



September 2018

COLO VALE News

www.colovalecommunity.org.au



Spring Market

September 1st

8.30am - 1.30pm

*We strive to support local growers and entrepreneurs
So come on Colo Vale
Let's be healthy! Let's eat fresh! Let's buy local!*



DEMONSTRATION by



SES

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

RAILWAY STATION OPEN DAY



On a gusty, windy morning the loyal stallholders at Colo Vale's monthly Village Market battled the elements and nearly took off in their marquees but despite the problems the wind presented, they opened their hearts and provided the Colo Vale Community Association with products from their stalls for a monster raffle held during the morning to raise money for the drought-stricken farmers.

While the attendance numbers were slightly down due to the weather, the Market regulars dug deep and donated \$700 which will be presented to **Feed The Farms Inc.** (www.feedthefarms.org.au), a charity formed and run by Colo Vale local Samantha Huer.

Samantha is a regular stallholder at Colo Vale Village Market and at various locations around the Southern Highlands raising money for this very important not for profit charity. Funds support farm animals that can't be looked after by their owners by offering feed, water and vet assistance. It also offers to rehome them if the owner is no longer able to care for them.



Inside the warm Hall the stalls and cafe were buzzing while visitors enjoyed a sterling performance by the local Barbershop Quintet which is part of the Highlandaires Men's Chorus. If you enjoy singing and would like to learn more, the



Highlandaires are conduction auditions – Phone Brendan on 0448 201 706.

Be sure to come along to our Spring Market on September 1st which will feature an Historical Open Day of the Colo Vale Railway Station from 9.30am - 1.30pm with tea/coffee available, and David Thurlow in attendance with a wealth of knowledge on the railways.



During the course of the morning, the State Emergency Service from Mittagong will conduct demonstrations with regard to road crash rescues using the jaws of life.

There are 3 car boot spaces available — so it's time to clear out those unwanted items from your garage or storage cupboard. Contact Kathleen and book your spot.

The fresh produce, homemade taste sensations, and stallholders craft will tempt, as you stroll through the market listening to the musical talent of Tony on guitar.

A BIG THANKS TO WINGECARRIBEE COUNCIL

*John Stead from the
CVCA receiving the
grant for the marquee.*

*Steve Clarke from the
CV Village Men's Shed
receiving the grant.*

The Colo Vale Community Association are pleased to report that on August 1st the Association and the Colo Vale Village Men's Shed were grateful recipients of grants under the Wingecarribee Shire 2018/2019 Community Assistance Scheme.

A total of 59 community projects totalling \$129,200 were allocated funding as part of this annual scheme by our Council.

Due to the unpredictable Southern Highlands weather and the number of regular community events which include outdoor activities held at the Hall, the Committee of the Association felt there was a distinct need for a large practical marquee to provide protection from both sun and rain to allow these type of events to continue and a grant was sought for a Premium Marquee.

The grant of funds for purchase of a large demountable marquee gives the Association more confidence to plan activities for the community without the fear of cancellation due to weather, particularly when in most cases of event planning, there is a certain amount of expenditure and investment beforehand which is wasted in the event of cancellation and in particular, without the income from the monthly Market and regular activities at the Hall our Association would really struggle.

The Colo Vale Village Men's Shed received a donation to purchase workshop essentials much to the delight of its members.

The Colo Vale Community Association President, Elyse White, would like to commend the Council for their ongoing support of organizations such as ours which is run entirely with volunteers like many of the other recipients. These grants mean an enormous amount to community groups, most of which struggle to fundraise for their particular cause. In our case monies raised are to maintain the Community Hall, the War Memorial and the grounds for the Colo Vale Community and assist us to provide leadership and a social hub for local residents.

On a Musical Note

The Association is looking for someone who would be willing to play the Hall piano on the odd occasion for the enjoyment of the Village residents.

The old piano in the Hall which was donated last year has been kindly returned by local resident, Ron Craig, who for many years was responsible for tuning pianos at the Sydney Opera House.

So, now we have a beautifully tuned piano and are keen to find someone who would be willing to donate a couple of hours each month to play for the enjoyment of others.

We know there is a lot of hidden talent in this Village and the Association would like to urge any potential piano players to contact us and offer just a small amount of your time to showcase your skills to a very appreciative audience.

Please contact Meryl on 0408971220 if you think you could help us.



The PIANO MAN

From the Colo Vale Community Hall came the single notes from a piano resounding over and over again. It was Ron Craig, a friendly local tuning the "old piano".

When he left school he undertook an apprenticeship in the field of piano tuning/repair at Beale's Piano Factory (actually employed by Palings). Under the guidance of Neville Falson (Beale's Foreman/Draughtsman/Tuner), his technical drawing skills, design, manufacturing and repairing knowledge was honed, something an average tuner doesn't get to learn.

Saving his wages for a couple of months, he purchased a grand piano made in 1900. He was wrapped in music and was encouraged to enrol as a part-time student at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

For 6 years he had a full schedule with no free time, pursuing two careers, one the tradesman and the other, the musician. On weekends he would practise, practise entering eisteddfods and competitions.

The art of tuning over these 6 years was a long arduous task of learning the technique of moving and setting the tuning pin and training the ear, involving intense concentration. At about the 4 year mark everything clicked into place, he could tune with speed and quality.

In 1969 he left Palings and set up a home studio teaching piano and also set up a recording area. The first year he had 15 students, escalating to 50 a few years later. He continued trying to balance teaching, playing and tuning with piano repairs too.

In 1974 he married Fay also studying at the Conservatorium, who after graduation taught high school music and finally ended up teaching in a small primary school in the Southern Highlands.

Early 1978 he received a call from Ron Harper, the concert tuner of the Opera House, who had held that position since its opening in 1973 who was about to retire. Harper said that Ron Craig was the only person he knew that had the right kind of background that could walk straight onto the concert platform and tune for famous celebrities.



With a new home just built and his second child on the way, earning more money than working from home, was a plus. But with some 30 pianos and 2 harpsichords

to keep in tune, before and after each rehearsal, concert, function, in the ballet rooms, conductors suites and servicing on a regular basis, his life became constantly busy, leaving little time for family.

Working at the Opera House he saw and often met some of the really big names in music and show business. World famous Italian pianist Campanella, Oscar Peterson, Jessye Norman (singer), Sammy Davis Jnr, Vladimir Ashkenazy (Concert pianist), Dame Joan Sutherland, stars in a Royal Command Performance, to name just a few.

In 1982 due to a chronic back problem Ron had to give up the Opera House job. All the heavy lifting was the main culprit but bending and twisting the spine while tuning contributed as well.

For the next 3 years he was recovering from the damage to his back and thought his tuning days were over. He set up a little studio at home and started making recordings for people with whom he was acquainted. This wasn't something completely new to Ron he had been recording since he was 15 and had spent most of his life in studios, halls and clubs where other recording engineers worked.

One day when he was at Frensham Girls School Mittagong tuning a piano he started thinking about moving to the area and building a state-of-the-art recording studio, specifically for pianists. In 1983 he and his wife bought one and a half acres, surrounded by bush with no close neighbours and not too far from the freeway, the perfect place to build a studio — Colo Vale.

In 2009 Ron published his book "My Life with Pianos" which not only details the life of a talented near-concert pianist and technician/apprentice tuner in the 1960s, but tells a story of behind the scenes excitement in the Opera House.

These days Ron only tunes about 30 pianos a year compared to 500 or more in his

The PIANO MAN - Continued

younger days in his home workshop. He has returned to enjoying playing the piano despite damaging his right hand in a fall. Arthritis has also crept into his hand and he can't manage the big pieces that he use to play. But he has learned to compromise with age and life is good.

"SAVAGE" DOGS

Responsible dog ownership is a very important issue in Colo Vale.

Recently there have been a number of dog attacks on other dogs. These out of control animals are even jumping fences to attack a dog securely held in its own backyard. With savage dogs permitted to roam the streets freely, it is feared that within no time at all a child out walking his dog could be attacked, trying to protect it.

WAKE UP — where are your ethics and morals. TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR DOG AND BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS WHEREABOUTS.

From My Desk Ian Scandrett



Folks,

A new draft Noise Policy has been prepared with input from Council's compliance staff.

It focuses on common neighbourhood noise issues including dogs, air conditioners, pumps, roosters, trail bikes on private properties and musical instruments. I believe inappropriate car driving noise is a concern in some areas.

The draft Policy aims to improve transparency of decision making and provide a consistent approach to noise complaints. Council will only take regulatory action if robust evidence is available.

The policy and supporting material, such as the fact sheets, will be available on Council's website during the consultation period.

I encourage you to read and comment.

Look up: www.wsc.nsw.gov/whats-on-public-exhibition.

Always happy to be contacted and look forward to your emails.

Clr Ian Scandrett, Deputy Mayor
Email: ian.scandrett@wsc.nsw.gov.au

Stu-Pendously Fit

Colo Vale Community Hall
28 Railway Avenue
Colo Vale

5:00pm (45 minutes)
Monday • Wednesday

Catering to all fitness levels — All ages

Melissa & Stuart Pagett:
Personal Trainers
M. 0403 102 623
E. stupendouslyfit@outlook.com.au • www.stupendouslyfit.com.au

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GARDEN TIPS with George

This article may help our new residents who have moved to Colo Vale from Sydney and wondered why their beloved plants are not doing well after the move or to understand that gardening is quite different here.

Colo Vale is on the edge of the cold and temperate climate zone, I tend to plant seeds according to that suggested for the cold zone because here it is not much warmer than Goulburn but a lot colder than Sydney. This is due to being 600 metres above sea level.

Some plants such as melons or sweet corn have trouble getting started here in September but in Sydney they are well established plants even if planted in late August, while we have to wait until mid October to plant those and other crops.

Flowers too are able to be planted in springtime rather than late autumn. Livingstone Daisies, Lobelia, Nemesis and Pansy as well as Sweet Pea seeds can be planted in September/October which give a great display without having to tend to the plants from March, and because of the warming conditions the plants grow quicker and the seedlings should be planted sooner.

Don't forget, when planting seedlings water in with a seaweed solution, put down snail and slug deterrent and mulch to protect the tender plant from drying out. Spring is an excellent time to plant Camellias, Rhododendrons and the shade loving Azaleas. They are ideally suited to the moderate acid soils in and around Colo Vale. I buy them as tube stock or in small pots because they establish quicker, are easier to plant and less costly and they are able to outgrow an advanced plant in the first year or two. You can usually buy 2 or 3 in tube stock for the price of one advanced plant.

Happy gardening everyone, 'til next time. George

MONSTER VILLAGE GARAGE SALE

The Colo Vale Community Association has some eleven residents interested to participate in the Monster Village Garage Sale to be held Saturday, October 13th.

Don't forget to get your registrations in prior to August 31st and the registration fee is \$5.00.

We require a short description of your proposed sale items to enable shoppers to find what they are looking for.

So, if you would like to be part of this one-off unique event we would ask you to convey your interest by emailing merylgl@tpg.com.au as soon as possible with your name, address and contact details.



MBL WINTER 2018 RESULTS

ROUND 13 Thursday July 26 (rescheduled)

Div 1: SSBC WYLD STALLYNS 9 d
Moorebank Royals 3

ROUND 14 Saturday July 28

Div 1: Camden Red Sox Has Beens 23 d
SSBC WYLD STALLYNS 2

Finishing the Season in 5th place

Div 2: SSBC BANDITS 16 d
Campbelltown Ghosts Centaurs 3

MAJOR SEMI FINAL Saturday August 4

Div 1: Campbelltown Cubs 9 d
SSBC BANDITS 7

ELIMINATION SEMI FINAL Saturday
August 11

Div 2: Casula Lakers Outers 10 d
SSBC BANDITS 1

The 2018 Macarthur Baseball League Winter Season has now finished. The Summer Season begins 7-8 September and they are still looking for players. So if interested see their Facebook site.

COLO VALE NOTICE BOARD

Craft & Chatter

Every Thursday 9am to 12noon.
\$3 donation. Morning Tea provided.
Ladies bring your craft or just come for a chat. Ring Kath on 4889 4390.

Village Men's Shed

Tuesday & Thursday 9am to 12noon.
Members pay \$3 each visit which covers morning tea and the chance to socialize with other men from the area, have a chat, and enjoy doing woodwork, or just relax. Ring Steve 0414 242 667.

Hall Bookings

To book the Colo Vale Community Hall for birthdays, weddings, etc. contact Tom or Margaret on 4889 4160.
Comprehensive details available, very reasonable rates. For more details see website www.colovalecommunity.org.au

Market Stall Info

Stalls available for \$15 outside and \$20 inside hall. Car boot stalls available for \$15. Confirm bookings by 12noon Thursday before market. No notification, your stall will be re-allocated.
Contact Kathleen for stall bookings 0400 728 395.

Indoor Bowls

Every Wednesday evening 7pm.
\$3 donation. Supper provided. Just turn up at the hall or ring Kay 0413 364 918.

Liaison Officer

For sympathy cards, flowers or a visit, contact Kay Mackenzie, the Community Association Liaison Officer on her mobile 0413 364 918.

Meetings

Community Association General Meeting will be held bi-monthly, next meeting Tuesday, November 27th at 6pm, 4th Tuesday of every 2nd month. We need your support, ideas, and a helping hand. All welcome, but only Association financial members may vote. For further information contact President Elyse White 0414 633 077.

FUTURE EVENTS

Melbourne Cup Luncheon November 6th from 11am at the Community Hall

Armistice Day Sunday November 11th at the Community Hall 11am

Childrens Christmas Party on November 25th from 12 noon- 2pm



COLO VALE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC

Don't forget to register by 16th November - Phone John 4889 5427

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday November 25

Entertainment begins at 12 NOON - 2PM

MAGIC SHOW 12.15 - 12.45pm • **SANTA** at 1.00pm • Face Painting, Jumping Castles, Games Slushies, Lollies, Food and Drink

Only \$2 a child or grandchild



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