



Extraction Action

Brendan Esposito

Feelings have been running high in Uki and surrounding areas concerning current and proposed development applications (DA) for water extraction. Residents have been concerned enough to protest, physically stopping water trucks (seemingly operating outside of DA conditions) in the heart of Uki on October 20. A group of protesters also made their opposition to extraction known outside Tweed Shire Council (TSC) chambers on November 12. Others have even seen fit to vandalise Rowlands Creek road to make a point.

The underlying sentiment in the community is clear, and has been confirmed with a survey conducted by the Tweed Water Alliance (TWA). Of the 526 Uki residents surveyed, only two indicated they were in favour of extracting water for commercial purposes, including bottled water.

The attention this issue has garnered has not gone unnoticed by government or council. TSC voted on November 15 to remove clause 7.15 regarding 'Commercial Water Bottling Activities' from the current Local Environment Plan (LEP). Removing this clause would place the responsibility of granting and monitoring commercial water extraction in the auspice of the State Government. The TWA support this, with Trevor White quoted by The Tweed Daily as saying: "It's not the responsibility of the council to demonstrate that water mining is sustainable".

However, before the LEP changes can be made, TSC will need to seek approval from the NSW Planning Department and make an argument for the removal of the clause. At the November 15 TSC meeting, council also requested support for urgent action on this planning proposal from the NSW Minister for Planning Anthony Roberts, the Minister for Regional Water Niall Blair, and State members.

At a state level, Nationals, Greens and Labor candidates running for Northern Rivers seats in the next state election have stated they would all like to see the government further investigate the impacts of water extraction. Regional water minister, Niall Blair is now requesting an independent review into the impacts of the bottled water industry on groundwater sources in the Northern Rivers. The NSW chief scientist and engineer will provide advice regarding groundwater extraction limits in the region, as well as advice on whether the current or proposed

monitoring of groundwater bores is sufficient. This report is expected to be completed by the middle of 2019.

Currently, none of this has any bearing on existing water extraction currently being undertaken or recently approved DAs. The two closest extraction concerns to Uki, Jack Hallam on Rowlands Creek Road and Mount Warning Spring Water/Yaru Water (partners in extraction at the same address/DA) have been approached by Uki News for comment regarding their perceptions of the current community sentiment and in the case of Mount Warning Water/Yaru, the allegations of operating outside of the DA conditions. Despite this, Mount Warning Spring



Water and Yaru are yet to respond. Jack Hallam has stated he welcomes pending review by the chief scientist and engineer.

When Uki News asked the TSC, what they understood of allegations of DA conditions being breached TSC replied with the following:

In accordance with various Council resolutions at the 2 August 2018 Planning Committee Meeting, information was sought from the owners and advice was sought from Council's solicitors in respect of alleged unauthorised activity at the three existing approved water extraction businesses:

- No. 2574 Kyogle Road Kunghur (DA05/0995 & DA16/0579)
- No. 101 Bryens Road Nobby's Creek (DA06/0603) and

Continued on Page 13

From the Editors



As this is the last Issue for 2018, UKIRA and the Uki News editors would like to thank all the contributors and advertisers for their continued support throughout this

year. We look forward to continuing to provide relevant and up to date Uki Community news in the New Year. So from UKIRA, Brendan and Jeff we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a

Happy New Year. Let's hear your start of 2019 stories for Issue 104, the first issue of the New Year.

Contact Uki News: theukinews@hotmail.com

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Water Extraction Survey

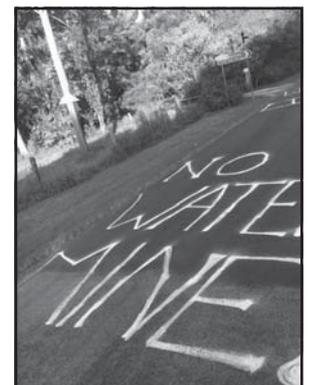
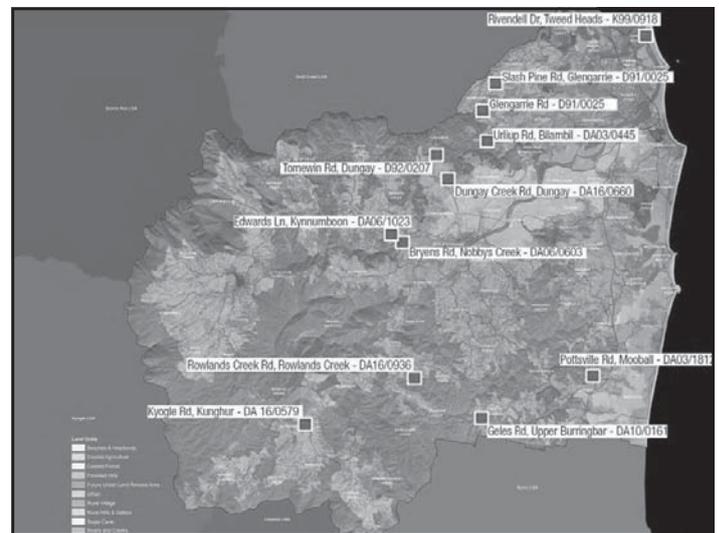
Trevor White

To prove that the Tweed Water Alliance aren't representing a 'noisy minority', we have conducted a survey which asked the community of Uki and surrounds whether they supported water mining in the Shire.

The survey was conducted by trained surveyors who went door to door and covered the village of Uki, Rowlands Creek Road, Chowan Creek Road, Smith's Creek Road, up to Ryan's Road and including all the streets off Smith's Creek Road and extended from the Sportsground along Kyogle Road. Meadow Place to Braeside Drive were canvassed, as well as roads leading off these.

Some residents preferred not to vote, and some were not at home, but we estimate that conservatively, we would have covered 85% of residents in these areas. We wanted to be as thorough as possible and returned to a household if no one was home the first time.

The results support what TWA have been saying for two years, which is that the issue of water mining hasn't divided the community, it has polarised it. The results are that 546 residents opposed water mining and two supported it. These are the kind of figures politicians only dream about.



Vale Jean Connolly

Philip Carr

Uki locals would know about the house on Kyogle Road with the prize-winning gardens.

This house has been the home of Jean and Brian (Peg) Connolly since 1956. That's the year Jean and Peg got married.

Sadly, Jean passed away on July 23 at the age of 89. Early risers will remember Jean trudging down to the 'paper shop' each morning to get the Tele' for Peg. Jean Rabjones was born in Murwillumbah in 1928, the youngest of seven, growing up at Farrants Hill during the hardship years of the Great Depression and the Second World War. She didn't get much of a formal education because the local Condong School was quite a distance and hard to get to on horseback.

After the War, the family moved to Terragon where Jean eventually met Peg through tennis.

When Jean and Peg got married they settled in Uki and raised five children.

Peg got work on the 'poles and wires' while Jean stayed home looking after the kids.

Jean was a quiet, shy person who rarely ventured outside of Uki. But she loved gardening and always found time to grow a few of her favourite flowering annuals in the backyard. Pink was her favourite colour.

In 1989, after injuring his back in a workplace accident, Peg took early retirement, giving him the chance to help Jean in the garden.

By this time, Jean's gardening skills were gaining something of a reputation.

Together, Jean and Peg began to enter the local garden competitions and in the following 25 years won dozens of trophies and awards.

2018 was no exception with a string of prizes in the Murwillumbah and District Garden Club competition, including Champion Garden, plus two 1st Places in the DJ Stringer Garden Competition which they entered for the very first time, covering the entire region of southern Gold Coast and Northern NSW.

Unfortunately, Jean passed away just weeks before the judging of these competitions.

As a tribute to Jean's life and in recognition of her extraordinary contribution to gardening in the district, the family founded the Jean Connolly Memorial Award for Best Floral Garden to be presented each year by the



Murwillumbah and District Garden Club. Not surprisingly, the inaugural trophy winner was Jean and Peg Connolly. Getting the gardens ready each winter required an enormous amount of work and Jean always vowed that she "won't do it again". But we are all glad that she did.

Jean was a regular churchgoer attending Uki's Holy Trinity Anglican Church. She was also a great supporter of the Red Cross and could always be relied upon to make a batch of lemon tarts for the local fundraisers.

Jean is survived by husband Peg and their five children. She will be dearly missed.



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Alternative Social Media site

STEEMIT



Louise Bally

A couple of years ago a new social media site called Steemit.com was created using crypto currency blockchain. Steemit has grown into a successful blogging platform for crypto currency enthusiasts as well as for general bloggers, passionate about a myriad of subjects. Once you have created a healthy following of other Steemit users, you can earn serious Steem (a crypto currency) into your account, which can be used on the platform to curate posts, reply to others, up vote other's posts and create your own new posts. Alternatively, Steem can be converted into \$US and transferred to a bank account. There are also games on Steemit and other activities that reward the player with Steem Dollars (SBD).

It is free to join Steemit but it takes a couple of weeks to get an account verified and established. New accounts come with a limited amount of Steem so you can get started writing posts and interacting in the Steemit community. Resources recharge over a few days.

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Many community groups have developed amongst Steemit members, for discussing popular subjects such as natural medicine, music production, software development, homesteading, photography, to name a few, as well as crypto currency trading, making Steemit a great alternative to other social media sites to hear the voices of ordinary people around the world.

Members of the Steemit community chat on subject based channels and are friendly and helpful to new users finding their way. Some people prefer to use Discord as a chat app where you can find chat groups for almost every popular subject found on other social media sites. If you want to check out something different go to www.steemit.com and have a look.

For any computer issues drop in to 4/97 Murwillumbah Street behind Poster Paradise. And let me help you prolong the life of your old computer.



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By Blogging



Uki 2019 Calendar Now Available

UKI CTC

The theme for next year's Uki Calendar is the commemoration of 10 years of Ukitopia, the Uki arts festival where the community celebrates the abundance of local talent.

Two versions of the calendar are available at various places throughout Uki: the Uki Supermarket, the Uki Post Office, Paola's Book Shop and the CTC at the Buttery.

The calendar makes a wonderful gift for friends and family at Christmas time. Custom calendars for business or personal use are also available in a variety of formats from the CTC.

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**Uki 2019
CALENDAR**

The Artist Life by Marie-France Row Images of Uki 2014
www.mariefranceart.wordpress.com



Bless this Road

Wendy Sarkissian

I've always been a battler and an activist but I didn't realise how much was in my DNA until my husband, Karl Langheinrich drowned in front of me in a car crash.

As I recovered, I asked, "Did this have to happen?"

Karl was the love of my life, my soulmate. We married late in life and our love of social justice held us together during our hard times. One rainy afternoon in early February 2016, Karl lost control of our car on a bend on a narrow, winding road near Uki tumbling into the Tweed River. Witnessing Karl's drowning and experiencing my powerlessness to save him shattered me completely, destroying my ability to work and all my dreams. I could barely care for myself. I was completely broken.

Months later, two friends encouraged me to tell the local council about my feeling that they were responsible for Karl's death. I delivered a Victim Impact Statement to Tweed Shire Council's traffic staff. They treated me with disdain, which only strengthened my passion for justice. I refused to allow Karl to be a "statistic" or accept that he could have died in vain.

I wanted the road fixed.

The Council's insensitivity radicalised me. I was still injured, and they were "blaming the victim". With my two friends, Kev Cracknell and Dr Lori Mooren, I campaigned for repairs to that section of road. I also learned of the deaths only a year before in the same spot: a mother and teenaged daughter, Cecilia and Matilda Bevelander. We lobbied the Council and the Coroner, wrote several journal articles and contributed to newspaper articles. In November 2016 following a media conference, Lori and I nailed a poster of Karl on a tree at the crash site to commemorate the 2016 World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims.

On the internet, blessedly, I found John Bevelander, who had lost Cecilia and Matilda, his wife and daughter a

The Matilda Way

year before on the Kyogle Road. We met and soon agreed to collaborate to heal our pain and frustration over these tragic deaths. And to support each other in moving forward.

Our lobbying helped to achieve over \$1 million of federal Black Spot funding to repair that dangerous stretch of road. With a guardrail, at least nobody would drive over the edge again. The Council's defensiveness, secrecy, and litigiousness dampened my rejoicing but it was great to have the road fixed.

On 30 September in the Uki Hall John and I co-hosted Bless this Road to blend our two grieving communities and share our sorrows, to thank all those who had helped us in our mourning and to affirm that life continues. First, we shared a hard-hitting road safety workshop as a community education project. Then in a powerful community event we moved on to embrace huge and heartfelt expressions of appreciation, gratitude, gift-giving, music, poetry, prayer and song.

Northern Rivers legend, activist songwriter and singer, Luke Vassella softened our hearts with his sweet melodies.

We devoured a huge rainbow cake at Matilda's Rainbow Lunch.

Accompanied by many of Matilda Bevelander's teenaged friends, Tweed Shire Mayor Katie Milne cut a purple ribbon and formally declared The Matilda Way to be open. Now we can call it that and not "the crash site".

During the afternoon, a senior paramedic wept publicly explaining to us how Bless this Road had caused him to radically reconsider his attitudes toward so-called "victims" of road trauma. They were real people, with loved ones who cared deeply for them. He found that insight both heartening and healing.

We all wept while singing Amazing Grace as a finale.

For more about Bless this Road, please go to <https://blessthisroad.blog>



Road Safety Workshop



Bless this Road Full Room Luke Playing



Road construction April 2018



New Road, September 2018



Declaring The Matilda Way Open

Ladies, let's talk



WOMEN'S HEALTH

Judith Magee

Similar to the critical role that gut microbes are now understood to play in overall health and wellbeing, there is an unfolding awareness of the delicate and critically important role of the vaginal microbiome (environment) and microbiota (bugs) – and how easily they can become disrupted. This microbial community within the female body is recognised to actively participate in effective immune responses, hormonal regulation and the capacity to conceive. It is also now recognised that the mother to child microbial transfer which occurs during a vaginal birth is a key determinant in infant health – and likely contributes to the lifelong immune function for that child.

A healthy vaginal microbiome is populated mainly by *Lactobacillus* spp. and depletion or disturbance of these organisms is associated with preterm birth, pelvic inflammatory disease, increased risk and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, infertility, bacterial vaginosis, thrush, vaginitis and vulvodynia. The vaginal environment generally and the microbial balance

particularly, is affected by a wide range of factors including; poor diet (especially highly processed, sugar containing), penetrative sex, semen, pH incompatible lubricants, condoms, menstruation, medication, personal care products (especially chemical, antibacterial or fragrance containing), puberty, pregnancy, menopause and general health.

Although it is a robust and beautifully designed part of the body, the heartbreaking and serious truth is that many women have vaginal microbial imbalances, which go untreated or incorrectly treated due to lack of understanding, embarrassment or stigma. Misdiagnosis and self-diagnosis play a part in this, with women and GPs frequently defaulting to an assumption and treatment of thrush; which can fail to address more complex or chronic disturbances.

Be proactive, protective caring of this critically important part of the female body - and seek professional support, if anything doesn't feel right.



New Fire Truck for UKI

Brett Ryan (Captain Uki Rural Fire Brigade)

The Uki RFS recently took delivery of a new fire truck called a Cat 7 to replace the old one known as "Jacko". "Jacko" is now in Sydney where it will be stripped down and used as a support/logistics truck. The new Uki 7 Firefighting Appliance has a capability of transporting six firefighters to incidents and is not owned by the Uki brigade but on loan to us to help better serve the community. Residents will get the opportunity to meet the new appliance at in the coming months.



Uki News would like to acknowledge the great job our volunteer fire crews perform with a special thanks to the Uki and Kunghur Brigades!

Pictured are the Kunghur and Uki brigades' engines with members of both crews and Thomas George MP





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Judith Magee

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Some Christmas Cheer



Courtesy Funny Jokes Online

Mirror Image - Christmas Fable

On Christmas Eve, Nathan thought it would be nice to buy his wife a little gift for the next day. Always short of money, he thought long and hard about what that present might be. Unable to decide, Nathan entered the Department Store and in the cosmetics section he asked the girl, 'How about some perfume?' She showed him a bottle costing \$150. 'Too expensive,' muttered Nathan. The young lady returned with a smaller bottle for \$50. 'Oh dear,' Nathan groused, 'still far too much.' Growing rather annoyed at Nathan's meanness, the sales girl brought out a tiny \$10 bottle and offered it to him. Nathan became really agitated, 'What I mean', he whined, 'is I'd like to see something really cheap.' So the sales girl handed him a mirror.

Christmas Turkey

It was Christmas Eve. At the meat counter and a woman was anxiously picking over the last few remaining turkeys in the hope of finding a large one. In desperation she called over a shop assistant and said, 'Excuse me. Do these turkeys get any bigger?' 'No, madam,' he replied, 'they're all dead.'

Visit - https://www.funny-jokes.com/jokes/christmas_jokes.htm#Christmas_Quotes:



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Picnic in the Park

Laura Coppin

We were lucky with the weather at October's Picnic. With half an hour to go it started drizzling and the thunder rolled in, which was easier than dealing with swarms of flying ants! A big thank you to Lisa and the post office crew who helped us clean, dry and pack up and to Leigh James who kept on playing as if the sun was shining.

In the warmer Summer months and with daylight saving, Esma will keep the Historical society open. Spend some time with her to learn about Uki's past as her knowledge is mind boggling.

We wish Jess a speedy recovery from multiple breaks to her leg. Hopefully she will be back in January with Jan and those delicious meat balls and other goodies. And Gunter will never fail to fire.

Dates for next Picnic in the park are:

- 6th December - Rhett Brambleby
- 20th December - Loren
- 17th January - Leigh James

Details can be found on the Artpost Uki website or on Facebook.

**Bring some friends and a rug.
Hope to see you at the next one.**



Table Tennis Anyone?

Philip Carr

Last year the Uki Residents Association installed an outdoor table tennis table in the village. It has proven to be extremely popular with locals and visitors.

The table is free for everyone to use but managing the bats and balls has been a bit of a challenge. We have acquired a stash of bats and balls and are now keeping a set in a wire rack under the table, easy to access yet well out of the weather.



And we are appealing to the community to please respect the equipment and to put the bats and balls back ready for others to enjoy. It is a community resource - if we all look after it, we all get to enjoy it.

Come and have a hit next time you are in the village, located at the back of the Uki Hall Park.

Donations of bats are welcome...but only the table tennis variety please!



Uki Garden Club

Susanne Holzknacht

Some jobs in the garden over the hot Summer months

(Thanks to Julia Hancock's wonderful book "Gardening in Tweed Shire" and Uki Garden Club Newsletter Vol 18/10):

1. Tidy up the herb garden and fertilize with complete organic pellets or compost. Water in and mulch (not too thickly!). Plant more parsley, coriander, chives, mint, basil, oregano.
2. In the vegie garden, sow seeds/plant seedlings of sweet corn, beans (not broad beans), capsicums, chilis, eggplants, pumpkins, zucchini, cucumbers, melons, squash and sweet potato (use runners). Mulch lightly.
3. Provide some shade for lettuce and delicate greens.
4. Feed citrus and remove dead, spindly, diseased or crossing branches. Water well before and after feeding and mulch. Keep mulch away from trunk.
5. Sow seeds of flowers that will attract pollinating insects such as honey bees and stingless bees to your vegie garden e.g. Cosmos, Borage, Nigella, Fennel, Queen Anne's Lace, Phacelia, Alyssum, Marigolds, Calendula, Basil, Nasturtiums.
6. If your soil is hydrophobic, i.e. the rain runs off and

Uki Garden Club
Friendships through gardening

doesn't soak into the soil, add a wetting agent before/ during the rain event. Add some seaweed solution at the same time.

7. Cut spent flowers off Grevilleas, Callistemon and other natives. This keeps the flowers coming and the birds happy!

Why Gardening is Good for You

"They say gardening makes you more cheerful and healthier... For starters, gardening practically makes you younger. A 2003 study in the Netherlands found that having 10 percent more green space [than average] in your surroundings brings health improvements roughly equivalent to being five years younger... Several studies have found that people who tend allotments are healthier and have higher self-esteem and well-being [than people in the same community] and that each session on their plot is linked to a decrease in the level of the stress hormone cortisol".

(This is adapted from the New Scientist, 3 March 2018. Written by the Deputy Editor Penny Sarchet)

So get out into your garden, especially in the early morning and evening! Have a Happy Solstice/Holiday Season and good, healthy gardening in the New Year!



Relationship Health and Bullying

Heather McClelland

Children need help to recover from bullying, whether it's from an adult in their home, their school, or by other children. Often the focus is on the bullying that occurs in the school playground. But the fact is that the children who are vulnerable have become so because of the way adults have treated them. Child bullies are often the ones who have most borne the brunt of adult bullying.

When abuse or bullying is prolonged and traumatic a young brain becomes endlessly vigilant, scanning the environment for the next threat to their safety. Their bodies are in a constant state of alarm. Some defend themselves by going on the attack. Others retreat.

When children are behaving badly or becoming sad and withdrawn they are not choosing this. It is a response to changes in their autonomic nervous system and brain. Often child logic decrees that adults are right, and children are wrong. Society-wide children imbibe norms that have them suppressing their emotions. They shouldn't cry or be angry or even tell someone about what is happening. The lack of support and consequent isolation increases the harm.

The Australian Childhood Foundation presents helpful resources. PACE stands for Playfulness, Acceptance, Curiosity and Empathy. These are the attitudes that will almost magically help children feel safe.



Instead of coming down hard on bad behaviour or over the top emotionality we need to respond gently much as we did when our children were tiny babies. They need social engagement: our warm eye contact, our affectionate touch, our undivided attention and above all the sound of softness and understanding in our voices.

If they feel safe they will begin to talk about what is bothering them. If children don't feel calm and safe they cannot learn, play or really have fun. Human connection and the human voice is much more important than time interacting with a screen.

Children need to know of course that someone with authority will take a stand against the bullying but in the end, the provision of ongoing safety is not a matter of protocols or rules, it's always a matter of warm, reassuring support via a gentle human voice.





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Sanna Grace Kenna

 Uki Buttery Bazaar Market

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

DECEMBER Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 16th DECEMBER

Yoyo Tuki

Yoyo Tuki is the voice of the island Rapa Nui (Easter Island) the most isolated island of the world. Like his ancestors who carved megalithic stone giants, Yoyo is an artist with a powerful ability to fuse tradition with innovation. With over 15 years performing throughout high profile music festivals and events in Polynesia, South America, New Zealand, Australia, Taiwan, USA and Europe - Yoyo is today one of Rapa Nui's finest singer songwriters and musicians. His songs reclaim Rapa Nui culture, communion with nature and the respect for the ancestors of the place, he is committed to the idea of promoting his culture and his ancestral people.

✿ Also special guests yet to be announced! ✿



JANUARY Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 20th JANUARY

The Trombone Kellie Gang

The Trombone Kellie Gang are headed by Trombone Kellie who is an amusing, entertaining performer. Her talent is well displayed with inspirational vocals which are both versatile and passionate, and her raunchy/ smooth melodic trombone playing. On guitar is Scrubby Pete whose old-time blues is authentic to the traditional roots of the music. His many years of performance experience, both on guitar and vocals make for great listening and his comical mischievousness is endearing. On double bass is Robert Renfrew whose relaxed, intuitive feel adds its own unique flavour to the sound. Along with his vocal talents his horoscope of sound is wonderful and vast. The combining of these three musically diverse, vibrant entertainers make for a dynamic, spontaneous mixture of blues, gospel, R'n'B, rockabilly, country and more. The Trombone Kellie Gang plays fantastic music for any occasion guaranteed to get the voice box and the dance floor humming

✿ Plus special guests yet to be announced. ✿



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The Power of One Multiplied a Million Times

John Tyman

Five years ago, I included this cartoon in an article for the Uki News. As you can see it showed a great crowd of people who cared enough to ask: "What can one man do?" Their protest is a pathetic one, however, because they are all asking the same question, ignoring the fact that if they joined forces they really could make a difference. In Australia this past month we have seen how this can be done, for my voice has been joined with that of many thousands of others including letter writers, deputations, meeting with politicians, journalists, ministers of religion, and even business leaders ... in calling for the release of those held in detention on Manus and Nauru, especially children.

Page one of November 3rd's "Saturday Weekly" carried a banner headline reading "How Murdoch got the kids off Nauru". It shows that even notoriously conservative folk can embrace changes of heart and mind when pushed hard enough. The "Kids of Nauru" campaign was launched by World Vision on August 20th and began with Rupert Murdoch's conservative tabloid newspapers firmly on the bandwagon. The campaign began on the front page of the Sydney Daily Telegraph with photos of stateless children living in mouldy tents, sharing dirty bathrooms, playing with donated toys on the rocky remnants of a phosphate mine and staring through the wire fences of the camp. The same piece was then run in the Adelaide Advertiser, Melbourne's



Herald Sun and Brisbane's Courier Mail.

In the months before that story ran ... editorial decision makers at News Corp had divined that popular opinion was rapidly shifting on offshore detention, and that they should start shifting with it - for business as much as for humanitarian reasons. Like political parties, populist media is poll-driven. This means that though we might prefer a government that acts on principle, we can settle for changes made when there are votes in it! Even if the right-wing press were on board with the move to get children off Nauru, the situation had become politically untenable.

The Galaxy poll published recently in the Sunday Telegraph showed almost 80% of people wanted children and their families off Nauru. This time the headline was "Free Nauru Kids: Voters tell PM to take NZ offer." Some years back I remember that a similar percentage wanted would-be refugees treated harshly. Why the change? Who caused it? Well, we did! And what we have to do now, quoting Dean Martin's plea from years ago, is "Keep those cards and letters coming". There are still human beings held in illegal detention. So, take up your pens again and force the government to act justly.

Just now it would seem that the greater physical strength of the All Blacks on the rugby field is to be matched by their moral stature ... and our humiliation (but relief) increased accordingly. One day, hopefully, we may rival them again on both counts.





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Uki and South Arm Historical Society Inc FLOODS

Esma Thompson

During a flood in 1921 every householder on the subdivision between Rowlands Creek and St Columba's Catholic Church had to evacuate. Three houses were swept entirely away. Two houses were lifted bodily by the water and moved to rest against a neighbouring house or some other obstruction. Both these houses and the contained furniture suffered severely, another three houses were also inundated by the flood waters.

One of the strangest sights was a house that was swept away, sailing down-stream with a lamp still alight in one of its rooms. The occupants were away moving their possessions from the approaching flood waters with the intention of returning to gather more, but the water rose so rapidly they were unable to get back. Next day pictures were hanging in trees and items of clothing stretched out on tree limbs and residents went along the river banks trying to find their possessions.

Record floods on the South Arm happened in 1954 and 1956 and houses were again washed away from the river flats near the Catholic Church. After the 1954 flood people either elected to stay or relocate their homes from the area. The force of the 1954 flood caused almost all the local bridges to be washed away, an exception being the Byangum Bridge. Sweetnam Park was under 20 feet of water and there was 18 inches (half a metre) of water in the old Mount Warning Hotel.



A concerned publican at the Mt warning Hotel 2017
Photo courtesy Karen Crichton

In 1956 and after homes near the Catholic Church were again washed away residents decided they had had enough and any houses left behind after the flood were moved to another area. Jim Stewart lived near Sweetnam Park and he knew he had been cut off by flood waters and decided to stay in his house with his wife and daughters. The rising flood waters caused one daughter to panic so he decided to move them via a flying fox that was used to take cream from his dairy to the road. One by one he pulled them over to the dairy on the hill side. Just in time for not long after the last journey he saw his house and belongings disappear in the swirling waters.



Heavy rain from the remnants of Cyclone Debbie created flood waters which began to rise throughout the day on Thursday March 30, 2017. Heavy rain continued throughout the night and between 1.30 am and 2am on Friday 31st March the flood reached its devastating peak at Uki. Milsoms Lane was completely covered by flood water. Brendan Esposito marked the new 2017 flood level on the shed at the back of the Uki Supermarket. The flood level was approximately 2 feet above the previous highest recorded flood levels in 1954/1956. At its peak the water level at the new Mount Warning Hotel had just started to trickle onto the Hotel verandah.

The three houses at the end of Rotten Row (Kyogle Rd) were affected by the flood waters and those residents nearest the Rowlands Creek Bridge were evacuated, clinging to ropes strung between houses. A portable building that was situated on the river flats of Old Convent Road was washed away by the flood waters. The electricity lines at the end of Norco Lane were taken down by flood debris. On Sunday 2nd April, about midday, a helicopter with a cable running underneath appeared and workers on the ground attached the electricity line to this cable to lift it back over the river. Workers reinstated two lines over the river by this method. The Byrrell Creek Bridge was washed away.

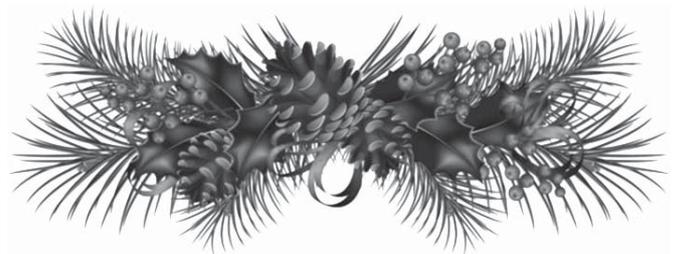
For more information or enquiries, the Historical Society is open Wednesdays 10am to 3pm and every third Sunday of the month. Visitors are welcome.

Contact: Esma Thompson (secretary)

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Despina Petri shares about a unique way to de-stress and unwind...

Despina Petri

Kirtan is a musical call and response of sacred phrases or mantras. It's a way of experiencing music unlike any other. It has its roots in Bhakti (Indian devotion). Even though its origins are devotional, it's valued around the world for the positive physiological, mental and emotional effects that it induces: Engagement of the parasympathetic nervous system, a quietening of the mind, and compassion. For me it has been a long journey trying many techniques to quieten my loud and busy mind and over the years I've had mixed results. When I discovered kirtan, I knew this was going to be my path to a peaceful mind. There is no need to have a great voice or to even know the words, it's about going along and having a go by repeating the melody and mantras you're hearing. You may also find yourself just enjoying listening to this divine music without feeling the need to sing.

Rasa Shala yoga studio hosts a community Kirtan evening every Friday from 7:00 till 8:30P.M. with chai served afterwards. The event is by donation and is non-denominational. Many local and visiting kirtan leaders and musicians freely contribute their time and love to make these Friday nights special.

Please join us or call Tracy for more information on 0435 396 006.

Rasa Shala is located upstairs, 96 Murwillumbah St, Murwillumbah.



Extraction Action

Continued from Page 1

- Nos. 10-20 Edwards Lane & No. 308 Numinbah Road Kynnumboon (DA05/1507 & DA06/1023).

The owners of both sites (Kyogle Road Kunghur and Bryens Road Nobby's Creek) have undertaken to lodge applications to regularise any inconsistencies with their current operations and their relevant development consents.

In respect of the current compliance investigations into the water extraction activities being carried out on the premises No. 10-20 Edwards Lane Kynnumboon:

- Takes no action for historic breaches from 2006/2007 given the cooperative response Council has had to the alleged breaches; and
- Writes to The Harris Group – Pristine Water Supplies reinforcing the need for compliance with all conditions of the consent and request reporting for the last 7 years as required by Condition 4.2 of DA06/1023.03 which could include log books of water extraction from the site, truck movements, including dates and times to and from the site and water supply records from the water bottling company detailing total volume received.

Council is currently seeking advice from its solicitors on the levels of evidence needed to substantiate any enforcement action for existing water extraction operators, both looking back to previous operations, as well what is permitted in going forward, particularly whilst applications to modify the conditions of these approvals are being assessed by Council. It is hoped to report this advice and seek Council's direction on a compliance approach at an upcoming meeting.

Advice from TSC to Uki News, concerning what residents should do if they are not happy with adherence to



DA conditions, was as follows:

Details on how to lodge a complaint against any alleged unauthorised land use is provided on Council's web page link: <https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/compliance>

A copy of Council's adopted Compliance Policy also provides an explanation about the processes that Council officers undertake in respect to submitted complaints

- Uki News also has it on good authority that legal advice on compliance with extraction will be discussed at the December 6 TSC Planning meeting. At the same meeting TSC is due to determine a further DA for extraction at Dungay.



O Christmas Tree

Anita Morton



Plastic Christmas trees have the advantage of a long shelf life, but they can't rival the scent and living presence of a 'real' tree. There are many attractive and slow-growing dwarf conifers that will be happy in a pot. These trees are a good investment, as they can be brought indoors year after year for the holiday period, then taken back outside to decorate your patio. Give the pot a quarter turn every month or so to keep the tree symmetrical.

If you choose a potted tree, also invest in a heavy-duty pot-plant stand on castors so that it will be easy to move. Water regularly and give it a tree fertilizer tablet in the early spring, and it will look great for Christmas. Give it a once-over for bugs and spiders before you bring it inside! Don't keep living trees indoors for more than two weeks – traditionally, a tree was brought in and decorated on Christmas Eve, and taken down on Twelfth Night, the 6th of January.

Cut trees need to be treated much like cut flowers. Buy



a freshtree that hasn't been standing in the sun for hours and take it home carefully – keep it cool and covered to reduce transpiration. It will last better if kept in a pot of wet sand than on a metal tree stand. Saw off a centimetre or so of the trunk to expose a fresh, moist surface, then immediately plunge the end of the trunk into water. Keep the tree there until you have the pot and its saucer in place. You will need two wooden crosspieces that fit inside the top of the pot. Screw them to the trunk at right angles.

Transfer the prepared tree to the pot and check that it's steady – you don't want it to fall over under the weight of decorations. Now fill the pot with sand and water it in. You might also like to spray the tree with a product such as Yates DroughtShield, which will reduce transpiration. Give your Christmas tree a little water every day and keep it as cool as possible, and it should look great for at least a couple of weeks.

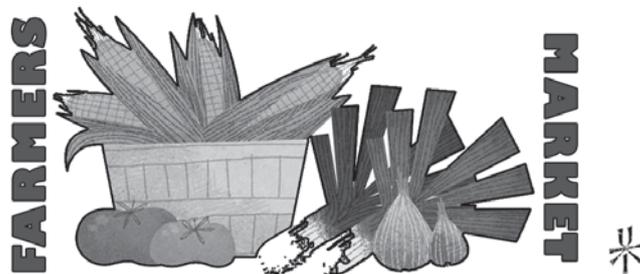


Farmers' Market Christmas Closure

Anita Morton

As usual, we will be closing the Saturday Farmers' Market for one weekend over the Christmas break. We will be open every Saturday up to and including 22 December but CLOSED on 28 December. We'll be back on the first Saturday in 2019 – 5 January.

I'd like to wish all our loyal customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Uki Sporting Horse, The Year's Roundup!

Jennifer McDonald



We have finished up for the year except for our Christmas party. Next year we are looking forward to many days of happy riders and horses coming together to learn all the various disciplines and aspects of horsesports and cattle welfare.

In the last two weekends we have had two jam packed events: a Western & Sporting two day event/working bee and campdraft practice and arena sorting event. Great fun and learning were had by participants. Our club is going great guns and we are proud to be helping our community in a small way.

We recently gave to the Wedgetail Retreat and Westpac Rescue Helicopter \$500 each with profits from our various events throughout the year.

Merry Christmas to you all.



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& go with what makes you tick

Astrology

Cosmic December

Paola Emma

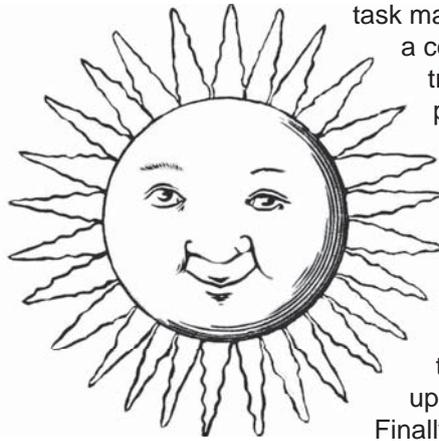
Venus, direct since November 16, returns to Scorpio from December 3 to January 7. We, or people close to us may still be wrestling with attachment, resentment, jealousy, control and security issues, more than at other times, Scorpio being a difficult abode for Venus. Working through those issues should be easier though, after the inner journey we had to undertake in October/November (Venus' Retro period enhancing our emotional resourcefulness). A more spirited, optimistic, flexible approach to love, relationships, money and security will come with Venus transiting Sagittarius from January 7 to February 4.

From December 2 to December 10 some challenging alignments of the Sun, Mars and Neptune could manifest in strange events and feelings, Neptune invariably introducing an element of uncertainty and some confusion in the everyday. Dreams and day dreams could enrich our imagination, help our creativity and open our psyche to intangibles, but possibly also bring some false impressions, feelings of mistrust among people and lack of clarity on many issues, even delusional thinking. Not all that glitters is gold, especially at this time.

From December 7, same day as the Sagittarius New Moon, Mercury will turn direct on the last two degrees of Scorpio, transiting Sagittarius from December 13 to January 5, a more suitable time for travel, moving, exploring, daring, bringing renewed inspiration and optimism to our collective thinking.

Cosmic January

2019 begins with two eclipses: a Solar on January 6, at the New Moon in mid-Capricorn (the first of three Eclipses in this Earth Sign, between January and December 2019), and a Lunar at the early Leo Full Moon, on January 21, just as the Sun enters Aquarius. Eclipses are said to bring intense experiences and significant events during the period they are active. Happening at the beginning of the year these eclipses may set the tone of the whole twelve months. During the Solar event, the Sun will be moving away from a conjunction to Saturn, the collective



task master (January 2), while approaching a conjunction to Pluto, the collective transformer (January 11), marking this period as one during which we will be forced to be more realistic and practical, needing to be prepared to let go of past attachments which are impeding our progress, individually and collectively. The Lunar Eclipse will be instead very close to a difficult 90 degrees angle between the Sun, the Moon and Uranus, the planet of revolutions and general upsets to the status quo.

Finally a 90 degrees angle between Jupiter in Sagittarius and Neptune in Pisces will be one of the most important of 2019, with three passes, on January 14, June 17 and September 22. If your birthday falls close to these dates, or the Moon, a planet or any Angle of your Birth Horoscope fall between the 13th and 19th of the Mutable Signs (Sagittarius-Gemini-Virgo-Pisces) the mixed blessing of this transit could be very personal for you. Our dreams and expectations about life will tend to soar very high for a period, but perhaps disappoint us in the long run. Jupiter magnifies and exaggerates everything, in this instance the Neptunian tendency to become detached from reality, basing our actions and convictions on wishful thinking. Enjoy the ride but don't expect it to last or to continue its upward curve for too long. The Eclipses' emphasis on the Earth Signs (as well as the imminent ingress of Uranus in Earthy Taurus, on March 6) are all clear signs that focus, realism and practicality are the qualities most required for a successful 2019.

The ongoing transit of Jupiter in Sagittarius (November 8, 2018 to December 3, 2019) remains a bright light among the unavoidable difficulties, hopefully helping all of us to maintain an upbeat and philosophical attitude toward life, no matter our circumstances.



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