At first it seemed an unusual idea. To hold a dance party to celebrate the life of Roz Novich, who died in tragic circumstances just weeks before. But the energy, the enthusiasm, the marshalling of emotions and the spirit of her Valley friends and her family, combined to produce a landmark event, which was for most, if not all, a cornucopia of treasured memories of a person whose vitality and generous spirit had touched so many, in her all too brief stay among us. More tributes and thank you notes on page 5 and a call for ideas for the Roz Novich memorial.
The numbers of visitors to the Valley in the recent holiday period was below the expectations of many businesses, the bulk of whom rely on tourism to make the substantial percentage of their turnover. Undoubtedly there were a number of factors at play here, the publicity regarding Tallowa Dam perhaps, the wild swings of weather conditions, the increased cost of petrol maybe and the water levels of the river which is the hub of the Valley’s adventure holidays. The Kangaroo Valley Tourist Association is planning new initiatives to raise awareness about the valley and its various attractions.

The emphasis is on what is different about this special place, that people cannot experience anywhere else. The sheer splendour of the natural beauty of the escarpments, streams and river and an ever green rural landscape all encourage visitors to unwind, revive and refresh in an hospitable, pleasant village. This village has many treasures and many are touched on in this issue of the Voice.

Tinged with sadness covering the Celebration of Life party for Roz Novich but looking to the future in the memorial project (see page 5) and the richly deserved, though sadly posthumous Order of Australia Award to Peggy Synold (also page 5).

Another treasure receiving a long overdue and welcoming sprucing up is the Friendly Inn. The exterior painting has been tastefully and subtly done and no doubt the planned renovations and improvements of the interior will be of similar quality.

We received many positive comments on Starstruck (our astronomy column) which appeared for the first time in December and that new column is joined by one exploring the importance of exterior energies in promoting healthy lives (page 12).

We are richly rewarded by the number of letters to the editor this month, covering a variety of topics and all thoughtfully expressed. The “blast from the past” being the Kangaroo Valley Post published in London in the sixties (page 9) was certainly of interest to our team. The initiating letter (page 2) about the behaviour of some visitors is a wake up call, that the natural beauties we enjoy can be easily desecrated.

Our Rural Fire Service have had an exhausting time but as ever their advice about prevention and protection are “spot on”. The Tallowa Dam issue is in the spotlight again with a two page report from the Campaign Committee, views from Bendeela campers and another clever satirical piece from John Crick. The dedication (welcoming) ceremony for the Wollemi Pine was well attended (page 3) and the tree in a cage has already become a tourist attraction of some note.

The success of the 9 by 5 art exhibition was highlighted by the point, that nearly 75% of the purchasers were Valley residents or property owners. The monthly reports from the real estate agents, highlight by the point, that nearly 75% of the purchasers were Valley residents or property owners. The monthly reports from the real estate agents, indicate a return of confidence in the local market with increased enquiry, well qualified buyers and significant sales.

Last but not least is the reminder that the single most significant event of the social activity calendar of the year, the Annual Kangaroo Valley Show will be staged at Osborne Park Showground on February 17 and 18, presenting a program designed to cater to every taste and interest. See you at the Show!

Carl Leddy
In a comprehensive program befitting the unique nature of the event, the Wollemi Pine, gifted to the Valley by the Cullen Family of Wattamolla, was officially “welcomed” to the Valley on December 15, 2005.

A large crowd was in attendance, securing shelter from the sun, to listen to a number of speeches and be entertained by an indigenous music duo playing traditional instruments. The audience included many school children, who were invited to share the responsibility of being guardians of the Wollemi Pine for generations to come. With due ceremony, the tree was revealed in all its juvenile glory, when the plastic wrapping was removed and the unusual nature of its foliage and bark were closely inspected by those in attendance.
Letters to the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

stumps; light fires during fire bans; use the virgin bushland as their toilet, festooning the greenery with soiled toilet paper; pull down trees (don't ask me why?) and generally act with no respect for others or the incredible beauty of their surrounds.

I have railed against the council, the rangers and the visitors themselves to no avail.

So now it seems to me that the answer is within us, as a community.

The truth is that Kangaroo Valley thrives and prospers from the regular influx of tourists. But it won't stay pristine and beautiful unless we educate these visitors about their surroundings.

So if you are sending people to Flat Rock (or anywhere else in our beautiful valley) please do so with a few provisos - TELL them that it is virgin bush - one cigarette butt caused 25,000 hectares to go up in smoke on the Central Coast two weeks ago - we don't want the same to happen here - so please, no fires, no smokes.

TELL them that they should take nothing but photos, leave nothing but footprints - take ALL their rubbish home with them.

TELL them that our river water is their drinking water - it goes to Sydney to come out of their taps - EDUCATE them (wherever they're from) that all water is sourced from Rivers like ours.

TELL them that there are no toilets and that if they need to go, they need to DIG a hole and BURY it - at least 50 metres from any water source or supply.

TELL them that it's a bumpy, windy, dangerous road that humans and horses and children walk along so go SLOWLY.

EDUCATE them that Kangaroo valley is an ancient sacred place where the aboriginals came to heal themselves and others and for childbirth.

That Flat Rock is a sacred place where the heating waters and the essence of the Mother Spirit soothed the troubled heart and soul.

It's not a beach. It's not a party zone.

It's a quiet place for introspection and peace.

The question begs to be asked - why come somewhere beautiful and ruin it?

But let's all take responsibility for keeping it beautiful and sacred - I'll keep picking up rubbish - please make a conscious decision to make our visitors conscious of their responsibilities to this incredible land of ours.

Thank you!

Sophie Love

With heartfelt thanks to a great community

My name is Sue Stanley and I am the elder sister of Roz Novich.

Roz was always eager to say "the much older sister" although only 2 years and 8 months separated us. Roz was always eager to say "the much older sister" although only 2 years and 8 months separated us.

Roz was always eager to say "the much older sister" although only 2 years and 8 months separated us.

Roz Novich.

Thank you!

Sue Stanley

The Editor

 Accident service was tip top!

Monday December the 19th 2005 is a date that we will remember for a long time.....husband John had an accident at KV tip!!

John and I want to say a huge thank you to Dr Adrian Burton, (retired Doctor KV) and Scott (KV Ambulance Station) as well as the Doctors, Nurses and Staff at Nowra Memorial Hospital.

John and I were down at our property (Barrengarry) for 3 days - the plan for Monday 19th Dec. was to take a trip to the KV tip to off-load a rotten old rusty beaten up car body that we had inherited when we bought the property.

John got out his trusty angle grinder and voila - two bits!

He lifted and dropped the car parts via his very capable excavator into the back of the hi lux......we were off.

Hmmmm.....yes a good story - here goes......

Once upon a time in a far off place KANGAROO VALLEY TIP, Two City slickers (Judy and John), were attempting to off load from their trusty Toyota hi lux ute, a couple of rotten, rusty, beaten up old car body parts which came from their property.

City slicker # 1 (John), came up with the brilliant idea - if I accelerate in reverse, rotten old car body part will catapult with ease to a better resting place from the back of the hi lux. Hoohah! Salutations and three cheers it worked - rotten old car body part # 1 taken care of.

Now for rotten old car body part # 2 which was stuck and most disagreeable - needed encouragement to dislodge from groove in back of truck. City slicker # 2 (Judy), was very warped and stood aside whilst City slicker no 1 (John), chose a very choice pre-loved but disdained piece of pipe from pile of junk nearby to shove under rotten old car body part # 2. At that stage the car body part rolled forward towards John and he not realising how close he was to the already dumped car part, forced it him to step back, he tripped and fell onto a chunky protrusion, on his left side which then fractured 2 ribs which pierced his lung.

It was dreadful, happened right in front of my eyes, nothing I could do - luckily and with God watching over us a retired Doctor was dumping his waste nearby, came to our rescue, called an ambulance.

He was great, assured John and stayed with us the whole time.

The supervisor on the day at the Tip was very helpful, he stayed till the ambulance arrived. Scott, the ambulance attendant was fantastic, very professional, reassuring and we were so thankful for his care.

John was admitted to Nowra Memorial Hospital - fabulous Doctors, Nurses and staff, so caring.

There he stayed for 5 days, transferred to St. George Thoracic/Heart unit, released on Christmas Day.

John has now returned to work and has had a good report re his health, though still a little discomfort in the rib area.

It was such a shock, this was a freakish accident, I get goose bumps thinking about it.

We are so grateful for everyone who came to our rescue.

We really want people in Kangaroo Valley to know how grateful we are for the Ambulance service facility, without it we would have been in trouble.

Regards,

Judith Hallihan

The Editor

Sydney-sider on our side!

As a Sydney resident who has just visited your delightful Valley for the first time, I am most supportive of your community’s campaign against the raising of the Tallawah dam. The Government’s proposal to supplement Sydney’s water supply with water from the Shoalhaven is an inappropriate response to Sydney’s water shortage.

That the economic and environmental integrity of Kangaroo Valley should be put at risk to allow Sydney-siders the luxury of filling swimming pools, cultivating exotic gardens and indulging in lengthy showers is hardly fair.

Far better to reduce the environmental footprint of Sydney (and other major centres) by sound environmental management, by public education and by addressing the issue of population growth.

Why, for example, does every house not have a rain water tank or recycle water? (I should also point out that Sydney presently has an abundance of underground water.)

It’s time our politicians recognised that depleting the resources of one community to meet those of another is neither a sustainable nor an appropriate response to resource management.

After occupying this fair land for over two hundred years, isn’t it time we recognised that Sydney presently has an abundance of underground water.)

Far better to reduce the environmental footprint of Sydney (and other major centres) by sound environmental management, by public education and by addressing the issue of population growth.

Lyn McLean

Sydney

More letters page 6
“An experience of a lifetime”

Thank you for allowing me space in the December edition of the Voice to express some of my feelings about my wife, Roz. I do not wish to elaborate further in this letter as it is all far too emotional.

I would like to thank everybody in the Valley (and indeed outside the Valley) for the absolutely fantastic Celebration of Life Party that we held at Kangaroo Valley Hall on December 16th. Roz would have had a ball if she were there and when the thunder rolled through, I am not so sure she was not involved somehow.

As I said on the night, to single out individuals is possibly going to upset those not mentioned. For this I apologise, but feel compelled to mention a few people who made it all happen. Derek and Irene along with the Operation Challenge Team who co-ordinated what needed to be done regarding catering and general manpower. The restaurants and individuals that donated the food. Quietta, who led the team that performed the miraculous transformation of the Old Hall. What an atmosphere! Andy, Martin, Julie and Lance that provided the music and entertainment that just kept going. Oscar who transported people home. Lions Club for administration of the Memorial Fund. Everything just seemed to run as smooth as silk.

I did not just wave my magic wand. I had bow fixers - ribbon hangers - flower makers - light fixers table setters - and lots of ladder climbers. So thank you Jaqui and Tim, Joan Bray, Sally, Bryan and Esther, Heather Kelly, Lance Brown, Derek, Irene and Lance, John George, Ian Ross, Loo Taylor, Denise Wright, John and Wendy Allan, Fiona Reid, Jeanne Watt, Harry and Chris Knowles, Phil and Ross, Zeppa, Sophie, John and Helen, Katrina and Danny, David and Amanda, Sharon Morris, Gail and Garth, Mary & Bruce, K.V. Electrical, Tom and Michael at the Newsagency, the girls at K.V. Supermarket, Kathy at Homelea Cottage, K.V. Fudge House. The Village Green and Karen Beeston.

As I said on the night, to single out individuals is possibly going to upset those not mentioned. She had a quick sense of humour, loved people, is legend. She will always be remembered in Kangaroo Valley for her tireless contributions, to this Community. Born here in 1915, Ethel Merle Nelson, she was known affectionately as Peggy and saw many changes in village life, during her 90 years. Her work with the Red Cross, Children’s Medical Research Institute, Lions Club, C.W.A., Pioneer Park Trust, Senior Citizens and the Ambulance, is legend. She had a quick sense of humour, loved people, especially the young, was fond of an adventure [she was the bushranger in the 1938 film, 'The Man from Kangaroo'] and was the best scone maker in the district.

Peggy liked to help others and any worth while cause, but it was the Valley and its people who were the main beneficiaries of her charitable work. We miss you Peg and are so proud of your award. Wish you were here to help organize a ticker tape parade in your honour.

I also need your help in using it. I am not sure how I can do that for her, and sent an instant S-O-S, for Red and Happy Things. Little did I know the amount of support and helping hands I was to receive.

And there sure was a celebration of life party for Roz, Friday 16th Dec 2005 in Kangaroo Valley hall. Thursday night the happy mood was set. The old hall turned happy for Roz. I did not just wave my magic wand. I had bow makers - ribbon hangers - flower makers - light fixers table setters - and lots of ladder climbers.

When the request came - it took me a minute and a half to decide, I can do that for her, and sent an instant S-O-S, for Red and Happy Things.

I believe, however, that it is a rather special characteristic that resides in the people of Kangaroo Valley.

Ken Novich

A happy party for Roz

When the request came - it took me a minute and a half to decide, I can do that for her, and sent an instant S-O-S, for Red and Happy Things.

Lions Club, was awarded a posthumous Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the General Division on Australia Day 2006.

Peggy Synold was awarded her OAM for, "service to the community of Kangaroo Valley, particularly through support for improved health care facilities. A resident of Kangaroo Valley her entire life, Mrs Synold gave years of valuable service to her community. A founding member and past president of the Children’s Medical Research Institute (Kangaroo Valley Branch), Mrs Synold also served as president of the Kangaroo Valley Bowling Club, as a volunteer with Pioneer Farm Museum and was a life member of the Kangaroo Valley Show Society.

Mrs Synold was a member of the Kangaroo Valley Lions Club, a member of the Red Cross Society and a driver and volunteer cook for Meals on Wheels.

Mrs Synold died on July 22, 2005.”

Lion Peggy Synold served her community in many ways over many years, Lions being only one of those ways, and her community is better off because of her service. Her award was proposed by members of her community, and her community will greatly miss her service to them.

Submitted by Lions

Peggy Synold Honoured

Peggy Synold [who died last year], has been honoured in the Australia Day Awards, with the ORDER of AUSTRALIA MEDAL. She will always be remembered in Kangaroo Valley for her tireless contributions, to this Community. Born here in 1915, Ethel Merle Nelson, she was known affectionately as Peggy and saw many changes in village life, during her 90 years. Her work with the Red Cross, Children’s Medical Research Institute, Lions Club, C.W.A., Pioneer Park Trust, Senior Citizens and the Ambulance, is legend.

She had a quick sense of humour, loved people, especially the young, was fond of an adventure now?” of the situation I am in.

I appreciate them all. It would be nice to think that distressed families everywhere had such support and love from their Community.

I believe, however, that it is a rather special characteristic that resides in the people of Kangaroo Valley.

Ken Novich

The irreverent Roz in typical pose

Memorial fund ideas invited

Many, many thanks to those “luverly” people who gave their time and talents to making the evening a superb party for Roz.

We danced, we sang, we ate, we drank, we talked and we swapped memories.

The memorial fund sits at around $4,000.

I now need your help in using it. Any ideas for beautifying the township as a permanent memorial to Roz to:

Derek Lucas
PO Box 9024
Kangaroo Valley
2577

"True service clubs veteran"

Lion Ethel Merle (Peggy) Synold (deceased), a member of the Kangaroo Valley Lions Club, was awarded a posthumous Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the General Division on Australia Day 2006.

Lion Peggy Synold was awarded her OAM for, "service to the community of Kangaroo Valley, particularly through support for improved health care facilities.

A resident of Kangaroo Valley her entire life, Mrs Synold gave years of valuable service to her community. A founding member and past president of the Children’s Medical Research Institute (Kangaroo Valley Branch), Mrs Synold also served as president of the Kangaroo Valley Bowling Club, as a volunteer with Pioneer Farm Museum and was a life member of the Kangaroo Valley Show Society.

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Lion Peggy Synold served her community in many ways over many years, Lions being only one of those ways, and her community is better off because of her service. Her award was proposed by members of her community, and her community will greatly miss her service to them.

Submitted by Lions

"True service clubs veteran"
More letters to the Editor

The Editor

Support for Valley resistance of dam proposal is widespread

Glad that you included John Cricks 'myth/ (satirical thus ?) in the December issue of the Valley Voice.

Last year he performed in Maleny with the support of the Qld Arts Council and quoth the President "I never realised that story telling is such an art form."

John is very good for all ages and says he would do a show in the Valley maybe next winter so I will follow that up.

There are signs that the Government are thinking a little more ?

There is a direct parallel with the Franklin Dam when the Hydro Electric Commission and the Tass government wanted to dam, the former for votes and the latter for careers.

Peg Putt, daughter of Colin a founder of Chakola, is leader of the Tassie Greens now. The first Australian Wilderness Association was born at Chakola in 1971 and 19 years later when acceptance of Wilderness as separate from Parks was established we handed the idea and the monies to a young doctor named Bob Brown.............so and so it goes.

The Lease is now close to settlement. I will leave the new Lessee to speak when ready as I have said already "on Licence" several international Groups have and are using Chakola now.

Compliments of the Season and keep up the excellent work.

Warwick Deacock
Below, my note to the Sydney Morning Herald.

A Frightful Act of Environmental Violence in the Kangaroo Valley. NSW.

The Governor of NSW and the Sydney Catchment Area Authority announce their intentions to raise the Tallowa dam 7 metres. There has been but one Community Consultation last October.
Many residents of the Valley are apprehensive! And well they might be!
200 to 300,000 trees lost!

Distraction of Lower Kangaroo River and the
beauties of the free flowing river above that.

Loss of a Public Campground and a major Eco Tourism business imperilled.

Flooding of roads including the main route from West Sydney to the coast.

A School Campus cut in half.

The threat to the Brush Tailed Rock Wallaby
Schedule 1 of the Threatened Species
Conservation Act, also the Broad Headed Snake.

Also threatened and Listed Schedule 2 are 6 Species of Birds 13 Mammals, one Reptile and
one Amphibian. (Yes! The Stuttering Frog)

Also Threatened are many AUSTRALIANS whose property values will collapse and Businesses suffer in the Village.

WHY? Did not the Good people of Sydney manage recently to save 20 to 30% of their water consumption?

What will it take to abandon the dam raising?
Here are some answers:

Scientific Understanding, see what other nations have been doing for years!

Environmental concern; Thought for the Future; Common Decency and above all Enlightened Leadership.

SO THOUGHTLESS! SO TIMID! and ABOVE ALL SO VIOLENT!

Warwick Deacock OAM

OAM : 1997 : "For Services to Conservation and the Environment, in particular Chakola Wildlife Refuge, Kangaroo Valley. NSW ."

NB Background of John Crick

John Crick goes back to the beginning of Chakola and now a retired teacher had become himself, Scrumpy Jo aka John the Walrus, educator.

You and others may be delighted in his offering, not so one fancies the Pollies or the Environment, in particular Chakola Wildlife Refuge, Kangaroo Valley. NSW .

So thoughtful! So timid! and above all so violent!

Warwick Deacock OAM

OAM : 1997 : "For Services to Conservation and the Environment, in particular Chakola Wildlife Refuge, Kangaroo Valley. NSW ."

Dear Sir

Gremlins strike again

The gremlin which delights in omitting the last line from articles in the Voice chose a particularly unfortunate target in the December issue.

The report on the public meeting held on 28 November, to discuss the proposal to raise Tallowa dam, ended with some of the more important questions and answers.

To the last question “Is it true that the Government is introducing legislation to remove the requirement for environmental flows for rivers in water sharing plans?” , no answer appears.

I should like to place it on the public record that Minister Debus’ unequivocal answer to that question was “No”.

Yours faithfully

Tony Barnett

The Editor

Valley Club not trivial

I am writing to commend the Bowling Club on their Tuesday night Trivia competitions.

I encourage anyone who has not yet experienced the excitement of finally realizing the importance of useless information to come along and join in.

Who would have thought that generous knowledge regarding the use of swizzle sticks and kebabs would ever get us anywhere in life?

Only at the Bowling Club on a Tuesday evening will you witness the rivalry, tension, jealousy, anxiety and giddy pleasure which arises from defeating the opposition (or just the table next to you).

Alison Lamond

The Editor

Labor’s land tax deceit

Labor’s proposed changes to the land tax threshold are deceitful because it only returns a small fraction of the hundreds of millions gouged from mum and dad investors in recent years.

Investors in the Highlands, Illawarra, Macarthur and Wollondilly areas will still be contributing to a growing land tax bonanza for Labor, said Ms Seaton.

Labor is offering a $53 million concession, at a time when they know they will be raking in hundreds of millions of dollars in extra windfall land tax revenue as a result of the rate hike and valuation increase.

The evidence points to an overall land tax take that will still exceed forecast revenues, even after the $53 million concession has been factored in.

Land tax payers will still be dunned.

In 2004/05 Labor pocketed land tax revenue of $1.58 billion, $188 million more than they were forecasting (source OSR Annual Report page 10, 2004-05 year), making a $50 million tax cut a token gesture that does not restore fairness to the system.

The 2005/06 Budget forecast land tax revenue of $1.633 billion due primarily to the increased rate of land tax, and it’s likely to exceed that despite this paltry concession.

Morris lemma was prepared to spend $18.5 million to fund 400 additional land tax collectors, yet only contemplates a $50 million land tax cut.

Recent valuation hikes announced in the New Year have also sent land tax bills through the

(Continued on page 15)

May I help?

As your Federal member, it is my role to facilitate and assist you and your family with any concerns you might have.

My office is located at 24 Berry Street, Nowra and is open from 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday or you can contact me on 4423 1782 or toll free on 1300 301 790

I regularly visit Kangaroo Valley and am more than happy to call or visit you if you cannot get to my office.

Joanna Gash MP
Federal Member for Gilmore

I regularly visit Kangaroo Valley and am more than happy to call or visit you if you cannot get to my office.

Joanna Gash MP
Federal Member for Gilmore

Editor’s note. I am assured by the “experts” that there is no particular selectivity by our resident gremlins in striking at the tail copy of stories. It is all to do apparently with a different selection of type faces available on our computer and that used by our printer.

When what we supply does not compute with the printers then the printer takes precedence.

Dear Editor,

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I am writing to commend the Bowling Club on their Tuesday night Trivia competitions.

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(Continued on page 15)
New arrivals say hello!

Could you please add us to the mailing list for 'Kangaroo Valley Voice'?

We have recently moved to the valley to Minimbah, 48 Nugents Creek Road - which, as you would know, was Bob and Irene Dunn's place.

If you would like some news, We moved to the valley on the 14th of November with our three young boys. Two and a half weeks later we had a baby girl (finally a girl!).

She arrived on December 2nd and weighed 7 lbs 9 ozs.
Her name is Harmony.
We're sure she waited until we moved to 'Heaven on Earth' (Kangaroo Valley) before she decided to make her appearance.
Already, everyone we have met have been so wonderful in making us feel welcome.
We hope to meet more of you soon!!
Thanks and warm regards,
Frank and Cathy: Jenson, Caclan, Maclaren and Harmony Barker

The Barker family; feeling right at home, in the valley.

Our northern neighbours need our help, now!

I have been back now one month from one of the most amazing experiences of my life in Sri Lanka.
It was incredibly rewarding to help provide basic shelter in the Henamulla shanty town in Colombo and to meet and work with the families at Henamulla.
It was at times confronting and really brought home the advantages we enjoy.
As I walked around the shanty town on a couple of occasions, it worried me greatly what would happen if a fire went through, as the ramshackle wooden houses are on top of each other, housing hundreds of people.
Unfortunately, on December 22 a fire destroyed 156 houses (houses being a generous description of the living quarters in the shanty town).
There is an updated email below from Br. Emmanuel from the Lasallian Community Education Services, who run the pre-schools and health systems for the shanty town, and organised for us to build the new housing for the most needy families in December.
He is seeking just US$3,000 or AUD$4,000 to get the children affected by the fire back to the pre-schools, and the school age children to school.
It's a pretty harrowing description in the email. If you can spare some money, just go to the website we had established for our Odyssey, www.amazonheartodyssey.org and click on "support the odyssey".
There is a section for US donors, Australian donors and others.

Email from Brother Emmanuel

As I had mentioned to you earlier the displaced families were housed in two schools, 75 in each.
Two or three toilets in each school.
On the 2nd of January the Schools were to reopen but the people had no place to go to.
The Colombo Municipality levelled the area between the original Somaliyawa settlement area and the playground and laid concrete on a hundred and fifty, ten by ten square space and fixed tents.
(Donated by the Red Cross from excess tents left over from Tsunami rehabilitation).
They have also been provided basic cooking utensils.
Water hoses were used by the school authorities to force the people from the schools to move into the tents.
The rains came down heavily and the water was oozing through the concrete and coming into the tent from the playground.
The people have no furniture and sleep on mats or on the bare floor.
Five mothers are pregnant and we have already provided the basics needed at childbirth.
When the boys play football the balls rip into the tent settlements.

On the day they moved in, drinking water was provided by the Municipality.
When I visited them two days ago they were without drinking water for two days.
They have no vessels to collect the water from the adjoining shanty town.
They have no toilet facilities and they have to use the few in the Henamulla camp or case themselves on the garbage heap.
Garbage is still being dumped nearby and with the rains the stench is unbearable.
We at LCES have been busy collecting children and restarting the pre-schools.
We have already admitted about one hundred children and more are coming every day.
We charge only 150 Rupees as admission fee and 250 Rupees for the Uniform.
We do not charge monthly fee.
To those who have lost everything because of the fire, we do not charge even for admission or for school uniform.
We also have to provide school books, uniform, school bag and shoes for the bigger children who have to go to school.
We have estimated a sum of Rs. 300,000/= to provide for them so that they do not keep out of school.
Will keep you informed of further developments.
With kindest regards to all.
Brother Emmanuel

Mayoral notice

Greg Watson
will be visiting the Valley on Tuesday, 7th February and will be available for interviews/discussions with residents outside the Kangaroo Valley Post Office at 10.00 am.
The Garden Group celebrated the end of another gardening year with a very merry Christmas party at Dawn Daly’s home. Not only was the company convivial and the food delicious, we were also treated to a guided tour of Dawn’s garden, which has been created, within a few years, from almost nothing. Anyone can join us, for any or all of the excursions during 2006. In fact, we would love to talk plants to new people. We meet once a month, usually on the first Monday of each month, but this can change to suit the gardeners we visit, nurseries we learn from or specialists in diverse fields of horticulture. Sometimes we have meetings where we swap cuttings, bulbs or even just advice. As the New Year begins it is my turn to thank the members of the Garden group, for their support in crises, their suggestions for visits, their enthusiasm and interest for each and every garden we explore. The Group is made up of learner gardeners, keen enthusiasts and experts. Not everyone is able to attend every month, so there is a moveable feast of knowledge, good humour and interests.

PETA SEATON, M.P.
MEMBER FOR SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

CAN I HELP YOU?
With any State issue including:
Schools, law and order, health, environment.
Contact my office on:
Tel: 4861 3623 Fax: 4861 3546
Peta Seaton, MP
Member for Southern Highlands

Leonine News

Roz Novich Memorial Fund
A significant amount has been donated. If you would like to contribute, but have not yet done so, please send your cheque now to Kangaroo Valley Lions Club, c/o Post Office, Kangaroo Valley. The fund will close on 14 February, after which the lions will consult with Roz’s family as to how the money is to be spent.

Donations
As regular readers of this column will know, every dollar donated to Lions is spent on some community project. At the end of 2005, our club was able to make substantial donations to Lions Clubs International Foundation (the charitable arm of Lions Clubs International through which funds are channelled for many worldwide programs for the needy), Campaign Sight-First II, Save Sight Institute, Australian Lions-Quest Youth Institute and Shoalcare.

Christmas Raffle
Despite an unusually quiet pre-Christmas period in the village, a very busy Christmas Eve at the Friendly Inn made Lions’ raffle a success. We look forward to seeing the winner, Cheryl Furness, around the valley on the item we couldn’t quite fit into the stocking – a ladies’ bicycle.

Swimming Pool
A record 35 children enrolled for our Learn to Swim lessons in January. Most of them persevered for all 9 sessions, despite challenging weather in the second week. A reminder that the pool will close between 12 noon and 1 pm on weekdays during school term. However, in hot weather we shall endeavour to keep the pool open after 6 pm (at lions’ expense), subject to demand and availability of lifeguards. If you wish to know if the pool is open late on any day, please phone the duty lifeguard on 4465 1863. We continue to keep the pool open on public holidays, also at lions’ expense.

Kangaroo Valley Show
As usual, Lions will be running the kiosk at the Show this year. We will be offering a “special”, never before seen on the lions’ show menu, so please do come and support the galley slaves in the kiosk. All profits are shared between lions and Kangaroo Valley A & H Association, and so go back into the community.

Stewart Wilkie
The Club was greatly saddened by the loss of Lion Stewart Wilkie, who died just before Christmas after a three month illness. Although Stewart had not been a member of Kangaroo Valley Lions for very long, he was always willing to help with our projects. He will be greatly missed.

Tony Barnett

End of Year party

Hay for Sale
Quality rye grass/clover hay
Great feed for horses or cattle
Stock up now for winter
$10/ bale
Call Alison 0408 492 587
A memento from other times and places

For interest this logo was a letterhead used in Earls Court when I was there in the 1960’s.

During that time as Earls Court was a main meeting point for Australians visiting London it became known as Kangaroo Valley.

Not so much today as this London inner suburb has gone up market and is quite expensive for accommodation.

Comparisons of ‘Backpackers Organisations’ of today, we had ‘Youth Hostels Associations’ some 40 years or more ago with Earls Court and the adjoining suburb of Holland Park in London a popular YHA meeting area.

Also situated near the Earl’s Court Underground Station in that era was another special meeting place for young people called the ‘Overseas Visitors Club’ where among other amenities mail (for a small fee) could be directed and held for a certain period if travelling.

Today with electronic mail this is not so much a problem but in the 1960’s this mail holding service proved very popular.

I think the ‘Kangaroo Valley Post’ was similar to the ‘Kangaroo Valley Voice’ in that it’s main issue was informing the locals (i.e. mostly travelling Australians) with a wide variation of current information and assistance.

A series of ‘club notice boards’ in the Visitors’ Club was also a constant source of interest ....... Bedsitters to share, Cars & Vans could be freely advertised for rent or sale on these boards.

Also groups looking to make up small tour parties to visit Europe put in their various pitches along with news from home also people trying to contact each other could place personal requests for further follow up and contact.

So ‘The Kangaroo Valley Post’ was a good communicator for Australians in London in the 1960’s.

The local support was fantastic but we also had buyers from far and wide, with three paintings going to Hamburg in Germany.

Many buyers saw the works as the ultimate investments (just before Christmas).

9 by 5 art show a great success

The response to Breakaways 9x5 show was overwhelming with somewhere in the order of two hundred people attending the opening night and in excess of fifty-five paintings sold in all.

It was as if the artistic planets were in alignment, the right subject matter, and the right price and at the right time of year (just before Christmas).

The local support was fantastic but we also had buyers from far and wide, with three paintings going to Hamburg in Germany.

Many buyers saw the works as the ultimate postcard from the Valley and surrounds.

We look forward to the next show “palette” paintings inspired by the joy of food, with entries open to the wider artistic community at a date soon to be advised.

Tish and Gay

Pioneer Museum Park is given more support

At this time of the year we like to say a big thank you to the faithful but small group of volunteers who turn up for their four hour session once or twice a month.

To those who keep the gardens and lawns looking good thank you.

Without the support of you all we would be unable to continue to operate.

Thank you to David and Chi from JING JO THAI Restaurant for including information about the Museum on their take-away menu.

This is really great for the Museum as it goes to all the hospitality places and so visitors to the Valley have the information they need to come and visit.

Thank you to those members of the Lions Club who gave so generously of their time to help with the concrete slab laying, support poles and roof planks on the new machinery sheds.

It has eased the load of our volunteers as they complete the rest of the building work.

Thank you to Mike & Kathy Gorman for their sponsorship.

Thank you to John Rowntree for all the effort made by he and his co-workers, to produce and donate the poster explaining the geology of the Kangaroo Valley.

KANGAROO VALLEY COMBINED CHURCHES invites the community to a

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19TH

5-30 pm SAUSAGE SIZZLE in the grounds of the Uniting Church.

6-30 pm a one hour worship service

WELL KNOWN HYMNS / CHILDREN’S TALK AND CHORUSES.

The service will be conducted by the ministers from the three churches

If you wish to bring any non perishable foodstuffs they will be donated to the Salvation Army in Nowra
Pre School is beginning a new year of fun and learning in a fantastic newly renovated building!

We have a fresh coat of paint in bright happy colours thanks to the generous Uwe Ueckert who has spent much of his time this January making the pre school interior beautiful!

Alan Harvey has kindly lent us his time and talents to put a new kitchen and extra cupboards into the pre school.

We are excited to have so much practical and attractive storage space - not to mention a double sink!

Peter Watson has again been wonderful donating his time and carpentry skills to this project.

We are always appreciative of the time he donates to our pre school.

Mike Gorman and Gary Thomas have done lots of electrical work to make everything operate. We now have a real light switch in the kitchen instead of a string to pull to turn on the lights! Lee Dale has also done a wonderful job with the plumbing!

Thank you to all these people and also our tireless committee members who give so generously of their time to create a fantastic pre school for Kangaroo Valley Children.

Thanks also to all the people and organizations who have supported the pre school’s fund raising events and who have donated time, money or goods and services to help make these renovations possible.

Pre school has been open for the children from the 30th January and we are getting ready some entries for the Kangaroo Valley Show.

We still have some places available at pre school. If you have children between the ages of two and five who would like to come to pre school - for a permanent booking or a casual day or two please come in and see us.

Thursdays are full at present and other days are filling quickly.

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting year at the pre school in our newly renovated building, with more plans for exciting additions to come!

The new kitchen half-installed!

Human interest stories, news and happenings from our Kangaroo Valley churches

Compiled by Linda Chittick

From the Church of the Good Shepherd - The Men’s Katoomba Christian Convention 2006… MKC 2006 will be looking at Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount and what he has to say about life, love, possessions, values and priorities.

David Cook and Mike Raiter will be leading the studies in what promises to be a very challenging weekend.

Men from the congregation intend to go for the day on Sat 25th February. Please talk to Laurie Barton, 4465 1386 if you would like to go.

Preliminary Theological Certificate (PTC) Congratulations to our PTC students - but they want more!! Having gotten through their first unit of PTC - they want to continue - but are asking are there others who would like to join them? They have been studying God’s word with the intention of holding a Preliminary Theological Certificate from Moore Theological College at the conclusion of the required units! More details from Graham Castle. "The Moore College Courses exist for one purpose: to help ordinary, everyday people get to know God better by deeply engaging with his Word."

Term 1 teaching program

We begin Romans in Term 1 - both in our sermons - but also studying this extraordinary book in our various growth / small / bible study groups.

Are you in one?

Why not explore joining one now?

Study guides can be picked up from your group host/leader.

Bishops talks

This year’s talks by Bishop Reg Piper are on Thursday evenings -
Feb 9 at Nowra Anglican, 7.30 pm - ‘Qantas, Christianity and Anzac Cove.’
Feb 16 at Bomaderry Anglican, 7.30 pm - ‘Praying in the Spirit.’
Feb 23 at Bomaderry Bowling Club, 7.00 pm - ‘Combat the Terrorism.’

The last talk will be given after a two course dinner at the Bowling Club.

Tickets are available from Chris or Dave Short, $22.50 per person.
Historic letters from the heart

“Time and distance have severed the old young love, so many claims have sprung up...such is life”

This could easily have been the sentiments of many of the old pioneers who had left their native lands to settle in a new country.

We can be thankful they were resolute in establishing themselves here and making a prosperous future for their descendants. Some came to the Valley in the 1850’s and even more in the 1860’s after the Crown Alienable act, permitted families to select up to 300 acres, and commence farming, before survey, for a modest down payment of five shilling an acre and three instalments of the same amount each year.

Land improvement was a requirement of the deal and complete payment was eventually required.

Many of these selectors lent their names to places in the Valley and their considerable industry to the development of its prosperity. Contact with the loved ones “at home” was dependent on letters and the times of each “sail” was an encouragement to put pen to paper as often as time permitted.

Some of these letters ‘home’ have survived, and tell more graphically than any historical account the trials and courage, the joys and sadnesses of these resolute settlers we are honoured to remember, as the founders of our village of Kangaroo Valley.

I recently read some of these letters written between the years 1873 and 1891 by Eliza and Walter Nugent to their sister Fannie, in Ireland, and should like to share their experiences with you.

Walter was born in 1871, into a family of 12 children and Eliza Barnier in 1824. She had 18 siblings, many of whom migrated to this part of the country.

They were married in Dublin and came to Kangaroo Valley with Eliza’s brother Robert, in 1864, selecting acreage 1 km from the now centre of town, and commenced farming. The population of the village was fewer than 300, and there were no facilities.

All this was to change in the next 20 years. Walter was keen on farming. Eliza was a good manager and their home life and comforts improved as they adapted to the climate and harshness of the country.

The family grew and they were blessed with 10 children and in 1870, Walter was made postmaster with a salary of 12 pounds annually. He originally operated from Robert Barnier’s home, but in 1871 constructed another house for the family adjacent to his 100 acres, for the P.O. and first General store in the Valley.

The deeds of this house, on 5 acres of land, were in Eliza’s name, a fortunate move as it was, many years later, the legacy to their unmarried daughters.

Their son, James inherited the 100 acres and the married girls received nothing, as was not unusual in that era. Thanks to Walter’s and Robert’s influences, the

Kangaroo Valley
Supermarket
4465 1512

Hello and welcome to the Valley!
We have the one-stop-shop for all your everyday and weekend needs

Groceries
Delicatessen
Fresh fruit and vegetables DVD hire
Chemist lines
Specialty breads
Frozen foods
Video hire

Moss Vale Road Kangaroo Valley

(Continued on page 13)
**Star struck**

*By Gerard Keyzer*

Well, what happened to January Star Struck?

*A victim of my journalistic inexperience it seems.*

The Voice had a break so I missed out. Luckily the night sky keeps turning and February brings us new wonders.

If we look due North after twilight we see the mighty hunter, Orion, his club raised to ward off Taurus the Bull, striding majestically across the sky.

Most of the general mythology of the heavens in common use is oriented to northern hemisphere viewing so Orion is upside down to us, with Taurus over to the West.

You can recognise Orion by the three stars in a perfectly even row that make up his sword belt. Lots of us know this as the base of “the Saucepan”, and the “handle” of the saucepan extends away as three fainter stars to the upper right.

This is Orion’s sword. If you have binoculars or a small telescope look at the central star of the sword and it will be revealed as a spectacular cloud of glowing gas. This is the Great Nebula in Orion, and one of the few nebula (Latin word for cloud) visible to the naked eye.

Orion is marked at each knee and shoulder by a bright star, see if you can make out their slightly different colours.

On the bottom right (East) is yellowish Betelgeuse and upper left (West) is blue Rigel. If you are unsure about Orion, follow the three belt stars to the upper right.

They point to the brightest star in the sky, Sirius. If you find Sirius first, Orion is down a bit to the left.

The name Sirius comes from the Arabic, Al Shiraah, which means the burning one.

To the planets.

Venus, our “Evening Star” has now passed the Sun as seen from Earth and becomes the “Morning Star”.

It can be seen in the eastern pre-dawn sky shining brilliantly at magnitude –4.6. Magnitude is the brightness scale used for celestial objects.

The lower the number the brighter the object. Sirius actually shines at mag. – 1, the only star other than the Sun with a magnitude lower than zero.

The Sun shines at magnitude –26!!

Saturn and Jupiter, known as the two “gas giant” planets because of their make-up, are fairly easy to locate. On February 11 look up to the right of the nearly full Moon.

Five degrees from the Moon Saturn shines yellowish at about mag. -1 and is nestling just above the Beehive star cluster.

By spreading your fingers and holding your hand at arms length, you can measure roughly 10 degrees across the sky.

It may be hard to see the Beehive tonight as the Moon will be very bright.

Beg, borrow or steal a look through any telescope at the beautiful ring system of Saturn, it’s unforgettable.

By mid month, Jupiter, shining at mag. –2, can be found easily around midnight looking due East.

If you’d like to test your eyesight, try this.

When you are confident you can locate Jupiter look for it on a Moon- less night, 6° or 31° of March would be excellent.

Use a building corner or tree trunk to occult (block out) the glare of the planet and see if you can spot Jupiter’s moon Callisto, a tiny pinprick of light nearly touching the planet.

If you can you are in the top 1% for far sight.

**Telescope Tips**

This month I want to start a series of tips for those of you who may have a small department store type telescope languishing in the shed or hall cupboard.

These instruments often see little use because without a bit of help they don’t perform well, if at all.

Most of the tips can apply to larger scopes as well.

**Tip One:** If you don’t have one, don’t buy one.

If you are starting off, buy a good pair of binoculars.

It will have better optics, a larger field of view, sharper images, and is easier to use. You don’t have to set them up or fiddle with mountings, eyepieces, or finder scopes. Medium quality binoculars can be used for other things like bird watching and can be purchased at most camera stores for around $100.

**Tip Two:** Stability is the key.

If you magnify an object 100 x (100 times) then any vibration caused by a rickety tripod, an undersized or over complicated mount is also magnified 100x.

Partly fill some sturdy bags with sand or rocks and hang one from each leg of the tripod.

This works wonders!

Another good solution is to tie a tent rope to a tent peg or a brick under the mounting and tighten it securely toward the ground.

**Megabites or Megahealth**

*by Lyn McLean*

The proposal to establish a wireless network in Kangaroo Valley may enhance the region’s computer capabilities, but what about its impacts on health?

Wireless technology operates by using radio-frequency radiation – signals that are detected by equipment and its infrastructure – and by the human body.

These signals are known to cause a range of effects on the body, the consequences of which are still being debated.

There is already a large and growing body of scientific evidence that this radiation is adversely affecting our bodies.

In results released last year from a four-year European research project involving several teams of scientists, radiofrequency radiation caused genetic damage in cells.

Other research has associated low levels of radiofrequency radiation with cancer, leukemia, reproductive problems, effects on learning and changes to hormones and genes.

As well as the scientific studies, there is now a wealth of reports from people who experience anything from uncomfortable symptoms to debilitating illness when exposed to radiofrequency radiation.

Many of my clients are among them.

Radiofrequency radiation from wireless networks and related equipment, including mobile phones, is governed by the Australian Standard developed by the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Bureau (ARPANSA).

This standard has been designed to protect people from the heating effects of radiation – ie those that occur when the body heats up by 1°C. They do not protect against effects that do not cause heating of this sort.

Such effects have been identified in hundreds of studies but have not yet been conclusively proven.

Moreover, the standard governs short-term exposure and not the long-term, continuous exposure that most of us receive from local equipment and antennas.

So where does that leave the consumer?

Faced with the apparent risks of a new technology and significant questions about the long-term effects, it may be prudent to avoid exposure where possible.

Lyn McLean is Director of EMR Australia Pty Ltd www.emraustralia.com.au.
Country Womens Association
Kangaroo Valley Branch

Welcome to the 2006 New Year of Service, Craft and Fun.
The first meeting will be held on Tuesday 7 February in the Osborne Park Community Hall.
10 am for Craft, Carole McCullum will be the midday guest speaker.
Members and visitors are asked to bring along an item for Carole's opinion on that item.
Tuesday 7 March will be craft at 10 am followed at 11 am to 12.15 pm for a short meeting.
Members and friends are invited to the residence of Derek Lucas (Operation Challenge) 170B Mt Scanzi Road, Kangaroo Valley for lunch.
Derek will be the midday Speaker, followed by a short walk around to see the "toys".
Wednesday 8 March will be the Annual CWA Group LAND COOKERY AND HANDICRAFT DAY.
Items are to be at the Osborne Community hall by 9 am, a cup of tea will be served at 9.30 am.
This day shows the many talents of members, with each Branch competing against another.
During the judging the Guest Speaker will be Mrs Jan Jones speaking on her interesting LIFE IN LONDON.

Heather Kelly
PUBLICITY OFFICER

A SPECIAL THANK YOU NOTE - from the Registered Midwife at Shoalhaven District Hospital.
To Dear Heather and the Wonderful Ladies in Kangaroo Valley.
The Midwives at Shoalhaven Hospital wish to thank you whole heartedly for your wonderful donation to our Unit.
The tiny knitted items are delightful and will help to lighten the lives of worried parents with their very premature and ill babies.
The articles are often all that are available for such small infants.
Many of the recipients of these small jackets, mittens and hats have asked me to pass on their thanks and gratitude to you.
The workmanship and butterfly theme for the little burial gowns are very special and evidently made with much skill, but more importantly with love and dedication.
These especially can help in a time of great sorrow and heartache and do much to help in the grieving process.
Again, thank you most sincerely for your thoughtful donation.
With best wishes.

Jeanette Passmore,
Reg. Midwife.

Kangaroo Tales
by Joan Bray
(Continued from page 11)
copies of the 'Varden', from Dublin.
Fannie, who was Walter's older sister was a reliable source of information about family and friends, and a very regular correspondent.
She lived in her declining years with her niece Juliana and husband Alfred Horatio Nelson, so there was a link with the Nelsons there and in Sydney.
The Nugents were a sociable family and there are many references about the exchange of visits with families and friends in Sydney.
They were particularly friendly with the family of Tom Nelson who operated a profitable business in Castlereagh St. and with whom they stayed when in the city.
The city friends, much as today, delighted to spend several weeks in the summer months, enjoying the country air and the fun and entertainment around the piano was a source of joy to Walter and Eliza.

Arthur was a devoted musician and was able to enjoy his passion for gardening.
He was really a farmer and had little application for book work, as Eliza never missed an opportunity to point out to Fannie.
Susannah, Louisa, Frances, Sarah, Julianna and Martha married and produced healthy children who were spoilt by their doting grandparents, as ever is the case.
Josephine became Post mistress and continued after her father's death with the help of her sisters, Georgina and Sarah.
She had been educated in Sydney and was so competent she was given permanency in the Postal Dept. with a salary of 100 pounds a year, and a rent allowance of 26 pounds.
There was a suggestion to move the P.O. closer to the centre of the village but a petition by supportive towns people prevented that, until the turn of the century.
The sisters took on a partner in the business in 1894, a retired bank manager, Mr Grosvenor, and the input of extra capital was very welcome.
They were always a united, loving family and after the deaths of their parents, within 14 days of each other, in early 1892, became more inseparable.
They cared for each other and continued the tradition in which they had been nurtured, of offering a helping hand whenever they could and being kind and hospitable to all.
As for Fannie, she had been a loving, true correspondent, listened to the highs and the lows of this family for 20 years and one can only imagine the help and encouragement she gave them by each "sail" from her wealth of understanding and compassion.
She died on her 90th Birthday and the frequency of the letters ceased, as the young cousins managed to survive life's exercises in fortitude without reference to each other on a regular basis.

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Shoalhaven Hydro Power

Eraring Energy operates the Shoalhaven Scheme which consists of the Kangaroo Valley and Bendeela Hydro and Pumping Stations. The Scheme is jointly owned by Eraring Energy and the Sydney Catchments Authority (SCA). The SCA maintains the dams, pipelines, canals and lands associated with the Scheme, while Eraring Energy is responsible for the maintenance of the electrical and mechanical components of the operational facilities.

The Shoalhaven Scheme operates in a similar manner to Eraring Energy’s other hydro power stations, with one main exception. Rather than generate power from water released from a dam, the Scheme pumps water from water storages up to holding reservoirs during off-peak periods of electricity demand. During peak electricity demand time, the water is released through the power stations to produce electricity. Pumped Storage is an economical source of power during times of high demand and complements the base load power generated by coal-fired plants.

Shoalhaven operates under a Water Management Licence that defines Eraring Energy's water access rights and obligations in relation to the interchange of water between Lake Yarrunga and Fitzroy Falls.

The Shoalhaven Scheme is also used to transfer water from the Shoalhaven/Illawarra catchment to Warragamba catchment.

Blue Green Algae

The Shoalhaven Scheme generates electricity from the water supply of the Kangaroo Valley area. Water from the scheme is also used to supplement the Sydney area water supply when water levels in the Warragamba Dam are low. Blue-green algae (BGA) are a potential concern for the users of this water.

Eraring Energy and the Sydney Catchment Authority have the responsibility for minimising the risk of algal blooms in the water storages of the Shoalhaven Scheme. All water exchanges are managed to minimise the risk of transfer of BGA between water bodies. BGA levels are monitored weekly and the frequency is increased if the measured BGA levels reach warning levels for toxins. Results of water quality monitoring show that the Shoalhaven pumping stations do not add nutrients to the waterways. The pumping of water in these operations also helps to prevent stratification of the water. The Scheme therefore does not increase the risk of algal blooms in the waterways.

Eraring Energy has produced a 2005 Community and Environment report that provides detailed information on our operations and environment performances of our generating assets.

Members of the community are encouraged to contact Eraring Energy such that a copy of the report may be forwarded if required. Additionally a tour of the system can be arranged if enough community supports such action – contact Mr Peter Harvey, Hydro & Wind Manager 02 4973 0591.
Entries open for Relay for Life

CANCER Council statistics show that each year in NSW around 30,000 people is diagnosed with cancer and there are around 12,300 deaths from cancer. Such figures show why events like the Shoalhaven’s Relay for Life are so important.

The Shoalhaven’s Relay for Life will be held on the first weekend in April at the Nowra Showground.

Relay For Life is a fun outdoor, overnight fundraising event where teams of 10-15 people take turns to walk or run around their local oval to honour the lives of people touched by cancer. It aims to raise funds for cancer research and also awareness about the disease.

The Shoalhaven has held two relays in the past and almost $200,000 has been raised. Teams can be made up of sporting groups, community organisations, schools, businesses, friends or families.

The Relay for Life is not an endurance event and people can complete as many or as few laps as they wish. Two special ceremonies are held during each Relay For Life - The Survivors’ Walk and The Candlelight Ceremony of Hope. During the Survivors’ Walk, patients and carers complete the first lap of the event alone, proudly wearing coloured sashes to indicate if they are a survivor or carer.

The Candlelight Ceremony of Hope is one of the most emotional aspects of the event and at dusk the track is lined with candles and family and friends come together to remember and support loved ones who have been touched by cancer.

The public is invited to attend the event at anytime to soak up the unique atmosphere. For more information about the event call the Southern Regional Office of The Cancer Council NSW on 4225 3660.

Still celebrating

Members of the Bray family, still sharing the euphoria of the Sydney Swans win. Joan Bray our intrepid reporter on hand for this shot.

Land tax grab a cynical exercise

(Continued from page 6)

roof.

Labor is lining up for another land tax bonanza because what little money they give back in a concession will be far outweighed by the additional land tax revenue that will be received when the Ombudsman’s October 2005 Valuation Recommendations are implemented, correcting what he identified as ‘undervaluation’ across the State.

This means Labor will effectively get a cash prize for having done the wrong thing and investors will continue to see their valuations soar.

Investors should question how long Labor’s tax change would last, as it would be funded by sending the budget into a $500 million deficit next year as admitted by Labor in the Half Year Budget Statement in December 2005. Any Labor concessions to tax payers in this pre-election year will be taken back with replacement taxes if they get back into government in March 2007.

All the evidence points to Labor implementing a general property tax after the next election to claw back the deficit.

Any Labor land tax changes are long overdue and land taxpayers deserve every cent in concessions they can get from Morris lemma to compensate for years of gouging by Labor.

High taxes in NSW are still making NSW uncompetitive, with the result that we have the highest unemployment, the slowest growth, and amongst the lowest rate of building and housing activity compared with other lower taxing states.

Labor was caught out when they removed the threshold, but increasing property taxes remains their objective.

Land tax and payroll tax continue to be lemma’s cash cow, with property and business owners facing the prospect of broader taxes and tax increases if Labor is allowed to continue its relentless tax policy.

ENQUIRIES 0427 203 402
Peta Seaton MP
Member for Southern Highlands
Assistant Shadow Treasurer

Engagement Notice

John and Marion Smart of Kangaroo Valley are pleased to announce the engagement of their eldest daughter Angela to Jesse, the only son of John and Jenny Donnelly of Yackandandah.

We wish them every happiness

News from V.I.E.W.

The K.V. VIEW club’s Christmas party held at the Source Restaurant was one of the many high points in a very successful year.

The members dressed in their Christmas finery and the parade of masks added to the fun of the day.

The next meeting will be our A.G.M. to be held on Friday 10 February 2006 at our usual venue, The Source at Kangaroo. 11.30 am for 12 noon meeting.

All ladies interested in joining this fun group whose aims are the three F’s Fun, Friendship and raising Funds for the Smith family will be made very welcome.

Please let us know if you are coming for lunch by contacting Elaine Riedel on 44 641 049.
2006 BEGINS STRONGLY

After a strong December, we returned from our Christmas break to a continued hive of activity – with very strong demand from buyers – particularly in the $1 million plus market, with several sales having been successfully negotiated, and more in the process. For anyone who has been hesitating selling because of the slower market, now may be the time to reconsider as some excellent prices are being achieved! We are pleased to say our marketing strategies and level of professionalism continue to stand out in the crowd, with by far the greater amount of real estate sold in Kangaroo Valley last year coming through our office.

Bouquets to Penni ....

We are pleased to report that Penni Wildi has achieved a fantastic start to her real estate career in the area. Hitting the ground running, she has successfully negotiated several properties, including a 50 acre property for $1.1 million, a house on 5 acres for $630,000 as well as a 10 acre block for $660,000 and now Penni is looking forward to a bumper 2006. She is currently in negotiation on several properties which will hopefully result in a successful result for the owner in the very near future. Her rapport with purchasers, her professional service and lateral thinking also extends to sourcing properties in conjunction with other agents. This has resulted in successful negotiations on a house on two acres with Nugents Creek frontage. Another happy customer! Having completed formal training with McGrath Total Real Estate Training, and currently undertaking a Certificate IV in Property, Penni is both well qualified and totally up to date with the current trends in Real Estate. This knowledge and ability is reflected in her recent successes. Her enthusiasm and approachable manner make her a natural for the real estate industry.

Is your investment being properly managed?

While it's easy for an agent to blame a tenant when disaster strikes, it is more likely to be their own neglect that allow such issues as unpaid rent and property neglect to become a major problem for the owner. To avoid this, we are 100% committed to ensuring that from the outset it can only be positive for the landlord and tenant. By the careful selection of tenants in the first place, having thoroughly checked all references, and then promptly addressing any potential problem before it gets out of hand – a stress free relationship is ensured. Regular inspections of the property, and reporting to you on both maintenance issues and any damage that may have occurred, makes sure the value of your asset is protected. Prompt attention to rent arrears ensures a maximum return for your investment.

Property management is a highly litigious area of real estate – by law all staff working within this area of the industry must hold a Certificate of Registration from the Dept Fair Trading, as well as be highly supervised by a licensed Real Estate Agent. This ensures that everyone’s legal obligations are adhered to and there is the least likelihood of a matter ending up at the Tenancy Tribunal – is this how your agent works?

Speak to us if you would like a professional service with a personal edge that will take the headaches away.

What are people looking for in Kangaroo Valley?

Inspections over the past couple of months have been distributed over the market as follows:
- Village 25%
- Vacant small acreage 16.6%
- Vacant large acreage 8.3%
- House on small acreage 41.6%
- House on large acreage 6.25%
- Business 2%

Some of our recent successful negotiations include:
- House on 5 acres in Walkers Lane
- 10 vacant acres in Kangaroo Valley Road
- House on 50 acres at Woodhill Mountain
- 100 vacant acres on Radiata Road
- 50 Vacant acres on Bugong Road
- House on 2 acres in Nugents Creek Road
- 3.6 vacant acres in Glenmurray Road
- House on 35 acres in Kangaroo Valley Road

... selling more property in Kangaroo Valley than any other agent!

www.kvre.com.au 165 Main Road Ph 44651404
Jump into the Valley Show

There are only a few weeks to go before the Kangaroo Valley Show rolls back into town.
I know that many of you are busy preparing your exhibits or training to go in the wide variety of events and competitions on offer; but I thought this might be a good time to remind you about a few of the competitions of which you may not be aware.

Every year people take time out to admire the pavilion exhibits on display at the show. Have you ever considered entering something yourself?
All you have to do is bring your entry in to the show pavilion on the Thursday afternoon before the show and you will find many friendly stewards who are happy to help you from there. If you are a member of the show society all pavilion entries are free; otherwise it’s only $1 per entry.

There are classes suitable for everyone; they include bales of hay, eggs, roses, pot plants, jams, jellies, baked goods and any fruit or vegetable you have growing in the garden.

For details refer to your show schedule. One of the major pavilion classes is the ‘collection of produce’. In this class you arrange up to 20 varieties of fruits, vegetables, jams, herbs and any other produce in a container and you have the chance to win $200 in prize money.

There are also classes for the younger chefs and gardeners; we are particularly looking forward to seeing entries in a new class this year ‘gingerbread people’.

Another new category which you won’t find in the schedule this year is the ‘home built functional bike’; this is a part of the children’s bike events to be held on Friday the 17th of February.

If you are keen to enter the photography section, don’t forget that entries must be in the pavilion by 9 pm on Tuesday the 14th.

To avoid disappointment refer to your show schedule for all the rules and class information. We encourage you all to become active participants in the Kangaroo Valley Show.

Enter something new and find out how rewarding it is to be a part of the biggest community event of the year!

Safety First at the Show

In order to maintain the Kangaroo Valley Show’s reputation as the ‘Friendly Show’ there are a few security issues which we would like you to share with you all.

Upon entry to the show this year you will be issued with a wrist band. It is your responsibility to put this on immediately, anyone inside the showground without a wrist band will be asked to leave by security.

To enable us to meet licensing laws (and keep the beer flowing) we will also be enforcing the rule that no alcohol can be brought onto the grounds this year.

On another note, we are trying to raise a few more volunteers to open the gate near the nursery on the Friday this year.
If you can help out for an hour of two, please call Chris on 44 651 471 or email on cmeade@shoal.net.au.

Gatekeepers from previous years, could you give Chris a call to confirm your availability for the show.

The Valley Show is only possibly due to the enormous amount volunteer work carried out by our local community.
Please lend a hand and help make this a show to remember.

Alison Lamond

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CELEBRATING 121 YEARS

Of Kangaroo Valley Show

Friday 17 and Saturday 18, February

Something for everyone - so come and join in the fun in the most beautiful setting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horse events</th>
<th>Beef and Dairy Cattle</th>
<th>Wood-chopping</th>
<th>Children’s and Adult Push Bike Races</th>
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<td>Pavilion Displays</td>
<td>Children’s Entertainment Arena</td>
<td>Children’s Pet Show</td>
<td>Goal Kicking Competition</td>
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<td>Talent Quest</td>
<td>Musical Entertainment</td>
<td>Showjumping</td>
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Other Attractions:
Animal Nursery, Vintage Farm Machinery Display, Pipe Band Display, Pony Rides,

Kangaroo Valley Showgrounds, Moss Vale Road, Kangaroo Valley

Scale of Charges:
Each Adult: $6.00 Friday, $8.00 Saturday. Each Child 16 yrs & under $2.00 Friday, $3.00 Saturday, Seniors/Pensioners/Students: Friday & Saturday $5.00. Children under 6 yrs - Free.

Annual Membership - Adult: $12.00 16 yrs & Under - $5.00.

Schedules and Memberships available from K.V. Post Office, Newsagency, Rural Supplies and Barrengarry Store.
Or by ringing Mrs. Betty Allan, Hon Secretary phone: 4465 1154.

From Thursday, 16th February, Show Office phone/fax: 4465 1525

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Mark Reid in serious training for the dog high jump

---

Alison Lamond
Yarrunga Taskforce report

Important Up-Coming Dates:
February 8: Expected access to more studies commissioned by SCA to be tabulated at Reference group meeting.
February 17: Closing date for submissions to Senate Enquiry into Sydney Water management.
Before Feb 22: Time to encourage letters from community members concerned with Tallowa Dam proposal to Matt Brown, Ministers and Premier.
February 24: Date government announced at November Public Meeting for government to decide on SCA proposals. Details of SCA proposal (dam raising height) unknown to community making consultation flawed.

Since the December issue of Valley Voice, LYT-CC has:
[1] Called a meeting with most affected property owners by flood or inundation. It was chaired by Elizabeth George, addressed by Keith Lear, attended by 45 people. Half the meeting was devoted to receiving comment from land owners which has been voice recorded as collected data for future use (20/1/06). A date has been set for a requested second meeting with most affected landholders for mid February, after access and response to Flood Study.
[2] A ‘focus group’ consultation was held by LYT members with Bendeela campers, 7 adults representing 4 camp groups of up to 60 people, to seek their response to loss of access and response to Flood Study. Hampton Bridge. This means that the SCA made the dam just meet the criteria. The result is that the dam cannot be raised without major structural modifications. Dam safety does not hold true if the dam is raised 4.7 metres. Subsequently, the Bureau of Meteorology in 1974 revised their criteria that made the dam just meet the criteria. The result is that the dam cannot be raised without major structural modifications. Dam safety does not hold true if the dam is raised 4.7 metres (original proposal) or 7 metres. From the reading of SCA documents and engineering advice, the LYT-CC contends that major additional structural work would have to be carried out.
LYT-CC makes the demand that the costs of modifications and stability/safety assessments be revealed, and made available in engineering and costing reports to LYT, and other interested parties, as requested.
[3] The committee questions safety of dam gates operation where controls are implemented 25 km away. It is put that it may take 4.5 or 6 hours for adjustments to effect an already flooding valley. A seven month comparison of visual readings of gauges against SCA recorded readings has shown poor agreement. Some readings have been 15 metres too high, and others 15 metres too low. Many intermediate readings are also incorrect. This makes safe control a major concern. Gauge failures at the dam are compounded by gauge failures at Hampton Bridge. This means that the SCA data informing environmental flow studies commissioned by SCA will be also incorrect and invalidate the findings of the studies. The LYT-CC asks the following questions:
1. How can the government guarantee safe and accurate control of the 21 gates to protect the Kangaroo Valley?
2. How are property owners below the bridge and Bendeela campgrounds to be protected?
3. How can emergency services respond to acute crisis when basic gauging is unreliable?
4. With inaccurate readings, how can the bureau of meteorology give accurate flood warnings or develop long term projections?
Locally collected data shows that the water level gauges at Hampden Bridge and at the dam have been failing consistently. In the past 3 years incorrect readings have occurred more than 50% of the time and have been up to 0.9 metres out. The amount of water spilling over the dam has been over estimated. The committee puts that it is not safe to distance manage control gates especially where gauges cannot be 100% relied upon.
The LYT-CC demands to know how dam safety can be assured in the event of a maximum flood and to have full access to recorded monitoring data and sufficient time to comment.

Consultation
At the public meeting Minister Debus announced that the government had changed its position. Previously the government had announced at the ALP state conference that Tallowa Dam wall would be raised. He said that there had now been a change of direction so that the government was regarding the plan to raise Tallowa Dam as a Sydney Catchment Authority proposal only, and that they were extending the period of consultation with the community, and that only after the period of consultation with the community the government decide to go to the next phase. He said that Tallowa Dam was a proposal, and not a fact that was going to happen, and that a lot depended on the consultation phase. The minister assured that the intention was for genuine two way consultation. The LYT-CC puts that the consultation process has been seriously flawed in many respects including:
1. Objection to the community being asked to respond to telephone and SCA shop surveys without any access to the array of reports commissioned to be done by the SCA, including the flood studies
2. Objection to individual landholders being seen by SCA officials in private without witnesses and unrecorded, and without seeing any of the reports.
3. There has been no access to documents and studies resulting in inadequate time to reply. We are told that about a dozen contracts have been let by SCA for research studies including engineering, flood studies, Aboriginal sites, European heritage, and flora and fauna. It was advised that some studies will become available by February 8 Reference Group meeting, just 16 days before a government decision is said to be made on February 24.
4. Considerable criticism of the content of SCA commissioned telephone survey of residents.

Dam safety and consultation have been the key focus areas of LYT-CC since the last update, but do not represent an exhaustive description of the issues it is concerned with. The committee continues to work on accessing relevant reports and seeking comment. Many broader areas tie in to the more specific ones of Tallowa Dam including recycling, water usage by industry and households and the direction of government investment. Some further issues of the priority value of water are discussed below.

Water Supply vs. The Environment
The SCA Nowra shop front, is asking people in its surveys to rank the competing values of water. At the public meeting, and at the shopfront, government has gone to great lengths to claim progress is demand management and recycling. LYT-CC holds that the issue of human needs vs the environment is a question of balance, and that if the balance is right both needs can be met. Without it, there are self defeating negative impacts. People have entitlements as do the broader life supporting eco-systems. If water management allows wastage, and the state government does not work efficiently to manage all the aspects of the water cycle, then supplementing wastage with transfer of water from the Shoalhaven River (and associated destructive impacts on the Kangaroo and Shoalhaven river systems, and town and wilderness environments) is reprehensible.

(Continued on page 19)
Goodbye Bendeela picnic and camping ground?

The announcement by Sydney Catchment Authority that it intends to raise the Tallowa Dam Wall by 7 metres would result in the Bendeela Camping area being completely flooded.

For over thirty years, in the summer months, this magnificent natural riverbank camping area (previously part of a dairy farm) has sprung to life with hundreds of families relaxing outdoors. Whether they were swimming, canoeing, playing cricket or just floating on a Li-Lo in the river, it was paradise. Dawn would break to the sound of birds singing and a mist drifting down the river. After a hard day relaxing the evening would bring cooking aromas floating through the campground and young children excitedly expending one last burst of energy before bedtime.

The new Camping area chosen by Sydney Catchment Authority is upstream of the present site and has a number of disadvantages that would mean it would be at least 20 years (and maybe never depending on the design) before such an idyllic setting could be re-created.

To begin with, gullies on the new area would be inundated by the new higher water level. An hour and half’s walk to the river bank in the low spots.

How many more thousand tonnes would be required to prevent regular flooding of the whole area? The lake would have a rise and fall of 8 vertical metres, meaning when the lake was low there would be a 40 metre walk through mud and debris just to reach the water’s edge.

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How many more thousand tonnes would be required to prevent regular flooding of the whole area? The lake would have a rise and fall of 8 vertical metres, meaning when the lake was low there would be a 40 metre walk through mud and debris just to reach the water’s edge.

Debus, Mr. Brown and Ms. Seaton and let them know your views.

Bryan Barger

Bendeela campers oppose Tallowa Dam raising

‘It Would Be Devastating’, ‘There Would be a Lot to Lose’ and ‘It Would be a Tragedy’.

These were some of the comments from long term campers at Bendeela in response to the SCA proposal to raise Tallowa Dam.

Trish Kenny and Glyn Stones from the Lake Yarrunga Task Force campaign committee visited the campground on Monday January 16 to find out the campers’ views on the loss of the existing campground and broader issues.

A group of seven adults plus children representing four camp groups of up to sixty people gathered and gave their responses to nine questions.

Pauline Griffiths from Warilla first started camping at Bendeela in the mid 70’s. When she comes she usually has a tribe of foster kids with her. Often she will bring five or six foster children over the holiday periods, and sometimes there’s been up to 12 children.

She comes four times a year or more, every school holidays.

Pauline is on a pension. “Coming here means I can bring all the kids down and have a great holiday and it’s affordable” said Pauline. “It’s great for the kids, they can wind down from school holidays.”

In addition to the recycling area, LYT-CC holds that government achievement in the following areas is inadequate:

1. Demand management. The minister and the SCA shop front claim a 12% reduction in household demand in Sydney. Minister Debus gave no assurance to LYT-CC member Bryan Barger when he urged commitment to permanent restrictions in Sydney to bring average household usage to the same level as the average household in the Shoalhaven.

2. Metering of every household, including each individual home was recommended in the Auditor General’s 2005 report. It has not been implemented.

3. An aggressive industry approach that would necessitate that industry invest in their own water recycling plants or purchase non potable recycled water from other operators.

Submitted by Trish Kenny for LYT-CC (Keith Learn, Bryan Barger, Barbara Woodney, Glyn Stones, Diana Jaffray, Trish Kenny)

Lake Yarrunga Taskforce Campaign Committee (LYT-CC) Taskforce Update (end January, 2006)

Contact: Keith Learn 44 651117
Computers for Wrinklies with Mr Floppy

WIRELESS BROADBAND / VOIP UPDATE

Much as I had hoped to announce the first wireless broadband customers were up and running, it is not yet the case.

The original equipment ordered to service Berry and Kangaroo Valley, although functional, failed to deliver the required quality. The decision was taken to upgrade the equipment immediately rather than risk putting customers on a system that may have failed to meet capacity. This is undoubtedly a wise decision but has meant a delay as new equipment is ordered and delivered from the manufacturers.

It is measure of the tremendous response I have had from local residents that Snoopa is willing to invest in the equipment required to bring us wireless broadband customers on line as soon as possible.

The Snoopa bus will be present at the KV show, and if all goes as plans, we hope to have a demo system for punters to try out. I have updated my website (www.lazyfishcomputers.com.au) to include a lot more information on both wireless broadband and VoIP (frequently asked questions, prices, technical info, and updates) so please check it out.

INTERNET ADDICTION – FACT OR FICTION?

Maybe I spend too much time on the net to notice, but apparently IAD (Internet Addiction Disorder) is a popular subject these days. Unfortunately the term started out as a joke by Dr. Ivan K. Goldberg which he then prolonged by creating The Internet Addiction Support Group. However, as things do in Cyberspace, the concept soon took on a life of its own and now there are experts on all sides, technical books, entire websites, self-help courses and heaps of media scare-mongering.

Generally the definition runs something like this “Excessive, non-essential use of the internet that causes psychological, social or physical problems for the user.”

Stories are usually backed up by statistics, but if you have an answer I’d love to hear it). What does that tell you? (Rhetorical question)

Anyway sticking with the humour a bit of plagiarism from a technical support forum….

"I'm embarrassed to say that I can't turn my computer on with the sound switched off. But I have updated my website (www.lazyfishcomputers.com.au) to include a lot more information on both wireless broadband and VoIP (frequently asked questions, prices, technical info, and updates) so please check it out.

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Stories are usually backed up by statistics demonstrating the excessive internet use i.e. six year old children average 30 hours per day on the net. Of course people can get addicted to all sorts of things and hiding out in chat-rooms and make believe worlds may well be more compelling that every day life. Who wouldn’t like to be a major player in Lord of the Rings? Or Casanova of the chat?

Anyway if you start snorting your mouse or wake up with a keyboard imprint on your face it may be time to disconnect.

Yet more interesting facts emerge if you delve deeper. For example the prevalence of online gender bending – seems that half of all online females are actually males, while only 5% of online males are actually females.

What does that tell you? (Rhetorical question)

Anybody out there able to offer technical advice......?

Better run – time to update my BLOG about the MMOG I am currently engrossed in.

SHELL ETHANOL MOVE WELCOMED:

One of the nation’s foremost advocates of the Australian ethanol industry has congratulated Shell on the launch of its new super premium ethanol fuel.

Member for Gilmore, Joanna Gash said Shell Australia had taken a significant step in toward cementing the long-term future of the local ethanol industry.

“It has been a very long battle but it is great to see the big petrol companies coming to the party and supporting the use of ethanol,” Mrs Gash said.

“Decision like make sure the choice is there for consumers. “Consumer confidence and now crucial and education is the next step that needs to be taken.”

Mrs Gash, who has used ethanol in her vehicle for many years, said supporting the Australian ethanol industry meant more jobs for Australians, healthier Australians and a cleaner environment.

“Gilmore is the heart of the Australian ethanol industry and what is good for the ethanol industry is good for Gilmore,” she said. The Australian Government recently recommitted to the use of 350ML of bio-fuels per annum by 2010 and that goal has received the support of the national major petrol companies.

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You wallas. You secret places,
are the old man's first words each day, emerging from the hut. He looks around, to gaze at the dawn sky and the bush. He sees Old Walla the wallaby and his family, gazing at him. They follow him across the grassy flats to feed. The old man collects water from the ever-flowing river, gathers firewood. One morning, as the breakfast smoke curls away into the gums he says,

Old Walla, I had a weird dream last night:
Dream of an ever-growing Giant in a strange world. A thirsty, metal-echoey Giant by a pool, letting the water flow into its upturned mouth. Through the giant's dark tubings and pipings, water gurgles for miles, as galahs screech, lyrebirds sing:

Hope there's enough for the rest of the gang.
The Giant smiles and rumbles, MORE!

At last, grown even bigger, it stands, to release a belch that echoes far.
From its rear end seeps a slimy, rusty liquid, yellowy-green, oozing towards the sea.
Crabs scuttle in alarm, jellyfish wobble in fear and dolphins leap away...
...while The Giant dances around in the sun, singing, Don't you think I'm beautiful?

One day, the ever-growing Giant lies down to drink,
but the water flow is not enough. The Giant bellows:

MORE! MORE!
The birds and animals must set to work with claws or tails or beaks or feet.
They dig and scrape, to make channels and banks, and line up hollow logs until water which flowed to other places now goes into the giant's mouth. Giant rumbles:

YOU SEE...I AM THE CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSE

When its guzzling's done, the Giant stands to belch, while its slimy, yellowy-green stuff seeps away to the sea.
Away in the bush, from now desiccated creeks and rivers, wildlife go walkabout, seeking the precious flow. Some find it, some fail.

One morning, the old man comes back from the river to say,

Walla. The river's getting higher. Yet there's been no rain.
Each day, the level rises. Frogs and water dragons wander, lost.
Even the platypuses wonder what's going on.
The trees say, We're drowning.
The river's gone, swallowed up by the lake; water hardly flows. Yet, the level suddenly falls.
Only to rise high again. In no pattern the wildlife can discern, it rises, falls. Mud ferments.
The places where Walla used to feed turn sour.

One dawn, the old man comes out,
You wallas. You secret places.

He looks around, gazing at dawn sky and bush, missing Walla, for he’s just dreamed of him:

Walla summons the kangaroos and wallabies and birds, and far away they go.
With strong legs they kick away the hollow logs, they dig away the rocks and earth banks so now the water's flowing back into the old places, not into the Giant at The Centre of The Universe.
After a while, they hear mighty bellowing cries,

MORE! MORE! MORE!
The bellowing goes on and on, then grows softer. Hopping towards the sound, Walla sees the giant stretched out, gasping, where the water flows as it always has.

MORE!
Galahs screech, lyrebirds sing:

A river's enough. A little's a lot. Use what you've got.

Next morning, and the days after, the old man doesn't emerge, for his spirit's gone to the wallas' old secret places. So he's spared seeing the drowned river flats.
The skeleton trees. Galahs screech, lyrebirds sing, and the trees, crows, kingfishers, wombats, frogs, water dragons, platypus, jacky lizards, black snakes:

Let our river flow, river flow

(Continued from page 19)
what trauma they've been going through without any hassle.

“If we had to go to a caravan park and pay for each child, it would cost too much.
Imagine for me being on a pension and feeding all the kids, I couldn’t do it.”

“I’d be devastated if I couldn’t come here. I could not afford to take all these foster kids away” said Pauline.
The long term campers love Bendeela. “It’s beautiful – this is what it’s all about” says Marion Threadgate from Nowra, who takes holidays from work to set up camp with her extended family and care for the kids while their parents work. “We are here for the whole of the school holidays.
We have the big Christmas tree up.
The kids come back to camp all excited because they’ve seen a baby skink.
They are active and in the fresh air and eat well.
They ride their bikes.
It’s our second home.
This is just heaven for me” she says.
Marion’s daughter, Kylie Conley, also of Nowra said “We went home last week for two nights, and Eric (9 years) did nothing but play the play station the whole time.
I won’t let him get on his bike at home and ride down the road. It’s not safe.
But here he can get on his bike and go down and see all the other kids.”

Pam Budd from Campbelltown says “It’s a real community here.
Mostly everybody knows each other and keeps an eye out for each other’s kids.
The kids can run around here and not be harassed”.

She’s been coming to Bendeela since her son was 1 year old. He’s now 29 years.
Her family was one of the first to have a caravan there. Pam and her husband have been bringing two generations of children to Bendeela four times a year or more.
My husband wants his ashes spread here.
In Sydney she says “Where are all the kids?
They’re inside watching TV, or play stations.”

As a Sydney-sider, Pam looks at the water issue from both sides, Sydney’s water needs and the impacts from raising Tallawra Dam.
“There’s other ways for Sydney to do it”, says Pam.
“They can recycle. It would be no different from the taste of what we drink now. They do it overseas. If they can do it, why can’t we?”
Marion thinks that the costs all round of getting more water from this are just unacceptable.
“Losing all this natural environment for the sake of Sydney’s water can’t be called acceptable.

There’s wombats that will be flooded out, and platypus, and turtles in the water”.

Kylie Conley says that “if they destroy this campground it won’t just be the campers that will be affected.
Our family spends at least $20 a day in town at the garage and shops to get ice, milk, bread and things.
That’s just my family. Once a week we’ll go into the pie shop for a treat for the kids.

(Continued on page 23)
February Weed Alert!

Moth Vine

Moth Vine is now in flower, and easy to spot. Anything you can do to remove these vines will help. Ideally they need to be cut and painted with glyphosate, but even pulling the roots or cutting the vines will stop the development of seed pods and reduce further spread.

14 Riparian Grants for KV

SCA has approved nine Riparian Grants on Brogers Creek and five on Barrengarry Creek for landowners to carry out work on the river banks.

KVEG Standing at the Show

Visit the Environment Group stand at the Kangaroo Valley Show if you have questions about weeds, what to plant or what not to plant in the Valley.

We can also fill you in on what is happening with the raising of Tallowa Dam.

(Continued from page 22)

You can’t do it for under $36.

The businesses in the valley would lose a lot without the campers.

There’s probably 3000 – 4000 people come here over summer.” Says Pauline. “A lot of people are going to lose out on a lot.”

“We took a drive down that Bendeela Road where they say they will make a new campsite. There was not a tree in sight”

Says Marion. “I said to Kylie this can’t be the right area. There wasn’t a tree. It was vile.

The water will come up and go down, and when it does there’ll be mud and slush”.

“If they destroy this campground.

It will be terrible. Most of us won’t have holidays.” says Pauline.

“There are people in the valley whose homes are at risk. That’s just wrong” says Marion.

“They need to think really clearly about what they are doing. Where are their studies?”.

Desperate flying-foxes in the Shoalhaven are becoming entangled in fruit tree netting

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is reminding people to contact trained wildlife carers or the NPWS if they encounter injured or entangled flying foxes following a recent increase in numbers of injured flying foxes.

Native Animal Network Association (NANA) flying-fox rescue coordinator, Gerardine Hawkins, said she has recently attended a number of call outs to release flying foxes that became entangled in fruit tree netting.

Mrs Hawkins said that there are an unusually high number of flying-foxes in the District this season due to the large spotted gum flowering season due to the large spotted gum flowering event that occurred in winter and they are becoming desperate due to the extremely low natural food availability at the moment. NANA requests that gardeners consider removing their nets completely to help the flying-foxes this year or at the least net their fruit trees in a humane way by following NPWS guidelines.

The NPWS is encouraging gardening enthusiasts to adopt ‘wildlife-friendly’ netting approach to protect the flying-foxes, birds and possums that visit backyards to feast on fruit trees.

NPWS Ranger, Justin Miller, said choosing the correct type and structure of netting is important for reducing the growing number of injuries sustained by animals that become entangled when they go in search of food.

“Netting is great for improving fruit quality and protecting trees from wind and damage from foraging animals but the wrong kind of netting can have disastrous consequences for flying-foxes and other native wildlife,” he said.

“Thin nylon netting should never be used. It is the worst offender for animal injuries with flying foxes, birds and even possums becoming tangled and causing themselves serious harm, often resulting in death from strangulation.”

Mr Miller said the NPWS provides the following tips for backyard netting:

- Use durable knitted netting with mesh size 40 mm or smaller
- Stretch the netting taut over a homemade frame – netting thrown loosely can lead to entanglement
- Ensure the frame is at least one metre clear of the tree
- Peg the netting securely to the ground for full protection

Alternatively, the NPWS suggests tying paper bags over fruit or throwing 50 per cent block-out shade-cloth over the tree and pegging it in place. This can be taken down after fruiting has finished and re-used each year.

What can you do locally to tackle climate change?

Climate Change Public Meeting

7pm Tues 14th Feb

Bomaderry Bowling Club

154 Meroo Rd, Bomaderry

Cate Faehrmann, Director of the Nature Conservation Council NSW will discuss local impacts of climate change and how you can get active in your local area.

Melinda Cook, Climate Co-ordinator at the Nature Conservation Council will discuss the Power to Change campaign, and how you can switch your home electricity to 100% accredited renewable energy.

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW is the peak organisation for over 120 conservation and environment groups in NSW.

All enquiries please call

Mithra Cox 0425 351 844, 9262 2641
We welcome your patronage of the Friendly Inn and ask for your understanding during improvements and renovations.

The Friendly Inn Hotel
.... the heart and soul of Kangaroo Valley

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Dinner 6-late
Kids under 12
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TAB
Sky Channel

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Win $$$$ Members 15% discount on lunches

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We welcome your patronage of the Friendly Inn and ask for your understanding during improvements and renovations.
I never mind when people ask me questions about nutrition, and almost every article I write for The Voice arises as a consequence of something I have been asked in the street, at tennis or in the local Valley pool.

Probably the only question that makes my heart sink is when I’m asked what is the best diet for weight loss. It’s the most common question at this time of year when many people realise the holiday bonanza of food and drinks has left them with a flabby legacy hanging over the top of what used to be their waist.

The reason why this is the one question I dislike is it is the wrong question. Asking which is the best weight loss diet assumes there is some way of eating that will produce painless (and rapid) weight loss.

The facts are: any diet that cuts your daily energy intake (which is measured in kilojoules) will ‘work’ to bring about weight loss. The problem with most diets is that they’re so restrictive that they’re not designed forever. Most are so restrictive that you can’t stick with them long-term, and many would lead to health problems if you tried.

With any diet that you go ‘on’ and then later go ‘off’, any weight lost will almost certainly return – usually with a few bonus kilos.

Losing weight is actually quite easy. Keeping the weight off is extremely difficult and can only be achieved by making permanent changes to your eating and exercise habits. Most people who want a weight loss diet don’t want to make permanent changes – they want something that will reverse the results of years of substandard eating and drinking.

After working in this business for over 40 years, I believe the continued search for a ‘diet’ for obesity is one of the major factors that prevents us finding a solution to the ever increasing problem of overweight and obesity. We don’t need a diet, as such. What we do need is to stop eating and drinking so much junk.

Major supermarkets now stock over 1800 different snack food lines. There are also whole aisles devoted to biscuits, soft drinks and packaged foods that contain few ‘real’ ingredients. We also eat lots of fast foods that are packed with fat and salt and kilojoules.

There really is no mystery to Australia’s increasing national girth. We really need to work out why we eat all this junk – much of it fairly mundane in flavour – and work on correcting the basic problem. We may eat for emotional reasons or try to eat or drink away stresses. We may be too busy to prepare foods and so resort to convenience foods – mostly of which are poor value. Or we may have just slipped into lazy food and exercise habits where we don’t really think about what we do to our bodies.

For those who don’t eat junk, portion size is often a problem. Many of us eat as though we still walked the 15 kilometres earlier generations walked each day when they didn’t have cars and had far more domestic or farm chores to occupy their waking hours. Our spray and wipe busy lifestyle where we’re too busy to be physically active, although we’re taking in more kilojoules than our grandparents.

How we get fat

At the most basic (and unassailable) level, we gain body fat if we take in more energy than the body uses. We lose fat if we take in fewer kilojoules than we use.

Weight usually rises slowly. The average Australian adult gains about 3-4 kilograms every 10 years. It adds up, but we may not notice it until it hits a critical level. The final straw may be clothing that no longer fits, a good look in the mirror, or someone who hasn’t seen us for a while saying “you must have been in a good paddock”.

Most commonly, people realise they need to do something about excess body fat only when they develop one of the common side effects of excess weight, such as high blood pressure, high blood fats, high glucose or insulin levels, gallstones or joints that can no longer bear the strain of carting increasing weight.

Of course, each of these problems can develop for other reasons, but excess body fat is the most common. For all except the strain on joints, excess fat around the waist is the greatest problem. Fat on the hips, thighs and bottom rarely causes medical problems.

Men and older women are at a disadvantage with their distribution of body fat. Female hormones send fat into fairly safe areas whereas when men deposit fat, it goes to their abdomen, chest and chins. Fat above the waist is highly correlated with visceral fat – that’s the kind that settles around vital organs and is in a constant state of turnover with fat in the blood.

As your waist measurement increases, so does your risk of heart disease, stroke, many types of cancer, gallstones and, if you’re old enough, dementia. Disease risk rises rapidly with a waist measurement greater than 100cm for men and 88cm for women. Ideal waist measurement is less than 94cm for men and 80cm for women.

How fast can you lose fat?

Fat doesn’t fall off. We have to burn it off as fuel for the body’s daily activities. The more active you are, the greater your chances of burning fat.

It takes an overall deficit of over 32,300 kJ to lose 1 kilogram of body fat. (If you prefer the older term Calories, this equates to 7,700 Cals.)

Few people can manage a daily energy deficit of more than about 2,500 kJ (about 600 Cals) – which is a decrease of about twenty-five percent of what they might normally consume. You may be able to manage a bigger deficit for a few days, but it’s usually counter-productive because you get hungry and start feeling too weak to be active.

If you cut your energy intake by 2,500 kJ/day, you would lose a kilogram in just under two weeks. That’s far less than most diets claim, but they’re looking at weight loss, not fat loss. Rapid weight loss is a loss of fluid and lean tissue rather than fat.

(Continued on page 34)
With the school holidays at an end, it was fantastic to see tourism in Kangaroo Valley. As most of you are aware, we had some fantastic sales over the December period with others currently under contract, one of which will be the new benchmark in Kangaroo Valley. You will have to wait for the next issue of the Voice.

The recent sales in the area have led to our new owners in Kangaroo Valley investing in re-shaping the properties that they purchased, with some having excellent exposure. This is wonderful to see, as we are in one of the great wonders. During these holiday period, we had a big push in our exclusive “Harcourts Blue Book” magazine. Every week approximately 300 magazines were collected by people, which is a great sign of real estate interest. We are now seeing people following up the enquiry with inspections of property which will lead to a terrific time in February/March.

With the general real estate market now settling after the last 2 years, 2006 looks set for a building year, with more people gaining confidence in the real estate market. The recent increase in land tax threshold may help people to invest in lifestyle property and we are seeing that by increased traffic to all of our websites. In Sydney the marketplace has had a quiet start, but look out February/March for the auction market will be very busy. Many agencies are looking forward to 2006. The real estate market has seen many adjustments in most if not all states. We are glad to say that the protection we have of pricing of property in Kangaroo Valley hasn’t been as affected, compared to the majority of NSW.

If you would like one of us to visit you and prepare you with an idea of price for your property for 2006 or just wondering what your property is worth, we are more than happy to assist you. We are only a phone call, email or drop by our office.

Peter Moore 0413 275 919    Michael O’Gorman 0411 280 362    Nicholas Lyell 0401 658 450
On last Friday, we had a very successful “Boogie @ the Bowlo” Concert with Marty and his new musical accompanist Andrew providing the entertainment.

**Trivia Competition**

The Trivia Competition held at the Club at 7.30pm each Tuesday night continues to be well supported. The contract with Don Mayo, who compères the competition, has recently been extended by the Club for a further 18 week period.

The competition comprises three rounds of 10 questions, with a final 60 second $1,000 Question.

The entry fee for the competition is $4.00 per person, with a cash prize of $100 going to the table which wins the night’s competition.

Two lucky participants’ names are also drawn each night to be put in the draw for one of two super prizes.

Why not brush up on your trivia knowledge and join us for a fun evening each Tuesday night!

**Restaurant Catering Contract**

Julie and Simon will cease running the Wah Doo Chinese Restaurant at the Club on Sunday 12 February 2006. They have operated the restaurant at the Club for the past 11 years. We wish them well with their move to Sydney.

A new caterer, Allan Hong, will be taking over the contract for the running of the restaurant from Monday 13 February 2006 and we look forward to welcoming Allan to Kangaroo Valley.

**Trading Hours**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>4.30pm - 8.30pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>12.00noon - 8.30pm</td>
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Variation to trading hours is at the discretion of staff or the duty director.

ATM: Cash regularly available - for members & and patrons during trading hours.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Tuesday – Sunday**

**WAH DOO CHINESE RESTAURANT**

Dine in / take away: ph 4465-1231

Lunch 12.00 – 2.30pm: $6 light lunch or full menu.

Dinner from 5.00pm.

**Monday**

- Bingo 6.00pm.

**Tuesday**

- Social Bowls 1.30pm.
- Trivia Competition 7.30pm.
- Members’ Badge Draw 8.00pm

**Thursday**


**Friday**

- Meat raffle: Tickets from 7.15pm; draw starts 8.00pm.
- Members’ Badge Draw 8.00 pm.

**Saturday**

- Social Bowls: 1.30pm. Casual gear.
- Barefoot Bowls: 1.00pm.
- Petanque: 3.00pm.

**Is gambling a problem for you?**

Call G Line (NSW) Counselling Services on 1 800 633 635.

Kangaroo Valley Bowling & Recreation Club Limited (A.B.N. 84 584 252 182)
KVRFS update

Since the last edition of the Valley Voice in December and after three months of no incidents (from 05/09/05-09/12/05), the brigade has attended nine callouts.

1st callout came on Friday ninth of December at 5.43pm (Quote) “Kangaroo Valley/Beaumont MVA Moss Vale rd Kangaroo Valley just north of pie shop on bend. Semi trailer and car”.

Since the last edition of the Valley Voice February 2006

Matt Brown MP

“Matt Brown MP will be visiting the community of Kangaroo Valley on Monday 6 February.

Please make an appointment on 42321082 or see Matt outside the Pub / Shops precinct, between 10.45 - 11.15 am.

Kangaroo Valley just north of pie shop on Moss Vale Rd thinking KV bake house, bend at front of primary school. WRONG: Our Senior Deputy coming from his home in his car signaled us to turn around as there was nothing from the direction that he came from. So we then thought maybe Barrengrary store, as they have pie signs on cars parked beside the road, WRONG.

We eventually travelled to the second last hair pin near the top of Barrengrary Mountain to find the accident. A fairly minor affair thankfully.

Beaumont brigade was called off en-route. Members did traffic control as the accident was in a dangerous location. Local Kangaroo Valley police officer Steve was on scene quickly and so was the tow truck. So with the area cleared and cleaned of debris we returned to station at 7.03 pm. (See notes below (1)).

2nd callout came on Sunday 18 December at 9.45 am to respond to another MVA (Quote) “K/Valley MVA 2 km’s south of township. Fire suppression only”. (See notes below (2)). A crew of five was on their way in good time and traveled all the way to the top of Cambewarra before asking for more information as to the location of the MVA.

We were advised that a phone call was coming through to the Captain, who was on board, from fire control. The phone call was to give details and seriousness of the accident. As it happened we traveled another two km down the Nowra side of the mountain before coming across the accident.

Gayle and Scott from Kangaroo Valley ambulance were on scene as well as another ambulance crew from Bomaderry, several police, as well as quite a long line of traffic on both sides of the accident scene.

A motorcyclist traveling towards Kangaroo Valley lost control of his machine and slid into a 4WD heading towards Nowra. The driver had tried in vain to avoid the motorcyclist. The motorcyclist sustained serious injuries and a rescue helicopter was called.

The helicopter circled above for a while to make an assessment of the safe landing spot which was in a clearing beside the “cottage on the hill”, approximately 250 metres north of the accident scene.

The Valley brigade was asked to preserve the accident scene so as police could determine the causes of the accident.

Members set up road cones and made sure that no persons walked through or disturbed the site until photos were taken, measurements collected and the site cleared. Cambewarra brigade was also called out, after the correct location was determined, but their services not required.

The police also called Nowra town Brigade out to attend to the oil spill. We returned to station at 11.22 am.

3rd callout came on 23 December at 11.09 am for a crew to standby at the station after a report of smoke in the vicinity of Red Rocks/ Browns Mountain area.

We advised fire control that we had a crew of five at the station and were immediately asked to respond to Leebold Hill to investigate.

A short time later Beaumont and Cambewarra Brigades also radioed on and they were also asked to respond to other locations to investigate.

Cambewarra brigade traveling along Budgong Rd to Mt Scanzi and Beaumont checking Tourist Rd and surrounding areas. All three crews found no sign of fire in there respective areas so all were stood down and returned to their stations.

Kangaroo Valley crew returning back to station at 12.35 pm.

4th callout came at 5.46am on Saturday 24 December for Kangaroo Valley, Beaumont and Cambewarra Brigades to respond to a fire 200 metres west of the Cambewarra Lookout on Tourist Rd.

A hot westerly wind was already blowing and was even stronger at the top of Cambewarra Mountain and the temperature already around 30 degree.

A crew of five responded in Valley 1 and another five crew in Valley 2 following five minutes later.

On tourist Rd we met up with Deputy Group 1 Captain, Phil Patterson, who was incident controller.

Beaumont 2 and Valley 1 arrived within moments of each other and started to work on a going fire. Valley 1 commenced working on the western side then towards the front and Beaumont working the eastern side towards the front. Valley 2 arrived just ahead of Cambewarra 1 and Cambewarra 7.

All crews worked well together to contain the perimeter and blacking out the fire area using hose reels off the tankers and hand tools and even a knapsack was in use.

Ron Baard, Beaumont Brigade, as a chainsaw operator, had the hot task of felling trees that were alight or causing concern whilst the area was made safe.

This fire happened on a day of a statewide fire control.

Please make an appointment on 42321082 or see Matt outside the Pub / Shops precinct, between 10.45 - 11.15 am.

Matt Brown MP

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Please make an appointment on 42321082 or see Matt outside the Pub / Shops precinct, between 10.45 - 11.15 am.

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- Excavator Bulldozer

Phone David or Sharon on 4465 1186 or 0428 429 398

(Continued on page 30)
Golf Club report

The summer has seen good fields compete in the regular Saturday competitions at Kangaroo Valley Golf Club. December started well for the consistent Chris Page who won the Stableford (33 pts) and the Par event, with a blistering +7, on the 3rd and 10th of December. With Christmas looming the monthly medal was held earlier in the month (17th) and one of our clubs more regular players Ray Michelsons managed a very polished net 69 to win.

Over the Christmas New Year period a number of stableford events took place with Phil Mudie playing some of his best golf to win on Christmas and then again on New Years Eve. Phil actually played his best round on Boxing Day shooting 45 points. Unfortunately for Phil, Rodger Muller had arrived relaxed and focused. Plying his trademark big hitting skills Rodger Muller had arrived relaxed and focused. Plying his trademark big hitting skills and 2nd round with a hard fought 2 up win over Greg Baker.

Of the completed matches David Cochrane won through to the 2nd round with a hard fought 2 up win over Greg Baker. In a colourful match Ray Michelsons pipped Rodger Muller 4 & 2. Despite being well behind nearing the end, Club President John Rose dug deep and took his match with Carl Luddy to the 19th before prevailing. Possibly the best game of the Competition so far took place between Phil Mudie and Adrian Burton. With both men playing well it came down to the final holes.

A solid par on the 17th saw Adrian level the match and then after getting a ‘flyer’ from the fairway found himself behind the 18th green for three. A quick assessment of the situation and Adrian drew on his favourite pitching wedge. executing to perfection he holed his pitch for a 1 up victory.

Phil later remarked it was a quality shot and despite losing was a great end to an enjoyable match.

Second round matches are to be completed by the end of February. The golf club has now commenced regular Wednesday Stableford competitions. Played each Wednesday they are open to all members and visitors with an AGU handicap. On the second Wednesday of each month this competition will become Extreme Wednesday when players can test their skills against the longest course we can offer coupled with some ‘tight’ pin positions.

Extreme Wednesday is being run in conjunction with the Kangaroo Country Club and Resort and will offer some good prizes with a $100 voucher for first place $50 for second and $50 for the best scratch score.

The 2006 KV Men’s Open is approaching (31st March and 1st April). A 36 hole Stableford event, The Open is one of the more prestigious events on our calendar and always popular.

Please contact the Golf Club if you wish to play as we normally have a full field for this event. The KV Women’s Open will be on the 3rd and 4th of May.

For Golf Club news and events please go to our website www.kangaroovalleygolfclub.asn.au

David Cochrane
KVRFS update

(Continued from page 28)

fire ban and 100 metres east of an area that had a fire only four days earlier. It was not known at the time whether the fire was a re-ignition of that fire (very remote) or a discarded cigarette or something more disturbing.

The fire was declared safe and crews returned to their respective stations with the Valley crews back at station at 9.50am. Thank you to the Cambewarra tearmoons for allowing three tankers to access their property to refill with water in quick time from their own water supply tanks.

5th callout was via our Captain, Bill Chittick, at 11.30am Saturday 24 December for a crew to be on standby for possible deployment to Sydney area.

A crew of five was arranged and awaited a pager message if we were required. At 4.10pm we received a pager message to say our services were not required and all standby crews were stood down and returned to normal callout procedures.

6th callout came via pager on Friday 30 December at 4.32pm to respond to a fire reported in the camp grounds on Upper River Rd, near Scotts Rd Upper River and that police were attending.

Valley 1 with a crew of four headed out to that area and did not locate anything and decided to continue out to Flat Rock.

Valley 2, also with four crew, got under way as well and were asked to go to the top of Scotts Rd to see if they could find anything.

The crew of Valley 1 arrived at Flat Rock and also found nothing there, however we took the opportunity to visit all the campers out there and tell them that a total fire ban had been declared from midnight that night for the next 48 hours.

On the way back to the Valley we met up with the police and advised them that nothing had been located and both Valley tankers returned to station at around 6.10pm.

7th callout via pager was at 3.28 pm on Saturday 31 December for Kangaroo Valley and Broughton Vale brigades to respond to a car fire on outside 522 Kangaroo Valley Rd x Bendooley Rd.

As it was unsure who was the closer brigade both were called and as it happened Broughton Vale was called off when it was ascertained that in fact Beaumont was the closest brigade and they were called out.

Valley 1 with a crew of four was underway within 5 minutes of the call with another 4 crew members ready in Valley 2 if required.

Beaumont arrived on scene and completed the extinguishment of the car and we were called off.

As we were only two minutes from the scene we continued to the car and caught up with the Beaumont crew.

After exchanging pleasantries and wishing’s of a happy New Year Valley crew returned to station at 6.28pm.

8th callout came via pager on seven January at 4.00pm for Kangaroo Valley and Beaumont brigades to respond to a gas bottle alight at Bendeela campground.

A crew of four in Valley 1 arrived to find a damaged 9 kg gas bottle that had caught fire still venting gas.

The fire was out but a dangerous situation still existed with the escaping gas.

The bottle was carefully moved to a better/safer location and was allowed to finish venting all its gas whilst the bottle was kept cool using water from the tanker.

Beaumont brigade, also with four crew, arrived on scene a short time later and with the incident rendered safe and crews returned to their stations at around 5.30 pm.

9th call was on Thursday 12 January at 5.31pm for us to respond to a MVA three ki’s from Kangaroo Valley on the Nowra side.

A crew of four responded in Valley 1 with another at station and another member arriving on site in his car.

We found a local resident who had over corrected on a bend and lost control of his two ton truck and crossed over the road and over a 2 metre embankment.

He and his dog were very lucky going between two large trees and both escaped without injuries.

Police were on scene quickly, but not as quickly as the tow truck driver that just happened to be passing by and quickly cleared the scene after police did their duties.

Callout statistics for 2005 for Kangaroo Valley Volunteer Rural Fire Brigade; (28)

(Average over last 5 years is 32 calls per year)

Structure (House-Shed etc) 1-Faulty Chimney MVA’s (Car-Truck-Motorbike) 8

Car Fires (Solen/Dumped/Torched-Mechanical-Accident) 3

Grass/Bush Fire 7

Search/Rescue 1

False Alarm (Good Intent) 2

False Alarm (Malicious) 0

Powerlines Down 1

Powerlines Down Starting Fire 1

Storm Assistance 0

Explosion 1

Gas Bottle Fire 1

Investigate Smoke sighting 1

Standby calls 1

Training statistics (courses attended)

Basic Firefighter- 3 members

Kangaroo Valley

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(Continued on page 31)
The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is seeking public comment on draft fire management strategies for several reserves on the Southern Tablelands and Southern Highlands.

The three draft strategies are for Morton National Park north of the Shoalhaven River, Barren Grounds Nature Reserve/Budderoo National Park, and Bungonia State Conservation Area/Morton National Park west of the Shoalhaven River, and will be on public exhibition until 13 January 2006. NPWS South Coast Regional Manager, Diane Garrood, said today that the NPWS was keen for the community to have a close look at these plans.

“Fire is not something that can be ignored in this country and the Southern Tablelands and Southern Highlands can be particularly fire prone. It is especially important that the community take a careful look at the draft strategies for Morton National Park, Barren Grounds Nature Reserve and Bungonia State Conservation Area because they are adjoined by a number of productive rural holdings,” Ms Garrood said.

Highlands Area Manager, Graham Bush, said that these plans contribute to the region’s bushfire risk management planning.

“Once the public has had a chance to look at these plans and provide comment, the final strategies will be incorporated into the Southern Tablelands, Wingecarribee and Illawarra Bushfire Risk Management Plans. “The NPWS will then direct its works towards the agreed programs to help provide protection for the community against any potential fires in the future,” he said.

People can view the strategies on the NPWS website: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au. Those without access to the internet can view the plans at the NPWS offices at Bungonia State Conservation Area, Fitzroy Falls Visitor Centre, west Nowra, Ulladulla and the NPWS Regional Office at 55 Graham St Nowra. They are also on display at the Goulburn Mulwaree, Wingecarribee, Shoalhaven and Kiama Council Offices and the Mulwaree, Albion Park, Shoalhaven and Wingecarribee Fire Control Centres.

The draft strategies have been developed after discussions with neighbours and local stakeholders and are map based so that they will be more easily used and understood by neighbours, visitors, fire-fighters and reserve managers.

Craig Winter, for KVRFS

Note: (1) The first call for more than three months highlighted the need for accurate information to be given when making a call for ANY EMERGENCY SERVICE. Information to the operator saying “Moss Vale Rd- Kangaroo Valley—JUST north of the pie shop on a bend” should not be given for an accident that is in reality ‘On Moss Vale Rd-11 km north of Kangaroo Valley-on Barrengarry Mountain’ 7 km’s from anything that even closely resembles a PIE SHOP.

Clear Concise Correct information is required so assistance, in whatever form, can be coordinated.

(2) This second call contains the same message as above.

The other side of Cambewarra Mountain is a long way from “2 km’s South of the township”. The incorrect information given to 000 sees emergency services going all over the place to locate incidents.

The police, ambulance and RFS were all given the identical incident address, all which were wrong by around nine km’s.

This could mean that emergency crews from areas further away than the nearest stations/brigades to an incident are called delaying services that could, in fact, save lives.
Them what whispers down the well,
About the goods they 'ave to sell,
Will not make as many dollars,
As thems wot climbs up trees an’ 'ollers.

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- Alarm responses – Security signage  
- Static guarding  
- Sales of alarms and associated equipment  
- Fully licensed security operative servicing the Valley

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---

**Computer Problems**

contact Wayne at Computer Solutions  
Solve all your pc computer problems  
call 44652435 or mobile 0404362817

---

**Local Weeding & Gardening Service**

Require a hand around the house, in the garden or paddock?  
Flat Rate of $25/hour  
Call the reliable local service provider on 0410 342 443

---

**TV reception a joke?**

A Digital Set Top Box could be the answer... Crystal clear, superb colour, TV reception is now available in most of Kangaroo Valley. With your existing TV and a Set Top Box you can receive the ABC, ABC2, SBS, Prime, WIN and Channel 10. From just $215 (including installation) ... let me give you a free quote.

Your local Digital TV Technician - Michael Moore 4465 1170
**Which diet?**

(Continued from page 25)

Rapid weight loss is the rationale behind high protein/low carbohydrate diets. If you don’t consume carbohydrates, your body is forced to convert protein into glucose, which is an essential fuel for the brain. The leftover part of the protein molecule is quite toxic and so the body excretes it through the kidneys, taking lots of water from the tissues to do so. The result looks good on the scales, but much of the weight loss is water.

You can check how your body’s normal fluid content goes up and down by weighing yourself last thing at night and then again first thing in the morning. You weigh less in the morning because you have breathed out lots of fluid, but you’re no thinner. (You can check this by sleeping in a small tent and not opening the air vent. The water you breathe out will literally drip from the ceiling of your tent.)

Scales measure the weight of bones, water, lean tissue and fat. The only undesirable component is fat. Losing weight by losing water does your body no good and eventually the water comes back.

Any low carbohydrate diet also forces you to use up the 600g of so of carbohydrate stored as glycogen in your muscles. If you go running or cycling, you can lose that in a couple of hours. If you just potter around, it will take several days. Since each gram of glycogen is stored with 3 grams of water, cutting carbs means you can lose about 2 kilograms. But it isn’t fat and if you try to exercise, your muscles won’t have the energy they need.

**So what’s the solution?**

1. Accept that loss of body fat takes time.
2. Don’t jump on the scales every day as all you will see is the fluctuation in fluid.
3. Think health rather than weight. By eating healthy food – in appropriate portion sizes for your level of activity – your weight will take care of itself.

Next month: Some common mistakes that help make people fat.

---

**Flour Side**

2006 has begun with surprise, delight and controversy in the opening grand slam tennis event held recently in Melbourne.

Similarly in Kangaroo Valley, before the jolly little fellow with the long white beard appeared, futures were determined and glass cabinets stocked.

The Senior Spring 2005 Competition culminated on the 14th and 15th December for the B graders and A graders respectively.

In B grade Team A (John McKinlay, Lewis Keane, Jo Keane, David McLeod) lived up to their winning reputation throughout the competition, defeating Team D (Kate Keane, Jo Keane, David McLeod) in the B graders and A graders respectively.

In A grade Amanda Gazzard, Dave Gazzard, Angie Winch and Serge Gomez (sub for Keith Learn) won the battle against Marion Smart, Louise Morgan, Ed Barger (sub for Ross Butler), and Alan Harvey.

It was reported that the tennis was very even and strongly contested night, providing a fitting end to this competition. Although not entirely reflected in the scores, there were some moments of tennis brilliance.

The senior social tennis competition for Spring 2005, completed on the 16th December amidst the Wollomi Pine dedication ceremony. Movie passes and jaffas/ fantales were distributed on the day to members of the three teams. Further enquiries to Nigel Lewis (ph:44 651 438).

---

**DIRECTORY...**

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### Claim the date!

**Organisations**
are invited to use this page to claim the date for any events they are planning, so as to avoid doubling up and clashes with other groups.

### Wot’s on in the Valley

#### Special events February 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>Matt Brown visit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>Mayoral visit</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 11</td>
<td>Sydney Catchment Authority information booth</td>
<td>Village Hall 11 am—3 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>The annual KV Show</td>
<td>Uniting Church 5-30 pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Monthly events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon (1st)</td>
<td>KV Rural Fire Service meeting – 7.30 pm – Fire Shed – Bill Chittick 4465 1242</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon (2nd)</td>
<td>Senior Citizen’s Meeting - 10.15 am – Kangaroo Valley Bowling Club.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon (2nd)</td>
<td>Environment Group – 6 pm – The Ambulance Community Complex – Peter Stanton 4465 1688</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon (3rd)</td>
<td>A &amp; H Meeting – 7.30 pm – K. V. Hall – Betty Allan 4465 1154</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon (3rd)</td>
<td>Historical Society – 1 pm – Pioneer Farm – Gerry Garrett 4465 1419.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon (3rd)</td>
<td>Pioneer Settlement Trust - 10.30am - Pioneer Park - Elaine Apperley 4465 2026</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues (1st)</td>
<td>CWA 10am to 12, 12 Speaker, 12.30pm Combined Luncheon, 1pm to 2.15pm Meeting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues (2nd)</td>
<td>Pre School Meeting</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed (4th)</td>
<td>Pioneer Farm working bee 10 am to 2 pm Bring tools to suit your expertise</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs (1st)</td>
<td>Upper Kangaroo River Bushcare 9 to 11am near picnic area.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs (2nd)</td>
<td>View Club Gen Meeting &amp; Luncheon – 12 pm – Hampden Bridge Café</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat (last)</td>
<td>Brogers Creek Landcare – Andrew or Liz 4465 1482</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat (3rd)</td>
<td>9-11am for Upper Kangaroo Valley Landcare, meet at Upper Kangaroo Valley Hall Contact Tess Heighes 4422 7147</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun (1st)</td>
<td>Family Friendly Contemporary Service – 9.30 am – Anglican Church 4465 1585</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun (1st)</td>
<td>Family Evening Service 6-30 pm Uniting Church 4464 1034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun (2nd)</td>
<td>Communion &amp; Traditional Service – 9.30 am – Anglican Church 4465 1585</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun (2nd)</td>
<td>Communion Service 9 am Uniting Church 4464 1034</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun (3rd to 5th)</td>
<td>Worship Service 9 am Uniting Church 4464 1034</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun (3rd)</td>
<td>Jazz at the Valley Club 2-5 pm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun (last)</td>
<td>Fishing Club Competition day – Harold Sharrman 4465 1140</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bi-weekly events

| Tuesday (2nd & 4th) | Lions Club Al Fresco – 7 pm Carolyn Green 4465 1384            |
| Thursday (1st & 3rd) | Men’s Group 7.30 pm - Bob Dunn 44651056                       |
| Friday (1st Friday) | Upper Kangaroo River Bushcare Group - Les Mitchell 4465 1564   |

### Weekly events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon – Fri</td>
<td>Bus Service to Nowra and Highlands – 4423 5990</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon – Sat</td>
<td>Mass St. Joseph’s 6.30 am</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Bingo – 7 pm KV&amp;B&amp;RC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>1-3 pm Women's Bible Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon&amp;Wed</td>
<td>10-12 am Women's Bible Study - Anglican Residence 44651585</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon Wed Thurs</td>
<td>1-3 pm Women's Care &amp; share - Anglican Hall 44651585</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Mon low-mod intensity exercise class Hall 8.45 am 4447 8332</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>9 am Association Croquet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Tues Men's Bowling - 1.30 pm, Casual Contact Club 4465 1175 &amp; leave name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>10-12 &amp; 6-8 Iyenga Yoga 44 651 364</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>Cuppa &amp; kids Sunday School Hall 10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Tai Chi Hall 8.30 am 4447 8332</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Croquet Club 9 am Valley Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Rural Fire Service Training at Shed 6pm</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>6-8 pm Iyenga yoga contact 44 651364</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>K.V. Police Station - 10 am to 6 pm for enquiries 4465 1144.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>5 pm Golf Croquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Exercise Class 9-15 am KV Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Walking group P.O. 10 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>2 pm Association Croquet</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>9.30 am Pilates - 44651918</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Bowling Club - 'Barefoot Bowls'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>From 11.00 am</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>KV Rural Fire Service Training – Fire Shed 9 am</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Anglican Church Service 9.30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Sunday School 9.30 am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Mass - St. Joseph’s Church, 11 am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>Uniting Church Worship 9 am (2nd to 5th Sun) and Worship 6.30 pm (1st)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*The Kangaroo Valley Voice is delivered free to all house and land holders within the mountain boundaries of the Valley

**Subscription to the Voice is available at a cost of $36 per year

Our data base of addresses needs to be updated regularly so if your address is incorrect please let us know.

Please tick the appropriate box:

- [ ] I AM A NEW RESIDENT
- [ ] I HAVE PURCHASED PROPERTY
- [ ] SUBSCRIPTION - (Cheque or Money Order only thank you)
- [ ] CHANGE OR ALTER ADDRESS

Your Mailing Address:

| Name | |
|------||
| Address | Post Code |

K.V. Voice Office:-  Pioneer Farm, Kangaroo Valley 2577.  Phone/facsimile (02) 4465 1521

If you wish to advertise, have a story to tell, or know of any item you feel would be of interest to our readers we would love to hear from you.
### SCHOOLS & CHURCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School/Church</th>
<th>Contact Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>Jacinta Powell</td>
<td>4465 1327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public School</td>
<td>Mark McCarthy</td>
<td>4465 1182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P &amp; C</td>
<td>Dougall Blanch</td>
<td>4465 1182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scots College</td>
<td>Ian Boyle</td>
<td>4465 1089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bomaderry High</td>
<td>Marylin Henderson</td>
<td>4421 0699</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anglican Church</td>
<td>Graham Castle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>Irene Dunn</td>
<td>4465 1056</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cuppa and kids</td>
<td>Shannon Chittick</td>
<td>4465 1367</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Church</td>
<td>Anne Dynon</td>
<td>4464 1910</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniting Church</td>
<td>John Brentnall</td>
<td>4464 1034</td>
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### CHARITIES & SERVICE GROUPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Contact Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CMR Institute</td>
<td>Isabel Butler</td>
<td>4465 1248</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lions</td>
<td>Tony Barnott</td>
<td>4465 1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V.I.E.W. Club</td>
<td>Betty Allan</td>
<td>4465 1154</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.W.A.</td>
<td>Pauline Miller</td>
<td>4465 1712</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amnesty Int.</td>
<td>Libby Turnock</td>
<td>4465 1357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Pamela Davis</td>
<td>4465 2285</td>
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### EMERGENCIES

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Police</td>
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<td>13 1444 or 4421 9699</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ambulance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poisons</td>
<td></td>
<td>13 1126</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integral Energy</td>
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<td>13 1003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifeline</td>
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<td>Fire</td>
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### SPORTS & EXERCISE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Club</td>
<td>Nigel Lewis</td>
<td>4446 0638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cricket Club</td>
<td>Greg Thompson</td>
<td>4465 1531</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Club</td>
<td>John Rose</td>
<td>4464 2384</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canoe Club</td>
<td>Graeme Mounsey</td>
<td>4465 1597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pony Club</td>
<td>Sharon Selby</td>
<td>4465 1186</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladies Bowling</td>
<td>Margery Good</td>
<td>4465 1341</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Bowling</td>
<td>Phillip Chittick</td>
<td>4465 1035</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fishing Club</td>
<td>Vinnie Winch</td>
<td>4465 1448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croquet Club</td>
<td>Heather Kelly</td>
<td>4465 1608</td>
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### AGES & STAGES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Mothers</td>
<td>Karen Beeston</td>
<td>4465 1098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cubs/Scouting</td>
<td>Cathy Gorman</td>
<td>4465 1540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Citizens</td>
<td>Majorie Good</td>
<td>4465 1341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors Group</td>
<td>Deborah Butler</td>
<td>4421 0975</td>
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### OTHER ORGANISATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Broggers Creek Landcare</td>
<td>Andrew</td>
<td>4465 1482</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pioneer Farm</td>
<td>Elaine Apperley</td>
<td>4465 1306</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historical Society</td>
<td>Gerry Garrett</td>
<td>4465 1419</td>
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<tr>
<td>Osborne Park/Hall</td>
<td>J. Lenz</td>
<td>4465 1272</td>
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<tr>
<td>A &amp; H Society</td>
<td>Betty Allan</td>
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<tr>
<td>K.V.Rural Fire S</td>
<td>Bill Chittick</td>
<td>4465 1242</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tourist Assn</td>
<td>Sue Foster</td>
<td>4465 1165</td>
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<td>Iyengar Yoga</td>
<td>Rose Andrews</td>
<td>4465 1364</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rock-Wallaby</td>
<td>Melinda Norton</td>
<td>4887 8256</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alchohics Anonymous</td>
<td>Rick</td>
<td>4465 1113</td>
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<tr>
<td>Up/Rvr Prog Assn</td>
<td>D. Loneragan</td>
<td>4465 1364</td>
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<tr>
<td>K.V.C.A.</td>
<td>Tony Barnett</td>
<td>4465 1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KV Garden Group</td>
<td>Lee Sharam</td>
<td>4465 1756</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Group Secretaries - please check & update details

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**It’s all go—go —go at the K.V. Show**

**February 17 and 18**

**See you there!!!!!**