



New Frog Species Discovered on Mt Warning

Jai Morrison

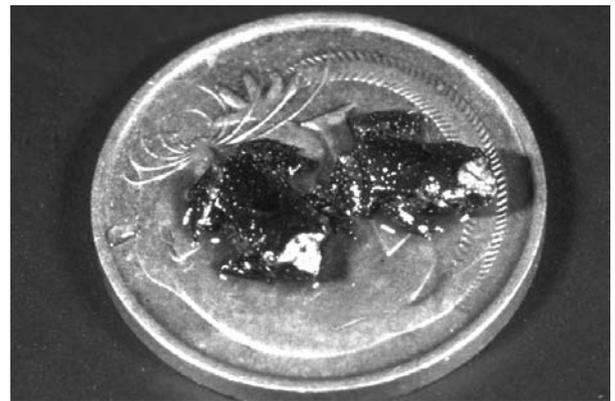
A new species of a tiny 'hip pocket' or pouched frog has been found to be living on just one isolated mountain in Wollumbin National Park. Restricted to the Gondwana World Heritage listed rainforests of northern New South Wales, the tiny population is confined to an area of about 2,000 hectares high in the cool forests on Wollumbini Momoli (Mt Warning).



Assa wollumbin with tadpoles. Photo Environment NSW

Researchers from the University of Newcastle and the South Australian Museum discovered the frog while they were examining frogs from five isolated areas from South East Queensland to Dorrigo in northern New South Wales where pouched frogs are known to occur. The frogs are commonly referred to as pouched or hip pocket frogs, or sometimes the marsupial frog. Genetic tests showed the Wollumbin National Park population was a unique species.

"The hip pocket frog is not only unique for its amazing breeding biology among Australian frogs, but it is also unique among frogs of the world," said University of Newcastle professor Michael Mahony, one of the researchers who discovered the frog. "There are only four of the 4,000 species worldwide that have male parental care where the male carries it's developing tadpoles in pouches on the sides of their bodies before little frogs emerge two to three



Juvenile Assa Wollumbin on a one cent coin. University of Newcastle

months later."

The new species has been named *Assa wollumbin* in consultation with Elders of the Wollumbin Consultative Group and is a close relative of the *Assa darlingtoni*.

The discovery has been published in the scientific journal *Zootaxa* which states that the name *Assa* is Latin for dry nurse as opposed to wet nurse, which elegantly describes the unique form of parental care.

There is a reason why it has only just been discovered as it is tiny, up to maximum of 16mm, and only lives in one place and has camouflage the SAS would be proud of.

The NSW Environment Minister, Matt Kean, said the government had declared it's habitat an Asset of Intergenerational Significance, a designation that was introduced after the 2019-20 bushfires for places that warrant special protection. "A conservation action plan will be developed to ensure the survival of this fascinating frog species, which has been living undiscovered high in the cool forests "

The species is expected to meet the State's criteria for a critically endangered species. "The small population size makes this frog more vulnerable to climate change, which is why the NSW government moved quickly to protect its habitat within days of being formally described," Mr Kean said.



From the Editors

Welcome to Uki News Issue 121.

Heading in to the last month of another challenging year we look forward to a very wet summer and hope for a return to more normal work and business conditions in the New Year.

This issue covers a detailed history

of our landmark Butter Factory and farming pioneers as well as the surprise discovery of a new species of frog on our favourite mountain.

Also presented are the local community endeavours for refugees, shared gardens and natural disaster safety and recovery teams.

Uki News wishes all our readers a happy and healthy summer with family and friends and look forward to seeing and hearing from you all again in the New Year.

The Editors

Contact Uki News: theukinews@hotmail.com

ADVERTISING

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Disclaimer: The opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Uki News nor of UKIRA.

Uki News is printed by Uki Community Technology Centre (aka CTC) at the Buttery building.

Current and past issues are available at Uki Village website – www.ukivillage.com.au/uki-news

The Uki Village and District Residents Association (UKIRA) public meeting. Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the meeting/supper Room at the Uki Hall. Entry is through the back door off the back verandah.

UKIRA Membership Application forms are available at the CTC.

Letters To The Editor



We'd love to hear from you... Send your letters to theukinews@hotmail.com.



SHOP FOR LEASE

A shop has become available at the Uki Butter Factory.

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Relationship Health: In Kind Hands

Heather McClelland

On a walk around a property near Uki recently, a wild-life carer spied a tawny frogmouth chick squirming on the ground after falling from the nest. As she picked him up his face was eloquent with expressions of bewilderment, loud objection and finally quiescence. He had fallen into kind hands. Now he is being looked after with two other babies of a similar age and will be released back into the wild from the property where he was found.

In medical circles research has shown that when doctors and nurses relate to each other with kindness there are fewer mistakes made and better health outcomes for their patients. The Hush Foundation is steadily transforming healthcare environments around Australia using the Arts: music drama and visual art together with KINDNESS. (*Upfront, Good Weekend, Nov 13 2021*)

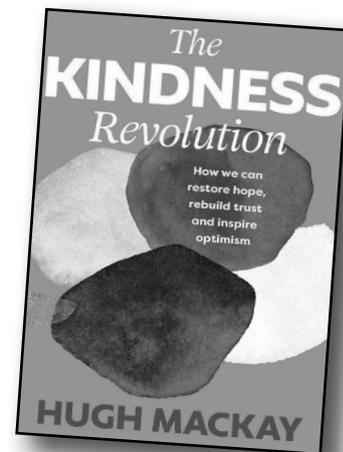
Hugh Mackay says: "I find it helpful to think of kindness as a hard headed discipline, a motivation rather than an emotion; a frame of mind; a way of being in the world." He claims that the capacity for kindness is in our nature and that as social beings we depend on each other. Cooperation and empathy are vital if we, like our wildlife are to thrive. (*The Kindness Revolution p.47*)

At the recent COP 26 talks in Glasgow, realisation of the desperate need for co-operation prompted the Activists as they protested on behalf of future generations. It was etched into the faces of many of the negotiators, the leaders of nations, scientists, industrialists and business

people who gathered from all points around the world.

So too in the pleas to the biggest polluters and wealthy countries to do more, which were powerfully articulated by vulnerable nations such as the Pacific. Perhaps, given recent hostilities between them, the world was most surprised when China and USA made a joint KIND announcement.

"We need to think big and feel responsible," Xie Zhenhua told startled reporters. "We need to work hard... to promote world peace and development ...to actively address climate change through co-operation, bringing benefits to both our two peoples and peoples around the world". (*News Review, Sydney Morning Herald, p.29*)



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For more information please contact:
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Uki Community Technology Centre

From the Uki Community Technology Centre Team

HUGE THANK YOU TO PAMELA VENESS

Uki Community Technology Centre would like to thank Pamela Veness of Rowlands Creek for her outstanding efforts and contributions to the technology centre during her time working as a volunteer at the centre.

Pamela was a major force helping to facilitate the very successful Art Auction and negotiated extremely helpful grant funds for the upgrade of centre equipment and volunteer support facilities. Without her persistence and determination we would be treading water during these difficult times.

We wish her every success and happiness in her future endeavours and adventures.

Love your work Pamela



"A limited edition of signed Uki Calendars for 2022 featuring the artwork of local Uki artist David Preston are now available in special protective and decorative A3 envelopes. Only \$40 each."

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I love working with our community to make a difference.

Please call for information and support.

GETTING THINGS DONE

Janelle Saffin MP

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COVID 19 Statement:

Janelle Saffin MP

My Electorate Office has implemented proper protocols to ensure we comply with the Public Health Orders issued by government in relation to managing the COVID-19 risk. These protocols apply to my staff, local constituents and visitors to my Electorate Office. Please be understanding.

Janelle Saffin MP
MEMBER FOR LISMORE



GETTING THINGS DONE

Myself and my team (permanent Ronny, Peter and Harry) (casual Carmel, Johnny and Lee) will do our best to make sure that everyone's needs are responded to and Electorate Office services are maintained, to help all in this unique time of COVID.



The New Switch-eroo at the Uki Village Gardens



Rachel

A big shout out to those that participated in the food and clothes swap at The Uki Village gardens in November. It was so inspiring to see all the lovely home grown produce, homemade jars of goodies and funky clothing people brought to swap with others. I took home a particularly good Jar of dukkah, so thanks for that Jules!

Due to the positive vibes, good turn out and lovely community feedback we received from doing this event we have decided to do it as a monthly thing for the next little while. Our next swap will be on Sunday 19th December from 9.30am – 11.30am. Being so close to Christmas, we thought people might like to bring little festive gifts to help with your Christmas list. The deal is; everyone brings something to put on the table, like something you've grown or made or some clothing you're not using any more, then everyone takes whatever they want from the tables. It's totally self regulated so you can give and take whatever you fancy on the day. We provide tables and some shade. Chai and cake are available to purchase as usual.

We gardens folk really hope that events like this will facilitate sharing and bring out the amazing community spirit we are so lucky to have here in Uki. The Village Gardens space is open to

all and a place that we hope will become a cornerstone for activities in Uki, so if you need a space for your next activity or have ideas which could utilise the gardens we'd love to hear from you! You can email ukivillagegardens@gmail.com and say hello. If you'd like to pop down and join in, we are usually there on a Sunday morning from about 9.30am – you can check the blackboard at the gardens to see for sure or find us on Facebook by searching Uki Village Gardens.

Thanks folks



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Uki Toad Busting!

Geoffrey Colwill

Cane toads are highly toxic at every life stage and are a huge threat to pets, wildlife and agriculture.

Cane toads are spreading at an alarming rate and we need the community to work together to reduce their numbers and reclaim our properties and natural areas. There are a number of ways you can get involved and help reduce numbers!

Watergum (a local environmental community engagement organisation) is hosting a number of toad busting sessions and informational talks as well as working closely with locals in your community.

The best way is to get out there at night and start collecting toads. Get toad busting! When euthanising captured toads please remember to cool them down in the fridge before freezing. This is far more humane than just freezing them out right, or using Detol.

If you are busting cane toads and don't want to deal with them or store them in your fridge or freezer, there are drop off points in Murwillumbah, Pottsville and now in Uki.

A drop off fridge/freezer point is available in the Main Street of Uki at 1472 Kyogle Rd. Opposite the church. Fridge and freezer kindly supplied by Tweed Shire Council and Watergum. Toads accepted live, cooled or frozen. Drop off between business hours 9-5.

All toads collected will be delivered to Watergum to be used as part of their cane toad eradication scheme.



Pheromones are extracted from the toads and used as bait to exclusively trap cane toad tadpoles, removing toads at the beginning of their life cycle greatly reducing future numbers of toads.

If you want to get involved or would like any more information about the Uki & District group please email us at geoffrey.colwill@findhorn.cc or contact canetoads@watergum.org

More information regarding Watergum can be found at: <https://watergum.org/canetoads/>

<https://www.facebook.com/WatergumCommunity/videos/364928245370818/>



This Ibis Snapped Stalking Toads!

Lauren Carn (Photo by Lauren Carn)

Terrible zooming in but I didn't want to interrupt it. This ibis is killing its third cane toad in 20 minutes. Its getting them out from near the gutter and under the concrete slab of the shed, then it thrashes them around while the toad sprays out poison everywhere and once the toad stops spraying it eats it whole!!

Finally an ibis I like!!



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Forgotten Tools

Shaving Horses and Bodger's Benches

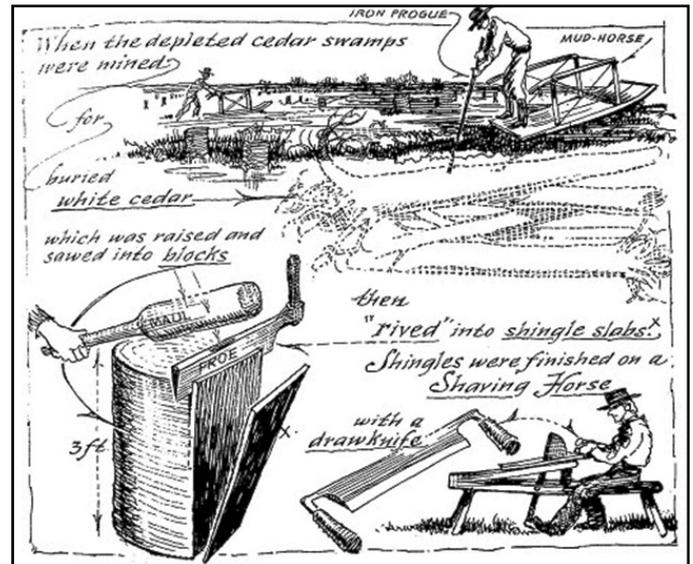
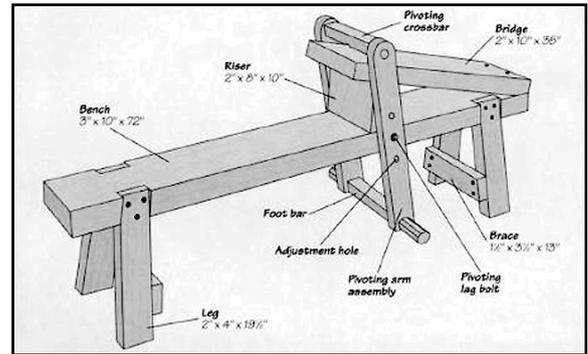
Brendan Esposito

I know if I tried to shave this horse it would be a pretty bodgey job, but I digress!



The 'horse' we are talking about here is a sit down bench with four legs (sometimes three) more akin to a low pew with a clamping arrangement used to grasp a length of timber which can then be shaved down using a draw knife.

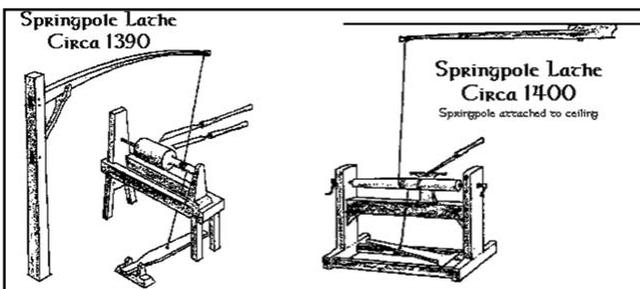
This 'shave horse' is also called a 'bodger's bench'. Bodgers being the traditional skilled (if underpaid) workers of green timber for chair legs. The traditional English bodger would buy a stand of trees from a local, and set up a place to live (his bodger's hovel) and work close to these trees as a source of raw materials. The copse (or coppice) of trees was managed to produce thick wands that could be turned into chair legs. The practice of 'coppicing' is worth future examination, as it involved the use of



specialised tools and practices and is a subject in and of itself.

The thick wands were shaved down to rough cylindrical shapes and then turned into chair legs using a foot operated 'pole lathe' (another interesting tool that deserves attention). Both the bodger's bench and the pole lathe were often built on site from materials at hand, being very idiosyncratic and individual in design. I don't think I have ever seen two shave horses which were identical.

Despite their differences they are all operated by a foot lever which provides force to the clamping mechanism. This mechanism in the European versions being referred to as a 'Dumb head'. It's probably easier to look at the pictures provided here than it is to try and explain the operation.



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Calling on Generational Families:

Tammy Jones & Karen Challand

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We are hosting a fabulous social night out where you can listen and talk to generational residents and hear their "TALES AS OLD AS TIME".

The Kunghur & Surrounds Community-led Resilience Team (KSCRT), will be hosting this community gathering one night in late January 2022. We would like to ask generational families and individuals who live or lived in Uki, Byrill Creek, Kunghur, Commissioners Creek and everywhere out to our Shire Border, to be apart of the panel and share their stories. Please contact me below if you would like to be one of our guest historians and/ or share this with someone you think would be interested.

All attending can put any question in a bucket and the MC will ask the guest historians. The stories will be collated to share with locals and utilised in various ways. Expect lots of funny stories and great history about many things. This is a chance to respect and learn from those that have experienced many changes in our area.

If you would like to be a part of the night either as a guest historian, an attendee or you want to learn more about your local CRT's (Uki, Byrill Creek and Kunghur



and Surrounds), or volunteer in a capacity that suits you, please contact me on:

Email: kazwithpazaz@gmail.com,

or call Mobile: 0400 015 927.

Closer to the date we will advertise the details of the event via local Facebook groups and our FB and Web pages below.

If you would like to be better informed about preparing and dealing with emergencies then Like and Follow our Facebook page called "Caldera Community Emergency Support" and Bookmark our Web page:

www.resilientcaldera.info/

This will be fabulous!



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The Power Race

Louise Bally

Research institutes and universities are pouring hours of labour and experimentation into researching alternatives to the lithium-ion battery, not to mention the ongoing funding required to sustain these projects.

Some have been going for over 10 years and project another decade before they have a viable, affordable and safe replacement. The flammable mixture of lithium salts and organic solvents that the lithium-ion battery's electrolyte is comprised of, means they are dangerous fire and explosion risk when electric and hybrid cars crash. Additionally the high cost of production and frequent recharging required has further contributed to the research race for new and improved battery technologies.

A Canadian startup Zinc8, has received over \$50M in funding to develop a new zinc-air hybrid flow battery which is non-flammable and has about double the storage capacity of a lithium-ion battery. The charge is stored in a tank which can be expanded for greater storage capacity making it ideal for wind and solar farms requiring large batteries for bad weather weeks. The Zinc8 are launching their product on the market, a 150 hour storage unit which is 5 times cheaper than currently available storage batteries, safer and longer lasting.

A variety of other new battery technologies are in the pipeline. The fluoride-ion battery, suitable for cars and aeroplanes is being developed in California at the Honda Research Institute and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, "Fluoride-ion batteries (FIBs) offer a promising new battery

chemistry with up to 10 times more energy density than currently available lithium batteries," claims Christopher Brooks, Ph.D., chief scientist at the Honda Research Institute. Presently the Tesla car company has affordable electric cars, but the replacement cost of the battery is a quarter of the cost of the car. Electric cars will not dominate the vehicle market until the cost of batteries drops to below \$125 per kWh (The US Department of Energy).

It will be years before there is a commercially viable, safe and efficient replacement for the lithium battery despite avid research and investments such as MIT and Samsung's solid state battery project. Stanford University's aluminium-graphite battery, that charges in 60 seconds but still is a long way off being commercially viable.

<https://www.assemblymag.com/articles/94724-new-battery-breakthrough-could-replace-lithium-ion>



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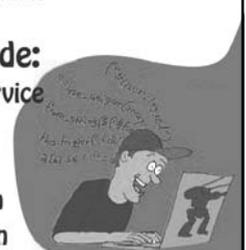
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Uki Buttery Bazaar Entertainment

Sanne Grace Kenna

 Uki Buttery Bazaar Market

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

PLENTY OF PARKING AT RAINBOW BRIDGE AND SWEETNAM PARK

DECEMBER Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 19th DECEMBER

Bill Jacobi's Rogue Elements with Billy James

After the sad but inevitable cancellation of the October markets, this December 19 will see Rogue Elements bring their eclectic blend of swamp roots, nu-folk and alt-country to the Uki Market stage. The core of Rogue Elements is singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Bill Jacobi with co-conspirator Nick Churkin on drum kit and backing vocals. But for this month's markets, the line up is being enhanced to include the musical talents of Stu Beaumont on double bass, Peter Haddock on flute and percussion, and blues harmonica legend Billy James doing what he does best.



Billy James

Billy, a tireless troubadour and veteran of many a great line up, and many a long and winding tour, will be performing a solo set of his own during the course of the day. Using his mastery of loops and samples he'll be taking you on an entrancing series of delta-drenched blues excursions. Live music! On the village green! What could be finer!

What could be finer! Music kicks off at 9:30am and will wind you through the day till round about 1:30pm



JANUARY Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 16th JANUARY

Fiddle Faddle Tweed Creative Studios Old Timey Jam

9.30-10.15am: Our community group consists of professional and amateur players who come together every Thursday morning at Tweed Creative Studios to follow the tradition of playing and enjoying this music. We welcome anyone to join us who wishes to share the experience. We play fiddle (of course) and banjo, ukulele, guitar, tuba, bass and percussion, but at this point in time - because of Covid-19 - there is no singing. This is traditional music that gets your toes tapping and your spirit flying. It's lively and requires skill on your instrument. By participating in this group, your brain cells are stimulated and your mental health is being looked after. Its a great hobby with a ton of fun - just ask anyone who takes part in the session!

Elder Raine

10.30-11.00am: Raine is a singer, songwriter, musician and artist. She lives in Nimbin, which has given her the artistic opportunities to bring to fruition her dreams of music. She moved there at 60yrs old, joined a womens band, Sisters-in-Lore, where she began playing Harp and drumming, eventually leading her to form another band, Sisters Healing Earth, where she wrote songs for the first time. They made a 13 track CD dedicated to Mother Earth. Raine continues to compose and perform with various other artists as much as these times allow.

Kodey Raine

11:00-11.30am: Kodey Rayne a songwriter/ singer/guitarist/soloist. Local to Murwillumbah, and one of Tweed Creative studios new discoveries. Brings to you a set of soulful melodies from Joni Mitchell to Adele. Her voice rich and full takes you to the heartland and brings you home.

Waterwall

11:45-12.30pm/12:45-1.30pm: Chantal Waters and Steve Hansell and Benny Wah-Wah, Australian songwriters with a difference. Their music captures the listener with heavy grooves, electronic funk and wailing guitars. Uplifting soulful vocals and lyrics tell stories about profound emotions and finding peace of mind. Driving Riffs and nu-skool breakbeats became the formulation of the power-driven energy that make up Waterwall. Fresh and engaging, this duo residing on the Northern Coast of NSW formed in 2015 and continue to write, record and play live.



FFTCSTJ

Elder Raine



Kodey Raine



Waterwall



The Electric Effect of Spring

Madeleine Murray (Photos by Rodney Falconer & Ken Rippin)

Spring is here and the birds are ecstatic. They are singing and dancing to attract a mate, collecting nest building material and even having chicks. It's wonderful to watch.

I had an operatic performance between two grey shrike-thrushes outside my window yesterday. The grey shrike-thrush (GST) has a gorgeous, clear, ringing song which always sounds happy. You probably have heard it many times as the GST is quite a common bird.

Birds have a fascinating variety of courtship rituals. The male Bowerbird makes a beautiful, open archway from slender twigs – he decorates the area around the arch with blue objects as diverse as a piece of Lego, or a Jesus Loves Me rubber bracelet. The male invites the female to stand inside the bower, then puts on a stunning performance. He takes a blue object in his beak, and according to Pizzey, “adopts trance-like poses, head low, eyes suffused lilac-pink, leaps sideways, flares wings/tail, utters wheezing, whirring notes.”

You can sometimes hear the male in the undergrowth either performing for the female, or practising. In spring, you often see birds flying back and forth with pieces of grass, spider web, moss, or twigs in their beaks, as they build a nest.

The nests are architectural masterpieces of woven twigs, tendrils and grass, lined with wool or moss, perhaps decorated with snake skin. Each species makes a distinct type of nest, built to withstand wind, rain, storms and predators such as snakes, goannas, magpies, crows, raptors.



Tawny Frogmouth with 2 chicks
Photo by Rodney Falconer

The delightful Tawny Frogmouth, disguised to look like a branch covered in lichen, makes a flimsy platform of twigs, or takes over an old Magpie nest. One Frogmouth recently adopted an old nest on a branch right outside my friends' verandah. She just sat on the nest for a week, then suddenly two chicks appeared, all white and fluffy.

At night the mother would fly off and hunt for insects or small birds and mammals. About 10 days later, the chicks were almost as big as the mother, with the same camouflage feathers.

The Koel, a large black cuckoo with a vivid red eye,

spends the winter in PNG/Indonesia, and arrives here in October. The female has a beautiful barred breast and dark brown wings with pale dots. Her mission is to mate with a male Koel here, then find a suitable large nest, such as a Magpie's and lay her one salmon-pink egg in it. The Koel chick then kicks out the magpie eggs or the magpie chicks! The tiny cuckoo ends up being fed by a Magpie until it fledges, and flies to PNG to start the cycle again.



Spangled Drongo
Photo by Ken Rippin

Another spring arrival is the Spangled Drongo, as whimsical as its name suggests. Drongos have glossy blue-black feathers, a bright red eye, and a long forked tail. They love to gather in groups and make chattering, clicking, metallic sounds. In flight, they often swoop and dive erratically. It seems to me that the more you know about birds, the more you marvel at their beauty, mystery and complexity.



Plum-headed Finch with grass
Photo by Rodney Falconer



News from UKIRA

Phil Carr

UKI VILLAGE GARDENS – a big pat on the back to all the volunteers at the UVG, who are doing an awesome job in transforming a once overgrown cow paddock into a productive and inviting community space that welcomes everyone as they enter the village.

Special mention to local villager Brad and his trusty mower for tending to the grass each week. UKIRA is proud to support this community initiative, driven from the outset by Greg O'Donnell.

UKI VILLAGE PLAN – the community consultation phase is closing on 8th December, so grab the chance to have your say via Tweed Shire Council's website at www.yoursaytweed.com.au/ukivillageconceptplan.

Thanks to Tweed Shire Council for facilitating the plan, in particular Jodie Hewett and Ian Bentley.

The next stage involves the Draft Concept Plan going on Public Exhibition before being presented to Council for adoption in 2022.

BAZAAR - it was with a heavy heart that UKIRA decided not to proceed with the Buttery Bazaar Markets in October and November.

Having limited staff and the potential of hefty fines, UKIRA felt it was not able to enforce the NSW Government's rules around vaccination compliance. The next market will be held on Sunday 19th December.

PATHWAY - we all know that Tweed Shire Council has never enough money for footpaths....

...well finally, after 15 years and much lobbying from UKIRA, residents can now enjoy an easy stroll that takes them from one end of the village to the other.

Done in stages as funds became available, the path runs all the way from Sweetnam Park to the Uki Sportsground.

The final section was completed in July this year at a cost of \$85,000, thanks to Council jumping on a grant opportunity presented by the NSW government.

Council's efforts in completing this walkway are much appreciated.

GERALD PARKER PARK – with paved access now available to the Uki Sportsground, Tweed Shire Council is seeking to improve the amenity at Gerald Parker Park (opposite the Sportsground).

To date, this park has presented something of a maintenance challenge to Council, mainly due to damage caused by vehicles, but Council has recently used a combination of large rocks and tree plantings as a barrier to restrict vehicle access, while still allowing plenty of space for parking.

The Park is grassing up nicely as a result, and no doubt the 'rock quarry' look will soften over time.

Council has advised that it will consider further improvements down the track, including picnic tables and more tree plantings.

MEETINGS - UKIRA holds a public meeting every second month in the Meeting Room at the rear of the Uki Hall. All residents are welcome to attend. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 1st February 2022, starting at 7PM.



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Uki "NORCO" Butter Factory History

Esma Thompson - Uki and South Arm Historical Society Inc.



The original timber Uki "Norco" Butter Factory 1910-1938

Mr John Peate bought crown land at Uki on the 13th December 1905. His family erected a tent and sold homemade lollies at the site where the "Norco" butter factory was later built.

In 1908 local dairy farmers approached the North Coast Co-operative Butter Company to have a butter factory built in Uki. They had to have sufficient shareholders to buy 2000 shares and a guarantee to supply sufficient cream to have an output of two and a half tons of butter per week. The establishment of the butter factory at Uki was largely due to the efforts of Mr Gerald Parker of Uki, who realised that if dairying was to be a success the cream must be treated as near home as possible. About the time of the opening of the Uki factory Gerald Parker accepted a seat on the board of the North Coast Co-operative Company and he remained a director until the time of his death (1932) a period of 22 years.

The North Coast Co-operative Butter Company Board decided in December 1908 that erection of a factory was justified. The land was sold to the Co-operative by John Peate on the 16th August 1909. The plan of the proposed factory, to be built at a cost of £2300, was adopted by the board in November 1909. The construction was supervised by Mr Fraser, North Coast Company's head carpenter and the building carried out by the company's own staff.

The timber used was hardwood and the appearance generally very solid and substantial. The engine shed was a separate building situated at the rear of the factory. The cost of construction and land was £2672. Two cottages for employees were erected at the same time, one for the manager and the other for the engineer.

A branch of the North Coast Co-operative Butter Company was opened at Uki Wednesday 26th October 1910 by Mr W. R. Baker Chairman of Directors. On declaring the factory open Mr Baker cut a ribbon and the whole of the machinery was there upon set in motion. In the engine-room one dairyman had arranged a bottle of milk so that on the first revolution of the large flywheel the contents of the bottle was dashed on the engine, the christening being thus done in milk. Over 400 people were present. A banquet followed with councillor D. C. Marshall

presiding. The factory commenced work on Friday 28th October 1910 and in 1914 the Uki factory turned over 149 tons of butter.

In the early days of the village the cool rooms of the old butter factory were used to keep the Mount Warning beer kegs cold and some workers were known to top them on the sly.

A decision was made in 1938 to rebuild the Uki Factory, by replacing the timber walls with reinforced concrete and steel with a high quality render finish.

In the middle of 1939 the Norco Directors decided to close some of the smaller factories, as they were proving too costly to run and they decided it was more cost efficient to transport the cream to the larger factories, in this case Murwillumbah. It came as a blow to the farmers as the Uki factory had been operating in their midst for many years.

During WW2, as a child Corinne French would ride around the butter factory on a three wheeler bicycle. One day the butter maker called her over and gave her a hand full of butter to eat as a treat, Corrine then went home with the butter, which her mother promptly took off her, to use for the family, as butter was being rationed at the time due to the war.

The Northern Star dated Wednesday 14 November 1945 ran the story - "Uki Opposed to Closing of Factory: Approximately 50 primary producers attended a public meeting held in the Uki hall under the auspices of the Uki branch of the Primary Producers Union to discuss the proposed closing of the Norco branch factory at Uki.... After considerable discussion the following motion was moved by Mr C. Milsom and seconded by Mr R. Grant, and carried unanimously:

"That this meeting request the directors of NORCO management to continue manufacturing butter at its various factories as at this date, and to oppose any interference in the management of Norco Co-op. Ltd. by the NSW Dairy Branch and the Federal Dairy Branch..." The decision in 1947 to close factories at Tyalgum and Uki encountered vigorous local opposition. It was backed by district antagonism to the closures.

Northern Star Thurs 1 May 1947 "Suppliers Ultimatum to Norco: If Norco Board of Directors, at its special meeting on Friday, refuses to reverse its decision to close Tyalgum and Uki branches and also refuses to sell the factories to suppliers, a committee representing dairymen at both centres will endeavour to have all cream from the area diverted to Foley Bros.[this factory was located at Mullumbimby, Foley Bros. had a depot in Uki] while they try to arrange for the erection of their own factories at Uki and Tyalgum..."

To be continued in Issue 122



Astrology

Paola Emma

Last eclipse season for 2021 and last pass of the Saturn-Uranus' Square to farewell another difficult year.

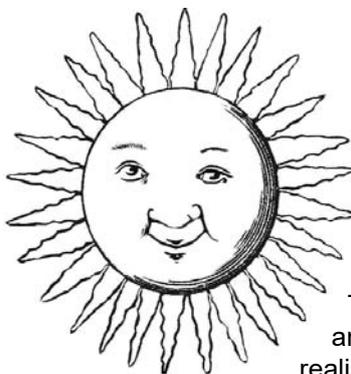
The Sagittarius Solar Eclipse (December 4, 6.42 pm, dls), connected to Uranus, planet of revolutions and upheaval, will be a rather special New Moon, setting the tone not just for the month ahead but for the next six months or more. The adventurous Sagittarius New Moon, occurring around this time every year, marks usually a time when we are eager to turn a page on the past, feeling ready to embrace the future with renewed optimism and vision; time for aspiring New Year resolutions, seldom destined to withstand the test of time. This time the Moon is eclipsed while, due to the collective experiences of the past two years, we feel more impatient than usual to move ahead. Because the third/last pass of the Saturn-Uranus square is still approaching (Christmas Eve) our impatience will be yet tested by limiting circumstances (Saturn's effect) but also fired up by a spirit of rebellion (Uranus' effect).

This significant transit, that permeated the whole of 2021, remains influential, especially because it occurs around the Capricorn Solstice, heralding the New Year. Must this still be a recipe for frustration and antagonism? Or an opportunity to find a healthy medium between social responsibilities and our innate desire for self-determination? For sure, next year the challenging right angle between Saturn and Uranus will be over, getting closer again in September-October but not becoming exact again. Jupiter though, transiting Pisces on and off in the coming year, will form difficult if minor angles with both Saturn and Uranus (semi-squares). It could then, in 2022 and early 2023, become an agent for those two sworn enemies' ongoing feud. Hopefully Jupiter in adaptable Pisces could also play the role of a deal-breaker, by providing greater tolerance of differences, with the ability to forgive and move on.

The Retrogradation of Venus in Capricorn

This loop takes place every eighteen months or so and represents an opportunity for self reflection in the area of relationships. One of the major consequences of this transit will be to greatly intensify and extend in time the effect of a Venus-Pluto conjunction. The Retrogradation will last from December 19 2021 to January 29 2022, while Venus transits backward between 26th/11th degrees of Capricorn. Usually a yearly transit that remains active for just a few days, this time the conjunction will repeat three times: on December 12-25, and again on March 4 2022.

These events could shape our attitude on relationships and love (Venus), presenting to us in a revealing light some recurrent negative patterns we experience, while also providing us with the psychological tools to tackle them. In particular matters of shared assets and/or finances could come to the fore, as well as issues of control, jealousy, repressed resentments, perhaps feelings and thoughts that



have remained hidden for a while or that, for peace sake, we have evaded so far (Pluto). What are we seeking from those who are close to us? What are they looking for in us? This is not time to be content with superficial answers. Not only there is a need to be more realistic (Capricorn), but to be also ruthlessly honest, first of all with ourselves (Pluto).

2022 Jupiter's journey between worlds: from Pisces to Aries and back again

Just as the year ends, on December 29, Jupiter will be moving into Pisces and transit this last Zodiacal Sign until May 11, when it will enter Aries, first in the sequence. Due to Retrogradation it will re-enter Pisces between October 28 and December 21. Jupiter is well placed in Pisces, having been associated with this Sign since antiquity.

In Pisces the philosophical function that Jupiter represents merges with our collective longing for spirituality, unity and compassion. It could be especially so in 2022, because Neptune, the metaphysical function within our collective psyche, is also still transiting Pisces (until 2025) and Jupiter will become conjunct Neptune on April 13, only one pass but hopefully enough to inspire us to embrace non judgemental, compassionate ways to deal with each other and our ailing blue planet. When in Aries (May11-October28+2023) Jupiter will be likely to inspire us to embrace a more militant mindset, eager to change the world. Actions will speak louder than words, our collective mind expanding by being courageous and driven.

2022 and beyond

2022 seems to be a transition year for the world, hopefully less eventful and unsettling. The effects of the dramatic transits of 2020/21 are still lingering, but no major alignments are being activated. Amazing cosmic shifts loom in the future though: Saturn in Pisces, 2023; Pluto in Aquarius, 2023/24; Neptune in Aries and Uranus Gemini, 2025.

For more astrological insights visit my website: livingmoonastrology.wordpress.com



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Uki Refugee Project

the URP Team.

The Tweed Declaration

Background

The Uki Refugee Project has been supporting refugees and asylum seekers for seven years, in particular through friendship, financial assistance, advocacy and awareness raising. Our supporters come from across the Tweed and we have links with similar groups throughout the Northern Rivers. We have a close working relationship with the Romero Centre in Brisbane.

The tragic events associated with the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan have led to us agreeing to sponsor two Hazara men to obtain Australian visas. Both men are in grave danger from the Taliban. Other groups are seeking to sponsor other individuals and families.

Declaration

As members of the Tweed Valley community (a refugee welcome zone) and Northern Rivers Region we call for Australia to show compassion and generosity towards our brothers and sisters in Afghanistan. Right now many Afghans are living in fear of torture and death.

This calamity faces especially people who are members of an ethnic or religious minority, advocates for women's rights and those who assisted the Australian Intervention in Afghanistan. We know that people are already being threatened, intimidated and assaulted. We dread the impending likelihood of systematic torture and murder.



We consider that Australia has a moral obligation to assist. Australians fought and died in Afghanistan for 20 years and we must honour this sacrifice by offering succour to people who are now at great risk.

We have a proud history of helping in times of crisis. Australia accepted 70,000 Vietnamese refugees when that war ended, 42,000 Chinese refugees after the Tiananmen massacre and 12,000 Syrian refugees during the civil war.

While Australia evacuated about 3,000 people with links to Australia in August, more needs to be done.

We call on the Australian Government to provide a total of 20,000 humanitarian visas for Afghans as a matter of urgency. The time to act is now. We must not turn our backs on Afghanistan.

For more information, please contact the Uki Refugee Project at uki.refugee.project@gmail.com

The logo for Kit n Kaboodle Productions, featuring a large, stylized 'K' and 'K' inside a circle, with the text 'kit n kaboodle' above and 'productions' below.

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The logo for Mount Warning Hotel Uki, featuring a mountain range inside a circle with the text 'MOUNT WARNING HOTEL UKI' below it.

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