

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL CELEBRATES LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK

Uralla Shire celebrated Local Government Week with a very successful Open Day on 7 August. Mayor Michael Pearce said he estimated more than 200 people took the opportunity to learn more about the diverse range of areas in which the Council is involved. "It was a great community event. I'd like to thank everyone who came along, especially our wonderful volunteers. The Lions Club & Friends of McMaugh Gardens did a fantastic job with the catering, which was really appreciated. Congratulations must also go to all the people who entered the Photography & Art Contests. We had a tremendous response, especially in the Primary School Art Competition."

Last year's Uralla Shire Open Day was a finalist in the RH Dougherty Awards for Innovation in Special Events, which recognises a special event produced and owned by a NSW Council in 2014.



Crs Isabel Strutt & Kevin Ward joined Melinda Elks & her daughter Bridie in admiring some of the entries in the Art Contest, on display at the Uralla Shire Open Day. The winning entries in the Art & Photography Contest are now on display in the foyer of Council's administration building at 32 Salisbury Street. Other artworks are being displayed at McMaugh Gardens.

URALLA SPORTING COMPLEX UPGRADE

Uralla Shire Council is pleased to announce it has been successful in gaining \$75,000 through the Sport and Recreation Disability Grants 2014-2015, to upgrade the Uralla Sporting Complex so it is more accessible to disabled people. The project will include construction of a clubhouse with toilets for the disabled, & disability access to canteen & change room facilities at the Uralla Sporting Complex.

One of the aims of the Uralla Community Strategic Plan is to achieve the status of a Disability Friendly community through provision of accessible facilities and services.

The Sport & Recreation Disability Grants 2014-15 are funded by the Lifetime Care & Support Authority & administered through Sport and Recreation, a division of the NSW Government Office of Sport. Council thanks these organisations for providing funding.

NORTHERN ENTRANCE STATEMENT



Left: Mayor Michael Pearce & artist Carl Merten at the unveiling of the Northern Entrance Statement.

The Northern Entrance Statement features ceramic depictions of Uralla Shire's floral emblem, *Cheiranthra telfordii*, created by artists Carl Merten and Joan Relke.

Cheiranthra telfordii is an attractive small shrub that has lovely mauve flowers with yellow centres. It was discovered in Uralla Shire in 1999 by Ian Telford, a UNE botanist.

CONTACTS

Uralla Shire Council:

Mayor:

Cr Michael Pearce: 0488 752 520

Deputy Mayor:

Cr Bob Crouch: 0428 616 885

Councillors:

Cr Leanne Cooper Cr Fred Geldof
Cr Karen Dusting Cr Isabel Strutt
Cr Mark Dusting Cr Kevin Ward
Cr Daphne Field

General Manager:

Mr. Damien Connor

Council Administration:

PO Box 106 URALLA NSW 2358

Phone: 02 6778 6300 Fax: 02 6778 6349

Email: council@uralla.nsw.gov.au

Council Website: www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

Tourism Website: www.uralla.com

Bundarra Works Depot:

Phone: 02 6723 7262 or 0428 406 517

Emergency Contacts:

After-Hours and on Public Holidays

Overseer: 0427 784 982

Water / Sewer: 0427 784 304

Report all Fires: 000

Fallen Trees and SES: 132 500

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Meeting of Council is scheduled for:

Date: Monday, 28 September 2015

Time: 1:00pm

Location: Uralla Shire Council Chambers,
32 Salisbury Street, Uralla

"Have Your Say" from 1:10pm.

(Contact Council for registration procedure)

Council Meeting Agendas and Reports can be viewed and downloaded from the Council website at: www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

Link: [Your Council/Council Documents](#)

Resolutions of Council

The Minutes of Council Meetings are available at www.uralla.nsw.gov.au - go to: [Your Council/ Council Documents/ Minutes](#)

URALLA SHIRE JOINS THE GARAGE SALE TRAIL

Uralla Shire is set to be a part of the national community & sustainability event, the Garage Sale Trail. The Garage Sale Trail takes place on Saturday 24 October. All households, local organisations, schools, & charities can register via garagesaletrail.com.au. By encouraging Australians to hold garage sales on the same day, the campaign promotes re-use, reduces waste to landfill, bring communities together & enables fundraising for schools & charities.

Registration is free & includes a seller webpage that can be personalised by naming the garage sale & listing items that will be for sale on the day. There's also tips & tools available to help sellers promote their sales locally. Register before 25 September, to receive a seller pack with lots of goodies to ensure a successful garage sale.

Pencil Saturday 24 October into your diary & prepare for a fun day of buying & selling!



BRIDGE NAMING

In the July newsletter, Council sought suggestions for the names of two (2) new bridges to be completed in 2015:

- the bridge at Emu Crossing; and
- the bridge over Abington Creek.

The community response was extensive.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 24 August, after considering the content and views of the public submissions, Council resolved to

1. Name the new bridge over the Gwydir River as "The Emu Crossing Bridge."
2. Name the bridge, under construction over the Abington Creek, as the "Abington Bridge".
3. Place a plaque to honour the work of Nurse May Yarrowick at a location to be determined.

POSITIONS VACANT

CASUAL DIRECT SUPPORT WORKERS

Reference No: U15/7178

We are currently looking for suitably qualified Personal/Domestic Care Staff for work in Armidale, Uralla & Walcha, providing personal & domestic assistance to people in their homes.

CASUAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT DRIVERS

Reference No: U15/7203

Tablelands Community transport assists transport disadvantaged groups (e.g. older people, people with disabilities, & carers) with transport services. This position provides safe, reliable individual/group transport & occasional social support to clients.

For further information on these jobs, including how to apply, visit Council's website: www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

•The Uralla Book Group meet the third Tuesday in the month at 4.00pm. New members are always welcome.

•The Lego Club will meet next on Thursday 17 September from 4.00-5.00pm.

•We are lucky to have the storyteller & musician, Annie Bryant, performing on Monday 21 September from 9.30 am. Annie comes highly recommended as a performer for children 3 to 9 years old.

•Story time & craft activities will be held on Tuesday 22 September & Wednesday 23 September from 10.30am

•Films will be screened at the library on Tuesday 22 September & Wednesday 23 September from 1.30pm. We hope to screen *The Bridge to Terabithia* & *Paper Planes*.

For more information, phone the Uralla Shire Library on 6778 6470.

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE APPROVALS / REFUSALS– JULY 2015

Approvals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-2-2015	Mr D Williams	94 Quartz Gully Road, Uralla	Conversion of Shed to Dwelling
DA-13-2015	Boresch Project Services	15 Wilkens Street, Uralla	3 Lot Subdivision
DA-34-2015	Ms J Walton	7 Clerk Street, Bundarra	Conversion of Shed to Dwelling & Verandah Extension
DA-35-2015	Mr T & Mrs M Edmonds	24 Tobruk Road, Invergowrie	Dwelling and Shed
DA-37-2015	Mrs J Marsh	296 Thunderbolts Way, Rocky River	Additions to Existing Dwelling
DA-38-2015	Mr F & Ms M Hanson	10 Maitland Point Road, Rocky River	Dwelling & Shed – Staged
DA-39-2015	Mr J Williamson & Ms J Stibbard	21 Bowline Street, Bundarra	Relocate Dwelling & Additions
DA-40-2015	Ms D Sandoz	58 Bridge Street, Uralla	Self Serve Coin Laundry
DA-41-2015	Mr E Ness	47 John Street, Uralla	Bathroom Addition
DA-42-2015	Rosbuild Constructions	1 Phillip Street, Uralla	Poultry & Storage Shed
DA-43-2015	Mr J Ketley	5 Wilkens Street, Uralla	Shed
DA-44-2015	Mr I & Mrs M Moore	226 Sanctuary Drive, Uralla	Garage including Office, Laundry & Bathroom
CDC-17-2015	Mr J & Mrs M Scott	3 Sandon Close, Uralla	Double Garage
CDC-12-2015	Mr M & Mrs B Baker	38 Plane Avenue, Uralla	Dwelling
CDC-18-2015	Mr D & Mrs C Gooch	26 Macleay Way, Saumarez Ponds	Construction of Swimming Pool

Refusals: Nil

The Notices of Determination for the above Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates are available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at Uralla Shire Council pursuant to Section 101 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.

HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE ROADSIDE VEGETATION

Uralla Shire Council currently recognises 25 roadside sites as having 'High Conservation Value' (HCV). High Conservation Roadside Vegetation sites are chosen for the values that a combination of vegetation, fauna & the site's location represents.

All remaining native vegetation has intrinsic value. Some of the values of our HCV roadside vegetation sites are illustrated with the following examples. New England Peppermint trees at Tolleys Gully along Thunderbolts Way form an 'island' of vegetation in an otherwise cleared landscape. Vegetation along Bundarra – Barraba road forms part of a significant corridor along the Nadewar Range. Gwydir Park Road, and sites along Thunderbolts Way, occur next to high conservation value Travelling Stock Routes, which are associated with the Regent Honeyeater, a critically endangered species of which fewer than 400 pairs still exist in Australia.

While trees dominate & are the most obvious sign of ecological health at a site, it is the diversity and complexity of the grasses, flowers & forbs (herbaceous flowering plants) that are critical to understanding the condition, & value, of a site. For example the Linfield Road high conservation value site is home to 9 species of trees, 22 species of shrubs, 38 species of forbs & 21 species of grasses.

The effects of habitat loss & fragmentation are compounded by the impact that invasive species are having on native flora & fauna. Invasive weeds such as Coolatai & African Lovegrasses are present in HCV sites. Both species contribute strongly to the decline of other sites.

Uralla Shire Council is positively managing listed roadside vegetation sites by improving grading methods on unsealed roads, mowing practices on sealed roads, & working to ensure that essential maintenance & construction work has a minimal impact on the broader condition of these sites. Council's Bush Regeneration Team undertakes significant weed control work to reduce levels of invasive grasses such as Coolatai & African Lovegrass. Council asks our community to assist in the effort by discussing any planned works within the road reserve at HCV sites with us before proceeding.

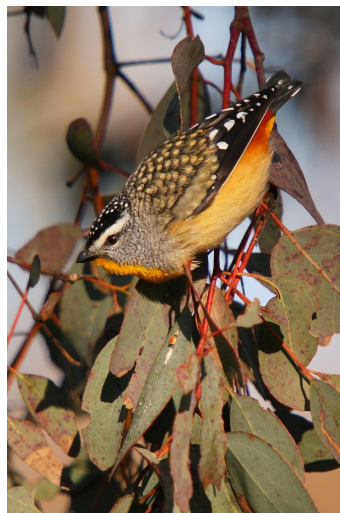
Never remove timber from High Conservation Value road side vegetation sites as these are our key refuge areas for wildlife.

Council wishes to acknowledge the support and contribution of the Northern Tablelands Local Lands Services to our current phase of roadside management practice.



Above: Fringed lilies are found along Bundarra-Barraba Road & Lindon Road.

Photo Courtesy of Kate Boyd



Above: Spotted Pardalotes have been seen in high conservation value vegetation along Warrabah Road & Armidale Bundarra Road.

Photo courtesy of Bob Shepherd.



High Conservation Value sites have been marked with signs similar to this one. Watch out for them on your next trip around the Shire.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATIVE PANEL

The next meeting of the Uralla Shire Council Environmental Consultative Panel will take place on Thursday 24 September from 6 pm in the Uralla Shire Council Chambers on Salisbury Street in Uralla.

If you wish to join the meeting, please contact the Environmental Management Coordinator on 6778 6316.

WASTE 2 ART AND DESIGN COMPETITION

It's on again in 2015! Celebrate the reuse & recycling of waste in our region through art & design.

Waste 2 Art & Design, which is an initiative of Uralla Shire & Walcha Councils, will be held from 9th—15th November (National Recycling Week). There's lots of prize money up for grabs, so start planning your entry today! Entry is free.

URALLA SHIRE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

At the July meeting Council adopted a new Community Grants program that will be open twice a year for community groups & organisations to undertake projects/events which benefit the wider Uralla community, depending upon availability of funds & the merit of project proposals. Non-recurrent grants of up to \$3,000 &/or in-kind support are available.

In addition, individual non-recurrent grants of up to \$300 are also available to residents of Uralla Shire to pursue achievements in their chosen area of expertise; this may include, but is not limited to, significant sports & recreation, arts & culture & academic endeavours.

This year, round 1 applications will open on 1 October 2015 & close on 30 October 2015. Grant guidelines & application forms will be available for download from Council's website from 1 October.

For more information, please contact Council's Community Development Coordinator, Patrick Dogan, on 6778 6471, or pdogan@uralla.nsw.gov.au

FIREWOOD COLLECTION

Lots of homes in our region rely on firewood for winter warmth: at least 70% of the Uralla Shire's residents use firewood for heating, accounting for 45% of home energy use. Collecting firewood is a cultural tradition, & for some households having access to a cheap source of energy is an economic necessity.

The bulk of wood burnt in Uralla homes comes from native woodland where there is no active management to ensure that it is being replaced at the same rate. Nor can we ensure that collecting wood has a minimal impact on our wildlife and native plants.

While many residents are reliant on wood burners, Council is encouraging them to consider how they can reduce the impact that collecting wood is having on our environment.

Impacts on wildlife: The same areas that supply our wood are also home to native animals & plants, some of which are beginning to disappear from our landscape. Collecting wood reduces the number of hollows for animals to live in & reduces food supplies for insect & bug loving birds. As wood is full of nutrients that are essential to the health of the woodland, removing too much timber can result in nutrient deficiency. All of this can impact on how well woodlands regrow naturally.

What you can do to help reduce the environmental impact: Ask your supplier for sustainably managed firewood. If you have friends or family who farm, ask if you can collect any unwanted wood they plan to burn in the paddock. If you own land that you collect wood from, plant native trees to replace those that you remove. When you collect wood, avoid collecting wood from along creek lines; avoid dead trees with lots of hollows; & leave a good cover of coarse woody material on the ground in an area you are removing wood from.



Residents are advised that the removal of timber from any public land (Travelling Stock Routes, Crown Reserves, road sides) is illegal. The Office of Environment, Northern Tablelands Local Lands Services & Council have powers to apply fines to people caught taking timber from public lands.



Coarse woody debris is essential habitat for insects that support the food web in woodland ecosystems. When broken down dead timber adds essential nutrients to the system, which supports regrowth of the woodland.

TOP WOOD BURNER TIPS

Aside from the ecological impacts, burning wood can also have a negative affect on air quality, creating small particle pollution that can cause respiratory problems, & it creates a lot of mess in the house! Service your burner regularly & check that the chimney is clean. Replace broken firebricks & insulate the flue to retain heat. If your wood burner is more than 10 years old it may need replacing. Some products on the market may assist with the efficiency & maintenance of your burner.

Your firewood must be well seasoned. Excess moisture wastes heat. Wet or damp wood also makes your fire hard to light & smokier. Burning in small hot fires produces less air pollution than large, smouldering fires containing large firewood logs. Light your fire only when it is needed. If you are using your burner while leaving a window open because it is too warm, or find yourself wearing light clothing around the house, reconsider whether you need to operate it, or operate it for as long. The general energy efficiency of your home will have a big impact on how well your burner is able to heat your home. A well insulated house should need less wood fuel to heat it. Ceiling batts really make a big difference!

Consider the actual cost of the fuel source. Unless you are getting your wood for free, it is not necessarily the cheapest way to heat your home. Running your reverse cycle air conditioner may be a cheaper option. If you are supplementing your electricity use with solar PV using reverse cycle air conditioning has even less impact on the environment.

If you are buying a new wood burner ensure it is the right size for the rooms being heated & it meets emissions standards. A wood heater performs better if located near the centre of the home & not against an outside wall. The heater should be installed by a professional. If you thinking about replacing your wood burner it is worth looking into the cost of installing & running an alternative heating system for your home.

Do not burn wet wood, green wood, painted wood, railway sleepers, plywood, household rubbish or plastics & glossy paper in your wood burner.