



LAVA Festival: Igniting creativity & community

Kirsten Devitt, President LAVA

LAVA (formerly the Murwillumbah Arts Trail) is a three-day multidisciplinary arts festival across Murwillumbah and surrounding villages, including Uki.

From Friday 26 June – Sunday 28, the region will come alive with more than 40 events spanning exhibitions, performances, sound works, workshops and public installations, it's a real step up from a studio trail.



A few of the In Harmony artists from left to right Lisa Tiffen, Tina Wilson, Diana White, Heather McClelland and Sue Kinneally.

LAVA builds on the legacy of the Murwillumbah Arts Trail, keeping what matters at its core, while expanding through commissioned pieces, new formats, and a broader creative vision. It's the same heart, with a focus on artist development at its core.

Our main change is commissioning new works and making sure that artists are exposed to a wider audience.

Uki News • ISSUE 147 • JUNE— JULY 2026

Set in the heart of the Northern NSW caldera the new name LAVA is inspired by a landscape literally born from volcanic activity.

The name captures that energy: something molten, alive, and transformative. It's rooted in the concept that arts can shape our communities into new and exciting cultural landscapes.

With backing from Tweed Shire Council and the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund and partnerships with bodies like Arts Northern Rivers, LAVA is connecting local artists to national networks – a regional festival that genuinely punches above its weight.

Uki has five events in the 2026 program and they're a great mix, read more [here](#).

The Raw Edge Art Collective brings a high-energy group show to Uki Hall, with painting, ceramics, textiles, timber, metal and more. Little Gallery hosts *One Gallery / Eleven Artists* is a curated exhibition with an outdoor art market and live drawing sessions. Seven artists, including Tina Wilson, Lisa Tiffen and Lynne Guy present *In Harmony* at Uki's beautiful historic Holy Trinity Anglican Church. Christine Mellor opens her Smiths Creek Road studio, and renowned artist Matt Ottley exhibits at Art Post Uki.



Some of the Raw Edge artists whose work will be on display at the Uki Hall.

Intimate and exploratory. The program is designed to be wandered through – visitors follow their curiosity and experience LAVA as it unfolds. Unexpected discovery is central. Rather than being confined to a stage, performance is woven into the fabric of the whole festival. Music and performance appear at exhibition openings, in riverside settings, on beaches and in open paddocks.

Working farmland becomes a sound installation, a beach becomes a stage at sunset. Newell Park will transform into a knitted and crocheted garden in *At the Bottom of the Garden* yarn bombing. Venues include historic churches, private studios, riverside manors and CBD laneways. **Cont'd page 10**

From the Editor

Welcome to Issue 147.

There's a strong focus on all things art in this winter edition.

We learn more about the inaugural LAVA festival in our cover story and interview with LAVA President Kirsten Devitt. We also highlight the Uki artists set to ignite the village with their creative fire during the festival weekend in June.

Images of Uki gives us a wrap-up of Uki's biggest Easter art event earlier this year, while Little Gallery shares a glimpse of its

LAVA plans and a sneak peek at an upcoming jewellery exhibition in July.

The Uki News' first editor reflects on the grassroots journey behind Uki's strong community fabric and the volunteer groups that continue to support it.

Nick Hanlon invites us into the treasure trove of apparel, antiques, artefacts and art that is Riverside Reloved.

The Uki Refugee Project will host a special screening and Q&A for We Are Not Powerless.

While Murwillumbah Theatre Company brings the beloved Australian classic The Sum of Us to the stage.

Uki Public School outlines the partnerships it shares with neighbouring schools to help students transition through different stages of their education.

An update from the Uki Sports and Recreation Club highlights how well its upgraded facilities have served the community, along with plans for a new pickle ball and tennis court.

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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

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. Dates for 2026 public meetings: 4 August, 6 October, 1 December.

CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES 2026

ISSUE 148 (Aug-Sept)
ISSUE 149 (Oct-Nov)
ISSUE 150 (Dec-Jan 27)

Friday 17 July
Friday 18 September
Friday 13 November

Share your ideas, inspirations, events and hopes for all things Uki.

Contact Uki News: theukinews@hotmail.com

Letters To The Editor

Community notice – Eddie Roberts

Unauthorised use of electric motorbikes (bikes with throttle) at **Tweed Valley Mountain Bike Park** is damaging some of our trails and jumps.

Our park is for mountain bikes and adaptive bikes only. Our trails are not designed for the power and weight of motorbikes.

Please, if you want to ride motorbikes ride them elsewhere. Make your own jumps, as we did.

If you see electric motorbikes at our park call the Tweed Shire Ranger anytime on 02 6670 2400 to report them.

We need your help. If this continues we are likely to lose our park as it is too much for our dedicated volunteers to maintain. Keep safe and keep it fun!

Tweed Valley Mountain Bike Riders.



Volunteering at the heart of Uki's success

Amalyana Macpherson

It is with some pride and delight that I find myself penning these words for this edition of Uki News as it was I who founded this wonderful publication 25 years ago, wrote many of the articles in the first few editions and got it started with editorial help from many contributors and desktop publishing by the wonderful Tessa Martin.

My wife and our young family moved to Bonnydoon Rd, Uki in January 2000 and soon after I was a regular at UKIRA meetings. We were an active bunch of volunteers, creating many initiatives that still resonate today, including buying the Buttery, establishing the Uki Community Technology Centre and implementing a comprehensive community consultation on future directions for Uki, which included a household survey and well-attended community meetings.

UKIRA began publishing this newsletter as a forum for community news, feedback, discussion, opinion, local business advertising, sporting results and more.

In my view, the strong community spirit that existed in the greater Uki community was harnessed and amplified through this and other volunteer-led initiatives.

Uki News being just one foundation stone for so much goodness and resilience, creating many lasting friendships. In some national forums Uki is seen as a way-showing community for self-reliance and resilience, e.g. the national awards given to RUKI.

For me, the real back-story is volunteering and the satisfaction and joy that may come much later as we reap, and are edified by, what has been sown decades earlier.

I never imagined all those years ago that I would be volunteer again for Uki. As Treasurer for the Uki CTC, a not-for-profit, still going strong and serving Uki in a thousand small, but greatly appreciated ways, including printing The Uki News. But there is more to be done.

To Uki's newer residents, I suggest that part of the magical attraction and community connection that has drawn you to our special place is the efforts of our volunteers.

To volunteer for Landcare or the various community organisations, or the Bush Fire Brigade, SES, CTC, Resilience Uki, church or UKIRA there will be something for you, including helping a neighbour.

Challenge yourself with something new, meet people, stay young and grow your capacity to give and have gratitude. We can't imagine now what wonder and strength our volunteering may bring 10 years hence, but we know that love only seeks to extend itself, so whatever the outcome it will be good. Join in and be blessed!



A vertical advertisement for "uki pies". At the top is a heart-shaped logo containing the text "uki pies" and "made with love" written along the bottom curve of the heart. Below the logo, the text reads: "all pies and cakes are made on the premises", "Open six days Monday to Saturday from 7 to 3", "Located at the rear of the Buttery", "Phone orders welcome", "Great coffee", "School lunches delivered to the school", and "ph 0407 198 707".

News from the Member for Lismore

Janelle Saffin MP

Easier access to the pill

Women will soon have access to prescriptions and resupply of the oral contraceptive pill through pharmacists, without paying a consultation fee.

Avoiding a GP appointment will save time and money, freeing up doctors' appointments for people with complex health needs.

To offer the service, participating pharmacists will complete a graduate certificate and a NSW-specific workshop.

Nasal flu vaccines for children

The government announced the rollout of the free FluMist nasal spray vaccine for 2-4 year olds. This needle free option will be available through GPs, community pharmacies and Aboriginal Medical Services.

Last winter, flu presentations peaked at around 1,100 cases a week. Families are encouraged to take advantage of this simpler, child friendly vaccination.

These changes are part of the Minns Labor Government's plan to make healthcare more accessible and affordable.

Other reforms include allowing GPs to diagnose and prescribe for ADHD, helping patients avoid high costs and long waits for specialists.

Contact the HEALTHDIRECT hotline (1800 022 222) for free advice from a registered nurse on whether to see a GP or go to emergency. For mental health support call 1800 011 511.

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Investment in boosting cattle tick program

In April, I welcomed Agriculture Minister Tara Moriarty's announcement of a \$7 million investment to rebuild the state's cattle tick management program, helping protect our local beef and dairy herds.

Given our proximity to the Queensland border, strong biosecurity measures are essential. I've been advocating for an independent review of the program to ensure its efficacy on the ground.

Last year, Dr Katherine Clift was appointed as Independent Biosecurity Commissioner. Her first priority was identifying improvements to cattle tick management in NSW. This followed feedback that the program had been run down and needed a fresh approach.

The Minns Government committed to these actions in response to the Commissioner's report:

- delivering the first Cattle Tick Eradication Action Plan by 30 September 2026
- providing more prevention and management support options for farmers
- boosting access to veterinary resources
- expanding research into chemical resistance and alternative treatments.



Janelle Saffin and Agriculture Minister Tara Moriarty at the announcement of the new Cattle Tick Program.

This is part of a broader commitment to strengthen primary industries and support economic growth, backed by a record \$1.05 billion investment in biosecurity.

Farmers and other stakeholders will be consulted in developing the new plan to ensure it works in practice, as well as on paper.



Reloved, refreshed and revamped

Nick Hanlon
.....

Riverside Reloved is located around the back of the Uki Butter Factory, entry via the famous Uki Pies.

The door to the back veranda of the Buttery has not been open and functional for nearly 14 years, but now is reloved, refreshed and revamped and ready to welcome you in.



Apparel, antiques and art at Reloved Riverside.

The sparkling old stone stairs lead you into a treasure trove of fashion – vintage, modern and natural fibre clothing, apparel, antiques, art, world artefacts, handmade jewellery, oddities and curiosities all lovingly collected and curated.

We aim to keep the price point very reasonable, and will also haggle.

The shop overlooks the riverside green space behind the Buttery, where live music is staged for the monthly Buttery Bazaar Markets, a gorgeous spot for a picnic or coffee anytime.

Part of the mission of Riverside Reloved is to sponsor and produce a range of events and family friendly gatherings in this magical green space.

The Riverside Sessions are currently under development in partnership with a range of Uki businesses and artists, including kirtan, folk & world music, en plein air art classes, tai chi & chai, monthly evening cinema and picnic, and so much more.

Stay tuned for more exciting developments by following [the facebook page](#) Riverside Reloved at the Uki Butter Factory.

Open 10am – 4pm Thursday-Sunday. Cash only.



Riverside Reloved
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Find us on the Riverside of the Buttery, entry by Uki Pies

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ADVOCATE: Strengthen our united voice.

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www.australiancannabisuniversity.org

Special refugee week screening

Uki Refugee Project



On Sunday 14th June Uki Refugee Project is privileged to welcome back Muzafar Ali (who visited us last June for his amazing 4,000km cycle Ride for Education) – to present his new film – *We are not Powerless*.



Muzafar is an inspiring speaker, and a recipient of the Fred Hollows Humanitarian award for his incredible work.

The proceeds of the event will support Cisarua Learning in Indonesia, which educates refugee

A one-off screening Sunday 14 June at the Regent Cinema. Doors open 5pm, screening 6-8pm.

children who are trapped in limbo, with no rights to attend school.

The project has grown from two rooms 10 years ago, to educating 1,300 students in different

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countries and training 130 teachers. Sydney University of Technology now collaborates with Cisarua Learning.

Funds will also be used to support the secret education of girls in Afghanistan.

The film received a three-minute standing ovation at the Adelaide film festival. 'A must see for every Australian!' It promises to be an unforgettable evening.



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.



One Gallery, 11 Artists

Little Gallery will come alive as one of the sites for the LAVA Festival on June 27 and 28 with One Gallery/ Eleven Artists, a vibrant exhibition celebrating the creativity and diversity of the Little Gallery collective.

Featured artists include Christine Mellor, Marlina Bassar, Judy Collins-Haynes, Jenny Sayer, Cameron Pitcher, Peter Smith, Heather McLelland, michele bevis, Libby Jarasius and Cathryn Binstead, each presenting work in their own distinctive style.

Inside the gallery, visitors can explore a thoughtfully curated collection of new artworks, while outside, colourful marquees will host a lively art market and interactive still life drawing sessions.

Guests are invited to try their hand at drawing in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

The exhibition runs from 9am to 4pm daily, with drinks, nibbles and conversation on Saturday, June 27 from 6pm to 8pm.

Come and enjoy the ever warm and joyful hospitality of Little Gallery.



Little Gallery artists bottom left Jenny Sayer, Christine Mellor, Heather McClelland, Cathryn Binstead, Andia Cally. Top left Michele Bevis, Cameron Pitcher, Mark Treacy and Peter Smith.

The art of reuse - Michele Bevis

"The purpose - where I start - is the idea of use. It is not recycling, it's reuse" - Issey Miyake

We are in that time, and even you know it. So many things that are collecting in corners and cupboards, no longer acknowledged. the eye overlooks them and doesn't see.

The collection of broken things in jewellery boxes, the solo earrings, the beloved gifted and inherited pieces that are unworn and remain.

This exhibition is dedicated to the art of reusing those collected pieces, showing the ongoing and creative decisions that make a difference, perhaps only a small difference. However, they change patterns of thinking and patterns of behaviour. It starts with me.

Opens Friday 3 July at 6pm. Join Michele and Little Gallery for drinks and nibbles.



Get inspired by the art of reuse this July.



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

JUNE Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 21 JUNE

Loren and the Choosedays

Blending and bending their original songs plus a mixed bag of fun classics, Uki local sound smiths Loren, Sanne, Dave and Will are bringing their collaboration to the Uki Market. Featuring special guests to enhance the array of flavours, the hills will certainly be alive with.....



SPECIAL GUESTS JET AND WAHLA



LOREN & THE CHOOSEDEAYS

JULY Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 19 JULY



COSMIC CRUMB

Cosmic Crumb

Manifesting NOW, Cosmic Crumb (aka Beck Flatt), is a pixie troubadour. Her music weaves from the energy of creation to connect us all together in this cosmic dance.

Alongside Cosmic Crumb, The Chaos Pilot together with Alan Brooker will be creating musical cake.

Elements of alt-folk/country flow with fingerstyle guitar blended with emotive stories and rhythms of the heart, making a sound that drips with images of geometry, full spectrum colours, and the energy of the elements.

"We are all cosmic crumbs together, I love you, let us make cake! Cosmic Crumb 2026.

Michelle Belle

Michelle Belle is an accomplished musician and vocalist, skilled in guitar, banjo, and foot percussion.

Her voice is renowned for its emotional depth, capable of warming hearts and resonating with the soul.

In her solo performances, Michelle features a mix of original compositions and uniquely reimagined covers, all delivered in her distinctive style.



MICHELLE BELLE

Aussie classic with heart and humour hits the stage

Ken Corbitt
.....

The award-winning play *The Sum of Us* comes to Murwillumbah Civic Centre from 23 July to 2 August as Murwillumbah Theatre Company's exciting new production.

The Sum of Us by David Stevens centres on Harry, a widowed father, and his gay son Jeff as they both search for love.

Harry is openly supportive of Jeff's sexuality, even helping him find a partner, which contrasts with the prejudice faced by Jeff's boyfriend, Greg, from his own family.

Meanwhile, Harry begins a relationship with a woman who struggles to accept Jeff's identity.

As relationships falter due to societal attitudes and personal fears, the play explores themes of acceptance, family, and belonging.

It reaches an emotional turning point when Harry suffers a stroke, leaving Jeff to care for him. In the end, love – both familial and romantic – endures despite hardship and prejudice.

An award winner on the off-broadway stage, the *Sum of Us* rose to greater heights in the film starring Jack Thompson and Russell Crowe.

The Sum of Us will show for eight performances. Tickets from murwillumbahtheatrecompany.com.au.



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MURWILLUMBAH
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the sum of us

Written by David Stevens and Directed by David Parkinson



23 Jul - 2 Aug



Murwillumbah Civic Centre

murwillumbahtheatrecompany.com.au

Bookings online or at the door

LAVA Festival cont'd

Kirsten Devitt
.....

Kinship Doobai Dancers lead a participatory dance workshop and sunset performance on Bundjalung Country in Pottsville, weaving together contemporary Aboriginal dance and Bunyarabugalma wellbeing practice.

Zemzemeh's Sounding the Farm transforms working farmland into an immersive listening experience at The Citadel.

Mound Collective share movement-based research project through a site-responsive activation on opening night at M | Arts Precinct.

Most workshops are free and include Rebecca O'Connell's Box'Bah, where participants use cardboard and paper to contribute to a growing installation. The Caldera Art Group work live in the CWA Hall all weekend, welcoming visitors to watch and engage.

There's also an analogue photo walk, oil painting masterclass, collage postcard, clay mask making, jewellery, leatherwork, movement and sketching workshops. Check out the [program](#) on the LAVA website and choose the '[workshop](#)' filter for more info and booking links.

LAVA will be a biennial festival, with annual editions, depending on funding.

The main vision is growing the commissioned artists program, deepening connections across the Tweed's villages, elevating the program with inspirational artists from other places and building something the community truly owns. A festival that doesn't just happen in the Tweed but belongs to it.



Uki artist Matt Ottley returns to where it began, marking Art Post's 70th opening after inaugurating the space in 2018.

His LAVA exhibition *Ephemera and the Eternal Sky*, celebrates the majesty and the beauty of cloudscapes and the sky.



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Transition programs help kids at all ages thrive

Courtenay Ciric, Relieving Principal Uki Public School

Starting school is a significant milestone in a child's life, and positive transition programs play an important role in helping children feel confident, connected and ready to learn.

At Uki Public School, we value the strong partnerships we share with Mount Warning and Kunghur Preschools, and we are proud to work together to support our youngest learners as they prepare for the exciting move to kindergarten.



Year 5 students share music activities at a preschool visit.

Research consistently shows that successful transitions help children to develop a sense of belonging, build confidence and establish positive relationships with peers and teachers.

Transition is not simply about becoming familiar with a new environment; it is about helping children feel safe, supported and excited about the next stage of their learning journey.

As part of our 2026 kindergarten transition program, our year five students have been visiting the local preschools to share reading and music activities with the younger children.

These sessions create meaningful connections between students and help future kindergarten students become familiar with the faces and experiences they will encounter at school.

We were also delighted to welcome the preschool children to Uki for our Easter Hat Parade, where they enjoyed the colourful spirit of the day.

Later this year, students will continue to strengthen these connections through our Teddy Bears' Picnic and formal transition program, providing opportunities to explore the school grounds, meet staff and participate in classroom activities.

Transition is important for our older students too. Our year six students have also recently begun preparing for their move to high school through Murwillumbah High School's Transition Program.

These experiences allow students from local partner schools to meet one another, connect with staff and student leaders, and participate in engaging activities that help build confidence about starting year seven.

We have also been fortunate this term to welcome students from Murwillumbah High School to run a sports program with our students, further strengthening the connections between our schools and helping younger students become familiar with positive high school role models.

By working closely together, we can ensure that every child feels supported through these important transitions and is well prepared for a positive and successful start to the next stage of their education.

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Creating meaningful connections between preschoolers and students at the Teddy Bears' Picnic.

Uki Sports and Recreation Club update

Clayton Myler

Uki touch

Uki touch recently celebrated its first grand final night in the club's newly renovated, flood-resilient clubhouse. It was fantastic to return to the original clubhouse and see the facility full of life.

The new full-length veranda was buzzing with players, families and supporters enjoying the grand final matches and the community atmosphere. After presentations, the canteen team served a meal and attendees enjoyed bar refreshments and live entertainment from "The Jacks Band," performing from the back of a truck.

It was wonderful to see both familiar and new faces enjoying the club once again. We are planning a bigger and better 2026-27 season.

A standout was the women's impressive 3-0 win over Casino, continuing the squad's strong improvement and momentum this season.

Special thanks and congratulations were extended on Mother's Day to all team mums and supporters who created such a successful event.

More home fixtures are coming up at the "Python Pit" at Vic Bianchetti Sports Ground. With food and beverages available at the club canteen and bar, supporters are encouraged to support local athletes and enjoy one of the region's most picturesque football grounds this season.



Tennis and pickle ball on offer soon at USRC.

Uki Pythons football/soccer

The "Python pit" recently hosted an exciting weekend of football, two full days across nine matches.

Junior and senior teams showcased thrilling matches, strong competition, plenty of goals and lots of fun.



Uki tennis/pickle ball

Restoration works on the Uki tennis and pickle ball courts are progressing well, with preparation works and resurfacing of the playing area completed.

Club volunteers have been busy doing fence repairs and replacements around the courts. The club sincerely thanks several local businesses that have generously provided machinery, equipment, and operator assistance for the project.

A heartfelt thank you to all sponsors and community supporters who continue to contribute with food and beverage purchases, raffle ticket sales and event attendance, including the regular raffle nights at the Mount Warning Hotel. This ongoing support plays a vital role in helping the club and its facilities continue to grow and improve.



Healthy waterways create healthy communities

Matt Bloor



Uki RiverCare is part of Tweed Shire Council's Nature Care program, where dedicated volunteers across numerous Landcare and Coastcare sites are helping to restore unique local ecosystems and reduce the impacts of weeds, erosion and other environmental disturbances.

Uki RiverCare focuses specifically on riparian vegetation – the diverse plant communities that grow along the edges of creeks and rivers.

Riparian trees, shrubs, grasses, reeds, sedges and aquatic plants play a vital role in stabilising riverbanks, filtering runoff, absorbing pollutants, shading waterways, improving water quality and supporting healthy aquatic habitats. Healthy waterways are essential for healthy communities.

Many people know the sense of calm and wellbeing that comes from spending time in a thriving natural environment. Scientific studies continue to show that time spent in nature can reduce stress, improve mental health and strengthen our connection with the living world around us.

Uki RiverCare volunteers meet monthly to nurture young native trees, maintain walking paths and undertake weed control in Platypus Park, located at the confluence of the Tweed River and Smiths Creek. Our aim is to create a welcoming and beautiful space for locals and visitors to enjoy, while restoring important wildlife habitat, improving biodiversity and strengthening community resilience for future generations.

Getting together to care for nature is rewarding, practical and time well spent. New volunteers are always welcome, whether you can contribute regularly or just occasionally.

We meet at the carpark opposite Meadow Place for a working bee on the fourth Sunday of each month, from 8.00am until approximately 10.30am.

More information is available on the Tweed Shire Council website – visit [Volunteering | Tweed Shire Council](#), connect via email naturecare@tweed.nsw.gov.au, or call Uki RiverCare coordinator Matt Bloor on 0490 330 632.




Uki RiverCare maintains a walking track to the Tweed River at the confluence of Smiths Creek through Platypus Park.

It's a wrap: Images of Uki 2026

Heather McClelland, event organiser
.....

There was a great buzz around Uki on all four days of Easter 2026. 48 local Artists provided 109 works of exceptional quality, beautifully hung by our first-time curator Libby Mills and assistant Marcos Castro.

We were blessed with an enthusiastic new set-up crew as well as our regular trusty team of volunteers. Village & Co, Uki Pies and Art Post Uki sponsored us for coffee and food on set-up day.

Thank-you to Uki community and friends for supporting the artists with a joyous Opening Night. Tomilee Billings' music and Chris Mellor's nibbles were highlights. Our thanks to Uki Supermarket and Mount Warning Hotel for food and liquid refreshments.



Event organiser Heather McClelland 2nd right and some of the dedicated volunteers.

Raffle prizes came from Fallen Leaf Tea @ Apex Dining and from the Riverhouse Restaurant, South Tweed complementing the local businesses: Tinker's Cuss; The Fair Trade Shoppe; Happy Herb co; Fortuna bookshop; The Jewel of Uki, Uki Atelier and Riverside Reloved.

Guitarists Tomylee Billings and Nick Clow provided those perusing the art on Saturday and Sunday morning with a delightful ambience.

Given the present economic circumstances our sales were down this year. Overall gross takings were \$8,484, comprising entry fees, art sale commissions, raffle and donations.

This income went towards paying \$4,821 to

artists who sold works and covering running expenses.

Thanks to Phil Carr for the hours spent balancing the books.

People's choice award

More than 800 people voted for their favourite artwork this year.



People's choice top 10, listed below.

The \$200 prize meal voucher from Apex Dining at The Tweed Regional Gallery was a lovely surprise for Katherine Carson whose artwork 'Sunset Stories' was a clear winner.

Alan and Perri Wain were the exhibition's official photographers.

People's choice top 10

1. Katherine Carson - Sunset Stories
2. Andea de Smidt - So Long Bus
3. Brenda Bryant - Rainforest Sentinel
4. Tina Wilson - Velatum Mysterium
5. Libby Mills - When I see the mountain I am home
6. Tina Wilson - Turbulence
7. Tina Wilson - Pure as Gold
8. Di Johanson - The Tapestry of the Caldera
9. Katherine Carson - The New Clan
10. Zoe Robinson - Somebody's Flatmate

What a great event and a great community to be an artist in!

Images of Uki Art Exhibition is auspiced by UKIRA (Uki Residents' Association).



ASTROLOGY

Another perspective

Paola Emma



In June and July the slower moving planets, Uranus-Neptune-Pluto, are beginning to shape the more positive trends that might prevail in the coming years.

Between July 16 and 25, Uranus in Gemini will form positive aspects to Neptune in Aries and Pluto in Aquarius, while Neptune will form the first of many positive aspects to Pluto. These transits are all connected, therefore more powerful.

This propitious configuration will remain active until the end of 2027 and into 2028. It shows the strengthening of more democratic tendencies in the world, more friendly diplomacy-based international relationships that could hopefully offer a different perspective on the present situation.

In the past few years (decades for some planets) the elements highlighted by the long lasting planetary transits have been water and earth (Neptune-Saturn-Pisces, Uranus-Taurus, Pluto-Capricorn), with their personal experience-based outlooks.

For a while, critical thinking and passion-fuelled ideals, the function of the air and fire signs, have been sorely missed.

The ingress of Pluto in Aquarius, Uranus in Gemini and, on June 29, of Mars in Gemini (Air Signs), and of Saturn-Neptune in Aries, and, on June 30, of Jupiter in Leo (Fire Signs) should help to restore greater impartiality and ability to reach beyond our comfort zones.

Mars in early July, and Jupiter, between the 20th and 21st, will directly connect with all three slow moving planets, in a powerful activation of the Air and Fire Signs. The trend is clear: we are moving, as a collective, from a personal, emotional/practical centred approach, to a more impersonal/ideals one.

Of interest could be the alignment Mars-Uranus-Neptune-Pluto, that will be exact on the fourth/fifth of July, an important date in the US calendar. Escalation of conflicts or unexpected turn of events possible, as well as a powerfully vocal push toward change.

Time to celebrate the winter Solstice is 6.24 pm  local time, on June 21st.

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