



Uki welcomes new dentist

Dr Chitra Ramamurthy

The Uki community welcomes Dr Chitra Ramamurthy, proud new owner of Uki Dental Surgery.

We also bid farewell to Dr Chris Woods who has been Uki's much-loved dentist for the last 20 years – thanks and best wishes to Chris and his family.

The Uki News invited Chitra to tell us a little bit about herself.

Since taking over Uki Dental Surgery earlier this year, I have felt genuinely welcomed by the Uki community.

It is a privilege to step into the practice established by Dr Chris Woods in 2007, and I sincerely thank him for the care and dedication he has given to the community over many years.

I wish Chris and his family every happiness for the future, and I hope he is enjoying his retirement.

I am experienced dentist with more than 20 years of clinical practice, providing comprehensive dental care for patients of all ages.

Dentistry has always been my passion. From a young age I knew I wanted to pursue a career dedicated to helping people improve their oral health and confidence through compassionate care.



Brad goes for his annual check up.

As a dentist, I believe great dentistry is about more than treatment. It begins with listening, builds with trust, and is delivered with kindness and care – helping every patient feel heard, comfortable, and respected.

I am passionate about educating patients on the connection between oral health and general health, including the impact that healthy teeth and gums can have on confidence, nutrition, sleep, systemic health and quality of life.

My areas of interest include root canal therapy, clear aligner treatment for adults, crowns and restorative dentistry, as well as preventative dental care aimed at maintaining healthy smiles for life.

I am also undergoing further training in sleep-related breathing disorders and dental treatment options that may help improve sleep quality and overall wellbeing.

In addition to private practice, I am also a Clinical Supervisor at Griffith University School of Dentistry, mentoring and guiding future dental professionals.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending quality time with family, practising yoga and meditation, and reading.

My family and I are grateful to be starting this new chapter in such a warm and close-knit community. Thank you to everyone who has welcomed me so warmly.

I look forward to caring for Uki's smile for many years to come.



From the Editor

Welcome to Issue 149.

This issue centres on care. Through health, creativity, history, resilience, friendship and environmental action, our spring issue explores the many ways people contribute to a healthier, more connected and sustainable community.

Our cover story introduces Uki's new dentist and the importance of maintaining good oral health for confidence, nutrition, sleep, systemic health and quality of life.

The Uki Buttery is bursting with opportunities to support our creative and physical wellbeing, from art exhibitions and music to mending, life drawing, tai chi and clothing sales.

RUKI reminds us of the importance of looking out for friends and neighbours as summer temperatures rise.

We also congratulate RUKI for winning the Resilient Australia Community Award in NSW for its Northern Rivers Community Emergency Hub Guide and Tweed Landcare for securing a sizeable grant to restore and protect bushland.

The Uki Refugee Project reflects on 12 years of fostering friendship and cultural exchange, helping create a vital sense of belonging for people forced to leave their countries, communities and cultures in search of safety.

Rivercare invites us to recognise the interconnectedness of the Tweed landscape and its inhabitants by joining its regular working bees to restore habitat, protect waterways and help native flora and fauna thrive.

Cameron Pitcher's upcoming exhibition *Light and Dark*, a new chapter on Tweed's first white settlers from the Uki Historical Society and Heather McClelland's exploration of the two types of democracy all invite us to pause, look more deeply and consider how we understand our lives and our place in the world.

Andia

ADVERTISING

Business card size	\$30	Half page	\$100	All Advertisers will receive an invoice Advertising revenue helps fund the Uki News
Quarter page	\$60	Full page	\$200	

The Uki News is a bimonthly, free publication by the Uki Village and Districts Residents Association (UKIRA). Disclaimer: the opinions and views expressed in this newsletter may not reflect those of the Uki News or of UKIRA. Uki News is printed by Uki Community Technology Centre (aka CTC) at the Buttery building. It is delivered to most households on the South Arm of the Tweed River. Copies are also available at various local outlets, including the Uki Supermarket. Current and past issues are available at Uki Village website - www.ukivillage.com.au/uki-news

UKIRA MEETINGS 2026

UKIRA hosts community meetings on the first Tuesday of every second month in the Meeting Room of the Uki Hall (access from the rear). Meetings start at 7 pm. All residents of Uki and surrounding districts are invited to attend. Next meeting 1 December.

POSITION VACANT - Uki News Editor

The Uki Residents Association (UKIRA) is seeking a local, community-minded person to take on the role of Editor of the Uki News.

The Uki News is a free, 12-16 page community newsletter first published in 2001 and approaching its 150th edition.

This is a paid position requiring about 10-15 hours per edition (depending on experience).

The Editor's responsibilities include:

- Planning each issue (six per year)
- Communicating with contributors, advertisers, finance team, UKIRA and CTC
- Coordinating with regular and new contributors
- Targeting new advertisers
- Editing articles, as required
- Newsletter layout (using InDesign or other suitable publishing software)
- Engaging with the Uki community.

Please email Expressions of Interest to:
ukiresidentsassociation@gmail.com

For more info call 0403 314 134.

CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES 2026

ISSUE 150 (Dec-Jan 27) | Friday 13 November

Share your ideas, inspirations and events.

Contact Uki News: theukinews@hotmail.com



THE UKI ATELIER

SHOP OPEN 10 - 4 PM THURS - SUN

THURSDAY EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH	STITCH AND BITCH - 6PM - 8 PM BRING YOUR MENDING, USE THE MACHINES + TEA & CHATS.	DONATION
2ND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH	LIFE DRAWING - 6PM - 8 PM	\$30
3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH	UKI UKULELE UNION - 6PM - 8 PM (BEGINNERS WELCOME)	\$20



SCAN THE QR CODE OR FIND ME ON INSTAGRAM @THEUKIATELIER

Spring sale and weekly Qi Gong

Nick Hanlon

Riverside Reloved are purveyors of recycled, Reloved, revamped and refreshed clothing, costumes, antiques, art and oddities.



A welcoming treasure trove at Riverside Reloved.

October is our SPRING SALE with 20% off the marked price of all clothing. A natural fibre selection of dresses for all sizes, from petite to extra fabulous is awaiting, plus event wear, vintage, costumes, shirts, skirts, something for the guys - leather jackets, vintage military, cloaks, hats etc...Come in and grab a bargain!

Coming up at the Buttery Green

Commencing on Thursday October 15th we will be holding Weekly Qi Gong classes on the Buttery Green - this is a serene, shady spot by the river.

Led by the highly esteemed teacher Wei, this will be suitable for beginners and costs \$12 a session.

Wei first started practicing Qi Gong as a young child with her grandmother and aunt in China.

Later she studied with Ged Sumner of Elemental Qi Gong, Serge Augier of Ba Men DaXuan, and Master Mantak Chia of Tao Garden.

Qi Gong is a traditional Chinese mind-body practice that combines gentle movement, controlled breathing and meditation to cultivate vital energy, otherwise known as qi. There are many benefits for all ages.

Pre-register your interest @ our facebook page ~ [Riverside Reloved](#) at the Uki Butter Factory or at the shop.

We are also evolving en plein air art classes, which would be led by a different local artist each week.

The Buttery Green is shady and cool, but as it is getting hotter this would start early at 9am on a Sunday, not including market days. Stay tuned!

Riverside Reloved is located at the back of the Uki Butter Factory, with the entry by the famous Uki Pies. Open 10-4pm Thursday To Sunday.



OCTOBER SPRING SALE
20% off the marked price of all clothing. Natural cotton summer dresses, event wear, leather jackets, vintage military, cloaks, hats, scarves, shawls, party wear, natural fibre and vintage etc...come in and grab a bargain!

**Riverside Reloved**
Clothes, Collectables and Curiosities

Coming up @
The BUTTERY GREEN
The green space behind the Uki Butter Factory

Qi Gong with WEI
9am-10am Every Thursday. Commencing Oct 15th. Suitable for beginners. \$12. Pre-register your interest @ Facebook page - Riverside Reloved at the Uki Butter Factory or @ the shop
Coming soon...
En Plein Air Art Classes
Sundays 9am. (Not Market Days)
Led by a different local artist each week.
We are OPEN 10am-4pm THURS-SUN

News from the Member for Lismore

Janelle Saffin MP

Celebrating wins for Uki

There has been some terrific news for the Uki community, with local organisations receiving recognition and support for work that is making a real difference both now and for future generations.

RUKI wins national award

I was delighted to learn that Resilient Uki has been named the NSW winner of the Resilient Australia Community Award.

The award recognises the Northern Rivers Community Emergency Hub Guide, a practical resource co-designed with community resilience groups across the Tweed and Byron shires. The guide, developed from local experience and knowledge gained through natural disasters, is designed to help communities establish emergency hubs during the critical first 72 hours after an emergency.

As we know, communities are often the first to step up when disaster strikes. By supporting local people to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies, initiatives like this help build stronger and more resilient communities.

The NSW winners will now be considered for the national Resilient Australia Awards later this year.

Congratulations to President Mel Bloor, Vice President Brendan Esposito, Secretary Julie Aslett, Treasurer Geoffrey Colwill and everyone involved. This recognition is richly deserved.

Tweed Landcare secures grant

Congratulations as well to Tweed Landcare for securing a highly competitive \$350,000 Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grant through the NSW Environmental Trust.

The grant is for stage 10 in their project, Filling the Biodiversity Gaps: Connecting the Tweed Coast to the Border Ranges, to restore and protect high conservation value bushland while improving habitat connections for threatened species across the region.

Targeted works will take place on five sites including properties in Terragon, Doon Doon and Stokers Siding, helping strengthen wildlife corridors that link private land with national parks and other important conservation areas.

I also want to commend the great work Tweed Landcare does to engage young people. One group has hosted youth from RiverTracks on a workday and Tweed Landcare has combined with Brunswick Valley Landcare to run a three-month Roving Landcare program of bushwalks, ecology workshops and talks for 18–35-year-olds that has been booked out.

Tweed Landcare's work is driven by more than 250 volunteers across 17 active groups. Their commitment to restoring local ecosystems, protecting biodiversity and supporting landholders has a lasting impact on protecting our region's unique natural heritage.

Facilities upgrade in neighbouring national parks

On the subject of natural heritage, I recently announced improvements to facilities in Boonoo Boonoo and Bald Rock National Parks near Tenterfield.

Spring is a great time to visit, with the wattle in bloom against spectacular granite outcrops, stunning waterfalls and views. I encourage anyone looking for a weekend adventure to explore these remarkable parks and experience a very different side of the Lismore electorate.



Janelle Saffin at Boonoo Boonoo National Park.



Volunteer and learn to go with the flow

Matt Bloor

Uki Rivercare is a bunch of locals who get together to look after our little corner of the Tweed River and the places around it.

Rivers are always moving and changing. Water, floods, sediment, trees and the shape of the land all play a part in how a river behaves — this is river geomorphology. The more we understand those natural processes, the better we can work with the river rather than trying to control it.

That includes looking at natural ways of managing floods — healthy wetlands, functioning floodplains, good riparian vegetation and plenty of room for water to move and slow down. It's about giving the river a bit of space to be a river.

There's also a growing idea of "rights of rivers": recognising that rivers have their own needs and ecological life, and deserve to maintain the flows, habitats and natural processes that keep them healthy.

The Tweed River is home to an amazing mix of life — from platypuses, fish and frogs to birds, rainforest plants and all the creatures that depend on healthy waterways.

UKI
RIVER
CARE

A lot of our work is pretty hands-on. We look after the trees planted through National Tree Day, keep weeds under control and maintain paths so everyone can wander down and enjoy the river.

Come and lend a hand at our working bee at Platypus Park, Uki, on the 4th Sunday of every month, 8–10am. It's a couple of hours outdoors, a bit of weeding and planting, a chat with neighbours — and a good excuse to spend time by the river.

Everyone's welcome. Bring a hat, water and your gardening gloves!



Volunteers pitch in at Platypus Park.

NSW Government grants



Check this site for information on
current NSW Government grants
and closing dates

www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding

Janelle Saffin MP

MEMBER FOR LISMORE

Lismore@parliament.nsw.gov.au

ph: 02 6621 3624



Authorised by Janelle Saffin MP. Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.

Mutuality at URP

Bryan McClelland

Searching through my URP files recently I rediscovered a photo from our first Friendship Visit in 2014. We gathered at Crams Farm for a picnic. I'd stretched out on the grass when someone plonked an Iranian baby on my chest. Looking back, I realise this boy symbolises the spirit of our URP effort — mutuality.

We were privileged to befriend his family, who have hosted us in Brisbane, paying for us to accompany their children on 'The Wheel of Brisbane'. They made an extra visit to Uki. We've seen those children develop and mature over 12 years, while their father and mother have found work as a painter and in aged care.

Visits begin on a Saturday with local volunteers meeting families and singles at Varsity Lakes after they journey from Brisbane and driving them to their home hosts. After a shared lunch visitors and hosts connect and do some local exploring before the group reconnects for an evening pot-luck meal and bush dance with our fantastic 'Playing Possum' in the Uki Hall. Volunteer hosts often delight in dances from Iran, PNG or Afghanistan.



Uki Dental Surgery
Where Uki smiles together

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UKI
REFUGEE
PROJECT

Sunday morning before the picnic is open and may include wandering the banks of Cudgen Creek, swimming at Kingscliff, kayaking and more connection. We return our visitors to Varsity Lakes by mid-afternoon as they head home.



The start of a beautiful friendship

Even when further contact is not practicable, the overwhelming response is mutual gratitude. We are enriched by sharing with people from other cultures, the guests feel welcomed!

Cudgen lifesavers have already confirmed their attendance at our upcoming October event, on Saturday and Sunday the 24–25 October.

If you want to share this experience, contact Heather on 0423 693 744 to find out about being a home host or Bryan on 0428 166 783 if you can provide transport to Varsity Lakes. Contact either of us if you can support with catering for the bush dance feast or the picnic.





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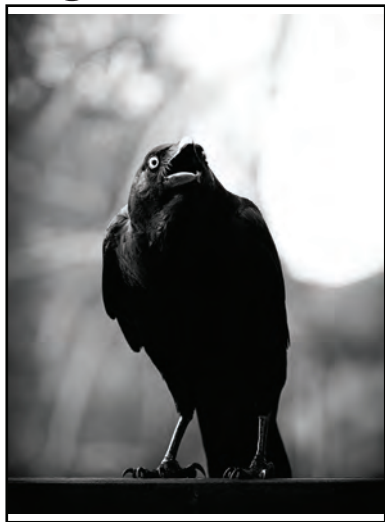
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Light & Dark - Cameron Pitcher



October feature artist Cameron Pitcher explores life and death.

Light and Dark is a series of meditative and arresting black and white photography reflecting on death, grief and loss.

A collection with roots in memento mori and influences from the photography of Paul Caponigro and Karl Blossfeldt, and the films and aesthetic of the filmmaker Jim Jarmush.

"When you lose someone close to you, you are left with the unfathomable finality of death. The sheer existential reality of it, goes beyond all stories, desires, and bargaining. It forces an openness and a pull to presence, to feel and be with what is, says Cameron.

"It invites you to stop and turn towards life, and to look closely at it, to gaze into the face of existence, looking perhaps, to see the order of things and one's place in it, looking for a way to make sense of it all, and for some way to receive it, looking to realise something of life itself in its wholeness".

The exhibition will run from September 30 until November 1st.

November's feature wall will be a joint exhibition from two of our new artists – Herberto Smith and Michael Willard, opens 6pm Friday 6 November.

Little Gallery's new talent

Little Gallery invites you to meet its new artists.

Carolyn Folland is a Uki-based ceramic artist working with stoneware clays in a high-fire kiln. In 2026, she was a finalist in the North Coast Ceramics Surface Award, The Ross Creek Gallery Infuse Prize and the North Queensland Ceramic Prize. Her signature pieces include sculptural vases and dramatic wall hangings.

Herberto Smith is a photographer and visual storyteller working across documentary, portraiture, and personal projects. His practice explores identity, belonging, migration, and memory. In the Northern Rivers, his landscape work approaches nature as a quiet self-portrait, grounded in stillness, reflection, and deep attention.

Michael Willard's paintings are inherently of a fleshy nature. Portraits and figures, by instinct he delves into fissures and crannies, "seeking to exploit the luxuriousness of oil paint in its mimicry of our very lusciousness". Similarly he explores the objects and ephemera that populate his hermetic Uki life.



Left to right new artists Carolyn, Herberto and Michael.

little gallery

Wed-Fri, 10-3PM

Sat-Sun, 9-2pm

The Buttery

1454 Kyogle Road UKI NSW 2484

littlegalleryuki@gmail.com

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where little things make big things happen



Uki Buttery Bazaar Entertainment

Sanne Grace Kenna

8am - 2pm

Uki Buttery Bazaar Market

To book a stall at the monthly Uki Buttery Bazaar please contact the Market Coordinator on 0487 329 150

PLENTY OF PARKING AT RAINBOW BRIDGE AND SWEETNAM PARK

OCTOBER Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 18 OCTOBER

Mattie B



A multi-instrumentalist with years of touring experience across Australia, Mattie has performed with a range of bands and was a member of the

internationally award-winning group The Lamplights, playing upright bass, harmonica and lap steel guitar and contributing four-part harmonies.

Today, he is exploring the peace and connection that music can offer, moving beyond conventional songwriting formulas and drawing on authentic emotional expression. His performances combine covers with original love songs written from a place of emotional release.

NOVEMBER Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 15 NOVEMBER

Chris Fisher solo



Goonellabah-based artist Chris Fisher is working on his 6th studio album, due for release in early 2027.

An eclectic singer, songwriter musician and producer, Fisher

has performed at festivals, pubs and club gigs around the Northern Rivers and beyond for more than three decades.

His songs are popular on local FM radio and have won more than 10 NCEIA Dolphin Awards and other accolades.

Listen to your Fisher favourites across three different sets, kicking off with a selection of intimate acoustic folk and country originals on guitar and piano.

Jack-a-Shandy



Jack-a-Shandy is a three-piece Gold Coast outfit bringing big-band energy to a compact live setup. Made up of a tight-knit group of multi-instrumentalists, the band seamlessly switches between instruments and styles to create a full, dynamic sound that feels much bigger than three musicians on stage.

Loren

Whether turning love letters to the moon into whimsical ballads or wrapping musings on the human condition in rich melody, Loren explores life's stories with both heartfelt reverence and playful irreverence. With three decades of performance, from festival stages to intimate living rooms, his songs continue to flow and find their home in the hearts of listeners.

Plus, the amazing and delightful teenage vocal talent of SURYANI "School music gets real! Local kids playing beautiful and authentic, traditional Celtic jigs and reels.



Monkey & Fish duo

showcases Fisher's collaboration with life partner, vocalist Marcelle Townsend-Cross that spans nearly 30 years. One of the North Coast's most enduring musical partnerships and still popular at local venues, Monkey & the Fish create a special vocal harmony and presence.



Soul Fish delivers a soul, roots and reggae influenced repertoire with a jazz attitude.

Fisher plays keys and electric guitar, with

George Urbaszek bass, Rex Carter drums, Julius Hofstetter sax and Alfie Zaki percussion.

This celebrated and experienced collective delivers emotive arrangements and musicianship, melding an engaging

Jack's giant adventure comes to Murwillumbah

Ken Corbitt
.....

Fee-fi-fo-fum....I smell the blood of an Englishman, says the Giant in our beloved pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk to be presented by Murwillumbah Theatre Company from October 16 at Murwillumbah Civic Centre.



Loads of fun for the whole family is assured with this gripping fairytale that has survived the generations.

Meet Jack, a rather reckless lad and his mother Dame Trot, Daisy the cow, Simple Simon the

cowhand and Blunderbore the giant with his offside Slimeball.

Jack trades poor Daisy for some magic beans that grow into a giant beanstalk.

Jack also attempts to rescue the Princess from the clutches of the giant, as well as finding a magic harp and a golden-egg laying goose.

Come along and be guided by Edena the eco-fairy on this journey of fun through the eyes of writer Ben Crocker and Murwillumbah Theatre Company.

The full season of Jack and the Beanstalk is over three weekends from October 16 till November 1.

Tickets are available from www.murwillumbahtheatrecompany.com.au.

It will be row seating only for this pantomime. Get ready for lots of fun, surprises and twists with Jack and the Beanstalk!



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Bookings online or at the door

When the heat is on, it's time to check in

Carmen Myler

It was hard to miss the news about the summer Europe just had. It kicked off with multiple heatwaves, then August was declared the planet's hottest month on record (tying with July 2023).

Australians are more used to heat, and our buildings are typically better designed for it than say Paris. But heatwaves kill more people here than all other natural disasters combined.

That's sobering as we look down the barrel of summer, wondering what impact the forecast strong El Niño pattern might have locally.

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, a hot, dry northern hemisphere summer isn't a predictor of our summer, so fingers crossed.

But just as we prepare for possible floods and (hopefully) have a bushfire plan, we need to think about what we'd do in a severe or extreme heatwave.

It's not as simple as switching on the aircon, even if you have it, especially with rising power costs and increasing outages.

According to [swelteringcities.org](https://www.swelteringcities.org), it's more important than ever to check in on people on hot days — especially older people, people with young children, people living with disabilities and chronic illness, people who live in hot homes, and people who are socially isolated.

So this is where we come in — all of us, in our community. As we often say in Resilient Uki, you don't have to be best friends with your neighbours, but in an environmental disaster, being connected is crucial.



Tips on checking in, from Sweltering Cities:

1. Call or text family, friends or neighbours who might be at risk in a heatwave to see how they're going.
2. Share advice on keeping cool, and what to watch for with heat stroke and heat exhaustion.
3. Drop in, if it's safe to do so — if you haven't heard from someone or noticed you haven't seen them. Better safe than sorry.
4. Encourage others to check in. Weather is a common topic, so when chatting about the heat, remind others to check in on vulnerable folks in their neighbourhood.

Learn more about keeping cool and getting prepared for hot weather by following the [heatwave link](https://www.resilientuki.org) on the RUKI website: www.resilientuki.org.





New to the area or have a new neighbour?

Download a New Resident Welcome Kit or share one with your new neighbours. You can also pick these up at the CTC or UKIRA stall at the Monthly Buttery Bazaar Markets. Let's work together to connect and prepare for the future.

[resilientuki.org](https://www.resilientuki.org)



Two views of democracy

Heather McClelland

Chris Sadoti is an Australian human rights lawyer and former head of the Australian Law Reform Commission. Chris spoke at 'This Stuff Matters' at the Regent recently and shared from his extensive experience both nationally and internationally.

He described something that many of us may not have understood. In his view, there are two



contested views of democracy. One view is 'majoritarianism', where the winning party in an election believes it is there

to rule only for those who voted for it. Many even believe that as the winner the leader(s) can do whatever they like. This is a one-dimensional view.

Many oligarchies and dictatorships around the world still like to claim to be democratic because elections are held, but their rule is far from it. The great institutions are not respected and may quickly become beholden to the power of the executive. There is little tolerance for dissent. In other words, the ordinary person's views are not considered and minorities don't matter.

RELATIONSHIP HEALTH

The second view of democracy is not just that every person has the right to vote, but that a newly elected government is subject to a social contract. They are in power to look after the human rights and wellbeing of every person in the country, not just of those who voted them in.

Under the social contract the great institutions are respected and government is subject to checks and balances, such as those of the justice system and a free press. Debate and a contest of ideas are welcomed. Transparency and accountability matter. Democracy is seen as inclusive and pluralistic. Dissent is essential as is the right to protest.

Chris Sidoti highlighted the importance of ordinary people standing up for the social contract. Unfortunately, social media is being used to popularise majoritarian democracy and to denigrate human rights. Corruption is the norm and populations are being brainwashed.

Nevertheless, we all can stand up against racism, religious intolerance, misogyny, homophobia and militancy against every minority so that Chris's second kind of democracy has a chance to survive.



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Which school is right for my child?

Rachel Watkins, Principal Uki Public School



Happy children, happy staff and great learning at Uki Public School.

At this time of the year, families with a child ready to start school next year are often thinking about which school would be the right one.

When asked what they are hoping for from a school, most people say that they want their child to be happy and to learn well. Teachers want the same thing!

Most people also talk about 'the feeling' they get from a school, so the best way to find out whether a school is the right 'fit' for your child and family is to pop in for a chat and a look around.

Your local community school, Uki Public School, has an excellent reputation for learning and wellbeing. Former School Captain Abi says, "I love the things we do at school. I sing in the choir, play in the school band and enjoy all the art. It's good fun."

Parents such as Vicki are involved and supportive. "The caring, friendly teachers and amazing environment makes Uki a great school. The school promotes wonderful values like responsibility, care and respect for others," says Vicki.

Uki Public school has an extensive Kindergarten transition program starting soon which ensures that the littlies are feeling ready and confident for 'big' school next year.

Children spend one day a week for 6 weeks with their 2027 Kindergarten teacher, so that they are familiar with the teachers, the environment, the routines and each other.

If you'd like to organise a tour of the school or to book in for the transition program, please call our office on 6679 5128.

Our transition days are from 8:55am to 2:30pm on the following dates:

- Monday 19 October
- Monday 26 October
- Monday 2 November
- Monday 9 November
- Monday 16 November
- Monday 23 November

"We couldn't be happier that we've chosen Uki Public School for our family," say parents James and Joanne. "The teachers and staff genuinely care about the children, and the opportunities provided are fantastic."

We'd love to have your family join the Uki Public School community. Pop in any time!



UKI FAMILY FUN FAIR

FRIDAY 23RD OF OCTOBER 2026
3PM - 7PM
UKI PUBLIC SCHOOL
1463 KYOGLE RD, UKI NSW 2484
A fantastic afternoon for the whole school and wider community!

ALL WELCOME!

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We are seeking local businesses and community supporters to sponsor or donate towards the Uki Public School Family Fun Fair. Your support helps make this event a success for our students and the wider community.
For more information please contact: Chloe at fundraisingukipandc@gmail.com

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE ON THE 23RD!

From Laos to Uki

Ilona Harker

It's been a busy few months for The Uki Atelier as I was away for 20 days in Laos working with local groups building the foundations to create block printing workshops for people with disabilities, with the hope to help fundraise for the critically endangered moon bear, sun bear, and the Asiatic Elephant.

I was invited by Australian Archaeologist Marian Ravenscroft so off I popped with a suitcase filled with school supplies and hope.

I returned with new designs and the foundations built for Laos workshops in 2027. So pop in and see my cute new block print designs.

Back at the Uki Atelier, I ran a Dolly Parton (RIP) t-shirt print day and raised \$300 for the Indigenous Literacy foundation, because what would Dolly do, right?

The Uki Atelier is now hosting community events that will happen most Thursdays 6-8pm, including life drawing, stitch and bitch (sewing evening), and a ukulele group.



Drawing supplies will be available for life drawing, but no oils or paints with fumes will be able to be used as the smell can be too strong.

The ukulele group is for all levels and all ages. There are a few ukeleles available but it's best to bring your own and join the UKI'lele union!

As for the sewing evening, bring your mending and there will be some supplies and sewing machines available to use with local experts available from time to time.

The Uki Atelier will also be running block print evenings soon.



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How they reached the Tweed

Kathryn Turner, Uki Historical Society

This is an excerpt from one of our stories, and can be viewed in full on our <https://historic-uki.com.au>.

"Seventy-nine years ago last Easter, my mother, baby sister (a few-months old), my brother, Jim and I left Sydney in the Schooner Panic of 66, captained by W. McGregor, who was the first pilot at Tweed Heads.

We encountered bad weather and were driven out to sea ... The trip took nearly three weeks...We arrived at last, and my father, who had been on the Tweed some months, came to meet us. We went to Scotts[home] at Terranora for a few days.

There we received the hospitality and assistance which in those days was given freely and gladly to anyone needing assistance."

Pioneer tells of Arrival on Tweed in 1869
Harry Hatton, from Tweed Daily 1/4/1948.

In 1882, Richard Hatton, his eight-month-pregnant wife Jane and their children Amy and William reportedly rode horseback over the Nightcap Range.

With the help of an Aboriginal woman, Jane gave birth to Eve in a tent beside Smiths Creek. The family was returning from their holding at Lawrence, on the Clarence River near Maclean, to their home at Byangum – a journey of 172km as the crow flies.

The narrow Nightcap Track was used by Aboriginal people travelling between the upper Tweed Valley and the coast. Its steep cliffs made the journey hazardous.

Three of the first four farms on the South Arm of the Tweed were settled by Sweetnam families in the area, that became Uki. Mary Sweetnam married John Donoghue in 1883, and her brother George married Esther Neylan in 1886. Both couples selected land at Uki when it opened, followed soon after by George and Mary's brother Richard.

Esther arrived in the Tweed in 1866, aged four, with her parents from Dungog. They travelled overland to Clarence Town, then boarded the coastal boat Bertha for Byangum. The five-week journey was troubled by a leak, but they eventually reached the South Arm of the Tweed.





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ASTROLOGY

Change of perspective

Paola Emma
.....



Spring is here. As the Sun crosses the equator on September 23 we are prompted to make plans for the new season.

It isn't just a change of wardrobe but a change of perspective. With the recent intense eclipses behind us we are encouraged to see with greater clarity the opposite/complementary aspects of all our experiences.

How to attend to our practical needs while remaining faithful to our ideals and aspirations. How to be myself while also acknowledging others' right to be themselves.

This Libra transition presents some peculiar challenges this year. All the slow-moving planets, except Jupiter, are in retrograde motion;

Pluto remaining so only until mid October, Saturn and Neptune up to mid December and Chiron, Uranus into early next year.

The role of these planets is to shape the destiny of individuals and nations. When retrograde, especially at the same times, they tend to slow the progress of change and sometimes thwart initiatives that we thought we had in the bag. This means potential for frustration and disillusion, further hampering our efforts (if we let it).

The good news is that Jupiter (hope and vision) is powering ahead in direct motion in Leo, where its energy is strong and highly creative.

To set off this positive energy further Mars will move into Leo on September 28 (where it will stay until November 26).

This could inject more confidence/courage into the collective/personal psyches to counteract the slow progress of the outer planets, especially for individuals and countries with significant planetary placements in fire and air signs.

Through Jupiter's future-oriented vision we may be able to see through the temporary setbacks, intuiting the possibility of success and heart-warming solutions to our quandaries.

With Leo energy on our side we are more likely to produce the desired effects of our actions and initiatives, playing ourselves a more central, protagonist role in our lives.



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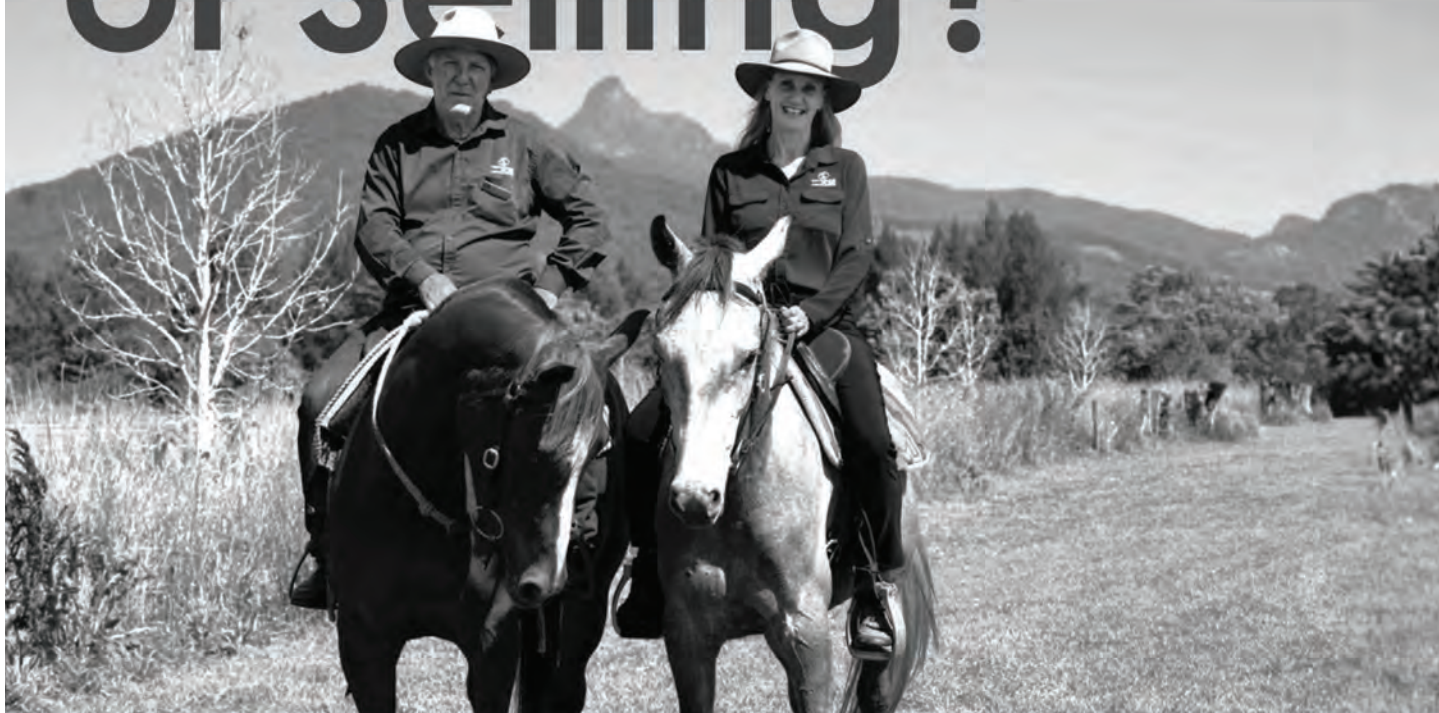
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