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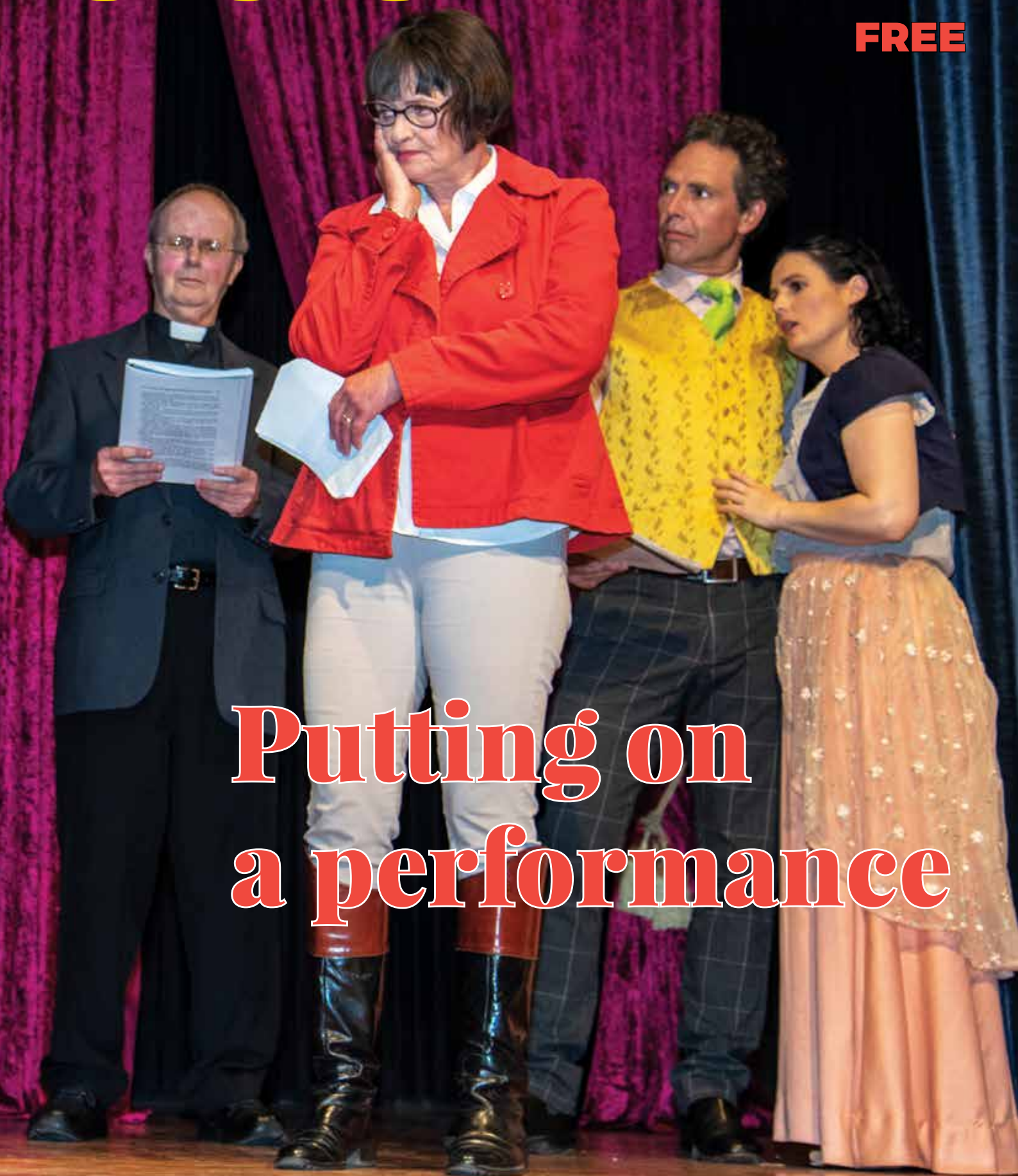
Edition 96 • March 2019

JCCG



A Bundanoon Community Association publication
for the people of Bundanoon and Southern Villages

FREE



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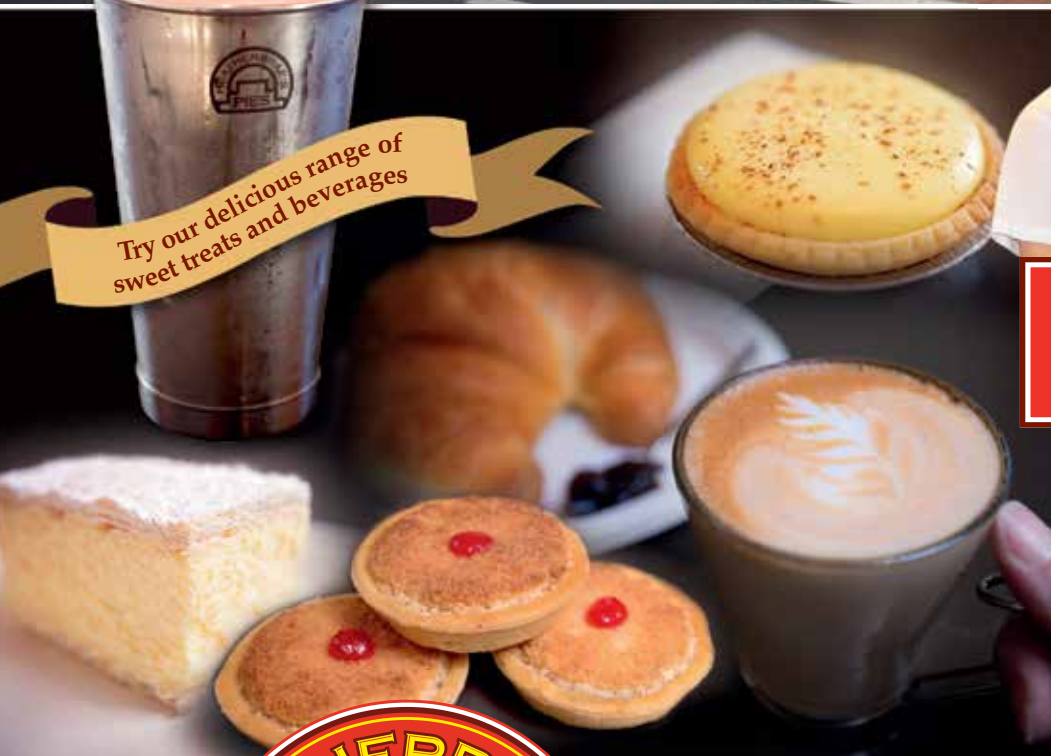
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Cover photograph:

Melting Pot Theatre's production of
The Importance of Being Ernest by Peter Gray

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PO Box 201, Bundanoon NSW 2578

Circulation

1925, quarterly

Subscriptions:

Annual subscription is \$20 (including postage) or
\$50 for three years.

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From the editor

On-stage performance is not everyone's cup of tea, but it is surprising how many of our friends and neighbours have been known to quell the butterflies, take a deep breath and stride on to the stage to demonstrate their talent for our watching or listening pleasure.

In this issue our centre pages highlight just a few of our residents whose lives include public performance. They include classical musicians, actors, much-loved country music singer-songwriter-musician combinations, and a multi-talented music-maker, amateur actor and popular band leader.

We also have our usual spiced mix of other feature stories: learn about the smallest house in Bundanoon; discover how to avoid death by bagpipe; or meet a gentleman well into his 80s who still plays tennis three days a week.

To Ben Mawston, who has done the design layout of *JCG* for the last 12 years and is now leaving Bundanoon: I say thanks for making our magazine a very handsome production. It has been a pleasure to work with Ben. There is more about Ben's new career on page 35.

Also thank you to Kaz Williams who has been our volunteer Advertisement Manager since December 2017 and will move on to other activities after this issue.

—Helen Clark, Editor

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putting on a performance

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Hall Hire

For Soldiers' Memorial Hall booking enquiries please phone 4883 6971 or email hallhire@bundanoon.nsw.au

BCA meetings

Third Thursday of month (excl Jan):
20 December, 21 February, 21 March (AGM)
7:30pm in Supper Room at the Hall.

Advertising info:
page 45

Deadline for next issue:
Friday 3 May



Christmas Variety Show



Still strumming: (above) a flashback to Les Rundle's younger days (1975)



Photos: Peter Gray



Bundanoon Community Association



Christine Janssen – President

AS IT IS in many other places, change is happening in Bundanoon and not everyone is happy about it. The village seems to be encircled by new developments, with more on the way.

But let's take a step back. When someone makes a comment about Bundanoon not being the same, I think back to why my husband and I moved here five years ago. We left the city to escape from traffic and overdevelopment – the same reasons cited by many others moving here. A lot of new residents have previously visited our village and loved what they found – and who can blame them. Our village has a lot to offer: an excellent school, incredible bush walks, our beautiful four seasons, high quality music and theatre performances, respect for and preservation of history and great coffee shops. Bundanoon has it all and it's there to share.

The BCA works hard to advocate on behalf of all residents against inappropriate development and for the safety and improvement of our amenities and infrastructure. With your support we will

continue to do this as our population increases. Lyn and Allan Morehen (BCA's Welcome Team) greet new residents with a special Welcome Pack and when I have the opportunity I meet them with a smile and a warm hand shake and invite them to become involved in the community.

This month BCA has its Annual General Meeting and I invite all residents to come

and find out just what BCA offers. If you want to have a say, please make sure you download a membership form from the website: www.bca.asn.au and lodge it at least 14 days before the meeting which is on 21 March. All positions will be vacant and I encourage members young and old to think about applying and contributing to the lifestyle that Bundanoon offers.

BUNDANOON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30pm, Thursday 21 March, 2019 • Bundanoon Memorial Hall

- All positions declared open
- Nomination forms can be downloaded from www.bca.asn.au
- Nominations must be received by **5pm, Wednesday 13 March**

In order for all the events currently enjoyed by the Bundanoon community to continue, e.g. Winterfest, Garden Ramble, Music at 10, Bundanoon Sings, and Melting Pot, it is essential that the BCA has an executive committee.

Full support and information will be offered to anyone who is interested in becoming a committee member.

Nominations are welcome from the whole community.

Nominations to: BCA President,
PO Box 12, BUNDANOON NSW 2578

CHRISTINE JANSSEN
President, BCA
president@bca.asn.au



The banner says it all

AFTER THE WORD got around town, helped by a large banner at the station and posters and notifications around the village, the big day finally arrived.

On Sunday 2nd December hundreds of children and their parents and many 'mature' adults gathered on our beautifully restored Bundanoon Railway Station to welcome the arrival of Santa.

The station's new replica oil lamp was also decorated by community members with tinsel and fairy lights for the occasion.

The train arrived on time at 9am with Santa waving from the front driver's cabin. It would have been a long time since such an excited and happy crowd had gathered at the station.

Santa's train was the regular morning Canberra service which was quite well-patronised. It would be interesting to hear travellers' comments on the huge crowd and the welcoming activities.

Throughout the morning Santa handed out lollies and happily sat on the platform bench seat for many photos with children

and families. Cupcakes were handed out by railway personnel. The Station's heritage buildings were again open for inspection.

Many expressed the desire and hope that Santa's visit at the railway station would be an annual event.

Thanks and gratitude goes to New South Wales Trains and the railway volunteers who put in so much effort to ensure the day was so successful.

—Peter Goulding

Music at 10



ARTS BUNDANOON IS pleased to begin another year of regular concerts. In addition to our usual Music at 10 series, we are offering an evening concert this autumn.

On the 23rd March, 2019 Arts Bundanoon will farewell one of Australia's most loved pianists, Gerard Willems, who will shortly leave Australia to take up residence in Europe.

The event in March will be an evening concert of chamber music for piano trio. In this recital, Mr Willems will be joined by violinist Evgeny Sorkin and 'cellist Susan Blake. The programme will include the beautiful Piano Trio in D minor by Mendelssohn and the engaging Shostakovich Piano Trio. Evgeny Sorkin has appeared previously in Bundanoon with Mr Willems and, fortunately, Australia is managing to keep him.

This evening concert is likely to be Mr Willems' final concert in Australia so it will be the last opportunity for the Bundanoon audience to hear this fine musician.

- 7:30 pm, Saturday 23 March, 2019. Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Bundanoon. Tickets at the door \$25.00. Children under 18 – free. For more information, please call 0401 946 289.

Why we love Monday nights

IT'S MONDAY NIGHT. We leave behind the dishes, the kids, the TV, the partner and the dog and head out to catch up with friends. On Monday nights we hear their news, have some laughs, are creative together and we make some fantastic sounds. We're Bundanoon Sings! – Bundanoon's own community choir. We sing together on a Monday night to feel good, to enjoy singing together and to build community.

You don't have to audition to join Bundanoon Sings!, and you don't need to have experience to join.

We sing: modern classics (last year we sang some Lilly Allen and Hunters & Collectors), classical favourites (hello Mozart), and some really interesting pieces that stretch our brains and get us excited – did we mention we can sing in Swahili?

Bundanoon Sings! is fortunate to have the gorgeous and enormously talented Danielle Hewitt holding the baton. Danielle also conducts the Bundanoon Public School choir (BPS). This year, the Bundanoon Community Association (BCA) together with BPS supported Danielle to attend the Choral Conductors Summer School, held by Australian

Choral Conductors Education & Training. Danielle would like to express her thanks and gratitude to both the BCA and BPS for their support. During these five days of intense learning, Danielle learnt many new ideas and techniques to bring into these two Bundanoon choirs.

Some of the messages Danielle brought home:

- **We are hardwired to sing together.** Singing is an ancient human tradition that doesn't just produce sound. In particular, singing with other people improves mental health, physical health, cognitive function (thinking) and emotional wellbeing. There are so many advantages to joining a choir (just ask a member of Bundanoon Sings!).
- **Choral singing requires teamwork** and, like a sporting team, builds a sense of community and cooperation. It's a particularly good way for our young people to learn these skills. Building social connection (friendships) in our local community makes us all feel good!
- **Movement and singing go hand in hand.** Singing is a physical activity that requires much more than just the larynx (voice box) to work. This may be why we find so many people

experience improved physical health when they join a choir.

- **Meditation can be used with great success in choirs**, supporting both our breathing (very important in singing) and our sense of being and working together.
- After an inspiring talk by Deborah Cheetham AO, Danielle is also keen to bring more **indigenous music** into our local choirs, to share some of our First People's stories.

We're so looking forward to seeing you during the year. We have a new event coming this Winterfest (think choir, but with a glass of something in hand), and our 'Songs of Stage and Screen' event later in the year (13th August – save the date!).

Bundanoon Sings! rehearsals start back at 7.00pm on Monday 11th February in the Bundanoon Soldiers' Memorial Hall. We would love to see (and hear!) you there.

Contact www.facebook.com/bundanoonsings or bundanoonsings@gmail.com for more information. Or just pop in to have a look and a listen! We'd love to meet you.

—Hannah Halloran



Melting Pot Theatre 2019 Season

Please note the following dates for events this year:

Crash Test Drama

Our regular Crash Test Drama events at the Soldiers' Memorial Hall:

- March 16th
- May 18th
- July 27th
- September 14th

Casting starts 2pm; Plays at 5pm, admission \$10

Gala Final of Crash Test Drama

- November 16th

Variety Show

- December 21st

Workshops

- Writer's Workshop: Anton Baggerman, February 23rd
- Writer's Workshop: Gill Brennan, August 3rd
- Actor's Workshop: Joshua Hewitt, April 27th
- Director's Workshop: June 15th

Shows

- June 22nd: Crash Test Comedy, 8 minute sets of comedy.
- August 24th and 25th:
And No More Shall We Part by Tom Holloway.
The winner of the 2010 AWGIE award for Best Play, *And No More Shall We Part* looks at what happens to a relationship when death comes into the room. Hailed by critics everywhere, this play performance will be a night not to be missed.



Photos: Peter Gray



Melting Pot Theatre's rehearsed and costumed reading of *The Importance of Being Ernest* by Oscar Wilde captured the wit of Wilde while showcasing the crowd-pleasing character-acting of the cast.

The reading was directed by Josh Hewitt, Convenor of Melting Pot Theatre. Cast: Richard Jansson, Sam Jones, Mark Smith, Jim Cheesley, Miranda Lean, Bronwyn Fitzgerald, Bronwyn Beard and Sarah Hawthorn. Sound and light: William and Tamara Strong.



Winterfest update 2019

WINTERFEST MADE A welcome return to the village calendar in 2018 courtesy of a shiny new Winterfest committee brimming with enthusiasm and bursting with ideas. Despite having only five volunteers last year to undertake the mammoth organisational task we believe we staged a great event. It's really pleasing to report that since the end of December the Winterfest sub-committee's membership has swelled, with five eager new recruits coming on board to lend a hand.

Plans for the 2019 festival are well under way. We'll kick things off on Saturday 6th July with the much-loved street party and follow up with eight days of workshops and events, concluding on Sunday 14th July. In response to some of the issues we encountered last year, essential changes both to the opening street party and the workshop program

are being undertaken. For example, we're working on the layout of the street to improve both acoustics and the flow of revellers. With data gained from last year's innovative entry gates and wristbands, food and drink vendors will come prepared for at least 3000 revellers this year. We're also looking for more activities and events for kids, cooks and crafters to fill the festival program. If you have an idea for an event or workshop and a contact we can reach out to, please get in touch. Suggestions welcome! We hope to have the workshop schedule nailed down by late April and to have printed programs in people's hands by mid-May.

Although the figures are available in the BCA Treasurer's report, most in the community would be unaware of the true costs involved in creating a festival like Winterfest – simply put, it's expensive

to run. While the BCA provides the funds required, without the support of sponsors it would mean that most other BCA community activities couldn't be supported, which is why we rely on the extremely generous support of a great many sponsors and friends.

At the time of writing, sponsors are being sought to help us fund the fun in 2019. If you or your business would like to help, please get in touch with us via winterfestinbundanoon@gmail.com – and most importantly if you're keen that Winterfest remains on Bundanoon's calendar, please be sure to support those businesses.



Bundanoon Community Association Inc. (BCA)

Compassionate Communities update

BUNDANOON'S COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES (ComCom) Subcommittee has been steadily growing into a lovely bunch of people committed to strengthening Bundanoon's already kind and compassionate community. Its first 2019 meeting was held early in February at Potter's Pantry, and a workshop entitled 'What is a compassionate community?' was held later that month at the Soldiers' Memorial Hall.

So what is ComCom? It is a whole-of-community approach to providing care for each other during times of need, loss, crisis, dying, death, grief and bereavement. Caring becomes the task and responsibility of everyone. The work has been spearheaded by The GroundSwell Project, a not-for-profit organisation working to improve what they describe as 'death literacy'

(see www.thegroundswellproject.com) and is supported by the Quest for Life, here in Bundanoon.

Compassionate Community signs have been installed at the entrances to the village and community surveys have been distributed (and one has been inserted into this edition of JCG). We would love to hear more from the community: what would you like to see happen to strengthen our way of doing things during times of need, loss, crisis, death, death, grief and bereavement? Please have your say and make a contribution!

In the meantime, ComCom is helping Relationships Australia promote 'Neighbour Day' on Sunday 31 March, with a focus on tackling loneliness. Look out for stalls in the café districts of Bundanoon and Exeter. Stop and have a chat and get inspired with ideas for connecting with yourself, your neighbours, and the wider community.



L-R: Helen Richardson, Wendy Kingston, Nancy Lovato, Trish Stafford, Lynn Harris, Jessica Raschke.

ComCom will also be hosting several Compassionate Community Conversation Cafes throughout the year: 7 April, 5 May, 2 June, 4 August, 3 November and 1 December. We plan to hold these events at different locations. For more information please contact Jessica Raschke on comcombundanoon@questforlife.com.au or 0422 849 041 to join our mailing list for regular updates.

Bundanoon's Green Team



YOU WOULD BE forgiven for thinking that all the Green Team does is plant daffodils for a one-off display each year, and of course this is our most visible achievement. About 45,000 bulbs have been planted since 2004 to give us that wonderful splash of Spring colour at the east and west entrances to the village for everyone to enjoy.

However, the story goes a bit deeper. What may not be so well known are the other areas we maintain. Plantings surrounding the lyrebird sculpture at the first rail bridge, young camellias alongside Railway Avenue which will become more obvious as they mature, planter beds in Picnic Park near the Old Goods Shed, ten flower pots spread around the shopping area of the village, roadside gardens near the corner of Ross Street, plus regular maintenance of the roadside village entrance gardens – all of this is down to us, the Green Team!

The Green Team started in 2003 when a few enthusiastic local people decided to tackle rampant weeds and undergrowth

that had overtaken many areas of our village. After a year of mowing Railway Avenue verge bridge-to-bridge and wearing out our mowers, we decided to ask Council permission for work to be done by working bees under the management of a team and thus the Green Team was formed.

We cleared dead wattles off picnic tables, slashed weeds and undergrowth back to the railway fence, prepared and planted the daffodil beds, designed and created the arboretum and sandstone-lined drainage ditch at the eastern entrance.

We eventually won two Tidy Towns awards in 2007 and 2008 – not a bad effort after only three years!

One project in 2009 was to clear 'Governors Walk', where now a pleasant boardwalk and track links Governors Road with Panorama Avenue.

The team also spent time and effort on beautifying the steep and uneven railway embankment opposite the Bundanoon Hotel. The recent clean-up and new plantings by a Sydney Trains team will

be handsome when established, but there is no funding or resources for continued maintenance. The Green Team has made a verbal agreement to do some spot weeding, but we are hoping that as the plants mature they will suppress weeds.

Funding for our sub-group comes from Bundanoon Community Association. It's interesting to note, as Ralph Clark reminded us in the last edition of the *JCG*, that Bundanoon's famous Garden Ramble was started initially to raise money for Green Team projects.

We meet for working bees on the second Tuesday of each month, but do have a month or two off during the year if jobs are not too pressing. We normally start at 8.30 am but are happy for members to start and finish when it suits. A well-earned coffee somewhere in the village signals the end of our labours. If you would like to be part of this local 'green army' you will find our contact under 'Activities and Services' at the back of the *JCG*.

—John White and Rosemary Page

Before...



...and after





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US students assist wombat project

ON 15 JANUARY 20 students, staff and friends from California University's St. Mary's College visited Bundanoon as volunteers working on Environmental Projects around Australia.

Team Leader Dr Derek Marks has undertaken several of these tours and this year wanted to spend time with John Creighton, Bundanoon's 'Wombat Man' after seeing a video posted by Caitlin Gallagher, who assists John. "I am amazed at the volunteer work that John has been undertaking and wanted my students to participate, share his enthusiasm and to contribute", said Dr Marks. "John is a great example of how one man can make such a difference whilst igniting the community in supporting his work".

The group planted trees purchased with a donation of \$250 from Bundanoon Community Association Inc. and prepared land for the establishment of an educational and treatment facility. The heat didn't deter the students and John commented "they made order out of chaos and did in one day what would have taken me months".



NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service provided the use of facilities at Morton National Park for an evening BBQ excellently catered for by the Bundanoon Lions Club. A great sausage sizzle, home-made damper and ginger beer provided an Aussie flavour. Les Rundle sang a selection of bush ballads and many of our guests knew the words.

Whilst the weather was hot and the work hard, everyone enjoyed the experience. It was great to see John being recognised for his amazing work and the way the community got together at such short notice to showcase our great little town.

We may see another group next year thanks to Dr Derek Marks and St. Mary's College.

—Elizabeth Cranny, Bundanoon Lions Club



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Value adding at our school – quality before- and after-school care

LOCAL SCHOOLS ARE a fabulous resource beyond the Monday to Friday 8:30am – 3:30pm school day. They can be used by the broader community for a variety of purposes.

The benefits of this are many. Perhaps most importantly is the knowledge that the school environment is one which is safe – facilities are well maintained and the organisations using them have been subject to stringent quality-control measures.

Bringing events and experiences to school allows less time to be spent on travel to services and events further away thus minimising environmental impact. In addition, using school facilities means a high level of access for our whole community, particularly those who may not have ready access to transport.

By holding major events at our school, we can attract an economic benefit for local businesses and school fund-raising bodies. Socially and culturally our small part of the world gains enormous benefit from exposure to visiting groups offering new experiences and ideas.

Bundanoon Public School hosts many outside providers, both within and outside school hours. Subject to strict quality-control measures, these bodies offer a vast array of opportunities for our students, their families, the broader school community and indeed, in many cases, a state-wide audience.

Before- and after-school care

From early in 2019, Bundanoon will offer quality before- and after-school care during term time, and vacation-care during school holidays. This will include a nutritious breakfast and afternoon tea menu and well-planned daily activities which link to current school projects and broader NSW Department of Education

syllabuses. Our aim is to make this opportunity financially and physically accessible to students (and their families) who currently attend Bundanoon Public School or other schools further afield.

Please contact Bundanoon Public School for further information should you be interested in utilising this facility.

Healthcare

The mental and physical health of our students and their families is paramount. We are fortunate to be able to offer the services of qualified visiting professionals in the areas of counselling, occupational therapy and family support agencies. A confidential brokerage service is also available, should families require assistance from health, housing or other services within the community.

Extra-curricular opportunities

In Bundanoon we are blessed with many talented individuals who assist us in offering opportunities such as band, choir and strings tuition both before and during school time. Performance opportunities, both local and further afield, allow students an authentic purpose when learning and practising. Our hall and access to our grand piano and keyboard help to make this possible.

After-school sporting groups are a regular event within term time, with our large playing area used to its full potential by teachers and a number of outside providers.

Parent workshops

Within the school year we invite parents to be part of a variety of workshops assisting them with their child's learning and development. These are offered during and after school and focus on topics such as Literacy, Numeracy, Parenting Resilient

Children and Personal Development workshops. The workshops are run by teachers and outside providers within the safe, secure and familiar learning environment that is our school.

Facilities for hire

Our school facilities are also available for hire to the broader community. Throughout the year our school plays host to the NSW Teachers Federation Beginner Teacher conferences, the NSW Electoral Commission, the Sydney and Canberra Recorder Groups, Scrabble NSW, the Bundanoon Swim Club, the Southern Highlands Physical Culture Club, the Anglican Church, bush dancing and choral workshops, to name but a few.

Hosting events at our school has the added benefit of providing the opportunity to showcase our wonderful school and town and bringing economic benefits to our local businesses.

If you are interested in hiring our school facilities, please contact the school office on 4883 6192 for further information.

**—Mel Morris, Principal
Bundanoon Public School**



Music to chill to

Spring – when young men’s fancies...
 Summer – when the livin’ is easy...
 Autumn – those falling leaves...
 Winter – a drag!

AND SO SAYS Serendipity:the choir in its next concert series, “Winter’s a Drag!” And if it’s not, why do so many Highlanders flee to warmer climes? Why do conversations centre around how many layers of clothing constitute enough; which coffee shop serves the best glühwein; where does one find the warmest dog accessories; and whose cold is actually ‘flu of the most severe kind?

If you need to fill in a dull, cold winter’s day, try a Google search of ‘winter – music’. The millions of ‘hits’ will probably surprise you, as it did the creators of the choir’s next programme. Then to compare your results with ours, or simply to make yourself feel better

about our chilly winter, join Serendipity for a musical overview of this sneezin’ season. Musical offerings from countries which regularly experience ‘real’ winters are included; Japan, England, the United States, France. Musical styles are many and varied – jazz, swing, baroque, romantic, folk, opera – the choice is truly tempting.

And Serendipity’s now famous raffles will be part of the festivities. All monies from the raffles go to local charities, reflecting Serendipity’s support of communities within the Highlands.

So seize the opportunity to forget winter’s gloom, and join Serendipity:the choir (and a surprise Guest Artist) on the following dates: **May 24th (6.00pm) and 25th (3.00pm) in Bundanoon; and June 1st (3.00pm) in Bowral.**

Tickets are available online through www.serendipitythechoir.com or from Hindmarsh & Walsh, Bundanoon and The Brown Bookshop, Bowral.



Graphic by Etamme – Own work. CC BY-SA 3.0 <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=8761022>

Serendipity
the choir

Adults \$20.00, children free.

Remember to rug up (in layers) before you venture forth to the concert of your choice.

—Kerith Fowles

Student artwork display

2019 IS THE 10th anniversary of the important decision made by the village to be the first single-use bottled water-free town in the world and we are ready to ramp up action to celebrate and acknowledge this anniversary.

Students of Bundanoon Public School came together, with Greg McCroary’s guidance and their teachers’ support, to put together some illustrations of their thoughts on the environment, on being responsible in our day-to-day actions and what the celebration might mean.

The quality and variety of work presented was outstanding and it was a challenge to select the pieces for display in DeliLicious (the display continues to the end of March if you haven’t yet seen it).

Works on display:

‘Raindrops’ by Olivia Gnecci-Ruscione
 ‘Turtle Trauma’ by Lucinda McCrow
 ‘Plastic Winner’ by Emerald Fleming
 ‘10 plants’ by Emerald Fleming
 ‘If nature happens’ by Lillian Donnelly
 ‘10 Tree Candles for the 10th birthday’ by Caleighse Robb
 ‘Kookaburra’ by Milton Sheather
 ‘Wombat Eating Cake in the Grass’ by Nicholas Brooks
 ‘Frog in a Bottle’ by Archie Carter

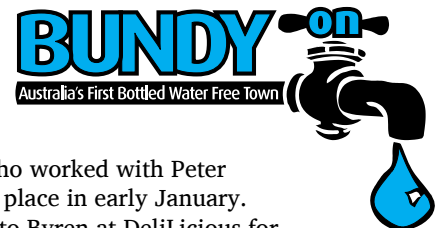
For the support that enabled this art display by students of Bundanoon Public School to be seen and enjoyed by the community, we give sincere thanks to:

- The Principal, teachers and students at the school.
- Bundanoon Guest House – donated the prize in the senior students section
- Bundanoon Hotel – donated the prize for the middle group
- Bundanoon Pizza and Pasta – donated the prize for the younger students group
- Peter Gray, President of the Bundanoon Photography Group,

who worked tirelessly in preparing the students’ material for display and

Patrick Fitzgerald who worked with Peter to put the display in place in early January.

- A special thank you to Byren at DeliLicious for warmly welcoming the material to the display wall of his business.



—Christine Miller

Photo: Peter Gray



Putting on a performance

It's all about the music

IT'S THREE MINUTES before the performance and the 'cellist tells me "I've forgotten my bow!"

Pianist Andrew Rumsey is an organised person and has never left his music behind, but does have nightmares about everything going wrong. Many times fellow performers have arrived without their music stands so he now has a collection in the boot of his car. Andrew says "Being a performer is as much about finding solutions and adapting as it is about being the entertainer".

His parents John and Sue brought Andrew to Bundanoon when he was a baby and he grew up surrounded by music at home. He has early memories of sitting on his father's knee as he played *Moonlight Sonata*. Brother Danny plays drums and loves to sing and Sue is an avid listener to ABC Classic FM.

Andrew started piano lessons at eight years old and at 14 made his first public appearance at the Bundanoon Hotel where he played on his own piano, moved there from home. At Oxley College he played in the College Jazz Band.

His first concert performance was in 2006 at the Bundanoon Soldiers' Memorial Hall to raise funds for Danny to compete in the Downs Syndrome World Swimming Championships. Definitely worth it – Danny was team captain and rated World No. 1 in his category!

Since then Andrew has played at landmark concerts in Australia and overseas.

It was special to play pieces by Debussy



and Chopin for Royals Will and Kate at 'Yarralumla' as one of the 'Top Australians' they were able to meet. Equally exciting for Andrew was meeting the other 'Top Aussies' Kurt Pengilly from INXS, Harry Kewell from the Socceroos and musician Guy Sebastian, who gave him the thumbs-up for playing *Battle Scars* as background music. He returned to 'Yarralumla' to play at the Inauguration of Peter Cosgrove and the farewell for Quentin Bryce, Governors General.

Not all performance is on a concert stage. Andrew loved playing at the 'Burning Man' festival in the Nevada desert, USA, under 'The Tree of Tenere' festooned with lights. The piano was dusty and the atmosphere very relaxed.

His overseas experience includes 'a journey from hell' – travelling to a



competition in Tenerife, starting with a 5am bus from Banff to Calgary where a snow storm stopped all flights. He had to sleep on the terminal floor, then flew via Heathrow to Tenerife, arriving only three hours before the performance. He feels he didn't play Liszt-Schubert's *Ave Maria* perfectly but remembers feeling a strong connection to Terry Sloan, his first teacher, mentor and friend (who had died three months earlier), as the competition was on Terry's birthday.

Returning to the 'cellist minus bow: Andrew was performing his last concert in Bundanoon before departing for his appearance at Carnegie Hall in New York. He and his fellow performers were staying with his parents, who had already left for their New York flight. "I realised I didn't have a spare key. The flautist and the 'cellist rushed to the Rumsey residence and broke a window to retrieve the bow!"

At the end of the day Andrew believes "It's not about me – it's about the music and how it makes an audience feel."

"All performance experiences are what makes an artist's life special – the people; the highs and the lows. It wouldn't have happened if I'd chosen a different career and I'm excited to be performing and working in the music industry where I have the opportunity to encourage the next generation of musicians."

"Playing great music in great places with great friends and in great company is what it's all about".

—Christine Janssen



A country career



Courtesy of Tamworth Country Music Festival

THEY ARE MUSICIANS, songwriters and singers, playing together or in separate line-ups with other musicians. Each plays several instruments from this list: guitar, harmonica, piano, banjo, fiddle, mandolin, dobro, piano, bass, and drums.

After many years of success performing in all the mainland states of Australia and in the United States of America, 'Peter Coad and The Coad Sisters' (Peter, Virginia and Lynette Coad) are Country Music personified.

Warm and engaging straight-talkers, they are happy to yarn with me about their life and love of music.

Music is in their DNA. They remember family with fondness in their eyes. "There was always music in our home. Dad played the accordion, Mum the piano and our grandmother played violin, and when we were kids they would play for the old style dances in the local halls in Hawker and in the halls of surrounding bush towns for woolshed dances around South Australia," Virginia said.

"We are three of seven children who are all musical, and we grew up in a remote northern part of South Australia, 100 kilometres from the nearest town. The radio and a 78rpm record player provided a link to a wider world and we all learned to play several instruments." Peter said.

"It was life in the bush that taught us resilience and self-reliance. In the bush you have to depend on yourself," says Virginia

Inspiration for their songs comes from their personal experience and that of others met along the way during their

thousands of kilometres on the road. Sometimes snippets of conversations or overheard anecdotes become the story behind the song.

Peter, who is the eldest of this musical family, first performed live on radio in 1961 on 5AU Port Augusta, and his first album, recorded with brothers Trevor and Phil, was released in 1978. His full-time career in music started in 1984 after he and his brother Trevor played at the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

In 1986 Peter became a solo act. In 1987 he visited Bundanoon for a gig at the Bundanoon Hotel and while here he purchased the old butcher's shop and cottage in Ebury Street from the then Bundanoon postman, Roger Bell. Later, Peter bought a block on Penrose Road and had a house transported there. This location still remains the base for the musical trio.

Peter's younger sisters, Virginia and Lynette, started performing as the Coad Sisters in 1989, and in 1990 they joined Peter for a tour into Queensland. The success of this tour saw the formation of the act 'Peter Coad and the Coad Sisters'.

Virginia's husband, Jim Hermel, plays guitar, banjo, and drums. Jim, together with Virginia, and Lynette make up the trio 'Runaway Dixie', four times finalists in Golden Guitar Awards Of Australia.

Along with their own careers in music, Peter, Virginia, and Lynette are committee members of the Australian Bush Balladeers Association, and Peter is President. The A.B.B.A. promotes Australian Bush Balladeer artists and their music through *The Balladeers Bulletin*.

Peter's services to Country Music were recognised with the award of an Order of Australia Medal in 2017. Peter, Virginia and Lynette are all recipients of The Tamworth Hands Of Fame, and South Australia's Barmera Hands Of Fame.

The three siblings see playing music as their job, their chief pleasure and their way of life. Each takes on a different role within their family business as professional musicians, sharing the load, and after all their years on the road it is obvious they still love making music together!

—Helen Clark



A life-changing gift of music

AT THE AGE of 57, Daphne Cordingley decided to take formal singing lessons. She found “a whole new world” waiting for her.

Growing up in a musical family, she had played the piano as a child and was used to singing at home. “There was no TV or radio so that was our entertainment,” she says.

When Daphne realised five decades later that she wanted to receive classical training “to learn how to use her voice properly”, she auditioned for the Conservatorium of Music in Coffs Harbour where she was living at the time.

There she met Margaret England, the teacher who was to have a life-changing impact on her. They did some scales, sang a few hymns and then tried a song. The teacher turned to her and said, “My dear, put away the hymn book, we’re going to start the classics.”

Soon after, Daphne’s impressive list of achievements as a soprano began. She sang in her first eisteddfod and “nearly fell off the stage with nerves,” but went on to sing three major works with Chorus Oz in Sydney – Mozart’s *Requiem*, Verdi’s *Requiem* and Orff’s *Carmina Burana*.

She was asked to be a soloist with the Sydney Youth Orchestra and has performed with a great many choirs over the years. She currently sings with Bundanoon Sings, Exeter Sings and occasionally at St Saviour’s Cathedral in Goulburn.

Modest about her achievements, Daphne credits her teacher at the Conservatorium with opening her world by helping her gain the skill and confidence to use her voice.

Not that it was always possible – *Phantom of the Opera* star Rob Guest came to Coffs Harbour and Daphne was invited to sing with him. Unfortunately for Rob, she had to decline, “I can’t, sorry, I’ve got a grandchild being christened in Sydney.”

While performing in choirs has brought Daphne great personal joy, she has also brought that love into the community. For years she has been singing for the aged, including dementia patients, and has performed in every aged-care facility in Coffs Harbour and more recently at Warrigal in Bundanoon.

“There was a lady I met who was in locked care in the dementia wing. She was in a wheelchair, so I knelt down, looked into her eyes and said: ‘Listen Darling, we are going to sing *The Holy City*. She sang three verses, word for word. All the staff were crying because this woman had never spoken before, never made a sound. A few seconds later she had forgotten who she was again, but after that we sang *The Holy City* every time.”

At one time, Daphne conducted a choir



of elderly residents of the Mater Christi nursing home at Sawtell as a thank you to volunteers who worked there. So moving was the performance that there were tears of joy in the eyes of the volunteers.

The people in aged care would sometimes put in an order for when they passed on, so Daphne became “best friends with the local undertaker.” She has also been called by families to sing for someone as they lay dying – a great privilege and treasured use of her gift. “I think music is the last thing to go,” says Daphne.

Daphne and her husband moved to Bundanoon five years ago for the cool climate. She loves everything about the village, especially its people.

“I was bitten by a funnel web spider once and the people here were just amazing. There was food, there were flowers, people took me out to cafes...I love that you can go up the street here for

a coffee and there will be someone to talk to and a dog to pat. I think we landed in heaven.”

—Hope Earl

Putting on a performance

EDWINA CARTER'S GRANDMOTHER Muriel Cohen was a famous concert pianist who premiered Messiaen's *Birds* and Bartok's second piano concerto in Australia in 1965. Edwina's mother even discovered a genealogical link with Richard Wagner, the composer who saw opera as the confluence of all art forms: music, words, and drama. So it's not surprising that she, and now her three children, had a musical education.

Edwina says, too modestly, she was lucky to have had great teachers – the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's flautist (until this year) Rosamund Plummer, and a definitive experience early in her musical life when at age 12 she was chosen to be one of 13 children from across Australia to play with James Galway, the man who brought the flute into millions of homes around the world. Edwina sat in the audience at the Sydney Town Hall until Galway appeared in the aisle playing Corigliano's *Pied Piper* flute concerto. She rose with the 12 others to follow him, awed by his playing and imitating as best she could.

Decades on, as she reflects on this moment, she remembers Galway as inspirational and...bossy: "to be a great musician you must know what you want". And you have to work hard. That's the other ingredient in Edwina's musical career: hours upon hours of lonely practice, long rehearsals for auditions for the rare prize of becoming just one of two flautists in an orchestra.

That prize proved elusive, so Edwina turned to teaching and has found her niche, teaching primary and secondary students in one-on-one lessons and the woodwinds section in Oxley College's band.

She is still drawn to the thrill of performance – not the acclamation and the bowing but being in the magic of a moment created by the collective talents of musicians and their conductor. The frisson came back last year when Edwina took part in an ambitious project led by Bundanoon's own Barbara Griffin, now the musical director at the Goulburn Cathedral. Barbara assembled an impressive group to perform Bach's Oratorio and produced a beautiful, electric performance.



With James Galway



Music runs deep in her family

"Women have to make choices", Edwina says. Last year, contemplating, just for a moment, returning to the stage made Edwina realise what other sacrifices that would require. She has three children and a husband and is nurturing music in young people across the Highlands. For the time being that, and painting, and travelling to show her kids the wider world, fill her days.

If she was commuting to Sydney to rehearse, what would happen to her children's own rehearsals? Practice in the Carter home isn't behind closed doors. Instead Edwina sets the music stand up near the kitchen bench, so that practice on the saxophone or trumpet becomes the accompaniment to cooking dinner.

When Edwina starts tutoring a young child, she asks them if they know *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*. They do, of course. Then she plays them Mozart's arrangement and asks how old her student thinks the composer was when he wrote the music. They answer: 40, perhaps 50. Out comes a picture of the child prodigy, who at the age of six had already transposed the music in his head to paper. The pupil's face lights up with the prospect of unimagined musical

possibilities. Edwina thinks that knowing the classical canon is important but more so is choosing music in whatever genre the student wants to play.

That's the way the band master at Bundanoon Primary School approaches his job, choosing the repertoire from music that is being played on the radio. Edwina says the school is very lucky to have Jacob Nicholls as its Bandemonium teacher. Jacob is determined to make music accessible to all. Because it can be expensive for a child to learn an instrument, he has introduced an affordable model of group tutorials and lessons. Learning and rehearsing together is not just a cheaper option, it means the children are playing with friends and not alone in a practice room.

Making music has been proven to be good for improving literacy and numeracy and stimulating creativity. But for Edwina its greatest benefit is its ability to create a sense of community, something music does in so many ways in Bundanoon.

—Francesca Beddie

(a freelance writer and historian, who loves the music life of Bundanoon.)



Musical thespians go together

IF YOU ATTEND Melting Pot Theatre events in Bundanoon you are likely to have seen both Fran (with her colourful streak of red hair) and Richard Bosly-Craft. They have been valued members of both Melting Pot Theatre and Serendipity:the choir since moving from Canberra to Tallong in 1995.

They both entered the world of theatre long before then.

Fran's very first public appearance was quite unrehearsed. When four years old in England she was taken to a pantomime. Entranced by the Fairy Queen's dancing, she happily danced down the aisles pointing her toes beautifully and swaying to the music. Ten years later she starred in a Longreach Little Theatre production of *Salad Days*. This was the forerunner of many dozens of lead roles in productions in Canberra and other regional theatres.

As a child, Fran moved with her family from Wiltshire, UK, to Longreach in outback Queensland. What a shock that was: from moist, cold, compact fields to a drought-stricken place with little vegetation and bare, furrowed paddocks stretching forever! Children of friends in the town were told to escort Fran to her new school. As good Catholic students they knew only the Convent, so confused nuns happily enrolled the new little girl and she received piano lessons which were not offered at the public school.

Richard's first stage appearance was as Sheriff of Nottingham, a non-speaking role. However, the eight year old lad added a few moves to make it more interesting, an innovation which Fran, a future director, would have applauded.

Much later, while working in Canberra, Richard, decided on a whim to audition for the Canberra Philharmonic. To his great surprise he was selected to join the chorus and has thoroughly enjoyed his adult experience on stage.

Unaware though they were at the time, the two young thespians were destined to meet and share theatrical experiences for the next 42 years. In Canberra, during a *Sitzprobe* (seated rehearsal with orchestra) for a production of *La Belle Helene*, leading lady Fran was desperate for a cold drink. She approached an actor who had a non-speaking walk-on role and relieved him of his cool can. Fran sated her thirst and the young man was smitten. "She has always been very direct", said Richard.

Fran loves to direct, bringing energy and movement to the stage. She has on occasion directed Richard, an arrangement that has potential to be tricky but has proven to be most successful.

Fran is a founding member of The Queanbeyan Players and directed a production of *Trial By Jury* performed in the Old Court House, in which Richard was cast as Court Usher.

They have both been involved in well over 100 shows with Canberra Theatre Trust, Canberra Opera, Canberra Philharmonic, Queanbeyan Players and Phoenix Players. Recitals and fund-raising concerts, musicals, dramas and operas have all been on the agenda.

Funny things can happen in the theatre, as Fran can attest. "During a Canberra Opera production of Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet*, as Juliet I had to wear a magnificent, heavy, brocade gown. It was

far too long but could not be altered due to the intricate design. As I descended the staircase to the ball room, the unseen personal dresser holding the dress aloft dropped it, catching me behind the knees as I made my entrance. As I flew through the air I heard my cue, so broke into song while afloat, descending gracefully into Romeo's arms. Unaware of the circumstances, the audience probably admired the clever, dramatic meeting of the lovers."

The show must go on despite funny, unpredictable, infuriating happenings back-stage, as the audience must be kept completely oblivious of unintended dramas behind the scenes. "As an example", says Fran: "in a production in Kempsey my co-star mistakenly left the stage too early. The scene was not finished so I had to ad-lib while trying to alert the Stage Manager to retrieve the escapee actor."

Fran and Richard are both accomplished singers. Early on, Richard discovered a singing voice which he hadn't realised he possessed. After taking singing lessons he developed new skills, and successfully filled roles as an actor and singer, and even a dancer. Fran is a lyric soprano but has sung contralto if the role required, while Richard is a basso. Lyric sopranos and basses are not really musically compatible but this mere detail has not prevented a long and happy relationship.

You will see them both at Bundanoon's Soldiers' Memorial Hall in Melting Pot Theatre and Serendipity:the choir.

—Annie Goodridge



Jo Caseley: organic and home-grown

JO CASELEY WAS 16 when she penned her first song. It was a pivotal experience, but came with some sage advice from her father: “You can’t drag a piano around the world. You should learn guitar.”

Never into popular music from her period, Jo was drawn to older musicians. She cites Janis Joplin, Jimmy Hendrix and Led Zeppelin as big influences in those early days and later, the jazz of Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday and the blues of Otis Redding and B.B. King.

After a year in America, she returned to Australia in 2000 and discovered Kasey Chambers, another Australian about the same age who was doing something completely original. “It was the first time I had listened to country music,” says Jo, who then found an affinity with country music roots. These influences helped fuse her own unique blend of alt-country. There is an honesty and vulnerability in authentic storytelling through music. “What I love about alt-country is that it comes from the heart.”

Described as “the next big wave of indie music” by The Brag, alt-country is a hard genre to define. It encompasses country music and alternative rock, as well as strains of folk, rhythm and blues. While the U.S. is alt-country’s homeland, Australia has some early pioneers like Nick Cave and Midnight Oil.

Now a locally well-known singer/songwriter/storyteller, Jo is much-loved in the area because she writes music with a completely original point of view. Jo credits a large part of her success to being in the Southern Highlands.

“I didn’t want to do the pubs and clubs and cover gigs anymore. When you have children and you work full-time, hitting the road and travelling is not always an option,” says Jo. Instead, maintaining the integrity of the original music, her growth has been organic.

She started with small house-concerts for 40 people with a guest artist. The first was Bill Chambers (Kasey’s father, now a co-writer and friend). That grew to concerts in Penrose Hall. After they had reached full capacity, Jo began running performances at Bundanoon Hall for 150 people.

To help promote her second album, *Dusty Dirt Track*, Jo and her husband, with their two kids — aged one and three—loaded a caravan for a seven-month-long tour. “It was the most amazing experience, promoting my music in a very grassroots way,” says Jo. She played every caravan park and outback station, and many rural and remote locations including ‘El Questro’ in the Kimberley of Western Australia.

It was a journey of connecting with people. The trip also inspired many new songs, including the title track of her newest



album, *Albany*, which she performed in the town of Albany at ABC Radio.

“The Southern Highlands has allowed me to be Jo Caseley,” she says. “To be a successful artist you need to have an audience. This area is so artistically-minded. People appreciate what I’m doing. They’re a *listening* audience who come to listen to the stories and connect with me through my music.”

Jo Caseley’s music is a mixture of fun, reflection and sadness. There are deeply personal songs, like *The Baby’s Cry* (co-written with Bill Chambers), catchy and uplifting (*Ain’t Love the Sweetest Thing*, *Baby Don’t You Love Me*) and the humorous banjo-strumming, bluegrass-style *Can’t Keep My Pants On*, and *I Think I’m Losing It*.

Jo wrote *Cattle Truck* for her dad (Bundanoon realtor, Henry Ramage) about the two of them driving around in the cattle truck together. “A lot of people come up after the show to say ‘thank you for writing that song, it brought a tear to my eye’. It’s so personal to me, yet it’s amazing how many people connect with it.”

While family and business have been keeping her busy, Jo is still playing sell-out shows, most recently from Narooma to Newcastle, sometimes with her band, who played on her album *19-Twenty*. She is also working with a number of young writers and collaborating with other artists.

“The goal is always to be a great songwriter,” says Jo. “I like to think I still haven’t written my best song.”

—Danielle Spinks-Earl



In performance in Bundanoon Hall with band ‘19-Twenty’

Images: Courtesy of Jo Caseley



Singing the 'big' choral works

KATHERINE THOMPSON'S SMILING face says it all as she speaks about the first time she experienced the conducting skills of Brett Weymark, the conductor of the Sydney Philharmonia Choir. In 2004, Katherine participated in 'The Big Sing' (now called Chorus OZ), held each year on the long weekend in June, performing Mozart's *Requiem*, after a weekend of singing workshops. She just loved it, repeated the experience several times, and decided she wanted to sing with this gifted conductor in the future.

As a child she was surrounded by music at home, learning the piano from 12 years of age. She sang, with her father, in the local church choir, and at school performances in both choir and musicals. "It was easy to be musical – I was encouraged and given many opportunities".

However it wasn't until she was much older, having moved with her husband, David, to Goulburn and joined the local 'Consort of Voices', that she found out about singing lessons. From then, it was a voyage of discovery, and after many years of lessons and exams, she completed her AMusA in singing in 1996. For David's work, they moved to Cooma where she sang with friends and taught singing to a some students.

Moving again, to Wagga Wagga, Katherine took more singing lessons at the Conservatorium of Music, sang in local concerts, including *Les Misérables*, taught singing again at the Con. for a few years and conducted the Conservatorium choir 'The Cantilena Singers'. This she found quite stressful, not being a trained teacher or conductor.

Katherine and David moved to Bundanoon six years ago, and two years later she auditioned for a place in the Sydney Philharmonia Choir (SPC), conducted by Brett Weymark who so inspired her a decade previously.

Her face lights up again as she described the joy of singing with such a large, magnificent choir, often with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, under a charismatic



Sydney Philharmonia Choirs – Symphony Chorus. Photo Keith Saunders

and gifted conductor in such a wonderful venue as the Sydney Opera House.

Katherine loves constantly learning a wide variety of new music, especially the 'big' works which lift her heart and stir her soul, (she performs six or seven programs per year); the challenge; and the teamwork of choral singing knowing that the audience is responding to the music and that together they make this big, exciting, joyful experience.

"Music and the arts are so important for our well being, an expression of spirituality, a mystery, an inner dimension of expression, beyond words, reaching straight to the heart," says Katherine. "When the choir sang Mahler's Symphony No.2 in the Sydney Town Hall it was one of the most sublime concerts of my life, lifting me to heaven!" But then she mentions one concert after another... I think she actually loves them all!

"The downside of singing with the SPC?" I ask. There aren't many. "It is hard work, requiring hours of learning and practising

at home – contemporary composers being especially challenging – but I love the challenge! Being away from husband, home and Bundanoon for at least a day each week and the sense of dislocation that brings – but there is the compensation of spending time with my mother in Sydney."

Katherine started in the Symphony Chorus (120 singers) but now sings in the smaller Chamber Singers (30 singers) – more difficult and nerve-racking but sees it as a privilege to be part of such an amazing group of people who enhance the lives of others through music.

If you are inspired to go to an SPC concert and find Katherine singing her heart out, face alight, totally absorbed in the joy of choral music and bringing that joy to others, do consider the next concert at 2pm on Easter Saturday, 20 April at the Sydney Opera House – 'Bach and Mozart: in the imagination of their hearts'. To book go to: www.sydneyphilharmonia.com.au and www.sydneysymphony.com

—Jane Irwin

From dance to drama

WHEN LORELEI TAIT portrayed a victim of domestic verbal abuse and Pat Brennan the part of a perpetrator in the play *DV* at Crash Test Drama Gala in 2013 their talented performances brought the reality of domestic violence to a shocked audience. This powerful 10-minute play, scripted and directed by Gillian Brennan, won most of the awards at the Gala Final and went on to performance at the Sydney 'Short & Sweet' festival. Looking back, Lorelei admits that playing that role was emotionally challenging and left her exhausted for some time after.

DV was Lorelei's first dramatic role. She has been a dancer since the age of three and trained seriously as a classical ballet dancer in Australia and overseas. While at a Cannes Ballet School, through a French connection she joined a touring company, travelling to perform in the Middle East and Far East.

At home for Christmas in 1972, she decided to stay in Australia and successfully auditioned for *Hair*.

When nudity was required, she explains, she was safely positioned behind the front row. "In the nude scene the cast dropped their gear after going under a parachute, to reappear naked. My parents came regularly to see me perform. My mother was quite a prude. Every time they attended a performance it was truly weird! Inevitably a cast member would be away (indisposed) and I would be moved to the front. My

mother, covering my father's eyes, could be heard saying "Don't look John!" "

Hair was staged in Brisbane, with an extended season in Tasmania where it finally closed after five years. Lorelei had found her niche in musical comedy.

In the 70s and early 80s Sydney clubs staged extravagant entertainment and dancers were always in demand. She worked as a dancer in many of the big clubs and met her husband Bill, a musician and singer, at Blacktown RSL. They were married in 1979 and he has always been supportive of her ongoing career in entertainment.

This was also the golden era of TV musical shows and Lorelei auditioned for the ABC's *Marcia's Music* series and *TV Follies*. Other TV performances during the 80s included Joe Hasham's show on Channel 10 and the *Mike Walsh Show* where she was assistant choreographer for a time.

She has special memories of Sydney Theatre Company productions *Once in a Lifetime*, directed by Richard Wherrett, and the 1981 *Chicago*, also directed by Richard and starring Nancy Hayes, in which Lorelei was Nancy's understudy. With the Company, she attended the Hong Kong Music festival.

Lorelei has performed and sometimes toured in many other memorable musicals including *Me and My Girl* scripted by Stephen Fry, Reg Livermore's *Firing Squad*,



Pat Brennan and Lorelei Tait performing in *DV*

and *My Fair Lady*, starring John Waters and Helen Buday.

She was in *Jerry's Girls* in 1989, 1990 and 1992. She remembers that there were times when not everything went according to script!

"The set for *Jerry's Girls* consisted of rotating pillars ('drums') and stairs. The drums rotated from time to time revealing a star performing a song and then the drum would rotate back to conceal them when the song was finished. During one performance, a drum malfunctioned. Marcia Hines was to sing a beautiful ballad, 'It Only Takes a Moment' and it was a young mechanist's first night on the job. Something happened to the brake on the drum and Marcia just kept spinning and spinning, the audience getting a glimpse of her on every fourth or fifth word until the conclusion of the song! She had to jump off in the end, which was no mean feat in a huge frock and hat. The poor mechanist thought he would be hung, drawn and quartered for his crime, but thankfully Marcia was in such hysterics of mirth that she forgave him all. In fact she could barely stand she was laughing so hard – off stage off course!"

Walk-on TV appearances in *Prisoner*, *A Country Practice* and *Australia's Most Wanted*, and a small speaking role in the 2014 Mad Max film *Fury Road* have all added to Lorelei's experience. "Sadly the scenes in *Fury Road* were cut, which can happen in film – I wasn't the only actor this happened to. However it was a great thrill to meet and be directed by George Miller. Ironically I still receive residual payments for my work on that film."

Lorelei is looking forward to taking private lessons and attending workshops this year. She will have more free time to ensure she continues to take her acting seriously.

In the meantime her agent finds opportunities for appearances in TV commercials. You'll need to switch from ABC viewing to catch her in action.

—Pam Davies



In *Chicago*

A major in music and film, with acting thrown in

TWO YEARS AGO Richard Jansson escaped the Sydney corporate life to settle in Bundanoon where he could re-awaken his love of musical performance and become involved in community theatre.

Becoming resident pianist at the Bundanoon Hotel and a member of Melting Pot Theatre was a good beginning to this new life in the Southern Highlands, a region which offers much in opportunity for artistic endeavours.

Richard's 'Erith Street Rock Band' proved a great crowd-pleaser at the Christmas Variety Show last year, with folks dancing in the aisle and loud, enthusiastic applause. The band is currently rehearsing with a changed line-up, aiming towards its next show around Easter.

Where did it all begin? At the age of 12 Richard joined his school band and tried to learn every instrument available, finally ending up in a NSW High School Band playing the French Horn. The band played at civil ceremonies, including one event where the Duke of Edinburgh was a guest, so 'God Save The Queen' was definitely on the agenda. Richard also recalls singing while perched on a Christmas tree at the Opera House! The band regularly toured rural areas to encourage music education so his early musical experience and his school days were a lot of fun!

Piano won him over during his senior school years and he went on to study Music Education at the Sydney Conservatorium.

However, not quite ready to enter a teaching career, he performed in Sydney amateur theatre and musical societies, while at the same time attending Sydney Acting School for three years.

Richard joined with friends to create community theatre groups in Sydney and dabbled in short film-making. Somewhere in there he squeezed in attending the University of NSW where he achieved a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Music and Film!

A busy lad indeed, while the music continued throughout and he remained involved with bands and 'demo' recordings.

He recounts that a favourite memory from his earlier theatre days was being directed by stage veteran Colleen Clifford in Christopher Fry's *The Lady's Not For Burning*. "She was 93 years old and it was one of her final creative projects. During rehearsals she would regale the cast with



Photos: Peter Gray



stories of her time in England working and socialising with the likes of Sir Lawrence Olivier and Noel Coward. Great inspiration, and magical tales for young impressionable newbies to stagecraft!"

Richard and his partner are now settled in Bundanoon, contributing to the creative life of the village. In line with Bundy

tradition they have two dogs. Louis is a friendly canine and quite shocked if another dog should growl at him while half-brother Freddy is more discerning, just turning his back on any dog which does not meet his approval. Very theatrical!

—Annie Goodridge

Performers past

CONCERTS ARE A major feature of today's cultural calendar in Bundanoon, a tradition which began in the latter years of the nineteenth century.

A singular feature of Bundanoon's early concerts was that the performers were largely drawn from the local community and few, if any, would have been professional musicians. Nonetheless, they showcased a very wide range of talent. A concert for the Cricketers Fund in 1902 featured songs, recitations, instrumental music, a tambourine dance and a tableaux. Performers included Misses Tyler, Grice, Tooth, Hall and many other locals. The appreciative audience was not to be deterred by "a very cold and threatening night".

Unlike today, the National Anthem closed the evening festivities. Also, it was likely that audiences took more than a little effort to dress and look their smartest, in sharp contrast to today's trend to more casual dress.

Bundanoon Public School pupils also gave public performances. In December 1927 Miss Jenkins and her pupils were congratulated for the quality of their performances. In 1931 a program of operatic pieces by the pupils was greeted with loud applause (though perhaps by beaming parents?).

Prior to 1929 when electricity was first switched on in Bundanoon, concerts were often timed to coincide with the full moon or at least a half moon, as audiences relied on moonlight for a safe passage to and from the event. A concert in April 1899 was criticised for being held on "....a night when the moon would have assisted all who wished to attend when going to the performance(We) know of many who would have gone had they had the moon as a companion when going."

The Soldiers Memorial Hall was opened in 1935. One could be excused for expecting a raft of concerts to use this new venue. However, for the next several decades, the evidence suggests that concerts were rarely staged in Bundanoon. Instead, dances, balls and cinema were popular. At least one pantomime was performed in the 1930s, and a sole 'Bundanoon Amateur Night' was held for both adults and children in 1960.



Cinderella at the Holiday Motel



Holy Trinity Sunday School Concert, c. 1926

The 1980s saw a flourishing theatre restaurant at the Holiday Motel, where enthusiastic locals provided music and theatre for patrons. A Bundanoon and Districts Country Music Association existed too but there is no evidence of public performances.

In contrast, during the first decade of the 21st century the number of concerts and performances being held in Bundanoon skyrocketed. How does one explain this sudden change?

In 1966 Bundanoon's population was only 676 and most people were aged 50 or younger. By 2006 the population had risen to 2035 of whom about 50% were aged 50 or more, meaning more people now have more time and retirees bring a range of experience and skills to contribute to community volunteering.

Arts Bundanoon, established in 2001, facilitated a blossoming of mainly classical music concerts for the delight of patrons. The monthly Music at 10 concerts bring wonderfully talented performers to Bundanoon including many young up-and-coming musicians, as well as artists of international renown. Concerts have ranged from jazz to Bavarian to balalaika music. Nonetheless, classical music has overwhelmingly dominated the scene. The acquisition of grand pianos for the Hall in 2005 and 2016 has been pivotal to attracting high-calibre performance artists. Generous donations from the community helped make this possible.

Our hall continues to provide a grand venue for a very wide range of performance, both highly professional and amateur – think St James' Choir, Crash Test Drama and the Christmas Variety Show, community choirs, country music and bush balladeers, our very own Ukestra

A growing trend for smaller venues such as the churches, guest houses and private homes is increasing our choice.

And what of the future? Well, all I can say is "Encore! Encore!"

—Ian Smith, Bundanoon History Group

Pantomime in the Hall, 1930s



VET'S CASEBOOK

Ken Davidson BVSc (Hons)

Calling your cat 'Lily' is like calling your child 'Arsenic'

IT'S A CHILLING headline but it serves the purpose of alerting cat owners to the deadly link of your cat coming into contact with or ingesting any parts of any lilies. If they do, and the owner does not see it happen, the result will be an irreversible onset of acute renal failure.

WHAT DOES IT TAKE FOR YOUR CAT TO GET LILY TOXICITY?

Indoor cats can be attracted to a flower arrangement that frequently contains beautiful lilies. They immediately recognise the novelty of a recent gift of flowers, and being a cat, will have to check it out. All it takes for kidney failure to commence is a brush of lily pollen on their fur which is ingested when grooming. Some cats will try the "taste test" by chewing petals or leaves or stems of lilies in a bowl, thereby getting a large dose of the yet undiscovered toxin that will likely be fatal.

If you have a bowl of pot-pourri containing flower petals, make sure lilies are not included. Inquisitive indoor cats will make fun out of anything unusual they find so beware.

If you come home to find a flower vase that had lilies in it is knocked over,

remember that this water is toxic to cats as well.

OUTDOOR CATS AND LILIES.

All species of lilies grow in abundance in the gardens of the Southern Highlands. Certainly not all cats will eat parts of growing lilies but they could! Even without ingestion, cats like lounging around in the garden and in so doing could easily get a toxic dose on their coats of that bright coloured pollen that lilies are known for.

To further complicate matters, even if you have removed lilies from your own garden, there is no guarantee that your neighbours have done the same. Outdoor cats know no boundaries and as such lead a risky life.



Signs of lily toxicity in cats

- Loss of appetite
- Drooling
- Vomiting
- Lethargy
- Weakness
- Dehydration

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT LILY POISONING?

If you see your cat eating any part of a lily, rush him/her to your vet. Immediate de-contamination of the stomach is a priority. The poisonous material must be removed before it moves into the intestine. Remember there is no known antidote to lily toxicity. Just as toxic to a cat's kidneys as Aspirin, Paracetamol and Neurofen, this toxin has to be removed early and intensive fluid therapy over several days may save your cat's life.

Prevention is always better than cure when it comes to cats and lilies. Decontaminate your garden by eliminating lilies if you have a free-range cat. If you have an indoor cat and get flowers as a gift, take out the lilies and put them in the Otto Bin. The arrangement won't look as good but your cat will love you for it

Bundanoon Vet, alongside Bundanoon Butchery. Telephone 4868 3117.

Cat-speak

ITS BEEN SAID that a dog is man's best friend and a cat is a cat's best friend and that the phrase "domestic cat" is an oxymoron. Today's domestic cats are everywhere but have you ever wondered about their view of the world?

So, who are these creatures and what are they about? Firstly, cats are all about ownership, everything they see is theirs, including you, and they don't have a sorry bone in their body – if they belted you, you must have needed a lesson. However, they have learnt to co-own their couch and home environment and how to communicate their needs. This is the most interesting part of a relationship with cats. They teach you their language and expect you to understand it.

Cat language starts with the body, ear position, eye dilation, fur and tail up, down or thumping the ground. Begin

your training in talking to your cat by making eye contact (don't stare, he will see that as a threat) and slowly blink your eyes. Do this and watch his body-talk change. You are telling him you love him, everything is OK, relax. He will eventually settle down and will start to slow blink back...now it's a two-way conversation.

Kittens mew for mother's milk but after that, talk between cats is via scent markings (which are also on you after your cat rubs past your legs), urine, faeces and pheromones. Meow-ing is for the benefit of humans and other animals such as dogs. Cats talk to us vocally so learning this language will help you learn about your cat.

A short meow is your cat saying 'Hello'; multiple meows means he is chatting with you: 'I missed you, happy to see you, what's up?'. Differently pitched meows indicate the need for food, water or cuddles, but drawn-out means he is getting impatient. Purring can mean happiness or fear, depending on if he is on your lap or going to the vet. Your cat will develop many voices as he sees how you react and if he's getting his message across.



Warm good-byes from you, with cuddles and hugs, and a cool hello when you return ('hi there cat') will help your cat be happy while you are away. Calmly watching his own TV (the window), he will be less inclined to leave unwanted deposits on the carpet.

Learning to understand his language will help avoid unwanted behaviours in your cat that can develop from stress, a changed environment or his owner seeming unresponsive.

—Cherie Hobart

Feeling Blue? Got the Flu? Don't Wait, Vaccinate!

Have you ever wondered what the flu is?

Influenza ('the flu') is a highly contagious virus spread by coughing, sneezing or touching contaminated surfaces¹. 2018 saw 55,000 cases of influenza in Australia². The majority of these cases were in NSW – mostly in and around Sydney¹. Unfortunately, there are multiple types of flu. Sometimes you may hear the term 'H1N1', that is just one type of flu. This type of flu was responsible for half of all cases in Australia in 2018¹. 2019 could see a different flu as the virus changes constantly. To combat this, flu vaccines cover multiple types of flu in order to give people the best chance of coverage.

In Australia, the vaccine trade name is Afluria Quad and covers 4 types of flu strains⁴.

Do you know who is at risk of catching the flu, or worse flu symptoms?

Unfortunately, anyone can catch the flu; however, some people are more at risk than others¹. For example, children aged less than 10, and adults aged over 80 experience more severe flu symptoms². People living in residential care or who have had extended hospital stays are at greater risk of catching the flu¹.



Graphic by macrovector — www.freepik.com

Have you ever wondered what the flu vaccine is and how it works?

The flu vaccine contains small, inactive doses of the flu types mentioned above¹ and by introducing them to the body equips the immune system to fight the flu if you do catch it¹.

Do you know the benefits of flu vaccinations for yourself and others?

Being vaccinated against the flu means

you're half as likely to get the flu compared to unvaccinated people¹. The more people that are vaccinated, the less likely more vulnerable groups will come into contact with the flu. This is known as 'herd immunity' and leads to a safer community².

Do you know where you can get vaccinated?

The flu vaccine is very easy to get in Australia. You can go to the doctor for a prescription and the injection, or to authorised vaccinating pharmacies⁴. These registered pharmacies keep and give flu vaccines under certain circumstances. This increases access to flu vaccines and makes vaccinating more convenient for you. However, people over the age of 65 are encouraged to see their doctor as it is cheaper and the vaccine can be tailored to your age group. For some extra information, the vaccine is also offered at local community health clinics, schools, public hospitals and aged care facilities⁴.

Check with your healthcare professional if you have a low immune system or are pregnant².

—Taylor Dal Santo, Bundanoon Pharmacy

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GARDEN TALES

Lyn Morehen

(Not so) jolly green giants

I WRITE THIS article to help you, when choosing trees, to save money, maintain good neighbourly relations and let in the sunshine. People plant trees for a variety of good reasons. In my mind's eye I can see the beautiful treescapes of Bundanoon. Such a variety of form and function, providing joy which never seems to fade – different beauties showing off their varied attributes throughout the year.

I walk along Railway Avenue and enjoy apple trees in bloom and the shade of cypresses. I see the Bradfield pears in blossom, and the magnificent dogwoods. In addition nearby Morton National Park provides forests of eucalypts and large shrubs, including colourful bottlebrush and banksia.

Then all of a sudden this sylvan dream is broken by the appearance of Leighton Green (*Cupressocyparis leylandii*). These trees are monstrous and in my opinion nurseries should not sell or recommend them. I have seen two recent new plantings in Bundanoon and ask myself why people would be tempted to grow these monsters. Let me explain. Leyton Greens can grow big. They grow fast. Yes, people want fast-growing hedges but that is basically the only good thing you get when planting these trees.

Consider maintenance: an enormous expense is incurred to prune well and often, and to remove them is also prohibitively



expensive. Consider them planted as wind breaks: not a good idea – they are so thick and dense that the wind is deflected and becomes turbulent. Unfortunately there are people who plant them out of spite, to block neighbours' views and light. The planting of such trees raises passion and hatred. I personally find this tree dull, dark green, boring, without grace and one through which no light can pass.

A recent subdivision of land saw

young Leighton Green being planted along the boundary of each block. I was completely astonished that anyone should contemplate such a thing. Just imagine trees that grow up to 40 metres in height and up to five metres wide planted around a 700 square metre block. Who would buy such blocks, blocks with no sun and no light for solar panels? Why were these trees planted? Fortunately someone must have possessed common sense because one morning they had been removed.

Last year I saw five planted on the grass verge along Ellsmore Road – obviously placed to provide privacy. What they will do is take over the footpath entirely – and who will maintain them?

And to conclude. Thinking of planting a tree? Get help, ask a professional, go to the Garden Club, ask Council – especially if planting on the verge. Just think of the joy you and future generations can bring to people, birds and animals by planting beautiful, purposeful trees. Trees that have grace, give shade, add colour and perfume, break the wind, provide fruit, and provide privacy. Choose your trees carefully and be considerate to your neighbours.

For more information follow the link: www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/services/environment/environmental-information/biodiversity/hedges or contact Wingecarribee Shire Council directly.

—Lyn Morehen



Bundanoon Photography Group

OUR CHRISTMAS DINNER farewelled 2018 in grand style and was the occasion at which the winner of the President's Cup for the best photograph of 2018 was announced. The entrants were chosen from the winners of our monthly photographic competitions.

This year's winner was Meg Nurse with her stunning image 'Strawberry and Cream' (JCG March 2018 issue).

2019 promises to be an exciting year.

Our monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at the Bundanoon Men's Shed, Burgess Street, Bundanoon at 5.30pm. This is when we gather to discuss ideas,

swap photo stories and display photos taken during the previous month's outing. Our meetings offer a friendly, relaxed atmosphere to people of all levels of experience from beginners to advanced photographers.

Lessons are held at 4:30-5:30pm prior to our monthly meetings and all are welcome.

Photo outings are on the fourth Thursday. Destinations are chosen to provide variety and opportunity.

A new venture this year is a series of Workshops, designed to help members explore more advanced techniques.

Our calendar of events includes such interesting items as a Lesson/Workshop on 'Blue light photography', an outing to

Steampunk Victoriana Fair in Goulburn, and a President's Cup competition subject of 'In the Dark'. If this piques your interest contact Peter Gray or Joy Brown for a copy of the full year's calendar of monthly lessons/workshops, outings and competition subjects for each meeting.

New members are welcome, please contact:

- President, Peter Gray on 4883 6312 or 041 922 3928
- Secretary, Joy Brown on 4883 6456
- or e-mail photos2578@gmail.com



Bundanoon's newest café has some old traditions

WHEN THE POTTER'S Pantry opened on October 18 last year, it was a special day for the Potter family. It was the culmination of many years of hard work.

Not only that. "My parents celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary," says co-owner, Sarah Potter. "They got to work for us all day!"

Sarah and her husband James, UK-trained chef, first met in Truro, Cornwall 13 years ago when Sarah did a gap year in the UK. James was a hard-working chef who learned the traditional way of making hand-rolled Cornish pasties, which the café proudly makes on the premises.

What followed their meeting was a five-year long-distance relationship until the couple decided to take the next step together in Australia. They were married in 2012 at St. Aidan's Church in Exeter and fell in love with the area. When the premises in Railway Avenue became available last year, they jumped on it.

"I've wanted to own a café since I was 13 years old," says Sarah.

The philosophy behind the cafe is to make it like an extension of their home. It is friendly, welcoming and the couple aims to share their love of good food, good coffee, and excellent service. Sarah has always had a passion for cooking, baking and events, and she has a degree in hospitality and hotel management.

Potter's Pantry menu features vintage

classics with a modern interpretation and old-fashioned flavours re-imagined. Crowd-pleasers like the all-day breakfast and the Cornish pasty are staples. There is also a small but regularly refreshed cake cabinet, with 90 per cent of the contents made in-house.

The smart black-and-white decor gives the cafe a modern and stylish aesthetic. Modest structural changes to the space have also reinvigorated the indoor-outdoor flow. The aim was to encompass the history of the building but to change the look and feel. The café is an L-shaped space: a light-filled indoor dining area plus alfresco areas which connect at the back to the garden centre of Bundanoon Bloomery next door.

"There are some fun and quirky bits," says Sarah. "We had a magpie sculpture in memory of Bert, my grandfather, who loved to garden. Some customers told us that one magpie symbolises sorrow, so they got us another one. Two magpies symbolise joy."

On a shelf, a French bulldog reminds them of a now departed family friend who loved French bulldogs and drinking long blacks in the sun.

The family has been connected to the region, and to hospitality, for generations. Sarah's great-grandmother was one of the first female cooks at Dormie House. Her grandfather grew up in Moss Vale and

other family members have been living in the area for decades.

Sarah and James have been in Bundanoon now for five years having bought a block of land in 2013. James has worked as the chef at Warrigal and is a keen member of the Bundanoon Brigade of the Rural Fire Service. Sarah has worked at Quest For Life, so both are familiar faces in the village.

"We love Bundanoon. We feel very settled here. We love the community atmosphere, and the opportunity to get involved in local events and activities. We like to get to know people's stories."

"The community has responded so well to what we're doing here. We love that people love coming here. We get a lot of tourists and locals who keep coming back," says Sarah. "Our coffee is very smooth. It's well-balanced. People appreciate that." The coffee brand is Cat's Pyjamas from Seven Miles Roasters, which describes itself as *like wearing a velvet suit, while stroking a white cat in a Rolls Royce Silver Shadow* (!)

"We thought we'd start out slow, and people would gradually get used to us, but we have hit the ground running. We can't wait to show the Bundanoon community what we have in store for 2019", Sarah says, looking excited.

—Danielle Spinks-Earl

Farewell to Thomas-Andrew and Ben

TWO OF BUNDANOON'S well-known residents, Thomas-Andrew Baxter and Ben Mawston, have left for Scotland to run their new guesthouse, 'RossMor' in Granttown-on-Spey in the Cairngorms National Park.

They first came to Bundanoon in 2003 where Thomas was to manage the Quest for Life Foundation, and when that employment ended he and Ben found that Bundanoon had drawn them in. They bought a house and life for the pair of them began in earnest. Thomas discovered to his astonishment that he loved gardening and as Garden Ramble visitors can attest, he created a beautiful garden which brought him great joy.

Thomas and Ben share common values but as everyone who has met them knows, they have very different personalities – Thomas is the outgoing extrovert while Ben is the quiet, behind-the-scenes partner who is the perfect foil. Ben is the Yin to Thomas's Yang but a belief in helping others is the common thread.

In the past, illness and loss led Thomas to seek relief at the Scottish Findhorn Foundation. Living in the community there he shed layers, coming back to his real self and opening his heart to being involved in community. Making money for other people ceased to matter and helping others became all important.

His new-found spirituality saw him become an Anglican Franciscan Friar, working in Australia, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand for a number of years. It was while in New Zealand that Ben appeared on his radar. He was very involved in a big parish in Auckland and the pair met at the Bishop's Palace. So: exit the Franciscans and enter Ben. Although a qualified lawyer Ben realised that was not the life for him. He worked in Church administration for a couple of years before training in Sydney as a graphic designer.

Ben's design skills fitted him for a unique position in Bundanoon as the layout artist for JCG magazine during the last 12 years. All involved with this magazine will miss his input enormously. Many signs, posters and notices for the community in Bundanoon have also had the benefit of Ben's creative touch.

Thomas believes in communities working together and put his belief into practice, contributing to many community groups in Bundanoon and the Southern Highlands during his retirement. People will remember his love of making a spectacle of himself and making people laugh as an amateur actor in Crash Test Drama; his ability to wear a kilt with genuine panache as part of his contribution managing the 40th



anniversary of Brigadoon; his input as part of the Garden Ramble team; and his influence in 'VolWing', the Wingecarribee Volunteer Centre, to name but a few.

Thomas quotes the Maori theologian Bob Cooper to explain why after 40 odd years away from his homeland, he feels the need to go home. "My spirituality comes through the soles of my feet" – walking over the Scottish Highlands brings me the greatest joy and a powerful sense of the divine", he says.

It will not be all walking over the Scottish Highlands though. Their guesthouse will keep Ben busy catering for all the guests – luckily he loves cooking and did some work experience with the Terrace Tea Shop – while Thomas will relish the role of 'mine host', look after the finances and do the gardening.

As the guesthouse operates for only seven months a year they are looking forward to more travelling – the Antarctic via Chile, Alaska, Spain and Sicily are on the list!

Granttown-on-Spey (and its local dramatic society) will be sure to benefit from its new residents. And who knows, perhaps some Bundanoon guests will find their way there too!

Best wishes from Bundanoon go with them in their new life.

—Sandy MacKenzie





The art of good bagpipe maintenance

We've all heard them, we've all seen them: the massed pipe bands marching, kilts swirling and drums beating, to the sound of the pipes. Most of us experience a tingle of excitement. Some may imagine what it would be like on an ancient battlefield shrouded in fog, to hear Scottish troops marching purposely toward you led by a piper in full voice – I think spine-chilling would describe it

At the Battle of Culloden, 16 April 1746, a piper named James Reid was one of several pipers at the battle. He was captured, along with 558 other men, by Cumberland's troops and taken to England. There he was put on trial and accused of high treason against the English Crown. Piper Reid claimed he was innocent. He did not have a gun or a sword. He said that the only thing he did on the battlefield that day was play the bagpipes.

After deliberations, the judges had a different opinion. They said that a Highland regiment never marched to war without a piper at its head. Therefore, in the eyes of the law, the bagpipe was an instrument of war. James Reid was condemned and subsequently hanged, then drawn and quartered. That's why in England the bagpipes were classed as a weapon of war, not simply an instrument played in battle to direct troops or boost their moral, but actually a physical weapon like a sword or musket. England classified bagpipes thus until 1996 when the law was changed.

As with all weapons of war, maintenance and running-repairs are

essential. Poor maintenance could lead to a premature death in battle. As for all soldiers, battle was not the only danger faced by a piper – poor maintenance of his instrument (weapon) could also result in his premature death.

So let's start by giving a brief description of the instrument and how it works. A sack is inflated with air by way of a mouthpiece to provide a continuous, regulated supply of air to the three drones and a chanter. This is played like a recorder to produce the melody, although others may hold a different opinion on this last point!

Typically a piper would carry out maintenance and repairs whilst on his journey. To do this he would carry a small tool-kit along with essential spares: sharp knife with a wee pointy bit, strong twine and beeswax for attaching drones to bag, spare reeds – sourced locally, rag pull-throughs appropriated from the battle field for cleansing drones and chanter, and the vital 'seasoning' – a gluey substance poured into the bag to keep it supple, cure small air leaks and, most importantly, control the growth of dangerous bacteria inside the bag. Recipes for this seasoning were kept secret, but thought to contain lemon grass, fennel and honey, the latter used for its antimicrobial properties.

This last point cannot be over-emphasised, as a piper's diet, largely consisting of haggis and root vegetables, resulted in breath considered to be less than 'hygienic'. Constant use and poor maintenance can result in the development of a nasty little mould in the dark and

humid environment of the bag. The mould would multiply and the piper could inadvertently inhale the spores, resulting in a fatal chest infection.

What can we conclude from this? Piper Reid was particularly fastidious about hygiene and maintenance as he managed to survive the hygiene risk and the battle long enough to be found guilty of treason and punished horribly.

Today, the modern piper's battle-risks may have diminished, but his exposure to lethal bacteria has not. As Glaswegian John Shone, 77, discovered in 2013 when he almost lost his life due to a serious chest infection. Doctors discovered his hobby was playing the bagpipes, grew lung-cultures and discovered two nasty fungi – *Rhodotorula* and *Fusarium*. Mr Shone sheepishly admitted to not having cleaned his bag since the last time he played, some 18 months previously!

So this Brigadoon, now that you have an insight into the risks they take, spare a thought for the multitude of pipers as they march across the oval. Bagpipes today still use traditional materials, so as you enjoy the sight and sound of the pipe bands marching, reflect on the fact that not a lot has changed since that day in April 1746 when Piper Reid marched into his final battle at Culloden.

Thanks to Hamish Dawson of Bundanoon for providing guidance and technical information for this article.

—Peter Gray



Who says big is best?

SOME YEARS BACK I spent most of the film *Rob Roy* with eyes slammed shut against the sickening violence. At one point our hero slits the stomach of a long dead, putrid cow and hides inside to evade his arch enemy.

Hope he showered afterwards. That's Rob Roy and not his nemesis.

And here I am, also inside a cow. Except this is a very special cow. You spell it C.O.W. because it's really an acronym for Cottage On Wheels.

Master builder Steve Barnett and his delightful Swedish wife, Lotta, reside in the tiniest house, of this I am sure, in Bundanoon. It measures 7 by 2.4 metres with one metre sliced off for an entrance porch, bedecked with chairs for sunset drinks and exuberant flowers in pots. The maximum size for a roadworthy vehicle must be under 2.5 metres wide. Steve constructed the C.O.W. accordingly so it can be pulled as a caravan.

The Barnetts moved to Bundanoon 15 years ago. They love "all Bundy has to offer and wouldn't live anywhere else!" A vacant block is their third incarnation. Steve decided to build this storybook cottage on site while he builds them a proper house. But wait! This IS a proper house only everything is in miniature. It has a timber frame with a pitched roof, a storage loft, town sewerage and electricity and even has air-conditioning.

The Barnetts have thought of everything. Every centimetre has a purpose. Myriad shelves are home to recipe books, novels, fun ornaments and objects utilitarian. Lotta has a zinging personality with quirky

décor to match. Fruit baskets hang from the ceiling. Light catchers adorn windows. Wall hangings add cheer. Ikea containers hold utensils.

Steve grins. "We raided Ikea for pretty well everything interior."

There are two tellies; one each but not a third for poodle Roy, also a C.O.W. resident.

There's an ensuite and, yes, more shelves contain that bathroom paraphernalia we need in order to step out into the world confidently. Lotta has a foolproof system for drying and dressing in this smallest of spaces. She'd be perfect in a Mars capsule.

There's a gauzed-in alfresco dining area, a washing machine, bicycles lean languidly against the C.O.W. and flowers in pots abound.

It's House and Garden Lilliput Edition.

The negatives? Lotta finds passing one another in the holding-in-breath galley kitchen sometimes a tad hard. "But a great opportunity to cuddle one another." Steve is sick of banging his noodle on some of the lower shelves. So it's back to the shelf drawing board for him. That or wearing a crash helmet.

The best things? Steve laughs. "Everything! We miss nothing and appreciate less STUFF." Lotta says an hour to spring clean the C.O.W. is great and she loves the cosy, secure space.

Steve sums up living in the C.O.W. – "This place is big enough for Lotta and me to sport enormous grins."

Steve has also built a (very flash) garden shed. It is fixed to the ground, has its

own ensuite, and is currently a temporary home for their two adult sons.

The Barnetts will be ensconced in their new home in a year. Hope they won't need a GPS to find one another.

By the way, one day you may be fortunate enough to find a wee painted rock under a bush in the village. Maybe an old fashioned caravan, a cute duck or a pretty flower? If you do, you have been blessed. Lotta is the culprit.

"I love making people happy." I told you she is delightful! They both are...

—Annie Crawford





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On the road to success with Volwing

IT'S DIFFICULT ENOUGH to find a job, but if you don't have a driving licence the odds are stacked against you...especially for vulnerable young adults.

Volwing's Learner Driver Mentor Program gets disadvantaged young adults behind the wheel and on the road to worthwhile careers.

Volwing is the Wingecarribee Volunteer Centre in Queen Street, Moss Vale and Bundanoon's own Helen Wooby is the Volwing Manager.

And these are the key messages that Volwing is keen to put out into the community about its new Learner Driver Mentor Program (LDMP).

In NSW, a person under 25 with a Learner Driver licence ("L" plates), needs 120 log book hours before applying to sit the driving test and move to a P1 provisional licence (red 'Ps'). There is solid science behind these requirements. Learner drivers under supervision have a very low involvement in crashes. It is only when they begin to drive solo that their involvement in crashes increases. Research indicates that learner drivers who increase their supervised on-road experience can reduce their crash risk by 30% in the first two years of solo driving.

But for some young people – vulnerable, disadvantaged, maybe as simple as a single parent family – 120 hours of supervised logbook driving, with a mentor, is a pigs-will-fly impossibility. And in the Southern Highlands, where 82% of us drive to work, without a driving licence and without 120 log book hours, it is difficult for young people to get a job. No mentor. No driving licence. No job.

So Volwing has stepped in. We launched late in 2018, with a target of 15 students per year, and already we have two



Got your Ls but having trouble getting your Ps?

graduates, two young people with their red 'Ps'. But no students yet from Bundanoon.

The LDMP is a grassroots community-based program designed to support vulnerable new drivers, aged between 16 and 24 years, to become licensed by allowing them use of a vehicle for on-road practice while a volunteer mentor supervises them.

For the record, VolWing insists that our Mentor Drivers must have a full NSW driver's licence, a good driving record, a police check, a working-with-children check and a willingness to work with people from a wide range of community and cultural groups.

Volwing's Learner Driver Mentor Program is a partnership. Volwing's key partner is St Vincent de Paul Society in Bowral. Vinnie knows a lot about vulnerability, but it also knows a lot about dignity and good works and stepped up immediately.

LDMP needed a car and Moss Vale Motor Group stepped up without question. You have probably seen the Mitsubishi ASX, covered in L-plates and L to P signs.

To launch LDMP, Volwing needed a partnership with a local driving school and Highlands Drive Safe, locally owned and operated by Murray, Sue and Chris Tyler, stepped up. Highlands Drive Safe provides the first 10 log book hours, teaching students to drive before handing them over to our volunteer mentors.

The Learner Driver Mentor Program is just one of the volunteer opportunities open to people in Southern Highlands villages such as Bundanoon. But a key feature is that it is inter-generational. Older volunteers are mentoring youngsters. The feedback already is that our mentors are enjoying being a part of the young learners' lives, even for short periods.

The purpose of LDMP is to get disadvantaged young adults behind the wheel and on the road to worthwhile careers. Potential students should make contact with Volwing in Moss Vale on 4869 4617.



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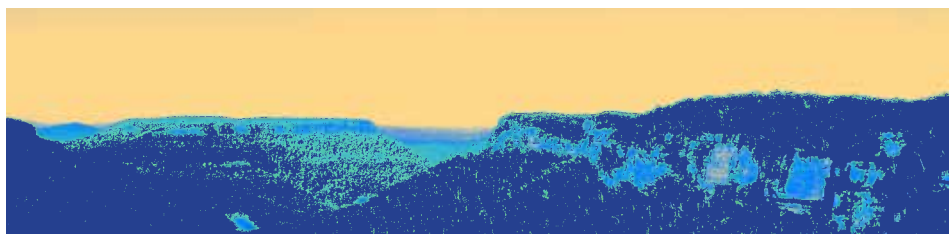
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Dear Editor,

Every now and then a group of us from Majura Poets catch the train to Sydney from Canberra and we call our carriage the Poetry Train. We write poems inspired by the journey and then recite them at Central. I find it a charming ritual.

This year I wrote the following poem, published in our collection 'Poetry in Motion', and I also read it to my Christmas friends in Bundanoon. They thought you also might like to publish it so here it is.

Best for your splendid work producing the magazine,
Jill Sutton

Southern Highlands

Climbing high you don't notice it in the train
as you pass rogue pine forests
ponds of water from we know not where
small towns with corner shops
low farmhouses disconnected from their sheep and cattle
tall hedges hiding the most modest of our famous.
In this bush of green scrambled eggs and mushrooms
we are still foreigners.
Subtle tones and curlicues home animals
who keep to themselves.
Those cosy Anglo-Saxon encampments
Tallong Moss Vale Penrose and Bundanoon
pretend shelter from the wild
but shudder back from the edge
of a great unfathomable escarpment.

—Jill Sutton from 'Poetry in Motion', 2018

Editor's reply: Thanks Jill. What a delight to have someone send something out of the blue!
And an interesting something, with a back story.



Seniors' Stories

CONGRATULATIONS TO TWO of JCG's writers, who have had their work published in the latest volume of Seniors' Stories, published by the NSW Government. Jane Irwin and Annie Crawford are both creative writers, as well as valuable members of the JCG team of interviewers and magazine story writers.

For the last four years 100 stories by seniors from all over New South Wales have been selected for each volume. Last year's theme was 'positive ageing' and "each story reflects this theme in its own unique and inspiring way". Copies are available at the Wingecarribee Shire library, and, if you are a member of the Bundanoon History Group, from the members' library.

Well done Jane and Annie!

—Editor

Bundanoon Men's Shed takes on a community project

"WHERE LITTER LIES Beauty Dies". These wonderful, true words are written on a wooden plaque mounted on a canopy above a picnic table in Picnic Park, opposite the shops in Railway Avenue.

I noticed this last year when casually walking along the footpath near the Railway Avenue bus shelter. I also noticed they looked pretty tired, as did the seven other items of park furniture, which were suffering from flaking (or no) paint, missing or rotted timbers and lichen or other vegetation growing on the structures.

I found three other signs:

"Donated by Bundanoon Lions Club June 1993"; "This Picnic Park was created and is maintained by the members of the Bundanoon Community and Development Association"; and "A Gift from the Bundanoon Markets on their 10th Anniversary" on the bench seat nearest the bush shelter.

As a member of the Men's Shed I asked



if its committee and general members might consider taking on a community project to refurbish these items and they agreed.

Canopies could be refurbished on site, but bench seats, each of individual design and requiring extensive work, were progressively taken to our workshop so they could be fixed under ideal conditions regardless of the weather.

While the Men's Shed contributed manpower

and enthusiasm, Bundanoon Lions Club assisted financially by covering the cost of materials such as oil and paint.

At the same time Green Team convenor John White and his team set out to clear the tangle of trees, shrubs and vegetation alongside Picnic Park. This will make a huge difference to the brightness and appeal of the park when completed.

The park looks fresh and welcoming for locals and visitors to use. It is a project the "Shed" and community can be proud of.

"Where is Picnic Park?" Many people didn't seem to know but the sign says it was created by BDCA and it should now be recognised due to the effort put into it by community groups both past and present.

It must be noted that the Men's Shed recorded 242 man-hours on this community project.

—Peter Goulding

Ted and tennis

TED ANDERSON FIRST took up a tennis racquet when he was 15, playing on the Naremburn Courts while living in Cammeray. However most of his early working life was on the land, travelling from the NSW north west to Yass, working sheep and cattle stations and some farming. "There was not much opportunity for tennis but I did enjoy the parties and the balls."

It was 30-odd years before Ted returned to the game he enjoyed so much.

In 1956 he moved to Bundanoon where he had purchased land surrounded by bird-filled bushland. Here he built his house, creating a haven for his family.

Buying a weekend at Erowal Bay led to Ted picking up a racquet again. He sold some of his land there to the council to enable them to extend the town tennis courts and he thought it was a good idea to teach his younger children some of the rudiments of the game.

Although he was fitted with a pacemaker in 1989 that did not slow him down. He built four dormer windows onto the house and repainted the roof. In 1993 he took up tennis in Bowral where he played for some years before joining the Bundanoon Tennis Club in 2004, where he still plays regularly to this day.

He and his daughter Kim are keen

tennis fans. They have been spectators at Wimbledon, are regulars at the Australian Open in Melbourne and in 2013 went to the US Open. Kim has even been able to use a connection to introduce Ted to Roger Federer!

Ted's competition record shows him to be no slouch on the court himself. In 2007 he and Mike Swinden won the Club A Grade men's doubles. In 2009 (in his 80s) Ted and daughter Kim won the Bundanoon B Grade mixed doubles. It was in this game he made his last leap over the net, much to the quiet relief of his family!

2012 saw him win the Bundanoon Club Championship's B Grade mixed doubles with his partner of the day Trudy Vonhoff (now vice president of Tennis NSW), while in 2014 he was runner-up for both the men's doubles with Phillip Leighton-Daly and the mixed doubles with Ann Derham.

Most recently, in January 2019, the Bundanoon Tennis Club hosted the inaugural match contesting the Karen Dixon Cup, an annual event named in her memory. Members of Sydney Clubs paired with local players and Ted warned his partner she may have drawn the short straw. When they came in fourth it proved Ted was indeed still a formidable player against some stiff competition.

Ted plays social tennis, as he enjoys



having weekends free if needed for family and friends. He can be found on the Bundanoon tennis courts three days a week and he happily carries out maintenance when required. A remarkable gentleman.

—Anne Goodridge



What is Neighbour Day?

Neighbour Day is an annual celebration that encourages people to connect with their communities; bringing together the people next door, across the street or on the next farm.

It is the perfect day to say thanks for being a great neighbour, connect with new neighbours, and feel part of your community.

Neighbour Day is held on the last Sunday in March every year.

You can make your Neighbour Day as big or small as you'd like; whether a casual cuppa, a picnic in the park or a message of support; it's the perfect day to say thanks for being a great neighbour and for being there when I needed you most.

Visit the Neighbour Day website to register your event and download a FREE kit to help celebrate Neighbour Day.

Relationships Australia

Relationships Australia is the home of Neighbour Day
Australia's annual celebration of community

How to celebrate ideas

- Host a BBQ with neighbours
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- Organise a game of anything on the local oval
- Have a party on your front lawn
- Meet for afternoon tea in the back paddock
- Enjoy a neighbourhood picnic in your favourite park
- Or simply have a cup of tea or a chat with a new or old neighbour.

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Bundanoon Sport & Recreation



BUNDANOON REBELS SOCCER CLUB

Last November the AGM elected a new team to lead the club into 2019 and the key members of the team are: President John Gross, Vice President Alan Pearson, Secretary John Paul Dunne, Treasurer Mel Terry.

Anyone still interested in joining the club will be welcome and should contact John Gross on 0414 456 097.

The club's first game will be on 30th March. Teams have been submitted to the Highlands Soccer Association and the draw will be available on its website in early March. Please check it out as your support at games will be appreciated.

BUNDANOON HIGHLANDERS RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

We have decided not to compete in the 2019 season. However planning is already underway to ensure the 2020 season will return the club to a successful competitive situation. We will keep you updated on developments as they unfold during the year.

BUNDANOON SCRABBLE CLUB

A new club has formed in Bundanoon! Members will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Bundanoon Hotel. Sessions take place from 10:00am-12:30pm and from 1:30pm-4:00pm. All players from novices to 'wordsmiths' are welcome and expert help is available during play.

If you need more details call George Khamis on 0405 201 552 or email timemaker2@yahoo.com

BUNDANOON TENNIS CLUB

On 13th January a group of players from the Cronulla and wider Sydney area played a social tournament at Bundanoon. A dinner for visitors and Club members was a great way to get to know each other. On Tournament day visiting players were paired with local Club members and all enjoyed a competitive day of social tennis. Plans are underway to make this connection an annual event! The weekend was so successful that Club members are

keen to engage with other groups/clubs at Bundanoon in the future.

It is not too late to join coaching classes which are available on Saturday mornings for children and adults (beginners or players wanting to get back into active play and perhaps join the club). All are welcome. If you or family members are interested, contact Mike Swinden on 4883 7624 or 0409 397 247 or email mikeswin@hotmail.com

PONY CLUB

We meet on the 3rd Sunday of every month starting at 10am. Activities include jumping, games and flat work. All you need is your own pony and you would be most welcome! Please contact Edwina Grant on 0416 032 086 or email edwina@gmail.com if you would like more detail.

BUNDANOON BOWLING CLUB

Grant funding has come through to the club enabling the No.1 green to be renovated and in use from March. Equipment repairs and upgrades have also been achieved, including shades on the western end of the No.1 green.

Bowls is played on Wednesday afternoon and Saturday afternoon. The club is eager to build numbers to bring back bowling as a social event. All town people are urged to make the effort and enjoy the fun. A new competition called "Jack Attack" may well be part of that renaissance. You can form your own groups for this competition. Contact Steve Granger on 4868 2680 or John Wigney on 4883 7356 for more details.

The new executive group is: President John Wigney, Vice President Arnie Fabiano, Secretary Steve Granger.

Members are reminded that membership payments are now due and any queries should be directed to the Treasurer Peter Cowling.

BUNDANOON CRICKET

The junior team is half way through its comp and is leading, so they are expected to be taking part in the Division A finals series which will be held in March. Steve

Beveridge says it has been a good team effort to achieve the results so far rather than spectacular individual performances – well done team! Sam Harwood, who was featured in the last JCG edition, has been a true all-rounder as wicket keeper, opening batsman and handy leg spin bowler.

The seniors in grade 3 are a relatively inexperienced team and so, as we go to print, they are sitting just outside the top four – a solid performance.

The senior grade 2 team are in the top four and expected to make the semi-finals.

The club once again ran its "Junior Blaster" program to help young players acquire and improve their skills ready for the next step into competitive teams.

So another active season draws to a close.

BUNDANOON CROQUET CLUB

The Croquet Club adopted flexible playing hours to avoid the heat over the summer. We used email contact to choose an appropriate starting time each day, depending on the forecast. A 6pm start has become very popular on most evenings.

Our bottom green has been renovated and is now back in service after a break of 7 weeks. Members are enjoying being able to play on a well-grassed surface. We continue to share the No. 2 green with the Bowling Club until their green attains playing condition. It will then undergo renovation to Croquet standard and hopefully be playable again by the end of March.

If you are interested in playing a challenging and fun game offering light exercise, time for a chat and good company, please contact President Alan Millward on 4883 6887 or 0419 228 836. Free try outs and coaching are available.

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Pam Davies/Ralph Clark rlc2578@gmail.com

Leaver Park Group

Christine Miller chrisnbaz@bigpond.com

Melting Pot Theatre

Josh Hewitt joshua.hewitt.jh@gmail.com

Membership

Andy Carnahan..... Membership@bca.asn.au

Needles & Natter

Andrea Ward andrea.ward@tonyward.org

Roy Terry Reserve

John White..... johnnifer@bigpond.com

Rex Cinema

Stuart Reid sjreid29@gmail.com

Welcome Packs

Lyn Morehen tallulah1938@gmail.com

Winterfest

Kaz Williams..... kaz@bigshedcreative.com

Community Groups

Bundanoon Pre-School..... Deni Harden, Director..... 4883 6166

Bundanoon Visitors' Group..... Harry Hull..... 4883 6372

Chess Club Pat Foley 4883 6064

Country Women's Association (*meets 2nd Thurs, 1 pm, CWA Rooms*):

..... Kath Smith 4883 6919

Currabunda Wetland Group (*meets 1st and 3rd Friday*)

..... Alan Hyman 4883 7763

History Group (*meets 1st Monday, 10 am*):

..... David Brennen

Lions Club..... Elizabeth Cranny..... 0408 102 411

Men's Shed (*meets Tues-Thurs, from 10am, 11 Burgess St*):

..... Tony Molyneux 4883 6073

Morton National Park Volunteers (*meets 2nd Wednesday*):

..... Alan & Wendy Hyman..... 4883 7763

Playgroup Melanie Terry..... 4883 7197

RSL Robert Williams 4883 6137

Serendipity: the choir Kerith Fowles..... 4883 6515

Waratah Slimmers Bundanoon Colleen Urquhart..... 4883 4123

Warrigal Care Bundanoon Auxiliary (*meets 3rd Monday, 10am at Warrigal*)

..... Ann McCarter..... 4883 7784

Support and volunteer services

Community Health Service Bowral..... 4861 8000

Dementia Australia (Dementia Advisory Service)..... 4869 5651

Early Childhood Clinic..... 4861 8000

Fire Station 4883 6333

Good Yarn..... Ann McCarter 4883 7784

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 Don Gray..... 0429 828 765

RSPCA (Goulburn/Highlands) 0412 475 428

Volunteering Wingecarribee..... 4869 4617

WIRES..... 4862 1788

To change details, please email jcg.editor@bca.asn.au

Church times

Anglican Parish of Sutton Forest

Holy Trinity, Bundanoon Sunday, 9.00am, 5.00pm

St Aidan's, Exeter Sunday, 9.30am

St Stephen's, Tallong Sunday, 10am

All Saints, Sutton Forest 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays, 11am

..... 2nd & 4th Sundays, 2pm

Uniting Church

Moss Vale..... Sunday, 9.30am

Bundanoon..... Thursday, 12.30 pm

Catholic Church

St Brigid's Bundanoon 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays, 5pm

..... 2nd & 4th Sundays, 8am

St Paul's, Moss Vale Sat, 6pm & Sunday, 10am

Iona Christian Community, with Anglican Worship, at St Patrick's, Sutton Forest

..... 2nd, 4th and 5th Sun, 10.30am

FOR OTHER SERVICE TIMES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Anglican Church: www.parishofsuttonforest.com, 4883 6019

Catholic Church: Parish Office, 4868 1931

Iona: ionachristiancommunity@gmail.com, 4869 1196

Santi Forest Buddhist Monastery: 4883 6331

Sports clubs

Bowls (Men)..... John Witney..... 4883 7356

Bowls (Women) Margaret Alaban 4883 7560

Cricket Steve Granger..... 0404 048 288

Croquet Club..... Alan Millward 4883 6887

Pony Club Gale Pritchett 4883 7195

Rugby League Grant Perkins 0419 844 405

Soccer Jaime Griffiths 4883 7012

Swimming..... bundanoonswimmingclub@gmail.com

Tennis Mike Swinden 4883 7624

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For appointment:

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