

THE BLACKWALL BUGLE

Wardell Community Centre. 9 Sinclair Street, Wardell NSW 2477
Issue # 17 April 2012 blackwall-bugle@bigpond.com Telephone 02 6683 4561

Farewell old Friend

The Wardell Uniting Church

For over 100 years the church has been serving the Methodist, Presbyterian and Uniting Church parishioners of Wardell through two world wars and many personal and family triumphs and tragedies.

It all began when a public meeting was held in Wardell on 30 August 1904 at the home of Mr and Mrs J Elder. Those attending were the Reverend Bembrick and Messrs Elder, Mitchell, Law, Esgates, Smith, Lumley and Ford, and Mesdames Elder, Law, McIntyre and Rudgley. The meeting agreed that a church be built.



On 10 September 1904 the offer was accepted from Mr and Mrs J Elder of a quarter of an acre as a gift for a church site. Mr and Mrs Elder were Presbyterian but the meeting was unanimous in the choice of a Methodist Union Church.

Tenders were called for the building of the church and the bid by Mr George Bale of South Woodburn was accepted at a cost of £131-10s for the church and 12/6d for each of 18 seats. Mr Bale built the church supervised by Mr J B Ford. The opening service was held in January 1905 by Rev G B Black the Methodist Minister of Maclean.

From 1910, Presbyterian services were held every fourth Sunday. In 1977 the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches came together to form the Uniting Church of Australia. In recent years the congregation decreased as age and weariness took its toll and the appeal of a modern lifestyle distracted younger folk. It was difficult to expect a preacher to administer to only four or five parishioners and, with the blessing of the Church, Kerry Storton conducted some of the services.

On Sunday 19 February 2012, at 2.00 pm, the final service was held on a beautiful sunny day. The Reverend Ken Day greeted the congregation with the words, "Whoever you are, wherever you are from, you are most welcome here." Indeed the service of leave taking from the building was conducted with a sense of friendship, joy and thanksgiving for the 107 years of worship and companionship. Pictured below is one small section of the congregation that filled the church.



Pimlico News

Telephone 6683 4384

The Ballina bus bringing visitors to the March charity afternoon organised by the Pimlico Ladies Charitable Organisation in aid of the Crowley Nursing Home Auxiliary was packed. The new president of the auxiliary, Margaret Moore, attended with other members including Pat Wilson who had been a long serving president. Margaret thanked the PLCO for their continued support over many years.

Many prizes were won during the afternoon including the main prize which went to Elaine Heynatz of Ballina who, in recent times, has donated several paintings to the PLCO. Our new Secretary, Elaine Coleman, did a great job on her first day.

On Monday 2 April at 1.30 pm we will be holding our next charitable afternoon in support of St Andrews Nursing Home Auxiliary in Ballina. Everyone is welcome to join us for a happy afternoon with scrumptious home-cooked afternoon tea.

New residents in Pimlico are Jim and Wendy Garick who are residing on the river bank. Jim lived in Pimlico as a young lad with his parents, Ethel and Bert Garick, who later moved to Sydney and then New Zealand where they sadly passed away. Ethel was a wonderful member of the PLCO who made beautiful cushions as prizes which she continued to send from New Zealand. She and Bert will always be remembered with love and happiness.

Betty Fernanace



Cabbage Tree Island

Public School

Established 1893

Principal
Dyonne Anderson

Telephone 6683 4251

On Monday 12 March, students at Cabbage Tree Island had the opportunity to learn from local Aboriginal artist Eric Ferguson. Eric is a talented young artist who grew up in Lismore and has family connection to Cabbage Tree Island.

Eric shared his personal story about those who influenced him. "In my teenage years I started drawing the players from my basketball cards. I never did art at high school but drawing was my way of relaxing." He talked about the influence of his father and other local artists.

In 1999 Eric started painting with Tobwabba Art, a small but successful art group consisting of local Worimi artists in Foster. After one year he won the Best Young Artist in the country. Eric got to exhibit his artwork at the APEC 2000 Young Artist Exhibition at the World Leaders Summit



St. Patrick's Church Wardell. Holy Week Ceremonies.

Holy Thursday: Mass at
7.00 pm followed by Holy
Hour----5 April.

Good Friday: Remembering Passion &
Death of Jesus at 3.00 pm-----6 April.

Easter Vigil: Ceremonies & Mass
at 7.00 pm-----7 April.

No Mass on Easter Sunday----8 April.



**Australian
Red Cross**

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



in Brunei.

Eric has motivated and inspired students at Cabbage Tree Island Public School to reflect on their culture, identity and connection to country by inspiring the creativity of students from kindergarten through to year 6. The students have produced two artworks that capture the pride associated with living on Cabbage Tree Island. The murals can be viewed at Ballina Shopping Fair and at the Children's Ward at Ballina Hospital.



Wardell Community Centre

9 Sinclair Street Wardell 02 6683 4867

Tuesday 12.30pm - 4.00pm - Wednesday & Thursday 9.00am - 4.00pm

Farewell Friends!

Wardell Community Centre to Close

After a twelve month period of review, Ballina Shire Council has officially resolved to discontinue the operations of the Wardell Community Centre. Efforts are being made to identify alternative arrangements for the existing user groups that use the centre. Once these details are confirmed the daily operations of the centre will cease. We will advise residents of transitional arrangements for these groups once details become available.

Council would like to thank all of those that have been involved in supporting the centre in recent years.

Youth Arvo Sessions

The response to the Youth Arvo Sessions run by BDCSA Youth Services has been strong this term with up to 15 young people attending the program each Wednesday afternoon. Exciting things are planned for the program and this term the young people are learning some elements of film making.

Each week Matt has been facilitating workshops to teach the young people skills such as basic camera techniques, editing, acting, film production, script writing and good story telling. At the end of the program the young people will have a complete short film or music video.

Next term will see the program deliver a range of visual arts based workshops with a view to producing some community art works. To get involved visit the centre on Wednesday between 3:30pm and 6:00pm.



What's On?

Playgroup - Monday 9:30am - 11:30am

Alcoholic Anonymous - Tuesday 10:00am

Youth Sessions - Wednesday 3:30pm - 6:00pm

Knit 'n' Knat - Thursday 9:00am - 12:00 Noon

Morning Stroll Group - Thursday 9:30am

Please continue to support these groups over the coming weeks and months as they will all continue to run after the centre has closed.

Check local notices for information on the new location for these groups.

The Wardell Community Centre Staff
would like to wish everyone a
very safe and happy Easter

Keep this date free!!!

Wardell Village Fête

On Saturday 28 April

The annual fête, which brings visitors from far and wide, will be held in the grounds of St Patrick's Church Wardell. All the usual stalls will be there.

All items donated should be in a saleable and safe condition because they will be sold to raise money for the pastoral care and assistance of needy members of our community. Any items remaining unsold at the end of the day will be donated to reputable charities.

Heavy items, or large quantities, can be collected from your property. Enquiries should be directed to:

Rex Farrell - telephone 6683 4743 or
Sister Larelle - telephone 6683 4642

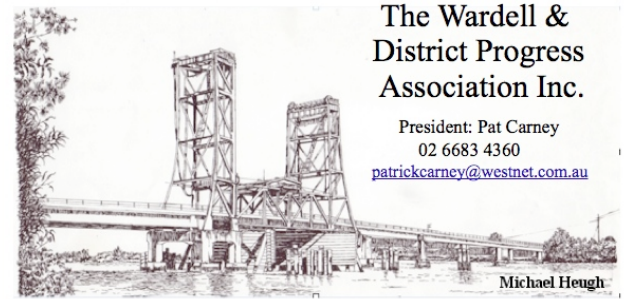


Wardell Sporting & Recreation Club Ltd

Telephone 6683 4437

Australia Day dawned bleak and grey, and continued wet and stormy for this year's celebrations, so the turn out was not as good as anticipated. Breakfast was prepared and ready to be eaten by 7.00 am. We could choose from: bacon, eggs, mushrooms, toast, baked beans, sausages and hot and cold drinks at \$10:00 per plate – and the plate could be filled as often as wanted or needed! The deal was very good! Our thanks and appreciation go to the Mitchell family, who not only prepared and cooked all the food on the day, but also spent many hours the day before, in the rain, putting up tarps and awnings so that the prepared activities could have some shelter. Unfortunately, due to the heavy downfall of rain, this effort was wasted, as the force of water pulled the tarps down.

The feast that started as breakfast, grew into morning tea and, for some people, developed into lunch. There was much chatting and socialising and there was a choice of activities to amuse us. These included indoor bowls – a short course with many bowls ending in what would have been the ditch. There was a chip and putt competition for the dedicated golfers. Andrew Tickle was the organiser of these activities and our thanks and appreciation go to him and his team for the fun day. Thanks also to the many others who assisted at the celebrations. **Kerry Storton**



The Wardell & District Progress Association Inc.

President: Pat Carney
02 6683 4360
patrickcarney@westnet.com.au

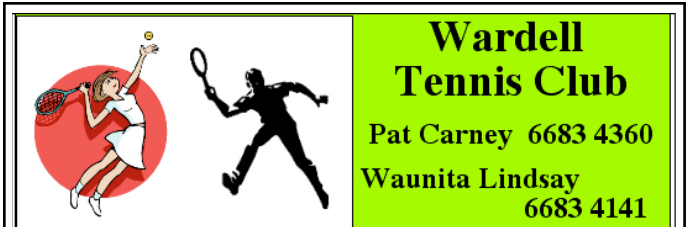
Michael Heugh

Expenditure by Ballina Shire Council in Wardell out of a recent grant include the following projects:

Street lighting	\$102,119
Shared path to recreation ground	\$130,421
Sinclair Street pathway	\$34,328
Richmond Street pathway	\$83,634
Richmond Street improvements	\$31,370
Rock work	\$4,464
Pontoon	\$71,000
Design for boat ramp & board walk	\$120,000

Ballina Shire Council still has some funding in reserve earmarked for Wardell. The Wardell and District Progress Association has invited the Civil Services Group Manager John Truman and the Engineering Works Manager Paul Busmanis to attend the next General Meeting which is to take place at the Wardell Memorial Hall on 19 April 2012 at 7.00 pm. Everyone is invited to the meeting so that the future direction of improvements to the community can be fully aired.

Pat Carney, President



Wardell Tennis Club

Pat Carney 6683 4360
Waunita Lindsay
6683 4141

The Wardell tennis club has again started a summer comp on a Monday night with 16 players and a further 6 or more players being available as "fill ins".

New residents to the area, or those who have taken some time off from tennis, are most welcome to join future comps which are conducted from 6.45pm until about 9.00pm every Monday night.

The club has a rising star in Jessica Tickle who has been a member of the club for the past 4 years. Jessica is a member of the North East Zone Junior Development Squad and recently won the under 14 girls singles and doubles at Glenn Innes.

It would be good to see some younger players but all ages and abilities are catered for on a Monday night. So get fit and play tennis on our beautiful courts. Fees are extremely reasonable.

Pat Carney.

Harry and Nerelle Law celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on 3 March 2012

Wardell Firies To the Rescue



A crew from Wardell answered the call to assist flood-bound residents of the Tweed Valley in a recent downpour. Here Robert Flemming, in the middle of the night, standing knee-deep in water, helps an elderly woman to climb into the fire truck for evacuation to a safe place. The dog came too!

Sue's Kitchen

Fruit Muffins



2 cups plain flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
½ cup castor sugar
Pinch salt
Mix together in bowl

Melt 100 g butter
1 cup milk + extra
1 egg

FRUIT: 1½ cups berries (any kind - blackberries and blueberries are good)
1 banana
¼ cup nuts

Mix ALL together until just combined.
Topping: 1 desert spoon cinnamon sugar on top before placing into a hot oven at 220 °C for 15 minutes.

Sue

Pimlico Ladies Charitable Organisation Inc.

It's Garage Sale Time Again

Early Notification

We will be participating in the "Garage Sale Trail" on Saturday 5 May 2012. Maximise your sale opportunities by coming to the Hall. More stalls will attract more buyers. There is no charge for setting up outside the hall or \$10 per table to set up inside the hall. Morning tea and a sausage sizzle will be available and there will also be a cake, jam, pickles and vegie stall.

For enquiries and bookings please phone
Gwenda on 66834354
or Jill on 66834243.

Knit n' Knat



Every Thursday
9 am -12 noon Wardell
Community Centre.



Knit for charity and enjoy
the companionship of others.

Wardell Community Knit n' Knat Group presented East Ballina Lions Bob and Dawn Sword with 12 rugs for distribution to Ballina's Hope Haven. In return we were presented with a box full of wool to add to our supply. The group members are Lorna Dorey, Ivy Carter, Sue Steel, Shirley Strangman, Jeanette Rushby, Betty Reynolds and Rose Leeson. The group meets at the Wardell Community Centre in Sinclair Street on Thursday mornings 9-12 noon. Call in for a chat and a cuppa and join in with your craft work.

Rose Leeson



**Being Dry is so
Overrated!**



**Empire Vale Public School
Celebrating Our Success**

Recently, Empire Vale, Broadwater, Fernleigh, Cabbage Tree Island and Wardell Public Schools competed in their annual Primary Schools Sports Association Swimming Carnival. Students from all schools displayed great sportsmanship and a willingness to dive right in and 'have-a-go'.

At Empire Vale we are proud of our students, who showed that they could teach fish a thing or two about swimming and that friendly competition can still bring out the competitive spirit. Empire Vale took out all four of the coveted relays (Junior girls & boys and Senior girls & boys) as well as snatching five of the six Championship medallions on offer.

Congratulations to Abbey G-J, Tom H, Bindi H, Kirsty G-J and Jesse B who rose from the depths to take out the Age Champion Places. Twenty-two Empire Vale students made waves at the Small Schools' carnival, qualifying to compete in the Ballina District PSSA Swimming Carnival on 16 February. Five students then made it onto the Far North Coast PSSA Swimming Selection Trials held on 29 February in Murwillumbah. Our relay team has made it to the State Championships. Abbey Graham-Jones, Kirsty Graham-Jones,



Empire Vale Swimmers

Tom Harper and Bindi Heldt will be competing at Homebush on 3 April.

Bonita Avery, Principal.



WARDELL PUBLIC SCHOOL

"Learning is Life"

David Owen, the new principal, was invited by the 'Bugle' to introduce himself.

I started my teaching career in 1994 at Goodooga Central School, 74km North West of Lightning Ridge. Subsequently I was appointed to Walgett High School in 1995 as a permanent mobile teacher, but was transferred to Tenterfield high later on that year. I was appointed to Garah Public School as a Classroom Teacher in 1996. I became the relieving principal at Garah in 2001 and was appointed principal in 2002. In 2004 I was transferred to Yetman Public School as Principal. I was appointed to Wyrallah Public School in 2009 and was transferred to Wardell this year.

I look forward to a positive partnership with the students, parents, staff and community of Wardell. I want to see the school thrive and grow. I wish to work in partnership with the whole school community to provide the best educational outcomes for our students. The school has so much potential and I believe with community support the school can become an outstanding example of best practice in education.



Mr David Owen and the 2012 Student Representative Council.

David Owen, Principal.

The Carr Family of Empire Vale. (Story page 8) Daniel Carr emigrated from County Donegal in Northern Ireland as an 11 year old accompanied by teenage brother Thomas and sister Catherine. They first went to Townsville but didn't like the weather and came south to Wardell where they arrived in 1888. Daniel and Thomas selected land at German Creek (Empire Vale) and built a homestead. Sister Catherine married James Rogers and selected at Pimlico. In 1900, Daniel married Annie Soorley whose family had lived in Wardell for many years. Daniel and Annie had a son Daniel James Carr who married Beryl Margaret Williams. They became the parents of Gary Carr. A second home was built at Carrs Lane using some of the timber from the original homestead. Gary Carr still lives there. There are many graves of the Carr and Rogers family in a group at the North Western side of the Wardell cemetery. Gary's mother came from the Skennar and Williams families of Lennox Head where they were timber getters and owned land.



Wardell Uniting Church.

The article on page 1 was written with encouragement by Marie Harrison and Ivy Carter. Documents were provided by the Wardell Uniting Church including minutes from 1904 to 1975 and 'A Brief History of the Wardell Uniting Church' written by Sylvia Angilley.

Following the service, afternoon tea was enjoyed in the gardens of the church beneath the lovely old melaleuca trees. For many years the gardens have been maintained in immaculate condition by a caring neighbour, Roy Ballard, whose efforts were praised in Church by Bill Partridge.

The stalwarts of the Church were all there - Ivy Carter, Lorna Dorey, Marie and John Harrison, Ruth and Bill Partridge, Kerry Storton and Claude Angilley. Sylvia Angilley was there in spirit and in the hearts of the congregation. There were many returning old Wardellians who had been baptised in the church or who had been members of the congregation in their youth but who, through marriage or work opportunities or retirement, had moved on. They all brought the church to life again. Many of them, when called upon by the Reverend Ken Day, recalled happy memories of the past. Despite the merriment, however, it was, for some, a time of reflection for the passing of a family member. Mary Birch, who gave the Church much support during the quiet times, was there to assist Reverend Day. John Harrison and others are taking steps to ensure that the well loved roll of honour that is mounted above the main entrance to the church, receives a permanent home in the Wardell Memorial Hall in the care of the Blackwall Historical Society. The Ballina Uniting Church will continue to provide pastoral care to all those who seek it.

Alstonville. 60 Main Street.
Worship Services are held every Sunday at 9.00am at Alstonville and at 7.00pm on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at Rous Mill Uniting Church.

Ballina. 54 Cherry Street.
Worship Service: 8.00am Sunday and 9.45am Sunday



The Smallest Post Office has a Big Heart

Gary Carr (he never gives up) speaks with Mike Rushby

"My father Daniel James Carr farmed in this area at Empire Vale almost all his life. He had dairy cattle and then developed the farm into cane. We used to milk 24 or 25 cows and we had pigs. That was the way they did it. The pigs were a bi-product of the cows. You'd milk your cows; separate the cream from the milk and the NORCO truck would come and pick up the cream. The milk that was left over was fed to the pigs.

"When I was very young I helped out with the dairy whenever I could but I was a school kid and I went to school in Ballina because the bus went past my door and because my elder sister Marie went there. South Ballina Beach was the main beach years ago with a surf club. A lot of surfing took place there then. I was very active as a boy and spent a lot of time on the beach at South Ballina.

"I left school when I was fourteen. I had to! On Christmas Day 1964 my parents took the family to Lake Ainsworth. I had just turned fifteen on 13 December. In the Lake Ainsworth Recreational Reserve was an approved diving tower. About 2.00 pm I climbed the tower and dived in. My head struck the bottom and I suffered immediate quadriplegia. I had snapped my 5th and 6th vertebrae. To this day I can remember exactly the sensation. There were swimmers in the water who very carefully kept me still, laid me on a surf board and got me to a doctor in Ballina. I was taken straight to Lismore hospital and they flew me to Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney the following day.



"They fitted me with plaster from the head down to the stomach for about two months. It was very hot. There was no air conditioning and I wouldn't want to go through that again! Later they flew me up to Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane. They did everything they possibly could to improve the situation but I was left a quadriplegic. A certain amount of movement came back within a month or so. Then I worked on it to improve the situation. Once the swelling went down I knew pretty well how much movement I was going to get.



"I felt sorry for myself for too long I suppose, but I got over it eventually. We were not a well-off family and we received no compensation. There was a court case that I don't wish to discuss in any way. It's in the past and it's history. Those interested in history can Google "*Gary Carr NSW Supreme Court*" to read the judgement of the Court. I now get on with my life and I've been helped by many people along the way.

"You don't have a choice in life. You can't change the past. So you do what you can to make the most of the future and you try to be decent to those around you. You can't blame anyone when it's no one's fault. When you think about it, you are not the only one who has been hurt by it. It took me a long time to realise that. I was at home here with Mum and Dad for about three years. I started to get a bit stir crazy so we went to Sydney for a couple of months but I didn't seem to see much of a future for me down there. I came back home. The lady running the post office was retiring and the local people put my name forward. I thought I would give it a go. The Empire Vale Progress Association raised the office on stumps and built a ramp at road level so that I could access it by wheel chair.

"Probably the hardest thing for me was the physical effort in running the operation. I had the intellectual capacity but every physical job needed extra effort and I had to adapt to everything. I had a car and I could get in and out of that. They taught me the bookwork and everything that had to be done. It's not rocket science, but you've got to be honest. I keep pretty quiet myself, but I hear a lot from my customers and I keep that to myself too. My best aid is my VW Combi van with a hydraulic tailgate that raises my motorised wheel chair and allows me to drive anywhere to give me independence. I have about a hundred regular customers and I have a second post office at Carr's Lane. I do a mail run in the Moylan's Lane - Reedy Creek area.

"The thing I miss most is the use of my fingers. I'm aware my condition might deteriorate as I grow older, but I am preparing for the future with a positive attitude. Empire Vale is a great place to live. I have a job, a home and some great friends. It's good to be alive."

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.