



COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21.8
AUGUST 2013

REQUESTS

Community Volunteers Required

Council has recently received a grant to establish a Local Studies and Family History research facility within the Uralla Library.

We are now calling for Community Volunteers who would like to assist with this project.

If you would like to participate or have any questions, please contact Patrick Dogan at the Visitor Information Centre on 6778 6420.

NEWS

Uralla Library News

STORYTELLING: As part of the New England Writers' Centre inaugural festival we are lucky enough to have Anne Spudvilas storytelling at Uralla Library on Saturday, 17 August at 11:00am. This is a great opportunity to enjoy this enchanting style of communication.

TECH SAVVY SENIORS: As part of the NSW Government and Telstra initiative and Central Northern Libraries, Uralla Library is able to offer a series of basic instruction for Internet; Email; social media; banking; smart phones; tablets; online shopping and photo sharing for seniors who have little or no computer experience. This will start on Thursday, 29 August for fifteen fortnightly sessions (excluding holidays) through to June 2014.

As only six places are available at each session it is important for interested seniors to contact us as soon as possible.

NOTICE

Chemical Clean Out

Please bring in your unwanted chemicals including paint and paint related products, herbicides and poisons, solvents and household cleaners, motor fuels and fluids, fire extinguishers, pool chemicals, acids and alkalis, hobby chemicals, smoke alarms and **unbroken** fluorescent tubes and light bulbs. Chemical Collection will take place at Uralla Landfill and Recycling Facility on **Tuesday, 15 August, 8:00am to 4pm.**

The first 20kgs or 20L are FREE!
Contact Coral Kliendienst at the Landfill on 6778 3558 or 0439479152 for further information.

DIARY

CanAssist - Uralla Branch

The AGM for CanAssist Uralla Branch will be held 27 August 2013 at 6pm at the Council Chambers Uralla.

For further information contact the President, Mary Ann Munsie on 6778 4651.

Uralla Historical Society Inc

The AGM for Uralla Historical Society Inc will be held at McCrossin's Mill on Sunday, 18 August 2013 at 3:00pm.

Guest Speaker: Lyndon Lockrey (grandson of Ned Trickett) "Life and Times of Ned Trickett - World Champion Sculler".

Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Everyone welcome.

Kentucky Seasonal Craft and Produce Market

Featuring local businesses, local produce and locally made crafts, markets are held in the Kentucky Memorial Hall on the second Sunday of each season from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

The next Market Day is **Sunday, 8 September 2013.** Subsequent Market Day is **Sunday, 8 December 2013.**

NOTICE

Bush Fire Danger Period

The NSW Rural Fire Service advises local residents that the Bush Fire Danger Period commenced on 1 August in the New England and Northern Tablelands areas.

Anybody wishing to light a fire on their property during the Bush Fire Danger Period requires a Fire Permit from their local fire brigade station or Fire Control Centre.

If a fire does escape, call Triple Zero (000) immediately so that emergency services can respond thus minimising the damage.

For more information contact the NSW Bush Fire Information Line on 1800 NSW RFS; visit the public website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or contact Renee Dell on 67712400 or 0428403390.

FOR SALE

Salvaged Bridge Timbers

Council has salvaged bridge timbers for sale. The timbers are in various used condition and includes decking and girders of various lengths to be sold on a per metre basis.

Enquiries to Alan Harvey, Works Manager, phone 67786312 or email aharvey@uralla.nsw.gov.au

CONTACTS

Uralla Shire Council:

Mayor:

Cr Michael Pearce, 0488 752 520

Deputy Mayor:

Cr Bob Crouch, 0428 616 885

General Manager:

Mr Tom O'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

Phone: 0428 406 517

Emergency Contacts:

After-Hours and on Public Holidays

Overseer: 0427 784 982

Water / Sewer: 0427 784 304

Report all Fires: 000

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Next Meeting of Council scheduled for:

Date: Tuesday, 27 August 2013

Time: 12noon

Location: Council Chambers,
32 Salisbury Street, Uralla

"Have Your Say" from 1:30pm.
(Contact Council for registration procedure)

Council Meeting Agendas and Reports are available for public viewing at:

- Bundarra General Store
- Invergowrie General Store
- Kentucky General Store
- Kingstown General Store
- Uralla Shire Council Chambers
- Uralla Visitor Information Centre
- Uralla Public Library

Or view and download from the Council website at: www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Planning Proposal Exhibition

Council is exhibiting a planning proposal under the provisions of Section 57 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. The objective of the planning proposal is to amend the Uralla Local Environmental Plan 2012 to reclassify land from 'community' to 'operational'. The land is identified as being:

- Gravel Pit - Bingara Rd Bundarra - Lot 1 DP 1062924
- Bundarra West Reservoir - Muirhead St Bundarra - Lot 1 DP 1165352
- Caravan Park - Queen St Uralla - Lot 30 DP 793510
- Water Race - Kliendienst Rd Uralla - Lot 613 DP 755846

Uralla Shire Council is authorised to exercise the functions of the Minister for Planning & Infrastructure under section 59 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* for this matter.

The planning proposal and supporting documentation are on public exhibition during business hours at the Council Offices at 32 Salisbury Street, Uralla, the Uralla Public Library, 106 Bridge Street Uralla, General Stores at Bundarra, Invergowrie, Kentucky and Kingstown or via the Council Website (www.council.uralla.nsw.gov.au) for the period Wednesday 31 July 2013 to Wednesday 28 August 2013.

Interested persons are invited to inspect the planning proposal and supporting documentation. Written submissions concerning the provisions of the planning proposal may be made to Council throughout the above mentioned exhibition period. Submissions should be in writing and can be posted to, or faxed to (02) 6778 6349, or emailed to council@uralla.nsw.gov.au. The last day for the receipt of submissions is Wednesday, 28 August 2013. Please note confidentiality is not available to respondents. The details of any submissions may be included in a Council report or forwarded to the proponent where it may help to resolve issues raised in the submission. Information (including copies of submissions) may also be released. Submissions are balanced with Council's statutory obligations, the rights of the proponent and the public interest. Council must consider any submissions made before it decides whether to proceed with or abandon a proposal.

Where relevant, a Political Donation and Gift Disclosure Statement must accompany any submission lodged with Council. Under Section 147(5) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* any person who makes a submission to Council is required to disclose any political donation or gift.

Any comments about this proposal may contain information that is personal information, such as information that identifies you, etc, for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1988.

If you have any enquiries please contact Libby Cumming, Manager of Planning on (02) 6778 6310. Written submissions made in relation to the Planning Proposal should be addressed to:

The General Manager
Uralla Shire Council
PO Box 106
URALLA NSW 2358

Thomas P. O'Connor
GENERAL MANAGER

Uralla Shire Council NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION NUMBER: DA-46-2013



Uralla Shire Council has received an application from New England Brewing Company Pty Ltd seeking permission for a Small Bar at 19 Bridge Street, Uralla.

The application may be inspected at the Uralla Shire Council office during business hours. Any person may make a written submission in relation to the development application.

Submissions must be received by Uralla Shire Council in writing before close of business on 26 August 2013 addressed to the General Manager, PO Box 106, Uralla NSW 2358.

Should you have further enquiries please contact Council on (02) 6778 6300.

Alcohol Free Zone

Council has resolved to continue the Alcohol Free Zone in Uralla for a further 4 years. This area will include Apex Park, Fuller Park, Hampden Park, Library and Visitor Information Centre precinct, Porter Park and the Central Business District.

Any objections need to be lodged with Council by 30 August 2013.

Thunderbolt's Festival

Thunderbolt's Festival will kick off with the Thunderbolt Rodeo Bulls and Broncs Spectacular (at the Top Pub) on Saturday, 19 October, with talented riders coming from across the state.

The following Saturday, 26 October, Thunderbolt's Festival street parade will take place at 11:00am featuring Oxley Riders along with markets, music and many activities held in Alma Park.

Please save these dates!

Development Application and Complying Development Certificate Approvals / Refusals JUNE 2013:

Approvals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-21-2013	Mr A & Mrs K Wilkinson	41 Budumba Road, Invergowrie	2 Lot Subdivision
DA-31-2013	Mr P Laher	1B McGregor Street, Uralla	Manufactured Home & Shed
DA-35-2013	Mr M & Mrs K Rice	62 Macleay Way, Saumarez Ponds	Additions to Dwelling
DA-36-2013	Mr R & Mrs A Simpson and Mr B Vincent & Ms S Frazier	1673 Gostwyck Road, Mihi	Farmstay Accommodation
DA-37-2013	Ms E Sullivan	48 John Street, Uralla	Dwelling
DA-40-2013	Mr J Hull	42 Plane Avenue, Uralla	Conversion of Shed to Dwelling & Carport & Patio
CDC-20-2013	Mrs L Salvador	183 Torryburn Road, Yarrowyck	Detached Garage & Studio
CDC-22-2013	Mr B Shaw	943 Bundarra Road, Saumarez Ponds	Dwelling Additions
CDC-25-2013	Rosbuild Constructions	737 Bundarra Road, Saumarez	Dwelling Additions

Refusals:

Application No.	Applicant	Property	Development
DA-38-2013	Mr D Adams & Tobelo Pty Ltd	Lot 448 313 Gostwyck Road, Uralla	Dwelling Entitlement
DA-39-2013	Mr D Adams & Tobelo Pty Ltd	Lot 449 313 Gostwyck Road, Uralla	Dwelling Entitlement

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, 32 Salisbury Street, Uralla.

REFERENDUM FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Uralla Shire Council Supports a YES Vote for Financial Recognition of Local Government in the Australian Constitution.

The Uralla Shire Council has for many years campaigned for the recognition of local government in the Australian Constitution. The Federal Government on 29 May 2013 passed the bill (133 to 2) to enable a referendum to change Section 96 of the Constitution to enable payments to local Government bodies (see over for the official announcement).

The Uralla Shire Council is contributing \$9,339.27 towards the \$10 million YES campaign being run by the Australian Local Government Association. This campaign will commence in Mid-August 2013. The referendum will be held in conjunction with the Federal Election.

While the Uralla Shire Council would prefer a referendum to be held outside the election campaign, it fully supports the YES vote and asks its residents to vote YES.

Who Contributes to the Running of the Uralla Shire Council?

While Local Government is a creature of the State, being formed under a State Act of Parliament, The Local Government Act 1993; the majority of the funding of the Uralla Shire Council is by the local residents in rates, fees and charges.

	2011/2012		2012/2013		2013/2014	
	Actual		Budget		Budget	
Rates and Annual Charges	4,589,342	28.9%	4,762,880	29.2%	5,159,318	29.9%
Earned Income (local)	3,030,360	19.2%	3,196,150	19.5%	3,086,233	17.9%
Local Income	7,619,702	48.1%	7,959,030	48.7%	8,245,551	47.8%
Income from Commonwealth	4,943,873	31.2%	5,410,296	33.2%	5,579,404	32.4%
Income from State	3,288,339	20.7%	2,946,038	18.1%	3,404,093	19.8%
Total Income	15,851,914	100.0%	16,315,364	100.0%	17,229,048	100.0%

Surprisingly, the next largest funder of Uralla is the Federal Government and the State Government; that has the greatest control over our existence, roles and responsibility; makes the smallest contribution.

For those who think that a Yes vote for Constitutional recognition will increase the Federal Government's influence over local Government, the Federal Government is the largest supplier of governmental funding and the majority of the grants from the Federal

Government are un-tied—that is Council can determine where the funds are spent. Of the \$3,288,339 received in 2011/2012 from the State Government only \$106,180 was un-tied and that was for rebates of 55% of the pensioner rate concession granted on the State's behalf.

The Yes/No Case for Financial Recognition

In due course, the Electoral Commission will publish the official Yes/No case for the referendum, as prepared by Members of the Federal Parliament who support and oppose the proposal. Both sides will receive Federal Government funding for their campaign. The Federal Government has indicated that it will provide \$10 million for the Official Yes campaign and \$500,000 for the No campaign. On 23 May, the Constitutional Reform Unit (CRU) in the University of Sydney Law School, released an Alternative Yes/No case. A summary of the cases for and against, as identified by the CRU, is included in the table (right). ⇒

What Do We (Uralla Shire Council Residents) Have to Lose?

The longest term grant received from the Federal Government is the Financial Assistance Grant, which commenced in the late 1970s. Currently this is \$2,230,823. This grant is paid to local government through the State Governments and is not at risk.

The next longest term grant is the Roads to Recovery (R2R) made directly to local government by the Federal Government. The Uralla Shire Council's share is \$430,515 per annum. This payment, being direct, is at risk.

The most recent funding is payments through the Regional Australia Development Fund. Until this coming year the Uralla Shire Council had not received any funds through this program. For 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 Council will received \$1,020,630 for work on the Emu Crossing and Thunderbolts Way. This payment, being direct, is at risk.

Yes	No
The power of the Commonwealth Parliament to fund local government directly is in doubt	The Commonwealth Parliament already has the power to fund local government
Constitutional recognition would acknowledge the role played by local government in Australian society	The Commonwealth would have more influence over local government policy
Direct funding of local government would avoid time-consuming negotiations with the States	The establishment of a central authority to oversee funding arrangements may be more costly and inefficient than the current system
The power to fund local government directly may result in more funding	Direct funding would not necessarily result in increased funding
The Commonwealth would be better equipped to pursue national policy objectives	It would centralise power in the Commonwealth
Direct Commonwealth funding to local government would be more equitable	Centralised distribution of funding may seriously disadvantage some States
Constitutional recognition would help the voice of local government be heard	Accountability would be reduced and the blame-game extended
The Constitution should be updated to recognise the entire system of government	The Federal Constitution is not the right place to recognise local government



Section 96 of the Australian Constitution

[Section 96 of the Australian Constitution \(PDF 170KB\)](#)

The Australian Government announced that a referendum will be held to vote on a proposal to change section 96 of the Australian Constitution to recognise local government. The proposed change would allow the Commonwealth Parliament to grant financial assistance to local government.

What is the proposed change?

The proposed change is to amend section 96 of the Australian Constitution to make specific provision in relation to the granting of financial assistance to local government bodies.

Section 96 says that the Commonwealth can provide funding to the states and, if the Australian people agree to the proposed change in the referendum, it will also say that the Commonwealth can provide funding directly to local government.

The 17 new words that are proposed are as follows (**in bold**):

96. Financial assistance to States **and local government bodies**

*During a period of ten years after the establishment of the Commonwealth and thereafter until the Parliament otherwise provides, the Parliament may grant financial assistance to any State, **or to any local government body formed by a law of a State**, on such terms and conditions as the Parliament thinks fit.*

The amendment would not alter the current federal structure established by the Constitution.

Local government would continue to be the responsibility of state and territory governments. State and territory governments would continue to determine how local government bodies raise rates and make laws.

What now?

The change to the Constitution will only be made if a majority of people across the whole nation *and* a majority of people in a least four of Australia's six states approve the change. Participating in the referendum is compulsory for everyone on the Australian electoral roll.

It is therefore important that every Australian who is enrolled to vote is informed about the reasons for and against the proposed change.

Further information about the upcoming referendum and the proposed change can be found at www.referendum2013.gov.au