

THE BLACKWALL BUGLE

Wardell Community Centre. 9 Sinclair Street, Wardell NSW 2477

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Mayley House



Clarence Thomas Lumley married his new bride, Louisa May Bartlett, in 1910 and took her to a lovely colonial style house that then stood where now runs the Pacific Highway. The name Mayley is derived from Louisa May's Christian name and the last syllable of Thomas Lumley's family name.

The Lumleys were farmers, butchers and merchants. The place where Mayley house now stands was once beside the site of Lumley's butchery which supplied fresh meat by horse-drawn cart and river boat to a wide area from Pimlico to Broadwater.

Prior to the opening of the diverted Pacific Highway and the Wardell Bridge in 1964, Mayley House was moved to its present location. Michael and Delia Bourke were the owners and operators of *Delia's Quarterdeck Restaurant* on North Stradbroke Island when they heard that Mayley House was to be sold. They came and had a look at it, fell in love with it and bought it.



Then followed years of painstaking renovation and repair. All the aluminium cladding was removed and replaced with traditional hardwood chamfer board. A second story was added to keep living quarters separate from public rooms.



The verandah was widened using carefully selected recycled timbers and specially milled floorboards.

Michael, who is an avid gardener, landscaped the large block, retaining the old trees and designing a garden setting ideal for outdoor functions including weddings, birthdays, and club meetings. He also created a vegetable and herb garden to supply the kitchen with fresh produce.

Delia, the Chef, has a passion for providing her guests with good food. Her pleasure comes in the knowledge that her visitors are well fed, comfortable and happy.

For bookings and enquiries:

Mayley House, telephone 02 6683 4241



Empire Vale School takes a magical journey into Neverland.

Have you ever had a daydream about never growing old?

Empire Vale Public School is busy preparing a theatrical journey through Neverland, as they rehearse for their Mid Year Concert of 'Peter Pan'.

The audience will be delighted by Peter Pan, Tinkerbell, Wendy, Michael and John as they set out for adventures with fairies, mermaids, Indians, crocodiles, Lost Boys and pirates and they confront the notorious Captain Hook!

The students are busy preparing a variety of musical performances, choreographing dances, practicing comedy routines and creating a diversity of special lighting and sound effects to enhance their presentation.

"I'm really excited about doing Peter Pan as our play this year because we have so many interesting characters which will be fun to express through drama," says Mahli B, School Captain.

Our 'Peter Pan' play will be performed at Empire Vale Public School on Wednesday the 29th of June, with a fundraising BBQ starting at 6pm. We hope to see you there.

Karen Rantissi.



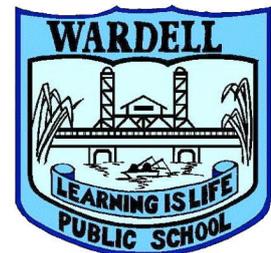
Jordan T, who plays Peter Pan receives some help getting into character from an old friend Tinkerbell, during the preparation for this year's school performance of 'Peter Pan'.

A Winning Program At Wardell Public School

This year Wardell has initiated an outstanding program in the school in an attempt to create closer ties between our community and the students. Every Thursday afternoon students participate in specialised programs, some run by experts in the community and others run by internal staff. This term we have the pleasure of the expertise of our local potter Mr Ron Rosolen. He teaches the students the fundamentals of pottery, from basic coil creations all the way to using his pottery wheel to "throw" clay.

Other activities include fishing with our angling gurus, Mr Flemming and Mrs Johnston. Students are not only catching fish but learning about basic marine eco-structure and fish local to the area.

Students this term have also had the unique experience of working with a professional musician, Mr Marc Mittag, with whom they have been experimenting both vocal and instrumental pieces.



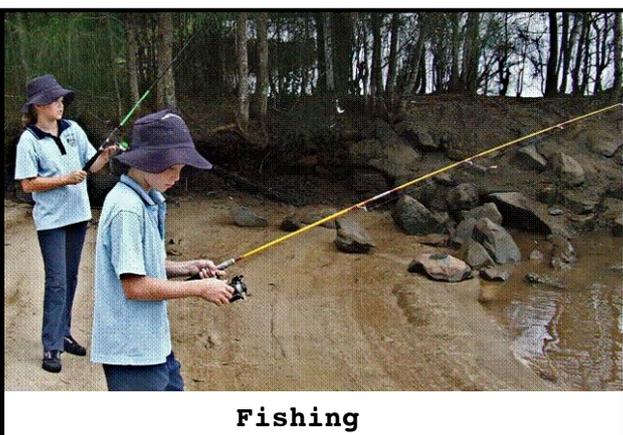
Pottery

A recently added activity, which has proven very popular, is the fabric art where students have the opportunity to create unique art pieces using fabric.

Another member of our community, Mrs Flemming, also joins us for craft sessions, which are proving extremely successful.

Not only are the students at Wardell Public School benefitting from these engaging afternoon activities, but it has been a wonderful experience for all of us to open our doors to such a supportive community.

Kristine Hamilton



Fishing



Wardell Community Centre.

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Wardell Community Centre Working Party Invitation

Ballina Shire Council recently resolved to extend the funding of its operations at the **Wardell Community Centre** for another twelve months. An extension beyond that time will only be granted if council can see a clear increase in the support and patronage of the centre.

In order to meet this challenge, Council has requested the formation of a working party to develop and enact an action plan to increase support, services and patronage. This working party will be steered by the current Wardell Community Centre Advisory Group and will meet for the first time on **Wednesday 1 June at 7:00pm** at the centre.

Those interested in the future of the centre are encouraged to join the working party, attend the meeting, and present their ideas to make sure their voice is heard. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please submit any thoughts or comments to the Centre Coordinator, Jordan Robinson via email for inclusion at the meeting.

As always; anyone interested in using the centre to host an interest group, meeting, playgroup or social event can contact Jordan to discuss their needs and help get things started. The contact details are listed at the top of the page.

Youth Activities The Arvo Sessions

Matt Tantari's weekly youth program now has some really great momentum and a great bunch of regular kids stopping by to have a feed, kick the footy and hang out to some wicked beats. In the coming weeks Matt also plans to get everyone involved in a fun new creative project - so if you haven't dropped in yet, make sure you do.

The Arvo Sessions run from **3:30pm – 6:00pm** every **Wednesday**. Snacks and drinks are provided.

Other Regulars at the Centre include:

Alcoholics Anonymous	Tuesdays at 10am
Knit 'n' Knat	Thursdays at 9am
Book Club	1 st Wed of the month at 10am



Wardell Community Centre Details

The Centre is open to the public as follows:

Tuesday	12:30pm – 4:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am – 4:00pm
Thursday	9:00am – 4:00pm

The Centre offers community members:

- Free Internet
- Free Photocopying
- Free Fax
- Meeting Rooms for groups or social get-togethers
- Use of Kitchen including free tea and coffee

Ballina Shire Council Staff

A range of Council staff is available to assist you with any enquiries in their area of expertise. They include:

Cultural Development Officer Kate Gahan handles all cultural and historical/heritage matters and enquiries, each Thursday.

Social Planner Roberto Kenk handles youth issues, seniors issues, affordable housing, community development and more, every 2nd Wednesday.

Aboriginal Community Liaison Officer Darrell Creighton can assist with matters involving the Aboriginal Community and Ballina Shire Council, on the alternate Wednesdays.



TEA TOTALLING A TOTAL SUCCESS!

Congratulations again to the **Knit 'n Knats** for delivering another great 'Biggest Morning Tea'!

This year's charity event was held at the **Wardell Community Centre** from **10:00am – 12 Noon** on **Thursday 12 May 2011**. Guests were treated to a hot cuppa and a delicious spread of cakes and bickies that encouraged them to open their wallets for the **Cancer Council of NSW**.

A fantastic **\$145.30** in donations was collected.



A big thanks to those who attended and gave so generously.



Since Ballina Shire Council, encouraged by Natasha Heath and Pat Carney, built the new jetty, the place has become a focal point for swimmers, sailors and fishers and as an exercise station for energetic athletes in the early hours of the morning. A pontoon for the jetty is planned for this year and that will encourage river boats, like the 'Richmond Princess', to tie-up to disembark passengers.

< Photo: Jamie Doyle

Following the success of the first voyage of the 'Richmond Princess' from Ballina to Wardell, more trips are planned.

A River of Life

The Blackwall Historical Society booked the 'Richmond Princess' for a trip from Ballina to Wardell and back to honour the memory of our forebears by recalling their history. Ray Clifford, the society's President, organised the trip but was also seen hard at work in the galley. Rose Leeson, who has a vast memory bank of historical facts, provided the background details for Kerry Storton to give an enlightened and humorous commentary, whilst Rose settled back to enjoy the voyage.



< To the left, Kerry, on the bridge with the captain, spoke of the occupation of the area by the Bundjalung people before the exploration of the river by Captain Henry Rous in 1828. She then outlined the hopes and aspirations of the cedar getters, the saw-millers the farmers, merchants, ship builders and pioneering men and women who came from across the world to settle here.



The river was then the main highway. It was used by ocean-going ships, barges, skiffs, punts and ferries. It was a revelation for most passengers on the boat to view the area from the water, just as the early settlers would have seen it - but in comfort!

Margaret Kennedy was the instigator of the outing. Sue Wardrobe sold tickets for the trip at the Post Office, but she sold out quickly and had no ticket for herself. More voyages of the 'Richmond Princess' to Wardell are planned.

It wasn't all history. There was plenty of time to enjoy the company of friends, to admire the scenery and the excellent refreshments. There was time too to talk with the caring and efficient crew. The day was well spent in the presence of friends and in memory of those who came this way so many years ago.



Keeping the hungry passengers fed were Lorraine Judge and Ivy Carter.



The thorn amongst the roses, Robert Sword with Ivy Carter, Rose Leeson, Jeanette Rushby, Lorna Doyle, Shirley Strangman, Dawn Sword and Sue Steele holding some of the hand knitted and crocheted blankets.

A Gift from the Heart

When Dawn Sword, OAM, of the Ballina East Lions Club, received a telephone call from Rose Leeson with the offer of hand crafted blankets for the needy, she was overjoyed. During the Canberra bushfires of 2003, she and her husband Robert Sword lost their home and everything in it and their neighbour died in the fire. They were given a rug and to this day they cherish it. "It was lovely to know," she said, "when we had nothing, that someone was thinking of us."

Each Thursday morning a small happy band of generous people meet at the Wardell Community Centre as the 'Knit n'Nat' group to knit and crochet blankets for the needy. They 'natter' about all the things good friends talk about and they put a lot of love into their work. "Knitting for charity is a wonderful thing," says Rose. "Working with other knitters to make items to give to someone who really needs them gives you a great feeling. In 2004, Lucy Bennett arranged for our first batch of blankets to go to the Salvation Army in Woodburn for distribution in Sydney." Rose said.

Dawn and Robert told the meeting that their blankets would be eagerly received by people in the Bonalbo and Tabulam districts of New South Wales and by families in Southern Queensland whose properties had been devastated by the recent floods. The Lions Club carefully monitors the distribution of donated goods to ensure that they go to those with the greatest need.

Like the blanket given to Dawn and Robert, the hand-crafted blankets of the Wardell 'Knit n'Nat', that were created in an atmosphere of love for the disadvantaged, will live on long after the crisis has subsided. They might even become family treasures to remind the recipients that others really do care.



Mrs C.T. Lumley and Miss F Bartlett.

This photo of the two sisters was taken at their home at Mayley House on Mrs Lumley's 80th birthday in 1963. They were foundation members of the Wardell Branch of the Red Cross in 1914 and served with distinction for 50 years and through two World Wars. Mayley House was moved to its present location when the Pacific Highway was built.

Blackwall Historical Society

Mayley House was bought in 1983 by John and Celia Watson who owned the One Stop Shop in Ballina and were looking for a comfortable residence close to the water to meet their passions, gardening and fishing. Mayley met the criteria beautifully. They resided there happily with their two boys Matthew and Daniel. They sold Mayley to the Bourkes in 1995.

Sue's Kitchen



Lamb Curry

Ingredients

- 2 onions
- 3 garlic cloves
- 1 small knob of ginger
- 2 chillies
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 tblspn home made curry powder
- 1 kg chicken fillets
- 500 ml chicken stock
- 1 can coconut milk
- 1 Banana
- Good handful of sultanas
- 2 stalks chopped coriander

Method

- Fry chopped onion, ginger and chillies in large pot until soft and mixed together well.
- Add curry powder to taste and stir over heat until aromatic.
- Add chopped chicken, salt and pepper, stock and coconut milk
- Add banana and sultanas.
- Add extra water to cover if required.
- Bring to boil then reduce to simmer for 2 hours or more.
- Add coriander for flavour (some fish sauce adds extra taste)
- Serve on a bed of rice.

Enjoy

Sue

Who Did It?

Who was the bloke that left his Hilux engine running whilst he ducked into the Wardell servo to get a paper? He was asked by another customer, "Is that your ute outside?" "Yes, - why?" he retorted. "Because it's rolling down the slope towards the road!"

The man gasped with astonishment and dashed out of the servo waving his arms as his vehicle crossed the road and dropped into a ditch with its rear wheels in the air. The ditch stopped the ute from rolling all the way down to Merve Lindsay's hideaway! What a wake-up call!

Phil's Philosophy

Rule No 1:

Always apply your parking brake when parking!

Wardell Service Station

for all your fuel, newspapers, takeaway foods and convenience store items.

Cooking until 7.00 pm

Phillip and Ann Read. Telephone 6683 4252



Use It Or Lose It!

Wardell is at the centre of our Blackwall Community. Folks here believe that they live in a special place in the world. We don't take second place to Alstonville or anywhere else. We are proud members of Ballina Shire, but we are not a suburb of Ballina town. At sometime in the not too distant future, the Pacific Highway will bypass our village and we will have a golden opportunity to develop our own unique community on the banks of the beautiful Richmond River, surrounded by fertile farms and pristine bush. From Buckombil to Patches Beach, there is no place on earth like this.

So what are you going to do about it? This was once the busiest place on the river. Ballina, Coraki, Casino and Kyogle later outstripped it. We don't want our village to become a concrete shopping centre, and we don't want to be gobbled up by a larger neighbour. We do want a say about the way we grow and the services we need as development occurs.

The place to have our say is at the Wardell Community Centre. It is at the very heart of our community. When did you last visit the centre to have a chat with Jordan Robinson the Community Facilities Coordinator? He has a full page in every issue of this paper detailing the services the centre offers and the Council officers who spend time at the centre to attend to your needs.

And there is another problem: the Wardell Memorial Hall. Once the centre of our community - throbbing with activity from Cane-Grower's Festivals to weddings, dances and movie shows, it is now falling into disrepair and appears forgotten.

Ballina Shire Council has given notice that the expense of maintaining the Wardell Community Centre is not justified by the current usage of the facility by the community. Unless there is a considerable increase in patronage, the centre may close. Council has indicated it will reassess the operation of the centre in twelve months.

To address the two problems of the Community Centre and the Memorial Hall, a committee has been formed to investigate the best way forward. The committee, chaired by Wardell Progress Association President Pat Carney, and including Sue Felsch, Rose Leeson, Kevin Geaghan, Dave Judge, Sister Larelle and Mike Rushby, is to meet once a month at the Wardell Community Centre. The first meeting is to take place on Wednesday 1 June at 7.00 pm.

Why don't you express your opinion by contacting the Wardell Community Centre or one of the delegates? A public meeting will be held in the near future.



Ladies Tennis Club

Waunita Lindsay 6683 4141

Betty Fernance 6683 4384

After delays due to the wet weather, the Thursday competition has restarted. There

are 4 competing teams captained by Danni, Kaylene, Kelly and Cheryl. Matches will be played at Wardell, Broadwater and Evans Head.

On Thursday 2 June, a "Biggest Morning Tea" is being held at Evans Head for tennis players. Bring items to sell at a "Bring and Buy" stall and, if it is raining, bring your cards and games for it will still be on.

Wardell Village Fete

On Saturday 7 May the annual village fete was held in glorious weather in the peaceful grounds of St Patrick's Church, which last year celebrated its centenary. The purpose of the fete was to raise funds for the pastoral care and general support of all members of the Wardell and district community.

Beneath the trees the tables were groaning under the weight of new and pre-loved goods that had been donated by members of the community. Breakfast and Devonshire teas were served in the gardens of the Community Centre. There were sizzling steaks and bacon and egg rolls for the hungry, pot plants and garden mulches for the green-fingered, a large table full of delicious homemade cakes, a truckload of toys looking for a new home, hundreds of books of every description and a large array of secondhand furniture.

Behind the scenes, the Sisters of Mercy had spent long hours preparing the popular homemade relishes and pickles that have become a feature of the event.



It was a lucky time for Sister Larelle. She had organised the fine weather and she won the first raffle prize! Her day was made complete when she was able to welcome new twins, Charlotte and Maggie, to their first fete. Dad Jamie Doyle has much to smile about.

Sister Larelle is well loved by the whole community. She inspires everyone, but all she wanted to do was thank everybody associated with the fete including the organisers, the stall keepers, the donators of goods, those who collected and delivered items and those who provided a service. In particular she welcomed the visitors - the crowd of happy people that made the Wardell Village Fete such a community event - and she praised Steve Flatley the facilitator, who worked tirelessly to ensure the function was a success.



Pimlico News

Telephone 6683 4384

The May charity afternoon held in Pimlico Hall was an afternoon of prizes to celebrate Mother's Day. Several members wore tiaras to commemorate the wedding of Wills and Kate. Proceeds from the afternoon will go to Biala Special School in Ballina where the twenty students, aged from 5 to 18 years, have special needs. The Acting Secretary of Biala attended, accompanied by Trisha Puglisi who has been a member of the auxiliary for 40 years.

The Pimlico Ladies Charitable Organisation recently farewelled one of their members, 97 year old Midge Bruderlin who, for the past 14 years, had lived with her daughter Elaine Coleman along the river bank.

The June afternoon will be held on Monday 6 June and will benefit the Ballina Hospital Auxiliary.

Pimlico Rainfall - April. It was extremely wet this year with 344 mm on 18 days.

Betty Fernance



Australian
Red Cross
THE POWER OF HUMANITY

Branch President
Ruth Partridge 6628 5751
Meetings
1st Wednesday of the month
Wardell Memorial Hall
9.30 a.m.
New members always welcome.

We are holding an Arts and Craft show in the Wardell Memorial Hall on Sunday 17th July from 10am- 2pm.

There will be a variety of stall holders.
Morning tea and light refreshments available.
Everyone welcome. Enquiries ring Monica
6687 9620

The Blackwall Bugle is produced by a voluntary community working group. Ballina Shire Council takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the content and acts only as copy editor and printing agent.

The House That Harry Built

Harry Law speaks with Mike Rushby

“The day after I left school, my first job was chipping a paddock of bananas at Coolgardie. It was a daunting task at the time but it wasn’t long before Dad got me a job with Jack Clark who had sold his farm at Collins Creek and moved to Wardell where he had bought a cream run. His house and depot were in Cedar Street opposite the police station. We had some good times but we worked 24/7 carrying bananas and cream and fertilizer - everything. One day we shifted a big old wooden outside double toilet from Ballina to Uralba and in the afternoon we ended up on Broadwater beach where we loaded up a crashed plane and took it to Newcastle – all in a day’s work, shifting everything from dunnies to aeroplanes! I’ve never forgotten that day!

“We used to get fertilizer off the railway at Lismore and deliver it to the cane farmers. We’d get a lot of blood and bone and it was in 180 lb. bags (82 kg). We’d load three trucks with about 25 ton of fertilizer. We’d have to pick up each bag off the railway truck then walk down and walk up into our truck and put it down and stack it – it was hard work. You ask someone to pick up a 180 lb. bag these days and they wouldn’t do it! Wheat and corn was in 200 lb. bags. We’d go down to Copmanhurst or up country to get loads of corn. We’d do that at night after we’d done our day work.

“We are lucky to have got the house we have here on Lumley’s Lane. It was the old Masonic Lodge Hall at Broadwater. A friend of my family tendered for it and bought it. I would have liked to have tendered for it but there was no way I was going to be able to pull it down and shift it and do this and this and this. So the bloke bought it. He pulled it down and de-nailed it, stacked it all and Jack and I loaded it and hauled it all the way to Newrybar. We put it on a block where he was going to build his house. I regretted shifting every bit of it because I wanted it. About six months later I just happened to run into him in Lismore one day. He asked me, “You wouldn’t happen to know anyone who would like to buy that timber and rubbish stacked out there would you?”

“I said, “I sure do! How much do you want for it?” I think he wanted £400 for it. I jumped at it. I had to borrow the money off Dad to start with. Somehow, with the help of family and three mates, we shifted it. It took seven loads to get it back home from Newrybar. We stacked it on timber under the trees and it sat there for eighteen months or more because nobody would lend us the money to build. As soon as we said we lived in the country – I didn’t even get chance to sit on one bloke’s chair before he said, “No!” We borrowed \$10,000 to do it all. Dad and Grandma were in the Rural Bank in those days and we ended up getting the money there with Dad and the farm as guarantor.

“I bought four thousand bricks from the old Kyogle Butter Factory and three two thousand gallon water tanks from the old NORCO Bacon Factory at Lismore. I hauled them to the site.

“We got some plans drawn up and a real old gentleman builder took on the job of building a house out of it. We needed extra timber for the roof so I cut another seven blackbutt logs in the scrub behind the house. It was good timber. I backed the truck into a dry drain and got the logs onto the truck. I then drove to Alstonville where I got them cut up into 3 x 2s and 4 x 2s, which gave us enough timber to build a house. I’ve still got the docket – it cost me a hundred and twenty dollars to get all the timber cut up. The saw-miller was Evan Williams who lived at Bagotville and who was a good friend of Trevor Monti. Trevor probably got his love of timber from Evan Williams. He knew just how to cut every bit of timber to get the best out of it.

“Where our house is there was a great big peppermint tree. We’d cleared the block and we’d cut this tree off. But we were left with this big stump and when we got around to building the house we decided to get rid of the stump.

“Farmers like Desi Aitkins and Trevor Monti and us could just go and buy gelignite at AGRs in Lismore. You’d just sign for it and then buy detonators and fuse. They were the days when you could trust people.

“We used to soak the nitropril with diesel overnight. I dug three holes under the stump. Narelle’s dad Jack and my dad were there. We were ready to light the fuse so Dad went that way and Jack the other way so I lit the fuse and took off - well, it hardly shook the bloody ants off it! Such a let down! So I thought, “I will fix you this time you mongrel!” So I dug three big holes under it and put three big bags of stuff under it. Well, Jack thought it was a real joke, “You won’t shift that bloody stump,” he said. I said, “You wait and see!” He took off and wandered up the road, Dad went down the road and I lit the fuse and took off. Well, next minute there was an unearthly bloody explosion. There was stump flying everywhere. It was the greatest show just watching Jack running up the road with bits of stump and soil falling all around him. Some of it just flew across the paddock to buggery and there was a huge hole left there. Jack was just roaring up the road. It was the funniest thing I’d seen in a long time. It used to be a bit of a joke amongst us fellas – Desi Aitkins, Trevor Monti and me. World War 111 – blowing up stumps and things. We were very lucky.

“It was 1973 when we built the house. They were good old blokes who built it. The timber was hard, with all teak flooring. There were thirty-six 8 x 2s which were 30 foot long, they were the floor joists. It was beautiful timber and well seasoned. The teak flooring had been laid in the Masonic Temple in 1908 and when they put it down in my house they used jacks to lay the boards close together and nail them down.

“Jack Clark’s daughter was Narelle Clark. I married her nearly 50 years ago and we’ve lived happily in that house on our farm at Lumley’s Lane for 38 years.” **Harry Law**

