Uranquinty News

JUNE, 2021

KINDLY PRINTED BY ORIGIN ENERGY

Uranquinty Progress Assoc. News



Ilsa Konrads and Kay Hull, member for Riverina, unveiling migrant memorial in 2001. See story on page 8 for more about the Konrads who as migrants came to Uranquinty where John Konrads learnt to swim.

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Screen shot from new Origin Energy-sponsored website for locals launched! More info below.

Winter has arrived so stay warm and enjoy the crisp, sunny days (when it isn't frosty and foggy!).

URANQUINTY WEBSITE

- The website needed a complete update since it was first launched in 2015, especially to make it more mobile friendly. We were successful in obtaining sponsorship funding from Origin Energy and a local Wagga web design team worked with us to bring out the new look aimed to be the best resource for visitors and for residents seeking information about our community and services, with links to useful sites and the Facebook page. The site is being tweaked as we go to press and should be on view as you read this. The address is the same: www.uranquinty.com.au.
- Our sincere thanks go to Origin Energy for their willing support of our community. Without their sponsorship the new website would not have been possible.
- We want your opinion on what you like/dislike and your suggestions for content and photos in any area so email us at uranquinty2652@gmail.com (**note new email address). In particular, let us know your local business details for a free listing.
- If you would like to help manage the content please let us know as we are all volunteers looking for people with specific skills to help out.

Continued on page 2

Uranquinty Progress News cont.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANS

- The Major Overland Flood Flow Study (MOFFS) and Plan and the Village Overland Flood Flow Study (VOFFS) have been through their public exhibition phase and will now be considered by the Flood Risk Management Advisory Committee prior to submission of final recommendations to Council.
- A few minor additions arose from public consultation.
 Once Council has accepted the final report, it will start planning and seeking funding opportunities to deliver the recommendations.
- Following negotiations with UPA, Council and the Uranquinty Safety Group, Council work on urgently restoring the Churches Plains levee was successful and has now been completed for the protection of Baker, Uranquintry and Taber Street residents.



DUNNS ROAD UPDATE

- Dunns Road is ready for tendering pending the finalisation of agreements for acquisition of land at the Olympic Highway intersection.
- Transport for NSW has issued a conditional Works
 Authorisation Deed for works around the highway but
 Council is still trying to confirm TfNSW requirements for
 the entry to the Model Aero Club.
- Relocation of electrical power lines also requires removal of some additional vegetation, in turn requiring additional environmental works. This has now been resolved.
- Given Council is now encroaching onto its Caretaker timeframe, it has taken the opportunity to investigate black spot funding to construct the Holbrook Road



roundabout.

If successful it would enable completion of some works to a higher standard than

the original grant submissions.

Deb Bewick, President, Uranquinty Progress Association
M: 0427 007 261
E: uranquinty2652@gmail.com

W: www.uranquinty.com.au

COMMUNITY HALL UPDATE

- We are beginning to hold events again at the Community Hall. Thanks to everyone who has complied with our Covid Safe Plan required by Council. Make bookings via the Venue tab at the new www.uranquinty.com.au where there is also a link for event organisers to the safety plan or email us for details to uranquinty2652@gmail.com.
- We are pleased to announce that the Hall will soon have access to WiFi courtesy of the Wagga Wagga Revival Fellowship Church Group, who meet there regularly every Sunday. This will be a major benefit to users of the Hall as relying on variable 4G mobile reception for internet connection and computer presentations has been frustrating. I should like to express our thanks on behalf of everyone who uses the Hall, it is a terrific asset.
- UPA was successful in applying for a Stronger Communities Grant to upgrade the Hall kitchen. We can now purchase a replacement oven, new stainless steel workbenches and a small freezer.
- We were also successful in obtaining a grant from Essential Energy for \$200 towards hall maintenance.
- Bookings for 2021 continue to build. The Hall Committee cannot accept 18th and 21st birthday party events, however, due to numerous issues that have negatively impacted nearby residents in the past. The hall hirer is responsible for security measures and must ensure guests do not cause any inconvenience to neighbours on the perimeter of the oval. Local police are advised of events but it is up to the hirer to ensure all measures are taken to minimise disruption and ensure safety for residents. We are looking at options to upgrade security where needed, costs to be in addition to hire fees.
- UPA will advise a date for the working bee to give the Hall a clean and would welcome any help from the community to keep the Hall maintained. All bookings and management of events and maintenance of the Hall is carried out by volunteers. Your assistance would be very much appreciated, no matter how small.

COMMUNITY STREET LIBRARY

Uranquinty Public School and UPA are working with the Men's Shed to organise bookshelves at the school and rest area so that visitors and community members will be able to be part of this worldwide project.

URANQUINTY PUBLIC SCHOOL















TERM 2

BOOK PARADE AND BOOK FAIR

Students and staff got into the swing of dressing up as their favourite book characters for Book Week recently. There was lots of excitement and fun on the day talking about our favourite books. Many parents and friends were generous in donating books to our school library and buying gifts at the Book Fair, where nearly \$800 worth of books were sold.

AUSTRALIA'S DEADLIEST ANIMALS

Our students travelled to Ladysmith PS recently to attend a show about deadly animals. There were lots of new facts

to learn and the children enjoyed seeing these creatures up close in a safe environment.

SPORT Term 2 is

always a busy sporting term. We've



had Cross Country, Athletics and some Gala days. Our relay team has made it to the Riverina **Athletics** Carnival and Audrey Lewington

has made it to the State Cross Country.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Our school has recently completed a Public Speaking Competition at school. We sent three representatives off to Tarcutta PS to compete against the other Small Schools.

Congratulations to Martha, Charlie and Audrey who spoke beautifully and put a lot of work into preparing their speeches. A big congratulations to Audrey Lewington who was awarded the Stage 3 winner of the competition.



Uranquinty Power Station Update June 2021



Uranquinty Power Station (UPS) is owned and operated by Origin Energy. The station comprises four gas turbines with a total generating capacity of 640-megawatts (MW) using natural gas.

Station Update

After a slow start to the year, operations have increased coming into winter as the station continues to support the National Energy Market (NEM).

Demand is primarily due to lack of generation within the network on the back of planned and forced outages including the recent issues at a large coal fired station in QLD.

With flooding in Victoria and ongoing 'winter conditions', increased volatility within the electricity market means the station would expect to operate more regularly.

During May the station was audited by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This audit was part of a requirement to undertake 5-yearly Licence Integrity Reviews with the EPA. We are pleased to advise we received a very positive outcome.

Regardless of electricity generation requirements, the team will be busy going into summer with rolling High Voltage Transformer testing outages planned for late in the year. Close inspection and testing of gas and pressure equipment will also be carried out at this time.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to the station or its operations, please do not hesitate to contact Tania Carlos.

Paul Olsen - Plant Manager, Uranquinty Power Station

Solar Farm

We continue with our planning for the development of a solar farm adjacent to the power station, with no significant updates at this stage. We will continue to communicate with you and provide details of how you can have your say on the proposal during the planning phase.



New Phone Number

Our telephone number has changed, and our new number is **1800 677 315**

Uranquinty Community Committee

Your community representatives are currently Peter Lord, Lyle Salmon and Cathy Crick, but we are seeking Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from Uranquinty Community members interested in joining our committee. Please contact Tania Carlos, Senior Community Relations Business Partner for more information on 0400 035 434 or tania.carlos@originenergy.com.au

Community Investment

Uranquinty Public School: Our ongoing partnership with the school is going well and our contribution has enabled the recruitment of additional resources and fully funding the Bluearth Wellbeing program.

"Origin Energy's support has meant the world of difference to our small school. We have been able to employ a temporary Student Wellbeing Officer/Youth Worker two days a week to support students in the class and playground who need some extra help. The students and parents have commented on the value of this position for the student's mental health. With Origin's support we are also able to provide extra assistance in the classroom with part-time Student Learning Support Officers who also support students with specific needs in the playground.

Our Bluearth program is fully funded by Origin and provides expert coaching each fortnight to focus on Healthy Body/ Healthy Mind and Team Building skills from Kinder to Year 6. Origin's support ensures our students are happy, supported and ready to learn each day." Cathy Crick, Principal

Uranquinty Tennis Club (UTC): Origin is pleased to have entered a 3-year partnership with the UTC to provide ongoing support to enable the club to grow its programs.

Uranquinty Progress Association: We have also entered a 3-year partnership with the UPA to support community events including the annual Christmas celebration and the community garage sale. Furthermore, we are pleased we could recently assist with the upgrade to the Uranquinty community website.

Birramal Conservation Project: The Birramal Conservation area is a project designed to assist in the protection of squirrel gliders. In 2018 Origin funded the transportation of old wooden power poles which were being replaced by Transgrid at Uranquinty Power Station. The poles were installed to improve the connectivity of the fauna movement corridor. Each pole was fitted with a fauna box and a timber cross section to be used as a launch arm for Squirrel Gliders.

We have provided further support to the program to assist with the delivery of education programs.

The Quinty Mens Shed

The dust extraction system, a major project that has consumed much of our time, is nearing completion. With the purchase of a new air compressor, we can now operate a range of air powered tools and spray equipment. We are currently working on a small project for the Quinty CWA. Our next big project is to commence work on the veranda extension to provide a new metal work facility. We are also preparing for the village Monster Garage Sale event in

September.



We will continue our series of community interest lectures with a talk on mental health by representatives of Sunflower House on August 7th.

Wednesday night raffles at the Pub continue and once again we thank the proprietors and patrons for their generous support.

We continue to attract new membership. Our monthly

meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month. The meetings commence at 12.00 and are followed by a BBQ and social afternoon. All welcome.

Uranquinty Community Safety Group

The Uranquinty Community Safety Group works under the auspices of the SES. In the event of an emergency, we are notified by the SES of the nature of the emergency and advised what action the group is to take. Our main focus is on early warning and assisting those in need. Emergency equipment has been supplied by the SES and is located in a container within the Mens Shed grounds. Sand for sandbagging should it be required in a rain event, is also available at the Mens Shed.

Following the rain event in February, it became apparent that the northern levee was not functioning as intended with the result that there was some flooding in the Baker Street and surrounding area to an extent that has not been seen before. The UCSG and the UPA consulted with members of the WWCC with the result that extensive reclamation work has commenced on the maintenance of the Churches Plains Road northern levee. We are continuing to monitor these works and offer suggestions for improvements. We thank Malcolm Mc Grath and for allowing WWCC access to the area for his assistance.

After the recent consultation with the UCSG and UPA as well as community members, it appears that these meetings could result in important improvements to the village flood defence system.

Uranquinty Hotel Social Club

The Social Club recently held our annual Mystery Bus Trip. We left Uranquinty and headed to Gerogery Hotel then on to Kinross Woolshed Hotel which not many people had ever been to. We had a lovely dinner at the Jindera Hotel and then stopped at the Walla Walla Hotel on the way home. It was a lovely trip which was enjoyed by everyone.

Our members draw recently got up to \$500 before it was won. This is a rare occurrence as it usually goes off at around \$200. Congratulations to the lucky member.

Raffles are held every Friday night at the hotel with members draw following.

New members are most welcome. For more information see Sue O'Brien.





Uranquinty Pre School News June 2021



We have had a very busy term with lots of different experiences. During May we participated in the National Simultaneous Reading Time where we listened to astronaut Dr Shannon Walker, read Give me Some Space. This was so interesting and followed on from having a Space Station in our home corner.

The following week we were lucky enough to try Space Icecream.



We also started our Resident Artist Program, with Trish Harrison. This is a program we have been running for the last couple of years and funded by various grants. This year we were fortunate to have a grant from the Department of Education and Care Directorate. We began our program in Autumn, so we were able to take full advantage of the beautiful Autumn leaves we had in our playground. The children made Autumn Strips, masks and crowns.



brush made from grass, that was similar

to what the artists use in the Northern Territory. Trish shared some of the artefacts with us so we could see this amazing work.



Recently, we went to the Civic Theatre to see the performance of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. This was very good and has inspired a project to explore the books of Eric Carle.

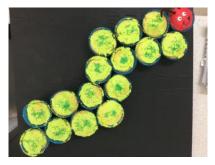
With Trish, we are presently recreating art work that uses the techniques of Eric Carle. The children have been painting paper that will be cut into pieces to create pictures.



We love to cook at Uranquinty Preschool and lots of cupcakes make an amazing Hungry Caterpillar. We even practiced using our Indonesian as we added the ingredients.







Uranquinty Preschool is full for 2021 but we are currently taking enrolments for 2022. For details please contact Louise on 6922 9787 or uranquintypreschool@gmail.com.

Getting to Know Our Town

To have an item included, please email editor Jenny at llewington@bigpond.com.

SOCIAL NEWS

Congratulations to Andrea Downes, daughter of Sue and John O'Brien, who recently married Lachlan Keating in Nowra.

On a sadder note we have lost several of our of our long time residents over the last few months. Condolences to:

- Joan Collins and family on the passing of her husband Ian.
- The family and friends of Betty McDonald who passed away on the 21st April. Many residents would remember Betty and Bill who ran the Uranquinty Takeaway for some years.
- Wife Rhonda, sons Ian, Gary and Stephen and their families on the passing of local farmer and trotting horse breeder Les Johnson.
- Rex and Sue Byron and family on the passing of Norma McCurdy.

Junette Greenaway

It is with sadness that we have learnt of the passing of Junette Greenaway a long time resident who came to live at "Pinegrove", Uranquinty in 1976 along with her husband Ray. The family had moved from Sydney to Wagga in 1964 when Ray went into the trucking business.

Junette quickly became involved in many local groups including the Red Cross, fundraising for the school and was a regular sponsor of this newsletter. For many years she hosted a Melbourne Cup day luncheon in her lovely garden, often with wind up cardboard horse races and other fun activities.



Junette Greenaway 26.6.1932 - 2.5.2021

In 2006 Ray and Junette sold their farm and moved to Morayfield just out of Brisbane to be near their daughter Sue (Standen) and family and finally to a retirement village at Caboolture.

Our thoughts go to Ray, Paul, Sue and John, grand children Ben, Tod and Meg and their families at this sad time.

URANQUINTY CRAFT AND ART FAIR AND VILAGE GARAGE SALE SATURDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2021

CRAFT FAIR

URANQUINTY HALL 9am-1pm

Craft and plants plus mosaics, beading, quilting, sewing, embroidery, painting, metal/wood work, pottery and pot decorating, preserves, honey, baked goods, anything crafty.

Vans: AUSSIE BOB'S ICE CREAM, Albury Mobile Sharpening, CJ's Hair Rescue with makeup artist), Tato Tornado, The Good Grind Coffee, face painting TBC.

Food items require a food safety certification. Stallholder hall hire fee \$15. Applications: Rhonda E: roopalmer81gmail.com or from the post office.

VILLAGE GARAGE SALE

8am-4pm





Maps from the Quinty Bakery on 3 September.

Fee: \$15 per house for advertising. COVID rules: Each house is responsible for its own safety plan but an updated advice sheet will be provided with your poster and balloons.

Submissions close Friday 13 August (put completed submissions in the red box at the post office)

LOCAL HISTORY

JOHN KONRADS



One of the more famous people to live at the Uranquinty migrant centre was John Konrads who recently passed away at the age of 78.

Famously known as one of Australia's greatest swimmers, he set 26 individual freestyle world records between the 200m and 1500 m events before turning 15. At the 1958 Commonwealth Games in Cardiff he won three gold medals. He won 2 bronze and one gold medal at the Rome Olympics in 1960.

John, along with his mother Elza, father Janis, grandmother and sisters Ilsa and Eva, left their homeland of Latvia in 1944 when



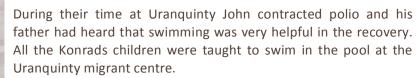


Being fluent in German they were Initially sent to Berlin where Elza obtained a job as a dentist. Five years after fleeing Latvia, the Konrads family were finally able to immigrate to Australia. They had originally planned to go to Argentina but were persuaded to come to Australia instead.

Sailing from Naples in June 1949 they landed in Sydney one month later and were transported to a holding camp at Bathurst and then on to Greta near Newcastle.

The family moved to Uranquinty in mid 1950 when John Konrads senior secured a job at a timber and brickyard near Albury. Elza commented

that "It was a former Airforce base camp, had a swimming pool and was located in the midst of a large plain without any trees or shrubs just a large range of hills on the horizon."



When the family left Uranquinty and moved to Revesby in Sydney, John was taken under the wing of Don Talbot, a very successful swim coach, and was selected as a reserve swimmer for the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne. John and Ilsa were both selected for the 1960 Olympics in Rome.

When Ilsa returned to Uranquinty for the unveiling of the migrant memorial in 2001 she came back to the camp and stood in the old pool (see centre photo) and recalled that John was getting all the attention when he was younger and winning swimming races so she decided that she couldn't let him beat her and she began intensive training so that she wouldn't be outdone.

John went on to be a successful swim coach before becoming the Australasian director of cosmetics giant L'Oreal and Ilsa went into journalism and became the editor of Belle and Vogue Living.

More history on page 11

St Patrick's Uranquinty

Best wishes and safe travelling for all Uranquinty families over the Winter Break!

Mass on Sundays at St Patrick's is at 8:30am. On the first Sunday of each month, we have a cuppa and brunch afterwards. Everyone is welcome. Times of Mass at Our Lady of Fatima, Bourke St are 5:00pm Saturday and 8:30am, 10:30am and 5.30pm (Syro-Malabar) on Sunday.

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation is available Saturday Mornings at Our Lady of Fatima from 10:30-11:30am, and before Mass at St Patrick's.

Anointing Masses have resumed and are held at 10.30am on Tuesdays; next dates are July 27^{th} , August 24^{th} & 28^{th} .

Sacraments to home-bound or when in Hospital

Please notify priests (ph. 69252111) when a member of your family or a parishioner is in hospital or house-bound and in need of the sacraments, especially the Anointing of the Sick or Holy Communion.

OLOF Mass is available through Facebook - OLOF South Wagga and www.olof.waggamatters.com

For the latest parish information, consult the parish web site: www.olof.waggamatters.com, or the face book page: OLOF south wagga; you can also contact the parish office.

The office is open 9am - 1pm Tuesday - Wednesday & 10am - 2pm Thursday - Friday.

The parish bulletin is published every Friday; if you would like to receive a copy and have an email address, please contact Cheryl or Jean at olofparishsouthwagga@gmail.com,

Ph 69252111, and they can put you on the mailing list. This is a good way of hearing about news and events in our parish.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you have moved to our parish recently, welcome, and please introduce yourself to Fr Paddy. If you would like to know about groups and events that go on at Our Lady of Fatima, please ring the Parish Office and they can assist you - 69252111.

Any families wanting to have their children baptised should contact Father Paddy at Our Lady of Fatima Presbytery; the next preparation meetings are 9am Saturdays: 10th July and 14th August. Contact the Parish Office for more information - phone 69252111, fax 69256116, or email olofparishsouthwagga@gmail.com

Date Claimer

Saturday 28th August: Spirituality Day for women from 9:00am to 3:30pm at Narrandera – further details available in foyer of OLOF.

THOUGHT

Don't close the book when bad things happen in your life, just turn the page and begin a new chapter.

Uranquinty P&C Battery Drive

Do you have any dead batteries lying around?

Do you know someone who does?

Please text or call Skye 0429 205 182 or Kelly 0425 710 471

for drop off instructions or we can arrange collection.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY & USEFUL CONTACTS

Caltex General Store 6922 9659 Dr Joe McGirr MP 6921 1622

Gregadoo Waste Management Centre, 133

Ashfords Rd, Gregadoo Open 7 days, 7-4.30

Kurrajong Recyclers 6925 5004 Mental Health Line 1800 011 511 Michael McCormack MP 6921 4600 **NSW Service Centre** 13 77 88 **NSW State Emergency Services** 13 25 00 **Essential Energy Power Outages** 13 20 80 Police 131 444 or 000 Snake Handler 0419 448 350 0427 198 5133 St Cuthbert's Anglican Church

St James Uniting Church 6922 9657 St Patrick's Catholic Church Uranguinty 6925 2111

Telstra 13 22 00 **Uranquinty Community Hall** 0428 629 738

uranquinty@hotmail.com

Uranquinty Evening CWA 0428 629 738 **Uranquinty Hotel** 6922 9623

Uranquinty Hotel Social Club

vickyhogan@optusnet.com.au

Uranquinty Neighbourhood Centre 6922 9772 0400 406 448/0437 777 930 **Uranquinty Playgroup** 6922 9787 **Uranquinty Preschool**

uranquintypreschool@gmail.com

Uranquinty Progress Association

uranquinty@hotmail.com

Facebook: Uranquinty Residents Noticeboard Uranguinty Public School - P & C 0425 710 471 **Uranquinty Public School** 6922 9619

Cathy.Crick@det.nsw.edu.au

Uranquinty Rural Fire Service 6922 9631 or 0427 229 631 Uranquinty Tip (Rural Transfer Station),

> 180 Connorton Street Opening Times Wed 8.00-11.45am; Sunday 1.00-4.45pm

Uranquinty Tennis Club uranquintytennisclub@gmail.com Wagga Forest Nursery 6931 2600 Wagga GP After Hours Service 6931 0900 Wagga Veterinary Hospital 6926 0900 Wagga Wagga Base Hospital 5943 1000 Wagga Wagga City Council1300 292 442; 6926 9100 WIRES 1300 094 737 WWCC Waste Disposal Services 1300 292 442; 6926 9199

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Natalie Blacker 0408 674 181 Robert Jeffery 0428 094 929 Michelle Wilcox 0414 399 961

What have we missed? Email uranguinty@hotmail.com!

LOCAL BUSINESS SERVICES

Local trades and services are listed www.uranquinty.com.au but we know this list is not comprehensive. Would you like locals to know about your business? Please email uranquinty@hotmail.com. It's free!

Morburn Collection

Soaps and bath goodies, 1 Pearson St 0401 566 663 **Quinty Bakehouse**

42 Morgan Street Mon-Sat 6.30am-4.00pm 6922 9119



Uranguinty Tennis Club's AGM was held and the following positions were filled;

President: Skye Lewington, Vice President: Brent Poole, Secretary: Tarryn Poole, and Treasurer: Melissa Tingle. A Huge thanks to Maree Hill (Treasurer for past 5 years) and Megan Bramble (Secretary past year) for your commitment and efforts you have put into the club, we truly appreciate it.

The Family Fun day was a great afternoon where people came together and had a chance to have a hit and just have a catch up. It was great to see so many children playing both tennis and using all the facilities the oval has to offer; tennis courts, skate park, playground and oval. More of these events will come in the following months so keep an eye out and feel free to come along. You don't have to be a member of the club and it's free!

Membership to the tennis club is for 12 months and is due from July 1. The club accepts active kids vouchers and membership cost are \$90 a family, \$35 an adult and \$20 a child.

Kids Coaching and the Pedal Tractor Cup will return next term (term 3 week 5-10 and term 4 weeks 1-5) Keep an eye out on our Facebook page or members' emails. The Tractor cup will also be making a return so stay tuned.

LOCAL HISTORY cont.

1981 VIEWS OF URANQUINTY FROM THE SILOS







Top left: Looking south-west towards The Rock.

Top right: Looking east past the

Bakery.

Centre: Eastern side with the hotel in the foreground.
Bottom left: Morgan Street showing Stoyko's house and old post office. Assistant Station Master's house in foreground.
Bottom right: Southern end of Morgan Street near Sandy Creek.

Photos taken by John Gorman, the last Station Master at Uranquinty, show how much the village has expanded since 1981.











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