



# Rylstone-Kandos district newsletter

## Community Capers

July issue, 2026  
Volume 326

Welcome to the July issue of Community Capers, volume 326. Our August issue will be distributed on July 30. The deadline for this issue is Friday, July 17. 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.

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### Swap Meet success

The showground was packed again for the annual Rylstone Swap Meet on Sunday May 17. It's a big event for the district with huge numbers of visitors joining with locals for a day of selling or browsing. Vehicles packed the showground area and also lined the main street of Rylstone. The town was really jumping with the Swap Meet and the Farmers Market at the Globe Hotel occurring on the same day. The items up for sale at the showground were mind boggling. From car parts to pushbikes, fishing lures to books and magazines, you name it and it was there. A seller from Newcastle said he and his wife camped at the showground on Saturday night and walked up to the hotel for a meal. "We come every year. We love this area and always look forward to coming back. We catch up with people we've met here



The Rylstone Showground. Packed for this year's Swap Meet.

before. It's a great weekend for us." As well as being great for local businesses it's also a good fundraiser for groups such as the scouts and Rescue Squad.



Ready for an overhaul. This 1980's BMW motorbike caught the eye of passers-by during a walk around the ground.

### Students learn radio

Kandos High School students have hit the airwaves. Each Wednesday from 12pm to 1pm, teacher Leanne Besant, herself a presenter on community radio, accompanies a group of students to the studios of KRR 98.7 FM for an hour of live broadcasting. They are developing radio and media skills including broadcasting, interviewing, public speaking, audio production and other communications skills. Kandos High School said it was a great opportunity for the students. "A big thank you to KRR FM and their dedicated community volunteers who keep our local radio station running. Community organisations like KRR FM play an important role in bringing people together and creating opportunities for young people to learn and grow."



Students developing radio and communications skills at community radio KRR 98.7 FM.

### Celebrating a milestone

A big crowd joined Community Charity Shop volunteers on Sunday, May 31 to celebrate the recent final payment of their loan and the ownership of their building in Angus Avenue, Kandos. It was also their 13th birthday. The shop put on a terrific day of feasting, with a BBQ, drinks and a wonderful selection of cakes and slices. Live music also featured a variety of performers. Winner of the 'guess how many jelly beans' was Pam Bellhouse with 1206. Winners of the school students' drawing and writing competition were 1st - Nyah Watmuff, 2nd - Kaspar Sanders and 3rd - Olivia Ashford. Since the shop started in 2013 they have donated over one million dollars to the community.



A big crowd gathered at the Charity Shop for the well-deserved celebrations.

## 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.

## Sunset on the Rocks

The music event 'Sunset on the Rocks' held at the Rylstone Region Community Association's Community Centre on Coxs Creek Road on May 23 was a fabulous night of music, fun and feasting featuring local musicians supporting the main act of Owen Campbell and his three piece band. It was Meg Benson's first foray into organising a live event on this scale locally. Meg, a former Blue Mountains music festival and event producer, who now lives in Kandos, is a presenter on KRR. She said she owes a big thank you to the RRCA for their support. "As well as helping to set up the venue, they provided catering and great hospitality. Thank you RRCA members and all the volunteers. Thank you to the Community Charity Shop for being a supporter of this costly event and thank you to our local community radio station KRR FM for supporting this family friendly community event." The next 'Sunset on the Rocks' event will feature Hat Fitz and Cara, a blues, roots and folk duo, on Saturday, September 5. They'll be supported by local musicians.



Owen Campbell's trio was a hit. They got everyone up and dancing and received plenty of applause throughout the night.



Brian Free from Portland and John Cauchi from Kandos kicked off a great local musician's session in the afternoon.



Blue Limestone from Kandos.

Right — Mudgee band Sugarfoot.

## Precinct's exhibitions

Mudgee Arts Precinct is currently hosting two significant exhibitions bringing together the work of one of Australia's most important early modern painters and one of its most recognisable contemporary artists. The exhibitions by Clarice Beckett: Paintings from the National Collection and Up the Golden Highway by Chris O'Doherty (Reg Mombassa) offer visitors a unique opportunity to experience two distinct perspectives on the Australian landscape. Both exhibitions are on display at Mudgee Arts Precinct until July 19. The Precinct is open seven days a week from 9am to 5pm. Entry is free.



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## Kelly's last stand

Andrew Robards' exhibition 'I Am Ned Kelly' at the WAYOUT Art Space in Kandos asks the question "Who or what is Kelly here?" It includes some amazing footage of Australia's (and the world's) earliest feature film – 'The story of the Kelly Gang (1906) directed by Charles Tait. Despite the film's early success, by the mid-1940s it was thought to be lost to time. What survives was later pieced together from private collections, rubbish tips and film archives. Throughout the gallery, the painted and drawn panels capture the final moments in Kelly's last stand. It's an interesting exhibition that evokes many different thoughts and feelings about this Australian icon. It will remain open until July 12 and along with the Cementa Café is open Thursdays to Sundays from 10am to 2pm.



Andrew Robards' laser cut acrylic figure is an interesting piece. It operates as both a stencil and an object. Viewed from different angles it creates a moving shadow on the gallery wall

## 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.

## Top Town

The town of Gulgong has been named the 2026 NSW Small Tourism Town. It was announced at the Local Government NSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference in Maitland, which celebrates towns that deliver on outstanding visitor experiences, cultural vitality and contribution to the visitor economy. Gulgong secured the win in the 1500 - 5000 population category against Oberon, Gloucester, Shoal Bay and Thirlmere. Gulgong will now represent NSW at the Australian Top Tourism Town Awards, to be held in Canberra on 15 September.

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## Scapes at the gallery

The exhibition 'Scapes' opened on May 16 at Gallery 47 Rylstone and featured the work of two artists, Ratul Alam and Nicolas Bouf. Nicolas exhibited at the gallery last year but this was a first visit to Rylstone by Ratul. Nicolas is a French artist who has been living and working in Sydney since 1998. He has exhibited in France, Taiwan and the United States as well as Australia. Last year's exhibition featured yellows, reds and oranges, but this year's body of work was called Bleu/Blue and accordingly was a homage to blue. He works from his studio in The Nest, an artist's collective in Alexandria, where he met fellow artist Ratul. "I immediately liked Ratul's work and invited him to do this joint exhibition with me."

Ratul is an Australian Bangladeshi artist and curator. He has exhibited across Sydney with works held in private collections in Australia, Bangladesh, Germany and the United States. He was a finalist in the City of Sydney Visual Identity for Refugee Week. His body of work for this exhibition was called Kit Kit after a childhood game played in the streets of Bangladesh. Ratul said it was a wonderful experience coming to Rylstone for the first time.



Ratul Alam's abstract paintings drew the observer in. One couldn't help glancing at them from a distance and then wanting to take a closer look.



Nicolas Bouf's striking series of works 'homage to blue' had an immediate effect on observers. It was an eye catching display of the cooler shades of the spectrum.

## Andrew GEE MP

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## Carwell excursion

Members of Rylstone District Historical Society took advantage of a wonderful opportunity to visit the historic Carwell Cemeteries on Saturday, May 16. Visitors were welcomed by hosts Peter and Mandy Coggins and Rob Coggins who accompanied them to the original Carwell Cemetery. This was about an acre set aside on river flats on either side of Carwell Creek about one kilometre from the Carwell homestead. It was interesting to see the remaining headstones, some lying flat on the ground but others still standing with legible wording. The Dead Book, kept by Elizabeth Nevell nee Vincent gives a fascinating insight into the early families and individuals of the district, many who were buried here. This area however was subject to flooding that caused some graves to be disturbed or washed away. In 1870 the Nevell family and relatives graves were re-sited to a small fenced area on a hill, about half a kilometre southwest of the original cemetery, next to the Cudgegong Road. This was the area the group drove to next. Here after examining the graves, they enjoyed a very interesting talk by Virginia Hollister whose research threw a lot of light on the family and their pioneering days. Peter Coggins also spoke about his family's connection to the property, rounding off a very interesting morning's excursion.



The visit to the original cemetery was a step back in time. This headstone is to the memory of Alexena Panton Dowd who died in 1868



The family cemetery contains the graves of James Vincent who died in 1848 aged 77 years and John Nevell who died in 1854 aged 73 years.



Virginia Hollister's talk on the early history of the Vincent-Nevell family was much appreciated by all those interested in history.

## Sky visions

The Southern Sky Astrophotography Exhibition at the Kandos Museum attracted plenty of visitors. It featured the 2024 winning photographs from the annual photography competition named after the world-renowned astrophotography specialist David Malin. Organised by the Powerhouse, Sydney in association with the Central West Astronomical Society, it provided some truly breath-taking images and plenty of inspiration for all budding photographers. The competition is open to Australian astronomers and photographers and aims to encourage them to produce inspiring images of the sky. It certainly achieves that.



Andy Casely received an Honourable Mention for his shot of Saturn called 'Tethys Disappearing' which shows the incomparable planet with its fifth largest moon Tethys about to disappear. He was the winner of the Solar System category with a photo called 'Detachment' which captures an eruption from the sun's surface.

## 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. Guest curator Sebastian Henry-Jones has assembled an amazing line-up of artists for another round of unique weirdness, creativity and conversation with the place, community and the town that hosts this distinctive event. Local artists are advised that your work for the Salon needs to be dropped off to the WAYOUT Artspace on Saturday and Sunday July 11 and 12 from 12pm to 3pm. The opening is on Saturday, July 18 at 6pm. Entry forms are available now from the Cementa Café / WAYOUT Artspace open Thursdays to Sundays from 10am to 2pm. You can also fill one out when you drop off your work.

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**For further details**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>The Cottage Museum, Rylstone is open every Sunday from 10am to 3pm.</b>	Ilford-Running Stream CWA meets 10am, 1st Monday of each month at the Ilford Hall.I.	Rylstone Rural Fire Brigade meets 1st Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm - training on 3rd 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> Rylstone CWA meets at 10am 1 <sup>st</sup> Friday. *Cudgegong Valley History Group, 11am to 3pm at Henbury Sport & Rec. Club 1 <sup>st</sup> Fri.	<b>4</b> <b>The Kandos Museum is open Wednesdays to Sundays, 10am to 4pm.</b>
<b>5</b> Uniting Church services at Rylstone 9.30am every Sunday. *Running Stream Christian Fellowship 10.30am at old Schoolhouse Sundays	<b>6</b> Scouts and Cubs meet at 4.30pm on Mondays at Kandos Scout Hall.	<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.	<b>11</b> <b>Rylstone Markets</b> Film Society's Movie
<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>	<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> Rylstone Ramblers Heart Foundation walking group at Rylstone Showground Thursdays 9 am.	<b>17</b> Youth Alive St James Rylstone, 6.30pm Fridays during school term.	<b>18</b> The next Kandos Markets are in September
<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. *Farmers 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>	<b>21</b> The Wollemi Singers, 6pm Tuesdays during school term at St Dominic's Hall Kandos.  *Walking group Tuesdays and Thursdays	<b>22</b> Kandos CWA meeting, 6pm on last Wed. of month.	<b>23</b> Ladies Tennis, 9am Thursdays at Henbury Sport & Rec. Club Kandos.  Last Thursday Writing Club 10.30am at the Cementa Café, WAYOUT Art Space.	<b>24</b> Storytime for kids, 10am to 11am Fridays at Kandos Library.	<b>25</b> Kandos Crop and Swap, 10am at White Crescent Park.  The Common Loop Social Run Club 8am at entrance to Ryl. Showground.
<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> Last Thursday Writing Club 10.30am at the Cementa Café, WAYOUT Art Space.	<b>31</b>	<b>KRR Broadcasting on 98.7FM</b>

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, December 5-6...St Malachy Sesquicentenary Celebrations.

## Make and Mend

The Kandos CWA invites you to bring along your darning, patching, embroidery, simple alterations or any kind of sewing or yarning project, and "let's share a cup of tea while we make and mend." It's on from 2pm to 5pm every second Sunday of each month. For more information call in to the Kandos CWA rooms at 1 Jaques Street on a second Sunday or email kandoscwa@gmail.com.

## NRL tickets

Tickets for the Round 22 NRL Telstra Premiership clash between the Penrith Panthers and Canberra Raiders in Mudgee are on sale at 123tix.com.au. The two NRL heavyweights will go head-to-head on Saturday, August 1 kicking off at 5.30pm at the newly named Club Mudgee Stadium within the Glen Willow Regional Sporting Complex. More details, including match day info and transport is available on Mid-Western Regional Council's website.

## Rylstone Farmers Market

The Rylstone Farmers Market is held every third Sunday of each month in the grounds of the Globe Hotel. It's a community based event and stall holders are welcome by contacting markets@theglobehotel.com.au. Come along on July 19 for an enjoyable morning that features fresh seasonal produce, local growers, handmade goods, and delicious local treats. It's a great chance to support regional producers, meet the makers, and enjoy a relaxed country-style market atmosphere.

Editor: Brent Barlow 0427 791 020 brenbar@winsoft.net.au  
See page 1 for copy deadline & Contact details.  
Community Capers

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## Rylstone Markets

The next Rylstone Markets are on Saturday, July 11 at 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. If you'd like to join the association, phone Julie on 0458 129 704 or email julzhorn2@gmail.com.

## Exhibition *Lustre* at Precinct

A powerful new exhibition exploring the legacy of the Allied campaigns in Greece and Crete during the Second World War will be on display at Mudgee Arts Precinct from July 24. LUSTRE: Contemporary Artists in Greece & Crete brings together works by contemporary Australian and New Zealand artists who retraced the journey of Lustre Force, the combined Allied units deployed to defend Greece from Nazi invasion in 1941. To document these events, Australia and New Zealand commissioned war artists and photographers, including Australian war artist William Dargie, who recorded the battlefields, landscapes and communities affected by the conflict. Eighty five years later, a group of contemporary artists from Australia and New Zealand undertook a two-week journey from northern Greece to Crete, following the same route travelled by Allied soldiers during the campaign. Participating artists are Euan Macleod, Steve Lopes, Rodney Pople, Deirdre Bean, Amanda Penrose Hart, Joanna Logue, Michelle Hiscock, Riste Andrieviski, Michael Bradfield, Alan Jones, Natalie O'Connor and Angeliki Androutopoulos. The exhibition will open at 6pm on Friday, July 24 and runs through to September 20.

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## Open Mic

Open Mic is on at the Kandos Returned Services Community Club on Saturday, July 18 from 5pm. Bring your voice and a musical instrument or just enjoy the entertainment. The club presents Sideshow Annie – a super fun band on Saturday, July 4 at 7pm and admission is free. Bingo every Thursday at 6.30pm and every Sunday at 4.30pm.

**PAUL TOOLE**  
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