

Uralla Wordsworth

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  urallawordsworth

New Uralla Fire & Rescue Station Opened



Fire Captain Ben Pascoe, left, Mayor Robert Bell, Fire & Rescue NSW Assistant Commissioner Cheryl Steer, Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall, Emergency Services Minister Jihad Dib, Superintendent Tom Cooper and Inspector Peter Nugent.

MEMBER for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall and Emergency Services Minister Jihad Dib have today officially opened the \$1.6 million new Uralla Fire & Rescue Station, alongside Mayor Robert Bell and local retained firefighters.

Mr Marshall said the opening of the upgraded and expanded Uralla Fire & Rescue Station was a red-letter day for Uralla.

"This is terrific news for the community and especially our 16-strong Uralla Fire & Rescue retained firefighting contingent, ably led by Captain Ben Pascoe," Mr Marshall said.

"The station has doubled in size, with a new double bay storage shed for two firefighting appliances, and new

showers, toilets and changerooms for male and female firefighters.

"It is a long-awaited update with the last major improvement to the station more than 30 years ago, in the early 1990s.

"This is a huge step forward for fire and rescue services in the Uralla Shire and broader region."

Mr Marshall said the Uralla Fire & Rescue Station was unique as it also provided first-response duties for ambulance services, attending scenes of critical incidents to administer first aid and paramedic treatment before NSW Ambulance paramedics arrive.

"The Uralla firefighters do an extraordinary job of protecting the community of Uralla and these upgrades will be very welcome, making the station more comfortable and spacious," he said.

Mr Marshall said the refurbishment had been funded under the Fit for Purpose Program (Clean Pathways) and the Enhanced 10-year program for privacy and inclusion.

"A main goal under this program is to attract and retain more female firefighters which has certainly been a goal of the Uralla Station," he said.

"It has been upgraded with an eye to the future with improved ventilation to PPE storage spaces and appliance bays, decontamination areas, as well as upgrades to breathing apparatus storage and engine bays. It will make a world of difference to their working environment."

Press Release,

Adam Marshall's Office



Listen every second Tuesday morning for a live to air interview about the latest edition of the Wordsworth, on FM 92.1 or on the internet: <https://2arm.net.au/listen/>

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Uralla Sub-Branch of RSL NSW

Robert Bell was elected Mayor of Uralla Shire Council in December 2021, after serving five years as a Councillor. He was previously Director of Engineering for Uralla Shire Council, lives in town, and has a grazing block at Kentucky. Cr Bell gives a personal view of some of the more important matters concerning Council and ratepayers in recent weeks.

Adieu, farewell, and a big thank you to Adam Marshall MP. I would like to publicly acknowledge the excellent work Adam has done for his electorate and for the residents of Uralla Shire. Adam will officially hand in his notice on May 13. It was an honour to be at a meeting of Mayors and General Managers in Inverell when he made the public announcement. Adam has provided me with valuable professional advice over the last couple of years. Hon Jahid Dib, Minister for Emergency Services, who officially opened the upgrade to the Uralla Fire Station a couple of weeks ago, spoke positively of Adam's ongoing role in advocating for the upgrade, despite them sitting on opposite sides of the parliament. No doubt the ballot paper will be the length of the Melbourne Cup field. The question for each candidate is, "Are you prepared to fight for the people of this region?"

The Independent Planning Commission has requested further information from the Department of Planning relating to the Thunderbolt Energy Hub. These items are: access to water, firefighting operations and accommodation. The Department of Planning has also set out the Planning Agreement with Uralla Shire Council. "The total contribution of \$2,242,200 payable by the Applicant over the operational life of the project (adjusted annually to increases in CPI) paid annually with the first payment of \$74,740 to be made on or immediately following the start of commercial operation of the project and subsequent payments to be made annually (for a total of 30 years) on the anniversary of the commercial operations date. (This will be) administered through a Planning Agreement, with a suitable governance framework and transparency regarding how the monies are to be allocated and spent. 33% of its portion of the contribution must be spent in, and to the benefit of the immediate community. The contribution must be spent with a view to providing long-term/legacy benefits in alignment with the above."

I need to address a letter from Susan Armstead in the previous Uralla Wordsworth, and would like to provide clarification on a number of issues raised.

1. The New England Solar Farm, Winterbourne Wind and Thunderbolt Energy Hub (Stage 1) are not bound to the "Draft Benefit Sharing Guidelines" as stated in the draft. The guideline does not apply to current projects unless it is referenced in the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) or unless the project's EIS (Environment Impact Statement) has not been submitted within six months from the date of publication of the guideline.

2. The 50/50 split between Tamworth and Uralla (I was in attendance at all the meetings) was not supported by the

Tamworth Regional Council. At one stage it dropped to 10% based on the number of wind turbines in Uralla Shire; however the new General Manager and I managed to get it back to 40%, based on the area of impact.

3. The original amount offered was \$100,000 per annum, which was increased to \$160,000 per annum on August 29, 2023. The outcome has emerged from consultations relating to a Voluntary Planning Agreement with both Tamworth Regional Council and Uralla Shire Council. NEOEN accepted and improved on the Council's request to increase the funds dedicated to community benefit sharing to an amount equivalent to 1.5% of the project's development costs.

4. Council has placed on public exhibition its amended "Renewable Energy Community Benefit Policy" for 28 days and seeks community submissions.

Youth Week concluded last Thursday with a Youth Forum held in the Council Chambers, with students from Uralla Central School and St Josephs. This followed visits to all the schools in the shire earlier in the week by councillors and staff. The interaction sessions were excellent and we hope to correlate all the suggestions early next week. This information will then be sent to all the schools.

The forum included hearing from a number of Council staff members about why they chose to work for Uralla Shire Council, and then answered questions on the opportunities Council provides. A big thank you to everyone involved. The General Manager floated the idea of a Youth Council utilising the Council Chambers to possibly meet once every three months. Stay tuned for more details as we work through the challenges.

Robert Bell
Uralla Shire Resident
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ANZAC Day

Commemorations 2024



Uralla's ANZAC Day special guest Commander Michael Doncaster RAN

Next week, Veterans all over the country and other parts of the world will come together in the early hours of the morning to commemorate the most significant date on the calendar for them.

ANZAC Day has been commemorated for 109 years starting with the very first ANZAC Day just a year after the first landings on the Gallipoli Peninsular on the 25th April 1915. Now, this day not only

represents that initial landing, but to remember all those that have laid their lives on the line for their friends and country.

Planning for the Uralla ANZAC Day Commemoration has been ongoing for many months. This year we hope to bring you a spectacular fly-past of an RAAF F-35A Lightning Fighter aircraft as well as a special guest who has come from Canberra for the event. Commander Michael Doncaster RAN is a distinguished officer and has served in the Royal Australian navy for over four decades in roles both here in Australia and overseas. Mick and I first met in the 80's, serving on the same ship and serving in a similar role. This will be his last ANZAC Day in uniform.

Our Dawn service will commence at 5.40am with the last post sounding at 6.00am as the sun comes up at the end of Queen Street. This will be followed by a Gunfire breakfast in the park beautifully prepared by the Rotary Club of Uralla. A small donation would be greatly appreciated to cover the costs of breakfast. We ask that if you have a torch or candle, bring it along to light up the dawn. Everyone is welcome to both the service and breakfast.

Our ANZAC Day march will form up from the corner of Bridge and Salisbury Streets in Pioneer Park from 9.30am with the parade marching off at 10.00am sharp as we want to make sure we are at the gates and ready to start for a fast jet fly-past at 10.30. This year we will have the wonderful Army Cadets from the Armidale Cadet Unit 251. They will carry our service flags and provide an armed guard during the parade then a Catafalque Party at the Memorial Gates.

The service will be concluded by approximately 11.20am and then all RSL Members, Auxiliary members, veterans and their families and invited guests will be welcome to join us for lunch at the Top Pub from 11.30am.

If you are part of an organisation or a family that would like to lay a floral tribute at the main service, then please let us know as soon as possible so we can make sure we acknowledge those laying the flowers. You can drop into New England Models and Hobbies or ring on 6778 3325 to let us know.

We ask again this year with ANZAC Day being on a Thursday, that retail stores be closed on the morning of ANZAC

ANZAC Day as a mark of respect to the veteran community. Cafes can open to provide food and drinks to the public.

During the next week will be holding our street stall and will be open each day from Monday 15th until Sunday 21st. Badges and poppies will also be available for sale from outside New England Models and Hobbies on the following Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday if you miss out at the street stall. This is our major fundraising event of the year and we have a great assortment of badges, poppies and flags for sale as well as raffles, baked goods and books for sale. We will also be visiting the pubs and clubs on the night of Friday 19th for the sale of poppies and badges.

We hope for a great crowd at the services and march on ANZAC Day to show our veteran community how much they are respected for what they have done during their lives and to honour those who did not make it home to their families.

Lest we forget,

Russ French, President, Uralla Sub-Branch RSL NSW



RAAF F-35A Lightning Fighter



Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club

52 Hill Street Uralla NSW 2358 Phone: 6778 4192

Sunday Raffles

On the last Sunday of each Month,

We will have up for grabs: meat trays, Club Vouchers & meat Vouchers

April Sunday Raffles - Sunday 28th

Membership draw will follow the raffles.

Tickets on sale at **12:30pm, drawn at 1:30pm**

The bus will be available
Contact the Bowlo for pickup

**Entertainment will be
Matt Barratt 12pm – 4pm**

**Lunch – Chinese Smorgasbord
Last Sunday of the Month**

Harmony Day at Uralla Central School



On Friday, 22nd March, Uralla Central School held our annual celebration for Harmony Day. Dressed in orange, students and teachers alike took part in what may have been our best commemoration of the day yet! The Harmony Day committee organised a fun-filled day for students as well as a cultural and inclusive assembly for families to attend and participate in.

The Harmony Assembly began at 11:30am and onlookers were treated to a plethora of short presentations, each outlining and educating the audience on the many different cultural backgrounds represented here at Uralla Central. Shortly after this, the crowd were entertained yet again by performances from many different classes. Kindergarten and Year 1 presented Tabá Naba, a song from the Torres Strait Islands; Year Two presented a song in Japanese about a little frog, and our dance group presented the Sakura Japanese Dance. The hall was adorned with posters, banners and artworks by students from Kindergarten to Year 12, and visitors were able to have a look at artworks created for this special event.

Students rotated around the school in groups joining in on a wide range of culturally diverse activities and games. Our ever-organised office staff kept us coordinated with our timetable and assisted in getting everyone to their destination on time. There were smiles and laughter throughout the school and our staff were so proud



to be a part of our wonderful school knowing how happy the kids were to be participating in our special day.

After this, everyone was treated to a BBQ with sausages served on orange bread alongside some oranges for dessert. How incredibly lucky we were to have our own Mrs Taylor coordinating the catering for this day.

Another successful event at Uralla Central School where passionate teachers continue to create fabulous experiences for our students!

**-Georgia Patterson, Classroom Teacher - Kindergarten
Uralla Central School**

Uralla Community Street Store

15 - 21 Apr - Uralla Sub-Branch RSL

22 - 28 Apr - Lions Club of Uralla

Call Uralla Shire Council to book - 6778 6300

To download the 2023 street stall schedule go to:

<https://www.uralla.nsw.gov.au/Community/Community-Information/Uralla-Community-Street-Store>

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Jean Howlett, Uralla's Watercolour Artist



Jean Howlett watercolour 1952 near Dorrigo



Watercolours by Jean Howlett, including one (left) painted in Gibraltar 1939 and (below) unknown location painted some time between 1930 and 1940



I went to 64 Hill Street to buy some estate books, and came away with a treasure trove of intertwined stories.

Jean Howlett had retired in the early 1970s from teaching art at NEGS, and moved with her daughter Rosemary to Uralla, so when Rosemary died a few years ago she had been in the house for nearly fifty years. Nothing had changed: Jean's art books lined every room, art posters from teaching days were piled high, and every available bit of wall space was hung with Jean's watercolours.

Later research revealed just how significant an artist Jean was, a pioneering female modernist who exhibited alongside Hilda Rix Nicholas, Jean Isherwood and Temple Manning, and was a regular finalist in the Wynne Prize in the early 1950s.

The background story was fascinating, and well preserved in documents, letters, photographs, objets – Jean and Rosemary had accumulated a mountain of material telling of family origins in England, then Millicent, South Australia whence Jean's father James Russell moved to Dorrigo to become a significant landholder and prominent citizen.

After Sydney Teachers' College and a few years at NEGS, Jean travelled to Europe and in so doing she met, and in 1938 married, Ronald Howlett. Ronald was a Royal Navy officer, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Commander, whose ships took him and Jean to Malta, Gibraltar, Edinburgh, before HMS Vortigern, under his command, was torpedoed in the English Channel in 1942 and sunk with the loss of 110 lives including the captain. Devastated, Jean kept everything – his uniform, letters, telegrams advising of his death, gifts from fellow officers on previous ships – so we can tell a fitting story of this hero of the Second World War.

Jean painted en plein air, always focussed on her current environment, keeping her unsold paintings which now form a continuous narrative from Dorrigo to the Mediterranean, Scotland, back to Dorrigo, and then Uralla.

The house itself, at 64 Hill Street, adds a further twist to the tale, having been Nurse Henry's maternity hospital for many years.

I will be presenting an exhibition of Jean Howlett's watercolours at Gallery U in July, with a tribute to Ronald Howlett and some acknowledgment of the other threads in this story.

Thanks to Alex Sherrin for research.

Ross Burnet, Burnet's Books, Uralla



Express



Empower



Get loud!

A WEEK OF FREE ACTIVITIES FOR URALLA YOUTH

Youth Week 11-21 April 2024
nsw.gov.au/youthweek 

DISCO	FRIDAY 12th April
Uralla Neighbourhood Centre 6pm—8:30pm	
<small>Entry is Free Drinks and Food will be available for sale</small>	
Bubble Soccer 12 to 24 years old	Tuesday 16th April
Uralla Neighbourhood Centre 12—2pm	
Bubble Soccer 5 to 12 years old	Wednesday 17th April
Uralla Neighbourhood Centre 12—2pm	
Escape Room 5 to 24 years old	Friday 19th April
Uralla Neighbourhood Centre 12—2pm	
<small>Grab three friends and work in groups of four to help solve the puzzles</small>	
FAMILY FUN DAY	SUNDAY 21st April
Alma Park 10—2pm	
Jumping Castles	BBQ
Fairy Floss	Live Music
Face Painting	Old Fashion Games
	Sumo Wrestling



CONTACT THE URALLA NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Phone 02 6778 3277

Email: office@unc.org.au

Enjoyment is an Easter Bonnet Parade

Uralla Bookclub Review: Yellowface by Rebecca Kuang (The Borough Press)



Rocky River Public School held their annual Easter Hat Parade on the Thursday before Good Friday.

A beautiful autumn afternoon provided an opportunity for all students, family and friends to gather at the school for the parade and their second assembly.

Student achievement was also recognised with merit awards and the first round of "Bronze" awards presented for 2024. The audience was also provided with a special musical performance from Naomi (Year 6), with her trombone (after only 3 lessons).

School assemblies at Rocky River are coordinated by the

A surprise for a delighted Mason Stace

Year 6 school leaders. Special mention of achievements throughout the term such as the Zone and North West Swimming Carnival, Rotary Art Show, UNE Science workshops and Inquiring Minds Camp all featured in student acknowledgements.

The highlight at the end of the Easter Hat Parade was the chicken dance, not only by students, but by parents as well. An uplifting way to start the Easter break.

We encourage all members of our school community to come along and join us for our assemblies. It provides an opportunity for us to showcase the wonder programs we offer our students. Thank you to everyone who came along!



10-year-old Melody Hawke and 11-year-old Izzy McDonald 11 years parading their bonnets. Photo taken by Nicki Horton

This book is a suspenseful read as we follow our protagonist June Hayward transformed by the publishing agent/machine into Juniper Song to sound ambiguously Chinese. It begins with Hayward's association with Athena Lui an award-winning young writer who was a contemporary of Hayward through college days. Lui is beautiful, wealthy and a successful writer, everything that Hayward aspires to.

The book opens with Hayward and Lui celebrating Lui's TV deal with Netflix which is the same night Athena Lui dies. Hayward's character is muted in her response to her so-called friend's accidental death. Hayward without too much thought on the night of Athena's death takes a large manuscript that Lui has recently completed which is a historical fiction about the Chinese Labour Corps in WW1. Hayward appropriates this manuscript as her own albeit changes characters and fills in the gaps but essentially steals the manuscript and finds a publisher. During this period there are many nail-biting near exposures when Lui's mother almost gives the working diaries to a university.

Social media response is essential for Hayward and eventually causes emotional paralysis which impacts her encounters in the real world so much so we fear both what she may be capable of in preserving the lie and which eventually results in almost complete derangement of her mental health.

It also speaks to the manipulation by the publishing industry of young authors and the reliance on social media interest hype. Hayward / Song is a victim both of her ruthless jealousy and naive drive for her own success at any cost and was a willing participant in the manipulation of her image to flog the books. She wanted to taste a little of Lui's success, but it was bittersweet.

Next bookclub: Saturday 4th May 8.30am at the Root
We are reading *How to knit a Human*, Anna Jacobson and *The Blue Castle*, Lucy Montgomery
Maxine Ross, Uralla

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
at Uralla Shire Council**



UINT/22/11373
Information about vacant positions and access to Council's interactive application is available on Council's website: [Working at Uralla Shire Council Uralla Shire Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](http://Working at Uralla Shire Council Uralla Shire Council (nsw.gov.au))

Council is regularly employing across a wide range of service areas such as: general hand, truck drivers, plant operations, landfill operators, aged care, direct support workers, administrative and professional roles. Ask us about our casual, term and permanent positions.
Tel: 6778 6300



EV chargers for Uralla



Uralla Bowling and Recreation Club will have the first public electric vehicle (EV) chargers in Uralla.

After Uralla was ignored by the NRMA and other EV charger providers, the Uralla Bowling club took the initiative and applied for State funding. The Club President, Jason Faulkner, says "This is the way of the future and it is important we are in there. It is great that the Bowling Club can lead the way to promote our town and get Uralla on the EV map, with the bonus being more customers to the Club."

Last month the Club was advised that it was successful in obtaining a Drive Electric NSW EV Destination Grants that fund up to 75% of the cost of four 22kW chargers. The grant only funds 75% of the cost and only 22kW chargers, not the fast 50kW plus chargers like the NRMA one in Armidale.

Twenty two kilowatts will charge most EVs from 20% to 80% in about two hours. The object of the grant is to give travellers time to have a break, a meal, coffee, and a good look around Uralla CBD – not a plug-in-fill-up and go exercise.

The chargers will be in the Club car park just forward of the Return and Earn. The charge point towers (about the size of a petrol bowser) have arrived and installation is well underway.

Before the end of April, Uralla will have four public EV charge points. Armidale will have one.

**Anna Schofield,
Uralla Bowling Club**

CBNE

ComputerBank New England Inc.

Tip Rd Uralla NSW 2358 - PH: 02 6778 4918

ComputerBank New England is looking for a volunteer who is experienced in refurbishing computers. You may have retired from work as an IT manager or have the skills and looking for something to do. Come and have a chat with us.

Carl from CBNE, who would normally do this job, has had to step down due to health reasons. At the moment, all refurbishing or selling of computers are on hold until we can find the right person. We are still receiving E-waste and dismantling of items.

If you wish to volunteer for us we are open Monday, Tuesday and Thurs 9.30am–3.30pm.

We will no longer have the mobile phone, but we do have a landline (see above). Please leave a message and we will contact you as soon as we can or leave a message on our Facebook page.

Thank you,

Anna Schofield - Secretary

BREWERY SINGALONG

Thursday, 18 April from 6:30 at

New England Brewing Company

- For What It's Worth Blowin' in the Wind Beds are Burning I am Woman Big Yellow Taxi Respect
- Give Peace a Chance Zombie Not Ready to Make Nice
- Blow up the Pokies

Come along and vent your teenage angst:

- hippie despair middle age frustration and gripes of all generations!

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And if you don't like it, sing it out!!

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Running Wild – Episode 9

Leave This Place (Fiction)

2. **Recap:** *The gals left that place, belongings packed onto the old plough horse. Once down the mountain they told 'The Lady' of the candle fire that burnt the hut down. Nothin about the dead trooper ! After Bill had erased all sign of Haggart, he rode home on a small donkey, bought from a miner at Eleanora.*

At the Uralla watchhouse, Angus Blackman the Coroner's Assistant stood at the large table packing his written material and sundries into a well-cared leather case. Constable Walker sat on a small chair in the corner of the room. Blackman spoke as he packed, 'This is a very confusing case to say the least. Walker and I hold grave fears for an acceptable finding'.

He continued, 'We have a body lying ready for burial, killed during capture, we believe to be the braggard bushranger Fred Ward, known by the self-proclaimed pseudonym 'The Captain'. 'We have an Ashton flintlock pistol taken from the body, but not the Tranter revolver that Ward was known to carry. In this regard Constable Walker, you must make every effort to search that waterhole and retrieve that Tranter revolver. Blackman looked up at Walker and said firmly, 'Whatever it takes Walker!' Walker nodded.

Blackman continued, 'We have the woman Nellie's testimony of a long deep crescent moon scar that ran along the left side of the man she knew intimately as Fred Ward. However, the body we have possesses no such scar. We have a Mrs Ward of Uralla, searching for her husband Harry Ward, Fred Ward's uncle by blood, overdue from a trip in the general vicinity of the capture site. There are also unsubstantiated reports of a highwayman, active in the vicinity of Split Rock, while the bandit Fred Ward was reported along the Murrurundi track. Add to this, the report by two of your men, of a man matching the description of Fred Ward, leaving the Glen Innes Races on horseback. This was days after this body was bought to the slab.

I must now return to my master, the NSW Chief Coroner in Sydney, with my findings and attempt to make some sense of this tale. I fear that without more certainty, generations to come will continue to question who was killed that day in the Kentucky Creek waterhole, and the identity of this body to be buried in Uralla Cemetery. A real quandary this one, a real quandary by God!' Blackman strode off out of the watchhouse with his case tucked under his arm. He uttered a short and courteous note of thanks to Walker, but finished with a firm 'Find that Tranter revolver Walker!'

Sometime later, after Constable Walker was well celebrated for the killing, the story was told of his demise. He had come to the station's stalls, snatching up a halter to catch up the grey for sale. Upon entering the stall, it was one well-placed kick from a hind hoof that hit Walker square on his temple. Walker stumbled back for a moment and was dead before he hit the straw. Some say that animals have a keen sense of a man's character and that like an elephant, a horse never forgets. The grey went to Bundarra and lived out a long life among friends, on the banks of the Gwydir River.

-Daryl Albertson, Kellys Plains

Uralla Bowlers at NSW State Championships

Right: Ladies' Senior Fours Team of Jayne Bourke, Roz Rhodes, Judy Bray and Phyllis Dade at the NSW State Championships at Dubbo



Left: Men's Fours team of Lindsay Ward, Matthew Fletcher, Paul Hine and Peter Leggatt in Dubbo for the State Championships

It was a major achievement for a small bowling club such as Uralla to have their members playing in three state events at the recent Bowls NSW Championships held at Dubbo in March this year.

Both the Fours teams, male and female, played their way through three tough rounds of competition, to unfortunately, narrowly miss out in the end.

The Ladies' Senior Fours got close in their last game, only going down by 1 point against the Lake Cargelligo Bowling Club. Whilst the Men's Open Reserve team had a close game in their final round against St. John's Park, in the end they went down by two points.

As well as playing a part in the Men's Fours competition at Dubbo, Paul Hine also competed in the Open Reserve Singles. With a win in his second round and some hard-fought tussles in the other two, Paul was unfortunate not to bring home a win. Congratulations must go to Paul and both these teams for the work they put in, in the leadup to these games to ensure their place at this year's State Championships.

Phyllis Dade, Judy Bray, Roz Rhodes and Jayne Bourke, as well as Paul Hine, Lindsay Ward, Peter Leggatt and Matthew Fletcher, together with their support personnel are extremely grateful to the Uralla Bowling Club for its financial support which assisted these bowlers to experience play at State level. This is a great achievement for a small bowling club. Well done, Uralla!

Pauline Crouch, Publicity Officer, UWBC

End of an Era



St. Martin's Church, Wollun

On Easter Sunday 24 March 2024, the final church service was held at St. Martin's Church, Wollun followed by morning tea. Conducted by the Reverend Matthew Borg, the service was attended by members of the Wollun, Kentucky and Uralla communities. In October 2023 St. Martin's celebrated its Centenary at which its 100-year-old history was celebrated by a happy gathering with much reminiscing. The service on 24 March this year was tinged with the sadness of the end of an era. This would have been especially felt by Leo and Judy Blanch and Alison Van Eyk who in latter years have maintained and prepared the church for the monthly service and also by Fay Smith who has been playing the organ regularly for over 40 years. Judy, Leo, Alison and Fay's commitment, like those of earlier generations, is greatly appreciated and has enabled St. Martin's to be a place of fellowship and worship for the last 100 years.

Dan and Margaret Ward

Events For Your Diary

ArtsNational Armidale Lecture, Thurs 18 April – Elizabeth Taylor's Greatest Love Affair – with Jewels! TAS Hoskins Centre, 6pm Guest ticket \$25, students in school uniform free.

Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/CNNYC> or www.artsnational.au/societies/armidale

Uralla Neighbourhood Centre Youth Week, free activities for Uralla Youth, 12 - 21 April, see program page 5

Next Uralla Council Meeting, Tues 23 April 2024

ANZAC Day, Thurs 25 April, Dawn Service starts 5:40am at Alma Park, ANZAC Day March begins promptly at 10am. (Participants to assemble from 9:30am at Pioneer Park cnr of Salisbury and Bridge Sts)

Bundarra Mothers' Day Markets, Sat 27 April 8am - 1pm, Anglican Church Grounds, Bundarra

High Country Markets - Sun 5 May, Uralla Showground, 8am to 12:30pm

Uralla Neighbourhood Centre Celebrates Youth Week 2024



NSW Youth Week takes place from 11 to 21 April 2024. Youth Week began as a NSW Government initiative in 1989, and became a national event in 2000. It was started so young people in communities like ours could be involved in, and help organise, events relevant to them. This is one of the great things our youth committee participate in. They are also involved in our very successful end of term discos.

The Youth Week program provides grants to NSW local councils. We have partnered with our council on many occasions. One event that our Uralla Neighbourhood Centre (UNC) Youth Committee initiated with Uralla Council was a forum with the Mayor which has continued in many different formats.

The Youth Week 2024 theme is *Express, Empower, Get Loud!* We hope that many of the youth and their families in our community will *Express, Empower and Get Loud!* and participate in the activities we have planned. UNC kicked off Youth Week with our end of term disco on Friday night. We have Bubble Soccer on Tuesday and Wednesday, and an Escape Room on Friday. We will then finish big on Sunday at our Family Fun Day! So kids, grab your family, leave your technology at home and come down to Alma Park and join us to "express" yourself and have fun, "empower" yourself to join family and friends and help them have fun and "get loud!"

Check out our Facebook page "Uralla Neighbourhood Centre" and the posters around town for more information.

Carol Barnden, Uralla Neighbourhood Centre



CALCULATING CARBON

CALCULATE THE CARBON EMISSIONS
FOR YOUR FARM BUSINESS

GLEN INNES
21 MAY
GUYRA
22 MAY
WALCHA
23 MAY

How can your farm benchmark its greenhouse gas emissions?

Can your farm reduce emissions and improve carbon storage?

Learn more about the process and create your own free carbon account using your farm information with help on the day.

Dr Tom Davison will present an independent, research and fact-based one-day workshop featuring a mix of learning and practical activities.

Register your interest

Pre-workshop data collection is required

Southern New England Landcare (Guyra and Walcha)

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\$50
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Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



**Future
Drought
Fund**



This project received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.

Friends of McMaugh's Charity Fun Bowls Day 2024



Thank you, thank you, thank you. What a community we live in!! I thank everyone who contributed in some way in making the Annual Charity Fun Bowls Day at the Uralla Bowling and Recreation Club in March this year an outstanding success. A great day was had by all.

A big thanks to all our sponsors (please see below) and business houses. Also, thanks to the many people that assisted us in some way by donation of cash, services, raffle prizes, prizes etc., that contributed to this great day. Once again, a big thanks to members of Friends of McMaugh Gardens for their great cooking and supply of meals and all the assistance given on the day.

Without this great community of Uralla in which we live, and the guests, players, and observers, it would not have been such and enjoyable and financial success. The money raised all goes to enhancing the lives of residents of McMaugh Gardens and to assist the staff in making their care appropriate and more manageable.

Gross takings: \$12,326.80, **Nett:** \$11,664.81 after expenses. What a fantastic day.

Sponsors: Uralla Bowling & Recreation Club, Lockheed Martin Tracking Station, Merali Solar, W. Howard, Nathan Whitton Properties, Uniplan Group, Jo Hull, Phoenix Foundry, Kaytering Supplies, Mary Anne Munsie, Aidacare, Acacia Medical, Rapid Clean, Bing Lee, Paul Bryne, Mark Hayes Pest Control, Richardsons Hardware, Top Pub, Dales Butcher, Malcolm Airs, David Mann's Antiques, Burnets Books, Bidfood, Thunder Graphics, Hyland Living, Bling & Things, Foodworks, Regional Bank Uralla, and many more cash donations which I will not put in print as I do not have permission to do so. However a big thanks to those people.

A big thank you to the community for also joining in with us on our Street Stall Week and The Sunny Jim Mackay Cricket Day held Sunday 7th April. Both events were a great success. Members of Friends of McMaugh Gardens wish to thank President of McCrossin's Mill Museum, Louis van Ekert, and Annie and Kent Mayo and all their helpers for the day and a big thank you to their Patron who donated \$3,000 to Friends of McMaugh Gardens.

Rosemary Reading, Secretary Friends of McMaugh Gardens Inc

Deadline for the next edition of the Wordsworth is

5pm Thursday 25 April 2024

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

Dear Aunty Bob, When I turned up to watch the recent Sunny Jim Charity Cricket Match I was stunned to discover you were not playing. I know about your amazing successes with the Bundarra Women's 4th Grade team over the years and thought you would have been an automatic selection. So I guess you decided to stand aside so as not to dominate and humiliate the Armidale Aliens by turning the game into a half hour rout. Am I right? You are such a gracious and esteemed sportswoman. Love your attitude sooooo much. In appreciation,

Cricket Ball

Dear Cricket, Thank you for your kind words regarding my cricket ability. Unfortunately the event at the Sunny Jim Mackay Park was dominated by a group of misogynistic Neanderthals and I had no chance of selection. It was a tragic sight watching grown men, who should have more sense than to pretend they can still play cricket. Watching this spectacle brought tears to my eyes (from laughing so much). Next year let's hope we ladies get a chance to show our wares (in cricketing ability) and put these men in their place. Yours in dignity,

Aunty Bob

Dear Uncle Dorothy, I am concerned that my wife and I are drifting apart. We seem to be constantly fighting and can't agree on anything. Just this last weekend she beat me in the local rugby league tipping comp. (again) She got a perfect score and I only got one selection correct. She follows the Dolphins and I am a devoted Parramatta fan. She further rubbed my nose in the dirt by cutting my favourite Parramatta jersey into little pieces and flushing it down the toilet. I can't take much more of this abuse. Please help.

Disconnected Eel

Dear Disconnected, Well.. the old adage 'be careful what you wish for'...is very relevant here. No doubt you encouraged your dearly beloved to join you in tipping? It worked. It seems to me that dolphins and eels are unlikely bedfellows. Small pieces of eel to clear a blockage in the loo makes sense. A dolphin wouldn't fit! I don't feel there was malice in that. As for the more general discontent, maybe you didn't prepare with a pre-season agreement. I suggest that separate tv viewing and sleeping arrangements will help. Accept that the fairer sex have perfected 'tipping', particularly about their men. Be assured you'll be back on track at the end of season. The smooth dolphin skin and flexibility of the eel will be put to good use again... Yours in ball games,

Uncle Dot

Sunny Day For Sunny Jim!

With broom and leaf-blower, Shannan Rafferty and Rowan "Chalkie" Chandler were on deck at 9am busily de-puddling the pitch to make it playable for the Vets big cricket match to celebrate the Official Opening of Sunny Jim Mackay Park on the overcast morning of Sunday April 7, 2024.

Lending a hand setting up tents and tables was the usual band of Samaritans, including Graham Carlon, John McFarlane and Bob Crouch ... as always!

(It had always been Hampden Park, more often pronounced "ampton", and probably named in about 1900 after the then Governor of NSW, Viscount Hampden, one of whose few memorable comments was along the lines of "Australians aren't good at sport such as hunting and fishing and shooting, but they are rather good at cricket.")

The two teams Uralla-Walcha "Bushies" skippered by Chalkie Chandler and the Ian Reeves' led Armidale-Guyra "Aliens" dutifully assembled as Uralla Shire Mayor Robert Bell and General Manager Ms Toni Averay unveiled the new sign, designed by highly regarded local artist Fay Porter, set into an ominous "scaffold" designed by someone else and erected by Council.

Thanks to the Power of Prayer, or the BOM's actually getting the forecast right (even more miraculous!), out came Sunny Jim sun to smile upon the new "village green" all day! The match was played in the true spirit of the game, the veterans (and a few younger ring-ins) showing glimpses of the class they had as youngsters. Adam Marshall, true to his word, played a brief but elegant innings, before retiring too early, but to give the next player a go. (Sound familiar?) Bob Anderson, President of Uralla Arts, provided a masterly commentary on the PA all day, even if the spectators didn't know that a "Dorothy Dix" is a six!

"Player of the Match Award" went to Shannan Rafferty, to much applause.

The match was won by the visitors, but the real winner of the day was, cliché alert!, good sportsmanship. And of course, the charity "Friends of McMaugh Gardens", thanks to a \$3000 sponsorship from an esteemed Patron of Uralla Historical Society who modestly requested anonymity. The cheque was presented by Uralla Historical Society President Louis van Ekert to the executive of "Friends of McMaugh Gardens" – Rosemary Reading, Sue Wilkinson and Erica Barwell.

All the players received memento mugs, specially designed for the occasion by Teresa French of Thunder Graphics. Top job, as always.

The players expressed their enthusiasm for the Sunny Jim Mackay match to be an annual charity event, as they sipped on thermos tea and/or other canned beverages that seem to appear from nowhere after senior cricket matches everywhere.

A big "thank you" to Annie and Kent Mayo, instigators of the event, particularly to Annie who organised so much of the raffle, equipment, volunteers ... and Kent.

Thanks to Rocky River P&C for the BBQ, and Uralla Rotary Club for their auspicing the event for insurance purposes, and the ten generous donors of raffle prizes, all of which were won by Uralla/Rocky River locals, another miracle!

The whole joy of the event compensated for the low number of spectators. "Disappointing? Yes, but when word gets around, the next Sunny Jim match should attract more cricket lovers and the curious", was the consensus as the magpies chortled in the trees and the shadows spread across the sunlit Sunny Jim Mackay Park, the very ground where Uralla's own young hero scored so many centuries at the start of a meteoric career when he became labelled "Best Batsman in the World."

James Mackay is the only Uralla local, so far, to have achieved international fame, yet despite the adulation and the tragic accident that ended his career, he always retained his modesty and ever cheerful nature. Thus the universally recognised nickname "Sunny Jim", a model for all of us.

Ann Hacker, Hon. Publicity Officer, Uralla Historical Society



Louis van Ekert presents \$3000 cheque to Rosemary Reading, Erica Barwell and Sue Wilkinson, with, in the background the two captains Chalkie Chandler and Ian Reeves



Uralla Shire Council GM Toni Averay and Mayor Robert Bell unveiling new signage for Sunny Jim Mackay Park



Uralla/Walcha "Bushies" on the left and Armidale/Guyra "Aliens" await the coin toss.



Adam Marshall preparing to go out to bat