

THE UKI NEWS

Issue 61

An initiative of the Uki and Districts Residents' Association (UKIRA)

October/November 2011



Mayor Longland

Cr Barry Longland has become the first Uki resident to be elected mayor of Tweed Shire Council.

At the September Council meeting, Barry secured four of the seven votes with support from Councillors Holdom, Milne and Youngblutt.

Barry said he feels very honoured to be representing the Tweed community as Mayor over the next 12 months and as a retired 62 year old he stands ready and able to devote himself to the task.

The position will allow Barry to have a greater influence on agenda and debate. However, he is quick to caution that, although he would like to be an 'agent for change', the reality is that the mix of councillors hasn't altered and he will still bring only one vote to the chamber.

Barry believes that Council needs to pay greater attention to community

opinion noting that 'seven councillors don't hold all of the wisdom in the shire'.

Barry sees himself as an independent, community-minded person representing the 'middle ground'. He wants to see more 'balance' in Council decision-making, particularly in terms of better outcomes for environmental protection. He will push the debate on how the Tweed can develop in ways that won't add to urban sprawl, an issue he argues has important implications for 'infrastructure cost and the shire's carbon footprint'.

The issue of Tweed's future water supply would soon be back before Council, Barry predicted. He restated his opposition to the construction of a new dam at Byrrill Creek, in favour of raising the height of the wall at Clarrie Hall Dam, as

Uki Red Cross

Don't forget the Red Cross street stall and luncheon will be held on Friday 2nd of December. All contributions of saleable items or produce gratefully received.

Council Decision

Uki residents will be pleased to hear that the Council has unanimously voted to refuse permission for the gate erected on public land across Ault's Rd.

Council has directed that the gate be removed, restoring access to the riverbank.

Phil Carr

recommended by Council staff.

Barry was raised in Brisbane and his fondness for the Tweed Shire began during his childhood days when he would often stay with relatives who lived in the Murwillumbah district.

Barry has four much loved grandchildren back in Brisbane. He moved to the Tweed in 2001 settling in Uki, where he immediately joined the Uki Residents Association, becoming President in 2003. The following year Barry narrowly missed out on election to Council, but was successful in 2008.

Since being elected Mayor last month, Barry said that he has been humbled by the many messages of support. and wanted to convey his appreciation.

From the Editor

Another issue of the News rolls round, full of interest as usual. Thanks to all the contributors, without whom we wouldn't have a community newsletter. Every one of them was on deadline for this edition, which must be some kind of record!

Would you like to write for the News? New and interesting topics and writers are always welcome, so feel free to contact me at theukinews@hotmail.com to explain your idea.

Is there anyone out there who would like to contribute a recipe, for instance, or write about home brewing, or their bushwalking club, or share their knowledge of lapidary or perfumery? The possibilities are endless.....

Deadline for Issue 62 is 22 November.

Anita Morton

Contact the Uki News

Email theukinews@hotmail.com

Or see the Editor at the Farmers' Market every Saturday morning.

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Disclaimer; Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are the contributors' own, not necessarily those of the Uki News nor of UKIRA.

Thank you from the Hall Trust

Maintenance and renovation work on the Uki Hall has gone ahead in leaps and bounds recently due to the efforts of some of our local community members.

Thanks to Mark and crew from Cooe Building Co. for major works replacing damaged timberwork, rebuilding the front roof facades, replacing roof and gutter and rebuilding the box gutter. Rain leaking through the archways may finally be a thing of the past.

The kitchen project has been finalised with a remarkable makeover by painter Ray Newman and the new stainless benches installed by Gary Smith and offsider Pip Nicholls. (Pictured below).

Thank you to Michael Daly for plumbing the sink area.

The amazing sign-writing that now adorns the front roof facades was a donation by local craftsmen

Laurie Smith and Barry Mossop (at right) to mark the occasion of the Hall Centenary.

Thank you for such a beautiful gift.

The Trust would also like to say thank you to Wayne Frazer, for his hands-on assistance with maintenance. Wayne has recently left the Trust due to business commitments. Also retiring after 10 years of service as Trustees, are Kevin Donaldson and Jayne Parrott.



(See next page)

If anyone is interested in joining the Trust please contact Mary Lee Conery on 6679 5369. The Hall and Reserve Park (village green) are a valuable part of the Uki community and without a working Board of Trustees it could be lost.



UKIRA is the Uki Village and Districts Residents' Association, a not-for-profit community group that provides a forum for residents to discuss and act upon local issues.

Contact the President, Samuel Quint, on 6679 5921. The Association meets on the first Tuesday of every month (except January), at the Uki Hall at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend.

Well, hello again fellow citizens of Uki and surrounds; we trust you are well.

Members of UKIRA recently met with Tweed Shire Council officers to discuss the best location for the new traffic calming devices on the approaches to Uki on Kyogle Road. These devices are designed to provide a gentle reminder that the 'village zone' is ahead without unduly hindering the flow of traffic and we hope you agree that they will help to deliver a safer pedestrian and vehicular traffic environment within the village. UKIRA has also been advised that the Tweed Shire Council will commence kerbing and resurfacing works on Kyogle Road, between Smiths Creek Road and Rowlands Creek Road starting in

November and finishing in December.

Within the village precinct the Camphor Laurel trees at the front of The Butter Factory have been observed to be shedding dead branches. UKIRA has sought professional advice on the condition of the trees and has been advised that they are diseased. The trees will likely have to be pruned and further monitored to assess their safety in such a heavily trafficked area. The association would also like to acknowledge the good work of the Uki Hall committee in its recent drainage works in the centre of the village; this work will complement the soon to be commenced revamp of the old Tennis shed and will go a long way to making the village centre a more

pleasant place to be.

The association has also facilitated the planting of a number of Pecan trees at Sweetnam Park along the line of bollards that delineate the no-vehicle zone. These deciduous trees will help to provide valuable shade in the heat of summer with the added benefit of the odd Pecan to munch on. A reminder to all that the Ukitopia Festival is set for November 18th/20th. UKIRA is a proud supporter of this wonderful community event. (See info on page 6. Ed.). As a closing comment I would like to say that UKIRA is always keen to hear from people or organisations with ideas that will benefit the community; we may be able to assist with funding or other forms of support.

The Buttery Bazaar

Next markets 16 October and 20 November

Farewell Kevin and Jayne

After 10 years of service to the Uki Hall Trust, Jayne Parrott and Kevin Donaldson have resigned. This Community has benefited from their dedication to their role as Trustees. They have done the physical work, the admin duties and sought the funding needed to keep the Hall operating and its patrons happy.

Unlike other village Halls, Uki's is not a Shire facility. Repairs and improvements are paid for by hard-won grants, community fund raising and help from friendly tradies cajoled by Jayne and Kevin.

Their work has brought our Hall from point of closure to a well used asset. It is now up to this community to follow upon their efforts in support of our Hall.

Many thanks Jayne and Mr D, we will miss you.

Mary Lee Connery



Kevin and Jayne in the Hall park—hard at work, as usual!



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Sight – Precious and Worth Protecting

Sight is one of the most precious and most neglected of our senses. Glaucoma, cataracts, and age-related macular degeneration are the three leading causes of blindness for people over the age of 60 worldwide. Increasingly, eye related complaints such as eye strain, blurred vision, red eyes and visual fatigue are becoming common in younger generations due to hours of staring at a computer, television screen or computer games. Being more proactive in natural support for our eyes can result in reducing annoying symptoms, as well as reduce the chances of vision loss associated with age.

Specific nutrients & strategies for eye health include:

Lutein and zeaxanthin: These plant-based nutrients can help protect the eyes from sun damage and support healthy macula pigmentation.

Blackcurrants: rich in important antioxidants to support eye health and reduce the symptoms of visual strain and fatigue

Zinc, vitamin E and vitamin B12 are key nutrients required to support overall eye health.

Omega-3 fish oil may slow the progression of age related vision loss.

Lipoic acid: Eye related conditions are a common complication of diabetes. Lipoic acid is a potent antioxidant that has been found to support healthy blood sugar levels and is a key nutrient to help minimize the risk of visual conditions associated with diabetes.

Eat antioxidant rich foods every day. Antioxidants play a vital role in protecting the eyes from free radical damage. Examples of antioxidant-rich foods are vibrantly coloured fruits and vegies such as berries, beetroot and capsicum. Maintain a healthy weight; Being overweight increases the chances of high blood pressure and diabetes, which are both risk factors for vision loss.

Quit smoking; smoking increases the amount of free radicals which are detrimental for eye health.

Wear good quality sunglasses. The sun's ultra violet rays can damage the eyes and increase the risk of macular degeneration and vision loss.

Take a break! Reduce visual fatigue and eye strain by taking regular breaks away from the computer or television screen.

Judith Magee



JUDITH MAGEE

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Health Fund Rebate Available

Business is all about people by Geoffrey Colwill

I have been inspired by listening to a book on CD from the library - 'Leader who had no title' by Robin Sharma.

I wanted to share my passion for one of these insights.

A recipe for **Deepening our Relationships in life and in business – H.U.M.A.N.**

HELPFULNESS – be Generous with your time and energy and committed to helping others

UNDERSTANDING – be a good Listener and be committed to seeing the Best in others and their potential

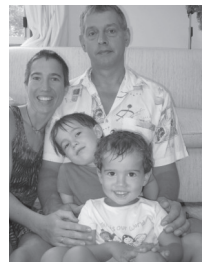
MINGLE – spend time Face to Face or Voice to Voice rather than computer to computer whenever practical

AMUSE – be authentically Joyful and have Fun – it's infectious

NURTURE – be awesomely Nice - Kindness is not Weakness – Compassion comes with Courage – We can be Friendly and Firm as well as Sincere and Strong

A journey to choose?.

Go well, Geoffrey



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One of the topics we discussed at our last Garden Club meeting was plants that attract certain bird species. Finches & Fairy-wrens, to be specific, were attracted to shrubs with prickly leaves and dense foliage. Here are a few possibilities:- *Hakea sericea* has sharp, prickly foliage that gives smaller birds protection against predators.

Arcadia echinula, *A. armata* and *A. boormanii* all have prickly foliage which provides protective cover for smaller birds. Much favoured by native finches.

Banksia serrata. White-cheeked Honeyeater and many other birds often use the down from the banksia's cones for nest lining.

Callitris rhomboidea. Birds including Silvereyes, Red Wattlebirds,

Finches and Superb Fairy-wrens nest in the foliage.

Casuarina cunninghamiana. These trees are often chosen for nesting by the Scarlet Robin, Red-capped Robin, Grey Butcherbird, Striped Honeyeater, Willie Wagtail and Australian Magpie Lark.

Pouched Coral Fern, *Hakea propinqua* and *H. sericea*, *Leptospermum laevigatum* (Coast Tea Tree), *Melaleuca wilsonii*, and *Rhagodia spinescens* (saltbush), when grown in dense clumps, provide nesting sites for wrens. These shrubs are more effective when grown in clumps, rather than scattered. A quiet corner of the garden planned specifically for nesting should give good results. I have just established mine.

At Garden Club meetings, we discuss various plant-related topics and are inspired by the bottomless source of combined knowledge, thanks to our members. Next month we'll be learning about orchids and their very peculiar ways.

A GOOD TIP

Snip the tops off your potato foliage just as they are coming into flower; your crop will increase. Apparently pruning stimulates tuber formation.



CTC Appeal

by Ida Daly

The Uki Community Technology Centre (CTC) needs your help and support.

If you know your way around computers and technology, and you have some time on your hands, the Centre would love to have your help as a volunteer. If you need access to high-speed Internet, printing, photocopying, image scanning and a host of other services, we need your financial support to keep the CTC viable.

In the decade since the CTC has been running, it has been a wonderful asset to our community by providing services and expertise that previously were only available in Murwillumbah and beyond.

Over the years, there have been some wonderful people who have volunteered their time and knowledge from the goodness of their hearts to keep the CTC functioning effectively.

Not all of them have been I.T. specialists by any means, but all have been willing to help how and where they could.

You may not be aware that the Government seed funding for the CTC ran out years ago, and since then, it's relied on Local Government grants and cash turnover from patrons to keep the doors open.

That's why it's important for locals to support this wonderful local facility.

Fees are extremely reasonable. Twenty five dollars gets you 50 hours or three months of Internet connection, whichever comes first, or you can pay buy the hour.

The CTC needs people to keep it thriving. It needs people to use it, and people to help people use it. I'm sure you fit into one of those categories?

Did you know?

The first shop in Uki was Peate's, which sold newspapers, magazines, lollies and drinks. It was situated where the Anglican Church now stands.

Yoga in Uki

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The Ukitopia Festival 2011

A Celebration of Uki Life Arts and Culture November 18-20 focuses on local talent and community joy. It incorporates the Images of Uki art exhibition, Words of Wollumbin, the Red Piano Cabaret, Songwriters on the Songline, the Aussie Oddities Emporium, the best of Uki's live music, Uki school performances, street performance, chalk board acoustic space at the Lounge Lizard Café, elders' storytelling space, Mt Warning Hotel Sunday afternoon stage, Trashformers creative arts and children's workshops, youth bands, historical display, a Word Matrix, Buttery Bazaar market stalls, the Wishing Ceremony, 1000 native trees to give away and so much more!

Beginning on FRIDAY night, the Images of Uki opens in the Assembly room at the Uki Public School. Once you have viewed the Images of Uki exhibition and the Words of Wollumbin you can move on to a dinner Cabaret show at the Red Piano or a magic night at the Songwriters on the Songline. The show continues on Saturday with the main stage on the village green from 10am to 10pm and then on Sunday at the Uki Café, the Lounge Lizard Café and the Mt Warning Hotel as well as the Buttery Bazaar. \$15 donations appreciated. Plan to come for the whole weekend. Car pool, walk or ride your bike. Parking is available on either side of town. **Images of Uki** and **Words of Wollumbin** applications are now open.

The **Ukitopia Workshop program** begins to help you get ready for the festival. Workshops with Barb Suttie (the Mt Warning painter), digital photography with Alan

and Perri Wain (event, portrait and nature photographers) and a writing workshop by Rosie Mere (new Ukitopia volunteer and ex BBC learning project manager).

Ukitopia membership is now due. If you join before the Ukitopia Festival this year you will go into the draw to win a UKITOPIA GOLD PASS, ensuring free entry to every Ukitopia Event for 2012 **plus** two free raffle tickets for the Ukitopia Festival raffle!

Songwriters on the Songline October 8 Vesica Pisces and Shakti Bhakti

For more information go to www.Ukitopiaartscollective.com or email Ukitopia@gmail.com

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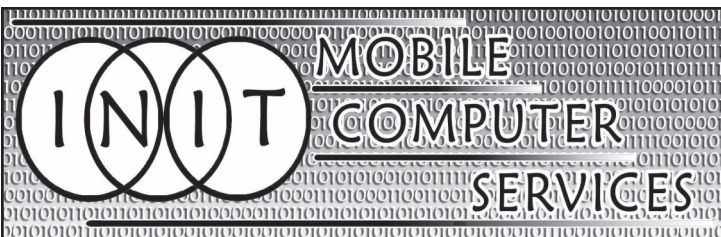
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...a great recipe for settling ANXIETY (or nervous system arousal)

This has been called 'The Age of Anxiety'. More people than ever before are said to be living with generalized anxiety. Whether that's true or not, it is helpful to understand that we often experience anxiety as a double whammy.

Something big, like the present global financial situation, or small personal events like being the target of a cutting remark, can raise our state of anxious arousal and have us reacting in ways which seem out of proportion.

Neurologist Antonio Damasio, in his book 'The Body Remembers' (2000), explains that our emotions are made up of body sensations. Our inner sense (interoceptive) holds onto the energy of unresolved emotions aroused by similar tense situations from the past. When new overpowering, frightening or traumatic things happen NOW, our body starts to signal madly. We have the present problem to deal with but we are also subjected unconsciously to the results of the earlier bad experiences. Our body signals in such circumstances can be very uncomfortable indeed and may make us think we have a dreaded disease.

Most of us have never been taught to notice of our bodies. We have been trained to THINK our way out of every problem. The idea that body symptoms are actually helpful signals is foreign to us. When our bodies act up we often feel betrayed or annoyed or worried by it and we usually tense up against the symptoms. We might begin with a tight chest, a lump in the throat or heart palpitations. We wonder what is wrong with us and, as we tense up, our anxiety or arousal increases. Other people give us advice and often our symptoms only magnify. We end up at the doctor or undergoing all kinds of expensive tests.

Giving ourselves time and noticing the body signals with kindness or sympathy is an amazingly simple idea. BODY AWARENESS is often the key to helping ourselves lower our anxiety. If, for a period of minutes, we keep noticing our body signals with kindness and fix our attention sympathetically, on the part of the body which has drawn our attention, the body sensations/pain or discomfort may immediately begin to diminish.

Heather McClelland



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These are not winning numbers for Lotto, but dates featured in books I read last week. We all know what happened on 9/11, though we may not understand it: but how about 1219 and 1532?

In 1219 Francis of Assisi travelled to Damietta in the Nile Delta. He hoped to convert Saladin's nephew, Sultan Malik al-Kamil of Egypt, but discovered that the (supposedly) 'Christian' forces surrounding the city were in yet greater need of the Gospel! They were led by Cardinal Pelagius who demanded that the Sultan surrender Egypt as well as Jerusalem. Francis negotiated a peaceful settlement which would allow Christians access to Jerusalem. Cardinal Pelagius, with his heart set on a 'Holy' war, chose instead to attack Damietta.

It was the same in 1532 when Francisco Pizarro took troops to Peru to 'save' the natives. They asked the Incas to meet with them, promising peaceful co-existence, but set a trap and slaughtered thousands. Again the Gospel of Jesus Christ was a policy document of which they had no understanding: what they wanted was gold.

The sad fact is ... throughout history men have found it convenient to lay the blame on God for their most obscene acts. In so doing they are spared any possible sense of guilt – since they were doing his will (so they said) and seeking his glory! And nothing much has

changed!

Next year, we are to be visited by a Dutch politician who claims that Islam is not a religion but a political ideology. In so doing he forgets the shame that Francis felt, and overlooks the outrage shared by many Muslims today, who honour the essentials of religious faith and abhor their distortion for political purposes.

The Sufis – a persecuted Muslim minority – say that we should speak only words which have negotiated three different gates. At the first gate we ask ourselves, 'Are these words true?' If so, we let them pass; if not, back they go. At the second gate we ask, 'Are they necessary?' At the last gate we ask, 'Are they kind?'

Rev'd Dr. John Tyman
Holy Trinity Anglican Church

Murwillumbah Theatre Company Presents.....

The Twits

Adapted from the story by Roald Dahl.

The Twits is a very humorous, ingenious play that will be enjoyed by both adults and children. Mr and Mrs Twit are ugly, smelly, nasty people who are cruel to each other and their pets – see how a clever plan makes sure they get what they deserve!

The Twits is showing at the Murwillumbah Civic Centre Auditorium on:

Saturday 29 October at 5.30pm
Sunday 30 October at 2.00pm
Friday 4 November at 7.30pm
Saturday 5 November at 7.30pm
Sunday 6 November at 2.00pm

Tickets \$12 Adults/\$6 children. Book at Murwillumbah Music shop or tickets at the door.

For more information phone Rosemary on
6672 1520

Tweed Biochar Project Recognised

On the 3rd September 2011, our local self-funded Biochar organisation was honoured with the Millennium Project Australasian Node Award 2011-2012, for their contribution to the Millennium Development goals to reverse the grinding poverty, hunger and disease affecting billions of people throughout the world.

The Biochar group consist of Charmaster Dolph Cooke and Gillian Tubbs of Biochar Project, an action learning community project in Mebbin Forest; Irene Brown and Robert Pope of The Castle on the Hill Learning Centre who hosted the workshops; Paul Wildman who facilitated Biochar Bush Mechanics; Paul and Jeni Tate who filmed the Biochar documentaries; and Paul Taylor author of Biochar Revolution.

Biochar Projects met with many of the 15 MP criteria. They included sustainable development, ethical market economies, technological breakthrough, energy demands, ethical considerations and more.

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A new temporary Senior Curator has been appointed to the Tweed River Regional Museum. Judy Kean, has been visiting the three Historical Societies and becoming acquainted with the volunteers at the Uki and South Arm, Murwillumbah, and Tweed Heads sites.

Mrs. Lorna McIntyre, one of our members, up until a few years ago when she moved to Lismore, has passed away at the age of 90 years. Lorna will be remembered for her fine needlework by the many brides and debutantes whose gowns she made.

The number of visitors to our office has increased significantly as people call in to research their early set-

tlar relatives. This, along with research and digitizing, has kept everyone busy.

After the Hall Centenary display we have had much interest about the fire of 1914. In our objects collection we have two tea cups and a book of the Minutes of the School of Arts 1905-1913 which escaped the fire, but are in a fragile state. The cups and Minutes book were donated by the Irvine family.

Penny Watsford found this report on the fire in the 'Clarence and Richmond Examiner', dated Tuesday, 1st. September 1914:

A Tweed Fire

About 2 a.m. on Sunday an outbreak of fire occurred at Uki, which

resulted in the absolute destruction of the E.S. and A. Bank's premises, J.V. Ryder's auction mart, the post office, Mr. A.S. Loder's private dwelling and also his store. The adjoining premises on either side of this block, commencing with Barnsley's bakery at one end and W.O. Irvine's shop at the other, were only saved by the night being particularly calm, and the desperate efforts of a 'bucket brigade' of local residents. The damage is estimated at £5,000.

The Society meets in the office, behind the village green, on the second Saturday on the month at 10.00 am. The office is open on Fridays from 10.00 to 4.00 and can be contacted on 02 6679 5890.



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Immunization—the facts

Immunization- the very word brings up strong emotions and divides our community. In this edition of the News and the next, I will present the evidence for immunization as a worthwhile preventive health strategy.

Immunization involves injecting a small amount of the bacteria or virus causing a particular disease into a person, so that the immune system of the person creates templates for antibodies against the disease. Then if the person is exposed to the disease, the body will be able to immediately create antibodies to fight off the disease and not become sick. The particles of bacteria or virus in the immunization are inactivated or incomplete so cannot cause disease themselves. If the person is not immunized, when the disease invades the body the immune system will also react to produce antibodies, but not quickly enough to prevent the disease.

In the Northern NSW area the immunization rate of children is reduced, compared to the national average. As a consequence certain diseases, such as whooping cough, have reappeared. Our grandparents would remember how devastating certain childhood diseases were prior to immunization being introduced. Diphtheria, whooping cough and measles occurred in epidemics and killed many children. Due to immunization, occurrence of these diseases has been reduced; younger generations have mostly never seen the effects and have become blasé. There are also many misconceptions about immunization.

Some of the myths include; that immunization is some kind of money-making conspiracy; that immunization weakens children's immune systems; that immunization causes autism and other conditions; and that childhood diseases are not serious or life-threatening, so immunization is unnecessary. In the next issue I'll be addressing all these myths individually. Immunization remains a decision for parents to make, but hopefully this decision will be based on a consideration of the facts.

Dr Shauna Purser

You need faster Broadband??

Most of you will now be enjoying the benefits of Broadband Internet - faster speeds, VOIP phones and faster communication abilities. Did you know the exchange at Uki can now handle 20 Meg connections for ADSL and ADSL 2+ is now installed in the Uki Exchange?

This new ADSL2+ connection speed can be up to 20 Meg BUT don't rely on this speed. First of all you must have a modem capable of running ADSL2+; many modems are able to be updated with 'firmware' to make this possible. ADSL 2+ is not guaranteed to run at 20,000/1000, as it depends on many factors. The speed is 'best effort' - in other words 'up to 20,000' - doesn't mean you will get it. No one has ripped you off; you're simply not getting the max speed because of distance from exchange, gauge cable, quality of cabling, distance, looping, etc. ADSL is a distance based technology - the further from the exchange the less high speed you get - basic physics.

There are many cheaper ISP's out there now, offering incredible offers and download limits, so go and do some home-work. I now use TPG, one of the best and cheapest, and it is very easy to 'churn' over to the new ISP, for free.

By the way, the fraudsters are still badgering people in the valley, phoning them up and frightening them with virus issues. If they call you up, tell them you do not have a PC or better still, put the handset down and just walk away for 10 minutes....That really annoys them as they are just a call centre with performance criteria, they are not allowed to hang up on you...They phoned me the other night...Boy did I have some fun...he he he...

Robert Harrell

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Hippy engineering

Losing a year of my life wasn't by accident or design. I moved bush. My sister bought the Byrrill Creek property in 2009. After babysitting the place with an old friend I fell in love with it. As is the way in this part of the world, interesting things happen - I bought the place from her last month.

The same old friend now shares the place to have a go at this sustainability thing after moving in August 2010.

What a roller coaster of fun. Defining the parameters has been very interesting - they just fell into place. House-mate is an expert and avid gardener. I am keen on getting the property into an art-house fun space to decimate the Australian wine surplus. After keeping a very low profile, we are moving towards growing food and rebuilding things that seemed a good idea at the time. Hippy engineering!

Extensive veggie gardens grow everything from artichoke to zucchini. The seven chooks (there were more - the grim reaper struck) produce four eggs daily, vegetables flourish with their poo.

Family members run bee hives. Native plant species improve our cow paddock inheritance. We are now water and energy independent.

Importantly we've started meeting you, our fantastic, personable, funny neighbours and locals who are passionate about where we live. It's infectiously heart-warming, and a good lesson in navigating the micro and macro politics involved in caring for a beautiful environmentally sensitive area. There is art and life here.

The broader political milieu is bleak. What's this Byrrill Creek dam idiocy? Development applications that are likely to cause flooding? After a career in special education I can spot dysfunctional decisions a mile off. Is our local council really trying to turn us into another Gold Coast?

The irony. I lived in Brisbane and turned an eighties four bedroom house into a sustainable low-impact place. When you move to where sustainability should be imperative, the shire council seems utterly pro developer and the state government is warily cuddling up to coal seam gas. .

Peculiar and nutty, not in a good way.

Pat Miller

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What a busy Term 3 the students at Uki Public School have had!

Early this term, we travelled to Fingal Head Public School to celebrate NAIDOC Week. The kids were treated to a bush tucker talk with an Aboriginal Elder, a visit to significant cultural places with CoastCare staff, an Indigenous art and dance experience, and a delicious lunch cooked the traditional way in an underground oven. This day allowed the children to explore the Aboriginal culture in a wonderful way.

Book Week gave the kids an opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character, complete with parade and a table laden with tasty treats (green eggs and ham, tea-cups and a magic pudding).

Sing, Sing, Sing. Under the wing of Mrs Vikki Armour, the Tweed Small Schools Choir, consisting of 39 stu-

dents from nine small schools, has sung its way through this term. The reward was to sing with a 700-strong choir at the Sydney Opera House.

The 3rd Annual Eco Expo showcased local environmental and sustainable products. Stallholders had the opportunity to show the public their 'brand' and explain to the consumer how it contributes to the eco vision. This day isn't possible without the support of our sponsors, stallholders and the hardworking mums and dads and staff of Uki School.

Thank you to our sponsors, which included - Essential Energy, Tweed Shire Council, Mount Warning Springwater, Mt Warning Advertiser, The Lizard Lounge Cafe, The Weekly, Homemade Iceblocks By Benna, Gilliland Bros., Vibrant Imag-

ing, Mt Burrell Fruit, Bakers Delight, Kate O'Brien, Emubeads, Uki Pies, Rosenich Family, Tweed Bait, Story Dogs, Uki & Kunghur Fire Brigades. Funds raised from the Expo will contribute towards the schools Outdoor Learning Centre. Our sincere thanks for the wonderful community spirit that supports this event. Please feel free to contact the school with any contribution to make the Expo bigger and better in 2012.

The time has come for preschoolers to take that leap into big school. You are welcome to come and see our school - it's a great place to start your child's educational and creative journey.

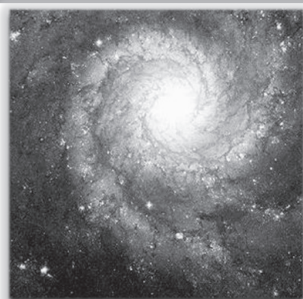
Happy, safe and fun holidays to all and see you all back on Monday the 10th October.

Sonya Dusi

Uki Public School P & C President

Did you know?

Church Street was named after the 'little red Methodist church' that was situated where the Rural Fire Service Shed now stands.



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It's been suggested to me that local masseurs might be interested in coming along to the Farmers' Market on Saturday mornings—working together to offer 10 minute massages or chair treatments. I'm happy to consider the idea, so if you're interested please come along on and see me at the market.

Anita Morton

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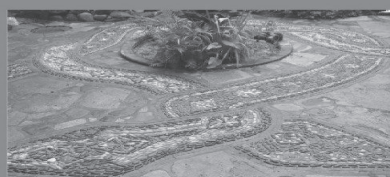
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OTHERWISE THERAPY

Heather McClelland is a member of the Australian Counsellor's Association (ACA). She has her therapy practice in Uki village and she invites individuals, parents and/or couples to make contact, for either short or long-term therapy. She offers group work including parenting and couples' groups and workplace training. Heather's fees are on a sliding scale according to each counslee's financial circumstances. Leave a message if she is absent when you phone.

Phone: (02)6679 5603 or 0423 693 744

Email: heather@otherwisetherapy.com
www.otherwisetherapy.com

Who knows? This edition of the Uki News may never see the light of day, with Dwarf Planet (?) Elenin expected to make a splash somewhere on Earth on September 22/23. Well, I don't have a choice but to dedicate this post to Elenin!

Nothing is new under the sun: many times before we have waited for the world's end. It's a common phenomenon during periods of political and economical turmoil. It is part of the passage from one era to the next, when uncertainty and fear about the future grips people's minds, spawning images of widespread destruction and divine retribution.

The reality about Elenin, despite its tantalizing name, is that it is a non-periodic small comet, not a large dwarf planet, passing at its closest distance to the Sun around now, but still a whopping 90 times the Earth-Moon distance from us, therefore posing no foreseeable threat.

The fear of Elenin is a symptom of humanity's unease with its present circumstances; the loss of our moral compass and the apprehension that we will have to accept enormous changes in our collective behaviour in order to heal the planet, and ourselves.

Astrologers are aware that big changes are on the plate for all humanity in the near future. Dramatic interplanetary relationships have been forming in recent years, spanning a period between the beginning of the new millennium and 2020. Due to the number and intensity of these events we can all prepare for an unprecedented period of quickening that will usher a new era.

It could be the end of the world as we know it, even without a helping hand from Elenin. We are facing global warming right now; and yet destroying the last of the ancient forests, even as thousands of species are facing extinction. We still sort our differences with war, while remaining collectively indifferent to the plight of millions.

On a positive note, these same transits promise also the advent of a new world-consciousness, hopefully providing us with the innovative spirit and the resilience to create a sustainable future.

To read more about current astrological trends: livingmoonastrology.com



RURAL CRIME PREVENTION

Trim vegetation that creates concealment opportunities and blocks the line of sight from the house.

Install double cylinder deadlocks or deadbolts on all perimeter doors.

Don't hide keys outside.

Install security interior and exterior lighting. Have spot or floodlights mounted around the building connected to time switches or movement detectors.

Engrave or permanently mark all property information that is unique to you, such as your driver's licence or Rural Lands Protection Board PIC number.

Make a detailed inventory of all personal valuables and household and farm equipment. Record serial and model numbers, inscriptions, replacement value and other identifying features.

Photograph or video valuable stock, machinery, jewellery, antiques or other collectables.

Ensure guns and ammunition are registered and locked in an approved gun cabinet securely bolted to the floor.

Avoid leaving the property unattended at the same time each day/week.

Cancel deliveries while away.

Notify Police, trusted friends and neighbours as to where you may be contacted during your absence.

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