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ACROSS THE FENCE

Happy Mother's Day

to all the "MOMs" in the district



miries

News from the Wallamba Watershed is a

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Editorial.

Hi all,

It has been a long month which I seem to have spent travelling between home and Sydney.

I don't go south very often, if I can help it, but I have been down 4 times so far and still have a possible return to do before the month is out. All to do with family's health.

It used to be boring traveling solo until someone at the library said I should get a 'talking book' to keep my mind alert - what a difference it makes, UNTIL you find that you have returned with still a couple of discs unheard and have to drive about to finish hearing them.

This is the cause of May's issue being late - haven't been here to do it.

The weather has definitely turned. Very CRISP in the mornings and nights, time for some attention to be paid to the chimney and then sorting out dry wood for a fire.

We say a sad, for us, good bye, to Leon and Colleen Robb of Robb & Co. They are joining the retirement brigade at long last and have sold the business to Josh and Renee Plevy who have changed the name to Farm and Home. Curious to what they will be selling regarding "home". Welcome both, to our little village.

Coincidence that the two new business couples (Nabiac Motors and Farm & Home) have ladies both named Renee.

There are a couple of ladies starting a craft work shop in the hall at Krumbach to try to give people an out of home activity. Details p3. Hope their little venture brings success for their efforts.

From all reports the ANZAC Day marches went well and were well attended. Good to be able to have them after a no go last year.

Alarming news for some with the impending closure of yet another bank - the ANZ in Forster is apparently closing. I know a bank in Wingham closed some little while back. Makes doing your banking difficult with the distances some will need to travel or otherwise ditch their bank and join another one in their area.

Still no final decision for the Dibbs Street/Highway fiasco. If it goes the way proposed it will cause problems for a lot of locals.

Nothing else of great news seems to be happening in our little bit of paradise unless you know something that I don't.

Keep warm and enjoy your days.

'til next month

Lyn & Tilley Cat & Timidthy



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MAY, 2021

Markets & Events.

• Bulahdelah	(1st Sat)	1 st	8am to 1pm
• Blackhead Bazaar	(1st Sun)	2 nd	8am to 12 noon
• John's River Country	(2nd Sat)	8 th	9am to 1.30pm
• Wingham Community	(2nd Sat)	8 th	
• Myall Quays	(3rd Sat)	15 th	9am to 1pm
• The Hub Taree Showgnd	(3rd Sat)	15 th	8am to 12 noon
• Krumbach	(3rd Sun)	16th	8.30am to 1pm
• NABIAC	(Last Sat)	29th	8am to 12 noon
• Old Bar	(Last Sun)	30 th	7am to 1pm
• Pacific Palms	(Last Sun)	30 th	9am to 1pm
• Forster Town	(2nd Sun)	9 th	8am to 2pm
• Halliday's Point	(1st Sun)	2 nd	8am to 11am -?
• Town Head	(every Mon)		8am to 2pm
• Mt. George	(4th Sat)	22 nd	8am to 2pm
• Forster Farmers Market	(3rd Sat)	15 th	8am to 12 noon
• Bobbin Community		— th	9am to 2pm
• Tuncurry Markets	(4th Sat)	22 nd	8am to 1pm
• Burrell Creek	(2nd Sun)	9 th	9am to 12.30pm

Not sure if the markets are all open as the council has closed all public spaces due to the wet grounds. Check before going out.

Phone Lyn on 02 6559 1811 Email: paulreid@iprimus.com.au

Production: Lyn Reid

Contributions To: The Editor, Across The Fence, 1 Barry's Road, Firefly. N.S.W. 2429 or c/- Modern Motors, Nabiac, N.S.W. 2312 - **please phone**

WHEN you have left articles there to be collected

Contributions should be submitted - in writing - by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the following month's edition.

ALL ART WORK IN JPG ONLY

Disclaimer: The editor has **no affiliations** to any advertisers and the opinions expressed by submitters are their own.

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WISHING A HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL MOTHERS DAY SPECIALS AND GIFT VOUCHERS

Welcome to the month of May.... The team here at Nabiac Hair & Beauty Salon would like to wish ALL the mothers out there a very special day on Sunday 9th and hope they are all equally spoilt.

Being a Mum is incredibly Hard Work and some ultra-spoiling is the least she deserves!

Fathers/Husbands know that we have GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE

What can I get for Mum I hear you ask! If you are looking for ideas we have great gift vouchers. Purchase a Mother's Day Gift voucher that she can use in 4 ways?

Yes mum can have a Haircut or Colour, or maybe with the Beauty Therapist a Facial, some waxing, Eyelash extensions, Spray tan or Manicure or Pedicure. Or would she love a Massage - it could be a Relaxing or Hot Stones.

Now if Mum can't decide she simply may love some new professional Shampoo, Conditioner or Styling product. Either way she can use the voucher any way she would like.

Plenty of parking right to the front door and close to the post office and general shops and opposite the new swimming pool.

Please call into the salon or phone 0410 541 672....and please leave a message as Shaz will only return calls if a message has been left; too many scam calls at the moment.

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY TO ALL.

Shaz ☺

ANZAC Dawn Service

Our School Leaders did an outstanding job running the Dawn Service on ANZAC day this year. The school is so proud of them.



Mr *Stuart Weller* told another interesting story of one of the many local soldiers named on our memorial, so thank you Mr Weller. A big thank you to the **DONK** club of Nabiac who organised and cook up a lovely breakfast for all those in attendance.

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Country CrafTeas

Craft workshops run at the
Krambach School of Arts Hall.

Pottery, painting, macramé, candle making and sewing etc.

Craft morning teas with talks and demonstrations by local artists,
held on the third Wednesday of the month 10am-12noon, \$15pp.

Call or email to book: 0409 470 606,
countrycrafteas@outlook.com

*Country CrafTeas are bringing the Arts back to the School of Arts Hall. We are **Hannah** and **Louise**, two local farmers and mothers from Krambach. We have started a new business hosting craft workshops at the Krambach School of Arts Hall.*

As we all know, farming is a tough gig and we thought hard about a business venture we could start that would not only help our families but also offer something to our community that would bring people and activity to our small village.

Our workshops are all run by local artists in various craft activities including; pottery, macramé, painting, candle making and more and even our delicious homemade scone are made by a local lady. We also host craft morning teas on the third Wednesday of the month, where local artists are able to give talks and demonstrations on their crafts.

We have many more fun and exciting events and activities in the planning. Follow us on Facebook or Instagram to stay up to date with our workshops and events.

We would like to give a big thank you to all our beautiful family, friends and community who have supported and encouraged us in our new endeavour so far.

Hannah and Louise

Mother

You filled my days with rainbow lights,
Fairy tales and sweet dream nights,
A kiss to wipe away my tears,
Gingerbread to ease my fears.

You gave the gift of life to me,
And then in love, you set me free.
I thanks you for your tender care,
For deep warm hugs and being there.

I hope that when you think of me
A part of you
You'll always see....




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Between the Pages

Nabiac Library News



All MidCoast libraries will be closed on the 3rd May for a staff training day. We apologise for any inconvenience.

Happy Mothers' Day to all our Magnificent Mums!!!! If you're feeling creative and want to spoil Mum with a homemade gift, meal, pot plant or a great book to read, visit your very own Nabiac Library for inspiration and instruction from our books, magazines and DVDs.

WOW!!! Have you looked at Midcoast Library's website lately? Sooo many activities and events to choose from, our community is definitely spoilt for choice JJ

The Sydney Writers' Festival continues in **May** bringing the world's finest authors and thinkers to local areas in real-time, **Bookings are essential.**

I've had a fantasmagorical journey browsing the website to see the **New Releases at MidCoast Libraries!!!** There's biographies, graphic novels, David Baldacci & Michael Connelly, Lindsey Davis mysteries, pie making, slow cookery and gluten-free favourites cook books, children's books too, DVDs, these are just some on the first page. **Definitely** worth a look!!

What about the amazing **Reading Challenge 10 to Try** which asks you to read books across 10 different genres, keep track of your progress and share your favourite discoveries with the library and your fellow Beanstackers. What's a Beanstacker you may ask? Come and find out....

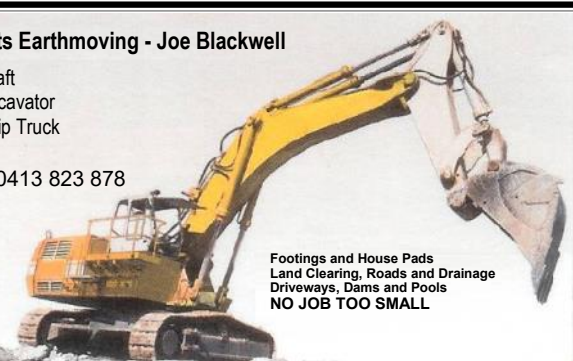


The **April school holiday marionette puppet activity** was great fun!!! "We had 10 kids attend the activity and ended up with some very decorative puppets including dogs, cats, horses and even some unicorns." stated **Yasmine English**, our very talented and enthusiastic Nabiac Library Co-ordinator.
←Sisters **Elizabeth and Alexis Simpson** made these wonderful marionette puppets

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Delightfully lovely and unique are the results of the **Seniors Festival Napkin Decoupage workshop**; these two notebooks are great examples and the ladies finished them on the day!!!



Nabiac's very own **Tech Savvy Seniors** workshop was really successful and attendees received some helpful advice on using their smartphones. Well done all!!!

One of our members wanted even more knowledge and reserved a book to help. ☺☺

Do you enjoy jigsaw puzzles? Try the MidCoast Library online jigsaw puzzles; the link is in the eServices section of the website or here <https://www.jigsawplanet.com/MidCoastLibraries>. We have turned some of our local history images into online puzzles. The puzzles have been popular and are also put up on Facebook. Have a go, perhaps you'll discover a new talent?


Car and motorcycle enthusiasts!!!b Did you know e-Services has:



Haynes manuals AllAccess is a library of manuals covering a vast range of car and motorcycle makes and models, with up-to-date content including common repairs, routine maintenance and servicing procedures. Library members will be able to access the manuals directly on the library computers but also from home using their library card number.

Not sure which author to read next or you want to go in a new reading direction. **Who Else Writes Like?** can help you decide. Or if you are looking for children's books, the kids version Error! Hyperlink reference not valid. is the place to start.

Whatever your interests, hobbies, or talents, come along and browse your local library. Our friendly, helpful staff will assist as needed. We look forward to seeing you soon in our awesome Nabiac Library!!!



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Nabiac Landcare

Nabiac Landcare members were happy to get back to work after the rain and floods. We did approach the Bullock Wharf reserve with some trepidation having seen the high water mark on the picnic shelter at the bottom of Nabiac St. We were quite surprised at the minimal damage to the vegetation in the areas of the reserve that flooded. The last serious flood through the end of Wharf Street had scoured part of the flood way to bare earth. After that event we worked to control weeds in the area and planted a number of trees and shrubs. There has been damage to the river banks. Friends who regularly kayak in the area describe lots of bank erosion with many trees falling into the river.



The biological control program for Wandering tradescantia, *Tradescantia fluminensis*, moved forward a step when we were offered a supply of the smut infected plants earlier than expected. We planted the material (in the rain) in dense patches of trad along the river at Bullock Wharf. Since flooding was expected we chose sites fairly high up the banks. Well, the flood was higher than we expected and all the plantings were inundated but not significantly damaged. So we are hoping that the smut survived to do its job. We will be monitoring the area.



We've recently identified two 'new' weeds at Bullock Wharf. The first is African Olive (*Olea europaea* subsp. *Cuspidata*). This edible olive relative is highly



invasive and a serious problem in the Sydney and Hunter regions. Although we have only found three immature plants, their presence indicated that there is a mature seed source in the area. The link to further explore is [NSW WeedWise](http://NSWWeedWise). If you discover this plant on your property or on public land contact your local council weeds officer.

The other weed, Cadaghi (*Corymbia torelliana*), is a native of far north



Queensland. It was planted extensively in southeast Queensland and NSW in the 70's and 80's, it grows fast, has lovely smooth bark and attractive furry red new growth. Cadaghi is now considered an environmental weed in SE QLD and is beginning to spread locally. <https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/cadaghi>

You don't really want it near your house since it's roots are quite invasive. We are finding many seedling at Bullock Wharf. Cadaghi has an interesting relationship with the small stingless native bee, *Trigona carbonaria*. When


the cadaghi seed capsule matures it contains a resin very attractive to the bees, the bees collect the resin, seeds stick to the resin and the bees inadvertently spread the seeds. The cadaghi and Trigona do not normally occur together in north Queensland. There is some concern that the bee's obsession with collecting resin may distract them from more important activities like eating.

We work each Wednesday (weather permitting) 8-9am to 11am, followed by morning tea. Membership is only \$2.00 plus an occasional donation to the morning tea fund and new members are always welcome. Training, tools and safety gear supplied. Give us a ring if you are interested.

Liz Rees 6554 3196

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MINIMBAH MATTERS

Minimbah Rural Fire Brigade has hand delivered invitations to all the residences in our area that we could find. If you didn't receive one that means we couldn't find your home, which in itself is of concern. Firstly, we don't want to miss you when we do a "letterbox drop", and even more importantly, we really need to be able to find you in case of a fire or other emergency. House numbers make it easier, and the more visible those numbers are, the more effective they are. Having found your driveway, it is imperative that we can get our equipment to the fire. Fire Trucks are not dainty little things, so please clear overhanging branches and shrubs.



We are busy preparing for our combined **40th Anniversary celebration and Get Ready Day** to be held at our Fire Station on **Saturday 15th May commencing at 11am**. Don't miss out on the fun and memories.

The invitations are out; the cake has been ordered; cameras are being dusted off and mobile phones will be charged up, but we can't order the sausages (which will be on the barbie by noon) until we know how many people will be joining us. To ensure we allow for you when catering.....



Please RSVP by Tuesday 11th May
to either
Verena (6554 1492) or Gai (0412 681 542)



We have already received acceptances from a Founding Member and some Life Members of the Brigade, so there should be some good stories told (most probably exaggerated) and photos shown, on the day.

As advised last month, the Bush Fire Danger Period has finished and therefore no Fire Permits are required before lighting fires. However, with every strike of a match comes a responsibility, such as never leaving your fire unattended. Calls for help to Triple Zero are for emergencies and cannot be ignored. We have received a couple of callouts to grass fires which had been reported to Triple zero. These were un-necessary 000 calls, as maybe, when spotted, there was no-one in attendance. It is inconvenient when this happens, but we do encourage people to *report un-attended fires to Triple Zero*. Obviously *that* message is getting through. We now need to ensure that the following message is getting across to everyone.....

Give at least 24 hours' notice to **your neighbours** –across the fence, across the road or across the river, AND to the **NSW Rural Fire Service**.

You can do this online by simply going to
www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/notify and following the prompts.

If you do not have internet access, you can notify
NSW RFS Mid Coast District on 1300 643 262.

We look forward to your company on 15th – please don't forget to ring Verena or Gai.



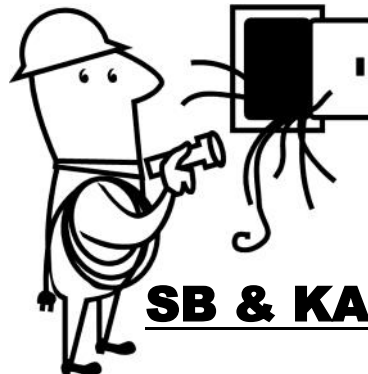
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6554 1876



News from Nabiac Second Chance Op Shop

Open Monday to Saturday 9.00am to 12.00pm

**PLEASE NOTE THE OP SHOP AND SHED WILL BE CLOSED
THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

All the volunteers at Nabiac Second Chance Op Shop would like to wish all the Mothers of our Community far and wide a wonderful Mother's Day with your families.

Our Covid19 Safety Plan is still in place and conditions of entry still apply.

A friendly reminder the Op Shop and Shed will be closed first Wednesday 5th May.

DONATIONS:

As you are aware we no longer can sell or accept Toys, Electrical and Mechanical due to restrictions on our Insurance.

The good news is all of these items that were in stock have now been donated to the Lions Op Shop at Haliday's Point and Tuncurry Tip Shop and not gone into land fill which was a concern for all.

We appreciate all your generous donations - without your generosity we wouldn't have our wonderful Op Shop and Shed. A big thankyou to you all.

In saying that please be mindful of what you donate.

Please only good, clean saleable goods/clothing/Linen and blankets can be accepted.

Please do not leave donations if they will not fit in the donation bin as they are left out overnight and become damp and become unsaleable. It would be gratefully appreciated if you could bring your donations in during opening hours Monday-Saturday, 9.00am to 12.00pm.

To dispose of any unsaleable items cost the Op Shop money that should be going back to the community.

We are in need of good clean bed linen and blankets. These items would be gratefully accepted and appreciated.

Thankyou in advance for your co-operation and generosity when donating.

The library in the shed has been expanded and looking great which means a greater variety of books.

We have a lot of soccer and football boots for sale for kids and adults and they can be found in the Shed. Some are almost brand new. Prices start at \$3.00 depending on the condition.

As winter is fast approaching we have put out our winter stock of clothing in all the rooms. We have plenty of winter jackets, clothing, winter boots and shoes for sale. They are all in very good condition. Come on in and check out our winter stock.

Looking forward to seeing all of our dedicated customers at the Op Shop and Shed.

Kathryn and all the amazing volunteers from Nabiac Second Chance Op Shop.



**Diagnostic Assessment
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Irlen /Scotopic Sensitivity Syndrome

is a Visual Processing Disorder or 'Visual Dyslexia'.

Do you or your child suffer from any of these symptoms?

Reading Characteristics

- ☐ Poor concentration
- ☐ Skips words or lines
- ☐ Reads slowly or hesitantly
- ☐ Loses place
- ☐ Avoids reading
- ☐ Reads in dim lighting
- ☐ Misreads words

- ☐ Strain or fatigue
- ☐ Tired or sleepy
- ☐ Headache or nausea
- ☐ Fidgety or restless



Writing Characteristics

- ☐ Trouble copying from board

Other Characteristics

- ☐ Strain or fatigue from computer use
- ☐ Difficulty reading music
- ☐ Sloppy careless maths errors
- ☐ Misaligned numbers in columns
- ☐ Ineffective use of study time

Depth Perception

- ☐ Clumsiness
- ☐ Difficulty catching balls
- ☐ Difficulty judging distances

If you have ticked 3 or more of these symptoms, Irlen Dyslexia may be affecting you. For more information or self-test visit www.aaic.org.au or contact the Taree clinic on 0409 653 700.

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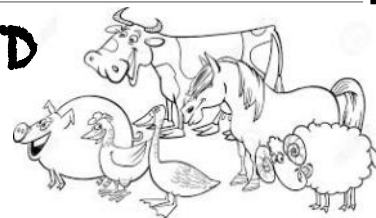
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NEWS FROM BUNYAH

The Hall Committee held their AGM in February and it was proposed that the position of President/Secretary be split into two separate positions. Neryl Simpson agreed to retain the President's role and an Extra Ordinary AGM would be held as required, within the next 2 weeks, to seek and appoint a 'Secretary'.

Maureen Ralph offered to stand for the position and was appointed as Secretary; we welcome Maureen to our Committee

All positions elected and accepted were:-

President	Neryl Simpson
Secretary	Maureen Ralph
Treasurer/Booking Officer	Christine Palin
Garden Crew Co-Ordinator	Linda Pilmore
Functions Committee	Ann Murray, Yvonne Arnold
Committee member	Brian Hart.

ANZAC Day Service was held at our Cenotaph with a good attendance by locals and we welcomed new residents, **Mark & Tracey**, from Sydney.

Dennis Simpson gave a heartfelt, respectful Introduction to our Service, followed by **Maureen Ralph** reading the Prayer for Remembrance, Peace and Future of Australia, followed by the Poem 'In Flanders Fields' recited by **Neryl Simpson** then **Bob Thatcher** gave a moving rendition of 'At the Going Down of the Sun'.

Morning Tea followed which gave all our guests the opportunity to meet and have a chat; this being the first get-together for over a year; all COVID rules were in place.

Later, a BBQ Lunch was available along with a few games of Tennis

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which a number of people enjoyed on such a beautiful Autumn day.

Thanks to Maureen Ralph, **Sandra Goodhand, Ann & Leith Murray & Bob Thatcher** who cleaned up our Cenotaph Garden and gave it a great 'makeover' after it suffered from the flooding rains; now it certainly looks the 'part'.

Our special thanks to **Brian & Yvonne Parry** from **Parry's Wildflower Nursey at Bunyah** who donated bunches of beautiful Grevilleas, Banksias and other native plants

Maureen Ralph made the wildflowers into beautiful Floral arrangements for the Cenotaph and the Hall.

Maureen & **Don** Ralph printed the Service Programme and Don took care of the music; also, thank you both for your contribution in other aspects of preparing for this special Day. It is much appreciated.

Thank you also to the 'Morning Tea Helpers' for setting it all up and serving, while being mindful of COVID safety, everyone appreciated the care.

A reminder that Tennis is available every Wednesday morning 9:00am to noon or thereabouts whatever suits you, cost \$3.00pp coffee/tea provided.

Everyone is welcome, if you prefer to come for the social aspect only, that's fine, we would love to see you.

Art & Craft classes are also available every 1st & 3rd Friday of the month, 9:00am till noon. **Bev Calder** can give you guidance on drawing/painting, you don't need to 'know how to do it' and if you prefer craft and are doing something already, just bring it along and enjoy the company while you do whatever takes your fancy! Cost \$3:00pp

Our Library is open every Wednesday when Tennis is on and when Art & Craft is on. These opening times will be reviewed in the coming months as we are doing an update of the shelving and books.

Look forward to seeing you at our Hall soon.

Neryl Simpson



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WALLAMBA CWA REPORT

Vice President *Iris Cummings* chaired our April 13th meeting of Wallamba CWA Branch in the absence of President *Margaret Weller*, and welcomed 11 members to our normal venue at the Nabiach Village Community Church Hall, as well as acknowledging 5 apologies.

Following the formal opening of National Anthem, CWA Motto and Prayer, members paused to remember the passing of family and friends including member *Penny Britton's* dad, John Britton, John Firth brother-in-law of *Iris Cummings*, Barbara Gregory former Nabiach resident, Steve Harder, Bill Edzery, friend of member *Jill Hammond*, Maude Walsh resident of Krumbach, Linda Gregory and HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh aged 99yrs and husband of Queen Elizabeth 11 for almost 73 yrs.

This month's thought was one which Penny had penned herself and it was **"As you walk down the pathway of life; Hold onto your past memories and experiences, for they are the foundations of your future."**

Jill has offered to provide May's thought.

A number of correspondence items were discussed including the support that CWA was offering to flood victims across NSW. Member *Jean* spoke of her and husband Kevin's involvement at Manning Point and the Turbans4Australia which had come up from Sydney to donate food parcels and other items to flood victims in the area and also at Oxley Island.

ACWW Headquarter in London, UK were also asking for donations to assist with their world wide work and as Wallamba Branch is a member it was decided to send a donation of \$70 to further this vital work in third world countries.

The aprons which a number of members had embroidered have been placed at The Nook Craft Shop Nabiach for sale and funds will be used for the ongoing work of CWA.

Members *Merle Barber* and *Fay Anderson* will have attended the State CWA Conference at Bega by the time this goes to print and we look forward to hearing all the details of their participation when we meet again on Tuesday May 11th for our next meeting.

International Officer Penny gave us her final wrap up on our 2021-

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2021 Country of Study – Ecuador – with the name meaning Equator, it is the only country in The World named after a natural feature. The equator is the middle of the world and is 5klms wide and as a result has four different climate changes as a result of its location.

Ecuadorians have been consuming chocolate for over 5,000 years and is also said to have 4,000 different species of Orchids along with 300 different types of bananas which are an important food source for the country.

Jean, our Cookery Officer, reported on the latest competition which was held in conjunction with the Friendship Day hosted by the Bonny Hills CWA Branch. From a number of entries submitted by the Wallamba ladies we had 2 entries going on to State Conference – congratulations to Jill Hammond for her spiced Chutney and to *Jenny Ang* for her Tarragon Jelly, whilst Jean took out a 1st place with her Sponge. Coral also received a placing with her Cherry Blush Cake. There were a total of 93 entries from 7 branches entered on the day.

Possums were also discussed by our Ag & Environment Officer Coral and she gave us some amazing facts of these cute and sometimes active creatures telling us that there are 30 different species including Feather tails which are found down the East Coast, Brush tails that are the most common and found down the Eastern side of Australia together with squirrel gliders.

Coral showed us her very clever crafted needle felted pictures of three squirrels and one of an emu she had named Christine whose inquisitive eyes followed you. Pam also brought in 9 of her knitted CWA Pocket Koalas to go to State Head office.

Penny – our Cultural Officer – filled us in on the happenings at the Friendship Day held at Bonny Hills which was attended by several of our ladies and they all said they had a great day and enjoyed the company of all who had attended. Member Jean came home as the winner of the raffle held on the day and won herself a lovely quilt. Penny informed members she was hoping to attend the 'Weaving Turtles' workshop being held at the Manning Regional Art Gallery in Taree on 22nd April – so we are looking forward to seeing some her craft work at the next meeting.

Discussion was held on the various motions being put forward at the State Conference in Bega and for Medical Research we had to select

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from Ovarian Cancer, Stillbirth and Childhood Brain Cancer and members selected Ovarian Cancer for Merle to put forward on behalf of the Branch.

Happy birthday wishes were extended to members Jill Hammond for March 7th and she also told us that she had become a great grandmother to a baby girl to be named Asha and happy birthday wishes to Iris Cummings for her day on March 20th. We hope you both had a great day.

Next meeting for the Branch will be held on Tuesday 11th May commencing at 10.00am when any interested ladies are most welcome to come along to see what the Branch does.

Pam Muxlow

Wallamba CWA Branch Publicity Officer



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We would like to thank all our wonderful customers & the community for their support throughout the years, happy times, a store where there was always laughter & conversation, then the recent sad time.

Leon has not enjoyed good health for a long time therefore time for a holiday, rest and family.

John Tagg will still be at the store and **Terry** cutting back. These two men have been a great support especially the past five years. They are priceless.

We hope you continue to support Josh & Renee (very exciting) in their business and we wish them the very best and look forward to them putting their stamp on a business that has been our life.

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Catherine Pickard

The Wallamba Watershed's History – Another in a series of historical articles gleaned from the archives of the "Manning River Times, 1941 by Bob Mann

KRAMBACH: MARCH 1941: Krambach P & C Association wrote re the condition of the footpath in front of the store premises at Krambach. The President said the water on the road was higher than the footpath. He suggested that the Riding Committee and the engineer meet the writers on the spot and see what could be done.

NABIAC: The NABIAC P & C wrote re the condition of the road to the Bullock Wharf and asking for attention. Writers to be informed that the road would receive attention. Bucca Wauka P & C brought under notice of the council the condition of the Bucca Wauka road. The President said about the end of the month he would be attending an executive meeting in Sydney and he would see what was being done or when it would be done. It was decided to inform the Association that the council had done all it could in the matter and would follow it up.


COOLONGOLOOK: Mr C.E. Bennett, M.L.A. for Gloucester, is in receipt of a letter from the Minister for Education, the Hon D H. Drummond, acknowledging his representation on behalf of the Coolongolook P & C Association and advising that he now has authorised the acceptance of a tender for additional accommodation at the Coolongolook Public School.

KRAMBACH: On Friday night two lorries collided near Krambach. One was carrying Jersey cattle from the Wingham Show to the Stud farm of Messrs. E.W. Milligan and Sons near Dyers Crossing. The other lorry was conveying some of the clever acrobatic children of NABIAC to give a display in the ring on the final night of the show. We understand the lorry was loaded with children. Master Woodward, son of Mr and Mrs Ernie Woodward of NABIAC, was in the school lorry and received painful injuries one of which necessitated insertion of stitches in the forehead. Mr Higgins of Bucca Worka was travelling in the school lorry and had his coat and shirt off. A two year old Jersey cow which belonged to Messrs E.W. Milligan and Sons was thrown

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out of the lorry and received serious injuries from which she may not survive. One young bull was thrown out but he and the other show cattle escaped serious injury.

TIPPERARY ROAD: At the last meeting of the Gloucester Chamber of Commerce a resolution was passed urging the Gloucester Shire to connect up the road from Iataatee(?) creek with the Tipperary Road. This would mean the construction of about 3 miles of road, 2½ of which would be in the Gloucester Shire and ¾ of a mile in the Manning Shire. Such a road would be a great convenience to the settlers in that area giving them direct access to the Gloucester pig and calf markets, the most important on the coast, and to the Gloucester butter factory and store. At present these people who do business with Gloucester have to do many extra miles travelling than should be the case.

The road it is said would not be a costly undertaking. It is hoped that councillors will make an early inspection of the proposal

WOOTTON: Mr C.E. Bennett M.L.A. is in receipt of the following letter from Mr I.O. Martin, M.L.A. Minister for Works and Local Government. "With reference to your personal representation on behalf of Mr S. Squires and Mr J. H. Squires and a number of other residents of Wootton whose names appear as signatures to a petition urging that the Stroud Shire Council be moved to construct a high level bridge in place of the one washed away by flood waters recently, I have to advise that this is a matter for consideration by the council. It is suggested that the petitioners approach the Stroud Shire Council in the first instance when it would be competent for the council to make representation to the Department for assistance."

SHIRE MEETING: At a Shire Meeting held on Monday 10th March some residents who use the Wang Wauk - Cocumbark and NABIAC Road via Dargavilles wrote in about the condition of these roads. It was stated that some of the worst sections of the road has been gravelled and minor repairs effected to culverts.

COOLONGOLOOK: The P & C Association held its usual meeting on April 17th when general business was transacted. The matter of the Empire Day picnic for the pupils was discussed and decided upon. It was decided to have a stall on Polling Day in aid of the P & C Funds. With the opening of the new school it was expected that there would be a big calling on the funds. Accounts for £2.6s.1d were passed for payment.

On Saturday April 19th a dance was held in aid of the Patriotic and War Funds. Fords Orchestra supplied the music and the duties of M.C. was carried out by Mr Pat Kennedy. Soft drinks and ice cream was on sale during the entertainment.

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Group &
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Neighbourhood Centre**



The Nabiac Futures Group, on behalf of the Nabiac Neighbourhood Centre Committee, have for months been involved in two issues that will affect the Nabiac community.

They are the proposed changes to the Dibbs Street and Wooster Lane intersection and the preparation of a cycleway plan for Nabiac. Both items were addressed by Council on Wednesday 28th April 2021.

The Cycle plan was adopted, and Council refused the application to change the configuration of the Dibbs Street intersection. We addressed Council in the morning and spoke on both items. That presentation is quoted below.

PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL WEDNESDAY 28th APRIL 2021

"Mr Mayor and Councillors thank you for the opportunity to address you today.

I will speak to Items 19 and 20 in your business paper.

I represent the Nabiac Village Futures Group a subcommittee of the Nabiac Neighbourhood Centre Committee.

We support your staff's recommendations for both items.

I would like to begin with the Mobility and Bicycle Plan.

We thank council and in particular senior staff for their long-term relationship with the Nabiac Village Futures Group.

Your support for our strategic plan, which we have developed in cooperation with Council over the years and is now incorporated into your planning, is very much appreciated.

A major focus for us has been the improvement of amenities, safety, and sustainability of our community. We are at present preparing a sustainability plan to be incorporated into our revised strategic plan. I mention this because the community of Nabiac is proud of their village and desire to work with Council to advance the betterment of the community. The Bicycle Plan brings forward an opportunity to deliver amenity and safety to the Nabiac community.

We congratulate your staff for an excellent plan. It has identified many of the connectivity issues across Nabiac. In our sustainability plan discussions connectivity is becoming a major consideration. We see the plan as complimenting what we are looking at and improve not only the amenity and safety within Nabiac but may have an economic benefit as people who visit Nabiac can safely move around the village and stay and spend money.

We look forward to assist in the progression of the objectives of the plan. The Nabiac Neighbourhood Centre Committee, through the Futures Group, can assist through consultancy and on ground support. Our proactive alliance with council has already delivered projects that have benefitted our community.

In resourcing such a comprehensive plan we appreciate the challenges however, we ask that Council be proactive in delivering it. Allocate funds each year to progress even the smallest of elements of the plan in each of the communities across the council area. Seek partnerships with groups such as the Nabiac Neighbourhood Centre to deliver projects as we have done for many years. Waiting for Section

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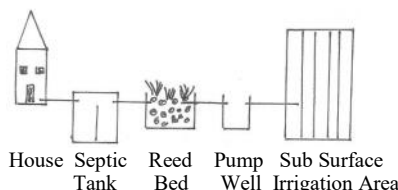
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94 funds, grants and annual budget opportunities is good but nothing as strong as a line-item commitment in your annual budget for the bicycle plan.

I will now address the DIBB and WOOSTER STREETS INTERSECTION

The Dibbs Street report and recommendations to Council is very much supported by the Nabiac Village Futures Group.

We have met on many occasions over this proposal with many members of the community. We are not a lobby group but are proactive in engaging our community on all matters that will affect their amenity, service, and safety. Our major concern is the safety of the proposed changes especially the forced U Turn at Pipeclay Creek Road. In our view this a most dangerous option. Your officers have also identified the same safety issues as many of us outlined in our submissions. Over 100 submissions were received. Ninety nine percent, mostly locals, do not support this current proposal. It is simply not in the best interest of our local community.

If this proposal were to be approved it would reduce amenity, service, and safety to Nabiac. The closure of the right-hand turn at Dibbs Street would force all vehicles coming from the south to travel through the Nabiac commercial centre and impact upon key locations such as the school and the local streets. The main street is narrow and all service vehicles, tradies and deliveries to the many people who live north of the main commercial centre would be forced to enter Nabiac Village from the south down through the main street.

The good folk living in Woosters Lane would be disadvantaged the most. We believe B Doubles exit Woosters Lane from a successful and expanding commercial enterprise and for those needing to travel south after exiting have no choice but the do a U Turn at Pipeclay Creek to turn around which would be extremely dangerous.

There are many families living on Woosters Lane, and all will be required to travel north and do a U turn to simply go to their local shops in Nabiac including taking children to school, collecting the mail, and visiting doctors. Heavy vehicles servicing Wooster Lane will also be forced to travel north and do a U turn. This represents a significant reduction in service to those families.

The current proposal is flawed. There needs to be a better and safer option. I understand that you are looking at the development of the proposal, the on-ground facility. The approval of the service centre DA happened years ago through a decision of the courts and subsequent application to Council. However, council needs to ensure the safety and amenity of its local community in considering the application before you today. Your officer's report clearly outlines that neither amenity, service nor safety are met.

We therefore strongly support the recommendations to Council.

Both reports and recommendations will assure the safety, service, and amenity of Nabiac.

Once again thank you for the opportunity to address Council."

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*****HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY *****

Market News:

Nabiac Farmers' Market is seeking a new coordinator. Deborah Knoke has done an amazing job of running the market for the past three years and she will leave big boots to fill! Deborah and her husband Robert, who also has invested much time and energy into the market, are looking forward to family time and travels.

The role: This dynamic market committee needs someone who is organised and community-minded to fill this position which includes:

- All aspects of running the market, with the committee
- Adhering to the market ethos
- Liaising with stallholders, council, local committees and groups
- Set up & pack up the monthly market
- Promotion & tasks throughout the month

For the full role description enquire via email or call the phone number below.

Stallholder feature: Coffee – Chantal & Paul Hallot

Coffee aficionados Paul & Chantal Hallot have been in hospitality for 25 years. The love of good coffee and foods which nurture the soul, have kept Chantal & Paul's passion for Nabiac Market alive for a decade.

They had cafes and carts in Sydney from 1994-2002, which included an ideal position in George Street and also serving customers from SBS Television. Prior to this, Paul ran a cafe with his brother in Durban, South Africa.



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Their twin boys were born in 2009 and the opportunity to have a coffee and food stall at Nabiac farmers market came at the perfect time.

The market was small at the time, so with two babies, "it was a good way to ease ourselves back into hospitality. We never expected much from the stall but hoped that it would help to grow the market". -and they were right!

Chantal comments that the burgeoning market has "of course, since expanded significantly to be perhaps one of the best markets on the mid North coast"

They feel very fortunate to be part of this and strive to make the best products possible which include Foglia organic coffee. The Fair-Trade beans are grown in Peru and roasted in Sydney.

A select, high quality range of foods are available to compliment the coffee, including scrumptious cakes, tarts and toasted Turkish breads. All hand-made, fresh on the morning of each market – (they start super early!)

"The Nabiac farmers market attracts people from a large area and always has a great vibe and fabulous produce and homemade products.... We feel fortunate to be part of such a great institution that helps to put Nabiac on the map"

Find Chantal & Paul at Nabiac Farmers Market (last Saturday of each month) and the Palms market at Elizabeth Beach (the last Sunday of every month).



See you at the next market on 29th May. Come and enjoy the market, be healthy and buy lots of goodies.
Remember your cool bags & trolley and to "Shop and Go"!

For Stallholder applications, go to the website www.nabiacfarmersmarket.com and download the vendor information forms;

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Follow us on Instagram and Facebook. Thank you – market committee.

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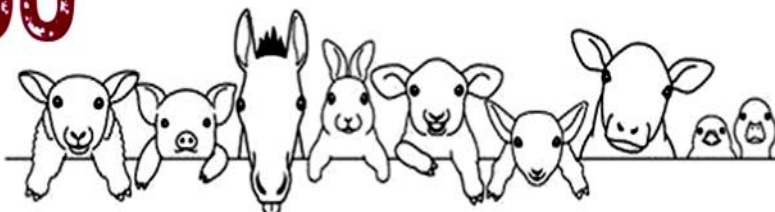
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Nabiac Public School News

Last Term Nabiac Public School held an 'Expo' instead of our usual 'Meet the Teacher' evenings generally held at the beginning of each school year.

Based on parent feedback, staff discovered some parents felt they were hearing the same thing each year and didn't find the sessions valuable. So the staff got together and decided to have a 'whole school approach' that allowed parents to meet all the teachers, visiting 12 stalls manned by different teachers and learnt about Key Learning Areas, projects and programs operating in the classrooms, as well as introducing new technologies for families.



The evening proved very successful with parents commenting that they 'learnt more than I expected!'



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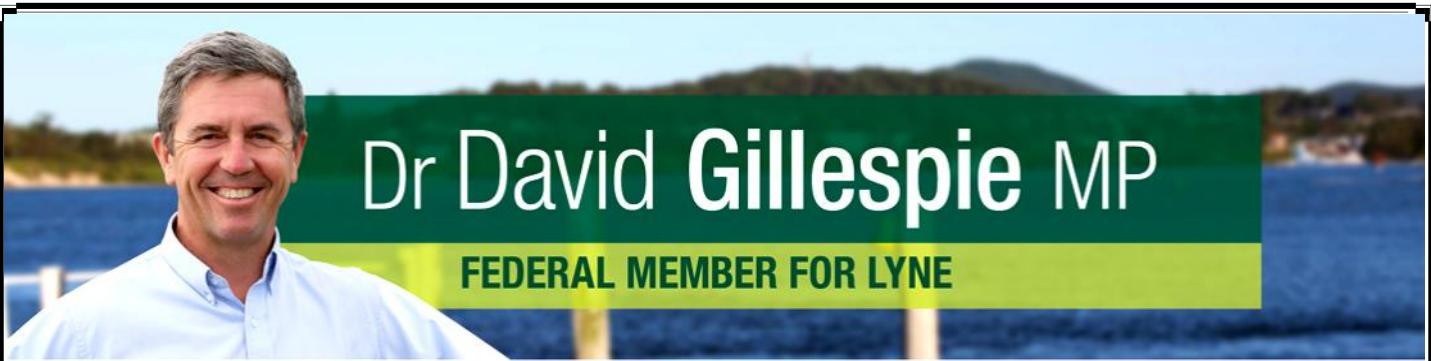
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Dr David Gillespie MP

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VOLUNTEER GRANTS 2021

Volunteering comes in all shapes and sizes – from a casual “yes I’ll help at the local fete” through to a regular gig with the many community organisations who work tirelessly across our region.

The Australian Government is backing volunteers in our communities with grants between \$1000 and \$5000 each – which can be used for;

- purchase eligible small equipment items
- contribute to volunteers’ fuel costs
- assist with the costs of training courses
- undertake background screening checks for volunteers.

Expressions of Interest close 5pm, Wednesday 28 April 2021



POWERING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The Morrison Government is focused on delivering affordable, reliable energy for all Australians. The Powering Communities Program provides community organisations with funding for local energy saving projects that will lower power bills and help reduce Australia’s emissions.

The Program will fund up to 12 projects worth a total of \$67,700 in each federal electorate. Grants of between \$5,000 and \$12,000 are available to support projects such as:

- Installing solar panels or a battery
- Upgrading equipment to more energy efficient models
- Replacing lighting with more energy efficient LEDs or
- Conducting an energy audit

Expressions of Interest close 5pm, Wednesday 5 May 2021

Apply today on my website at davidgillespie.com.au/grants-finder



FLOOD CLEAN-UP AND RECOVERY ASSISTANCE

The Australian and NSW Governments are looking ahead to the next stage of clean-up and recovery grants following the recent catastrophic storm and flood event, helping communities begin to rebuild and recover.

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📍 144 Victoria Street,
Taree, NSW 2430

📘 DavidGillespieMP

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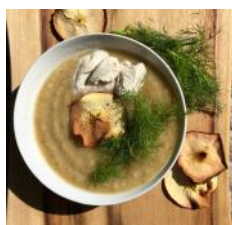
It's soup time

In the midst of Autumn, we find ourselves reaching for warming foods. I tend to favour 3 main soups: pumpkin, minestrone and lentil soups. Keen to try something new, I trialed this recipe and found it a delicious change.

Apple & Fennel soup


Ingredients

- 2 granny smith apples – peel & diced
- 3 fennel bulbs-Save the tops & finely chop for a generous garnish
- 1 parsnip – chopped
- 1-2 celery stalks, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1 onion – peeled and diced
- 4 cups broth of choice. (I used veggie stock, but chicken bone broth would be nutritious & add flavour)
- Sea salt & black pepper to taste
- 1 tsp curry paste or Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons avocado oil (or olive oil & real butter) for sautéing.



Method

- Heat the oil over a medium heat. Sauté the onion, celery until



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softened, add the garlic for a minute too

- Add the mustard or curry paste
- Add the stock, chopped fennel bulbs & apple
- Bring to the boil, then simmer for around 35 mins
- Add the lemon juice, salt & pepper
- When cooled a little, blend with a stick blender.

Serve

- Add some coconut cream, cashew cream, feta cheese or natural yoghurt.
- Add a generous amount of the chopped fennel tops and a piece of dried apple.

Nutrition.

I happily eat veggie soups any time of year or anytime of day! They are a great way to provide your body with nutrient rich foods. Fuel your body: swap classic “empty” foods at morning tea, enjoy a small bowl of soup!

Apples and celery provide good carbohydrate value, for energy, and fibre for a healthy gut.

Fennel is a good source of manganese, magnesium & potassium – great for heart health- It is high in fibre and contains small amounts of iron and calcium. The seeds are also nutritious and provide good flavour & interest to many recipes.

Follow “The Natural Space” on Facebook and Instagram.
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DA OLDE NABIAC KLUB (DONK)

As some would be aware several members have attended the recent National 1 & 2 cylinder rally at Charleville, postponed from last year.

We took three Museum hi-wheelers, IHC, Schacht and Sears with high hopes. Some trouble at times getting there due to flooded roads at the border which for some meant long detours through Roma.

Charleville (pop 3,500) has, like many country towns, done it tough in recent times and being 700kms west of Brisbane can become a little "forgotten". This event, which brought some 80 vehicles, including motor cycles from all states except WA, has been planned for three years and the town had high hopes we would provide recognition for the area.

Our general feeling is we did that in spades. Just attending gave the community a lift that was desperately needed. We were chuffed.

We were welcomed and farewelled at two community functions by the Mayor "Zoro" who enjoys an 80% approval rating. (Very few can claim that).

Nothing was a problem & extremely well organised. Driving through town every day was met with a friendly wave in spite of us at times holding up traffic due to our slow and at times reluctant vehicles.

The rally deal was to complete several trips over 5 days, two at 120kms return and several shorter trips to various highlights. All good fun although our IHC suffered a "failure to proceed" and despite dismantling the gear box, was a no-goer. Our other vehicles, whilst not doing the long runs, performed well at the others with very few problems.

One trip was to the site of the largest explosion in Australian transport history which destroyed the highway bridge and adjacent railway



Everyone should visit.

Some of the cars that were at the rally - not ours

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bridge at a small creek crossing 26kms south of Charleville. This was the result of a B double with 53 tons of ammonium nitrate on board going off the road into the creek. Very interesting. Look up **Angellala creek explosion**

A highlight was a "torch light parade" where we taped a torch to our vehicles and drove through the town several times after dark. It was estimated that perhaps 500 residents lined the streets cheering us on. Very heart warming

Getting back to our accommodation with very little illumination was another matter.

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REAL KULTCHA

It is the best of times – it is the worst of times!

I've got to ask – how's your team going at the moment? Mine are playing but the less said about how they're playing and where they sit on their respective ladders would be appreciated. In short, they're providing some competition but in general they appear to be little more than smallish speed bumps on other team's run to the finals! A case in point. I watched *The Panthers* play *The Knights* last evening and though I was sitting in my lounge chair some 350 kims away from the match, it seemed like I felt every hit! Have the players gotten bigger, has the game gotten faster or has the game become more brutal? Or maybe I've just gotten older, softer and generally become a bit of a nancy?

Down south things are not much better for my team St Kilda. They started the year – or to be truthful, the media said - with a lot of promise but the first bounce sorted them out quick smart. It would be fair to say if the whole team had gone down with COVID they'd probably be better placed than they are now. Still (and I can't wait to front the local *Tiger* fanatic) Richmond have suffered a couple of losses to date so his fairy story regarding their chances this year will be worth hearing. I'll pass it on if any of it is printable.

As I've promised before, I haven't watched any Rugby and it's little wonder. The game has gone to the dogs! BC (Before COVID) Rugby in Oz was under the hammer and the governing body decided that as we were pathetic, we had to drop a team. There was much navel gazing as each team at the time pointed to somebody else as the team to go. Finally the decision was made, *The Western Force* (based in Perth) got the chop and all breathed a sigh. Then COVID arrived, teams from New Zealand, South Africa, South America and Japan couldn't travel so a local comp was organised but there was only four teams so, cap in hand, the ARU went to Perth and begged them (*pretty please*) to come back. They did and haven't done all that bad. If a team was to be culled right now however, *The NSW Waratahs* would be odds on to cop the axe as they're running 5th and can't go any lower because there are only five teams in the comp! *The Wallamba Bulls* might get a call-up yet! I'll keep you posted.

But all is not lost. *The Child Bride* and I have taken the plunge and signed up to pay TV. And what's just started in the Good Old Hew Hess of Hay – MLB, that's what. For those of you who think the world of sport begins and ends with your team in the AFL (Oz Rules),

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ARL (Rugby League), ASL (Soccer), NBL (Basketball) or (for heaven's sake) ARU (Rugby) have we got news for you! Yes, the 2021 Baseball season has just begun and while not all the games are being shown there are enough to satisfy this old base stealer. I gained my first representative cap playing baseball and my first International cap in Singapore playing (a related game) Slow Pitch Softball (and I have the trophy to prove it).

So, for all you sad and already disillusioned sports fans, look around. Alright, to begin with you won't understand the rules but don't despair, you're not going to be the first fan to be confused: is there any real reason why a Rugby League referee gives another six tackles; when is a player really *caught with the ball* in Oz Rules; why is it that a line judge is always blind when a through pass to an obviously off side player in Soccer is never called; does anybody know what really constitutes a foul in Basketball; and have you ever understood why a Rugby referee ever blows their whistle? See, you're even confused with sports you've watched all your life!

I'll grant you there will be some technicalities you might find hard to fathom and the dribblers (*commentators*) are the same sports and the world over (chatterboxes with access to records and minutia that will drive you crazy) but stick with it, you'll get to understand in time. If you don't have pay TV might I suggest you drop over to Channel 34 (NITV). There you can watch Gaelic Football (and you thought Rugby was confusing) or a range of other sports that could include baseball and both men's and women's softball. Go on, what've you got to lose?

I don't fully understand what happened but this week has seen the creation and demise of a new soccer competition in Europe. There's an old saying that each of us is destined to have 15 minutes of fame in our lifetime but this new Super League (or whatever it was called) didn't even get that! There were billions of dollars supposedly involved and the foreign owners of several soccer teams in the UK signed up without checking if their fans might want it or like it! They didn't. Very quickly those owners were abused (Boris even had a go at them in Parliament) and they backtracked so fast they've probably all got whiplash injuries. The comp has been kicked to the gutter. It's nice to see fans still do have a place in sport.

Talk at you next month,

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FORSTER TO COFFS COACH TRIAL EXTENDED

A weekly trial coach service designed to connect Forster to Coffs Harbour and communities in between has been extended for another year.

Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, Paul Toole, said the new service was part of the NSW Government's vision to help make public transport a first-choice option for people living in the regions.

"This is great news for locals right along the Mid North Coast, making it easy for people to connect to Coffs Harbour for work, medical appointments and shopping with the option to return on the same day," Mr Toole said.

"We've been working hard with communities right across the State to trial new services that provide improved connectivity in the regions and new options to travel where they want to go."

Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Transport and Member for Myall Lakes, Stephen Bromhead, said he was glad to see the trial extended ensuring the community have time to embrace the service, outside of the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Most people minimized their travel last year which made it difficult to get a gauge of the demand for this service," Mr Bromhead said.

"I would encourage the community to give the service a go over the next year and show there is ongoing demand, all feedback will be taken on board."

Member for Coffs Harbour, Gurmeh Singh, said connecting the communities of the Mid North Coast was paramount.

"If we can keep this service running, it will continue to increase tourism opportunities and provide expanded transport options for local residents," Mr Singh said.

The weekly return coach service will operate on **Friday** between Forster and Coffs Harbour, with stops including Tarce, Cundletown, Coopernook, Kew, Wauchope, Port Macquarie, Kempsey, Frederickton, Macksville, Nambucca Heads and Urunga.

Customers can book the trial coach services online at www.transportnsw.info/regional or by phoning NSW TrainLink on 13 22 32.



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Improvements complete at Tuncurry Rockpool

The fences came down on Monday 26th April, with repairs to the beach retaining wall and a number of improvements completed at Tuncurry's Rockpool, on time and budget.

"Access to one of our most popular waterside locations has been vastly improved, with wider promenades, stepped and ramp access to the sand and new hand rails installed," said Council's Acting Manager of Community Spaces, Recreation and Trades, Michael Cross.

Stage one was completed in time for Easter, with the shared walkway directly in front of the kiosk extended and widened, tiered steps that double as seating constructed down to the beach, and ramps and hand-rails installed to provide improved all-ability access.

After the holidays, the work crews returned to complete the area in front of the carpark to widen the walkway, and construct two access ramps including one that provides easy truck access to the beach during sand harvesting.

"All works are now complete, and we are awaiting the arrival of extra seating for the promenade area, which will be installed once it is delivered."

Visitors to the Rockpool are reminded that this spot is not patrolled, there are strong currents that can pose a risk to swimmers, particularly at the southern edge near the safety net, and to exercise caution at all times.

Council's draft operational plan and budget on exhibition

A draft plan outlining projects and services to be delivered across the MidCoast during 2021-22, along with MidCoast Council's draft annual operating budget, is now open for feedback until Friday 28th May, 2021.

Operational plans are prepared each year as part of Council's commitment to implementing the four year Delivery Program. Both are part of a suite of planning documents developed to achieve the objectives identified as priorities for the local community in the Community Strategic Plan, *'MidCoast 2030: Shared Vision, Shared Responsibility'*.

"This year marks the final operational plan within the delivery program for our current councillors, with a continued focus on providing services to our community in a way that adds value and builds trust," explained Adrian Panuccio, MidCoast Council's General Manager.

"While we remain committed to delivering against our original four-year program, this year's draft plan has added context as our community undertakes the long journey of recovery from the impact of recent bushfires and floods."

Along with an outline of the projects and services to be delivered over the next 12 months, the draft plan provides a detailed budget breakdown to guide their delivery, and importantly performance measures that will be used to report on Council's progress.

Focusing on improving the roads that connect our communities has been a consistent theme over recent years. This year, as well as continuing to roll-out the \$100 million road improvement program, the draft plan highlights a number of important projects and initiatives, some of which include:

- An upgrade for the Gloucester water supply system

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- Adopting the region's first Climate Change Strategy, and moving into the implementation phase
 - Continued focus on developing a consolidated Local Environment Plan and Development Control Plan to extend across the entire region
 - Harmonising Council's rating system, a legislative requirement for all merged councils, to be in place for the 2021/22 financial year
 - Initiatives aimed at managing our natural assets, such as the Biodiversity Framework and Greening Strategy
 - Renewal works across our transport network, building assets and facilities
 - Construction of additional landfill capacity at the Taree Waste Management Centre
- "Providing value for money to our ratepayers underpins our approach when developing the annual operational plan and budget," Mr Panuccio said.

The draft document sets out the details of the rates harmonisation process MidCoast Council will be undertaking from 1 July 2021.

This process, which is a requirement of the State Government for merged Councils, standardises rates across the three former local government areas and needs to be in place for the 2021-22 financial year.

"We have worked hard to ensure this is as equitable as possible for our community and have been able to develop a structure that means 80% of property owners will either have no change, or experience less than \$50 a year increase, with reductions for some."

This year also sees a continuation of harmonising other fees and charges across the MidCoast region, including waste collection and water charges which have remained static in recent years.

While variations apply, the general increase in fees and charges sits at approximately two per cent, in line with the 2021-2022 rate peg set by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) – an indicator of changing costs in the delivery of council services.

In its 'business-as-usual' budget, MidCoast Council allows for income from continuing operations of \$283 million, exceeding the projected operating expenditure of \$277 million.

"More than just focusing on the year ahead, our challenge has always been looking after our infrastructure into the future; we will continue to work with elected councillors to balance this with meeting our community's needs," Mr Panuccio said.

A visual breakdown of income and expenditure can be found on Page 12 of the draft Operational Plan, while budget summaries are available in the section beginning on Page 88. Detailed budget statements are provided in the Draft Budget Papers.

To read the 2021-2022 draft operational plan, annual budget, and proposed fees and charges, and to provide your feedback, please visit www.haveyoursay.midcoast.nsw.gov.au before the public exhibition period closes on Friday 28 May.

View the community's strategic plan 'MidCoast 2030: Shared Vision, Shared Responsibility' and the current delivery program, along with past operational plans at www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/futureplans

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Single rating structure to roll out across the Mid-Coast

A single rates structure developed for the entire MidCoast region will come into effect from 1 July 2021.

The rates harmonisation process is a requirement of the State Government for merged councils to standardise the rating approach across the three former council areas, and is required to be in place for the 2021-22 financial year.

Under the new structure, which aims to distribute the rates burden more equitably across the region, over 80% of property-owners will either have no change, or experience less than a \$50 a year increase, while some will experience a decrease to their annual rates.

"We have worked hard over the past 12 months to devise a new rating structure that minimises the extent of any negative financial impact on as many of our ratepayers as possible", explained Adrian Panuccio, MidCoast Council's General Manager. "The process of harmonising rates has also been an opportunity to simplify and build efficiencies in the way we apply rates".

While property-owners will receive mailed notification of what's changing and why over coming weeks, harmonising rates does not change the total amount of rating income Council can collect. This is controlled by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal through an annual rate peg. It is a more equitable redistribution of the total amount across all rateable properties.

An online calculator has been developed to help property-owners understand how the new structure will impact their individual circumstances. Entering a property address will display the category or sub-category applied to the property in the new structure, and the change in annual rates.

Visit www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/rates to use the calculator, or call Council's customer service team on 02 7955 7777 to access the information by phone.

Individual phone appointments with members of Council's rates team are also available, along with in-person appointments at Bulahdelah, Wingham, Gloucester, Taree and Forster (see following). To register for either service, call 02 9755 7777.


"It is a priority for us that all rate-payers are aware of what's changing and how it impacts them ahead of the new rating structure being implemented from 1st July.

"While we are providing a range of information and resources by mail or email and online, we do encourage anyone who wants to learn more about their individual circumstances to arrange an appointment".

For further information about rate harmonisation, and to use the online calculator, visit www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/rates


Pre-booked in-person sessions will run in 15-minute timeslots, between 3pm and 7pm, as follows. Registrations are required by phoning 02 9755 7777.

- **Bulahdelah** Visitor Information Centre, Wednesday 19th May
- **Wingham** Services Club, Thursday 20th May
- **Gloucester**, Council customer service point, Tuesday 25th May
- **Taree**, Administration and Customer Service Centre, Wednesday 26th May
- **Forster**, Council customer service point, Thursday 27th May



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Artists of Wallamba Inspire ~ Create ~ Connect

Artist of Wallamba member, **Di Smith**, hosted a fabulously creative and fun meeting at Failford for our April get together. Trialling all sorts of materials and methods for fabric painting, it was a day of experimentation with some great results and more to come. We are always open to ideas for workshops for our meetings, so contact us if you have a particular skill or expertise you'd like to share!



Great Lakes Art Society was thrilled to their annual Art Prize, after having to event due to Covid-19. Big congratulations to **Susie**, Frist Prize for 3D works: **Susie**, Frist Prize for Ariane, Commended for 'Renewal'



be able to host cancel last years' tions to **Susie** awarded prizes in 'Home' (left) and 'One' (right).



'Up River' - Well known Manning River Artist **Rod Spicer's** superb landscapes, reminiscent of McCubbin's, are on exhibition at Manning Regional Gallery until 22nd May. The artist conveys a deep sense of the mythology and mystery of our landscape.

Rod Spicer and S.E.E.: *Strange, Endangered and Exposed* features works by Susan Ryman, Prue Sailer and Lauren Potts. Photography courtesy of Manning Regional Gallery (l/r)



The second exhibition, **'Strange, Endangered and Exposed'**, invites contemplation about the fragility of nature and existence of our

environment, how people, animals and place are often unnoticed or disregarded. With work by artists, **Susan Ryman, Prue Sailer and Lauren Potts**, it is also on exhibition until 22nd May. All artists have completed post graduate studies at Newcastle University in Natural History Illustration. It is exciting to see the individual interpretations of their themes. And finally, **'RE+store'**, an exhibition of diverse artworks from the Gallery's collection.

Larger than Life
 AN EXHIBITION BY
Ebony Bennett

22 APRIL
 to
 16 MAY
 2024

TUES-SAT
 10am-4pm
 SUN
 10am-4pm

GLoucester ART GALLERY

'Larger than Life' is on show Gloucester Art Gallery until May 16th. Wildlife artist **Ebony Bennett** presents her love of the Australian landscape – particularly the character of birds. The works are large scale with a great sense of 'birds with attitude'!

And on display in the Uni building above **The Greedy Goat** Café and Restaurant in Pulteney Street, Taree, is a selected exhibition by members of **Taree Artists** including **Christina Mary Kirk**, with her vibrant mixed media work (right).



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Pacific Palms Market Day and self-drive Arts Trail is on 30th May. The Pop Up Gallery, Shop 5, 54-58 Macwood Road, Smiths Lake displays works by over 40 local artists including many from our area. Also featuring a wonderful array of local work is **Forster Arts and Crafts** in Breeze Parade, Forster.

The pop-up exhibition by some of our members at **Earth Body Soul** continues, and we thank *Jeff Chant* for ongoing support and exhibiting space. Artist supplies can be found at **The Edge Gallery & Art Supplies** in Taree with brand new premises following the floods, and **Memory Lane** in Forster.

Contact **Kate Landsberry** on 0402 287 244 or **Carmel Spark** on 0419 273 849 for more details of **Artists of Wallamba** and if you would like to join our **Facebook Group**. We have ongoing information for many exhibitions, workshops, online courses and competition opportunities that our members share, along with inspiring quotes and ideas.

Please call also for details of our next meeting. We love to welcome local artists and art supporters and guarantee creative company, delicious food and warm hospitality whenever we meet!

Kate Landsberry



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Lyn's Larder

As the weather is starting to cool, here is a quick lentil and meat soup

Hot Spice - Lentil & Meat Soup - Eastern Mediteranian

INGREDIENTS

500g	Beef, diced
1cup	Lentils
1 lge	Onion, diced
8 cups	Water
85gm	Tomato puree (3½ tablespoons)
4	Potatoes, peeled & halved
½ tsp	Saffron
	Garlic powder-to taste
	Black pepper- to taste
1tsp	Cumin
1tsp	Caraway seeds
	Salt
2tbsp	Oil, canola

METHOD

Sauté onion in oil, add tomato puree and spices and stir while bringing to boil.
 Add water and boil again, add meat and lentils and cook over a low heat for at least an hour.
 About 20 minutes before soup is ready add the potatoes.
 Serve as a main course in soup bowls, adding half a potato and a portion of meat for each bowl, with crusty buttered bread.
 *You can add some chopped spinach if you like and also season with lemon juice after serving.

CHICKEN CASSEROLE WITH BRANDY

INGREDIENTS

1 med	Chicken
2 cups	Tomatoes, chopped,
2	Onions, peeled and thinly sliced
2	Bay leaves
¾ cup	Chicken Stock
1 Glass	Brandy (small glass)
6tbsp	Oil
	Salt, pepper and Parsley

METHOD

Cut the chicken into quarters, place in a casserole dish with the oil, tomatoes, onions, bay leaves, brandy, chicken stock, salt, and pepper and cook in a low oven until the chicken is tender, then garnish with chopped parsley.
 Serve with boiled rice.

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KRAMBACH HALL HAPPENINGS

HALL MEETINGS: Monday following the Krambach Markets each month at 3.00pm. Next meeting on **Monday 17th April, 2021.**

Volunteers and Committee members welcome to join.

HALL MARKETS: 3rd Sunday of the month. 8:30am to 1pm
Come and choose from a wide selection of craft, fresh produce & plants, bric-a-brac, 2nd hand books & kids toys. Enjoy a hot breakfast or Devonshire tea or coffee. "Lucky Tree" Hall Raffle. New stall holders welcome.

Krambach Hall (School of Arts Inc.) has spaces available and is looking for more Stall Holders. One table costs \$11.00, two tables are \$16.00 and 3 tables are \$22.00.

Phone: **Judy** on 6559 1375 to book a stall

HALL BOOKINGS:

Contact **Fay Deer** on 6559 1562 or **Helen Legg** on 6559 1211

Department of the Navy is now assigning females to quarters in a separate private "OFF LIMITS" area on all aircraft carriers.

While addressing all personnel at Pearl Harbor, CINCPAC advised, "Female sleeping quarters will be "out-of-bounds" for all males.

Anyone caught breaking this rule will be fined \$50 the first time."

And the Admiral continued, "Anyone caught breaking this rule the second time will be fined \$150.

Being caught a third time will cost you a fine of \$500.

Are there any questions?"

At this point, a US Marine from the security detail assigned to a ship stood up in the crowd and inquired: "How much for a season pass?" (God bless the Marine Corps)

**A bookseller conducting a market survey asked a woman,
"Which book has helped you most in your life?"**

The woman replied "My husband's cheque book."

I'll never forget the look on the cashier's face, when she scanned the packet of bird seed, and I asked her how long does it take for the birds to grow once I plant them.

Two nuns went to shop at the local market. They were taking so long so one said

"Sister Mary it is getting dark and we are so far away from the convent."

"I know Sister Rose but there is a man following us."

"Oh! What does he want."

"To rape us."

"What can we do?"

"Let's separate. You go left and I will go right."

He followed Sister Rose.

Sister Mary reached the convent and was worried. - After an hour Sister Rose appeared.

"What happened?"

"I started to run and so did he."

"And then?"

"He caught up with me."

"Oh my God. And what did you do?"

"I lifted up my dress."

"Sister! And what did he do?"

"Dropped his pants."

"And then?"

"Its obvious isn't it. A nun with her dress lifted up can run faster than a man with his pants down.

Useful Numbers

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Essential Energy - Power outages	132 080
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MidCoast Koalas in Care	6552 2183
WIRES (Wildlife Rescue)	1300 094 737
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Post Office - Krambach (closed 1pm to 2pm)	6559 1240
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Good Medicine

Sacrifice and Peace

We have just celebrated Anzac Day, a time of reflection on the contribution and sacrifice of soldiers for their country ... in world wars and others. Many of them were young and died in their teenage years. You can read their stories in books and on the internet and many are unwritten.

In WW2 my mother was in the 'land army' which supported farmers when men had gone to war. You might have a father, son or friend who was or is involved with the armed forces.

We've all read about the physical and emotional toll of war on soldiers ... there's also the spiritual toll of how to maintain faith while struggling with PTSD, depression or physical disability. They and their families need a lot of love and support.

There are many people such as politicians, aid workers and religious leaders who work tirelessly for peace in our world. Sometimes soldiers are stationed as peacekeepers in a foreign country. We all like the idea of living in peace ... with our families, neighbours and others ... and the Bible calls us to live peacefully with all men when possible. You may have heard *Matthew 5:9, Blessed are the peacemakers*. However we read of many wars in the Old Testament books, between the Israelites and their enemies. When Jesus lived on earth the Jews were under the rule of the Romans. The Easter story is also about sacrifice, it revolves around violence and death ... and the war between good and evil.

In an ideal world there would be no wars, and in the beginning of creation God said everything was 'very good', *Genesis 1:31* ... but then Adam and Eve disobeyed. It would be easy to say it was all their fault ... my grandson told me after a Scripture lesson, it wasn't Adam, it

was Eve. However the Bible says we are **all** sinners, *Romans 3:23*. Anzac Day comes after Easter on our calendars and for people searching for meaning in their lives it can be religiously significant. Christians believe that Jesus and the gospel meet the longing of the human heart for meaning and identity. When we get to heaven there will be no more sorrow, pain or death ... but the river of **life**, *Revelation 21, 22*.

Communities come together in emergencies ... like sandbagging in the recent floods ... but every day we encounter people in need, whether 'around the globe or around the corner ... some need a warm meal, others a kind word'. Maybe you can think of a way to be a blessing ... thank a veteran, talk to a lonely person, give someone a hand Our generous acts are like a sweet aroma to God. Being a blessing is 'a fragrant thing to do'.

The Counsellor

CTC on Tuesdays



Nabiac Community Technology Centre is open on Tuesday mornings from 9.30am until 12 midday in the Nabiac Neighbourhood Centre.

We are available to do copying, printing, (black & white) laminating, scanning or help with Word, Excel, PowerPoint, emailing, searching the internet or other software problems.

Opening is limited to Tuesday mornings only at the moment. Volunteers are needed for us to open other mornings.

Customers are welcome to bring their own laptop to use our WiFi or use our desktop computers.

CTC at Nabiac have a registered Covid 19 Safety Plan in place with Service NSW

Alan, Jillian and Sheila.

News From The News

Nabiac Community Church

Services are held every Sunday at 10:00am
Holy Communion is celebrated with the service on the 3rd Sunday
For information regarding the Nabiac Community Church please contact Margaret **Weller** (6554 1212), Jill **Hammond** (6555 7747)

St Bernadette's Catholic Church, Krambach

May times are Saturday 1st at 6:00pm - Saturday 8th at 6:00pm - Saturday 15th at 6:00pm - Saturday 22nd at 6pm & Saturday 27th at 6:00pm
(contact **Helen Legg** on 6559 1211)
June Mass - Saturday 5th at 6:00pm

Krambach Bible Church (a ministry of Wingham Presbyterian

A Family Service is held on the **every** Sunday of each month at 11am. All dominations welcome to join in. Any enquiries please phone **Robert** (0400 310 357).

St Paul's Anglican Church, Nabiac

Holy Communion service each Sunday at **10:00 am**. All welcome
Enquiries: Contact Kit **Carson** (6554 1409)

Every Week Day Before and after school care by **KIDS SHACK**
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Call **Joy** on 0438 273 360.

St Isidore's Catholic Church, Nabiac

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If you want to advertise an event, visit the web site and click
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Barb, Jess and myself would like to wish all of the mum's out there a
fantastic Mother's Day.

We hope you all get spoilt. Remember we always have gift vouchers
and gift packs available.

I now leave you with the saying of the month:

*If at first you don't succeed, try doing it the way your mum told you to
do it from the start.*

Happy Mother's Day ladies.

Belinda ☺

Do you need a *Justice of the Peace*?

Then contact

Stuart **Weller** on 6554 1904 (Nabi.ac)

Jackie **Buckingham**, Buckinghams Real Estate, Nabi.ac on 6554 1107

Gordon **Foy**, 2949 Bucketts Way, Belbora on 6550 2547 or 0417 290 874

Julie **Arnoux**, 2 Cowper Street, Nabi.ac on 0434 253 266

Helene **Murphy**, on 0412 778 494

Lance **Fletcher**, Blackbutt Drive, Failford on: 0409 850 671

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