

jcg
Edition 52



HOBBIES

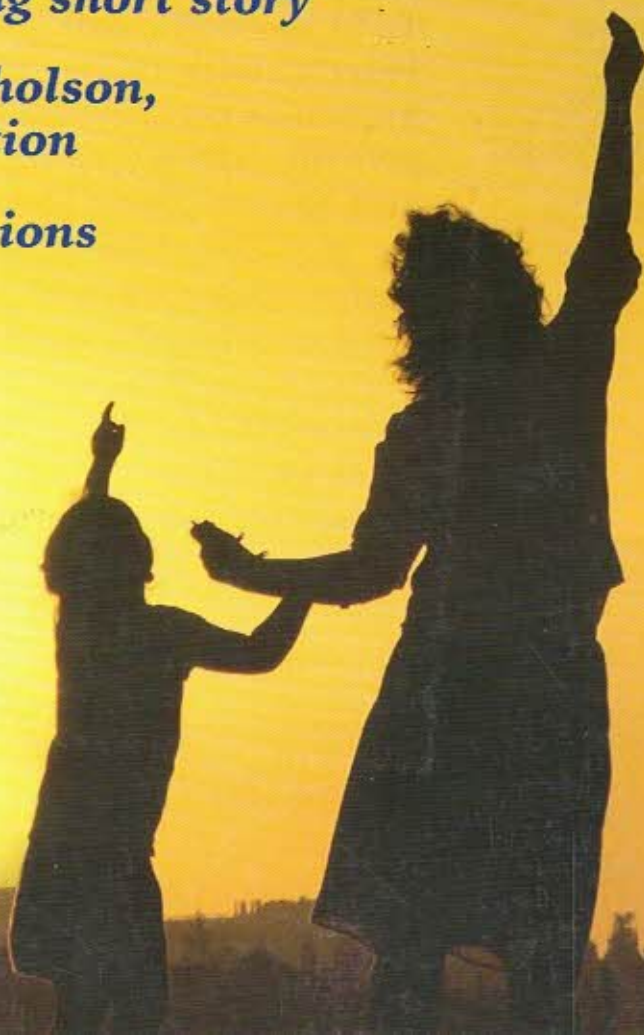
Passions and pastimes pages 25–31

Plus:

Prize-winning short story

***Howard Nicholson,
an appreciation***

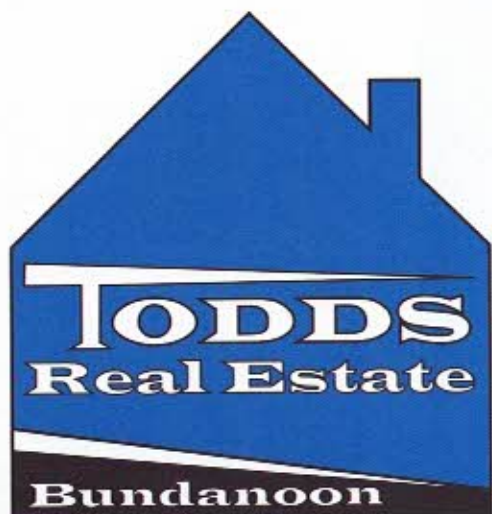
Little champions





After identifying the need for a second estate agency in Bundanoon over 10 years ago and inviting Peter Rocca to join the new business venture, Mechelle Todd has come full circle by acquiring Peter's share in the business formerly known as Peter Rocca Real Estate. This provides the opportunity for Mechelle and Wayne Todd together with staff, Jo de Ligt and Elaine Angel who make up the team to move ahead with revitalized enthusiasm.

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THE BUNDANOON CLUB

The Club News

BUNDANOON, MARCH 2008

Memorial Day a success

THE BUNDANOON CLUB was proud to host a special day in February to raise funds for the town's new War Memorial.

Unfortunately rain kept some away but a great day still ensued. Around fifty enjoyed breakfast and indoor bowls, followed by a BBQ lunch. In the afternoon the Club lounge was full for the raffles and auction.

Thanks are due to the many local businesses who donated items for the day and to those who made personal donations or helped in other ways.

We were delighted to be able to present the RSL with a cheque

for \$6,000 at the end of the day, which will not only cover the balance needed for the Memorial but will fund some much-needed renovation of the RSL building. A great result, which reflects well on the whole town.

Club Anniversary celebration

HOW TIME FLIES! It is now five years since that fateful day in April 2003 when the Bowling Club was to be liquidated. That Bundanoon still has its club is a great tribute to the members and staff, but also to the town as a whole. The Club

would not have survived without the support of the community.

To mark the milestone a week of celebration is planned for May. Watch your letterbox for details.

Building news

LOCAL BUILDER DENNIS DAY and his team are well underway with some work on the south-west corner of the club.

This is another example of the Club's philosophy of ploughing as much as possible into improved amenities, which has done so much to make the place more comfortable and welcoming.

REGULAR FUNCTIONS

Tuesdays: Bingo from 7pm

Wednesdays: Members' lucky badge draw

Meat tray raffles – tickets on sale from 6pm, plus **JOKERS WILD** – Jackpots each week.

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Information for members and their guests.





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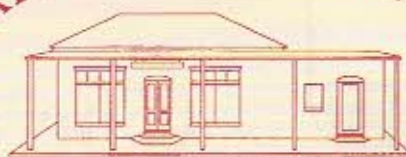


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Editor's notes



Some people enjoy choral singing in their spare time and many women in Bundanoon enjoy sharing their creative time with the Needles and Natter group. Others spend leisure hours gardening, reading, improving their golf handicap, painting or woodworking. Most people have a hobby and in this issue, *jcg* found a number of people with unusual interests.

Some are collectors, some have become well known for their writing or particular craft, others have found that their hobbies moved from part-time activities to business enterprises. I'm sure there are many more 'hobby' stories in our community that could make interesting reading for a regular column in our magazine. Please contact us if you have a suggestion.

Harvey Grennan has offered to edit our June edition while I am overseas visiting family. Harvey has had a long career in writing and publishing and has in recent years contributed his professional expertise to *jcg*. Please contact Harvey regarding contributions for the June issue (details below).

Your stories are always eagerly received and help the magazine reflect the essence of Bundanoon. On that theme, Jordan's Crossing Real Estate is sponsoring a photo competition for Winterfest 2008 - see page 37 for how to enter.

Pam Davies

Cover design

Ben Mawston

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



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Deadline for next issue: Friday 18 April 2008

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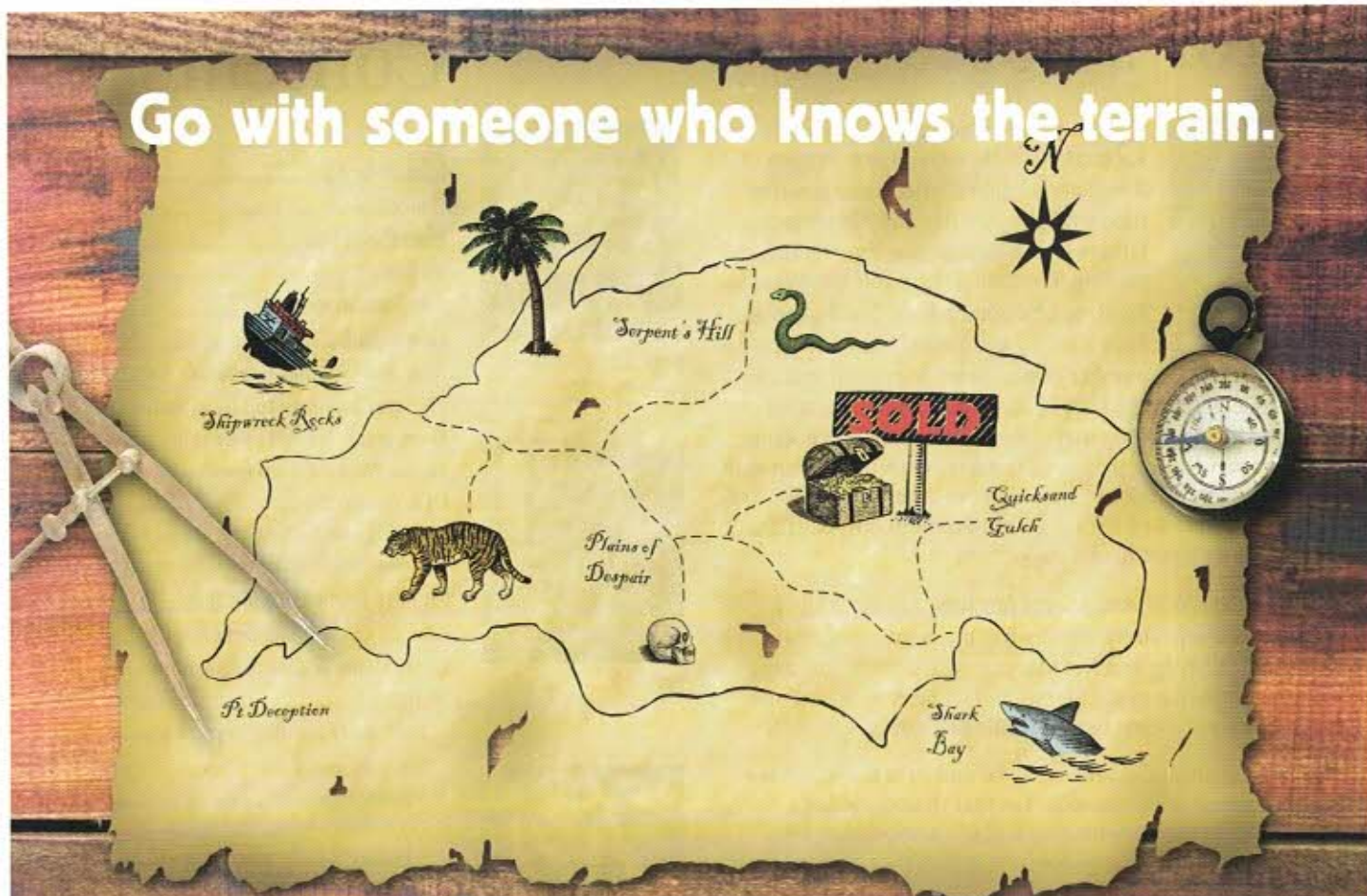
BCA meetings

Third Thursday each month:
AGM 20 Mar, 17 Apr, 15 May 08.
Start 7:30pm in Supper Room at rear of Hall. All welcome.

Hall Hire

To enquire about bookings and rates for the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, please call Bob Smith, 4883 7786.

Go with someone who knows the terrain.



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Council news

Councillor Jim Clark

This year council elections will be held in September and the number of councillors to be elected has been reduced to nine from the present twelve. Also to be held at the same time will be a referendum to decide if council should move to a Ward system in 2012. Under this system the council area is divided into equal parts or wards. In our shire the number would probably be three and councillors are elected only to represent one of these wards. The Southern part of Wingecaribee has traditionally fared quite well in achieving local representation without having to resort to the parochial Ward system. Council will be providing more information on the referendum as the election draws nearer.

With the likely completion of the upgrade to the Bundanoon Sewage Treatment works in May next year, the moratorium on development in place since 2004 will be lifted when the new plant is commissioned. Upgrading of sewer mains and pumping stations will also occur in various locations around the same time in preparation for the new plant. It is to be hoped that this will not prompt a rush of applications for large new subdivisions.

As part of the new Local Environment Plan council will be seeking to conserve some of the impressive Heritage buildings and streetscapes that remain in the Shire. Wingecaribee has a remarkably long list of significant buildings worthy of preservation in comparison with other Local Government areas. As well as the Heritage listing of individual buildings, parts of towns and villages can be designated as Heritage Conservation areas. It is great to see that a large part of central Bundanoon which is considered worthy of protection will also be included in a new Heritage Conservation plan.

contact

Clr Jim Clark
0428 213 939



Bundanoon beat

Snr. Constable Michael Dietz

I would like to thank all the Bundanoon community for their support and kind donations during the recent November fund-raiser. The Bundanoon community

once again got into the spirit of the event and helped me raise funds for 'Beyond Blue' which supports depression. Those of us who work in stressful jobs know only too well that this is an important issue.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Matt and Donna Hescott at Sylvan Glen at Penrose, for putting on such a fantastic concert with 'The Beatnix' on 2 February. It was a great night, and it again highlighted what a fantastic community we have in the southern villages. There was no need for a police presence at this event, which says a lot about the great people we have in this area. People were there to hear good music, and enjoy a few drinks with friends and family. Let's hope we have more of these events at Sylvan Glen.

I'm happy to report that Bundanoon has had a relatively crime free period which has allowed me to enjoy being part of the community while working in the wider Goulburn Local Area



BCA update

Ralph Clark, President



The highlight of the past quarter was the Tidy Town awards function last month. Mayor Gordon Lewis expressed the congratulations of Council on Bundanoon's achievement, commenting on the number of people here who make a difference to this community. Indeed this community involvement was a major factor in our success.

Particular thanks are due to David Beasley and his Green Team members for their hard work over recent years and congratulations also to members of our various groups and the residents who helped present Bundanoon to best advantage for the assessors.

Submissions have now closed on Council's draft LEP. As would be expected, opinions differ on the proposals put forward, particularly the reductions of block sizes in some areas. BCA was able to have a WSC planner attend a packed meeting in the hall to outline the scheme and to give residents an opportunity to discuss them. Many commented that this session had assisted them in preparing better-informed submissions.

Since my last report the Southern Highlands area policing has been transferred to Goulburn Local Area Command. I am sure we all appreciate the job Snr Const Michael Dietz is doing and from my first meeting with the new police administration it is evident that he will receive far greater support.

This is a good opportunity to remind you of the BCA AGM on Thursday 20 March. I believe that the Bundanoon Community Association plays a very important function in our town. I have mentioned our Green Team volunteers but we also provide regular concerts and film nights and host a number of community activities including two choirs, the Defibrillator group, the Visitors group, the Glow-worm Glen committee, Needles and Natter and the Don't Bore Bundanoon committee. We maintain and improve the Memorial Hall, support the annual WinterFest, organise the Garden Ramble and of course produce the excellent jcg.

We need to have as many residents as possible at our monthly meetings, but if you can't attend it is important that we have a strong and sizeable membership. This numerical strength gives far greater credibility when dealing with Council and other authorities on behalf of the town. If you are not currently a member, please consider joining BCA.

Command. However there has been a recent increase in alcohol related crime relating to a number of parties which have been held in local parks and in bushland in Blue Gum Road. This activity has led to an increase in malicious damage incidents being reported. Several young people have been spoken to about this behaviour, and if the trend continues stern action will follow. I am also requesting adherence to the responsible service of alcohol from local licensed premises.

We have all heard the saying what a small world we live in, well it is just that! I have discovered a twin that I did not even know I had. Well not quite but Wanda Denning from the Bundanoon Bakery and I have more in common than just good looks (only joking). I have discovered that we were born on the same day, 25 February and in the same year (I'm not allowed to say what year!), in the same hospital and delivered by the same doctor.

Norlex update

The Land and Environment Court will be conducting a site inspection of the Norlex site in Governors Road on Thursday, 13 March as part of an appeal by the company against Wingecarribee Shire Council.

Residents who wish to show their opposition to the company's plans to ship groundwater out of Bundanoon in large trucks are asked to assemble – with your signs if you have one – outside the Uniting Church in Church Street at 9 a.m.

It is important to remember that this will be a legal hearing, not a political event, and that we should offer every courtesy to the Court. You will be seen by the Judge or Commissioner as he or she arrives in Bundanoon and it would be counter-productive to our cause to have a crowd in or near Governors Road. We want the Court to see the road conditions there unhindered and to regard the people of Bundanoon as determined but respectful of the Court.

People who live in Railway Avenue, Church Street, Anzac Parade and Penrose Road are asked to place signs outside their homes that morning – not before, in case they are stolen. If you would like to purchase a sign (cost \$5) phone Patricia Guy on 4883 6971.



New minister

The Reverend Jeremy Tonks is to be inducted as the Rector of the Anglican Parish of Sutton Forest on Tuesday 11 March at Holy Trinity Church Bundanoon with the service commencing at 7.30 pm and led by the Regional Bishop of Wollongong, the Right Reverend Alan Stewart.

Mr Tonks has been the Rector of the Parish of Kensington, Sydney for the past seven years and prior to that served as the Assistant Minister at Christ Church Kiama for 3 years.

The Anglican Parish of Sutton Forest consists of four distinct village churches – St Stephen's Tallong, Holy Trinity Bundanoon, St Aidan's Exeter and All Saints' Sutton Forest.

Mr Tonks, his wife Danielle, daughter Bethany and son Nathaniel will be taking up residence in the rectory and are excited by the challenge of the new ministries. They are really looking forward to the move and opportunities to make new friends as they become part of the Highland's communities. Parishioners too are excited that the Tonks are coming to live amongst them as they have been without a permanent resident minister for 12 months.

Feedback

jcg has received encouraging emails from Councillors Larry Whipper and Jim Clark in the past and commendation from Mayor Gordon Lewis at the Tidy Town celebration on 11 February. The editor was pleased to receive this letter from Cllr Nick Campbell-Jones:

"Just a brief note to thank you for sending the JCG to me.

I think it is informative, professional and is a great window to life in Bundanoon.

It is yet another example of talented people donating those talents for the benefit of us all – congratulations and thanks."

BCA AGM

The Bundanoon Community Association is holding their Annual General meeting on Thursday 20 March in the Soldiers Memorial Hall supper room at 7.30pm.

If you have joined the association previously your subscription may be due or if you would like to join as a new member BCA would welcome your support.

Please contact Carol Townsend for information: 4883 7380 or carol.greytownsend@bigpond.com

BCA has an important role acting in the interests of the whole community to lobby Council and other authorities. Read Ralph Clark's BCA update on the previous page for details about recent activities and sub-groups.

State-of-the-art Aged Care Facility opens in Bundanoon

On 7 February 2008 stage 1 of the Warrigal Care redevelopment was opened by Federal Minister for Ageing, the Hon Justine Elliott, M.P. Linkside Nursing Home has now been demolished and 45 people have moved into their new home. The demolition makes room for the construction of stage 2 of the development, which will house a further 45 residents. The new facility meets strict federal building codes for the industry.

The new building will have 3 smaller homes within the larger complex, so that it feels homely, yet carers will be able to attend to residents' needs easily. Nursing care and lifestyle support will be available 24 hours a day. There

will be 16 places for those who need specialist dementia care.

See page 40 for photos of the opening.

Fundraising dinner

Warrigal Care's auxiliary committee is holding a fundraising dinner on Saturday 3 May at the Bundanoon Club. The funds raised will go towards a piano for residents.

Tickets \$25.00 per person for a hot and cold buffet. Raffle tickets will be sold during the evening and additional donations and sponsorship would be welcome. Cash donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Please contact Rebecca Klok: 02 4884 4453.



Support our advertisers

jcg thanks our many long-term advertisers for their support and welcomes several new advertisers in this issue.

This advertising support has been pivotal in allowing us to increase our content and colour over the last few years.

We ask our readers to support our advertisers, as a matter of mutual community growth and well-being.

jcg committee



Jonah and the Wailers

2008 concerts

The 2008 concert programme for Arts Bundanoon is well under way with the recent visit from the exciting Jonah & the Wailers gospel-style choir. Saturday 12 April at 2.30pm will reveal two grand pianos gracing the stage of the Memorial Hall for a wonderful afternoon of piano for four hands, sometimes using a single piano and sometimes two pianos. Elpis Liossatos and Carl Schmidt, two outstanding musicians, will enthral us on that occasion.

Our major concert details for the remainder of the year are:

Saturday 12 April, 2.30pm

Duo pianists, Elpis Liossatos & Carl Schmidt, present a wonderful programme of familiar classical works on two grand pianos.

Saturday 28 June, 7.30pm

Nellie Melba, Queen of Song. Louise Page presents her highly acclaimed semi-dramatisation (in words and song) of the life of Melba.

Saturday 5 July, 10.00am

Piano at Ten Plus More – a full day of piano and other instruments

Saturday 19 July, 2.30pm

Artist to be confirmed

Saturday 27 September, 7.00pm

The incomparable Song Company. Australia's only full-time professional vocal ensemble presents a special program for our Annual Invitation Gala

Saturday 18 October, 7.30pm

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Our very successful **Piano at Ten** programmes will continue on the **first Saturday of every month** (except April which is Brigadoon). These 45–60 minute recitals by rising stars commence at 10am and never fail to delight. Adults \$5, School children – Free

Tickets for the April and June major concerts are now available at Todd's Real Estate, Bundanoon, Moss Vale Bookshop, Argyle St, Moss Vale, and The Brown Bookshop, Bong Bong St, Bowral.

Enquiries Michael Flint Ph 4883 6588

Bundanoon Voices

After her extended leave of absence, Coralie Flint is back on the podium and leading her beloved Bundanoon Voices. Rehearsals are held on Monday nights from 7.30 to 9.30 pm in the Flints' home. It is a fresh start for all and a good opportunity for new voices to join. The requirements are an ability to sing in tune and blend with the ensemble when singing in parts and to have some idea of or experience in reading music. Singing with the Voices requires a sense of team spirit which involves integrity and loyalty.

A rehearsal pianist is being sought to join this special group who 'have great pleasure in giving pleasure'

Bundanoon Junior Voices

Primary school children from all schools in the area are invited to join this special choir which meets on Tuesdays from 3.45 to 4.45 pm in the Flints' home. The ability to sing solo and in tune is the only requirement, at this stage.

Children will learn the rudiments of reading music and to appreciate fine music through participating in this group activity. Junior Voices is an invitation of Arts Bundanoon and no tuition fee is requested.

Enquiries Coralie and Michael Flint Ph 4883 6588

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Full page	190×273 mm	\$326
Full page bleed	220 × 307 mm	\$326

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Please contact Ben Mawston, ph 4883 7178 or ben@vitreo.com.au, with enquiries or to book.

Community website

<http://bundanoon.net>

Remember to check the website for back issues of jcg and community information.

At the recent announcement of winners for this year's Tidy Towns NSW program held at Leeton over the weekend of 24-25 November, Bundanoon was announced as Winner of the overall Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Award in Category C for towns with a population of 1200 - 4000.

In addition, Bundanoon won a Highly Commended award in the Friendly Town Award sponsored by Best Western.

Assessments were held in September and the winners were decided by an expert panel of judges. Competition for these awards was very keen with around 100 towns entered. Entrants were required to submit entries with responses to an extensive questionnaire. A trained assessor then visited each town and reported their findings. This report and the responses to the questionnaire provided the basis for judging. Winners were decided after examination of all of the material by two panels of judges. Key criteria were sustainability of programs with respect to the environment, appearance and tidiness of the town and the extent of the involvement of various community groups and volunteers.

Bundanoon received acclaim for the appearance of the town and the contribution of many different groups of volunteers, businesses and Council. The work of the many sub committees of the Bundanoon Community Association has contributed to the ambience and welcome of Bundanoon. The Green Team's work

A new choir for the Highlands

Bundanoon residents will be pleased to learn that another choir is now locally based.

Serendipity: the choir will be under the musical direction of Kerith Fowles, with Ann Clipsham as accompanist, and the choir will make its Highland debut in May, presenting a program entitled "The Darling Buds of May". There will be two performances, one in Bundanoon, the other in Bowral. Many of the singers come from diverse parts of the Highlands, so the choir will perform all its programs at least twice to enable as many people as possible to enjoy their music.

Anyone who attended concerts directed by Kerith last year will be aware of the wonderful range of music which is presented, and a similar pot pourri of musical styles is guaranteed. So a diary date, not to be missed, is Saturday 17 May, 3.00pm in the Bundanoon Hall. And for friends and family who live further afield, the program will be repeated on Sunday 25 May, 3.00pm in the Bowral Uniting Church.

Serendipity: the choir has been invited to affiliate with the BCA, thus extending the range of choral choices open to both singers and audiences alike. All involved with *Serendipity* are deeply appreciative of the encouragement and support we have already received; we look forward to sharing our music making with you.

Serendipity: the choir presents
The Darling Buds of May

17 May, 3pm, Bundanoon Memorial Hall
25 May, 3pm, Bowral Uniting Church

Bookings: Todds Real Estate



David Beasley receives the award on behalf of Bundanoon, at the ceremony in Leeton

in beautifying the entrance to town, the events sponsored by Bundanoon Visitors Group, the very popular concerts organised by Arts Bundanoon as well as the activities of the Garden Club, Lions, RSL and other groups all contribute to make Bundanoon a wonderful place in which to live and to visit.

Some of the activities that were taken into account in the assessment were:

- * Beautification of the Northern Entrance to town by extending the Information bay and planting with trees and thousands of bulbs.
- * Installation of sandstone town signs at both major approaches to town, courtesy of Bundanoon Sandstone.
- * Erection of informative history and other signs.
- * Creation of a sandstone watercourse in the arboretum.
- * Regular publication of a coffee-table quality glossy magazine, *Jordans Crossing Gazette* with interesting articles and community news.
- * Winterfest and other themed activities conducted by Bundanoon Visitors Group.
- * Regular concerts staged by Arts Bundanoon which are very popular with music lovers from near and far and have provided the funding for purchase of a grand piano.
- * Movie nights conducted in the Rex Theatre (Community Hall) by Cinema Bundanoon.
- * The well supported annual Garden Ramble run by a sub-committee of Bundanoon Community Association and supported by Bundanoon Garden Club which is the fund raising vehicle for the activities of the Green Team.
- * Activities of other community groups which contribute to Bundanoon including History Group, CWA, Lions, RSL, Bundanoon Public School, Glow Worm Glen Track committee.

The Bundanoon Community Association is very proud of the award. It is hoped that it will inspire wider support for the activities of the Association through the many sub-committees or, indeed, with other organisations that work for the betterment of Bundanoon.

It is our intention to try to develop a wider base of support for Tidy Town activities in future years both with Council and the community. It can only help to make Bundanoon a more desirable place.

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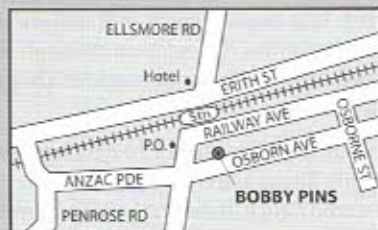
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Celebrating Christmas

events



Was this Broadway? Were we in the 'West End'? No. We were in Bundanoon on a Saturday afternoon!

Forty local school children (Years 1-6) joined the Bundanoon Voices at the full house 'A Community Celebrates Christmas' concert held in the Soldiers' Memorial Hall on Saturday 8 December 2007.

School Principal Robyn Versluis, who confessed she was moved to tears during the performance, encouraged the children to participate so that the 'school choir' doubled in size during the four school rehearsals. 'I'm going to buy my Dad some sox and undies for Christmas' said a little fellow quoting a line in one of the carols sung. Another child confided 'Mummy told me

to stop practising my choir songs all the time'. Such was the enthusiasm!

The Voices led by Kerith Fowles and supported by Ann Clipsham's accompaniment rose to the challenge of preparing a diverse programme of 18 carols from around the world together with 12 others where they were joined by the very robust and enthusiastic audience! Performances by vocalist Karen Granger and instrumentalists Courtney (flute) and Tiffany (clarinet) Lick added a very special dimension as did Bernardo Gonzales and his Colombian drum.

A wonderful community effort!



Above: The Elastic Band

...and New Year

The talent in Bundanoon was on display in the Memorial Hall as 2008 was greeted with laughter, song and dance. Champagne flowed, nibbles were tasted, friends embraced, and conversation was animated.

An amazing miniature orchestra, "The Elastic Band", provided music for dancing. Talented entertainers, including a hastily gathered but fantastic choir, "The Harmoniums", lent colour to the evening. One highlight was the audience competition: to the tune of "Good King Wenceslas", each table had to write and perform their New Year's resolutions.

Fireworks and champagne – and no washing up – completed a fantastic night. Many thanks to all who participated and especially to Kerith Fowles and Ann Clipsham for their talent, inspiration and hard work. A great start to the New Year!

Below: The Harmoniums



Right: Karen Granger, cabaret artist



Above: Miranda Lean and right: Ann Elbourne, National Emblems



Right: Fran and Richard Bosly-Craft sing "Do you love me?" from Fiddler on the Roof



by Monica Palter

Oh, what a pleasant surprise. Please, do come in. I was half expecting that you would call sooner or later. Have a seat; yes, over there by the window. Don't worry about the cushions; just put them on the floor if they make you feel uncomfortable. I'll put the kettle on.

Now let me guess. You've called about Toby haven't you? Yes I thought so; a dear man in many ways despite his faults, of which there are many, as you have obviously discovered.

I met him whilst I was working at the Library with my friend Molly; she and I both started there on the same day. Her husband had just died after a long illness and she was struggling to rebuild her life, while I was looking for some way of supplementing my widow's pension. My Edgar died in the war; like many he went overseas and unlike most, didn't return.

Anyway, we were both on the desk when I walked this startlingly handsome middle aged man; beautifully dressed. I mean, some people are born to wear clothes with distinction and he was one of the best. We were both attracted to him but it was obvious from the outset that he had eyes only for Molly, despite the fact that she was a year or two older than I. There's the kettle; shan't be a minute.

Here we are; do you take milk? Toby came in almost every second day after that and he always seemed to arrive when I was in the back room and Molly was checking books in and out. They were very secretive and tried to hide it from me but I knew he was taking her out and about; theatres and dinners and such. Eventually she told me that he had asked her to marry him. She was like a young girl; so excited. She asked me whether or not I thought it would be a good idea but I knew my opinion would not have had the least effect. Naturally I said I thought she was very lucky, and to be quite honest I did feel a trifle jealous; only natural when you have been alone for over ten years and then your best friend remarries within twelve months.

Molly told me he had been married before but his wife had died tragically in an accident while they were on holiday overseas, in India I think. Something to do with a handrail collapsing on some steep steps in a Temple, I don't know the details.

Their wedding was a most sumptuous affair. Molly had been left very well-off by Michael, her late husband, and Toby had money too so no expense was spared. She asked me to be her Matron of Honour and there were at least a hundred and twenty guests. They went to Spain for their honeymoon and then bought a house on the south coast when they got back, so naturally I didn't see as much of them as before.

At first Molly and I phoned each other on a fairly regular basis; actually she did most of the calling as she was better able to afford it, but I did call if I had not heard from her for about a week. She seemed to be in heaven. The place they bought was a large, old house which needed a lot of attention so they were both flat-out painting, choosing carpets and curtains and laying tiles. I went down there once or twice but to be honest it was obvious that I was intruding. They were so wrapped in each other there wasn't room for a third person. They tried to make me welcome, but you know when you're not needed don't you? More tea?

After they had been married for about eighteen months; let me see, they were married in the March and it was September the following year, so yes, it would have been about eighteen months, I had a call from Molly. I hadn't heard from her for a few weeks and I hadn't called her because I'd been in hospital having some tests done. She sounded quite upset. She asked if she could come to see me. I suggested she should come to stay for a day or two but she said she had to be back the same day as she didn't want Toby to know that she'd been.

Naturally I was quite alarmed, and when I saw her I could tell that she was distressed. She told me that she and Toby had had a falling-out as he had become exceedingly possessive, wanting to know every little thing she did. I said that he was probably trying to keep her all to himself, but then she told me about the money.

It seems that when they bought the house they both put up half the money. The renovations had taken almost as much again, and again they had shared the cost equally. Now it seemed Toby wanted to sell the house and move further south to where some of his family were still living. Having put so much work into the place Molly had said she didn't want to leave at which point he had become quite angry.

It was a couple of days after that that Molly found a letter from a bank demanding repayment of a loan; a very large loan. She said she wasn't snooping; she found it in the pocket of one of his shirts when she was doing the washing. It seems that just about all the money he had put into the house had been borrowed; he had nothing of his own. This explained why he was so anxious to sell, she thought.

When she tackled him about it he broke down and said that she was right. He had been so in love that he had acted quite irrationally and now he felt he had let her down and would she forgive him? Naturally she did and even went to the extent of repaying the bank. All this had happened a month or so earlier and for a while things had settled down between them.

One of the investments that Michael had left Molly was a large holding in a listed property company. I don't know about these things but apparently it was an investment that paid a very high dividend and Molly used that money for most of her normal day to day expenses. When it didn't arrive on time she went to see her stockbroker and was very surprised to hear him say that she had sold the shares a couple of months earlier.

Goodness, look at the time! I do go on so, once I get started don't I? You'll have to excuse me for a minute or two while I get my house guest his soup. He's not very well and needs his fluids at regular intervals; shan't be a tick.

Right now, where were we? Oh yes, Molly's shares. Well, you can imagine her reaction. She more or less told the stockbroker he was a fool and he responded by getting out the transfer form she had signed and showing her the receipt he had received from her bank when he had deposited the cheque.

She said she came out of his office completely bewildered. The signature on the transfer form was certainly hers, or something very much like it, but she had absolutely no recollection of having seen the form before. She went straight round to her bank and asked for a statement and found that the money had been deposited but that most of it had already been withdrawn, using cheques from Toby's chequebook; apparently he had persuaded her to make it a joint account, either to sign.

When she later accused Toby of having forged her signature he emphatically denied it and challenged her to prove it, which of course she couldn't. What worried her most was that she couldn't really be certain she had not signed the form. There were times when her memory did let her down and she was having increasingly frequent dizzy spells. On one occasion she had completely overlooked a dinner invitation they had received and had Toby not reminded her of it, late in the afternoon in question, she would have missed it completely.

I asked her how I could help. She said she had changed her Will and wanted me to be her executor, to ensure that whatever needed to be done was done. Those were her very words, and she repeated them. I tried to lighten the moment by saying that I would probably need an executor before she did but she ignored the

remark and said that she had also left me her entire estate, except for her half share in the house. Seeing my surprise she went on to say that she had also changed her stockbroker, and the form of her signature for stock market transactions.

Well, as you can imagine, I was overwhelmed. I mean, we were very close friends but I never expected to be virtually her sole beneficiary. I asked her pointedly if she thought Toby was doing her harm and whether she had considered going to the Police. With what, she said, I'm an elderly woman who forgets things at times, like we all do, and I have a loving husband who I trust, most of the time, like we all do. What could I tell them? What evidence have I got? They'd have me locked up as a loonie, and we both laughed.

We had a very pleasant afternoon, just chatting and I really think she looked a lot better when I put her on the train back to the south coast. Two days later she was dead.

Excuse me just a minute, I want to see if my friend is still comfortable, and I'll make another pot of tea while I'm up ...

Back again. Oh, I see you have met my cats; this one is Astraea and the black one you are holding is Tisiphone. They are now my constant companions. Here's the tea; I've brought some biscuits too; I hope they won't spoil your evening meal. You did say you take milk, didn't you?

The first I knew about the accident was a call from Toby. It was late; I was in bed reading when the phone rang and at first I couldn't make out what he was talking about: something about a fish pond. Then I heard him say, she's dead. Eventually he settled down a bit and told me that they had just gone to bed when Molly had remembered that she had left her knitting and some other stuff on the chair in the garden where she had been sitting for most of the afternoon. He had tried to persuade her to leave it until the morning but she had insisted, saying that if it rained her knitting would be spoilt and she had put on her dressing gown and slippers and had gone across the lawn to get it.

When she didn't return he had gone to see what was keeping her. At first he couldn't see her in the garden so he shouted and got no reply. Assuming she had come back into the house he went through to the kitchen but that was all in darkness and there was no-one in either of the downstairs toilets so he took a torch and went to where she had left her things in the garden.

It was there he found her, lying face down in the fish pond.

After pulling her out he ran into the house and called an ambulance but the Police arrived first, he said. They found a big bruise on her forehead and came to the conclusion that she must have tripped over one of the poolside rocks in the dark and hit her head against another, before rolling into the water.

Naturally I went down there on the first train the following morning. I didn't tell Toby; I just went. Nobody answered when I knocked so I went in by the front door thinking that Toby might be asleep, or even under sedation, only to find him on his hands and knees in the study surrounded by papers. Every drawer in the desk was hanging open and he was pulling things out of a small filing cabinet, glancing at them and then dropping them on the floor behind him. He was quite startled by my sudden appearance and for an instant I thought he looked angry but then he burst into tears and said that he was looking for some photographs, of Molly naturally.

As you might expect the Coroner's Inquest found that Molly's death was accidental and she was buried in the little churchyard near their house. Toby was wonderful; he didn't falter; his face was like stone throughout. I asked him what he planned to do and he said that he might sell the house with all its memories and take an extended holiday overseas. I said that I was thinking of going abroad too, now that I could afford it as a result of Molly's generosity.

Despite his grief this remark must have stuck in his mind as he called on me a week or two later and asked me, in the course of conversation, if I had decided where to go.

Is the sun bothering you? I'll close that curtain; it's always very bright in this room in the late afternoon. There, that's better.

As I was saying, Toby asked if I had decided upon a destination and when I told him I was thinking of going to Machu Picchu he said that that was a place that had always attracted him. To cut a long story short, we eventually decided to go to Peru together. I know some might think that unseemly but I was sure that Molly would have approved.

We were away for about a month and it was delightful. Toby could not have been more attentive and, despite his recent loss he managed to be both charming and entertaining for the whole period. Machu Picchu was spectacular. Unfortunately I do not have a head for heights so I ensured that I kept well away from the edge where there was a big drop, and was surrounded by other tourists at all times, which must have been a little disappointing for Toby as he was always wanting me to join him in clambering up to better vantage points. We both kept very well throughout the trip. One hears dreadful stories of people getting upset stomachs from the local food but I made a point of only eating food I recognised and which I had seen cooked. Toby wanted me to be more adventurous but I knew the risks I was taking just being there.

When we returned I suggested to Toby that, as he had sold the house and had nowhere of his own, that he should come and stay with me for a little while. He was delighted with the idea and for the first two weeks we had no end of fun. He really is a most entertaining man. Unfortunately it was not to last. He began to complain of splitting headaches and pains in his joints. I said I thought it might be the result of something he picked up while we were away. He doesn't want me to call the doctor. I confessed to him that the local GP does not enjoy a particularly high reputation and is often baffled by anything more complicated than a common cold. He sleeps most of the time and seems to be losing weight rather rapidly. I try to get him to eat as often as possible; usually soups, particularly mushroom soup.

Whenever he is awake, I go in and talk to him, mainly about the happy times he had with Molly. I remind him of the way she used to care for him and how she was always ready to help, like the time he had that small problem with the bank. I am sure it brings it all back to him; he often breaks down and sobs. I always leave the room at that point because I think he probably wants to be alone with his memories. Such a waste of a handsome man. Naturally I shall take care of him as long as I am able, which won't be all that long actually as I too have my problems. My specialist tells me I can't count on more than three months. But Toby will have gone by then I'm sure and I shall have done my duty. We must all discharge our responsibilities in the way we think best, mustn't we. My responsibility is to look after Toby, I owe it to Molly and perhaps to that poor lady who fell to her death in India. We can't expect the authorities to do everything for us can we? Especially when they are hampered by so many rules and regulations. I am told that the rules of evidence are particularly onerous; thank heavens I don't have to bother about them.

My, hasn't it got dark suddenly? I expect you'll be wanting to be on your way. I've quite enjoyed our little chat. You can rest assured that you don't have to worry about Toby any more; I'll look after him. Goodnight Inspector.



Editor's note

This story won the open section of the Queen of Crime Award, an annual competition established in memory of Agatha Christie, and organised by the group of Sydney writers called Partners in Crime. *jcg* wishes to congratulate the author, who is one of our regular contributors, writing under a pseudonym.

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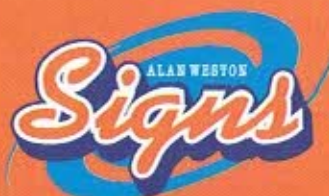
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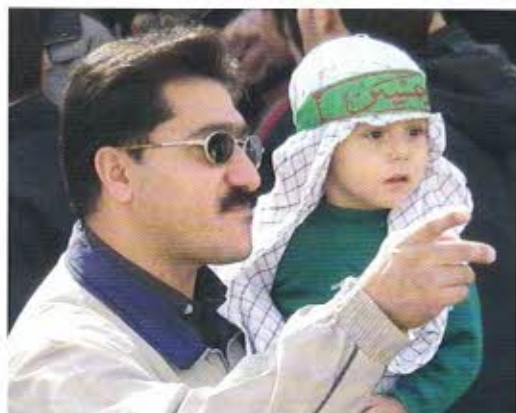
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Postcard from Persia

Can I help you? Where are you from? What is your religion? What do you think of Iran? – and with a look of concern, Are you afraid to come to Iran? These are the questions we were asked constantly throughout our five weeks travelling in Iran. Anyone who could speak a little English would offer their assistance; passers by, post office clerks, local bazzari's (traders), soldiers, housewives and students.

It took us a little while to realise that Iran is probably one of the safest countries we have ever travelled in. The endless offers of help and hospitality were always genuine, and very valuable, as this is a mysterious land full of paradoxes.

The strict dress code is mandatory; a woman can be imprisoned (and many are) for showing too much hair under her hejab, for wearing too tight an overcoat that shows her waistline, or for wearing 'sexy' boots – yet Patrick became accustomed to young girls cheerily saying hello to him and opening a conversation without shyness.

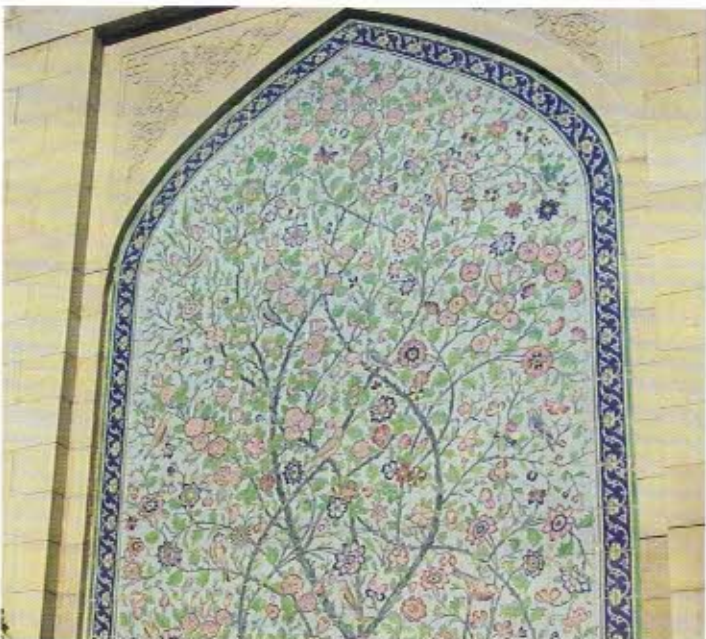
Apart from the northern part of the country, deserts dominate, ringed by very high mountains, yet all Persian art is dominated by garden motifs; the walls of the mosques, palaces and mansions are beautifully decorated with multitudes of flowers, trees, birds and animals, all amongst tendrils of fresh green leaves – visions of a verdant paradise.

The Iranian government spouts anti-western dogma, yet the people on the street could not have been more friendly, kind or curious. As a Korean ex-pat living there for three years told us; "I don't understand their mind but I love these people!"

The only dangerous thing about Iran is the traffic; a road toll of 20,000 a year makes it the worst in the world.

In our travels to Tehran, the Caspian Sea, Esfahan, Shiraz, Kish and Yazd we met new friends who made us so welcome; showing us the sights, inviting us to stay in their homes, sharing the delicious Persian cuisine, and travelling with us, all the while enjoying many long and varied conversations.

We were drawn to Iran for several reasons; the long and colourful history and magnificent antiquities, the architectural gems, the music, the lack of tourism and the extreme landscapes. None of these things disappointed, but nothing prepared us for the warmth and graciousness of her people.



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by Patrick Fitzgerald

Ventilation in all things

Rain! Rain! Rain! Great for the garden but too much rain can cause problems for your house. Let's work from the top down!

This season has seen extraordinary foliage growth which can block gutters and downpipes. Rainwater overflowing from gutters can result in pooling of water on the ground, causing erosion and problems under a suspended floor. In a brick house the overflow from gutters can run down the brickwork causing problems inside. In the worst case it can flow back inside the roof cavity. The moral is to keep gutters clear at all times – and be careful on the ladder while you are at it! There are more injuries caused by people falling off ladders than any other household accident. For a wall ladder, use the 4:1 formula – if the top of the ladder is 2.4 metres high the base should be 600mm out from the base of the wall.

Dampness and humidity can cause problems for the exterior paintwork. In shaded areas it's not unusual to get fungi or mould growing on even newly painted areas. To treat this, wash the mould/fungi off with sugar soap and warm water. If you are planning to paint outside or inside during the (rare) sunny days, make sure the painting surface has been washed down thoroughly or you will be inadvertently painting over the fungus, causing the paintwork to deteriorate very quickly and also making the painting warranty null and void! There are effective products that inhibit mould/fungus growth, available from hardware and paint shops – a worthwhile investment in the long run.

Brickwork can really only be cleaned with a gennie (high pressure spray). A gennie is also useful for cleaning decking and pavers. To get a really good clean, add a 5% solution of oxalic acid. Wipe the surfaces with a mop soaked in vinegar afterwards to inhibit any further growth of moulds.

Good ventilation is essential to keep your house free of mould. All houses are installed with vents to allow outside air to move into the house, allowing internal air circulation. If these vents become blocked or obscured, by plant growth for example, stale air will accumulate unhealthily inside the wall cavities and under the floors. Blocked or obscured vents are an ideal opportunity for white ants to enter your house.

A recirculating fan can be easily and cheaply installed under a house with a suspended floor (ie: a house on piers as opposed to a concrete slab), keeping the air circulating and drying out any moisture. A whirly bird can be installed in the roof cavity for the same purpose, with the added bonus of releasing the build up of hot air in summer. Ceiling fans help move air around inside.

Beware of heating a room without ventilation, as this will exacerbate the problems; for example, a dryer operating in a laundry without any venting. Extractor fans accessing the outside air (not just the ceiling space) are essential in all kitchens, laundries and bathrooms. Water absorbing crystals and 'Damp Rid' are useful for absorbing moisture in hard-to-ventilate places such as wardrobes and cupboards. Change them regularly – you will be amazed at how much water they absorb.

Consider the amount of moisture released from normal household activities each day: a hot shower = 1–2 litres, a load of washing = 0.5 litres, each person's daily exhalations = 1 litre, cooking = 3 litres.

So circulate and ventilate, circulate and ventilate ... and breathe



Pedalling words

by Huw Kingston

Bike culture continues to grow locally, whether it is for a dash to the shops or an all day epic ride. Thanks to council for putting up the 'Cyclists Next 4km' at either end of the village and thanks to (most of) you for respecting the riders on local roads.

Wingello Mountain Bike Tracks waiting for you!

The project to develop Wingello State Forest as a mountain biking mecca for locals and visitors alike is very much 'on track'. Local riders in conjunction with Forests NSW have built some 12km of dedicated Singletrack: narrow trails snaking through some beautiful sections of native forest.

We've also way-marked 3 different routes, all of which start and finish at the Trailhead at Wingello Forest Camp. This is reached by turning down Forest Road, near Wingello General Store. Follow this good dirt road for 2.5km to enter Wingello State Forest. Stay on the road for another 1.5km to turn left into the Forest Camp. Parking, toilets and water are all available here.

Each trail is marked by bike signs and arrows in the relevant colours. The Blue Trail (6.5km) is ideal for novices and families, being relatively flat, although there are a few short rocky climbs and descents. The Yellow Trail (19km) takes riders on a great journey from the Trailhead to the south west portion of the forest. It is suitable for reasonably fit riders able to tackle some longish climbs after fast descents into the gullies. The Red Trail (25km) is a superb loop that takes in most of the purpose built single track and journeys through some beautiful native forest and fern lined tracks. It is suitable for experienced riders.

Make sure your bike is in good working order and you take some food and drink with you. Mobile phone reception is pretty good in much of the forest.

Get in touch with me (details below) or Karen at the Ye Olde Bicycle Shoppe if you'd like further details on the trails. Also if you need a suitable bike to explore the Wingello trails then Karen has some new mountain bikes for hire.

Southern Highlands Mountain Bike Trails Map

A highly detailed 1:25,000 scale map has been produced that shows the waymarked trails in Wingello State Forest. It also shows all the tracks in Wingello and Penrose forests and all the country between Exeter and Wingello. It is the most detailed map available of the Southern Villages area and any rider, bushwalker or property owner would find it worth having. The map is available for \$12 from Ye Olde Bicycle Shoppe, Bundanoon Newsagency, Wingello General Store and local bike shops.

Finally, thanks! The 1300 riders who participated in the VAUDE Highland Fling loved the community feel of the event as well as the course. Local community groups profited by an estimated \$25,000. The inaugural Kids Fling, sponsored by Todds Real Estate, was a great success too and the Bundanoon School reports that the number of kids riding to school has doubled since the race. Only 8 months until the 08 Fling

Pedalling Words will take a break in the next issue as I will be swapping bike for skis in March/April to attempt a ski traverse of a remote, high altitude mountain range in Tibet.

Enjoy the ride!

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or contact Lisa on 4883 6379 or 0411 297 963



Vet's casebook

by Ken Davidson BVSc (Hons)

Traps for the unwary

When the emergency call came in that a Bundanoon dog had been caught in a fox-trap, I immediately thought the worst---at best a leg amputation or much worse, euthanasia.

These sorts of disasters always seem to come in threes. On the previous day I had been called to Exeter, late in the afternoon, by a couple of clients who had rushed to save a young stray dog that was run over by a passing motorist, who then failed to stop. (He obviously didn't know that there is a \$2000 fine or 6 months in gaol for a hit-and-run on any animal!) The poor little Kelpie's hind leg was completely mangled below the stifle, virtually hanging by a piece of skin. The very kind neighbours pulled him out of a puddle and kept him warm until I arrived to administer strong pain relief.

Their intelligent handling of the situation including live access to the Exeter nerve centre (AKA the Exeter Store), led to the location of the owner, who was most grateful and I took him back to hospital for some very difficult decisions.

Anyway back to the fox-trap saga...Before heading out to the Bundanoon Clinic which happened to coincide with the call, I checked on the supply of Euthanasing solution and body bags. Most animals caught in rabbit or fox traps overnight result in gangrenous injuries to the part of the limb or limbs below where the jaws of the trap hold them. With the blood supply cut off, the soft tissue of these parts simply dies and it can happen within half an hour of being trapped, causing permanent injury.

The much-loved family pet was carried onto the examination table.

Surprisingly, as both legs were caught in the trap, there were no superficial skin injuries. Both legs were lame due to deeper tissue bruising but the quick thinking of a neighbour when he heard the yelping and ran to release the victim, prevented the dreaded gangrene setting in. She should make a full recovery.

There are many rusty old traps hanging around in sheds all over Australia, remnants of the great Australian rabbit and fox plagues of former times. Often they are used as a last resort by chook owners who frequently lose their hens to fox attacks at night. There are three things to consider here:

1. The laws have changed and are quite clear - it is illegal to even possess these traps and setting them in a built up area is out of the question.
2. Unintentional catching of domestic pets is highly likely, with disastrous consequences to the victim and to the perpetrator if either or both are caught!
3. The worst case scenario could be a child getting caught while playing in the bush.

Editor's Note:

jcg has established that the trap in the story above was a legal model.

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1st Sunday & 3rd Sunday of each month
{No January Markets}

SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HALL BUNDANOON 8.30 am to 2.30 pm

Fresh fruit & vegetables – local honey – olive oil & olives
– fresh bread bagels – sour dough bread – organic coffee
– herbal teas – gourmet food quiches, tarts & chutneys (made
by Jan with love The Invisible Chef) fresh apple juice – pesto
– fresh farm eggs – organic produce proudly presented
by 'Black Cockatoo' – Billie's tomato relish won 1st prize
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Country living

by Keith McMenomy

On collecting



It sometimes strikes me how the lives of other animal species appear beautifully simple and free of trappings. Born with necessary clothing, many species don't build shelters or require tools, toys or weapons; they are truly self-sufficient. Then again, there is at least one exception. In nearby bush a Satin Bowerbird has constructed a seductive stage-set, an archway with two walls of grass flanking a dance-floor cleared and strewn with leaves and grass. His collection of all things blue adorns the bower – lolly wrappers, plastic shards, clothes pegs and pieces of nylon rope. These seem to do the trick for he regularly brings female guests down to sample our berries or bird seed.

In 1768 Captain James Cook noticed how contented indigenous Australians appeared to be without collecting the myriad 'superfluous or necessary' objects sought after and fought over by Europeans. Collecting, as a consumer pastime, has been popular in Western countries however, since the industrial revolution brought increasing affluence. Before that it was the domain of only the very wealthy. Someone will remind me, if I do not mention, that collecting as an aspect of mass consumption has caused serious global problems. So perhaps it will not be encouraged in future. Even so, collecting as hoarding can have an element of conservation.

Why do people do it? Museum collections aside, avaricious and insecure capitalists, (other than you and I), collect series of items partly out of appreciation for them and partly for status display, like our Bowerbird. I am thinking here of works by big name artists, designer products, prestige cars, unusual breeds of cattle or cats and dogs.

As tightwads my partner and I tend to collect things of beauty or utility with little or no resale value. The biggest collection on our few acres is of left-over bolts, screws, scrap timber, old tools, fencing wire and posts. I have sheds of them. But then there are the bookshelves! Whereas my wife is anti-consumerism and an avid supporter of libraries I buy books thinking I will refer back to them sometime.

Most of what we have collected over the years, as collections per se, are otherwise useless items of sentimental value. The most extensive grouping is family memorabilia: photographs, documents, books, letters and personal items, going back over centuries. In degree of rarity these range from an ancestor's 1660 Will and a Bible of 1703 to a notebook handmade from scraps in an 1840s slab hut, or a small tin containing grandad and dad's service medals and RSL badges. Just as poignant are some old, heavy bottles cut down with heated fencing wire to make jam jars in the 1930s Depression. Then there are old snapshots and obsolete family cameras used over three or more generations. All these assortments of economically insignificant ephemera are our treasure trove of tangible links with the past. My conclusion is that collecting is materialist, although largely a harmless pursuit – particularly for small-timers – and the pleasures are numerous.

PS: There is another feathered collector. We were puzzled to find golf balls in the paddock, blaming neighbours until told that crows help themselves from a nearby golf course and drop them while escaping overhead!



Climate change

by Tony Hill

The dirt on soil carbon

La Niña has at last kicked in and should make 2008 a cooler year worldwide, but still one of the 10 hottest on record. Then temperatures will probably start to rise sharply in 2009.

The climate talkfest in Bali showed some signs of the worldwide cooperation that will be required to control and adapt to climate change, but the news just gets worse as events are observed and scientific evidence analysed. Maximum allowable carbon dioxide levels seemed to be about 550 parts per million (ppm) a couple of years ago, then were reduced to 450ppm by the International Panel on Climate Change in 2007, and now influential scientists are warning that the safe level is about 350ppm which was reached in around 1990. So it seems likely that levels of greenhouse gases will need to be reduced from the present level of 380ppm and this will take an enormous amount of effort and co-operation in the brief period of time available.

One way of reducing greenhouse gases is by rehabilitating vegetation on land. Recent studies have shown that while trees and other vegetation above ground are important, they store only 20 to 30% of the carbon, and that 70 to 80% is stored in the soil. The soil is the third biggest sink of carbon, preceded only by the surface and deep layers of the ocean.

The vegetation supports enormous numbers of insects, fungi and micro organisms in the soil by producing sugars and other nutrients that are released through the roots, and these organisms in turn make minerals and nitrogen available to the plants.

When land is cleared the amount of this organic carbon in the soil dramatically reduces. Warming of the soil from being exposed to the sun plus the loss of food that would normally be provided by the plants causes the soil organisms to quickly break down the organic carbon and this releases massive amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

Australia has great potential for removing greenhouse gases by rehabilitating large areas of degraded land so the soil is shaded, protected and fed by trees, shrubs, ground layer plants and surface litter. The result is not the manicured lawns, cultivated soil and neat gardens so loved by traditional gardeners, but would be much healthier for the environment and could even make lots of money from carbon credits. If the predicted price of carbon is realized then native forests will become too valuable to log and clear.

Our government is no longer squabbling and spoiling over climate change, and only just in time. Australia has a lot to contribute to, and gain from, the huge changes in our lifestyle that will be quickly required to control and adapt to global warming.

Climate statistics

Period	Rainfall (mm)			Temperature (°C)	
	Actual	6 year Average	Pre-1984 Average	Actual	6 year Average
Oct 07	37	48	78	17.4	16.3
Nov 07	295	78	75	17.4	18.5
Dec 07	99	54	95	19.7	20.6
Year 2007	1327	736	950	15.8	15.7

A date to remember

by Garry Barnsley



Above: Hotelier David Kerrigan, wearing his Bundanoon & District kilt

For 10 years The Bundanoon Hotel has hosted A Winter's Evening with Robert Burns, a celebration of the life and works of the great Scottish poet. Always held on the last Saturday in June, this event attracts visitors from near and far to hear the story of Robert Burns in music and song presented by Bob McInnes of Robertson and his troupe. Each year Bob takes a new angle on the life of the famous poet, naturalist, humanist, revolutionary and lover.

With the demise of the Sydney Burns Society in recent years, Bundanoon now carries the banner for all Australians who continue to revere the work of Robert Burns.

Below: Fiddler Bob McInnes, of Robertson



To join the fun and toast the bard in brimful whisky drams come along on Saturday 28 June 2008. Early bookings are recommended, as it's always a popular event! Phone the Bundanoon Hotel, 4883 6005.



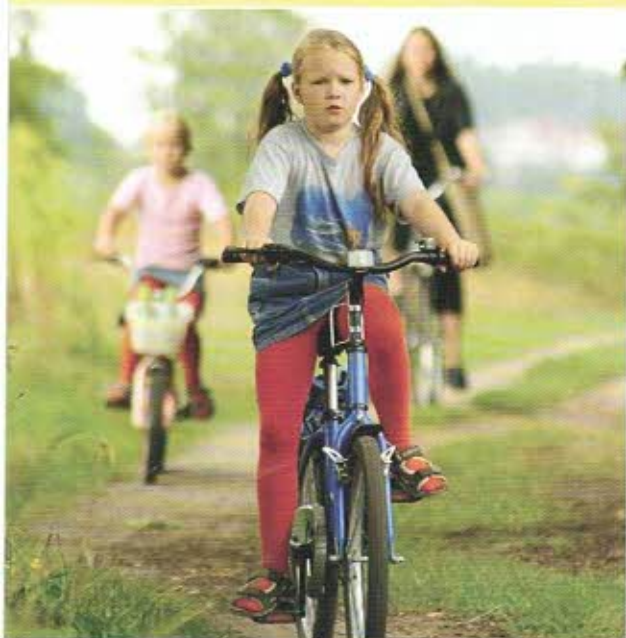
Above: Christian, Audrey and Erica Petersen at the 2007 Burns evening



Below: Meredith Heaney leads the troupe of tartan-clad Highland dancers



HOBBIES



What pastime fires you up more than anything else in the world? And what kindled that flame? In theory, a hobby is an activity whose prime motivation is a passion for the subject in its own right, with monetary gain purely an incidental consideration.

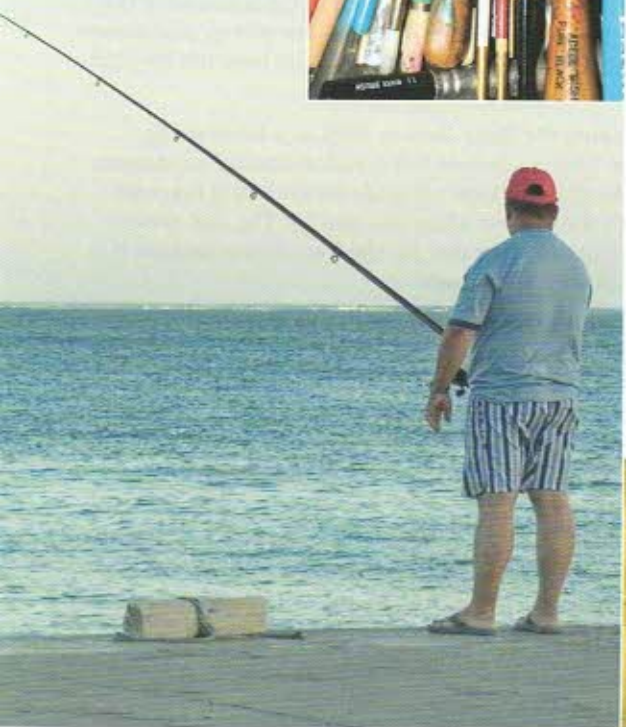
For many, hobbies and collecting are synonymous. Fifty years ago, these seemed to consist almost exclusively of stamps, coins and cigarette cards. Since then the variety of interests has grown exponentially, as has their expense and the drive to accumulate. Collectors wear a variety of labels. Stamps – philatelists; coins – numismatists; shells – conchologists; wine labels – what you will, depending on whether the labels are detached – or still glued to full bottles.

Most collections depend on expeditions of some sort – to the antique dealer for silverware and fine china, or field trips to secure more mobile or exotic specimens. Picture a 19th century clergyman collecting butterflies down a country lane, or the naturalist John McGillivray who, on an 1880s Pacific exploration voyage secured the first specimen of Queen Victoria's Birdwing – with gunshot! Moses Harris' 1766 entomological publication 'The Aurelian' has an engraved frontispiece depicting two contemporary gentlemen collecting insects in a woodland, with the biblical inscription 'The Works of the Lord are Great, Sought out of all them that have pleasure therein'. While today's interpretation would be more conservation oriented, it is easy to appreciate the great potential for human satisfaction to be found in nature.... such as bushwalking, mountain climbing, bird watching or cloud spotting. Not all collections need be strictly material. Composers Vaughan Williams and Holst tramped the English countryside collecting folk songs, thus preserving many from extinction – and one can always accumulate witticisms or wise sayings for sparkling repartee and personal development.

Steve Race, chairman of the well-known BBC panel game 'My Music' noted as his hobby 'driving into London as seldom as possible'... (we can all relate to that!). Operatic singer David Franklin, a panel member wrote 'I found it the most enjoyable work I'd ever done in my life. Work? I could scarcely believe my luck in being paid to play the fool, and having fun about music...' On reflection, most of us know someone who has turned a personal pursuit to profit – like the amateur photographer who covers a friend's wedding and discovers a lucrative commercial market, or the artist who gains a commission through exhibiting at a small local gallery.

The scope and definition of hobbies today is limited only by imagination, finances and in the case of sports, physical ability – astronomy, bassoon playing, chess, debating, electronics, fishing... the list is open ended. Like virtue, your hobby is its own reward.

Alan Hyman



From early learning to prize winning

Like all artistic endeavours, creative writing is a mix of talent, discipline and many drafts destined for the recycle bin. An early learning experience for Margaret Symonds was the correction of her school-girl prose. She remembers that she wrote 'out of which's windows' – and the correction was? – 'out of the windows of which'. Since then Margaret has crafted her writing skills over many years. She majored in English literature at university and with a Dip. Ed. took up a teaching position at PLC Croydon. After a long career at various schools and finally a number of schools in the Goulburn area she retired. Margaret wrote for classroom use and for pleasure and composed 'fun' poetry in the 1980s. When she came to live in Bundanoon she joined Ken Challenor's branch of Fellowship of Australian Writers which meets monthly. Writing exercises are a regular part of these meetings as well as presentations from other members of the group and visiting authors.

Margaret says, 'From first idea to a complete story you need to make time. Writing can be all-consuming and sometimes it's 3.00am before you can go to sleep.' She often sends stories to colleagues 'hoping for commendation but sometimes it will be castigation!' Criticism is an essential part of the story writing process for Margaret.

Composing 'fun' poetry has always been easy for her but poetry expressing emotion takes many hours of thought to write. These poems often represent personal relief and there may be as many as thirty tear-stained drafts before the last stop.

In recent years Margaret has developed enough confidence to submit her work to competitions advertised in the magazine Writers Voice. After reading some of the published entries she thought 'I can do that!' – and she did!

Her story 'A Well staged Murder' won awards in two competitions. Last year she was a finalist in the prestigious competition 'Slippery When Wet' which is open to writers from Australia and New Zealand. This story has been published in a booklet with other prize-winning entries in the 2007 competition.

PD

For enquiries about Fellowship of Australian Writers: Ph: Ken Challenor 4883 6765 Email: kch3456@bigpond.net.au



Stitching our social fabric

Joan Toms, a member of the Needles and Natter sewing group which meets on Thursdays at the Bundanoon Club, makes little fabric dolls for charities.

"The dolls made during World War II often sported the most unusual coloured arms and legs, yet the finished product looked rather wonderful," explains Joan, describing the Betty Doll, made from a paper pattern produced by Australian Laurie Cohen. The War Organization of Industry had curtailed the production of all toys and those few that were available quickly found their way on to the black market. "Cohen's notion was that women could make lovely dolls for their children using the fabric from old frocks, reserving their clothing coupons for necessities."

"During the War I started making soft toys for the Red Cross; one of these was the Betty Doll. I've always been interested in craftwork", says Joan, whose mother was a tailoress, introducing her daughters to sewing when they lived in Collarenebbri. "This was a necessity as much as a pastime because money was always scarce; however, it gave me the skills I used in later life for cloth doll making."

Joan began making the Betty Doll in 1994 as a fundraising venture for the Theresa Byrnes Friedreich's Ataxia Foundation. Theresa, the daughter of Joan's friends Lorraine and Joe, was diagnosed with the disease when she was 16. The doll proved to be a wonderful money maker for the foundation because it is made from an Australian pattern.

"When I made a Betty Doll for my great-granddaughter, using furnishing fabric, my friends began placing orders. Thus began my donations to the Melanoma Foundation at Royal Price Alfred Hospital." Despite these commitments Joan still regards doll making as a pleasurable hobby. In her well-lit sewing room she uses her fine needlework skills to embroider the dolls' faces instead of using the original screen-printed felt design, thus individualising each one.

"My Betty is a much travelled young miss. She has been from Sydney to the far north coast of NSW, to Adelaide and across the seas to the USA. Who knows what further journeys lie ahead?"

Kate Perkins



Shining light

Did you know that Bundanoon has its very own chandler? Ann Clipsham is a maker of candles and operates a cottage industry from her home in Bundanoon. She produces two ranges of candles; a liturgical range of varied sizes and shapes in a cream colour and a general purpose range made from recycled wax. Her not-for-profit business, "The Church Candlehouse" sells mostly to churches and religious organisations and makes candles to order. Many churches use candlesticks which have been donated as a memorial, or need candles to fit in front of the reredos; these are often of non-standard sizes and so Ann is able to tailor the candles to fit exactly. Her candles are particularly strong (a secret formula!) and are made so that they burn evenly across the candle's diameter, do not drip or bend over in the heat. She also makes candles for particular occasions in the church year – Paschal candles for Easter, baptismal candles, candles for Advent wreaths.

Being a chandler is a wonderfully relaxing pursuit, she says, and is a great way to be calm as well as to create something that is beautiful and brings pleasure to others for many hours. It also provides an opportunity to re-cycle otherwise discarded wax and candles and helps to make our living on this planet more sustainable.

Ann welcomes donations of old candles for recycling – any shape, colour or stage of decay. Ph 4883 6515.

PD



On butterfly wings

Some people collect stamps, others – coins. Harry Hull of Treetops Guesthouse is a lepidopterist. He has collected butterflies since he was a child in rural South Africa.

I was raised in a Kipling-like, fairytale environment, not far from the *Bushveld*. Thus, my holidays from boarding school were spent outdoors – hunting in the winter months, fishing for trout in summer and bird watching and collecting butterflies during any other spare time that we had. It was my Dad who started our collection. He had a housemaster at boarding school who would send him out into the fields to collect butterflies for his personal collection, when detention or the cane had failed to tame my old man's indomitable spirit.

Most butterflies are caught on the wing using a hand net and killed by asserting pressure on the thorax or by placing in a bottle containing ethyl acetate or ether. Each specimen is held using tweezers so that there is no damage to the fine scales and colours on their wings and set under architectural drafting paper for about 3 weeks or until they are rigid. This preserves them in timeless beauty and most of my collection dates back 40 years and more.

The species *Charaxes* is the only one not caught by hand. They frequent the tops of the tropical rain forests and need to be coaxed into a trap. I do this using a fermented mix of either banana or pineapple on which they become intoxicated before flying into the trap.

Butterflies have a short lifespan of one to two weeks, forming part of the food chain for birds and insect eating reptiles. I collect four perfect specimens of each species, male and female and release the rest.

If you want more butterflies in your garden, plant the known food plants and those flowers that attract these beautiful insects. Remember to avoid using insecticides in your garden – sadly you may be killing a lot more of nature's wonders than just the aphids on your roses.

Oh, and call me if they become problematic in their numbers!

PD

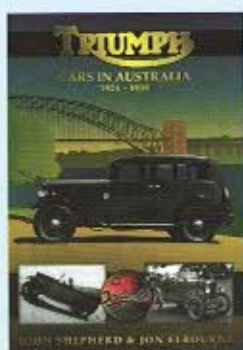
John Shepherd's triumphs

John Shepherd is a 'restoration man'. As you will see, he restores vintage cars to perfection.... and he also helps to restore nature as a member of both the Currabunda Wetland Group and the Morton National Park Volunteers. His initial interest in Eucalypts (which soon broadened to cover all native plants) provided a solid basis for his activities in bush care where he is every bit as competent in weed removal and track clearance as he is in vehicle refurbishing. His background as a geologist and geotechnical engineer further qualified him to deliver a lecture to the Garden Club -and publish an article in a previous issue of JCG - on the geology of the Bundanoon area. In a very real sense, John has had many 'triumphs' in his career.

Alan Hyman



John Shepherd and his post-vintage Triumph Gloria with Sheila Micholson at the Currabunda Wetland in Bundanoon



John's recently published book is a love story. Written with co-author Jon Elbourne it reflects their passion for Triumph cars. 'The main aim of the book is to outline salient aspects of the Triumph Motor company's sales distribution, local body builders and road prowess of the cars placing them into the Australian motoring scene before the Second World War. It also looks at what happened to the cars in more recent times... covering the period 1924 to 1939 when the last cars were probably imported into Australia'.

The history of this small manufacturing company is interesting because their total output in 17-18 years was only 35,000. By comparison Morris sometimes reached that number in a year. Throughout the early phases of production most cars were imported as rolling chassis which resulted in opportunities for the local body building industry. The book documents the range of models available in Australia and there are many illustrations which will bring back memories for all car enthusiasts.

Club events, both sporting and social make good reading and the dedication to restoration of these elegant motor cars by their present owners is testament to their special place in Australian motoring history.

Flash of inspiration

Bundanoon newcomer, Peter Wearing Smith, doesn't fit the stereotype of the geeky inventor. Instead, the tall, urbane Peter comes across as exactly what he is; a '60+' businessman with wide international experience.

For over 20 years, Peter lived in Hong Kong, first as a journalist and publisher, then in international motor racing. It was racing that led to his invention of the patented flashID Emergency Identification System.



"In over half a century of involvement in motor sport I've seen safety improve in leaps and bounds," explains Peter. "In the first 20 years more than 45 leading drivers were killed, along with many more at lower levels. Today, a fatality in the sport is rare, especially at the top echelons."

While safer cars and tracks have played their part, probably the most significant contribution has been prompt and accurate emergency medical response due to the immediate availability of comprehensive medical information on drivers and other personnel."

"Talking to doctors and other emergency medical people I found that correct identification and accurate medical information can often make the difference between life and death in day-to-day emergencies too."

In 2003 Peter bought a USB flash key during a visit to China.



He was wondering what to do with it when he concluded that a simple, easily portable device such as this would be ideal for storing identification and medical information relating to the holder. The flashID concept was born, then developed in consultation with Police and other emergency services.

"It's so simple," enthuses Peter, "The identification data is carried in a Microsoft Word document which comes pre-loaded on the device, and which is then completed by the owner. This document is easily completed, has provision for a photograph and includes instructions to guard against tampering. It can be plugged into any Windows computer in a hospital emergency department and all the key data is immediately available."

A professor from the medical school at Melbourne's Monash University described it as a 21st century version of the old emergency bracelet. And Peter added, "But there's lots more information, yet there's no database, so the owner of the device owns and controls the information. And, at a recommended retail price of just \$49.50 it's also easily affordable."

See www.flashid.org for more information.

Lyn Montgomery

Soundtrack for life

Do you remember when television changed from black and white to colour back in 1975? What an impact!

Twelve years earlier, a greater sense of change burst upon my life with even greater intensity – The Beatles were upon us!

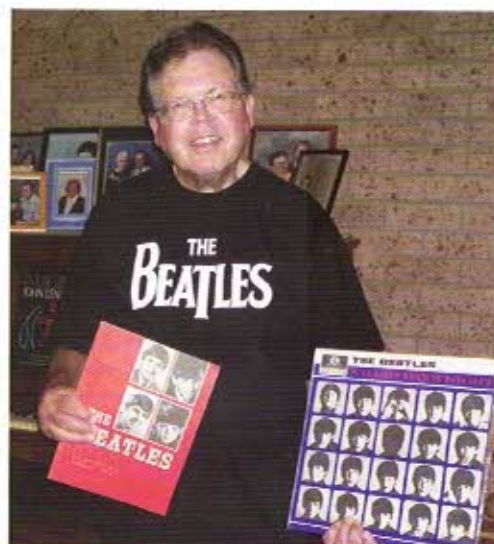
Growing up in the 50s in Sydney was good: security, family, food, holidays – but it was a very stereotypical existence and was somewhat bland, ordinary, and to a degree, comfortably predictable. Despite hearing recordings of the wild men of Rock and Roll at fairgrounds around Ettalong, (think Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis, the early Elvis), by the time I became really aware of music in the early 60s, Little Richard had found religion, Jerry Lee was marrying his 13 year old cousin, Chuck Berry was in gaol and Elvis was in the army. The boring balladeers had taken over – Bobby Rydell, Pat Boone, Frankie Avalon and the like. Life seemed pretty pale. Thank goodness for Johnny O'Keefe!

Then, 'Wham!' the Beatles hit the stage in 1963 and for so many of my generation, life was never the same again. The sound was fresh and exciting. A new look, a sense that anything was possible! I was hooked at age 11 and started collecting anything to do with the Beatles. Money was tight in those days, so records came as birthday and Christmas gifts. My first Beatles record was the 'Twist and Shout' EP so it was a very special moment when I had saved enough pocket money to buy my first LP, the Beatles third album, 'A Hard Days Night'. Pre-purchase, I used to dream of the cover. I've been collecting their music, both group and individual ever since.

Some of the highlights for me over the years were seeing them perform 'Hey Jude' on the David Frost TV show in 1968, awaiting the release and buying 'Sgt. Pepper', 'The White Album' and 'Abbey Road'. Then came Paul McCartney and Wings live at the Hordern Pavilion in Sydney in 1975! Major lowlights are just as memorable, especially not being allowed to see the Beatles live at the Stadium in 1964. Mum felt I was too young at 12, but my

14 year old brother was allowed to go – and he was a Rolling Stones fan! To this day I have the souvenir program from that concert. Also the murder of John Lennon in 1980 and the more recent death of George Harrison in 2001 are sadly remembered events.

The most embarrassing memory associated with my passion was when my mum and dad went to a dress-up 'Beatles night' at a local club in 1965. My father put



on a plastic Beatles wig, carried a stringless guitar and made mock Beatle sounds, (Yeah, Yeah, Yeahs), as he walked around our house practising his 'act'. Meanwhile, Mum accompanied him with hair shaking, high pitched screams and 'wooo woos.' Gross!

My favourite Beatles' album or song? Well that's 'Sophie's Choice' isn't it? How do you decide which is your favourite child when you love them all equally?

My collection today includes posters, clothing, videos, records, jigsaws, towels, DVDs, CDs and cassettes. The music seems as fresh to me now as it did way back then. I love the way it developed from very simple love/pop songs to some of the most hauntingly beautiful and creative music on earth. Music that is still relevant today. Music that is being re-released and re-presented over and over! And then there are themes used in films like 'Across the Universe' or soundtracks from the films 'Cirque du Soleil.' and 'I Am Sam'.

This is timeless music from a unique collaboration of creative talent who were in the right place at the right time. And they were musicians who received no formal training and couldn't even read music! It's a cliché, but the Beatles have quite simply provided the soundtrack to my life.

Ross Armfield



David Gunn – crafting heirlooms

Kate Perkins visited David Gunn at home and writes...

...I could happily eat my dinner on David Gunn's workbench, its recycled timbers buffed and polished to a beautiful honey colour. His own dining table, English oak with American oak chairs, takes pride of place in David and Kerry's home. These were some of the pieces made by him at the Sturt School for Wood where David was one of 11 graduates who completed the year-long course in 2007. The sole female put her day job on hold – she drives an enormous truck in the Argyle diamond mines!

As traditional timbers become harder to get, sustainable timbers are now imported from New Guinea, among other places, and are being used more widely. Lighter, blond wood was featured in the end of year exhibition at the gallery.

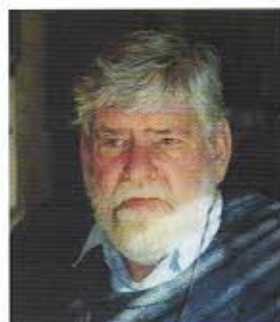
Originally from Wallsend-on-Tyne, David, an engineer in the merchant navy, came to Australia in 1968 and met his wife Kerry who worked for a shipping company. His father and grandfather had given him an interest in making things and David had completed several guild courses in the UK. His career at sea took him to Japan many times in the early 1960s, where he learnt the language, became imbued in the culture before westernisation, and acquired tools that he uses today. These are in addition to tools that he and his fellow students made at Sturt at the commencement of their course – plane, spokeshave, chisel and mallet.

David 'discovered' Bundanoon while completing one of several summer schools in the Highlands when still living in Sydney. Extending his own house cemented his interest and he applied to do the long course and got in on a last-minute cancellation. The students learn a particular skill and then have to complete a project incorporating that technique. Plans for the furniture are drawn, drafted to scale and models made before each piece is started. This means that several assignments may overlap in the race to complete a number of works by the end of the year. The pieces on show then must be ample reward for the time spent and craftsmanship honed.

While the family car languishes on the lawn, the garage-cum-workshop houses a treasure trove of hand-crafted pieces in the making, destined for family and friends – pieces that will be handed down with pride in years to come.



Howard Nicholson An incorrigible collector



Howard, dressed in his school uniform, used to go to Berkelouw Bookshop when it was in King Street in Sydney, and convinced staff that it was safe to let this primary school boy browse and buy. Tyrrels in Crows Nest was another favourite early haunt.

Almost every room in our home is full of books (not the bathroom!) but especially the library with walls covered in books and barely room on the floor to make your way through. I think there's a personality that goes with collecting – a certain persistence, and no regard for such unimportant matters as to whether there's still room on the book shelves. A drive would always encompass any secondhand bookshop as well as nurseries and gardens. Howard had the patience to trawl along the shelves appraising often faded book spines, and the in depth knowledge to know what to buy. A particular passion was books on plant hunters, and he built up an impressive collection. In later years the internet became a potent tool, and Howard who I once thought would never even sit at a computer was a whiz at finding books this way. He started a book business, Cabbage Tree Books, which I'm carrying on, selling a portion of his vast collection, primarily books on plants and food and natural history.

There was a long period of collecting seed and bulbs, rare and wonderful things, and he was always on the lookout for rare and unusual fruit and vegetable plants. His membership of the Royal Horticultural Society, the Scottish Rock Garden Club and the Alpine Garden Society gave him access to a wealth of seeds. Through his passion and persistence in accessing plants, he has given joy to many nursery customers who've found plants they had given up all hope of possessing.

Howard collected nursery catalogues, not just the pretty ones but lists of plants. Boxes of them! And he kept the correspondence pertaining to orders. At times I could only see the dust, but they're now in the Caroline Simpson Library and Research Collection, and are a social history of 20 years of plants and nurseries, telling of changing fashions in plants, nurseries that no longer exist, comments on the drought...

Howard has left me a wonderful legacy in his collection of recipes. There are the ones in the hundreds of cookbooks and the newspaper clippings, but most important are the handwritten books of his own recipes, developed over time: details of making Calabrian salami and pickling olives, of making yoghurt, slow cooking pork belly and baking a whole Tasmanian salmon. These recipes, like his book collection, give an insight into the mind and character of this incorrigible collector, Howard. For me,

the recipes are a reference for the future, and a collection of memories of delicious convivial meals shared together and with friends.

Trisha Arbib



Magic carpets

At 330 Argyle Street Moss Vale there is a rug shop in the old tradition. Enhanced by beautiful hanging lamps and collectibles, supplied by Maartyn Bronson of Burrawang, this is a veritable Aladdin's cave. John and Marion Combe began trading in 1995 after collecting tribal and village rugs for many years and were first in business at Blackheath.

Their interest in old pieces was stimulated through their friendship with well-known Sydney collector Dennis Croneen during the 1960s and 70s. When John was living in London from 1968 until 1970 his weekends were spent working at Magda Shapiro's famous gallery. Through this experience he learnt more about the provenance of old handmade rugs from the then Persia, Turkey, Afghanistan and other areas. Magda's gallery on the corner of Cork and New Bond streets was a collectors' paradise.

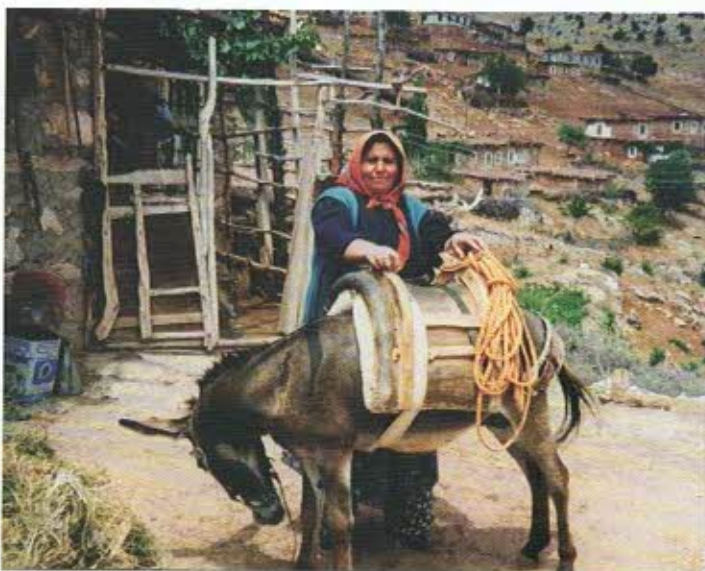
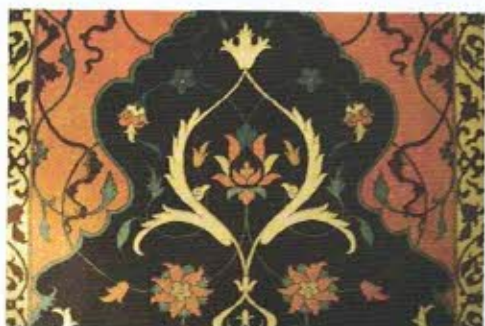
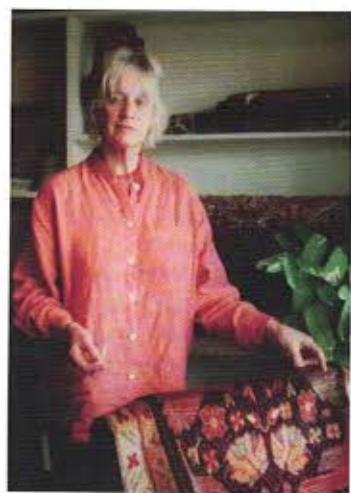
During the 1980s, when there was an embargo on imports from Iran, there were still substantial numbers of beautiful old pieces available in London and these attracted many American and Continental buyers.

When John and Marion travelled to Turkey in 1995 they had an introduction through a journalist friend to Mehmet Ucar at Konya, home of the Whirling Dervishes in Anatolia. A master dyer himself, Mehmet trades in old rugs and beautiful flat weaves that come from villages in the Taurus Mountains where old dyeing techniques are still used. These natural dyes are made from plants such as madder root, walnut husks, flax and onion skins.

The quality of hand made rugs with their glowing colours and rich textures is determined by the quality of the wool, the clarity of design and the authenticity of the dyeing process. Handwashed wool retains the natural lanolin and ensures the life and lustre of a rug. Many designs in village and tribal rugs and carpets are today no longer woven as young weavers find jobs in the pistachio orchards, the oil fields or in the world of technology.

John and Marion's passion for collecting has developed into a boutique business and, since forming Silkwood Trading Company, they have continued to import village and tribal rugs from their contacts in Iran and Turkey and to source special pieces for individual clients.

Pam Davies



Little champions



There is a famous quote by American author Robert Fulghum declaring that everything you need to know you learn in kindergarten.

But if you talk to the teachers at Bundanoon Public School, they'll tell you that students can find most life skills on the school sports field – "Try your best, the sun will come up tomorrow when you miss a goal, practice brings improvement, you can achieve a personal best when you come last, team mates play better if you are nice to them, people are more important than winning and preparation is important... always check you have your shorts on under your tracksuit!"

"Sport at Bundanoon Public starts with group activities in Kindergarten and Stage 1," explains Principal Robyn Versluis. "The children enjoy hitting balls off tees, hopping in and out hoops, and throwing and catching, before moving on to modified games such as t-ball. Their teachers talk of fundamental movement skills, core stability, crossing midlines and left/right alternation but the children just know that sport is FUN!"

Stage 2 and 3 play traditional games such as cricket, soccer and softball but variations like clock cricket are popular too. "Our senior students also learn why exercise is important for good



health and how to take their pulse rate and train effectively and safely. Stage 3 provides the opportunity to try out for district teams," says Robyn.

Considering that Bundanoon is a relatively small school in the Highlands, a good number of students reached representative level in 2007. Close to twenty students represented the Wingecarribee District in hockey, soccer, athletics, cross country or swimming last year.

Robyn believes the special feature of the Bundanoon Public School sports program is the involvement of the local community. "During terms 1 and 4 the student choose between croquet, swimming, tennis or lawn bowls and receive expert instruction and encouragement from members of our local sports clubs," she said. "They have fun, gain skills and fitness and also learn that sport is not limited to the school sports field or restricted by age or gender. Sport is for everyone."

Bundanoon students also enjoy sports lessons from local fitness instructor Liz Dawson who takes them through a variety of aerobic and co-operative activities and introduces them to tai chi and dance. This follows the excellent work of gymnastics instructor Victor Blinman who takes the children

through balance beam, high bar and mini tramp work. They are also fortunate to receive lessons from other highly qualified instructors in athletics, soccer, league and union.

"Sport also allows our students to meet children from other schools through participation in the Wingecarribee PSSA gala days in soccer and touch," Robyn said. "No experience is needed to join in these events, this is L plate sport and Bundanoon school usually enters 7 to 8 junior and senior teams such as the Bundy Belles, Bundy Buddies and Bundy Brumbies who start the day as novices and end up playing like pros."

Sports carnivals are always highlights of a school calendar. High levels of participation and parent and community support mark these events. The availability of a local swimming pool and the influence of the Bundanoon swimming Club were seen in 2007 when Bundanoon school finished third in the district swimming championships, defeating many bigger schools.

2008 is an Olympic Year but you don't need to search the national papers for great sporting results, just follow the Bundanoon Public School calendar and you will share in many great achievements.

Jenny Walker

History books

history

The appealing sight of The Old Library building on the corner of Railway Avenue and William Street set me wondering about library services in Bundanoon. Nowadays they appear in the shape of the jolly Mobile Library twice a month for two hours, but things were different thirty years ago.

Until 1977 Bundanoon readers made do with a Library Deposit Station, a small collection of books, changed periodically, located in locked cupboards in the Supper Room of the Soldiers' Memorial Hall, in the charge of Bundanoon Library Assistant, Mrs Beryl Willard, who for a small honorarium made them available for loan on two afternoons each week. By May 1977 the inadequacies of this arrangement had made headlines in the local press and the Wingecarribee Shire Council was impelled to act.

Mrs Willard had to share the space with other community groups, including the Blood Bank, and drag heavy tables away from the cupboards to open them. Restricted hours meant fewer people were using the service. The case was made for establishing a proper branch library in Bundanoon.

Council lighted on Dan's Electrical Store, owned by Bundanoon's first electrician, the esteemed Tony Lopes, who had retired and leased his two-room shop, where Ken Davidson's Veterinary Rooms are now. In a rush of enthusiasm Council prepared the premises, with shelving painted in full-gloss green ginger, the wooden floors polished and estapoled, Kashmir fawn curtains hung, a digital clock mounted and professional signwriting on the window, announcing extended opening hours.

The grand opening on Monday 11 July 1977 coincided with the start of Children's Book Week, and a Monster Making Competition was organised for children. They had to decorate pieces of fabric which were later sewn into some kind of giant cushion used in the Library. Later that year a Christmas hamper of donated delicacies was raffled and \$74.90 raised for buying more library books. Business was booming and Mrs Willard received a pay rise, still only \$15 for ten hours' work! She resigned in May 1978 and Mrs M. Hill was appointed on the same honorary basis.

Late in 1981 the issue of the lease came up because the property had passed to Mr Lopes' estate after his death in 1978, and the rent was to be doubled or the property sold. Council agreed to pay the increased rent while it considered purchasing the property, proposing to set aside up to \$40,000 for both shops, the Library and the adjoining delicatessen, now Todds Real Estate.

Suddenly it was 1982, the era of razor gangs, and the proposal was scotched. By April that year the threatened Bookmobile was operating six hours a fortnight. The glory days of Bundanoon Branch Library were over. And what of The Old Library? That is another story.

Liz Walker, Bundanoon History Group

Bundanoon library opening



WINGECARRIBEE Shire President Cr Geoff Larsen officially opened the new premises of the Bundanoon Library on Monday. He is seen with Crs R. Tebutt, W. Engelbach, J. Cox and R. Nichols and librarian Mrs Beryl Willard. There are 800 books and magazines and a small reference library for borrowers to select from.

Berrima District Post, 15 July 1977.
Reproduced courtesy Southern Highland News

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garden club
by Kane York

Friendship through gardens

We welcome Autumn this month – a beautiful season in the Highlands. A lot has happened in the Garden Club since our Spring column.

Our guest speakers have told us about Bearded Iris, Propagation and Geraniums. Also, Robert Henderson, whose beautiful garden in Penrose we visited in 2006, gave us an interesting talk about Soil – which he calls “the engine room” of our gardens.

A highlight in 2007 was our bus trip in October for an overnight stay in the Blue Mountains. Our committee contacted two garden clubs in that area – Katoomba and Wentworth Falls. They both arranged for us to visit some of their members’ private gardens. Three gardens were opened in Katoomba for our guided tours. One of these, Clover Hill, also had a small nursery which has been featured in *Your Garden* magazine. At one garden there was a small art exhibition and afternoon tea was provided. On the second day, we saw three gardens in Wentworth Falls. We all had a great time meeting the garden owners and enjoying their hospitality. Our thanks go to committee members Geraldine and Joan for arranging such a successful trip. We have invited the clubs we visited to organise a trip to Bundanoon sometime soon. This is “Friendship through Gardens” in action.

In place of our meeting in December, the club had a Christmas luncheon. In 2007 we held it at the Southern Highlands Winery in Sutton Forest. With more than 70 of our club attending, it was a good day – good food – good fellowship – an early Christmas party!

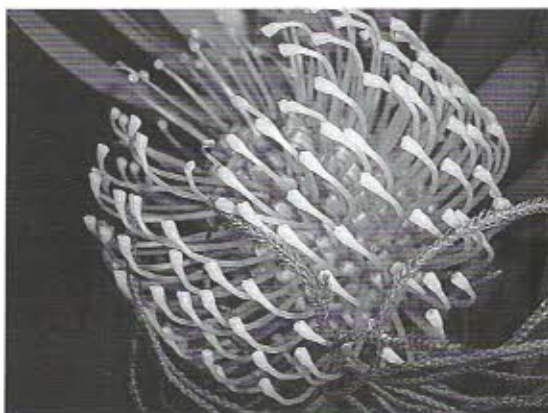
Everyone’s gardens are romping away, looking happy and healthy after so much rain. Nancy Kingsbury Park, which the garden club renovated some years ago, clearly shows us the benefits of better weather, our pruning, feeding and mulching!

The garden club is now in full swing for 2008. New members are always welcome at monthly meetings. Come first as a visitor if you wish – the first Thursday of each month – 9.30 am in the Memorial Hall in time to visit our library and the Trade Table. The meeting begins at 10, we have a tea break then feature a guest speaker at about 11 am.

We are a “friendly” club – come and see for yourself. I look forward to meeting you. Please phone me if you want more information.

Remember: 1st Thursday of the month, Bundanoon Memorial Hall, 9.30 for 10.00am.

Contact: President, Kane York 4883 6741.



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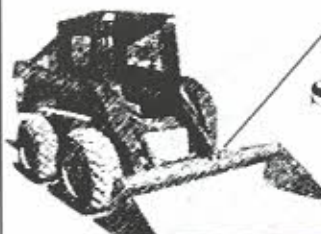
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Winterfest July 2008

Watch for posters and flyers announcing the calendar of events for Winterfest 2008. It begins with the opening ceremony in the main street on Friday 4 July at 5pm. There will be events every weekend in July – concerts, cabaret, jazz and blues, exhibitions, bike rides, dinners, markets and a photo competition.



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Increase your word power...

The *Washington Post's* Style Invitational asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition. Here are the 2003 winners:

Intoxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.

Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.

Bozone: The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.

Foreplop: Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid.

Cashstration: The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period.

Giraffiti: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Inoculatte: Take coffee intravenously when you're running late.

Hipatitis: Terminal coolness.

Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease. (This one got extra credit.)

Karmageddon: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

Decafalon: The gruelling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.

Glibido: All talk and no action.

Dopeler effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

Arachnoleptic fit: The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.

Beelzebug: Satan in the form of a mosquito that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.

Caterpallor: The color you turn after finding half a grub in the fruit you're eating.

And the pick of the literature...

Ignoramus: A person who's both stupid and an asshole.



Through Ross-coloured glasses

by Ross Armfield

For those amongst us who still don't feel that we humans are just another 'animal', I would like to discuss just one characteristic which may change their minds.

I refer to our herding instinct. Years ago, for about four annual Christmas holidays in a row, we travelled to a relatively isolated South Coast beachside camping ground.

The only 'facilities' were a water tank, a pile of firewood and a pit toilet set in what regularly turned into a quagmire. Despite plenty of beautiful ocean-view sites, the vast majority of campers invariably chose to cluster around the toilet, water and wood to save a five minute walk from the more scenic spots. No sooner had one set of campers pitched tent near the 'loo', than they would be joined by a colony of like-minded visitors, all keen to be as close as possible to each other and to all the camping ground had to offer, (if you ignored the surf, sand, and spectacular natural vistas, that is).

Soon this 'suburb' in the middle of the cleared section of the camping ground was a crowded, smelly, noisy, wet, littered replica of the domestic domains that they had travelled for hours to escape from. The pristine sites were virtually untouched. Why?

This memory was re-kindled for me last week when I went to the cinema, at a deliberately chosen session that I thought would include as few of my fellow creatures as possible. Arriving early, I chose my favourite seat and eagerly awaited the film. I was right; only ten other people attended the screening. The trouble was, they all 'herded' in a tight circle, reminiscent of a noose, right around me, when they had the whole cinema to choose from. Along with them came the obligatory chat, crinkling lolly bags and slurping of drinks. WHY?

I guess I'll just have to put it all down to 'animal magnetism'! Would you agree?

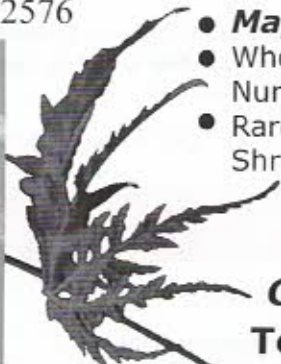


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Donna Hescott, on duty and Mick Dietz, off duty...

Beatnix concert at Sylvan Glen

Photos courtesy Your Times



Daisy Claridge, printmaker and Miranda Lean, sculptor at their exhibition in the Moss Vale Civic Centre

Exhibition opening

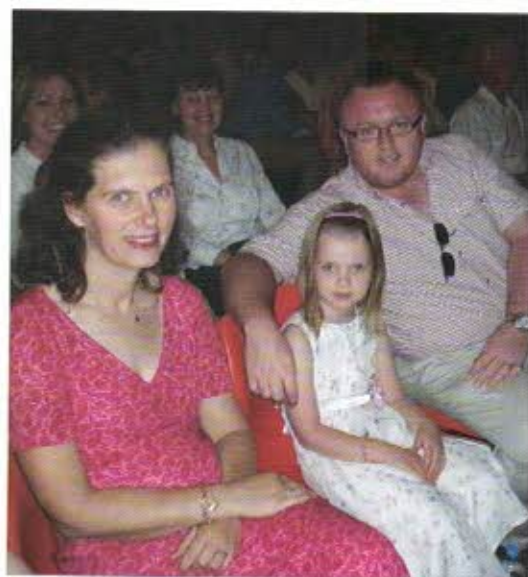


Barbara Armfield and Jessica Lean

Jonah and the Wailers concert



Left: Children from Bundanoon and Wingello eagerly anticipate the start of the concert



Right:
Susannah,
Isabella and
Aleks Pinter

Howard Nicholson, an appreciation

jcg wishes to pay tribute to Howard Nicholson of Bundanoon Village Nursery and this edition is the first available opportunity since his death. He was very well known throughout the literary world and in the world of plant growers. We asked Trisha Arbib, who knew him best, to reflect on his life.

A farmer, a literary agent, a professional cook, a bookseller and a nurseryman, Howard led more than one life in his lifetime. Howard and I moved to Bundanoon on Wattle Day 1980. He'd had emphysema for some years and died in early November 2007. He was almost 71 years old.

Howard was a large man in every way, a complex man. A perhaps gruff exterior to those who didn't know him, but the kindest, most generous, most interesting man I've known.

I think having grown up both on a farm at Bombala and at boarding school in Sydney fed his complexity. As an adult, he both farmed cattle with his brother Murray in Bombala and lived in the very heart of Sydney before moving to Bundanoon.

He spoke his mind, lived life his own way, enjoyed his food and wine and good company. Many describe him as a 'character', a bit larger than life. Very down to earth, he didn't talk about his degree in German and philosophy.

Howard had a huge collection of books, primarily on food (not just cookbooks) and plants, which led to our book business, Cabbage Tree Books. Howard was a wonderful cook but his great interest and love of food wasn't just in preparing it and eating it. He also read about food, researching its history and discovering or growing new ingredients. Extremely generous of his time and information, he was always learning and passing on his knowledge to friends and nursery customers. For years we ran classes at the nursery on making preserves and growing and cooking with herbs – twelve students around the big kitchen table and in the nursery garden.

Important in his life was a group trip to China looking at plants in the wild and collecting seed. We have him to thank for importing Chinese artichokes to Australia.

He appeared three times on ABC TV's Gardening Australia – as a book and plant collector and as a maker of preserves. He was a distinctive presence with his bushy beard and measured voice. Howard tested recipes for my mother's Terrace Times cookbooks and this often led to strange tasting sessions with say, four soups and five desserts. He wrote stories on rare fruit for the Australian Garden History Society and other publications, demonstrated cooking vegetables at Scarlett's store in Burrawang and made and sold delicious preserves under the name "Aunty Howard". The label featured a bearded gentleman in mobcap and skirt stirring a cauldron of jam.

My brother Michael who now lives in America put it well. Michael's quintessential memory is that of Howard and his bushy beard ensconced at one end of the great table in the kitchen of the nursery, a glass of red wine in his hand, rejoicing in the triangle defined by the gardens, good food, and the books down the hall. The overall memory is of lively opinions forcefully expressed, with an Aussie turn of phrase.



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True locals

by Vicki Streatfeild

Dorothy Quigg could certainly tell you a few things about Bundanoon in the 50s. Arriving from Exeter in 1955, she and her late husband Victor sent all eight of their children to the Bundanoon Primary School.

"Victor came to work for Alister Greason on his farm at Ellsmore Road, and we moved to a property known as 'Springfield' on Ferndale Road from where all the kids walked 5km to school every day," says Dot.

Memorable were the Country and Western concerts held once a month in the Memorial Hall. "Gee they were good nights. Performers would come from all around the district, the Murrays and the Rundles (both local families still) played a big part in the entertaining and organizing. Who could forget Barry (Bluey) Shipway who hosted the great bingo nights in the hall for the P & C."

Dot loved the Boronia Festival held in those days. "The pretty floats would parade in the street and stalls would be set up in the hall. There were chain saw competitions behind the railway station and gymkhanas on the oval."

What does Dot dislike about the Bundanoon of today? "I don't like all the new subdivisions, I think we have lost that small village closeness".

The best thing to happen to Bundanoon, she says, was the building of the swimming pool by the local people themselves. Her late husband Vic dug the drainage by hand, and the local GP Dr Cuthbert would bring down a bottle of cold beer to whet his whistle. "Vic never knocked it back.....only down!"

There were two police officers in town and they were very involved in the community. If any of the local kids misbehaved more than once, their fathers would get a visit. "This used to frighten the living daylights out of them," says Dot.

"I remember a group of Year 12 local lads who had just finished their exams and celebrated by removing all the 'silent cops' around the town." At night the odd tent was moved in the camping ground at Killarney while the occupants were sleeping. "I can't imagine what the campers thought when they woke to find their tent a few yards away?" Dot says.

Dot's children used to catch eels in the creeks, go ferreting and had their own cricket pitch marked on the road outside their house in Ebury Street. "They were a great help to their dad on the farm and as they got older they would work at one of the many guesthouses or help out at the riding schools."

Dorothy has been an elder of the Methodist/Uniting Church for 30 years, cooked for Meals on Wheels, is a lifetime member of the Bundanoon Public School P&C and was a Girl Guide leader. She was also a member of the local Scouts committee and the bushfire auxiliary, is still a volunteer at Linkside and the list goes on!

Not a bad effort when you have eight kids, 28 grandchildren and 24 great grand children.



CWA report

by Marie Reid

The CWA in Bundanoon finished 2007 with a lovely Christmas lunch in our rooms which were beautifully decorated for the occasion. We had our husbands and friends to share with us the very happy atmosphere and fine food. Our treasurer, Margaret McNulty and her husband Brian were also celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary and Brian did not stop smiling all afternoon.

Under the guidance of our very hard working President Kath Smith we had a successful year raising funds for drought relief, and our Association was proud to have been given the responsibility by the Government to distribute the funds which had been given by them, together with all the funds which the Branches had raised. We in Bundanoon had sent \$1000 to this fund and we also sent an amount of \$350 to Bogan Gate Branch (our twin) to enable their members to have a really special function.

The New Year for us began with a Friendship morning tea to which we invited friends and new-comers to Bundanoon. We arranged the morning tea around a display of 'Art Deco' items brought along by members who each spoke about their collection, which was indeed most interesting.

One of our visitors had brought along a collection of the most beautiful hand-knitted tea cosies - all her own designs and really too lovely to be used! Some of our members who attend our Craft group on the last Thursday of the month at 10.30 am in our rooms could be inspired to create similar works of art! Any readers of this report who feel they would be interested to share this morning (or would just like a chat and some company) will be made most welcome.

On March 17 we have once more arranged for the Illawarra Knitters to come and parade their fine knitted garments which they have made with winter in mind. It is timed for 10.30 at the Bundanoon Club with morning tea so do come and enjoy a happy morning.

Marie Reid, Publicity Officer

Ph 4883 6526

Rain

And then came rain,
How many days had it been?
Too many, too many to count.
At first the drops were small,
So light and fine they were hardly there at all
Then larger, and larger yet
Until a mighty deluge fell
Down the dry creek beds, rushing into dams.
The gutters overflowing, streaming into tanks too small to catch
the bounty tumbling down.
The farmers laughed and cried, they stood there in the wet
Mud to their knees where yesterday was dust.
And still it came, for days and days and days,
But none complained, not even when their sheep were trapped.
They pulled them out and set them right again.
And gradually the torrent eased, the sun appeared above,
The buds burst forth, new leaves upon the trees,
The grass pushed through the earth, and there was feed for all.
The world was born anew.

Lynn Montgomery

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NEW ESTATE

Making a difference

community

John Dorman, a well-known Bundanoon resident, worked for many years as a District Officer in the Department of Child Welfare (now DoCS). He recently received this letter from a woman who had fostered six State Wards. He has obtained the author's permission to publish it here, as he feels it demonstrates the commitment she had to the well-being of her foster children and the endurance needed to be a foster parent.

Hi there John and Rona,

I've been deciding just how to get in touch with you. Telephone – mobile telephone – email etc etc. Finally, the old fashioned way prevailed – so here you are – a letter delivered by "The Postie".

A mutual friend told me that Rona has been ill and that you are going through a difficult time right now. Anyhow, I felt that I'd like to get in touch – for old time's sake. You certainly helped me many times during my child rearing years.

One special piece of advice you gave me John has certainly been exactly as you said.

I think it was at a time when one of the boys was stealing everything that wasn't nailed down. Not sure which one it was – as most of them (including the one I made myself) seemed to have a go at it. Anyhow I was pretty upset about it at the time. You told me then that all I could do was to teach them by example – then each child would reach a crossroad – deciding to go either the wrong path or the right way. You also said that even if they chose the wrong path – eventually most of them will come back. I've thought of you so many times John – just hoping your words would come true. Most of the boys took the wrong path, for various lengths of time, over the years. Not only should I have had a special seat reserved for me at the Newcastle Courthouse, as you once jokingly said, but I think I've visited most gaols within a day's travel from Newcastle – once both Ken and Steven were in Cessnock together – but that's history now – and you were right – they have all come back to the right path. Some of them drink more than they should which is a shame – but they are all loving and caring "kids" and I've never had reason to reprimand any one of them for being disrespectful around me, and not all Mums could say that.

Kenny's partner died a few months ago – he'd been with her for 25 years and they had one son, Shaun who is 21 now with two sons of his own.

Steven is a real worker – he is not happy unless he has a job. He's presently working as a kitchen hand in Sydney. He doesn't get a big wage but for a little "slow learner", he does pretty well. Several weeks ago he rang to tell me all about his new laptop computer – it's amazing how good he is with computers

– and yesterday he rang to tell me all about his new super-duper mobile phone. It does everything but cook his dinner for him by the sound of it. I find all these things very confusing – but Steven assures me that he will show me how to use them both when he comes up at Christmas time. (I can hardly wait.)

Francey lives over at Gateshead and her three sons are all grown up now – she is a skinny little thing, but always smiling and on the go. She rang just before last Christmas to invite me to have lunch with them all. I said that I thought it would be too much, for her to cook Christmas dinner in her tiny flat. She just laughingly replied – "No Mum, I'm not going to cook – St Vinnie's put a free feed on down at the Newcastle foreshore – and they give us free presents too."

Well, I didn't go to the free lunch or the free presents – but I did take Steven in after our lunch and we caught up with both Francey and family, plus Ken and family, and yes the St Vinnie's did a great job with all the folk there.

Big John is presently painting houses in central Queensland at Emerald. He rang several days ago to give me his new mobile number. I asked what happened to his old mobile phone and he laughingly told me that someone had stabbed it. "Don't ask" – I've learned not to over the years. I did, however, remind him of "The Glad Game" we used to play when things weren't too good; try to find something in the situation to be glad about. John said, "I can't see any reason to be glad about having your mobile stabbed." My reply: "Be very glad it was the mobile and not you, my love."

"Little John", the baby of the family, is now 6'5" and has three boys of his own. He has just bought his first home and is a very good tiler. Geoffrey, my natural son, taught Little John to do the tiling and they often work together – all boys are the best of mates and they too are up around the Gympie area.

Both Denise and Amanda, my older daughters are fine, as are Alwyn and myself. At the last count, between us we have 11 children, 24 grandchildren and 12 great-grand children. Terrifying isn't it – and so many of the grandchildren haven't started producing as yet.

Anyhow, I hope you both had a coffee break whilst reading this 'short' letter. I thought you would like to know how things turned out. You played a very important role during the troublesome years, John. You were there when I really needed some wise words and encouragement and I'm sure that you were greatly aided by the support and understanding which you had from Rona. Thanks to both of you.

Yours sincerely,
Tricia



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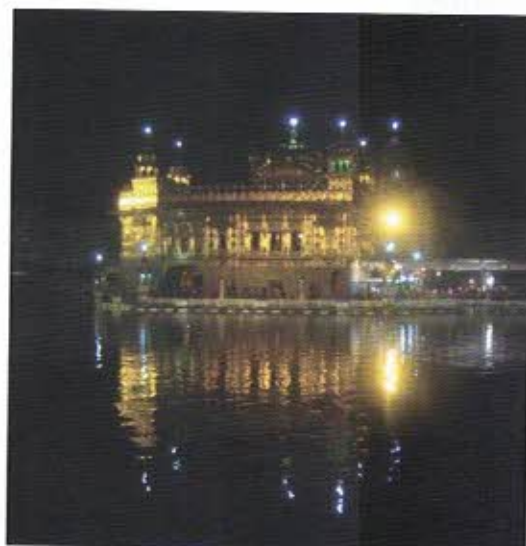
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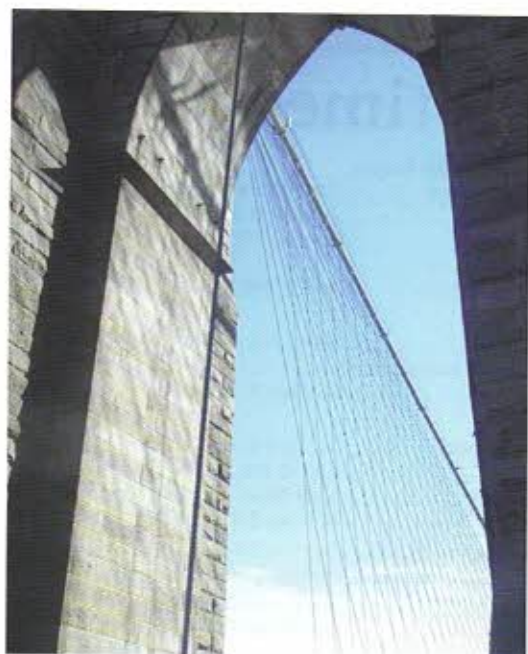
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Above: The rock garden of Chandigarh, India by Neville Christiansen



Above: Golden Temple, Amritsar, India by Neville Christiansen



Left: Brooklyn Bridge and bottom left: Coney Island, New York by Kate Pryor

Below: Bailey the rainbow cat by Robyn Fagan



Below and bottom: Nikko Shrines, Japan by Bruce Pryor



Activities and services directory

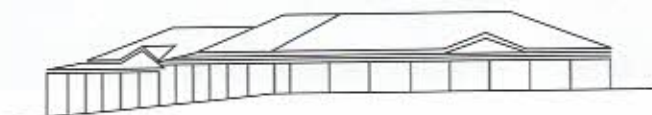
Activities

Bundanoon Community Association (BCA)	
President	Ralph Clark 4883 6389
Secretary	Ken Challenor 4883 6765
Bundanoon Public School P&C	Jenny Walker 4883 7998
Bundanoon Visitors' Group	Karin & Harry Hull 4883 6372
Bundanoon Voices	Coralie & Michael Flint 4883 6588
Chess Club	Pat Foley 4883 6064
Country Women's Association (meets 1st Thurs, 1 pm, CWA Rooms):	
	Marie Reid 4883 6526
Friends of Morton Nat. Park	Sheila Micholson 4883 6107
	Alan Hyman 4883 7763
Garden Club	Terry Bruce 4883 4499
Glow Worm Glen Track C'ttee.	John Dorman 4883 6296
Green Team	David Beasley 4883 7122
History Group (meets 1st Monday, 10 am, Old Goods Shed)	
President	Norma Waldon 4883 6966
Secretary	Gil Wheaton 4883 7463
Lions Club (meets 1st/3rd Monday, 7.30 pm, Bundanoon Club):	
	Ralph Clark 4883 6389
Playgroup	Candice Piper 0428 615 980
RSL (meets 1st Tues (exc. January), 2 pm, RSL Rooms at Oval):	
	Trevor Fenton 4883 6433

Sports Clubs

Bowls (Men)	John Witney 4883 7356
Bowls (Women)	Shirley Scott 4883 6851
Cricket	Steve Granger 4868 2680
Croquet	Dick Topham 4883 6721
Pony Club	Leonore Waugh 4883 6669
Rugby	Cameron Reid 4883 7074
Soccer	Sue Brown 4883 6437
Social Golf	Carol Townsend 4883 7380
Swimming	Janine Wandell 4883 7246
Tennis	Cameron Reid 4883 7074

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The town services a surrounding population of more than 2,000 people and needs a fruit/vegetables/deli, bakery, liquor shop, Chinese restaurant/functions venue, chemist, etc.

For more information ring:

Harvey 4883 7343 or 0418 628 516

Karen 4841 1587 or 0408 411 587

Support & Volunteer Services

Community Health Service	Bowral 4861 8000
Defibrillator Team Contact:	Graham Leech: habitat@hinet.net.au (in case of emergency, always dial 000)
Early Childhood Clinic	4861 8000
Wingecarribee Adult Day Care	Michelle Lindau 4862 1774
Fire Station	4883 6333
Meals on Wheels	Fay Carter 4883 7441
Mobile Library	Moss Vale Library 4868 2479
Petrea King Quest for Life Centre	4883 6599
Red Cross (Exeter branch)	Anna Hopkins 4883 4259
Rural Fire Service (RFS)	Alan Fairbrother 4883 6597
RFS Women's Auxiliary	Rosemary Page 4883 6499
RSPCA (Goulburn/Highlands)	0412 475 428
Volunteering Wingecarribee	Judi Rose 4869 4617
WIRES	4862 1788

To update or correct details, please contact Kate Perkins 4883 6422.

What's on info

For Southern Highlands events and attractions: see
www.southern-highlands.com.au or ph 4871 2888 or 1300 657 559

Church times

Anglican Church of Sutton Forest

Holy Trinity, Bundanoon Sunday, 9.00 am, 5.30 pm

St Aidan's, Exeter Sunday, 9.30 am

St Stephen's, Tallong Sunday, 10 am

All Saints, Sutton Forest

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am 2nd & 4th Sundays, 2.30 pm

Uniting Church

Bundanoon 4th Sunday, 11am

Mid-week service & lunch, Thursday, 12.30pm (bring a sandwich)

Moss Vale Sunday, 9.30 am

Catholic Church

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

2nd & 4th Sundays, 8 am

St Paul's, Moss Vale Vigil Mass, Saturday, 6pm

Sunday, 9.30 am

Moss Vale Christian Church Sunday, 10 am

Encounter Group, Robertson School of Arts, 1st Sunday, 2 pm

Iona Christian Community, St Patrick's, Sutton Forest

2nd and 4th Sundays 10.30 am

Easter services

HOLY THURSDAY

Catholic:

St Paul's, Moss Vale Mass, 7.30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Catholic:

St Paul's, Moss Vale Stations of the Cross, 10 am

Liturgy of the Passion, 3 pm

Anglican:

Holy Trinity, Bundanoon 9 am

HOLY SATURDAY

Catholic:

St Paul's, Moss Vale Vigil Mass, 7.30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY

Catholic:

St Brigid's, Bundanoon Mass, 8 am

Burrawang Mass, 8 am

St Paul's, Moss Vale Mass, 10 am

Anglican:

Holy Trinity, Bundanoon 8 am

St Aidan's, Exeter 9.30 am

St Stephen's, Tallong 10 am

All Saints, Sutton Forest 8 am

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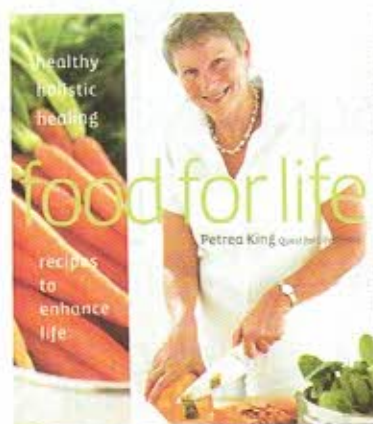


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Tuesday	pm:	Dr Vincent Roche
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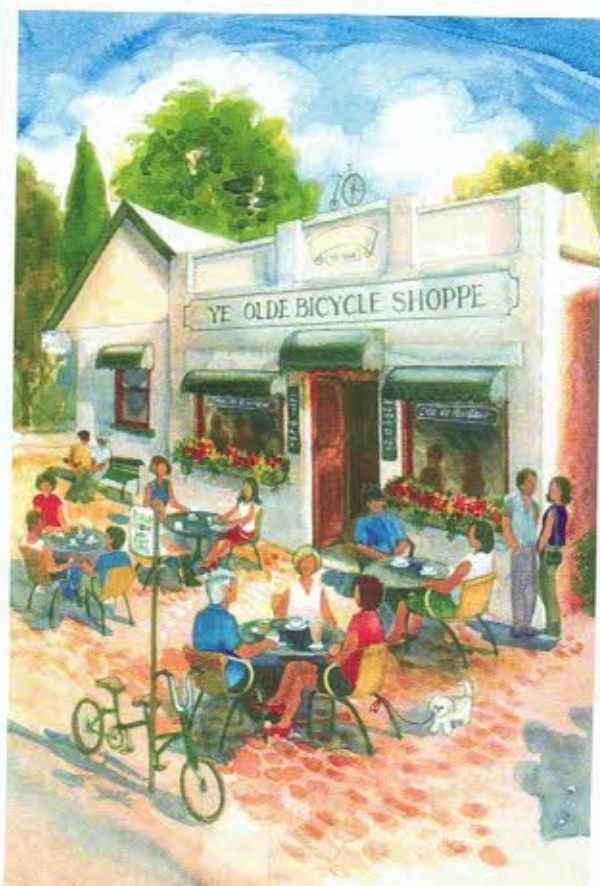


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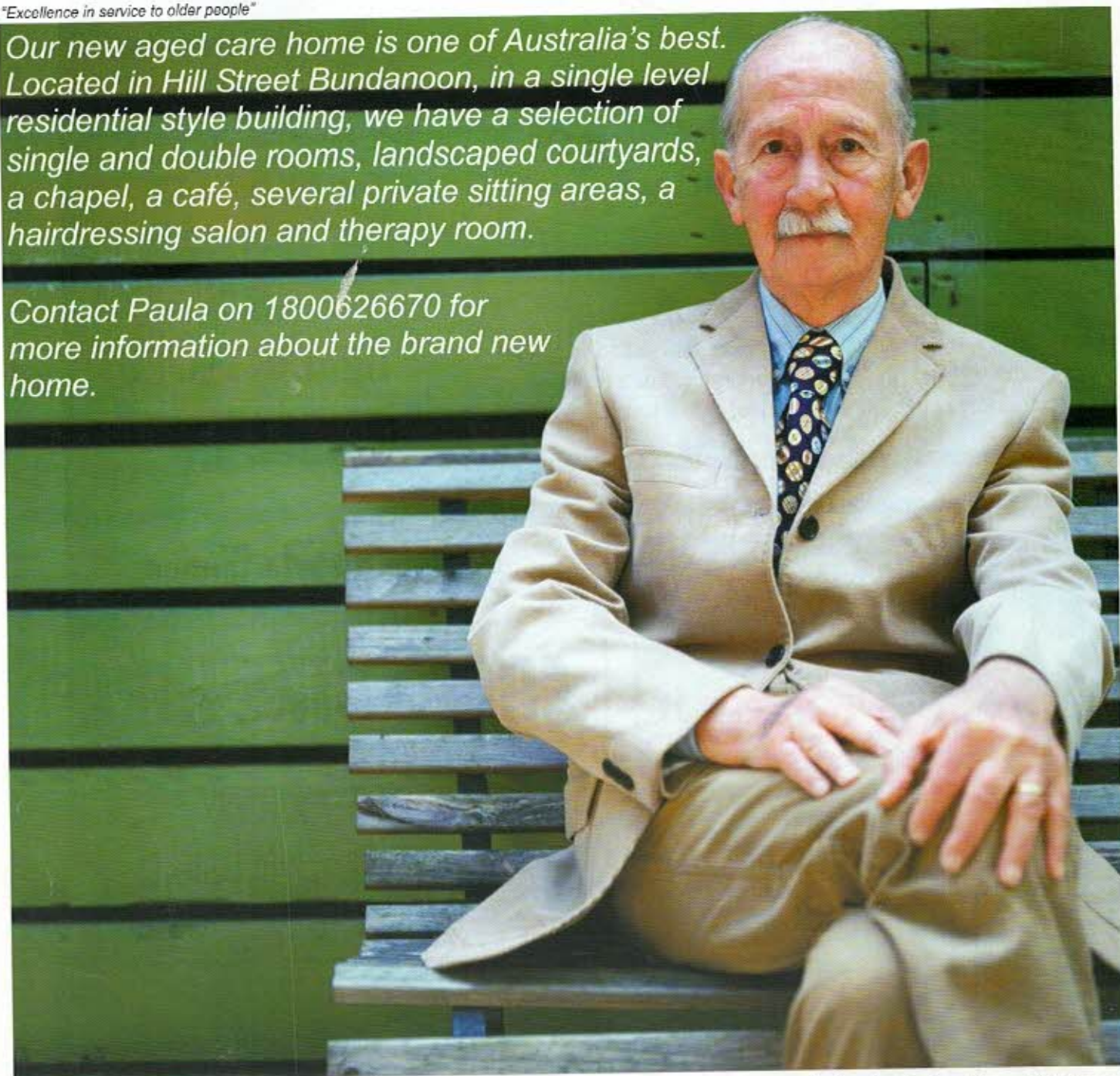
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