tools and machinery means I am able to work on projects which would otherwise not be possible. I would encourage anyone who likes working with wood (and soon to include metal) to come and see what is available. Most of the regular members have a terrific range of skills and are more than willing to share their knowledge and give a hand if needed.

Diedrie Truslove, Uralla



Uralla Co-Op

The Uralla Community Cooperative Ltd is being incorporated, and will initially trade in secondhand building materials. All profits will be directed to local causes. There will be an inaugural meeting next week, preparatory to applying for incorporation. The Co-op will need skills of all kinds – receiving and selling, IT, management, secretarial, etc – so please sign on as a member for \$10. Then you can volunteer, stand for election to the Co-op board, vote for the board and for distribution of profits, and suggest activities that the Co-op might get involved in.

Inaugural meeting at 5pm on Tuesday 16 February at the bookshop.

Ross Burnet, member of Uralla Co-op



URALLA BUSINESS BREAKFAST

7am Wednesday 24 February 2021

With a focus on resilience in business
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No cost, but registration is essential

uralla-business-breakfast.eventbrite.com.au

znetPlus Greening Uralla Project



This project is something Everyone can participate in to make a difference to the heat mitigation, bio-diversity, lower CO2 emissions, liveability and beauty of our community.

This project for 2021 will be rolled out in 2 stages

Stage1: Late March/early April Autumn - 1,200 shrubs

We will be offering residents 1-2 shrubs or small tree to plant on the western side of their house to mitigate the heat from the afternoon summer sun and reduce the need for air-conditioning.

Stage2: Late September/Early Oct Spring - 300 trees

ADOPT A STREET TREE!

Talk to your neighbours and see how many of you would like to support each other by planting a street tree on your verge to enhance the greening of Uralla. Each 'Adoptor' will commit to looking after the welfare of the tree for a period of 2 years to give these trees a good chance of survival.

This project is open to all residents in the Shire.

To register to Adopt a Street Tree in the Spring planting contact us by; Email: znetplus@zneturalla.org
Mob 0408 080 455 www.zneturalla.org.au

Funding for this project is through a
UPC Australia & New England Solar Farm community

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A Murder in Uralla

In 1882 the graves from the Uralla burial ground, which was then located at what is now known as Alma Park were exhumed and re-interred in the Old Cemetery at John Street. In November 1882 there were five or six coffins found on the land adjoining the creek near the Hill Street Bridge, which formed part of the Rocky River Road; these remains were also exhumed and relocated to the Old Cemetery.

Of all the remains that were exhumed from the old burial ground only one was identified, that of Mrs Caroline Gardiner alias Catherine Gardiner. Catherine was married to Daniel Thomas Gardiner, a blacksmith at Mr Marsh's at Salisbury.

Late in the afternoon on the 7th August 1853 Daniel, Catherine and a young girl named Sarah McNamara, aged about 7 years old arrived at Samuel McCrossin's inn at Uralla where they ate dinner and booked in for the night. Later that night an out-of-sorts Daniel along with a reluctant Catherine and young Sarah left the inn and headed towards Salisbury. Sometime after midnight Daniel Gardiner returned to Sam McCrossin's inn and claimed that he had killed his wife. He demanded a drink before wanting to head off and deal with a couple of men at Salisbury that he believed his wife was too friendly with. Daniel was detained at Sam McCrossin's inn until the police arrived the next day.

Catherine's body was found the next day under a tree near a waterhole along the Salisbury Road. The cause of Catherine's death was from strangulation, but her head had also been hit with what appeared to be a bottle or kicked in with a boot. Catherine Gardiner was buried the next day.

Daniel Gardiner was sent to Maitland Gaol where he was convicted of his wife's murder on the 22nd February 1854. He was executed by hanging at Maitland Gaol on the 04.04.1854 at age 39.

Maitland Mercury Wed 05.04.1854 Pg2: Execution of Gardiner. – Yesterday morning Daniel Gardiner was executed at Maitland Gaol. This wretched man, it will be remembered, was convicted at the last Maitland Circuit Court of the murder of his wife, Catherine Gardiner. Rev Mr Rusden attended him to the scaffold, where he prayed for him for the last time, before the wretched man was launched into eternity. Gardiner said nothing whatever to the spectators when on the scaffold, but we understand he had previously intimated to Mr Rusden that he was in such a state that he did not know what he did (on the night of the murder).

Kay Adams, Uralla History Hub

Council Elections September 2021

What does it mean to run for Council and become a Councillor?

A group of local women wishing to support the building of a strong, adaptable and resilient community in the face of an uncertain future, would like to offer neutral support to any resident thinking of running in the upcoming September election.

We particularly encourage women to explore the possibility of running as it has been shown that a gender balanced organisation makes communities safer, healthier and more prosperous.

We will convene a forum in early March with speakers experienced in Local Government to clarify what is required to be a councillor. There will be a Q&A for all your questions.

So, if you are a concerned Shire resident, male or female, thinking of running and wanting to know more, or are interested in being a supporter of this initiative please email wowchange21@gmail.com to be on our mailing list.

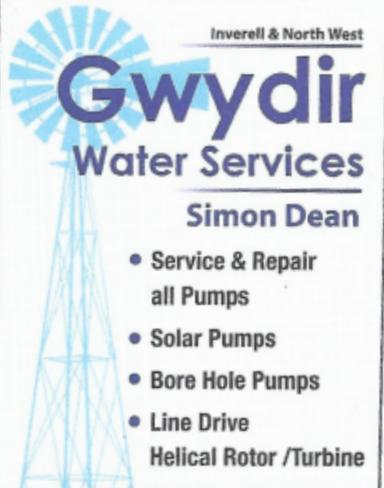
Carol Shantal, WOW Network, Uralla



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Running Wild - Run Girl Run

Continued from previous issue ...

RECAP: The Thompson cottage offered Molly a moments safe haven from 'The Traps'. Propped at the table in the good room, she could look out the window, all the way up the track and across the cleared creek flat. She had almost finished her plate of oat cakes when she saw them coming. She was trying to get the words out when the Thompson lady glided into the room, calmly taking her by the shoulders, guiding her to a rug in the middle of the next room. She flicked the rug aside, exposing a hatch door in the timber floor. Opening the hatch, the small root cellar was dark and dusty with cobwebs and large bottles of coloured preserves. 'Hop down and be quiet until I come back for you dear', she said. Molly quickly obeyed without protest; the hatch closed and rug replaced, leaving her in complete musty darkness.

From her dark space she could hear the deadened sounds of the lady moving around the cottage. Plates and cutlery clinking, then all was finally quiet for a while. The clipping of many horses hooves, then muffled voices of men, which seemed far off. The Thompson lady's voice in reply, closer up. After a period of exchanges between the two, the hoof beats moved off quickly into the distance. A while passed and the hatch door finally opened. 'Off away home now dear and tend to your mother, take these oat cakes', said the lady. Molly paused at the back door of the cottage, peering out over the creek flat, looking for any movement. She darted to the laundry, flattening herself along the side wall of the small detached building. From there she could observe her route to the timberline, creek path and back to the mountain hut and her Ma. Not detecting any further movement or danger, she bolted. Focusing only on a mound of grass she knew was the spot in the creek bank where she must make. She Ran!, she ran and she ran.

To be continued ...

Daryl Albertson, Kellys Plains



Joanna Dolan

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Meals on Wheels in Uralla need volunteers to deliver hot meals to residents in Uralla Monday to Friday. Your time one day a month for a few hours to help our residents to stay in their own home. If you can help please contact :

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Meals on Wheels Office
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Council Election

Uralla Shire will elect a new council in September this year, presenting the opportunity for much needed renewal in an organisation that has become increasingly problematic over the term of the present council (which has been extended by a year because of Covid19). The problems stem partly from the way councillors align and vote, partly from management, and partly from odd decisions, or lack of decision, from staff. Council needs to get back to being helpful, focussing more on customer service and less on bureaucratic procedures, encouraging economic and socially beneficial activity, treating the community as partner not enemy. This is no simple task, requiring a change of corporate culture and a more friendly and open style of management.

To effect change we need new councillors capable of understanding both the thrust and the details of each issue, who can analyse reports and data and always vote to do what is in the best interests of the community. Unthinking acceptance of staff recommendations must cease. To change the tenor of staff reports is beyond the scope of an election, but with a new set of councillors we can expect that change will percolate through the whole institution.

Anyone thinking of nominating for election should be aware that being a councillor requires analytical skills, community consultation, and commitment of time. The mayor requires these qualities in spades. The NSW Office of Local Government publishes a Councillor Handbook to assist councillors to be effective and perform their civic duties (available online at olg.nsw.gov.au/councils).

Given the need for reform, every resident and ratepayer should be concerned to select the best people when it comes time to vote. Look for candidates who understand issues in the broad and in detail, who understand the needs and aspirations of the community, who will vote on the merits of an issue and not on allegiance to another councillor or to staff. When voting for the mayor, remember that the incumbent has overseen the last nine years.

Wordsworth intends to convene a public meeting where candidates can introduce their platforms and issues of particular concern, outline their objectives, and respond to questions from the electorate.

Ross Burnet, Editor

‘Sunny Jim’ Mackay Charity Cricket Match in the Wind

Preliminary plans were underway with Uralla Cricket Club for a limited-overs match at the end of March. However, due to COVID and other circumstances, the concept has been put on hold until the 2021-22 cricket season.

The game was to be staged at the scene of Sunny Jim Mackay’s first stunning string of centuries, Hampden Park, hopefully to be renamed “Sunny Jim Mackay Park” in honour of this great batsman and thorough gentleman.

Kent Mayo, Uralla Resident

Have your say!

All business owners in Uralla Shire are invited to be interviewed for a survey to understand the effects of the external challenges faced in recent years and discuss needs and opportunities for economic development.

Independent research agency Wixim is undertaking the interviews with funding from Uralla Shire Council. To make a time for an interview please email research@wixim.com.au and we will be in touch this week.



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Australia Day 2021

The 2021 Australia Day official celebrations were held in the RSL Memorial Hall, Uralla with 90 people in attendance, just short of the 105 maximum allowed. Chairman Chris Pyros introduced ambassador Corey Payne, NSW Young Australian of the Year 2013, former NRL player and founder of Future Direction Network.

Pam Meehan kindly provided the Welcome to Country and four Uralla residents became Australian citizens; Mila Lavrushkina, Susan Burney, Ruth Davis and Dylan Knox.

The flag-raising was performed by RSL President Russ French and Aboriginal Elder Les Townsend. Cheryl Nolan led the singing of the National Anthem which was delivered with the usual enthusiastic vigour.

The Uralla Citizen of the Year is Maryann Munsie and Senior Citizen of the Year Bob Crouch, both selfless, wonderful community members and very deserving recipients of these Awards, especially for their efforts in 2020. Achievement Awards went to Bev Carlon, Graham Carlon, Pam Meehan, Wayne Poss and Faye Winter, who all give so much to Uralla year after year, congratulations to all award recipients.

The inaugural Australia Day shop window display competition was won by Kathy Miles art gallery Rest Awhile, 2nd Moons Bakery and 3rd Burnets Books. Congratulations to all the fabulous and very creative entries and thank-you to the many businesses for participating.

The poster competition was won by Madison Smith of Bundarra Central School and the Schools Posters Competition went to Bundarra Central School. The raffle, a load of wood, won by Frances Welbourn, entertainment was provided by Pete Stanley and food by Rotary, CWA, Friends of McMaugh's and the Lions Club.

The Australia Day Committee would like to thank everyone who supported and participated in the event, and wish the whole Uralla Shire a safe and prosperous 2021. For more photos and information please visit our facebook page, Australia Day Uralla.

Leanne Doran, Australia Day Committee



Left to right: Corey Payne & Maryann Munsie



Bob Crouch

Bill Andrews

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Community Calendar

Please email urallawordsworth@gmail.com if you have an event or meeting for Uralla, Kentucky or Invergowrie.

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 the Uralla Bowling Club, dinner optional after the 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 and Johnno's (kid's programme) in Park Street

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

Uralla Show Society meetings are 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 5.30pm at the Top Pub

Uralla Town & Environs Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 6-7pm in the Uralla Shire Council Chambers

Uralla Tennis Senior Social tennis, Wednesday 6.30pm at the Uralla Sporting Complex, everyone welcome (\$7 members, \$10 non members), Family Fun Night starts again from Friday 12th Feb 2021

Uralla Men's Shed is open each Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am - 1pm in the Old Scout Hall, Uralla North Rd (just off the Bundarra Road).

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 opposite Foodworks

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

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

Uralla RSL Sub-Branch meets the last Sunday of the month at 11am at the RSL Rooms, The Uralla Memorial Institute, 55 Bridge Street, All Veterans welcome

Uralla RSL Sub-Branch Veterans and Families Drop in Centre. Open to all Veterans and their families, each Thursday 10am until 12pm at the RSL Rooms, The Uralla Memorial Institute, 55 Bridge Street.

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

Uralla Food Pantry, Mondays 11am - 2pm, Uralla Neighbourhood Centre. Good range dry goods, and fruit/veg. Fill a supermarket coloured bag \$15. New members welcome. Further information from the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre, donations welcome. Ph : 6778 3277 or email : urallaneighbourhood@bigpond.com

Friends of McMaugh's meeting 2pm 8th February, Uralla Bowling Club

Uralla Shire Council Budget Review & Finance Committee Meeting 12.30pm 9th February, Uralla Shire Council Chamber

Uralla Community Co-Op Inaugural Meeting Tuesday 16th Feb, 5pm at Burnet's Bookshop

Uralla Shire Council Ordinary Meeting 12.30pm Tuesday 23rd February, Uralla Shire Council Chambers

Uralla Women's Bowling Club Club competition games have resumed. No WBNSW affiliation fees for the first 12 months of play for new members, just Uralla Bowlo membership. You have the time to decide if bowling is the game for you. Come and join us on the greens!

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- Altitude Coffee Roastery ground coffee, made with their smooth Sublime blend, 250g bag
- Humble Cook Dukkah, made in small batches using only real ingredients, 120g jar
- YinYang Kombucha, 100% fresh & natural, nothing artificial, made using only local and organic fruits when available, 2 x 350ml bottles
- Humble Cook Peanut Brittle, made by hand in small batches in Uralla, using Australian peanuts, 150g box
- Deva Cacao Organic Macadamia chocolate, hand poured in Tamworth and sweetened with local honey, 35g bar
- Little Coco's Gourmet Catering Macarons freshly made in Armidale, one of each flavour : Raspberry white chocolate, pistachio, chocolate and vanilla, box of 4
- Deano's Spring Water Trout Dip, made using spring water trout from Black Mountain, 100g tub
- Deano's Spring Water Trout, raised in spring water in Black Mountain, available plain or flavoured with a special range of herbs, one fillet
- Greenhill Orchards Apple & Pear Juice, made with their own fruit from their Arding orchard, 1 litre
- Greenhill Orchards bag of seasonal apples and pears, all grown on their Arding orchard, 1kg bag
- AnneE's Brew Mango & Port Chutney, made by hand to Anne's high standards in Glen Innes, 190g jar
- Dale's Downtown Meats Brewery Sausages, made using New England Brewing Co. craft beer, by hand in Uralla, 8 sausages, approx 1kg
- Chookalook Free Range Eggs raised in Uralla, 1 dozen
- Daily Ritual New England Breakfast Tea, blended in Armidale by an award winning tea business, 100g bag
- Good Life Beef, ethically raised grass fed beef from Wollomombi - choose from 4 sandwich steaks (approx 1kg) OR 1kg mince
- Seasons of New England shopping bag, screen printed by hand in Uralla, 1 bag

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Facebook : [seasonsofnewengland](https://www.facebook.com/seasonsofnewengland) / Instagram : @seasonsne

Uralla Bowlo Flies Flag for Australia Day

The Uralla Bowling Club celebrated Australia Day 2021 in its own inimitable style, with a beautiful game of social bowls which was heartily enjoyed by all who took part.

This was followed by a BBQ featuring one of our most revered delicacies, the humble but much-loved Australian Snag! We ladies thank The Uralla Bowlo and everyone who took part to make it such a special celebration. We had a bonza time with all our mates!

Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer, Uralla Women's Bowling Club



Booked Out!

The new and permanent exhibition at McCrossin's Mill Museum, "Sunny Jim of Uralla . . . Best Batsman in the World", will be officially opened on Saturday, 13 March, 2021 at 6pm, by prolific Sydney novelist and journalist, Malcolm Knox.

Malcolm will also be the Guest Speaker at the Celebration Dinner following the Exhibition opening. Obviously, Malcolm is a real drawcard as all seats were snapped up for what should be a memorable event!

In case of a cancellation for those who missed out, please contact Wendy van Ekert, 0407 942 308 or email wendyvanekert@gmail.com

Ann Hacker, Publicity Officer, Uralla Historical Society

Uralla RSL Sub Branch Update

We recently held our AGM for the coming year. We had a great turn out again with many coming along to hear Mr. Tony Woods who is an Advocate, Pensions and Entitlements Officer with RSL and Legacy. His primary piece of advice to all veterans was, if you need help, please ask for it and if you are looking at what you, as a veteran, might be entitled to, ask an advocate. Don't do it yourself. Our drop-in centre for veterans and their families will be re-opening at the beginning of March when our Welfare Officer, Scott returns from a break. Help is always at hand and our numbers are on the front window of the RSL rooms should help be needed.

If you need any further information about RSL or veterans issues, please don't hesitate to contact us at the Sub-Branch.

Russ French, President Uralla RLS Sub Branch

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**DRESS UP THEME IS "HAWAIIAN" IF YOU WISH.
PRIZE FOR BEST DRESSED TEAM.
EVERYONE WELCOME**

Venue: Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club, Hill St.
Uralla NSW

Date: Tuesday 9th March 2021

Commences: 12 noon for lunch and registration
Cost: \$20.00 for the day – this includes, sausage sizzle for lunch, A/T & Cold Meat Salad for dinner. Raffles, Auction and prizes.

Friends of McMaugh Gardens have been holding this fun charity event for many years thanks to the kind assistance of the Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club management and staff. This will be organised under the Bowling Clubs' COVID safety plan.

The community have always been extra ordinary in their continual support of this day and for all fundraising we do for McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre, without such a fantastic community these events would not take place.

Looking forward to seeing you all again at this great event, any enquiries please contact Rosemary Reading – 0412163444 or e-mail rosemary.reading@bigpond.com



Uralla Men's shed grant

MEMBERS of the new-look Uralla Men's Shed will benefit from additional safety improvements soon to be made to their premises, with Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall today announcing a \$32,000 State Government grant to install new entry steps and remove dangerous overhanging trees around the shed. Mr Marshall attended the opening of the new Uralla Men's Shed last November and said the dilapidated wooden steps and entrance area were not befitting such a fresh new building. "After several years of fundraising and planning, last year the hard working members of Uralla Men's Shed finally got to open their new home," Mr Marshall said. "Though they are now equipped with a fantastic new workspace, members rely on a nearly non-existent wooden staircase, made of old railway sleepers, to gain access to the front of the shed from the car-park. "Using this grant, what's left of the old stairs will be removed and replaced with a concrete staircase, 1.5 metre wide and hand rails on each side. "This will ensure older, less mobile members have a safe and stable path to walk down during their visits. "Also a number of old dead overhanging pine trees, which pose a risk to the shed, will be removed, assisting to protect members and the various Crown Lands' assets where the Men's Shed is located. "I congratulate the committee of Uralla Men's Shed for the outstanding work they have put in to delivering their new facility and promoting a space which allows men to gather, talk and learn new skills." Uralla Men's Shed Secretary Bruce Stubberfield said the organisation provided important mental and social support which must be available to everyone. "The Uralla Men's Shed wishes to thank the State Government for providing the funding to undertake this important improvement work," Mr Stubberfield said. "Our organisation currently has some 28 registered members and in order to grow those numbers into the future we need to ensure this facility is as accessible, safe and welcoming as possible. "We see the community of Uralla will benefit as the Men's Shed grows, with our members undertaking personal projects, alongside repair and construction of items for community groups."

Adam Marshall, Member for Northern Tablelands

Uralla Visitor

Information Centre refurbishment underway

A HALF-A-MILLION-DOLLAR refurbishment of the Uralla Visitor Information Centre (VIC) is hoped to entice travellers to stop, stay and spend in the highway community, after Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall, Uralla Shire Mayor Michael Pearce and Federal Member for New England Barnaby Joyce last week turned the first ceremonial sod of soil on the project. Last year, Mr Marshall announced \$400,000 in State Government funding for the improvements, with the remaining \$100,000 funded by the Federal Government's Drought Communities Extension Program. Mr Marshall said the redevelopment would increase the centre's visibility to traffic.

"Uralla is the first town travelers from the south arrive in after climbing the Moonbi Range, and as such really is the 'Southern Gateway to the New England,'" Mr Marshall said. "The Uralla visitors centre plays an important role in promoting sites and activities across the entire New England, however due to its current configuration there is limited space for local produce and tourism displays. "That will be rectified with the removal of a number of walls to create a more open and inviting space for visitors and staff. "To provide a relaxing place to stop and have a cuppa, a garden area will also be built at the building's rear, in the existing grassed area, in front of the library. "The garden will have a small waterfall and native ground covers, shrubs and small trees planted throughout, with plans to include a 'bush tucker' area with interpretive signage providing information on traditional food sources utilised by the local Aboriginal community.

"Benches will be constructed from old bridge timbers stored in the council depot and the existing disabled carpark is upgraded to comply with the standard."

Adam Marshall, Member for Northern Tablelands

*Deadline for the next edition is
5pm on Thursday 18th February
2021. Please email all
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advertising, letters to the editor
and articles to
urallawordsworth@gmail.com*



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