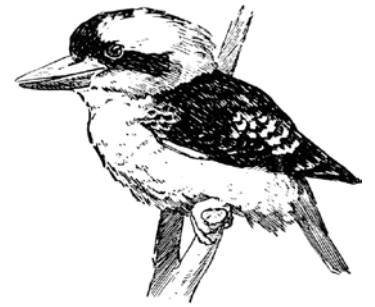


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Gazette

Issue No 147

December 2014 - January 2015

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A FEW WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

I was sorry to hear of the passing of a past editor of the Gazette – Marcia Mullins whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting, but have heard much about from Ian and Denis. Ian has written a short piece and provided a lovely photo – with some other faces you might recognise in the group.

With Christmas coming up, Planet Ark reminds us of the 'The 12 DOs of Christmas' which includes tips for recycling items like electronics and batteries, wrapping paper, foil, drink containers and plastic as well as reducing food waste, excess packaging and buying green gifts. There is more in-

formation at <http://12dos.planetark.org> or at <http://recyclingnearyou.com.au>, a comprehensive household recycling directory.

Don't forget the Members' Christmas party at the club on Friday 19th December, and enjoy Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve and Australia Day there as well with some great bands and activities.

There was so much news I couldn't fit it all in, so read a bit more online at the Dunoon Gazette website www.dunoongazette.com where I have put a few extra items.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.
Bronwen Campbell,
Editor

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TERM 4 AT DUNOON SCHOOL

One of the enjoyable inclusions at Dunoon School each year is the Transition program for Kindergarten children who will be beginning school in the new year. The pre-schoolers spent the first 5 Thursday mornings of this term at school becoming familiar with the classroom environment, meeting students and teachers and generally being welcomed into the school community. Senior students from next year's 5/6 class made wonderful efforts as "buddies" to form friendships and encourage the younger children to feel at home. This helps both parents and children to look forward to their first year of school in 2015.

At the end of Term 3, Blake, Cassandra, Poppy and Ruby were selected to participate in the Public Speaking Finals at Jiggi Public School. They all spoke extremely well and Cassandra achieved the Runner Up Award in her age group.



Remember the photo of the "giant" pumpkin grown by our keen gardeners in the last Gazette? Lismore Show judged this pumpkin to be the 2nd biggest in the Schools Giant Pumpkin competition! As well as this award, our garden was awarded 3rd place overall in the Schools Garden Competition. Well done, gardeners! We received prize money and a gift voucher to start off our garden ideas for next year. Also at the Show, Year 5/6 was Highly Commended by the Tursa Art Awards for their collage "Pathways", and Tyree received a Highly Commended award for her art piece "Owl's Life".

The Big Scrub Community of schools is into Chess! Dunoon hosted the semester 2 Chess Tournament with 48 students competing from our local schools. Excellent chess was played in the true spirit of the game. Billy, Lleyton and Cheron competed



in their first chess tournament, a great learning experience for them. In the Open division, Dunoon 1 team came 3rd while in the Novice division Noah achieved a 1st place and Cassandra came 4th. Wonderful concentration, everyone! Ben from Year 1 was undefeated in the Northern Rivers Individual Age Chess Championships held at Alstonville in November and was declared 7-8 year Champion! An amazing achievement and the school is thrilled at Ben's success.



Insects are an important part of our ecosystem! Apart from the pesky ones, there are many beneficial bugs and Year 3/4 has been delving into their world this term. We now have a native bee hive as part of our garden environment. These are very helpful little critters who don't sting! With wonderful help from expert parents, the class has also developed an insect hotel with recycled materials to host any insects which may be looking for a home. If you're not sure what an "insect hotel" is, just google the term and you will be amazed!



The two week intensive swimming program in November involves the whole school in a learn-to-swim program at Alstonville Pool. Children are encouraged to set goals to improve their swimming skills. All families have greatly benefited from the P & C's contribution to help fund the cost of bus travel each day.




P & C members have done a fantastic job this year fundraising to assist with school equipment and programs, especially the Language program which pays for a teacher each week to introduce students to Japanese.

We are very fortunate to have the Dorrroughby Environmental Education Centre right on our doorstep. George from Year 5/6 writes "We got the chance to do some fun activities with H2O. We did some really cool things such as exploring the traditional ways that the Aboriginal people fished by using leaves to stun fish and make them rise to the top of the water. We made rain with a smoke machine which was awesome and we also melted ice in a kettle! We had a really great time and I'm sure we learned lots of things from it!" They looked great in their lab coats as well! As 2014 comes to an end all classes have excursions to be excited about and opportunities to shine at the school presentations. Year 6 will be farewelled at a special evening on December 3rd and the whole school concert will be held on December 4th. We wish all the year 6 students the very best as they begin High School next year. They have all been fantastic to teach and their contributions to Dunoon School have been exceptional.

Kindergarten, Year 1 and 2 classes will be spending a day at Dorrroughby EEC where they will be planting, harvesting and preparing a salad from the aquaponics system. They will also learn about fish life cycles, native animal foods and bush tucker. Year 3/4 class are travelling to Koinonia by the Sea at Evans Head. Year 5/6 have a whole week to enjoy the many different activities at Lake Ainsworth Sport and Recreation Centre.

The year's end also marks the final chapter in the career of one of our wonderful teachers. Mr Will Johnson has been teaching in NSW schools for 27 years and has been at Dunoon since 2010. The school is preparing a great send off and "Thank You" to Mr Johnson as he begins a well-earned retirement. We are sure he will be planning some enviable adventures! Thank you to our staff, parents and students for all the great efforts throughout 2014. I hope everyone has a Happy Christmas and a safe and relaxing holiday.

Doc Dorahy



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What an amazing year at Dunoon Preschool and this term has been no exception with excellent transition visits for our schoolies to their schools. They seem really comfortable and excited about their journey into school next year.

We have had two performances at preschool, one by "The Inbetweeners", the signing choir (no it's not a typo - it is a sign language choir) from The House With No Steps and a guitar performance by Dunoon local Toby, playing songs from his "Busking Blind" CD. The Preschoolers really enjoyed both performances and the opportunity after the performances to have our visitors stay and be part of our regular program for a while.



We have had the dinosaurs invade our play recently and the preschoolers are developing their knowledge of dinosaur appearances, names and whether they are carnivores or herbivores. We do love how in preschool play the dinosaur role play nearly always brings in cars, trucks, trains or helicopters – an impossibility in reality!

Our vege garden is blooming beautifully and our lettuce, basil, cherry tomatoes are ready to harvest. We are deep in preparations for our Christmas Concert in early December, and preparing Christmas presents for the parents using a new technique for many... screen printing! Thank you to all the parent help with the last minute prep work.

Looking to next year... I would like to invite any interested community members to join our strategic planning session early next year. This plan will help to provide long term goals for the preschool to remain viable and successful. Please contact the preschool if you would like to join in this session. Similarly, I would like to extend an invitation to any locals who would like to share any knowledge they have of the Widjabul (or other Aboriginal) people, culture, or significant landmarks in our area with the preschool children. It would be great for the chil-



dren to have this local country knowledge embedded from an early age.

We welcome enrolments and enquiries for next year and encourage all new families to join us for our orientation morning next year on Wednesday the 28th of January from 9:30-11:30am.

Finally, thank you to our Preschoolers for another great year filled with learning adventures, thank you families for your support over the year. Farewell to our schoolie children and their families, we will miss you next year! And a huge thank you to our amazing committee who have worked hard this year, with successful fundraising, decision making, and successful grant writing for necessary maintenance and some beautification to maintain our beautiful learning environment for future years. Your commitment and dedication to the preschool is inspiring!

Have a happy and safe holiday period. See you in the New Year!

Kate Scanlan

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The Christmas holidays are fast approaching and it has been all systems go at the Modanville brain factory (Modanville Public School). We have continued a hectic and exciting calendar of events throughout term 4. Our K/1/2 children were treated to a wonderful day out in Lismore, earlier in the term.



At the recycling centre

We visited the Lismore Recycling Centre, and saw the Materials Recovery Centre in full action. We then toured the beautiful botanic gardens and finished our day with a Peggy Popart tour of the Lismore Regional Gallery. Since our excursion, the students have been highly motivated to recycle correctly and do the right thing to help make a difference. To this end, we made Robots out of recycled materials. It was a lot of fun and the finished products were amazing!



Beau and Lucas and their robot

On the 12th of November the SRC ran a special fundraiser for The Westpac Helicopter and our local SES. As part of this day, the children dressed as their favourite emergency service and we had a visit from the local fire brigade and the police! It was a very exciting day and the children learnt some valuable information about staying safe. Other SRC events this term have included a school fete afternoon and a Christmas charity appeal.



Mitchell and John Mace

Our prospective kindergarten students for 2015 have been visiting each Thursday for the last few weeks. We are very excited to welcome the new students to our school. If you are still considering our school for next year, please feel free to drop in anytime during school hours. We are always keen to discuss the various programs we have on offer for all year levels.

During weeks 7 and 8 many of our students participated in an intensive swim school at The Lismore Memorial Baths. This was a wonderful opportunity for our children to develop greater confidence in the water, in preparation for our primary excursion to Wet and Wild and generally for the approaching summer holiday. We participate in this program each year and thank The Dunoon Sports Club for their financial support towards this scheme.

Chess has continued to be a major focus

for our school this term, with around 20 of our students travelling to Dunoon for a Big Scrub chess tournament. Congratulations to Padi, Ryan, Tyler and Jayden who came first in the competition. Many thanks go to Mr Ryan Swift and Mr Cameron Blanch for their efforts in creating an exciting Chess club this year.

On December 5th, we had a "Modanville's Got Talent" quest, in conjunction with our Helper's morning tea. Staff, students and visitors were all amazed at the variety and quality of the performance our students created independently. We think our students are wonderful and this day certainly reminded us why. On that note, it is with a mixture of sadness and excitement that we bid a fond farewell to our 2014 year 6 cohort. Modanville Public School will miss you all and we will be watching as you make your own way forward.

On the 17th December, we will be holding our annual end of year celebration night at the school from around 5.30pm. We welcome members of the community to come along and enjoy the show.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy school holiday!

Geraldine Kerr



Annabelle and Tayah with Birdwing butterfly

On Sunday 9th November we held our Remembrance Sunday Service when we gathered in the Church to remember the service-men and women from this area and others who served in our armed forces in major conflicts.

we now repeat every year, so hope to see you next November - mark your calendar for November 8th 2015!

CAROLS IN THE CHURCH

Now to forthcoming events: On 14th December at 7.00pm we shall be



Remembrance Sunday Service

A lot of people attended, even more than last year, and Alan Shaw (our associate priest) conducted a wonderful service which touched the heart of everyone present. We had a poppy ceremony within the service when we remembered individual members of our community who had served in major conflicts. In all, a very successful occasion, one



having our, now, annual CAROLS IN THE CHURCH. This is NOT a Church Service. This is simply a gathering of village folk to sing Carols in our beautiful new building – a time of community fellowship – a time of social interaction with SUPPER (Christmas cake and a cuppa). Do come along!! We particularly need children to attend to fill the roles of the characters in the nativity tableau.

Our Christmas Service this year will be held on 24th December at 6.30pm and this will be the last service in the



church for the year. Don't forget, normal services are every Sunday at 10.00am (except January) and Guild meets on the first Sunday of the month after Church. Love to see you there.

'Gina Murray (Anglican Women' Guild of St. Matthew's Dunoon)


CANCER COUNCIL

Cancer Council is urging smokers who have recently been diagnosed with cancer to stub out the habit, as new research reveals quitting at time of diagnosis could increase their long term survival.

The study estimated that if a smoker continues to smoke after their cancer diagnosis, they have a 37 per cent chance of being alive 8 years later. Whereas, if they quit smoking at diagnosis their chance of survival increases to 43 per cent, a 6 per cent gain. On average, after a cancer diagnosis, people who quit smoking gain about 1.8 years in expected survival time, five years after a cancer diagnosis.

Sarah Royall from Cancer Council NSW said the report looked at the benefits across all cancers and highlights the potential for significant survival gains for any person, with any cancer type, who gives up smoking.

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TRADITIONAL THAI YOGA MASSAGE WITH FRANCIS

In February as well as May of this year I got the opportunity to learn about an amazing, powerful, ancient healing technique: Traditional Thai Massage.

I got welcomed together with a group of other students, in a small Lahu hilltribe village in the mountains of Northern Thailand. Not only going through a very intense program of learning about Thai massage as well as about yoga and meditation, but also living closely with the incredibly beautiful Lahu people in the village in a remote, mountainous area in North Thailand, made all of it an incredibly deep, lifechanging experience.

I have been touched by the beauty of it all – the people, the area, the scenery, and the art of Thai Massage. It is such a powerful, effective and ancient healing technique but yet there are many misunderstandings about it. I feel it is a shame that there is not much known about it and I would like to do my best to change that, by telling people more about it and giving people a beautiful experience with it.

Thai Massage is believed to be developed by Shivago Komarpaj (Jivaka Kumar Bhacca), who is said to have been the Buddha's physician over 2,500 years ago in India.

It made its way to Thailand, where the Ayurvedic techniques and principles gradually became influenced by traditional South-east Asian and Chinese medicine.

An important element of Eastern medicine is the concept of life force, prana, energy, which flows along specific channels. Along these channels are points that, when blocked, the energy can not flow, and is in excess in one area of the body and deficient in another.

In Eastern medicine it is said that disease is initially caused by for example stress, tension or emotional imbalance, and that this goes with blockages in the energy channels.

Traditional Thai Massage provides



benefits by stimulating pressure points to open the body's energy pathways, making healing energy flow freely, and allowing the body to heal itself.

The combination of muscle compression, acupressure and yoga-like stretches relieves areas of muscular stress and tension. Additionally, it helps the cardiovascular system by dilating the blood vessels, so the circulation is increased. A boosted immune system is another benefit of Thai massage.

Thai massage is also especially good for releasing mental and emotional stress through manipulation of the muscles. The healing technique is most powerful when applied, and received, in a meditative state. This helps managing stress and letting go of negative emotions.

The benefits of Thai massage go beyond

the physical body, and work to create harmony between body, mind and spirit.

What to expect of a treatment?

Thai massage is more energizing than more classic forms of massage. It involves stretches, muscle compression, joint mobilization and acupressure. Thai massage is also called Thai yoga massage as you can be moved into yoga-like stretches. Thai massage is performed on a padded mat on the floor. No oils are used so you are fully dressed.

Benefits

- Relaxation
- Stress reduction
- Releases tension
- Improves blood circulation
- Improves range of motion
- Increases flexibility
- Opens joints
- Activates energy flow
- Balances energy flow
- Centres and balances body, mind and spirit
- Boosts immunity
- Helps with digestion
- Strengthens the internal organs
- Provides rejuvenation and pleasure
- Promotes inner peace and calmness

If you feel tensed, stressed, in pain, emotionally unbalanced, or other problems, or if you just want to enjoy a relaxing massage and feel good, Thai massage can be very beneficial for you.

I am currently living in Rosebank, I do treatments from \$70 for 1.5 hours. Call or email me for an appointment.

I am looking forward to meeting you and working with you,

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The last few articles have detailed how to brew your beer, the last stage is storing and drinking.

Many Brewers make good use of bottles to store their beer. A few words of wisdom about bottling.

- 1) Try and use brown or green bottles otherwise they can get light struck (more about this later)
- 2) Always thoroughly clean using the methods described in earlier articles.
- 3) Large softdrink bottles are fine to use (I cover mine or paint them dark). These are good as they are light and don't smash when dropped!
- 4) Carbonate using any sugar, I don't believe it changes the flavour at all, but only use the correct amount.

Most home brewers have a 'bottle bomb' story. 90% of these failures come from putting too much sugar in the bottle. IT WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY RAISE THE ALCOHOL LEVEL!

So don't do it. You can google: 'carbonation calculator'. There are lots online that help you work out how much sugar to use, also google: 'bulk priming'. This



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method allows you to add all the sugar at once which saves time. On average, bottles take about 2 weeks to carbonate (longer in Winter).

Gear


You can buy special wands that have a T-piece so you can do two bottles at once. Anything that makes this job easier is good. I rarely bottle as I use kegs, but it is still handy to be able to store a few bottles with every brew.

Storing

Never ever ever store bottles in direct sunlight. There are certain wave lengths of light that will ruin a beer in under an hour. Even some artificial light can damage beer. For this reason, never buy beer that has been in a store window exposed to sunlight. Brown and green glass protects the beer (blocks the waves) better than clear glass. Beer in a cardboard carton is not affected.

Serving

We have a terrible habit in Oz of serving beer too cold...yes folks, I know beer is supposed to be served at near freezing, and if you like that, good, but you are freezing your tastebuds out of the game. Here's an experiment, take a full flavoured beer such as Stone and Wood, Little Creatures Pale Ale etc. Take a sip straight after it comes out of the fridge and is really cold. Then let the glass warm up for 5 minutes and take another sip. You will



Nik Hyde

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be surprised at how much more you can taste. Your tastebuds will appreciate not being anesthetized. The one exception here is the lawnmower beer. There are times when a really ice cold beer is refreshing, especially after you have just mowed the lawn or on a hot day. By the way I am not advocating room temperature beers, but just not ones that are close to forming ice crystals!

Happy brewing and remember to keep those fermenting temps under 20. **Maltycultural**

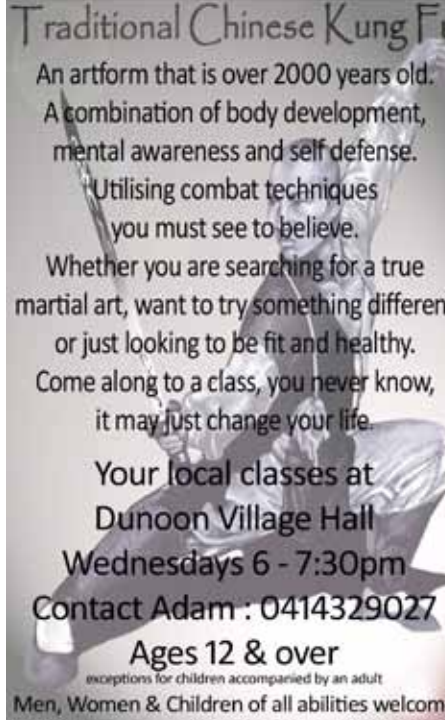


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VALE MARCIA MULLINS

It is with regret that I have learned of the passing of one of the Dunoon Gazette's former editors, Marcia Mullins.

I remember Marcia and Marie Matthews preparing the Gazette in the days when computers were just coming into their own, no internet, articles were written on the backs of envelopes etc. and it was the job of the workers to type the material

into the computer. The computer in those days was an Apple Mac at the Dunoon Club. Marcia & Marie spent days preparing each edition. A most valiant effort!

To quote the Richmond River Historical Bulletin "The introduction of that computer reveals a lot of Marcia's personality. From the early 80s, Marcia lived at 'Niu Era' Dorroughby with her life partner, Ian Bissett. One of Ian's sons

arrived on a visit from the USA and the mysterious parcel he brought contained an early model Apple Mac (which Ian refused to use). It was Marcia who tentatively began to explore the use of that computer as a word processor and soon the Dunoon and District Gazette was being formatted on that Mac. The first computer acquired by the Dunoon Sports Club was an Apple Mac.

But Marcia was affected by Parkinson's Disease which became increasingly debilitating. Marcia then entered a period of steady decline in her health and when she finally passed away there was a quiet cremation without public notice, according to her own wishes. There passes a most remarkable woman!"

Marcia most certainly made a quiet, lasting impression on a lot of people in the Dorroughby and Dunoon area, along with Ian.

Farewell Marcia.
Ian Murray



Marcia with her lovely long plait in the centre of a group of friends

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

From the Whian Whian Community Facebook Group

Lift your game Tony Abbott, Australia is being left behind by the rest of the world!

Whian Whian people and friends did their bit on Friday 15th to "save the world" and send a message to the G20 to act on Climate Change. The movies sent by the Australian Conservation Foundation, "Reasons For Hope" and "The Tide is Turning" (Al Gore) were well received and the atmosphere in the old hall was great.

There now is a worldwide groundswell of concern about climate change, and despite our government's attempts, it became a central issue at the G20, and it WAS on the agenda. Hooray!

There IS "Reason for Hope"! Personally, I liked the protest at Southbank where the demonstrators buried their heads in the sand! - funny, but a serious message.

Jan Petroff



Dear Editor,

A vote of thanks to the Dunoon Club for introducing Sunday lunches, a result of a survey the Board had the foresight and good judgement to conduct. Where else in this area can you sit and have a sumptuous alfresco lunch and some cool drinks with such a pleasant outlook?

Michelle and her team are to be abundantly praised for the fineness of the food and their pleasantness of service. The recently introduced tapas is excellent in quality and choice and nicely presented, something a bit unique and innovative for a leisurely Sunday lunch; we found the white anchovy bruschetta, stuffed mushrooms, prawns and chorizo, polenta, and eggplant with mushrooms quite delightful. The other menu choices

we have sampled over the time are similarly good too with something to satisfy any palate, even the most fussy.

Something else that stands out is the quality of the draught beer, made even better because it is pulled and served by a cheery and impeccably polite staff. The standard and always good taste of the beer is a reflection of the meticulous care taken with cleaning of the lines, something else Bernie and her staff pay particular attention to. It's also nice to have very clean rest rooms with soap dispensers and hand towels, things that show attention to detail and pride of the staff, and consideration for the hygiene and comfort of the patrons.

The Club is an enviable and valuable community asset that promotes sport and provides facilities, and our area is indeed fortunate to have the Club with Bernie as Manager, and a Board with the drive and commitment to maintain such a nice place to be and a social hub for the community. Congratulations.
 kindest regards. David and Sue.

Clunes Guides have been learning to knit. This is a very serious business requiring lots of concentration! The girls are knitting poppies for the 5,000 Poppies Project.



Learning to Knit

Earlier this term they learned about Remembrance Day and the significance of the red poppy. The girls always march in the Anzac Day parade in Lismore but participation in this project actively involves them in a wider Anzac Day observance as well as teaching them a new skill! From the 5,000 Poppies Project website:

Our initial aim is to “plant” a massive field of handmade poppies in Fed Square, Melbourne on Anzac Day 2015 as a stunning visual tribute to Australian servicemen and women for more than a century of service in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. We have been fortunate to have Phillip Johnson, Australia’s premiere landscape designer join us to develop our display, and we are gathering together over 100,000 poppies from all over Australia and indeed the world for our project. After the Anzac Day, we are hoping to tour the project nationally from 2015 to 2018 with our ultimate aim being to gift the entire project to the Australian War Memorial for all Australians to enjoy.

Requiring just as much concentration but perhaps more enjoyable, was learning a traditional Mexican craft. A special paper called amate is made from the bark



Amate craftwork

of trees and on it are painted traditional designs of birds, animals and flowers. Of course we didn’t have the amate paper so we substituted brown poster board with great success.

Report by Yarrow Mol

Blue and yellow Junior Girl Guide shirts paired with multicoloured joggers trudge through the thick rainforest. The wait-a-while grabs at girls shirts and shorts as it keeps them from continuing the hike. The girls are the 1st Junior Girl Guides, and in pursuit of their Nature Badge, the meeting is held at the Booyong Rain Forest. Local arborist Nick Sanderson, of Sentinel Tree Care, had been invited along to tell the girls all about the rain forest. In a nature lesson made fun, he explained how when a tree falls, a race for the newly allowed light begins. Vines are usually the quickest in the race and they can grow strong enough to swing on and climb. As the Junior Guides walk through the rainforest, they pass Firewheel, Pepperberry, Thorny Pea trees and Walking-Stick Palms. The ground splattered with mushrooms gives the look of a fairytale. Along Wilsons Creek, a girl cries out excitedly “There must be crocodiles!” Like the dwarfs in Snow White, each of the girls marches through the bush, soaking in the information. As the arborist points out various types of tree, everyone can see a



Guides aged 7-10 and 10-15 meet at Clunes Coronation Hall on Tuesdays during school term.

hollow inside one which vines have wrapped around the once-alive tree and slowly created a wooden exterior. Although some of the trees may be decades old, some are only a meter and a half tall. As they stand patient for the light; they stay a comfortable size until they can spurt up and grow tall.

According to Robert Baden-Powell, “Girl Guides have a unique distinction in that they have founded themselves”, and within Junior Girl Guides there is always a unique adventure. The meeting was special too as one girl made her Guide Promise Ceremony in the rainforest. The guide leader, who goes by the name of Kookaburra, welcomed her saying “You now join over 10 million girls worldwide. You’ve joined a big family!”

This is just one of the many fun activities that the 1st Clunes Junior Girl Guides have done this term.

If you would like more information about them, please contact Helen Hargreaves on 6689 5294.



Nature Badge!

what's on @ dunoon sports club

FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER MEMBER'S CHRISTMAS PARTY AUSTRALIA DAY BAND NIGHTCAP RANGERS

On Friday 19th December we are having the Members' Christmas Party and Raffle Night.

The restaurant will be open on Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve - a great opportunity to sample the delicious fare prepared by new Chef, Simon Turner. The New Year festivities start at 4pm with a pirate ship jumping castle for the children and Rogues Gallery providing music from 8.30pm.

AUSTRALIA DAY BAND

Monday 26th Jan . 3pm to 6pm
I am happy to say it will be the Nightcap Rangers (very popular at the latest Village Blues). Australia Day celebrations will include organised games and activities for children.



Rogues Gallery

Rock n Blues
Bring yr dancin' shoes

Friday 19th December

Member's Xmas Party and Raffle Night

40+ Prizes

*Lawnmower

*Meat Trays *Hampers *Hams

Christmas Trading hours

Wed. 24th Dec - 3pm to 10pm
Thurs. 25th Dec - Club Closed
Fri 26th Dec - Club Closed
Wed 31st Dec - 3pm to 12.30am
Thurs 1st Jan - Club Closed

Wishing all members a safe and happy Christmas

PLUCKERS & POETS



2ND SUNDAY OF MONTH 3PM

Monthly Sunday afternoon session of local entertainment

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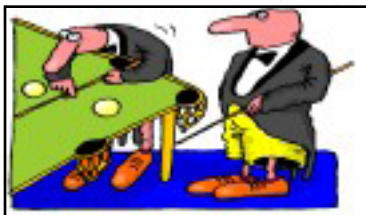
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Information for members and
their guests.

November has given us a preview of what we might expect over the coming months. Weather predictions indicate dryer than average conditions through the summer.

Fire crews across the region were on high alert on Saturday 15th November with the temperature reaching 40+ degrees. A Severe Fire Danger rating dictated a Total Fire Ban on Sunday 15th and the Dunoon brigade manned the station during the afternoon. The purpose of this was so that the brigade could respond immediately within our home territory and also to support other brigades at any fire outbreak reported in the Lismore area. Thankfully the temperature did not reach its predicted maximum and the day was incident free. This strategy was used successfully in many areas across the State over several days during the 'State of Emergency' declared by the premier in October last year.

On the 30th October Dunoon and Rosebank brigades responded at short notice to a request from Queensland fire fighters to assistance them to contain a major fire burning in the Girraween National Park. The fire started just outside the park and burnt out 5000 hectares threatening many private and commercial properties in the area before it was fully contained.. On route we were joined by Group Officer Dave Tucker from Bonalbo and his very capable assistant Nikki Vidler from East Casino as well as fire fighter Brian Burke (also of Bonalbo), who joined the Rosebank crew. The team were kept busy over



four days, securing the perimeter of the fire and assisting the Qld Parks crews with their back burning operations. The comradery between all members of the different organisations was great – a very friendly bunch – obviously not taking the State of Origin loss too hard.

The good news on our arrival home was that Dunoon's truck, which had been sent to Sydney for repairs after it was damaged by a falling tree earlier in the year was back looking like new and ready for action. We would also like to welcome our new member Andy Bain to the Dunoon brigade. As well as being a qualified driver Andy brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge of the Lismore area, particularly properties where and where not our large truck can access.

Fire Permits have been heavily restricted but because of the recent rainfall in the region the restrictions have been eased. Permits will only be issued for small piles that will burn out within 24 hours. Permits will not be issued for large log piles or windrows. As is normal practice during the festive season each year Fire Permits will not be issued from Monday 22nd December 2014 to Sunday 4th January 2015. Please read the accompanying article on Total Fire Bans and be vigilant

with fire safety throughout the summer months. If travelling over the holiday period, prepare well and stay safe. Best wishes to all for the festive season.

In an Emergency – Dial 000

Ross McDougall

TOTAL FIRE BAN - WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

On days of severe fire danger caused by a combination of certain weather conditions and dry vegetation on the ground the NSW Rural Fire Commissioner, may declare a Total Fire Ban (also referred to as a Toban). If a Total Fire Ban is declared it usually lasts 24 hours from midnight. The details will be announced through newspapers, radio, TV and on the NSW Rural Fire Service website. If you are in doubt, contact Lismore City Council, NSWRFSS, NSW Fire & Rescue or the Police.

During a Total Fire Ban – campfires, solid fuel barbeques, ovens and kettles are prohibited (ie: those using wood, heat beads, charcoal or briquettes). Gas or electric barbeques may be used provided:

- It is on a residential property
- Within 20 metres of a house or dwelling
- In an area with council approval (park, picnic area, etc)
- It is under the direct control of an adult
- The ground within 3 metres of the barbeque is cleared of all materials which could burn
- You have a continuous supply of water available

If you have an existing fire burning or there is a re-ignition of an old pile burn you must extinguish it. Failure to comply with the fire regulations can result in substantial penalties. The fine for lighting a fire or not extinguishing a fire on your property during a Total Fire Ban has increased to \$2200. In extreme cases, a 12 month jail term can be imposed.

Ross McDougall



Crew at Girraween National Park

When I first saw this photo in the Museum, labelled "Dunoon 54, Boarding House, early 1900s" I just knew it was wrong because I was convinced that the first Guesthouse was the double-storied building which burned down in 1912 along with the Bank of NSW and the Billiard Saloon on either side of it. The Post Office was destroyed in that fire and the drapery store run by Rudolph (Rue) Friedman, brother of Isaac (Alfred). When I saw this advertisement later I guessed that I had to think again.



Northern Star Saturday 28 August 1909
WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT. Apply Mrs. Williams, Boarding House, Dunoon

It was Mrs Williams and her daughter Bertha who ran the two storied guesthouse. I had been looking for something else on Trove, but lately I was getting desperate that I would never find that advertisement again. I was searching Trove for a reference to a Guesthouse not for a Boarding House!

I knew that the two storied Guesthouse was nearing completion towards the end of 1910 because the Presbyterians held a monster fete to raise money to build their church. The hall was used for various stalls. A huge pavilion had been brought from Sydney and erected in Richard Bourke's paddock for evening concerts. The incomplete Guesthouse was used as refreshment rooms

Dunoon must have been a busy little town in those days, far enough from Lismore to have a life of its own. Walkers Saleyard was not in action till

about eight years later and it did not last eight years. I began searching in the years between 1905 and 1910 and I was amazed to find sales galore, mostly on site, and mostly of dairy herds and dairy equipment including 80 or 100-gallon separators. Wheeldon and Minchinton were the two selectors who claimed the eastern part of the former 400 acre Reserve at the top of the hill. Wheeldon had been chairman of the Progress Association but was moving to Queensland. He sold everything, house, land, herd and equipment. Eli Minchinton also had a sale as did Michael Donoghue and Charles Morton, but the one that caught my eye was Richard Bourke advertising his sale at 12 o'clock on FRIDAY, MARCH 6th, 1908. And like most others luncheon was provided!

Usual Terms at sale. Luncheon, at 11.30. Sale at 12 sharp. The Auctioneers beg to draw special attention to this important Sale of Dairy Stock. Mr. Bourke has been for many years a resident of the Dunoon district, and his keen judgment in buying and systematic method of culling has made him famous as a dairy stock breeder. He now reluctantly is compelled to sell owing to failing health, the whole of his prime herd which he

has spent years in putting together, and follow the advice of his physician. He therefore, proposes taking a trip to Ireland, and must dispose of the herd right out to the highest bidder. The Auctioneers have inspected the herd and have no hesitation in recommending them to buyers.
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BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AND PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

Lismore City Council is placing the Draft Biodiversity Management Strategy (BMS) on exhibition for three months from 26 November 2014 to 24 February 2015.

In conjunction with the exhibition period, Council will hold a community consultation into a proposed \$500,000 per annum Special Rate Variation to fund the implementation of the strategy.

The BMS provides a framework for Council to build partnerships with the community to protect and enhance biodiversity on public and private land in both urban and rural landscapes.

“During the Imagine Lismore consultation, the community said it wanted Council to provide environmental leadership and Council has responded by developing a BMS. The process showed that the environment is the top priority for our community,” explained Council’s Environmental Strategies Coordinator Damian Licari.

“Council is now asking the community if the BMS is what they wanted, and if they are willing to invest in it. Council cannot raise rates unless the community is supportive of the idea, so the consultation period is our chance to explain the BMS and ask our community if it has the capacity and the desire to fund these environmental initiatives. “In essence, the BMS will deliver cleaner roadsides; assistance to landholders and community groups to manage pests and weeds; assistance to manage bushland and riversides on rural land; more opportunities to get involved through community events, workshops and field days; well-managed urban bushland reserves; and more recreational opportunities in the urban area, such as walking tracks.”

The BMS sets out a variety of key actions that include:

- Improving Council processes, procedures and associated staff training to ensure best-practice environmental management.
- Achieving ecologically sustainable development by creating a Biodiversity Development Assessment Framework for

the assessment of development applications.

- Implementing the Rural Landholder Initiative in partnership with the Southern Cross University and Lismore’s agricultural community. The program is based on creating incentives to assist and encourage landholders to manage biodiversity on their properties.
- Implementing the Urban Green Corridors Plan to enhance Lismore’s urban environment by linking existing bushland and riparian areas.
- Education programs tailored to the community, schools and industry groups.

The rate rise would apply to three rating categories: Residential, Rural Residential and Farmland. The rate rise would be based on the NSW Valuer General’s land values, with the average urban resident paying \$25.43 per year; the average rural resident paying \$31.68 per year; and the average farmland resident paying \$50.63 per year.

DRAFT GROWTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY AIMS TO BALANCE GROWTH AND LIFESTYLE

Lismore City Council’s Draft Growth



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Management Strategy (GMS) is on public exhibition for more than two months in order to obtain community feedback. The GMS will guide the pattern and density of growth in the Local Government Area (LGA) over the next 20 years and is the first time Council has combined city and rural growth issues into one document, combining the separate Lismore Urban, Village and Rural Housing Strategies.

New population projections estimate Lismore will grow by around 5900 people over the next 20 years. The GMS sets out new land release areas for development as well as how to maximise existing services and infrastructure through infill development and providing incentives for affordable housing options such as secondary dwellings.

Council's Strategic Planning Coordinator Paula Newman said the GMS was developed in close consultation with the community, with 106 people attending six place-based forums throughout the LGA to discuss what they love about their 'place' and how they envisage it evolving in the future.

"These forums were essential to help shape a GMS that provided adequately for development but also protects what people love about this part of the world, such as rural outlooks and village character," Paula said. *"This is a really robust document that looks closely at employment and housing needs, particularly in context to an ageing population, as well as waste, water and infrastructure needs so that we have a framework for*

growth that is measured and sustainable. "As a regional centre we are prepared for growth with housing and development options that do not place undue pressure on our existing services or village amenities. This GMS seeks to ensure we can be economically prosperous but retain the natural beauty and lifestyle that makes our LGA such a desirable place to live."

The GMS will guide growth in Lismore for the next 20 years and will replace Lismore's Urban, Village and Rural Housing Strategies, which have guided the location of new urban, village and rural housing developments for more than 10 years.

The Draft GMS identifies land that is potentially suitable for development in the medium to long term for a range of housing, commercial and industrial purposes to accommodate future population and employment growth.

The document aims to ensure housing is located in areas that can be serviced by sewerage, water and roads infrastructure while protecting prime agricultural land, the natural environment and important landscape features. Areas nominated for future development are in or adjacent to Lismore's main urban area, in close proximity to villages that provide a range of services, or in and adjacent to existing rural residential estates. Land for new urban, village and rural residential housing is proposed in the following areas:

- Goonellabah and the northern ridges

- East Lismore
- Bexhill
- Caniaba
- Clunes
- Dunoon
- Nimbin
- Wyrallah
- The Channon
- McLeans Ridges
- Modanville
- Monaltrie
- Richmond Hill

The Draft GMS also nominates a precinct for medium density housing close to Lismore Base Hospital, Lismore Shopping Square and the CBD. Changes are also proposed to land suitable for rural landsharing community housing (multiple occupancy). The Draft GMS suggests new multiple occupancy communities should be located close to road infrastructure already in place. For more information phone Strategic Planning Coordinator Paul Newman on 1300 87 83 87.

The Draft GMS is on exhibition from 26 November until the end of January 2015. It can be viewed at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au or in hardcopy at Council's Corporate Centre, 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, during normal business hours Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm. Submissions can be made online, posted to the General Manager, Lismore City Council, PO Box 23A, Lismore NSW 2480 or emailed to council@lismore.nsw.gov.au. Submissions should state reasons for objection or support.



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**SHORTWAVE RADIO
MONITORING IN THE
PACIFIC ISLANDS**

My very first venture into monitoring a long distance overseas radio station happened in early 1952 when I was “mucking about” on the tuning dials of my parents old Kriesler radio at their home in South Lismore.

It was a fairly big radio set with a highly polished wooden cabinet, six large valves and double tuners etc, and it had a rather large circular dial listing most radio stations in Australia on it, and a separate dial for receiving overseas broadcasts. My father had a long piece of four-strand copper wire as an aerial that went out through the top of the ceiling in the living room and out to a tall pine tree some twenty metres away. I had no radio knowledge back then but I used to like changing radio stations and to try and pick up any overseas radio stations that I could.

It was one Tuesday morning and as I turned the short wave dial around I came across an English speaking station and as I listened to the radio announcer he said it was the Canadian Broadcast Corporation in Vancouver, Canada, and anyone receiving this broadcast to please contact us by letter – giving the station’s Canadian address. I was only fourteen years of age when this “great event” happened.

As soon as the broadcast was over I immediately sat down and wrote a letter to them, giving them my name and address, age, and the time I heard them and of some of the subjects they spoke of. I phoned up the postmaster at the South Lismore Post Office to find out how much it would cost to post a letter to Canada by airmail and I was told it would cost two shillings and sixpence (25 cents). I hand wrote a four-page letter to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and also enclosed an Australian post card, put the necessary stamps on the envelope, then raced down to the South Lismore P.O. on my bicycle and posted it in their outside letter box – with the two shillings and sixpence stamps on it, marked Air Mail, with my name and address on the back.

I estimated it would take about two weeks for my letter to get to Canada by air and probably the same on the way back. That month came and went, and so did another month pass before I got a reply from Canada.

I contacted the South Lismore P.O. about this and they told me that my original air mail letter to Canada was two-pence short – so they sent my “air mail” letter by sea mail instead – but nobody from the P.O. contacted me to say my air mail letter was that two-pence short, (our phone number was in the local phone book).

Obviously I was rather upset about this but the reply from the then manager of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation made up for it for he complimented me highly in taking the time and interest to contact them for I was the very first person ever from northern New South Wales to do so. I received some very nice cards on Canada from them as well as photos of the radio station itself and the broadcaster too. To me at that time it was like receiving an honoured gift. Unfortunately all of these items were damaged during the disastrous February 1954 floods that struck Lismore and many other Northern Rivers towns.

I listened into other overseas stations from time to time but I never actually wrote to them.

Forward to 1975. By this time I had been living in Papua New Guinea for fifteen years (I arrived there on April 8th, 1960) and I was now living in the seaside town of Wewak in the northern part of PNG.

A friend of mine who worked for the PNG Telecommunications Division was about to “go finish” back home to Australia and he had one of the very latest Yaesu Musen FRG-7 short wave receivers that he was selling so I bought it off him as I was wanting a more powerful radio receiver than the one in our normal small radio.

I duly set this new shortwave receiver

up in our lounge room in our company house located on the tip of Wewak Point looking directly North over the ocean and I also had good clear access both East and West out over the ocean too. It took me several hours to set up the duplicate aerial wires outside and what a huge difference it made for now I was picking up shortwave broadcasts from all around the world. There were three very special radio stations I continually reported on – they were Radio Brazil in South America, Deutsche Welle (The Voice of Germany), and NHK (Radio Japan) from Tokyo. It was with these three radio stations that I mostly made contact.

It must be remembered that back in those days (1970’s) there were no satellites transmitting the shortwave services, the radio stations had to direct their antenna arrays to bounce their radio signals off the stratosphere to the part(s) of the world they were aiming their programmes. For instance, all of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and all other island nations came under the “Oceanic Sphere”, and several different radio frequencies would be used depending on whether it was daytime transmissions or night time ones.

I regularly sent my radio reception reports by airmail letter to these three main radio stations, (Brazil, Japan and Germany), and ended up becoming great friends to the radio announcers themselves as well as the technical monitoring staff.

Because of my many moves in PNG with the company I was working for, (Ela Motors), my reporting to Germany and Brazil ceased after about three years but I kept on reporting Radio Japan’s broadcasts continually at the end of each month for years, on the last seven days (and nights), using special technical monitoring reporting forms issued by Radio Japan (NHK).

Some of my reception reports to NHK came from many different locations within PNG and other Pacific Island nations and these included reporting from Honiara in the Solomon Islands, Fiji, and Tonga.

There was one “special” moment when I started monitoring NHK from my hotel room in Rabaul (PNG) on the night of 11th September, 1996, using my smaller transistorised shortwave radio receiver. I had been sent up to Rabaul to help out what was left of Ela Motors after the twin disastrous volcanic erup-



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Call Madeleine or Ove for information

tions that destroyed Rabaul on September 19th, 1994. It was just after 8pm on that night of 11th September in 1996 and I could hear NHK's broadcast quite clearly through my radio ear phones when suddenly, and without warning, Tavurvur volcano, some 5 km from the hotel I was staying at, went into another of its major eruptions. Having my ear-phones on at the time I heard this loud "muffled" sound and I didn't take much notice of it, then barely a few seconds later the shockwave from the volcanic explosion hit the hotel, rattled all the buildings, caused the hotel complex to sway a fair bit as in an earthquake and that's when I abandoned any further monitoring of NHK that night in case we all had to prepare for a quick evacuation – luckily, that didn't occur.

Because of my continual association in those early years with NHK (Nippon Hoso Kyokai) I was sent some extremely valuable books covering many facets of Japan itself and the photography and artwork in each book is truly outstanding.

I made great friends with Radio Japan and especially to a Mr. Yojiro Kume who was in charge of the technical radio reporting section and Mr. Kume and I have continued on with a great friendship ever since over the past 39 years without a break, and it still continues on to this very day. I have been sending copies of the Dunoon Gazette to Mr. Kume over the past years and he enjoys receiving them very much. He has commented on the high quality of the magazine, its content, and its variety of stories.

During a trip to Japan in October 1988 to revisit Toyota's manufacturing plants in Nagoya I had the chance to visit the Japan Broadcasting (NHK) studios in Tokyo and to finally meet up with my very good friend, Mr. Yojiro Kume.



Charles and Mr. Yojiro Kume 1988

This would be the very first time I would meet him after all those past years of corresponding with each other. I took with me a large copper beating of "The Crest" of PNG depicting the Bird of Paradise standing on a large Kundu drum to present to NHK. It was certainly wonderful indeed when Mr. Kume and I finally met for the very first time. Later on I was taken into one of the NHK's broadcasting studios and they recorded an interview with me which was broadcast two nights later. Luckily I was back in PNG then and was able to hear my recorded speech as well as a selection of music I had chosen.



Charles being interviewed by NHK

I also made friends with a couple of the radio announcers at NHK and even received some direct phone calls from them on air when I was in PNG. From memory I stopped monitoring NHK's broadcasts around 2006 as they too were coming into the digital age of computerisation. By now there were several thousand satellites being used by all nations and the age of shortwave broadcasting was winding down in favour of direct "digital" contact via computers etc.

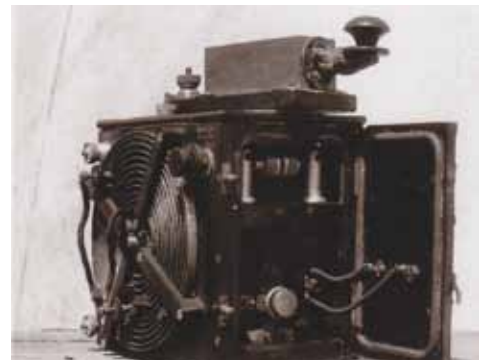
Mr. Kume retired from NHK several years ago but we have never lost contact with each other in all these past 39 years or so and it's a very special friendship that will endure all the days of our lives. With modern technology we can now make contact with each other regularly via the Internet in a few seconds!

One thing that has come out of all of this is that I was actually following in my father's footsteps without really knowing about it until a few years ago when I discovered all his World War 1 records and nearly 150 black and white photos he took while serving as a radio operator and aircraft mechanic with the Australian Flying Corps throughout the Middle East campaigns of WW1. My father not only monitored German radio messages (by a type of Morse Code) but he also transmitted and received radio



Charles' father - radio operator WW1

signals for the Australian Flying Corps and the Australian Infantry by coded Morse Code messages. I have actual copies of the secret codes he used and photos of those huge bulky and very heavy radio sets used during that time (1916 to 1919). Some of the larger radio sets were up to 200 kg in weight and the smaller ones around 10 to 20 kg.



A "smaller" radio set used by Charles' father in open cockpit aircraft during World War 1, 1916-1919.

The radio aerial for the smaller radios used in an open cockpit aircraft during WW1 was a long thin steel cable around 30 metres long and it had a 3 kg lead weight at the very end to stop the cable from flopping around too much while in flight. It was the radio operator's job to unwind this cable from the rear cockpit after the plane had taken off, but it also had to be wound back in before the plane actually landed on its return. My father took a few photos where planes had "up-ended" because the then radio operator failed to wind in the cable and that lead weight at the very end would "snag" into a hole in the runway and suddenly pull the plane up with a sudden stop and the plane would either flip onto its nose or end, with the aircraft being badly damaged. How things have changed in the past 98 years!!

A lot has been learnt from those early days of radio broadcasts but the problem with today's "modern" technology is the never-ending streams of advertisements on both radio and TV stations spoiling a good listen in on the radio and the very same with TV broadcasts.

Charles Betteridge.

HEAT HAZED

I'm fresh back from my afternoon walk when I write this, but perhaps "fresh" is not the right word. I am sticky and gross, and my fringe is plastered to my forehead as if I have been on a marathon run.

The whole neighbourhood is an eerie ghost-town that sends my over-active imagination reeling. Other than the birds and one or two cars it is if I am the only person left on the planet, surely some kind of catastrophe has befallen everyone but me?

Throughout the winter months I would pass people gardening, mowing their lawns even, but now not a soul is in sight. Going for walks on Sundays in summer when I was growing up (and even as a young mum) usually meant passing houses that smelt of barbecue, baking, or the odd roast which would make your tummy growl. Kids could be seen and heard playing street or backyard cricket, running under a sprinkler squealing, riding their bikes or playing chaseys and "stuck-in-the-mud" in their front yards.

Cricket matches or music would boom out from televisions or radios inside the house where Mums & Dads were relaxing after the workweek, but now I can hear nothing at all but birds. I can only assume everyone but us has cleared off to the beach, or has incredible insulation that blocks out the sounds of their televisions and air-conditioning. This is a neighbourhood where there is probably one pool to every 5 houses – even though they are hidden from street view, surely someone would be splashing about in one? If I were lucky enough to have one I wouldn't come out till I had shrivelled into a prune.

Even early the other morning there was the same eerie silence. Generally I would pass many other morning walkers and cars heading off to work and hear the sounds of households waking up. It freaked me out so much I checked the news reports as soon as I got home – thinking perhaps everyone had woken up to breaking news (much like the Twin Towers coming down in 2001)

and was glued to their televisions. But no – no disasters, no movie celeb scandals and not even an embarrassed polly to sledge.

If it weren't for the racket of the birds I would think I had gone deaf. Clearly everyone has decided a nice long nap under a fan or quiet aircon is the solution to getting through the heat and I don't blame them at all – I would do the same only I have had two icecreams this weekend and I know they slithered their yummy but evil way straight to my belly and thighs!

The truth is even on the hottest days I can't give up my walking, I might shorten my route a little, I might just make my 10000 step goal instead of reaching for my desire of 15000 to 20000 steps a day but I absolutely have to get to 10000. Not only does my body crave the exercise now – and my siblings and friends who join me on my Fitbit walking challenges would agree with me there, but I am absolutely terrified that if I don't keep up with the walking I will slip too easily back into my bad habits of lethargy and prolific weekend snacking with no attempt to burn off the extra calories.

I have worked too hard this year to get the weight off and I feel incredible for it. Where once I really struggled with flights of stairs or strolls up hills, now I barely feel them, and even if I think "I really don't want to walk" as soon as I get out there my feet just go, go, go and all I have to do is chill out and enjoy the view while they do the hard work!

That probably sounds a little weird to those of you not in the walking habit but it's a sentiment that my oldest sister Anne (who gifted me the Fitbit tracker last Christmas) definitely understands. With a job that means extremely long hours and great responsibility in inner Sydney she has myriad ways of getting home without having to walk far and she used to use them all, taxi, light-rail, bus – but unless she finishes up after 10pm she now walks to and from work everyday, even after local anaesthetic at a dental appointment on a scorching 41 degree day. We

caught up at our niece's 18th birthday in Port Macquarie last weekend – a rushed trip with only an overnight stay – and still managed to squeeze in a morning walk with our sister Julie (who had travelled from Scone).

It was a great way to spend some time together, walking along Port's river and beachside walking tracks and chatting about our changed motivation levels and overall health. Coming from a family where heart disease and back problems are the norm we are even more determined not to let ourselves down by continuing to drag around excess weight on our poor skeletons, and with our Greek/Turkish Odyssey coming up in just six months Anne & I don't want anything to stop us trekking around temples, ruins, bazaars and Crusader castles.

Things are cooling down a tad here now on our deck, and watching Paul building raised garden beds tells me the temps have definitely dropped as other than sitting on a chair with a beer in hand checking out the view he won't step foot outside on the weekend between 10am & 5pm. He is happiest when watering his plants with a coldie in one hand and the hose in the other, and I am happiest relaxing in a chair with a book on my lap watching someone else "work".

Paul rescued a kookaburra this week and I just wished I had thought to grab a picture of the kooka all wrapped up in a towel sitting in the sun on our concrete path, with Paul rubbing him gently to get his circulation going. It was a funny and endearing sight to come home to. Apparently Paul and our neighbour Jan were both out the back of our respective houses getting some gardening done when they could hear a racket they just couldn't place.

Eventually Paul realised it was coming from a rain bucket under a drain near the house. It was a scorching hot day as they have all been lately and the poor thirsty kooka had tried to reach the shallow water in the tall bucket for a drink and fallen in, getting his feathers all soaked and not being able to get out again.

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When Paul found him he was numb with shock and very unresponsive so Paul wrapped him up tight in his shirt and worked on getting him back to normal. It took a while but it all worked out fine and eventually he was able to fly off and hang out with another kookaburra high up on the huge gum tree next door. So very glad that Paul discovered the lucky bird in time! I don't know that I would have been able to do the same, I like animals from a distance but I'm not very good at handling them, and some, well completely freak me out – like the juvenile carpet python (not sure if that is right name) who decided to hang out (literally) on the shutters by our back steps yesterday.

I don't know how long he had already been there but I had been up and down those steps

many times over the morning whenever I went out to hang out washing and I did not spot him till I had hung out the last load – lucky or my dryer would have been getting a workout! As I came up the steps I reminded myself to look out on the ground for brown snakes as Ethan had seen the tail of one disappearing in the yard during the week, then something made me glance up and there was the head of the python with his tongue flicking out only two feet from my head!

I know they are mostly harmless (unless you are a chook or guinea pig or rat) but my heart leapt out of my chest and I almost wet myself in fear. Yep, not ashamed to say it – no matter how politically incorrect, I am not a fan of any snake of any description, call it primal fear or survival skills but just,

no, cannot, will not, go near one or throw them an "I love snakes" party. The only time I would champion a snake is in a fight with a cat...but that's a whole other story.

Thankfully the snake decided to move on after a four hour snooze but that causes me two problems – the first where is he now? The second – no excuses re hanging out washing in scorching hot sun!

Wishing you all cooler temperatures and a wonderful Christmas free of snakes. And if you are making excuses about getting fit and healthy and losing weight – stop it, there is no time like the present for changing your life and making 2015 your best and healthiest year yet.

Carolyn Greene

WILDLIFE INFORMATION, RESCUE AND EDUCATION SERVICE

WIRES has been so busy with both the usual calls and a major crisis with the local bat colony caused by the heat. There are too many stories to publish here, so we have put some of the stories on the Dunoon Gazette website – see www.dunoongazette.com.

The Bat crisis happened during the recent very hot weather in late November. WIRES volunteers and other wildlife agencies across NSW have taken more than 400+ flying fox pups into care following the deaths of thousands of adult bats due to heat stress.

WIRES Northern Rivers incident manager Katy Stewart said the crisis saw local emergency services, wildlife organisations and the public work together to help manage the crisis, which occurred as a result of temperatures soaring to almost 45 deg C on the weekend of 15th and 16th November

"The situation was extremely confronting as the adult bats were literally falling from the trees in their hundreds," said Stewart. *"It's their breeding season now so most of the dead adult females still had very young live pups holding onto them – it was an horrific scene."*

However, Stewart was full of praise for the NSW Rural Fire Service and Richmond Valley Council workers who came to assist wildlife rescuers by spraying water and by removing thousands of bodies.

"The Casino and Kyogle rural fire service crews were incredibly supportive and sprayed some of the local flying fox colonies with water to help cool them down," said Stewart. *"And the Richmond Valley Council workers worked non-stop throughout the crisis; it was a real team effort."*

The temperatures have dropped and for the

WIRES Northern Rivers



time being, bats and other wildlife are under less stress. Hundreds of orphaned flying foxes are in temporary care away from the Northern Rivers. In a few weeks time when the orphans come home, carers will again be operating to over-capacity until all the animals can be released back into the wild.

For the remainder of the hot season, remember to put water out for all wildlife. Shallow bird baths are a lifesaver – put them near a low tree branch or a bushy shrub to give the birds a quick escape if a predator comes near. Larger containers of water can be placed farther away from your home





**WILDLIFE
RESCUE &
IMMEDIATE CARE
COURSE**

21st & 22nd February 2015
Southern Cross University

This 2 day course will qualify you to become a member of WIRES by teaching you how to safely rescue and provide emergency care for injured and orphaned wildlife. There are other ways you can help, too.

Get involved ... join WIRES

For more information call our 24 hour emergency help line on
6628 1898
or visit our website
www.wiresnr.org



NSW Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service

for other wildlife – remember to include a large stick so if a creature falls in there is a way out again! Keeping water far away from the house also deters snakes and other animals from seeking water from your pet bowls or dripping taps. Change the water daily, especially if in a shallow container. This means fresh water for the wildlife and no mosquitos breeding in your garden.

An all-volunteer organisation, WIRES relies heavily on the generosity of caring people for support as we are a charity, not a government service. All donations \$2 and over are tax deductible. We give basic training courses three times during the year.

If you are interested in helping, call the 24-hour hotline on **6628 1898** or go to <http://wiresnr.org/Helping.html> to find out how you can help, or attend our next training session on 21st and 22nd February.

VILLAGE HALLS

DUNOON HALL

Wednesday 10 am Community Group	Ron 6689 5018
Wednesday 6:00-7:30 pm Wu-Chi Kung Fu	Adam 0414 329 027
Thursday 5:30 pm Exercise Class	Mark Roberts 0419 831 424
Mon and Wed 9 am Lifestyle Management	
6 weekly 6:30 pm Film Night	Mark Roberts 0419 831 424
Thursday 7:30 pm Euchre	Charles 6628 2064
Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School	Christadelphians
Sunday 11 am Church Service	Ray Patch 6689 5229

*Community members welcome. For all bookings please contact:
Dunoon Post Office 6689 5101*

Tullera Hall	6628 2060
Corndale Hall	David Hunter 6628 4364
Dorroughby Hall	6689 5013
Whian Whian Hall	6689 5839
The Channon Hall	General Store 6688 6240

CHURCH SERVICES

DUNOON ANGLICAN

Holy Communion Every Sunday 10.00 am
Guild meets first Sunday of month 11:30 am

CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA

Sunday School 9.30am
Memorial Meeting 11am each Sunday
Bible Address on occasions 6689 5229

DUNOON CATHOLIC CHURCH

1st & 3rd Sundays 9.30am

GOOLMANGAR CATHOLIC CHURCH

2nd & 4th Sundays 9.30am

COMMUNITY MARKETS

TUESDAY	Lismore Organic Market Every Tuesday 7:30-11 am Lismore Showgrounds
EVERY SATURDAY	Lismore Farmers' Market 8am Lismore Showgrounds Alstonville Farmers' Market 8am - 12 noon Bugden Lane Car Park
1ST SATURDAY	Lismore Makers Market 10am-2pm Cnr Keen and Magellan
1ST SUNDAY	Lismore Car Boot 8am-2pm Lismore Square Carpark Byron Bay Market
2ND SUNDAY	The Channon Craft Markets http://thechannonmarket.org.au/
3RD SATURDAY	Mullumbimby Market http://www.mullummarkets.com.au/
3RD SUNDAY	Lismore Car Boot
4TH SUNDAY	Bangalow Market 9am-3pm http://www.bangalowmarket.com.au/ Nimbin Markets 4th and 5th Sunday 8am-4pm Market coordinator 0458 506 000

SPORTS

Channon/Dunoon Pony Club Fiona Wilders	6628 2690
Channon Tennis Club	6688 6165
Dunoon Sports Club Enquiries & Cricket	6689 5444
Dunoon Social Golf Chris Gulliver	6689 5147 0428 428 165
Dunoon Soccer Andy Bain Rob Gatt	6689 5898 0427942184 0428884222
Dunoon Tennis Graeme Drew, Marilyn Kent OR Call Sports Club	0428746735 6689 5444
Tullera Tennis Club Pauline Leeson	6628 2224

BUS TIME TABLES

WHIAN WHIAN - LISMORE

School Days Only School Bus Service

6628 4101

DEPARTS	Whian Whian	7.55am
	Dunoon School	8.06am
ARRIVES	Greaves	8.09am
	Lismore PO	8.45am
DEPARTS	Spinks Park	3.20pm
	Trinity School.	3.30pm
	Richmond RivSch	3.34pm
ARRIVES	Dunoon	4.02pm
	Whian Whian	4.15pm



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Service is 'Hail & Ride' along the route

Bus For Hire

DURING SCHOOL TERM:

Depart	Dorroughby Hall	7:50am
	Dunoon Store	8:00
	Modanville Store	8:10
	Tullera Hall	8:16
	Minschull Cres.	8:21
	R.R High school	8:25
	Woodlark St	8:30
	Lismore Square	8:32
	Trinity interchange	8:35 Bay 10
Depart	Lismore Bus Terminus	3:30pm
	Lismore Library	3:33
	Trinity interchange	3:37 Bay 10

DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:

Depart	Dorroughby	8:30am
	Dunoon	8:40
	Modanville	8:45
	Tullera	8:52
	Minschull	8:56
	Woodlark	9:00
	Lismore Bus Terminus	9:07
Depart	Lismore Bus Terminus	3:30pm
	Lismore Library	3:33

FIRE PERMIT OFFICERS

DUNOON

Barry Watts	6689 5359
Aline Feebrey	6689 5438
Ross McDougall	0409 425 551

TULLERA

John Hildebrand	0408 282 224
Peter Major	0409 652 490

THE CHANNON

John Hutchison	6688 6480
Tony Roden	6689 1562
Neale Hayter	6688 6171
J.J. Bruce	6688 6453
Russell Johnston	6688 6185

ROSEBANK

De Condos	6688 1163
Dave Hughes	6688 2023
Eric Kinchin	6688 2217

WILDLIFE CARERS



Northern Rivers Wildlife Carers 6628 1866



WIRES Animal Rescue 24hr Hotline
6628 1898



MOBILE LIBRARY

Tuesday Week 2	June 16, July 1, 15 & 29
Michael Riddle	August 12 & 26
Enquiries:	September 9 & 23
Phone 6625 5100	October 7 & 21
	November 4 & 18
	Dec 2 & 16
Clunes	9-10am School
Dunoon	11:15am-12:15pm School
Modanville	2:00-3:30pm School

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Dunoon Lodge	6689 5166
Gordon Starkey	
Northern Rivers Animal Shelter	6681 1860
Robyn	

LOCAL PHONE DIRECTORY

Accountant	TNR Thomas, Noble and Russell	6621 8544
Advertising	Dunoon Gazette	6689 5954
Bolts and Fasteners	Boltbarn	6621 9090
Bottle Shop	Dunoon General Store	6689 5225
	Mary G's	6622 2924
Builder	Multi Span Kit Buildings	6687 9954
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Bus Service	Dunoon	6624 8734
	Whian Whian	6628 4101
Carpenter	John Ferronato	0429 895 130 A/H 6689 9437
Celebrant	Gina Murray	6689 5104
Doctor	Dunoon General Practice	6689 5811
Driveway/Landscape Supplies	Troys Driveway and Landscape	6622 8890
Earthmoving	Tom Thumb - Jeremy	0458 895 414
Electrical Services	Warren Lewis	6689 5034
	Afterglow Electrical	0432 331 633
Fencing Contractor/Firewood	Andrew Shepherd	0431 095 583
General Store	Dunoon General Store	6689 5225
Insurance	Dudgeon & Berry	6621 3000
Laundry Service	Clean & Green Laundry	6622 1359
Mortgage Broker	Sue James	6689 5780 0408 605 537
Plumber	Nik Hyde	6689 5174
Postal and Related Services	Dunoon Post Office - Fiona	6689 5101
Refrigeration	Russell's	6621 3992
Restaurant	Dunoon Sports Club	6689 5469
	Mary G's	6622 2924 6688 6453 0419 420 362
Sewage Solutions	JJ Bruce	
Sports Club	Dunoon Sports Club	6689 5444
Tipper/Handyman	Darren Bassey	6628 2147
Towing Service	Bruno Zambelli	6628 2230
Takeaway	Modanville Takeaway	6628 2005
Tractor Repairs	Doc Dorahy	6622 2842
Transport	Northern Rivers Comm Transport	6628 8806
Tyres	Pirlos	6621 3561
Waste Disposal-Septic tank	Summerland Environmental	6687 2880
Wired4 - Home Theatre & TV	Iain Thompson	0421 871 144

SCHOOLS PRESCHOOLS PLAYGROUPS

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Modanville Public School	6628 2234
Corndale Public School	6628 4305
The Channon Public School	6688 6236
Whian Whian Public School	6689 5240
Dunoon Pre School	6689 5396
The Channon Children's Centre	6688 6330
Dunoon After School/ Vacation Care	6689 5930
Tullera/Modanville Playgroup	6689 5381

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**THE CHANNON /
DUNOON PONY CLUB**

For further details please contact:
Fiona Wilders Club President Hm: 6628 2690
Lisa McFadyen Vice President Hm: 6629 1023
Mykaella Gosper Club Secretary Hm: 6629 3486
Irene Brockhill Treasurer Hm: 6686 4798



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