

The Gundaroo Gazette

Community | Cohesion | Harmony

www.gundaroo.org

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February 2022

From a mixed 2021 into a better year ahead?

THE HEADLINE ON THIS PAGE in February last year was: 'A happier new year ahead?'

From *The Gundaroo Gazette's* observations, 2021 did turn out to be that way – more or less.

More? Social restrictions were eased early in the year, enabling more events and activities to enjoy – school carnivals; film nights; Scouts; live entertainment; a community-initiated Anzac dawn service; a chance for a proper farewell to our popular School Principal, Mr T; and more.

More? Projects were finished or restarted – pedestrian gates on the Common; new Park facilities; the revamped Gundaroo tip finished; and more.

Less? When the new Delta strain got loose in Sydney mid-year, many restrictions were reimposed, and we returned to being sensibly cautious, which we'd become adept at. Then the vaccine roll-out took longer than

expected, was confusing and difficult for many to access. Once again, many community, sport and business events and activities were reluctantly cancelled, postponed, or put in limbo.

And – unrelated to the influence of 'the plague' – the pub was suddenly locked up for months, with a predictably dispiriting impact on the community.

But still we managed. We kept the plague at bay, found ways to adapt to new restrictions, and continued to generously care for and support our friends, neighbours and local businesses as best we could.

Halloween trick-or-treat went ahead. The pub re-opened for a month, and we had a chance to give 'Choppy' a great send-off. As summer arrived and Christmas approached, the new publican was announced, Council elections saw a mix of new and familiar faces, the rescheduled Community Expo was a great day, and cricket restarted.

Then, just as NSW was further easing its restrictions in the Christmas lead-up, the Omicron variant arrived and spread like wildfire. It looked like being 'on again'.

But still we carried on. Our Community Singers sang Christmas carols outside the still-closed pub, and the Community Church carols night went ahead on a small scale a week before Christmas.

And, despite the pub still being closed for renovations, new publican Leonie opened it up on Christmas Eve so that Santa Claus could have a local destination at the end of his annual village tour in a Christmas-decorated fire truck (pictured).



Leonie was well rewarded for that gesture (pictured below).



Near the end of a mild summer without any serious bushfires, we could perhaps feel confident of an even better 2022.

Many (most?) of us have had all our COVID jabs. School is back, with more pupils, an extra class, and four new teachers in the team led by popular Principal Mrs Harris. Our churches are restarting their regular services, still with conditions.

Our eateries are all open. Sport and Scouts are happening. The new Park facilities are about ready to open up.

And our pub – the 'Gundaroo Inn' – is now open regularly, with more to come.

Gundaroo life is 'returning'.

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Quotes for the month

"Once weapons were manufactured to fight wars.
Now wars are manufactured to sell weapons."

Susannah Arundhati Roy (b. 1961, India)

Writer, essayist, activist, Booker Man prize winner

"When your life is filled with a desire to see the holiness in everyday life, something magical happens: ordinary life becomes extraordinary, and the very process of life begins to nourish your soul."

Rabbi Harold S. Kushner (b. 1935)

Rabbi Laureate of Temple Israel, Boston Massachusetts.
American Clergyman of the Year 1999

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LOCAL NEWS

Popular pre-Christmas Expo and Market

The rain of previous days stayed away from Gundaroo Park on Saturday 11 December, enabling the Gundaroo Community Association's second 'Expo' to showcase the groups and activities that abound in and around Gundaroo.

The Gundaroo Gazette was one of several community groups and services that set up displays along the front porch of the new Amenities Building. Other organisations and local businesses had stalls in marquees and caravans around the edge of the oval, creating an attractive walk for local residents and visitors to learn about and 'sample' what this community has to offer.

The GCA was very pleased with the enthusiastic attendance and participation, and was full of praise and gratitude for the organising efforts of Emma Shadbolt and Gina Collins and their many helpers.



During a quiet break

GCA Committee reported that feedback had been very positive with requests to repeat the event.

"It was great to see so many locals out and about, fitting in a bit of pre-Christmas shopping at the various stalls, enjoying Men's Shed sausage sangers, the Bluefields blueberry ice cream, Gundaroo School cakes and Neat St coffee. It was an opportunity to catch up with friends, find out about some of our community groups, have a game of cricket for the kids, take part in some first aid and snake-bite treatment sessions, and absorb advice on weed identification and management from Yass Valley Council.

"Our fundraising raffle was a great success, and we sincerely thank all those who donated prizes. Fourteen great prizes in all raising over \$600. Winners were individually notified with all prizes going to Gundaroo locals.

"The committee was very pleased with the amount raised and decided to donate a portion to Ronald McDonald House, an organisation that has helped several Gundaroo families in recent years."



Learning about our worst weeds

The GCA committee will consider when the community might hold a similar event in 2022.

Men's Shed grant

The Gundaroo Men's Shed team are 'super-excited' that they have secured a grant of \$76,500 to do some extensive additions to the Shed and to greatly improve its interior.

Gundaroo Men's Shed Secretary Ric Andrews told *The Gundaroo Gazette*:

"This will allow for such items as the awning and its concrete floor, the kitchen and appliances, dust extraction equipment, lighting and electrical works, and better guttering and storm water management.

"So 2022 is going to be busy getting these improvements completed and really sorting out our Shed so we can begin a whole range of great activities.

"These improvements will benefit not only Shed Members but the wider Gundaroo community, as the awning can be utilised by many of our Park activities.

"Combined with the new Amenities Building, the improved Men's Shed will further enhance Gundaroo Park as an excellent venue for many community activities," Mr Andrews said.

The grant is to come from the NSW Government's post-COVID Stimulus, particularly the 'Men's Shed Shovel-Ready Infrastructure Projects'. That program is the result of a collaborative partnership between the government and the Australian Men's Shed Association (NSW).

Some new faces on Council

Yass Valley Council has a mix of returning and new councillors, following the local government elections on 4 December last year.

At their first meeting on 12 January, councillors elected a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Council for the next three years (a shorter term as a result of the COVID delays) comprises:

Allan McGrath (Mayor) (new)
Jasmin Jones (Deputy Mayor)
Jim Abbey (new)
Cecil Burgess
Kristin Butler (new)
Adrian Cameron (new)
Cayla Pothan (new)
Mike Reid
Kim Turner.

For some words from the new Mayor, turn to [p 13](#).

Gundaroo Grocer revises trading hours

Our friends at the Gundaroo Grocer have revised their standard trading hours, and will be opening later on weekends and closing a bit earlier on most days.

The new schedule is set out in detail in their ad on [page 14](#).

When questioned by *The Gundaroo Gazette*, both Jess and Connie were justifiably concerned to avoid a critical perception of this decision. Their reason for the change is simply their need to recover a few hours a week of personal and family time.

Nobody can have failed to witness the persistent but now permanent increase in post office parcel traffic, which has added much relentless intensity and stress to their working days.

Both found that the shorter trading hours over Christmas/New Year and January reduced their exhaustion and gave them more energy to keep giving the community the outstanding service their whole team delivers daily.

The Gundaroo Gazette continues to appreciate and be grateful that our village store and post office are managed by such a friendly and accommodating team.

Vandals target our school and church

The Gundaroo Gazette sadly reports that both our public school and the next-door community church have been the targets of vandals in recent weeks.

At the school, vandals have broken more than a dozen windows and damaged students' play equipment, among other damage.

At the church, the much-loved Christmas nativity scene was desecrated this year – clothing on the biblical figurines was in disarray and other objects were thrown onto the church roof. Two downpipes

at the rear of the church were kicked in and made inoperable, and the new front-door handle was forced off and stolen.

Although this is not the first vandalism at either site, it appears to have been more frequent and severe during the recent summer holidays, and on Friday and Saturday nights.

The local police have been informed and are investigating, with the prospect of increasing their patrols.

They have asked villagers to be very alert to unusual activity at these sites and to report that activity. (School: 6236 8115. Church: 0415 721 155.)

Pop-up police pay Gundaroo a social visit

For the second time, our two nearby Senior Constables spent a few hours in Gundaroo meeting and talking with a steady stream of Gundaroo residents who visited the display caravan parked outside 'The Nest' in Cork Street on Wednesday 15 December.

The visit continues the practice that has now been part of NSW rural policing for a few years – 'getting to know' and 'getting known' in the community.

The Gundaroo Gazette spent some time talking with Snr Constable Joe Fitzgerald, OIC Collector (Gundaroo's main cop), and Snr Constable Daniel Wise, OIC Gunning, (our 'back-up' cop).

The March Gazette will carry a brief profile of these two important contributors to our community.

Joe Fitzgerald was especially happy to talk about the success of the snake-bite workshop in Collector the previous Sunday, attended by around 60 keen adults and children.

There are apparently plans to organise an 'emergency services expo' featuring police, police rescue, rural fire service and the SES.

Temporary closure of Gundaroo Park

Residents were surprised to find Gundaroo Park closed for a period during the mass demonstrations that Canberra experienced in early February.

There was some speculation about the reasons behind the closure. Gundaroo Park Land Manager, Ron Miller, explained on the community FB page that the sudden influx of demonstrators setting up camp over-stressed the Park's septic system, and he added to *The Gundaroo Gazette* that the numbers of campers exceeded the Park's campsite approvals.

Ron also told the Gazette that most campers were heading home anyway, were very polite, and when they left without argument, they cleaned up well and even left extra rolls of toilet paper for the Park.

In other words, there was no 'issue' — except, of course the need to keep the campground closed long enough for the septic trenches to dry out.

Other Park facilities remained open to local Park users during the closure of the campground.

Wendy Tuckerman MP in the NSW Cabinet

In a recent shuffle of ministers, NSW Premier Dominic Perrotet has appointed our local MP for Goulburn, Wendy Tuckerman, to his cabinet as the Minister for Local Government.

Some readers who know of this promotion have expressed hope that having our local MP as the responsible state Minister may improve their chances of their local government concerns being taken more seriously.

The Gundaroo Gazette wishes Ms Tuckerman good fortune in managing her two roles – as our local state MP and as the Minister to whom she may have to raise constituent issues.

Kristy McBain meets Gundaroo community

Our federal MP for Eden-Monaro, Kristy McBain, visited Gundaroo on Sunday 13 February at 4pm in Gundaroo Park.

The Gundaroo Gazette sat in on a well-attended and casual community meeting, in which Ms McBain answered questions on a number of concerns of local, regional and national interest.

Some more detail about the meeting and associated activities can be found on page 13.

Organisations of the Month

For more than year now, our community website, has been featuring a 'Community Group of the Month' and a 'Business of the Month'.

Each nominated organisation is presented with pictures and short stories and links to their respective pages on the website.

For February 2022, they are:

Community Group: **The Common Trust**
..Business: **Gundaroo Inn**

For their stories, go to www.gundaroo.org

Recent MP announcements of assistance and grants

Relevant announcements by our two MPs can be accessed on their websites:

www.wendytuckerman.com/news/
www.kristymc Bain.com.au/news/media-releases/

Parents NSW and Stay NSW (1 Feb): Eligible accommodation providers can now register for these new voucher programs that families can use to defray their costs.

www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/register-business-stay-nsw-vouchers

Before and After School Care (1 Feb): Parents of primary school children can access \$500 vouchers to defray costs of BASC services. Providers and customers Register via a MyServiceNSW account.

Small Business Support Program (10 Feb): Small businesses whose turnover declined by at least 40% during January can apply for support of up to \$5,000 per week.

www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/2022-small-business-support-program

State assistance is still available under three ongoing or recurring programs of interest to Gundaroo (Sept 2021 Gazette):

Quad bike safety rebates;
Free registration for rescue animals;
Infrastructure Grants program.

News Shorts

Ferdinand has left the Common

The bull that has been on the Common since mid-December was loaded and trucked away home in mid-February.

Users of the Common should always be alert to the location and movements of the Commoners' cattle and be responsible when using external and internal gates.

Cleaning up discarded face masks

An observant and concerned Gundaroo resident suggested that *The Gundaroo Gazette* should publicise a 'Facemask Awareness Month'.

This is not to remind us of their value in reducing the spread of COVID-19, but of their increasing prevalence in our litter and waste streams.

She acknowledges people's reluctance to touch a stranger's discarded surgical facemask, but suggests we might be willing to pick up discarded masks in a plastic bag (as we do with our dog's poo). Better still, we could all be more diligent about disposing of our own masks safely.

New pharmacy in Sutton

Early in February, Sutton Pharmacy Plus opened its doors in Sutton village. *The Gundaroo Gazette* visited and met the pharmacist, Islam Ahmed, and admired the well-stocked pharmacy shelves and a small general store section stocked with household basics.

Trading hours are 9am to 5.30pm Mon–Fri, and 9am to 1pm Sat. Closed Sundays and public holidays.

Ph: 6230 3552, Fx: 6305 6023.
suttonpharmacyplus@gmail.com

A convenient addition to local services.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

yass valley council

the country the people

Crago Mill Precinct on public exhibition

Members of the public are invited to have their say on plans for the new Crago Mill Precinct in Yass. The project involves the enhancement and conversion of the former Crago's flour mill at 209 Comur Street.

The development application went on public exhibition on Monday, 31 January and the community can provide submissions until 5:00 pm on Monday, 28 February.

To view the plans, please visit:

www.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/our-council/news/article/1450

Gundaroo amenities upgrade

The Gundaroo Recreation Ground amenities building upgrade is almost complete. Council is waiting on the driveway to be sealed and the commercial kitchen to be completed to issue a final occupation certificate and inform the community.

Unsealed road grading

Council recently completed grading the following unsealed roads in the Gundaroo area:

- Dicks Creek Road
- Whites Road

School safety upgrades

Council is preparing the request for quotes for the school safety works at Gundaroo Public School. These works are designed to improve parking and pedestrian safety.

Weed spraying/

Council's Biosecurity Officers have been working with members of the Gundaroo Community Association to identify and remove local infestations of African lovegrass. Officers will return in February to check for regrowth.

New meeting dates

The Ordinary Meeting of Council has moved to **4:00 pm** on the **fourth Thursday** of every month.

The new meeting dates for 2022 are:

- Thursday, 24 February – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 24 March – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 28 April – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 26 May – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 23 June – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 28 July – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 25 August – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 22 September – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 27 October – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 24 November – 4:00pm
- Thursday, 22 December – 4:00pm

'Household Chemical Cleanout'

On **Saturday 19 February**, between 8.00am and 2.30pm, you will be able to drop off your household chemicals for free at Yass Waste Transfer Station, in Faulder Avenue, Yass.

Gundaroo Soldiers Memorial Hall *Capacity and restrictions for Hall bookings*

The 2m² per person social distancing for indoor meeting places enables 53 guests in the main hall.

Gatherings will follow COVID restrictions as directed by NSW Health, which may change after 28 February.

Colin Lee
Secretary /Public Officer

Gundaroo Common Trust

Annual General Meeting of Commoners
7:30pm, Tuesday, 29 March 2022

St Joseph's Church Hall, Morning St, Gundaroo
All Commoners and Gundaroo residents welcome.

COVID restrictions will apply.

Gundaroo Community Association

Kristy McBain MP visit

Our federal MP for Eden-Monaro will visit Gundaroo on **Sunday 13 February at 4pm** in **Gundaroo Park**.

It is a casual community meeting, to meet Gundaroo constituents, and to hear our concerns and ideas directly. All are welcome – with issues or just to meet.

GCA General Meeting

A general meeting is being planned for March, as an opportunity to **meet the new Yass Valley councillors**. The date and details will be announced in the March Gazette, and on the GCA Facebook page.

Successful Expo and Christmas Market

The Expo at the Park on 11 December received very positive feedback from stall holders and visitors alike. (See more information in 'Local News'.)

Gundaroo & District Historical Society

The **2022 GDHS Exhibition** will focus on the **Gundaroo Colonial Inn** – originally the Commercial Hotel, and then the Gundaroo Wine Bar for nearly 100 years.

2022 is the **150th anniversary** of this historic community hub. We are gathering stories and pictures to make this a memorable exhibition, and welcome your contributions.

Historical Society 2022 Calendar

Still some copies available, at \$15 plus \$3.30 postage (if required). Available at Gundaroo Grocer or direct at historicalsocietygundaroo@gmail.com.

Gunning medical services – 4845 1166

Doctors and allied health services.
(Phone for bookings and more information.)

Gunning Pharmacy – 4845 1339

Monday, Tuesday, Friday 9.00am to 5.30pm
Wednesday, Thursday 9.00am to 3.00pm
Saturday 9.00am to 2.30pm every 2nd weekend

Annual General Meeting and general meeting



Tuesday 22 February 2022
from 7.30pm

School venue to be confirmed when social gathering guidelines are received. (Watch the Sutton Chatter FB page.)

Our Christmas lunch revealed several topics of interest for 2022 for meetings and field events.

They include:

- cool burning
- soil carbon and grants
- Friends of Grasslands
- insects and biodiversity
- ground storey plants
- bettongs (Mulligan's Flat walk)
- eucalypt ID walk and talk
- weed walk
- Crown lands.

For information and offers of help (especially with Secretariat) contact sutton.landcare@gmail.com.

GUNDAROO INN IS HIRING !

The Gundaroo Inn is open again, and we're interested in adding more people to the team.

If you would like to work in the **BAR**, we would be pleased to talk with you. You need to have an RSA certificate.

We are keen to employ locally, and would welcome approaches from former staff.

Contact Leonie on
olleyville@createcatering.com.au

POSITIONS AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY



We are a landscaping business in the Gundaroo area.

We have positions for a labourer/ truck driver/bobcat operator/mower operator/jack-of-all trades — any or all of these.

Flexible hours and above-award wage.
Call 0417 682 540 or 0428 275 701.



GUNDAROO OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Before School — 7am–9am \$15 per day, \$18 Casual
After School — 3pm–6pm \$25 per day, \$28 Casual

GOSH is an Approved Service offering Child Care Subsidy to eligible families.

Children from all schools are welcome to attend.

Enquiries to
gundaroorogosh@gmail.com

Gundaroo Public School, Lot Street, Gundaroo

From 'The Desk'

Being the first for the new year, the February edition deserved to be in your hands 'on-time'. But alas. Your Editor has been bedevilled and distracted by a persistent painful foot problem that emerged before Christmas — and has worsened mysteriously in the past five weeks.

For that, I can do no more than apologise, especially for the event dates that have already passed.

This month — as well as all our regular welcome columns about food and wine, 'matters natural', our gardens, and wildcare, and the fire brigade, school and sports pages — please take note of the 'Out and about in Gundaroo' pages.

In particular, the report on the steadily growing Gundaroo community website, www.gundaroo.org is most encouraging. The steps being taken to better integrate the Gazette and the website will be explained further in the March edition.

Also in those pages is the call for others who might be interested in exploring the prospect of a localised community energy supply system for Gundaroo, as is now being demonstrated on the NSW south coast.

We welcome two new advertisers this month. We trust that you will find your support for the Gazette of mutual benefit.

As always, thank you to all writers, news and notice contributors, and advertisers — and especially readers who give feedback and suggestions for improvement.

Until March
Your Editor | Custodian



1st Gundaroo Scouts

Scouts are back!

As of Tuesday 8 February, 1st Gundaroo Scout Group (Cubs and Scouts) is back in action at the Scout Hall in Gundaroo Park. We shall continue to meet each Tuesday from 6pm.

A fine program is planned for 2022. We look forward to welcoming a new Leader and a new cohort of Cubs and Scouts to join our experienced group.

Phil Gaden
0413 137 761

Phil.Gaden@nsw.scouts.com.au

Gundaroo Film Society

Flickering Back On in 2022

After an interrupted 2021 program, regular screenings at the Gundaroo Soldiers Memorial Hall will resume in 2022.

However due to the escalation of COVID-19 cases in the community and with the safety of our members in mind we have reluctantly cancelled the February screening. It is with great optimism the season for 2022 will now begin on 26th March with two films **Minari** and **Kajillionaire**.

We will show films we missed in 2020 and again in 2021. These include the British New Wave and Aussie New Wave films which will be introduced by cinematographer Geoff Burton.

We have also planned three optional fund-raising meal and movie nights throughout the year. Hopefully the pandemic will ease enough for us to enjoy them.

As well, we hope BYO meals will be permitted whereby you bring your own drinks and drinking vessels. Tea, coffee and ice creams will still be available on the night.

Only financial members and their guests who have all pre-registered and assigned a seating allocation may attend.

Membership remains at \$50 for new and returning members, while renewing 2021 members pay \$25. Great value for nine film nights, fifteen films, often with two films on the one night.

We look forward to seeing members enjoying a new year of delightful and varied fare that is the Gundaroo Film Calendar. For more details, go to GundarooFilms.org.

A copy of the 2022 program appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

www.gundaroofilms.org

info@gundaroofilms.org

[Gundaroo Films](https://www.facebook.com/GundarooFilms)

Gundaroo and 'the new normal'

A book review by Wayne Kotzur

Greg Mullins was fire Commissioner for NSW for 14 years. A committed volunteer fire fighter and karate practitioner he has been intimately involved in the evolving nature of fire and its management in Australia

I have just read his book **Firestorm – Battling Super-charged National Disasters** (Viking, 2021). While not the greatest read of the summer, it addresses the timely issue of bush fire and disaster planning, and I found his mixing of personal involvement in many fire fights with his expertise in fire behaviour engaging.

I was amazed how much fire fighting experience he has amassed, as far back as 1971 as a teenager with his Dad's brigade around Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, then as a volunteer and as a professional, leading to 14 years as Commissioner until his retirement in 2017. He is now a local bush fire brigade volunteer and activist.

The book is peppered with details of his many fire deployments in eastern Australia. Greg served as a Sydney Hazard Reduction Officer for many years and spent some time overseas on a Churchill scholarship bushfire study – looking in fire prone regions such as Spain, Idaho & California (which can lose 10–20,000 homes in a bad season). He notes that bushfires are becoming more intense everywhere, and the fire seasons are starting earlier and lasting longer. Fires are becoming regular events in many regions, such as Scandinavia, that have no previous fire concerns.

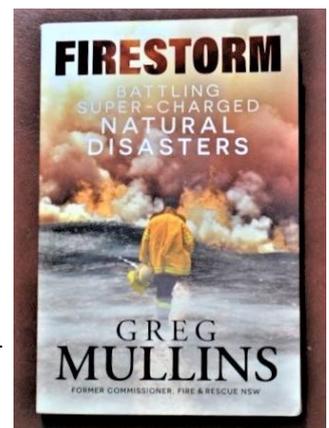
The book's main message is that fire experts are not as concerned by the increased frequency and ferocity of fires, as they are by government inaction and reluctance to address the root cause of climate change.

"If the current inaction continues, fire seasons like Black Summer are likely to be common by 2040 and the new normal by 2060." (p160)

He addresses much of the science of wild fire behaviour, and the dangerous contribution of global warming. Basically, the ability to control or mitigate large fires will be lost within our lifetime, as we are overwhelmed by the sheer scale, duration and intensity of firestorms. We will not be able to rely on the old standbys of hazard reduction burns¹, back-burns, prolonged volunteer firefighter efforts and aerial support. It will be coupled with increased natural disasters such as floods, as well as extreme temperatures and blackouts, as southern Australia warms and dries and creates weather chaos.

Under such conditions we will need more, not less, government engagement in fire and emergency planning, outfitting and deployment. Greg suggests we will need to get better at disaster relief, at rebuilding and promoting community resilience. *And principally at addressing climate change.*

¹ The 2019-2020 season's fires were propelled by unprecedented fire weather not by excessive fuel loads, which were no different in level than the last thirty years. The Royal Commission into NSW bushfires found that, under extreme and catastrophic conditions, bush fires are not slowed or controlled by reaching areas that have been hazard-reduced.



Gundaroo Film Society 2022 Program

16 films, 10 screenings, Four special dinners
For members and their guests

Flickering on and off since 1905

19 February 6pm Meal and Film Night

7.30pm *Dream Horse* (PG)

CANCELLED

Small-town Welsh bartender. With no experience, she convinces her neighbours to help raise Dream to race.



26 March 7pm

Minari (PG)



A tender and sweeping story about what roots us, *Minari* follows a Korean-American family who move to a tiny Arkansas farm in search of their own American Dream.

9.15pm

Kajillionaire (M)

A woman's life is turned upside down when her criminal parents invite an outsider to join them on a major heist they're planning.



30 April 6pm

Meal and Film Night

Optional two-course dinner as a fundraiser for the Gundaroo Hall. \$35 per head.

7.30pm

The Zookeeper's Wife (M)

True story of how Jan and Antonina Żabiński rescued hundreds of Polish Jews from the Germans by hiding them in their Warsaw zoo during World War II.



British New Wave

21 May 6.45pm

A Taste of Honey (PG)



In this 1961 black & white film, a pregnant teenage girl must fend for herself when her mother remarries, leaving her with only a new male friend for support

9.15pm

Tom Jones (PG)

1963 bawdy adaption of Henry Fielding's classic novel follows country boy Tom who becomes one of the wildest playboys in 18th century England



Aussie New Wave

18 Jun 6.45pm

Sunday Too Far Away



1975 historical drama of the story of the struggles of shearers in outback Australia in the 1950s. Cinematography by Gundaroo local Geoff Burton.

9pm

Newsfront (PG)

1978 saga of cinematographers & reporters who risk life & limb to capture footage of breaking news for the movie-going public in post-war Australia.



23 July 6pm

Meal and Film Night

Optional two-course dinner as a fundraiser for the Gundaroo Hall. \$35 per head.

7.30pm

Lagaan (PG)

A small village in Victorian India stakes it's future on a game of cricket against the ruthless British rulers.



20 August 7pm

The Intouchables (M)



French irreverent, uplifting comedy based on the true story of a friendship between a handicapped millionaire & his street smart ex-con caretaker

9.15pm

The Finishers (PG)

French sports drama, based on a true story, where wheelchair-bound Julien challenges his father to compete with him in an Ironman Triathlon.



17 September 7pm

The Rescue (M)



An enthralling, against-all-odds story that transfixed the world in 2018: the daring rescue of twelve boys and their coach from deep inside a flooded cave in Northern Thailand.

9.15pm

My Name is Gulpilil (M)

In his final film, the great Australian actor David Dalaithngu faces his extraordinary, dizzying past and, staring down death, his own, mortal future.



15 October 6.30pm

I'm Wanita (M)



Chaotic, flamboyant force of nature & her lifelong odyssey to realise her childhood dream. Based in Australia's 'Country Music Capital', Tamworth.

8.30pm

Respect (M)

The remarkable true story of music icon Aretha Franklin's journey to find her voice and international superstardom.



19 November 6pm

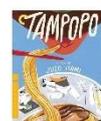
Meal and Film Night

The finale of the year – an optional two-course dinner as a fundraiser for the Gundaroo Hall. \$35 per head.

7.30pm

Tampopo (MA)

A truck driver stops at a small family-run noodle shop and decides to help its fledgling business.



www.gundaroofilms.org

info@gundaroofilms.org

Gundaroo Films



Gundaroo Rural Fire Brigade

Hello and welcome to 2022. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year and are staying healthy and safe with all this COVID-19 about.

This Fire Season has been a blessing, with good rainfall and cooler days. Every volunteer fire fighter would have to agree that we are not missing the fires of 2019/20! This being said, we still ask you to remain vigilant and be prepared and ready for fire. There is a tremendous amount of grass around, a lot has cured and is curing, and grass fires will burn very quickly and hot.

We are urging all residents – sit down with your family to discuss and review your **Bush Fire Survival Plan**, or make a plan if you don't have one. Visit www.myfireplan.com.au

Be ready

Prepare your home and have it ready for a bush fire. Keeping a well-maintained area around your home could save it during a fire. Remove materials that burn, clear debris from gutters, and prepare a hose or hoses long enough to reach around your home. Keep your driveways clear to allow easier access for fire trucks. Have your bag packed and ready in case of evacuation or if you plan to leave early. Don't forget arrangements for your pets or livestock. Keep calm and try to stay up to date with what's happening around you.

Download on your smartphone the 'Fires near Me' app and activate 'My Watch Zone'.

And keep a note of these other sources of information and advice.

Bush Fire Information Line – 1800 679 737 (NSW RFS)

Bush Fire Alert Levels – www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Fire Danger Ratings and Total Fire Bans – www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr

Social Media – facebook.com/nswrfs and twitter.com/nswrfs

Television/ Radio – portable radio with batteries if power goes down (very common). Local radio, local ABC/emergency broadcaster frequency, TV

Gundaroo RFB Captain – Michael Cliff, 0428 494 403

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported our pub raffles on Christmas Eve and to our Brigade Members who helped Santa appear in the fire truck distributing lollies and Christmas cheer to so many children, young and old.

Incidents

Four incidents have been reported since last newsletter by Captain, Michael Cliff:

5 November – MVA on Federal Highway, but units were called off

21 November – MVA on Mulligan's Flat Road

25 December – MVA on Federal Highway

20 December – MVA on Mulligan's Flat Road.

Gundaroo Brigade Annual General Meeting – Wednesday March 7pm at Fire Brigade training room.

Everyone welcome to join us.

Deidre Robinson – Publicity Officer

NSW SES - SUTTON UNIT
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Sutton SES serves Sutton, Gundaroo and parts of Bywong.
HQ is at 19 Victoria St, Sutton.
Training is on Monday nights from 7.00pm.
Volunteers always welcome.

Help your family prepare for floods and storms

Things you can do NOW to prepare your home and family and... **when a storm is coming**

Make a plan for your family that outlines what you would do in an emergency

Prepare an emergency kit in case you lose power or need to leave your home in a hurry

Secure or put away items that could blow around in strong winds

Head inside and bring pets with you

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We're back! On Tuesday 1 February we welcomed our students in years 1 to 6 to begin the 2022 school year, with our 21 new kindergarten students joining us on Thursday for their first day of Big School.

It has been wonderful to see the children again and to hear all about their holiday adventures.

We welcome several new faces to the staff, and have reached a milestone as we become a school of six classes. We are excited to welcome to the staff Ms Jessie Bullions on the 4/5 class, Mr Alec Beckett on the 5/6 class, Miss Rosie Dillion as our librarian, and Ms Rebecca McDermott as Learning Support and RFF teacher.

Our new teachers are thrilled to be a part of the school community, and no doubt you will see them around throughout the year.

Anyone passing the school over the past few weeks will have seen a hive of activity, as our administration building and toilet block were painted and teachers prepared their classrooms. Gardens were weeded, lawns mown and many maintenance jobs undertaken to have our school at its best to welcome our students back.

This time of year is always fun. In each classroom, expectations are being set, relationships are being formed, and learning is occurring. It is a wonderful thing to see and I am thoroughly enjoying spending time in each classroom.

We begin the 2022 school year with great excitement and look forward to sharing our adventures with the Gundaroo community throughout the year.

Rebecca Harris
Principal



Classrooms ready

First activities



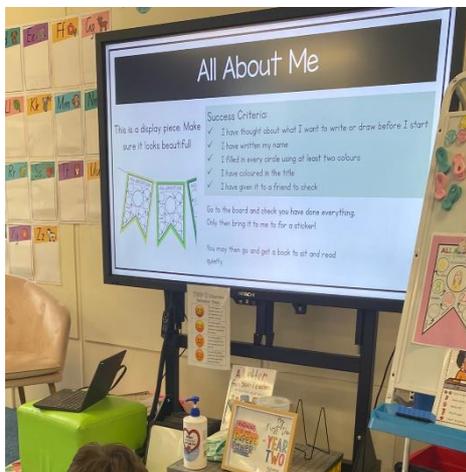
Fresh soft fall for the playgrounds

Freshly painted admin building



Outdoor learning space prepared

School Captain Aureore rings the bell to begin the new school year





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New delicious treats arriving at Gundog!



The beginning of this month has seen Gundog's pantry receive an assortment of amazing product - including **Whisk & Pin Honeycomb Rocks**, **Jollie Gourmet Dog Treats** and, for the brave, new **Brutality Hot Sauce!**

The harvest for this season has started and we are excited to start working on our next vintage of wines.

Remember our special pricing for Gundaroo residents, and don't forget your loyalty card.

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corkstreet@gundogestate.com.au



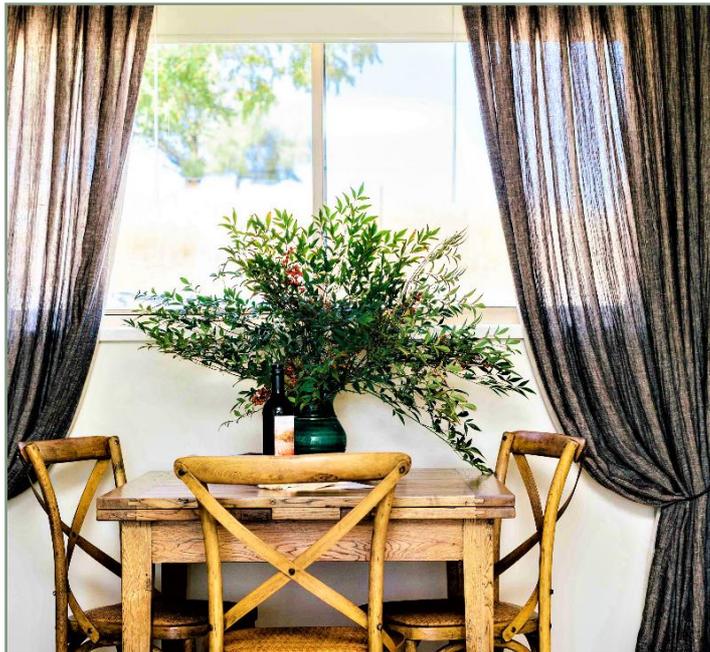
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Doris Ady's Jhal Fry (from p 11) ←

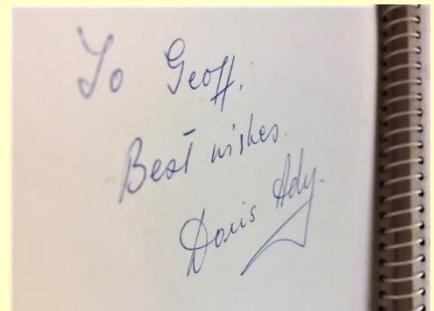
Ingredients

About 500 grams of cooked lamb
 4 to 5 onions 2 tbs ghee
 2 cloves garlic 1 tsp cumin
 1 tsp turmeric 2 fresh red chillies
 1 tbs bottled tamarind sauce 1 tsp salt

Method

Cut the meat into slices, trimming off most of the fat.
 Slice the onions and garlic. Slice the chillies lengthwise, and remove the seeds.
 Heat the ghee and fry the onions till they are nicely brown, then add the garlic slices and fry for another minute.
 Lower the heat and add all the other ingredients. Cover, and simmer for half an hour. Stir now and then to see that nothing is sticking, and add a little water only if necessary. The dish should have practically no liquid.

Serve with mashed potatoes and other vegs. For the Indian experience, serve with rice, dhal and pepper water.



Epicureanista

An occasional column about food and wine

By Geoff Burton

Correspondence and recipe requests welcome to geoff@gundogstate.com.au

Doris Ady's Jahl Fry

The well picked-over Christmas ham bone was retired to the freezer last week to become an important ingredient for a pea and ham soup next winter. It's been a post-Christmas ritual for so long I really can't remember a time when we didn't save the bone – occasionally we would buy a whole prosciutto instead of a ham and that produced a particularly tasty soup.

This got me thinking about leftovers in general and why they don't seem to appear on the dinner table that much these days, which is a bit of a shame as I have a lot of next-day dinners that I am very fond of. My Mum's **Bubble and Squeak** – a fried-up hash of Sunday roast leftover vegetables – was a highly regarded supplement to our following week's dinners. Mum's transformation of stale cake or lamingtons into a well-named **Trifle** with some fruits, custard, jelly and sometimes a dash of Cognac was legendary. Perhaps we are hungrier these days and leave no remains. Or sadly, we may be so pressed for kitchen time that the leftovers just become throwaways.

Early travels in Asia illustrated a different type of domestic science when it came to food recycling. The uses to which an extra bowl of cooked rice can be put seems unlimited. Add a hard-boiled egg, with some bits of smoked salmon or other fish, some pepper, nutmeg, lemon juice, butter and parsley and you have an excellent Kedgeree for instance – happily eaten at any time of the day.

There are taste advantages to some dishes, especially curries, if they are eaten a day or so after cooking. Spice flavours are more enhanced and absorbed, and extra time in the sauce can dramatically improve a scrawny old village chook. I always cook a larger quantity of any curry dish to guarantee leftovers.

The recipe I have chosen to share with you is one I have used regularly since I first fired up a wok. It is a recipe for a leftover typical Western meal but prepared with Asian ingredients. It was given to me by a remarkable South Asian woman, **Doris Ady**, and her story is worth telling.

Around 1965, I was living in a tiny semi-detached cottage in the northern Sydney suburb of Crows Nest. It was a sleepy village that was rapidly being taken over by TV studios, film production companies, ad agencies and so on, and the population was growing and changing. Food outlets and trendy little bistros bred like wild yeast. A French *patisserie* had opened nearby, on the road to Neutral Bay, and their *croissants*, all made *au beurre*, soon became legendary. Early Saturday mornings I would ride my Lambretta determined to buy some still warm *croissants* fresh from the oven.

One memorable day, as I waited to be served, I became aware of the most intriguing smells coming from a nearby small arcade of shops. *Croissants* in hand, I followed my

nose and discovered the most exotic spice shop I had ever seen.

The tiny space was crammed with open hessian bags, rows of boxes, small tasting dishes and glass jars, all filled with overwhelmingly aromatic dried and fresh spices. It was as though a South Indian spice bazaar had been magically relocated to Sydney. I was greeted by a diminutive, smiling, red sari-clad woman who introduced herself as **Doris Ady**. The spell of spices fell upon me that day.

Doris Ady was born in Burma of Dutch Burgher (Ceylon) parents. She was schooled in England and Switzerland, returning to Burma in 1938, and in 1941 contracted poliomyelitis. (She still walked with a limp.) In 1942 she escaped the Japanese invasion with her parents by walking the land track to India.

Two years later she met and married 'Tiger' Ady, one of General Wingate's 'Chindit' officers. The couple, now with a baby daughter, returned to business in Burma in 1946. A chance encounter with an Australian businessman in the 1950s led them to migrate to Australia, and they soon set up a flourishing Oriental spice import business, no doubt having quickly discovered an expanding market demand for these ingredients. **Tiger's Curry Restaurant** in adjoining Mosman was hugely popular until re-development consumed the site some years later.

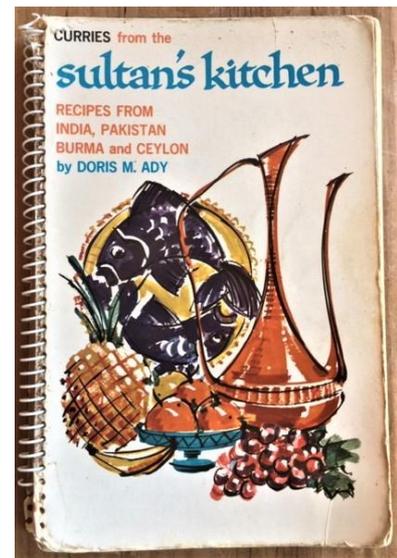
I visited Doris' shop whenever I was in the vicinity. I would save empty vegemite jars and have them filled with bulk spices and labelled with a paper sticker. Doris would always have something new to sample – a garam masala mix, an Indian mustard oil, a shipment of Jaggery sugar.

In 1968, Doris wrote and published a small recipe book entitled **Curries from the Sultan's Kitchen**. She signed one of the first copies for me and I still use it regularly.

Career demands and a growing family kept me in different parts of the planet for the next decade or so. By the end of the seventies Doris and her shop had disappeared. I cherish her recipe book and the spice knowledge and confidence she inspired.

Doris Ady's Jhal Fry is a perfect way of dealing with any leftover roast meat, although roast lamb leg is the best choice. This recipe (see **page 10, left**) was so popular with my family that I was urged to buy a larger leg than needed so there would be leftover meat for a Jhal Fry – domestic budget permitting.

Bon appetit!



OUT AND ABOUT IN GUNDAROO

Random matters of local interest

How many ‘organisations’ in Gundaroo?

You may be surprised to learn how many organisations exist in and around Gundaroo. 10? 20? 30? More?

The truth is that the group that set up the all-encompassing Gundaroo community website www.gundaroo.org as a sub-committee of the Gundaroo Community Association (GCA) at the start of the pandemic in 2020 was also very surprised. Designed to help local businesses and support local community groups, the website has an Organisation Directory, a Business Directory, and is also now the home of the online version of *The Gundaroo Gazette*.

There are the obvious ones: organisations such as the Gundaroo Public School (GPS), the Rural Fire Brigade, the Soldiers’ Memorial Hall, and GCA itself; and businesses such as Gundaroo Inn (formerly Matt Crowe’s Wine Bar), Cork St Café, Grazing, Gundaroo Grocer, The Nest.

But then there’s the Gundaroo Park Land Manager, the Gundaroo Common Trust, Gundaroo & District Historical Society, Gundaroo Out of School Care (GOSH), a choir (Gundaroo Community Singers), a cricket club (Gundaroo Goats), a soccer club (Gundaroo Bullocks), 1st Gundaroo Scouts, a Book Club, the Men’s Shed and three Christian churches. All community organisations.

At first the numbers were in the twenties and that was a surprise – more than 20 organisations? Really?

The real number of community organisations is [here in the Community Directory](#). Wow.

And businesses? Ok, that’s needed some rules to set the boundaries. Community Website Subcommittee (CWSC) decided you can be in the Gundaroo Business Directory if you are a commercial business and are within 15 km radius or have a strong association with Gundaroo and are given a tick by the CWSC. Think of how many businesses advertise in the Gazette. Is it 30? No. More. In 2020 the Business Directory listed more than 30 commercial businesses. It’s more than 40. [Have a look in the Business Directory](#).

Why use a directory and a website anyway? Well because not everyone is on social media. In fact, groups in Facebook are treated just like a group or member organisation inside www.gundaroo.org.

Next time someone asks: “Do you know a local electrician?” or “What’s the address or contact for the <such and such>?”, send them to www.gundaroo.org. If it’s not in these online directories, please write to cwsc@gundaroo.org and tell the website sub-committee you’ve found another one!

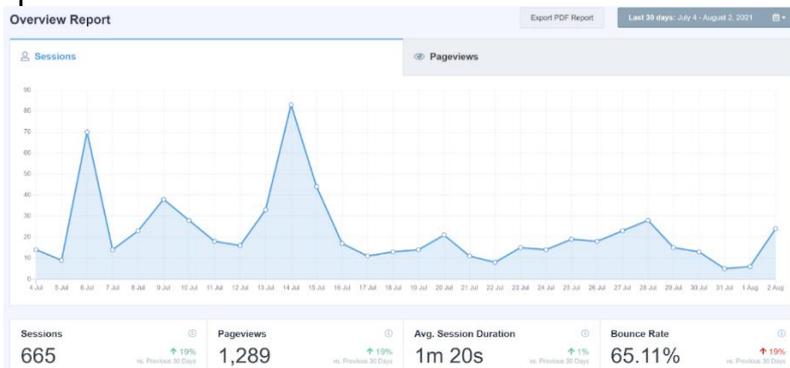
And is the website being used? You bet it is. The website gets over 1,000 hits per month, and topped over 1,500 before Christmas. And more people now read *The Gundaroo Gazette* online via www.gundaroo.org than read the paper version. Are you doing that now?

We haven’t listed farm businesses or landholding partnerships in the area but rather those businesses that have direct dealings with the public. If we added all farm enterprises, the real number would likely treble.

In fact, the total number of businesses in the directory is about to grow substantially from next month, as *The Gundaroo Gazette* and www.gundaroo.org intend to combine their business and advertising lists into one master list. The intention is that if you advertise in the Gazette, your business will automatically be included in the gundaroo.org Business Directory. That should help clear the fog and take the total closer to ... Guess what? 70?

Will the total Organisations and Businesses top 100? Wait and see next month.

Until then, happy searching. We’re here to help. We’re also looking for one or two people to join us. No technical



knowhow required. We need people to help talk to local businesses and organisations on how to use the site to get the best value from using the website. Write to us cwsc@gundaroo.org

*Submitted by the Community Website Sub-committee (CWSC) of Gundaroo Community Association (GCA):
Ron Miller, Kevin Curtis, Jed Johnson, Allan Gibson.*

A local Gundaroo power initiative?

As mentioned in *The Gundaroo Gazette* December, a small group of Gundaroo locals have recently met to discuss issues regarding the future of a power supply to their homes and the village and surrounds.

The ‘power grid’ is changing and, in Gundaroo particularly, the instability of supply is very apparent.

The questions and options are vast and somewhat evolving, as is the power industry.

Could a local renewable power solution help reduce most residents’ power bills? Could Gundaroo set up a local power system, a micro-grid, such as a new solar array and maybe a big battery installed locally, perhaps on The Common? Is it feasible that locally owned energy could be fed and shared by many households, whether they had renewables or not, or some systems already installed?

There are already some different examples of such a model in Australia’s towns and cities, such as:

- SHASA (South Coast Health and Sustainability Alliance), www.shasa.com.au. They recently won an \$8million grant to work with ANU to install community energy projects in three coastal communities.
- The northern Victorian town of Yackandandah has the “lofty goal of powering this small Victorian town with 100% renewable energy, giving resilience, savings, lower emissions, and showing that it can be done”. (<https://totallyrenewableyack.org.au/>)

We’re seeking other interested locals with experience, skills, knowledge, or ‘just keen to be involved’ in this area. We would like to hear from as many locals as we can to help navigate a path to a worthwhile community project.

At present, the group is gathering data of power usage in and around Gundaroo. An electrical audit would give us some vital information to base decisions on.

In the next few months, we intend to hold meetings to engage the community with questions and answers with specialists.

If you are interested, please contact:
Grahame – leggebrown@inet.com.au
David – ephemeralcountr@gmail.com

Yass Valley's new Mayor

At its January meeting, Council elected Allan McGrath as Mayor of Yass Valley and Jasmin Jones as Deputy Mayor (pictured here with new Councillor Kristin Butler).

Allan has lived in Yass Valley since 1998 and has been actively involved in the community through a variety of local organisations. His past association with local government includes as a



councillor and Deputy Mayor of Queanbeyan City Council, and two terms with Yass Valley Council. For 11 years, Allan was the public face behind 'the green door' at the popular Kidz Blitz Toy and gift shop in Comur Street Yass.

Allan told *The Gundaroo Gazette* he wants to see a cleaner, greener and more prosperous Yass Valley with better services, well-maintained roads, more job opportunities, and a greater variety of dwelling types and sizes to meet the growing needs of this diverse LGA, which includes Yass, Murrumbateman, Gundaroo, Sutton, Bowning, Binalong, Bookham and Wee Jasper.

He said that he knows Gundaroo as a tight-knit, self-sustaining village and surrounds, with a strong community focus, and always a delight to visit – something he is hoping to do more of in the future.

Allan said: "I am a strong believer in equity and in council/community partnerships, and that is something I will be keen to promote during my term as Mayor.

"I have had a long working relationship with Councillor Cecil Burgess, and will continue to work with Cecil to ensure a suitable response to the needs of residents in Gundaroo and surrounds that are possible within the capacity of Council."

Allan named road maintenance and repair as the highest current priority for Council, and was pleased the break in the weather is at last allowing some progress in this area.

He said: "I was very pleased to learn of the re-opening of the pub in Gundaroo, a community focal point much missed by local residents, especially in the lead up to Christmas."

Allan appreciated the opportunity to introduce himself as the new Yass Valley Mayor, and complimented *The Gundaroo Gazette* "for the wonderful service you provide". He added: "I wish you and your readers all the very best for 2022, which we all hope is better than 2021".

Allan can be contacted at AMcGrath@yass.nsw.gov.au and Mob. 0427 830 910.

Kristy McBain talks with Gundaroo



Standing in the sun for an hour and a half (her choice), federal MP for Eden-Monaro Kristy McBain spoke, listened and answered questions from engaged Gundaroo participants.

Ms McBain described the vast and awkward electorate – 15th largest federal electorate

(more than 41,000 sq kms), surrounding the ACT and bordering Victoria, very diverse (coast to alps, forests to open plains, rural to 'metro', with more than 360 towns and villages) – and noted having clocked up more than 80,000kms around the electorate since being elected in the July 2020 by-election.

She reminded us that, where our matters of concern are not federal responsibilities, she sees her role to be an advocate not an expert, and to listen and make representations for her constituents to whatever level of government is needed.

Residents' questions covered a fair bit of territory. Ms McBain's answers and explanations were thorough, considered, and for the most part quite unlike what *The Gundaroo Gazette* has become used to in our current crop of politicians. What follows provides some flavour of the discussion. She gave no glib 'non-answers'.

- Bungendore High School is not in doubt, but the disputed site makes a 2023 opening unlikely. She will get more information and respond to GCA to pass on to parents.
- There will be no more hotel detention for asylum seekers. The Sri Lankan family will return to Biloela.
- Four year fixed terms are desirable to remove the constant 'election-mode' behaviour.
- A proper Integrity Commission will come in first term.
- ALP favours real-time disclosure of political donations. Publishing Minister's diaries needs more discussion.
- ABC funding will be restored, and revival of Australian content on TV will be pursued – but not just with inexpensive reality TV.
- Support will be restored for R&D, and CSIRO, all of which have, like universities, been decimated and interfered with. Biodiversity, climate change and rewarding farmers' efforts should be priorities.
- Fast train investment will start with Sydney-to-Newcastle. There's been no talk of an effective but easier 'tilt train'.
- Affordable housing will be a priority.
- Fair sharing of tax will be pursued, especially from multinational corporations that 'repatriate' their profits.
- Ms McBain's Parliamentary committee work is focused on regional development. Government has no regional development plan.
- Local government should be returned to a Council of Australian Governments (COAG), as it used to be.
- Anthony Albanese's character and PM qualities? He's sincere, keep his word, listens, consults, nurtures, has a lot of parliamentary and ministerial experience, and leads a high quality and experienced team.
- ALP has published many policies, but both 'Albo' and the policies get very little media 'air time'. We should use the ALP website, read and assess their policies, 'think of the big picture', and take politics seriously, since so many decisions affect so much of our lives.
- This is especially true for teenagers who can feel disengaged. It is important we help them feel they have a future and that the Government and the system 'cares'.
- Ms McBain offered to run Zoom meetings in the electorate with young people if there is a demand.

It was a worthwhile meeting, and the more welcome in light of the number of small communities demanding her attention.

Before leaving, Ms McBain also inspected the new bike track and made a presentation to 1st Gundaroo Scouts.

HG gives the Gazette a plug

At his always funny show at Tallagandra Hill in December, HG Nelson read a passage from *The Gundaroo Gazette* Sports column – having been alerted to our presence in the audience.

HG complimented both the Gazette and the quality of the sports writing. With consummate ease, he turned the passage "*The ladder has the Goats on top. But with most teams having played only one game, this doesn't mean much*" [emphasis added] into a source of great hilarity. What a champion! Your editor now has an autographed copy of that edition!



This page by a Staff Reporter

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Marion Langworthy – Physiotherapist

B.App.Sc (Phys), M.PT



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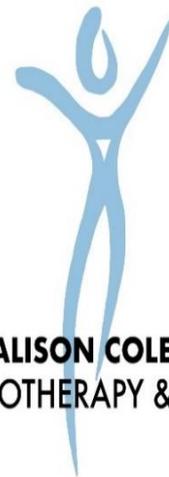
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Top-level breeding opportunities

Australian birds have been exposed to our continent's climate for tens of millions of years, so they know a thing or two about weather conditions. One lesson birds seem to have learned thoroughly, is that if conditions are good, breed ... and breed again, and sometimes even a third time in the same season if the food and conditions hold out. Our spring–summer of 2021–22 is demonstrating this amply.

I've never been a particularly good spotter of nests, and tend to try not to disturb birds when I do see signs of breeding in any case. But this year their flamboyant behaviour is hard to miss. Within a stone's throw of the house we've had nesting of Buff-rumped and Yellow-rumped Thornbills, as well as Cuckoo-shrikes, Bronzewing Pigeons and even White-faced Herons. The birds try to be as discreet as possible, but when you see repeated visits to one spot with nesting material trailing from a bird's beak, it is hard not to draw conclusions. Certainly, the harsh 'kronking' of White-faced Herons drew our attention to their nesting intentions high in a nearby tree, to be confirmed by their climbing around eucalypt crowns plucking dead twigs for the nest.

Sometimes nests are supremely well hidden, such as the dome nest the Yellow-rumped Thornbills built in a dense mass of native *Clematis* on our carport. It was very hard to see, even when you knew it was there and peered closely into the tangle of creeper. Similarly, the large herons' nest, sited ten metres high in a dense Red Box behind a large mistletoe, was frustratingly hard to pick out when I tried to show visitors this unusual sight.

Some bird species choose to invest lightly in the nest building process. This was demonstrated by the Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes' shallow cobweb-bound platform that appeared as little more than a bump on a dead limb. Exposed in the open crown of a large eucalypt, the nest was not visible when the bird was sitting. It was a busy location, with a flock of adult and recently fledged cuckoo-shrikes in general attendance, together with an array of other birds, either foraging or feeding whinging juveniles. It was quite a sight, reminiscent of the chattering tree full of birds that I described last summer, whose morning was shattered by a dive-bombing goshawk.

All was going along nicely with the cuckoo-shrikes until we witnessed a different kind of explosion. A Pied Currawong burst onto the scene, harassing and unsettling the nest-sitter sufficiently to be able to grab a nestling, presumably to feed its own young. That was the end of that nesting attempt.

A pair of Common Bronzewing Pigeons attempted a similar low-investment approach to breeding, in the same tree, around the same time. Usually this placid plump (lazy?) bird builds a flimsy platform of twigs from which the eggs are liable to fall out. On this occasion they used a pre-loved magpie nest. Although high up, we could see the profile of a sitting bird from the house. We also saw one being attacked by a magpie while it was sitting, even though the nest had not been used for years. They too eventually deserted the nest.

All this was just a taste of the hazards facing breeding birds. Bad weather, food shortages and cuckoos account for some of the disasters, although predation accounts for most.

Barely 20 per cent of thornbill nests produce any young, while two-thirds of the plucky Willie-Wagtails' nests have some success. While various reptiles and mammals consume eggs and nestlings, it is probably more often a case of bird-eat-bird.

Currawongs are well-recognised nest predators, as are ravens and butcherbirds. But even a brief glance of the literature shows researchers fingering a large range of the more innocent-looking characters in the predation business, including Grey Shrike-thrushes and Eastern Spinebills, as well as cuckoo-shrikes themselves. Large birds are also vulnerable – on hearing one of our sitting Kronks yelling loudly and persistently one day, we looked up and saw a Brown Goshawk fly out of the nest tree – no luck this time, but perhaps the next.



White-faced Herons, or 'The Kronks' as we came to know them, hatched three chicks, which grew to chicken-size in three weeks. Although rather noisy when begging for food, most of the time they wait patiently for the next meal. This one is still, quiet and hard to spot, even when one knows where to look.

In reality, to sustain their population, a pair of birds only has to raise two offspring to reproductive age. From this perspective, it is unsurprising that there should be such carnage in that most vulnerable stage of their life-cycle – that of laying (nutritious) eggs and raising (juicy) nestlings. But personally I cannot help wishing the best of luck to any small (or large) bird that embarks on the difficult journey that is building a nest, laying eggs and raising young. All that work that can be lost in seconds. My fingers are crossed for the three little Kronks.

February 2022

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Fungal infections in your plants

Yep, it's that year – higher than normal rainfall, higher than normal humidity, warm steamy days and not much wind (except when an extreme storm wanders by, taking everything in its path).

Fungi are the largest number of plant problems, and are responsible for a wide range of plant ill health and disease. They damage plants by killing cells or by shrinking them thereby causing stress. Most of the diseases that impact our vegetables are caused by fungi.

They can live in the soil, on seeds, leaves, nearby plants and weeds. They are very easily spread by water and wind, by moving contaminated soil, on animals and insects, on humans, machinery, tools and new seedlings.

Fungi enter plants via openings (stomata) and wounds (pruning), and via insects and other diseases.

Fungi just love this weather. Your roses could be showing their spots – black spots that is. Your zucchini leaves may have a grey furry appearance – powdery mildew. And some of your fruit tree leaves would have already experienced leaf curl and are hopefully starting to repair.



Many fungus infections can render the plant deceased, or at least very unwell – such as this young Crepe Myrtle infected by powdery mildew (left).

Managing these fungi can be tricky. But viewing the production system as a whole, through Integrated Crop Protection (ICP) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), is a good start. It's worth looking at all

the conditions surrounding the plant, including all pests and the soil health. Also attempting to understand the fungi, including when the plants are susceptible and how you can alter and influence the environment around them.

Managing fungal diseases

Here are some useful to help manage fungal diseases:

- Find out the lifecycle, survival conditions and perfect environmental conditions of the fungi.
- Commit to good hygiene, keep your garden clean, remove weeds and potential fungi hosts.
- Grow fungi-resistant and tolerant plant varieties.
- Make sure transplants and seeds are clean.

- Carefully watch weather conditions, particularly temperature, humidity, and sustained leaf wetness.
- Become familiar with potential fungal problems.
- Be aware of irrigation implications – overhead watering can compound fungi, so consider under-watering and timing to minimise peak periods of spore release.
- Think about crop rotation – using crops with no susceptibility to fungus on rotation.
- Soil testing may be beneficial
- Watch your veg crops and fruit trees to be able to detect and treat fungi early before they get out of control.
- Remove and destroy sick plants upon first detection of fungi.
- Understand and take advantage of planting time, spacing and complimentary planting.
- Apply preventative fungicides when it is deemed appropriate and based on weather conditions.
- Thoroughly understand fungicide resistance and rotation of chemical groups.

Even with the best intentions and lots of knowledge, you can still end up with fungal problems in a year like this. If a plant does die from a fungus-related condition, make sure you dispose of the whole plant to reduce further and future fungus spore contamination.

February 2022

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Tanja Mitton – Coaches workshop
25 February 2022

Bookings: office@sheronypark.com.au

Tanja Mitton – Mind & Matter

26-27 February 2022
Bookings: office@sheronypark.com.au

Belinda Bosenbroek

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HE'S OUT, HE COMES IN AND THE NEXT MAN
GOES IN UNTIL HE'S OUT. THEN, WHEN THEY
HAVE ALL BEEN IN AND ARE ALL OUT, THE
SIDE THAT'S BEEN IN THE FIELD GOES IN AND
THE SIDE THAT'S IN GOES OUT AND TRIES TO
GET OUT THOSE COMING IN. SOMETIMES YOU
GET MEN STILL IN AND NOT OUT. THEN WHEN
BOTH SIDES HAVE BEEN IN AND OUT, INCLUDING
NOT-OUTS, THAT'S THE END OF THE GAME.
.....IT'S REALLY VERY SIMPLE!



Resolutions

A new year starts, and brings with it your hopes, expectations and desires for the future. Many people also make New Year's resolutions in anticipation of what is yet to come.

Perhaps you have made a resolution to become more involved with your local community by volunteering with a not-for-profit group or charity? Wildcare Queanbeyan is always looking for new members who are passionate about our local wildlife.

Don't be misled by the name. Our area of operation covers 22,000 square kilometres – from Bredbo in the south to Collector in the north, from Warri in the east to Young in the west. This is not only a huge area for our dedicated volunteers to cover, but it also showcases a wide variety of wildlife.

Wildcare Queanbeyan is an entirely volunteer-run organisation, with approximately 300 members. It operates 365 days a year – 24/7, as they say.



It is a common misconception that when you join a wildlife rehabilitation group, you must care for sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife. Whilst many of our volunteers get immense satisfaction from doing just that, there is a wide variety of ways you can become involved.

This rakali, or native water rat, was rehabilitated and successfully released by Wildcare Queanbeyan

If you are creative, you might like to sew, knit, paint, or create artisan products for sale at our fundraising stalls. If you're great with technology, being involved with our social media or website might be of interest to you. If you have a way with words, you may enjoy writing media releases and articles. If you love driving, you may want to help with transferring animals from rescuers to carers.

You may also contribute by volunteering on our telephone Helpline, which operates 24/7, and is the first step in aiding an animal in distress. There are also opportunities to become involved with our management committee, which is elected from member nominations at our Annual General Meeting.

Sadly, part of our role is the humane euthanasying of animals that have suffered irreparable trauma or illness, and we gladly accept members who can meet the requirements necessary to undertake this role.

If you do want to rescue or care for animals, Wildcare Queanbeyan runs training courses throughout the year to assist members gain competency in the care and husbandry of native wildlife across a range of species. These include birds, bats, macropods (kangaroos and wallabies), snakes and other reptiles, wombats, small mammals (possums, echidnas, rakali, native rodents, quolls etc).

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer with Wildcare Queanbeyan, go to www.wildcare.com.au, or phone 6299 1966 and help us make a difference in the lives of our precious native fauna.

February 2022

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A Big Day Out for the Junior Goats

Whilst January is normally a quiet month for the Junior Goats, this year our Junior Blasters got the opportunity to take part in the lunchtime activities of the Women's Ashes on Manuka Oval in front of more than 5,000 cheering fans.



The Junior Goats were able to show off their skills in catching and bowling, and



especially in their batting, with all the kids launching into some big shots, many of which cleared the fence and drew some big cheers from the excited Canberra crowd.

Kids and parents alike were also treated to some great cricket from Australia's women's test side as they took on the English women. There were even some encouraging waves from their cricketing heroes such as Ellyse Perry, Alyssa Healy and Aussie captain Meg Lanning.

It was a great day out, as all the kids did Gundaroo proud with their cricket skills and great attitudes. The invite to take part was an acknowledgement from Cricket Australia of the growth of cricket in our little village. Who knows, maybe one day we might be cheering on a Gundaroo Jr Goat as they take on the Poms as part of our Aussie cricket team.

Finally, a reminder that the Jr Goats are back on the Gundaroo Oval at 5:30pm each Friday, and newcomers are always welcome to come and give it a try. Any questions please contact us at gundaroo.junior.cricket@gmail.com

Chris Gaggin

Senior Goats have work to do

The 2022 season started as 2021 ended for the Goats, the month of January seeing two losses, two byes and a washout; i.e. 'standard'.

The Goats opened the calendar year with a close loss to Dalton. On a really heavy ground, Dalton batted first and with the Goats getting rid of the two danger men early, things were looking good for a maiden victory. However, some middle order resistance saw Dalton put up a respectable score of 160. The Goats chased hard and were always in it, but fell just short by about 20 runs. A pleasing day with the fielding and bowling in particular being really strong, Hicksy turning back the clock with a '4-fer'

Second week saw the Goats take on the Yass Cobras in Yass. The match was to be played on turf, but heavy overnight rain saw that dream disappear. Moving down to the synthetic pitch wasn't much better, with the grass long and damp and the pitch still really wet.

Yass batted first and, without dominating at any time, put up a respectable score of 166. The Goats were never really in the hunt, falling pretty early behind the necessary 4-per-over run rate and not recovering.

The length of the grass was a real issue for our side, which likes to score predominantly in boundaries. The contrast in the two sides running between wickets was stark. In the end, Gundaroo managed to bat out the overs, but missed out by about 40 runs.

There are three more games in February (two in Gundaroo) before finals. Although currently last on the ladder, the Goats are still within one game of 4th spot and still with a realistic chance to cause some damage if we can snare a seat at the table. Our team numbers are looking good, and with a recent injection of local youth into the squad, who knows how the story of 21/22 will play out.

Sean Egan

Have Pub – Can Run.

After interruptions by Covid, and the temporary lack of a pub, the **Sunday Handicap** is back.

Every Sunday at 5 o'clock during summer and at 4 o'clock in winter the timer starts. Runners leave from a handicap time, slowest first, fastest last, and all arrive back at the pub fairly close together.

Warm applause and cold drinks follow (*see below*).

Everyone is welcome. It is an easy 5km course, with a shorter course for walkers.

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Nick Drew



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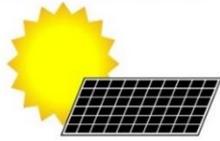
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IMPORTANT NOTE — The information on this page has been temporarily amended to reflect changes in government decrees about COVID-19, in place at the start of February. This is projected to change again by the end of February. Guests should contact each venue for further updates in coming weeks. Contact details remain as listed.

Eateries in Gundaroo

Grazing (The Royal Hotel)

Cnr Cork and Harp Streets

6236 8777 www.grazing.com.au
info@grazing.com.au

Award-winning restaurant in a 19th-century pub

Seating limits apply.

Phone and email bookings.

Lunch: Thursday to Sunday

Dinner: Thursday to Saturday

'Grazeaway' – dinner only, Thursday to Saturday
5.30 to 8.30pm. Phone orders only.

Cork Street Gallery Café

24 Cork Street (down driveway to the old police stables)

6236 8217

Innovative gourmet pizzas, with salads and home-made cakes, served in the stables or the paved garden. BYO.

Casual and popular. Phone orders welcome.

Takeaway available.

Thursday & Friday: From 5pm dine-in and takeaway

Saturday & Sunday: From 11am dine-in and takeaway

Face masks remain mandatory indoors, and seating limits apply. Bookings are highly recommended.

Gundaroo Inn

23 Cork Street

6236 8155

www.gundaroocolonialinn.com.au

The 'village pub' and family restaurant. Family-friendly atmosphere. When fully re-opened (March), there will once again be live music often, and takeaway food.

Trading hours are still changing as the new management settles on a workable routine.

Keep checking Instagram and the community FB page.

February

Bar: Wednesday to Sunday from 12pm

Restaurant: Wednesday to Sunday
12pm–3pm and 5pm–8pm
Seating limited inside. Booking advisable.
Dine-in and takeaway

March

Coffee: Every day

Bar: Tuesday to Sunday

Restaurant: Tuesday to Sunday

Gundaroo Grocer, Cork St Cellars & Takeaway

54 Cork Street

6236 8141 gundarogrocer@bigpond.com

Quality meals. Wide menu. Eat-in or takeaway.

Spaced seating limits numbers. (See ad on page 14.)

Gundog Estate Cork Street Cellar Door

Cnr Cork and Harp Streets (enter from Harp Street)

6236 8276 www.gundogestate.com.au
corkstreet@gundogestate.com.au

Thursday to Monday 10am to 5pm

For seated wine tastings and sales. Spaced seating limits numbers. Booking advisable, via phone or email.

(See ad on page 10.)

Tallagandra Hill Winery — Wine Bar

1692 Murrumbateman Road

Booking: 0434 041 915, wine@tallagandrahill.com.au

Open **Saturday and Sunday** for tastings, and our special wine and cheese lunch package.

Lunch/Tasting Package:

11.45am onwards (kitchen closes at 3pm)

Wine Tastings:

11.45am onwards (cellar door closes at 4pm)

For more info on our food offerings and latest live music events, visit www.tallagandrahill.com.au.

Church worship in Gundaroo

In-person services and activities are recommencing in accordance with official COVID-safe conditions.

Catholic

St Joseph's Church

(Cnr Harp and Morning Streets)

Recommended with conditions and limits.

Mass: 10.30am on the second and fourth Sundays

Communion Services: 9.00am every other Sunday

Contact: Narelle Buckley — 0422 808 964

Anglican

St Marks Church

(Cork Street)

Recommended with conditions and limits

All services start at 4.00pm

Communion Service (first Sunday)

Family Service (third Sunday)

Contact: The Ven R Royce Thompson — 0416 265 600

Uniting

Gundaroo Community Church

(Cnr Lot and Cork Streets)

Services on the first three Sundays of the month, starting at 9.00am and finishing with morning tea.

Gundaroo Community Church (first Sunday)

Family service, led by local families.

All ages worship, with activities for kids.

Recommended with conditions and limits

Open Service (second Sunday)

Shared worship with Canberra district home churches, with activities for kids and youth.

Currently remains suspended

Uniting Church Service (third Sunday)

Gunning Uniting Church worship team, with kids' activities.

Contact: Marion Meischke — 6236 8192

Ecumenical Services (Currently suspended)

The three churches arrange an ecumenical service in each month with a fifth Sunday, rotating the venue.

Facebook pages (Local groups)

Gundaroo Community Connect

Gundaroo Community Noticeboard

Gundaroo Buy, Swap and Sell

Gundaroo & District Historical Society

Website www.gundaroo.org

The Gundaroo Gazette

Editor/Custodian: Alan Cummine

Team: Elona Hanner. Mick Joyce. Anthony Fitzgerald.
Extra help welcome.

e/m: gundaroo.gazette@gmail.com

mob: 0407 488 927

Contact the Editor with enquiries and to contribute a notice or an article, or to place an advertisement.

Publication: Every month except January. Deadline for content is 25th of the preceding month.

Text/photos: Please supply text in an MS Word document **attached** to an email. Preferably send photos in separate files, rather than embedded in the document.

Advertising rates and approximate dimensions. (Ads are often 'tweaked' to fit the available spaces.)

Small — \$20 55mm wide x 85mm tall

Medium — \$30 120mm x 85mm

and 55mm wide x 175mm tall

Large — \$40 185mm x 85mm

Advertisements: Artwork may be sent in Word, pdf, jpeg or png, approximately matching the dimensions above and saved in high resolution. Please specify the time period for the advertisement to be run.

Gundaroo Community Association Defibrillator

Gundaroo is fortunate to have a portable automated external defibrillator (AED), centrally located and ready for use in a cardiac emergency around the village.

It is kept in a **locked cabinet fixed to the outside front wall of the Gundaroo PO and shop**, together with a list of 'core responders' (shown below).

Interested in being a responder? Contact Gina Collins on 6236 8435 or ginacollins56@bigpond.com.

Name	Address	Telephone/s
Cathy Stephenson	Morning Street	6236 8377 (h) 0414 648 763
Lisa Bell	Lot Street	6236 8950 (h) 0412 102 714
Joselyn Udy	Rosamel Street	0488 089 067
Anthony Fitzgerald	Morning Street	0459 555 181
Emily Wallis	Morning Street	6236 8948 (h) 0404 215 531
Julie Jefferson	Lute Street	0412 627 788
Darren Schoevers	Cork Street	6236 8481 (h) 0402 494 604
Stephanie McCaffery	Buranda Lane	0427 300 393
Gina Collins (Admin matters)	Cork Street	6236 8435 (h) 0412 256 490

Gundaroo Services and Contacts

LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCIES

Fire/Police/Ambulance: Dial 000

Service	Contact
Defibrillator (AED)	See this page for the list of core responders.
Police Queanbeyan Yass Gunning (stops at Bellmount Forest) Collector (includes Gundaroo)	6298 0599 6226 9399 4845 1244; wise1dan@police.nsw.gov.au Snr Constable Daniel Wise 4848 0271; fitz1jos@police.nsw.gov.au Snr Constable Joe Fitzgerald
NSW Ambulance (non-urgent)	131 233
Fire Brigades: Gundaroo Back Creek Sutton Yass River–Nanima Fire Control (Yass)	0428 494 403 (Mike Cliff) 0429 443 260 (Ben Haseler) 0418 303 232 (John Cooper) 6100 6252 (Duty Officer) 6226 3100
State Emergency Service (SES) (Sutton)	132 500 0417 502 396 (Duty phone)
Other emergency services: Gunning District Nurse Veterinary Surgeon Injured wildlife	4845 1166 6236 8222 (Eamon Ryan, Bill Ryan) 6299 1966 (Wildcare, 24 hours)
Justice of the Peace	0418 449 984 (Mick Nicholls) 0425 650 283 (Rachel McBeath)
Yass Valley Council Council Office Gundaroo Councillor	6226 1477 0429 930 628 (Cecil Burgess)
Gundaroo Community Association	0421 520 278 (Moraig McKenna)
Soldiers Memorial Hall	info@gundarooahall.org.au
Gundaroo Park Trust	0411 400 897 (Ron Miller)
Gundaroo Common Trust	6236 8129 (Helen Willett)
Police Paddock	0418 496 908 (Sue Burns)
Village Monuments	0413 137 761 (Phil Gaden)
Gundaroo Public School	6236 8115 (Liz Nicholls)
Gundaroo Outside School Hours (GOSH)	6236 8105
1st Gundaroo Scout Group (Joeys to Rovers)	0413 137 761 (Phil Gaden)
Gundaroo Playgroup (Little Explorers)	0425 275 767 (Storm Watson)
Gundaroo & District Historical Society	0418 496 908 (Sue Burns)
Gundaroo Arts and Culture	gundarooartsculture@gmail.com
Gundaroo Community Singers	6236 8104 (Maartje Sevenster)
'Gundaroo Loves Books' Book Club	0406 377 025 (Kylie Bourne)
Gundaroo Men's Shed	richarda@fastmail.com.au (Ric Andrews)
Gundaroo churches	See p 23 for services & contacts.
Civil Marriage Celebrant	0401 267 851 (Lorraine Bird) enquiries@lorrainebird.com.au