



# Rylstone-Kandos district newsletter

## Community Capers

April issue, 2026  
Volume 323

Welcome to the April issue of Community Capers, volume 323. Our May issue will be distributed on April 30. The deadline for this issue is Friday, April 20. News items, events, dates for the calendar etc. are inserted free. Email them to the editor, Brent Barlow at [brenbar@winsoft.net.au](mailto:brenbar@winsoft.net.au) or phone Brent on 0427 791 020. For details and prices on advertising, sponsorship etc., contact Brian Neaves on 0402 976 925.

Kandos Rylstone Community Radio \* KRR 98.7 FM \* Live Streaming at [krfrm.org.au](http://krfrm.org.au)  
View current and past copies of Community Capers in colour on KRR's Website

### Show's success

Attendances and gate takings were up for this year's Rylstone Kandos Show, making it a very satisfying event for show society members and volunteers who put plenty of hard work into getting it ready during the preceding weeks. A number of factors contributed to the big turnout including a non-clash with the football match in Mudgee, free admission for school students, and the Group 12 Finals that brought students and their families to the show from across the region.

As always, the pavilion was a popular venue with lots to see and admire. A few highlights include the wool section where Jamie Croake took out the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Merino Fleece of Show, while Bowdens Ag was awarded the Walter Harding Tray for Most Successful Exhibitor in Wool. Handiwork was an impressive exhibit this year with Janet de Rooy presented with the Gwen Ward Cup for Most Successful Exhibitor in Handiwork. There was also a showcase of the work of Val Desch who, although not exhibiting any longer, had entered her beautiful work of crochet, tapestry, bobbin lace and other handicrafts for over 50 years winning, amongst other prizes, the Gwen Ward Memorial Cup an estimated 20 times. In Garden Produce, R E Slatinsek was awarded the M I MacTaggart Memorial Award for Most Successful Exhibitor Garden Produce and Stephen Anderson took out the C J Saville Memorial Cup, Ribbon and Prize for a local exhibitor gaining the most points for exhibits in the hall. School student Edward Harding received the Max Goddard Memorial Award for Woodwork and Metalwork and Clare Chadwick was the Most Successful Overall in Cake Decorating. In the junior section, Holly Café was the Champion Junior and Most Successful in Cake Decorating and Jocelyn Café was awarded the Peter and Vinny

Hall Youth Achievement Award. This is the first time this award has been presented and turned out to be a very poignant award as Peter passed away just a week or so after the show following a long illness. In opening the show, local member Paul Toole MP praised the committee for their great work in presenting such a fabulous show. Show Society Ben Suttor also thanked his committee and the sponsors for their support.

"Without this support we couldn't put our show together. I want to thank all of our volunteers, Mid-Western Regional Council for doing such a great job on the grounds and last but not least everyone who came along to the show to help make it such a memorable event.



George Reid fine-tuning an old donkey engine at the popular display put on by the Cudjergong Valley Antique Machinery Club.

This year's Champion Scarecrow, dressed up and ready for sport, was created by Alice Croake

Kandos High School student Edward Harding with a swag of ribbons including the Max Goddard Memorial Award for Woodwork and Metalwork.



The live reptile display was another popular venue at the show. When asked if black snakes eat brown snakes, the reply was, "Yes that's true, black snakes do eat brown snakes, but then again, brown snakes also eat black snakes."

## Pest Alert

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### Bucking Bulls

Bull riding elite arrives in Rylstone when the Fernside Pastoral Company hosts the Australian National Finals on Saturday, April 11. The event is replacing the usual Bull A Rama for this year and enthusiasts are absolutely thrilled by the opportunity to see some of the best bull riding action available in the Bucking Bulls Australia National Finals. This Bucking Bulls event will draw big crowds of locals and visitors from across Australia to enjoy some of the best bull riding ever seen at Rylstone Showground. It will be the 'best of the best' with the top 15 bulls in every category competing and the top 15 bull riders in Australia challenging each other for some big prize money.

## 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 groups and other organisations are welcome to 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](mailto:brenbar@winsoft.net.au) or phone on 6379 1020 - mobile 0427 791 020. For advertising or sponsorship, please contact Brian Neaves on 0402 976 925.

## Plaque unveiled

Members of the Rylstone and District Historical Society along with family and friends of Peter Monaghan (deceased) attended a special unveiling of a plaque dedicated to his memory in the grounds of the Society's Bridge View Inn on February 21. Peter was a past President, Treasurer and Member of RDHS and the plaque recognised his deep commitment to local heritage and the Historical Society from 2003 to 2023, along with his tireless work on the Bridge View Inn Precinct. In addressing the gathering, Virginia Hollister said that Rylstone and District Historical Society is proud to place this plaque on a building that

Peter initiated. "He recognised the need for the Cottage Museum to have a toilet close at hand for visitors and volunteers, and added to its value by creating an attached storage room. Peter was always recognising needs, and doing his best to enhance and conserve our buildings. His hand, and his improvements, touched almost every bit of the Bridge View Inn, Colonial Kitchen, Cottage Museum, and this building." The plaque is erected on a building that was finally completed in his absence. It was unveiled by Peter's two daughters Nicole and Jodie.



Peter's wife Judy and his family, proud to witness the unveiling.



Peter Monaghan's daughters Jodie and Nicole unveiling the plaque in their father's honour.

## Students judge well

It was a massive day at the Rylstone Kandos Show for Kandos High School students who did extremely well at the Group 12 Junior Judging Finals when 32 school students from across NSW competed to qualify for the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Judging took place in Beef Cattle, Merino Sheep, Meat Sheep, Merino Fleece, Fruit and Vegetables, Grains and Poultry, all requiring a huge level of skill, knowledge and confidence. Results are as follows:

Merino Sheep Judging: Sienna Duffield - 1st - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Merino Fleece Junior Judging: Millie Dixon - 1st - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Jocelyn Cafe - 2nd - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Sienna Duffield - 3rd, Meat Sheep Junior Judging: Bronte Macpherson - 2nd - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Grain Junior Judging: Patrick Lus - 1st - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Poultry Junior Judging: Jocelyn Cafe - 1st - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Millie Brow - 2nd, Sienna Duffield - 3rd, Beef Cattle Junior Judging: Patrick Lus - 1st - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Hewen Moore - 2nd - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show, Fruit and Vegetable Judging: Teagan Godwin - 1st - Qualified for the Royal Easter Show.

The depth of agricultural knowledge across so many categories shows just how strong KHS's program is. Congratulations to all of the students along with Deb Johnston, Mick Vaughan and everyone who supports, mentors and guides these young agricultural leaders.



Students line up for another category in the Group 12 Junior Judging Finals.

## Care and Transport

Rylstone District Care and Transport is funded for Meals on Wheels, Transport and Social Support. For further information on any of the above services please contact their office on 6379 1519 or call into the office at 58 Mudgee St, Rylstone.

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## Sofala Show – a fun day

This year's Sofala Show on February 22 was a fun and friendly show featuring a Championship Dog Show, agricultural/horticultural exhibits, and various community events. As usual there were plenty of children's activities. Gold panning and platypus races were very popular and a great opportunity for the kids to be near water on a rather warm day. All up, it was described as a well-run and friendly day, with praise for the volunteers and the quality of the scones.



Sofala Show President David Murray and his wife Barbara enjoying this year's show. Dave thanked the committee, volunteers and sponsors for a great effort.



An opportunity for kids to strike it rich at the Sofala Show panning for gold.

## Cementa 2026

Cementa's 2026 festival will kick off on Thursday, September 17 and run through to Sunday, September 20 – four days of art, culture, fun and surprises. The last festival welcomed around 2000 visitors, with 44 events and performances, 59 artists and 31 residencies. The recently released 2024 Impact Report details that the festival and building renovations will have injected over \$1 million into the local economy, made up of \$550,000 in festival funding and \$500,000 in renovations. Artists and art lovers are looking forward to another great event this year with plenty of interesting art and a few surprises waiting to be discovered.

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## ADA at the show

ADA Cottage went to the Rylstone Kandos Show and had a great time (and won a few ribbons too.) Recreation and Engagement Coordinator Kirsty Nassis said that the excitement is still very much alive amongst residents.

"It was one of those wonderful community days that lifts everyone's spirits and reminds us how special it is to be part of a lively country town."

Residents spent the morning watching the wood-chopping, the dog show and the working dogs which were a particular favourite, astonishing them with their intelligence, obedience and sheer skill. ADA were also delighted to take part in several pavilion competitions. Valerie Mulholland achieved outstanding success winning two first prizes and a second for her floral arranging entries. ADA Cottage also earned a second prize for their group floral arrangement which brought huge smiles to everyone involved. Kirsty said the kindness shown to them throughout the day made the experience even more memorable.

"We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the Rotary Club of Rylstone/Kandos for generously providing us with a complimentary lunch, which was greatly appreciated by all. We are also extremely grateful



to the Rylstone Show Committee for granting our group free entry to the show. Their generosity and warm hospitality made our day truly special.

Valerie Mulholland with Kirsty Nassis, and a prize ribbon too

## Hockney exhibition

Mudgee Arts Precinct presents Temporary Spaces by renowned artist, David Hockney showing until September 20. Associated with the Pop Art movement in the 1960s, he is best known for his vibrant depictions of California life. Australian audiences will recognise Hockney's work through 'A Bigger Grand Canyon', a series of 60 canvases that combined to produce one enormous work, which was purchased by the National Gallery of Australia in 1999.

## Andrew GEE MP

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Authorised by Andrew Gee MP, Suite: 1/179A Anson Street Orange NSW 2800

## Senior Citizens

Rylstone and Kandos held lunches celebrating Seniors Festival and Senior Citizen of the Year Awards during March. The Rylstone lunch and awards presentation was held at the Rylstone Club on Tuesday, March 3 with a great turnout of around 75 people. This year there were two nominees, Bev Hobbs and David and Amanda Roach. Bev received a Nomination Certificate for her caring assistance to others. She has been a member of the Rylstone Hospital Auxiliary for over 18 years and is active in the Anglican Church where she is a lay minister. She also managed the Anglicare Op-Shop for many years.

This year's winner of the Mid-Western Senior Citizen of the Year for Rylstone are David and Amanda Roach. They have been members of the local Rotary Club for over 21 years and have provided leadership, stability and vision. Together they have supported many local initiatives that promote health, well-being and active life including supporting residents at RSL Life Care and Rylstone Aged Care Unit.

The Kandos lunch and award presentation was held at the Kandos Returned Services Community Club on Friday, March 13 with a good turnout of people and live musical entertainment by members of Bushrock. This year's Senior Citizen of the Year for Kandos is Joan Schultz. Joan supported the local community for many years as a paediatric nurse at Rylstone Hospital, and following retirement has created many opportunities for the community to meet and exercise. This includes Aquafit at the Kandos pool and Tai Chi Classes. She has been instrumental in obtaining funding from NSW Health to purchase equipment, train facilitators and get facilities in the Kandos Pool to help the less mobile get into the water to reap the benefits. She is also a great cook, sewer and painter.



Senior Citizens of the Year for Rylstone, David and Amanda Roach. Their award will be presented to them at a Rotary Club meeting as they were away for an important appointment at the time of the awards.



Senior Citizen of the Year for Kandos, Joan Schultz with President of the Kandos Pensioners and Superannuates Association Del Smith and Councillor Katie Dicker.

## KRR's live broadcast

Kandos Rylstone Community Radio (KRR 98.7 FM) broadcast live from the Rylstone Kandos Show again this year. It was a fun day for members who enjoyed the excitement of showday while presenting their programs. They were able to hand out KRR bumper stickers and fridge magnets as well as having a chat to a few passers-by. New members are always welcome. If you're interested in becoming a presenter and doing an on air show, it's easier than you think. Training is available and it won't take you long to learn how to use the panel and other equipment. If you have a particular type of music you'd like to play on-air or ideas for a show, get in touch with any member or committee member, or call into the station and pick up a membership form. Call the station on 6379 4360 for more information or check out the website at krfrm.org.au.

Trevor Hopkins presenting a program at the show and Brian Neaves on hand to help sort out the equipment.



## Bird Girl

Jessica Ann Leffley's ornithological observations attracted a crowd to her exhibition opening on Saturday, February 28 at Gallery 47 Rylstone. Jessica is a Lithgow based Wiradjuri woman, both an artist and primary school teacher, who expresses her imaginations and interactions of Australian native birds through drawing and painting. Her birds have been exhibited at various galleries and have found homes throughout Australia. She sees her birds as her friends and talks to them as she peers outside her studio window. She says her birds bring her comfort and joy.



A happy moment for Jessica, surrounded by her bird creations

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
The Cottage Museum, Rylstone is open every Sunday from 10am to 3pm.	Iford-Running Stream CWA meets 10am, 1st Monday of each month at the Iford Hall.I.	Rylstone Rural Fire Brigade meets 1st Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm - training on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays	<b>1</b> R/K VRA Rescue Squad meeting 7pm.	<b>2</b> Scrabble on 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Thurs. 10am at Rylstone Club. *RRCA Comm. Open Space 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs. Cox Creek Rd.	<b>3</b> <b>Good Friday</b>	<b>4</b> The Kandos Museum is open Wednesdays to Sundays, 10am to 4pm.
<b>5</b> Uniting Church services at Rylstone 9.30am every Sunday. *Running Stream Christian F/ship 10.30am at old Schoolhouse Sundays	<b>6</b> <b>Easter Monday</b>	<b>7</b> Clandulla RFS 7.30 pm 1 <sup>st</sup> Tues. of the month at Clan. Fire Shed. Training on the following Sunday at 9am.	<b>8</b> Kandos RSL Sub Branch meeting.	<b>9</b> Kandos CP&SA, 2pm on the 2nd Thurs of each month at the Kandos RSC Club.	<b>10</b> Ryl. Hosp. Aux. Meetings 2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 10am. *Youth Alive St James Ryl. 6.30pm Fridays during school term.	<b>11</b> <b>Rylstone Markets</b>  Bull A Rama Movie Night
<b>12</b> Anglican Church services at St Laurence, Kandos, 10am on 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4th Sun. and St James Ryl, 10am on the 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3rd and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sun. *Make and Mend 2pm at Kandos CWA Rooms.	<b>13</b> Scouts and Cubs meet at 4.30pm on Mondays at Kandos Scout Hall.	<b>14</b> Rotary meets Tues at the Rescue Squad Shed, Ryl. 6.30 for 7pm.	<b>15</b> The Craft Group, 10am each Wed. at the Rescue Squad shed, Rylstone.	<b>16</b> Walking group Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8am in summer, 8.30 spring and autumn and 9am in winter.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Kandos Community Markets</b>
<b>19</b> One Life Family Church services, 10am 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sundays at the cnr. of Noyes and Dunn St, Kandos. *3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday Markets at the Globe 10am. *Alive@5 at St James Ryl 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun. *Boot Sale Mudgee Railway Station 8am.	<b>20</b> Aqua Fit is Back. Tuesdays and Fridays 10am to 11am Wednesdays 4pm to 5pm.	<b>21</b> The Wollemi Singers, 6pm Tuesdays during school term at St Dominic's Hall Kandos. *Walking group	<b>22</b> Writing Group 10.30am Wednesdays at Kandos Library.	<b>23</b> Ladies Tennis, 9am Thursdays at Henbury Sport & Rec. Club Kandos.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>ANZAC Day</b>
<b>26</b> Rylstone-Kandos Street Machine Club meeting on last Sunday of month at 11am. *Glen Alice Church Service at 9.30am	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Dance to be fit, 4.45pm Tues. at St James Hall. Rylstone.	<b>29</b> Kandos CWA meeting, 6pm on last Wed. of month.	<b>30</b>	Storytime for kids, 10am to 11am Fridays at Kandos Library.	<b>KRR Broadcasting on 98.7FM</b>

**May 2 & 3...Mudgee Classic Bike Ride, May 3...Ferntree Gully Bush Croquet, May 17...Rylstone Swap Meet, August 1...NRL Penrith Panthers Vs Canberra Raiders, Glen Willow - Mudgee, August 29-30 Rylstone Classic Mini's, September 17 - 20... Cementa Festival, November 7...Rylstone StreetFeast.**

**Kandos Community Markets**

The next Kandos Community Markets are on Saturday, April 18 in the grounds of St Laurence Church, Kandos from 9am to 1pm. For stall bookings, phone Pauline on 6379 4533 or Rose on 6379 4179.

**Ferntree Gully Croquet**

Gully Bush Croquet Tournament Annual Fundraiser is on Sunday, May 3. Save the date, it'll be a great day. Play for a great prize too. The winner will have their name engraved onto the Ted Daniels Perpetual trophy and will also receive a Men's Shed croquet ball and gift hamper. It starts at 10am just this side of Growee Gulph Bylong Valley Way (not Ferntree Gully's main entrance) and will be well sign posted. Cost is \$12 donation to play, kids under 15 years free. It's a fun all-ages activity. Bring a picnic lunch (BBQ plate available), drinks, hat, chair and a sense of fun. Mallets/balls supplied or bring your own. Cash only please.

**Rylstone Swap Meet**

The Annual Rylstone Swap Meet is on Sunday, May 17 at the Rylstone Showground. Run by the Cudgegong Valley Pioneer Vehicle Club, the event always attracts plenty of sellers and buyers from across the region. Set up day is Saturday 16th with gates open at 10am for setting up and camping for sellers. Cost of entry for sellers is \$20 per site with free camping for the driver and an additional \$5 per adult after that. Cost for lookers on Sunday is \$5 per person, children under 16 are free. There is plenty of parking in the grounds around the oval. Gates open for sellers and lookers at 6am Sunday. For more information or enquiries, phone Alan Jackson on 0427 794 488. All welcome to sell or browse.

**Third Sunday Markets**

The Sunday Morning Community Markets are held every third Sunday of each month from 9am to 1pm in the grounds of the Globe Hotel, Rylstone. It's a community based event and stall holders are welcome.

**Rylstone Markets**

The next Rylstone Markets are on Saturday, April 11 at the Memorial Hall in Louee Street from 9am until 2pm. If you'd like to join the association, phone Julie on 0458 129 704 or email julzhorn2@gmail.com.

**Mural Art Workshop**

Join in for Youth Week celebrations and revitalise the Kandos Skate Park on Friday, April 17. This Mural Art Workshop is free for ages 12 to 24 and participants will be guided by the creative hands of Jessica Leffley of Bird Girl Creations. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/kandos-skatepark-mural-art-workshop-youth-week-tickets-1982403755999?aff=ebsdoporgprofil>

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**Open Mic**

Come along to Open Mic at the Kandos Community Club on Saturday, April 18 from 5pm. Bring your voice and a musical instrument or just enjoy the entertainment.