



Uniting Queenscliff & Pt Lonsdale newsletter

Welcome to our quarterly Newsletter!

This newsletter contains current information about our vibrant life at Uniting Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale. If you have feedback or comments, please contact Lisa Quinney at unitingqueenscliff@iinet.net.au

UCQ Artists are part of Bellarine Arts Trail



Artist, BreeArne
Manly in front of
her Studio at
Kirks Place

UCQ is joining the Bellarine Arts Trail, celebrating the incredible creativity and talent of local artists across our Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff venues. From colourful paintings and imaginative installations to student exhibitions, there's plenty to discover along the way. We're proud to support our artists, share their work with the community and invite you to come along for a creative adventure! **Find our more on the next page!**

Upcoming Events & Concerts

**November 1, Belated Blessing
of the Animals: Chapel 10 am**

**November 8, Revisiting Eva
Cassidy Concert:** Julie Walter
Band

**November 15, Tides of
Welcome Concert:** with Feel
Good Sing Group

**December 9, Christmas
Festive Concert:** David van Elst

**December 16, Stillpoint Festive
Dinner:** more info to come

**December 20, Carols at the
Espri:** 6-8pm at the Esplanade
Hotel Queenscliff

**December 24, Lessons and
Carols:** Time to be announced

**December 25, Christmas Day
Gathering:** 9.30 am

More information and tickets at:
[unitingqueenscliff.org.au/concerts-
events/](http://unitingqueenscliff.org.au/concerts-events/)

Live Music Summer Series at The Chapel

Chapel Sessions are coming this summer! Weekly live indie listening concerts at The Chapel throughout January and February, featuring Madeleine Cope, JC & The Tree, Rod Coote, Rhiz and the Sugar Plums, and more.

It's new, it's special, and it needs our community behind it. Tickets are on TryBooking now. **See page 5 for details.**

Local Musician
Madeleine Cope



Bellarine Arts Trail in Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale

The Bellarine Arts Trail is a fantastic opportunity to explore the Peninsula's creative side, discover local artists, see their work up close and perhaps find a new favourite along the way! We're excited that UCQ is taking part, celebrating local talent and opening our spaces to the community.

At Kirk's Place in Point Lonsdale, visitors can explore the work of three wonderful artists. Kirsten Penzes experiments with ceramics, textiles, painting and drawing to create imaginative installations. Bree-Arne Manley transforms personal memories and experiences into paintings, while Ali Mayor brings colour and whimsy to life with her vibrant artworks featuring quirky birds, trees and flowers.

There's more to discover at our Queenscliff venue, too, with QAL exhibiting in the hall and students of Ryan Brearley showcasing their work in the Bayroom.

QAL Arts is a collective group of artists exhibiting in the Bellarine Arts Trail since 2016. The artists range from water colours, oils, mixed media, pottery, fired glass, beaded jewellery, fibre art, textiles and mosaics. All items are for sale - Christmas is just around the corner, ideal presents for everyone.

So come along, have a wander, meet some talented locals and enjoy the wonderful variety of art on offer. You never know what might catch your eye! We look forward to welcoming you!

Ali, Bree and Kirsten in front of their Studios at Kirks Place



Plan your arts trail adventure!

- Saturday 31 October – Sunday 1 November 2026
- Barwon Heads, Ocean Grove, Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff
- Free entry to all venues
- Explore local artists, exhibitions and creative spaces, with artworks available to purchase.

For venue details, maps and opening hours, visit the Bellarine Arts Trail website.

We have a strong connection with Nithi through the Tamil Welcome Feasts, where he shared his experiences as a refugee in Australia. We are glad that many participants have received permanent residency. To support Nithi in building his life and business, we are including his cleaning business flyer in our newsletter and connect him with potential clients.

NITHI'S CLEANING SERVICES

Greater Geelong, Queenscliff and Surf Coast Regions

REGISTERED PROVIDER WITH THE DVA HOUSEHOLD CLEANING SERVICE

SERVICES:

- Home Cleaning
- Office Cleaning
- Commercial cleaning
- Window Cleaning
- Rentals
- Spring cleaning

Cleaning Services include:

- Bathrooms
- Bedrooms
- Kitchens
- Living rooms
- Toilets
- Ovens
- Fridges
- Dusting
- Vacuuming
- Mopping
- Tidying
- Disinfecting
- Organising pantries

Contact details:

Name: Nithi
Email: Nithicleaning@gmail.com
Mobile: 045 003 5396
ABN: 11227424136



CALL NOW FOR A QUOTE!



Members of Feel Good Sing at Kirks Place in Point Lonsdale

Feel Good Sing!

There's plenty to feel good about with our Feel Good, Sing! group, with two special musical events coming up!

On **Sunday 15 November**, the group is excited to support Tides of Welcome at their **concert**. *"We'll be sharing a few of our favourite songs and hope the audience will join in. Come along, enjoy the music, sing if you feel like it, and definitely leave feeling good!"* says Janelle Jenkins, who leads the singing group.

Feel Good Sing are also planning a little Christmas cheer with **Christmas carols at Pasquini's** in Point Lonsdale on the last Monday of term. Janelle: *"Pasquini's is supporting our end-of-year celebration this year, which makes it extra special. Everyone is welcome, with more details to come."*



Members of Feel Good Sing at Lunch

Feel Good, Sing! meets on Mondays during school terms from 10.30–11.45 am. It's an inclusive, welcoming group with warm-ups, breath work and plenty of singing, followed by optional coffee and conversation.

No singing experience needed – just come along and join the fun!

Join our Groups

- **Book Group** – Meets on the fourth Friday of the month (11 am–1 pm at Kirks Place). A welcoming space to read and explore diverse books together.
- **Film Club** – Monthly film screenings on the fourth Tuesday (2 pm) with tea, coffee and shared discussion; a relaxed and social gathering.
- **Friday Luncheon & Communion** – On the third Friday each month at 12 noon at Kirks Place
- **Feel Good, Sing!** – An inclusive singing group on Mondays during school terms (10.30–11.45 am) with warm-ups, breath work and song — followed by optional coffee and conversations.
- **Knitting Group** – Meet up on the second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of each month (1–3 pm) for knitting, crafting and community connection.
- **Just for Chaps** – A monthly get-together for coffee or chai and conversation, held on the second Monday of the month at 10 am.
- **Gardening Group** – An informal group working together on the gardens at Kirks Place and the church, typically meeting Thursday afternoons — all are welcome.
- **Open Studio** – Cosy Mornings in Creative Company. A fortnightly group of makers meeting from 10.30am -12.30pm at Kirks Place on Wednesdays.
- **Tides of Welcome Choir** - meet every Thursday night during school terms from 7.30pm - 9 pm at Kirks Place.

Join us in making a difference!

If you wish, please donate to support the Uniting Church Queenscliff-Point Lonsdale. Your contributions aid in providing care and maintaining community centres, helping us connect with diverse individuals while fostering kindness and inclusion.

Bank Details
NAB
BSB: 083825
A/c No.: 515966867



Who are Nura Gari Women?

Nura Gari is a gentle, community-based women's gathering held monthly on the first Saturday of the month, at Kirks Place in Point Lonsdale.

Our focus is on creating a warm, welcoming space where women can slow down, reconnect, and explore creativity, reflection, and shared experience.

Each gathering includes simple grounding practices, guided themes, journaling, conversation, and occasional creative elements such as singing or expressive arts. Nura Gari is not a program or a performance — it's a soft place for women to land, listen, and be in community with one another.

We honour the land we gather on, the women who came before us, and the unique stories each woman brings. We intend to offer a space that feels safe, inclusive, and quietly nourishing.

Nura Gari means "a place for women to gather & bloom."

If you'd like to learn more, please email nuragari.pointlonsdale@gmail.com, or call Anne-Marie on 0499 041 419

With Warmth
Anne-Marie

Recipe Corner

At UCQ we are known for our hospitality. We would like to share popular recipes with you of the yummy treats, our talented volunteers so generously offer to our events and concerts.

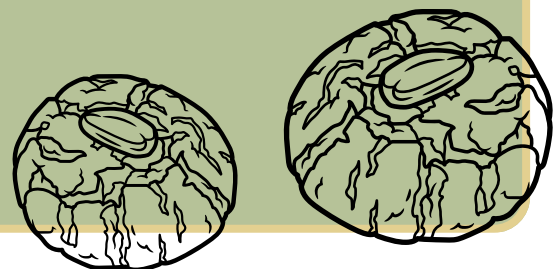
Pam Gaylard's Pistachio Amaretti



- 150 g ground pistachios
- 150 g ground almonds
- pistachios to decorate
- 100g caster sugar
- 2 eggwhites beaten
- zest of 1 lemon
- ½ tsp vanilla essence
- icing sugar

Mix lemon zest with caster sugar, add to the ground almonds and pistachios, stir into beaten egg whites with vanilla essence. Roll into walnut size balls, flatten a little. Sprinkle with icing sugar and add pistachio on top. Bake for about 15 minutes at 160C fan forced until just coloured. Biscuits will firm when cooled.

Enjoy!



Participants of
Nura Gari at Kirks
Place in Point
Lonsdale



UnitingQueenscliff
CONTEMPLATION • CREATIVITY • COMPASSION

Chapel Sessions: Summer Music at The Chapel

This summer, The Chapel comes alive with something brand new. Chapel Sessions is a series of weekly listening concerts running through January and February, bringing live indie music into a space made for gathering and deep listening.

Join us for evenings with wonderful artists including Madeleine Cope, JC & The Tree, Rod Coote, Rhiz and the Sugar Plums, and many more. Expect great music, warm community vibes, and the kind of immersive listening that only happens when a room full of people truly tune in together.

This series is special, and it's only possible with your support. These artists are sharing their gifts and their art with us, and we'd love to see our community rally behind them and fill the pews. Come along, bring a friend, and be part of something new.

Tickets are available now on TryBooking, the full schedule is attached to this newsletter on the last page.



Open Studio: Cosy Mornings in Creative Company

Every fortnight Kirks Place in Point Lonsdale opens its art studio doors.

Paintbrushes swirl, knitting needles click, journals fill with colour, and half-finished projects finally get a little more attention. Some people create, some people chat, some do a bit of both—and that's exactly how we like it.

There are no lessons, no pressure and no expectations. Just a warm, welcoming space where you can bring whatever you're working on (or simply yourself) and enjoy creating alongside others.

Whether you're painting, sketching, sewing, collaging, knitting, writing, mending or trying something completely new, you'll find a cuppa, friendly conversation and plenty of encouragement waiting for you.

We believe creativity isn't about being "good at art"—it's about slowing down, expressing yourself, and finding joy in making something with your own hands.

So, if you've got an unfinished project tucked away in a cupboard, a sketchbook gathering dust, or you've simply been looking for a cosy way to spend a Wednesday morning, we'd love to welcome you.

Remaining dates for 2026: Nov 18th and Dec 2nd from 10.30 am until 12.30 pm. Donations welcome.

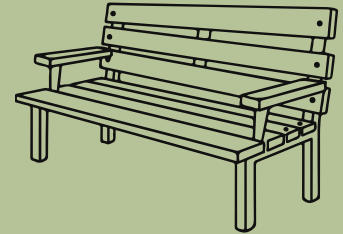
Could You Help Bring an Idea to Life?

At UCQ, there are always new ideas taking shape—and we're looking for people who enjoy rolling up their sleeves and being part of something meaningful.

Perhaps you're handy with tools, enjoy problem-solving, or simply love contributing to your community. Right now, we're looking for people who might like to get involved in projects such as:

The Walking Together Garden

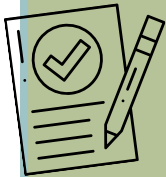
Our new community garden is beginning to flourish, and we'd love to add a beautiful place to sit and reflect. Are you a keen woodworker, upcycler or DIY enthusiast? Perhaps you'd enjoy restoring an old bench or even building something unique for the space.



Grant Writing

Many of the wonderful programs and events at UCQ are made possible through grants.

If you enjoy research, writing, or crafting a compelling application, we'd love to hear from you. Your skills could help bring exciting community projects to life.



Building Maintenance

We're looking for someone (or a small team) who's happy tackling the occasional maintenance job—changing light bulbs, replacing smoke detector batteries, fixing little things before they become bigger ones, and helping keep our beautiful buildings safe and welcoming. This role requires someone who is comfortable using a step ladder and able to carry out light maintenance tasks.



And of course, there are still plenty of opportunities to volunteer at our events, in the Vestry Shop, or behind the scenes helping create the warm and welcoming community UCQ is known for. Whether you can help once, once a month, or on an ongoing basis, we'd love to find a role that suits your interests and skills.

If something here sparks your interest—or you have another skill you'd love to share—we'd love to hear from you: hello@unitingqueenscliff.com

When we gather

Every Wednesday 5.30pm @ The Chapel (followed by a communal dinner)
Contemplation and Mindfulness circle

First Sunday each month 10am @ The Chapel (followed by morning tea)
Blend of Traditional with Progressive Christian and Interfaith Spirituality

Third Sunday each month 10am @ The Chapel
For the Spiritual but Not Religious - Music, Story, Conversations, Q&A, shared over morning tea

Third Friday each month 12pm @ Kirks Place
Singing well known hymns and contemporary folk songs, sacred readings, prayerfulness and shared community lunch.



Bellarine Threshold Singers: Kindness Made Audible

The Bellarine Threshold Singers are part of an international movement offering gentle, heartfelt singing to people who are dying or approaching the end of life. Meeting fortnightly at Kirk's Place, the group is growing in confidence and developing beautiful three-part harmonies.

They now offer Song Baths at ARCARE aged care facilities in Point Lonsdale and Portarlington, and are building connections with Compassionate Hearts on the Bellarine to bring comfort and reassurance to clients and their families in their own homes.

Bellarine Threshold Singers are grateful to the Ocean Grove UC Dove Op Shop for funding additional bedside training, helping to deepen skills and extend this meaningful service to the community.

Would you like to be part of this gentle act of kindness? New singers are welcome. Contact Music Director Jenny Batten at batjen54@gmail.com or 0438 213 382 to find out more.



**Members of
Threshold Choir**



**Weaving
Workshop at
Queenscliff Hall**

Weaving Connections with The Torch

We recently welcomed artists from The Torch to UCQ for a special weaving workshop that brought people together through creativity, storytelling and cultural connection.

The Torch is a First Peoples-led organisation that supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in or leaving the criminal justice system through art, cultural strengthening and opportunities for artists to share their stories.

The workshop was a wonderful opportunity to learn traditional weaving techniques, connect with others and celebrate First Peoples' culture. It was also a successful fundraiser for SacredEdge 2027, helping us look ahead to another festival of creativity, connection and community.

A big thank you to The Torch artists and Sue Beeton for the idea and everyone who took part and helped make the event such a meaningful success!

CHAPEL SESSIONS

SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

INTIMATE LIVE MUSIC * BEAUTIFUL ARTISTS * GOOD COMPANY

Dan Cully
& Brent Hayhurst

08 JAN
7 PM



Madeliene Cope

& RIVER BRIGGS

14 JAN
7 PM

Dan Musil

& LUCY WISE

16 JAN
7 PM



Rod Coote
& Abigail Grace

22 JAN
7 PM



RILEY CATHERALL
& LAURA LUCAS

05 FEB
7 PM



Victoriana Gaye

07 FEB
2 PM



JACK RAYMOND

12 FEB
7 PM



Rhiz & The Sugar Plums
& NOTHING BUT TREBLE

21 FEB
2 PM

JC & The Tree

25 FEB
7 PM



FULL PROGRAM
& TICKETS



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