

The Gundaroo Gazette

Community | Cohesion | Harmony

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www.gundaroo.org

August 2026

Local Business Changes

Gundaroo Grocer and Takeaway for sale

Most Gazette readers will be aware that due to a number of issues, owners Jess, Conny and Darren have decided to put the [Gundaroo Grocer and Takeaway](#) on the market. This business hosts the Gundaroo Post Office - an essential service to our village that continues to grow with an increasing number of packages passing through their doors each year. After 14 years, Jess is one of the longest serving posties in our post office.



Running a small grocery business relatively close to Canberra can be a challenge and it is commendable that a wide variety of products, including from local suppliers, have been made available through the store. The takeaway food business has also filled a place in the market supporting locals, workers and visitors to the village. And of course, the shop is one of our community's social hubs where you can catch up with locals.

Jess and Conny have employed many Gundaroovians over the last 14 years. They have generously supported the community through

sales of community-made products and making donations to support the many different organisations in Gundaroo from the school to the Hall, all of which aim to raise funds to support their activities. These contributions are greatly valued by the community and it is hoped that future owners of the business will provide similar support.

New manager at The Nest

The Gundaroo Gazette has also been advised that Lana Howarth has handed over the management of The Nest to their housekeeper, Narelle Jensz. "I couldn't be happier as she is passionate and dedicated to building the business further and she has the time and energy to invest and see to the continued success of the business," Lana told us.

[The Nest](#) opened in December 2014 and has hosted over 10,000 guests since then, all of whom will have supported other businesses in Gundaroo.



Lana advised that if interested you should keep an eye out for regular Open Days that Narelle will be holding. "If you plan to have family

stay local at some point in 2026, get your advanced reservation in now (no payment required at time of booking) and always go direct through www.thenestgundaroo.com.au to get the best deal," she said.

Winter Local Business Connections Gathering

The first Gundaroo Local Business Connections Gathering was held at [Daphne & May](#) in July with a diverse range of local business owners coming together to connect with other local businesses in person and to discuss both local business and life in general.

(Cont pg. 2)

In this issue...

Local News	p 1-3
Noticeboard	p 4-5
Gundaroo Film Society	p 6
Gundaroo Community Festival	p 7
Fire Brigade Bulletin	p 9
Bungendore Buzz	p 11
In Your Garden	p 13
Pharmacy News	p 15
Arts & Culture	p 16-17
Gundaroo Hall	p 18-19
Wildcare	p 21
Scouts	p 23
Gundaroo Growers	p 25
Eateries & Directory Contacts	p 27-28

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(From pg. 1) Instigated and hosted by Rachael Hogan of Daphne & May and Liz Landford of EL Voice and Audio, the gathering brought together attendees from the local hospitality industry, finance business owners, artists, a tennis coach, a dietician, a yoga instructor, a florist, a store and events space owner, a facilitator/MC/voice actor and more. Many people left with exciting plans to collaborate with other local businesses after chatting about potential ideas, projects, charity and community support opportunities, and other upcoming events.

Based on popular demand by attendees and others who are eager to come along in future, Rachael and Liz intend to host another free Local Business Connections Gathering in spring, potentially during mid-afternoon one Sunday in October 2026.

If you are interested in coming, contact Rachael at rachael@daphneandmay.au and Liz at elvoiceandaudio@gmail.com with any preferences for the time and date so they can plan the next event.

Gundaroo Common

The Gundaroo Common was gazetted in 1870. It is a 60ha parcel of NSW Crown land on the eastern edge of the village, managed by the community, for the community. You can access the Common from gates at the eastern ends of David Street, Harp Street and Lot Street, and northern boundary with Rosamel Street.

What's happening at the Gundaroo Waste Transfer Station?

The [Gundaroo Common Trust](#) met recently with Yass Valley Council waste management officers. At long last, the Council is going to return to the Common the part of the tip they "borrowed" 30-odd years ago. As part of reducing the footprint of the waste transfer station, the Council is cleaning up the site and removing the waste piles including green waste and aggregate stockpiles on Common land. They are going to survey and fence the boundary with the Common, and assist the Trust to rehabilitate the degraded site. This will be a big job and we are going to need the help of the community for planting and weeding. This is a long-term project with great potential for collaboration between the Council, Trust and Gundaroo community.

Cattle report – Houdini on the loose

Recently, the cattle were moved into the Rosamel Street paddock. One calf has been determined to break free and residents have spotted it at the top of Rosamel near Marked Tree Road on a couple of occasions. The herd has been moved to a secure paddock and the Rosamel fence is being repaired.

The Trust is always grateful to those who have contacted us or posted on the community Facebook pages when they see cattle outside the Common fences. Please SMS the Common herdsman, Marian Thorne (0406 870 821), or Trust president, Helen Willett (0428-268 726) and let us know if an animal is out and about!

Are you interested in how the Trust works?

Every three years, a new Board is elected with up to seven trustees. The next Board election will be in March 2027. Commoners of six months standing as of March 2027 can nominate for a position on the Board. In the run-up to the election, Commoners are invited to Board meetings to learn more about the Common and its management and to see what's involved in being a Trustee. Contact Helen Willett (details below) if you're interested in coming along.

For more information or to become a commoner, contact gundarocommon@gundaroo.org

or Helen Willett (Trust President) on 02 6236 8129 / 0428-268726.

We want to know what plants and animals you find

on the Common!

Please submit your observations using iNaturalist

(<https://www.inaturalist.org/>).



What has your GCA been up to?

With the November festival to organise, all of the [Gundaroo Community Association \(GCA\)](#) committee are busy liaising, hustling and communicating with each other and other residents of Gundaroo and surrounds to make this festival better than the last.

No one is busier, however, than our dedicated Treasurer, Liz Sisley, who each week makes payments for things like our insurance and our domain provider; makes (Cont pg.3)

(from pg.2) up tax invoices and receipts; and compiles our end of year financial reports to meet our NSW Fair Trading obligations. On top of that, Liz has to make up financial reports for each of the GCA subcommittees, especially those that deal with a bit of income like the Police Paddock and the Arts & Culture subcommittees. It is all in the name of the GCA remaining transparent to the community and meeting our requirements as an incorporated association.

Last year, in lieu of organising a community festival, your GCA spent time investigating the development of a community disaster plan. This is now 'morphing' into a Gundaroo Community Resilience Plan with the helpful input of one of our committee members, Christine Gaul, who is a member of the Sutton & District SES. Through her work with the SES, Christine has had the wonderful opportunity to do training in community leadership and resilience building, so has special insight and skills in this area. If anyone is interested in being part of the GCA Community Resilience team, you can get in touch by talking with President, Cate Thomas, or Christine when you see us out and about or via our email address gca@gundaroo.org.

Don't forget that the Gundaroo Gazette and the Gundaroo community website (gundaroo.org) is auspiced by the GCA. As a result, the GCA is putting a new emphasis on the website being a valuable source of accurate information for both locals and visitors. Please write to the Website Publishing Committee website@gundaroo.org if you have any questions about the website or wish to make changes to existing content.

Love living in Gundaroo? Take a photo

If you like taking photographs (and with phone cameras being ubiquitous, who doesn't?) now is the time to share photos of what makes the Yass Valley such a special place to call home. Organised by the Yass Valley Council as part of Local Government Week, this competition opened on 27 July and entries close on Sunday, 9 August. So there's no time to waste - get out there and photograph your favourite views, wildlife, community hubs or secret spots in and around Gundaroo (or anywhere else in the Yass Valley). This is a great opportunity to tell the story of how great it is to live in the Gundaroo region!

Once you have your photos you will need to upload them to the website at: <https://yourvoicecounts.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/photography-competition>. You can also vote for your three favourite photos until 12 August. Competition winners will be notified by email with the prize being a Shop Yass Valley Gift Card. Further details are on the Your Voice Counts

website.

As an added bonus, the Gundaroo Gazette would love to share some of your photos in future editions, so if you are so inclined, please also email them to us at gazette@gundaroo.org.

It's Census time

Every five years Australia conducts a Census of Population and Housing and 2026 is a Census year. The Census counts every person and household in Australia on Tuesday, 11 August 2026 - Census night. It includes questions about your age, country of birth, cultural background, living situation, work and education.

It is compulsory to complete the Census, but it is also a good thing to do because Census data informs decisions about planning and funding of services and infrastructure.

So don't forget - 11 August 2026 - complete your Census form. Further information is available from <https://info.census.abs.gov.au/about/doing-census>.



Noticeboard

Yass Valley Council

Local Government Week: 3–9 August 2026

Yass Valley Council will be celebrating Local Government Week with a range of activities involving local schools and the wider community. It's a chance for residents to get involved and find out more about what Council does on a day-to-day basis. Follow us on social media and the website to join in!

"Living Local": photography competition

As part of Local Government Week we are running a photo competition around the theme: "Living Local". The competition is open to anyone, simply share your photos about what you love about living in Yass Valley. It could be the beautiful scenery, native wildlife, a community or sporting group or much more. If you love it, we want to see it! Anyone in the community can vote for their favourite photos, and the winner receives a Shop Yass gift card. Visit Your Voice Counts

(<https://yourvoicecounts.yassvalley.nsw.gov.au/>)

to join in.

Yass Library Activities

The Yass Valley Mobile Library Van visits Gundaroo between 12.30-1.30pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month outside the Gundaroo Soldiers Memorial Hall.

Pre-School Programs: *Pre-School Storytime*, 10.30am on Mondays and *Wriggle and Rhyme*, 10am on Wednesdays (both during school term).

Yass Valley Council Ordinary Council Meeting

Thursday 27 August, Administration Building.

Mornings with the Mayor

Monday 31 August, 11am–12pm, Administration Building

Visit the [Council website](#) to book your 10 minute slot with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

From the desk

While we don't have a letters to the editor column in the Gundaroo Gazette, we do receive some welcome communications from our readers. It was heart-warming to read a recent email giving us positive feedback.

Our correspondent wrote, "As I read the latest Gundaroo Gazette, once again I felt privileged and thankful to receive such a high quality and useful publication on a monthly basis. We've been reading it for the last 4.5 years, when we [moved to] Gundaroo.

"Aside from the general info on the excellent GCA and other community-led organisations and their interaction with YVC, plus local social activities, I've also picked up tips on care for trees and landscape (Sue McIntyre's excellent *Indumentum*), Lisa Walmsley's lovely gardening column, Wildcare articles and even a great tip on a good cause for our 10c recycling - the Gundaroo Scouts at Gundaroo Park.

"The Gazette really helps draw people into the local community with valuable info on local activities and a welcoming tone."

Most of the work for the Gazette is undertaken by volunteers who contribute a significant amount of time each month and are well supported by [Tender Edge](#). These efforts were noted by our correspondent who wrote, "... writing, pulling it all together, typesetting (or whatever it is nowadays), printing (thanks to Tender Edge - a good company we have used in tiny measure so far) and delivering it to mailboxes is a major job. ... PS the proof-reading is amazing, too!"

Another email received recently pointed out an error we had made, and while we can't wear this one with as much pride, it is helpful to get this feedback. In this case we were able to find a solution to what had been an ongoing challenge.

We hope you enjoy the August edition of the Gundaroo Gazette and don't forget that we [welcome feedback as well as offers of assistance](#).

Knitters and Crocheters

Join us for a social knit/crochet.

Where: Cork Street Café

When: 3rd Sunday of the month at 3pm

Meet others, enjoy a cuppa, work on your knitting/crochet/fibre project, share skills & knowledge.

Cuppa Time

Come to Cuppa Time to catch up with friends or meet new people. Everyone is welcome. If you need a lift let us know

When: 4th Wednesday of the month
from 1.30 to 3.30pm

Where: Gundaroo Hall

Tea, coffee, freshly baked scones and locally-made jam available.

No charge but donations accepted

Cuppa Time is for social contact and community building

Contact Colin Lee info@gundaroohall.org.au if you want to help. Otherwise, just come and join us for a cuppa.

It takes a village to run a Hall

The [Gundaroo Soldiers Memorial Hall](#)

Management

Committee Inc will hold its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 12th August 2026 at 7:00pm in the Gundaroo Hall.

Members are encouraged to come and join us for a glass of wine at the AGM.

If you want to join our incorporated association an application for membership is on our website (www.gundaroohall.org.au). Please apply and pay before the AGM.

Gundaroo & District Historical Society

The [Gundaroo & District Historical Society](#) will hold its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 19 August at 7pm in the Gundaroo Literary Institute. The agenda and draft minutes from last year's AGM will be sent to all members. If you are not yet a member and are interested in joining the society or its committee please contact us at historicalsocietygundaroo@gmail.com.

Produce Share Group

Held by the Gundaroo Growers group 1st Sunday every month from 3-4pm at Gundaroo Soldiers' Memorial Hall.

Gundaroo Wander Concert



The Gundaroo Wander Concert is back and ticket sales are open now. Book tickets via www.trybooking.com/DMZLH or by scanning the QR code. You will also find an information sheet with more details there.

Participants will be treated to four concerts: three short ones in the morning and a longer one mid-afternoon. The venues are all historic buildings in the village of Gundaroo: St Mark's/Old Courthouse, Gundaroo Community Church, St Joseph's and the Hall. The audience will wander from one venue to the next, with a total walking distance for the day of 1.5 to 2km.

The concerts are organised by the Gundaroo Community Association and GCA members get a discount on tickets.



www.facebook.com/gundarooartsculture

New automated subscription list for Gazette readers

For readers who receive their Gundaroo Gazette via our email subscription list we now have an automated subscription service that we're running through MailerLite. Existing subscribers have been transferred to the new service.

Not on the list? Join at www.gundaroo.org/gazette. Scroll down for the Subscription option.

All subscribers can unsubscribe at any time using the Unsubscribe option at the bottom of each email.

Gundaroo Film Society

Saturday 15 August 2026, Gundaroo Hall



Green Bush

(Oz short) Graceful, powerful short film about a late night DJ playing to isolated outstations in Australia and realizes his job is more than just playing music. (26 mins)

Screens at 7pm

Looking for Alibrandi

Australian classic coming of age film-released 26 years ago, starring Pia Miranda and set in 1990s Sydney, where a high school girl embraces her Italian heritage, but moves toward the less traditional Australian way of life. (1hr43m)



Screens at 7.50pm

Doors open at 6pm

BYO meals and drinks including glasses; Tea and coffee provided; Ice-creams available for \$5 at intermission

Due to our copyright obligations we have rigorous membership and attendance rules.

Members or guests of members must be 18+years old to attend. Half-yearly membership is \$35/per person.

www.gundarooofilms.org

info@gundarooofilms.org

[f](#) Gundaroo Films



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 - Equine Assisted Learning
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Michael Godding Intro to Working Equitation Clinic

1 August 2026

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michaelgoddingclassicalhorsetr.com

Michael Godding Working Equitation Clinic

8-9 August 2026

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Kim Daley Horsemanship

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info@kimdaleyhorsemanship.com.au

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GUNDAROO COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2026 11AM-4PM
GUNDAROO PARK, CORK STREET, GUNDAROO



JUNIOR ART SHOW

"Growing up in Gundaroo"

All work by under 18s will be displayed

Entry is Free

Paintings and drawings are limited to A4 size maximum

Sculptures no larger than a toaster

To register, search Junior Art Show at gundaroo.org

The Gundaroo Community Festival needs you!

Stall Holders

Artists

Musicians

Classic Cars or Bikes

Scarecrows

Pop-up Canopies

Volunteers

Let's make this the best festival ever!



Scarecrow Competition

Prizes for:

*Best Scarecrow

*Best use of Recycled materials

*Most Creative

To register search "scarecrow" on gundaroo.org

FESTIVAL CALL FOR ART WORKS

We are looking for local visual artists to contribute to an exhibition to showcase the breadth of talent in our community as part of the upcoming Gundaroo Community Festival.

Works must be freestanding as they will be displayed in a covered marquee proudly supported by YLESS4U.

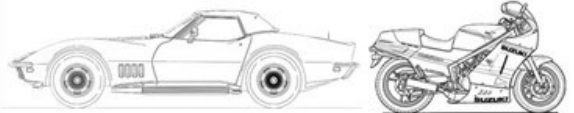
There will be 3 People's Choice Awards.

Items will not be sold on the day.

Please contact Liz Harris to register your participation and for any further information. festival@gundaroo.org



Gundaroo Festival Local Show and Shine



What have you got in your shed?

Want to show us?

To register contact:

festival@gundaroo.org



For More Info - festival@gundaroo.org
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GUNDOG ESTATE

SEASONAL FOOD & WINE PAIRINGS

Each month, we're highlighting dishes from our lunch menu, perfectly matched to a selection of our premium wines. A delicious way to explore the season's best!

LIVE JAZZ SATURDAYS

Enjoy smooth local jazz, live from 12-3pm, the first Saturday of every month.
The perfect soundtrack to your wine tasting.

HAPPY HOURS

Soak up the afternoon sun on our terrace with 15% off wines by the glass from 2pm daily. Explore our newly refreshed by-the-glass list, and if you're feeling peckish, our cheese plates are the perfect companion.



Gundaroo Rural Fire Brigade

WINTER SAFETY REMINDER

Now is the time to prepare homes for increased heating use and reduced ventilation. A few simple checks now can significantly reduce preventable fire risk and emergency callouts during the colder months.

FIRESHED UPGRADES

Our driveway and grounds have had a repair and tidy up thanks to David from Geelan Earthworks & Civil and Lou Jenal from Lou's Bobcat Hire. Thank you to David for donating the gravel!

25 FIRST AID OFFICER REFRESHERS

Samantha Kershaw conducted first aid certificate training for 25 members in July. Thank you to Danny and Samantha for organising and delivering!

NOTE: To access our First Aid Officers, you do need to call Triple Zero first!!

RESUSCITATION CHART		
D	DANGER Use all senses to check for dangers to yourself, others and the patient. Ensure the area is safe. Move the patient only if the danger cannot be eliminated.	
R	RESPONSE Check for a normal response by talking to the patient, asking them their name and opening their shoulders. DO NOT move the patient if the injury is the result of a fall.	
S	SEND FOR HELP Send a bystander to call for help and an Ambulance as soon as possible. DIAL 000 and ask for Ambulance attendance.	
A	AIRWAY Open mouth and check for foreign objects. If objects are present place in recovery position and clear airway with fingers. DO NOT move patient if the injury is the result of a fall.	
B	BREATHING Check breathing. Look for rise and fall of chest. Listen for breathing sounds. Feel for breaths on the cheek and for ribcage movement. If breathing is present keep the patient in the recovery position and monitor.	
C	CPR If no breathing is present commence CPR. Give 30 Chest Compressions to every 2 Breaths @ 100 Compressions/minute.	
D	DEFIBRILLATION Apply defibrillator (if available) and follow the voice prompts or instruction on the device. AED - Automated External Defibrillator Continue CPR until responsiveness or normal breathing returns	

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DRIVE SAFELY ON SHINGLE HILL WAY!!

Our main callouts the last few months have been motor vehicle accidents in the Shingle Hill Way/Wamboin area. They have all been very close calls so pleeeeaasssse be safe. Shingle Hill Way is well known as a narrow country road used as a main thoroughfare for private and commercial vehicles and road trains.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BRIGADE

Want to help but can't volunteer? Donations over \$2 are **tax-deductible**, and help us maintain our equipment and support training. You can donate at our pub raffles, by dropping spare change into the firefighter's hat at the shop or pub or by emailing gundarooofs@gmail.com for our bank details.

BURN NOTIFICATIONS & FIRE PERMITS

While we are no longer in the **Fire Season**, you still might need a fire permit, so please check via the Fire Permit Application information in the [NSW RFS Guardian Portal](https://nswrfsprod.service-now.com/guardian_csp?id=guardian_index). You also need to notify the NSW RFS of your intent to burn at least 24 hours before you light up via the [NSW RFS Guardian Portal](https://nswrfsprod.service-now.com/guardian_csp?id=guardian_index).

Online: https://nswrfsprod.service-now.com/guardian_csp?id=guardian_index

Yass Fire Control: 6226 3100 (Mon-Fri, business hours).

Stay fire-safe and always follow the conditions of your permit.



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Bungendore High News

Year 10 started the final week of Term 2 with a visit from the National Library's Education Program Manager, Ben Pratten. Ben gave us a brief history of the library, emphasising its importance in our cultural heritage, before showing us how to join the library. He then gave us an overview of the eResources available including newspapers, magazines and journal databases. As we look ahead to our senior studies and post-school study options, this was an important step in the journey.



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Site consideration - before the earthmovers arrive

By Lisa Walmsley

There is so much to consider when building a house on a new site and it's not just about the design of the house, shed, garden etc. When I'm doing a site visit, time and again I see errors that could have been removed or reduced with more thought.

It is critical to do a site analysis early on that considers the land orientation, topography, the soil and the existing trees. It is also essential to be on site when the site cut is happening.

Climate and orientation

Facing the living areas towards the equator maximises natural winter warmth and reduces cooling costs.

Try to provide wind breaks to the north-west to slow down the hot summer winds and create allowances for summer easterly evening breezes.

Topography and slope

Most councils will not let you build in a flood zone, but if you choose a spot between two hills it is a natural flood zone. Selecting a site that is elevated from the surrounding land will reduce your flooding problems considerably. Sloping blocks may require creative multi-level designs - this can provide excellent natural drainage.

Building on a steep site is costly with the need for increased excavations, retaining walls and complex footings. Considering the layout of the garden at this

time is beneficial as machines can move the soil at the time of excavation thus saving on doing it later.

Soil and geotech considerations

Different soils, whether sandy, heavy clay or rocky, have different load bearing capacities. Clay soils can be highly reactive, meaning they expand and contract a lot and may require expensive stabilised slab engineering.

Professional soil tests may be required in order to proceed to a Development Application and these may identify hidden rocks, unstable ground or any contamination.

Services and utilities

If you have easements on your site ensure you understand the covenants that may restrict where you can build.

Consider where your services (power, water, sewage and internet) are coming from. If you are building tanks and septic, where are they going? I often see these too close to the house, restricting views or inhibiting movement around the house. A garden I recently designed had the septic just outside the front door - nightmare!

Local regulations and bushfire and environmental risks

If your site is in a bushfire prone area or there is a flood overlay, these will create specific and often costly building materials and design standards.

Always confirm that the site is zoned for your intended use and confirm local building codes for height restrictions and boundary setbacks.



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Monthly Health Update

Winter is well and truly here, and we're seeing plenty of coughs, colds and chest infections at the pharmacy. While many people recover quickly, some respiratory infections can lead to serious illness, particularly in older people, pregnant women, young babies and those with ongoing health conditions. This year there have been some changes to the vaccines available.

You may have heard about RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) recently. RSV is a very common virus that spreads easily and, for most healthy adults, causes symptoms like a bad cold. However, it is one of the leading causes of hospitalisation in babies under six months and can also cause severe chest infections, pneumonia and breathing difficulties in older adults. An RSV vaccine is funded for all pregnant women from 28 weeks of pregnancy, allowing protective antibodies to pass to their baby before birth. It is also funded for everyone aged 75 years and over and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 60 years and over. For older adults, RSV vaccination is currently a once-only vaccine, while pregnant women are recommended to receive it during every pregnancy.

Another change this year is the introduction of Capvaxive®, a new vaccine that protects against pneumococcal disease. Unlike RSV or flu, pneumococcal disease is caused by bacteria rather than a virus. It can cause pneumonia, and can also spread into the bloodstream or the lining of the brain, leading to life-threatening infections. Capvaxive® is now funded for everyone aged 65 years and over, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults aged 25 years and over, and adults with certain medical conditions. Only one dose is recommended. Even if you've had a pneumococcal vaccine in the past, you may now be due for Capvaxive®, as it protects against more strains of the bacteria than previous vaccines. In most cases, it is recommended 12 months or more after your last pneumococcal vaccination.

The flu vaccine is recommended every year, and keeping your COVID-19 vaccinations up to date

remains important, particularly if you're older or have medical conditions that increase your risk of serious illness.

If you're not sure which vaccines you or your family are due for, drop into Gundaroo Pharmacy. We're happy to check your vaccination history, explain the latest recommendations and we have all the funded vaccines in stock. If you have cold and flu symptoms, you can buy a RAT (rapid antigen test) to do at home, to indicate whether you have COVID-19, RSV or flu in a single test.

Stay well, The Team at [Gundaroo Pharmacy](https://www.gundaroo-pharmacy.com.au)

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Very Short Film Festival in Yass

The Very Short Film Festival (VSFF) will hold a special one-night-only screening at Yass's historic Liberty Theatre on 8 August as part of its 2026 National Tour.

Open to filmmakers of all ages and backgrounds, VSFF celebrates storytelling in its most concise and powerful form. Every film is under five minutes, delivering impact, originality and craft within a tight frame. The program brings together short films from filmmakers across Australia, exploring a wide range of stories, perspectives and themes. Created specifically for VSFF, each film offers a distinct voice while responding to this year's festival signature, Thread. The result is a collection of stories that invite audiences to laugh, reflect and see things differently.

At its national premiere in Hobart, *The Pocket Dial* by Josephine Croft and Pete Vulinovich took out Best Film, alongside wins for *Tidal* (Best Director), *Version 1.0* (Best Story), *Wear & Tear* (Best Cinematic Craft) and *darrens_camera* (Best Junior Film).

The event is on Saturday, 8 August at the Liberty Theatre Yass. Tickets can be purchased at:
<https://events.humanitix.com/vsff-2026-yass>.

Cassie Simakoff-Elims hosts John Forrester Clack: Landscapes

[Cork Street Café and Gallery](#)

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The exhibition runs from **25 July to 30 August 2026**



Gundaroo Valley - Spring 2

Reviewing his work in 2023, Emeritus Professor (ANU) Sasha Grishin said “John Forrester Clack’s landscapes glow with inner luminosity.” The concern, he said, “is not with the specific in the landscape, but with the spirit inherent in the scene and the sense of radiating majesty ... The painting celebrates something that is beyond the material and physical and hints at a spiritual dimension that cannot be described but can only be evoked and celebrated. The majesty of nature emerges as a revelation and bears witness to something greater than its human creator.”

Wednesday Chinwag: Observing water quality from Space



26 August, 7pm at the pub

Observation of water quality, seagrasses and coral reefs from space-based satellites is possible nowadays. BoM, GeoScience Australia and CSIRO are collaborating to build a national inland and coastal water quality information service. Reasons for doing this are that inland and coastal ecosystems are under pressure from human activities. Decision makers need on-time data to better manage water ecosystem health, support industry and prevent human or animal health impacts. Recent fish kills and toxic algal blooms have impacted rural and urban communities and aquaculture industry both in Australia and world-wide.

Arnold Dekker has been a pioneer in this field of research since 1985 and continues to work on this, as AquaWatch Science Advisor at CSIRO.

This Wednesday Chinwag is organised by the [GCA Arts & Culture subcommittee](#). Expect about an hour of presentation plus Q&A

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Hall President Wayne Kotzur welcoming guests to the Curry Night



A Focus on Sri Lanka: the Gundaroo Curry Night

By Wayne Kotzur

It is a truth, universally acknowledged, that if you are hungry and community minded, then the Annual [Gundaroo Hall](#) Curry Night is for you. Where else can you make a significant impact while having a succulent meal?

Beneath our new blue sky cloth and fairy lights, the tables groaned with epic Sri Lankan inspired dishes, with evocative and exotic spicy aromas steaming from the kitchen. The volunteers had spent all day with final preparations and the dishes appeared with the regularity of a well-oiled machine.

The public started streaming in and settled by 6:30pm, warming the chill air with their animated discussions. Optimistic excursions to the auction room to view the many donated items and services soon followed. After a short Acknowledgement of Country, in language, by Maartje Sevenster, all were welcomed by Hall President Wayne Kotzur. He explained the ongoing need for funds to maintain the Gundaroo Soldiers Memorial Hall in good condition and in local management, thanking everyone in advance for their generosity.

On behalf of the large volunteer group catering for the event, Colin Lee gave mouthwatering descriptions of the feast to come, noting the food donations which increased the funds raised and made the efforts more shared. Entrée plates were removed and the meals began in earnest.

Before dessert the tumult died down for auctioneer Kevin Curtis and his dapper assistant Jon Lewis to conduct the loud auction. Around \$3,000 was 'extracted' from the crowd, with much banter and hectoring. Following a delicious dessert, the final scurrying towards the silent auction benches ensued.

Chairs pushed back and stomachs extended, the satisfied crowd listened and hoped their bids were successful. A queue soon formed, payments made, and the auctioned items were claimed by their beaming owners. Helen Curtis, responsible for the incredible amount of donated goods and services,



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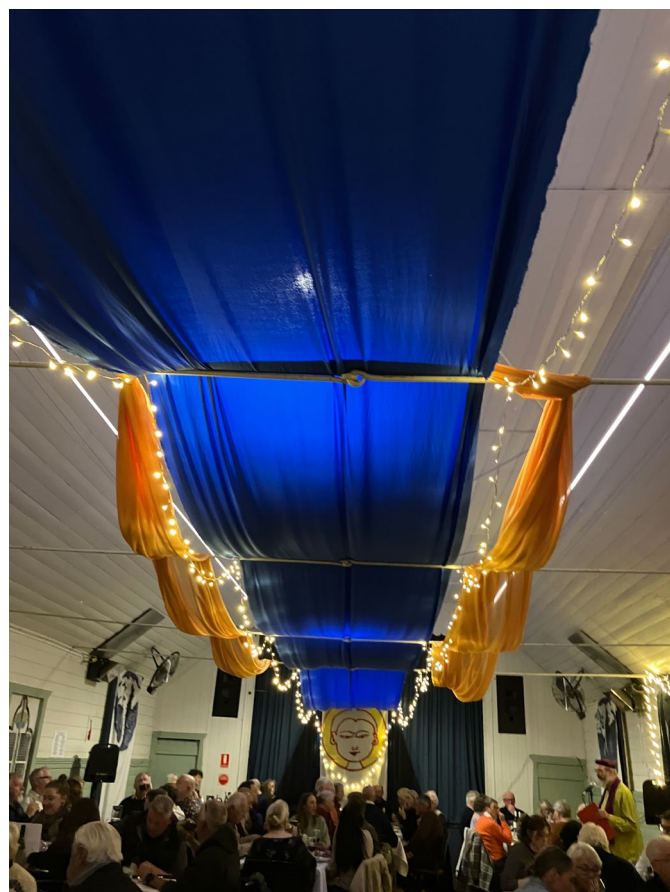
watched the items disappear with a mixture of relief and excitement. How much was raised? Treasurer Sylvia Gleeson and Helen conferred and it was quickly estimated around \$7,000 for the auctions. The catering also raised a similar amount of \$7,100 less ingredients and other sundry expenses.

Some left soon after to release babysitters or for longer drives home, while a few determined tables continued to chat and sip as the evening wore down.

Once the room cleared, a quick cleanup of the kitchen and supper room ensued. On Sunday morning the decorations were removed, the kitchen cleaned and washed down and supper room restored. The Hall committee and volunteers left tired but satisfied - the annual Curry Night had been an unmitigated success with \$13,882 raised, a hungry room of diners satiated and the Hall able to run for another year.

Let us praise the many volunteers including Kane Dewage, Diana Cozadinos, Sandra Wilson, Jon Lewis, Cate Thomas, Kylie Bourne, and Rohan and Margaret Ford, supported by Hall Committee members Deborah Colliver, Talia Meischke, Colin

Lee, Fran Dove, Kylie Martin, Sylvia Gleeson, and Wayne Kotzur with spouses Esther Robinson, Helen Gardner and Kevin Curtis nobly drawn in to service.



Gundaroo Soldiers Memorial Hall Curry Night 2026 **Thank you to the following for their donations tonight:**

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Wombats right across the Wildcare region are susceptible to a highly contagious condition that can cause a slow and painful death to affected wombats if left untreated - mange. The condition is caused by a mite which burrows into the skin, causing intense itching and skin irritation, resulting in open wounds, infection, dehydration, loss of body condition, fly strike in summer and hypothermia and pneumonia in winter.

Mange can spread rapidly through wombat populations. Unfortunately, due to their nocturnal and solitary nature, early signs of mange often go unnoticed. However, wombats with mange are often seen during the daylight hours in winter, and this is when they are noticed and reported to Wildcare Queanbeyan.

The good news is that mange doesn't have to be a death sentence for our local wombats. The Wildcare Wombat Mange Treatment team can treat mange-affected wombats safely and successfully in their natural environment, with simple and effective treatment methods, using a direct treatment if a wombat can be approached within two metres and indirect method via a burrow treatment device over the wombat burrow.

Gundaroo locals and some members of the Wildcare mange team recently got together at the Gundog Estate Cork St Cellar Door in Gundaroo to raise awareness about mange in wombats and encourage people to get involved.

Wildcare Queanbeyan is keen to raise awareness about mange in the local community to encourage reporting and involve community members with treatment. If you would like Wildcare to conduct a mange presentation in your local area, community centre or school, or would like to get involved with mange treatment, contact Wildcare's Wombat Mange coordinator, Elena on 0427 853 533 or email mange@wildcare.com.au.

If you see a wombat with mange, please contact the 24/7 Wildcare Helpline on 6299 1966.

Wildcare Queanbeyan is run entirely by volunteers and funded by generous donations from the community. Vet bills, supplies, medication and petrol are all funded by our volunteers and these donations. We rescue, raise, rehabilitate and release sick, injured and orphaned native animals throughout the Wildcare service area of over 22,000 sq km in south-eastern NSW.

If you are able to support our mission, please consider donating to our public trust. Go to wildcare.com.au for full details.



Gundaroo locals and some Wildcare mange team members attending a mange talk at the Gundog Cellar Door in July.

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Back for the term

[Scouts](#) are now back in action for the term! We launched with quite a bit of failed fire lighting and some planning. We're gearing up for another big term, with many possibilities on the menu.

The biggest and coldest possible adventure is a caving camp at Wee Jasper, where our Scouts will get to explore underground and eat lots of 2 Minute Noodles. We're also hoping to team up with some of our local legends from the Rural Fire Service (RFS) and State Emergency Service (SES), giving the kids a chance to learn a few practical skills from the people who put them to use in the real world.

As the weather improves, we also have some hands-on activities planned. There'll be a survival and shelter night where Scouts will try their hand at creating something they could potentially sleep in and have a go at some skills like trying to make fire without matches (wish us all luck for that endeavour)! We'll also head out on a night navigation hike near Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary to put map-reading and compass skills to the test after dark, and we'll run first aid scenarios covering everything from snake bites and sprains to CPR as the Scouts work towards their Outdoor Adventure Skills badges.

For those who enjoy building and creating, we've also got a STEM and engineering night planned, with balloon-powered cars, paddle-pop stick bridges and a taste of coding and robotics. And because Scouting is all about giving back, we'll be lending a hand at the Gundaroo Soldiers Memorial Hall with some gardening, clean-up work and tree planting to help keep one of our community's important places looking its best.

It should be a terrific term full of practical skills, new challenges, muddy boots and hopefully some very successful firelighting.

Like so many community groups, though, we can't do it without volunteers. If you've ever thought about getting involved, now's the perfect time. You don't need to have been a Scout yourself—just be keen to help young people have great experiences and learn skills that will stay with them for life. Whether you can help every week or lend a hand once or now and then, we'd love to hear from you.

Last of all, did you know that a recent OECD survey on social and emotional skills found that engagement in extracurricular activities is related to higher levels of all social and emotional skills of 10 and 15-year olds on average, especially assertiveness, sociability, creativity and curiosity? If you have an already curious contender, Joeys, Cubs and Scouts are all on at the Oval on Tuesday nights from 6 to 7.30pm, and everyone's welcome to come and try it out.



We celebrated the end of last term with a fierce session at Flipout

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Warming soup recipes

By Laura Jean

"Real soup is to the body what peace is to the soul"

- Isabel Allende

Chilly weather is best met with a warming bowl of soup. It's also a great way to use up a garden glut of veg or the sad specimens from the fridge crisper drawer!

The June community potluck lunch and monthly share, hosted by the Gundaroo Growers, was all about soup and in continuation of the sharing approach we wanted to pass on some of the recipes (and links) for you to try at home.

We had quite the spread of soup flavours, croutons and herbs for sprinkling on top, and accompaniments of herb scones and sourdough bread for the side. No-one left hungry.

Carrot and Coriander Soup

1 medium onion, diced

2 sticks celery, diced

1 tbsp ground coriander

1 tsp ground cumin

2-3 tbsp grated fresh ginger

4 garlic cloves, chopped finely

750g roasted carrots

1 teaspoon honey

1 litre chicken stock

2 tbsp cream

2 handfuls chopped coriander

Salt to taste

- Saute onion and celery in oil and butter until soft on medium-low heat. Add spices and cook for 1-2 minutes until spices begin to release their aromas. Add a little water as needed if the mix becomes too dry.
- Add in carrots, honey and stock. Bring to boil and then simmer on low for 20mins.
- Remove from heat, add cream and puree using a stick blender or in batches in a blender or thermomix.
- Stir through coriander, adjust salt to your taste and serve.

More soups to tuck into:

[Pumpkin soup - recipetineats.com/classic-pumpkin-soup](https://www.recipetineats.com/classic-pumpkin-soup)

[Roasted Tomato soup with Chorizo – everydaygourmet.tv](https://www.everydaygourmet.tv/roasted-tomato-soup-with-chorizo)

[Easy Zucchini Soup – all recipes.com](https://www.allrecipes.com/easy-zucchini-soup)

[Leek & Potato Soup – recipetineats.com/leek-and-potato-soup](https://www.recipetineats.com/leek-and-potato-soup)

The soup recipes can be searched on their respective websites or head to the electronic version of the gazette at gundaroo.org for links.

After a slow start it seems that winter has made its appearance here in Gundaroo – the perfect time for soup. Which one will you try first?

August

What I'm planting now: another round of peas, lettuce for spring salads and tomatoes inside in the warmth!

What I'm harvesting: leafy greens – rocket, mustard greens, bok choy and Chinese cabbage

What I'm experimenting with this season: trying my luck with some early tomatoes on the deck under cover. I started the seeds inside on a heat mat in early July and will plant in pots undercover on the deck at the end of the month – could be a bust, but worth a try for early tomatoes!

[The Gundaroo Growers](#) meet on the 1st Sunday of the month, 3-4pm at the Gundaroo Hall. And host twice yearly community potluck lunches. All are welcome, no need to bring a thing.

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Grazing (The Royal Hotel)

Corner of Cork and Harp Streets

02 6236 8777 www.grazing.com.au

Award-winning restaurant in a 19th-century pub.

Phone and email bookings.

Open Thursday to Sunday

Thursday – Friday: 12pm to 2pm; 6pm to 9pm

Saturday: 11.30am to 3pm; 6pm to 9pm

Sunday: 11.30am to 2.30pm

Cork Street Gallery Café

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

6236 8217 www.corkstreetcafe.com

Innovative gourmet pizzas, with salads and homemade cakes, served in the stables or the paved garden.

Carefully curated selection of wines and beers, but can cater to BYO.

Casual and popular. Phone orders welcome. **Takeaway** available.

Open: Thursday to Sunday from 9am.

Gundaroo Inn

23 Cork Street

0401 118 793 www.gundarooinn.com.au

The 'village pub' and family restaurant.

Family-friendly atmosphere.

Dine-in and takeaway

Open Wednesday to Sunday

Wednesday: 3pm to 10pm

Thursday–Sunday: 12pm to 10pm

Gundaroo Grocer, Cork St Cellars & Takeaway

54 Cork Street

02 6236 8141

Quality takeaway food with friendly country hospitality

Seating limited inside.

Open Monday to Sunday, see ad on previous page for Grocer opening hours.

Takeaway open from:

Monday to Wednesday: 8am to 2pm

Thursday & Friday: 8am to 6:30pm

Saturday: 9am - 2pm **Sunday:** 10am - 2pm

Neat Street Coffee

7 Faithfull Street

Delicious coffee and easy eats.

Open everyday

Monday - Friday: 6am to 12pm

Saturday to Sunday: 8am to 1pm

Community Facebook Pages

[Gundaroo Community Connect](#)

[Gundaroo Community Noticeboard](#)

[Gundaroo Kyeema Neighbourhood Group](#)

[Gundaroo Buy, Swap and Sell](#)

Community Website

www.gundaroo.org

Gundog Estate Cork Street Cellar Door

Located behind Grazing in the old stables

6236 8276

www.gundogestate.com.au

corkstreet@gundogestate.com.au

Open Friday to Sunday 11am to 5pm

For wine tasting, lunch and sales. Bookings can be made via phone, email or website.

Church Worship in Gundaroo

Catholic

St Joseph's Church

(Cnr Harp and Morning Streets)

Mass: 10.30am on the second and fourth Sundays

Communion Services: 9:30 am every other Sunday until further notice

Contact: Kath Campbell - kathryncampbell04@gmail.com

Anglican

St Marks Church

(Cork Street)

All services start at 4.00pm

Communion Services: Every first Sunday

Contact: The Ven Dr Royce Thompson — 0416 265 600

Uniting

Gundaroo Community Church

(Cnr Lot and Cork Streets))

Services on the first and third Sunday of the month.

Services start at 9am and finish with morning tea.

Contact: John Donley - 0431 750 241

St Mark's Church 1975



The Gundaroo Gazette

Editorial Team: GCA Community Website Sub Committee

Graphic Design: Tender Edge and Sophie Leeson **Street delivery team:** Fiona Martin, Colin Lee, Julie Smith and Maureen Trevanion

All enquiries, contributions, public notices and ads email: gazette@gundaroo.org

Publication: Every month except January. Deadline for content is 5.00pm on 25th of the preceding month. Contributions received before the 21st of the month are appreciated.

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: Ads can be either portrait or landscape. Send artwork in Word, PDF or PNG format close to the dimensions below. Half or full-page ads by negotiation.

Size & payment options	Small 85mm x 55mm	Medium 120mm x 85mm	Large 185mm x 85mm
Payment for 1 month	\$30	\$40	\$50
Payment for 3 contiguous months	\$80	\$110	\$145
Annual (11 Editions)	\$290	\$400	\$510

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Disclaimer: The Editorial Team of the Gundaroo Gazette reserves the right to alter, omit or change classifications and advertisements. Furthermore, the Editorial Team of the Gundaroo Gazette does not endorse or promote services contained in the newsletter. While every care is exercised, the views and/or opinions expressed in this newsletter within editorial articles do not necessarily represent the views and/or opinions of the Gundaroo Community Association or any other organisation associated with the Gundaroo Gazette.

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).

There is also a **New Defibrillator location**, located in a **locked cabinet on the outside southern wall of the Men's Shed building at the Gundaroo Oval**.

Interested in being a responder? Contact the Gundaroo Community Association at gca@gundaroo.org

Name	Address	Telephone / Email
Emily Wallis	Morning St	6236 8948 (h) 0404 215 531 emily.wallis@canberra.edu.au
Kate Dardis	Cork St	0499 299 750 yougotmail@y7mail.com
Tony Ward	Cork St	0450 624 931 tjwardmail@gmail.com
Darren Schoevers	Cork St	0402 494 604 darren.schoevers@defence.gov.au
Stephanie McCaffery	Buranda Lane	0427 300 393 stephanie.mccaffery@anu.edu.au
Madison Nolan	Lomandra St, Gundaroo	0400732328 madiallum97@gmail.com

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 4824 9270; wise1dan@police.nsw.gov.au Snr Constable Daniel Wise 4824 9240; 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) Bellmount Forest	0414 369 214 (Dave Robinson) 0429 443 260 (Ben Haseler) 0418 303 232 (John Cooper) 6100 6252 (Duty Officer) 6226 3100 bfrfs@icloud.com
State Emergency Service SES Sutton	132 500
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	0425 650 283 (Rachael Hogan) 0407 276 075 (Rebecca Harris)
Yass Valley Council Council Office Gundaroo Councillor	6226 1477 0429 930 628 (Cecil Burgess)
Gundaroo Community Association	0490 096 254 (Cate Thomas) gca@gundaroo.org
Soldiers Memorial Hall	info@gundarooahall.org.au
Gundaroo Park Land Manager	0422 649 141 gundaroopark@gundaroo.com
Gundaroo Common Trust	6236 8129 or 0428 628 726 (Helen Willett)
Police Paddock	0418 496 908 (Sue Burns)
Gundaroo Village Memorials	0413 137 761 (Phil Gaden)
Gundaroo Public School	6236 8115 (Brysson Leeson)
Gundaroo Outside School Hours (GOSH)	0427 410 537
1st Gundaroo Scout Group (Joeys to Rovers)	0415 677 943 (Cath Woodward) cath.woodward@nsw.scouts.com.au
Gundaroo & District Historical Society	0418 496 908 (Sue Burns)
Gundaroo Arts and Culture	gundarooartsculture@gmail.com
Gundaroo Community Singers	msevenst@gmail.com (Maartje Sevenster)
'Gundaroo Loves Books' Book Club	0406 377 025 (Kylie Bourne)
Gundaroo Men's Shed	0407 603 003 (Don de Vries) Mensshed@gundaroo.org
Gundaroo churches	See previous page for services & contacts.
Civil Marriage Celebrant	0401 267 851 (Lorraine Bird) enquiries@lorrainebird.com.au