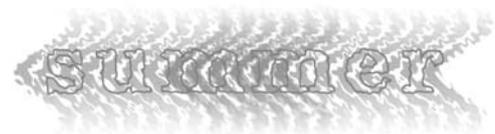




Hot Dry Summer



Jai Morrison

This summer is proving to be one of the driest and hottest ever experienced throughout Australia and while the Northern Rivers has avoided the extreme temperatures of large parts of the country, we have wilted under nearly three months of above 30°C daytime shade temperatures and almost no rain since October 2018.

The BOM (Bureau of Meteorology) long range forecast is for hotter than average and drier than average conditions from February to April. The Tweed Shire Council website reports from the official BOM station at Bray Park that only 608mm of rain fell there for 2018 which is just over one third of the annual average of 1750mm.

Meanwhile Clarrie Hall Dam is at 99% full at 61.34 metres with no current water restrictions, external sales stop at 90% and restrictions to residents begin at 75%. According to information on the display at the dam wall, the dam has the capacity to support more than twice the current Tweed Shire population.

With farm dams drying up and some nearby mountain waterfalls also drying up, it is hard not to think the water mining for bottling is having an aggravating effect on local stream flows which are primarily spring fed during dry times. Some local streams are now so low that platypus burrows are well above the waterline when in a normal season they are slightly submerged.



Platypus Burrow

When you notice the size and number of trucks transporting the water to Queensland and look at the small amount of water in many creek ponds, you will realise what an enormous volume of water is being taken. Enough to empty out the town storage tank in Bray Park every day just from one extraction license, with more licenses pending.

Meanwhile, many rural families have had to purchase bulk water to replenish dwindling tank storages and local delivery drivers are putting in long hours to keep up with demand. It would be interesting to know how the water levels are holding up for the many rural and domestic bore wells in the South Arm catchment.

By the time this is published, the New South Wales Chief Scientist will have made his report on the sustainability of bulk water extraction. While we can't predict exactly what the report will contain, it is likely to support the current State Government policies and declare the water extraction completely sustainable in much the same way as the Chief Scientists report on the sustainability of Coal Seam Gas mining.

Consequently the only recourse left for concerned citizens is how they cast their votes in the upcoming State elections, but what are the candidates intentions? Do they have a history of considering community concerns as important as private commercial agendas or do they pursue an agenda of privatising and commercialising natural resources?

Tweed Water Alliance has planned a number of community meetings around the Northern Rivers to **MEET THE CANDIDATES** to assess their attitudes to the water extraction industry including a **CONFLUENCE GATHERING** at Uki Hall on Saturday March 2 from 2:00pm to 5:00pm followed by a dinner afterwards at 345 Rowlands Creek Road.

Minyon Falls on the East end of the Nightcap National Park in Whian Whian State Conservation Area, which is just over the hill from Doon Doon, has stopped flowing for the first time in living memory.



Minyon Falls (Now)



Minyon Falls (In Better Times)

From the Editors

Welcome to the first Issue of the Uki News for this year 2019. As January kicks off to a warm, dry start the Editors hope that you, the Uki Community enjoyed the December to New Year wind down and have recovered from the festivities. This

Issue we particularly draw your attention to the article from the NSW Rural Fire Service and The Uki Rural Fire Brigade on Page 3. As it is fire season it would be prudent to read over the check list and take the necessary precautionary steps to

safeguard your family and property. The Editors bid a short farewell to Brendan Esposito who has been the Editor in chief for some time. He will be devoting his time to other activities and John Morrison will step in to the Editing role in the interim. *Jeff* ✱

Contact Uki News: theukinews@hotmail.com

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Letters To The Editor



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

Will our decision makers do what's best for regional NSW?

Maddy Braddon

Dear editor,

I acknowledge the traditional owners of country and their continuing connection to the land, sea and community.

Regional NSW has been having a tough time. If it's not drought, it's floods, fires and storms. These disasters are fueled by the fossil fuel industry. Coal and gas companies hit communities while they're down. They opportunistically jump in and offer a handful of jobs and short term prosperity. This is not future proofing regional Australia, it's putting communities, farmland and water at risk. The Narrabri gas project is one example of this kind of backwards thinking by big mining corporations and governments that enable this to happen. As a young person, I am extremely concerned about this short sightedness. A recent report found that jobs from renewable energy investment in the North West of NSW are entirely possible, not just a pipe dream. Narrabri is part of the New England Renewable Energy Precinct, set up by the NSW Government in 2010 to attract new investment. There are two current solar projects proposed. Imagine if this was taken more seriously. It would be a good step in the right direction for future generations, a reason to stay in rural and regional towns. Harnessing solar in the North West of NSW could produce significantly more electricity than is required locally, resulting in more and longer lasting jobs for the Shire than the Narrabri gas field would generate and affect a much smaller area of land. We know that fossil fuels are outdated and causing far more harm than good. We are seeing benefits in the Northern Rivers of renewable energy - with companies like Rainbow Power, Sunbeam Solar, Enova and Corem repowering our region. I wonder then, will our decision makers do what is best for regional NSW by ruling out the Narrabri Gas Project and cast their minds to jobs powered by renewable energy innovation?

Maddy Braddon 23 (BEnvSc/MrnSc&Mngmnt, Lismore, Ph: 0497274080, E: mrbraddon@gmail.com) ✱

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Bush Fire Safety Planning

Brett Ryan (Captain Uki Rural Fire Brigade)

As the weather continues to be hot and dry - prepare your fire plans.

STEP 1 - DISCUSS WHAT TO DO IF A BUSH FIRE THREATENS YOUR HOME

Many households find that having a discussion over dinner works best as everybody is together and focussed.

STEP 2 - PREPARE YOUR HOME AND GET IT READY FOR BUSH FIRE SEASON

There are simple things you can do around your home to prepare for a bush fire, like keeping the grass low and having a cleared area around your home.

STEP 3 - KNOW THE BUSH FIRE ALERT LEVELS

If there is a fire in your area you will find the alert level on the NSW RFS website and in the 'Fires Near Me' app. You need to keep track of the alert level so you know what you should do.

STEP 4 - KEEP ALL THE BUSH FIRE INFORMATION NUMBERS, WEBSITES AND THE SMARTPHONE APP

In a bush fire, it's important that you stay up to date on conditions in your area.

<http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/resources/bush-fire-survival-plan>

Check the dimensions of your property access. If the fire truck can't fit through your driveway we won't be able to fight your fire.

As part of your property preparation this bush fire season, ensure your access ways are clear enough to get a fire tanker through should you be needing assistance.

Thanks to Halfway Creek Rural Fire Brigade in the Clarence Valley district for this illustration of size and space requirements to get a large fire tanker through your gate and along your access roads.



In a bush fire Cat 1 tankers are used for house protection as they carry considerably more water than the smaller Cat 7.

A Cat 1 tanker is 2.4 metres wide and 7.5 metres long and the 17.5 metre turning circle makes it difficult to negotiate around sharp corners or make U turns.

Can we get to the rear of your house?
What about any bridges or grids will they stand the 13.7 tonne load and if not are they marked accordingly?

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For a free consultation please contact
Eddie Roberts
wollumbinenviroservices@gmail.com

Uki Rural Fire Brigade NOW RECRUITING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

We are looking for energetic team players (16yrs+) who want to join us to help protect the community and be involved in a wide range of activities.

If you are interested or would like more information please email us at - ukirfb@gmail.com

Brett Ryan
Captain
Uki Rural Fire Brigade

Blogging 2019 onward

Louise Bally



What is a Blog?

A blog is an informational website which has 'posts' instead of pages displayed in reverse chronological order with the most recent entry appearing at the top. Typically a blog has categories which vary from personal diary type entries to informational articles, news feeds or book reviews for example. Vlogs (video blogs) are becoming popular. Typically users publish 'selfie' videos, DIY videos & other multi-media content.

Blogging Success

Successful bloggers particularly travellers make a living from their blogs and have many followers. A good blog needs to have content that provides value and has a purpose, so that readers will come back for more. Travel bloggers provide useful information to other travellers, great photos and stories. A local travel blogger is *progressivetraveller.com*.

A successful blog is not just about the content of the posts but rather it needs to be marketed like any business so that it reaches a wide global audience. Many bloggers overdo the advertising and you may have visited a site where every paragraph has words that are links to advertiser's content. Often small pop up adverts appear across the page and this is very annoying to the reader and does not make for a successful blog.

The best way to generate an income from your blog is to sell something. People already in business can use a

blog to market their products, making the posts informative and useful for buyers. Posts can be used to promote new lines, advertise specials and inform potential customers of interesting and creative ideas. Air B&B rooms could be supported with a blog that displays posts about the local area, tourist destinations, local history and entertainment. Use a blog to introduce yourself to potential clients, adding a more personal touch to attract visitors.



Blogging Platforms & Websites

Steemit is a great blogging platform because it is designed to generate an income from the start and it places your content in a community of other creative writers many of whom will share interests with you. A new blogging platform integrated into the Steemit website called Engrave publishes each post both as a Steemit post

and independently on your own personal Engrave website. It is user friendly and you can upload images and embed videos easily without coding skills. Your blog stands alone on the Internet as a unique website and can be marketed through other social media. You can check it out at <https://engrave.website/>. You may use your own domain name or choose a free one as a subdomain of Engrave similar to that which WordPress offers.

If any readers are interested in setting up a blog and need help, I am at the Uki CTC on Fridays or at my workshop in Murwillumbah at suite 4, 97 Murwillumbah St, behind Poster Paradise. Enjoycompany Web Design, Phone & Computer Repairs. Ph. 0406217804



New Printer @ Uki CTC



UKI CTC

The Uki CTC has finally installed a brand new Ricoh A3 colour printer/copier. The printer is 'state of the art' technology, with all the bells and whistles and is a steep learning curve for us all.

Aside from brilliant colour and crisp black and white, one

of the many features includes a finisher which can centre and corner staple documents: booklets, newsletters and magazines are easily laid out by the printer itself; flyers, brochures, leaflets and cards can be formatted directly by the printer, and business cards can now be printed on heavy duty board.

Come and experience the latest in quality printing at your Community Technology Centre.

Stayed tuned for the next Issue of the UKI NEWS to be printed on the new printer. Thanks to Mark Croft from Ricoh for his support during the whole process.

The photo shows Ida Daly (Chairperson for the Uki CTC) and Brendan Esposito (Editor of the UKI NEWS) admiring the new printer.



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Women's Business

Incredible Laos Film fundraiser 10th February
Uki Refugee Project

Hello Everyone,
Our good friends and valued supporters Trish Clarke and Iain Finlay are extending a warm invitation to all to attend their film fundraiser "Women's Business" at the Regent Cinema on the 10th of February. Details of this event and the Kingscliff event are outlined below.

Many of you will be aware of the incredible work that Trish and Iain have already done in Laos building a road to the isolated village Nalin, a school for Phoujona and a dormitory for school students at Koktum. You might also remember them from their days on the TV program Beyond 2000.

Please come along and lend your support to their latest, truly inspirational project which aims to preserve the traditional skills involved in crafting this beautiful embroidery and weaving in order for women to achieve a different future. Importantly, all funds go directly to the School of Textile Arts which Trish and Iain have established in Laos.

Hoping to see you there on the 10th !!

For more information on this event please email:
uki.refugee.project@gmail.com



Its your turn now
....to become involved by purchasing tickets to see WOMEN'S BUSINESS ...the documentary
...at either
CINEMAX KINGSCLIFF on THURSDAY 7th FEBRUARY ...6.30pm (NSW time)
OR
REGENT MURWILLUMBAH on SUNDAY 10TH FEBRUARY...2.00pm (NSW time)
Both screenings include:
a complimentary glass of Champagne and a tasty snack,
a brief introductory talk and a Q & A afterwards
Tickets \$25



A shot of the teachers and eight young Lao farming women with their certificates at their graduation on Dec 21 from the first 16-week semester of the Women's Business School of Textile Arts we established in northern Laos last September. During the course of their enrollment, not only did they learn two arts ...embroidery and weaving... that will help them develop an alternative means of earning an income for their families, other than working in the fields, but they produced an extraordinary range

of beautiful fabrics and apparel, which have been sent down to us here in Australia to be sold on their behalf. We'll be starting off to do that at these special screenings of the film we've made about the genesis of Women's Business and setting up the School...at Kingscliff Cinemax and the Regent Cinema in Murwillumbah

The film tells the story of a journey of exploration and discovery by two women from the Tweed Valley over some 2,000 kilometers of northern Laos to remote and ethnically diverse mountain villages where women work at embroidery on the floor of their houses, or weaving on big-framed floor looms set up in the open spaces under their homes. Its a captivating story...but you'll also be able to help keep the School running by buying woven or embroidered items from the stunning collection of the student's work we'll have available at the screenings.



But don't despair if you don't live this far north. We're working on four other screenings in Sydney, the Blue Mountains, the NSW Southern Highlands and Canberra. Stay tuned.

These are important events for us... and even more so for the second lot of students. There's a whole new group of young village women...they're generally aged from 18 to their mid-thirties, married with children... who have signed up for the 2019 first 16-week semester, starting on February 4th. But significantly, this second intake of students includes women from four different ethnic groups, Yao Mien, Khmu, Hmong...all minorities, plus Lao Loum, the majority group. There is normally a general undercurrent of friction in Lao society between these groupings, so this is a very important step... bringing these young women together to work on truly artistic creations.

On the horizon there's the Lao Government offer...if we make a success of the first couple of years with the Women's Business School of Textile Arts... of a land grant in Muang Nan District Centre... plus Emma Somerville's Master's Thesis architectural design of a purpose-built Women's Textile Centre, that we could build on this land in the future. So now...its over to you...to help keep the School operating by getting together with your friends and coming along to enjoy what all this energy has created so far.



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Self-confidence and Ageing

Judith Magee

Dr Helena Popovic, in her book 'In Search of my Father' (2011), argues that dementia can be kept at bay or diminished if we make use of the brain's plasticity. Whenever we label ourselves as incompetent she suggests, we strengthen a negative mental image of ourselves and as a result tend to under-perform in the real world. Our society at large teaches us that memory loss, incompetency and ageing go together. It's easy to generalise the labelling and to reinforce a self-subjugating habit of thinking.

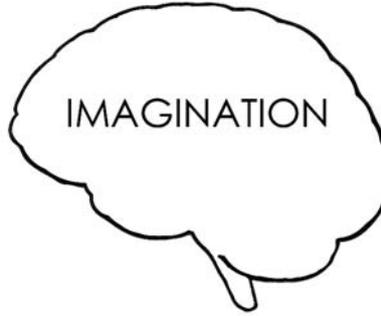
This can be changed. A wealth of research demonstrates that we are never too old or 'too far gone' to make positive, life-expanding, even extraordinary changes. Popovic describes for example the importance of working towards new and challenging achievements. Imagining what we want to achieve can fire our neural pathways. We can make great gains by using our imagination as vividly as possible. The more senses and emotions we engage, the more effective our mental practice.

She describes a study that compared the competencies

of two groups of beginners on the piano. One group practised the notes with their hands on the keys. The second group only imagined pressing the right keys and hearing the music. After three days both played the simple tune with similar accuracy. After a single two hour session actually playing the notes on the piano, the imaginers were as musically proficient as the others.

I myself have been able to change the expectation of pain long associated with a trip to the dentist. After settling into my chair I open my mouth and then I'm away imaginatively walking and/or swimming on a beach somewhere. I consecutively use all my senses: what can I see? What can I hear, taste, touch, smell? I repeat the use of my imagination, walking or swimming until the dentist is done. I suffer no pain or discomfort at all. My brain helps me replace the pain with pleasure every time.

Our brains are not immutable or at the mercy of our genes!



As temperatures increase - remember to never handle bats

Tanya Fountain

Like us, when temperatures rise above 35°C flying-foxes start to suffer, and become heat-stressed during prolonged hot weather. A sick bat will tend to alter its behaviour, becoming agitated, and may look for somewhere cooler or closer to roost during the day.

Heat wave conditions elsewhere in NSW have been taking their toll on flying-foxes and several people have been bitten or scratched while trying to free sick animals that have become entangled in fence wire or netting.

The risk is that flying-foxes may carry



Lyssavirus, which can be transmitted to people through infected saliva from a bite or scratch, or a person gets saliva in their eye, nose or cut in their skin. As long as people avoid touching flying-foxes, they pose little risk.

Only trained workers who have been vaccinated should ever handle bats.

If anyone finds a sick or injured bat they should call Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers' 24-hour rescue hotline on 6672 4789 for assistance.





Naturopath
Homeopath
Herbalist
Nutritionist
Counsellor
Educator

Judith Magee

BHSci. Adv. Dip. Nat. Adv. Dip. Hom. Adv. Dip. Herb. Med.
Adv. Dip. Clinic Nut, MATMS, MAHA, MAROH
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On The Roads

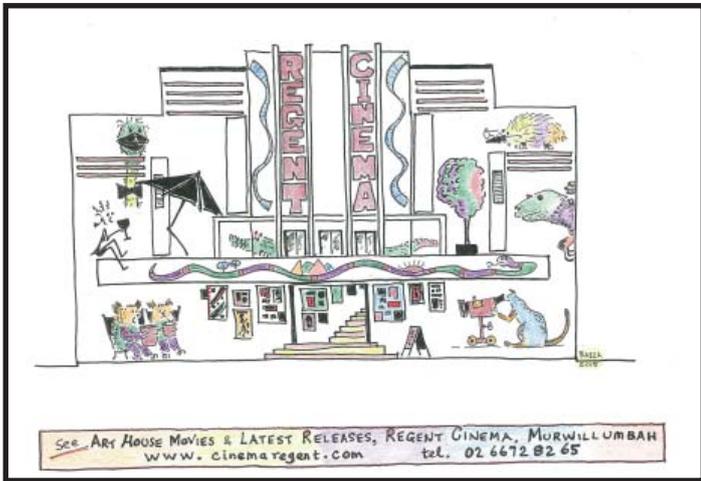
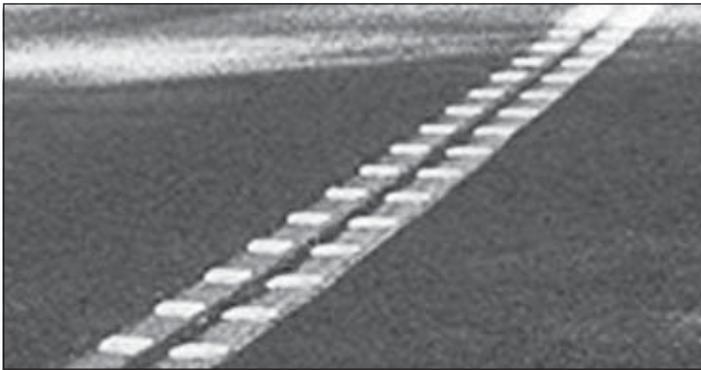
Jai Morrison

Regular users of Kyogle Road will have noticed the new addition of ripple strips or audible lines to the double centrelines on several newly resealed sections, including the 'Matilda Way' section and the bends before Palmers Road.

The technology has been trialled on the Newell Highway and several other locations around the State and is a welcome addition to the notorious Kyogle Road black spots.

Many drivers exhibit lazy driving habits and regularly drive across the unbroken centre lines posing a serious risk to oncoming traffic.

Research has shown that this behaviour is responsible for the most serious consequences involving head-on collisions. While dramatic videos and other educational programs have attempted to highlight the dangers of this



behaviour, the inclusion of ripple strips provides a clear indication to the driver that they have strayed from their lane.

The vibration is felt through the steering and the audible noise from the vehicle tyres contacting the raised bumps alert the driver that they are crossing the centreline.

This system is a valuable education tool to safely train drivers to stay off the lines. It is just as easy to take a corner in the middle of your lane as it is to cut the corners.

Drive safe, stay in your lane.





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Uki Community Gardens



Greg O'Donnell

Equinox - Uki Community Gardens Event

On Saturday 23th March there will be a spring Equinox celebration at the proposed Uki Community Gardens. This is the time when day and night are of equal length. Traditionally it is a time to begin new ventures or make personal changes in your life! So join in this great community gathering and:

- Enjoy informative talks about: 1. Bush Tucker 2. Composting and 3. Regeneration (with a walk along the river bank)
- Bring finger food to share for an evening meal
- Loren will be singing! Bring your drums and

instruments along to join in.....

- Help in fund raising – donations and raffles
- There will be chai and kombucha available too!!

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other people who are interested in the gardens and make an important contribution to its creation. It will be a great family fun event and the kids have got plenty of room to run around.

WHEN: 5pm to 8pm Saturday 23rd March

LOCATION: Parkland between Smiths Creek Bridge and the village beside the Tweed River.

BRING: Finger food to share for evening meal; rug/chair to sit on; and a Gold coin donation for the Community Gardens!



Red Cross Update

Pauline Carroll

The Uki branch of Red Cross held a Christmas Raffle in December in lieu of the annual Christmas Appeal. We would like to thank all the wonderful people who supported this event and for their kind donations. We encourage all members and prospective members to show your continued support for Red Cross activities which benefit the Uki community.

We anticipate hosting our mid-year Red Cross Appeal again this year. We ask any interested volunteers to consider stepping forward to assist with this event. Please contact Pauline in Jewel of Uki to discuss your involvement.

Christmas Raffle competition winners were;

- First Prize: Denis Adams
- Second Prize: Matt Ottley
- Third Prize: Pauline Carroll
- Consolation Prize: Ann Irvine

Pauline would also like to wish everyone a safe, happy and healthy New Year.



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* New stock of D330 Systems will arrive on 25th February 2019

Uki Refugee Project

Bryan McClelland

Hello Everyone, HAPPY NEW YEAR. We are getting back into action, and would like to ask you to act on the matters below, if you have time and the inclination. Many thanks.

We received an email from Rural Australians for Refugees (rar.australia@gmail.com) on Thursday, 10 January 2019. The Subject of the forwarded email is as follows:

URGENT – Opportunity to send your suggestions on resettlement supports for refugees for Govt review – send by January 15. On December 14 the Federal Govt announced a Review of strategies to support the resettlement of refugees - see <https://www.pmc.gov.au/news-centre/government/review-integration-employment-and-settlement-outcomes-refugees-launched>. Anyone can submit suggestions by emailing humanitarianoutcomes@pmc.gov.au by January 15. Yes... the timelines are very short, but ideally if they receive a lot of responses - even brief ones – it will send a message that this is an important issue which deserves more detailed consideration.

The review is intended to advise the Government on how to better support refugees and humanitarian entrants to make valuable contributions to our social fabric and our economy. The review will recommend ways to improve integration, employment, settlement outcomes. You will have your own priorities and want to put it in your own words but some of the issues include:

- Income support
- Supporting integration and social cohesion
- Waiting times. ... many continue to wait a long time for a visa
- Young people who have grown up here and have permanent residency are being held in detention, and some have been sent back to countries where they have never lived
- Drop the narrative about refugees being a burden, and a negative in our community
- Emphasise the contributions refugees make

DATE SAVER.

Fundraising screening of the documentary 'Women's Business' - the story of the effort to preserve the village arts of Laos. Screening 10 February 2019, 2 pm at the Regent Cinema in Murwillumbah. See below



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5 Brisbane Street, Murwillumbah

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TO THE WOMEN WHO CREATED THEM ...AND
TOWARDS KEEPING THEIR SCHOOL OPERATING.

A SMALL PROJECT... A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE



- English. It would be beneficial for all people seeking asylum and refugees to have English classes
- Employment. Having the right to employment, and help to get good conditions
- Bridging visas which expire and are not immediately renewed jeopardise people's ongoing employment - this administrative issues needs to be resolved

Biloela is a small town, but we have a big voice. The following is from Angela Fredericks, BILOELA, Australia. Jan 10, 2019 — "Yesterday, we held a community letter-writing stall in Biloela's Lions Park – the same park where we gathered when Priya and Nades were taken from us all those months ago. After fighting so hard for this beautiful family for so long, it's hard to believe Priya, Nades and their two beautiful, Biloela-born girls could still be forced from Australia to danger. But unless Immigration Minister David Coleman steps in to help before February 1, that's exactly what could happen".

BILOELA PETITION on Change.org.

SIGN THE PETITION, by copying the link below into your browser.

https://www.change.org/p/peter-dutton-bring-priya-back-to-biloela/u/23862766?cs_tk=AfeCtmTAuez7A2KuO1wAuXsOfeMSNEv8KJaB8uJH8g%3D%3D&utm_campaign=ac32fe4932004093a5df2216c9f43b90&utm_medium=email&utm_source=petition_update&utm_term=cs



Uki Ecstatic Dance

Music by Narayana (Willow Beats)



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Medicine For The Body & Soul

Uki Buttery Bazaar Entertainment

Sanna Grace Kenna

 Uki Buttery Bazaar Market

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

FEBRUARY Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 17th FEBRUARY

The Dead Set Fun Nuggets

THE DEAD SET FUN NUGGETS is 2 bands in one.

DEAD SET explores the incredible music of THE GRATEFUL DEAD. While THE FUN NUGGETS play the originals, clever mash-ups, creative covers and smile provoking novelty songs of band leader (ARIA nominated, double gold guitar winner and national archive inductee). Hanuman Dass (Robert Grayson) Beautiful Tunes and danceable grooves and yes of coursethey Jam!

"A great injection of life and joy" - Mitch Foy Bay FM

THE DEAD SET FUN NUGGETS amounts to juicy interactive music made fresh... to touch the heart, move the hips and make ya smile. A potent FUN catalyst for all !! Come and Enjoy !!



MARCH Buttery Bazaar

Sunday 17th MARCH

Out Of Range

Born out of the English festival scene and raised-up up on the dusty roads of Australia, Out of Range are 'whooping it up' with their irreverent, happy, upbeat, foot stomping music. They like to call themselves genre-fluid and you can see why as they slide effortlessly from gypsy to balkan then jazz, roots and boogie... yet there is always something singularly 'Out of Range' about their sound. It's unexpected, catches you by surprise and puts a smile on your face, infusing you with their humour and sense of fun.

They were a runaway success at Nimbin Roots Festival last year, receiving an encore where the whole audience got up and did an impromptu hip hop cossack dance and they followed that success with an outstanding performance at Mullum Music Festival, with a packed house of dancing, smiling people. So whilst you could sit down to watch this band, as you recline, beware... because you may find that your feet start tapping and your hands start clapping and before you know it you may even find yourself participating at a moment's notice, swaying, swinging, swooning and swaggering STOP THE PRESS!

This genre-fluid music may contain traces of accordion. Oh Yeh and there's also piano, violin, double bass, guitar, kazoo, vocals, harmonies and a megaphone.



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Resolutions, Dreams and Longings

John Tyman: Holy Trinity Church, Uki.

I have never been a fan of resolutions made at the start of the year. I make resolutions almost daily and rarely keep them: but there are dreams and longings that abide.

For Uki : a loving and just resolution to the conflict over underground water; companionship and comfort for those burdened by grief or loneliness; for families divided by the non forgiveness of hurts real or imagined; that our two churches may re-present the Gospel in word and deed; another year enriched by the work of local artists and musicians; and an end to the in-fighting over our new hospital.

For New South Wales: A government that places principle ahead of politics; is wise and responsible in its use of its income; has an appropriate environmental agenda and is willing to act in defense of endangered species (like the koala) and end the brutal slaughter of kangaroos for pet food; also safeguard the health of our rivers.

For Australia: a celebration (in January) of an Australian identity that does not divide but unites us; a more generous response to the needs of those in this country who are disabled, homeless or unemployed; and a more compassionate response to the needs of victims of conflict overseas who seek asylum here; also an aid budget of which we will no longer need to be ashamed.

For the Wider World: the rediscovery of our common

humanity; an end to conflicts grounded in lust for power or wealth; a willingness to place the needs of others ahead of our wants; an end to entrenched tribal hatreds; and an end to divisions grounded in the belief that though the Creator may be known by different names only one group knows the whole truth.

For Myself: grace to progress, in the years that remain, along that road towards God and Goodness to which we are all committed, in one way or another. The symbol of my ministry this past year is something I found beside the road one day ... an L-Plate.

These are the changes of which I dream, and for which I long.



St Patricks Day Sunday, March 17



IT'S that time of year again; when the leprechauns come out to partake in some mischief and the world celebrates everything it is to be Irish.





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Uki and South Arm Historical Society Inc

Uki Public School Celebration



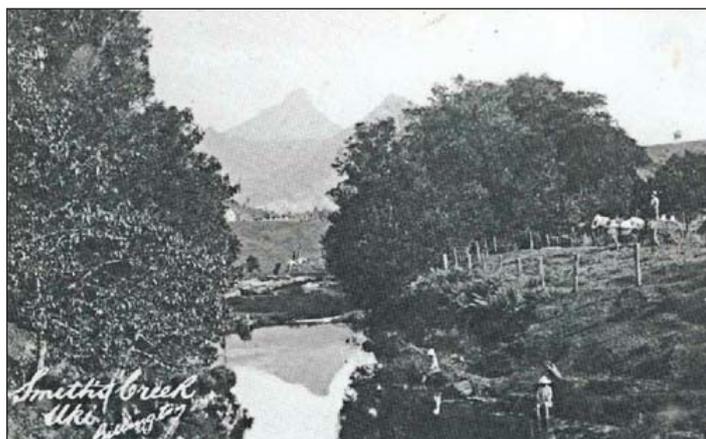
Esma Thompson

The Uki Public School will be celebrating its 125th Anniversary in 2020 and to help celebrate the occasion a short history on the small local schools that have closed down may prove interesting to the Uki News readers. Much of the information has been gathered from the Uki Public School Centenary Book published in 1995.

When researching the small local schools it became very evident that most parents of school age children had a great deal of trouble in the beginning convincing the Department of the need for a school in their area. The Department did not understand the isolation of the area.

Something also to note is that the schools then became such a part of the community that parents were clearing and maintaining the school yards. The buildings were being used for community meetings and a centre for their social lives. At one time the parents of Byrill Creek School helped pay part of the teacher's wages.

All the schools other than the convent were one room schools with one teacher teaching seven classes.



Smiths Creek
Photo Courtesy Tweed Regional Museum

SOUTH ARM - SMALL SCHOOLS

Bargabina School (Smiths Creek) 1920-1922

The Bargabina Provisional School was built on Crown land at the left of what is now known as Tatyewan Drive Smiths Creek.

In 1918 there was a population of 120 persons in the locality who lived within a two mile radius of the proposed school with 27 school aged children. The school from Byangum was dismantled and re-erected in 1920 as Bargabina School (aboriginal name for perch, a type of fish) for £152.

When the first teacher was appointed she arrived to find that there was no chair for her to sit on. In August 1920, she was given permission to buy a chair from Burch Bros. of Murwillumbah for 13 shillings and 11pence. To buy the chair from Loder's Store Uki for 15 shillings was thought to be too expensive.

By June 1921 enrolments had fallen and in 1922 the school officially closed and the materials were sent up to the Commissioners Creek school.

Blunobia School 1943 – 1950?

Mr Clarrie Richards donated a one acre block of land from a portion of his farm at Blue Knob for this School. The resumption of the land was gazetted on the 1st December 1939.

The Department of Education was concerned that some of the residents of the area would not remain permanently and it would be unwise to erect a new building so a portable room was planned for the site.

It took a further 4 years to get the school building. A number of local men cleared the land for the school on the 25th February 1943. When the school came to be named it was decided to call it Blunobia as a Blue Knob School already existed in another nearby shire. The school opened on the 7th July 1943. Pine and Coral trees were planted at the opening day celebration.

A Parents & Citizens meeting was held every week with card games being played afterwards.

During World War 2 Mr Edward (Ted) Roberts from Murwillumbah came out of retirement to teach at Blunobia. On a Monday morning he would travel by bus from Murwillumbah along the old Blue Knob road to what was known as the Blue Knob tick gate and walked three miles through a farm to the school. He would board with a local family during the week and then walk back the three miles to catch the bus to Murwillumbah on a Friday afternoon.

A certificate and medal were presented to all the children enrolled at Blunobia School by the Tweed South Arm Parents and Citizens Association for Victory Day 10th June 1946.

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)

Ph: 02 66795890

Ph. AH: 02 66799121

Email: trmuki@tweed.nsw.gov.au <<mailto:trmuki@tweed.nsw.gov.au>>



Blunobia School 1948
Photo courtesy Tweed Regional Museum UXS000065

We invite you to come along and join us for

CONFLUENCE



A GATHERING ABOUT THE SERIOUS BUSINESS OF WATER

We are assembling the people from our Northern Rivers area, particularly in the State electoral seats of Lismore and Tweed, to:

- Respond to the February 1 report from the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer on the sustainability of water mining for the bottling industry.
- Hear from the State election candidates from Alstonville to the border about their policy on water extraction. There will be a Q&A session.
- Ensure the water extraction industry remains under close scrutiny.
- Take action to ensure the issue is firmly on the state electoral agenda.

Saturday, March 2, 2019

Uki Hall, Kyogle Road, Uki 2484

2.00pm – 5.00pm

Can you bring your friends and neighbours? Entry is a gold coin donation to cover hall costs please.

This is how we gather together, keep informed, put our politicians on notice and strengthen our common goal to stop this awful industry.

AND AFTERWARDS

At 345 Rowlands Creek Road, Uki NSW 2484

Participants are invited after the meeting to a property nearby for an informal get-together and camp out overnight if desired.

Dinner with vegetarian and gluten free options will be provided at \$15 per head (negotiable for low income earners), catering by Mystery Dingo Tours.

BYO tent/swag, cutlery/crockery, drinks, glasses. A great location but with limited water, (no irony here!) so you will need to come pretty much self sufficient. Toilet facilities provided.

There'll be music, mirth and mischief, a chance to meet up with other activists over great food, a little BYO wine and many stories. The event is run by a non profit group so your RSVP and pre-pay is essential.

Go to <https://events.humanitix.com.au/confluence>

Further detail and options in Pat's reply.

Or email: pat@tweedwateralliance.org advising your attendance.



Rous Water Alliance



Penchant for Pedantries

Me, Myself and I

Anita Morton

People often have difficulty working out how they should refer to themselves. You will often hear or read that 'Kathy and myself went to the movies', or 'Kathy and me went to the movies'. Neither of these is correct – it should be 'Kathy and I went to the movies'.

It's quite easy to get it right if you just leave out the other person and state it as if for yourself alone; 'I went to the movies', not 'myself went' or 'me went'. Obviously!

'Me' and 'I' can be puzzling sometimes. 'I go to town', but 'will you come to town with me?' 'Give me the ball', but 'I throw the ball.' Think about whether you, the person, is actively doing something, in other words, look for the simple form of the verb (go, throw) in the sentence and use 'I'. If you're asking someone else to interact with you in some way (come to town, give the ball), then use 'me'.

'Myself' is used as an intensifier – 'I myself am very angry'. Conversely, people sometimes use 'myself' to soften an opinion, as in 'I, myself, thought it was good.' By putting the 'myself' between commas, you are implying that your opinion is not very important. 'I am very angry' and 'I

thought it was good' are much stronger sentences, so be brave and own your opinions!

'Myself' also pops into sentences as a kind of placeholder; 'I, myself, have been to Egypt'. Again, you don't need the extra word; 'I've been to Egypt' will do. 'Me' and 'myself' are often used as though they interchangeable; 'for me, Sunday is the best day of the week', 'for myself, Sunday is the best day of the week'. 'For me' is correct, but sometimes people think 'myself' sounds a bit more impressive – give up this delusion. In most cases, use 'me' and 'I', 'myself' can be kept for special occasions only.



Tweed Seniors Festival

 **TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL**

WED 13 FEB to SUN 24 FEB 2019

The NSW Seniors Festival (previously known as NSW Seniors Week) is an annual NSW Government event auspiced by Family and Community Services (FACS) and is the largest celebration for people over 60 in the southern hemisphere. This year's NSW Seniors Festival runs from Wednesday February 13 to Sunday February 24, 2019.

For the past 61 years, NSW Seniors Festival has offered an opportunity for seniors to remain active, healthy engaged and contributing in their local communities. There are a number of events planned in the Tweed Shire from music concerts, garden tours, brain function workshops, sharing life tips, laughter yoga, mindset makeover, Dunecare walk & talk, dancing exhibitions, bus tours, museum tours and more...

Full details can be found at <https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/WhatsOn>



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Astrology

Paola Emma

The Earth Signs

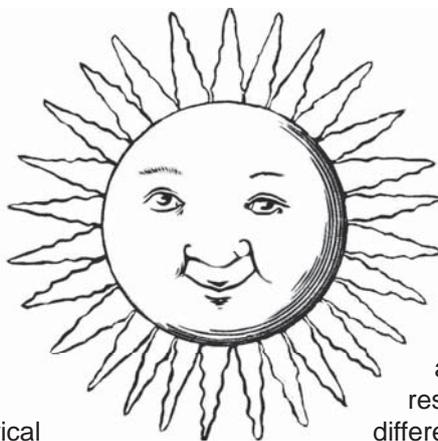
A shift toward the Earth Signs will characterize the astrological months of February/March 2019. Venus will be transiting Capricorn from February 4 to March 2 (marrying creativity with business sense), and Mars Taurus from February 14 to March 31 (a dogged, often hard working position for Mars). The historical ingress of Uranus in Earthy Taurus will take place on March 6, this transit continuing to 2025/26. Of course Saturn, the Lunar South Node and Pluto are also still in Earthy Capricorn, to 2020 and 2023/24 respectively. So, for the long term as well as the short term, planning, discipline, dedication and hard work are top prerequisites for success.

Jupiter and Neptune

On the other hand, the 90 degrees angle between Jupiter in Sagittarius and Neptune in Pisces represents, this year, the biggest challenge to the Earth Signs' need for realism and practicality (January 14-June 17-September 22). Jupiter is in fact the planet of expansion as well as exaggeration, and Neptune the planet of spirituality but also of confusion and passivity, together encouraging divorce from reality and from what is truly possible in the circumstances. And this is, after all, the most powerful transit of 2019!

We will all have to struggle somehow between these opposing Earthy and Psychic forces, their high contrast making our collective approach to problem solving fraught with contradictions and some paralysing moments. We will need to find ways to reconcile them and make their union fruitful.

In the short term the prevailing energy is encouraging us to work through difficulties rather than sweep them aside or avoid them. The Earth Signs will make sure that things eventually catch up with us and we will have to face the music. Prevention is definitely better than cure for the Earth Signs. Getting too emotional will not serve our purpose either. Clear, practical, viable solutions will be available but we will need to put some real effort in, downsizing our expectations and waiting patiently for results. Immediate gratification of desires or easy windfalls will not be in the



cards for most of us at this time. Venus in Aquarius From March 2 to 27 Venus will move to Aquarius, a lighter, more socially minded position for Venus, marking an ideal time for group works, friendships and love matches founded on mutual respect, learning, travelling, mixing with different people, networking of ideas, emotional independence etc.

Mercury Retrograde in Pisces

In Pisces since February 10 Mercury will turn retrograde on Pisces' very last degree on March 6 (same day Uranus enters Taurus). This period will last until March 29. People who were born with Sun, Moon, any Planet or one of the Four Angles (Ascendant-Descendant-MidHeaven-LowerHeaven) in Pisces or in any of the Mutable Signs (Virgo-Gemini-Sagittarius) will experience more personally the effects of this retrogradation: delays, communication breakdowns, misunderstanding, mechanical problems, tech issues, as well as striking insights, flights of intuition and creative imagination.

Uranus in Taurus

On March 6 Uranus will enter Taurus, for good this time, until 2025/26. This extremely significant shift will gain even greater momentum in 2020, when the Saturn-Pluto's conjunction in Capricorn will contribute to a quickening of planetary, political, social, economic and cultural transformations, with make/break situations for individuals and the planet to face squarely.

Chiron in Aries

Worthy of mention also is the unobtrusive final ingress of Chiron in Aries on February 18 (until 2027), marking a whole new cycle for the planet of Healing! Looking back at the most recent times Chiron transited Aries (1918/1926-27; 1968/1977), we see much struggle to realize historical social reforms: women suffrage, gender equality, sexual revolution, peace versus war. Aries, symbol of unbridled and often toxic masculinity, is going through a face of healing and higher learning from which it will emerge transformed.

For more astrological news and insights please visit: lavinmoonastrology.com



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