

# THE VOICE



## OF UPPER LACHLAN SHIRE, THE SHIRE OF VILLAGES

MAY 2017

# Crookwell Skate Park off and rolling



Crookwell Skate Park was officially opened by (L-R) Upper Lachlan Shire Council Mayor Brian McCormack OAM, Veolia Mulwaree Trust Trustee Bob Kirk, Crookwell youth representatives Cody Rootsey, Karim Kentwell, Rahal Soufan and Lachlan Grocott, Member for Goulburn Pru Goward, N2 District Governor for Lions Australia Sharon Bishop and Crookwell Lions President John Gray.

Crowds gathered at Clifton Park for the official opening of the Crookwell Skate Park last month.

Upper Lachlan Shire Council Mayor Brian McCormack OAM joined Member for Goulburn Pru Goward, Veolia Mulwaree Trust Trustee Bob Kirk, N2 District Governor for Lions Australia Sharon Bishop and Crookwell youth representative Lachlan Grocott for the unveiling of a commemorative plaque.

The event, timed to coincide with Youth Week, also included a free barbecue by Crookwell Lions and skateboarding demonstrations and workshops by Totem Skateboarding. Totem also visited Gunning Skate Park earlier in the day.

The new, purpose built 276 square metre skate

park boasts a bowl, spines, grind rail and long quarter pipe. Safety signage and fencing, sheltered picnic tables and seating, bins and cement pathways and pads have also been installed.

The project was funded with \$17,000 from the State Government, \$96,612 from the Veolia Mulwaree Trust, \$10,000 from Lions Australia, over \$11,000 in fundraising by Crookwell's youth and \$80,000 from Council.

Cr McCormack said the Crookwell Skate Park project is a wonderful example of what can be achieved when the community comes together.

"Our young people first identified the need for a skate park in Crookwell and they have been there every step of the way – from securing funding from Council, to fundraising, to helping

to determine a suitable location, and even assisting in the design of this fantastic facility," Cr McCormack said.

"Council was very pleased to support this project because we could see the benefits a Skate Park would have on the health and wellbeing of Crookwell's young people. Fortunately, so too did our funding partners.

"On behalf of the community I would like to thank the State Government's Community Building Better Partnership Program, the Veolia Mulwaree Trust, Lions Australia and Crookwell's youth for helping to bring the Crookwell Skate Park project to fruition."

**For more pictures of the Crookwell Skate Park opening, please visit Council's Facebook page.**



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## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Welcome to the May 2017 edition of The Voice.

Last month I was very pleased to help officially open the new Crookwell Skate Park.

The plaque we unveiled at the opening is etched with the words of professional skateboarder Ryan Sheckler, who said, "Don't ever give up. You gotta keep trying, and never give up."

It is that tenacity from Crookwell's youth that saw the Crookwell

Skate Park develop from an idea into reality. Their input will ensure that the Skate Park meets the needs of our young people now and into the future.

A special thank you must also go to the Government's Community Building Better Partnership Program, the Veolia Mulwaree Trust and Lions Australia for their support and financial assistance.

*Brian McCormack OAM  
Mayor*

## FROM THE GM'S DESK



After months of persistent inclement weather, which delayed scheduled works and created new issues for our road network, I am pleased to advise that the Shire's construction and maintenance schedule is getting back on track.

Council has increased funds and resources to deliver major projects and redress the backlog created by poor weather conditions.

However, it will take time to remedy the impact of what was an

unprecedented and prolonged weather event.

On behalf of Council I would like to thank the community for their patience as we work to address issues according to priority.

I would also encourage anyone who notices damage to report it to Council on 4830 1000 so we can work on getting it fixed.

*John Bell  
General Manager*

### Reminder: Ratepayers to be charged new State Government Levy

Upper Lachlan Shire Council wishes to remind ratepayers they will be charged a new Fire and Emergency Services Levy by the State Government from 1 July 2017.

The Fire and Emergency Services Levy will replace the Emergency Services Property Levy that is currently paid as part of property-based insurance premiums.

Council's General Manager John Bell said as with all Councils across NSW, Upper Lachlan Shire Council will be required to collect the Levy on behalf of the State Government.

"From 1 July 2017, ratepayers will notice an increase on their rates notice with a separate line item identifying the Levy distinct from other rates and charges," Mr Bell said.

"Ratepayers should be aware that the Levy is not a Council charge and the increase will not benefit Council, we will simply act as the collection agency for the Levy, with the funds to be forwarded to the State Government.

"The purpose of the Levy is to ensure that all ratepayers contribute to the cost of emergency services, not just those with home owners' property insurance. Policy holders should expect to see a reduction in their insurance premiums once the Levy takes effect."

The Fire and Emergency Services Levy is

calculated on unimproved land value determined by the NSW Valuer General with different rates for residential, public benefit, commercial, industrial and farmland. The Levy comprises a different base amount for each land category, plus a variable amount based on land value.

Owners of residential and public benefit land will pay a lower Fire and Emergency Services contribution than other categories and vacant land will have a discount applied. There will also be discounts available for pensioners and veterans concessions.

Council wrote to all landowners last month to notify them of their Fire and Emergency Services Levy land classification.

Further details of the charging structure will be released as the information is legislated by the State Government.

For queries relating to land classification, please contact Council's Senior Revenue Officer Jeanne Palmer on 4830 1000. For all other queries relating to the Fire and Emergency Services Levy, please contact the NSW Treasury Department on 1300 787 872.

Further information is also available on the Fire and Emergency Services Levy website: [www.emergencyservicespropertylevy.nsw.gov.au](http://www.emergencyservicespropertylevy.nsw.gov.au).

**Upper Lachlan**  
the shire of villages

### Upper Lachlan Tourist Association

#### What's On in the Shire of Villages

**Crookwell AP&H Team Sorting**  
Crookwell Showground  
Sat 6th - Sun 7th May  
[www.crookwellshow.com.au](http://www.crookwellshow.com.au)

**Willowtree Workshops**  
Willowtree Sculpture Garden  
Sat 6th - Sun 7th May  
[www.willowtreesculpturegarden.com](http://www.willowtreesculpturegarden.com)

**Collector Pumpkin Festival**  
Collector  
Sun 7th May  
[www.pumpkinfestival.com.au](http://www.pumpkinfestival.com.au)

**First Night of the Pops**  
St Bart's Crookwell  
Fri 12th May  
Ph 02 4832 1988

**Crookwell Potato Festival**  
Crookwell Showground  
Sat 13th May  
[www.crookwellpotatofestival.com.au](http://www.crookwellpotatofestival.com.au)

**Bake & Brew**  
Crookwell Showground  
Sat 20th - Sun 21st May  
[www.crookwellshow.com.au](http://www.crookwellshow.com.au)

**Happy Valley High Musical**  
KAOS production  
Crookwell Memorial Hall  
Sat 27th - Sun 28th May  
Sat 3rd - Sun 4th June  
[www.cads.org.au](http://www.cads.org.au)

**The Olives Harvest Celebration**  
Grandmas on the Farm  
Sun 28th May  
[www.grandmasbakery.com.au](http://www.grandmasbakery.com.au)

**Taralga Art Show**  
Taralga Memorial Hall  
Sat 10th, Sun 11th & Mon 12th June  
Ph 02 4840 6101

**Gunning Patchwork Weekend**  
Gunning  
Sat 24th - Sun 25th June  
[www.gunningpatchworkweekend.com](http://www.gunningpatchworkweekend.com)

**Grabine Fresh Water Fishing Tournament**  
Grabine Lakeside  
Fri 25th, Sat 26th & Sun 27th August  
[www.grabinefishing.com.au](http://www.grabinefishing.com.au)

[www.visitupperlachlan.com.au](http://www.visitupperlachlan.com.au)



Find us on Facebook

"Visit Upper Lachlan - The Shire of Villages"

Crookwell Visitor Information Centre  
36 Goulburn St Crookwell - 4832 1988  
[info@visitupperlachlan.com.au](mailto:info@visitupperlachlan.com.au)

### Council services

#### Emergency after hours contact numbers:

**Crookwell / Bigga / Binda / Tuena / Grabben Gullen / Laggan / Taralga and Big Hill areas:**

Roads, bridges and tips, water and sewer: **0429 786 659.**

**Gunning / Dalton / Breadalbane / Collector / Jerrawa areas:**

Roads, bridges and tips, water and sewer: **0427 454 206.**

**Postal address:** (For all offices)

PO Box 42, Gunning NSW 2581

#### Council Offices:

**Crookwell office:** Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.30pm

Ph: (02) 4830 1000, Fax: (02) 4832 2066

**Gunning office:** Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm (cashier closes at 4pm)

Ph: (02) 4845 4100, Fax: (02) 4845 1426

**Taralga office:** Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.30pm

Ph: (02) 4840 2099, Fax: (02) 4840 2296.

#### Council email address:

[council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)

#### Website

[www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)

#### Facebook

[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search Upper Lachlan Shire Council

#### Justice of the Peace

Justices of the Peace in NSW serve the community primarily by administering oaths or affidavits and taking statutory declarations and affirmations; witnessing signatures; and attesting and certifying documents.

The Upper Lachlan Shire Council have people serving the community in this capacity at our Council offices in Gunning and Crookwell.

If you are in need of such services please contact the Council office nearest to you to arrange an appointment.

## THE VOICE

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## LIBRARY BIZ with Michaela Olde

### What's new?

Upper Lachlan Shire Council has signed a Library Service Level Agreement with Goulburn Mulwaree Council for the provision of library services. The agreement commences on 1 July 2017 for a period of one year, with an option to extend the agreement for a further five years.

### What does this mean for our library users?

Goulburn, Crookwell and Gunning Libraries will continue to operate in the same way they do now - with shared access to each other's collections. As of this month you will no longer be able to reserve items from the Yass Library. From 30 June 2017 you will no longer be able to use your Upper Lachlan Shire Library Card to borrow at Yass. However, the Reciprocal Membership Agreement between local public libraries will enable you to join the Yass Library to borrow and return Yass items.

Upper Lachlan Shire Library members will need new cards, which will be issued free of charge.

These cards will be phased in from July 2017 onwards.

As part of the service level agreement with Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Upper Lachlan Shire Council has arranged for Goulburn



Mulwaree's mobile library service the 'Big Read Bus' to visit Taralga once every three weeks. This service will be trialled for 12 months, commencing in July 2017. Library members will be able to borrow a wide variety of books, movies and music from the bus. There will also be a librarian on the bus to assist you with reserving items and accessing a range of online resources. Details of the first visit and the schedule will be advertised closer to July.

From 1 July 2017 the Southern Tablelands Library Co-operative website will no longer be operating. The Upper Lachlan Shire Library Service will be launching its own Library website from 1 July 2017. The Library website will enable you to reserve and renew items and search the catalogue; access e-resources and online resources; and find out what's on.

News of the changes will be published on Council's website: [www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au/news](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au/news).

### Recognition of Service

Gunning Library Librarian Maree Roche (pictured left) was recently awarded a Certificate of Service in appreciation of her 10 years service to Upper Lachlan Shire Council. Congratulations to Maree for the fantastic services that she provides to the community and our library members.

## Taralga Art Show 2017



Last year's People's Choice Award winner, *Rodeo 2* by Stavros Papantoniou.

ceramics – made by artists from across the region and beyond. The Art Show is organised through the Taralga and District Progress Association, and a major sponsor this year is Mark Bradbury Legal.

All works entered must be for sale. Last year 64 of 280 artworks were sold.

There are two prizes associated with the Art Show - the \$200 People's Choice Award and the \$100 Hangers' Award. The Awards are sponsored by RMB Lawyers and Pacific Hydro, respectively.

The Taralga Art Show's official opening will be held from 6.00pm to 8.00pm on Saturday, 10 June 2017. The Show will also be open to the public from 10.00am to 4.00pm on Saturday, 10 June 2017 and Sunday, 11 June 2017 and 10.00am to 3.00pm on Monday, 11 June 2017. Art workshops for children and adults will also be held on Saturday, 10 June 2017 with support from the Upper Lachlan Cultural Arts Program.

Further information and entry forms are available from Jan Green on 4840 6101 or email: [greenjs@harboursat.com.au](mailto:greenjs@harboursat.com.au) as well as the Taralga Art Show Facebook page.

## Coming soon

### Crookwell Friends of the Library Big Book Fair

The Crookwell Friends of the Library Annual Book Fair will be held this month.

Available for purchase will be a huge range of fiction paperbacks, hard cover novels, non-fiction books, children's books, DVDs and CDs, with something available to quench every reader's appetite.

Proceeds from the sale of books will go towards funding extra services at Crookwell Library, including Storytime, school holiday activities, magazine subscriptions, and library events.

**Where:** Crookwell Memorial Hall Foyer, Denison Street, Crookwell

**When:** 5.30pm – 8.00pm Friday, 12 May 2017  
9.00am – 4.00pm Saturday, 13 May 2017  
10.00am – 3.00pm Sunday, 14 May 2017

After Sunday, 14 May 2017 the Big Book Fair will be held during Crookwell Library's opening hours until Tuesday, 30 May 2017.



Grab a bargain and help raise funds for Crookwell Library at the Crookwell Friends of the Library Big Book Fair.

## Library Opening Hours

### Crookwell Library, Denison Street, Crookwell

Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.30am – 5.00pm  
Wednesday 1.30pm – 5.00pm  
Saturday mornings from 10.00am – 12.00 noon

### Gunning Library, Yass Street, Gunning

Open Tuesday and Wednesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm  
Thursday 1.00pm – 5.00pm  
Friday 10.00am – 5.00pm

## Setting Council's Future Agenda: Draft Integrated Plans

Community members have a chance to have their say on Upper Lachlan Shire Council's 2017/2018 draft Integrated Plans until Wednesday, 24 May 2017.

The draft Integrated Plans comprise the following:

- Delivery Program 2017/2018 to 2020/2021
- Operational Plan 2017/2018
- Infrastructure Plan 2017-2026
- Long Term Financial Plan 2017-2026
- Workforce Plan 2017-2020
- Social and Community Plan 2013-2018
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2020

The draft Integrated Plans, along with a three-page summary of the draft Operational Plan, are available on Council's website: [www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au). The draft Integrated Plans can also be viewed at Council's Offices in Crookwell, Gunning and Taralga or at Crookwell and Gunning Libraries.

Community Outreach Meetings are also being held throughout the Shire to allow the community to discuss any issues, concerns and the contents of the draft Plans. Meetings were held at 6.30pm at the Crookwell Council Chambers on 26 April 2017 and the Taralga Masonic Hall on 3 May 2017. Meetings will also be held at 6.30pm on Wednesday, 10 May 2017 at the Gunning Council Chambers and 6.30pm on Wednesday, 17 May 2017 at Bigga Golf Club.

Upper Lachlan Shire Council General Manager John Bell encouraged all community members to view the draft Integrated Plans and attend their nearest Community Outreach Meeting.

"These draft Plans set the Council's future agenda, so it is imperative they reflect the community's views and expectations. Feedback received via these meetings and during the public exhibition period will help inform the final Integrated Plans," Mr Bell said.

For further information, please contact Council's Director of Finance and Administration Andrew Croke on 4830 1000.

**For a snapshot of the Draft Operational Plan 2017/18 and Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2020, please see page 4.**

## Council welcomes new Bigga Townsperson



Bigga's new Townsperson Scott Fursey.

Scott Fursey is Upper Lachlan Shire Council's new Bigga Townsperson.

Scott was recently appointed to the casual role, which involves the regular maintenance of Bigga's parks, gardens and reserves and ensuring the cleanliness of the town's streets and public amenities.

Scott brings over 27 years experience in building/house construction, renovation, maintenance, service and repair to the role.

Upper Lachlan Shire Council General Manager John Bell congratulated Scott on his appointment.

"The position of Bigga Townsperson was created in response to the significant

number of travellers through the town. We also have a dedicated Townsperson in Taralga," Mr Bell said.

"Scott's knowledge and experience will be a real asset to the role," Mr Bell said.

## Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan

People with disability, their families and carers are invited to give their feedback on Upper Lachlan Shire Council's Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2020.

Upper Lachlan Shire Council General Manager John Bell said the Draft Plan seeks to create a more inclusive community for people of all abilities.

"The Draft Plan sets out Council's actions and strategies over the next three years to enable people with disability to have greater access to our facilities, services and information so it is essential that we get it right," Mr Bell said.

"Prior to developing the Draft Plan Council undertook a community survey to help determine the challenges and priorities for people with disability in the Shire.

"The Draft Plan will be on public exhibition until Wednesday, 24 May 2017. I would encourage all residents with disability, as well as their family members and carers to view the Draft Plan and attend their nearest Community Outreach Meeting. Feedback received via these meetings and during the public exhibition period will help inform the final Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2020."

The time and dates of the Community Outreach Meetings are outlined on page 3.

The Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2020 is available on Council's website: [www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au). It is also available to be viewed at Council's Offices in Crookwell, Gunning and Taralga, at Crookwell and Gunning Libraries or at Viewhaven Lodge Crookwell, Sunset Lodge Taralga and Gunning Community Care.

For further information about the Draft Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2020, please contact Council's Environment and Planning Department on 4830 1000.



## Draft Operational Plan 2017/18

Council's Draft Operational Plan 2017/18 is among a suite of plans currently on public exhibition.

The Operational Plan includes the Council's delivery targets and major capital works priorities over the next financial year.

The plan also includes Council's Revenue Policy, which sets out changes to rates and charges. These include:

- An increase to General (Ordinary) Rates by 1.5%. There is a general land revaluation this year and dollar value increases will vary within each individual rating category.
- A 1.5% increase (or \$6 per assessment increase) in the Water Supply Access Charge and Water Availability Charge.
- A 2.5% increase in the Water Usage (Consumption) Charge, dollar value increases will vary for each individual service dependent upon water consumption.
- Nil increase in Stormwater Annual Charges.
- A 1.5% increase (or \$12 assessment increase) in Sewerage Best Practice Pricing Access Charges.
- A 4% increase (or \$17 per service increase) in the Domestic Waste Management Annual Charge.
- A 4% increase (or \$20 per service increase) in the Commercial Waste Management Annual Charge.
- A 4% increase (or \$7.70 assessment increase) in the Rural Waste Annual Charge and Domestic Waste Management Availability Charge.

Council is seeking feedback on the Draft Operational Plan 2017/18 until Wednesday, 24 May 2017.

Submissions can be made via post to: JK Bell, General Manager, PO Box 42, Gunning NSW 2581 or email: [council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au).

An extended summary and the full Draft Operational Plan are available on Council's website:

[www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au). Copies of the draft Operational Plan can also be viewed at Council's Offices in Crookwell, Gunning and Taralga or at Crookwell and Gunning Libraries.

For further information, please contact Council's Director of Finance and Administration Andrew Croke on 4830 1000.



**Crookwell Taralga**  
Aged Care

**YOUR Care**  
**YOUR Way**  
**LOCALLY**



Crookwell/Taralga Aged Care's service **Upper Lachlan Community Care** is dedicated to providing quality aged and disability services across the region.

*We can provide you with the type of care YOU want in YOUR own home.*

*Please call us if you would like to discuss your care needs. We can even arrange a talk for your local group or club.*

**Upper Lachlan Community Care**  
Ph: 4832 2399 or Email: [ctac@ctac.org.au](mailto:ctac@ctac.org.au)

## New statistical resource available

Ever wondered how the Shire's population, age structure and household types will change between now and 2036? Are you a small business owner and would like to know local sales figures and market data, or perhaps a member of a community group keen to know about the diversity of the Shire?

A new online statistical resource is now available to the community via Council's website that can provide this data and more, free of charge.

Upper Lachlan Shire Council General Manager John Bell said the resource, administered by *.id* (informed decisions), brings together statistical information from the Census and provides demographic insights into the local population and economy.

"Local residents, businesses and community groups can now access a wealth of information by clicking on the 'Profile and Statistics' link on the homepage of Council's website ([www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au)). One click of a button gives users access to *profile.id*, *atlas.id*, *forecast.id* and *economy.id*," Mr Bell said.

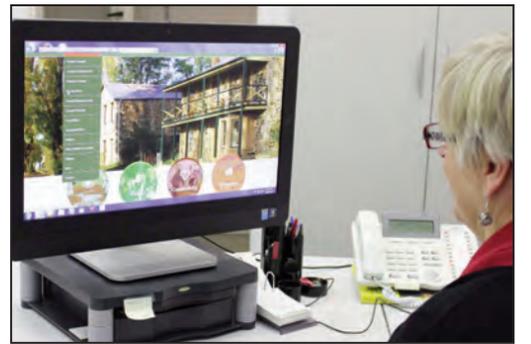
"*Profile.id* provides an analysis of the characteristics of the Upper Lachlan Shire community, how it is changing and how it compares to other areas; *Atlas.id* delivers Census data in a suite of thematic maps

which show how target populations are distributed across the local government area; *Forecast.id* forecasts population and dwellings to 2036; and *economy.id* provides a detailed economic profile of the Shire.

"This resource will be a valuable tool which will allow businesses to identify and forecast opportunities and community groups to identify areas of need.

"It will also assist Council in forward planning and help to support applications for funding from granting bodies."

*.id* will be in the Upper Lachlan Shire in August 2017 for a Community Information and Training session. Further details will follow. For further information or assistance with using *profile.id*, *atlas.id*, *forecast.id* and *economy.id* in the interim please contact Council's Economic Development Officer Brenda Proudman on 4830 1000.



# JOIN NOW

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**Charlie Prell 0427 224 839 or  
Susan Reynolds 0414 464 206**

*Give to where you live!*



[www.upperlachlanfoundation.com](http://www.upperlachlanfoundation.com)

### New Resident Incentives

Just by deciding to move to the Upper Lachlan Shire, new residents are automatically entitled to receive a goods and services voucher package.

A joint initiative of Upper Lachlan Shire Council and Upper Lachlan Business Houses, the package provides practical assistance to new residents, as well as introducing them to many of the local businesses in our community.

To qualify, you must be moving into a property that contributes council rates to Upper Lachlan Shire Council. The package must be claimed within three months of you moving to Upper Lachlan Shire and redeemed before Tuesday, 31 October 2017.

To claim your voucher package, please visit the Council offices located at 44 Spring St, Crookwell, 123 Yass St, Gunning or 29 Orchard St, Taralga. You'll need to produce a signed Contract of Sale for a property or a rental agreement of at least six months duration in the Upper Lachlan Shire and either a driver's licence, car registration papers or a passport.

For more information, please contact Council's Economic Development Officer Brenda Proudman on 4830 1000.

### Get Involved: Upper Lachlan Foundation

By Susan Reynolds, Board Member, Upper Lachlan Foundation



In 2016 The ULF developed its first business partnership with Lindner Quality Socks. L-R: Upper Lachlan Foundation Chairman Garry Kadwell, Andrew Lindner from Lindner Quality Socks, John McGrath from Wool Connect and merino farmer Don Burbidge.

a new water tank, Tuena Tennis Club for flood repairs, Taralga Showground for upgrades to their change rooms and St Mary's Primary School for library chairs.

Our Funds are raised through an annual membership of \$20 that is invested under the management of the Public Trustee & Guardian and from the interest earned, grants are issued. Bequests, Trusts, fundraising events, auctions and donations also make valuable contributions to the Foundation.

In 2016 the ULF developed its first business partnership with Lindner Quality Socks. This is a local business, using local raw merino wool and generously sharing a percentage of the profits from the sale of articles for the betterment of the local community. The Crookwell Potato Association has also joined us as a business partner; donating \$10 per tonne of all certified seed sold to the ULF.

The ULF's goal is to have one million dollars invested within the next five years and continue to grow this principal so that future generations will benefit from a living fund reducing the burden on community groups to raise their funds. Support from new and existing members and business is essential for this continued growth.

If you wish to join or be involved visit [www.upperlachlanfoundation.com.au](http://www.upperlachlanfoundation.com.au).

## Beware the humble umbrella and other unexpected hazards for wildlife

By Kay Muddiman, WIRES Southern Tablelands Branch

We have a habit of hanging our wet umbrella on the side of a cupboard on our back verandah until it is dry. I then roll it up, fasten it with the velcro strip, and put it in the cupboard. Nothing wrong with that you might say - I would have said the same thing too until an experience several years ago. When the umbrella was opened the next time it was needed, out fell a mummified frog! Poor thing was obviously in the folds of the umbrella when I rolled it up, and couldn't get out. I was (and still am) horrified, and feel so guilty. Needless to say, I now always open the umbrella up and check for frogs before putting it away. I guess even the tiny skinks could hide in it too - another reason to check.

However, there are other hazards to our wildlife that are not initially obvious, but just as deadly. A couple that are particularly relevant in a rural community such as ours are buckets and hollow steel fence posts. 'Buckets and hollow fence posts?' I hear you say, 'how can they be hazardous to wildlife?' Well, here are a couple of examples:

**Buckets:** A fellow wildlife carer needed some buckets to soak plant cuttings in, so retrieved some white tradesmen's buckets (from previous renovation work) from under their house. They were horrified to find one of them contained the partly dried out skeleton of a blue tongue lizard, which had fallen in and was unable to get out. What a horrible way to die - just the simple act of turning the buckets over and storing them upside down would have saved this poor creature. We ourselves had a similar experience a year or so ago - I found what I first thought was a dead microbat in the lower bucket of a stack of only two, but it turned out it was still alive, although massively dehydrated. Thankfully I had found it in time and was able to rehydrate and eventually

release it.

**Hollow steel fence posts:** Several years ago a young Brushtail Possum that we were 'soft releasing' fell head first into a neighbour's hollow steel gatepost. Fortunately the neighbour heard its distress calls and was able to retrieve possum none the worse for wear - but another lesson learned - put caps on all hollow metal posts. One shudders to think of all the creatures that have died horrible, slow deaths down these posts.



Our wildlife is under great pressure as a result of human activities, many of which are beyond our control. However, with a little thought and effort, as individuals we can make a difference - albeit it a small one.

Remember, a lot of people doing a little bit adds up to a big bit.

**Please note our new telephone number: 1300 094 737.**

After 27 years of operating our own 'rescue telephone line' we have now transferred to the WIRES Inc. dedicated rescue telephone number of 1300 094 737. Should you need advice or help with injured or distressed wildlife, please ring this new number. Your call will be logged and directed to our branch electronically, so that we can respond accordingly. As always, our volunteers will be only too happy to assist.



NSW Wildlife Information,  
Rescue & Education Service Inc.  
**SOUTHERN TABLELANDS  
BRANCH**

## Paws for thought Responsible Pet Ownership

Upper Lachlan Shire Council wishes to remind pet owners of their responsibilities in caring for and owning a companion animal.

Council's General Manager John Bell said Council had recently received an increase in complaints relating to persistent barking dogs and pets escaping from properties.

"As any pet owner will tell you owning a companion animal brings great joy, but it also comes with great responsibility," Mr Bell said.

"Irresponsible pet ownership can have a significant impact on immediate neighbours and the community at large, and in some circumstances can attract hefty penalties."

Being a responsible pet owner includes the following:

- Ensuring your dog or cat is microchipped and registered and your contact details are kept up to date. You can now update your contact details on the new NSW Pet Registry ([www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au](http://www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au)).
- Ensuring that your cat or dog is, at all times, wearing a collar and tag with your contact details on it so you can be contacted quickly if they stray.
- Taking all reasonable precautions to prevent your dog from escaping from the property on which it is being kept. If you fail to comply with this requirement you may be liable for a maximum penalty of \$880 or \$5,500 for a restricted dog, dangerous or menacing dog.
- When away from home, it is important that your dog is controlled by a leash, unless they are in a designated off-leash park, which includes:
  - Willis Reserve, Crookwell
  - Endeavour Park, Gunning (excluding the main oval)
  - Wilton Lane, Gunning

You do not have to keep your cat indoors. However, you are encouraged to keep your cat indoors at night, as there are benefits to the cat, the community and the environment. Council can issue nuisance orders to cat owners in certain circumstances.

Owners can be fined if their dog causes a nuisance by ongoing persistent barking or howling, or by repeatedly escaping the property where it is kept. Dogs often bark out of boredom or frustration when confined or chained up so it is important to ensure your animal is well nourished, occupied and well exercised at all times.

The desexing of cats and dogs is not compulsory in NSW. However, the benefits of desexing include reducing the likelihood that your pet will stray, reduced fighting and aggressive traits and reduced antisocial behaviour such as spraying to mark territory, not to mention lower registration fees.

For more information about responsible pet ownership, please contact Council's Environment and Planning Division on 4830 1000.

Further information is also available on Council's website:

[www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au/environment/animal-control](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au/environment/animal-control) or the Office of Local Government website: [www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/dogs-and-cats/responsible-pet-ownership-program](http://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/dogs-and-cats/responsible-pet-ownership-program).

## Council's new face of the Works and Operations Department

Council has welcomed a new member of the Works and Operations Department.

Susan Ducksbury was recently appointed to the role of Executive Assistant Works and Operations, making her the first point of contact for the public on infrastructure issues such as those related to roads, water and parks and gardens.

Susan joined Council in 2014 as a Customer Service Officer at Council's Taralga Office, mainly involved in Post Office duties. She also worked as Expenditure Officer, processing accounts payable at Council's Gunning Office before commencing in the role of Revenue Officer at Crookwell, which required her to process and pursue rates payments and to respond to queries and complaints.

Prior to joining Council Susan worked as an Assistant Director of various projects and as an Instructional Designer for the Department of Human Services.

Council's General Manager John Bell said Susan brings a high level of professionalism and customer service experience to the role.

"Council is focussed on meeting community expectations by ensuring queries and complaints are dealt with in a timely and professional manner," Mr Bell said.

"On behalf of Council I would like to congratulate Susan on her appointment as Executive Assistant Works and Operations, a role which is pivotal in achieving our customer service objectives," Mr Bell said.

For information about planned works in the Shire or to report an issue please contact Susan on 4830 1053.



Council's new Executive Assistant Works and Operations Susan Ducksbury.

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**Upper Lachlan Shire Council Waste and Recycling Services\***

**WEEKLY GARBAGE COLLECTION**

**TUESDAY - CROOKWELL**

**WEDNESDAY - GUNNING, BREADALBANE, COLLECTOR & DALTON**

**THURSDAY - BINDA, LAGGAN, GRABEN GULLEN, TARALGA & GOLSPIE**

**FORTNIGHTLY RECYCLING COLLECTION**

MAY 2017							JUNE 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	
JULY 2017							AUGUST 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31					1			1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31		



**\*\*PLEASE PLACE BINS AT THE KERB/ROAD SIDE THE NIGHT BEFORE TO ENSURE COLLECTION. ALSO, TO AVOID GETTING YOUR BINS STOLEN, PLEASE RETURN BINS TO YOUR PROPERTY PROMPTLY\*\***

**CROOKWELL**  
**GUNNING, BREADALBANE, COLLECTOR & DALTON**  
**BINDA, LAGGAN, GRABEN GULLEN, TARALGA & GOLSPIE**

For further information about Council's waste and recycling services, as well as tip locations and opening hours, please visit our website: [www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au/engineering/waste-management](http://www.upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au/engineering/waste-management) or contact Council's Operations Department on: 4830 1000.

\*Subject to change

## The Shire welcomes its newest citizens



Pictured left: (L-R) Back row: Joel and Brittany Lisonbee; Centre row: Chole, Ezra and Ada Lisonbee; Front row: Faye and Isla Lisonbee (who were born in Australia). Pictured right: (L-R) Thi Tuyet Hang Truong and Upper Lachlan Shire Council Mayor Brian McCormack OAM. The Upper Lachlan Shire has six new citizens.

American born Joel and Brittany took the Australian Citizenship Pledge at a ceremony held at the Council Chambers Crookwell on 20 April 2017. Their children Chloe, Ada and Ezra will become Australian Citizens by descent. Vietnam born Thi Tuyet Hang Truong, known as Hang, also took the Pledge at a private ceremony held at the Council Chambers Crookwell later that day.

The Lisonbee family moved to Australia in 2010 after Joel took up a role as a climatologist with the Bureau of Meteorology in Darwin. They moved to Collector in June 2016 when Joel received a transfer to Canberra. Mrs Lisonbee said they decided to become Australian citizens after "falling in love" with the country.

Hang moved to Australia in 2012 to be with her husband Warren Munro. Hang, who lives in Crookwell, said she decided to become an Australian citizen because she "wanted to stay here forever".

Upper Lachlan Shire Council Mayor Brian McCormack OAM congratulated the new citizens. "It is wonderful they have become citizens of our great country and that they have chosen to make the Upper Lachlan Shire their home," Cr McCormack said.

### New Mower keeps Breadalbane Hall a cut above



Breadalbane Hall Committee members with their new mower. L-R: Michael de Kleuver, Jenny Bell, George de Kleuver, Angus McLean, Sally McLean, Chris Edwards and Rod Edwards.

Breadalbane Hall Committee recently purchased a skid steer lawn mower and allocated funds for fuel and maintenance thanks to a combined funding boost of \$9,500 from the Australian Government's Volunteer Grants initiative and Gullen Range Wind Farm Community Fund.

The large-sized, durable mower has allowed the Committee to better manage the lawns around the Hall, Fire Shed and St Silas Church grounds at Chisholm Park, Breadalbane by allowing more members to volunteer to assist on the mowing roster. Previously, members had to transport their own mowers to and from the Park.

Upper Lachlan Shire Council Mayor Brian McCormack OAM welcomed the \$5,000 grant under the Australian Government's Volunteer Grants initiative and the \$4,500 in funding from the Gullen Range Wind Farm Community Fund.

"Grants such as these assist groups like the Breadalbane Hall Committee to carry out their important work in the community," Cr McCormack said.

"Breadalbane Hall Chairman Sally McLean undertook the grant application work and has been rewarded with successes with both applications."

## Councillor contact details

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