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The News

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TUESDAY
9 August 2016

Fire Fighters Walk for Life: Raising money to help defeat cancer!



In September 2015, Michael Gillis and Jeff Jackson, who are both volunteers with the Lochinvar Rural Fire Brigade, undertook a walk from Tamworth to East Maitland. The route followed the New England Highway and passed through the towns of Wallabadah, Willow Tree, Murrurundi, Scone, Aberdeen, Muswellbrook, Singleton & Branxton before completing the walk after 7 days in the Maitland area. Michael was inspired to action after a well respected Fire Control Officer passed away in the Maitland district following a battle with Cancer. Both Jeff and Michael also had family, friends and other brigade members who

at the time were either battling cancer or on the mend. Both are passionate about the cause and supported by the Cancer Council NSW undertook the first walk which successfully raised over \$24,000. **2016: Doing it all again!** This year they have recruited the help of more volunteer fire fighters and family and are undertaking the walk again. Along with Michael and Jeff will be Melissa Gillis (Michael's Wife), Cameron Burrows (volunteer NT Fire and Rescue Service), Midge Gray (Volunteer Tasmania Fire Service/NSW RFS) and David Seabrook (volunteer North Rothbury NSW RFS). Again the group is raising money for the Cancer

Council NSW and has been supported in planning and promotion by Pausha from the Singleton Office. As a group they acknowledge that there are many forms of cancer, and that it does not discriminate on age, gender or what a person has achieved in life. As such they felt the Cancer Council NSW provides the best available assistance to the greater community. As a group they are seeking donations and support for their fundraising event. To date they have raised over \$3000 but have a number of initiatives in place to raise further funds including:

- * Major Raffle,
- * Motor Cycle run from Newcastle to Wollombi Sunday 11th September,
- * Fund raising night at Lochinvar Hotel Friday 23rd September.



Michael (left) and Jeff at front of Lochinvar station after successfully completing 2015 walk.

Celebrate Melbourne Cup in true "Vintage Race Day Style"

Enjoy a relaxing cruise and Melbourne Cup Luncheon on the Brisbane Waterways on Tuesday, 1st November 2016

Rotary Club of Maitland



Join us on a fun-filled "All Things Vintage Melbourne Cup Day". Board our private charter vintage train at your nominated railway station, settle back with a complimentary drink and relax as we journey south towards the ever changing scenery of the magical Hawkesbury River waterways.

On arrival in Woy Woy we will make our way to the waiting Starship Vessel and begin a four hour Brisbane Water cruise. A delicious buffet lunch followed by dessert, tea and coffee will be served as we explore the waterways. Passengers will be able purchase "sweeps" prior to watching the world famous Melbourne Cup horse race as we sail through the spectacular waterways. Tea, coffee and sweets will also be served during the return rail journey.

Judges will be looking to award prizes to the "Best Dressed Vintage Race Day Outfit", and the "Best Period Hat" on the day.

As with our 2014 Melbourne Cup Cruise, we expect tickets for this trip to sell quickly. To secure a seat, telephone Rotarian Doug—0407 978 435 or Rotarian Danny—0418 116 552 and request an application form. Tickets will ONLY be confirmed upon receipt of payment. Payment methods include; credit card, direct deposit into the Rotary Club of Maitland bank account or cash payment as arranged with the Booking Officer.



Ticket Cost \$ 140.00 per person

The ticket cost includes: private return rail journey to Woy Woy; a four hour cruise onboard a Starship Cruiser; a delicious buffet lunch with dessert, tea and coffee. Tea/coffee and cake will be served on the return rail journey.

Passengers are permitted to bring a small esky onboard the train.



Above: Jeff, Melissa and Michael

Donations to the group can be undertaken at our "Do It For Cancer Page" "Fire Fighters Walk for Life" Check out their online page:

<http://firefighterswalkforlife.org/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/firieswalk/>

For further information please contact Michael Gillis on 0432 853 250, or email:

michael@firefighterswalkforlife.org

The 2016 Route commences from the Tamworth based Rural Fire Service Control Centre on Saturday 17 September 2016. Over the following week the group will travel as follows:

- 17 Sept: Tamworth to Werris Creek
 - 18 Sept: Werris Creek to Willow Tree
 - 19 Sept: Willow Tree to Wingen
 - 20 Sept: Wingen to Aberdeen
 - 21 Sept: Aberdeen to Muswellbrook (half rest day)
 - 22 Sept: Muswellbrook to Singleton
 - 23 Sept: Singleton to Lochinvar
 - 24 Sept: Lochinvar to completion at the Lower Hunter Fire Control Centre in Louth Park (East Maitland).
- Distance: Approximately 265 kilometres.

Additional Booking Information can be obtained by contacting:

Doug Perry—Mobile No 0407 978 435 or email doug.perry@bigpond.com

OR

Danny Litwin—Mobile No 0418 116 552 or email carmdan@bigpond.com

Profits from the day will be distributed to various charities

Notice

Important distribution change for 'The News'
Details Page 4 'What's the Goss'



Cessnock City Council Statutory Notices

Phone during working hours 4993 4100
After Hours Emergency 4940 7816

Address all communications to: - The General Manager,
PO Box 152, Cessnock 2325 NSW

SECTION 101 NOTICE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT, 1979, APPROVED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

The public are hereby notified pursuant to Section 101 of the Environmental Planning Assessment Act, 1979 (as amended) that the following applications have been granted consent during the period from 1 July 2016 to 22 July 2016.

Locality	Reference	Decision Date	Property Address	Application Description
EAST BRANXTON	008/2016/00000214/001	11-Jul-2016	91 Dalwood RD	Dwelling Being a Manufactured Home
EAST BRANXTON	008/2016/00000411/001	12-Jul-2016	14 Durham RD	Awning
GRETA	008/2016/00000226/001	6-Jul-2016	49 York ST	Above Ground Swimming Pool
GRETA	008/2016/00000179/001	8-Jul-2016	4 Branxton ST	Construction of Drainage Infrastructure
GRETA	009/2016/00000088/001	13-Jul-2016	5 Kent ST	Garage
LOVEDALE	008/2016/00000300/001	6-Jul-2016	406 Wilderness RD	Shed
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000386/001	4-Jul-2016	12 Rampling AV	Inground Swimming Pool
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000392/001	6-Jul-2016	5 Gollan AV	Single Storey Dwelling with Detached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000336/001	18-Jul-2016	20 Harkin RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000388/001	18-Jul-2016	7 Merewether CL	Deck and Awning
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000366/001	20-Jul-2016	42 Triton BLVD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000424/001	20-Jul-2016	28 Harkin RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000416/001	21-Jul-2016	1794 Wine Country DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
POKOLBIN	008/2016/00000385/001	4-Jul-2016	8 Hakea CCT	Inground Swimming Pool
POKOLBIN	008/2016/00000275/001	6-Jul-2016	2090 Broke RD	Temporary Event - Running Festival
POKOLBIN	008/2016/00000322/001	11-Jul-2016	1727 Broke RD	Dwelling House, Swimming Pool and Viticulture
POKOLBIN	008/2016/00000390/001	22-Jul-2016	45 Angophora DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
ROTHBURY	008/2016/00000384/001	18-Jul-2016	LOT 2 DP 848702 Old North RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage and Swimming Pool

Copies of development consents are available at Council's Customer Service Centre for public inspection, free of charge, during the Council's ordinary office hours

P.O. BOX 152
CESSNOCK

Stephen Glen
General Manager

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL SPORTING FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR GRANT SCHEME AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR GRANT SCHEME 2016/2017

Cessnock City Council has \$20,000 available within the Sporting Facility and Equipment Dollar for Dollar Grant Scheme and \$20,000 in the Community Facilities Dollar for Dollar Grant Scheme to distribute to sporting and community groups.

Groups are invited to apply for funds through either one of these grant schemes. Applications may be used for developing Council owned community and sporting facilities.

Grants will be provided on a dollar for dollar basis and Council will assess applications in line with a preset selection criteria. **All projects must be completed by June 30, 2017.**

Application forms and grant guidelines are available from Council's Administration Building or via Council's website (www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au). **Completed application forms must be returned no later than 5:0pm Friday, 9 September 2016.**

It is advised that all applicants contact Council's Recreation & Community Liaison Officer Kate Hicks on 4993 4234 prior to lodging an application.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION CESSNOCK AQUATIC CENTRE FEASIBILITY & DESIGN REPORT

At its meeting of 15 June 2016, Council resolved to place on public exhibition the Draft Cessnock Aquatic Centre Feasibility & Design Report.

The public exhibition period will be from Monday 20 June 2016 to Friday 19 August 2016. The documents can be viewed at the following locations:

Council's Administration Building (Customer Service Section);
Cessnock Public Library;
Kurri Kurri Public Library;
Kurri Kurri Aquatic & Fitness Centre;
Council's website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

Written submissions should be addressed to the General Manager and will be accepted up **until 4.00 pm Friday 19 August 2016** via email recreation@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or post

sporting organisations and community groups during the Summer Sporting Season (1 October 2016 to 19 March 2017) are now open. Applications should be submitted to Council by Friday 26 August 2016. Applications are available via Council's website (www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au) or from Council's Administration Building, Vincent Street, Cessnock.

Permission must be obtained from Council before organised sporting activities can take place.

USE OF COUNCIL'S OUTDOOR PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS 2016/2017 SUMMER SEASON

Applications for the use of Cessnock and Branxton Swimming Pools during the upcoming Summer Season by educational institutes, sporting organisations and community groups are now open. Applications should be submitted by Friday 26 August 2016. Bookings for the Pool season commence Tuesday 4 October 2016. Application forms are available via Council's website (www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au) or from Council's Administration Building, Vincent Street, Cessnock.

Permission must be obtained from Council before organised swimming activities can take place. Enquiries should be made to Council's Recreation and Community Liaison Officer, Mrs Kate Hicks on (02) 4993 4234.

TREE GIVEAWAY

Have you purchased or built a new home during the 2015/2016 financial year? Did you know you can get up to eight (8) free plants for your property from Cessnock City Council?

There is a range of trees and shrubs available from ground covers like Creeping Boobalia through to shrubs including Murraya, Bottlebrush and Grevillea, which can reach three (3) metres in height.

Application forms are available from Council's Customer Service Officers, Vincent Street, Cessnock or via Council's website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au. Completed application forms must be received no later than 5:00pm Wednesday, 31 August 2016.

Any enquires regarding the application for supply of trees and shrubs should be directed to Council's Vegetation & Civic Spaces Co-ordinator, Mr Lyall Green, on 4993 4100.

PO BOX 152
CESSNOCK 2325

STEPHEN GLEN
GENERAL MANAGER



John Paul Young and the Allstar Band

13 August 2016

The Vanda & Young Songbook

Travel through the decades of mega hits and hear John's *behind-the-scenes* stories about the songs and their making.

USE OF COUNCIL'S SPORTING FACILITIES 2016/2017 SUMMER SEASON

Applications for the use of Council's recreation facilities by personal trainers, educational institutes,

Local Dealership owners launch inspiring youth rebuild project with PCYC young offenders program

On Friday 12 August, Cessnock City Motor Group will join with the PCYC, local business owners and political representatives to host a special function to officially unveil Project Rebuild.

Project Rebuild is an initiative of new dealership owners, Nerrida and Tim Kendall from Branxton, designed to provide a career pathway for local youth who have not previously had the opportunity and support to gain qualifications or find employment. At the centre of the program are five local boys from Cessnock, all of whom are doing it tougher than most and fighting their own personal battles.

Project Rebuild aims to provide the group with mentoring and professional on-the-job training to develop the trade skills and work processes necessary for them to be job-ready for employment in the motor industry.

An old, wrecked Holden HZ ute unearthed by Cessnock City Motor Group (CCMG) has been donated for the project and over the next 4 months, the group will work on-site at the dealership to restore the vehicle to like-new condition. Cessnock YCM Senior Constable Matt Ellis is passionate about Project Rebuild and states "It is a holistic crime prevention program designed to reduce

crime amongst young offenders and youth at risk whilst they learn practical skills. As they restore the vehicle we hope their focus will shift from one of committing crime to one of taking pride and ownership in the project and becoming a contributing member of our community."

Cessnock City Motor Group is the major sponsor of Project Rebuild and is committed to its success and achieving long-term results for the boys involved. The dealership has provided the Rebuild Crew with team uniforms and new tools, along with a dedicated work bay specifically for Project Rebuild. CCMG's senior service technicians together with

volunteers from Cessnock Lions Club and the Men's Shed are generously giving their time and sharing their experience to act as mentors for the team.

Director Nerrida Kendall, believes strongly in the Program and what the boys will achieve "While the program is designed to expose the boys to the motor industry and teach them new skills, it is their personal growth and development and willingness to reset their life path which is the real heart of the program. Two weeks in and I'm already so proud of the respect and commitment the boys are showing and their attitude to working as a team."

"The old saying 'it takes a village to raise a child' is finding truth in this Pro-

ject," states Nerrida. "As

local companies are learning about the Project they are coming on board as sponsors. We'd like to specially thank Coalfields Classic Vehicle Restorations, Eastside Kustoms, Auto One Cessnock and MOB Engines.

Project Rebuild will culminate in November 2016 with the auction of the Holden HZ Ute onsite at Cessnock City Motor Group. All proceeds from the auction will be reinvested back into Project Rebuild 2017 and Police led programs at Cessnock PCYC.

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Council staff proud in pink supporting breast cancer!

Cessnock City Council outdoor staff will be sporting pink high-vis work shirts and vests in support of breast cancer awareness from August to October 2016.

The staff-led initiative is a part of Council's employee giving program where staff can make a donation with all proceeds raised going to the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

Breast cancer is an issue that hits home for many in Cessnock as one in eight women are diagnosed with breast cancer nationally. Council employees hope their shirts contribute to

raising awareness and funding around early prevention as early diagnosis gives a person the best chance of survival.

Director of Works and Infrastructure Justin Fitzpatrick-Barr said Council is immensely proud of staff getting involved with this initiative. "This is a fantastic way for everyone to support a worthy cause, while raising funds and awareness in the community". "It really highlights the



sense of pride and community spirit that exists in our workforce", Mr Fitzpatrick-Barr said. The pink high-vis initiative is scheduled to run in conjunction with Breast Cancer Awareness month in October. Breast Cancer

Awareness Month provides an opportunity to focus on breast cancer and its impact on those affected by the disease in our community.

Winners are grinners



Mike Baird's shock announcement on the 7th July 2016 to ban greyhound racing caused mass devastation and depression amongst all participants in N.S.W. Greta's Greyhound Breeders Owners & Trainers Association members have found a way to be upbeat and smile, by training winners.

In the past few weeks the club has produced 14 winners at juicy odds. Winners at the Gardens included LUCKY BILLY, COLD SPELL and MRS MOONCLAY for Chris Kedwell. MIDNIGHT MUSTANG (twice) for Bradley Sabotic and KISS ME JUNIOR (twice) for Pa Keegan. HEART'S SPARK and TARO TRON for Garry Kedwell and EUCHRE BOY for Helen PULLMAN. LACE'S OUT for Barry Howell and ZIPPING MONTANA for Tom Pullman won at Gosford. Frank Cini had success at Maitland with HIGH BALLING and best result was MIDNIGHT MYSTIC for Bradley Sabotic winning at Wentworth Park paying \$28.

Ice cream sales at Macas went through the roof. (Winning dogs love a reward!)

The next meeting for the GRETA G.B.O.T.A. will be at GRETA WORKERS CLUB on Sunday 14th August, 7pm. New members welcome.

Photo above: Clayton Barr MP (at far left) outside Greta Workers Club after a local forum was held 2 weeks ago to discuss the closure of greyhound racing in NSW

"ALL ABOUT CHOPIN"

A piano recital to aid the Special Education unit at the Singleton High School will be held at Sacred Spaces, Singleton at 3pm on Sunday the 14th August.

This recital, performed by Phillip Aughey of Branxton, will feature 8 of Chopin's piano works, including a Prelude, Mazurka, Nocturne and Etudes. Giving a wide range musical genres Chopin worked with. Intermingled with a talk about Chopin, his life and times.

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- Chicken, mushroom & asparagus risotto
- House made Highland beef burger on a brioche bun with cheddar cheese, chilli jam, rocket & fries
- Pan fried red emperor, burnt lemon caper butter, almonds & green beans

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- Roasted potatoes with rosemary salt
- Rocket & parmesan salad
- Green beans

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What's Happening & other matters

with **Mike Lowing**

This is our 436 edition of The News. Our first edition, published on the 28th August 1997, was 24 pages &

approximately 1600 copies were printed. The first editor was David Mason-Jones who continued putting it together for about 70 more issues.

I have been editor since David departed.

The 28th August this year will mark its 19th year; a remarkable achievement of continuity of which I am very proud! In that 19 years we have had many changes; our circulation has increased to

4400, we are now full colour & tabloid, the quality of printing has improved immensely (as you can see from the from page of our first edition), and we now have a presence on the 'world wide web'

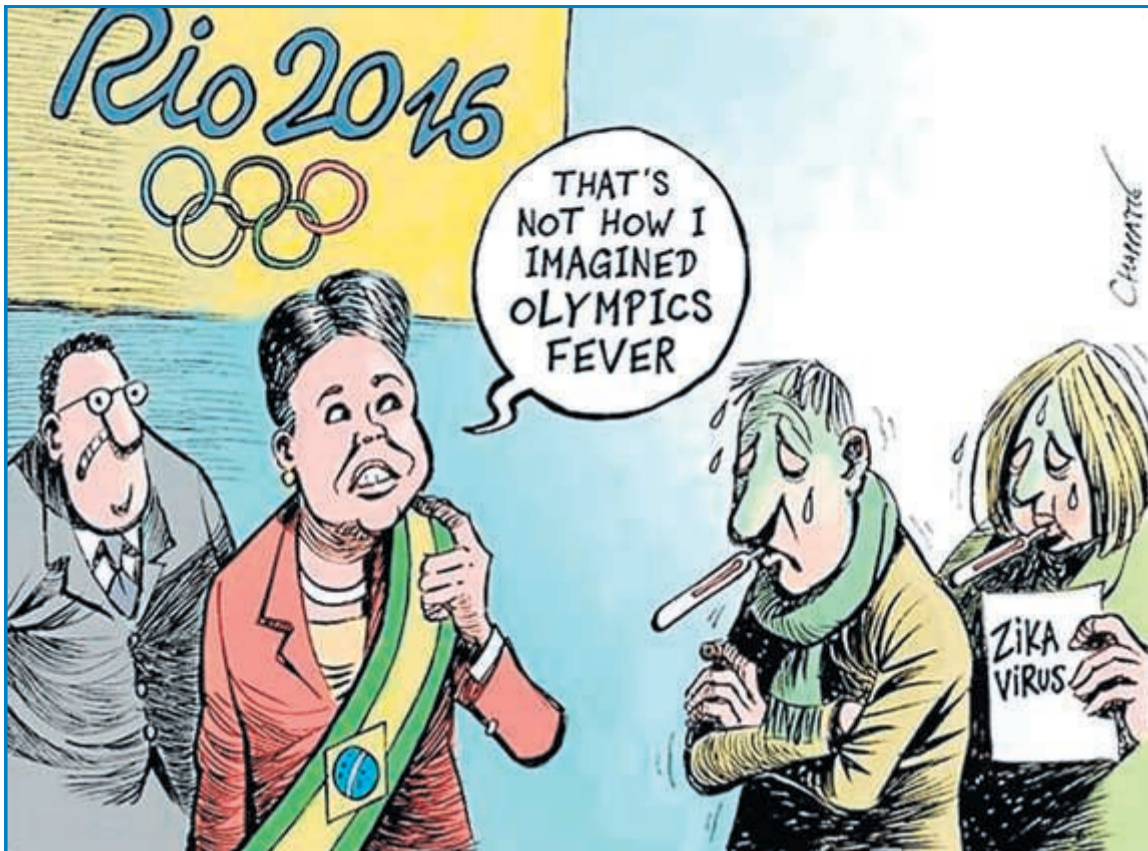
(www.thebranxtonnews.com.au). The later did take some time but we are there now! You may ask ... 'where am I going with this?'

Well, another change has now taken place; we have stopped household delivery in Branxton & Greta. We have taken this step for a number of good reasons of which I will not bore you with.

We have set up bulk delivery sites in both hamlets viz., The Branxton IGA Supermarket & the Branxton Newsagency, Baileys of Greta & the Greta Post Office. We will also increase the number of outlets over the coming weeks.

We will still offer home delivery to those who are aged or infirm. All you need to do is call our office on 4938 1773 and let us know you details and it will be done.

Our office has always been used by our readers when they are not sure about something local that has or is to happen. Over the last couple of weeks we have been inundated with people dropping in or phoning who are concerned about the coming census.



We have been told that more than 15 million people are expected to complete the Census online. They tell us that the paper forms will still be available. & that from August 1, households will receive a letter with a 'unique Census Login'.

It's 10:56am on Sunday morning the 7th August & we still have not received ours which I am assuming we are the same as rest of the local community. The website tells me that every household must use it to complete the Census

online, or follow the directions to order a paper form ... 'in some locations, households will receive a paper form upfront, with the option to complete it online(?)' By the time you read this, hopefully, all should be clear.

I must say it has been a PR & commutative shambles. I watched a report on NBN news last week where they did a story on an older lady who had been trying to call the publicised phone number for 3 days without any luck. All she wanted

was a paper form. When she had finished telling her exasperated tale they then interviewed the director/commissioner, or whatever he was called, to be told that she should just keep trying at maybe try different hours until she got someone to talk to and get her request noted.

A bit of history; Australia's first census was held in November 1828 in the colony of New South Wales. Previous government statistical reports had been taken from "musters" where

inhabitants were brought together for counting. In 1828, the white population was 36,598 of whom 20,870 were free and 15,728 were convicts. 23.8% of the population were born in the colony. 24.5% were women. There were 25,248 Protestants and 11,236 Catholics. Indigenous Australians were not counted. Of the 36,598 people, 638 were living in what is now Queensland. There were also 18,128 people in Tasmania.

Cheers, Mike

THE BRANXTON-GRETA NEWS
-VINEYARDS-

Archbishop of Canterbury Enjoys Our Local Hospitality

The Gateway to Quality...
Branxton Quality Meats

MECHANICAL REPAIRS
NEW CAR SERVICING
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SERVICING & TUNE UPS

AT LAST! - A LOCAL NEWS-PAPER

Letters to the Editor

From the Editor:- THE most heartwarming part of the 2016 Olympic Opening Parade from Brazil was seeing the Refugee Olympic Team in the parade. They might not win any medals on the podium but they have shown the rest of the world on the largest stage and to the largest audience possible there's always hope and room in sport to defeat and overcome any trial and torment thrown at you. We can only hope other countries take note and ISIS sees it as a slap in the face for those trying to divide and destroy world peace.

Congratulations Brazil. You have proven the doubters were wrong. Well done!

Cheers, Mike

Women are over-represented in tertiary education

I READ an article the other day which stated that... "Women are over-represented in tertiary education even though women are under-represented in virtually every area of endeavour." Feminists are celebrating, because more and more, boys are being marginalised in our education system. It's been a slow march, but the feminists are now ruling education, and the consequences are devastating, not only for males, but ultimately females. Due to the prevailing narrative over the past several decades that all men are either stupid or sexual predators, men have been hounded or ran from the teaching profession in their droves.

My children's ratio over their 12 years at school was probably around 80% female teacher 20% male. Graduation ceremonies at

schools are now a procession of young girls receiving all the top awards, and you are left wondering where all the young men have gone to. The feminists have feminised the curriculum and the system, so that now education is anathema to the male style of learning, and it follows that there are now many more females entering universities than males, many of whom leave school lost, detached and wondering if they fit anywhere.

But this of course, is a cause of celebration for the feminists, because as is clearly evidence, they fight not for equality, but for complete annihilation of maleness and manhood. (The writer has implored me not to publish his/her name)

Why cut?

SO THE Reserve Bank has again cut interest rates. None of their previous rate cuts have done any good for the economy so why keep

doing the same thing? At least Ian Narev, chief executive of the Commonwealth Bank, has shown some sense and lifted term deposit interest rates by 0.5%. Give the self-funded retirees and others with some savings a bit extra to spend and the economy will start to pick up. Cutting interest rates only fuels concern the economy is continuing to 'head south' and further erodes confidence in the future. This means smart people hang onto their money or pay down their mortgage quicker, not go out and

spend money unnecessarily. It also entices people who probably can't afford it into the housing market which will be a big issue when interest rates ultimately rise. As for superannuation, people tend to take on riskier investments which can end up in future heartache. Also, while I've got the floor; your children will soon be driving on our roads. They learn from you. Please put away your phones. M. McGregor, Narrabri NSW

World wide WEB

<http://thebranxtonnews.com.au/>

Ah, marriage. I was standing in front of the bathroom mirror one evening admiring my reflection, when I posed this question to my wife of 30 years: "Will you still love me when I'm old, fat, and balding?" She answered, "I do."

You know you're ugly when it comes to a group picture and they hand you the camera

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.

Just read that 4,153,237 people got married last year, not to cause any

trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?

If I had a dollar for every girl that found me unattractive, they would eventually find me attractive.

A weeping woman bursts into her hypnotherapist's office and declares, "Doctor, I have been faithful to my husband for 15 years, but yesterday I broke that trust and had an affair! The guilt is killing me. I just want to forget that it ever happened!" The hypnotherapist shakes his head. "Not again ..."

A couple are sitting in their living room, sipping wine. Out of the blue, the wife says, "I love you." "Is that you or the wine talking?" asks the husband. "It's me," says the wife. "Talking to the wine"

The **Branxton Greta Vineyards News** is a member of the

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Branxton.... 4938 3396

Rural Fire Brigades
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Broke..... 6579 1491
Greta..... 4015 0000

Bishops Bdg 4015 0000
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Letters to the editor can be sent to:

The Editor, The BGV News, 12 Clift Street, Branxton NSW 2335

or

fax to 4938 3301

or emailed to thenews@hotmail.net.au

WET tax changes to cost jobs in the Hunter Valley

The Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association (HVWTA) held a meeting of all wine and wine tourism industry stakeholders last Wednesday, 3 August at the Pokolbin Hall. Chairman of HVWTA George Souris said the purpose of the meeting was to discuss a number of key objections that the local industry has with the Wine Equalisation Tax (WET) rebate issues proposed in the recent Federal budget.

"It is the opinion of industry that these changes could have a devastating impact on the wine and tourism industry in the Hunter Valley, including the loss of jobs," Mr Souris said. At a recent meeting in Adelaide between Winemakers Federation of Australia (WFA) and States and Regions to discuss the results of consultations within the industry on the budget outcomes, there were two distinct issues

objected to that have direct relevance to the Hunter Valley. Firstly, the tightening of eligibility criteria to businesses that own or lease a winery and reducing the WET rebate available from \$500,000 down to \$290,000. "Both these issues have a real risk of causing economic hardship for the local industry, as many wine producers are dependent on that rebate to survive and be in business," Mr Souris said.

The budget proposal to restrict the WET rebate to wine businesses that own or lease a winery, excludes the WET rebate from potentially 80 Hunter Valley wine businesses that use a contract winemaker in their business model. "The bottom line, if the definition stands, many of our small winemakers will experience a 50% INCREASE (or more) to their cost structures", said Mr Souris. This would have a serious

economic impact on many wine regions including the Hunter Valley. The budget proposal to reduce the WET rebate from \$500,000 to \$290,000 will have another dramatic impact on wineries with sales of \$1.7m and above, and will add a significant impost to those winery bottom lines as it is progressively introduced and further an adverse economic impact on the industry and on regional economies. The regional

economic cost of such a proposal is severe and far outweighs any revenue gains from the tax increase. The agreed position is that this reduction should be opposed. The economic arguments in the report commissioned by WFA will be a key element in the advocacy argument. The Government has announced a willingness to consult on the proposed eligibility criteria. If there is to be consultation it should cover both the proposed changes.

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Well done!



Training on Tuesday night was like Christmas in July for the members of the Local N.S.W. SES when Colin Baillie presented a cheque for \$1,000 to the Controller, Bill Thompson. "It was a job well done," Colin told the members, referring to their role as marshals at the State Motor Cross Sprint and Cross Country on Saturday 17th July. "The riders felt very safe seeing the members in orange keeping the trail clear for them where it intersected with the 4x4 drive track." The donation will go towards needed items, so that the unit can operate and service the community efficiently.

Annual Reading Hour Celebration & Junior Creative Writing Workshops kick off!



Cessnock City Council is gearing up for Reading Hour, seeing local children leave their cuddly companion for a night alone at Cessnock City Library after a special evening storytime. Reading Hour is a national event aimed at encouraging reading among young

Australians, as research shows children who read from an early age are better off. This year the message is 'share a book for 10 minutes a day, an hour a week, and give the gift of reading'. Parents, caregivers and families are reminded you can read anytime and anywhere. On Tuesday 16 August from 6pm to 7pm Cessnock

City Library will host a special evening storytime. At the end of the story children will be asked to leave a toy that is brave enough to sleepover without them. Their toys will be tucked up in bed but will they go straight to sleep or get up to some mischief? Each child will discover what their toys got up to when they come to pick up their toys over the next week! (We'll have a behind-the-scenes photographer on the job). For more details or to make a booking for this free event, phone Cessnock Library on 49934399, email Sandy on Sandra.ryan@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or drop in and see us at the library, 65-67 Vincent St, Cessnock. Cessnock City Council is also encouraging local children to get involved with junior creative writing workshops

held at Cessnock City Library and Kurri Kurri Library. The ability to express through writing is a vital skill in today's world – a child who can both read and write fluently is off to a wonderful start! In recognition of this, Cessnock Council offers free monthly workshops for children aged 10 to 16. The program looks to build on and enhance the creative writing a child is doing at school, in a fun and informal environment. The workshops at both libraries start at 4 pm and are held one Monday per month at Cessnock Library and one Tuesday per month at Kurri Kurri Library. The next session for this term is on Monday August 29 at Cessnock Library and Tuesday August 30 at Kurri Kurri Library. Participants will be working on creating a community newspaper together. A full program is available on the library website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au. For more information phone Karen at Kurri Kurri Library on 02 49371638 or Sandy at Cessnock Library 49934384.

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New name & look

All Saints College, St Joseph's Campus, Lochinvar, is going back to its roots with a school rename. The historic name of St Joseph's College, Lochinvar, will be reintroduced to the school, along with a Year 11 cohort and a new school crest from Term one, 2018. The change will see St Joseph's become independent of St Mary's and St Peter's High School, Maitland, which together form All Saints College. This follows last July's announcement that the school campus be redeveloped to allow for the reintroduction of senior education to meet both strong enrolment demand and demographic growth. The recommendation for this expansion came out of the Provision of Secondary Education study, commissioned by Bishop Bill Wright, to ensure the diocese be able to meet the future needs of students in Catholic secondary schools. "The expansion of St Joseph's to incorporate Years 11 and 12 will enhance the local provision of Catholic education, Kindergarten to Year 12, with ease to the full spectrum of Catholic education guaranteed for this region," says Assistant Director – Secondary School Projects, Catholic Schools Office, Gerard Mowbray.

Check it all out on our website www.baileysofgreta.com.au

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Members say

Cessnock City Council Update

Local residents have probably noticed a splash of pink around Cessnock, as Council outdoor staff are sporting bright pink high-vis work shirts and vests in support of breast cancer awareness. The staff led initiative is being run from August to October in conjunction with Breast Cancer Awareness month in October. Staff hope when you spot them in pink you remember one in eight women are diagnosed with breast cancer nationally and early diagnosis is key.

This initiative is a part of Council's employee giving program where staff can make a donation with all proceeds raised going to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. Council are extremely proud of the staff involved in raising awareness and funds for such a worthy cause.

Last week we celebrated Local Government week, this year's theme was 'Our Council, Our Community'. A real highlight of was a visit from Paul Harragon as a part of the School Leaders Breakfast. Around 200 students took part in the event where they had the opportunity to hear from the 'the Chief'. Students heard how he overcame challenges throughout his career, including during his recent appearance on I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here and the Coast to Coast trek of Papua New Guinea.

Paul Harragon spoke about the importance of goal setting, putting his success down to his ability to set goals throughout his career. It was a fantastic event and great to see local students inspired by a leader who really has achieved a lot on and off the field.

Council has now officially moved into caretaker mode as the local government election approaches. Briefings were held last week giving prospective candidates a better understanding of the requirements and challenges of civic life. The Council election will be held on Saturday, 10 September 2016. Pre-poll will commence on Monday, 29 August 2016. For more information head to <http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/council/election>.

STEPHEN GLEN, General Manager



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

people in NSW prisons. Two thirds of our prisoners cannot read or write, 30% of them are Aboriginal (even though our Aboriginal community make up just 3%-4% of general population), it is suggested that more than 75% of them have no real form of identity (ie: couldn't get a licence or enrol in TAFE) and an estimated 60% have a mental health condition. One wonders how many of our prisoners actually need services and assistance before getting into gaol. Inmates cost us about \$100,000 per head per year and consume \$1 out of every \$30 in our State Budget.

COMMUNITY MEETING TO BE HELD ABOUT CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE'S PROPOSED EXPANSION

A large number of residents have been in touch with my office, objecting not only to the proposal but also contending that there has been insufficient time given for community consultation.

In response I held a community meeting last Sunday, August 7, 2016 in the Auditorium at Cessnock Leagues Club.

An invitation was extended to the Hon David Elliott, MP, NSW Corrections Minister, to attend the meeting.

However, there is some good news, as I and other community leaders have lobbied the NSW Corrections Minister and the public consultation period has been extended until COB on Monday 22 August, 2016.

For enquiries regarding the State Government or its departments, or to put you in contact with someone who can, please contact my office. My office can be contacted by phoning 4991-1466, by email to cessnock@parliament.nsw.gov.au or call into 118 Vincent Street (PO Box 242), Cessnock 2325.

You also follow me on my Facebook page "www.facebook.com/claytonbarrmp", go to Twitter and search @claytonbarrmp or check out my website at www.claytonbarr.com.au

Cheers Clayton



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Member for Hunter

Nearly five weeks after the election the outcome in both the House and Senate has just been given. It does look like a mess in both chambers. The double dissolution was supposed to be about cleaning up the Senate. That worked well!

Last week Labor's Caucus met to elect a new front bench. I'm honoured to have been elected to serve another term as a member of the Shadow Cabinet. It's busy but rewarding work. It provides an opportunity to shape policy and adds weight to one's ability to further the interests of his or her electorate. I promise to use every bit of the influence I have in Canberra to meet the expectations of our local people. That's always been my first priority.

Following my re-election to the Shadow Cabinet and at my request, Bill Shorten has re-appointed me to the Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry portfolio. I have been enjoying my work in the food and fibre sectors and have plenty of unfinished business to pursue. The Leader also added Rural & Regional Australia to my portfolio which means I will lead the development of Labor's regional development policy and hold the government to account on all matters affecting our rural and regional communities.

A number of recent academic reports have suggested that regional residents continue to fall behind their city cousins in a range of areas including health and education. These issues will be a key focus for me. I will also remain the Spokesman and convenor of

Labor Country Caucus which provides another mechanism for ensuring our regions receives the attention they deserve.

The Austar Coal Mine Community Support Program has an allocation of funding which is separate to any current contributions to the City of Cessnock. Local Community groups are invited to submit applications throughout the year, with closing dates to be advertised on the Austar Coal Mine website.

Projects that are closely aligned with Austar Coal Mine's core values of enhancing the economic, social and environmental well-being of the local community will be considered favourably. The Community Support Program seeks to target a whole range of community needs such as education, environment, health and safety, infrastructure projects, arts, leisure and research. Austar has developed a Community Support Program Guideline and Application Form to assist applicants with how to apply. These are available on the Austar website:

<http://www.austarcoalmine.com.au/Community/CommunitySupportProgram/tabid/171/Default.aspx>

Cheers, Joel



John Martin, Mayor Singleton Council

The Singleton community has planted 2000 trees as part of the 2016 National Tree Day activities. Around 90 people got their hands dirty for community National Tree Day event at Robinson Reserve on Sunday 31 July. There was a mix of Glencore employees, Council employees, Guides, members from the Rotary Club of Singleton and community volunteers. Everyone really chipped in and planted over the targeted 1000 trees for the Sunday community event. Seven hundred trees were planted by Singleton Heights Public School and Singleton Christian School students on Friday and 1300 trees were planted on the Sunday. Singleton Council General Manager Jason Linnane also helped bury a time capsule at the Friday school event which contained letters from the students and Council to mark National Tree Day's 21st birthday.

Singleton Council is excited to announce that Annalise Kircher has won by popular vote the #singleton2017 Instagram competition. Annalise had the most likes on their picture of an outdoor public lagoon that represented her 10-year vision for Singleton. The competition is part of Singleton Council's engagement program for the review of the Singleton Community Strategic Plan (CSP). Runner up prizes were awarded to Kim Nguyen, Rachel Cooper and Ella Palmer. The photos entered in the competition will be used to help inform the review of the CSP and will help illustrate the final document when it's put up to the new Council for endorsement in 2017.

The Singleton Festival was another great success with all events well attended. Kate White Flannery's tribute to Amy Winehouse was so well attended that she has decided to do two encore performances later this month. One show sold out almost immediately and the final show is already half sold. Other events were also well attended with the Singleton Art Prize attracting media attention in Sydney which is exactly what the festival is attempting to do, put Singleton on the map for its cultural experiences. Glass Parade rectification works are now complete. The road was opened on Monday 25 July with final line marking completed on Tuesday 26 July. The works started on the 30 July and included installation of sub soil drainage to the central media, removal of chicanes within road reserve and a full depth asphalt replacement. Despite some wet weather delays the project went according to plan.

Stage 1 of works on the unnamed bridge over Glendon Brook on Gresford Road has now commenced. The first stage of works will be rehabilitation work on the bridge abutment; this part of the work is technically the most difficult and will take around six to eight weeks to complete. Council anticipates

Stage 1 of works on the bridge to be completed and re-opened in September, weather permitting. Singleton Council will host six public information workshops for discussion on the Community Strategic Plan: *Singleton 2027*. The information sessions will be held at the Singleton Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre from 5.30pm to 6.30pm with Council staff available to discuss the *Singleton 2027* project. The workshops dates and topics are:

- 'Our Places' – Wednesday 10th August
- 'Our Leadership' – Wednesday 17th August
- 'Our People' – Wednesday 31 August
- 'Our Environment' – Wednesday 7th September
- 'Our Economy' – Wednesday 14th September
- General project information session – Wednesday 21 September

Residents are invited to register at the Engagement Hub www.singleton.engagementhub.com.au to take part in surveys, and for more information about the project and upcoming consultation activities.

Nominations for the 2016 Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame are now open. The Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame recognises individuals, families or local organisations who have a strong association with Singleton and who have obtained significant prominence at a state, national or international level in their field of endeavour. Nominations can be made until 2 September 2016 in one of seven categories. The 2016 categories are: Arts, Science and Education – including culture and entertainment; Business and Industry – including agriculture, trade, retail and mining; Public Service, including politics, unionism, religion, education, welfare, defence, bravery and gallantry; Wine, Tourism and Hospitality; Sport; Community Service and Meritorious Families. Nomination forms and guidelines can be downloaded from www.halloffame.singleton.nsw.gov.au or copies can be picked up during opening hours from Singleton Council's Customer Service Centre, Queen St, Singleton and Singleton Library.



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP Member for Upper Hunter

State Matters DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS ON A SAFER PATHWAY IN THE UPPER HUNTER ELECTORATE

People experiencing the unacceptable brutality of domestic and family violence will receive tailored, multi-agency support with the roll out of *Safer Pathway* in the Manning Great Lakes Local Area Command (LAC) in November of this year, and in the Hunter Valley and Central Hunter Local Area Commands from March 2017. Last week I was joined by the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Pru Goward at the Muswellbrook Police Station to make the announcement on the *Safer Pathway* program for the Upper Hunter Electorate, that aims to ensure every domestic violence victim across NSW receives a consistent and effective response regardless of where they live. The expansion of *Safer Pathway* means domestic violence survivors will have a single contact point to provide tailored, holistic support to help ensure their ongoing safety and recovery from this horrible crime. This follows the success of *Safer Pathway*'s first six sites, with the NSW Government committing \$53 million over four years to expand *Safer Pathway* statewide, with 21 new locations rolling out in 2016-17.

Safer Pathway brings together local representatives including Police, Health, Corrections, Family and Community Services and Education along with local specialist non-government domestic and family violence services, creating a streamlined, integrated referral pathway for victims who are 'at threat' or 'at serious threat' to their life, health or safety. The service will be coordinated by the Hunter Valley Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service, which has a long history of providing professional advocacy and support for women who have experienced domestic violence.

Courageous victims who have been left traumatised and terrified will no longer have to shop around to get the services they need nor will they have to re-tell their story to a multitude of government agencies, and as such the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is committed to breaking the cycle of domestic violence in NSW.

This roll out in the Electorate will begin first in Manning Great Lakes LAC, and then in the Hunter Valley and Central Hunter LACs, which means even more victims across NSW will now receive coordinated help and support to live their lives free from the unacceptable scourge that is domestic violence.

NEW TIMES FOR SERVICE NSW'S SINGLETON OFFICE
Since launching in 2013, Service NSW has set the benchmark for government service delivery, with the Upper Hunter area of our Electorate being serviced by the Singleton office of Service NSW, which will soon be amending it's opening hours to better reflect customer demand.

The Singleton office is important to our regional community, and is part of a network which now includes 64 service centres, two contact centres, website and mobile app where the community can access over 900 transactions from more than 40 government agencies.

The Singleton service centre customers can do business with Roads and Maritime; NSW Fair Trading; Births, Deaths and Marriages; Family and Community Services, the Office of State Revenue and many others, with the centre providing access to more than 850 Government transactions.

As a customer focused organisation, Service NSW is constantly shaping its services and network based on customer demand and feedback, and after three years of operation, Service NSW has reviewed its service centre opening hours to ensure they aligned with customer demand.

The new service hours, effective from 26 September 2016, will be from 9.00am through to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. The centre will remain closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

The revised hours are in response to the way our local community is using service centres and will ensure additional resources are available for the network of service centres and its customers when they're needed most.

Contact: My Email address; upperhunter@parliament.nsw.gov.au, phone numbers; 6543 1065, Fax 6543 1416; postal address P.O. Box 493, Muswellbrook 2333.

Cheers, Michael

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For the first time in 63 years Branxton/Greta CWA unfortunately had to cancel our Birthday Lunch due to unforeseen circumstances but in true CWA spirit we are looking forward to the Land Cookery/Product Promotion (Blue Berries) Day towards the end of the year – date and venue to be advised. CWA Hunter River Group held its Group International (Mongolia)/Cultural Day at the Greta Workers Club on Wednesday, 27th July and approx. 80 members

attended and were welcomed with a scrumptious morning tea prepared by Maitland City Evening Branch (who also catered the lunch). Mrs Val Wild, Group International Officer, started the day by introducing Peter Sloane who talked about his experience of living in Mongolia whilst he was a consultant for a Food and Agriculture organisation. Peter and his wife, Jos, lived in Mongolia for 15 years since 1989 and was there during the change from communism to democracy and was also the Chairman of the Australia-Mongolia Society from 1991-2000 and also the Honorary Consul General for Mongolia in Sydney from 2000 to 2015 and made regular trips between Sydney and Mongolia during those years. Peter gave a picturesque power point presentation as well as many of his wonderful memories of his time there which was very inter-

esting and entertaining. The second guest speaker was Joan Hall, from Newcastle Evening Branch, who gave another picturesque power point presentation of some of her friend's holiday photos from Mongolia. These were also interesting to see. Peter and Jos also assisted Val with the judging of the posters and the Gers (mobile homes) (not yurts as in my other article – won't be relying on the internet for information again). Thank you Peter, Jos and Joan for your time. A lovely lunch followed and was enjoyed by all. Thank you to the ladies from Maitland City Evening Branch. After lunch, Mrs Jennifer Carr, introduced all the acts for the Cultural afternoon. There were a few skits and several poetry readings. Mrs Jennifer Partridge was the judge of the day. It was an enjoyable afternoon and Jennifer Partridge an-

nounced the winners of cultural. Cultural Best Performance – Susie Fitzpatrick – (Poetry reading) Best Production – Mary Bowman and Anita Burkill (Sketch) Encouragement Award – Vicki Muller (Poetry reading) Val Wild also announced winners of following: International School Poster – Muswellbrook Public School Branch Poster – Merriwa Ger – Dungog/Clarencetown Thank you also to Jennifer Partridge for judging the acts and poetry readings for the day and also many thanks to Phil Johnstone, Manager, Greta Workers Club for his help and support for the day. Denise McGoldrick Publicity Officer.



Police Report

Break, Enter and Steal, Stolen MV/

North Rothbury: Between 16:00 on Friday 29 July 2016 and 06:00 on Monday 01 August 2016 vehicle 1BF4KY - VIC 2014 White Hino Refrigerated Van was parked and secured

at the stated location being Triton Blvd, North Rothbury. Unknown person/s have stolen the vehicle by unknown means and method. Person/s unknown have entered the work shed at stated location via the ground floor front door where jemmy marks appear. Once inside, cupboards and drawers

have been rummaged through. Property being vehicle key, hand and power tools have been stolen. **Drive whilst suspended/Greta:** The accused in the matter is a male, aged 28 from Hunterville. About 21:45 on Monday 1st August 2016, Police stopped a Blue Holden Astra for the purpose of a breath test on the New England Highway Greta at the front of Caltex Service Station. The vehicle was travelling in a northerly direction. Police approached the vehicle and observed the accused to be the only occupant of the vehicle. Police asked the accused to produce his licence, to which he produced a NSW Class C Drivers Licence. The accused was subjected to a breath test which returned a negative result. Police conducted checks of the

accused licence via the Roads and Maritime Service which indicated his licence was currently endorsed as suspended due to demerit points. The accused as a result had been suspended from the 12th July 2016 until the 11th October 2016. Police advised the accused that he would be receiving a Field Court Attendance Notice to appear at Singleton Local court on the 15th September 2016. **Suspended Driver/ Branxton:** Location : New England Hwy Branxton, near int Clift Street. POI : Male, aged 21 from Cessnock (Suspended from 23/02/2016 Fine Default) .MVOI : Silver Ford Laser Sedan (Rego Exp 22/06/2016) Time : 2215 Date : 22/07/2016

On Friday 22 July 2016 about 10:15pm police were patrolling New England Highway Branxton when they located expired unregistered Silver Ford Laser Sedan. The vehicle engine was running and lights were on, the vehicle having recently pulled over to the road shoulder and stopped. Police stopped and spoke to the driver the accused, about his driving and vehicle registration. Checks on the accused's New South Wales licence revealed that his drivers licence was suspended for the non payment of fines on 23 February 2016. The accused was served with Penalty Notices for the Use uninsured Motor vehicle and Use unregistered registrable class A motor vehicle on a road offences.

PHARMACY ADVISOR



Lee Grundy, Pharmacist & proprietor of Branxton Pharmacy

Summer skin rashes These rashes can be caused by things like sunlight, insects, sweating and overheating during the summer months - especially if they have allergies and/or pre-existing skin conditions. Babies are especially susceptible to skin rashes because their skin is new and therefore sensitive. There are several different types of skin rashes; here are some that can occur during the summer months. **Heat rash or prickly heat** Sometimes called miliaria, this is a harmless but very itchy skin rash with small red spots in places where sweat collects, such as the armpits, back, under the breasts, chest, groin, crooks of elbows and knees, and the waist. It is caused by a blockage and inflammation of sweat ducts in heat and high humidity, which causes tiny red spots, an irritating itch and prickling sensation & redness and mild swelling of the affected area. **Sun rash** Some people have skin that can develop rashes with exposure to direct sunlight including people on certain antibiotics, or people exposed to some chemicals, fragrances, dyes, or disinfectants. This is called photodermatitis. In some people exposure to the sun in the spring or early summer can trigger an itchy, red rash on the front of the neck and chest and the arms and thighs called polymorphous light eruption (PMLE). It usually clears without

treatment in a few days, although it can come back. Sunlight can also trigger a rare condition called lupus (systemic lupus erythematosus or SLE) in susceptible people. **Skin allergies** Spring and summer are times when there are many substances that can cause allergic skin reactions in the environment – molds, pollens, plant and animal substances. Hives (urticaria) can be triggered by heat or sweat. Eczema (atopic dermatitis) can worsen in the summer, especially with excess sweating. Certain plants and grasses can cause skin rashes. **Rashes from bites and stings** Bites and stings usually cause pain and slight swelling, but



they can cause a severe skin reaction in some people, particularly if they are allergic to stings. Sometimes the reaction is localised to swelling at the site of the bite or sting. This may be many centimetres wide but gradually goes away over a few days. In some people the reaction to the bite or sting affects their whole body and can cause itchy skin anywhere on the body, swelling of the face, lips, tongue, throat, and upper airway, a fast heart rate and low blood pressure. A severe allergic reaction affecting the whole body is called anaphylaxis and is a medical emergency. **Chronic skin conditions** Many people with chronic skin conditions may find that their symptoms are worse during summer. People with these conditions may need to take special precautions:

- atopic dermatitis (eczema)
 - seborrhoeic dermatitis
 - skin cancers.
- Self-care and treatments** Most summer skin rashes are not harmful and will disappear by themselves after a few days. Most rashes can be safely and effectively treated at home. Try one or more of these measures:
- * Wear light, loose-fitting soft clothes that don't trap heat and moisture. Natural fabrics such as cotton are best.
 - * Spend time in cool or air-conditioned or well-ventilated environments. Use a fan if necessary.
 - * Take frequent cool baths or showers.
 - * Ask your doctor or pharmacist if there are any creams or tablets that may help you.
 - * Don't scratch the affected area, as it may worsen and become infected. It's also important to drink plenty of water in hot weather.
- When to seek medical help** See your doctor if the rash doesn't improve by itself, seems to be getting worse or if you have signs of skin infection such as:
- * pain, swelling, redness or warmth around the affected area
 - * pus draining from the lesions
 - * swollen lymph nodes in the armpit, neck or groin
 - * a fever or chills.
- Rarely, some rashes are an early stage of serious infections affecting the whole body or the brain and spinal cord. You should see your doctor or call triple zero (000) if your rash is associated with:
- * Severe headache, neck stiffness, and fever.
- Also see your doctor if you have an ongoing skin problem that is worsened by heat and sunlight, such as atopic dermatitis, seborrhoeic dermatitis & skin cancer & recurrent fungal infections such as tinea.
- chronic fungal infections such as tinea

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Things You May Not Know About

with Neridah Kentwell

.....GRETA



The Greta Post Office (from 1873-1930) Pictured above While Branxton Post Office has a grand old brick building, erected to also house the former switch-board operated telephone exchange from 1927 - 1968, Greta's post office facilities have had much more of a chequered past. As many would know, Greta's post office is presently housed in Greta's newsagency, considered to need only a small facility in the Greta village. It began life in much the same way, starting life as a tiny office on Greta's railway station.

In October 1873 a petition was created from the residents of Anvil Creek, the now ghost village that was behind the railway, to beg for a post office for the area, for either Greta or Anvil Creek. The nearest was four miles away in Branxton, a long trip by horse or on foot. The population then was between 400 and 500 people. The post office was granted and opened on the 15th October 1874, in a small room on the railway station platform. No one knew what to name it, whether it should be Anvil Creek, Farthing's Platform (after the station name which was named for William Farthing, the first mine owner in Anvil Creek) or Greta. The rail line ran through Greta Colliery but the station was in Anvil Creek. Alexander Taylor was appointed Telegraph Station Master at 104 pounds per year. A newspaper clipping in November stated "an inverted old shoe trunk is only half a post office after all. It has been named Anvil Creek Post Office, and only Anvil Creek letters are sent there. Greta letters are still forwarded to Branxton, as formerly." By September 1879, new railway, post and telegraph offices had been erected at Anvil Creek, after an estimated cost of 1800 pounds. In



October the postmaster, Alex Taylor, says he couldn't get his key to the new post office from the station master, Sydney Drew. Sydney Drew requested to be allowed to work the 'Farthing's' Station, and the post and telegraph office, with the help of one lad. In November 1876 the Superintendent of Electric Telegraphs replied that it was undesirable for a station master to act as a telegraph master. But in December the post master, Alex Taylor, was still pleading to be allowed into his new office. He and his letter carrier continued to occupy the old five foot square office, the "upturned shoe box", for about thirteen hours a day. In January 1877 another letter arrived at the Superintendent's from Alex still waiting to get into his new post office. In February 1877 business was finally able to commence in the new telegraph office. However the key game then turned against the station master. A letter arrived from Farthing's Station GNR, written by Sydney Drew to say he had now been locked out by the post and telegraph. He couldn't get to his food and was 'very unhappy'. He also couldn't understand why three youths and a horse were needed to look after a handful of letters. He said he had almost shot at one in the dark of late night, thinking he was a burglar. The result was that Alex Taylor was transferred to Muswellbrook and a new postmaster was appointed, James Clarke O'Hara. In March 1877 Sydney Drew finally got his wish and was appointed postmaster as well as station master. But in June 1877 he requested an increase in salary to match his new duties which now also include the Savings Bank and Money Order Department. In January 1878 there is a request to change the station

name to Greta, from Farthing's Station, to avoid confusion. In May and August there are also requests to have the post office moved to Greta, one mile away. In December 1888, the requests were answered by a letter from the Honourable JF Burns, MP, saying he had visited Greta and found it had nearly doubled in population during the last two years and was now one of the most thriving of the smaller towns in the Northern district. He was of the opinion that the importance of the locality will justify the opening of an office in the township. That same month a notice was placed in the Government Gazette inviting tenders for suitable premises. In January 1889 the Inspector received a long letter from Sydney Drew, Postmaster, giving twelve reasons why the post office should NOT be moved from the station to the town. Some of the points were ridiculous. The tenders went ahead. In February the Inspector from Singleton inspected six properties at Greta for rent. In March he recommended Mr Jones's house (the mayor of the Greta Municipality) for a 2 year lease at 75 pounds per year. In June the new postmaster, Montgomery J Sheppard began work. In July 1889 permission was received from the Department of Railways to erect a pillar box on the Greta Station platform. In November Postmaster Sheppard requests an increase in salary. He receives 150 pounds a year, but in June 1890 he put in another request for an increase as he has a wife and four children to keep on his 150 pounds. His return reply was that he had to wait his turn for promotion. In December 1890 the lease is renewed on Mr Jones's property for another 2 years, to take it up to 1893, still at 75 pounds per year. In June 1892 Mr Sheppard asked for a wage rise again, and again he was told that he must wait his turn. In June 1892 Mark North, the Greta Municipal Council Clerk, put in a request on behalf of the council for a new building to be used as a post office because the present one was unsuitable. In August 1892 a letter arrived from Mr Bossley, Postal Inspector, to say that because the present post office building consisted of four small rooms and an office and was only worth half the rent paid, and as there were no other suitable buildings, 700 pounds would be used for a new building. So in September tenders were called for a suitable centrally situated site. In December 1892 Tulloch's two story house and shop was chosen after a three page report was sent in

recommending it. Also in December 1892 the Post and Telegraph Department made an enquiry to the Justice Department regarding buying some of the land next door to Tulloch's shop which the Justice Department had already purchased for a court house. The inspector suggested the court could take over the railway station building, built at a cost of 2000 pounds, although they would have problems with the Railway's Department as they had possessed it for the last three years. In the same month the Postmaster General agreed to purchase Mr A J Tulloch's premises on High Street for a post and telegraph office for the sum of 1000 pounds at 7% yearly interest until the money was made available. Possession was to be given one week, or more, before 5th March 1893. This site adjoined the site purchased for a court house. In March 1893, Postmaster M J Sheppard submitted two tenders for alterations to the new post office. He sent a telegram on the 6th March 1893 from Greta to the PMG Department to say he had removed the office to the new premises and handed the key of the former premises to the landlord after 'expiration of our lease on 4th Instant'. In May 1893 an agreement was drawn up between A J Tulloch, J Y Tulloch and the Queen, which set out the conditions of sale, but in February 1894 the money is still not available from the government, so interest has to continue as before. The principal sum of 1000 pounds is finally paid on 10th July 1894. In December 1898 Postmaster Sheppard is replaced by Mr R Galloway at Greta. In February 1903 Greta Postmaster Galloway sent a letter to the Postmaster General requesting a reduction in staff due to the lack of business following the closure of the local coal mines in December 1900. He said the inhabitants were still leaving the town as fast as they could to find work elsewhere. Postmaster Galloway predicted the town would soon be nearly deserted. In July 1903 a report by Inspector Golding considered the loss of postal business due to the closure of the Greta Coal Mining Company's Colliery, but allowed for the fact there was

still 115 householders within the municipality and 16 others in the district that were served by the Greta Post Office. To reduce costs he curtails some deliveries. Further reductions are made in June 1905 by the recommendations that the Postmaster and Letter Carrier be transferred and the Greta Post and Telegraph Office be converted into a contract post and telephone office, with the Morse instruments to be removed and a telephone connection to be provided. So in August 1905 a notice appeared in the Government Gazette asking for applicants to conduct the post office on a contract basis for three years. Thirty nine applicants in total applied. In November 1905 the successful applicant was Thomas E Jackson, with his sister as joint contractor due to his being under 21, and was signed up. In 1906 and 1907 problems occurred due to the terms of the contract, which said the mail only had to be delivered within a mile radius from the post office. This meant that people living at Anvil Creek had to collect their letters and telegrams from the post office themselves. Complainants included Mrs Redgrove, who had lived at Anvil Creek for thirty years, Mrs Maughan, and Mr J Batey who had an office at Anvil Creek. Greta Mayor Ben Pryor complained his mail was always late, as young Postmaster Jackson delivered to the outskirts of the town first, then the town's businesses. Ben Pryor also ran the Can't B Beat Store and described himself as "Mayor, Commonwealth Registrar, State and Federal Returning



Officer, Secretary for Road Trustees, Agent for leading Fire and Life Insurance Companies, besides controlling the largest business in town and receives double the mail of any other person in town."! He also complained about the untidiness of the post office and that Thomas Jackson wore a hat while working behind the counter. After young Jackson's three foolscap pages reply was sent he transferred to another contract and left his sister in charge. So in March 1907 Miss M E Jackson officially became the Post Mistress of Greta. From 1907 to 1930 the portage of mail between the Greta Railway Station and the Greta Post Office appeared to be rotated between six Greta inhabitants, each time being granted to the person who offered the cheapest rates. These included Mr A J Campbell, Mr W MacKinnon, Mr T Quick, Mr R MacKinnon, Mr G H North and Mr T H Harper. In 1925 the Greta Telephone Exchange closed and its subscribers were serviced through Branxton. The beginning of the end for the town in having a full service? With many thanks to whoever

compiled Greta Post Office, 1873-1930, a fascinating read and a great list of information used for this article. Please call in to Greta Museum for more information. The Greta Museum The Greta Museum is situated in the former Council Chambers in High Street, Greta, and now also houses the small souvenir shop, the *Old Style New Wares & Sweet Shop*. Come in to reminisce or to indulge. Open every second and fourth Saturday of each month, as well as other times. For more information call Neridah on 0427657150 or Peter on 0478896722. Barnes Castlemaine Rock Barnes Castlemaine Rock has been around since the 1850s in Victoria, where it was made by the present owner's great-great grandfather Thomas Shinfield Barnes, to sell to the miners instead of gold mining himself. The hard boiled sweets packed into tins are reminiscent of gold nuggets, and are now made by Peter Barnes using the same recipe and equipment as his ancestor. Call into the museum and pick up a tin full of tasty history.

Cheers, Neridah

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Limit of one compost bin or worm farm per residential address in the Cessnock local government area



Has NSW written off first homebuyers as a lost cause?

The NSW government has failed to provide meaningful incentives to first homebuyers despite announcing changes to stamp duty that will see a \$1 billion windfall from foreign investors, according to the Real Estate Institute of New South Wales.

Last week, NSW treasurer Gladys Berejiklian said the government will add a 4 per cent stamp duty surcharge on residential property bought by foreign purchasers from 21 June, 2016 plus 0.75 per cent land tax surcharge for foreign owners from the 2017 land tax year.

REINSW President John Cunningham said it appears the NSW Government has lost sight of the plight of first

homebuyers with its failure to identify their need for meaningful incentives.

“This was a significant opportunity to help first homebuyers and the 90 per cent who buy existing properties with a 50 per cent reduction in the stamp duty on a purchase of a residential property less than \$1 million,” Mr Cunningham said.

“The government appears to have no intention of passing any of this funding to first homebuyers and have taken the view that they are a lost cause. Is that what they are thinking, have they written them off? It certainly appears so,” Mr Cunningham said.

Under the changes, foreign investors will no longer be entitled to the 12-month deferral for the payment of stamp duty for off-the-plan purchases of residential property and will not get the tax-free threshold for the land tax surcharge.

“Having taken away the 12-month deferral to pay stamp duty from foreign investors

the government has the opportunity to provide this to first homebuyers as one option for some concession.

“In tomorrow’s budget the NSW government can make a direct difference to first homebuyers who have been left in the dark for too long. “We urge NSW treasurer Gladys Berejiklian to use the foreign investment windfall for the direct benefit of those trying to enter the property market,” Mr Cunningham said.

Foreign Owner Tax ‘won’t help first home buyers’

Real estate experts have slammed the NSW government’s decision to add a 4% stamp duty surcharge on residential property bought by foreigners as nothing more than a “money grab”.

The new charges are expected to pocket the government an extra \$1 billion over the next four years, but their introduction has not coincided with any new schemes to help first home buyers, prominent industry figures say.

Gunning Principal Malcolm Gunning, a former president of the Real Estate Institute of NSW, says the decision should be recognised for what it is: “pure greed”.

“The government has found a scapegoat in foreign investors and is playing on xenophobia,” Gunning says.

“They are choosing to single out Chinese investors when the real reason house prices are being pushed up is

self-funded retirees who are purchasing properties for their super funds.”

Foreign investment: Where do they come from?

The surcharge came into effect on June 21.

The government also announced a 0.75% land tax surcharge for foreign owners from the 2017 land tax year.

“The government will make \$1 billion over the next four years from foreign investors, but refuse to make life easier for first home buyers by way of incentives for the purchase of existing properties,” Gunning says.

“It is important to recognise that this is just a grab for cash from the government and a cop-out,” he says.

NSW: Housing sales to foreigners hit \$20 billion

Laing and Simmons managing director Leanne Pilkington agrees that the new charges on investors are a wasted opportunity to help first home buyers.

“We have a situation where the NSW Government has imposed additional stamp duty and land tax surcharges for foreign investors ... but no plan to redistribute this enormous weight of funds to first home buyers, who need it most,” Pilkington says.

“The impact of these additional taxes is more likely to be felt at the top end of the market, which is not the domain of first home buyers anyway, and is therefore no solution to the affordability crisis our first home buyers face here and now,” she says

Recycle Right

Cessnock City Council is encouraging local residents to improve their recycling habits, as new data shows while we have a commitment to recycling we aren’t always doing it right.

Recent audit results are concerning with 10 per cent of recycling bins contaminated with material that should be in the waste bin.

Council’s Environment & Waste Manager Michael Alexander said it’s really important as a community we remember to dispose of different items correctly.

“When recyclables are

contaminated with general waste the entire contents of the bin then becomes landfill, defeating the purpose of recycling.”

“Recapturing materials that can be reprocessed avoids expensive landfill and helps our environment. Put simply, the recycle bin is not another waste bin.”

“A resident may have their service suspended if their recycle bin is contaminated so it is really important to think before you toss an item in the nearest bin,” Mr Alexander said.

Residents are also reminded that plastic bags are not recyclable through this

service.

Other material that should not be put in the recycle bin includes:

- Building waste
- Garden waste
- General household waste
- Car parts
- Nappies
- Styrofoam

Residents who are unsure should check their Recycle Right sticker on their bin, visit the HRR website <http://hrr.com.au> or call the free Hotline (1800 838 884).

\$1000 reward for information

The Huntlee Academy is a charity established to assist a range of local disadvantaged people find fulltime work across a variety of industries.

In conjunction with the Mai Wel Group, earlier this year the Huntlee Academy established a niche program to provide work for four local people with disabilities. The team has spent the winter collecting and splitting firewood onsite at Huntlee. They have then bagged and sold the wood to local residents. Proceeds from the sale of the firewood pays for the team’s wages.

On the weekend of 30/31 July, thieves broke into the Huntlee Academy’s property and stole approximately 20 cubic metres of firewood which had been stacked in a paddock.

Huntlee Academy Project Manager, Keith Rogers, said the theft has caused great distress to the firewood team and contributed to an early termination of the program. The Academy is currently attempting to transfer the crew to other duties within the organisation.

“It is hard to believe we have people in the community who would steal from a charity to further their own selfish purposes”, said Project Manager, Keith Rogers.

“It really doesn’t get much lower than taking from those in our community who have the least to give. The people employed in this program have been dealt a pretty tough hand in life but continue to strive to improve themselves. To have people literally steal that opportunity from them is incredibly disappointing.”

Out of respect to the participants who have been impacted by this crime, the Huntlee Academy has posted a \$1000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the people responsible.

“The community has the right to know who these people are,” added Mr Rogers. Police are investigating.

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4 3 2

Mitchells Flat
36 Armour Road
Amazing Home with Rural Views

Spacious bedrooms, main with ensuite, walk in robe, split system air conditioner & sliding door opening onto the timber deck. The open kitchen/family/dining have large sliding doors and windows to take advantage of the rural views. 3 bay stable, kids play ground, chicken coop & dam with pump to water gardens.

Price Range: **UNDER OFFER**

View: by appointment

Contact Michael Cruickshanks

0409 362 130

LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

Branxton
22 Station Street

4 Bedrooms/Large Shed on 900m²

4 bedrooms, three with built in robes, large block & great shed. The combined lounge & dining room has RC/AC & polished pine timber floorboards throughout. The colourbond garage also has plenty of storage cupboards and a second shower and toilet. This garage could easily accommodate 2 large vehicles as well as storage space.

Price: \$375,000

View: by appointment

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LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

East Branxton
3B Grape Street

A New Opportunity

Bedrooms with built in robes, master bedroom has a walk in robe & ensuite. Large lounge room, with a separate dining/family room adjoining the kitchen plus a pantry. Outdoor patio & low maintenance backyard. Quick possession & new home buyer grants available. This property would lease for approximately \$380-\$400 a week

Price: \$ 399,000

View: by appointment

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7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



3 1 1

Branxton
4/5 Maitland Street

Comfy Unit

Large 3 bedroom unit close all of Branxton's special little features. Open plan living space downstairs & 3 good sized bedrooms with built-ins upstairs. Kitchen has stainless appliances & plenty of cupboard space. Entertain undercover in the rear courtyard. Single lockup garage. Split system air conditioning.

Price: \$310,000

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7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

Whittingham

472 Mitchell Line of Road

Rural Property with Town Water

Set on 10.13 hectares offering a 4 bedroom home with ensuite, formal lounge & dining, large dining/family off the kitchen, rumpus plus screened Queensland room. Outside there is a timber pergola with BBQ area & double shed. The property carries 8 cows & calves, has its own cattle yards, a large dam.

Price: \$740,000

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LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



North Rothbury

3 & 5 Frederic Street

Two Blocks

Located on the edge of the rapidly growing suburb of North Rothbury, at 810m² each, these blocks could be the perfect location for your dream home. Situated close to everything the Hunter has to offer, as well as only 30mins to Newcastle via the Hunter Expressway. Option to buy both blocks or take your pick. \$110,000 Each

Price: \$110,000

View: by appointment

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LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



Branxton

42 Rosehill Place

Rural Living With Views Dalwood Acres

Opportunity to purchase 2 acres in the fast moving estate Dalwood Acres, located closely to the Hunter Expressway.

This block has access to town water and electricity.

Fully fenced and ready to be built upon.

Price: \$305,000

View: by appointment

Contact Ben Bridge

0404 564 725

LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



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Price: See Agent

View: by appointment

Contact Michael Cruickshanks

0409 362 130

LJ Hooker Singleton 6572 4930

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 1

Branxton

10 Durham Road

Family in Quiet Street

Located in a quiet street, ideal for families, sitting on a 900m² block. Bedrooms have ceiling fans, main with ensuite, walk in robe & split system air conditioner. Featuring a large lounge room, family/dining room & rumpus room. 2 pergola areas, overlooking the large backyard.

Price: **UNDER OFFER**

View: by appointment

Contact Ben Bridge

0404 564 725

LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

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LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779

7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



LJ Hooker Greta-Branxton currently have

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Asking \$830,000

BRANXTON GARDENS



Senior Living

This heritage designed 2 bedroom strata unit has an ensuite to the main bedroom, a lock-up garage & your own private courtyard. It is totally landscaped & also feature security gating. The site surrounds Branxton Medical Centre, is a 2 minute walk to the main shopping & amenities area, is just 5 minutes drive to the famous Hunter Valley Wineries, resorts & golf courses.

Asking \$265,000

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Senior Living

This heritage designed 2 bedroom strata unit has an ensuite to the main bedroom, a lock-up garage & your own private courtyard. It is totally landscaped & also feature security gating. The site surrounds Branxton Medical Centre, is a 2 minute walk to the main shopping & amenities area, is just 5 minutes drive to the famous Hunter Valley Wineries, resorts & golf courses.

Asking \$265,000

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Large level Residential building lots

Side-by-Side

Both lots over 860sq metres;
fully serviced ~ Great development site.

BRANXTON



Affordable with great potential

An easy maintained fully block within easy walking distance to all facilities. Three large bedrooms, separate lounge with completely renovated bathroom & kitchen which includes a dining area.

Ideal investment or first home.

Asking \$259,000

Call Helen or Mike

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300

EAST BRANXTON



MUST SELL!
Open to all
reasonable offers

Lovely family home

3 Bedroom family home with good built-ins in two. Separate dining & living room with neat kitchen which includes granite bench tops.
Other features include:-
Combustion fire & air conditioning, lovely decking at rear, free standing garage.
All this on a very large fenced block.
Absolutely nothing to do just move in!

BRANXTON



An opportunity not to be missed!

Well maintained family home in premier street. This is a well maintained 3 bedroom weatherboard family home on a 1320 square metre block. A combined living lounge room & dining room + large family room will add to your living pleasure. Modern kitchen & bathroom give some olden day charm with modern living. Fully fenced with a huge back yard which includes a non intrusive 6-bay garage + another free standing garage & fernery.
Reduced to \$379,000

NORTH ROTHBURY



Sophisticated!!!! Jewel Box Bush Cottage!!! "Airy" & "Open"

This wonderfully fully renovated weatherboard cottage is set on a very large fenced block in the small hamlet of North Rothbury. Features include:- new bathroom, renovated kitchen, new decking front & back (both covered from summer evenings westerly sun), very large block, original floor boards renovated to near perfection, 2 bedrooms, 4 minutes to Hunter wineries & restaurants & 2 minutes to Huntlee New Town proposed commercial centre & other facilities.
The home has a number of decor/design features that make this cottage a unique experience.

A must to inspect Offers over \$305,000

EAST BRANXTON



Everything is BRAND NEW!!!!

Large 3 bedroom cottage with built-ins ... a kitchen to die for! Large living area including a glorious Queensland Room. Lock up garage. Leafy & peaceful backyard
A must to inspect
Great investment or first home!

PRICE \$340,000 NEG

NORTH ROTHBURY



Just move in ~ no work to be done!!!!

Perfect family home in the popular village of North Rothbury. Features include:-
Open plan lounge/dining with 4 large bedrooms all with built-ins. Ensuite to main bedroom & walk-in robe. Air conditioning. Double garage plus large rumpus room or entertainment room.
Dishwasher. Large fenced block with house facing north.

Asking \$420,000

GRETA

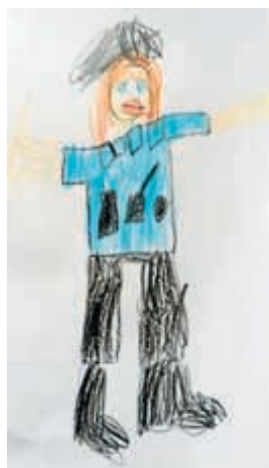


For the astute investor
Approx. 2000sm (half an acre)
58 High Street, Greta

An older style 3 bedroom cottage is situated on this large, approx half acre, block. This is one for the savvy investor/developer or renovator.

ASKING \$472,000 (Open to All reasonable Offers)

BRANXTON NEWS



time over their weekend to attend and gain new professional skills. **ARE YOU A LOCAL BUSINESS?** If so you may have received a letter asking if you would like to be in our 30th Year Cookbook. We are seeking advertising for our local business directory within this book. If you haven't received a letter and would like to know more please contact us via email on: braxtonpreschoolcookbook@outlook.com

GRETA NEWS

impact on the environment and ways to minimise it. Our children are constantly on the lookout for things that can be recycled or reused. With the wonderful support of our amazing families many of our children are also recycling at home. Bottle top lids, bread tags and cardboard boxes are among some of the things our children are



Bunnings at Maitland coming in to build vertical gardens with the children next week. They will also be speaking to the children about worm farming and setting up our worm farm and the value of composting and using this in our newly planted veggie gardens. We look forward to this visit. Some of our Educational Team attended training in Newcastle last weekend with **TEACHER TOM**. They have returned to Preschool inspired and have reflected on our routine, group experiences and the many learning opportunities that come from **PLAY**. We have some new resources to add to our environment. These include some wet felt mats, fairy doors, houses, finger puppets and lots more. A huge thank you to all the ladies who gave up

We are currently enrolling children for 2017. So if you are considering putting your child into preschool next year you will need to ring and put their name on our waiting list. Preference is given to all children who turn 4 years of age by the 31st July 2017. These children must attend preschool 2 days a week in order to receive government funding required to keep our community based preschool viable.

If you would like to know more please do not hesitate to contact us on Ph: 49381990.

For those people within the community, who are on our current waiting list, please be patient we will be in contact in the coming weeks.

☒ Photos: Constable Sheree & a portraiture



On a very warm day in March a small team of enthusiastic parents, children and educators met at preschool to tackle a long list of jobs. On that list was the construction of a keyhole garden and a worm farm. Since this time the children at Greta preschool have taken on the challenge to be environmentally responsible with great

passion. The children have become expert recyclers, composters and water conservationists. They have also been getting their hands dirty in the vegetable garden & worm farm. Through stories, daily discussions and practical experiences like the vegetable garden our children are developing a strong awareness of their

been to reuse at the craft table. The daily task of taking out the compost and feeding the worms is happily shared amongst the children. Using the worm tea as a fertilizer for the growing vegetables is also undertaken with great care and seriousness. The educators at preschool are delighted with the children's enthusiasm and ever increasing awareness about what it means to be sustainable. We have worked hard to ensure that sustainability is embedded into what we do every day. It's exciting to see the children take on what can be a potentially complex issue with such passion and commitment.

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11 Vine Street, Branxton
Price: \$455,000

House: brick and tile constructed home offering 3 bedrooms – 2 bedrooms have built-ins, separate lounge room with polished timber floors and split air conditioner, timber kitchen with dining area, southern facing light filled sun-room.

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Price: \$330 p/w
Bed - 3 Bath - 2 Car - 2



95 High Street, Greta

Price: \$270 p/w
Bed - 2 Bath - 1 Car - 1



Leased

4/20 George Street, Branxton

Price: \$190 p/w
Bed - 1 Bath - 1 Car - 1

Ph: 49 38 20 20

www.thomasrealestate.com.au

Disclaimer: Thomas Estate Agents believes that this information is correct but it does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of the information. You should make your own enquiries and check the information. Certain information has been obtained from external sources and has not been independently verified.

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SUNDAYS**

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FRIDAY 7.00pm

SUNDAY 12.00 Noon

MILLER PARK

MEMBERS BADGE DRAW

THURSDAY 11th AUGUST

\$5,000

SUNDAY 14th AUGUST

\$3,300

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

MEAT RAFFLES

FRIDAY 7.00pm

SUNDAY 6.00pm

**FRIDAY NIGHT
ENTERTAINMENT**

12th AUGUST

LEAD BELLIES

19th AUGUST

SECRET SOCIETY

MEMBERS BADGE DRAW

WEDNESDAY

10th AUGUST

\$800

SUNDAY

14th AUGUST

\$800

MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

SAMMY'S AT THE PARK

FAMILY RESTAURANT

WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY

LUNCH & DINNER

2 HAPPY HOURS

MILLER PARK

WEDNESDAY 4 - 6pm

GRETA

THURSDAY 4 - 6pm

\$3.30 SCHOONERS



One to watch: author Susan Johnston on the path to publication



by Melanie Cheng for her short fiction, *Australia Day*. *Daily Review* caught up with Susan to learn more about *Wildgirl* and her journey to get the novel published. **Tell us about yourself and how you started writing**

Getting published is perhaps the biggest challenge for an author and one that Melbourne writer Susan Johnston understands all too well. Her book *Wildgirl* was a top three finalist in the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an unpublished manuscript, which was won

It started after I had my second child. I was bored at home looking after him and started reading a lot. I tried to find books that I could pick up and put down easily so I started with books that I'd loved as a teenager. I was a massive Lois Duncan/Margaret Mahy/Paul Zindel fan, so I

started there and my reading list just grew to include whatever I could get my hands on. At some point I must've thought I should write something. I had spent some time working in India as an aid volunteer several years before and I somehow managed to develop a plot around the things I had seen. That first manuscript was selected for the Hachette/Queensland Writers Centre Manuscript Development Program. The program was a life changing experience – I met some wonderful people – and it was the beginning of when I started to take things a little more seriously.

Please tell us a little about *Wildgirl*; what is it about? *Wildgirl* is the story of a girl who is raised in the wild by dogs (yes, dogs) and who now, as a teenager, is enlisted to help a child found in similar circumstances. It is a manuscript that I wrote purely with the intention of being something that would entertain young people and adults (like me!) who like to read stories that aren't necessarily full of issues

and are just a bit of fun.

What inspired you to write *Wildgirl* and to write for YA audiences in particular?

I think I've always been quite fascinated with feral children – there are lots of stories around, some real and tragic and others completely fraudulent – and I've always wondered what kind of life these children could have, and I think I wanted to give them a happy ending. The reason I chose to write for young adults is primarily because I love stories targeting that age range. They are generally fast-paced and action-packed and they can occasionally be unself-consciously written which is what I tried to do with *Wildgirl* – I just wrote what I wanted without reference to anything else really!

Wildgirl* is getting great recognition in the industry but as yet is still unpublished. For those out there considering writing/publishing it would be great to understand what you've experienced with *Wildgirl *Wildgirl* has been on submission for the last two years. I was lucky enough

to secure an agent (Brian Cook, The Authors' Agent) with the manuscript. That in itself was a great reassurance to me that what I was writing was of an acceptable standard (I often wondered!) Over the last two years it has been looked at by many publishers and submission editors who have given great advice and lots of encouragement. I have always found rejections strangely encouraging. It means someone is reading what you've written and has invested the time to really think about what you could do to make it better. The advice I have received through a rejection letter has oftentimes been the most valuable. I think it's important to remember though that everything is subjective and to not take rejections too personally. What one person likes may not appeal to someone else and sometimes your manuscript may simply not arrive to the right person at the right time. As the judges of the Unpublished Manuscript Award pointed out, *Wildgirl* does straddle the barrier between the

unlikely and the possible. It's not for everyone but I think the best thing about it is that it doesn't take itself too seriously.

Are you working on any other pieces and how (if at all) has your experience with *Wildgirl* influenced your approach to new works.

I am always working on something. Ideas are not generally my problem, finding the time to commit to them can be. I think with *Wildgirl* I found my voice and the confidence to write things that I thought would be funny – no matter how silly they seemed and whether I would discuss them in public or not. Since *Wildgirl* I have written another complete manuscript called *Spartan*. It is of a similar style but is about a boy who had a non-epileptic seizure and the stigma that he has carried with him since. While I have a special fondness for *Wildgirl*, I wrote *Spartan* when I was in really good mood and sometimes, it

still makes me laugh. (It's partially autobiographical. I had a non-epileptic seizure on a plane ... very embarrassing!)

What advice would you give to writers staring out on their journey?

I think there is something to be said for persevering. Even if I don't ever get published, I think I have improved with every manuscript I've attempted and I've felt better and better about each of them progressively. I think there is also something to be said for trusting your instincts. Don't listen to the people who tell you your story won't work or that they have a better ending. They might, but I think you'll know if they're really onto something. Never doubt that you know your story best. (Having said that, I've never been published! Should you take my advice...? Probably not!)

Photo: One to watch: author Susan Johnston

Blindtasting with Lisa McGuigan

Thursday 1st September 2016



"Blindtasting with Lisa McGuigan" is a special event to raise funds for two very deserving charities - the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children (RIDBC) Hunter and Retina Australia (NSW)

Renowned Hunter Valley Winemaker LISA MCGUIGAN will be taking us on a sensual journey of taste as we learn about why certain foods go with certain wines. Your senses will be put to the test as you work your way through a delicious 3 course dinner with matched wines - tasted blind! MC Jaimie Abbott will be on hand to keep us track of the time and entertainment will be provided by Kallan Mitchell from Newcastle Conservatorium of Music, who is vision impaired and hoping to challenge himself with a backpack tour of Europe in 2017. Venue: Newcastle Beach Hotel, 21 Parnell Place Newcastle Date: Thursday 1st September 2016 Time: 6.30pm to 9.30pm

For more information contact Ruth Appleby 0417 498881 or Kim Simpson 0414 674044

Photo above: Lisa McGuigan

daily thoughts

"Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty world." - Virgil A. Kraft

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything." - William Shakespeare

"There has been opposition to every innovation in the history of man, with the possible exception of the sword." - Benjamin Dana

Cessnock City Council makes a submission on the Correctional Centre expansion

Cessnock City Council will make a submission on behalf of the Cessnock community in relation to the proposed 1000 bed expansion of the Cessnock Correctional Centre. The NSW Government announced the latest plans to expand the facility in late July following an initial budget announcement in June.

Cessnock City Council welcomed the extension of the public submission period from Monday 8 August to Monday 22 August following community concern

about the proposal. Council will be seeking further information and will work collaboratively with the NSW Government agencies on aspects of the proposal that impact the local community and infrastructure.

The topics raised in the submission include:

- protecting local amenity
- concerns about lighting and noise
- road maintenance and traffic
- resourcing of local police and hospital facilities
- environmental, eco-

conomic and social impacts such as housing, education and family services Cessnock City Council is keen to continuing their effective working relationship with the Cessnock Correctional facility and acknowledges the economic benefit and employment opportunities the facility provides. Members of the community can make submissions before 5pm Monday 22 August by emailing cessnockcorrectionalcentre@jbaurban.com.au or calling 1800 743 436.

MAITLAND GARDEN RAMBLE 2016 17 & 18 September 2016 10am – 4 pm Presented by McDonald Jones Homes

The Maitland Black & White Committee presents the 33rd Annual Garden Ramble which is proudly sponsored by McDonald Jones Homes and supported by MRM Thompson Norrie solicitors.

All funds raised go to Vision Australia.

Welcome spring by wandering through some of Maitland's beautiful gardens. Eight gardens will be open to enjoy at your leisure allowing you to meander slowly or sit and relax to take in the views and gather ideas for the upcoming gardening season from a variety of garden styles.

If you are from out of town why not plan a peaceful weekend away for an enjoyable break.

Food and beverages will be available at Heritage listed Pinehurst and a sausage sizzle will be held at another garden.

Also included in the Ramble is another heritage listed property Aberglasslyn House.

A bus will depart from Maitland Railway Station at 9.45 each morning

Early bookings are required for the bus as there are only 25 seats available and can be made through Maitland Tourist Information Centre on 49 312800 before Tuesday 13th September.

Enquiries will be welcome at the Visitor Centre on 49 312800 or the website at info@maitlandhuntervalley.com.au, on our website at www.maitlandbandw.com or contact our

President, Kathy Willmott at kathryn_willmott@hotmail.com

Tickets are available from:

Maitland Visitors Information Centre

Heritage Gardens Nursery

Cherry Road Nursery

Bolwarra Café

At all the gardens on the day.

Prices are as follows:

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY:

All gardens: \$30, Concession \$25, (aged pension only)

Individual garden entry: \$5 per garden, children free

SATURDAY ONLY: Transport and all gardens: Adults \$45, Concession - \$35 (aged pension only)



Open 7 days
8am - 8pm

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HEARD IT THROUGH the GRAPEVINE



with Jo Thomas, General Manager HWTWA

Winery of The Year 2017 Goes To The Hunter Valley's Mount Pleasant
Australia's doyen of wine, James Halliday AM, has awarded the Hunter Valley's Mount Pleasant, 2017 Winery of the Year. Mount Pleasant, established in 1921, was honoured with seven shiraz scoring between 97 and 99 points, supported by three semillon scoring more than 95 points. Halliday credits the appointment of McWilliam's Chief Winemaker Jim Chatto in 2013 as key to the winery's growing success and the renaissance of Australia's original winemaking region. In addition to being awarded 'Winery of the Year' the 2009 Mount Pleasant Lovedale Semillon

has been named 'Semillon of the Year' – awarded a remarkable 98 points. The late Maurice O'Shea planted the Lovedale vineyard in 1946 with incredible foresight, recognising that the unique structure of the land and the surrounding environment would deliver the tightness and acidity for world-class Semillon – still to this day. mountpleasantwines.com.au
International Wine Judge visits the Hunter Valley
From selling beer in a local liquor store, to editing the London Wine Guide and regularly judging international wine competitions, Matt Walls has achieved incredible success in the wine industry over the past 15 years. Born in the United Kingdom, Matt has worked for Bollinger Champagne, helped manage and buy wines for The Sampler, and has recently published, 'Drink Me', which has sold over 10,000 copies. As a freelance wine writer and consultant, Matt has been recognised for his accomplishments through various awards, including the 2015 International Wine & Spirit Competition

Blogger and was shortlisted for Fortnum & Mason Food and Drink Awards 2016 Online Drink Writer. Matt joins our Chairman of Judges PJ Chateris and the judging panel at the 2016 Clear Image Hunter Valley Wine Show which commences on Monday 15th August.
Rock Symphony In The Vines Presents Bowie at Hope Estate
The inaugural Rock Symphony in the Vines at Hope Estate will see this concert series launched with the music of the legendary, David Bowie on Saturday 15th October. World renowned conductor George Ellis will lead the charge with the Australian Symphony Orchestra and the Ziggy Band featuring members of Baby Animals, The Whitlams, Jimmy Barnes Band and The Badloves. Coming off the back of the award winning and highly successful Ziggy – Songs of David Bowie, which sold out shows across the country and to rave reviews, it's only fitting that singers Jeff Duff, Steve Balbi and Brydon Stace reunite for this very special, one off

show.
WET Tax Changes to Cost Jobs in the Hunter Valley – Stakeholder's Meeting to be held this week....
The Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association will hold a meeting of all wine and wine tourism industry stakeholders on Wednesday, 3 August at the Pokolbin Hall, McDonalds Road, Pokolbin from 5.00pm to 7.00pm. At this meeting we will be discussing the budget proposal to restrict the WET rebate to wine businesses that own or lease a winery and the budget proposal to reduce the WET rebate from \$500,000 to \$290,000. All industry stakeholders are encouraged to attend this meeting and bring along your neighbours or any wine business that may be impacted in the long or short term. It is important that you understand what the proposed changes mean to your business, and 'Have Your Say', and get involved in the grassroots industry lobbying we are proposing. To confirm your attendance at this meeting please RSVP by contacting Melissa at the Association's office [E melissa@hvwtwa.com.au](mailto:Emelissa@hvwtwa.com.au).
2016 Hunter Valley Gardens Snowtime a Huge Success for Tourism
It has been a successful winter in the Hunter with visitors heading out to experience Snow Time in the Garden at Hunter Valley Gardens. Held over three weeks including the

recent school holidays the event attracted 65,000 people to the region, resulting in almost a 50% increase in visitation from the 2015 event. Visitors travelled from near and far with 58% attending from Sydney, 12% from the Central Coast and the remaining majority from Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and the Mid-North Coast. Snow Time was bigger than ever in 2016 giving families and friends the opportunity to experience new and improved activities.

Located near the Storybook Garden, their new dedicated event area featured the installation of the colourful and permanent HVG Super Slide, a larger Ice Skating Rink, longer Ice Toboggan, two Snow Play Zones, four giant inflatables, and on the weekends live Ice Sculpting was always well received. With 2016 being Snow Time in the Garden's 5th year, Hunter Valley Gardens have plans to continue the growth of this great annual event and have

many exciting plans in the pipeline for 2017. Be sure to stay up to date by checking out their [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/hvg.com.au) or visit hvg.com.au
Snow Time in the Garden was proudly supported by the NSW Government through its tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, as part of its 2016 Regional Flagship Events Program.
For more information on What's On in The Hunter please visit winecountry.com.au

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Branxton Golf Club



Phone: 4938 1421 Fax: 4938 3571 Email: branxtongolfclub@westnet.com.au Information for Members and Guest.

Thursday Night

Trivia: 7-9pm \$10 per team- cash prizes
Badge Draw: \$1050 as at 4/8/2016



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We support the responsible service of Alcohol
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Think about your choices Call Gambling Help
1800 855 858

Friday Night Raffles

7.30pm
Meat And Vegies
Badge Draw \$2050 as at 5/08/2016



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Get all your basic shots correct with
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Dates to be confirmed

Fathers Day

4th September 2016

Dads meal 1/2 price with a paying adult plus a free \$5 drink



click



MOVIE REVIEW

THE BFG

ABOUT A girl named Sophie encounters the Big Friendly Giant who, despite his intimidating appearance, turns out to be a kindhearted soul who is considered an outcast by the other giants because unlike his peers refuses to eat boys and girls.

I had a dream last night." The words arrive near the end of "The BFG," and while they are thankfully not to be mistaken for that oldest of story-upending clichés ("It was all a dream"), they nonetheless linger like a melancholy echo over the whimsical high spirits of Steven Spielberg's new movie. In ways both obvious and elusive, the curious logic of dreams is crucial to appreciating this technologically astounding if predictably sweetened adaptation of Roald Dahl's 1982 novel. As millions of readers already know, "The BFG" is shorthand for "the Big Friendly Giant," played via a brilliant amalgam of performance-capture technology and peerless screen presence by Mark Rylance. At once a protector of the weak and a principled herbivore (he subsists on slimy, nasty vegetables called snozzcumpers), he is also the practitioner of a most unusual artisanal hobby: the collection and dissemination of dreams. The BFG is basically the Sandman on steroids, but he is also a stand-in for Spielberg, a purveyor of big-screen enchantment who has done more than perhaps any other filmmaker to shape the dream life of audiences the world over. At no point in his career has the director managed this quite so effortlessly as with "E.T.," a movie that casts a long and inescapable shadow over this one. Released the same year Dahl's book was published, "E.T." also centered around a gnomish being with benign powers, funny speech patterns, an easy rapport with children and a memorable acronym for a nickname. (Both films are the work of the screenwriter Melissa Mathison, who died last year.) With "The BFG," Spielberg has taken a break from the serious-minded sweep of his recent political procedurals ("Bridge of Spies," "Lincoln") and attempted to fashion a new classic of childhood wonderment. In this he has been only partially successful. Dragged along by the insistent chummings of John Williams' score, the movie is noisy and emphatic at times when a quieter, moodier touch would suffice, and it contains at least one antic sequence, involving a homemade water flume, that could be a prototype for an attraction coming soon to a Disney theme park near you. But despite the compromises that typically attend a studio-made family entertainment — especially one that has been adapted, however lovingly, from a sharper, edgier piece of source material — "The BFG" also possesses a rich and

unmistakably Spielbergian understanding of the loneliness of childhood, and of the enduring consolations that friendship and imagination can offer. Not unlike its title character, the movie can be cloddish and clumsy, but it is also a thing of wily cleverness and lithe, surprising grace. The movie opens on a haunted nocturnal vision of London, the camera (wielded by Spielberg's usual cinematographer, Janusz Kaminski) settling on an orphanage bathed in the warm glow of streetlamps and perfectly placed shafts of moonlight. It's a suitably eerie look for what Sophie (plucky newcomer Ruby Barnhill) describes, with a sometimes wearying gift for overstatement, as "the witching hour" — the same hour that she spies the BFG lurking in the street outside her window. He spies her too, and within moments she's caught in his very large grip, racing northward through the English countryside to Giant Country. What follows is perhaps the most kid-friendly chronicle of Stockholm syndrome this side of "Beauty and the Beast," though adults may find themselves submitting no less readily to the warmth and wit of Rylance's performance. The BFG has scraggly gray hair, comically oversized ears and a gentle scrape of a voice as inimitable as one of the actor's fingerprints — and it's that voice, more than anything, that gives this digital avatar his soul. Coming off his supremely restrained, Oscar-winning turn as a Soviet spy in "Bridge of Spies," Rylance goes in the opposite direction here; unlike Rudolf Abel, his BFG is a man of many words. And what marvelously mangled words they are. Mathison and Rylance have more than honoured the BFG's unorthodox yet utterly intuitive way with the English language, particularly his affection for the present participle and his blithe disregard for subject-verb agreement. "Words is oh such a twitch-tickling problem all me life!" he moans at one point, though few who hear him will be inclined to agree. Long before she settles down in the giant's cavernous home (marvellously conceived by production designer Rick Carter), Sophie realizes that her captor has no intention of harming her, let alone eating her or any other "human beans." The same cannot be said of his nine bare-chested brothers who dwell in the hills nearby, and whose fearsome appetites are aptly summed up by their names: Fleshlumpeater, Childchewer, Bloodbotler, et al. (They are



played, most of them unrecognizably, by actors including Jemaine Clement, Jonathan Holmes and Bill Hader.) Dahl's justly beloved children's novels (including the previously filmed "James and the Giant Peach," "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," "Matilda" and "The Witches") are distinguished by their narrative ingenuity and their surpassingly wicked humour — a bracing reminder that children long to be thrilled and even frightened by what they read, not infantilized. In "The BFG," Dahl took a particularly nasty delight in describing every ghastly detail of the giants' dietary habits, laced with riotously crude wordplay. (Sample dialogue: "Greeks from Greece is all tasting greasy.") Absent that mordantly funny sensibility, Spielberg's PG-rated interpretation can't help but feel sanitized by comparison. His giants, Cro-Magnon cannibals though they may be, are played less for bloodthirsty menace than for buffoonish comedy, setting the stage for a few rambunctious but perfunctory action sequences. Curiously uninvested in its own narrative conflict, "The BFG" is best appreciated as a drolly funny celebration of difference. It's no surprise that the picture springs to life when Sophie seeks an audience with the queen (a shrewdly cast Penelope Wilton), in an extended sequence that throws the BFG's physical enormity into high comic relief. It also serves as a clever send-up of English formality, full of stiff upper lips and splendidly egalitarian fart jokes. There's no way that Spielberg and his collaborators could have guessed that a silly story of cross-cultural friendship — in which a well-oiled British government acknowledges the humanity of a dangerous-looking outsider — would feel like an ever more resonant fantasy in the post-Brexit era. "The BFG" is a far-from-perfect movie that may have arrived at the perfect moment. Like so many good dreams, it leaves us groping for a past that can never be recovered, but also looking ahead to a future that suddenly seems brighter, and friendlier, than we had dared to believe.



Amazon Plans For Delivery Drones To Rest On Tall Structures

A patent filing for docking stations gives a clue on how Amazon expects its planned fleet of flying delivery drones to get around. The company wants to position recharging stations on top of tall structures like steeples and light poles to allow the drones to recharge or hide out during storms.



According to the filing, "The docking stations may incorporate a number of features to enable UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) to fly longer routes, to fly routes more accurately, and to provide shelter during adverse conditions." Drones might also be able to hand off packages at the docking stations. Whether or not this idea will be able to work with USA current FAA regulations is still...well... up in the air. What do you think? Could drone delivery fleets change the way products arrive forever?

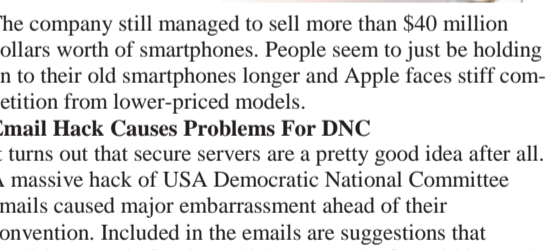
Government Demands More Amazon Customer Data

The US government isn't only interested in Amazon's drone fleet plans. They also want to know a lot more lately about Amazon customers.

The company says government demands for their customer data has more than doubled with more than 1,800 warrants issued for the data so far in 2016.

Apple Profits Fall 27%

Apple profits took more than a 25% dip in the past quarter. Marking the first time they've had two consecutive quarterly drops in sales of iPhones since they hit the market 9 years ago.



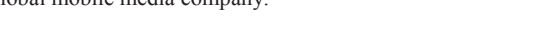
The company still managed to sell more than \$40 million dollars worth of smartphones. People seem to just be holding on to their old smartphones longer and Apple faces stiff competition from lower-priced models.

Email Hack Causes Problems For DNC

It turns out that secure servers are a pretty good idea after all. A massive hack of USA Democratic National Committee emails caused major embarrassment ahead of their convention. Included in the emails are suggestions that candidate Bernie Sanders religion (or lack of) could be used to cause distrust among Southern voters and other messages that indicate that the party was strongly favouring Hillary Clinton over Sanders. DNC Chairman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz resigned after the revelations. The DNC hasn't denied that the emails are genuine, but have suggested that Russian hackers leaked the messages in order to help Donald Trump's campaign for the White House. What do you think is at fault? Poor security? Russian plots? The people who wrote the emails? Or all three?

Verizon Buys Yahoo!

Verizon is paying \$4.8 billion to purchase Yahoo!'s core web portal and email business. We told you earlier in the year that the company was looking to ditch the mail business and concentrate on its share of the Chinese export company Alibaba.



Verizon says Yahoo will be integrated with AOL as part of the company's Product Innovation and New Businesses division. No word yet on if any changes are coming to Yahoo! Mail or any of their other services.

Smartwatch Sales Take A Big Drop

For years tech "experts" have said that wearables would be the next big thing. Despite the initial popularity of the Apple Watch, the demand still hasn't materialized. In fact, in the past 3 months, the smartwatch market saw its first decline.



Shipments fell 32% for the second quarter of 2016 according to a report from IDC. Apple still leads the market, but their shipments were down 70% from one year ago. Though there are high hopes that a refresh of the Apple Watch operating system this fall could boost sales



This is a great time to remind you to back up. When's the last time you backed up the important files on your PC? Honestly? If you're a smartphone user, when's the last time you copied all those photographs and videos that have been sitting on your phone for months? Hard drives fail. Ransomware attacks happen. Lightning strikes can fry electronics. Laptops and phones can be dropped and broken. Backing up your files is the best way to minimize loss. If you haven't done it recently, why not sit down and do it today?



Is This Virus Pop-Up For Real? Those scammers sure are busy. A reader asks: "I downloaded Win 10, all seems good and I typed a Typo O in the browser and this window came up (full screen) and blared that I have a virus /malware and I need to call Microsoft immediately. I couldn't close out the screen, it was flashing and repeated this message to call Microsoft with the number and alerting me my credit cards were being intercepted and bank info vulnerable. I shut off the computer, don't trust anything BUT could this be true? My Norton is good. Scary out there !!!"



No, this can't be true in any way, shape, or form. What you were seeing was a pop-up ad or a piece of adware that piggy-backed its way onto another download. Virus protection software just does its job. It doesn't tell you to call a number. Plus there's no way to tell from your PC if your credit card numbers have been compromised. Any time you're told to call a number or click on a link because of a virus issue, you can count on it being a scam. If you get something like this again, try pressing Ctrl + Alt + Del keys to close from the task manager. Then I'd suggest running a malware and virus scan.

What Is An ISO? In response to an article on creating an ISO file, a reader wrote: "What is ISO? You techies use terms all the time and assume non-techies know what you are talking about". As it said in the article, "An ISO image is an archive file that includes the data contents from every written sector on an optical disc. It gives you an exact copy of your existing file system." ~ An ISO is just a copy of the data for your operating system. That doesn't include your photos, pictures, etc... It's just the data needed to install or reinstall an operating system. ISO refers to the .iso file extension that many of these images are saved in. But not all ISO files are .iso files

'Let us celebrate the occasion with wine and sweet words' **Plautus**

You can e-mail, fax or simply drop your  or  into our office:- 12 Cliff Street, Branxton or Fax: 4938 3301 or E-mail: thenews@hotmail.net.au
All contributions welcome

..... enjoying the Hunter Wine lifestyle with Andrew Marsh of Marsh Estate Winery, Pokolbin

Kerry Packer made some interesting comments during his life. Upon a business reporter questioning the fact that Kerry's only son James, could not possibly run Packer's business interests as he had not attended university, Kerry smiled and replied "University is for people who don't know people!" Another time he famously expressed his belief in cigarettes "They're great until they kill you!" The one that sticks out however, was his comment to the



males have a hard time discussing anything outside of sport. At 4.00 am for a long time, I would wake up and curse a God I did not even believe in. Suddenly the old "I don't have a religious bone in my body" phrase became "I do ... and He's a ****!"

I've only prayed three times in my life. Once was in the very early eighties at a little church in Broke. The relentless drought conditions were impacting heavily on the wine industry and so the entire community came together to pray for rain. I looked around the room to view these desperate vignerons, who normally came together to drink copious amounts of their produce, looking as if their world was about to end. As the chaplain asked God to provide some much needed rain, my brother Nick, who was seated in front of me, passed wind with ear-piercing precision and with potency bringing tears to our eyes. While the congregation chose to ignore it as much as possible, I had my face buried in my hands in an uncontrollable fit of laughter. Brian McGuigan was sitting next to me and threw me a serious glance. I lowered my head and prayed not for rain but for the smell to subside and for me to cease laughing at once. Unfortunately for me, my prayers were not answered.

I once prayed just prior to being selected in a representative rugby team, in which I was selected and incurred a life-long injury in the first half and the other was only a few years ago when a 10-12 foot set broke in front of me at the infamous Indonesian surf break of Grajagan, over a shallow reef. I think I may have yelled out 'Mummy' as well. Actually, I did pray that Makybe Diva would win a third Melbourne Cup but I needn't have bothered. I guess I'm one of those people who follow the 'Live and Let Live' philosophy and are not fussed by others and their beliefs but upon my death bed, will be asking for God's forgiveness on the 11th hour, in order to get to my island of great surf. It's worth a shot! Three guys died and when they get to the pearly gates, St Peter meets them there. St Peter said, "I know that you guys are forgiven because you're here. Before I let you into Heaven, I have to ask you a couple of questions. Make sure you tell the truth because if you don't you will forfeit your privilege of being here and we'll have to ask you to visit our friend below. Your answers will also determine what kind of car you get. You have to have a car here in Heaven because it is so big!" The first guy walks up and Peter asks him, "How long were you married?" The guy replies, "24 years." St Peter then asks, "Did you ever cheat on your wife?" The guy says, "Yes, about 10 times but you said I was forgiven." Peter said, "Yeah, but that's not too good. Here's a Mini Minor for you to drive."

The second guy walks up and gets the same questions from Peter to which he replies, "I was married for 41 years and cheated on her only once, but that was during our first year and we worked it out and I was faithful there after." Peter said, "I'm pleased to hear that, here's a Commodore for you to drive." The third guy walked up and said, "Peter, I know what you're going to ask. I was married for 63 years and didn't even look at another woman! I treated my wife like a queen!" Peter said, "That's what I like to hear. Here's a Jaguar for you to drive." A little while later, the two guys with the Mini and the Commodore saw the guy with the Jaguar crying on the golden sidewalk, so they went to see what the matter was. When they asked him what was wrong he tearily said, "I just saw my wife.....and she was on a skateboard!"

Cheers
Andrew

media after a heart attack which left him clinically dead for several minutes. One of the scoops asked him if he experienced a religious moment during his ordeal. Packer never discussed religion. He looked at the chap and replied "Yes, I believe I had a religious experience do you want the good news or the bad news?"

The chap thought for a second "The bad news." "The bad news" smiled Packer, "is that there is no God." The chap looked slightly aghast. "The good news is there is no Devil!" When I was younger I believed that Heaven consisted of a beautiful, sunny island in the middle of nowhere with warm aqua-coloured water. Just off the island was a coral reef where perfect right-handers peeled in and broke perfectly for about a kilometre. On the southern point of the bay, Midnight Oil played while I surfed and on the northern point was a McDonald's, for munchies after surfing all day. I'm a little bit older now and realise that my idea of Heaven was somewhat silly and childish. Nowadays, Heaven is still the same island with the same surf break but Midnight Oil share the stage with a few other bands and a massive pub has been built next to the McDonald's, which overlooks a rugby stadium and in the pub they have Chateau Mouton-Rothschild on tap with Dom Perignon chasers and naked women serve and the place never closes!

I fell in love with my Sunday-school teacher who was about ten years older than me. She was beautiful. I became a diligent attendee of Sunday-school due to her presence. She used to profess that God made man in his own image. He certainly had a good image there. She made me want to believe in God. Years later I ran into her whilst very drunk at one of the infamous 'Shark Tower' parties at Avoca beach, held during the Avoca Pines surfing competition in which I had performed well. With several drinks under my belt, I told her how I had grown up idolising her and how gorgeous I thought she was. The next morning I awoke about 500 metres down the beach and looked down to find her asleep in my arms. One of her catch-cries had always been 'God works in mysterious ways.' He certainly does, I thought. I felt closer to God.

The editor informed me years ago that I could write about anything but religion. "Why not religion?" I asked. "Because it can put you in hot water with members of the community," was his reply. "So in other words, you are concerned I will start attacking certain religions or faiths on the grounds that they are subjective, interpretive, corrupt, money-making scams which only suit a minority of people running them, yet you will allow me to write about local council and industry body initiatives?" "Something like that," he replied.

I guess with regard to the biblical God, of whom many Australians have faith, the common debate is the interpretation of the Bible and the events held within. Growing up listening to stories about a long-haired, unshaven cloak-wearing carpenter's son walking on water and turning water into wine has to be placed in a certain believable context. Dying on a cross is one thing but rising from the dead three days later is another. It's bound to have its sceptics but it was only just over 2000 years ago, not 20 or 30 thousand, which to me is a valid point. What will people believe in 30 thousand years' time? Certainly people won't "believe" in anything if they have learnt anything from the past. Hopefully they will be just "living". Then again, Albert Einstein's famous quote may ring true here.... "Two things are infinite...the universe and human stupidity...and I'm not sure about the universe." I've always believed that it's the fight or flight response with regard to higher beliefs or faiths. People will follow or attack what they don't understand. Most feel that they need a definite opinion about something to appear in control of their own destiny. You hear people saying "I don't have a religious bone in my body," instead of phrasing it "I have yet to acknowledge the presence of any such notions" in which case if you phrase it like that, you're a complete nerd and probably do. See what I mean! When I was 28, my girlfriend of six years was suddenly taken from us. Naturally, a reassessment phase follows with such loss. As the mind looks for reason, it is only a matter of time during the lowest point where you entertain the idea of a higher being. Carlton and United Breweries certainly provided some relief but



Well done to Branxton Fire Brigade from the residence of 'Branxton Gardens'. We appreciate your assistance with providing and changing batteries in our smoke detectors every year. A very big thankyou.

To those that held the party in the main street of Branxton on Saturday night 30th July. You kept the residence of Branxton awake with your loud music and drunken karaoke until 3.50 am when police finally shut you down. Shame on you!

To Cessnock City Council who voted to approve the Mosque at Buccanean (sic) .. you ask the residents to give you an indication as to what they think of the proposal and around 600 did just that; they did not want it there. So political correctness wins the day ... it wasn't about religion that most opposed it was that they consider it to be in the wrong spot for good reason. The residents will have their say on the 10th September!

FREE! Classified's

Cost:- For one-off domestic advertising The News *will not* charge you. Otherwise it is \$2/line.

Classified's ~ Cost:- For one-off domestic advertising The News *will not* charge you. Otherwise it is \$2/line.

Computer Tuition: From basics to highly skilled & learn all about ebay. P: 0429 381 908
Computer Services: Repairs, Sales & Service. Phone repairs. Comtronics P: 4991 1128
For Rent: Branxton RSL Hall, air conditioned. Short or long term. P: 0429 438 460
For Sale: 2002 Rover 75. Unregistered. Needs some TLC which I am not prepared to do. Full leather, GPS. Beautiful vehicle. Price Neg P: 0414 757 826
Guitar Lessons: Branxton. Limited places available. Please inquire soon. P 4938-3380 or 0409-038-271.
Microchipping: Cats and Dogs, all sizes and breeds, will come to you. \$20 per animal, please call Angela on 0431649947.
Personal Trainer: 1 on 1 or small groups. Louise Cairns 'Fit for Life' ALSO Low impact Strength & core Miller Park 8am Tue & Thur \$12/person P: 0439 383 478
Riding Lessons: agjstment, horses trained. www.byalee.net 0407 453 494
Share accommodation: Close to transport & shops, quiet street Branxton; off street parking. \$150p/w includes power & water P: 0423 288 067
Share House: Fully furnished, double bedroom, Built-ins, ceiling fan, Air Con, very quiet. \$165/week. P: 0413 896 866
Wanted: high quality mechanical wrist watches & clocks. Keen collector. Willing to pay good prices. Prefer Rolex, Omega, Oris & Tag. P: 0414 757 826
Wanted: all kinds of Honda mini bikes qa50 z50a z50j1 z50jz ct70 st70 & atc70. Contact Drew 0435814841
Work Wanted: Need an extra hand? I do all maintenance, labouring, construction, asbestos & have working with children licence. P (Pat) 0414 278 292
Work Wanted: Lawn Mowing; best rates - large or small area. P: 0459 123 397
Work Wanted: Lawns mowed, rubbish removal & slashing. Also 'Bobcat' work, trenching & post hole boring & general maintenance & handyman work. Phone Steve on 4938 3601
Work Wanted: HORSE CLIPPING - PERFORMANCE READY. Hunter Valley & Central Coast. Phone Caron 0416 128 701
Work Wanted: Lawns properties, mowing, trimming, removals, maintenance. Paul 0478103814 or 49987567
Work Wanted: Sick of cleaning, cooking dinner, washing. Call me! Taking bookings now. Professional and reliable service. Sue 0497257081
Work Wanted: Rural Fencing (TW & A Hollingshed)

P: 4998 1583 or Trevor on 0429 320 787 for quotes.
Work Wanted: experienced baby sitter looking for work. Very reliable P: 0458 606 804
Work Wanted: Lawn & Garden Maintenance, P: 4938 3153
Work Wanted: Piano teacher available to give lessons P: Phil Aughey on 0447 381 989
Work Wanted: Let me clean your home. Great references & rates (min 3 hours) P: 4990 2936
 The pick of
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/branxonandsurroundsbuysellsapandfreebies/>
For Sale: Computer Hp pavilion 23 all in one touch screen pc, intel pentium, 3 ghz, 4 gig ram, 64 bit operating system, nvidia ge force graphics, windows 8, bought 8 months ago for \$1,200, been restored back to purchased specs, as new runs very well just like new, make a offer or swap for something similar value, Windella area, 0411820086
Companion Horse: We are looking for an experienced horse handler who has a kind heart and is looking for a companion horse. Honeycomb is a 5 year old beautiful looking thoroughbred chestnut mare approx 15hh. Unfortunately she has been left to her own devices for far to long and would need training again as she is hard to catch. Honeycomb currently has a wound to her leg from being caught up in wire on her old property in which she no longer resides at, hence finding her a loving home. The previous owner recently indicated he wanted to breed with her but believes she is lame and will not be able to carry, hence no riding either. Her recent wound is healing and it certainly does not stop her from charging around the paddock when inspired. As you can see from the pictures, she loves chatting with neighbours. Please do NOT enquire unless you have the right intentions of having her properly looked after with feet trimming on a regular basis and dentistry once a year and we would certainly like progress reports on her from time to time.
<http://www.gumtree.com.au/.../hors.../companion-horse/1119811211>
Wanted: Free clean fill. We are after some clean fill to help level up our backyard. No bricks or building materials please. If you have a truck load that you need to get rid of from a cut of a new building site we can take it of your hands.

The "For your Diary" section of The News is a FREE community service.



Tue 9 Aug - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigid's old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
Sun 21 Aug - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
Thur 25 Aug - Cessnock Prostate Cancer Support Group next meeting 25th August at Cessnock Leagues Club 3pm to 4:30 pm. Guest speaker is Joan Torony who is Chief Operations Officer and Research Manager from TROG which a Newcastle based Radiotherapy Clinical Trails Research Group. Joan presentation will cover background on TROG Cancer Research, Prostate trails and general information. Our meetings are open to all members of the public. So come along and join us. Cost: FREE - Teal coffee provided. Contact- Barry or Rose. 49904554- 045703852.
Sat 27 Aug - Annual Op Shop Fashion Parade @ Branxton Community Hall from 2.00
Wed 31 Aug - Cessnock City Council TREE GIVEAWAY. Completed application forms must be received no later than 5:00pm Wednesday, 31 August 2016. Have you purchased or built a new home during the 2015/2016 financial year? Did you know you can get up to eight (8) free plants for your property from Cessnock City Council?
Thur 1 & Fri 2 Sept - Branxton Public School Stage 2 Sydney Excursion
Tue 6 Sept - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
Fri 9 Sept - Cessnock City Council final day to apply for Sporting Facility and Equipment Dollar for Dollar Grant Scheme. It is advised that all applicants contact Council's Recreation & Community Liaison Officer Kate Hicks on 4993 4234 prior to lodging an application.
Tue 13 Sept - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigid's old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.



Thur 15 Sept ~ Branxton Public School "The Boscars" School Concert
Sun 18 Sept - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
Sat & Sun 17 & 18 Sept - Maitland Garden Ramble 10am - 4pm
20-22 Sept - New South Wales Wine Industry Awards at Cessnock Leagues Club
OCT/NOV - Branxton/Greta CWA Land Cookery/Product Promotion (Blueberries) Day, venue/date TBA.
Tue 4 Oct - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
Wed 5 Oct - Night Time Bingo @ Greta Workers Club from 7.00
Tue 11 Oct - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting AGM, St Brigid's old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
Wed 12 Oct - Rags to Riches High Tea for Women's Cancer @ Branxton Community Hall from 11.30am
Sun 16 Oct - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
Tue 1 Nov - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
Tue 8 Nov - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigid's old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
Sun 20 Nov - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
Sun 2 Dec - Twilight Market (4.00pm to 8.00pm) - Proceeds to Prostrate Cancer & Beyond Blue
Tue 6 Dec - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
Fri 9 Dec - Branxton Golf Club Christmas Spectacular
Tue 13 Dec - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigid's old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room, followed by Christmas lunch.
Sun 18 Dec - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds



Branxton Public School

The Senior and Junior Dance group performed at the Hunter Dance Festival in Week 2. The seniors were glorious in sparkling colour and danced beautifully, receiving many compliments about their lovely manners and fabulous behaviour. The juniors were super cute in their bright sparkly outfits and also received many compliments. Congratulations and well done to all the dancers and many thanks to all the parents for their support and encouragement in allowing students to participate in this exciting activity.

On Thursday of Week 3 Branxton Public School celebrated Public Education with an exciting showcase of our students' talents for Education Week. The School Band opened the Assembly and then we listened to the Infants' and Primary Choir and watched the Senior and Junior Dance Groups perform. The Public Speaking representatives shared their speeches with us. Great practice for the competition later in the term. After lunch there was a book character parade with students having the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character. There was an awesome array of costumes - some of our parents are very creative! Thanks to the family and friends who braved the wet weather to come along to share the celebrations.

Save the date! BPS students and staff will be presenting "The Boscars" concert on Thursday 15th September. Classes are working on their items!

Dates for the Calendar

- Monday 15th August – P&C Meeting 6pm in library
- Thursday 1st & Friday 2nd September – Stage 2 Sydney Excursion
- Thursday 15th September – "The Boscars" School Concert



Senior Dance Group



Primary Choir



Aden, Jae, Alana & Heidi



School Band



Natasha, Jack, Harry & Kasey



Infants Choir



Junior Dance Group

At Branxton Public School students, staff and community are Respectful, Responsible and achieve their Personal Best.



Book Parade



Rosary Park



A special welcome to new families to our school- the Baker and the Loadsman families. Josie and Billy return to Rosary Park. Hannah joins us from us from Branxton. I am sure you will enjoy your time at our school. We also welcome Josie Thornberry to the staff. Josie has been appointed for 10 hours a week as an aide to assist in Years 5, 4 and 2.

Thank You: To Cheyne Cole and Hannah Wilson for fixing a fence panel during the holidays and for erecting the new sign at the front of the school. We hope to get some time this week to start putting on some messages.

To Mrs Piper for all the work she has done with the outside learning area near the library and for looking after the vegetable garden.

To Sue McAlister for volunteering at the school on a very regular basis – her help is greatly appreciated

Thank you!

A big thank you to all the children who donated money each week in class for the **St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal** last term, we managed to raise **\$350!** All money raised has been sent to the St Vincent De Paul Society to help those needing assistance in the area this winter. The Women's Refuge in Branxton was also very grateful to receive the many clothing and linen items donated by our families last term. It is great to see our school supporting the local community!

Save the Dates:

Feast of Mary Mackillop Liturgy ~ Tuesday, 9 August, 2016 in the school hall at 2.15pm
Father's Day Breakfast ~ Friday, 26 August, 2016. It's a week early as the staff will be away doing an education presentation in Newcastle on the Friday prior to Father's Day.

Grade Masses are held in the Church at 9:20am on a Thursday
 18 August – Year 5 and Year 6 | 1 September – Year 3 and Kinder | 15 September – Year 6 and Year 2

Regional Athletics Carnival

On Tuesday, 19 July, the All Saints Cluster Carnival was held at Hunter Sports Centre Glendale. Rosary Park Catholic School had 32 students representing our school at the carnival, competing against other schools in our region. Congratulations to all students who participated in this carnival and competed at such a high level.

Sport Assembly

Congratulations to all of the students that received a ribbon at the sports assembly last term. Also congratulations to the Athletics Champions of 2016 -

Senior Boys -	Alex Martin	Senior Girls -	Ivy Kelly
U/11 Boys -	Timon Smith	U/11 Girls -	Piper Dougherty
Junior Boys -	Luke Dean	Junior Girls -	Amelia Slomka

Gym Matrix will be providing lessons on Thursdays and Fridays of each week in Term 3. As some students will be timetabled to have their gymnastics lessons on Thursdays the staff have decided that students (in all classes) can wear their sports uniform on Thursdays and Fridays of Term 3 if they wish.

Horse Sports

Students from Rosary Park have represented our school at local School Sports.

Red Nose Day

Thank you to the students who purchased a Red Nose meal deal and supported this fundraiser. We saw lots of smiles amongst the playground as the children wore their noses. Thank you to Juana, Aly, Kellie, Cheree, Jo, Hannah and Amy for organising and preparing this day. We hope the donation will make the slightest difference to this foundation. Well done Rosary Park.



The All Saints Cluster Carnival

Blood On The Track

Formerly Racing & Breeding Brian Russell Bloodstock Media Service



by E.D. Yaxley using St Briavels (GB) and Convatrice, a mare by another Lionel Israel sire, Convamore (GB) (Group1 winner, second Irish Derby, fifth English Derby), who won once and earned \$1,620. He won 19 races including the Group1s Caulfield Cup, Caulfield Stakes, Randwick Queen Elizabeth and The BMW

Luskintyre third Star Kingdom low value Hall of Famer

THERE are now five Star Kingdom male line descendants in the Australian Racing Hall of Fame following the installation into its ranks last month of mercurial juvenile Luskintyre, a grandson through Kaoru Star. He has been preceded by Todman and Sky High, Star Kingdom line colts raced by their breeders, and the grandson Gunsynd (by Sunset Hue) and great grandson Kingston Town (Blethingly).

Three that went to the yearling markets were Gunsynd (sold for \$1300 in Brisbane), Kingston Town and Luskintyre. After the latter two failed to find buyers at sales at a modest \$10,000, gelded Kingston Town went on to win 30 of 41 starts, including three successive Cox Plates, for his breeder, David Hains of Melbourne, and Luskintyre ended up racing for clients of Max Lees, a now deceased Newcastle trainer whose son Chris is one of the State's leading conditioners.

Luskintyre ran 17 times (two and three years) for 13 wins, eight from nine at two, and three seconds. Six Group1 wins were the Golden Slipper (seven lengths, race record time), AJC Champagne Stakes (six lengths), Sires' Produce Stakes (Australian record time for 1400m), QTC Sires' Produce Stakes (1400m course record), Marlboro Stakes (1600m course record) and Caulfield Guineas. On debut at two he rocketed to a 14 lengths win in the Breeders' Plate at Randwick.

His only unplaced run was a ninth of 14 in the 1977 Cox Plate (2050m). Sent out favourite and from the outside barrier, he may have finished closer if he had not been used up so much at the outset. He rocketed clear of the field and over to the fence when he jumped.

Luskintyre, initial stud fee \$8000, went on to be a very successful sire of winners and broodmare influence from sixteen seasons at the Kellys' Newhaven Park Stud near Boorowa NSW. He left about 700 foals, over 500 winners of 2000 races and dams of over 1100 winners (104 SWs) of 4000 races.

A 1974 foal, Luskintyre was bred by Jim O'Neill, a leading Lower Hunter Valley tyre merchant, and his wife on a stud farm they established along the Hunter River at Luskintyre near Lochinvar and which is now Paul Wheelan's Luskintyre Park.

They bred Luskintyre using Kaoru Star, a fleet footed Star Kingdom performer who was one of the most successful sires stood by Lionel Israel in his forty years tenure of the Segenhoe Stud, now Vinery, in the Scone region, and Promising, a modestly bred and performed daughter of the Alycidon sire Idomeneo (GB) and Modern Touch, a non winner by Fair's Fair (GB).

Luskintyre is one of four horses inducted this year into the Hall of Fame, a recognition of Australian excellence established sixteen years ago and which now honours 58 horses. The other newcomers are Sydeston (1985, gelding), Leilani (NZ) (1970, mare) and Merman (1892, stallion).

Gelded Sydeston was bred in Tasmania

(H.E. Tancred). Leilani, a daughter of Oncidium (GB) (Alcide) and Lei, a Summer-time (GB) winner of 16 races to Group 3, included in 14 wins the Group1 AJC Oaks, Caulfield Cup, LKS Mackinnon, Australian Cup and Toorak. She lived until she was nineteen, but produced only five foals, none of which won a stakes.

A son of Grand Fleaneur, an unbeaten Australian superstar of the 1880s, wins including VRC Victoria Derby, Melbourne Cup, Champion Stakes and AJC Derby, who is in the Hall of Fame, the other newcomer Merman was about a Group 2 class performer here, but later a memorable stayer in England.

He won the Ascot Gold Cup (4000m), Goodwood Cup (3200m), Newmarket Jockey Club Cup and the Cesarewitch Stakes (3600m).

Coincidentally, the Hobartville Stud, Richmond NSW bred Merman was raced in England by Mr. Jersey, a pseudonym for actress Lillie Langtry. Minding, this year's winner of the English One Thousand Guineas and Oaks, a by Galileo and from a Danehill Dancer mare Named Lillie Langtry. Women, at the time, were not allowed to be registered owners.

Besides the horses, six people inducted this year go the Australian Hall of Fame, namely trainers Neville Begg and Cecil Godby (a Victorian leader in the first half of last century), jockeys Pat Hyland and Noel McGrowdie and Associates Les Carlyon (journalist and author) and Joe Brown (race caller).

Classic winners blood ties with young Queensland sires

2016 English Derby third Idaho's dam Hveger is a three-quarter sister to ALTIUS, a smart Redoute's Choice Sydney performer now coming up to his third season as a sire at Bruce Watts' Riverside Thoroughbreds, Alton Downs, Rockhampton, Qld. On a fee of \$2,750, Altius ran 15 times for four wins, including two in succession at 1500m at Rosehill Gardens, in order by 1.8 lengths and two weeks later by 2.3 lengths (\$2.90 favourite). He had shown big promise in his first four starts, winning Swan Hill on debut, then at Geelong and running second Flemington (Listed event) and Caulfield (\$2.10 fav).

Galileo, the sire of Oaks and One Thousand Guineas heroine Minding, and Zafonic, the sire of Xaar, broodmare sire of Derby winner Harzand, come together in the pedigree of AMBER GREY (IRE), a sire who has been at stud since 2013. A resident this year on \$1,500 at the Donna Koitka conducted Amber Lodge at Boonah, Qld, he is a son of Galileo and Grecian Glory, a winning daughter of Zafonic, carries inbreedings 3x5 to Northern Dancer and 4x4 to Mr. Prospector, a third dam by Sea Bird and a big black type family, one which includes English and Irish Derby winner and influential sire Shirley Heights.

Detailed sale yard report



Saleyard report - cattle

Singleton report date 3 Aug 2016

Yarding 660 ~ **Change 110** (Comparison Date 27/7/16)

Yarding 660 comparison date Change 110 Quality on average tended to be on the plainer side, as numbers lifted, with the younger cattle making up the bulk in the penning. There were limited numbers of prime conditioned cattle in the offering, with the majority selling to restocker and backgrounder interests. The market trend was dearer with the backgrounder order entering the competition. Vealer steers returning to the paddock gained 20c, with the overall 200kg bulls ranging from 352c to 401c/kg. The same weight heifer portion also to the restockers improved 17c, making from 320c to 383c/kg. The lighter end of the yearling steers to the restockers and backgrounders lifted 18c, with similar gains recorded throughout the other weights. Yearling steers in good condition to the lot feeder and restocker orders, ranged from 340c to 400c/kg. Yearling heifers purchased by the restockers lifted from 7c to 15c, making from 330c to 370c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers lifted 10c to 15c to reach 394c/kg. The younger grown steers to lot feeder orders reached 376c/kg. The cows improved from 5c to 7c, with the plainer 2 scores averaging 244c, as the better covered 3 and 4 scores ranged from 230c to 260c/kg.

Scone report date 2 Aug 2016

Yarding 1043 ~ **Change 453** (Comparison Date 26/7/16)

Numbers close to doubled with the yarding consisting of mainly vealers and yearlings that were either supplementary fed or crop assisted, there were a few more cows yarded compared to last week which saw the export market average 400c/kg. The usual buyers were operating with restockers again assisting in pushing light weight steers and heifers higher. The good runs of light weight, well bred steers and heifers sold strongly, primarily due to quality and light restocker interest did ease as the sale reached its completion. The majority of the vealer steer sold to restockers from 340c to 411c topping at 450c, with prices up by 17c to 21c/kg across all weights. Vealer heifers followed a similar trend to sell dearer by 20c for medium weights, while the light weight lines averaged from 355c to 370c, lifting marginally by 5c to 6c/kg. Light and medium weight yearling steers returning to the paddock jumped 21c across all weight categories to average 375c and 385c respectively for medium and heavy weight lines. Feeder buyers paid on average from 373c to 385c/kg. Yearling heifers returning to the paddock sold 22c dearer for light weights averaging 371c, while medium weights to restock averaged between 348c and 358c/kg. Grown steers and heifers were too few in number to quote, although the D2 heavy beef cows sold 7c cheaper averaging 233c/kg.

TRLX Tamworth report date 1 Aug 2016

Yarding 727 ~ **Change -137** (Comparison Date 25/7/16)

Numbers were down slightly for a yarding of 727 head. Weaners and yearling cattle made the largest percentage of the yarding, while there was a few more grown heifers and there was similar cow numbers. Quality of cows was easier to mix with the large percentage in plain condition, however there were several lines of well bred cows to push the price. The market continued to be strong with all the young cattle going to feeders and restockers, with the majority of the bull trade heifer. Restocker vealer steers selling 15c dearer topping at 410c, while restocker vealer heifers gained 20c and sold to a top of 368c/kg. Feeder steers and heifers were 20c dearer, with feeder steers averaging 381c and feeder heifers averaged 370c/kg. The trade yearling heifers sold to a top of 348c/kg. The export cattle consisted mainly of cows and grown heifers, with a few pens of well finished cattle offered. Grown heifers sold firm to a dearer trend with heifers to slaughter selling to a top of 307c and feeder heifers topped at 340c/kg. The cow market saw heavy cows gain 10c topping at 280.2c/kg, while medium weights held firm.

Beef export values trend lower as supply tightens

In May, Australian beef export values declined 18% on the year-prior, reaching just over \$717.5 million for the month – driven by lower shipments to both the US and China (Global Trade Atlas), and declines in global meat prices.

2016 year-to-date (January to May) beef shipments have generated just over \$3.02 billion, 18% lower than the same time last year, but 27% greater than the five-year average over the corresponding time period (\$2.38 billion).

So far this year, compared to the same time last year, export values to:

- * the US declined 35% - at \$840.1 million
 - * Japan declined 12% - to \$653.2 million
 - * South Korea increased 17% - at \$512.4 million
 - * China declined 29% - at \$257.3 million
 - * Indonesia increased 57% - to 142.5 million
- Highlighted in the latest update to MLA's Cattle Industry Projections beef export volumes are expected ease to just over 1 million tonnes in 2016 (down 20% year-on-year) – largely driven by lower beef production, and with a small influence from a stronger than anticipated A\$ so far this year (0.74US¢). The average unit price of Australia's beef exports has declined slightly in 2016. This is largely due to a slowing of the extremely strong demand for Australian beef in export markets during 2014 and 2015. Further downward adjustments in export prices are expected to occur in 2016 and 2017, with major overseas competitors, including the US, Brazil and India, producing and exporting more beef.



New Landholders Day Wingham ~ 19 August 2016

Hunter Local Land Services is conducting an information session in Wingham for new and prospective beef producers including practical livestock skills.

Community Planting Day Shortland ~ 21 August 2016

Volunteers are invited to come along to a special community planting day in the Ironbark Creek catchment. BBQ lunch provided.

Event Biosecurity Workshop Scone ~ 23 August 2016

Organisers of equestrian and combined equestrian/cattle events are invited to attend this free workshop on managing disease and pest risks associated with bringing large numbers of competitors and livestock together at a venue.

Farm Succession Planning Workshop Gloucester ~ 25 August 2016

Do you plan to pass the farm on to the next generation? Are you worried about funding your own retirement? This workshop will provide you with some guidance on navigating the sometimes tricky territory of succession planning.

What's your beef workshop Merriwa ~ 26 August 2016

Come along to this workshop and gain an understanding of what market options your livestock can fit. An independent consultant will provide up-to-date market information and grid specifications.

Sheep and goat information session Tocal ~ 7 September 2016

Landholders with sheep or goats are invited to attend this information session to find out about their responsibilities, and support available through Local Land Services, in identifying animals, monitoring and managing animal health and welfare, managing pest animals, understanding biosecurity, and other important considerations.

MLA NSW Grasslands Update Gloucester ~ 7 September 2016

This informative workshop features speakers from Meat & Livestock Australia, Department of Primary Industries and Hunter Local Land Services on various pasture improvement trials being conducted in the region. The day will also include an industry panel discussion and a field tour

Major Singleton Attractions make it to the Top 10 Things to do in the Hunter Valley

Experience Oz, one of Australia's leading booking agencies has announced Lake St Clair and the Australian Army Infantry Museum as travel drawcards in the Top 10 Things to do in the Hunter Valley. The Australian Army Infantry Museum came in at number five on the list of Top 10 Things to do in the Hunter Valley. Singleton Council's Director of Corporate and Community Services Group Anthony Egan says this is a positive step forward for Singleton Tourism. "With the Hunter Valley primarily known as New South Wales' signature wine region, Lake St Clair and the Army Infantry Museum have become top tourist destinations in their own right," he

says. "Singleton has a lot to offer visitors including a host of boutique wineries, fine dining restaurants, National Parks, museums and historical villages. "The Army Infantry Museum being ranked so well is a tribute to the dedication and passion of the Army Infantry staff and volunteers, who work tirelessly to provide engaging and enriching experiences for visitors." The Australian Army Infantry Museum is located at the Lone Pine Barracks, just a short drive south of Singleton and is one of the country's most extensive displays of Australian wartime memorabilia. Lake St Clair is only a short 30 minute drive from Singleton and is one of the

regions premier hotspots for various outdoor activities including camping, sailing, boating, waterskiing and picnics. For your next retreat, capture the breathtaking beauty that Singleton and the Hunter Valley has to offer including experiences beyond expectations, award winning restaurants and cellar doors and luxurious accommodation all to complete the perfect getaway. If you need assistance planning your next visit to the Hunter Valley or for more information on Lake St Clair, the Australian Army Infantry Museum and other local attractions contact the staff at the Singleton Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre on 02 6578 7560 or email sviec@singleton.nsw.gov.au

The Branxton Lions Club hold successful 'Trivia Evening'



Branxton Loins had a very successful Trivia night at the Branxton Golf Club on Saturday night the 23rd July. The Golf Club was packed with local people. Besides Trivia there was an auction, Neil Thomas was the

auctioneer also a very large raffle was held most prizes were donated by our wonderful sponsors Lion Brian Thomas arranged the whole night and was also the MC. Lions Branxton would like too

thank the Golf Club, all the people that attended the Trivia night and our sponsors for their support. Lions are always hoping for new members to make new friends and help the community. Please contact The President

Bob on 49381001 Alan on 49381654 *Lion Ken Meany publicity officer*
 ☞ Photo at left: Lions Club members & guests at the very successful Trivia Night held recently at the Branxton Golf Club

Cessnock City Council wins best Youth Week in NSW

Cessnock City Council was recognised for its outstanding Youth Week Program at the 2016 Local Government Awards. The awards held last night saw the Cessnock Youth Week Organising Committee take out the Best Local Youth Week Program 2016. Cessnock City Council General Manager, Stephen Glen congratulated all involved in putting the event together. "This is a fantastic result, reflecting the hard work and can do attitude of all those involved in the program". "It was clear Youth Week was a hit amongst locals with youth participation reaching a record high of 1800 young people", Mr Glen said. The 2016 Youth Week was a collaborative effort between community organisations, local businesses, the Cessnock Youth Entertainment Committee and other local young people. The variety of the 18 events held throughout the week would not have been possible without the contribution of our local young people. Campbelltown City Council also took out Best Youth Week Program 2016. Congratulations Campbelltown.

Life lessons from a NRL Legend



Guest speaker Paul 'The Chief' Harragon (centre) at the annual School Leaders' Breakfast

Today students from across the Cessnock Local Government Area heard from guest speaker Paul 'The Chief' Harragon at the annual School Leaders' Breakfast. Cessnock City Council General Manager, Stephen Glen said the event is held as part of Local Government Week and is a unique opportunity for students to learn from people who have incredible stories to tell. "I'd like to thank Paul Harragon for sharing some important life lessons and encouraging our local students to set their sights high", said Mr Glen. Giving the students an insight into the highs and lows of life as an elite athlete, Paul Harragon explained how he went about achieving his ultimate goal of playing for Australia. Paul Harragon encouraged the students to start setting their own goals, even if it is just a few daily goals and then a weekly goal, it will get you in the habit of checking off things you have achieved. "Then when you start working towards bigger goals never forget you will get tested along the way and the biggest tests come just before your goal is realised". Students and teachers were captivated by his charismatic presentation which included clips from throughout his career, his appearance on I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here and his recent Coast to Coast trek of Papua New Guinea raising awareness and funds for cancer research. The theme for Local Government Week 2016 is 'Our Council, Our Community' and is celebrated by councils across NSW from August 1 - 7.

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SPORTS RESULTS



Nearest the Pins:
2nd/11th: A Grade
 P.Wilton 213 cms
B Grade: P.Bush 55 cms
C Grade: N.Hughes 275 cms

4th: A Grade: J.Tracey 153 cms
B Grade: B.Kennedy 670 cms
C Grade: A.Roeth: 430 cms

13th: A Grade: J.Matt 282 cms
C Grade: A.Roeth 400 cms
9th/18th: A Grade:

P.Wilton: 73 cms
B Grade: J.Willard: 126cms
C Grade: A. Roeth 940 cms

Longest Drives:
A Grade: Phil Carter
B Grade: Ed Garland
C Grade: Barry Turner

57 players enjoyed the John Martin, Valley Clutch and Brake Day, a 2BBB and singles in conjunction event. After last week's winds, Saturday proved to be a beautiful, windless and after a cold start, quite warm day—an excellent day to be out on the golf course. The day started with a sausage sizzle, sponsored and served by John, giving everyone the opportunity to "warm up" by chatting and catching up after a week at work. Dylan Lipscombe and Bill Kennedy won the day quite convincingly with an excellent 49 pts, 3 clear of runners up David Kinch and Kel Mather. All teams won a golf ball, adding to the day, with Bill Kennedy having a real day out, winning the singles event with a wonderful 44 pts—8 pts better than his handicap which ensured his team also won the team's event.

John Martin, fresh from his early morning barbecuing, appropriately finished runner up with 39 pts, with Mark Moylan, continuing his recent very consistent play third with 38 pts. The shot of the day belongs to Paul Bush, whose first shot of the day on the 2nd finished only 55 cms away—an excellent way to start any event. Young Adam Roeth really enjoyed playing with Corey Lamb, finishing 4th in the team's event, won nearest the pins on three holes in C Grade—unprecedented in any

competition. The singles match play final is now decided with close golfing partners Phil Carter and Kyle Mounser already starting their sledging—it will be an excellent final between two in form golfers. We should arrange a microphone recording of this match as their "encouraging comments" would certainly add interest to this column. Next Sunday, the Hunter Valley Seniors Championships will be held at Cypress Lakes—there are 5 players from Branxton competing in this event, ensuring our Seniors team can compete in next season's Pennants competition. Similar events for all grades will be held over the next few weeks so we need at least 4 competitors on each event so we are fully represented this Pennants season.

HVGC

Sunday 24th July
 The Weekly Challenge has been won by Anthony Lucas from Kurri GC with an even Par 36 points from Brett Statham who returned 35 points.

Tuesday 26th July
 Wayne Drayton mastered the high wind on Tuesday to take the major prize with a one over Par round of 35 points on a countback to Dusty Lawless with Phousang Sihapanya claiming 3rd with 34 points also on countback. Ball winners were Hieu Le 34, Graeme Flynn 34, Mark Barrow 33, Greg Morgan 31, Lindsay Self 31, Michael Young 31 and Jaye Stevens 31 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Dusty Lawless (3rd) David Peel (4th) Brad Bell (10th) and Greg Morgan (17th)

Wednesday 27th July
 The Ladies contested their 27 Hole Foursome Championship in very trying conditions with experienced pair of Melita Watson and Dale Hamilton easy winners with 133 scratch, Kerry Choromanski and Jill Ramsden took the handicap honours with 125 net. The 18 hole winners were Melita and Dale once again with 80 net after surviving a countback to Sue Williams and Diane Atton who also recorded 80 net. The 9 Hole winners were Brenda Mannix and Karen Baillie with 39.5 from Kerry and Jill on 41. Next week will be the Golf NSW Qualifying 4BBB Par event.

Thursday 28th July
 The Vets 2 Person Ambrose resulted in Ian Newell and

David Peel taking the win with 65 net from Ray Newton and Ray Hodson on 65 3/4. Ball winners were Peter Wilson and Mark Barrow 66, Wayne Berry and Brian Doherty 70 and Greg Ireland and Garry Marsden 70. Nearest-the-Pins went to Ryan Wilson (3rd) David Peel (4th & 17th) Ken Harris (8th) and Peter Wilson (10th). Next week the Vets will play Individual Stableford.

Saturday 30th July
 The Club Championship opening round has delivered tight Scratch results in all grades, Veteran Ray Hodson has a 2 stroke advantage over Angello Korlevic and Graeme Flynn overall and in A grade while B grade is in the same position with Dean Morison holding a 2 stroke lead over Ben Pickering and Dusty Lawless and C Grade has Colin Mills 2 shots up on Kevin Smith with Michael Tsakissiris one shot further back. The Handicap (net) scores see Ray Hodson leading A grade by a clear 4 shots to Graeme Flynn with David Peel a further 3 back, B grade is a much tighter affair with Patrick Maher, Dean Morison and Dusty Lawless all locked together and C Grade has Colin Mills holding a 4 shot advantage from Kevin Smith, Jeff Shanahan and Michael Tsakissiris. The daily comp winners were: A Grade Ray Hodson 67 net from Graeme Flynn 71, B Grade to Patrick Maher 69 on countback to Dean Morison 69 also on countback and C Grade to Colin Mills 70 net from Kevin Smith 74 net. Ball winners were: Dusty Lawless 69, Ray Newton 70, Michael booth 72, Wade Attewell 73, Ben Pickering 73, Russ Calderwood 74, David Peel 74, Dale Maclingshaw 74, Ken Springbett 74, Stuart Leggett 74, Jeff Shanahan 74, Michael Tsakissiris 74, Lynette Russell 75, James Harvey 75, Anthony Bower 75, Greg Morgan 75, Brian Doherty 75, Ken Smith 75 and Jaye Stevens 75 c/b. Nearest-the-Pin winners were: Jeff Morton (3rd) James Harvey (4th) Rod Brynes (8th) David Peel (10th) and Kerrie Ann Skinner (17th). Next week will be week 2 of 3 in the Club Championship played in conjunction with the August Medal Stroke rounds.

July 31st
 Anthony Lucas from the Kurri GC has won the Weekly Challenge with an excellent 41 point round from Andrew Campbell who recorded 40 points

August 2nd
 Dusty Lawless has carried his great form into the Tuesday Stableford to win the day with 44 points from Rick Turnchini on 42 points and Matt Killick 3rd with 40 points on a countback. Ball winners were: Garry Marsden 40, Mark Barrow 39, Ray Hodson 38, Ray Newton 37, Jeff

Richardson 37, Wayne Kearney 36, Scott Whitehead v36, Steven Kane 35, Dan Taylor 34, Ian Hamilton v34, Gary Arnold 34, Jay Dunn v34, David Peel 34, Ken Wright 33 and John Stewart 33 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Brendan Connor, Andrew Fensom and Rod Nyman.

August 3rd
 Once again rain has wiped out the Ladies 4BBB qualifying round, no date yet as to a reschedule. This week will be The HRDGA Rosella Medal Stroke round.

August 4th
 The Vets Stableford was also held under adverse conditions with only the most hardy turning out. Andrew Hamilton handled it best to win on a countback to Raty Hodson after both had 35 point returns, Graeme Flynn took 3rd with 34 points. Balls were won by Geoff Sweetman 33, Mark Astley v33, Julie Todd v32, Steve Holmes v32, John Stewart 32 and Peter Payne 30. Next week the Vets will play a Medley Stableford..

August 6th
 Week two of the Men's Championship has seen a tightening in all grades with Scratch and A Grade leader Ray Hodson now level with Angello Korlevic who have a 9 shot buffer on the field, B Grade Scratch has Ben Pickering and Dusty Lawless level on top with Wade Attewell one shot back and C Grade has seen Jaye Stevens overtake Colin Mills by 5 shots and Michael Tsakissiris a further 2 back. Handicap (net) placing has Ray Hodson miles in front in A Grade with and 11 shot break on playing partner Dale Macklinshaw, B Grade has Patrick Maher 1 shot clear of Dusty Lawless, while Jaye Stevens has the lead in C Grade 5 shots over Colin Mills. The final round will be held this coming Saturday. The Monthly Medal played in conjunction with the Championship has been won by Patrick Maher with a great 64 net round, Patrick also won B Grade from Dusty Lawless who had a fine 67 net round. A Grade went to Cabramatta visitor Francis Murugan with 67 net from Ray Hodson on 68 and C Grade went to Botany visitor Peter Smith with 65 net from Jaye Stevens on 66 net. Jill Slatter was the leading Lady on the day and has qualified for the November Girls Goblet playoff. Ball winners were: Wayne Drayton 68, Wade Attewell 69, Tristain Balazic v69, Grahame Sheldon 69, Ben Pickering 69, John Stewart 71, Blake Glennie v71, Bobby Brown 71, Ben Bradley 71, Hieu Le 71, Dale Macklinshaw 71, Angello Korlevic 72, Stephen Applebee 72, Mathew Merlo 72, Dan McCleod 73, David Peel 73, Andrew Nichols 73 Phil Gee Kee 73, Don Bradley 73, Justin Preece 74, Gary

Stark 74, Matt Killick 74 and Michael Booth 74 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Tracey Morison (3rd) Michael Tsakissiris (4th) Brendan Connor (8th) Angello Korlevic (10th) Grahame Sheldon (17th). The 2016 Men's Championship will be completed next Saturday.

Branxton Ladies
 This week's results after last week being a washout. 27th July, Stableford Event. Winner: Helen Vandenbruggen with 36 point Runner –up: Trish McMillan with 24 points Nearest to the Pin: Helen Vandenbruggen
 News Items:
 The 4BBB is to be played shortly so the winners can compete in the District competition and then if successful onto Bonville. Could players that are interested let Carol know please. Marcus will be conducting short game clinics commencing Monday 8th August at 8.30am. Putting, chipping and bunker play will be covered over a three week period. Each session will be 1 hour long and cost \$15 a session. If you are interested please ring the pro-shop on 49382155 or text 0419697299.

Langers' Match Report - Pokolbin Reds vs East Maitland, Saturday 30th July

The final game of the 2016 competition was played on Saturday. With East Maitland on 29 points and the REDS on 27 points and the winner of the game going through to second place on the table and the looser to third place, there was much to play for. In the first few minutes of the match the Reds attacked the East Maitland line and went close to scoring. Both teams were making errors however the East Maitland team scored first with a penalty goal, and then went on to score the first try of the match which wasn't converted. The defence by both teams was brutal causing both teams to turn over possession and the Reds scrummaging was great. With only minutes to go in the first half the Reds converted a penalty goal and soon after scored a try out wide in the corner which wasn't converted. At half time the scores were locked at 8-all. In the second half East Maitland started tackling the Reds players' ball and not the man. This led to turn overs which East Maitland capitalised on, scoring two tries out wide which

were not converted. East Maitland was now leading 18 to 8. After this the Reds started to control their possession better with two great line breaks which should have led to 2 tries but unfortunately the Reds decision making at vital times was not good. This caused our attacking movements to break down with the final score East Maitland 18 and the Reds 8. The Pokolbin Reds can now focus on the semi's next week against Southern Lakes. The Reds have beaten Southern Lakes twice this year but this counts for nothing as semi-final football is very different and the loser will be out for 2016. The Reds play next Sunday at No. 2 Sports Ground Newcastle with kick off at 1.45pm. Please come and support the Mighty POKOLBIN REDS as this is the first time in many years that the Reds have made the semi's. Congratulations to the players and the coaching staff. *Mark Langley (Langers) Head Coach Pokolbin Rugby Club*

NSW Rugby - Casual Positions Available
 NSW Rugby is looking to employ a few more casuals & is hoping you may be able to assist. The work is on a casual basis and involves rugby development through the Game On Schools Program and Gala Days. A working with Children clearance and sound knowledge of rugby skills is required as well as an outgoing personality and love of working with children. If you know of someone this would suit or would be interested in finding out further details about the position, can you please put them in contact with George Gargoulakis, NSW Rugby - Newcastle/ Hunter Development Officer mob:0405 534 520 or email: georg@gowrugby.com.au





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Branxton Veteran Golfers Results 28/7/16 Stableford

Div.1 Winner	
T. Seamer	31pts
R/U A. Hackett	28pts
C/B	
3rd M. Ford	28pts
Div 2 Winner	
J Atton	31pts
R/U	
E. Porter	29pts
3rd	
M Lutovac	28pts
Ladies Winner	
Craig	29pts
R/U	
M. Hunt	23pts
3rd T Martin	
18pts	

RESULTS 4/8/16 Stableford

One Division Winner	
R Wilton	25pts
R/U	
C. Christie	24pts
3rd	
R Chenery	23pts
C/B	
4th	
J.Atton	23pts
5th	
A.Hackett	22pts
Members Draw - Not Won.	

Well done to all winners & placegetters and a big thank you to all players who turned out to participate in spite of poor weather conditions
 Trip to Kurri Golf Course arranged for Monday 29th August 2016.

VALLEY BRAKE & CLUTCH JOHN MARTIN GOLF DAY

2BBB
Winners: Dylan Lipscombe and Bill Kennedy 49 pts
Runners Up: David Kinch and Kelvin Mather 46 pts
Third: Peter Wilton and Paul Bush 46 pts c/b
4th: Corey Lamb and Adam Roeth 45 pts
5th: Mick Martin and Ed Garland 45 pts c/b
Singles Winner: Bill Kennedy 44 pts
Runner Up: John Martin 39 pts
Third: Mark Moylan 38 pts c/b



Helen Lowing, Proprietor & Licence-in-Charge

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The NEWS SPORT



PJRC
Report 30th
July 2016

The Under 8's

continued their winning run as they met Maitland Grey at the new home ground of St Philip's. This week's game was the traditional Pink round supporting Breast Cancer research, thank you to all the Under 8's parents who supported, not only with dressing the players in their Pink socks but also for their efforts in running a Pink cake stall to add a few more dollars to the fundraising generated by this special round. To the game itself, and this week really was Lachlan L's week. The strength training he has been doing was rewarded with a well-earned try as Lachlan pushed his way through a tight Maitland defence to get over the line. Points on the day were also shared by Lucas, Lachy E, Ash and Tyson. Hugo and Jarrod were there in constant support and Eli, Noah and Felix gained valuable possession of the ball as they cleaned out the Maitland pack time and again. While the score line went the

Reds way with an 80 - 20 point win, Maitland reminded the team that teamwork and utilising each of their strengths is the key to the game. Go the Reds!

Under 10's hosted Merewether at home at SPCC. The Reds were keen to avenge their loss to the Slime from early in the season and at half time the Reds were only down three tries. The Reds front row were once again strong and the ruck and maul was a very even contest. Jack Wills, Oscar Dent and Man of the Match, Callum Barr were strong in the ruck both securing and stealing ball for the Reds. Alec Gough, TC Metcalfe and Zac Cox worked hard in defence. The Slime ran in some easy points out wide in the second half coming away with the win however the Reds played a solid game all match. Well done boys.

Saturday 30th July saw the **Under 12's** travel to Mayfield to tackle the much larger East boys, with only 15 players available it was always going to be tough. The boys played some exceptional rugby scoring the possibly their best rugby try of the year with a 50m pick and go forward drive

down the side-line. An injury midway through the first half had us down to 14 players but we still managed to be in the game behind 15-12 at half time. Losing a second player through injury in the second half really had us in trouble and although the boys battled courageously it was too much with East eventually winning 37-19. Riley Walters had a great game and showed tremendous courage standing up to the opposition. Cairo Matheson continues to surprise with his improvement in the second row, while Charlie Russell had his best game of the year showing he is starting to really understand the game. The coach was extremely happy with effort and the way these boys played.



Group 21 First Grade Leaders Board after final 2016 round.

CURRENT LADDER	TEAM	P	W	L	D	B	FF	FA	F	A	PD	%	PTS
1	Scone Thoroughbreds	15	14	1	0	0	0	0	726	156	570	405.38	28
2	Muswellbrook Rams	15	11	4	0	0	0	0	512	264	248	193.94	22
3	Singleton Greyhounds	15	8	7	0	0	1	0	378	341	37	110.85	18
4	Aberdeen Tigers	15	7	8	0	0	0	0	464	308	156	150.65	14
5	Greta Branxton Colts	15	5	10	0	0	0	0	180	492	-312	36.59	10
6	Denman Devils	15	0	15	0	0	0	1	89	768	-679	11.28	0

Group 21 First Grade first Semi final

Singleton Greyhounds were defeated by the Aberdeen Tigers 34-12. Other results at going to press had not been obtained.



Helen Lowing,
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