

Welcome to the March issue of Community Capers, volume 256. Our April issue will be distributed on Thursday, March 26. The deadline for this issue is Tuesday, March 10. News items, events, dates for the calendar etc. are inserted free. Email them to the editor, Brent Barlow at brenbar@winsoft.net.au or phone Brent on 6379 1020. For details and prices on advertising, sponsorship etc., contact Brian Neaves on 6379 4092.

Australia Day Awards

Mid-Western Regional Council's Australia Day Celebrations and Award Ceremony was held at Rylstone Showground this year - a delightful setting under the shady trees which attracted a large crowd from across the region. Rotary were there from 8am serving a free BBQ throughout the morning and Jess Holland provided some great entertainment on stage prior to the official ceremony. Market stalls and kids' entertainment added to a relaxed and enjoyable occasion. MC Brent Barlow welcomed everyone and introduced the official party, Mayor Des Kennedy, Mid-Western Regional Councillors, Andrew Gee MP, Australia Day Ambassador Khushaal Vyas and Ed Windle for Welcome to Country. The Australian flag was raised by Ken Bevitt from Kandos RSL Sub-Branch.



Citizen of the Year, Jan Pirie.

During the morning, five people became Australian Citizens. They are Irene Bendong Giusti, Sanoj Mathew, Zoe Clare Peers, Thananya Roberts and Miriam Adelheid Siebel. They were presented with their Citizenship Medals and gifts by Mayor Des Kennedy and Ambassador Khushaal Vyas. This was followed by an inspiring address by Khushaal - a passionate and active Graduate Lawyer at Baker McKenzie who is a social justice and community advocacy leader. From 2009 at 13 years old, Vyas became the youngest ever member of his local council's Youth Advisory Committee. He has received the NSW Premier's Multicultural Youth Medal, and has been awarded



Australia Day Ambassador Khushaal Vyas with Mayor Des Kennedy and Andrew Gee MP.



Ken Bevitt from Kandos RSL Sub-Branch raising the Australian flag.

through the Asia-Pacific Model United Nations Conference. As a lawyer, Mr Vyas now uses his public speaking experience to MC at various community, cultural and charity events to promote and raise money for worthy causes. Rylstone is a place that he has been keen on visiting for some time.

"To have the opportunity to present as an Australia Day Ambassador in what is such a vibrant and beautiful community is incredibly exciting. I think this year, Australia Day is particularly important. The extent of the bushfires, the lives and homes lost has been nothing short of tragic

and heartbreaking. Australia Day however, gives us a chance to also reflect on what being Australian means in a practical sense, because amongst all the devastation, we have witnessed so many moments that, better than words, show what being Australian really means. Whether it's marvelling at the selflessness of our firefighters or seeing Australians from all walks of life and different faiths band together to support victims."

Khushaal also spoke of his work as co-founder of the regional volunteer program with community centres and schools in the Dubbo-Trangie and Wiradjuri community for disadvantaged indigenous children.

Following Khushaal's address, Australia Day nominees were announced and presented with certificates. Awards in each category along with Wall of Reflections recipients were then presented. They are: Citizen of the Year - Jan Pirie, Young Citizen of the year - Ned Dickson, Community Event of the Year - Rylstone Bull-A-Rama 2018, Glen Johnston Memorial Award, Music and Arts - Scott Etherington, Sports Award - Ben Harris, Volunteer Services Award - Julie Clare Parsons and We Care Community Shop, Wall of Reflections - Amelia (Millie) Helen Morrison, Mary Elizabeth Hooker (Aunt Mary) and Ronald Wellsmore. Congratulations to nominees and award recipients.

Rain at last

General rain finally arrived across much of eastern NSW on the weekend of February 8 and 9 bringing much needed relief to farming districts and in places, putting out fires. It was a mixed bag across the state with severe flooding in coastal areas and hardly anything in some areas in the west. In the Rylstone Kandos area however, the rain was good. Falls averaged around 50mm and even as much as over 100mm in some areas, helping to fill up rain water tanks and farm dams, and greening up paddocks. As in all rain events, it was patchy, but after what seems like years of drought and months of extreme heat and dry windy days, it was a blessing. Hopefully this will now give fire fighters and volunteers a break from their rigorous and unrelenting battle against the most devastating fires you can imagine. To everyone who gave their time to help save properties and lives, including those on the front-line and those who donated to fundraising and helped behind the scenes, a huge thank you on behalf of our community.

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Capers info

Community Capers is published by Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc. (KRR) at PO Box 99, Kandos NSW 2848. Funding has also been provided by the Mid-Western Regional Council and we acknowledge their support. Thank-you also to businesses and individuals across the region who have placed advertising or sponsored pages. Our publication could not continue without your support. Thank you everyone.

Community Capers is a publication where community groups and other organisations can list their meeting times, events, dates and venues. Please send all information to the editor, Brent Barlow, 38 Mudgee Street, Rylstone, NSW 2849, or email him at brenbar@winsoft.net.au or phone him on 6379 1020. If meeting times or dates etc. change, please contact Brent as soon as possible with corrections. Advertising space is limited but we do require advertising support to fund our newsletter. Usually it's on a "first in, best dressed" basis. If you wish to advertise or sponsor a page, please contact Brian Neaves on 6379 4092.

AGM results

Bowdens Silver Rylstone StreetFeast held its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, February 6 at the Rylstone Club. It was a buoyant meeting following a very successful 2019 event. During the meeting Peter Monaghan presented his President's Report and following the Treasurer's Report all positions were declared vacant and elections held for Office Bearers and Management Committee. They are: President – Peter Hatfield, Vice-President – Peter Monaghan, Secretary – Rachel Mann, Treasurer – James Johnson, Committee Members – Roger Heap, Robyn Oakes and Margaret Hart. Carolyn Barlow continues as Public Officer. This year's StreetFeast will be held on Saturday, November 7, with ticket sales going on sale in the first week of June.

School helps community

Kandos Public School extended a warm welcome to students and families as they returned from the holiday break in 2020. To acknowledge the immense stress that the drought and bushfires have caused and the hardship and challenges felt by so many, Kandos Public School in partnership with Food Bank and the Rotary Club of Rylstone Kandos provided a mini grocery pack for every one of their students and families to kick-start 2020. There were over a thousand bottles of water handed out, hundreds of food items and eighty brand new backpacks filled with stationary. Kandos Public School also announced that breakfast will be supplied daily for all students throughout the year to support a healthy, nutritious and happy lifestyle and learning environment. The recent bushfires have seen over 10 million hectares of Australian land burned and over one billion animals lose their lives. To assist with the wildlife response and habitat restoration of the koala, Kandos Public School have adopted a koala named Emerald through the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital. This adoption will assist Emerald and other koalas with treatment, conservation and expansion of habitat. The adoption



will also provide educational material to students to increase awareness of all aspects of the koala.

Issak Monaghan and Hayley Thomas - happy recipients of the free backpacks and grocery packs.

CD sales go to families

Local singer-songwriter Maree Maiden has released her first CD titled Come with Me. Maree is a well-known presenter on Kandos Rylstone Community Radio KRR 98.7 FM and is a member of local band Bushrock. She said the project started off with her just wanting to record some of her original songs so that she had something to leave behind for her kids and grandkids. "However, it grew into something much more. It ended up with two songs written by Terry Yates (another member of Bushrock), and one by Cill Van Der Veldon formally from Portland and now at Swan Bay. I wanted an acoustic laid-back sound so we just had Peter Hay (from Bushrock) and me playing, with Peter's son Tim adding some highlights. This was also a bit of a first project for Tim who recorded and produced the CD from his backyard studio."

Maree has had 200 copies of the CD printed and has decided to donate the proceeds from the sale of the first 100 of them to the Ilford/Running Stream CWA to help fire affected families in the local area. Her CD is available at Cauchi's Mechanical in Kandos, the Kandos Bakery, Retro Records in Rylstone and the White Rose Cafe in Dunedoo.



Maree Maiden with Peter Hay and Terry Yates who both had input into Maree's CD Come with Me.

Meals on Wheels

Rylstone Kandos District Meals on Wheels (RKMOW) supplies frozen meals to anyone who is frail, aged or a younger person with a disability and their Carers. You can contact RKMOW on 6379 1519 or call into the office at HealthOne Ilford Road, Rylstone. Office hours are Monday to Thursday - 9am to 4pm and Friday - 9am to 1pm.

RPS Captains

Rylstone Public School are well and truly into the swing of the new term. For those families who are new to RPS, the P and C are a small but friendly group of parents, staff and friends whose aim is to enhance every child's school experience in positive ways. They meet on the last Monday of each month, and new parents are very welcome. At the end of 2019, School Captains and Prefects were elected. They are: Finn Honeysett and Lily Kane (school captains) and Mitchell Moore and Janine Maw (prefects). Congratulations and best wishes for the coming year. During first term this year, Sports Captains were also elected. For Cudgegong - Chloe Spittles and Brienna Fuller and for Windamere - Tyrone Nepata. Dates to remember for March include the Infants performance for Seniors Week on March 12, and for April - the Easter Hat Parade on April 9 which is the last day of term.



Rylstone Public School Captains for 2020 (centre of photo) Finn Honeysett and Lily Kane, and prefects (on either side) Mitchell Moore and Janine Maw

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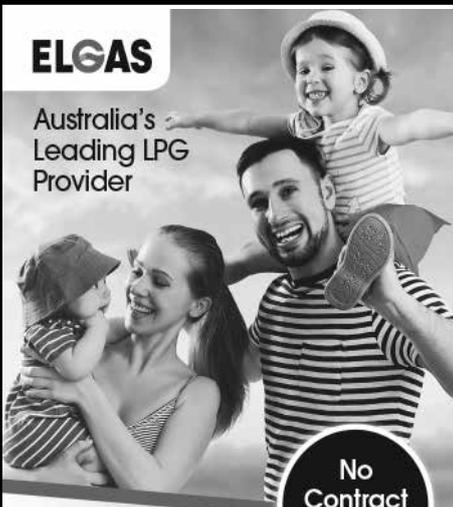
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New Federal Minister

Federal Member for Calare Andrew Gee has been appointed the Minister for Regional Education, Decentralisation, and the Assistant Minister for Trade and Investment. In a recent statement he said he was very excited to be given the opportunity to serve in the ministry.

"I'm a country MP, and all of these portfolio areas have a direct impact on rural and regional Australia. In regional education, I'm passionate about bridging the divide in opportunity between city and county students. Decentralisation is also a core issue for the bush and we need to be continually looking at ways to increase job opportunities in country areas."

Andrew Gee entered Federal Parliament in 2016. Before entering federal politics he served as the State Member for Orange.



Andrew Gee addressing parliament following his appointment to the ministry.

KRR helps during fires

Kandos Rylstone Community Radio, KRR 98.7 FM made a big effort to help during the recent fire emergency. Knowing how important communication is to the community at these times, KRR contacted RFS, MWRC and other agencies to ensure a flow-on of relevant information about local fires, road closures and warnings. KRR also regularly promoted calls for donations of food, drinks and other items to be made into food packs for fire crews and volunteers. Its members also voted unanimously to donate \$300 from KRR's funds to support these food packs. President Brent Barlow thanked members for their commitment to the community and for their foresight in appreciating how important these actions were.

"I'm very proud to be part of an organisation that is so deeply committed to our community. Thank you to our members for their support and a special mention to committee member Ron Spithill who put a lot of time into contacting relevant agencies and coordinating our efforts. A very big thank you as well on behalf of our members to all those in the community who displayed such an incredible community spirit during the fire emergency."

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KHS busy bees

Kandos High School's senior Agriculture students started the year as Apiarists. With the drought causing a pollen shortage, the students fed the bees pollen patties to ensure that breeding continues into the future. In addition, students extracted honey by removing the wax cap from frames, spinning it out and then bottling the honey for sale. How sweet it is.



Eliza Norbat and Molly Best removing the wax cap from the frame so that the honey can be extracted.

Footbridge starts

The construction of an 88m x 2.5m steel pedestrian bridge across the Cudgegong River on the Bylong Valley Way at Rylstone is underway. The bridge is being constructed off-site to allow for minimal disruption to traffic and road movements. It will provide a safe pedestrian/bike path between East and West Rylstone, linking walking tracks to the town centre and creating a safe walking and bike riding path for residents. This project is a part of the \$300 million Stronger Country Communities Fund that is employing local tradies and supporting local suppliers.

Member for Bathurst Paul Toole inspecting the site of the footbridge with MWRC General Manager Brad Cam and Cr Peter Shelley.



Thanks for the sign

A local resident is currently giving the 'thumbs up' to Mid-Western Regional Council for installing a new sign on the northern side of the Rylstone Bridge over the Cudgegong River. The resident had written a letter to the editor a year ago concerning this marvellous homage to our four legged equine friend, which says: "HORSES HAVE RIGHT OF WAY ON BRIDGE". The correspondent wrote: "That sign has been there for at least a couple of decades. And I reckon it has become a powerful cultural icon that depicts Rylstone as a civilised, friendly community – one that takes no notice of the road rage fad. In view that in the near future a pedestrian bridge will be built, I believe the best thing would be to have the sign restored and installed again where it has been for such a long time."

Council has responded by recently installing a brand new sign which is an exact replica of the old faded one. Thank you Council.



A plea to keep our unique sign has paid off with Council rising to the challenge and installing a brand new one.

Street machine success

The Rylstone Kandos Street Machine Club held a successful Street Machine and Hot Rod Show during the Australia Day Weekend. With over 200 entrants across all the events and a good crowd of spectators, the show turned out to be one of their best. Congratulations to the club for an event that brings lots of visitors to the district and gives the local economy a real boost with people buying fuel, food, drinks and booking accommodation. Next year's show is the club's 21st and they are planning a big event to celebrate.



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Calendar of Events - March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 One Life Family Church services, 10am every 1 st , 3 rd and 5 th Sunday at the corner of Noyes and Dunn Streets, Kandos.	2 Pilates classes, 6pm Mondays at St James Hall Rylstone.	3 Rylstone Rural Fire Brigade meets 1st Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm - training nights on 3 rd Tuesdays.	4 R/K VRA Rescue Squad meeting at 7pm. *RKB&T meeting at 6pm.	5 Scrabble on 1 st , 3 rd and 5 th Thursday of month, 10am at Rylstone Club..	6 Rylstone CWA meets at 10am. *Cudgong Valley History Group, 11am to 3pm at Henbury Sport & Rec.	7 The Kandos Museum is open Wednesdays to Sundays, 10am to 4pm
8 The Cottage Museum, Rylstone is open every Sunday from 10am to 3pm.	9 Scouts and Cubs meet at 4.30pm on Mondays at Kandos Scout Hall	10 Rotary meets every Tuesday at the Rylstone Club, 6.30 for 7pm.	11 The Craft Group meets at 10am each Wed. at the VRA shed, Rylstone. *Kandos RSL Sub Branch meeting.	12 Kandos CPSA meets 2pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Kandos RSC Club.. *Seniors Lunch at Ryl.	13 Ryl. Hosp. Aux. Meetings 2 nd Friday of each month at 10am.	14 Rylstone Markets
15 3 rd Sunday of the month Community Markets at the Globe Hotel.	16 Yoga with Jodi, 6pm Mondays, \$12pp at Stone Strength Gym.	17 Walking group every Tuesday at 8.30am.	18 Pop in Playgroup 10am to 12noon every Wednesday.	19 Walking group every Thursday at 8.30am.	20 Seniors Lunch at Kandos	21 Kandos Markets
22 Uniting Church holds services at Rylstone at 9.30am every Sunday.	23	24 Twin Town Players meet at 6pm on 4 th Tues. of each month at VRA Shed.	25 KRR Radio meet 5.30pm on last Wed. of month at 50 Angus Ave. Kandos. * Kandos CWA, 5pm on last Wed. of each month.	26 Ryl. CPSA meet at 11am at the Globe Hotel on the 4 th Thursday of each month.	27 Storytime for kids, 10am to 11am Fridays at Kandos Library	28 KR Singers, 2.30pm to 4.30pm Saturdays at One Life Church Kandos.
29 Rylstone-Kandos Street Machine Club meeting at 2pm on last Sunday of each month.	30 Dance to be fit, 5.45pm every Tuesday at St James Hall Rylstone.	31	Venturers meet at 5pm Wednesdays at the Kandos Scout Hall.	Ladies Tennis, 9am Thurs. at Henbury Sport & Rec. Club.	Join the Ukulele Group, 4.15pm for a 4.30pm start on Fridays at the Kandos CWA Rooms.	KRR Broadcasting on 98.7FM

April 4...Kandos Bush Dance, April 25...ANZAC Day services, May 3...Mudgee Classic cycling event, September 26...Flavours of Mudgee.



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Cycling Classic for region

Cycling enthusiasts will get a chance to participate or view the newest event on Australia's cycling calendar when, for the first time, Mudgee will host the Mudgee Classic on Sunday, May 3. Delivered by Bicycling Australia, it will cater for all levels of cycling. Course maps and GPX files are now available to view online at www.mudgeeclassic.com.au/the-course. Registrations are likely to sell out soon and you can secure your spot now by registering at www.mudgeeclassic.com.au.

Excursion to Dabee

The Rylstone and District Historical Society is having an excursion to 'Dabee' on Saturday, March 28 and all interested people are welcome to join them. They are hoping hope to discover "Dabee Village" which is somewhere there, and after a picnic lunch to visit The Washery at Dabee farm. Everyone will meet at The Bridge View Inn, Rylstone at 10am and go from there. If you would like to come, please phone Shirley Tunnicliff on 6379 1121 by March 14.

Kandos Bush Dance

Enjoy a night of great food, dancing and friendship at the Kandos Bush Dance on Saturday, April 4. Start with a pre-dinner drink before devouring a great spit roast dinner complete with a medley of roast vegetables and salads prepared by a leading chef. Be entertained with fantastic music by Swamp Dawkins and his band as well as a traditional supper of tea/coffee and delicious cakes, biscuits and baked goods. Doors open at 6.30pm and music and bar kicks off at 7pm. Tickets are \$50 and they're available at kandosmuseum.org.au or at the museum. Numbers are strictly limited so be sure to book early to not miss out.

Seniors Week

The seniors' lunch, entertainment and presentation of Rylstone Senior Citizen of the Year will be held at the Rylstone Club on Thursday, March 12 from 11am to 2pm. Cost is \$15pp, phone Carol Hayward on 6379 1096. The lunch and presentation of Kandos Senior Citizen of the Year will be held at the Kandos Returned Services Community Club on Friday, March 20 from 11am to 2pm. Cost is \$15, contact Delma Smith or the

Rylstone Markets

The next Rylstone Markets are on Saturday, March 14 in the grounds of the Memorial Hall in Louee Street from 9am until 1pm. Come along and browse the extensive range of quality products the region has to offer. We are looking for more stallholders so if you would like to join their great little group, call their secretary Bev on 0410 577 667 or their president Diana on 0428 663 161. You can also email at them at rylstonemarkets@gmail.com.

Kandos Community Markets

The Kandos Community Markets are on Saturday, March 21 in the grounds of St Laurence Church, Kandos from 9am to 1pm. Come along for some great bargains and interesting gifts, enjoy a cuppa and have a bite to eat. There'll be all the usual interesting stalls. For stall bookings, phone Pauline on 6379 4533 or Rose on 6379 4179.

Third Sunday Markets

The Rylstone Sunday Morning Community Markets are held every third Sunday of each month in the grounds of the Globe Hotel from 9am to 1pm. It's a community based event and organisers welcome stall holders. If you'd like to be a stall holder, contact Philip on 6379 1048 or email info@theglobehotel.com.au for information and to reserve your spot.