

OCTOBER 2022 | EDITION 20
MID-WESTERN MAIL MAGAZINE

FREE

MWMM

OUR REGION | OUR COMMUNITY | OUR NEWS



AUSTRALIA'S TOP TOURISM TOWN

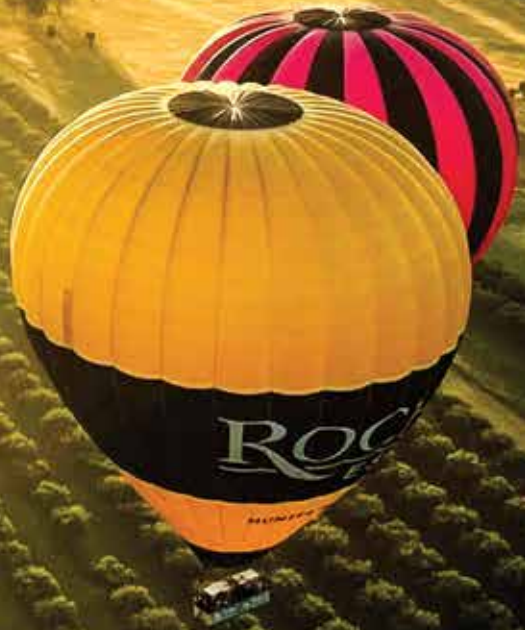
Explore our celebrated town and region

PINK UP MUDGEES

Discover all the events – get involved!

SCULPTURES IN THE GARDEN

Enjoy local & international artistic talent



MUDGEES | GULGONG | RYLSTONE | KANDOS | LUE | GOOLMA | HARGRAVES | ILFORD | HILL END | CAPERTEE VALLEY

MUDGEE NAMED AUSTRALIA'S MOST LOVED DESTINATION

Mudgee has won the major national award of Top Tourism Town for the second year in a row at Australia's Top Tourism Awards 2022.

The awards are presented by the Australian Tourism Industry Council (ATIC), the national representative body for tourism that provides leadership and representation through a national voice for tourism, and are sponsored by Tourism Australia. They celebrate the diversity and outstanding regional destinations from all over the country. Winners are determined by a state and national level voting process combining people's choice votes and an industry judging panel.

Mid-Western Regional Council Mayor, Des Kennedy said, "The awards are an important acknowledgement of the efforts of our local tourism operators. Collaboration is key to increasing visitation and boosting the visitor economy in the region; it is what our local businesses do extremely well."

Mudgee Region Tourism's efforts to position the destination as an authentic country lifestyle that encourages visitors to feel the love and experience quality food and wine, remarkable arts, music, heritage, wellness and, of course, major events have been acknowledged not just by the industry, but by visitors who continue to return time and time again.



"Together, as a collaborative group, we are seen as the hero regional tourism destination leading recovery across Australia"



Leianne Murphy, Acting CEO of Mudgee Region Tourism says, "This incredible accolade is testament to the passion, authenticity and love that our local tourism industry and community share with visitors to our stunning region. Our partners lovingly share their craft and curate experiences to offer amplified moments and memories for visitors to reconnect with their loved ones. This is what sets us apart from every other destination in this country.

"Together, as a collaborative group, we are seen as the hero regional tourism destination leading recovery across Australia. Thank you to our amazing partners and community for making Mudgee Australia's most loved destination."

COLOUR IS EVERYTHING

Whether it's block, pattern, floral or stripes, colour will be your friend as we head into Summer and Spring in 2022. Katy from Willow Collective kindly spoke to us this month to offer a few tips about what fashion trends we can look forward to in the run up to Christmas.

"The coming warm months are all about beautiful and bold colours that celebrate Spring and Summer in a variety of classic and refreshed designs" enthused Katy Henderson, owner of Willow Collective.

"The immediate trend is all about colour and fun, so if you love bright, you are going to adore this year's fashion trend with so many wonderful colours making a return to our shelves".

"But don't worry, if colour makes you a little shy, you can always mix and match a few signature pieces and splashes of colour with classic denim, stylish linen and relaxed textiles that will allow you to remain a little more understated, but still on trend" she added.

"We're loving the fact that all of the new pieces coming out offer so many options for people to embrace their own style and personality, with so many dress length options, styles and fabrics ensuring that there is a new season's style for all shapes and sizes. I'm personally loving the fact that the classic blazer has been given a

refreshing new look for this Spring, as it offers a fabulous layering option for both work and play whilst the mornings and evenings still have a chill in them," said Katy.

"I love the continual evolution of fashion and the excitement of each season's new releases, and even though shopping for our stock is like being a kid in a candy store, it's always our loyal customers who are at the back of my mind when I am purchasing for the shop".

"Our customer's needs, lifestyles and preferences are extremely varied, and I feel that our much-loved Kindred Co brands genuinely have something for everyone, so that both our extensive online and face to face customers can usually find their next favourite wardrobe item, whether they live rurally, seaside or in the city," Katy concluded.

Whether you are after casual, work, fun or formal clothes, we're sure you'll find something you like instore or online at Willow Collective.



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73 Market Street, Mudgee NSW 2850 T: 63 72 7777 E: info@willowcollective.com.au
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OBSERVATIONS

by Ken Sutcliffe OAM

This humble little column is almost like an audition and as the name suggests, it's all about short, sharp snippets of day-to-day observations in the Mid-Western area.

Let's have a bit of fun, rattle a few cages and I encourage the readers to engage with me but keep it respectful – online trolls won't get a look in. It also should be noted I don't do Facebook or Twitter, I left that quagmire behind me when I full-stopped my 50 year media career.

First up spring, springs eternal, what a picture the Mudgee valley and surrounding areas are right now. Appreciating that more than most are the droves of tourists flocking to the district.

While on the subject of spring, for the second year in a row, Mudgee has been named Australia's Top Tourism Town. It's a gong that should also be shared with partner towns Gulgong, Rylstone and Kandos. This is the tourist industry's Oscar, an exceptional achievement for a population over 5000, in front of the country's major regional cities.

MRT are doing a wonderful creative job promoting the Mid-Western Region, but now the expectations will be greater for what we can improve on. Good service is like finding diamonds and everything that goes with it. Hospitality is a 7-day-a-week industry and tourists expect it to be on song if we want their business and that applies to our attractions. So far, so good. Our region continues to thrive and punch well above its weight.

Congratulations to mates of mine David Swanson and David Sargeant, the men behind award winning extra virgin olive oil Mudgee Harvest, taking out silver at the Sydney Olive Oil Competition. Earlier this year the pair picked up bronze at an international competition in the United States. Mudgee Harvest is really cooking up a storm in the very best kitchens.

Local poet and a very good one at that, Kevin Pye, put together a celebration of the works of Henry Lawson to mark the 100th year of Henry's passing last month. I did



a couple of readings at the Mudgee Town Hall along with other locals. What a gift Henry had with words. His tortured life created masterpieces that endure today. Fittingly his mother Louisa Lawson's statue will soon sit outside the Town Hall, a brilliant project on a formidable woman by Mudgee Rotary.

He's naughty, irreverent, politically incorrect and has run the best local news service in Mudgee for the past 20 years. I'm talking about the Butcher, James O'Neil – the man behind the iconic Butcher Coffee Shop. James and wife Gwenda are moving on as Bali and Melbourne beckon, but the morning ritual with a bunch of larrikins will never be the same again.

The final stages of the Glenn Willow roadway and foot bridge at Putta Bucca will be completed by the end of this year. The bike and pathway will link up for a glorious 8km walk and ride.

Now to a negative. What's the definition of 'Visual Vandalism'? How about a 1.2 kilometre mound of dirt 3 metres high and 25 metres across at the base on the main entrance to Mudgee? That's the latest proposal by the developers of a solar farm at Burrundulla which has already been rejected three times. The dirty mound is supposed to beautify the eyesore but it's an eyesore on top of an eyesore. Two years ago a similar project was rejected on the edge of Gulgong the same should apply to Mudgee. Solar farms are not the problem, just their location. For the sake of \$40,000 a year, this A1 agricultural land can be put to better use and not offend our community or detract from our tourism industry.

Don't forget **Pink UP Mudgee** for the McGrath Breastcare Foundation this month, give what you can.



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Notes from the Editor

Welcome to the 20th Edition of MWM and yet another busy Spring month around our beautiful region. A region which is now recognised as having Australia's Top Tourism Town for the second year in a row! Congratulations to everyone involved, for a small town Mudgee packs a big punch. Everywhere is stunning at the moment as Spring blossoms in the warmer weather and we can all look forward to enjoying lighter evenings when Daylight Saving begins on 2nd October. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward by an hour – although I am forever grateful for technology doing most of it for me these days.

October will again herald "Pink Up Mudgee" raising much needed awareness around early breast cancer detection and vital funds for McGrath Breast Care Nurses and Sculptures in the Garden will also be showcasing a wonderful array of local and international talent raising funds for Guide Dogs Australia. Dig deep everyone for such wonderful causes.

As a side note we also celebrate World Teachers' Day on 5th October and as the daughter of a teacher this day is very poignant for me and an important time to show our appreciation for all the dedicated, hard-working educators of the world. This year the day falls during school holidays so I hope they get to enjoy a peaceful and relaxing day.

Enjoy our action packed October edition and thank you to all our advertisers and contributors for supporting our local news.

Naomi x

Front cover photo: *Balloons Aloft Mudgee*



DON'T LET YOUR BUSINESS BE THE BEST KEPT SECRET IN THE REGION

The Mid-Western Mail magazine (MWM) is created monthly and has become a highly successful, not-for-profit publication showcasing regional events, businesses and services.

Each month MWM is distributed to all high traffic venues around the region major supermarkets, tourism venues, popular coffee shops and eateries, Airbnb's and included in leading real estate welcome packs for new home owners.

If you would like to tell more than 10,000 locals and visitors to the region about your business or event and support regional news, contact us today.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Fiona Lydiard: sales@businessmudgee.com.au | 0419 288 602

Deadline for our November Edition **Thursday 15 October**



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Rylstone/Kandos 97.9FM

Mudgee/Gulgong MAGIC 87.6FM

EDITOR

Naomi Rouse

mwm@businessmudgee.com.au

0439 448 840

SALES

Fiona Lydiard

sales@businessmudgee.com.au

0419 288 602

ARTWORK Danielle Scott Design

PRINTING Occasions Printing

PRODUCED by Business Mudgee

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The Mid-Western Mail acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the Country upon which we live, learn and work. We honour their Ancestors and pay our deepest respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

OCTOBER

EVENTS THROUGHOUT OUR REGION IN OCTOBER

OCTOBER

Pink Up Mudgee

OCTOBER

FREE Breast Screen Bus, Mudgee Railway Station Carpark, Inglis Street (Monday-Friday 8am-6pm)

OCTOBER

'Sacred Country' Exhibition, Mudgee Arts Precinct (7 days 9am-5pm FREE)

OCTOBER

Gulgong Holtermann Museum 'Then & Now' Exhibition (open daily 10am-3pm)

OCTOBER

RSPCA NSW Central West Supporter Group raffle tickets on sale

EVERY MONDAY

Writing Circle, Mudgee Library (1pm-3.30pm)

EVERY TUESDAY

The Man Walk, Lawson Park (6pm)

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Gulgong Men's Shed meet (9am)

EVERY WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY - Kandos Museum (10am-4pm)

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY

Mudgee Men's Shed, 249 Ulan Road (9am-3pm & 9am-11am)

EVERY THURSDAY

The Red Hat Society meet (various times & places)

EVERY THURSDAY TO SATURDAY

Mudgee Cocktail Bar, Balcony Bar, upstairs at Kelly's Irish Pub (Thursday 6-9pm / Friday & Saturday 4pm-late)

EVERY FRIDAY

Rotary Club of Mudgee Sunrise meeting, Parklands (7am)

EVERY FRIDAY

'Publicans Shout' Centennial Pub, Gulgong (a free beer 6pm)

EVERY FRIDAY TO SUNDAY

Almost Anything Emporium, Rylstone (10am-3pm)

EVERY SATURDAY

Park Run (8am)

EVERY SATURDAY

Mudgee Heritage Walking Tours (10-11am)

EVERY SUNDAY

Mudgee & District Kennel & Obedience Club training classes, Victoria Park, Gulgong (10am)

EVERY SUNDAY

Muddragons, Dragon Boat Club, training at Lawson Park, Mudgee (9.30am)

1 OCTOBER

Church Markets, St Johns Anglican Church grounds (1st Saturday of every month 9am-1pm)

1 OCTOBER

'Higher Sounds' featuring Guy Sebastian, Mudgee Showgrounds (2.30pm-10.30pm)

1-3 OCTOBER

October Long Weekend

2 OCTOBER

Daylight Saving begins

2 OCTOBER

Mudgee Makers Market, Robertson Park (1st Sunday of every month 8.30am-12.30pm)

2 OCTOBER

Nackers Burger Pop Up, Vinifera Wines, Mudgee (12pm-4pm)

3 OCTOBER

Monday History Talk (1st Monday of every month 12.15pm-2pm)

4 OCTOBER

World Animal Day

4 OCTOBER

Cudgegong Camera Club meeting, Club Mudgee (1st Tuesday of every month 7pm)

4 OCTOBER

Mudgee Library Evening Book Group (1st Tuesday of every month 6pm-7pm)

5 OCTOBER

World Teachers Day

5 OCTOBER

Rylstone Kandos Family Fun Day, Rylstone Showground, Cudgegong Street (10am-2pm)

5 OCTOBER

Mudgee Library Craft Activity, Cheshire Cat & Pencil Birds for 3-5yrs (10am-10.30am)

5 OCTOBER

RCS Transforming Agriculture, Soil Solutions, Watershed Landcare Regenerate Series

6 OCTOBER

Books that Made Us Book Group, Mudgee Library (1st Thursday of every month 6pm)

6 OCTOBER

Time Walk to The Drip with Geologist Chris Pavich, Watershed Landcare (9am-1pm)

7 OCTOBER

Pink Up Breakfast BBQ, The Property Shop carpark, Mudgee (from 6.30am)

7 OCTOBER

Cudgegong Valley History Group, Henbury Golf Club, Kandos (1st Friday of every month 11am-3pm)

7 OCTOBER

CWA Day Meeting 48 Market St, Mudgee (1st Friday of every month 11am)

7-9 OCTOBER

Movies at Mudgee Town Hall Cinema

8-28 OCTOBER

Sculptures in the Garden 2022, Rosby Wines, Mudgee (open daily 10am-4pm)

8 OCTOBER

Annual Bowdens Silver Mudgee Rugby Sevens, Glen Willow, Mudgee

8 OCTOBER

Rylstone Artisan & Produce Markets, Rylstone Memorial Hall (2nd Saturday of every month 9am-1pm)

8 OCTOBER

Kandos Rylstone Film Society: Film Night, Rylstone Hall (2nd Saturday of every month)

8 OCTOBER

Lawson Park Markets, Mudgee (2nd Saturday of every month 8.30am-12.30pm)

9 OCTOBER

Mudgee Miniature Railway (2nd Sunday of every month 10am-2pm)

9 OCTOBER

'Blessing of the Animals' St Luke's Anglican Church, Gulgong (from 9am)

10 OCTOBER

CWA Evening Meet, 48 Market St, Mudgee (2nd Monday of every month 5.50pm)

10 OCTOBER

Back to School

11 OCTOBER

Crafternoon, Kandos Library - free for 12-20 years (2nd Tuesday of every month 3.45pm-4.45pm)

11 OCTOBER

Mudgee Valley Writers meeting, Club Mudgee (2nd Tuesday of every month 12.00pm-3pm)

12 & 26 OCTOBER

Mudgee Library Junior Chess Club, ages 6-14 (2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month 4.30pm-5.30pm)

13 OCTOBER

Folk Session, Centennial Pub, Gulgong (2nd Thursday of every month 6pm-late)

13 OCTOBER

Seniors Meeting, Kandos Returned Services Community Club (2nd Thursday of every month 2pm)

13 OCTOBER

Mudgee Library Afternoon Book Group (2nd Thursday of every month 2.30pm)

15 OCTOBER

Mudgee Farmers Markets, Robertson Park (3rd Saturday of every month 8.30am-12.30pm)

14 OCTOBER

The Heart of Cudgegong Defib Project Information Session with Greg Page (former yellow Wiggle)

15 OCTOBER

Mudgee Branch of the Knitters Guild, Mudgee Lions Club rooms, Mudgee Showground (3rd Saturday of every month 1pm-4pm)

15 OCTOBER

A Long Lunch at the Press, Rylstone Olive Press, Executive Chef: Matteo Zamboni (12pm)

15 & 16 OCTOBER

Gardens of Mudgee, Rotary Club of Mudgee fundraiser (10am-4pm each day)

16 OCTOBER

Pink Up Golf, Mudgee Golf Club, 4 person Ambrose (9.30am shot gun start)

16 OCTOBER

Cars & Coffee, Cudgegong Valley Pioneer Vehicle Club, Mudgee Railway Station (3rd Sunday of every month 8.30am)

16 OCTOBER

The Rylstone Community Markets, Rylstone, The Globe beer garden (3rd Sunday of every month 10am-1pm)

16 OCTOBER

Guided Farm Walks, Mudgee (3rd Sunday of every month 9am-12pm)

17 OCTOBER

Poetry Circle, Mudgee Library (3rd Monday of every month 10am-12pm)

19 OCTOBER

Online Book Group, Mid-Western Libraries (3rd Wednesday of every month 7pm via Zoom)

21 OCTOBER

'Secret Women's Business Breakfast' presented by Business Mudgee

21 -23 OCTOBER

LOUEE Social Weekend, Junior Mini Cycle Club (4-16yrs) Louee Enduro & Motocross Complex, Walkers Lane, Lue (6am start)

20 OCTOBER

Mudgee Library Adult Chess Club (3rd Thursday of every month 5.30pm-6.30pm)

22 OCTOBER

Conversations for Change: Regen Ag & Biodiversity with Dr Charles Massey, Watershed Landcare, Mudgee

22 OCTOBER

Cox Plate, Mudgee Race Course (12pm-6pm)

22 OCTOBER

Gulgong Markets, Gulgong Bowling Club (last Saturday of each month 9am-1pm)

24 OCTOBER

Pink Ribbon Day

26 OCTOBER

Cudgegong Poets, The Book Nest, Mudgee (4th Wednesday of every month 6.30pm)

28 OCTOBER

Disco Revolution for Pink Up, Club Mudgee (8pm-10pm)

29 OCTOBER

Central Coast Mariners v's Western United, Round 4 of Isuzu Ute A-League, Glen Willow, Mudgee (Gates Open 4.15pm)

29 OCTOBER

The Gold Nugget Awards, Gulgong RSL (7pm)

29 OCTOBER

Pink Polo, 'Cumbandry' 2358 Henry Lawson Drive (10am-6pm)

30 OCTOBER

Market Day at Oak Tree Village, Mudgee (12pm-3pm)

1 NOVEMBER

Melbourne Cup Day

5 NOVEMBER

Natural Sequence Farming: 1 Day Workshop with Stuart Andrews, Watershed Landcare, Mudgee

5 NOVEMBER Band In The Bush

Prince of Wales Opera House, Gulgong

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MUDGEE'S REVERED SCULPTURES IN THE GARDEN RETURNS IN 2022 AS THE ULTIMATE OUTDOOR ART EXPERIENCE

Mudgee and regional NSW's most renowned outdoor sculpture exhibition, *Sculptures In The Garden*, will be back again in 2022 for the 12th year!

The exhibition will open on Saturday the 8th of October and run daily until Sunday 23rd of October 2022 between 10am–4pm, and as always will be set amongst the beautiful rural backdrop of Rosby Wines in Mudgee NSW.

Sculptures in the Garden, a not-for-profit organisation that started as a small community-minded event, has now become the largest and most well-known sculpture exhibition in regional Australia. With 30,000 people through the doors and over 500 exhibiting artists, the highly anticipated annual event will celebrate its 12th year in 2022.

Sculptures in the Garden is partnered with the Mudgee Support Group for Guide Dogs NSW/ACT and together the two have raised over \$175,000 for the incredibly important cause.

This year, beloved local Mudgee café, The Corner Store, will be providing food throughout the exhibition to complement the wines served from the Rosby Wine Bar. There'll be live music on weekends including the Sydney Bach Society on opening weekend. With over 260 sculptures to see, Sculptures in the Garden 2022 is a must do in the Mudgee Region and worth travelling for!

Tickets are now on sale at www.sculpturesinthegarden.com.au

1. Harrie Fasher *Ahead*
2. Tobias Bennett *Still Life* & Alex Scheiber *Gospers Ghost*
3. Michael Ferris *Eye of the Storm*



HIGHLIGHTS

- Opening weekend is the 8th & 9th of October from 10am – 4pm
- Exhibition will be open every day until the 23rd of October from 10am – 4pm
- All artworks are priced for sale with pieces ranging from \$150 - \$40,000
- 2022 is the 12th year of Sculptures in the Garden
- Tickets on sale now

Alex Schreiber *Let it Burn* Nicole O'Regan *Pensive* Francois Jagger *Runner* Stephen King *Shielded I*



SCULPTURES IN THE GARDEN

PRESENTED BY ROSBY WINES & GALLERY

EXHIBITION DATES:

SATURDAY 8th - SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2022 10AM - 4PM

**"ROSBY" 122 STRIKES LANE EURUNDEREE, MUDGEE
\$5 PER PERSON, CHILDREN FREE**

Sculptures in the Garden is an annual event that exhibits Australian sculpture in a beautiful rural setting within a private garden and vineyard in Mudgee, NSW.



www.sculpturesinthegarden.com.au



GARDENS OF MUDGEES SET FOR SPRING

by Garry Connelly

Mudgee's magnificent gardens are well known and eagerly awaiting visitors. The Rotary Club of Mudgee's Gardens of Mudgee festival, to be held on the 15th and 16th of October 2022, will showcase six very different gardens at the height of their springtime glory.

In each of these six outstanding gardens you will feel the excitement and delight which are the hallmarks of a special garden. Gardens on display are:

Tamara and Andy Bowman's garden situated at **"Bowenfield" at 1788 Castlereagh Highway, Mudgee**. This spectacular garden was planned with hedges, trees and an emphasis on the addition of hardy Mediterranean style shrubs. A must see.

The Kempton's graceful garden at **43 Rocky Waterhole Road, Mudgee** is situated on the slopes of Mt Frome and includes a variety of plants chosen to withstand Mudgee's climate. Check the charming pool adorned by irises and bullrushes.

A quarter acre block at **3 Bawden Road, Mudgee** has a secret, the result of 30 years of passion, imagination and hard work by John and Maureen Julius. Suffice to say, you will have never seen a garden like this before. Intrigued? Check it out for yourself.

"Wisteria Ridge" at 1390 Castlereagh Highway, Mudgee is the home of Col and Val Stubbs where you will find an array of native shrubs, a number of species of birds, Col's marvellous quirky sculptures and glorious views of the Cudgegong Valley.

June Middleton's garden at **195 Church Street, Mudgee** feels like a secluded, shady forest. An exceptional Chinese Elm, pepper trees and a huge variety of carefully selected drought-tolerant shrubs enhance an expansive lawn and peaceful environment.



Top: A section of the garden at 'Wilgowrah' bursting with perennials, bulbs, birches, roses and mature trees.

Above: A section of the magnificent garden at Bill & Trish Kempton's Mudgee property.

Steph and Rick Gordon's 1920's house at **"Wilgowrah" 499 Lue Road, Mudgee** is a homestead garden which has been many years in the making. A ramble along the old paths reveals borders bursting with perennials and bulbs, accompanied by a variety of mature roses. A coffee van with homemade goodies and a delicious lunch provided by Mudgee Country Roast will be available at the "Wilgowrah" garden.

Several gardens will also have stalls selling plants and gardenalia.

- Entry is \$5 per garden or \$25 for all six. Children free, no concessions.
- Funds raised will go to community-based charitable organisations in Mudgee.
- See the website for more details:
www.mudgeegardenspectacular.org.au
- Tickets are available from website, Tourist Office, or just get your ticket at any of the gardens on the day. Cash only. EFTPOS will only be available at Middleton's Garden 195 Church Street Mudgee.

Sunday DRIVE

Looking for something new to do on a lazy Sunday afternoon? This weekend, why not jump in the car and meander through our beautiful region which is bursting into life with the warmer Spring weather. Take in the views, catch up with friends and have a delicious lunch at our Sunday Drive suggestions.

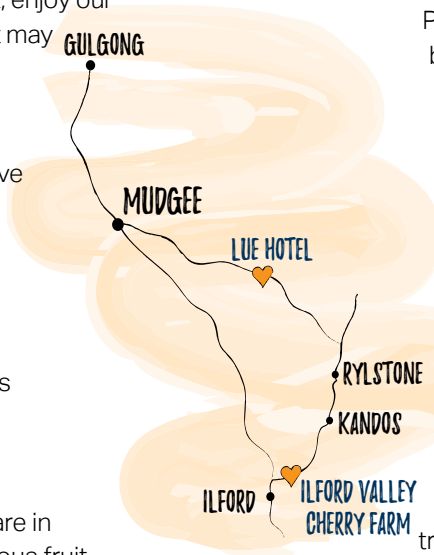
ILFORD VALLEY CHERRY FARM

The perfect place for a stop over on your weekend drive. Nestled amongst almost 1000 cherry trees, we have a licensed Restaurant Bar & Grill (Cherry's) that boasts the best burger and tap beer in Ilford with a fine selection of wine for every taste. Come and visit, sit, relax, enjoy our amazing views in the valley and you just may catch some live entertainment as well.

You will be surprised to know that we also have a private Special Events and Function Centre that can host impressive functions with seating for up to 170 guests, ideal for Weddings, Private Parties, and Corporate Events hosting a full commercial kitchen including a coolroom and chilled tap beer.

You are also able to stay in our cabins or homestead or sleep beneath the stars, full amenities means camping is comfortable and enjoyable.

The beautiful cherry blossom trees are in full bloom in September, and the delicious fruit is ready to eat mid to late November. Ilford Valley Cherry Farm is a stunning location all year round being surrounded by bush, a plethora of nature, and with a glorious mountainous backdrop.



LUE HOTEL & PUB

On the picturesque road between Mudgee and Rylstone, in the rural village of Lue is the iconic Lue Hotel. This country pub has been operating since 1897 and is known for its warm hospitality, colourful locals and for having the best tap beer this side of the mountains.

Pull up a stool at the bar and join in the banter between the long-time regulars, or snuggle in by one of many log fires in one of the pub's old parlours and enjoy a hearty country meal.

The menu at the pub is traditional pub fare, done well and good value for money. All the meat is locally sourced, big juicy steaks, hand-crumbed lamb cutlets, Sunday roasts, home-made desserts—Tracey's golden syrup dumplings are always a sell-out—and weekly blackboard specials. In summer the pub's old stone walls and aircon provide a haven from the heat or you can kick back in the beer garden in the shade of the gum tree and enjoy the sense of tranquillity that only comes with being away from it all. Grab a sunset beer in the evening on the front verandah or find a spot at the outdoor fire pit. The Lue Hotel is still very much a country pub, and at just 25 minutes' drive from Mudgee, it's well worth discovering this gem.

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Friday-Sunday
12pm-Late

BISTRO HOURS

Friday
12pm-2.30pm
5.30pm-9pm

Saturday
12pm-2.30pm
5.30pm-9pm

Sunday
12pm-2.30pm

24 Cox Street, Lue
9060 6994
info@luehotel.com.au
www.luehotel.com.au



GREEN DAY WRAP UP

2022 marked the 14th year for Watershed Landcare's annual Green Day event! After two years of lockdowns, the environmental education day evolved into much more than just one day of fun for the schools across our region.



Junior Landcare Ambassador, TV Presenter and Gardening Guru, Costa Georgiadis shined the spotlight on the theme "Grow Your Own Way", working towards a more sustainable future, inspiring our kids, schools, educators and the community over three days and five events.

On Thursday, 8th September, 600 kids from 16 local schools gathered to experience an array of workshops and hear from inspiring guest speakers, plus a special session with Costa. The theme of Grow Your Own Way was explored through activities like compost building, native plant identification, gardening, reusing and growing food from scraps, the importance of habitat and biodiversity, and so much more.

Green Day Coordinator, Kennedy Porter said, "It is important for Watershed Landcare that Green Day is more than just a fun day out for our schools but an opportunity to build upon what is taught in the classroom. We want to establish a legacy and to assist in creating action, further learning in the Landcare space and foster sustainability within our schools and beyond."

As an extension of Green Day, Watershed Landcare partnered with Junior Landcare & Costa to lead a professional development session for local educators. The event was held at Mudgee Public School and included a tour of their Kitchen Garden and time with Junior Landcare and Costa to learn how Landcare can support schools and educators through grants and resources.

On Friday 9th, Watershed Landcare accompanied Costa to two local schools, Ilford Public School and Cudgegong Valley Public School. The day allowed Costa to do what he does best, excite and educate within the school yard, recognise, participate in existing projects and create further inspiration, motivation and action. The Royal Botanic Gardens donated a Wollemi Pine sapling to each school to commemorate the day.

All the schools that attended on the Thursday were donated a Waterups Square Planter, and Ilford Public School received a larger wicking bed constructed with the school as part of the visit. These donations are a highly appreciated part of Green Day as it allows the schools to take the learning and key messages straight back to school and their classroom.

On Saturday, 10th September, the first ever Green Day for Grown-Ups was launched with great success, with over 70 people in attendance. The day was made worthwhile by the contribution of the fantastic guest speakers from the Mudgee Uniting Community Gardens and WaterUps, The Royal Botanic Gardens, Mudgee Bee Group and Habitat Innovation and Management. Green Day goers learned all about wicking garden beds, community gardens, beekeeping, native plant uses and exciting innovations in nest boxes. Mudgee CWA Evening Branch provided a delicious morning tea, and Costa Georgiadis finished off the day by sharing his passion for Landcare and a motivating call to create change in our environment with our everyday actions and choices.



"The three days were just a thrill. Watershed Landcare is so grateful for everyone's contribution to all the events, from the students, teachers, schools, community members who attended, guest speakers, volunteers, community groups, businesses and sponsors involved," Kennedy said. "Costa was the man of the moment and was a pleasure to host".

Watershed Landcare is already excited about Green Day 2023, how the event can continue to evolve and how we can further support our schools, educators and our community of landcarers!

We sincerely thank our wonderful volunteers and sponsors; Moolarben Coal, Peabody, Local Land Services, Mid-Western Regional Council, WaterUps, Petries Mitre 10 and Bunnings.



WATERSHED LANDCARE EXPERIENCES

RCS TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURE | SOIL FERTILITY WORKSHOP 5th October

Presented by: Matthew Barton
This motivational workshop will reveal the role of soil biology in driving soil fertility. What we know about soils is growing all the time, and the complexity is nothing short of fascinating. In this workshop, you will get the most cutting-edge information and learn how you can use this knowledge to boost the health of landscapes and profitability of business.

TIME WALK TO THE DRIP WITH GEOLOGIST CHRIS PAVICH 6th October (9am-1pm)

Presented by: Chris Pavich
Experience The Drip like never before with a guided walk and commentary from Chris Pavich, Geologist, Land Manager and Engineer. Take a peek back in time and discover how these miraculous rock features were formed and more fascinating historical

insights about the site and the region. Learn something new about the interactions between the earth systems and how they build soil, carve channels, create caves and more! This is a family-friendly event! A light lunch will be provided; please BYO snacks, water bottle and a chair or picnic rug for lunch.

CONVERSATIONS FOR CHANGE | REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE 22nd October

Presented by: Dr Charles Massey, Colin Seis, Josh Frappell, John Fry, Julia Imrie & Gail Ratcliffe
We are so excited to have Dr Massey on board for this unique event. He is a widely known farmer, speaker and author of the best-selling book "Call of the Reed Warbler – A New Agriculture, A New Earth". Alongside Dr Massey will be local agricultural innovators and environmental experts. The event will explore ecological thinking and embolden a shift to regenerative agriculture for a more resilient future.

NATURAL SEQUENCE FARMING WORKSHOP WITH STUART ANDREWS 5th November

Presented by: Stuart Andrews
This one-day course will give you a new way of looking at how water moves and how fertility is created. Understanding the patterns and cycles that go on in the environment is key to reading any landscape. Stuart Andrews strives to provide landholders with the knowledge to regenerate soils, optimise the local water cycle and boost plant growth within our landscapes on any scale.

Visit www.watershedlandcare.com.au/events for more information and to register or contact: maddison@watershedlandcare.com.au



Congratulations Watershed Landcare Mudgee on a great Green Day!



Dugald Saunders MEMBER FOR THE DUBBO ELECTORATE



www.dugaldsaunders.com.au



dubbo@parliament.nsw.gov.au



(02) 6882 3577

Authorised by Dugald Saunders MP, 1/18 Talbragar Street Dubbo NSW 2830. Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.

PINK UP MUDGEE

Mudgee shines pink every October during Breast Cancer Awareness month and helps raise funds for the McGrath Foundation who place Breast Care Nurses in communities throughout Australia.

Mudgee was the first town in Australia to turn pink for the McGrath Foundation during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The success of this fantastic community event in Mudgee is now spreading across the country, with numerous towns now involved in Pink Up Your Town. From 1 October to 31 October business and the community of the Mudgee Region including Gulgong, Rylstone and Kandos turn Pink in every way possible! From shops on the main street, schools, wineries, firefighters, tradies and doctors through to a pink bubbles carwash, the pubs, local veterinary hospital and many others.

Here's what's on!

PINK UP NIGHT: DISCO REVOLUTION

Friday 28th October
8pm to 10pm Club Mudgee

The best of the 70's and 80's DISCO LIVE. Get your dance pants on and be transported back to the days when music was alive with DISCO, BOOGIE & DANCE. Featuring 3 hours of Australia's favourite disco hits from the 70s and 80s and powered by a 7-piece band fronted by two amazing vocalists, join Club Mudgee for a night of wonderful throwback fun. Supported by amazing production and costume changes, this show will have everyone back on the dance floor like in the days when the DISCO REVOLUTION took place!

Courtesy Bus – Phone 0428 994 543 on the day for pickup.



PINK RIBBON POLO

Saturday 29th October 10am to 6pm
Mudgee Polo Club, Home Field
'Cumbandry' 2358 Henry Lawson Drive.

Mudgee Polo Club's Pink Ribbon Polo 2022 Tournament in conjunction with the McGrath Foundation will showcase country polo for all the family with two grades of polo featuring several of Australia's top players in a thrilling battle. There will be a Polo Bar, picnic hampers and hot/cold food available onsite (No BYO alcohol). Raffles, Auctions, Fashions on the Field and celebrity appearances. Pay at the gate for entry. \$10 per person or \$50 per car. All donations will be made to the McGrath Foundation and Breast Cancer Research.



PINK UP MUDGEE CARS & COFFEE

Sunday 16th October from 8.30am
Mudgee Railway Station

Being the month where we celebrate Pink Up Mudgee, we have called this months event, Pink Up Mudgee Cars and Coffee. We are requesting that ALL participants dress in Pink and dress up their cars in Pink, lets help to make this day one to remember. Bring along some change (or notes) to donate to The McGrath Foundation in aid of Breast Cancer.



We will have donation buckets strategically placed around the area during the morning to hopefully fill them up for this terrific cause. Bring along your wheels from the Vintage, Veteran, Classic, Trucks or Motorcycles of these eras or any vehicle of interest, truck, tractor or trike, if it has wheels we would like to see it brought along to show your interest. Should your project not be completed, if possible, bring it along so we can all either offer advice or even assist you the owner on how to find some of those hard to find

parts that would allow you to complete your project. Come early and have breakfast from the Vietnam Veterans barbeque and a nice Hot Coffee from our CVPVC Coffee caravan, the food is sensational and the Coffee first class.

PINK UP GOLF

Sunday 16th October for a 9.30am shot gun start. Mudgee Golf Club

It's a 4 person Ambrose.

\$50 per player including green fees, lunch and ticket in the raffle.

A fantastic auction is to follow.



FREE BREAST SCREEN BUS

For the month of October Monday - Friday (and some Saturdays)

Times vary between 8.00 am -

6.00pm, Mudgee Railway Station

Carpark, Inglis Street

Please call 13 20 50 to make an appointment.

Pictured: McGrath Breast Care Nurse for the Mudgee Region, Tania Sullivan



PINK UP BREAKFAST BBQ

Friday 7th October from 6.30am.

The Property Shop carpark

Fantastic egg and bacon rolls for \$5.00 with proceeds going to Pink Up Mudgee.



Lazy Oak
VINEYARD + WINES

CELLAR DOOR
Wine + Food + Events

LOCATED

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OPEN

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MUDGEE WINE SHOW AWARDS CAP OFF A FANTASTIC WINE & FOOD MONTH

Not only was the Robert Stein 2019 Dry Riesling named the Champion Wine at the 2022 Mudgee Wine Show but the Robert Stein winemakers also picked up Most Outstanding White Wine of Show for the 2019 Dry Riesling, the Stein Family Trophy for Best Riesling, and the Bob Oatley Trophy for Best Chardonnay for its 2017 Reserve drop.

Winemaker Lisa Bray was dubbed the 2022 Winemaker of the Year, and also took home awards for Most Successful Exhibitor, Most Outstanding Red Wine of Show and Best Cabernet for her 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon, and best Rose of Show for her 2022 LMB Rose.

Other major awards on the night went to Vinifera for best organic/biodynamic/preservative-free wine for its 2021 Organic Reserve Chardonnay, and Petersons' Jamie Hudson and Brendan Foote from 791 Estate, who were named joint Viticulturalist of the Year.

This year, McGrath Real Estate and agent Adam Sutherland created and sponsored a new award, the Cellar Door of the Year, presenting the trophy to inaugural winner Petersons' of Mudgee.

The 2022 Mudgee Wine Show notched up an impressive 220 entries from 28 exhibitors across a range of white, red, sparkling and rose varieties.

Mudgee Wine Show chair Debbie Lauritz said it was fantastic to see the wine show back for its 49th year.

"A huge thanks to all the exhibitors for another well-supported and successful wine show," she said.

"I'd also like to thank our sponsors for their continued support, including RSN Australia (Spiegelau Riedel), Orora Beverage, Plasdene Glass-Pak, Cospak, McGrath Real Estate, CCL Clear Image Labels, and our major sponsor Cudgegong Rural Supplies."

This year, the wines were judged by Orange winemaker Jeff Byrne, Xanthe Hatcher from Agnew Wines in the Hunter Valley, and Michael Anderson from Langton's Auctions and Secondary Market, home to the world's finest wines and producers.

Two local associate judges - Renee French from Robert Stein Winery and Tom Dunstan from Bunnamagoo Estate Wines - were also on the judging panel, offering an opportunity for local winemakers to gain experience in wine show judging.



The Mudgee Wine Show is a critical part of Mudgee Wine + Food Month, the region's annual celebration of award-winning wine and food.

2022 MUDGEE WINE SHOW TROPHY WINNERS

- **Champion Wine of Show:** Robert Stein 2019 Dry Riesling
- **Most Outstanding White Wine of Show:** Robert Stein 2019 Dry Riesling
- **Most Successful Exhibitor:** LMB Wines
- **The Gil Walquist Perpetual Trophy for Best Organic/Biodynamic/Preservative Free Wine:** Vinifera 2021 Organic Reserve Chardonnay
- **Most Outstanding Red Wine of Show:** LMB Cabernet Sauvignon
- **Winemaker of the Year:** Lisa Bray
- **Viticulturalist of the Year:** Jamie Hudson (Petersons of Mudgee) & Brendan Foote (791 Estate)
- **Stein Family Trophy for Best Riesling:** Robert Stein 2019 Dry Riesling
- **Bob Oatley Trophy for Best Chardonnay:** Robert Stein Reserve 2017 Chardonnay
- **Best Museum White Wine Trophy:** Bunnamagoo Estate 2009 Chardonnay
- **Most Outstanding Sweet Wine of Show:** Huntington Estate 2015 Late Harvest Semillon
- **Best Rosé of Show:** LMB 2022 Rosé
- **The Dave Robertson Memorial Trophy for Best Cabernet:** LMB 2018 Cabernet Sauvignon
- **The Robert Stein Memorial Trophy for Best Shiraz:** Yeates 2018 Jack Roth Shiraz
- **Best Mudgee Classic Blend of Show:** Huntington Estate 2017 Tim Stevens Signature Cabernet Sauvignon
- **Best Museum Red Trophy:** 2011 Rosby Shiraz
- **Most Outstanding Fortified Wine of Show:** Craigmoor Winemakers Collection 2018 Fortified Shiraz
- **Most Outstanding Cellar Door:** Petersons of Mudgee
- **Mudgee Wine Heroes & Icons Award:** Tony & Debbie McKendry
- **Mudgee Wine Young Achiever Award:** Sam McKendry

Photos: Amber Creative



MUDGEE ARTS PRECINCT INAUGURAL PORTRAIT PRIZE

Mudgee Arts Precinct is now accepting entries to the region's first ever Portrait Prize.

Portrait prizes have a long history in Australia, with the Archibald Prize renowned as much for its ability to accelerate an artist's career as the many controversies it has created over the years.

The Precinct's inaugural Portrait Prize exhibition will take place from 16 December 2022 to 12 March 2023.

Gallery Curator, Lizzy Galloway said the Portrait Prize is open to all artists in all media.

"We're encouraging artists at any level of their artistic practice – from beginners right through to arts professionals – to enter this fantastic new portrait prize," Ms Galloway said.

"There are many talented artists in the region already painting in this genre and this will provide a fantastic opportunity for them to be publically exhibited and recognised.

"The Archibald Prize is of course the best-know portrait prize in Australia but only allows for artists working in paint.

We are inviting artists in non-traditional media to also apply – this could be drawing, sculpture, photography or even digital art. It will make the exhibition unique to the region.

There are several prizes to be won, including the Gora & Ellie Singh Mann Best Portrait (open only to artists living in the Mid-Western Region), the Best Overall Portrait Prize, the Best Emerging Portrait Prize and the People's Choice Award.

Artists are invited to submit up to five artworks towards this exhibition. They can be in any medium of their choosing and in as many categories as they wish but all works must be delivered exhibition-ready.

Entries are open now and close at 5pm on **Friday, 18 November**. Entry details at www.mudgeeartsprecinct.com.au



SACRED COUNTRY

Mudgee Arts Precinct's latest exhibition, *Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country* is open and celebrating the importance of Country, featuring a group of First Nations and non-First Nations contemporary artists.

The group exhibition focuses on a significant area within our region. Each artist has responded to place, Country and story in their creative artworks, addressing cultural, environmental, historical and social values that make up the water cultures of the Goulburn River and The Drip Gorge. The exhibition features an extensive educational program including artist and curator workshops, school holiday activities and a panel discussion with exhibiting artists. A guided On Country experience at The Drip Gorge and a collaborative artwork created by the local community's personal responses to The Drip will also be developed as part of the exhibition.

Exhibition curator Aleshia Lonsdale is visual artist and arts worker based in regional NSW. She is a Wiradjuri



woman from Mudgee who is also involved with Arts OutWest as Aboriginal Arts Development Officer and is the Chairperson of the Mudgee Local Aboriginal Land Council.

As a multidisciplinary artist, she creates work which responds to place, time, cultural values and traditions and contemporary issues of First Nations peoples today.

Exhibiting artists in the group exhibition include:

- Irene Ridgeway, Wiradjuri, NSW
- Teresa Yasserie, Wiradjuri, NSW
- Kim V. Goldsmith Jamie-Lea Trindall, Wiradjuri NSW
- Fiona MacDonald
- Fleur MacDonald
- Genevieve Carroll
- Harrie Fasher
- Jason Wing
- Biripi NSW & Maddie Gibbs, Barkindji NSW
- Sam Paine
- Vera Hong & Craig Bender
- Mudgee Local Aboriginal Land Council Community Cloak

***Ngayirr Ngurambang: Sacred Country* closes 11 December. Mudgee Arts Precinct is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm. Entry is free.**

RYLSTONE KANDOS FAMILY FUN DAY

Join in the **FREE** family activities at the Rylstone Kandos Family Fun Day.

Hosted by Council and the Rylstone and Kandos Interagency Group, this is a **FREE** event showcasing local services and community activities with lots of fun for the whole family including:

- Learn to identify the 10 most common birds in your garden by hearing their calls
- Get Wild Animal Encounters and Birdlife Australia displays
- Come and hold a baby crocodile
- Help build a human-sized bird's nest
- Sausage sizzle
- **FREE** bus service from Gulgong

Wednesday 5th October 2022

10am–2pm

Rylstone Showground

Cudgegong Street, Rylstone



GULGONG GOSSIP

There has been a lot happening in Gulgong lately, with the coffee and cars event seeing many historic vehicles line up on the streets around the RSL Club. The last of the *Voices in the House* was on at the end of August, hopefully there will be another series of concerts in 2024. Caribe, a Cuban dance group, performed in both Kandos and Gulgong. What an amazing performance!

CONGRATULATIONS to Gulgong Public School on their wonderful achievement of the Secretaries Award for Visual Learning. Well done!

CONGRATULATIONS also to the Prince of Wales Hotel on being nominated for Best Regional Local Best Steak Sandwich, Best Regional Casual Dining – Western.

Events coming up in the next month include:

5 OCTOBER will be another community bus trip, this time to Mayfield Gardens, at Oberon, which are amazing! Should be a great trip as they are very well organized.

28 OCTOBER will see the Gulgong Business Awards happening at the RSL Club, a very prestigious event.

29 OCTOBER is World Teachers Day, hopefully there will be special events to thank them for the amazing work they do in supporting the children in their education.

Look out for the 'Band in the Bush' on **5 NOVEMBER** at the Prince of Wales Opera House, should be good.

11 NOVEMBER Remembrance Day will be celebrated at ANZAC Park in Gulgong.

Keep an eye out for the Gulgong Swap Meet, at the Gulgong Showground on **13 NOVEMBER**. This is a car, bike, truck, and tractor show, as well as a Market Day.

The last Sunday of each month sees the **GULGONG MARKETS** happening at the Bowling Club, if you like browsing, there is usually a good assortment of goodies there.



Brought to you by
Cheryl Vassel on
behalf of the Gulgong
Chamber of Commerce



GULGONG HOLTERMANN MUSEUM



FUN, INFORMATIVE, A FIRST FOR OUR REGION!

The Gulgong Holtermann Museum is ever growing and we are proud to announce the installation of our additional interactive activities. The children's activities include Holtermann Collection photograph and word puzzles, as well as colourful animated activities. The puzzles and activities will encourage children to engage with the displays and learn about the Gulgong Gold Rush. The activities are included in the Museum entry fee and are designed to engage families and school groups. All children completing four fun activities will receive a "Holtermann Hero" badge.

The Gulgong Holtermann Museum is open daily from 10am to 3pm.



GOSSIP FROM THE PAST

The Gondolf Bible

You might wonder what a gold bible could have in common with the Holtermann Collection?

Our Research Unit has the goss!

A German immigrant living in Woollahra, Peter Gondolf, purchased the ornate bible with money earned from gold discovered in Hill End. The birth dates of Peter, Johannah and their eight children are hand written on the 'Births' page of the bible. Four of those family members including the

parents and their two oldest children, appear in portraits in the Holtermann Collection.

It is likely that the portraits of Peter and Johannah were taken by Beaufoy Merlin and his assistant Charles Bayliss in their studio at Hill End. While the location is not stated for the Gondolf photos, the floor covering, curtain, tablecloth (reversed) and flower arrangement match those in many other portraits known to be taken in that town. See inset from the portrait of Mr Isaac Augustus Mobbs.

Four-year-old Augustus and baby George Gondolf appear in five of the portraits. This is no mean feat. Children posed a problem for photographers of this era. They needed to be kept still for the long exposure times involved in the wet plate process. Baby George Gondolf is held on the lap of a woman partly hidden by a curtain. You can see the outline of her body and her light-coloured skirt is not fully concealed. In some of the photos of Augustus there is evidence of a neck restraint, designed to keep the child at the correct focal distance from the camera. Check out the photographs of Augustus and the Gondolf family on the Museum touch screens.

The Gondolf bible, kindly donated by Helen Schindler, can be seen when you visit the Gulgong Holtermann Museum.

Photos from Mitchell Library, SLNSW:

*RIGHT
Baby George Gondolf
(a2823750)*

*BELOW
Gold miner Peter Gondolf
and his wife Johanna,
née Scheibl (a2823169)*



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

In celebration of World Animal Day on Tuesday 4th October, St Luke's Anglican Church, Gulgong will be hosting a 'Blessing of the Animals' on Sunday 9th October at 9am.

World Animal Day was started in 1931 at a convention of ecologists in Florence as a way of highlighting the plight of endangered species. Since then it has grown to encompass all kinds of animal life and is widely celebrated throughout the world. October 4th was chosen as World Animal Day as it is the Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.

Everyone is invited to bring a pet (well behaved of course!) to St Luke's to be a part of the service in which they will celebrate all creation. Everyone is to meet outside the church in Bayley Street, Gulgong – inside if the weather is rainy. Please make sure your pet is happy and comfortable by being contained on a lead or in a cage for the occasion.

All animals who attend will be individually blessed with their owner by our Priest David Craig. Cost for a Blessing is a donation to the RSPCA NSW Central West Supporter Group.



MUDGEES & DISTRICT KENNEL & OBEDIENCE CLUB INC.

by Denise Reynolds



We've enjoyed welcoming quite a few newcomers lately. People come to us for help for all kinds of reasons. Most initially are looking for assistance with teaching their four legged buddies some general good manners. Some are looking to overcome particular problems such as pulling on the leash when walking, or are in need of some socialisation around other dogs. Whatever the reason, we are here to help.

With a little patience and perseverance, it's usually not long before people start seeing results and are generally quite surprised to find just what else their dogs are capable of learning! From that point, we find some people become quite interested in competing in trials with their dogs. "Rally" is a really fun sport to participate in with your dog. It's a bit more casual than "Obedience" in that you can talk to your dog for encouragement throughout the course.

Now that our own club's annual shows and trials are done for the year, a number of our members are now focused on the upcoming NSW Obedience State Titles, being held in Sydney. Good luck everyone! These trials are run over the October long weekend (1st, 2nd & 3rd). And as it is a public holiday weekend, there'll be no

Sunday training that weekend.

If you would like more information on training classes, please check out the 'pinned post' and 'about' section on the club's facebook page. And if you have further queries, please submit via

the inbox. Newcomers are welcome for the 10am class, held each Sunday (except public holiday weekends) at Victoria Park in Gulgong. And follow us on Facebook for updates in between our monthly magazine articles.



SAVE YOUR ELM TREES

by Andrew Rouse

The elm leaf beetle has arrived in the Mudgee Region! They actually landed in Melbourne about 15 years ago and have been on the slow march north arriving in the Mudgee region about six years ago.

The elm leaf beetle is a leaf-eating parasite which will continually defoliate a tree depriving it of the ability to restore its stored sugars and starches or food source. This is known as skeletonising the leaf. This also detracts from the beauty we find in the dense exotic foliage that is in contrast to the sparser, woody look of a lot of our natives. Importantly it detracts from the health of the tree and left untreated it will in time, put the tree into decline.

The Elm Leaf Beetle only affects some varieties of the "Ulmus" genus – the Golden Elm and the English Elm – and when the season is prime for the elm leaf beetle and they are in abundance, I have noticed activity in some Mulberry trees.

It is a small insect around 6mm long and yellowish to olive green with black stripes. The beetles hibernate in sheltered places during winter like wood piles and roof eaves, and have been known to be in buildings behind paintings. They emerge in spring to feed on the young leaves. The beetles lay tiny lemon-coloured eggs in clumps on the underside of leaves in spring, which hatch in 7-10 days.

Symptoms and Diagnosis

Symptoms first appear in early summer.

- Leaves turn brown (Skeletonise) in the interior foliage initially, spreading to the entire canopy.
- Trees might display a mixture of healthy and diseased foliage and shoots.
- Left untreated for 5 to 6 years symptoms of dieback appear, dead tips on the outer canopy
- Cracks in the trunk or peeling bark are severe results of die back or the tree's decline.



TREATMENT

As there are numerous species of Elm trees in the district and no known predators of the beetle have been discovered, eradication of the insect is a romantic notion at this stage.

Treatment and control of the insect has been quite successful, however. A systemic injection of the chemical Confidor leaves a foul taste throughout the leaves for up to 3 years. It will only be localised in that particular tree.

I have been advised that spraying the clusters through winter or their dormant stage will help but has proven to be a difficult messy job as the chemical is not contained in the system.

Rouse Tree Services have been working with affected trees in the region for many years controlling this insect with a near perfect success rate. **For a Free Consultation and quote on protecting your trees call Rouse Tree Services on 0425 368 368.**



CLUB MUDGEE COMPLETES FUNDRAISING FOR LOUISA LAWSON STATUE

Mudgee's Louisa Lawson statue is becoming a reality with the latest donation of \$5,000 by Club Mudgee fulfilling the fundraising requirements. Sculptor Margot Stephens is well into rendering the clay sculpture and Club Mudgee's donation has ensured that money is available to complete the moulding and casting process.

The Board of Club Mudgee recognises the importance of the work that Louisa Lawson did for women's welfare, including their enfranchisement. They also see that having a statue of her in Bill Cox Square is a very positive tourism attraction and an inspiring role model for the people of Mudgee, especially the younger ones.

The Rotary Club of Mudgee is pleased to reveal that 90% of the money required for this statue came from the Mudgee Community and the remaining 10% from the Minister for Women's Affairs via Dugald Saunders. "The support of the community has been inspiring" says Chris Stephens, Rotary Club Director of the project.



Photo from left: John Mills Director Club Mudgee, Chris Stephens Rotary Club holding the maquette of the statue, Des Dowdy Rotary Club, Michael Shepperd Director Club Mudgee, Emma Best Junior Vice President Club Mudgee.

RYLSTONE RETRO RECORDS

With thousands of records, thousands of CDs, hundreds of T-shirts, retro racing photos, cars and motorbikes, artworks and more, the Rylstone Retro Record shop is a pleasantly quirky shop to browse through.

Special requests, music and T-shirts are tracked down at no extra cost.

Situated opposite the Globe Hotel, 45 Louee St, Rylstone.

kandosrylstonemedia@gmail.com

MUCH MORE THAN WORDS COMPETITION

by Kevin Pye

I entered the competition to support the Mudgee Valley Writers in their promotion of Creative Writing.

Most locals know me as a writer of traditional rhyming verse and song lyrics. I have self-published 9 books, gathering a few awards along the way including 3 Tamworth Lyrics trophies. My entry was inspired by the remains of an original Roth Wine Shanty on the Hargraves/Windeyer Road.

I LISTENED TO HER SILENCE

Aging forlornly, inviting a lens,
rousing from slumber and memories past,
free for a photo, she'll open up thoughts;
pause now please, don't cruise by so fast

Her call came softly, pleading my time
to question the stories I heard.
The romance she offered, etched over time,
I visioned in pictures, some blurred.

Dreams play in rafters when purple night falls
and a wintery mist drifts in.
Does she talk back then with possums at play
in her bonnet now rusting thin?

Quarried, grey granite with ochre-stained streaks
from muddy cement leaking down,
stands in defiance of ravaging wear,
eroding her old shingle crown.

Her pain of decay, so clear to the sight,
then faded revealing her soul.
She's testament now to earlier times
enjoying her Wine Shanty role.

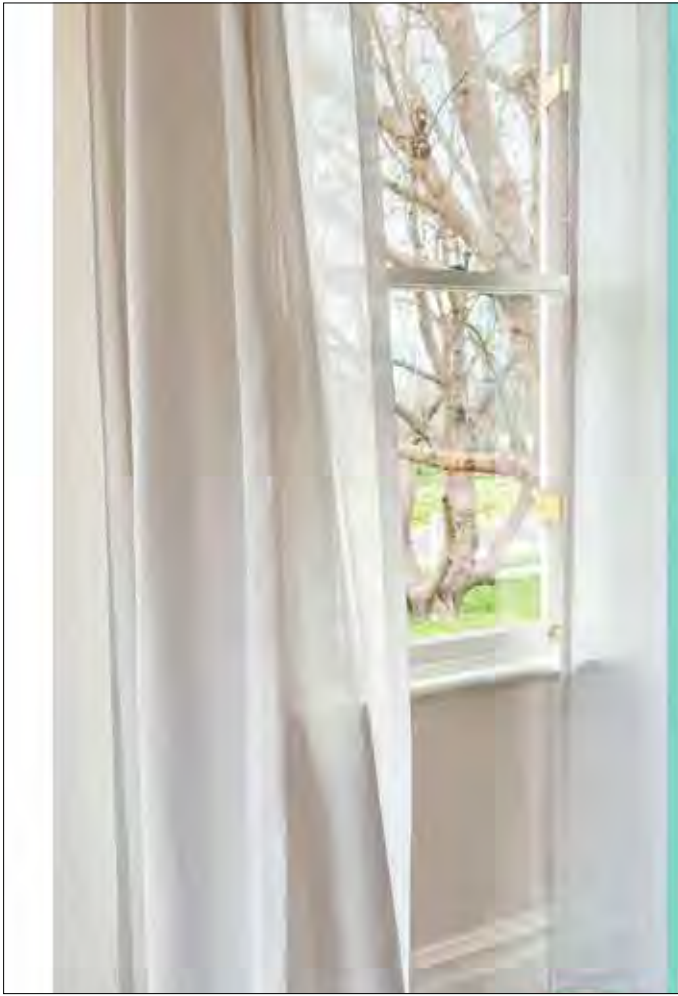
I turned back the clock, a hundred years past
and heard laughter echo again.
Shadows on whitewash, candle light dancing
and spectres of drinkers remain.

Can I hear songs in the Parlour Room dust,
the organ untuned, out of key?
These walls tell stories of some secrets held
and no one will dare disagree.

I gaze upon stones, past pavers aligned
from the iron gate to the front door;
trodden by forebears passing through weekly
and soldier boys home from the war.

They talk in whispers of life at the Inn
but words drift away on the breeze.
My reverie wakes as a thistle pricks
and two kooka's laugh from the trees.





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- 3. Fixtures:** How are they going to be attached? Traditional rods and rings, slimline modern tracking or striking tracks and sliders? What do the brackets need to attach to? Are the walls new gyprock over a steel or wooden frame? Is there traditional plaster from the Victorian era? How heavy are the curtains? Do you need to fix the curtains higher or wider than the windows or doors? Proportions and selection of your fixings are essential for the perfect final result..
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END OF AN ERA

by Fiona Lydiard



James O'Neill and his wife Gwenda Holt bought a weekender in Mudgee in 1997.

James had spent decades working in hospitality including stints in some of Sydney's top restaurants including Catalina, Rose Bay, as well as owning his own café. It did not take long for him to realise Mudgee was in desperate need of good coffee.

In 2000 they decided to relocate and not long after, The Butcher Shop Café was established, serving Mudgee's first on-premises roasted beans that could be smelt all the way down Church Street.

It was just the beginning for a string of firsts that would permanently change the shape of Mudgee dining and entertainment for the better, including being the first café to host outside tables in 2000, followed closely by Elton's in Market Street.

In its first iteration, Butcher Shop Café was also open for dinner both Friday and Saturday nights, seating up to 55 people and running for 8 years – bookings were always essential.

The Butcher Shop will be remembered for its lavish breakfasts always accompanied by thick handcut wedges of toast, and for its monthly hosted art exhibitions paired with the launch of a new wine from select Mudgee cellar doors. James sold posters, artwork, sculptures, mainly from renowned but local artists who always had time to showcase at the Butcher Shop Café including Nigel White, Linda Jackson and Luke Sciberras.

Wine dinners were hosted and celebrity chefs visited. Paul McMahon from Catalina and his chilli crabs matched with great local wines is well remembered. Then there was the Frog Rock Wines Reidel masterclass dinner where the café was rammed to capacity with food and wine matching.

In 2003, short film festival Mudfest - based on Sydney's Tropfest - was launched in the Butcher Shop Café hosting 80 people. In 2007, James O'Neill and James Loneregan were the only locals to make the final of the festival. Mudfest quickly grew and became an annual event hosted by winery Elliott Rocke, then finding a new home at Bunnamagoo and attracting over 2000 people.

In 2009, James opened a Gulgong Butcher Shop Café. New management took over in 2011 and continues today.

In 2013 James established High Cube, a unique café development at South Mudgee made from shipping containers and designed by local architect Cameron Anderson which is now known as Indigiearth. In the 2015 NSW Country Division Architecture Awards, High Cube and Cameron won the James Barnet Award, the Public & Commercial Architecture Award and jointly won the Small Projects Award.

In 2015 James established Black Wines with prominent winemaker Robert Black, a great local drop that can be tasted in most of Mudgee's pubs as well as delivered locally and beyond.



The Butcher Shop has always been something of a hot spot in town for both locals and tourists; James and Gwenda – who broke her own ground with her Head Gardner salon – have themselves become Mudgee icons.

Thanks to James Mudgee has become a town of coffeeholics where coffee shops have proliferated and thrived. But James is still the barista that has his regulars' coffee ready before they have left the car.

After 25 years, James and Gwenda have decided to spend more time with their children and granddaughter and to travel and spend time in Bali – but they will always call Mudgee home.

They will both be sadly missed as they were a huge part of the tourism growth in early 2000 in Mudgee. They will be remembered for good coffee, great one-liners and Gwenda's amazing haircuts.

The Butcher Shop will continue with new owners Tayla Robinson from Bespoke Catering & Co taking over in early November, continuing the Butcher Shop name and traditions.

So please pop in and wish James a warm farewell and enjoy his coffee one more time.



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THE BOOK NOOK

by Mid-Western Regional Council Libraries

LIBRARY APP



We are now in the final exciting stages of design for our new Mid-Western Regional Council Library App! The app will allow you to: manage your account and add and manage other family members, search the catalogue and renew and reserve items, use your phone as a library card and borrow directly from the shelf, scan the barcode of a book you spot in a book store to check the library's availability, explore eBooks, eAudiobooks and digital magazines, discover events and activities happening at your local branch, check library opening hours and locations. Plus, much more! Keep your library with you, everywhere you go. We are expecting the app to be ready to go live within the next few months. Watch this space!

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BOOK REVIEW

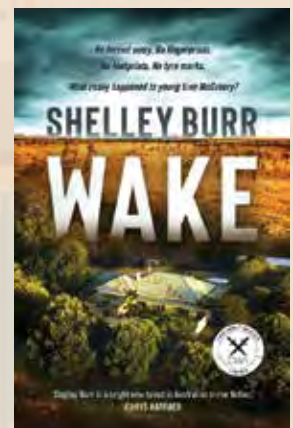
Wake by Shelley Burr

(3.5/5 stars)

The small town of Nannine was once a thriving outback centre, years of punishing drought have whittled it down to no more than a couple of pubs and a police station. And its one sinister claim to fame: the still-unsolved disappearance of Evelyn McCreery nineteen years ago from the bedroom she shared with her twin sister.

Mina McCreery's life has been defined by the intense and ongoing public interest in her sister's case. Her private tragedy is public property, cleverly highlighted through Burr's use of online chat rooms and crime forums. Now an anxious and reclusive adult, Mina lives alone on her family's sun-baked destocked sheep farm. The million-dollar reward her mother established to solve the disappearance has never been paid out. Enter Lane Holland, a private investigator who dropped out of the police academy to earn a living cracking cold cases. Lane has his eye on the unclaimed money, but he also has darker motivations for wanting to solve the case.

Compulsively readable, with an unforgettable setting and cast of characters, *Wake* is a haunting exploration of trauma in the age of celebrity victimhood, and shows it's never too late for the truth to set things right. This outstanding debut is available in print from the Library.





GULGONG AND DISTRICT COMBINED PENSIONERS AND SUPERANNUANTS ASSOCIATION

How amazing has the last month been?

With the passing of her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, an era has gone. As one commentator said "It is likely that no one alive today will ever see another British queen with the heir apparent being Prince William of Wales and the next in succession Prince George. For our members, it will be a time of reflection as a lot of them were Children or young adults when the Queen was crowned. Other have only ever known one monarch in their lifetime and are wondering how the Australian political landscape will evolve. Mr Albanese has committed to not reviewing the current political system during his government's first term. We wait!!

Pensioners are in line for an increase, but the discussion is about the lag between the pension rise

and the inflation rate or consumer price index (CPI) which drives the rise. Without the CPI increase the pension does not increase so there is always the lag. The CPSA newspaper, The Voice, states that the pension will rise by 4% which sounds fabulous until it is realised that the inflation rate is 6.9% so an effective decrease in spending power of 2.9%. This is compound on the last rise, so the true rate is something like 3.5% in real terms. Fuel is up by 13% which causes the increase in all goods transported, as well as filling up the family car to buy those goods.

The good news is that the income limits for Commonwealth Seniors Health Cards will increase significantly. The Health Card can be used to access medication under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

To ensure that you are receiving all your entitled benefits, whether or not you get them now, it is a good idea to make an appointment with Centrelink every couple of years to see how things have changed and whether you are eligible for new entitlements such as the Health Card.

Our next meeting will be a lunch meeting at Oaktree Village, Carleon on **17 October commencing at 11.30am.** For Gulgong members and guests, a bus will leave the Bowlo at 11am and return at approximately 3.30pm.

Numbers will be required for Catering. Phone **Jan** on **0407 901 584** or our Social Committee Chairman, **Wendy**, on **0409 741 262.** There will be no need to bring food. We look forward to seeing many members, their carers, guests and friends at the October meeting.

THE RED HAT SOCIETY

by Pam Bellhouse

As you may know, The Red Hat Society began in America in some twenty odd years ago and over the years Red Hatting has become an International Women's Social Organisation with Chapters in many countries around the world.

Friendship, fun and support for women, which aims to ensure members feel valued, a place of no judgement where praise and awareness of all the different hats they have worn in the past and continue to wear, is acknowledged and to cherish the friendships we currently have but also a way of making new friends with similar interests.

Our red hats and purple on our shoulders, with plenty of bling, certainly catches the eyes of those around us, the perfect ice breaker and brings smiles to many faces, men, women and children, especially little girls. Makes our day too, as often women in our age group tend to become invisible in society and in these days of ongoing isolations due to COVID and to the general business of life, the fun of dressing up can be so easily lost.

Red Hatters have much to offer and are difficult to overlook, we visit venues in towns and villages throughout our region and we have members from Gulgong, Rylstone as well as Mudgee. We also go to Red Hat conventions when we can. During the latter weeks of



August we visited The Mudgee Corner Store and our Chow Café at Burrundulla Winery and as this month, Mudgee is focusing on Wine and Food, most of our get-togethers during September have been and will be at wineries within the district, we had lunch at Di Lusso Estate Winery and will be visiting Walters Wines of Mudgee and the Naked Lady Wines at Rylstone.

Ladies interested in joining our group are invited to come along for several times, usually three or four times before they officially join the group, this allows them to get to know us and helps them determine if red hatting is for them.

Happy hatting.

SUPPORTING HEART BEATS ALL AROUND THE REGION

The Heart of Cudgegong – Defib Project continues to go from strength to strength as it supports existing Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) owners in the region and receives new devices to install at central locations. The database of existing AEDs has grown from a starting point of around 59 devices to now nudging 111.

"We are thrilled with how the project is progressing and the response we have received from both business and community has been overwhelmingly positive", Ali Broinowski, Project Lead and President of Business Mudgee, said today. "Everyone we have spoken to has seen the benefit of having more AEDs in our region, the challenge is to ensure that the AEDs are accessible 24/7 so if someone goes into a cardiac arrest, the first responder is able to access the AED device quickly. We believe only a small percentage of those 111 devices are available to everyone at any time".

Over the past few months the Heart of Cudgegong – Defib Project has formed partnerships with a number of organisations to gather information and also source AEDs. The Kandos/Rylstone Chamber of Commerce is researching AED availability in their part of the Council area and Heart of the Nation, and the founder Yellow Wiggle Greg Page, continues to be a key partner. So far the Project Working Party has sourced new AEDs from:

Mid-Western Regional Council: two AEDs that will be placed in 24/7 accessible locations across the region.

Heart of the Nation: has donated two AEDs. One has been installed in high profile, publicly accessible area on the wall in front of Blooms' CBD pharmacy on Church Street Mudgee and the other will be installed on the Sydney Road Mudgee, in front of Strait Up Cranes.

Bowdens Silver: has donated one AED that will be installed at Lue Public School for the local community to access in times of need.

There are three keys to success of this project:

- Installing AEDs in locations where anyone can access them in an emergency

- Ensuring every AED is listed on the Heart of the Nation app so everyone can find an AED when they need it, even in business hours.
- Encouraging everyone to download the Heart of the Nation app to their phone, so that in a split second they can find their closest AED.

"We completely understand that some AED owners may not be able to make their AEDs accessible all the time, but we still encourage everyone to list their device on the Heart of the Nation app. How good would it be to know that you played a small role in saving someone's life?" Ms Broinowski said. "If you would like to add your AED to our database or would like a hand to connect to the app, please contact us today. We are happy to help."

To extend information sharing and understanding of all things AED, Greg Page will be visiting Mudgee on Friday 14 October. Local safety and AED suppliers will be in attendance to answer any questions. Stay tuned for confirmation of venue details and timing.

In the meantime, everyone is encouraged to make contact through the project Facebook page @cudgegongdefibproject or by emailing defib@businessmudgee.com.au to share AED location, access information or other ideas.

**BUSINESS
MUDGEE**



Left: Greg Page, of Heart of the Nation and The Wiggles, presents an AED to the Heart of Cudgegong – Defib Project – 14 Aug 2022

Right: The Heart of the Nation AED is installed on an external wall at Blooms Pharmacy. The first 24/7 accessible device in Mudgee CBD. L-R: Project Working Party Members Neree Suttor and Ali Broinowski, James Hickey, and Blooms Owner/Pharmacist Alex Keipert.



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Gulgong Public School
LEARNING TODAY - LEADING TOMORROW



EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN THE MID-WEST

Gulgong Public School has been recognised for their outstanding work that the staff have been doing over the past 4 years with a Secretary's School Achievement Award. Only 10 of more than 2200 public schools from across NSW were awarded this prestigious award on Tuesday 6th September at Town Hall, Sydney.

This prestigious award recognises NSW Public Schools that have successfully created a sustainable learning environment through a whole school approach or project. Schools receiving this award must demonstrate significant improvement in learning outcomes and opportunities, excellence in student learning, maximising learning opportunities for all students as well as outstanding community leadership. Gulgong Public School was nominated for their Visible Learning Project.

During this time Gulgong Public School has used evidence informed Visible Learning to successfully shift the school's culture to one where teacher and student improvement is the norm. Using Learning Goals, Success Criteria and Targeted Feedback has provided clarity for students, enabling them to see exactly what is required to achieve success. Visible Learning is ingrained at Gulgong and is the driving force behind their Strategic Improvement Plan 2021-2024.

The leadership of the executive staff, David Lewis, Sarah Price, Megan Auckett, Kristel Barnes, Lauren Piccolo, Gail Arkell, Gill Armstrong, Tess Lewis, Steven Haney, Martin Howes, Jenny Woolley and Kylie Duffy has provided the cornerstone of success and the dedicated teaching staff over the past 4 years have thoroughly deserved their award and recognition.

Suspension rates have consistently dropped, engagement in class lessons has significantly improved and attendance rates for students sit well above 90%. Staff have a sense of purpose and are encouraged to be innovative in their teaching practice to ensure all students have the best opportunities to reach their potential.

Gulgong Public School has also achieved their Premiers Priorities of getting 31% of students in the Top 2 Bands of NAPLAN in reading and is well on the way to achieving the same rates for Numeracy. Targets for Expected Growth were well above the Premiers targets of 58%. Gulgong Public School achieving 69% of students achieving or exceeding their expected growth between Years 3 and 5 in Numeracy and similar results for Reading.

This is an amazing result for a small school of only 320 students in our region. It shows that Public Schools in NSW continually provide excellence in education at our doorstep.



Last month, a group of 21 young adults, former students of the University of Technology in Sydney, descended on Lue Public School for the weekend. They came armed with sleeping bags, gardening gloves and work boots. After sleeping in the classrooms on the Friday night and the school provided breakfast on Saturday morning, they started to work - and oh my goodness did they work!

They created our new vegie garden, assembled our vegie pods, painted the panels around our pool (amazing starfish and jellyfish etc) and moved sleepers to an area of young trees to enclose with mulch etc.

This is part of a program called the Big Lift where a likeminded group of young people travel out to rural areas for a weekend to 'give back' to the community. Most of them came out back in 2019 when they were all still at university and they wanted to do another trip together as a group and we were the lucky recipients of their time.

As a school we provided breakfast and lunch, then joined them all for dinner at a local venue on the Saturday night.

Just a lovely bunch of young people, engineers, nurses, teachers, biochemists, health care professionals and environmentalists etc - such a mix but a fabulous positive vibe from them all.



Kandos High School



A vibrant and caring learning community

At Kandos High School we are an inclusive learning environment. Students from the Support Unit are actively engaged in a variety of subjects across the curriculum with their peers. These include classes such as Woodwork, Food Technology, Music, Textiles, Agriculture and Art. As part of their Life Skills education, students actively participate in Work Experience programs to prepare them for life after school. They also attend Life Ready lessons where students learn the value of money through budgeting and shopping for their cooking program.



"You have to enjoy the journey. That's the best part of playing. We laugh and smile everyday. To lighten the mood and to have fun is important." - Ash Barty



16-36 Fleming St Kandos NSW 2848

PH: 02 6379 4103 EMAIL: kandos-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Please contact the school principal, Dyanna Thommeny for further information or to arrange a visit.



It was a sea of yellow at St Matthews on Thursday 8th September, with staff and students showing support and raising awareness for R U OK? Day. R U OK? Day is our national day of action when we remind Australians that every day is the day to ask, 'R U OK?' and start a meaningful conversation whenever they spot the signs that someone they care about might be struggling with life.

We had a huge turnout this year for our Father's Day BBQ and Liturgy! It was great to see such a large number of families in attendance after a couple of years of COVID lockdowns. Thank you to all the wonderful Fathers, Grandfathers and Father figures who came along to celebrate with us! And a huge thanks to all the staff who helped with the BBQ and Kindergarten and the Year 6 leaders for a beautiful liturgy.



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2021 TOYOTA HILUX SR 4X4 UTILITY 2.8 Litre Turbo-diesel with automatic transmission. This is a current shape SR Hilux. Looks stylish, IS practical and is absolutely ready to go to its new owner. Get in quick!

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2018 MITSUBISHI TRITON EXCEED 4X4 2.4 Litre turbo-Diesel with automatic transmission. Travelled just 35,510 kms! Stand out in the crowd in this Impulse Blue Exceed Triton! Low kms, one owner and is ready for its next owner.

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EQY15A



2021 SUZUKI JIMNY GLX 4X4 1.5 Litre petrol with manual transmission. Travelled only 11,685Kms!!! what an amazing looking car! Extremely fun and enjoyable to drive, if you sit in the drivers seat, you will fall in love! It's loaded with cool features!

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ERJ14V



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ECU51W



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ESP42B



2016 LEXUS RX350 F-SPORT 3.5 Litre V6 petrol with automatic transmission. Drive in style in this luxurious Lexus F-Sport, with an amazing finish to the trim, you will be smothered in comfort!

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Andrew GEE MP

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√ \$2 billion for Great Western Highway upgrade

√ \$16 million for the Ulan and Cope Roads

√ \$29.8 million for the Dixon's Long Point Crossing

\$11.4 million for construction of the Glen Willow Sporting Complex plus the training camp and roads

√ 24 hour rescue helicopter for region

√ \$1.5 million for the construction of the Mudgee Art Gallery

√ \$240,000 for Mid-Western Regional Family Day Care

√ 40 mobile phone towers and base stations for Calare

√ \$859,700 for improvements at the Putta Bucca wetlands

√ \$1.15 million for Kanandah expansion

WELCOME FUNDING FOR THE MUDGEE & DISTRICTS VVPPAA



Once defence personnel hang up their uniforms, another battle often begins, for support from the society they put their hands up to protect.

The Mudgee & Districts Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Association (VVPPAA) provides vital advocacy services to current and former serving men and women, empowering them to improve their health and wellbeing, and to stay well and age well.

It's fantastic that the VVPPAA has received a \$14,300 grant, which will help the organisation provide essential support measures, like transition

support, helping veterans with their compensation claims and ensuring that they get access to entitlements and services such as rehabilitation and wellbeing programs. This funding will provide a real boost to support the Mudgee & Districts Vietnam Veterans Peacekeepers & Peacemakers Association to continue their excellent work, fighting for our region's veteran community.

\$12,000 GRANT - A FANTASTIC BOOST FOR ILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

I was delighted to visit Ilford Public School recently to check out their new food van!

The former Coalition Government provided \$12,000 to assist the Parent and Citizens Association (P&C) in the purchase of the van which will be used in local fundraising efforts and to dish up disaster relief when needed.

The Ilford Public School P&C are a passionate group of parents, carers, teachers and community members who are determined to help make the early schooling years of kids in the local community the best they can possibly be and they have really thought outside the box by investing in a food van that'll see fundraising efforts for the local school soar! Other local community organisations such as the RFS and the Country Women's Association, will also be able to use of the food van to aid their activities.

The Ilford community and the surrounding region has faced a tough few years, with a devastating drought, the Black Summer Bushfires, the COVID-19 pandemic, and flooding events. In times of emergency, the P&C will be able to use the van to deliver food, water, and key personal care supplies to affected communities. This van is a wonderful local asset and I'm proud the former Coalition Government backed the project.



BATHURST ELECTORATE OFFICE

📍 107 George Street
✉ PO Box 54
Bathurst NSW 2795

☎ (02) 6331 0524
✉ andrew.gee.mp@aph.gov.au
🌐 www.andrewgeemp.com.au

For regular updates and news, follow me on Facebook and Instagram @andrewgeecalare



Authorised by Andrew Gee, Suite 1/179A Anson Street, Orange NSW 2800.

\$4,000 GRANT WILL KEEP THE RYLSTONE KANDOS VOLUNTARY RESCUE SQUAD SQUEEKY CLEAN

After participating in messy or muddy rescues, members of the Rylstone Kandos VRA Rescue Squad will soon be able to soak their soiled PPE at the team shed.

Thanks to a \$4,000 grant from the former Coalition Government, the group will purchase a team washing machine so members won't have to bring any grubby gear home with them.

The funding, awarded through the *Volunteer Grants program*, will also see the group set up several new computers at the Rescue Station, helping volunteers to easily access information and connect to video conferences in an emergency.

Volunteers are the backbone of communities in the bush, lending their time, skills and energy to make our villages, towns and cities the best they can be. With resilience, selflessness, and a fair bit of sweat, the amazing volunteers at the Rylstone Kandos VRA Rescue Squad go the extra mile, answering calls for help – no matter the hour - from the local community.

It's been a rough few years for the region, with the drought, the Black Summer Bushfires, the COVID-19 pandemic, and flooding events taking it in turns to devastate our country communities. While the recovery from these disasters is going to take years, its groups like the Rylstone Kandos VRA Rescue Squad which forego sleep and sustenance to help keep us safe when things turn sour.

The Volunteer Grants program was established by the former Coalition Government in recognition of the invaluable work of Australia's volunteers. Funding of \$1,000 to \$5,000 is still available for eligible not-for-profit community organisations to assist their volunteers and encourage volunteering.



DIXONS LONG POINT CROSSING UPDATE

Inflation and increasing construction costs have impacted the Dixons Long Point project but the campaign for the new crossing, and the determination to build it, are as strong as ever.

Tenders for the project have now come back and due to rising construction costs of up to 30%, the tenders have come in up to \$10 million above budget. It's an unfortunate reality of the surging inflation which Australia is facing, and it's affecting projects across the country.

The tenders also identify some additional costs in improving access roads on the Mudgee side in order to get heavy vehicles and components in.

Given construction costs are expected to rise even further, and also the need for a back-up contingency, the minimum amount needed to progress the project would be a further \$15 million to \$20 million.

There are now two courses of action in order to progress the project – seek more funding from the Federal Government or look at proceeding with the project with existing funding but reducing the scale.

Reducing the scale would involve improving the roads on the existing route (as opposed to a new crossing site) and reducing the scope of the crossing to a lower-level bridge or culvert crossing.

The previous Coalition government committed almost \$35 million to the project with \$5 million of that being an election commitment, and most of the \$29.8 from previous budgets is still there in the kitty.

It will now be a case of working up some costings with Mid-Western Regional Council and then sitting down with the new government in Canberra to discuss the best way forward.

I'm still fully committed to seeing the 170-year vision become a reality. I'll do everything I can to see it finished either in its current form with additional funding, or in a scaled back version.

I'd like to thank Mid-Western Regional Council and project leader Ray Kearns for their outstanding work as well as all of the representatives of our local Indigenous organisations and nearby farmers, whom we've worked very closely with on this project.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE - HAVE YOUR SAY!

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is an enormous threat to our country and economy yet the Federal Government still isn't doing enough to prevent its entry into Australia.

The Australian Senate has opened an inquiry into the adequacy of Australia's biosecurity measures in response to FMD. I encourage everyone to make a submission and have your voice heard on the response to FMD. You can send your submission to:

Committee Secretary c/o Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600. Phone: 02 6277 3511. Email: rrat.sen@aph.gov.au

You can also upload your submission on the parliamentary website at www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Rural_and_Regional_Affairs_and_Transport/FMDBiosecurity



WOMBAT LADIES CREATE HISTORY

by Ross Smith

The Mudgee Rugby Union Club's women created history recently when they became the first Mudgee women's team to win a premiership. Playing since 2016, the women have gone close before but have never managed to take home the major prize until this year. Taking on arch-rivals, CSU Mitchell, at the new home of Mudgee rugby, the ladies played impressively to finish victors by 43 – 19. Captain, Helen Blackmore and Vice-Captain, Lala Lautaimi, led the team brilliantly with outstanding individual performances but it was the whole team working so well together that made them so dominant.

Unfortunately, the results were not as positive for the men when both 1st and 2nd grade lost their respective grand finals. Both results were extremely close with the firsts going down to Parkes 23-20 and 2nds defeated by Dubbo Rhinos 14-10 in front of a large crowd of passionate supporters. On the same day, two junior teams contested

grand finals in Dubbo, the Under 12s being defeated by Forbes and the Under 14s losing out to Dubbo Roos.

The following weekend a strong band of supporters made the journey to Bathurst to support the Colts who played Dubbo Roos in the grand final of the Blowes Cup Colts competition. The young Wombats put up a superb display in what was described by many pundits as the best game of the day. Dubbo won the match 14-12 with the result in the balance until the final whistle.

With 6 teams making it through to the grand finals and the first ever Women's premiership, the club can be well-pleased with their efforts in 2022. All of this has been achieved in a year where the club moved, midway through the season, to their new home at Glen Willow. They now look forward to the end of season celebrations and presentations and the Annual Bowdens Silver Mudgee Rugby Sevens on Saturday 8th October.



THE CENTRAL COAST MARINERS RETURN TO MUDGEE



The Mariners will take on reigning premiers Western United on Saturday 29 October at Glen Willow in a clash that will excite football fans across the region.

Tickets for Round 4 of the Isuzu Ute A-League will be on sale at [123tix.com.au](https://www.123tix.com.au)

Mayor Des Kennedy said this is a huge win for both local and visiting football fans, and solidifies the relationship built between Mid-Western Regional and the Central Coast Mariners.

“We’re thrilled to partner with the Central Coast Mariners to bring a second A League game to Mudgee this year,” Councillor Kennedy said. “To host another A-League game in regional NSW is a huge benefit, not just for football fans but for the community and the economy alike. Our facilities are truly world class and it’s incredibly exciting to see Glen Willow be used for a multitude of sporting events.”

It’s estimated that the Mariners game in March 2022 generated approximately \$400,000 for the local economy, with 54% of attendees being visitors to the region.

Central Coast Mariners CEO Shaun Mielekamp said: “It is so exciting for us to be able to return to Mudgee for a second A-League match.”

“Our visit earlier this year was extremely well received by both our fans and the local community and continues our long term commitment with Mudgee and to bringing high quality football to regional areas. We are excited to continue to grow our fan base in the region and ask that everyone gets out to the match to support us.”

Ticket prices for the game start from \$35 for grandstand, \$20 for adult general admission, \$10 for children (over five years) general admission and \$15 for concession general admission. A family ticket will also be available for \$50.00 (2 adults, 2 children).

Council says it’s proud to deliver this sporting event after securing funding through the Federal Government’s Regional Sports Events Fund.



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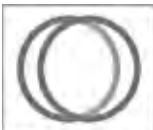
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