

jcg



A magazine for Bundanoon
and Southern Villages

Moving in

Young families heading for the hills

18–19

Welcome to
Winterfest

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A healthy
main street

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Take two: the
Reid Brothers

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Playgroup,
Preschool, big
school



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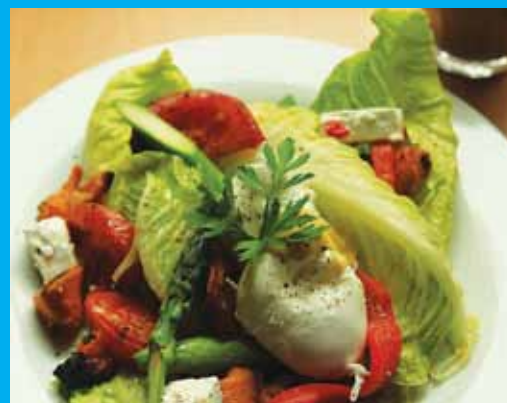
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BCA meetings

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Advertising info: page 49

Deadline for next issue:
Friday 27 July



Miranda Lean (left) AKA Clarice Cliff, Marie Klaussen (right)

Photos: Denise Gill



**Art deco
exhibition a
great success**



Joining Bundanoon's newest garden

ALTHOUGH LIFE IS full for Tina McLaren-Bell with a family, a part time job, and her own flourishing backyard veggie patch, she and young son, 2½ year old Ryan, have been enjoying their involvement with Bundanoon Community Garden.

As a shared community project, Tina sees the community garden as a beneficial and accessible way in which she can contribute to the community through sharing skills, time and knowledge about veggie gardening with interested others. She also enjoys the laid back, friendly atmosphere and the practical ideas exchanged which have given her some new insights for her own home veggie patch.

From little Ryan's perspective, "I like digging in the ground" – and what more motivation does a young one need to enjoy being part of the community garden?

So far, Ryan and Tina have helped plant potatoes, radishes and strawberries as well as tearing up newspapers for the rich composting on site. They have already enjoyed harvesting from the community garden too – beans, zucchini & green tomatoes

(for homemade chutney).

Tina and Ryan come to the community garden when they can – on either a Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday. They pop in for as long or as little as possible depending on their other demands. Both are looking forward to helping plant out the specially designated children's garden bed, then caring for the plants, watching them grow, helping to harvest them and finally eat them... all part of the nourishing and chemical-free community garden experience. The soon to be installed children's sandpit may also add a little extra incentive for young veggie gardener Ryan.

All members of the community are welcome to come and check out Bundanoon Community Garden, open from 10.00am – 3.00pm Tuesday, Thursday and now also Saturday. Contact Tony Coyle: 0402 719 716 or email coyle_tony@hotmail.com.





AUDIENCE NUMBERS WERE wonderfully encouraging for our recent May concert series. Was it the enigmatic title, "It Takes Two"? Was it the presence of soprano Nicole Thomson, our Sydney-based associate artist, totally unknown to almost everyone in the Highlands and therefore having a quality of mystery? Was it some other factor altogether? Despite the seemingly inevitable 'conflict' on both concert days with other performances in the Highlands we performed to 100 people in Bowral and some 200 in Bundanoon! Such ongoing, enthusiastic support is greatly encouraging for a country community choir; we are told that many Sydney community choirs would be delighted to have such audience support.

Working with Nicole, who gave generously of her time in travelling from Sydney to several rehearsals as well as to the concerts, was a delight for all in the choir and audiences alike. Her amazing musical versatility combined with warmth and genuine enthusiasm endeared her to us all. Serendipity:the choir plans to have more contact with Nicole later in the year by inviting her to work with us as tutor at a regular rehearsal session.

We needed a boost to our confidence in May, as earlier in the year we learned that our application to the Veolia-Mulwaree trust for assistance in purchasing a trailer for our splendid choral risers had been unsuccessful. This was a serious setback as we are very aware of the need for top quality housing and transport for our valuable risers. We will continue to investigate other means of financing this purchase.

Serendipity:the choir has several activities planned for July: we are singing at a benefit concert in the Mittagong Playhouse on the 5th (tickets are available from the Tourist Information Centre), helping to raise money to support local actor/singer David Furey who is dealing with multiple cancers; then on consecutive Sundays we are carol-ling at Dormie House for two 'Christmas in July' events. In August we begin rehearsals for our December programme "Make We Merry" which, as the title suggests, will be an essentially Christmas programme, full of joyful, celebratory music. We have been invited to take this programme to Sydney and plan to do so in November, after which we will perform at the Bowral Uniting Church Hall on Saturday 1st December. In Bundanoon, there will be TWO December performances, as we were overwhelmed by audience numbers last year; so you have a choice – either Saturday 8th or Sunday 9th. All the Highlands' concerts will be at 4.00pm. We hope you will be able to join us for a festive start to the Christmas season.

—Kerith Fowles – Director of Music



'Flowers for all occasions – deliveries all areas'

ANNETTE VAN TIL'S delivery van with its distinctive floral theme has been a familiar sight in the Highlands for many years, and her beautiful flowers, wreaths and arrangements have graced many a home and church. Annette, who died in February after a short illness, was one of our very first and long-standing 'out of town' advertisers, and her Moss Vale shop, which she opened in 1980, has a strong following in the southern villages.

Bundanoon continues to have a connection as the business has been bought by Ellen Hines. We wish her well in her new venture.

Transport on the Government's radar – long term



Photo: Goulburn Post

AT THE REGIONAL Action Plan meeting at Mittagong in April, with State Ministers, integrated public transport was accepted as the most important development need in the shire.

In Goulburn on 4 May representatives of the region were invited to assist the government in identifying the priorities to be included in the Transport Master Plan. There was also an opportunity to discuss issues with the Minister for Transport, the Minister for Roads and Ports and the Member for Goulburn, Minister Goward.

Consensus emerged on the 10 top priorities for the area and the Ministers agreed that these would be included in the development of the plan with further opportunities for review and feedback. Top of the list is the need to create public transport that was fast and reliable and linked residents to Sydney, Wollongong and Canberra as well as the main regional towns and villages.

The magnitude of the task facing the government on transport is obvious but I feel that the Ministers are taking this planning very seriously and consultatively. We may need to put on our patience hats for a fair time more as we await the transport revolution for the future.

More information on the outcomes from all the regional forums and updates on progress can be found at:
www.transportplan.nsw.gov.au

—Thomas Andrew

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GREEN TEAM POSITIONS VACANT

THE GREEN TEAM are a friendly bunch who have pitched in for over 8 years to beautify Bundanoon for the enjoyment of residents and visitors.

After our May working bee, the Green Team has a 3 month winter break until our first Spring working bee in September.

Our current co-ordinators will be relinquishing their organisational roles at the end of May but not their commitment to being working members of the Green Team.

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING AS GREEN TEAM CO-ORDINATOR(S)

Thinking about it? The Green Team's role is constantly evolving. It needs new co-ordinators, new ideas. Our lives are busy – two co-ordinators sharing the role works well.

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Brigadoon tales



Photos by Lorna Saunders

BRIGADOON AGAIN LIVED up to its reputation of being the "ideal family friendly fun day out"

This year heavy rain leading up to the day posed additional challenges. Jordan's Crossing Park could not be used for general parking and so the courtesy bus service was extra busy ferrying people to and from their cars all around town.

Despite the difficulties, it is estimated over 11,000 visitors attended, which is a terrific result. We are reliably informed that one group of ardent Scots were due to march in the parade, but got on the wrong train in Sydney. They were well on the way to Newcastle before realising their error – undeterred, they returned home and drove down; now that's dedication for you!



events

ANZAC Day Commemorations

THE BUNDANOON SUB-BRANCH of the RSL facilitated superb ANZAC Day commemorations for Bundanoon and the southern communities (Penrose, Wingello and Tallong) again this year. The Dawn Service had an excellent attendance despite the bitter cold and the wind. At the March and Main Service a good turn out from the Bundanoon community was swelled by a record contingent from HMAS Albatross, and the largest ever participation from local schoolchildren. The address by the President, Dr William Russell, was beautifully crafted and presented, as were the readings and presentations by local school children.



Photos by Danielle Tonks



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Bundanoon Community Association (BCA)



Ralph Clark,
BCA president

BCA report

THIS ISSUE OF JCG features some of the many families who have joined our community over recent years. It is often said that our population is ageing, with many having retired here over the past decade or so. What is becoming evident is that the village is also attracting young families. The school, preschool and play group are deservedly flourishing; the children's playground in the Oval complex which Council renovated is already

receiving greatly-increased usage, but more facilities are needed.

The changing demographic is exciting, yet challenging. New ideas and new enthusiasm can only benefit our community. Those to whom Pam and I have spoken in the preparation of this edition have all commented on the strong community spirit which makes Bundanoon such a special place. They share our determination that this continues.

I have been concerned for some time that our community association, BCA, does not adequately reflect this younger demographic. Many are not able easily to attend meetings, having family and employment responsibilities. The challenge is to ensure that their enthusiasm and new ideas are tapped. Our objective is to maintain what Bundanoon offers while making it an even better place to live. This will be demonstrated soon at Winterfest, where the new committee has built on the foundation of past festivals and added fresh directions. I urge you not to miss opening night on June 29 and the program to follow.

The past few months have been busy indeed. The Arts Bundanoon exhibition featuring the ceramics of Clarice Cliff was a great success. Thanks to all involved. Yet another successful Brigadoon – congratulations to the organising committee. Brigadoon is not just a festival or a day in our calendar, it is an important source of funds for many local organisations. It is something of which we should be proud.

Recently we saw the official opening of the Bundanoon Men's Shed. This group is already making a difference, providing a meeting place and fellowship for the men of our community. BCA has always strongly supported this concept and wishes the Shed great success in the years to come. BMS members have taken over the delivery of *jcg*: a good source of income for the Shed and a reliable service for readers.

The recent BCA AGM saw some new faces on the committee. Dale Chalmers stepped down from the position of treasurer after some 14 years of dedicated service and was replaced by Peter Brown, an accountant who will help complete the financial restructure which Dale had commenced. John White is our new vice president and Thomas Andrew Baxter the new secretary. I again had the privilege of being elected as president and Patricia Guy, Christine Miller and John Brock continue on the committee.

This will be my last year as president; if BCA is to continue to serve the role it has in our community it is important that leadership positions do not stagnate and that fresh ideas are tried. During the coming years I hope we can have a completely new look at all areas of our operation, to ensure that BCA can continue and grow in service.

As I write I am on the JCG Travel trip to Europe, so it is appropriate that I comment on this recent addition to our activities. Harvey Grennan and his committee have put hundreds of hours into organising this tour and it shows. The accommodation, inclusions, dinners etc have been wonderful and enjoyed by all in the group. Having no administrative overheads, JCG Travel offers great value for money and the opportunity for people to share safe travel with experienced tour leaders. Although it may be a year or so before the next overseas jaunt, trips to Tasmania and Mudgee / Orange are scheduled – watch for details in *jcg*.



Pam Davies,
Editor

From the Editor

"MOVING IN", THE title for the feature section of this edition of JCG reflects the changing demography of Bundanoon and probably the Southern Highlands. When I first thought about working on this theme I had no idea how many people we would find to interview. They have all fairly recently settled in Bundanoon and I was interested to know how they made choices for a lifestyle change, whether they work in the Highlands, commute to work elsewhere or work from home and

above all what do they find are the advantages of living here. The stories we have been able to include are a random sample from a list of suggestions given to me; I plan to include more profiles of new residents in future issues.

It was interesting to see that some of the families came to live in Bundanoon because they had parents who had built houses here in the last ten years. Bruce and Ros Ryan's daughter Sarah Nott often visited them and with her husband Sam became interested in finding an older-style house here. Stephanie Grosvenor, Bill and Liz Lane's daughter had other family members living here as well but she and Paul were ready for a change from their suburban lifestyle. Although family connections were a factor both couples made their choices based on preference for village life.

You will read that others who have come from diverse backgrounds are attracted to this southern end of the Shire for similar reasons but it is interesting to learn that, as for many of us, finding Bundanoon was often serendipitous.

I am aware that as well as recent arrivals there are descendants of established families who have also chosen to live here and some of them now have grandchildren at schools in the area. It is due to the long-term commitment of some of these families that Bundanoon has developed the unique character that we find so attractive. The History Group regularly brings their stories to life at their meetings.

So how should we nurture this legacy? Thomas-Andrew points out that it is essential that we keep our main street shopping centre alive and suggests ways that we can do that. Since its inception BCA has provided a forum for discussion about the growth and development of Bundanoon and recognising the need for careful planning members have worked towards retaining and improving our distinctive features. Improvements to the Memorial Hall and the work of the Green Team are just two examples. It is now incumbent on the Association to ensure that the requirements of the many diverse groups who make up our town are examined. People of all ages contribute to this community and although our population growth occurred with an increase in the over 60s in recent years, the need for a second kindergarten class, a fully subscribed pre-school and a thriving play group suggests a significant change. The challenge for this community will be to meet the needs of a younger demographic while still retaining our special character.

From the stories in this issue we should be reassured that this will happen.



JCG Travel



All aboard for bargains!

JCG TRAVEL WILL conduct a bus trip to Flemington's Paddy's Market and Direct Factory Outlets (DFO) at Homebush on Friday, July 6.

DFO offers discounts of up to 70 per cent on clothing, shoes, manchester, furniture and many other lines while Paddy's is famous for its bargains in clothing, jewellery, food, flowers, music and homewares.

Cost for the trip is \$28 per head. There will be a lucky ticket prize, a basket of goods worth \$100, to the holder of the winning ticket.

Bookings can be made with Sandra Nicholls on 4883 7227 or Lexie Grennan at contact@hgrennan.com. Please pay when booking. The bus leaves the History Shed at 8am.



Travellers on JCG Travel's Great Cities of Middle Europe tour last month enjoy a whole roast suckling pig and a keg of Augustiner beer at the Hirschgarten, the world's biggest beer garden, in Munich, before setting off for Innsbruck, Venice, Budapest, Vienna and Salzburg.



JUST TWO ROOMS are still available for the JCG Travel tour of Tasmania in October.

The 15-day circuit around the Apple Isle includes one of Australia's great wilderness experiences – the Cradle Mountain National Park, where there is a two-night stay at the iconic Cradle Mountain Lodge.

Other highlights will be the 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 Port Arthur and Sheffield, the town of murals.

At seaside Bicheno the accommodation will be the Diamond Island Resort for two nights where penguin tours are included each night.

The tour leaves Bundanoon on October 18 and includes air travel to Launceston (not included in other tours), coach travel, sightseeing, all breakfasts and 10 dinners.

The cost is \$2690 per person twin share. There will be optional activities including cruises of Coles Bay and the Gordon and Arthur Rivers and a ride on the Wilderness Railway at Strahan.

For a full itinerary or to book the tour contact Anne or Wes Miller on 4883 6343 or email bundymiller@gmail.com.

Last seats for Tassie trip



JCG Food and Wine

Come for brunch

Following the success of our previous local produce promotions, we would like to invite you to a Sunday brunch featuring Berrima Ridge eggs and Bundanoon Butchery sausages.

**Sunday 8 July, 10am
at The Bundanoon Club**

Tickets \$20.

Bookings essential –
phone 4883 6174.



BUNDANOON WINTERFEST is fast approaching and is jam packed with amazing, interesting and fun activities for the whole community. The **GRAND OPENING NIGHT** will be held on **FRIDAY JUNE 29TH FROM 5 – 8PM**

The main street of Bundanoon will be lined with fires, winter lights, and offers over 16 food and drink stalls. Chris Gudu's Township African band will entertain, and a variety of activities are planned for the children including; face painting, puppet show, weaving, hoola hooping, jumping castles and more.

For the first time Winterfest will be holding a **CLOSING EVENT** – on **SUNDAY 8TH JULY**, to be held at **FERNDALE RESERVE** from 2–6PM. The afternoon will feature a vintage car display, pony and stock horse demonstration, barbeques, Pizza oven, jazz band, singers and a bonfire will be lit just before dark. Bring rugs, chairs and the whole family to join in the festivities.

This year's calendar will feature some of our favourite events from last year such as a poetry afternoon, bread making and cheese making workshops, aboriginal culture and how science helps the Rock Wallabies in the National Park, a Winterfest bush dance with the Dave Johnson Bush Band, and a movie night with family feature film "The Man from Snowy River".

New events include South African soprano, Kate Wilmott accompanied by local pianist Kate Johnson at Piano@10, geology and birdwatching walks, and an environmental choir "Ecopella" singing at various events. A special "Explorers" Children's program over three days, caring for

tools and renovating old tools with THE TOOL MAN and a professional level photography day workshop with award-winning photographer, Ford Kristo, are also new additions this year. The week will finish with an environmental evening in the hall featuring "Ecopella" and environmental movie maker, Michael Lutman, screening his new movie "Plasticized".





Our thanks go out to the many local businesses for their support and sponsorship, which help make Bundanoon Winterfest 2012 a great success. Particularly our major sponsors Bundanoon Community Association, Michael Bender Building and Restorations, Mount Gibraltar Construction, and Solar Springs.



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The Country Arts Support Program of Regional Arts NSW is funded by the NSW Government through Arts NSW

For more information please visit Bundanoon.nsw.au or grab your printed Calendar of Events inside your Jordans Crossing Gazette.

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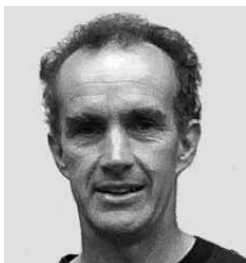
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Councillor Jim Clark

council news

Council overhaul

AS THE SEPTEMBER 2012 council Elections draw nearer it is probably a good time to review the performance of the council over the past four years. One could be forgiven for being a bit cynical about Councils, and it is all too

easy to dismiss the efforts of our own Local Government despite not knowing the financial, legal, operational and political constraints that council has to operate under.

The current council has generally worked well together, although code of conduct matters have been a distraction from other pressing matters. Ongoing staff restructuring and recruitment issues have slowed progress in some areas, but staff have performed well

Particularly in the area of community consultation such as the 2031 process, village information kiosks and Environment levy consultation.

A councillor's term includes many responsibilities including Council Meetings, Committee meetings, public engagements, a mountain of reading and dealing with residents queries. Rarely are achievements made individually by councillors, winning the support and approval of other councillors and satisfying the scrutiny of the rest of the community is not an easy matter.

Council has undertaken some major projects in the term of this council including – the refurbishment of the Civic Centre, the Moss Vale Aquatic Centre and the Robertson Sewerage Scheme. Completion of the Moss Vale Saleyard roofing project and the Bundanoon and Bowral Sewage treatment works was also achieved.

On the local front I was proud to have assisted in the setting up of the Bundanoon Men's Shed which opened in May and the proposal for new toilets in Bundanoon near the Memorial Hall and plans to upgrade the Exeter Hall. None of which I can take credit for individually! Thanks to my fellow councillors, Staff and Residents whom I worked with to achieve positive outcomes.

—Clr Jim Clark, ph 0428 213 939



Piping competition at the Club

Simon Hobson, event organiser, Club president Sandra Nicholls and the winner of the ASH cup piping competition following the close of Brigadoon 2012.

This has become a popular annual event held at the Bundanoon Club. Join us for another entertaining display of piping skills in 2013.

Become a Golden Guru and use your life skills to benefit others

THE VOLUNTEER CENTRE in Moss Vale runs an innovative program called Golden Gurus. It offers opportunities to people aged 50 and over who wish to volunteer their skills, knowledge, experience and expertise to assist the development of community groups, not-for-profit organisations and small business in the Wingecarribee Shire. By providing mentoring to others the Golden Gurus are adding to the knowledge and skills capital of the community.

Already, this program has provided many organisations with the benefits of a wide range of skills covering administration, education, finance, HR, website design, marketing, policy writing, strategic planning and logistics. Jobs completed have included developing a landscape design, preparing policy manuals and job descriptions, upgrading a website, preparing a marketing/media plan, conducting organisational reviews, researching grant opportunities and developing business plans. Some have also involved project management.

A major youth project for the Shire is on its way and is taking up quite a few of the skills of the current crop of gurus. It is hoped that this involvement will provide accelerated learning experiences and skills which will be useful to the participating youth.

One of the advantages of the program is that as a volunteer you can choose your level of commitment. You can offer help on a regular basis or just occasionally, leaving room for other activities and commitments. In return you meet new people, develop social networks, hear fresh and practical ideas and know that you are contributing to the social health of the region.

If you want to know more, please contact the Golden Gurus Coordinator, Kim James on 0412 788 544 or visit our website: www.volwing.org.au

The Golden Gurus Program was established with an initial grant from the Federal Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

—Thomas-Andrew



Through Ross-coloured glasses

by Ross Armfield

I'M A HOUSE-HUSBAND, and proud of it! Regrettably, I retired from teaching some 17 years ago due to the forces of nature and the subsequent medical procedures they required. Since that time I've basically run the house while my wife, Barb, carries on the good fight at Bundanoon Public School. It never ceases to amaze me how many people ask "...and what do you actually DO all day?" This is a question that would never be asked if Barb's and my positions were reversed. Is it so hard to imagine a bloke running a tight ship (albeit without the advantage of having done high school domestic science in the 60s)? Of course not, but mind you, it's not that easy either!

Despite my best efforts I am often reminded that, when hanging clothes on the line, using similar coloured pegs for each item is not absolutely necessary. Do they dry quicker this way or is it laundry apartheid that defines this for some people? However, grouping items on the line for easy collection is – socks together, undies together, shirts together etc.

Vacuuming must be the most exhausting activity at home – it kills the lower back. To minimise this agony I often use shortcuts, like just cleaning the most commonly walked

and used areas – but you must remember to shuffle the furniture around a little to avoid the possibility of detection. Dusting is the most insane and tiresome task of all. It's pointless! Two hours after completion it needs doing again! I'm afraid I support the theory put forward by Quentin Crisp of 'The Naked Civil Servant' fame who said, "I never dust, because after three months it doesn't get any worse!"

Cooking on the other hand is a great joy. My repertoire is not massive, so as long as you like country casserole, a variety of pasta dishes, the odd grill, curried chicken and my Onions Benedictine on a strict rotation, you're laughing. I also have the advantage of cooking for someone who is so tired and hungry at the end of the day that any culinary deficiencies are either not noticed or are readily forgiven. The washing up and clearing away is a breeze, unlike ironing!

Generally speaking I don't mind ironing, as long as it's my clothes. These consist of jeans, shorts, t-shirts, handkerchiefs and normal shirts. I stress the word 'normal' because Barb's shirts – sorry, blouses – are fraught with danger, difficulty and mystery. Who designs these things? I spent half an hour the other day trying to iron the wrinkles out of

A man's gotta do...

a pre-wrinkled blouse that was supposed to look that way. I mean, what's the point? Other blouses have tufts, puffs, unnatural tapers, bows, beads and glittery things to negotiate. Give me a Bonds t-shirt or a tea towel to iron any day!

The absolute best domestic chore is shopping but one must still be aware of pitfalls. Never shop on an empty stomach, you tend to buy rubbish if you do. Always check your trolley for reliable steering and never get between a seemingly sweet little ol' lady and a bargain! I write my shopping list in aisle order and get in early to avoid parking issues. I shop and then reward myself with a coffee or two. It's usually a pleasant task, although it's curious that whenever there is only one other person in the aisle you enter, they are always right in front of the product you want.

Despite the thrills and excitement of the home and its wealth of challenging and rewarding duties it's not a patch on teaching and working with funny, motivated, interesting, inquisitive and enthusiastic primary school children. I'd swap the iron and the laundry basket for the desk and the correct pencil grip in the blink of an eye if I could.



five minute gourmet

COFFEE IS THE No. 1 passion of the operator of Lauren's Café at Penrose, Lauren Sperzel. But Lauren is also an accomplished chef.

Lauren is our very first "Five-minute Gourmet" to be featured in this new column. Our expert chefs, drawn from the local area, will provide their favourite recipe for a top-class dish that can be prepared in five to ten minutes. In a time-poor world hopefully this will be a boon to Southern Villages households.

In the two years Lauren has been at Penrose with daughters Mischa, 4 and Lilly-Beth, 6, she has built a strong following of customers who rate her coffee among the best in the Southern Highlands. She learnt the art of coffee making from Nick Dazos, the operator of Epicure and Palate Pleasure at Bowral, after completing her apprenticeship as a chef at the original Bowral Café. Her love of food can also be traced to Nick as well as to her grandmother Inga.

Lauren headed off to the UK to learn more about coffee – a mistake instantly recognised when she got there – and ended up teaching others how to make coffee for the Puccino's café chain. Then it was back to her other

passion of food in the kitchen of Bar George on the Isle of Man.

Back in Oz Lauren did spells at the Centennial Vineyard, Palate Pleasure, Berkelouw Books and the Bicycle Shoppe in Bundanoon before opening her own business

at Penrose.

Lauren's Café is open 7 days a week for coffee, real home-made cakes and lunches, and dinner on the last Saturday of the month. The muffins are highly recommended by this writer. Phone 0438 844 268 for bookings.



Lauren's 5-minute Corn Fritters:

2 eggs, 1/4 cup milk, 420g creamed corn, 500g corn kernels, 1 cup self raising flour, salt, pepper, 1/4 cup chives, 1/4 cup dill, 1/4 cup parsley.

Place the flour into a bowl, make a well in the middle and crack the eggs into the well. Start mixing with a fork then add the milk, cream corn and salt and pepper. Mix together then add the corn kernels and herbs. Shallow fry the corn fritters in a pan with spray oil for 2 minutes on either side or until golden. Transfer into the oven for 5 minutes.

This mix makes 6 large fritters. Try them with chutney and a garden salad with Lauren's Rocket and Honey Vinaigrette.



A chieftain writes

THE BRIGADOON COMMITTEE thought the following letter from Bruce Finlay, Chieftain of the Day for this year's gathering, would be of interest to our readers.

Dear Warren,

I must confess to having some difficulty coming back to reality from the "magic 48 hours" of being the Chieftain of Bundanoon is Brigadoon, and being able to write this letter.

Let me say hearty congratulations to you and your meticulous and hard-working Organising Committee on a well-run and most thoroughly enjoyable Bundanoon is Brigadoon. I must say that, until we were able to see the organisation of Bundanoon is Brigadoon at close-hand, we did not have a full appreciation of the size of the task and the myriad of detail to be addressed. An obviously well-oiled machine coped with every out-of-the-ordinary contingency (there were a couple) as though they had practised for just such a happening.

Pauline and I would like to thank you and Dawn and all of your Organising Committee for the dedication and attention to detail that was clearly evident in achieving once again a great success at what has become one of the largest events of its kind in Australia.

On a more personal note we would like to thank you and Dawn for looking after us throughout our stay. We would also like to pass on our appreciation for all those who had close contact with us, the ushers, the Guards of the 92nd Regiment who acted as my personal escort, people serving us food, our driver Geoff Knapman, music-makers, participants in events, band-leaders, and many others, for their care and unfailing courtesy and patience, which helped us greatly in performing our roles in the event.

For ourselves, we would like to say we so very much enjoyed being part of an event that, clearly, gave a lot of other people a great deal of pleasure. We will remember Bundanoon is Brigadoon 2012 for a very long time, and will always treasure that memory. I only hope that in return I, with Pauline's help, was able to perform the duties and responsibilities of Chieftain to the Committee's and the public's, and to your, satisfaction.

Yours sincerely
Bruce Finlay



Concord backs the tap

BY NOW YOU have probably heard that the town of Concord, Massachusetts, USA has followed Bundanoon's lead in agreeing to ban the sale of bottled water. Bundy on Tap forwarded us the official press release, an extract of which we print here.

April 25, 2012

IN THE TOWN where the first shot in the American Revolution was fired and that was home to America's first environmentalist, Henry David Thoreau, the citizens of Concord, Massachusetts chose tonight to become the first single-serve bottled water-free town in the United States. The vote, at the annual Town Meeting, will essentially ban the sale of single-serve plain drinking water in plastic bottles within the town's borders. It was brought before the voters by the indefatigable Jean Hill, the 84-year-old community activist.

Ms. Hill stated: "I truly appreciate the thoughtful and courageous citizens of Concord who were willing to make a small change for the greater good. It will help keep Concord beautiful and preserve it for future generations. We're also

sending a message that the extraction, production and delivery of bottled water wastes our precious resources, harms our environment and undermines confidence in our public water systems. Concord's tap water is well-regulated, delicious, readily available and very inexpensive."

Concord joins a growing movement against bottled water in the U.S. and around the world. Six States have banned government purchases of bottled water. More than 140 cities and towns have taken steps to eliminate bottled water. And 90 colleges and universities have either banned or are in the process of banning bottled water on campus. Earlier this year, Grand Canyon National Park and Saguaro National Park became the 3rd and 4th National Parks to ban bottled water. Citizens are encouraged to carry reusable bottles and fill up with tap water whenever they are thirsty.

A loss to family. A loss to society.

IN BUNDANOON TRACEY Robinson was a vivacious young woman on a mountain bike with her mum Cathy pedalling by her side. Despite a long battle with breast cancer Tracey kept riding in marathon 24-hour events – and kept winning. And always with her trademark sparkle.

At Westmead Hospital she was Dr Tracey Robinson PhD, a national authority on sleep medicine and Medical Director of Westmead's Respiratory Ambulatory Care Service. Her colleagues have paid tribute to her as "irreplaceable" and "an outstanding clinician" for her many innovations in care and rehabilitation.

Tracey was also a gifted teacher. She received many awards for teaching other doctors in respiratory and sleep medicine and her program for advanced trainees made Westmead the national benchmark for such training.



Tracey died peacefully in Westmead Hospital on February 20, 2012 at just 44 years of age with Cathy, brother Scott and other family members at her side. Later, dozens of her medical and bike club friends and colleagues from Sydney travelled to Penrose for a celebration of her life at Cathy's home. Tracey was there, on her beloved bike.

Hong Kong to Bundanoon: From the Beast to the Beauty

God was at the peak of His powers when He made the Southern Highlands of NSW. After practising a bit on the Southern Tablelands, He moved to higher ground only when He had perfected his technique. The result: magnificent landscapes and fertile, green valleys that we know and love. These, God favoured with the gift of seasons.

MIKE WOODHOUSE, AUTHOR of *The Humour of the Highlands*, retired to Mittagong from a life of crime in 2007. He had been a Detective Chief Superintendent in Yorkshire, head of investigation and intelligence training at the NSW Police Academy in Goulburn, a Director at the Independent Commission Against Corruption and an Assistant Commissioner with the NSW Department of Corrective Services.

Like Mike, I moved to the Southern Highlands in the second half of my life. My family, in Hong Kong for 20 years, started holidaying in Bundanoon with our extended family from 2007. Then in 2010 we made the move from Hong Kong to Bundanoon, observing the belief: today's visitor is tomorrow's resident.

Our son, born in Hong Kong on Anzac Day 1993, was already boarding at Canberra Grammar School.

There was culture shock in our move from Hong Kong to Bundanoon, but mostly it was positive. I was sure I would miss the Foreign Correspondents' Club in Hong Kong on a Friday night. Then I discovered the Bundanoon Club and I am now a perpetual member.

We thought we would miss the contemporary arts scene at the Hong Kong Fringe Club. Now we are big fans of Piano at 10 and Serendipity: the choir.

Hong Kong is anonymous. Anonymity has its good points – nobody would notice how frequently I popped in to the Pioneer Flask. But in anonymous Hong Kong there is no concept of discussing with the Bundanoon butcher this weekend's barbeque, whether to cook steak, chops, snags, sirloin roast or a butterflied leg of lamb. Not that there is much concept of barbequing in Hong Kong, no space!

In Bundanoon we live on nearly an acre, my wife gardens and is a member of Bundanoon Garden Club and Highlands Garden Society. We were members of Hong Kong Gardening Society, attending learned talks on matters such as vertical gardens, presented by a



Alan Olsen

young Adelaide-trained architect. Vertical gardens grow on the sides of buildings or other walls. You can see a vertical garden at 1 Bligh Street in Sydney, or next time you pass through the Qantas First Class Lounge at Sydney International Airport.

We lived near the centre of Hong Kong, but the closest we got to our political leaders was to see them in chauffeured limos. So I was gobsmacked recently to see Pru Goward, our representative in Macquarie Street and Minister in the NSW Government, sitting in the Bundanoon Bike Shop talking with constituents.

Hong Kong was occupied by Britain on 26 January 1841, a date on the calendar familiar to Australians. Before 1997 there was no National Day. Since the handover Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Establishment Day has been celebrated every 1 July in a pompous ceremony with militaristic overtones at Golden Bauhinia Square, followed by a mass protest march through the streets of Hong Kong in pursuit of universal suffrage.

Australia Day at Berrima, on 26 January, was a total contrast: Wingecarribee Deputy Mayor Larry Whipper with the microphone, the ubiquitous but understated Pru Goward, a delightful National Anthem from Nina D'Arcy, a great yarn from Australia Day Ambassador Alan Terrell, a Citizenship ceremony for ten new Australians and recognition of volunteering by the Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year.

Berrima Court House on Australia Day was a long way from Golden Bauhinia Square. The beauty that is Bundanoon is as far as one can be from the nine dragons that make up the beast that is Hong Kong.

—Alan Olsen



Establishment Day protests in Hong Kong



Healthy Main Street; healthy community



IS THERE A correlation between a vibrant shopping main street and the quality of life in the community it is there to serve? I firmly believe so.

I wonder if you have noticed the prevalent 'for lease' signs outside shops in Moss Vale and Bowral? It is a depressing sight. These are partly a result of the current stagnant consumer economy but I also believe they are an indication of the pull from the mighty shopping malls. Whether it is Highland Market Place at Mittagong or the mega store Bunnings at Braemar, there has been a seismic shift in the Highlands' shopping pattern in recent years.

The devastating effects of the shopping malls and mega supermarkets are obvious in the UK where many town centres have become soulless places, rundown, unattractive, home to cheap bazaars and convenience stores but with little variety and connection to the needs of the residents of the area. Some have become no-go areas with a wide range of anti-social activity. Nottingham has a mindboggling 428 empty shops at present.

The UK Government has recognised this and, in response to Mary Portas's review of ailing town centres, has responded with a High Street Innovation Fund.

In no way am I suggesting that this is the current state of our main street. We are indeed very fortunate that we have a dedicated number of shop owners willing to work long hours to provide a service to local residents and visitors.

But how much is this a one-sided arrangement? Yes, it is great to be able to buy something when we run out or in an emergency but is it fair that we expect this to be the case without putting some effort into making it sustainable for the shopkeepers?

I was astounded to hear of the hours shop owners work in order to ensure their operation is viable and able to respond to the needs of the village. Peter at the Newsagency tells me that he works in excess of 80 hours a week. Trudi at the Deli goes home after a long day to bake, do her books and stock control and look after her family. How many of us would put up with these regimes?

I often hear that it is cheaper to shop at supermarkets – of course it is with their monopoly – but have you thought lately about their buying and pricing policies and what the long term effects may be? In the meantime our shopkeepers have to purchase at less favourable price levels and also try to provide a variety to meet the occasional needs of villagers. I think they do an amazing balancing act under the circumstances. Of course if we purchased more the price points would also fall and the retailers would have more reasonable returns.

What price do we put on the personal service, attention to detail and social interchange that is vital for a healthy community? The shopping malls may be the new cathedrals but I hardly think they provide any sustenance to the spirit or for the meeting and greeting of neighbours.

Who do we turn to every time there is a fundraising or sponsorship event? The limited number of shopkeepers in the main street of course. In order for them to respond they also need to feel that their contributions are part of the give and take of a reciprocal, healthy community.

Main street businesses, covering all shops, cafés, workshops and services, provide income to over 100 villagers (125 if Sutton Forest, Exeter and Penrose shops are included) – a mix of fulltime, part time and casual. I conservatively calculate this to inject around \$1,500,000 into the local community and probably impacts the household income of one in eight families. This is not an inconsequential financial imperative.

I have to confess that until fairly recently our family unit only occasionally purchased from the local shops – mostly for something that had run out. However my experience in the UK with the ever-increasingly desolate city centres and my own growing awareness of the need for fresh food and knowing its origins has forced a rethink. We also settled here because Bundanoon has a strong sense of community identity and activity. A strong main street is as important to us as the variety of community events and clubs. My partner and I felt we had to take some responsibility in ensuring the main street will not go the way of the UK, or what is seemingly more likely in the main towns of the Southern Highlands.

Of course we also realise that we could not afford to purchase all our weekly needs in the village but have decided on a commitment of at least 20% of the weekly spend. If this was a goal of the majority of villagers I think we would witness a significant change in the variety and cost of goods and services on offer. It also allays to some extent the feeling that we are being unjust and unfair to those among us who open their doors to provide us with our needs, no matter what.

So for the continuing social and economic health of our community, I invite you to join us in the 20% (minimum) commitment to the local shops.

—Thomas-Andrew

Note: Look for a main street strategy in the coming year!



Beckoning hills

WHY DO WE choose to settle here? What makes it such an ideal?

Perhaps there are several reasons – for some planned and intentional and for others by chance. Hills and mountains have universal and special resonance and there are many examples. Remember 'Blue Hills' a much loved ABC radio serial running for almost 30 years, written by Gwen Meredith (who lived in Bowral)? And of course 'En plein-air' or open-air painting, representing atmosphere and light in landscapes, was a recurring, evocative element for nearly a century between 1850–1950 – the azure blue eucalypt haze fading to distant hills! From Streeton and Roberts to Herbert and Heysen, they and many others with distinctive palettes immortalised our sunburnt, weather-beaten, sometimes flooded countryside. Along with writers like Lawson, MacKellar, Paterson, Stead and Richardson, we learnt to see beauty surrounding us in this ancient land of sweeping plains and ragged ranges.

But what really draws us to hills? Why do they hold such seemingly timeless significance? It is not so much about fertility because old farmers advised: "Pay one pound for flats and ten shillings for the hills". Flat ground is often twice as productive, so our highlands are an exception. Hills have long had strategic and symbolic significance. Our ancestors retreated to them for safety from invaders or floods and there they built settlements protected behind ditches and palisades. Chieftains or tyrants built castles on hilltops; the Catholic Church favoured them for visibility. "To head for the hills" is to get away from threat or danger. "to go over the hill" for soldiers or convicts was to escape. "The light on the hill" was a rousing, compassionate vision evoked by Ben Chifley for the Labor Party.

One shouldn't generalise about why hills attract or beckon us away

from equally spellbinding seashores. Life paths viewed with hindsight appear to be a chain of cause and effect but events and connections are often due to chance. As we grow older (and wiser) we become increasingly concerned with fresh air and healthy environment. We have decided to leave the city and from 600 metres we look back on the brown industrial haze, tolerated when we lived in the thick of it at sea level. Pragmatically, the higher cost of urban property makes a move to the hills appealing. Psychologically, up here we can get back to natural rhythms, enjoy the moment, hour or day and the weather that envelops us. We experience an ever repeating exchange of light and dark, seasonal life, growth and return.

For some the imperative is often a need for stimulating change – hence singers want to be dancers, the grass is always greener on the other side. My wife was raised in the country and like many remote bush teenagers couldn't wait to move to town. My case was just as predictable. Raised in the suburbs I cycled out to grandparents on their hilltop orchard for weekends and holidays. They instilled in me a love of countryside and country ways. I had to earn my way in cities and loved that work but we split our time enjoying two extended periods in the hills as part-time hobby farmers. While more competent as an artist than as a grazier, a sedentary occupation at the drawing board or keyboard has never been completely satisfying without a paddock outside and cows to tend. Henry Thoreau put it eloquently in his classic *Walden* (where you can transpose hills for woods): "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived." What a wise owl.

—Keith McMenomey



No dolphins in Bundanoon!

AVID READERS OF *jcg* may recall an article Peter Stewart wrote for this publication (June 2009) that talked of the decision he and Genevieve made to come live and work in Bundanoon – a tricky decision after a nationwide search that came down to a choice between the Post Office on Hamilton Island and the Bundanoon Newsagency. To Bundanoon's advantage Hamilton Island was eliminated and as a throw away comment Peter explains their choice 'There really are too many dolphins for me!'. The family settled on Bundanoon for its proximity to Sydney, climate and educational advantages.

The Stewarts – Peter, Genevieve and Alexander (Isabella was born exactly 9 months later) – arrived in town full of anticipation, enjoying the perceived 'English village' atmosphere where people seemed happy and relaxed.

They brought complementary business experiences with them; Peter in managing retail and civil construction businesses and Genevieve in finance and tourism management. They were confident they could tackle just about anything!

When Peter wasn't working he was on the water, mostly wakeboarding. He became a 'pro wakeboarder' taking him around the world organising events. In 2007 he switched to dirt bikes and competed in the Finke Desert Race, a gruelling two-day multi-terrain event. A friend produced a movie documenting the race. Given spare time, Pete likes to ride the dirt or mountain bikes to explore local forest.

After school Genevieve spent time studying Criminology and Psychology at Bathurst Uni. Back in Sydney she pursued opera studies whilst working. Not satisfied Genevieve then focused on achieving Master Practitioner qualifications in Neural Linguistic Programming

and Hypnosis and became a qualified masseuse.

They anticipated the 'agency' would mean long hours – up to 90 per week but they had not anticipated how central the newsagency was to daily life in Bundanoon. However, they wouldn't change anything.

They've learned how locals respond when things go wrong. When building their new home the builder disappeared then declared bankruptcy. Without hesitation locals Jason and Luke Hines from Gibraltar Construction came in and completed the house. 'The support we received during that time from many people was simply overwhelming'. A further example of the town's humanity was the response to Peter's idea for the 'Bundanoon Cares' project in support of victims of the 2010 Queensland Floods. 'People just came out of the woodwork!' to help organise collection of donations and manpower to load two trucks for transport to Dalby and Brisbane.

Peter and Genevieve enjoy our town and wish to continue to be involved here – a place where a community sense is alive.

—Graeme Whisker

In the March 2011 edition we published Peter's report on his 2300 km return trip to Queensland with John Wellington in their donated truck. They left Bundanoon at 10 am on Saturday and were back in Bundanoon at 2am on Monday morning in time for work. At 6am Peter was back in the newsagency and John was pulling on his work boots for another week —Ed

Destination Bundanoon

INDRAN RAJENDRA AND his wife Mateja, after a "brief visit" here, made a spontaneous decision to buy a house in Bundanoon last year. At the time Indran was commuting to work at a Goulburn medical practice from Canberra so the move to Bundanoon meant he spent fewer hours on the road. Mateja, at home with two small children, Nithya and Gita, had never felt settled in Canberra and with Nithya at pre-school now she feels part of the Bundanoon community.

Their circuitous path to Bundanoon began with a meeting in Florence when both were studying Italian. Indran, whose parents migrated to Australia from Malaysia, spent his school years in Armidale where his father was a lecturer at the College of Advanced Education during the 1970s and 1980s. After graduating in medicine from Sydney University and training at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Indran worked at a cardiology clinic on the Central Coast. More than a decade later, after selling his house and travelling overseas, he decided to study Italian in Florence where he met Mateja. She explains "I had come to Florence from Croatia and had already been studying Italian there for three years." Indran adds "After we met I decided to stay in Europe. Before returning to Australia they spent some time travelling and lived in Zagreb for three years. Through his association with Mateja's father, a chessplayer, Indran developed an interest in the game. When they returned to Australia he worked at Coffs Harbour Regional Hospital where he gained experience in a high-quality emergency department. He explains, "Coffs Harbour, because of its size and position on a highway has a busy accident and emergency department so it was a very challenging and interesting time."

Now, living in Bundanoon, Mateja has met other parents through pre-school and shopping in the village. Her mother travelled from Croatia to spend two months with them in April so there was opportunity to have some "time out" occasionally. Indran's mother is

only an hour and a half away in Canberra.

Working as a doctor at the Bundanoon Medical Practice means Indran has easily found his way into the community and he has also joined the local chess players who meet at the Primula on Friday afternoons. "There are some good players in the club and I really enjoy being part of the group" he says. "I'm pleased to be in a general practice at this stage of my life where I have a family and feel settled. I live close enough to the practice to walk to work, sometimes meeting and chatting with patients on the way home. I ride a bike for exercise and feel very pleased that the short break we spent here with my brother and our families led to living and working in Bundanoon."





Family ties

"STEPHANIE SAID I could have a motor bike if we moved to Bundanoon" jokes Paul Grosvenor when asked why they made the move from Sydney to Bundanoon.

Stephanie and Paul enjoyed life in Sydney where they had a house (with a small mortgage) in Carlingford, between the inner city suburbs of Sydney and the Hills district. Stephanie explains about suburban life "I found there were very few mothers with small children locally and I was at home with a three year old and a baby. We had lots of friends but unlike here where we meet in the street or at pre-school we mostly saw them at weekends". Stephanie is pleased that the two girls have grandparents nearby: in fact Rachael is dressed ready to go to Berry with their grandmother while Claire, with

a chocolate-covered face, is joining us for morning tea.

Paul, an electrician, already has some work in the Highlands and is gradually building up a word-of-mouth clientele but as he says "We are about to build a house so that will take up a fair amount of my time for a while."

Stephanie graduated as a primary school teacher but soon found "It wasn't for me! I then worked in car fleet leasing and later in corporate financing. At the moment I'm happy being at home."

"I have met so many people through pre-school – in fact it was on a walk home one day with Mateja Ragendra that I learnt that Indran was commuting to a general practice in Goulburn and I introduced him to my father. Indran is now working at the

Bundanoon Medical Centre and we have become friends."

Stephanie's father, Dr Bill Lane and his wife Liz, are well established in the Bundanoon community. Her brother Andrew, a tiler, and his wife Erin built a house here, moved to a second one and are about to build again. Bill's sister Helene and her husband Nick live in Bundanoon and his mother until a few years ago lived in town as well. She now lives at Warrigal Care in Bundanoon.

So was it to be close to family that influenced the move from Sydney? Both Paul and Stephanie agree it was a factor but they say the lifestyle here really suits them. Stephanie explains "Everything is so accessible in a small town. We can walk to pre-school. Rachael is learning to play piano with Kate Johnson and goes to Brigit Muir's physical culture classes." Paul has taken up mountain bike riding – often with Peter Stewart. He says "Although a Sydney lifestyle was all we've ever known I notice that parents spend more time with their children here than in the city and we certainly enjoy that. My parents lived quite near us in Sydney and yes, it is good to have family around us here. Stephanie's brother Michael and his son often come to visit from Sydney, he also enjoys bike riding."

Stephanie endorses a feature of Bundanoon that we all enjoy – the experience of meeting people in the main street. She says, "People recognised me as a "new face" and invited me to have a coffee before we had been introduced – I feel very comfortable here."





Kirsty McIvor

WE'VE ALL SEEN the black aprons that celebrate our little town with "London! Paris! New York! Bundanoon!" printed on them. If Kirsty McIvor was to have her own custom made apron it would say Indonesia! Bangladesh! Thailand! Bundanoon!

In her youth, Kirsty was educated at Frensham, but it took many years and a very circuitous route before she made it back to the Southern Highlands – this time with her two young boys, Jack and Tom, and husband, David.

After working with the ABC as a journalist for 16 years, Kirsty moved to continue this work overseas. While working in Thailand, the United Nations noticed her and offered her a job as an advocate, representing Bangladesh. She moved there, to work in the largest UNICEF office in the world. "It was a steep learning curve, but I got real experience". Kirsty describes her work as a spokeswoman with the UN as "a very privileged life" with a cook, a nanny and gardener supplied. In contrast, she found the enormity of the problems facing Bangladesh very confronting. "People refer to it as the armpit of the world, but I loved working there; the Bangladeshis are very kind people, there was a great ex-pat community, but it's so tragic seeing thirty thousand children a year die from preventable things like a lack of Vitamin A or drowning. It's a country that really needs help." She talked of the challenges of entrenched corruption, overwhelming pollution, over-crowding and poverty. Despite all this, she describes her time in Bangladesh as "the best experience".

Kirsty makes thoughtful observations about the way Australia and other first world countries extend aid to other countries,

based on her extensive experience. "Some aid organisations do some exceptional work, particularly BRAC, (originally known as Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee), the largest NGO in the world, which supports innovations in education, health and agriculture among many other areas of need in the developing world. They were behind the widespread distribution of ORS (oral rehydration salts) – that's had a big impact in reducing deaths from cholera as a result of polluted water. But often our perceptions of what's needed are not workable in practice, as the realities of daily life for many people in need are so different to our own – the lack of access to clean water in many parts of the developing world makes even the most basic hygiene practices impossible, and that leads to so many problems".

Kirsty has continued to work for the U.N. in Indonesia, but as one of her sons was born severely disabled, she and her husband David moved to the Southern Highlands, into a "dream home", on a lovely rural block a few minutes outside Bundanoon. Her son Tom attended Exeter Public School, and Jack goes to Tangara School at Mittagong, full time. Kirsty quickly got involved in the community by stepping up to being President of the Exeter School P & C. This, and becoming a regular at the Exeter Café, has led to new friendships. With her husband working in Canberra most of the week, Kirsty now works from home as much as she can, but also commutes to Sydney and Canberra doing media training for different bodies such as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Amnesty International, as well as strategic communications for AusAID. "It's a nice way to bring my journalistic and aid experience together", she says.

Kirsty has settled in very happily to her life here. "It's lovely to reconnect with old school friends – I've found a wonderful book club and there are old ABC staff and journalist friends nearby. And I just love the Exeter Store! – it's a great community here". Sounds like the move to Bundanoon has been a very happy one for this vibrant, exuberant and multi-talented woman and her family.

—Lucy Bainger



Flood victims wait in line at for food relief in Sirajgong, Bangladesh.

An old-fashioned neighbourhood

'BUNDANOON HAS ALL the things you come to the Highlands for' says Jeffrey Saul, relating how he and his wife, Lisa, and six-and-a-half year old son Tristan, came to choose Bundanoon as their home in September 2009.

Lisa is a journalist, editor and author. 'The work now comes to me,' she says.

Jeffrey is a software engineer for worldwide financial institutions and has lived in Mittagong, Melbourne and Singapore. He now chooses to work primarily from home, but has to travel occasionally to maintain good relationships with work colleagues; he finds that at home he has far fewer interruptions and no formal limits on the hours he works. The office is upstairs, Tristan's train set is downstairs; work and home live in delightful harmony. Lisa says her hardest job is getting Jeff to stop working! For relaxation he is having art lessons from local artist and sign writer, Wayne Davis

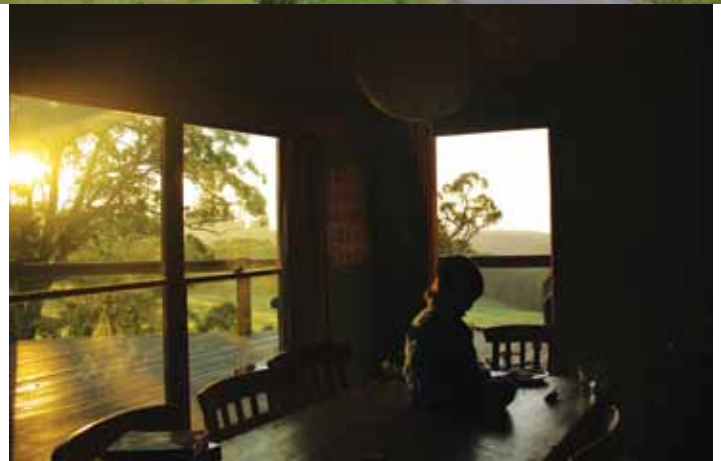
Jeff sees the need to drive to Mascot or Canberra to catch inter-capital flights as the only real drawback to living here. Lisa and Tristan sometimes accompany him, although school is now an important part of Tristan's life. Next year the family hopes to have a six-week working trip to the United Kingdom.

'Well, there's a bit of a story about that!' says Jeff, when asked how they came to live in Bundanoon. Jeff had already lived in this area for 26 years before moving to Melbourne, but had retained property in the Highlands in case he wanted to return. Together, Lisa and Jeff decided one day to go back and say goodbye to the Southern Highlands; during their one-day visit they drove across to Bundanoon for a coffee.

'It was just like coming home!' Fate led them to Brigadoon Drive, where there was a house for sale. 'We just know when we see the right house!' It is peaceful, with a fantastic view, overlooking Morton National Park to Fitzroy Falls on the left and Kangaroo Valley, sometimes even Nowra, on the right. On very dark nights, they see a distant flashing light, possibly a lighthouse. On their own land is a stand of protected rare eucalypts.

'You can't get to know people in a city,' they say. 'For 14 years we had wanted to be part of a community,' Lisa adds that one day she went into the Bike Shoppe for a take-away coffee, drank the coffee and spoke to ten people she knew; she was still there half an hour later.

Asked if they have any regrets about living here, the reply is 'Can't think of one!' although Jeff does feel that he's not meeting enough people. Lisa is meeting a lot more 'locals' through her involvement



with the school. Having moved so often in past years they want to stay for at least ten years in their house and in this community. Lisa and Jeff say they still wake up thinking 'How did we get so lucky?' Their luckiest move was to have driven across to Bundanoon one day for a coffee!

The Sauls pay tribute to their wonderful neighbours, such as the person who cut their grass when they first moved in, instead of complaining that they hadn't done it. "We were prepared to be on an island in this street but it's so different. It's an old-fashioned neighbourhood where the children still play cricket on the road, and where people bring in each other's wheely bins."

—Margaret Symonds



ALTHOUGH A JOURNALIST and editor for over ten years Lisa is also a published author of fantasy novels. She explains, "Something captured me the first time I scratched out a



fantasy novel in a spiral-bound notebook at eight years old". She says she still loves the genre, which allows her, while writing about 'unreal' things, to invite her readers to think about such matters as racism, revenge and supernatural interventions.

Her novels include
Bloodline – Alliance
Bloodline – Covenant
Sacrifice
Redemption

Readers may learn more about Lisa Saul from the following websites:

www.lrsaul.com/

www.lightfm.com.au/open-house/lisa-saul-bloodline

Blending work and “life”

SUZIE AND ROSS, their daughter Stella and little dog BB are the archetypical ‘tree-change’ family, moving out of the big smoke and giving up life in the fast lane for a more leisurely, grounded life in a small country town. Their move to Bundanoon is a way of coming full circle for Suzie; her grand-parents moved here in 1959, her parents live here, and her aunt lived on a farm at Werai.

Ross and Suzie bought an unfinished house on a lovely, secluded bush block in Bundanoon and are still busy completing the renovations. Before coming to Bundanoon, Ross and Suzie had worked in Melbourne, Sydney and Singapore. Suzie has been a producer of television commercials, and has used that experience to produce weddings which brought her often to the Southern Highlands – the most popular wedding destination in NSW. Although still busy with painting the house and renovating, she is now free-lance, currently setting up Highlands Private Events.

Ross started out as a brewer, which led to working in the food ingredients industry, which took him and Suzie to Singapore, where Stella was born. He has continued in the sales and marketing area more locally and doesn't miss the big city at all, but admits that living this distance from Canberra and Sydney is a challenge in terms of commuting or finding accommodation during the working week.

Ross became involved in the community through his passion for off-road bicycle riding and he is now the public face of Highland Trails. He loves the surrounding areas of bush and the sense of belonging to a community. “It's so great that you can walk up the road and always see someone you know; Pete putting the papers out, Hugh in the post office, Glen at the YHA – and when BB has run off, it's nice to get a call from the café letting me know she has gone there visiting – again! – but she's safe with them.”

Ross and Suzie were pleasantly surprised to find lots of young families in Bundanoon. As Suzie pointed out “Every kid here goes to the local, and getting to know so many of the parents and kids really cements the sense of connection”. They find the inclusiveness and lack of pretension in the local community has made it easy to leave the executive high life behind. Suzie observed that “people here are humble – you can slip in effortlessly. We're getting more and more involved, and you can be your own person. There are so many creative talented people here. In Sydney we would go out to meet friends – but here we get together in our own homes – so the kids can play

together as well – they love that.” Ross reflected “It always used to be work versus ‘life’; now it's more blended. If you'd asked us five years ago if we would live in a little village like this we'd have said no, but it's just a better quality of life. It's great to be able to give back – this is the most settled we've ever been”.

Suzie's childhood experiences on her aunt's farm must have planted a seed. Now she and Ross are raising their daughter Stella in an environment where they can enjoy the beauty of the changing seasons in the trees around them and support Stella's main passion (apart from her pink ‘princess’ tent) – animals. Busy cradling and playing with the very patient and forgiving BB nearby with half an ear on the conversation, Stella happily calls out all the animals she has seen on a friend's farm, helped with some interesting sound effects from her parents: “I see piglets, horses, cows, sheep, pigs, chickens, ducks, geese, ... turkeys! ... even a peacock! – and I know where eggs come from!”



Sam and Sarah Nott



“I'VE HAD MY apartment in North Sydney for 18 years and since Sam and I have been married we've had a lovely lifestyle.” Sarah and Sam Nott describe living in a “canopy of trees in summer and when winter comes we can see through bare branches to the harbour.”

Sarah trained as a graphic designer and is now Senior Business Director for a Surry Hills advertising company where she has worked for the last two years. Sam has established a plumbing business on the lower North Shore and both have enjoyed their time in Sydney – weekends catching up with friends, Saturday morning fresh produce markets in the park near the Council chambers, Sunday yum-cha and easy access to any of the many events held in the city.

So what brought about the decision to come to Bundanoon?

“We love old houses and have bought a weatherboard house in Fidelis Street”, Sam explains. “There is practically no kitchen but that's easily fixed and the house has had some good extensions. Both Sarah and Sam grew up in country towns – Sam in Quirindi and Sarah in Singleton, although her school years were spent at St Vincent's College, Potts Point. “Singleton was once a little country town,” says Ros Ryan, Sarah's mother. “It has now spread due to expansion of the mining industry so we decided to look for somewhere that offers the lifestyle we enjoy.”

A family at one with life in Bundanoon

MICHAEL AND LEISA Brand came to live in the village almost five years ago after a time living in Bowral, preceded by a life in Sydney. Preferring a quiet lifestyle and a greener environment they were attracted to Bundanoon and relish the opportunities that village life provides for them and their young family.

Leisa sees Bundanoon as having a certain undefinable 'spiritual' character about it; a place redolent with a sense of its people past and present. In a way, Bundanoon reminds her of her childhood; where children can ride their bikes and explore their surrounds in relative safety. They appreciate the strong sense of community within the village. Leisa loves being involved with the local school's activities and has been able to assist at Brigadoon. She loves walking at night to appreciate the peacefulness and to listen to the crickets – a precious time of the day for her. She also maintains her love for all things theatrical. Leisa was theatrically trained at the Ensemble Theatre under the late Hayes Gordon. She admits to missing the theatrical world and would love to reconnect with this through a Highlands theatre group.

Michael is a chartered builder who has professional backgrounds in construction management, commercial law and alternative dispute resolution. He is an academic in the Faculty of the Built Environment, UNSW. He is the founding director of the 'Adjudication Research + Reporting Unit' (ARRU) at UNSW and is the associate editor of a highly regarded international journal. He is a practising adjudicator of payment disputes in the building industry. Michael mainly commutes by train to meet his university commitments. He loves to read 'the classics' and is a prolific writer. As an academic he travels widely – most recently to France, UK, China, Korea, Canada and South Africa.

Michael and Leisa have three children. William, the oldest, attends Bundanoon Primary School. His mother describes him as an 'old soul' who can clearly articulate his perceptions of the world. He loves a



good chat and is intensely reflective in his thinking. William says he wants to be an art curator. Aislinn – after 'aisling', an Irish Gaelic word for 'vision' or 'dream' – is a real little tomboy who 'knows no fear'. Henri, the youngest, is a delightfully cheerful baby. This is a family at one with Bundanoon life.

—Graeme Whisker

Ros and Bruce Ryan built a house in Elmswood Court and now have a flourishing garden which was featured in the 2011 Garden Ramble. Bruce is a member of the local motorcycle club (BBC) and coincidentally the Ryans have met up with Liz and Rod Moore, also from Singleton, who came here to live at about the same time.

Did Ros and Bruce influence Sam and Sarah's decision to buy a house here? "Not really" says Sarah, "We have loved coming to visit and of course we had our wedding here so that helped and we're still close to Sydney".

Sam is a self-confessed rugby tragic although he no longer plays. His parents moved into town from a property near Quirindi when he was five years old and during his education at Farrer Agricultural High School, Tamworth, he thought he would have a career on the land. However, his father, a cattle buyer with experience of long New England drought conditions discouraged him. Sam is not anxious about leaving his plumbing business in Sydney and has already been offered work in the Highlands. Sarah is pleased to be able to have time

to pursue her interest in fabrics and soft furnishings. She smiles as Ros gently reminds her that she has a significant "fabric collection" which will no doubt be put to good use when they move into their house in May.

Sarah's career in advertising led her into senior management but she has always preferred being creative. She hopes to have more time for her own graphic design business which she will focus

on developing after they set up house in Bundanoon. During the last two years she worked with Rod Moore on the production of his book *Short Black* which was featured in the March edition of *jcg*.



A treechange bears fruit

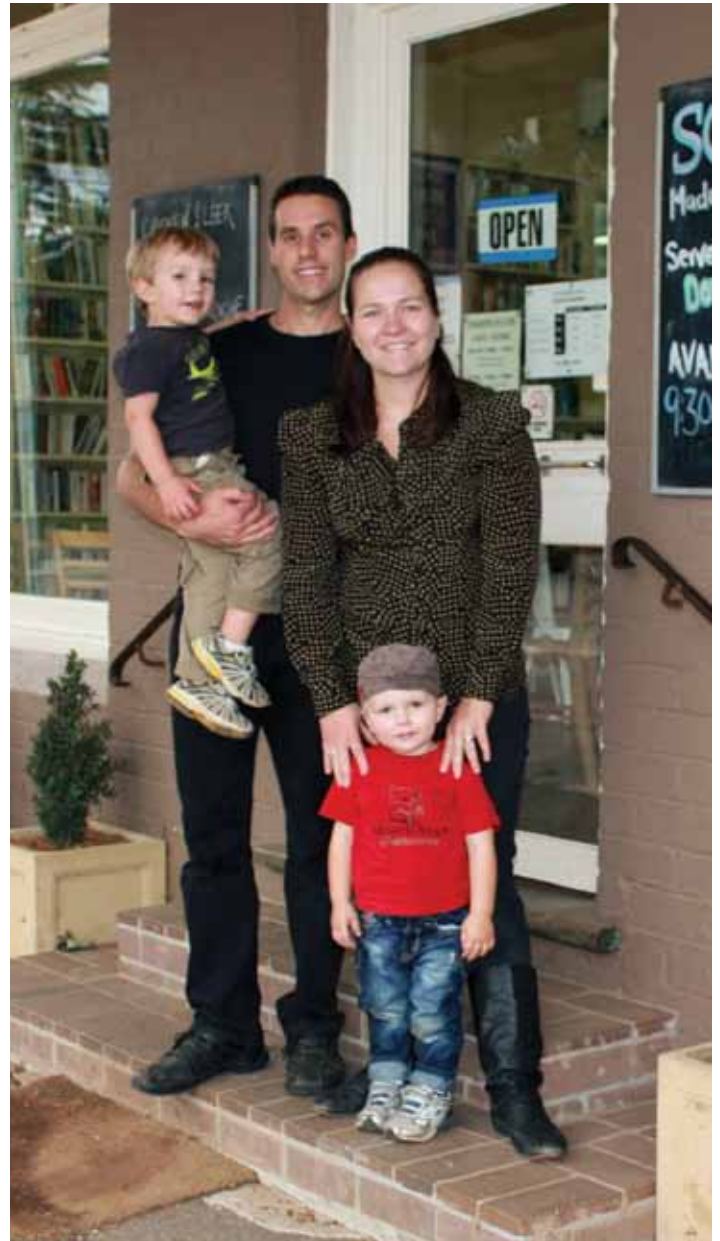
180 DEGREES IS the maximum you can turn to head in an entirely opposite direction and that is exactly what Craig and Lauren Johnson did in June 2008, when they took on the challenge of owning and operating the Exeter General Store, Café and Post Office. It is a decision they are very happy they made – and equally happy are the local Southern Highlanders and travellers who flock there in ever-increasing numbers.

Lauren, a local since Year 9 in high school, had completed a double degree in psychology and commerce at ANU in Canberra and was working as a Customer Services Manager in the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources. Fortunately for us, in her student years Lauren worked in cafés and restaurants to help support herself at university and it was here that she developed a love for the hospitality scene.

After attaining a degree in Management and Politics at the Australian Defence Force Academy, Craig was forced to forego a military career because of a knee injury and left to work as a Deputy CEO in an organisation where he gained valuable business experience.

Married in 2007, Craig and Lauren saw the sale notice for the Exeter Store just before their honeymoon and decided that they'd have a shot at changing their lives completely and head down the hospitality road. With energy and passion, Craig and Lauren have worked tirelessly, not just to bring great food and service to their community, but to provide a hub, a convivial meeting place around which the whole area revolves. As Lauren says, "We want this to be so much more than just a café". And they are succeeding! James Larsen and Catherine Fraser, the previous owners, left for them a wonderful business and strong community bonds. It was imperative to build on that and also to put their own stamp on the operation. So what was the great challenge in taking the store to the next level? Was it the physical strain of rearranging the post office within the store, bringing in new furniture and fridge cabinets? Was it getting up at 5 or 6 am on a regular basis to lift newspapers, crates of milk (and boxes of *jcs*)? Was it learning how to deal with ordering from suppliers or managing staff rosters and wages? Could it have been the training required to successfully run a complex post office, the formulation of menus or having the energy to clean up at the end of the day? Remember that it all starts again the next day – seven days a week – and ends with balancing the books and registers!

The great challenge was dealing with all of the above and then their first child Hamish was born in September 2008, just three months after purchasing the business. Along came Lachlan in January 2010 and the pressure was really on then. Lauren's parents are locals and their support at that time was essential. Now the boys are a



little older and pre- and big school beckon, Lauren looks forward to throwing herself into developing her menus (as if the beautiful cakes and slices she bakes aren't enough!). Craig and Lauren like to reflect on how much they've achieved in a relatively short time; fortunately for us, they still have the drive to do more and have added after hours functions into the services on offer. They love their lifestyle – work, family and the Highlands environment. Despite the hard work they derive great satisfaction from being involved so positively in the lives of the people around them. They are grateful for the loyalty and support from the community and are so glad they changed direction back in 2008.

Great coffee, fresh cakes and treats, interesting breakfasts, brunches and lunches, friendly staff and an atmospheric, book- and local produce-lined space make Exeter General Store a local landmark. Judging by the car-lined surrounding streets on any given day, many people agree with me: Craig and Lauren have created THE place to meet, greet and eat.

—Ross Armfield





A house divided

JANA AND PHILLIP Tallon found a house in Epping after they had decided to come to live in Bundanoon ten years ago. No, they hadn't made a mistake about making a lifestyle change to the Highlands – they brought the house with them! The owners of their relocated house had been given a demolition quote of \$10,000 and offered it in the *Trading Post*, free of charge, to anyone prepared to take it off their site. For Phillip, a carpenter, this didn't present a problem however it spent some time "in storage, in two halves" at Paddy's River until council approval was given for its reconstruction on the block the Tallons bought. Now it sits comfortably in a well established garden in Bundanoon looking as if it has always been there.

Phillip and Jana agree: "it's the best thing we have ever done". Their boys, Sean and Jake, were five and three years old and baby Nathan had just turned one when they rented a house in Greasons Road. Jana explains, "At that time my brother Steve (Hutcheson) lived in Bundanoon and my parents Noeline and Gordon had a property at Tallong. When Dad died Mum came to live in Bundanoon. Steve soon had Phil working in the local building industry and five years ago he became a qualified electrician." Now with his own business Phillip is kept busy. "My work gradually increased over the years and through word of mouth I have built up a clientele." Jana adds "My sister Kylie was living here when our children were young



and we set up a small cleaning business to fit with school hours so that I could work as well." In 2010 Jana qualified as a remedial massage therapist and now practises at Bundanoon Chiropractic and Health Centre. She is so pleased that John Kelly gave her that opportunity when she had so recently graduated.

The Tallons share enthusiasm for their charming weatherboard house that was literally put together with a single join that is barely visible in the jarrah flooring of the hallway. The rooms are spacious, the kitchen fits the style of the house and there are two lovely verandahs but after ten years and three growing boys they wonder if they need more space.

Sean and Jake are now at Moss Vale High School and Nathan is still attending Bundanoon Primary School. All three are very involved in various sports. Jake now plays basketball but the family has made great friendships through Bundanoon Soccer Club. Like most soccer parents in Bundanoon Phillip and Jana are involved with the club – in fact Phil has played in the third grade men's team. He explains that as well as playing soccer he plays late afternoon Touch Football at the oval with a group of families each Thursday. He says, "It's a very informal arrangement – players come and go but the great thing is that it provides an opportunity for kids of all ages to mix and to have parents join in as well. It's purely social and great fun."

It's easy to see why Bundanoon suits the Tallons. Although Phil grew up in Sydney his

family spent a lot of time on the Hawkesbury where they had a small property. He thinks he and Jana were always essentially "rural people". Jana grew up at Kenthurst where the family had horses and when her parents moved to Tallong she became aware of Bundanoon and recognised that because of its size the town offered the lifestyle she wanted for her family.



A fine balancing act

OBTAINING A JOB in Sydney may seem an unusual reason to move from Armidale to Bundanoon, but for Kim Jenkins and Ben Wolfenden it has made sense. Property costs were vastly different, and then there's the lifestyle...

They describe as routine their skilful, if sometimes precarious, juggling of a house and garden in Bundanoon, careers, caring for baby Leila and their Alaskan malamute Lily.

Both have Research Degrees in Freshwater Science from the University of New England: Kim studied microcrustaceans (water fleas) that miraculously hatch from dormant eggs in floodplain sediments (like inland sea monkeys). Ben's research compared the breakdown and uptake by food webs of leaf litter from native trees (red gum and Casuarina) compared to introduced willows, following an Honours Degree in Geological Chemistry. They met in Armidale, where Ben was born.

When the position came up in Sydney a move was needed. Sydney property prices dwarf those in Armidale; Alaskan malamutes need a large yard. They looked at Mittagong, then as far as Bundanoon – Kim had spent weekends with friends at a house in Amos Lane years before. They moved here in July 2007.

Ben is an Environmental Scientist in the NSW Government Office of Water, based in Wollongong. He had earlier been engaged in research at UNSW. He has been involved in assessing potential Snowy River water releases. The couple worked together on the Macquarie Marshes Environmental Management Plan 2006.

Kim is a staff member of the Australian Wetlands and Rivers Centre at UNSW and teaches in the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences. With other academics she was a signatory to both a critique of the Guide to the Basin Plan, released by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority in October 2010 and earlier this year to a Scientific Statement on the Proposed Basin Plan. Between them Kim and Ben have a long list of scientific papers.

Kim was born on a farm outside Albury and has always been close to the land. She has made many field trips studying inland national parks and their water birds, including the Paroo and Darling rivers and the Macquarie Marshes, where she spent many months.

Their lifestyle is hectic. Ben commutes to Wollongong. Kim used to day-commute to Sydney, but now she is doing more teaching the family stays overnight a couple of days a week in nearby Coogee. They share parenting baby Leila.



Wouldn't a move to Sydney make life easier? Both say they are reluctant to leave Bundanoon and its welcoming community.

Kim and Ben surprisingly find time for relaxation – bushwalking, canyoning and rock-climbing – and have a passion for dog-sledding. (Before Leila's arrival) they used to compete in sledding events in Victoria and the ACT, with at least weekly training beforehand. Wingello forest now provides a venue for the sport. Kim and Ben have owned other malamutes, which make wonderful pets. Raz, an even larger dog than Lily, died of cancer in 2010 and Layla, Kim's 11 year companion, died of lymphoma in 2009. Kim hopes one day to find time for research into canine cancers – no doubt she will.

—Ralph Clark

Leila's first trip to the Macquarie Marshes to help an honours student took place at just 8 months





Pedalling words

by Danien Beets

Showing the way by torchlight

SUMMER IS DRAWING to a close, and as many cry "what summer?" our hours of riding light are steadily reducing.

Many riders take the winter months as a time to stay off the bike, find other healthy pastimes and generally add a few centimetres to the waistline.

But for those who want to keep riding all year round there are three options: dust off the stationary trainer and sweat in front of the telly, ride during the shortened daylight hours (not always an option for working people) or invest in some lights and ride at night.

It is this last option that appeals to me the most. For mountain bikers who are riding on trails not the road, riding at night doesn't have the same perils that road riders or city dwellers encounter, where anything less than wearing a Christmas tree is likely to get you into strife with traffic.

A night ride on a mild evening is something very special. Anyone who has taken a torch and gone for a walk in the National Park or down to Glow Worm Glen will know that the world by torchlight is very different to the world by daylight. Your focus is limited to only the trail illuminated ahead of you. Similarly the additional layers of head coverings make your hearing a little muffled. As a consequence you feel cocooned by the darkness, your senses turned inward. I have heard a night ride in perfect conditions on good trails described as a spiritual experience. All you can hear is your breathing, all you can see is a snaking trail, you feel as though you are going twice as fast as you actually are and the dew and frost sparkle in your lights.

More so than when riding on the road you do need to have good lights. On the road you can be pretty confident that the bitumen is flat and safe in front of you. When riding off road, you need sufficient light to show you the trail alignment ahead, the obstacles, and also to illuminate the wildlife you are bound to come across.

Advances in technology over the past 4 years have meant that high output, low wattage lights have become very affordable. There are a variety of styles (handlebar mounted, helmet mounted, or both) and a variety of manufacturers. But one thing is clear; you can get a set of LED lights that put out a huge amount of light, run for hours off a rechargeable battery and weigh only a few hundred grams – all without breaking the bank.

So this winter, when you get home from work, finish dinner, tuck the kids into bed, and sprawl on the couch, you have a couple of options. Either contemplate the strength of modern cotton and its ability to hold the buttons on your shirt closed across your stomach, or get rugged up and go for a ride on your favourite trail. It will put a smile on your face for a few days – and to those witty types, no, it's not frozen there!



Vet's casebook

by Ken Davidson BVSc (Hons)

Genes strong in kelpie family

THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN movie "RED DOG" was enjoyed by everyone that I have spoken to but it instantly brought back the fondest memories of a Red Kelpie that my wife Kerry (and subsequently we) owned called "Rusty." These dogs must have a genetic imprint that brings out similar characteristics in them all.

Rusty had a particular attachment to Kerry, her father and her father's car. He also had the run of a Northern Tablelands city, Armidale, more like a sprawling country town in those days. There would have been 20 different ways to get from Rusty's home to Kerry's grandmother's property on the outskirts of town, and Rusty knew all of them. The attraction was that Kerry kept her horse at her grandmother's property. Rusty had worked out that if Kerry was not at home, the chances were she would be riding her horse. One thing Kelpies love is a long run, and Rusty was no exception. He would cover the five mile trip to Gran's in no time, just to go for the horse ride.

One day Rusty was making his way to Gran's via West Armidale. Kerry's Dad was having a meeting with his men in West Armidale when suddenly one of the men sang out: "Hey Boss, here comes your dog!" Sure enough, there was Rusty coming down the street, piddling on every single telephone pole as he went and zig-zagging across the road to leave messages on the poles on the other side. Kerry's dad was adamant that the dog shouldn't know he was there. "If he finds out where I work, we'll never get rid of him" he muttered. The men laughed their heads off. "No chance of that, Boss, he's just jumped through the window of your car and is sitting in the driver's seat!"

As our friendship developed, Kerry and I would go horse riding together and Rusty would come along. Often, just for fun, she would "sool" him onto me if I became *too* friendly. He would grab the cuffs of my moleskins and shake them from side to side, growling fiercely all the time. What started out as a joke, however, soon became an obsession – Kelpies are like that – as you can imagine it made our courtship quite difficult while he was around. Every time we would have a 'snog' the damn dog started attacking me! Needless to say, love prevailed in the end.

After we were married we left to live in Sydney for some time. Rusty did not cope with this at all. He drove the family mad, constantly running between Kerry's home and her Gran's, all the time looking for her. He was getting thinner and thinner, merely from the exercise. Eventually her father rang us. "You'll have to come and get that red dog of yours, he's driving us all mad. Chances are he'll get run over when crossing the New England Highway which he is doing twice daily!"

On the Friday night of the first available long weekend we drove up to Armidale in my Austin A40. As we pulled up in the early hours of Saturday morning, Rusty couldn't believe his luck. He leapt into the only space on the back seat and virtually refused to budge until we left on the Monday. Rusty had made his choice.

In subsequent visits to Armidale, Rusty had to come with us. His excitement would mount as we climbed the Moonbi Ranges outside Tamworth. That damn dog knew where he was going. His mounting excitement at this point of the journey was so great that his bowel would get into top gear. Much to his delight we had to wind down all the windows, as a matter of survival, to let the putrid smelling gas out! For the last two hours of the trip he had his head out the window, soaking up those delicious Eucalypt bush smells of the New England while we suffered. Our first four children were lucky enough to have had Rusty to mind them. We didn't notice at the time, but when going through our family albums found that he was in almost every one of the baby photos. That's a Kelpie for you.

He lived a perfectly healthy life until he was 21 years old. It was the most difficult job of my career.

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When Bundanoon played host to Goulburn Teachers' College

AN ENTRY IN the Bundanoon History Group Archives database had always intrigued me. What on earth was the 'Bundanoon Log' and what did it have to do with Goulburn Teachers' College?

The story began early in 1970. Construction of a new Teachers' College at Goulburn had been delayed and the College administration was scouting for temporary premises for the winter term. This proved a windfall for Bundanoon, thanks to the smart move by the then BCDA President Mr Eric Collins, proprietor of The Knoll Guest House, who convinced his fellow guest house operators in Bundanoon to step into the breach. So it was that Mrs Akrigg at Bellevue Park, the Cleavers at Lynbrook, Mr and Mrs Kalman at Bundanoon House and Mr and Mrs Harris at Devonleigh all joined him in offering accommodation to about 200 college students and staff for five or more weeks over the normally slow winter season.

The well-ordered routines of the guest houses were overlaid with a set of rules and regulations for the students such as dress code, telephone use, restrictions on visitors, and so on, but apparently everything ran smoothly and the guest house owners were impressed by the students' courtesy and tidiness. Students were required to sign an "Out Register" maintained by each of the guest houses, when they left the premises, and to state where they were going. Apart from the usual entries such as Hotel, telephones, other guest houses, the Cemetery was a popular resort. And no, I don't think they were studying family history.

Local businesses thrived, with cafés staying open into the evening. Mr Es Hinde at the Bundanoon Pharmacy reported that there was a rush on hot water bottles when the students discovered their rooms had nowhere to plug in their electric blankets. The two banks with part-



time agencies in Bundanoon extended their hours and opened Monday to Friday. Perhaps the manual telephone exchange girls were not so thrilled having to work flat out in the evenings with all the extra calls. Local halls, churches, RSL and CWA were called on to provide rooms for lectures, and all the local primary schools received regular visits from the trainee teachers, which the staff found rather an imposition.

Students were full of praise for the reception they received from the guest houses and hinted they would be keen to return to Bundanoon to teach or for a holiday. Mr Collins also expected a long-term benefit to Bundanoon. He said, 'Many people now live in Bundanoon who first came here for a holiday. We have a saying here that today's visitor is tomorrow's resident.'

When the new Goulburn Teachers' College building finally opened later that year, a two metre long log from the Bundanoon Gullies was mounted in concrete at the Residential entrance as a memorial to their beginnings in Bundanoon – hence the Bundanoon Log. I wonder what happened to that in all the subsequent changes the Teachers' College endured, finally evolving into the Police Academy. If anyone reading this has any more information on this brief interlude in the past of Bundanoon and Goulburn Teachers' College, we would love to hear from you.

—Liz Walker, Archivist, Bundanoon History Group



Early 1970s pictures of Bundanoon supplied by Bundanoon History Group

BUNDANOON HISTORY GROUP INC

invites you to attend our meeting
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Bespoke is the word

STUART AND CAMERON Reid have been making fine furniture for 20 years in a huge – and very well-equipped – shed built by their builder father John on a 20-acre farm in Yuille Avenue. Cows graze in the adjoining lush paddock.

The brothers share a passion for premium-quality furniture and complement each other's skills. Stuart, 48, is the technical guru and Cameron, 45, the creative one. "Give us the same job and I will make it perfectly as drawn but with Cam it will become a unique piece. We're probably best mates too," says Stuart.

Stuart and wife Sue, and Cameron and wife Lisa, each have three kids and live in Bundanoon. When interviewed they were building the Bundanoon Public School float for Brigadoon, a "Flying Scotsman".

Stuart: At school I was always interested in cabinet-making and while I did work experience with builders I needed more detailed finesse to get my satisfaction. I did my apprenticeship as a cabinet-maker with Macedo's Antiques in Sydney, restoring and reproducing antique furniture. It was good, old-school training.

Cameron: As I was the younger of the two, Stuart said to me when I left school, "if you don't have anything else to do there's a job here in Sydney". Dad was selling the farm at Cootamundra so there wasn't a job there.

Stuart: The funny thing is that I always wanted to do it, Cam only wanted to do it because it was an easy option but he is the better furniture maker.

Cameron: We worked in England for a while once we finished our apprenticeships and when we came back in 1992 there was a bit of recession and there weren't many jobs around. Dad being a builder down here had a couple of leads so we started off in his workshop with limited equipment and a very small customer base of one.

Stuart: We had no business plan except that we wanted to make furniture and we didn't want to live in Sydney.

Cameron: And this area had a bit of a reputation for antique dealers and there were actually five cabinet makers/antique restorers in Bundanoon at the time. Today we make all types of furniture but the common thread is premium-quality products a cut above everything else... we do traditional and contemporary furniture, built-ins, libraries, high-class kitchens...

Stuart: "Bespoke" is the word.

Cameron: Over the last 20 years our customer base has averaged out pretty much 50:50 between the Southern Highlands and Sydney, a bit in Canberra, and 95 per cent is by word-of-mouth. That's the best form of advertising.

Stuart: Our favourite styles? Classic early English is beautiful but we really enjoy furniture from any era that's beautifully made. You see some beautiful Art Deco furniture, you see some fantastic stuff from the 1950s.

Cameron: Like any fine art there are the best artists of each period. I realised this looking at the best painters of each period in the galleries in Paris. Each period had its masters and it's the same with furniture. My favourites? Early Australian Colonial was part of my apprenticeship, then in England it was more Chippendale period English country furniture, also American Shaker and Arts & Crafts – these have been a big influence in our design and philosophy.

Stuart: The best piece I ever made? My wife's jewellery box – the complexity of it with its secret drawers and secret compartments. The sheer satisfaction of making that was achieving the degree of technical competency.

She agreed to marry me after that.

—Harvey Grennan

Sharing, co-operation and negotiation at Bundanoon Playgroup

THE FIRST TIME I attended Playgroup, it was as much for me as my little ones. We'd left behind the big city a couple of months earlier, and as much as the quiet, the fresh air and the change of pace were suiting us, I was definitely ready for a conversation with someone other than my husband or children...

We were welcomed with big smiles and open arms at the Bundanoon Playgroup, and my two-year-old twin girls were overjoyed with the multitude of toys and activities on offer. As the weeks have progressed we've enjoyed messy craft activities, fun interactive music sessions, rollicking outdoor play in the sandpit, and quiet time indoors 'baking' cookies and tending to dollies and dinosaurs. What might look like fun and games on the surface is actually an incredible learning opportunity for these kids, especially in the areas of sharing, cooperation and negotiation.

I was surprised to learn that the playgroup is run by the parents and carers of the children. It's all not-for-profit, and the cost to attend, after joining up with Playgroup NSW (\$39 yearly) is only \$2.50 per child each week, with an extra \$0.50 for each additional child. And the first two visits are free, so prospective new members can "try before they buy".

With fees kept so low, fundraising is an important way to meet annual expenses and maintain equipment and supplies. I missed the Christmas raffle last year, for which nearly 50 local businesses donated prizes, but I'm looking forward to being involved this year so the group can reach its goal of purchasing new indoor/outdoor climbing equipment.

Bundanoon Playgroup has been operating since 1976 and some of the parents I've met used to attend when they were toddlers. No doubt some of this current group of children will return in a few decades' time with their own kids, which is just how it should be in a community as strong as this.

The Playgroup meets at the white Presbyterian Church Hall in Phillip Street, on Tuesdays from 9.30am during school term. For more information, call Karen on 4883 6884.

—Greer Worsley
Photos by Karen Granger



Getting out and about with Preschool

EXCITING THINGS ARE happening at Bundanoon Preschool! The children have been out and about in the community with many more events and outings planned for the year. In Term 4 the children enjoyed bush walking in the Morton National Park, (thanks to the Bundanoon Club for supplying the bus and drivers for the excursions) as well as visits from Aunty Val and a number of other local Aboriginal Elders. 2012 began with our annual welcome picnic, with the usual terrific support from the town and rural fire brigades, local policeman Michael Dietz and the Paddy's River Bush Band. The evening was a wonderful success and concluded with our traditional lantern walk. The children created a fabulous Easter display for the Deli window and were very excited to visit the Deli and purchase an Easter egg. We hope to visit the Chinese Restaurant and Warrigal Care again this year too.

We were thrilled to be presented with a very generous donation from Moss Vale IGA Community Chest. On 18 May our Director, Deni Harden, was awarded a National Excellence in Teaching Award at a luncheon in Melbourne. Deni will use the scholarship prize to attend the Forest Schools training course in England!



Sharlene from IGA, Carolyn Beveridge (Preschool president) and Deni Harden (Director).

Moving to Bundanoon: young people's views



MY FAMILY MOVED to Bundanoon in May 2010. I felt very welcome in Bundanoon and I have made wonderful friends that I shall hopefully cherish for life. Bundanoon Public School has the best principal who works hard to ensure the kids have a proper education and are looked after properly.

She has wisdom. And I have found fantastic teachers who have helped me on my way.

—Katchmirr Russell



MY OLD SCHOOL in Sydney was a large school with about 800 students which meant that I didn't get much attention. That made me behind in a lot of subjects.

When I came to Bundanoon I immediately saw the difference in the school.

I got more individual attention and that allowed me to catch up in my work and do better.

I also saw the difference in how the teachers and students at Bundanoon School were more friendly.

—Jack Taufel



WE CAME FROM East Hills. It's much colder here!

I really enjoy the dance, choir, all the activities you can choose from, and I especially like Maths lessons and Sport more now than I did at my previous school. I've made new friends.

—Bridie Muir

BUNDANOON IS MY third school. I like it because it is smaller and there are more opportunities to get involved in things like the school concert, Brigadoon, and marching on ANZAC Day. The teachers know us all really well and care about us. Personally I enjoyed moving for I like exploring new homes. I was really happy because I moved from a little house under the Sydney flight path in a place which was as dry as the Sahara desert, to a big house which is always quiet and wet. Though it was hard making new friends at new schools overall it has been a moving experience.

—Conor O'Meagher



I MOVED FROM Tanilba Bay Public School in Port Stephens and I think that Bundanoon Public School is different because it is a lot more colourful and it has a lot more beautiful trees and flowers. My old school was right near the beach and it was shrubby, dry and hot.

—Megan Mulcahy



I LOVE THE Southern Highlands and am very excited that we moved here. Bundanoon Public School offers fantastic opportunities for their students, for example, debating, public speaking, dance and choir for every age group. The children who go there develop strong bonds between friends. I have made amazing friends who accepted the new girl and made her feel happy to have such great friends. Amazingly enough, three of my best friends were

new last year and we happily took each other's companionship to heart. Bundanoon is a great school and I love learning there. Our house in Moss Vale is perfect for our family. It never leaks or needs many repairs. There is enough space to run or hide and the actual house is always warm in winter and cool in summer. The bedrooms are spacious and cosy. I am happy in our new home.

—Bridie Clark



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IF YOU HAVE just a day to spend in Broome – after you have discovered that those local pearls cost a week's wages – the best way to see the country in a hurry is a flight over iconic Cable Beach.

The very tidy city of Broome, home to 60,000 tropic dwellers and now a major tourist drawcard, was borne of the demand in Victorian England for pretty buttons in the late 19th century. Buttons made of mother-of-pearl. Thousands of Japanese, Chinese and Islander divers died satisfying this lucrative trade.

Squeezing into a single-engined, four-seat Cessna at the airport in the middle of town you soon have a bird's eye view of the 22 km long white sand beach which got its name from the telegraph cable that used to stretch its length.

Flying at just 500 feet the sea below is a gorgeous pale aqua green. The beach is vast at low tide; it has to be to cope with ten-metre tides every day. The week before my visit Cyclone Bianca had stripped the beach of sand in front of the iconic Cable Beach Club built by British lord Alistair McAlpine, so giving birth to Broome's booming tourist industry.

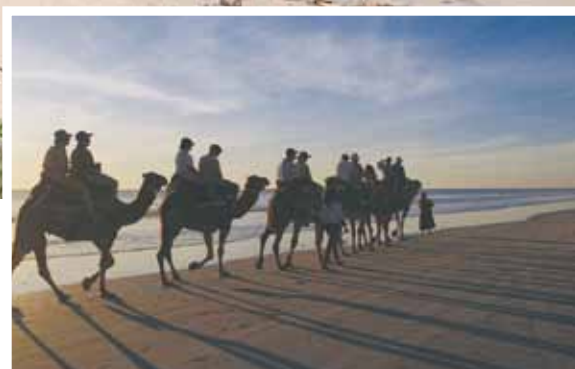
The zoo also built by McAlpine, is long gone, replaced by newer resorts of even greater luxury and upmarket subdivisions.

Close by is billionaire Kerry Stokes' waterfront "weekender" which our pilot informs us he visits only twice a year and which requires ten full-time gardeners.

At the northern end of the beach we find a mile-wide stretch of crystal water and white sand drifts running inland that only an outback Aussie wag could call a "creek". This is Willie Creek where many of Broome's pricey cultured pearls are – well – cultured! At the



Japanese Cemetery



mouth of the creek is the coastguard station where, until recently, illegal Indonesian fishing boats were hauled up onto the beach and burned in view of their captain and crew. The purpose is to prevent exotic plants and other environmental nasties invading the country but no doubt it delivers another message of a different kind.

We do a wide sweep over the pristine sand deltas of Willie Creek, swinging back south over an Indian file, on the beach, of camel riders from a visiting cruise ship. At the southern end of the beach we fly over the rocky Gantheaume Point where at low tide it is possible to see 120 million year old dinosaur footprints. We buzz the gleaming white cruise ship before landing back in town.

Broome, of course, has other lures for the visitor. There are the pearl and clothing shops in China Town (expensive), Matso's Brewery, a museum, restored pearling luggers and Sun Pictures, the world's oldest continuously-operating outdoor cinema. (No, you didn't see it in Baz Luhrman's film *Australia*, you saw a copy reproduced in the studio from photographs.)

China Town these days is a much-sanitised version of the seedy collection of bars, bordellos, back alleys and opium dens of earlier times. More café alfresco than opium den! The grim reality of the risks and rewards of diving for pearls is more striking at the Japanese Cemetery.

Nearby is Malcolm Douglas' crocodile farm where you can see Fatso, an 800kg croc with an appetite for boat propellers. Last year a drunk climbed into Fatso's pen to give him a pat and got bitten on the leg.

Still thinking about those earrings? Duck into the souvenir shop at the visitor centre and buy freshwater pearl jobs from China at \$30 or \$40. Not what you had in mind but they will calm the shopping beast.

Broome Air Services operates a 30-minute flight over Cable Beach for \$99. Broome Aviation has a half-day flight touching down at Cape Leveque via Buccaneer Archipelago and the Horizontal Falls for \$480.

—Harvey Grennan



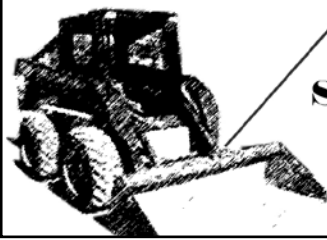
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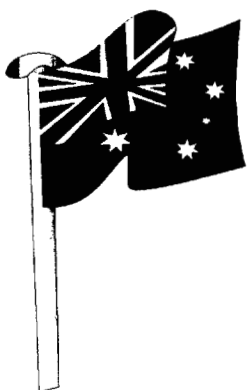
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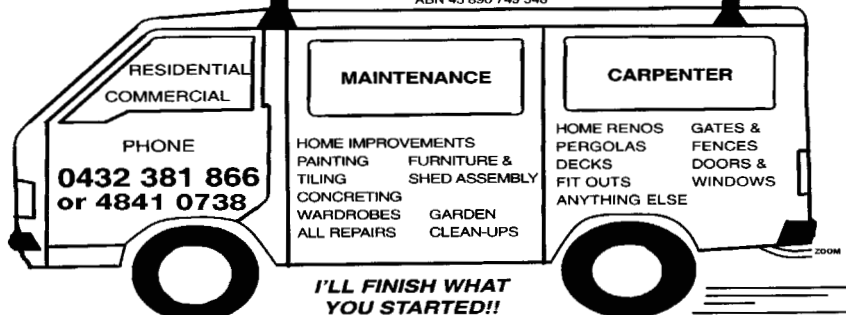
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CWA report

Waxing lyrical

DEAR FRIENDS – Here I am, once again attempting to limit my “bubbling enthusiasm” and pride in our CWA calendar. First, Brigadoon is indeed the magic word for our town and the Southern Highlands. The gods were lenient and held off the rain, although the Oval was still very wet. CWA cottage opened its doors as usual, to welcome the weary and hungry with hot soups, sandwiches and our world-famous scones & tea. Thank you to all our caterers and to the wonderful group that were there most of the day: Margaret McNulty, Kath Smith, Sheila Topham, Lome Doyle, Marie Reid, etc. These ladies gave their time, smiles and service with unstinting flair and I believe their “pins” must have craved for rest at the end of the day. Kath, who lives next door to me, is my pillar of strength and information. She told me many customers made complimentary comments about the event and how warm and friendly all the locals are....including CWA...” (I must confess that after more than 25 years of Brigadoon I am still speculating on what is worn under all those fetching masculine kilts... can anyone help?)

On 23 April, Margaret McNulty and I attended the combined area Marulan to Goulburn's International Day. We were greatly impressed by the size and style of their rooms. Their Guest Speaker on the subject of “Timor Este” was Gloria Schultz who has close links with Timor via her son Grant. May I, at this point, relate that I had a look at their Presidents' List Board and was stunned to note that their first President was Mrs Ivy Prell who acted in that capacity from 21 September 1923 to September 1957 (yes it was listed there) followed by Miss M. Prell from 1957 to 1976. What can I say!? What inspiring devotion to a great cause!



On Sunday 29 April we joined others from our area at Lake Alexandra in Mittagong for the Association of Country Women of the World global challenge “Women Walk the World”.

May was a very busy month, beginning with a rally held in Sydney in support of farming communities and protection of our land and water. And from 7–10 May the annual General Meeting of CWA NSW was held at the Blacktown Workers' Club, with two representatives from Bundanoon in attendance.

On Tuesday 24 May CWA participated in the “Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea”. The name speaks for itself. We are very moved by the courage, faith and needs of all cancer sufferers and help as much as we can.

Finally, please remember that CWA will have two Stalls during “Winterfest”. Also, Anna Shead will hold a knitting workshop at CWA Rooms on 4 July and with her skills and enthusiasm it should be a great experience. My use of knitting needles is limited to removing grubs from my trees! Why not join us?

I could go on waxing lyrical about CWA but must consider others' space. Blessings to all.

—Francesca Gunesch, Vice-President, ph 4883 6730

Left to right:
Bundanoon
Lions' President,
Les Johnson,
new member
Lesley Ryan and
her sponsor,
Andy Rocca, with
District Governor
Geoff Hobart



APRIL IS ALWAYS a busy time for Bundanoon Lions; this year so more than ever.

Starting at the end of March we had the annual official visit of our District Governor, the occasion marked by a dinner at Treetops Guest House.

The Governor, Geoff Hobart, spoke of the inspirational leadership of Lions International President, Dr Tam Wing-Kun, and the importance of self-belief in every facet of life, along with the importance of the Lions motto: We Serve. The meeting also saw the induction of new Lion, Lesley Ryan, and the presentation of a ten-year award to former club president, Grant Perkins.

Brigadoon – always in April – is traditionally a big event for the Club and 2012 was no exception, albeit with a change of style because we moved our activities from the RSL Hall to the oval. Here, instead of the traditional “all day breakfast”, we served hot dogs, fresh fruit juices and delicious coffee, made by a master barista.

But the highlight of the club's Brigadoon festivities is the now-



Lions Club of Bundanoon

traditional Brigadoon Single Malt Whisky raffle. For only a dollar a ticket the lucky winner received six bottles of specially selected single malt whisky, selected and supplied in conjunction with Dan Murphy's in Mittagong and valued at more than \$300.

Meanwhile our programme of dinner meetings at Idle a Wile continues on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Visitors are always welcome, so if you have ever wondered what being in the Lions Club is like, why not call our President, Les Johnson, on 4883 7988 and come along as our guest?

Finally, to correct a common misconception, membership of any of the activities associated with the BCA in no way precludes you from joining Lions. Where the BCA groups are concerned with local activities, Lions serve the community, not just locally, nor even nationally, but worldwide. And the current BCA President, Ralph Clark is a past District Governor of Lions and a member of the Lions Club of Bundanoon. To find out more, call membership chairman Peter Wearing Smith on 4883 7988.

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Activities and services

Activities

Arts Bundanoon.....	Rod Moore.....	4883 7777
Bundanoon Community Association (BCA)		
President.....	Ralph Clark	4883 7196
Bundanoon Pre-School		
Director.....	Deni Harden	4883 6166
Committee.....	Carolyn Beveridge.....	4883 7273
Bundanoon Public School P&C.....	Jeremy Tonks	4883 6019
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>):		
.....	Francesca Gunesch	4883 6730
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.....	Les Johnson	4883 6918
Men's Shed (<i>meets 1st Tuesday, 10am, 11 Burgess St</i>):		
.....	Evan Smith, President.....	4883 6753
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>):		
President.....	William Russell	0412 476 141
Secretary	Murray Loane	4883 6709
Serendipity: the choir	Kerith Fowles	4883 6515
The Bundanoon Club	Sandra Nicholls.....	4883 7227

Sports Clubs

Bowls (Men).....	John Witney	4883 7356
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
Rugby	Marcus Fenwick.....	0427 639 612
Soccer	Sue Roseworne	4883 7219
Swimming.....	Nanette Moroney	4883 7152
Tennis	Cameron Reid	4883 7074

Support & Volunteer Services

Community Health Service.....	Bowral	4861 8000
Early Childhood Clinic.....		4861 8000
Fire Station.....		4883 6333
Good Yarn	Marilyn Rocca	4883 6542
Meals on Wheels	Fay Carter	4883 7441
Mobile Library	Moss Vale Library	4868 2479
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

**To update or amend details, please contact
Pam Davies, 4883 7196.**

Church times

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

Santi Forest Buddhist Monastery

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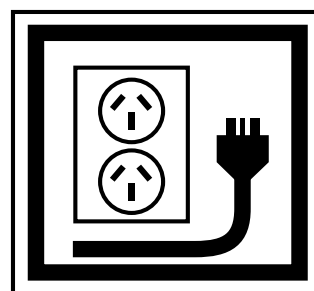
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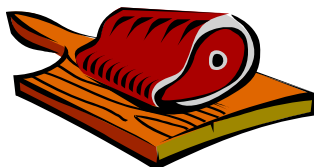
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Australian Red Cross is currently recruiting volunteers in BUNDANOON AND MOSS VALE.

Volunteers are recruited and trained to improve the quality of life of an isolated person living in a local Aged Care Home.

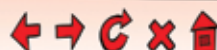
Community Visitors Scheme volunteers are matched to a resident with similar interests or lifestyle and visit once per week or fortnight for up to one hour. Volunteers provide a connection to the wider community and a reduction in social isolation.

To be a Community Volunteer you must be over 18 years of age, enjoy spending time with older people, be a good listener and communicator and be able to commit to a minimum of 1 hour per fortnight for a minimum of 12 months. You'll also be required to maintain monthly contact with your Red Cross Coordinator and undergo a Criminal History Check.

We are looking for people from all walks of life, e.g. male, female, couples, mature aged students and others with an interest in Social Inclusion.

Community Visitors are provided with training, information and resources, ongoing support from the Coordinator, and are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People are encouraged to apply.

If you are interested in becoming a Community Visitor, please visit our Careers page at: www.redcross.org.au Or email dbarrientos@redcross.org.au or call (02) 4861 5727 for further information and how to apply.



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