

JORDAN'S CROSSING GAZETTE

Edition 67 • December 2011

jcg



A magazine for Bundanoon
and Southern Villages

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+ kioloa dreaming + best-ever ramble
+ collecting clarice cliff



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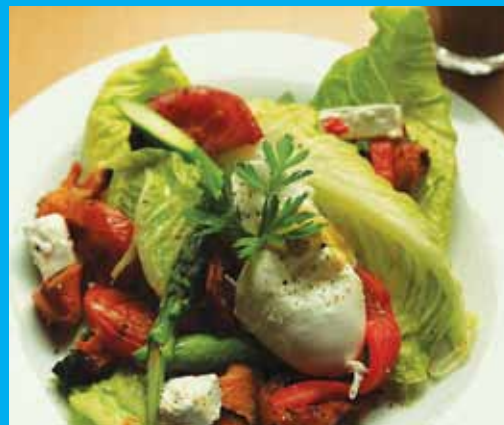
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*Season's Greetings
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For more
details of
events and
Club news
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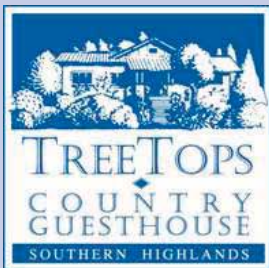
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Anglican Parish of Sutton Forest

Christmas

Christmas Carols

Bundanoon	Holy Trinity	5.30pm	18th Dec.
Tallong	St Stephen's	7.30pm	20th Dec.
Exeter	St Aidan's	6pm	24th Dec.

Christmas Eve Holy Communion

Bundanoon	Holy Trinity	11pm	24th Dec.
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Christmas Day Holy Communion

Sutton Forest	All Saints'	8am
Bundanoon	Holy Trinity	9am
Exeter	St Aidan's	9.30am
Tallong	St Stephen's	10am

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PO Box 201B
Bundanoon NSW 2578

Circulation

1850 copies quarterly

Jordan's Crossing Gazette is a Bundanoon Community Association Inc project. It is a non-profit publication supported by our advertisers and distributed free of charge to all homes, business and private mail boxes in Bundanoon, village stores and post offices at Exeter, Penrose and Wingello, plus Shire councillors.

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Annual subscription is \$20 (including postage).
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Pam Davies

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The editorial committee of *Jordan's Crossing Gazette* advises readers and contributors that it retains the right to edit material supplied. Such editing may include changes to language or to the length of the material and may include the addition of illustrations. We reserve the right to publish articles at our discretion. While the committee takes all reasonable care, it does not accept responsibility for the security or use of such material supplied, which remains at the supplier's risk.

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Pam Davies,
Editor

WHEN A FRIEND sent me a little story about talking to a nun sitting alongside her at a funeral I thought about the significance of music in our lives. The story goes: "My mother used to say 'He who sings prays twice'". "Actually, dear", said the nun, "that was St Augustine".

Music making is a universal experience from the era of St Augustine to the years when my friend's mother passed on her wisdom. It is most evident today in the Highlands where there is an amazing array of musical talent.

Our featured articles begin with Lucy Bainger's "Child's Play" and Graeme Whisker's personal journey through choir singing. There are engaging profiles of Greg Slater, convener of Arts Bundanoon and collector of Clarice Cliff ceramics. We also feature Maria Dunn and Jess Miller who are both involved in music education. The careers of performers Kjell Goyer and Chris Stone make interesting reading and of course Dave Johnson and his bush band will be familiar to many readers. Through Moss Vale High's HSC students we learn that the music curriculum in schools these days is exciting and varied. The History group and Hawkesbury Catchment Authority have contributed articles about their activities and there are some amusing anecdotes from our regular writers. We revisit musical young people in Bundanoon whose performances have given us such pleasure in recent years.

Best wishes for the festive season and another year of *jcg*.

—Pam Davies

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making music

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BCA meetings**Third Thursday each month:**

15 December, 19 January, 16 February.
Start 7:30pm in Supper Room at rear of Hall. All welcome.

**regulars**

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**Hall Hire**

FOR SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL Hall booking enquiries please phone 4883 6971 or email hallhire@bundanoon.nsw.au

Advertising info: page 49

Deadline for next issue:
Friday 27 January

A new look...

...for Serendipity: the choir! From our December concerts onwards the choir will be not just wonderful to hear but even better to see, thanks to our new risers – sets of portable, collapsible (not during performances) steps. Funds for the purchase of these have come via a grant from Wingecarribee Council and from the choir's own resources. Essentially it means that no matter where the choir performs we will be 'at home', not having to face the trauma of rapid adjustment to difficult staging immediately prior to an "away" concert. We are grateful to the Council for its support in this enterprise. So next time you see tenor Ken Ferrier tootling along in his famous red wagon, he may well be transporting these new choir assets to yet another Serendipity gig, of which we have several in December.

Performances

Our regular concerts, in Bowral and Bundanoon, are on consecutive weekends, 10 and 17 December, both at 4.00pm. In addition to these the choir has been invited to sing at the Southern Highlands Winery Christmas Fair on the weekend 17–18 December. This creates a very busy weekend indeed for us, but one which will provide excellent publicity

Serendipity
the choir

PRESENTS - IN CONCERT

NIGHT & DAY

MUSIC DIRECTOR - KERITH FOWLES

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Bundanoon Community Association proudly supports Serendipity:the choir

both for the choir and for Bundanoon – some 6,000 people are expected to visit the winery, and television and radio publicity will send the message to many more within a wide area.

We look forward to seeing our regular Serendipity 'groupies' at one or even both of our December

concerts, and to welcoming new faces to our audiences. The programme, entitled "Night and Day", includes several well-known favourites from Broadway musicals, and from the 'swing era', as well as some beautiful spirituals and carols. As usual, there is something for everyone –

songs from other parts of the world, heart-warming romance, fun and humour, even some sentiment and nostalgia. And perhaps a chance to hum along – but that's up to you.

Kerith Fowles
Music Director

arts BUNDANOON

2012

Arts Bundanoon has planned an engaging and diverse entertainment programme for 2012 – the usual high standard of musical performance but with something new.

Next year, the regular first Saturday of the month Piano at 10 is already fully booked with a mixture of professional and semi-professional artists. All have proposed programmes that represent the best in music and song.

Popular regulars such as Sarah Hindson, Jesse Pinazz and Andrew Rumsey will share the year's programme with the return of the Halley Quartet and Satsang. New artists keen to play in Bundanoon include such rising stars of the classical music world as Daniel Herskovich, Camilla Wong and Mia Huang.

Jonah & the Wailers



The mid-month Saturday afternoon concert series, continues to engage prominent, professional Australian classical music artists. The 2012 series includes former Bundanoon resident, Colin Noble, a pianist who has established an enviable reputation for performances of Debussy and other French composers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The highlight of 2012, our Black Tie and Champagne event, will present Jocelyn Ho and Zhao Zhao Yang in a spectacular two piano recital. In November, the well known pianist John Martin will partner violinist Victoria Jacono-Gilmovich in a recital entitled *From Sonata to Swing*.

To broaden the range of entertainment offered in 2012, Arts Bundanoon is planning a number of non-musical cultural events designed to appeal to a wider audience – events that will showcase local talent and not fail to please, entertain and inform. The first of these events will have an Art Deco theme!

To receive notification of forthcoming events send us an email to info@artsbundanoon.org.au and to keep abreast of what Arts Bundanoon has to offer, our website is www.artsbundanoon.org.au.

Also, if you would like to join the happy Arts Bundanoon team and be involved with staging these events, please email me at info@artsbundanoon.org.au.

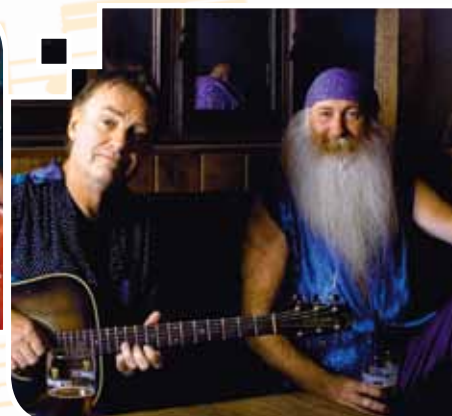
Greg Slater

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BOOKINGS ARE NOW open for a JCG Travel 15-day tour of Tasmania next October including two nights at the Cradle Mountain Lodge, one of Australia's great wilderness experiences.

The cost will be \$2690 per person twin share including bus transport to the airport and airfare to Launceston – a big saving on commercially-operated tours. All breakfasts and most dinners are included in the tour price.

Highlights of the tour will include Freycinet National Park, the Beaconsfield mine where two miners were trapped 1 km underground for two weeks, the beautiful Huon Valley famous for its apples, the Salamanca Markets in Hobart, historic and horrific Port Arthur, and Sheffield, the town of murals.

There will be exciting optional activities – cruises of the Gordon and Arthur Rivers to see Tasmania's world-renowned ancient rainforests, the Wilderness Railway at Strahan, a visit to the quirky Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) in Hobart and the spectacular "airwalk" over the treetops at the Tahune Forest Reserve. There will also be the opportunity to ride the chairlift to "The

Nut", a volcanic bluff overlooking the historic village of Stanley.

At seaside Bicheno the accommodation will be the Diamond Island Resort for two nights where you can see the penguins at night. There will be an optional cruise of Coles Bay viewing the Freycinet coast and anchoring in Wine Glass Bay to sample the local oysters, cheeses and wines.

Numbers are limited to 34 and all accommodation is twin share. The tour departs Bundanoon on October 18.

- Bookings are still open for Bundanoon residents for the Great Cities of Middle Europe tour, May 2012. For information and itinerary, email contact@hgrennan.com or phone 4883 7343.



Photos by Joy Brown

For more information or to book the tour contact Anne or Wes Miller on 4883 6343 or bundymiller@gmail.com. Bookings will require a deposit of \$500pp by 5 January 2012 payable to the Bundanoon Community Association. Post cheques to BCA, 18 Brigadoon Drive, Bundanoon 2578.



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Bundanoon Community Association (BCA)



Ralph Clark,
BCA president

BCA report

Community appreciation

PLANS HAVE BEEN drawn up for an improved amenity block behind the Hall to replace the current inadequate toilets. Tenders will be called shortly and work will commence in the New Year. Thanks to Council for agreeing to this expenditure. It

is something for which BCA has campaigned for several years.

This year's annual BCA Garden Ramble was the most successful ever, thanks to the efforts of a hard-working committee (led very capably for the past several years by Dale Chalmers), the proud owners of the lovely gardens and our many volunteers. Mention must also be made of the valuable contribution of the Bundanoon Garden Club, not only to the Ramble but to our community at large. The Garden Club and BCA have cooperated on a number of projects over the years. The Lions Club, through catering and the Scarecrow competition, also made a significant contribution to the success of the event.

Although Spring has passed, I must also thank the BCA Green Team for their beautification efforts. The bulb display in the arboretum at the entrance to town was spectacular and the southern approach to Bundanoon is also looking very attractive.

The Highland Fling mountain bike event a few weeks ago was again a great success, with some 2,000 competitors. Bundanoon has a long tradition as a cycling centre, which has grown further over the past decade. The Fling is more than just an event; it provides much-needed funds for groups such as the school and Soccer Club. This year saw an increased accent on the carriage / pony clubs' facilities, which have become an important asset to the town.

Although the time for initial submissions on the latest proposal for a covered pool at Moss Vale has expired, it is still an important topic for discussion. There is no doubt that, if it can be afforded, this will be a great thing for the Shire. Questions remain as to the relevance to Bundanoon and villages to its South while public transport is so sporadic. I welcome the assurances previously given that the proposal does not represent a threat to our own pool, which is such an important part of our community. It was built by our community and hosts a vibrant swimming club, which will be in full swing by the time this message is read.

For many years BCA has administered the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, the centre of our village. Following the passing of Bob Smith, who did so much for the Hall, I am delighted to let you know that Peter Goulding has taken on the role of Hall Coordinator and Patricia Guy is our new booking officer.

The Hall has been the venue for the excellent concerts and Piano at 10 recitals staged by Arts Bundanoon. Some exciting additional directions will be offered in 2012, of which some details appear in this edition.

The visit on November 15 by the Police Local Area Commander, Superintendent Gary Worboys, gave us an opportunity to hear at first-hand how policing in the area operates. He was left in no doubt that we hold our local police officer Michael Dietz in high regard but would like to see more of him here. Maintaining a police station in Bundanoon must continue.

Work has commenced on another BCA project, a greatly improved entry to the cemetery. It is hoped that this may be completed before the next issue of *jcg*.

I wish you all a happy and relaxing Christmas and an even better New Year. What better place to enjoy it than in wonderful Bundanoon!



Councillor Jim Clark

council news

Wingecarribee wanderings

THE 2011 MAYORAL elections didn't throw up any surprises, in that incumbents Clr Halstead as Mayor and Clr Whipper as his deputy were re-elected. Former Mayor Clr Gair has announced he won't be re-

contesting the 2012 Council elections. It seems that there will be at least three or four new faces elected to Council next year.

With the completion of the Highlands Source project to supply water via pipeline to Goulburn, other unforeseen potential uses are beginning to emerge. Tru Energy are now applying to the State Government to tap into both the Moomba gas pipeline for fuel and the Highlands Source water supply pipeline for their new gas turbine power generator at Marulan. The generous government subsidy for completion of this pipeline now begins to make sense, and one wonders what other development proposals we will see along the pipeline to make use of this so called 'emergency supply'.

After eleven years of successful operation, Council's Environment Levy has demonstrated its worth many times over. Thousands of hours of volunteer work have been contributed to assist Council in conserving and enhancing our natural biodiversity. Local projects have all benefitted from the levy. These include: Currabunda Wetland, Jordans Crossing Reserve, Glow Worm Glen track, Garland Road Wetland, Governors Road track, the Penrose Pine removal project as well as Indigo Creek at Exeter. Assistance to protect bushland on private property has also been made available. Grants of over \$1 million have been achieved to assist these and other projects. The current authority for Council to collect the levy from residents ends in 2013. Next year Council will apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to make the levy a permanent part of the rates structure. The proposal will recommend that the Environment Levy remains at the current percentage. If you think these projects have been worthwhile and would like to see such work continue, please support the Council application. A survey and website forum which will be set up later this year to allow residents to have their say.

—Clr Jim Clark, ph 0428 213 939



Green Team

Lizard sculpture and daffodils at the southern entrance to Bundanoon

arts BUNDANOON

Would you like to be involved with our group who stage arts activities in our town? You are invited to join our team. We also need an assistant to be trained in the operation of sound and light for our performances. Contact Greg Slater, ph 4883 7484.



Garden Ramble 2011

THE 15TH GARDEN Ramble was the most successful ever with record ticket sales and funds of almost \$15,000 contributed to BCA. Some years ago the BCA decided that all Ramble proceeds would go to the Green Team and this has enabled the wonderful display of daffodils each Spring and tree planting in the arboretum at the entrance to Bundanoon. The southern entrance, where the sandstone lizard sculpture has been enhanced by nearby planting, was also a Green Team project. Other work in public areas and ongoing maintenance are both funded as a result of the Garden Ramble success. This year marked the last year that Dale Chalmers will coordinate the Ramble committee. Dale has led the team for eleven years. A wonderful contribution Dale!

Nine beautiful gardens were opened this year and they were filled with flowers, garden art and creative landscaping. The owners are congratulated for their hard work and commitment without which the Ramble wouldn't exist. Community participation – gate volunteers, the History Group, Bundanoon Lions, Les Rundle, the Uniting Church, Needles and Natter and the stall holders at the Garden Market all contribute to the success of the event – not to mention the Ramble committee members who work so hard throughout the year to attract locals and visitors to Bundanoon for this wonderful weekend in our calendar. This year the weather was kind and two beautiful sunny days ensured that on both Saturday and Sunday gardens were well attended.



Be part of Garden Ramble 2012

We are now seeking gardens for next year's event. Please call Laurel Hones on 4883 6090 before the end of December if you would like to be considered for participation.



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Celebrating the history of rail

FOR 30 YEARS volunteers at the Rail Transport Museum at Thirlmere battled to acquire and preserve the state's great railway heritage, the backbone of technology in the 19th and early 20th century.

The NSW Railways had done little to preserve its rolling stock until it established the Office of Rail Heritage in 2006. The most outstanding outcome of that office has been the upgrading of the Thirlmere museum to the biggest and most advanced rail museum in the Southern Hemisphere, opened in April this year.

And volunteers still play a big part in running the museum.

Now called Trainworks, the museum was the subject of a visit by the Bundanoon History Group earlier this month, organised by Gil Wheaton, who was until recently a volunteer guide there.

The transformation has cost \$30 million and Trainworks is now a major tourist attraction within easy reach of the Southern Highlands.

Highlights of the museum are the magnificently ornate Governor General's carriage built in 1901 and used on a number of Royal visits, the Commissioner's and the Premier's carriages, the 6040 Garratt – the most powerful steam locomotive in the Southern Hemisphere – and a prison carriage which transported male and female felons to prisons around the state.

At one end of the museum is a large exhibition building housing the most precious exhibits and state-of-the-art display technologies. An interactive presentation using holograms of railway workers on the job tells the story of Loco 1021, a shunting engine imported from England in 1916.

At the other end is a new roundhouse with a 32-metre turntable where loco's can be moved in and out of a large workshop where restoration is carried out.



In the middle, under huge canopies, is a collection of dozens of historic steam engines, freight wagons, sleepers, dining cars and self-propelled railcars dating back to 1866.

Steam train rides from Thirlmere to Buxton and return are conducted every Sunday.

Trainworks is open seven days a week except for Christmas Day and Good Friday. Entry is \$19 adult, \$11 child and \$16 concession. A family ticket is \$57.

—Harvey Grennan



Photos by Graham Morgan and Thomas Andrew





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Let's speak out about deficient rail 'system'



"OI! YOU'D BETTER come with me, the train is not coming!"

About 25 people waiting on the platform around 8.05 – for the 7.56 'express' Goulburn to Sydney – all turned to see where the voice was coming from. Well, it was from the Berrima school bus driver.

He knew, we did not – even though the VAC (Voice Announcement System) had announced that the next train would be "the 7.56"

So we all scampered over the railway lines, joined the bus and arrived at Moss Vale in time to catch the only other express from the Southern Highlands to the City.

If we had not been rescued by the driver – there was no other City rail service until 2.19. That would have messed up a few plans for the day! I had an important meeting and our Lady Editor was off on a cultural jaunt to the Art Gallery.

Four days later, I noticed a lady waiting around 10.15 on the southbound platform and thought I should let her know that the only other service that morning was a bus. "No, it's OK" she said "I'm still waiting for the 9.08 Countrylink train." Again the only earlier announcement on the VAC was that the next train would be the morning service to Canberra – but when??

Recently, my partner and I were flying to Auckland at 6.55 pm and thought that the 2.08 service would get us there in plenty of time. What a foolish assumption. There were two other couples also going to the airport and we all realised when the train didn't arrive that it was going to be late – even though the VAC gave no details.

At least I was able to phone the Countrylink office and find out what was happening – to be told that there was a slight delay, and we could expect the train in no more than 20 minutes. We knew there were four train connections from Campbelltown to the airport so we waited.

Another foolish decision! It was 40 minutes before it arrived.

Now two connections were lost and then our third, as we waited for about 10 minutes outside Campbelltown station "until the station was clear" Alighting, we looked in vain for the platform for our last option. Nothing – and no announcement! Eventually I found an attendant who laughingly announced that service was cancelled! Forty-five minutes later and \$113 poorer we were at the check-in counter at the airport with 10 minutes to spare.

To these tales of woe I could add many other anecdotal discussions I've had with other rail users.

Many will remember the rally I organised in 2004 at the Memorial Hall to take action against our reduced rail services. A small committed group continued to lobby and together with the great work of the SHRUG (Southern Highlands Rail Users Group) obtained some concessions – particularly the continued bus connections and later the inclusion of Bundanoon as an official stop on the Canberra–Sydney Explorer service. I have continued to write to the Minister of Transport (and the local Member) whenever I have heard of unacceptable reliability issues with the railway.

In October last year, the VAC

was installed after a year of lobbying – unfortunately the railway authorities do not seem to be able to use it to the advantage of its customers by keeping waiting passengers informed about delays and cancellations. It is not asking much considering we have been reduced to such limited services

A spirited and direct letter has been sent about the latest series of "disservices" we in the Villages have had to endure.

We accept that the new government inherited a mess, but that should be no excuse for maintaining the status quo – especially since the Southern Highlands line endures the worst level of service on the network in terms of number and spread of trains, the reliability and the standard of the reconditioned carriages. After all, the corridor between Mittagong and Goulburn is a critical part of the State Government's plan for population growth.

I am happy to resurrect CRASH (Community Rail Action, Southern Highlands) to continue lobbying the government about our rail needs. If anyone wants to join me in this, please get in touch. Also I would be happy to receive any problems or difficulties you encounter with the system and will forward these to the Minister for Transport. Just drop me a line whenever you feel let down, neglected, disregarded or ignored by the 'system' and I will make sure the Government is informed. People power is democracy in action and we need to be heard.

My contact is thomasab@vitreo.com.au

—Thomas Andrew

Top marks to Bundanoon Public School!

DURING THE FIRST few weeks of Term 4 my grandchildren Ella (Form 4) and Alex (Form 1) attended Bundanoon school on a temporary basis. Many thanks to the Principal, Robyn Versluis, for enabling this, and to their teachers for helping them settle in.

Being strictly city kids, attending a country school was an adventure. On the first day Alex patted a classmate's baby lamb, Ella patted several dogs, and both thought it was a real treat to walk to and from school every day – especially past Paddy's rooster.

By the end of their first day they had made friends, settled into schoolwork and sports, and couldn't wait to get to school the next day.

Ella learned a lot on a class Environment Excursion to Lake Alexandra; Alex was delighted to be paired with a "maths mate". Their schoolwork blossomed in response to the warm encouragement of their teachers and the happy classroom atmosphere. Both of them enjoyed their art classes and commented "art lessons are great; they teach you how to paint and draw and don't just let you play".

Both will always cherish a precious memory of Bundanoon School.

Suzanne MacAlister
Viewland St, Bundanoon



Country living

by Keith McMenomy

Music to our ears

YOU MAY WONDER what music – theme of this issue – has to do with country living? Well indeed it does, yet maybe it is as much to do with how you live as where.

Allow me a short riff. Living is living wherever you are and music appeals to one or two of our primary senses: touch, taste, smell, sight, hearing, and reasoning. "If music be the food of love", Shakespeare expressed beautifully, "play on". A cliché but so true. Music and other arts affect emotional apprehension. Appreciation can heighten our experience and make the difference between living and partly living, or just existing. Music overcomes isolation, draws us to others, singularly or in unison. Even in a foreign language or without lyrics, the voice as a musical instrument can be profoundly enjoyable and moving. My first musical memories are of 'live' rather than recorded playing and singing. There were frequent family gatherings around the piano where I would sing out of tune. My gran. and mother sang while they worked around the home, dad sang old army songs, and at greater distance in the orchard my grandfather sang to himself in a fine baritone. Now, even a lifetime later, I can't imagine music not being part of our day. We listen in the mornings, evenings and in the car. This doesn't mean I want to walk around everywhere plugged in to an iPod like an urban tragic. Granted, some people work happily with background music – the younger they are the higher the volume – but I prefer not to have the volume turned up because out here there are other enjoyable kinds of melodic distraction.

Which brings me back to the country. We love sophisticated offerings at Bundanoon but living down the road brings bush entertainment from another time, recalling simple youthful pleasures. Talented local musicians play at our small functions and coach singing and music at the little bush school on our boundary. The youngsters sing and play with great gusto, and the delight and pride on their glowing young faces is wonderful to see at mid-winter and Christmas parties or Open Days at school.

Even quiet days in the paddock bring a variety of interesting accompaniments. Some of the wonders experienced on a few acres are its sounds. When not in earmuffs and attached to a tractor or chainsaw one can tune in to a repertoire of bush noises, animals and birds particularly. There is a distinct difference between a cow's low affectionate crooning to a calf and an alarmed bellow. Would you believe, our oldest cow sometimes croons to me to open the gate? Birds are not only great musicians but clearly communicate by note, tone and volume. We always know when an eagle or falcon is about by the cacophony of bird alarms going off all at once. On the other hand there is nothing more delightful than a magpie's warbling trill early in the morning. Even the supposed morbid, repetitive call of the Mopoke late at night can seem quite pleasant. At present I spend quite a bit of time lifting stones, mixing concrete and so on, building a guest cottage (more about that another time). But now and then a thrush or blackbird will sing away in the garden nearby.

Even the chortle and scratching of chooks scratching under fruit trees has a comforting, cheerful sound. Am I fantasising here or is it a figment of imagination? No, it is Nature's music.



Vet's casebook

by Ken Davidson BVSc (Hons)

Food chain anomalies

A BUNDANOON CLIENT who owns several cats, mostly rescued and/or re-homed, told me a story that prompted this article. Their cats are not all 'well adjusted' in the accepted sense of the word. They are well socialised when their owners are around, but like some kids that have had a difficult past, they can be very tetchy when things are not going their way or if strangers intervene in their lives.

What makes this story worth sharing is that a family of magpies shares the property with the owners and their cats. This too would not be unremarkable except for the fact that one of the adult birds decided to perch on the veranda during meal times. The owners started throwing the odd titbit to the magpie, which would snap it up and fly off, possibly to feed its young or share the goodies among the other adults. Amazingly, the well-fed, so-called feline "predators" lazed about, ignoring these antics.

After some time the magpie became more inquisitive and bold. Small scraps of food were tossed ever nearer the open door of the kitchen. Closer and closer the magpie came. The 'feral felines' remained totally unruffled, some on the deck and some in the kitchen. Little by little the magpie became even bolder, eventually landing on the kitchen table. Still the cats showed no interest. What has gone wrong with the food chain here? Some of these cats even strike fear into the Vet when they come into the surgery but here they are now letting this magpie virtually boss them around! As far as I know the relationship between cats and birds is still holding.

Another role reversal occurred in Bundanoon last year. I went to the house of Jenny, a well-known cat-lover, to vaccinate her cats. As I turned up the gravel drive, there in the middle of it sat a Sand Plover. She was not going to move so I drove the noisy diesel 4-wheel drive across the lawn to avoid her. Checking in the rear-view mirror, expecting to see her gone in fright, I was amazed. She was still sitting there. Was this bird sick, in shock, or injured? I decided to check with Jen before approaching the bird.

"Oh, she's been there for two weeks," was her reply, "She goes off every now and then to feed, leaving her brown speckled egg in the gravel. When you leave watch out if she's gone, the egg is hard to see."

I drove out across the lawn again to avoid the perfectly camouflaged egg, shaking my head in wonder at the attitude of this bird, protecting her unhatched young against all odds.

This same sort of pluck is repeated over and over again in Spring with families of wood-ducks. How often have you seen them crossing busy roads, totally oblivious to their danger? The female leads the babies in single file while the male, playing decoy, runs straight at any car coming too close, head low and wings out-stretched, in full watch-out-or-else mode, his courage totally unquestioned as he attempts to save the lives of his family.

How is it that such a small, harmless creature can get his way with us humans?

There are many other examples of the weak dominating the strong when it comes to pets. Surprisingly, in mixed-pet households, rabbits are frequently the dominant species.

Over the years, I have sustained many injuries. The most unforgettable came from an unexpected quarter. I was asked to clip a budgie's wing and while getting him out of the cage he got loose in the consultation room. Suddenly, perceiving me as the enemy, his instinct must have taken over. He swooped from the other side of the room and latched onto my earlobe with his beak! There was blood everywhere as I gave my horrified vet nurse step-by-step instructions on how to prise his beak open. I still have the scar to prove it.




Never mind the swooping magpies this spring, watch out for swooping budgies!

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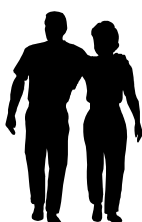
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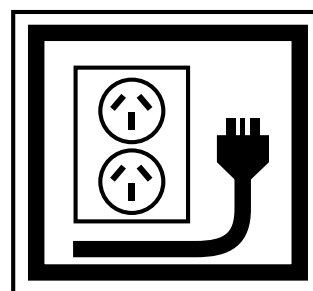
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Searching for W.A. Nicholas



THE CURRENT EXHIBITION in the Bundanoon History Shed began with the intention of showcasing some photographs of the scenic wonders of the area, taken from a tourist brochure entitled "Views of Bundanoon and Guide to Beautiful Walks". The brochure, costing one shilling, is believed to date from about 1918 and includes a guide to walks in "the gullies" and advertisements for local guesthouses and businesses. Sadly the photographer is not identified.

It was always intended that the exhibition would include some material from the Bundanoon History Group Oral History archives, where many locals have recorded their experiences of growing up in proximity to "the gullies" — hence comments and photos from five local identities are on the walls.

During the course of preparing the material, another set of images, also of the scenic wonders, was discovered in the Berrima History Society archives. These interesting images, in the form of stereoscopic cards, were taken by Mr. W.A. Nicholas of 'Fern Mount', Bundanoon, and they date from the 1890s. The Berrima group allowed copies to be made, and these were quickly added to the exhibition, along with a stereoscopic viewer for use in revealing the three-dimensional aspect of these pictures (3D was well understood in the 1890s). An early stereoscopic camera and some biographical notes on Mr. Nicholas were also added.

Since the exhibition opened, research on W.A. Nicholas, a man of many parts, has continued. An album of his photographs, probably taken in his role as photographer "by appointment" to Governor Lord Carrington of 'Hillview', Sutton Forest, has been located in the Mitchell Library, and we have been able to copy 35 more Nicholas images, many local to Bundanoon.

from the archives

Bundanoon and 'Hillview'

WHEN DAMIEN MILLER was looking for volunteers to act as tour guides for 'Hillview' Open Days during Tulip Time seven members of Bundanoon History Group offered to help. With minimal preparation or training we were thrown in at the deep end, leading tour groups or acting as stationary guides in the rooms open to the public. Our reward included a delightful lunch in the Vice-regal dining room. Lauris Tomalin made the best guess as to the number of lucky tickets handed out on open days and, sitting in the Governor's chair, drew the winning ticket (someone from Exeter) for first bed and breakfast weekend stay at 'Hillview'.

Bundanoon's association with the Governor's country residence flourished in the 1890s, when the village fielded cricket teams to play the Governor's XI at the Hillview cricket ground, situated just inside the entrance gates to the left of the carriage way. Similar events may be revived in the near future.

On one auspicious occasion, a fine March day in 1905, the incumbent Governor, His Excellency Admiral Sir Harry Rawson, paid a visit to Bundanoon, to lay the foundation stone of the second Holy Trinity Church of England, just months after the 1904 bushfires destroyed the original timber building. In typically deferential terms he was welcomed by the local dignitaries:

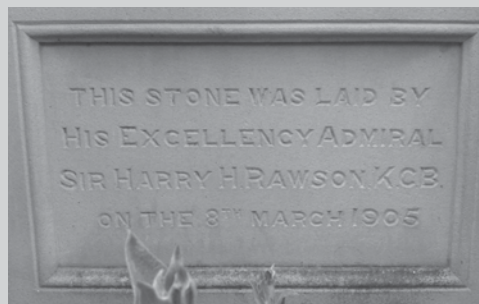
We, the chairman and members of the Bundanoon Progress Association on behalf of the residents, loyal subjects of His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward the VII, desire to extend to Your Excellency our most hearty welcome to Bundanoon, one of the leading health and tourist resorts of the southern districts of New South Wales. We desire to especially welcome you as first State Governor who has honoured us with an official visit, and

we trust that the scenery which you will have an opportunity of seeing this afternoon may in some degree compensate for any inconvenience you may have experienced in coming here today.

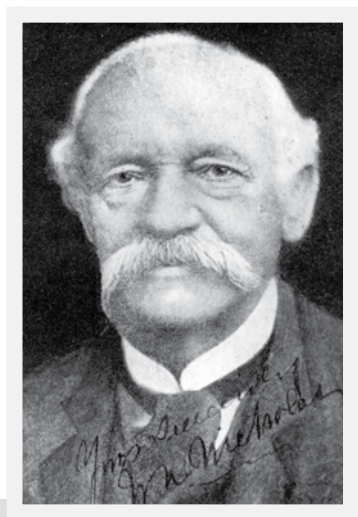
The children of the Bundanoon Public School, under the conductorship of Mr J W Clarke and Mrs Nicholas, heartily sang 'God Save the King'. The Governor, after complimenting the children on their singing, said he would get the Minister to grant them a holiday. Three cheers were then given for the King, one for the Queen, three for His Excellency and one for Lady Rawson. A luncheon was served at the school before the foundation stone ceremony.

Although Mr Nicholas was reported as taking pictures of the occasion, unfortunately we do not appear to have any in our archives. This is a recent photo of the foundation stone "well and truly laid" as the Governor said that day.

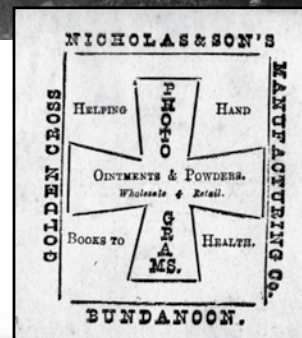
—Liz Walker



Mr. Nicholas was a very competent and prolific photographer. Almost certainly, there are more images, maybe stereocards, maybe postcards, or album photos, to be found. The History Group would very much like to copy these... maybe enough for another exhibition focusing on this remarkable early settler!



Group photograph with W.A. Nicholas with his wife Sarah (second and third from right)



Photograph from W.A. Nicholas album, Mitchell Library

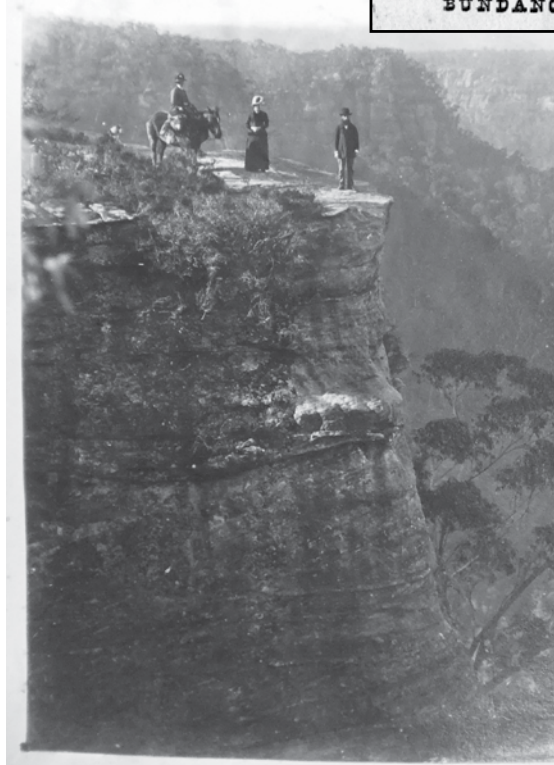


THE HISTORY SHED (opposite the main street shops) is open on the 1st and 3rd Sundays (Market Days) of each month and this fascinating piece of Bundanoon's history, with connection to W.A. Nicholas, proprietor of the "Pill Factory", is a reminder of his entrepreneurial character. If you can assist with information which will help in this research project please contact Maureen and Bud Townsing, ph 4883 7359.

A reminder: The History Group meets on the first Monday of each month at The Bundanoon Club at 10.00 am.

Come along and hear some of the wonderful stories from the archives.

Plans for coach trips are on the agenda for 2012.





Rider 710, John King

Photo: Dave Bateman

The 2011 Briars Highland Fling

OVER 2000 RIDERS signed up for the Briars "7 Year Itch Fling" held on Sunday 13 November. For seven years Australia's largest mountain biking event, one of the most significant events in the Highlands calendar, has been held in Bundanoon. With a line-up of Australia's elite riders and mountain bike riding enthusiasts in his year's event there was bound to be fierce competition. In a spectacular finish Dylan Cooper claimed the Men's Full Fling, while Jenny Fay was a clear winner in the Women's Full Fling.

Riders in the Fling can take part in the Full Fling (solo 110km), Half Fling (solo 55km) and Flinging Threesome (relay style teams of 3) or the 100 Mile Fling option (165km). There is also a Casual Fling (14km) untimed participation. The course passes through farmland tracks, State Forests and local villages where they encounter single-track, open paddock, rough 4WD track, dirt

roads and a section of sealed road. The pain of steep climbing is forgotten when followed by spectacular views and the thrill of a 2300m downhill run.

On Saturday evening, prior to the race on Sunday, representatives from local businesses compete in the Battle of the Businesses, a fundraising event for the local community. This event attracts participants of all ages who enjoy mountain biking.

The sport has become a popular family activity and the Kids' fling on Sunday morning for riders up to 12 years of age is a great introduction to MTB events

The organisers, Wild Horizons, Australia's wishes to thank local competitors for their participation and are grateful for the enthusiastic support they have from people who assist in staging the event.

Making music

"Music can change the world because it can change people"

—Bono, Irish singer, musician and humanitarian.

LISTENING TO MUSIC is our common experience. It comes to us through radio, TV, cinema, concerts and recordings. It surrounds us in shopping centres and greets us on aeroplanes and in sporting venues. Music is everywhere and although it is sometimes uninvited, through listening we learn appreciation.

Few of us become performers although many have learnt to play instruments so why is music so important in our lives?

Today music in early childhood has been recognised as an integral part of development, stimulating children's minds and improving educational outcomes. It has been said that "music is the medicine of the mind" and its therapeutic qualities have been well documented by health professionals. Whether classical or contemporary, performance has rewards for both the musician and the listener. Local performers, students, teachers, singers and instrumentalists bring you their stories in the following pages.



Music is child's play

MUSIC EDUCATION IN the late fifties and early sixties primary schools came to us from a wall-mounted radio at the front of the classroom when, at a fixed time each week, we were asked by 'a voice' to sing along with previously unknown songs. We joined in with the aid of our 'ABC Broadcast Book', singing away with varying degrees of enthusiasm from our bolted-down desks while our teacher was busy preparing for our next 'real' lesson. Our school choir was selected by the Principal lining us all up around the room, striking a tuning fork on the blackboard and then, one at a time, getting us to sing 'God Save the Queen' into his spectacularly hairy ear. You were accepted by a gruff 'yes' or cast into musical oblivion by an even harsher 'no'. That was about it!

Oh, to have had a Lucy Bainger in our musical lives back then!

Lucy is a music teacher with decades of experience, specialising in Early Childhood music. After studying music at university in Adelaide and then in Europe at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest and years of travel, playing and working with children, Lucy currently teaches music privately to children and adults. She also works with pre-school children at Birralee in Mittagong and delivers wonderful musical experiences for kindergarten to year 6 at Exeter Public school. Her book *Music Magic, a teaching resource for young children* has been published and in her 'spare moments' she is working towards gaining a PhD in Music Education at Monash University. Lucy believes that if

people are to have an enjoyable and ongoing musical component to their lives, it all starts with 'play' – and lots of it!

Lucy is convinced that our musical journey begins in the womb as we relate to beat for the first time when we sense our mother's heart-beat. It continues with parental nursing, rocking and singing as the infant absorbs sound, high and low, soft and loud, fast and slow, plus the long and short of rhythm. This is true of all cultures and aids in the development of language. Thus we all have music within us which can be brought out, developed and nurtured through play, both in free play – experimenting and discovering – , and in more structured, formal small group play sessions. Her activities are based on learning not just to hear, but to listen. Repetition to build up familiarity and confidence and enjoyment is inherent in participation, creation and performance in its broadest sense. The development of our musicality has long been known to also aid in the development of areas such as self esteem, logic, social skills and even to

enhance general learning ability. Lucy believes the emphasis should be on involvement and experimentation, not competition. Formal performance may come at some stage, but that should not be the main aim – participation and enjoyment is!

For Lucy, music is so much more than 'dots on a page'. She says "It is an important and enjoyable part of our being. It saddens me that so many of us feel we aren't musical when in fact it is at the core of us all. If you can speak, you can sing." She has devoted her life to helping people realise their musicality. She feels it is particularly important for young children to experience completely, this most human gift. For her the pleasure comes from seeing the excitement, imagination, creativity and enjoyment she is able to inspire and nurture in her young musicians. She hopes they will carry their skills and love of music through their entire lifetime.

Brava and encore Lucy Bainger!

—Ross Armfield



Holy Trinity Choir, Invercargill, 1966 (author marked with asterisk)

Choirs: a personal journey

BEATLE PAUL MCCARTNEY once said, 'I love to hear a choir. I love the humanity, to see the faces of real people devoting themselves to a piece of music. I like the teamwork. It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that.'

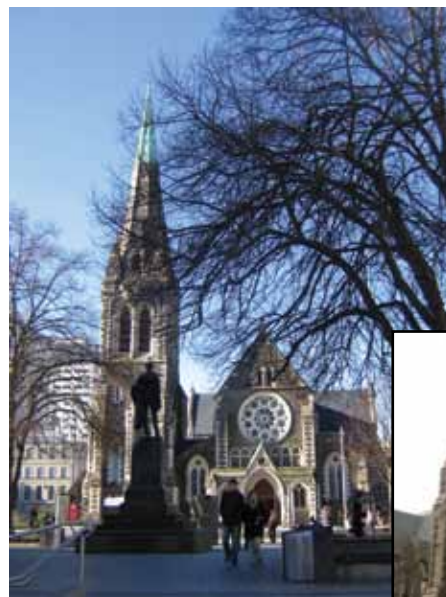
Singing has always been part of my reason for being it seems. As a very young boy I was encouraged to let fly – at home, at school, at church; indeed wherever I happened to be. One of my earliest memories is of performing, aged 5, as a rabbit in a school concert. My mother had made some ears for me to wear and my role was to be first on the stage to sing my wee bit as introduction to our class contribution. I stood centre stage, saw all those expectant faces and cried!! But things got better.

At the age of 9 or 10 I auditioned for a Choral Scholarship to Cathedral Grammar School and as a very junior member of ChristChurch Cathedral Choir, Christchurch, NZ. Bobby Field-Dodgson, 34 years Director of Music at Christ's College, was very kind to me. I remember being taken by my mother into the grounds of 'Christ's' and feeling in awe of the place. I can still see the traditional collegiate organisation of chapel pews and I remember standing behind one, hanging on for dear life. Never had I been anywhere so grand and I was very nervous – both a singer's plague and a singer's blessing. All was good, however, and he decided I could proceed. As things happened, though, my Dad got a new job in Invercargill – 365 miles away – so that was the end of that!

Invercargill, at the very bottom of the South Island, is cold and miserable for much of the time but the community, in many ways similar to Bundanoon, was warm and active. Our family was welcomed and school choirs and our local church choir beckoned. It was there I learned to read music, largely via solfege. Choir practices – always on Thursday nights it seems – were sometimes very testing occasions and the Choirmaster and Organist at Holy Trinity was a hard taskmaster. Boys rehearsed twice weekly; on Thursday and again on Saturday evening prior to church the next day. No other Saturday night activity for us! We led services, morning and night, and 'Merbecke', hymns, a psalm, canticles and anthems were expected week by week. There was an occasional sung mass as well. Choir

Camps were intensive rehearsal times and a lot of fun. Occasionally we were invited to sing services in other local churches as well. I loved it! School choirs were also fun – by no means as rigorous – and they led occasionally to large school music festivals held in our three-tiered 'Civic Theatre'.

At the age of 12 I had a small part in a performance of Felix Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah*. A very large choir (approx 145 singers) was assembled especially to celebrate Southland's Centenary Year. The performance to a 'packed house' was accompanied by the New



Christchurch Cathedral, before, and after recent earthquakes



making music



Choir of St James' Church,
Sydney, c.1992
(author second from left at top)

Zealand National Orchestra and broadcast throughout the country. From my perspective it was a very big deal!

At Secondary School there were some small choral ensembles but at that time choirs and adolescence were not a popular mix in a boys' school. There was always 'whole school singing' held in the hall once a week of course and we hated it! The poor teacher who ran it must have hated it too. We certainly gave him a pretty poor reception.

Given I hadn't really planned what to do with life after school I decided almost at the last minute to apply for a Teacher Training Scholarship and so found myself enrolled at Dunedin Teachers' College beginning a Primary Teacher training course. Music of all kinds was very much a part of curricular and extra-curricular studies and that included choral opportunities as well as Gilbert and Sullivan productions and grand Annual Concerts. Singing in churches was not part of my student days.

After training I returned to Invercargill and began my teaching career. Almost immediately the Holy Trinity Choir beckoned so I became a regular 'twice every Sunday' member again. When the choirmaster died suddenly I was asked to take his place – a bit tricky for a 21 year old. I doubt I'll ever forget that first practice!

Aged 23 though, I craved the bright lights of Sydney and moved across the Tasman where I joined the St James' Choir and the St James' Singers and was part of occasional larger groups performing such works as J C Bach's B Minor Mass, Haydn's 'Nelson Mass' and 'Spem in Alium', the 40-part motet by Thomas Tallis. They were challenging and exciting times. Walter Sutcliffe was the Organist and Choirmaster and all choristers were put through an auditioning process but I doubt many were refused. The choir had a strong line of trebles (boys) and some women but at that time the women were relegated to a 'dog box' – pews behind the main choir pews. It all changed later! Virtually all choristers could read music – very useful when the extensive repertoire was prepared week by week. Under Walter's leadership we developed a wonderful synergy to create an outcome that was of much more value than the total of our individual input. Nevertheless we were a choir of volunteers, amateurs who loved the challenges of singing regularly together.

When I took up my headship in Adelaide there were time constraints and I decided to sing only in small ensembles and in our local church.

Returning to Sydney late in 1990 I rejoined St James' Choir and both our sons did as well as their Chapel and Chamber Choirs at school. Both had Head Chorister experience and both kept singing for

a while after their voices broke but neither does now. Maybe they'll come back to it.

The standard was high and the old challenges continued to be presented week by week: a full sung mass, hymns, psalms and other canticles, anthems and so on every Sunday although the Evensong service was now once a month. It really was stimulating to be singing a multi-part work well after relatively minimal rehearsal! The current, excellent choir at St James' is a much smaller body of semi-professional musicians who receive a 'per call' fee and perform both at services and in concert. The St James' Choir has performed in Bundanoon at two of our 'Piano at 10' concerts, to popular acclaim.

In the past I sang occasionally with Bundanoon Voices and now sing regularly with Serendipity: the choir. Repertoire is very different but can still be quite challenging – especially as this is a community choir. Enthusiasm is high and participation is keen. You may have heard us at our performances in Bowral and Bundanoon each year.

And back to that famous Beatle; the business of real people working together to devote themselves to a piece of music, the teamwork, the high levels of cooperation required, the developing sense of ensemble. It does make me feel optimistic about the human race so I can only agree with him!

—Graeme Whisker

Current Choir of St James' Church, Sydney. Photo by Christopher Shain.



Greg Slater: maestro and collector

'ON THE FOOTPATH outside the Chinese restaurant! They twisted my arm!' jokes Greg Slater. In reality, however, he feels honoured to have been appointed Concert Manager of Arts Bundanoon. Choosing to move here two years ago after many years in Canberra, Greg hopes to lead the organization in new and exciting directions to offer the local community a wide choice of cultural interests and entertainment, ensuring that everything is of the best quality and that the community itself can participate in the choice and variety of artistic forms presented.

In addition to the usual 'Piano at Ten' performances, there will be four mid-month concerts in 2012, with the artists already confirmed. As well as music, other arts will be represented and sometimes the warmer supper room will be used instead of the main hall. Greg assures us that the third presentation next year will be 'quite a surprise'!

His music-loving parents chose the violin for Greg and at Newcastle Conservatorium he studied under John Hurn, achieving his AMus.A.

About the age of sixteen, Greg met and began a friendship with Ruggiero Ricci, renowned international violinist. They corresponded, and Greg frequently stayed with Ricci and his wife in Salzburg, assisting Ricci during European concert tours. In return, Ricci helped the young Australian violinist. Greg noted the large number of music students present at European concerts in comparison with the small number he'd seen at similar concerts in Australia. This concern has remained with him: he worries about 'audience replacement' for groups such

as Arts Bundanoon, as present audiences age.

Enjoying playing in chamber groups, Greg toured the outback of NSW with the Coleman Trio from the ACT and New Zealand and Norfolk Island as half of the Guarneri Duo.

The Duo delighted in showing school pupils how violins work, 'scraping the insides of a cat with the tail of a horse'! One of Greg's violins is tuned a semitone lower than concert pitch, to Baroque pitch, to play along with a harpsichord, an instrument which can quickly go out of tune, requiring hasty alteration to the tuning of the violin strings.

On one occasion, playing to residents of a local retirement village, he finished the program with a piece by Vivaldi, whereupon one of the residents remarked on the fact that Greg's bowing style was 'Franco-Belgian'. This resident had been, in former days, Deputy Leader of the Prague Philharmonic Orchestra!

Greg will play the viola when required in a string quartet or strings-with-piano combination. Reading the music written in the



different clef is the most difficult part of this adaptation.

When asked if he's composed any music, he laughs: 'I've written some cadenzas, that's all!'

He has written, not music, but books – two books on Clarice Cliff, the famous English ceramic artist and designer; has created an online magazine called 'The Agora' consisting of academic discussions on ceramic artists

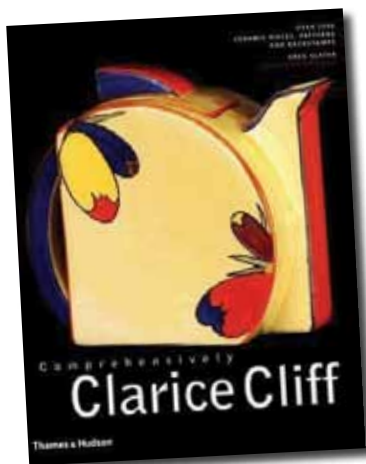
of the twentieth century; has studied the Japanese language, and hieroglyphics of the Middle Egyptian Period (c.2000 BC) and delights in cooking French-style pastries. In his professional life he was a radiographer – for twenty-eight years Chief Radiographer at Woden Valley Hospital in Canberra. From there he moved into private practice, then into the Department of Health and then into the Pharmaceutical Benefits branch of Medicare where he was involved with the allocation of benefits to Aboriginal people.

He loves poetry, especially the humorous work of Henry Beard, has dabbled in fiction writing and grows flowers and vegetables.

When asked what he does in his spare time, Greg chuckles: 'What's that?'

—Margaret Symonds

See page 45 for a story by Greg on collecting Clarice Cliff.



Our Australian song and dance man

PENROSE MUSICIAN DAVID Johnson is passionate about "bush music" – our rollicking Australian bush songs and dance tunes. Singing with guitar or banjo and taking up the fiddle or concertina for dance tunes, he presents a diversity of material from the Australian repertoire: from convict ballads to contemporary songs about environmental issues; from colonial dance to newly composed dances and tunes. He shares this passion by organising events. In just three years the Bundanoon DanceFest, run by Bush Traditions Inc. and held on the June long weekend, has become a major item in the folk dancing calendar, bringing over 200 keen dancers into the town, and filling all the available accommodation. David explains "It is based on my main interest, Australian bush dancing, with the added flavours of English, Scottish, Irish, American, Ballroom and European dance." There is a full programme of day-time dance workshops followed by an evening dance or ball. This "dancing nirvana" (to quote one of the regulars) is matched by the enthusiasm of the 30 or so musicians involved.

David acknowledges the debt we owe the folklore collectors, such as John Meredith OAM, who interviewed and recorded the older performers including fiddler Stan Treacy from Crookwell and accordion legend Pearly Watling from Goulburn. "If it weren't for the work of

dedicated collectors, we'd have lost the old songs about shearers, bushrangers, drovers, cane-cutters, gold diggers, bullock drivers, and our pioneer women, and our uniquely Australian style of dance music." He encourages younger performers to explore their traditions, to develop and extend the older repertoire, and especially to sing with an unaffected natural Australian voice. David is known in Australian musical circles as the bloke who compiled *The Blue Book*, the folio of music for bush dances simply called *Bush Dance*. For its 25th anniversary in 2008 some 20 musicians played the book from cover to cover in a six-hour marathon dance at the National Folk Festival in Canberra. An updated version with a thousand tunes is currently in preparation.

In the context of bands, David's associations read like a Who's Who of bush music – The Rouseabouts, Reedy River Bushmen, Pinchgut, and Southern Cross Bush Band. As Musical Director of the Sydney-based Heritage Ensemble, he has arranged and conducted the music for over 20 colonial-style balls in grand historic venues such as Sydney Town Hall.

Since moving to the Southern Highlands about 20 years ago David and his wife Anne and their three sons have performed together as Paddys River Band. They have played for many functions – dances, parties, schools, weddings, festivals and



David Johnson

markets. The boys no longer live at home so Anne and David now perform as a duo or bring in other musicians for larger functions. Occasionally, James, their eldest, returns to perform with them, bringing the magical fullness of his accordion playing.

During 2005 David recorded his settings of some bush poems, playing on fiddle, concertina, banjo, viola, banjo-mandolin and guitar and vocals. The resultant CD "Rough Sawn" has won acclaim in folk music circles and can be sampled and purchased securely from the website: www.davidjohnson.id.au.

With a new line-up, FolkLines,

David has been performing recently at bush dances in Canberra and Sydney and leading sessions and dances at the National Folk Festival. He says, "There is currently a huge resurgence of interest in Australian folk music and dance music, with local musical groups flourishing nearby in Goulburn, Kiama, and of course the larger cities – Wollongong, Newcastle, Sydney and Canberra. If there are any local musicians and singers who would like to have a session in Bundanoon they are welcome to call me on 4884 4214 and perhaps we can make it happen".

The Heritage Ensemble at the Parramatta Town Hall 2010



Dancers enjoying the evening dance at Bundanoon DanceFest in 2011



Diverse diva

MARIA DUNN HAS a diverse musical life. She plays violin, viola, cello, guitar and piano and is best known locally for her involvement in the music program at Penrose Public School. When Maria, with her guitar, kneels in front of her little group of singers and has their attention the audience is immediately enchanted by the children's concentration as they wait for their cues. There are just 13 students ranging in age from 5 to 10 and teaching them to sing is a challenge. The little ones can't read so learning songs by rote is tedious but their enthusiasm for performance keeps them keen to persevere. Songs with repetition and preferably humour are favourites. Maria has observed that there is a strong sense of caring nurtured in the school and the younger children tend to follow the example set by the older ones who look after them. This is reflected in the choir and is essentially an extension of the dynamic that occurs in families.



In fact the children at Penrose School have a roster of parents who prepare lunches for them. Maria says "It's interesting to watch the way younger children respond to their older role models. This not only applies to behaviour – "we don't do that here!" – but also to – "this is what we're eating today!"

North Sydney Teachers College gave Maria her initial teacher training but she later added a B.Mus. to her qualification. While at university in Townsville she became an accomplished violinist but confesses that during the five years there she really enjoyed playing piano accompaniment for dance and particularly a tap class. She has worked with two theatre companies and when she returned to Sydney she played violin with a Bush Band. This genre is very different from classical violin requiring a special technique which she still enjoys when she plays with David Johnson's Bush Band or with Steve Cheers.

When Maria came to live in the Highlands she worked in the music shop Powerpoint owned by Geralyn and Steve Cheers and enjoyed performing country music with the band 'Two in the Bush'. She met her husband, artist Jim Luck and they later settled in Bathurst where Maria played piano at the

Cathedral, having previously been involved with church music at St Francis Xavier, Lavender Bay. On their return to the Highlands they lived in Mittagong before buying a house in Penrose where they now live with their children, Oscar and Prudence.

As well as teaching guitar she has a piano student and works with the Kindergarten and Year1 children, introducing them to musical elements through singing, percussion and rhythm. She says "Accompanying their singing with guitar gradually improves their pitch. Being a very small choir they were delighted when as the only entrants in their section they came first at the Goulburn Eisteddfod!"

Maria plays cello with the Goulburn orchestra as well as playing Folk and Celtic music at the Old Brewery on the first and third Friday nights each month. Once a month she plays at St. Paul's in Moss Vale. She



occasionally returns to Sydney where she meets up with other musicians who come together to make music with Wayne Richmond in a group called "Loosely Woven". As the name suggests they meet informally to rehearse for events held as fundraisers for Amnesty International or local charities.

Maria says she is pleased to have the freedom to enjoy a wide range of musical experiences which would not be readily available to her if she worked as a professional musician.



Sweet sounding strings

KJELL GOYER'S 20 year old Jose Ramirez classical guitar has served him well but it is not surprising that he has returned from a recent trip to Spain with a new "spruce-top Ramirez" – and he didn't stop there! While in Madrid he has also ordered a vihuela made to measure. This is a 17th century sweet-sounding six double- stringed guitar played by musicians with a

special interest in performance of early music.

There was no shortage of musical events in Spain and Kjell says he spent a memorable evening at a Flamenco concert where the improvised dancing was accompanied by only a guitar and a singer. And while in Portugal he heard the same soulful lament 'Alfonsina and the Sea' performed on guitar as he

had played last year for Piano at 10.

Kjell has a degree in Mathematics and a Dip.Ed. but confesses that during his qualifying years he "took a year off" to study with Antonio Losada who had been a student with Andre Segovia. He has taught Adult Education courses in mathematics to engineers and potential entrants to university

Chris Stone – fiddler or violinist?

jcg, aware of Chris's peripatetic lifestyle, tried and failed to get him to stand still long enough for an interview while he was on a visit to the Highlands and finally followed directions to his web site.

Email messages read:

"Sorry I have been so hard to reach, we've been out of the area, touring NZ..." and "Just back from a long week touring through NSW, Vic and ACT. Off to NZ on Thursday for a festival, then back here and on the road to Vic again!"

Margaret Symonds writes:

MUSIC, LIKE SPOKEN and written language, is not set in stone but is alive, free to experiment and move in any direction. Chris Stone and his violin have embraced this

freedom: simple alterations in tuning and technique transform the instrument from violin to fiddle, permitting the performer to go where he will with his music.

Chris, who lived in Wingello with his family, played traditional Scottish Ceilidh fiddle music, beloved by many Bundanoon residents, for six years before completing a Bachelor of Music Performance degree at ANU in 2006, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Music Performance at the Victorian College of Arts in 2009. He is now working towards a PhD and makes up one third of *The String Contingent*, in the company of Graham McLeod, Scottish guitarist, and Holly Downes, Australian double bass player.

From their press release *jcg* learnt "...this virtuosic instrumental trio compose and perform music of sparkling beauty and originality that explores the full spectrum of musical expression. Drawing from genres including Celtic, classical, jazz and bluegrass, *The String Contingent* burnish their original compositions through the clarity and precision of a meticulous 'chamber music' ethos. Their multi-faceted approach results in highly accessible yet sophisticated music that captivates audiences from any genre, while retaining their own unique style." Describing Chris's performance the press release claims it "...sounds alternately tender or wildly yowling..." and continues by praising "the intuitive poise, excitement and invention of a young group".

The three members of *The String Contingent* met in Scotland, playing for ceilidhs, in 2008, and, "after a week's frenzied composition", played their own music at the Leith Folk Club, in Scotland. Their comment after this initial performance was that it was "probably rubbish, but felt bloody brilliant!"

On their return to Australia, Chris and Holly persuaded Graham to join them; they toured Tasmania, then decided to make a live recording in



St Mark's Church, Fitzroy, Melbourne. Chris says, "the act of playing together in a good acoustic space, where each note played can be instantly and intuitively responded to is infinitely more valuable than the production of a technically perfect work."

Music critic Steve Gadd of Adelaide has written about the group, "...extremely sophisticated instrumental music... The level of skill of this group is stunning, as are the beauty and joy of their compositions."

Chris Stone's other loves are books, words for their own sake, vintage cheese, organic gardening, and everything to do with fish. Holly has a degree in Psychology and loves cheese, minor chords, and knitting. Graham loves all things Scottish, and "jumping off high things into wet places".

The String Contingent



but by the mid-eighties had changed direction.

Kjell became involved with other musicians in developing contemporary music courses for TAFE, which included regional tours with students and professional musicians. At that time he was playing double bass and performing at jazz venues in the inner city.

After he received a graduate Diploma in Music, a BMus. (Hons) at New England University followed and he then undertook a Masters in Music at Wollongong University on

classical guitar improvisation. A German based publisher has recently approached him to have his Masters published. His Australian publisher has asked him to write a book "Classical Guitar for the Adult Beginner".

Kjell studied a traditional classical guitar repertoire under Antonio Losada and since has developed a more contemporary repertoire as well as keeping up his interest in early music. He has performed in cities and country towns in Australia and has played a number of times at the Spanish Embassy in

Canberra. Five years ago he came to live in Bundanoon and enjoys the "friendliness and diversity of this beautiful village".

He currently teaches part-time for Powerpoint music and Canberra University at the Kazcare centre. "I have found I really enjoy being engaged with the local community". Kjell has given recitals at many local venues including the Mittagong playhouse, Sturt Craft Centre, St Jude's in Bowral and "Piano at 10" in Bundanoon. Recently he has taken up studying the lute and at present is organising a Guitar and

Flute Society, meeting at Sturt next year where he hopes to involve younger students as well as adults.

Kjell looks forward to many new experiences with other musicians and performances in the local region. Kjell at the moment is caught up with music assessments for the AMEB. He has two concerts scheduled in Bowral: one at a presentation day at Kazcare for Canberra University on November 13, the other at the Bowral District Art Society on Sunday 10 December in the afternoon.

making music

JESSICA MILLER HAS fond memories of the musical opportunities that were offered to her during her time at both Bowral Public School and Bowral High School. She began to develop a keen interest in organising musical events when she was in Year 9 and her first concert was the 'Battle of the Bands' competition held at Bowral High School to assist the victims of the Indian earthquake in 2000. Jess then went on to organise a local 'Dance Festival'. Many more 'Battles of the Bands' and 'Dance Festivals' followed – approximately eight concerts in four years. As President of the SRC and later as School Captain, she developed her leadership skills. "I knew from a very young age that I loved organising musical events. The 'Battle of the Bands' was a fantastic performance that offered young musicians the chance to showcase their preferred style of music. We discovered many talented musicians after the Battle began!" Jess believes that all students should have the opportunity to perform and this philosophy is now very apparent from her teaching style at Bundanoon Public School.

Jess started piano lessons when she was six and remembers with affection that as little children they were encouraged by their principal David Williams to dance and to join the choir. Her voice training began at 11 with lessons from Corrine Laird and developed during her years at Wollongong University when she also studied at Wollongong Conservatorium.

With a degree in English Literature and a Dip.Ed., Jess took up her appointment at Bundanoon four years ago. She explains that she encourages children to sing by choosing songs with a range to suit the limits of their voices and finds they are most enthusiastic about singing popular songs. The school choir has grown in membership from 30 to 70 and commitment is tested with practices held during lunch hours. The same goes for junior and senior dance groups and dance aerobics when classes are held after school. Boys' Hip Hop for years 4, 5 and 6 has



Above: Jess with Bundanoon students and below: with children in Bourke

Classroom hiphop

grown in popularity; this group also meets at lunch time. Jess says, "Although the group started with just 11 boys, there are now 22 who, without previous experience, have developed their confidence and love to perform." When asked how she selects the music Jess explained, "I download songs from iTunes and the boys are always willing to make

suggestions. The most rewarding aspect of their participation in Hip Hop is the sense of identity and confidence they have developed at school. Recently we have introduced a Dance Battle between the Senior Dance Group and the Boys' Hip Hop. Everyone is having great fun!"

Jess has worked as a volunteer at the ARIAs as well as being involved in fundraising activities and now has a particular interest in an allied health group called 'Eternity Aid' sponsored by Save the Children. This group works with children in Bourke to assist with their educational and health needs. Jess explains, "It is a very successful and worthwhile project and I would love to organise a big musical event in Bourke. Music is an extremely powerful tool and can assist in bringing communities together." Jess also volunteers on a regular basis at a Juvenile Justice Detention Centre where she assists young people with their reading and general life skills. She has witnessed how positively the children respond to music and how they are able to share their own life stories through music composition.

Many performance

opportunities have been offered throughout Jess's career. She enjoys singing, playing guitar and piano. She has sung on numerous occasions with renowned Jazz musicians Ian Cooper and Julian Lee. "Both of these men are extremely talented musicians. Ian Cooper has been a wonderful support and encouragement to me over the years and I will be forever grateful to him. When I was performing with Julian Lee it was so exciting to think that I was singing with a pianist who had played for Frank Sinatra." Jess has also performed in a number of musicals and was a featured artist in the 'Southern Stars'.

Through the Department of Education, Jess would love to become involved in large-scale music events such as 'Southern Stars' and 'Schools Spectacular'.

"I am really pleased that these events support young talent from our public schools. I am so inspired by the amazing work that goes on behind the scenes to organise these incredible shows!"

In the meantime the students at Bundanoon Public School are the beneficiaries of her creative training and enthusiasm for performance.



Students stepping out

AT MOSS VALE High School HSC music students have just completed their final theory exam.

Their teacher, Linda Johnston, meeting them in the library, is pleased to hear they all thought it was a fair paper.

Thirty percent of the assessment for Music 1 is on a written paper and 70% on performance/composition.

Students can choose from a wide range of instruments.

Linda explains that they make a CD each year. This year they produced 16 original

compositions and three covers on their disc which will be on sale at the launch. They are all interested in the music making process and have contributed to concerts and school events.

The common factor in this group is their love of music from a very early age. As Josh Walker says, "I was fiddling about on the piano when I was 5" and Dan had the advantage of learning an instrument at Robertson Primary School where there has been a significant music program for a number of years.



Josh Krone plays trombone and performs in an eight piece band called "Tommy M and the Mastersound". Josh says they have made an EP and been successful in a number of competitions, with a win of \$2500 in the Mercury Bluescope event in Wollongong. He thinks he'll take a gap year, to work and travel as well as continuing with the band, before making any further decisions.



Ben Williams has been "doing vocals" and playing electric guitar with his heavy metal band for about seven years. They have had a number of gigs. He is serious about his music and hopes to enrol in a BMus course at the Australian Institute of Music (AIM).



Dan Freere sings and plays guitar with a group called "Well Strung". At the moment they are fourth on the folk charts. He also plays piano, composes and is interested in music production.



Samara Corthorn has moved from playing contemporary to classical guitar, explaining that this involves early music compositions from the 17th century. She hopes to start with a degree course at Newcastle University and follow it with an additional teaching qualification.



Josh Walker plays guitar and has a recording studio at home. He intends specialising in audio through a BMus degree at AIM.

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I look forward to hearing from you



The Bundanoon Club

THE RECENT CLUB AGM saw Ralph Clark step down as Chairman after several years. He remains a Director.

The new Chairperson is Sandra Nicholls.

Sandra brings considerable experience to the position and will provide a new impetus and new ideas. Her enthusiasm is infectious and promises well for the future. The other directors are Michael Hoyer (Deputy Chairman), Alan Millward (Secretary), Margaret Alaban, Phillip Hawksley and Ken Hodge.

Following suggestions from members and visitors some clubhouse improvements are in the wings. Look forward to seeing some changes early in the new year.

The Events subcommittee, under the leadership of Alan Millward, has already staged a successful Italian night and a most enjoyable Melbourne Cup function.

See the Club advertisement on page 5 for a list of our special festive season events. New this year are a pre-Christmas dinner and a New Year's karaoke party. You think you have a great sing-along voice? Well, come and prove it!



Christmas Raffle

1st Prize: Weber Family Q barbecue, value \$700

2nd prize: Lenovo laptop Computer, value \$500



Tickets \$5 each available at the bar. Drawn Wednesday 21 December.

Australia Day

Celebrate Australia Day with us at the Club. This will have a sporting theme, with children's activities, bowls, croquet and a 20/20 cricket match on the Oval. BBQ lunch and dinner from the Bistro.

Weekly events at the Club:

- Monday: Bingo at 11.00am
- Wednesday: Members' lucky badge draw
Meat raffles and Jokers Wild —
Jackpot stands at \$4,500 (as jcg went to print)
- Friday: Members' lucky badge draw
Meat raffles

Bistro on the Green:

Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 6.00pm
Our new chef Wayne puts on a wonderful menu including the traditional \$7 Thursday roast and \$8 specials on Saturdays.

Bowls:

Wednesday Ladies 10.00am, Men 1.00pm
Saturday: Ladies and Men at 1.00pm

Croquet:

Golf: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
Association: Wednesday and Friday

Courtesy bus available on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights. Details from the Club on 4883 6174



CWA report

AS WE APPROACH the end of another year Bundanoon CWA can look back to a number of successful activities, thanks to our dedicated members.

We gratefully received a grant from Wingecarribee Sire Council, which paid for blinds to be fitted to all the windows in our Rooms. These now look very nice following a new coat of paint and some earlier repairs.

Our International Day was happy and lively with all our 'sister-branches' attending, from as far afield as Milton-Ulladulla.

Thank you to our member Anna Shead and her husband Ron for opening their residence "Kardinia" on a bright September morning to host our Antiques Day. Their display of memorabilia and lamps reflect their enthusiasm for collecting.

Members and friends also enjoyed several ballroom dancing numbers performed by Ron and his dancing partner Lois Langtry, followed by generous refreshments in their "ballroom".

The first week-end in October was our Garage Sale day. Although hampered by rain, it still brought in some useful funds, thanks to our donors and helpers.

On Sunday 16th October we hosted two buses from the ACT for morning tea – always a good fundraiser.

Passengers on the second bus included an eight-strong group which contained the recently-appointed High Commissioner of South Africa, Her Excellency Koleka Mqukwana.

This lovely lady was eager to visit the Tulip Festival and the gardens and Villages of our area. She showed a keen interest in our rural life.

The Annual General Meeting saw our dear President Margaret McNulty re-elected. Best wishes to all officer bearers for the coming year.

Our Christmas Party in December will again be held at Tree Tops. New members will be most welcome to join us!

Let's celebrate in love and peace until we meet again next year.

—Francesca Gunesch, 4883 6730
Vice-President

Men's Shed

THE BUNDANOON MENS' Shed project is progressing well. A Constitution has been drawn up, and a President, Dr Evan Smith, has been appointed as coordinator.

Certain minor matters are to be finalised with Wingecarribee Shire Council before the building can be handed over for use by the members.

The Shed now has its own website under construction, the address being www.bundanoonmensshed.com. Existing Bundanoon community websites will have links inserted to direct readers to this address.

Stage 1 of the project, the woodworking workshop, is close to occupancy and funding is being sought for Stage 2, the metalworking workshop and computer equipment. The Bundanoon Men's Shed is always ready to accept donations or sponsorship from the community and local businesses to further its capacity to contribute to the community. New members are always welcome.

—Ned Ward, 4883 6082



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Iridologist & Herbalist - Lavender gift ideas
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Fashion in house - Dolls' clothes - Art & craft
Antiques, Collectables & Bric a Brac - Organic breads & coffee.
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Email: s_vedric06@hotmail.com

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Through Ross-coloured glasses

by Ross Armfield

NOW THAT SUMMER has arrived with its warmth and promise of good times, my thoughts return to the glorious family holidays of my youth spent at the south coast village of Kioloa. For my two brothers and me, growing up in the sixties, this was paradise – beautiful beaches, clear lagoons, kangaroos, forests, secret coves and ancient Aboriginal middens and, best of all, sneaky access to our parents ice-cream delivery account at the general store. The only downside was the hell of getting there.

We lived in Concord, 180 miles (in those days) from our beloved destination. Dad would pack the EK Holden to the gunnels, Mum would pack ham and tomato rolls and we'd be off, but not before the usual fight by the three boys to see who would get window seats in the back. No-one wanted 'middle'. So every 60 miles there'd be a swap, giving each complaining child two 'window' sections and one 'middle' section. Problem solved (sort of!). Next, we'd relentlessly beg for the rolls, despite the fact that they were never given out until Engadine, which was considered 'well into' our trip and outside the city limits at that time. No sooner had we disposed of the food than the universal chant of 'are we there yet?' would commence. We used it so much I actually think we may have invented it! In fairness, it was terribly boring stuck in holiday traffic on the sub-standard roads back then and there are only so many times we could play Spotto, I-Spy and sing "Ging Gang Gilly Gilly"!

And then there was travel sickness! I was a notorious 'hurler' who unfortunately had a father who was a notorious non-stopper. "We've just passed that caravan that we've been crawling behind for the last ten miles so I'm not pulling over for anything!" Luckily, my Dad worked at Arnott's chip factory and had access to empty, heavy-duty plastic salt bags! In this 'blissfully ignorant of environmental issues' era, once the bag was used for regurgitated ham and tomato rolls it was thrown out the window into formerly pristine bush land. Many years from now, due to the thickness of the plastic, archaeologists will be able to determine the diet of mid 20th century children by examining the remains in those bags; ham and tomato roll, Arnotts Thins, two musk sticks and a Choo-Choo bar! After what seemed an eternity we'd finally arrive at our destination – excited but exhausted. Bear in mind that the above routine took place every Christmas, Easter and long weekend holidays – but it was worth it!

Now we were in the realm of endless deserted beaches, exploring, surfing, climbing and playing; we left in the morning only to return

when we were hungry or if the sun was setting. This was the 'pre-blockout world' of basting with coconut oil, burning and peeling multiple times before achieving a tan. We carried our 9- and 10-foot surfboards along dirt roads to dry, wind-swept sands where we were forced into wild spins as we headed for the waves. When very young, we'd wait a full hour after eating something before being allowed in the surf. A minute less, we were told, and we would drown because of cramps.

I remember my younger brother, Neil, crying at the sight of shark embryos cut from their mothers in the fish-cleaning ritual that took place on the rocks when the men returned from early morning fishing trips.

One year we treated ourselves to an illicit Streets Vienetta ice cream cake, sharing it as we walked home along the dusty road, having put it on our parents' 'slate' at the local shop. I recall my elder brother, Ian, and I flattening cardboard cartons and using them to slide down massive sand and grass hills behind the beach. There were film screenings for pyjama-clad kids in the evenings at the Merry Beach store, games of Scrabble, Monopoly and cards at night, kerosene lamps and fridges and baths in backyard tubs of sun warmed water.

These are not 'rose coloured' memories, they were good old days – but then there was the trip back home to Sydney!!

* * * * *

And the Armfield family beach holiday then moved on to include the next generation! Following is my son's email comment on the above.

Very good Da! Beautiful sweet memories and imagery! I too miss Kioloa.

Maybe one day when I am (old) and I am writing for a local community gazette I'll pen my own memories of loading up the green Camry with doonas, sheets, and that ridiculous boogie board. And let's not forget those essential noodles!

I remember that we'd arrive only to have the well-settled neighbouring campers watch us unpack it all!! Oh, and then there were fish and chips at Ulladulla, and my constant disappointment that despite being taken yearly to a breathtakingly beautiful beach with sun and blue water my heart's desire was to join the human garbage at Rowan's Funland. Not once was I allowed to go there so I soon gave up asking.

Splices, Gaytimes, Paddle Pops and my insistence that I watch the Golden Globe Awards ceremony on that tiny TV, whilst Mother had another vat of gin and her friend disapprovingly squinted one eye with the 33rd brandy and dry of the night!

Good Times!

Thank you Thomas and apologies to your mother and her friend. Ed



“Who are born of thee...”

My friend William (“Call me Bill”) Roberts is an ex-Pom, but how much he’s “ex” I’m never quite sure.

Bill and his missus have been in Australia for years, yet, every now and then, their Englishness breaks loose. This provides us home-grown Aussies with tons of amusement: taking the mickey out of Bill is one of our favourite entertainments. Thank God he’s such a good sport.

His missus, Charlotte, (“Charlotte, please. Not Lottie!”), a blue rinse lady who insists on teapots with spoonfuls of loose tea, not proper teabags, decks him out whenever she can in moleskins, riding boots and Akubra, real squatter stuff, but we keep a close eye on his clobber, particularly when he’s with us in the local watering hole, where the accepted gear is stubbies, flannies and thongs, with towelling hat. Charlotte’s been heard to sniff “colonials” but we say, “Fair go, missus! He’s a dinkum Aussie now,” and Bill calms us all down with, “She’ll be right, mate!” but with the enunciation of an Oxford don.

I tease him that when he goes to meet his maker he’ll end up in some corner of an Aussie paddock that is forever England. He protests that all he wants is a home among the gum trees but I’m betting that on his tombstone there’ll be a reference to his birthplace in some “shire” back in Pommie land. I tell him that, if I should scratch deeply enough, I’d find Buck House tattooed on his heart. Rolling down his shirt sleeves and applying sunscreen all over his pink cheeks, he roars with laughter. “Not on your bloody life, mate! I had it surgically removed when I took out Australian citizenship,” but he sounds as English as Eliza Doolittle making her famous declaration, “Not bloody likely!” to the bigwigs of London society.

Last New Year’s Day, Bill and Charlotte invited me and the missus to a barbecue, along with a heap of others. My missus takes a pav, of course. Bill’s really glad to see us coming in with the pav because it’s his favourite pud. “Great, love!” he calls out to my Freda as we arrive, looking for the fridge to put the pav in, out of the heat, along with a couple of dozen lamingtons brought by the other wives. “Food fridge and sheilas in kitchen, drinks fridge and blokes on back deck,” he announces, but the accent is so Public School that my missus breaks into a chorus of “Land of Hope and Glory”.

“So, sometimes the Brit comes to the surface,” he says, redfaced. He confesses something I’ve long suspected, that he has to work hard on Aussie talk; in times of stress, and when more than a little drunk, he falls back into Pommie speak.

“Why would you want to change your natural way of speaking anyway?” I ask him. “It’d be real odd if you spoke like a Queensland shearer.”

“Aussies tease me, mate. I’m soft and sensitive at heart,” he chuckles. “I like to blend in with the crowd.”

“You blend? With that skin?”

As I said, most of the time he’s proper Aussie, like us, I mean, without even having to think about it. Then he’ll forget, and raise his hat to a lady in the street, or pull out a chair for his own wife, or open the car door for her, things no self-respecting Aussie would be seen dead doing.

Forgot to tell you about last year’s Australia Day in the village park, didn’t I? We get there about eight in the morning, expecting snags and sauce on bread, to be greeted with lamb patties with chutney, on bread rolls, with fried egg and bacon, and little pale green paper napkins. Smells great and tastes better, and I have three helpings, even though it’s posh grub. I’m gobsmacked, though, when the lady behind the table exclaims, “Tomato sauce! Not here, sir!” Then Bill whispers in my ear, “Come back to my car, mate. I heard a rumour they were going fancy for this breakfast, and I smuggled some sauce in the car boot.” You see, when it comes to those really important things, he’s a true blue Aussie, a genuine friend in time of need.

And yet ...

We were on the phone to each other for about an hour yesterday afternoon, grieving over the Aussie debacle in their second innings of the first South Africa test. It’s a terrible thing to see a grown man cry, and I was glad Bill wasn’t there to see me weep.

But I detected an element of reserved elation in Bill’s voice as he commented on the safe position the Poms are maintaining in world cricket at the moment. Finally he says in his best Prince Charles manner: “Must hang up now, old man. Time for the BBC news.”

—Margaret Symonds



Protect bushland and help the Southern Highlands

IF YOU HAD a mind to do so, it would be possible to set off on foot down Gullies Road from Bundanoon and from Gambell's Rest walk southwards without leaving the bush (except maybe to cross a few roads) get to within about 50km of Melbourne.

It would be quite a bushwalk, taking you through spectacular National Parks, wilderness areas, State Forests and private land within the Great Eastern Ranges or – as it was once known – the Great Dividing Range. These Ranges stretch from the Australian Alps in Victoria to Atherton in far North Queensland.

It would, however, be a different story if you headed off on a bushwalk from Bundanoon in the opposite direction. Before reaching the Nattai National Park near High Range, you would need to cross over 30 kilometres of grazing land, hobby farms, residential areas and some scattered patches of bush. Such a walk across the cleared landscape between Morton National Park and the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area would highlight just how historic land use and development have resulted in a significant fragmentation of a corridor of natural vegetation once used by wildlife and people.

For this reason the Southern Highlands has been recognised as one of several significant regions within the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative, which aims to establish a conservation corridor along the NSW entire section of the 2,800km bushland corridor that is the Great Eastern Ranges.

The Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Authority (HNCMA) and a range of partners have started a new project in the Southern Highlands inviting local property owners to protect existing bushland, and in some areas plant new vegetation, with the aim of linking up patches of bushland throughout the region.

Greg Stone, Catchment Officer at the HNCMA, said the new program – Biolinks – was started because the area between the Blue Mountains National Park and Morton National Park was identified as a "critical opportunity" for a major bushland corridor in the region.

"These areas are special because they contain significant woodland, grassland and wetland vegetation communities and are home to many threatened species," said Greg.

"In addition we have a spectacular range of native animals using the bushland areas here including the koala, brush-tailed rock-wallaby, spotted-tailed quoll, gang-gang and glossy black cockatoo, diamond firetail and yellow-bellied glider."

"Creating 'corridors' or vegetation links between properties will improve the ability of animals and plants to move, feed and breed throughout the region and beyond. It is part of the long-term vision for the region and the Great Eastern Ranges in general.

Other Biolinks partners include Greening Australia, the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), local councils, community groups and landholders.

"We are now working with landholders from across the Southern Highlands to offer funding for weed control or fencing through to long-term conservation agreements.

"We meet with landholders and talk them through the options and match their needs on their property with the funding that is available. Along with funding, we offer technical advice and expertise is available to help get your project underway," said Greg.

What funding is available locally?

It is purely voluntary if you want to get involved in the project and there is a range of funding opportunities available to:

- Plant local native species
- Fence off riparian areas and remnant bushland
- Reduce the impact and threat of weeds
- Carry out large scale native plant revegetation
- Protect bushland in long-term conservation agreements
- Phone the HNCMA on (02) 4828 6747 for more information.



Benefits to local landholders

There are considerable benefits for landholders on their property:

- Better farm and livestock management
- Improved pastures, crop and livestock productivity
- Improved shelter and shade for stock
- Keeping stock nutrients on pastures where they are needed
- Reduced erosion
- Improved local water quality
- Helping our wildlife

—Thanks to Greg Stone and Peter O'Malley, HNCMA

Workshops coming up in your area

As part of the Biolinks project, a series of workshops and field days will be held over the next 12 months including:

Birds of the Southern Highlands

Build your skills and understanding in identifying local birds and bird calls. Participants will be given a booklet for local bird species, instruction in how to use a field guide book and how to learn bird calls.

Land and Water

Over many years wind, water and volcanic activity have worked together to form the present landscape of the Southern Highlands and Tablelands. Learn more about the processes which have shaped the land and its relationships to the present living environment.

Life in a Community

There's more to the bush than just trees! Learn how to identify and describe vegetation communities in the Southern Highlands and Tablelands area and get a closer look at how ecosystems work.

Habitats & Connectivity

Rural landholders will obtain skills and understanding in how to better manage the variety of habitats on their properties and improve connectivity across individual properties and the region. These workshops will include information on the different connectivity needs of fauna.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Who lived in the Southern Highlands and Tablelands before the first Europeans arrived? Find out more about the original inhabitants of the area, how they interacted with the environment and their on-going relationship to the land.

For an update on times and dates for these events go to: www.hn.cma.nsw.gov.au/events or phone the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Authority on (02) 4828 6747 for more information.

Where are they now?

JCG HAS FEATURED the Lick family and the Davis family in previous editions. Some of the members of these families have performed for audiences at Bundanoon Memorial Hall. Andrew Rumsey has been a popular artist at Arts Bundanoon concerts and Jo Caseley is a singer and songwriter, well-known in the Highlands. Her music is available on CD. In this issue, with its music theme, we decided it was time to catch up with them.

The Davis family

Emma (flute): THE ELDEST of the musical Davis siblings is now married to Gus Vichera and has recently moved back to the south from Brisbane where she had been managing several Witchery and David Lawrence stores. She is now living in Marrickville and works as a course coordinator for Think Education Group offering a number of on-line and distance education courses for students. As a private education group they preside over a number of colleges including the well-known design school, Billy Blue at North Sydney.

James (viola) finished his degree in Information and Communication Technology at the University of Wollongong in 2009, and is now the IT Manager at Danebank Anglican School for Girls. Learning the viola has afforded him the opportunity to perform in Australia and China with the Nova Youth Orchestra, a string orchestra based in St Ives. James is also part of a small string group at Danebank where he mentors primary school students in violin and viola.

Esther (cello and piano) finished her Bachelor of Science with Honours in Psychology last year at the University of Sydney. Since then she has been working as a research assistant in Psychology and Public Health at the University of Sydney and aims to begin a Doctor of Clinical Psychology/Master of Science degree in 2013 to qualify as a clinical psychologist. Esther was awarded a Distinction with Honours in (Eighth Grade piano) in



2008. She hopes to pursue further piano studies as well as adding cello qualifications to her CV in the future.

Hannah (violin and viola) is a qualified personal trainer and is just finishing

James and Hannah



Linda (mum), Hannah, Esther and Emma

her undergraduate degree in Exercise Science and Nutrition at the University of Wollongong. For the next two years she will be studying a Masters of Dietetics and Exercise Rehabilitation. Hannah is still studying violin and viola with Dalzell Oldham and recently achieved a Merit award in Eighth Grade violin. She is endeavouring to complete an A MusTCL in the future.

All the Davis musicians really enjoy playing chamber music and have been performing together in local concerts in Bundanoon, Bowral, Goulburn, Marulan and Nowra. They express their immense gratitude to their bold yet gentle teacher Dal Oldham of Goulburn Conservatorium who has gone above and beyond his duties to enrich their lives with music and provide a stellar example of a gracious, brilliant musician. They also express their joy at having Emma rejoin the crew!

Jo Caseley

THE TITLE OF Jo's most recent CD, *dusty dirttrack*, says it all – she is taking an extended road trip with her family and at the time of writing was travelling in Western Australia. No doubt her travels will provide inspiration for more music making in the future!



Passion for piano



ANDREW RUMSEY HAS shared his love of music with audiences in Bundanoon since he was a high school student. Music lovers will recall the successful benefit concerts he arranged for his international athlete younger brother Danny to help fund his overseas trips. Danny's gold medal successes are now being challenged as Andrew pursues his career in music.

Andrew is nearing the end of his Honours degree in classical piano at the Australian National University School of Music in Canberra. For the past two years he has been fortunate enough to study under Professor Marcela Fiorillo, a specialist in Latin American music and former lecturer at the Buenos Aires Conservatory.

Andrew's student life has taken him to the national and the international stage, where he has performed and competed in solo and ensemble music competitions. Most recently he competed in the 2011 ANU Chamber Music Competition and was awarded the People's Choice Award. Last year he was named the best Instrumental Accompanist in the Margaret Smiles Accompaniment Competition and won the Audience Prize in the same event. Also in 2010 he

was awarded the Imad Nassir Piano Performance Prize, and performed at the Australian Pavilion at the 2010 World Trade Expo in Shanghai.

One of Andrew's passions is using his love of music to help other people. Earlier this year he organized a fundraising concert for the Queensland flood victims. Six internationally-acclaimed artists performed at the event along with Andrew and other senior performance students. The concert raised over \$10,830 towards the Premier's Disaster Relief Appeal.

When interviewed he was in the midst of preparations for his graduation recital where he will perform works of Bach, Beethoven, Rachmaninov, Khachaturian, Debussy, Scriabin, Chopin and Brahms. He currently holds a teaching position at the Music Learning Centre in Canberra. Later this month he will be performing Beethoven's 3rd Piano Concerto in C minor with the Mosman Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Andrew del Riccio. Next year he hopes to continue post-graduate studies at the ANU with his current teacher.

Clockwise from top: Maddison, Courtney, Abella, Tiffany, Brianna, Bethany and Georgia Lick.

The Lick family



WHEN JCG PUBLISHED a story about the Lick family in 2008, we learnt that all seven girls were being home-schooled and were amazed that they still had time for extra-curricular activities – music, dance, gymnastics and sport.

Courtney was playing and teaching flute, but at the moment she is too busy with other things for music.

Bethany, who was playing guitar, is now completing a communications course.

Tiffany is in her final year at the ANU

studying a Bachelor of Music (performance) playing clarinet. She hopes to return next year for her Honours year. She had her final recital at Llewellyn Hall in November. She is also part of a chamber group called "J'telle" and for part of her course work this semester organised a concert here in Bundanoon and at St Jude's in Bowral. "J'telle" has also been asked to perform at the National Library of Australia early next year for an exhibition entitled *The Handwritten Exhibition*. This is an exhibition of original music scores by many

great composers. She has also been asked to play in the orchestra for the performances of Donizetti's opera, *The Elixir of Love*, which is being performed in Canberra in December.

As far as the younger girls are concerned: Maddison plays drums and learns from another homeschooler, Rob Stone, from Wingello; Brianna and Georgia are learning flute from Edwina Carter of Bundanoon and Abella is studying piano with Leonie Walters.



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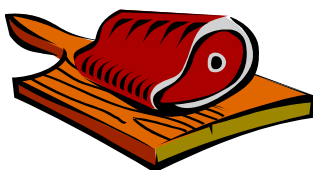
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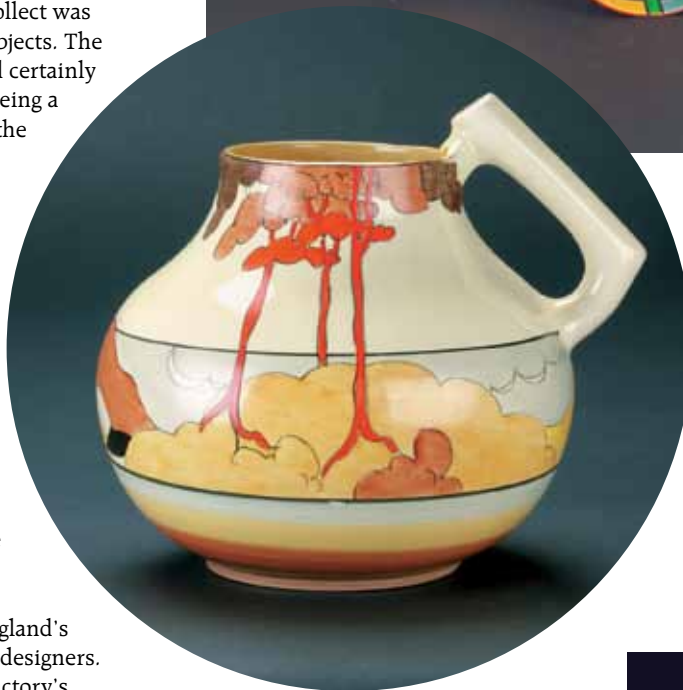
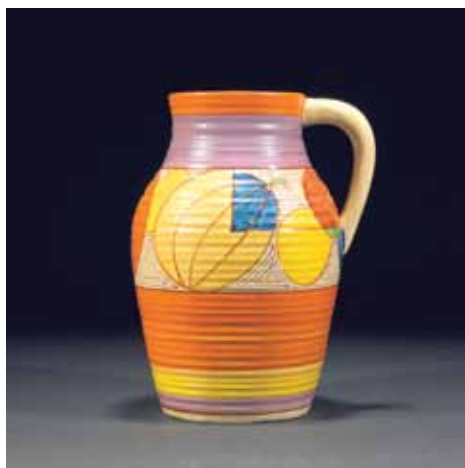


THE TWO MOST frequently asked questions of me are "Why Clarice Cliff?" and "What is your favourite Clarice Cliff pattern?"

The first has a very long answer and the second, a very short one. My interest in the work of Clarice

Cliff evolved over a number of years and was arrived at in stages. Firstly, I have always admired the Art Deco style – it was perhaps the last great, comprehensive design style – one could live in an Art Deco home, furnished in an Art Deco style, eat from Art Deco tableware and the list goes on. Being of a somewhat acquisitive nature, I started to acquire examples of Art deco material and the easiest (and cheapest) to collect was tableware and associated pottery objects. The collection soon got out of hand and certainly lacked direction. But it was after seeing a display of Clarice Cliff ceramics at the Old Ark Antique Bazaar in Sydney that I decided to specialise in Clarice Cliff's work.

After purchasing the two books on her work, I started to appreciate that there was more to this remarkable woman than a few splashes of bright orange on a vase and some decidedly odd-looking cups. I was intrigued more by what the authors did not say than what was in the sometimes extravagant text. Most current books on Clarice Cliff focus selectively within a few years of her long and varied design career, thus selling short one of England's most innovative industrial pottery designers. Through my long research in her factory's archives, currently held in Stoke on Trent, speaking to her former employees and analysing her ceramic designs, a picture

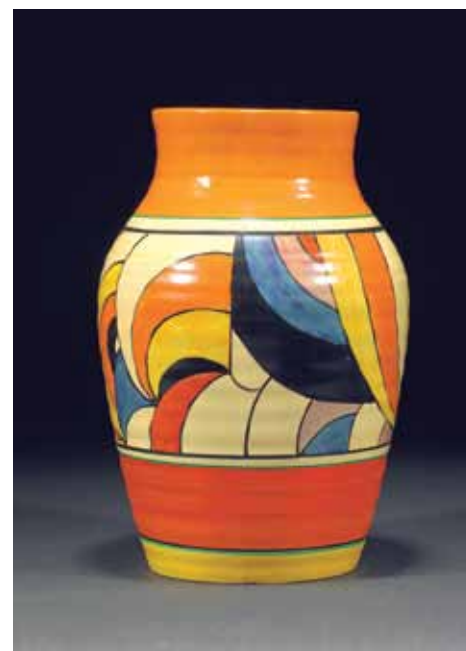


In 2012, through Arts Bundanoon, I plan to give an illustrated talk on Clarice Cliff (her life and works) to be held in the Soldier's Memorial Hall. People will be encouraged to bring along their pieces of Clarice Cliff pottery as part of the presentation's "Show and Tell". As convener of Arts Bundanoon, I hope this talk marks the beginning of a wider range of cultural events in future.

—Greg Slater

emerged of a woman with a great sense of style and extraordinary imagination. From her beginnings in 1925 as a modeller of shapes through to her retirement in 1962, Clarice Cliff was an artist who knew how to develop a theme, keep her designs fresh and always had an answer when tastes changed. My research in the factory archives revealed the work of other designers in the pottery – Dolly and Ethel Cliff (Clarice's sisters) together with John Butler, Ron Birks, Gladys Scarlett, Fred Ridgway, Betty Sylvester and Aubrey Dunn. All worked alongside Clarice Cliff, many of their designs issued under her name but all overshadowed by her strong position in the English pottery industry.

And..... my favourite design? My favourite is the next design by Clarice Cliff I have not seen before.



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Bundanoon Waratah Trimmers	Dorothy Quigg	4883 6233
Bundanoon Visitors' Group	Harry Hull	4883 6372
Chess Club	Pat Foley	4883 6064
Country Women's Association (<i>meets 1st Thurs, 1 pm, CWA Rooms</i>):		
.....	Marie Reid	4883 6526
Currabunda Wetland Group (<i>meets 1st and 3rd Friday</i>)		
.....	Sheila Micholson	4883 4347
.....	Ralph Davies	4883 6659
Garden Club.....	Ross Miller	4883 4606
Glow Worm Glen Track Cttee	Anna Perston	4883 6125
Green Team.....	Valerie Crampton.....	4883 6574
History Group (<i>meets 1st Monday, 10 am, The Bundanoon Club</i>)		
.....	Patricia Guy	4883 6971
Lions Club (<i>meets 1st/3rd Monday, 7.30 pm, Bundanoon Club</i>):		
.....	Les Johnson	4883 6918
Men's Shed (<i>meets 1st Tuesday, 10am, supper room, Memorial Hall</i>):		
.....	Ned Ward, Publicity.....	4883 6082
Morton Nat. Park Volunteers (<i>meets 2nd Wednesday</i>):		
.....	Alan & Wendy Hyman	4883 7763
Playgroup	Nathalie Brokate	4883 7660
RSL (<i>meets 1st Tues (exc. January), 2 pm, RSL Rooms at Oval</i>):		
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Secretary	Murray Loane	4883 6709
Serendipity: the choir	Kerith Fowles	4883 6515

Sports Clubs

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Bowls (Women)	Margaret Alaban.....	4883 7560
Cricket.....	Jeff Mitchell	4883 6528
Croquet	Leila Merson	4883 6571
Golf Croquet	Neill Ustick	4869 5152
Pony Club.....	Gale Pritchett	4883 7195
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Support & Volunteer Services

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Early Childhood Clinic		4861 8000
Fire Station.....		4883 6333
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Meals on Wheels	Fay Carter	4883 7441
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Red Cross (Exeter branch)	Anna Hopkins	4883 4259
Rural Fire Service (RFS)	Craig Rowley	0427 511 837
RFS Auxiliary	Rosemary Page	4883 6499
RSPCA (Goulburn/Highlands)		0412 475 428
Volunteering Wingecarribee	Judi Rose	4869 4617
WIRES.....		4862 1788

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Anglican Parish of Sutton Forest

Holy Trinity, Bundanoon	Sunday, 9.00 am, 5.30 pm
St Aidan's, Exeter	Sunday, 9.30 am
St Stephen's, Tallong	Sunday, 10 am
All Saints, Sutton Forest	1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays, 11am
.....	4th Sunday, 2.30 pm

Uniting Church

Bundanoon	4th Sunday, 11am
Mid-week service & lunch, Thurs, 12.30pm (bring sandwich)	
Moss Vale	Sunday, 9.30 am

Catholic Church

St Brigid's Bundanoon	1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays, 5 pm
.....	2nd & 4th Sundays, 8 am
St Paul's, Moss Vale	Sat, 6pm & Sunday, 9.30am

Iona Christian Community, St Patrick's, Sutton Forest

2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays 10.30 am



Christmas services

Anglican Parish of Sutton Forest: details page 8

Uniting Church: Please call 4868 2890

Catholic Church: Please call Parish Office on 4868 1931

Iona Christian Community, St Patrick's, Sutton Forest:
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Smooth Delight rose, by Ben Mawston.



16th C Flanders tapestry and foxtail lilies, Chateau de Chenonceau, Loire Valley, France, by Graham Whisker.



Flight of the bumble bees

LINDA CHRISTISON CAUGHT these little performers on their way to the stage at the annual Bundanoon Public School concert.

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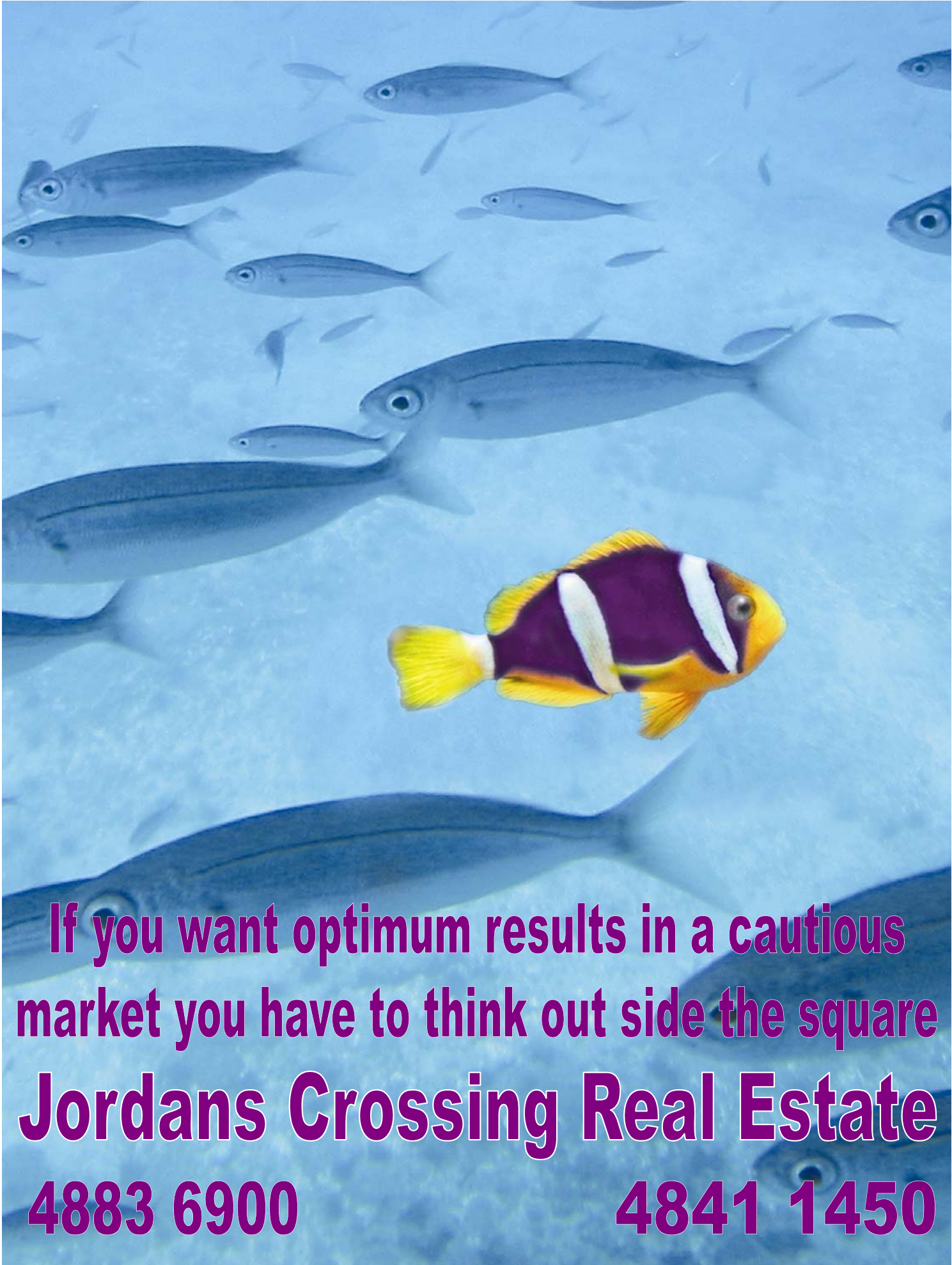
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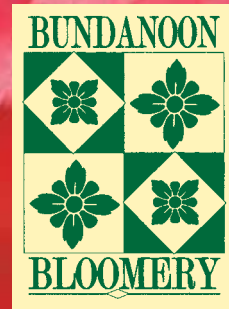


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