



# The News

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WEDNESDAY  
25 OCTOBER 2017

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## Greta Camp 'Family Get-Together' a major success

**A personal perspective by Shirley Bryant**  
Saturday, morning, local ladies, Tiny Waeger and Nerida Kentwell Members of Greta Tidy Towns, gathered at the Community Hall, to celebrate Greta Camp family get together. Most of whom were from

countries near Central Europe. These honest, hardworking people, as victims of WW2, were displaced persons, or DP's. Housing for these families, who started to arrive at Sydney or Newcastle by ship, from 1946 onward, were housed at GRETA CAMP, which was a former Military Training Camp, built on

a large scale, with many Nissen huts, an army kitchen and, of course, a rifle range. The kitchen was soon taken over by the new residents, who made various traditional dishes, such as Burch, using beetroot and cabbages, paprika together with other exotic recipes' and ingredients.



Greta Ethnic Dancers: Erica Hodges, Shirley Bryant, Sue Charnock, Elizabeth Matt, Pam Graham & Tiny Waeger.

### The Royal Federal Hotel Branxton set to change hands



The ownership of the Royal Federal Hotel in Branxton is set to change at the end of next month. Mick & Kim Starkey purchased the pub about 10 years ago from Dave & Robyn Axsentieff & have, in that time, made major alterations & renovations. Mick said that their decision to sell was 'bitter sweet' and that the 10 years they have been there was a marvellous experience. "I am very proud of what Kim & I have done. Now I'll be able to go to the Royal Federal & enjoy the company & a quiet drink with the many friends we have made in our time here," said Mick. All the best to you both; you have left a marvellous legacy.

At midday, lunch was served and around 60 people were eager to join in the celebrations. We six dancers, dressed in Polish National Dress, danced, once again, (after retiring some years ago.) to the original recorded Accordion tune, with calls of encore and much clapping to follow. Our Leader, Liz Matt, was raised in Greta Camp and we have all been the best of friends for many years, most came to know each other well, by having cups of tea, with the great English lady, loved by all who knew her, the late June Davis. Nerida opens the Greta Museum to the public on Wednesday and Saturdays. The writer could go on and on, there is so much interesting history here, just hope that it is not lost.



At right Nerida Kentwell & Tiny Waeger



# History made at Charity Rugby League Day

Ravensworth Rhino and Hunter Hawkettes crowned champions, whilst \$80,000 raised for Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service



It was sweet victory for Glencore's Ravensworth Rhinos who were crowned men's champions second year running and history was made with the Hunter Hawkettes running home to be crowned women's champions at the 2017 **A-Plus Contracting & Poly Welding Hunter Valley Mining Charity Rugby League Competition** at Singleton earlier this month on October 7.

Following some serious training sessions and a determination to retain their title from last year, the Rhinos convincingly defeated Bulga Coal's Saxonvale Raiders 22-nil in the men's decider. Whilst the Hunter Hawkettes were victorious over the Valley Vixens 19 - 10 in the inaugural women's in mining series. Although, undeniably the biggest winner on the day was the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service, with a record breaking \$80,000.

Organised by the Singleton Volunteer Support Group, 350 mining employees made up the 18 teams competing in the rugby league 10's competition at Pirtek Park, cheered on by over 1800 spectators.

Support Group volunteer and organiser Danny Eather said he is in awe of the community and business backing the competition. 'This year's event exceeded expectations in terms of spectators and the amount of money raised. We are just blown away by the result,' Mr Eather said. 'Our team of committed volunteers have worked

hard to establish this event to be a much highly anticipated event on the local sporting calendar. We were thrilled to have teams from as far as Mudgee, Boggabri and the Gunnedah Basin join in this year's charity competition.'

Branxton based **A-Plus Contracting & Poly Welding** have committed to major sponsor for the coming 2 years. Andrew Hughes said that he was delighted to confirm that they will be major sponsors for the coming two years. "We would like to see this event as the major fund raiser for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and after this years huge success I cannot see why it will not happen".

More than 70 local businesses backed teams to help their fundraising targets with major sponsorship secured from A-Plus Contracting & Poly Welding, Mine Wealth & Wellbeing, Slater & Gordon, Pirtek, Jennings Print, Minetek, Betts Bower Haulage and Hunter Isuzu Utes.

Coal Services Mines Rescue, Group 21 Rugby League Referees Association, Singleton Rugby League Club and the Singleton Rotary and Lions clubs all provided in-kind support and assistance on the day.

The Upper Hunter community, and the mining sector, are well aware of vital work that the Rescue Helicopter provides to our region and are very supportive of fundraising event like this to ensure



that the Service is available free-of-charge all year round.' Mr Eather said.

The Rescue Helicopter was established in 1975 as a weekend beach patrol and through community support and fundraising it became a critical service that operates 24 hours per day, 7 days per week from four bases in

Belmont, Broadmeadow, Tamworth and Lismore. Now it delivers aeromedical search, rescue and inter-hospital transfers to care for communities from north of the Hawkesbury River, up to the Queensland border. Today, the service is approaching 1,500



missions per year, with a Doctor and Paramedic on board every flight. The Service is jointly funded by the NSW Government, corporate partnerships and

community support ensuring nobody has to pay to be assisted by the service. Full competition results available at

[www.charityrugbyleagueday.com.au](http://www.charityrugbyleagueday.com.au)

Photo above: Andrew Hughes from A-Plus Contracting & Poly Welding who have confirmed they will be the major sponsors for the coming 2 years

## COMMUNITY UPDATE

### DALWOOD ROAD, EAST BRANXTON DRAINAGE & ROADWORKS

#### LOCATION

Dalwood Road, East Branxton from Wyndham Street intersection to the westerly limit of the road, adjacent to Lion's Park.

#### THE WORKS

Construction of drainage infrastructure and re-alignment of road to provide improved parking facilities and traffic movement.

#### FUNDING

This project is funded by Roads to Recovery (R2R).

#### DESIGN

The design provides:

- Road re-alignment with addition of a turning lane
- Increased vehicular parking and drop-off zones
- Drainage upgrades
- Pedestrian facilities and vehicle separation
- Increased storage for buses on Wyndham Street

The design provides improved safety for both vehicle users and pedestrians. Rear to kerb parking will be formalised and the total number of parking spaces will increase. Allowance will be made for drop off or 'Kiss and Ride'. Stormwater infrastructure will be improved at the site. Stormwater that currently discharges in front of No. 8 Dalwood Road will be

diverted via pipe into the swale drain running adjacent to Maitland Road.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Construction works commence July 2017 and require significant traffic control measures to be implemented on Dalwood Road. Works are programmed to be completed in September 2017.

#### DISRUPTIONS

Dalwood Road west of the Wyndham Street intersection will be closed periodically during construction as required and will not be available as a drop-off or pick-up point. Council will work with residents directly affected by the closure to provide access to their properties.

During this construction period, drop-off and pick-up for school bus passengers should occur at Miller Park soccer fields, on the southern side of Maitland Road so that pedestrians can use the signalised crossing to access the bus stop. Works are programmed to commence on the first week of July, 2017, during school holidays to minimise impacts.

Up to date project information will be available on CCC's webpage [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/works](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/works), and on roadside electronic signs during construction.

Photos below taken Monday 23rd October 2017. Photos provided by Annemaree Winter



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Last Saturday, the 21st October 2017, saw a great turn-out of current & past attendees, local politicians, parents & guests to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the opening of Branxton PreSchool. Special guests included Kate Washington MP Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education; Shadow Minister for the Hunter, Member for Hunter Joel Fitzgibbon MP, Uncle Warren and Uncle Perry who had the children absolutely transfixed by the Digeridoo, Councillor Melanie Dagg & Preschool founder Phillippa Furner. Current Director, Natalie Caslick, spoke of the history of Branxton Preschool and its evolution to the present day. Kate Washington & Joel Fitzgibbon spoke of the importance of continued investment in early

childhood education. Preschool founder Phillippa Furner cut the opening ribbon for the new STEAM Tinkering Shed facility. STEAM, which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Maths is a space where science, technology, engineering, art and maths learning can take place. "I congratulate those who had the original vision 30 years ago and the many who have extended and improved early childhood education at the centre over the decades. Quality early childhood learning ensures our

children have the best opportunities in life," said Joel Fitzgibbon MP.

© Photo: (L-R) Cnr Melanie Dagg, Kate Washington MP, Phillippa Furner & Joel Fitzgibbon MP



## FREE Community Walking Group

The 'Walking Group' was established 5½ years ago in Branxton

**WHERE:** Miller Park Branxton  
**WHEN:** Monday, Wednesday & Friday are the main walking days. 7am start; walk as little or as much as you like.

**Beginners always welcome & it is FREE**

On the first Thursday of the month we have a coffee morning after walking. We also enjoy social outings together.

**For more information contact Sonnie on 0455 683 607**

## Photo opportunity; for posterity

The Royal Federal Hotel will be hosting a Celebration Day to acknowledge its 90 years birthday. Celebrations are to take place on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October. At 4pm they are taking a commemorative photo out the front of the pub for anyone who would like to be involved. The photo will then be displayed in the pub as a keep-sake; a parting gift from Kim & Mick Starkey the current, not for long, proprietors. From 3pm there will be \$4000 camping voucher giveaway then some live music & the obligatory birthday cake. Put the date aside ~ all welcome.



## Baileys of Greta

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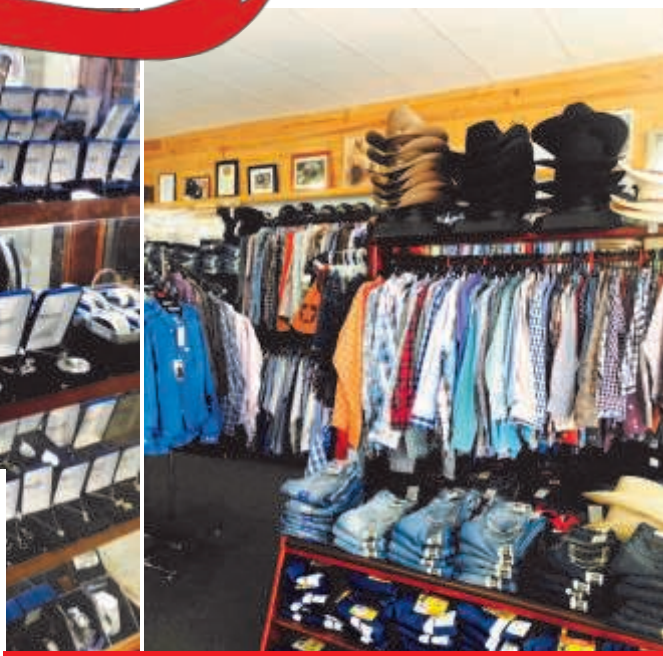
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## Husband Creche

Is he getting under your feet  
Is he moaning about shopping  
Would your morning be stress free without him

### Ladies we have the answer

The Branxton Greta Menshed is organising a husband crèche every Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Drop him off at our husband crèche. We'll take good care of him and he may even learn something

Just pay \$2.00 for his morning coffee  
'Branxton Greta Menshed' 49 Branxton Street  
Greta in the grounds of the old St Marys Primary School



# What's Happening & other matters

with **Mike Lowing**

(I have, again, given over my fortnightly column to Stephen Lind from North Rothbury. His views are not necessarily those of the editor)

## WHAT TO DO ABOUT MALCOLM



Criticism of Malcolm Turnbull has become strident in the last few months and it is not so much as the left who, of course, hate what he stands for but also the right of the Liberal Party. Malcolm is a wet ie., a very small 'L' Liberal who is captive to the chattering classes of the big cities and the idea that Governments can fix everything. This is basically the foundation belief of the Labor Party and the Socialist Left. So we have a situation where the Liberal 'wets' try to outdo the Socialist left in having answers to so called problems that they invented such as climate change (global warming), social inequality (smart versus dumb) and 'I am more caring and concerned about everything than you are'.

I don't think that Malcolm really is the problem. I think the problem is the dysfunction of the Federal Parliament and the poor quality of candidates that we are asked to vote for.

Malcolm is *not* a poor candidate. He has a proven record as an advocate and also in the finance world but he cannot finesse politics.

Some of the thought bubbles he has floated are brilliant such as the idea of income tax becoming the responsibility of the states. Of course he was howled



down by the 'rent seekers' whose existence depends on the status quo. ie., public servants, the excess of politicians and the state politicians afraid of having to take responsibility for their own financing as they love to spend other people's money.

What I believe should be done is for a divestment of power and responsibilities from the Federal Government back to the States. There are matters, which of course must remain the responsibility of a central government. They are national defence, immigration, foreign affairs, and social welfare.

The response by some State Governments and of course 'the Greens' and Labor to the Turnbull Governments new energy (power) policy is a classic example of pass the parcel, of things that are too hard for the States, so lets blame the Federal Government. It is the same when the States whine about not getting a fair share of GST money or grants for education and hospitals. There is a very simple solution; give the problem back to the State and Territory Governments and let them sink or swim.

If South Australia wants to destroy any future for industry in their State so be it, ditto for Victoria. The defence industries in South Australia can either relocate to NSW or WA, or put in place their own generation capacity and fly in workers. Let's face it; nobody with a technical qualification is going to stay in South Australia. There is always a solution to technical, administrative or logistical problems but political stupidity takes too long to rectify.

So our Federal Government has to do three things ~ 1/ Admit to itself what the problem is 2/ Then convince the public in clear and concise terms what the problem is 3/ Having done that outline what is to be done and take that to the next election.

Australia hasn't the time for or the luxury of debating ideological clap trap. Let's just do it.

Have a nice day.  
*Steve Lind, North Rothbury.*

{PS: The Royal Spoonbills are nesting in North Rothbury again this season. They don't give a rats about government because they don't rely on anybody; we should all aim to be like that }

Our local Ward 'C' Cessnock City Council electoral area has had many councillors come and go over its time &, generally speaking, we have had very good representation over that period.

Our current newly elected Ward 'C' councillors have been very proactive & are giving our local area some good & sound representation. In my case they have taken up matters with some gusto and in all cases, to date, we have had a satisfactory result.

All current Ward 'C' councillors are serving their first term and have experienced a steep learning curve ~ they are doing well.

Two previous Ward 'C' councillors, Teddy Trunk & Jeff Maybury, gave just on 60 years service to our area and both had one thing in common; to work for the betterment of their ward.

Sixty years service & no local recognition for what they did in all those years.

We have two local facilities that are generically/geographically named; Branxton Oval & The Greta Multi Purpose Centre.

I will be asking Cessnock City Council to approve the re-naming of Branxton Oval to the 'Teddy Trunk Oval' & the Multi Purpose Centre in Greta to the 'Jeff Maybury Multi Purpose Centre'.

I would hope that our ward councillors & the local business chamber would help the process along.

*Cheers, Mike*



Power supplies: A better question to ask, Where's the anguish?

It has been pointed out that electricity prices remain at 2.9 per cent of average household incomes as in 1984. so why the anguish? Average household income conceals huge disparity

between the upper and lower income brackets, greater than in 1984. Everyone pays about the same unit cost for electricity and gas, but there are vast differences in the capacity to pay. A better question to answer would be this,

"What proportion of income households pay for electricity and gas in each income cohort". That might give us the real reason for anguish.

*Nicholas Low, Professorial Fellow in Urban and Environmental Planning, University of Melbourne*

this great country, and although an eminent one whom I have long admired, his view on the question of voluntary assisted dying carries no more weight than that of someone with intolerable and unrelievable suffering. As far as I am aware, he is not terminally ill, nor has such suffering. He does not have to make a choice, but if he did, it seems likely his choice would be guided by his Catholic beliefs. He is not an ethicist, but if he

influence of religion, his views are virtually identical to those promoted by religious bodies. I admired Keating because he has always been an agent for change in Australia, change which has improved the

lives of many Australians. He produced change after careful study of the economic and political arguments around his subject, but his opinion on voluntary assisted dying does not indicate any detailed study of the vast amount of empirical evidence of the protection of all in the community in jurisdictions where similar laws are in place.

Keating appeals to tradition to maintain a status quo which is demonstrably inadequate. I am so glad he did not argue in that way while treasurer and prime minister. The opinions that matter are the opinions of those facing their mortality, and the legislation gives them a choice as to how when and where they will die, and as to whom will be with them to say good-bye. This legislation will improve both the living and dying of many Victorians. *Name & Address supplied but withheld at request of writer*

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Rural Fire Brigades	
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Flat.....	6574 5186
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(Cessnock)...	4015 0000

Electricity	
Energy	
Australia.....	131 388
Hospitals	
Maitland....	4939 2000
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SES .....	132 500
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Poisons Info .....	131 126
Hunter Water	
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Ausgrid .....	131 388
Gas Emergencies .	131 909
Lifeline .....	131 114
Mental Health Line	
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Domestic Violence Support	
	4990 9609
Centrelink Self Service	
	136 240
Medicare .....	132 011
Native Animal Rescue	
	0418 628 483

Assisted dying: Heeding the opinions that matter the most Paul Keating is but one citizen of

## Letters to the editor can be sent to:

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

or

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Showers of rain held off on Wednesday, 11th October, but was replaced by a shower of PINK in the Branxton Community Hall, with a sprinkling of colours amongst the 120 guests to support the Cancer Pink High Tea. The bright colours seemed infectious and brightened everyone's spirits, even though all were there for a serious occasion – to raise money for the Cancer Council who help cancer sufferers in everything they need. A very worthy cause.



Congratulations to Helen Scott and the Cancer Council and helpers for all they did in making it a wonderful day.

Special thanks to the Tai Kwon Do class for helping put up the tables and chairs after their class for Helen, Marie and helpers to decorate. Great job. Special thanks also to Branxton IGA for donating the wonderful fruit for the platters and to Branxton Bakery for donating the bread for the sandwiches. Greatly appreciated.

Thanks again to Helen for giving us the opportunity to cater for the day. It was our pleasure to be caterers once again for such a worthy cause and thanks to the members for their cooking and contribution on the day, especially our Patron Noeleen Bendeich who is an inspiration to us all.

It goes without saying that the day would not have been possible without the 120 guests/supporters to enjoy all the food, the fashion parade and festivities. So a big THANK YOU to all who attended and supported the day and we hope you caught up with a lot of friends and



branxtongretacwa@hotmail.com  
Should anyone be interested in joining Branxton/Greta CWA, or like any information, please contact our Secretary, Marie Shearer (as above).  
Denise McGoldrick, Publicity Officer.



Photos above and at left: guests at the Pink Cancer High Tea



had as good a time as we did. A final THANK YOU to all who contributed, in any way, in the cleaning up process at the end of the day. A BIG job made smaller by all the help. Thanks again. Updates from our last Meeting  
A reminder that our Land Cookery Day is on Monday, 13th November at the McAuley Hall, Station Street, Branxton, 10.00am for 10.30am. Guest Speaker. Morning Tea and a Cold Lunch and Slices/Cakes etc to follow all for \$15.00. Please RSVP Marie before 7th Nov. if possible (for catering purposes and to advise any special dietary requirements) on 0402015850 or email



Five Men's Sheds in the Hunter electorate will benefit from shared funding of more than \$18,000 under the National Men's Shed Development Programme. Branxton Greta Men's Shed has received \$3441 for firefighting appliances and signage.

"I congratulate Branxton Greta Men's Shed successful funding bids and look forward to seeing how the investment contributes positively to the organisations and our local community," said Federal Member for Hunter Joel Fitzgibbon. "I have seen firsthand on my many visits to their site the wonderful impact they have on not only their participants but in the wider community through their many and varied projects."

# RICHEEN

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Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

It's been a sobering couple of weeks for us in Singleton as we still come to terms with the critical incident that occurred on Wednesday 11 October 2017.

The events of that morning thrust our little town into the national headlines and reached as far as the office of His Excellency, General Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC, the Governor-General, who contacted me personally to pass on his thoughts to our community.

Of course, the priority out of that event was and continues to be the wellbeing of everyone involved and our appreciation to the emergency services personnel who attended.

But the conversations also quickly turn to how a repeat of this kind of incident can be avoided, and the logical answer is the New England Highway bypass.

If there was any lesson to be learnt from the events of 11 October, it's that heavy vehicles don't belong on such a narrow strip of road lined by bustling businesses and frequented by school children waiting at bus stops.

The General Manager and I walked that section of the highway with the Member for Upper Hunter, Michael Johnsen MP in the aftermath of the events of 11 October. We hope Mr Johnsen will convey his experience to his colleagues in State Parliament with a view that the bypass might move up the priority list - and we'll certainly take any opportunity we can to push the issue with the people who make those decisions.

In the meantime, we've come to the time of year again when we take stock of the good people in our community. Tonight we'll induct some new names on the Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame; we're a month out from our annual community celebration, Christmas on John Street on Friday 24 November 2017; and we're on the hunt for our most outstanding citizens for the next Citizen of the Year and Young Achiever of the Year. If you know someone who should be recognised for the great work they do, nominate them.

For more information, visit [www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/australiadayawards](http://www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/australiadayawards)

Cheers, Sue



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP Upper Hunter

### Make safety a priority during Safe Work Month

I encourage local businesses in the Upper Hunter electorate to show their commitment to safe and healthy workplaces as part of national Safe Work Month.

Safe Work Month is an opportunity for businesses and workers to focus on improving work health and safety in their workplace. Whether you are an employer or a worker, and regardless of your industry, occupation or background, workplace safety is everyone's responsibility.

I encourage business leaders and workers to get behind Safe Work Month and demonstrate their commitment to work health and safety. SafeWork NSW website had ideas and tips to help get workplaces thinking about safety during Safe Work Month. SafeWork's free Safe Work Month Toolkit has over 20 ideas and helpful

tips to get businesses looking at and talking about safety.

For ideas and tips to get your workplace thinking about safety during Safe Work Month, as well as a list of Safe Work Month events, visit the [Safe Work Month page](http://SafeWorkNSW.gov.au) on the [SafeWorkNSW website](http://SafeWorkNSW.gov.au).

Alternatively, check out SafeWork's social media accounts on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/claytonbarrmp), [twitter](https://twitter.com/claytonbarrmp), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/claytonbarrmp) and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/claytonbarrmp).

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

Cheers, Michael



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

### Raising the BARR GOOD NEWS FOR OUR LOCAL HOSPITALS

Our 2 local hospitals, Kurri Kurri and Cessnock, are due to get a bit of an upgrade to operating theatres in the coming months. The operating theatre at Cessnock is currently undergoing some minor renovations and is due to re-open around the time that you read this column. Following these minor improvements in the current operating theatre, the long unused second operating theatre will be refurbished so that Cessnock, once again, will be using two operating theatres going forward. This second operating theatre should be up and running by December this year. This is a wonderful boost to the services and certainty for a local hospital. But not only that, it will also help to reduce the burden of travel for local patients that need these services and it will also provide additional variety in the skills and experiences of our wonderful hospital staff. All good news.

Meanwhile, over at Kurri Kurri, their operating theatre will be shut down for around three months for a pretty significant upgrade. Kurri Kurri hospital operating theatre primarily does work to our eyes, ears, noses and throats. The shut down and works are expected to extend from December this year until March next year. Listed surgeries expected to be delivered at Kurri Kurri during this time will be transferred to alternate hospitals, which may include the additional Cessnock theatre. In this sense, the 2 projects at the two sites actually fit hand in hand with each other.

Once all of the work is done, we will be back up and running with 3 separate operating theatres. These projects are very important to health services across the region. Our local hospitals help to ease the workload and demands and waiting lists of some of those other "major" hospitals. Our health system is literally busting at the seams, due largely to a whole bunch of Federal Government argy bargy about what is funded/not-funded, but if the net result is some upgrades to our local services then at the very least, we can welcome that.

\* \* \* \* \*

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](mailto:cessnock@parliament.nsw.gov.au) or call into 118 Vincent Street (PO Box 242), Cessnock 2325.

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Cheers Clayton



Clr Melanie Dagg - Cessnock City Councillor - Ward C

### Happy 30th Birthday Branxton Preschool

It was an absolute pleasure to spend Saturday morning with my girls celebrating 30 years of preschool memories. Amelia is a past student and Eliza currently attends, so I can speak to the valuable support that Preschool provides the local community, and the care and commitment of the educators. Current Director, Natalie Caslick spoke of the history of Branxton Preschool and its evolution to the present day whilst Uncle Warren and Uncle Perry had the children absolutely transfixed by the digeridoo and welcome to county. It was wonderful to witness the opening of the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Maths) & Tinkering Shed by Preschool founder Phillipa Furner and listen to both Joel Fitzgibbon and Kate Washington speak of the importance of continued investment in early childhood education. Study after study has shown the benefits of early childhood education, including better socialisation, a greater understanding and control of emotions, better preparedness for big school, improved educational attainment and development through to adulthood. Importantly it is a key determinant in breaking the cycle of poverty and disadvantage, and as far as I'm concerned any money invested in this area is money well spent - every child deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential, and we are all better for it. I want to congratulate Natalie, the educators and committee, past and present, on holding such a successful event and also thank them for the work they do in teaching our children and supporting local families.

### Parking Concerns in Greta

I have had the issue of parking raised with me a number of times since my election, particularly in relation to signage along High Street, Greta. Compliance with existing parking regulations in this area is poor with people, often unwittingly, continuing to receive infringement notices for not parallel parking. Although signage is poor, the default parking regulation at this location is parallel parking. RMS is of the view that unwarranted signage tends to create an over-reliance on signage and tends to reduce driver compliance where no signage exists. For this reason, Council believes installation of further signage is not warranted and instead has made educational material available to local businesses to raise awareness of the need to

observe the Road Rules and adhere to correct parking practices. If you would like further information, you can view Council's Parking Policy online.

### Tourism Major Marketing hits another Milestone

Following a "call to action" meeting spearheaded by some of the Hunter Valley's best known wine identities, Council resolved last week to support the Hunter Valley Wine Tourism Alliance (the Alliance) in its push for an aggressive destination marketing campaign. The Alliance is inviting all tourism operators and businesses in the Cessnock and Singleton LGAs to pledge towards the campaign with Destination NSW which will aim to critically increase visitation to the region and as a result, increase tourism dollars. With an aim of reaching \$300,000 that will be matched by Destination NSW to total \$600,000, this is an exciting opportunity for Council, business and the community to ensure the continued viability of our LGA's biggest employer. If you are interested in making a pledge, you can download a form here:

<http://advancecessnock.com.au/major-marketing-campaign-pledges/>

Cheers, Melanie



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Member for Hunter

Two government reports released last week delivered bad news in areas important to our electorate. The Productivity Commission (PC) expressed significant concerns about the speed at which the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is being rolled-out and that this could undermine its overall effectiveness. The PC's conclusion is consistent with my own experience in our region. The NDIS is a critically important project, not just for people with disability and their families but the whole community. It offered so much hope to so many. But too many people are feeling let down. That is the key message I receive at my NDIS forums and when dealing with individual cases. It's an unacceptable situation. The second report came from the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman. It reported a 160 per cent increase in complaints about services under the National Broadband Network. I wasn't surprised and few who have switched over to the NBN will be.

My office is constantly bombarded by complaints about the NBN roll out. Once again it is a scheme which offered so much but is failing people and businesses. Slow speeds, drop-outs and landline problems are the common complaints. Many report that the speeds they are experiencing are slower than their old ADSL2 service. The decision to scrap the fibre-to-the-premises was a bad one. We needed to do the job once and properly. And the way the cost continues to blow-out while service levels fall beggars belief. I continue to speak out in the Parliament on both the NDIS and the NBN and we are doing all we can locally to fix the problems.

Cheers, Joel



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council



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### PHARMACY ADVISOR



Lee Grundy, Pharmacist & proprietor of Branxton Pharmacy

#### Sun stroke

Sunscreen will help prevent sunburn, but sun stroke can still occur due to dehydration. Sun stroke is seen more often in children who may play outside for hours. Kids don't drink enough, they don't eat enough and they'll get a fever all of a sudden. Symptoms to look out for in someone with sun stroke

To treat fungal infections on the skin, antifungal creams that contain cortisone need to be applied three times a day for two weeks to treat the infection and prevent it coming back. **BBQs and food poisoning** Everyone loves a good barbie, but so does bacteria and viruses such as salmonella, particularly when food is left out in the open or reheated as leftovers.

#### Summer time: What illnesses should we look out for?

The hot season brings its own Aussie traditions such as lazing on the beach, jumping in the pool, a lazy afternoon barbecue — and its own special ailments and illnesses. Here are some of the common summer ailments people should be aware of.



Photo: Apply sunscreen and drink and eat regularly when outdoors to avoid sun stroke.

**Swimmer's ear** Infection of the ear canal is an increasing occurrence in summer as people head to the beach and pool to cool down. Swimmer's ear, as it is typically known, occurs when the ear canal becomes inflamed due to moisture which brews fungi and bacteria. It's very painful because it's a sensitive area in there. Often it goes away just with painkillers, but sometimes it doesn't and that's when patients need to take antibiotic ear drops or antibiotic tablets to get rid of it. If it's not much better after three to five days and it's getting worse, or you may get a fever, can't hear properly, then go see a GP. To avoid getting an ear infection, keep your ear canal dry. Using silicone ear caps or plugs can help, but if they are uncomfortable use a paper tissue to dry your ear and make sure all water is drained.

include fever, being lethargic, tired, very confused, and dehydrated. If they are getting worse and worse by the hour, then you need to call the GP. **Warts and fungal infections** There is natural fungus and bacteria that lives on our skin, but venture into a swimming pool change room or pool deck bare foot and the fungus will have "a competitive advantage". **Tips to avoid infections**  
\* Use antibacterial gels  
\* Don't share towels  
\* Wash you hands — especially before eating  
\* Clean the toilet after use  
\* Wipe hands and surfaces with alcohol wipes if you are sick. If the [fungus] is taking over, then you'll get athlete's foot or swimmer's foot — itchy burning feet and you'll get a rash. If that happens you need to treat it appropriately.

You see it every year around summer and Christmas time, when people are eating contaminated food. You get a stomach ache, you don't feel well, you will develop diarrhea and you may even get a fever. **How to avoid food poisoning** Here's everything you need to know about food poisoning, tummy bugs and use-by dates. The cause of a tummy upset is difficult to diagnose and usually requires a stool sample to test for a bacterial, virus or salmonella infection. Taking antibiotics will only prolong the diarrhea episode, when the body's natural immune system is adequate to get rid of the bug. It may take a week, may take 10 days. Use supportive measures like plenty of fluids, water, pain-killers to stop the pain, rather than using antibiotics.



## CEMETERIES CONSULTATION

### Have your say!

Cessnock City Council is preparing an updated Cemeteries Strategy to guide the future development, management and operation of the 12 cemeteries within the Local Government Area.

Come along to a community workshop to provide your input into the creation of guiding principles that will help Council to determine a future direction for our local cemeteries.

All venues: Morning session 10.30am to 12noon OR Afternoon session 6 to 7.30pm

Greta	Monday 30 October	Greta Courthouse
Cessnock	Tuesday 31 October	CCC Admin Building
Kurri Kurri	Monday 6 November	Weston Civic Centre
Millfield	Tuesday 7 November	Millfield Community Hall

If you're not able to make it to one of the workshops, visit Council's website for more information and complete the online survey.

[www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/cemetery/cemeteryconsultation](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/cemetery/cemeteryconsultation)



## Butterflied Chicken With Sweet Potatoes & Tomatoes

4 Serves  
10 Mins Prep  
60 Mins Cook

**RATED 9/10**

#### Ingredients

- 4 small sweet potatoes
- 2 tbs extra virgin olive oil
- 1 Simply Roast Butterflied Chicken American Southern Style
- 200g Gold Sweet Solanato tomatoes, quartered
- 1 small orange, rind finely grated and 2 tbs juice
- 2 tbs lemon thyme leaves
- 1/3 cup sour cream light

#### Method

1. Preheat a barbecue with hood on medium. Cut sweet potatoes in half lengthways. Drizzle with 1 tbs oil, then season with salt and pepper.
2. Line a baking tray with baking paper. Remove the chicken from packaging and place onto tray. Place sweet potato halves onto tray, cut side up. Transfer tray to barbecue hotplate and close hood. Roast for 45-60 minutes or until chicken is cooked through and sweet potato is tender and golden.
3. Meanwhile, combine the tomato, orange rind, juice, half the thyme and remaining oil in a small bowl. Season to taste.
4. Cut chicken into pieces and place on a platter with sweet potato. Spoon sour cream onto potatoes. Top with tomato salad and sprinkle with remaining thyme. Serve.

### Magical Grandparents @ Your Library!

As part of celebrating New South Wales Grandparents Day 2017 Cessnock City Library is hosting a 'Magical Grandparents' workshop. The library is inviting all Grandparents to a fun, free and fantastic workshop with the fabulous J.D.Howlett. Participants will learn from an award winning master magician how to amaze and entertain the grandkids with a few simple magic tricks. NSW Grandparents Day celebrates the role grandparents and older people play in our society, both the things they have done, and the things they keep doing. This workshop will give grandparents great new, fun skills to entertain and connect with their grandchildren that also boosts brain fitness and learning. **What:** Magical Grandparents Workshop **When:** Thursday 2 November 2017 10.30am-12 noon. Morning tea provided. Bookings are essential. To book your place, call Cessnock Library on 4993 4399.



# Report



said. Surrendered items of interest include 20 SKS assault rifles, eight M1 carbine military self-loading rifles, four sub-machine guns, a Colt AR-15 rifle, a .44

calibre magnum revolver, an Adler 110 shotgun, and a Mauser model 1918 T-Gewehr-Bolt Action anti-tank rifle. "It's concerning these high-powered weapons and

## NSW nets highest numbers during National Firearms Amnesty

Friday, 20 October 2017  
Nearly 10,000 firearms and firearm-related items –



Some of the firearms surrendered during the amnesty

including 602 handguns and 1575 shotguns – have been surrendered to police and dealers in NSW as part of the National Firearms Amnesty. The three-month campaign which ran from 1 July to 30 September 2017 also saw 13,729 firearms were handed in for registration and 2101 were acquired by dealers. Of the top ten local area commands (LACs) to receive the most surrendered firearms, firearm-related items and prohibited weapons, nine were in areas outside of metropolitan Sydney. Oxley LAC received the most with 1322 items. NSW Police Force Deputy Commissioner Regional Field Operations, Gary Worboys, says the response from the community has been overwhelming, especially in regional areas.

"It's extremely encouraging to see community members recognising the danger posed by these weapons and doing the right thing by handing them in or having them registered," Deputy Commissioner Worboys said. "There has been a really strong response across the state which means there are now fewer unwanted or unregistered guns on our streets.

Deputy Commissioner Metropolitan Field Operations, Jeff Loy, said gun crime affects everyone. "In the wrong-hands, guns are a lethal weapon so it's pleasing to see people are keen to do the right thing and have used the opportunity to dispose of firearms and other weapons to ensure they don't end up in the wrong hands," Deputy Commissioner Loy

modified guns were in our community but they have now been destroyed under amnesty arrangements," Deputy Commissioner Loy said.

Under the amnesty 130 prohibited weapons including 14 crossbows, 27 suppressors, samurai swords, knives, and other edged weapons were also handed in.

Anyone with information concerning gun crime in NSW should contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Remember, information can be provided anonymously. We don't need to know who you are; all we need is the information you have to hand. It may just help us get illegal guns of the street, and save lives in the process.

The following is a local area command breakdown of firearms handed in locally:-  
Port Stephens 169  
Central Hunter 154  
Newcastle City 118  
Hunter Valley 71

### Man charged in critical incident investigation – Singleton

Thursday, 12 October 2017  
01:09:59 AM

A man has been charged following a critical incident investigation at Singleton. An investigation is underway after an alleged stolen semi-trailer crashed and caught fire in George Street, injuring eight people, just before 9am yesterday (Wednesday 11 September 2017).

The driver of the alleged stolen truck, a 29-year-old man, was arrested at the scene and after hospital treatment for minor injuries



and mandatory blood and urine testing, was taken to Singleton Police Station. The man was charged with steal motor vehicle, police pursuit – not stop (Skye's Law x 2), use offensive weapon to prevent lawful detention (x 2), assault

officer in execution of duty (x2), resist officer, and malicious damage (x2). He was refused bail to appear at Singleton Local Court today (Thursday 12 October 2017).

A critical incident team from Port Stephens Local Area

Command is now investigating all circumstances surrounding the incident. That investigation will be subject to independent review.

### Three arrested following shooting

Sunday, 15 October 2017  
08:13:34 PM

Three men have been detained after a projectile was fired into a home at Kurri Kurri overnight. About 1.40am today (Sunday 15 October 2017), a woman was at a home in Greta Street with her three children. The woman was awoken by a motorcycle which travelled up and down the street several times.

After hearing a loud noise the woman walked to the front of the house and saw a hole in the window.

She also observed a hole in a lounge room wall and a kitchen window.

Police were contacted and as they approached the premises observed a black vehicle driving erratically. The vehicle and its three occupants were searched,

with a quantity of ammunition located inside. Police searched a 22-year-old man and allegedly located a firearm.

An 18-year-old female and the two 22-year-old males were arrested and conveyed to Maitland Police Station. Officers from Central Hunter Local Area Command established a crime scene at the home and located a motor vehicle with several holes in the driver's door.

The vehicle was seized for forensic and ballistic examination.

The two men and a woman are assisting police with their inquiries

Photo above left: George street Singleton after the rampage



## The Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey 2017 closes 7 November.

### Should the law be changed to allow same-sex couples to marry?

This is your chance to have your say on whether Australian law should be changed to allow same-sex couples to marry.

Just answer 'yes' or 'no' on the form. Put it in the Reply Paid envelope and mail it back straight away. Survey responses must be received by 7 November. Your response will be completely confidential.

Have your say.

Information Line: 1800 572 113 | Visit: [www.marriagesurvey.abs.gov.au](http://www.marriagesurvey.abs.gov.au)





# Hunter Valley wine & tourism alliance

a partnership of the Cessnock City Council, Singleton Council and Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association



The drive was launched last week, and was a huge success with a whopping \$89,750 pouring in from 46 Wine Country operators excited by the prospects a campaign of this magnitude.

Chairman of the Alliance George Souris is not surprised by the rapid response from industry and says they understand the power of a destination marketing campaign to visitation numbers. "We've set a goal of \$300,000, which we hope to be doubled by Destination NSW, to develop and implement an aggressive marketing campaign that will thrust Hunter Valley Wine Country into the limelight as the premier tourism destination of choice."

"The Alliance understands how vital a destination campaign is to promote the wide ranging experiences, international award winning wineries, excellent cuisine, world class events and iconic attractions."

"That's why we are working strategically with all businesses in the Hunter Valley Wine Country to pool our marketing resources to make this a reality," Mr Souris said.

Destination marketing campaigns drive visitation benefiting not only direct tourism operators but indirect tourism business from across the Cessnock and Singleton local government areas.

Cessnock City Council and Singleton Council will work together to contribute the remaining funds to meet the Alliance's goal of raising \$300,000 in pledges.

If you would like some more information contact Jo Thomas, General Manager of the Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association on 0408 274 755, or contact Melissa George (4993 6700) at the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre for a pledge form. For an update on pledges to date – please visit <http://advancecessnock.com.au/major-marketing-campaign-pledges/>

Hunter Valley Wine Country tourism operators are throwing their support behind a major destination marketing campaign set to be worth around \$600,000 to encourage more visitors to NSW premier wine making region. The Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Alliance (Alliance) aims to approach Destination NSW with an impressive \$300,000 in pledges, seeking to match the funding dollar for dollar, and develop a major destination marketing campaign. Industry is being asked to back the campaign by making a collective contribution of \$200,000 that promises to generate an enormous increase in visitation to the region and so far they've shown unwavering support.

Photo above: Chairman of the Alliance George Souris

## WHAT'S THE FUTURE OF MAITLAND HOSPITAL?

The government recently announced it is seeking tenders from the not-for-profit (NFP) sector, to build and run the new Maitland Hospital. This still means the Hunter will lose a public hospital. So how is it different to privatisation (PPP)?

### PPP v NFP

#### HOW THE CONTRACT WORKS

A long-term relationship between the state and a contractor is entered, whereby the government relinquishes its responsibility to provide the community with a quality, affordable healthcare model

PPP NFP



In this joint arrangement, the hospital is owned by the organisation/company that will deliver private services but is under a **CONTRACTUAL** agreement with the NSW government to deliver public services



Despite receiving government funding, there is no obligation to provide open and transparent details on costs of services, metrics on service quality or mandated staffing and skill mix



**This is still privatisation of a public health service.**

Everyone in NSW will get better care in a hospital if we grow our public hospital system to match our community's growing health needs.

**We want a fully-funded PUBLIC hospital. Maitland deserves it!**



## First home buyers driving increased lending



The August 2017 housing finance figures just released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) show first home buyers are returning to the market due to increased stability, according to the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA). "The proportion of first home buyers, as part of the total owner-occupied housing finance commitments, rose to 17.2 per cent and is the highest proportion since July 2013.

The number of first home buyer commitments increased by 14.0 per cent for the month and is the highest since December 2009," REIA President Malcolm Gunning said. "By contrast, the value of investment housing commitments decreased by 0.2 per cent in August in trend terms following falls in the previous three months and is well down from its 2015 peak," Mr

Gunning said. "Overall the figures for August 2017 show, in trend terms that the number of owner-occupied finance commitments increased by 1.0 per cent. If refinancing is excluded, in trend terms, the number of owner-occupied finance commitments increased by 1.3 per cent and is the eleventh consecutive month of increases.

"In trend terms increases were recorded in all states and territories except South Australia and the Northern Territory. The Australian Capital Territory had the largest increase of 2.0 per cent, in Victoria and New South Wales where new incentives for first home buyers came into the effect on 1 July 2017, the increases in owner occupied housing commitments was 1.4 per cent and 1.3 per cent respectively. The Northern Territory had the largest fall at 1.4 per cent. "In trend terms, the number of established dwellings purchase commitments increased by 0.9 per cent while new dwelling construction increased by 1.5 per cent and the purchase of new dwellings rose by 2.1 per cent. "It is pleasing to see that of the 1,526 increase in loans in August, 1,264, or 82.8 per cent, were to first home buyers. The figures show that the market is adjusting to more stable conditions with owner occupiers and first home buyers returning to the market," Mr Gunning

concluded.

## Get involved in Graffiti Removal Day



Volunteers are being urged to join in Graffiti Removal Day (GRD) on Sunday 29 October to show you love where you live. The aim of the day is to highlight the problem of graffiti across NSW and encourage people to volunteer to remove and prevent graffiti. Graffiti vandalism costs the NSW Government and residents more than \$300 million every year. Since GRD began in 2012 roughly 90,000sqm of graffiti has been removed by GRD volunteers, which equates to \$6.7 million in savings for private owners and the Government. The number of volunteers has also increased from 597 to 1,503 last year, and from 100 nominated sites to 461. To find out more call 1300 665 310

## Call for tenancy law change

The NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal, which handles disputes

between tenants and landlords, currently has no jurisdiction if one party lives in another state. This legal loophole was uncovered earlier this year. The REINSW has written to the NSW Government to suggest the legislation is changed to reflect the situation in Queensland, where their equivalent tribunal (QCAT) is classified as a court. However, the government is waiting for a decision on the matter from the High Court, which could take until the end of the year to be heard. It is not satisfactory for this important issue to be ignored because it exposes tenants and landlords to more risk.



The NSW Government must act now to pass the required amendment to the legislation through Parliament as quickly as possible.

## The three biggest affordability concerns

By Tim McKibbin – REINSW CEO

A recent survey of property consumers revealed their three greatest affordability concerns are having a deposit, the high cost of stamp duty and the number foreign buyers competing for properties. One of the more interesting statistics in the CoreLogic survey is that nearly 90% of non-property owners said they're concerned about the ability to afford their first or next home. The problem also appears to be getting worse, with 62% believing affordability is worse now compared to last year, and 58% believing next year will be worse again.

Although the NSW Government has announced some measures to address affordability, much more needs to be done to really make a difference. It's time to end the politics and take the steps necessary to address the ever-worsening housing affordability crisis.

**Has your phone stopped ringing? You need to advertise your business in 'The News' 4938 1773**

## What determines a property's price?



By Tim McKibbin – REINSW CEO

We are constantly bombarded with news about the property market and in particular the increasing cost of housing. It is not uncommon for purchasers to hold vendors and real estate agents to blame for the cost of housing. However is it true, are vendors and agents to blame? There are many others factors, including the limited supply of property in the market which increases competition and therefore price. A real estate agent's role is to generate interest in the property from as wide an audience as possible. Ultimately however, it is the purchasers who decide the price of the property. The best and most obvious example is an auction. So, the biggest problem purchasers face in their bid to buy a home is the desire, perceptions and buying power of their fellow purchasers.



# Welcome Ian



I first met Ian Hayes when trying to find an insurance company who would provide some public liability

insurance for a fundraiser happening in our area in early December this year. Ian came up with a

marvellous solution; he would cover the cost, no questions asked!  
 Ian's company 'All Solutions Insurance Services' do operate in our area & I would personally recommend Ian & his mob.  
 A little about Ian (Ed.) Ian Hayes emigrated from England on 27<sup>th</sup> September 1997, a significant day for him as this began the ongoing love affair with his now adoptive country, and on January 26<sup>th</sup> 1999 he became an Australian citizen. He came to Australia to live, in his words, the 'Lucky Country Dream'.

He had spent over 30 years in the print industry in both the England and Australia, including owning and running his own successful digital print business. However, a young family changed the course of his working life and he found himself in the insurance industry, utilising his customer service skills honed over 11 years as a business owner. He had found a mentor in his new colleague Samantha

Bridger, who had spent more than 12 years in the insurance industry working in insurance underwriting, claims, insurance broking & working for some of the largest insurance agencies in Australia. The culmination was starting All Solutions Insurance Services on the sunny Central Coast of NSW. They cater for all types of Insurance, being a fully fledged insurance broker with access to many and varied insurance underwriters, allowing them avenues to insure some of the more weird and wonderful stuff! As I said they bring good old fashioned business values to the business, that perhaps have been lost in today's "Just in Time Environment". They are happy to come out and discuss any insurance needs you may have & they are both just down the road.

Photo: Ian & daughter

## branxton greta AGM Wednesday 1st November @ Branxton Golf Club 6:30pm BUSINESS CHAMBER



### Pets and Patrols with Ranger Kurt

Reuniting a much-loved pet with their owner is one of the most rewarding parts of our job, but all too often we have to take animals to the pound due to contact details not being up to date. From July to September this year, our Council Rangers impounded 30 dogs and 40 cats that were found straying without ID. While having your pet microchipped is a very important first step, it's not the only one. It's equally important to register your contact information and ensure it's always up to date in case the worst happens. Taking these steps will increase your chances to be reunited with your furry friends should they run away, get lost or stolen. It is now easier than ever to keep your beloved furry family member's registration details up-to-date with the NSW Pet Registry. This means you can easily register your pet, update your contact details, report your pet missing/found, transfer ownership of a pet and pay lifetime registration fees straight from your computer, tablet or smart phone device. All cats and dogs in NSW are required to be microchipped and this information placed on the registry before 12 weeks of age. This means your cat or dog's details should already be on the registry ready for you to access. If you are not sure of your pet's microchip number, you can contact your local vet to see if they have it on file. If they don't have a record, you can attend your local vet and have them scan your pet, at which point they will be able to confirm you are the owner and provide you with the microchip number for your records. Once you have your pet's microchip number, changing your details is free, simply visit [www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au](http://www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au) or drop into Council. On a different note, with the weather warming up, snakes become more active and may become unwanted visitors in their search for water or a place to sun themselves. We recommend clearing out any areas of your yard that could encourage a snake to take up residence and keeping your garden well maintained. If you do find a snake on your property do not attempt to move it yourself. While it is not Council's responsibility to deal with snakes, there are a number of trained snake catchers in the area including the Cessnock District Rescue Squad (4991 2444) who will be able to assist you. Don't forget to keep an eye on the snake from a safe distance while you are waiting for the snake catcher to arrive to make sure it is still there and not in a new hiding spot.



You can contact Council on 02 4993 4100 or [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au)



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**WE ARE YOUR LOCAL INSURANCE BROKER**

Samantha and Ian are here to help you for all your insurance needs.  
 Servicing all of the Newcastle and Hunter Region we can cover you for:—

• Business Insurance	• Farm Insurance	• Home & Content
• Commercial Motor	• Trade Insurance	• Landlord Insurance
• Public Liability	• Management Liability	• Professional Indemnity
• Marine Cargo (Goods in Transit)		

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 ABN 40 098 080 810 AFSL No. 232703 and Resilium Insurance Broking Pty Ltd ABN 92 169 975 973 AFSL 460382

**FROM PAGE 23**  
 Jesse Minchin (27), Trent Fuller (17) and Dan Minchin (14) all made handy contributions. Bellbird reached the target in the 26th over after losing just the 3 wickets. Jesse Minchin completed a fine all-round performance in his maiden second grade game with 2-36 off 8. Third grade Blue defeated Peden's by 15-runs in a low scoring affair at Miller 2. Batting first the Blues made 97, with Andrew Wright (39) and Ben Lahey (32) showing some early season form. Peden's were bundled out for 82 in reply, with Paul Walkling (3-19 off 10), Ben Lahey completed an excellent all-round game with 3-7 off 2.1, and Jason Varley (2-21 off 5) all combining to provide Greta/Branxton with victory. Last year's Fourth grade Blue side have been promoted and are now the Third grade White side, but their season did not get off the a real good start, going down to Bellbird by 6 wickets at Carmichael 2. Greta/Branxton batted first and made just 38, with Connor Thomson the only batsman in double figures with 11. Bellbird lost 4 wickets in reply. Fourth grade got off to a flyer with a 159-run demolishing of Wine Country at Millfield. Greta/Branxton batted first and piled on 3-182, with Reece Fletcher (55) and Pat Nugent (53no) making fine half-centuries. Chris Redmond (39no) and James Shoulders jnr (20) all kept the ink flowing regularly on the scoresheets. It took just 17 overs to claim victory in reply, with Wine Country skittled for 23. Shoulders jnr (3-0 off 3), Fletcher (3-2 off 5), Nugent (2-5 off 6) all completed stellar all-round games, with Cooper Wilton chipping in at the end with 2-11 off 3.

**Points Tables**  
**First Grade** Mulbring 82, Greta/Branxton 69, Bellbird 66, Wine Country 54, Peden's Hotel 51.  
**Second Grade** Bellbird 100, Greta/Branxton 84, Mulbring 77, Supporters 73, Peden's Hotel 72, Wine Country 69.  
**Third Grade** Bellbird 109, Greta/Branxton 94, Laguna 92, Peden's Hotel 87, Denman Hotel 85, Wine Country 77, Mulbring 71, Supporters 63.  
**Fourth Grade** Greta/Branxton Blue 99, Paxton 99, Denman Hotel 88, Greta/Branxton White 87, Wine Country 77, Bellbird 73, Supporters 73, Peden's Hotel 63.  
**Club Championship** Bellbird 586.50, Greta/Branxton 561.40, Mulbring 519.70, Wine Country 449.40, Peden's Hotel 448.20.

## "A Day at the Taree Races"

**7<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**Due to a late cancellation Four (4) Silver Tickets** have become available on a privately chartered vintage train departing Branxton on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (Melbourne Cup Day). The fundraising event has been organized by the Rotary Club of Maitland with profits from the day to be distributed to the "End Trachoma Project"

The Silver Tickets @ **\$90 per person** covers return train travel from designated pickup Station; coach shuttle from Taree Station to Racecourse; Racecourse Admission; a complimentary glass of sparkling wine or Orange Juice with nibbles served on forward journey; complimentary tea/coffee.

Ticketholders can nominate pickup from one of the following Stations:

Branxton; Greta; Lochinvar or Telarah

- ❖ Taree-Wingham Race Committee offers visitors to their course First Class facilities: Bar Facilities, TAB & Bookmakers Ring, Various dining opportunities /food outlets.
- ❖ The train tickets can be purchased individually if need be.
- ❖ Payment Options — Cash, Direct Deposit or Credit Card.

For more information telephone 0407 383 491



# For Sale

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300

### BRANXTON



#### Excellent family home in very popular street

This well established family home is located in the central part of Branxton. The property includes three (3) spacious bedrooms, separate lounge room, open plan dining area with slow combustion fire, neat kitchen, good sized bathroom, side access to single garage & rear decking overlooking a spacious backyard. This property has been very well maintained & is on 1011square metres; a quarter acre block.

ASKING \$365,000

### BRANXTON



#### 'Down Town' Location

This weatherboard & terracotta tile family home has so much to offer. 3 large bedrooms main with built-ins, large lounge room with slow combustion fire & reverse cycle air conditioning, large eat-in kitchen, double garage & annex for the men & covered entertainment area for all your outdoor events. All this on a 950square metre block

ASKING \$365,000

### NORTH ROTHBURY



#### 'Jewel Box' Bush Cottage

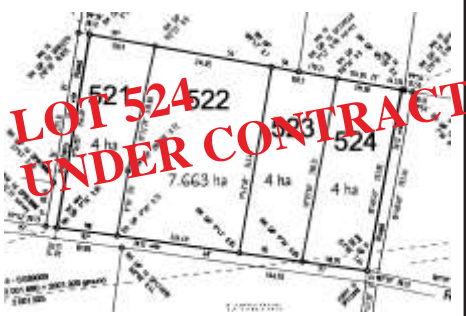
This wonderfully fully renovated weatherboard cottage is set on a very large fenced block in the small hamlet of North Rothbury. Features include:- new bathroom, renovated kitchen, new decking front & back (both covered from summer evenings westerly sun), very large block, original floor boards renovated 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 .....  
NEGOTIABLE

ASKING \$290,000

### NORTH ROTHBURY



Lots 521, 523 & 524  
Littlewood Road,

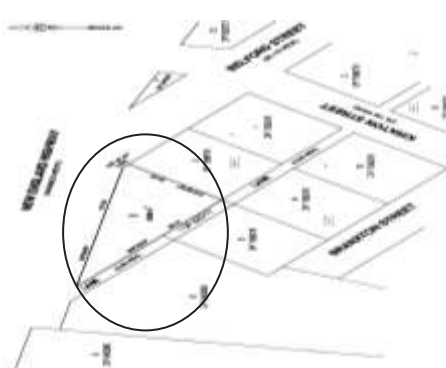
#### Vacant blocks

4ha (10 acres) very private bush blocks.

Fully Fenced & within minutes to Hunter Wine Country

ASKING: \$420,000 each

### BELFORD



#### Vacant Land 2559m<sup>2</sup>

Vacant Land with building approved  
Lot 1 DP 1205549  
Well over half an acre of good level block.

ASKING \$160,000 ONO

### North Rothbury



#### Lovely family home in quiet rural hamlet

This brick & tile 3 bedroom home is on a large fully fenced block. The design is 'open plan' with beautiful lead-light windows, large deck at rear with secure parking & garden shed. Great village & a great place to rear your family.

ASKING \$350,000

### East Branxton



#### Your own little 'Hobby Farm'

A very spacious five bedroom family home + large office; main bedroom with en-suite & walk-in robe. All other bedrooms have good built-ins + fans. There are two large living areas plus a large, under cover, entertainment area.

The property is fenced into 3 paddocks with a good garden shed & dog yard.

There is also a triple lock-up garage. All the benefits of urban living with the benefit of a large semi-rural lot.

ASKING \$675,000

**We have had an extraordinary number of enquiries for home units & rental properties. If you can help please call Helen on 4938 3300**



BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300



Find us on... **North Rothbury**  
 **Tidy Towns**  
 House of the Month Caring for our environment

This month's North Rothbury Tidy Towns Award goes to Sally Moffat of Morgan Street, North Rothbury. Sally is an avid gardener and takes great pride in her native & succulent gardens.



## Reclaim the Night

On the 27<sup>th</sup> October Hunter Domestic Violence Support & Advisory Services Inc. will be holding Reclaim the Night which is being held at the RSL Memorial Hall Maitland Street, Branxton. It starts at 5.30pm and goes through to 9pm. Reclaim the Night is an International and National Night where women take back the night, where they can go out at night without the fear of being harassed, molested, sexually assaulted or sadly even murdered. The story of Reclaim the Night originated in Philadelphia in

1975 after the murder of a young woman walking home alone. Belgium held Reclaim the Night in 1976 from there it went to West Germany and England. Reclaim the Night was first held in Australia in 1979 and has been held ever since on the last Friday in October. Please come and join us and make it a family night with entertainment from Tara Naysmith, Trinity a young singer from Cessnock, face painting, sausage sizzle, line dancing etc., we do have a march near the end of the

night demanding safer streets for women, which is what the night is all about, women being able to go out at night wearing whatever they choose without being sexually harassed, raped or even murdered. Once your mothers and grandmothers could go out at night without fear or apprehension, children could be out playing until dark, we want those days back, so please come us, it will be a fun night.



**"Jodie's Place"**  
 WOMEN & CHILDREN'S REFUGE

PO Box 677 Maitland 2320  
 1464 Wine Country Drive Branxton NSW 2355

Ph/fax 4980 9009  
 hdsas@btopenet.com

ABN 42 416 287 115  
 www.hunterdomesticviolenceservice.com

## WHAT CAN YOU MAKE? MONEY FOR CHRISTMAS?



### NORTH ROTHBURY TIDY TOWNS TWILIGHT MARKETS

Persons selling food stalls will need a Temporary Food Business from Council.

It is a condition of this approval to meet the following consent conditions:

- The Temporary Food Business is only permitted to operate at Council approved events.
- Temporary Food Business meets the minimum standards of the:
  - NSW Food Act 2003
  - Food Regulation 2010
  - Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code - Standard 3.2.3 Food Premises
  - Hunter Central Coast Food Surveillance Group "Temporary Event Guidelines"
- All Food Handling is to be conducted in accordance with the:
  - NSW Food Act 2003
  - Food Regulation 2010
  - Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code - Standard 3.2.2 Food Safety - Practices and General Requirements
- The Food Business Notification to the NSW Food Authority must be correct.

The approval is valid for one year from the date of approval. The approval must be displayed within the stall.

North Rothbury Tidy Towns (encompassing Hanwood, North Rothbury, Tuckers Lane and Huntlee ) will be holding a **TWILIGHT MARKET** in the Ayrfield Miners Memorial Park **Sat 25 Nov 2017. 6pm to 8pm.**

Mark it on your calendar! Villagers / Visitors will be able to rent a stall site for price of \$25.00 to sell of their handiwork and Christmas gift ideas

❖ This year too we look forward to having some market stalls with produce from local people and those with connections to our village.

NRTT will run the **BEST SAUSAGE sizzle.**

**PLEASE NOTE NO PARKING ON GRASSED AREAS.**

**NO PRE ARRANGED STALL POSITIONS**



We can have twenty stalls, stall holders must prepare for wet weather conditions

Phone Maureen 49 38 1430 / 0412 43 25 08 to register. (Before 5pm)  
 18 Mitchell Street North Rothbury. Please pay on registration. BSB 032516 Acc 216685 Ref TWM (- your name)

Persons with only a small amount of stall might join neighbors and friends to get a stall up and running.

**branxton greta**  
 BUSINESS CHAMBER

NOTIFICATION OF

# AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Wed 1st Nov 2017  
 Time: 6.30pm  
 Location: Branxton Golf Club

Nomination Form available @ [www.branxtongreta.com.au/events](http://www.branxtongreta.com.au/events)  
 NOMINATIONS CLOSE: Wed 25th Oct 2017

Further Information: Secretary; [info@branxtongreta.com.au](mailto:info@branxtongreta.com.au)

# WANTED

**RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LEASE**  
 There is a strong demand for residential rental accommodation in the local area & our office needs more properties to sate the current demand. If you are contemplating renting your property please contact either Helen or Mike on **4938 3300**

**BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE**  
 P: 4938 3300

**"Branxton Gardens" Senior Living, Branxton**  
 Recent sales






**SOLD** UNIT 2    **SOLD** UNIT 10    **SOLD** UNIT 12    **SOLD** UNIT 18



# HEARD IT THROUGH the GRAPEVINE



with Jo Thomas,  
General Manager  
HWTA

**Hunter Valley wine & tourism alliance seeking to raise funds for major destination marketing campaign**  
The Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Alliance, includes the Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association, Cessnock City Council and Sin-

gleton Council, aims to approach Destination NSW with \$300,000 in pledges, seeking to match the funding dollar for dollar, and develop a major destination marketing campaign worth \$600,000. Hunter Valley Wine Country tourism operators and local businesses are supporting this initiative by making a collective contribution of \$200,000 that promises to generate an enormous increase in visitation to the region. The support so far has been fantastic with pledges from 60 businesses totalling \$105,000. Destination marketing campaigns drive visitation benefiting not only direct tourism operators but indirect tourism business from across the

Cessnock and Singleton local government areas. With other key tourism destinations in NSW and nationally heavily promoting their regions, it is imperative that we have an impact in such a competitive tourism environment. The Alliance will continue to seek pledges from industry, whilst Cessnock City Council and Singleton Council will work together to contribute the remaining funds to meet the Alliance's goal of raising \$300,000 in pledges. Please contact Jo Thomas on 4990 0900 for more information.

**Earlier last week**, four of our Hunter Valley restaurateurs Muse Restaurant, Muse Kitchen, Margan Winery & Restaurant and Bistro Molines were

awarded the very coveted hatted restaurant status at the 2018 Good Food Guide Awards at The Star, Sydney this week. Muse Restaurant is the Hunter Valley's only two hatted restaurant with the other winners all maintaining or receiving hats. Congratulations to all of these culinary leaders. Muse Restaurant has been awarded number one Best Fine Dining Restaurant in Australia by Tripadvisor. Tripadvisor is governed by the consumer on a rating scale, so it is amazing to see this award going to a Hunter Valley restaurateur for the second time in a row and we couldn't be more proud of Troy, Megan and the rest of their hard working team.

*Cheers, Jo*

## STS YOUNG ENDEAVOUR – AN ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME as told by Lachlan Cooper



*Local lad Lachlan Cooper has just completed, as described by him, 'an adventure of a lifetime; his reflection (Ed.)*

**My journey** on STS Young Endeavour was both my greatest challenge and my greatest Adventure. My voyage (13/17) began from HMAS Morton in Brisbane with 24 other Youth Crew from all over Australia also joining the vessel our ages varied from 16 to 24. Our journey began in inclement weather and rough seas as we headed to our first destination Tangalooma Island. As this was a first seagoing experience for many of the new crew some members were a bit sea sick but despite this we quickly learnt to band together and to support each other in order to keep the ship running and on schedule. On our first day we got to know all the youth crew as well as the staff and a little of each crew members background and what had brought them to the Young Endeavour. For myself it was something I had worked towards for many years I have come from a Navy background and have

progressed through the ranks of Navy Cadets at TS Tobruk Newcastle for the past 4 years my end goal is to be a Navigator in the Navy. During our 11 day voyage we visited many ports and learnt so much about ourselves, the importance of good Leadership and being part of a team. On day one our first watches for each of the three groups began. I was in White watch and we had to keep watch while sailing during the hours of midnight to 4am (Guts Watch as we call it in the Navy). During this watch we learnt to set and furl (roll up the sail) sail the ship and some basic naval terms. Through the voyage we all learnt as a crew how to climb aloft or up the masts of the ship, how to tie knots, how to cook, how to have 90 second showers and yes I said 90 second showers and most importantly how to

tack the ship which is when a sailing ship turns it bow



(front of the ship) though the wind, this is done when traveling in the direction of the wind. Most importantly on board the Young Endeavour we as a crew learnt to work hard and band together and support each other in order to overcome challenges and to get the job done while living in communal harmony. Our days were

often very long depending on watches. Along the way we got to experience many adventures like climbing the mast, diving off the ship into open waters and swimming ashore, hiking to Barrenjoey Lighthouse and much more. On our voyage we visited Tangalooma Island, Coff's Harbour, Byron Bay, Seal Rocks, Broughton Island and Palm Beach (Summer Bay) as most of us know it, and our final Destination was my home Port of Newcastle. On Day 9 it was

the Youth Crews chance to take over command of the ship for "Command Day" the day the Staff Crew get a rest. We quickly voted in the crew and a ceremony was held where Captain Mike handed over his Captaincy to Captain Sean giving him the Captains Hat and Spyglass. After this the Crew Leaders Captain Sean, Navigator Joseph,

myself Sail Master Lachlan and Three Deck Officers Ellie, Sam and Anton plotted our course and plan of action in order to get us safely to our destination. I was honoured to be voted in as a Youth Leader – Sail Master Lachlan. Upon my appointment I had the privilege of quickly obtaining the extra skills and knowledge to assist in sailing this fine vessel from (Staff) Sail master Evan before taking to my position. Our journey to Stockton was without incident and we the Youth Crew 13/17 were very proud of our achievement as was Captain Mike and the staff. On Day 10 we entered Newcastle Harbour to pick up some very special passengers "Leapfrog Disabilities Group". This was the Young Endeavours youth crews chance to give back to the community and to share the knowledge and skills we had learnt during our voyage with others less fortunate. We had a wonderful day and despite some of the Leapfrog crew getting sea sick I am sure

they will remember their special day at sea. Day 11 for me was met with mixed feelings I was both excited and sad. Sad as it was my last day at sea with my new friends (Family) and the Awesome Staff and the life I love "being at sea". Day 11 was also my 17<sup>th</sup> Birthday and what a way to celebrate sailing into my home Port - Newcastle Harbour on the mast with my shipmates singing Happy Birthday as we neared our Berth to see waiting Family with welcoming signs & friends along with Newcastle Councillors and Media.

I am now working towards my goal of entering the Navy once my HSC is completed next year and I am very proud to have been accepted as a Young Endeavour Ambassador and I encourage all youth to apply for a berth on the Young Endeavour as it is a true experience of personal growth and adventure and

one you will never forget. Applications are now being accepted from Individuals and Sponsors for 2018 voyages The system is a Ballot but well worth the wait. to apply: [www.youngendeavour.gov.au](http://www.youngendeavour.gov.au)



# WANTED

**Croquet players wanted** to join friendly, established club at 8 John Rose Avenue, Branxton. Come and try for free, no experience or equipment needed. You'll have lots of fun! Phone Carole on 0249387234 or call at grounds between 9am and 12am on Tuesday or Saturday.

# Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

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**WEB: [www.domain.com.au](http://www.domain.com.au)**



**GRETA WORKERS CLUB**  
2 WEST ST GRETA  
4938 7325

**MILLER PARK SPORTS CLUB**  
6 MAITLAND RD EAST BRANXTON  
4938 1226

# GRETA WORKERS

## OAKS RESTAURANT

**NEW CATERERS**

**GREAT STEAKS & SCHNITTY'S**

**\$15.00**

**WHY NOT TRY THEIR MENU?**

**FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER**

**“SLAM TANGO”**

**FRIDAY 3rd NOVEMBER**

**“THE WAY”**

## MEMBER'S BADGE DRAW

**WEDNESDAY**

**25th OCTOBER - \$2,300**

**SUNDAY**

**29th OCTOBER - \$700**

## **MELBOURNE CUP**

**7th NOVEMBER**

**2 COURSE MEAL \$25.00**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**GIVE-AWAYS & FUN \$30pp**

# MILLER PARK

## MEMBERS BADGE DRAW

**THURSDAY 26th OCTOBER**

**\$2,300**

**SUNDAY 29th OCTOBER**

**\$5,000**

**MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**

## **HAPPY HOUR**

**MILLER PARK WEDNESDAY**

**4.00 – 7.00pm**

**GRETA THURSDAY**

**4.00 – 6.00pm**

**\$3.40 a Schooner**

## MELBOURNE CUP

**TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER**

**2 COURSE MEAL \$35.00**

**FULL TAB FACILITIES**

## RAFFLES

**FRIDAY**

**MEAT RAFFLE**

**7.00pm**

**SUNDAY**

**MEAT RAFFLE**

**6.00pm**





turning pages. The story grabbed me and kept me hooked all day. I even canceled plans with friends that night because I couldn't put it down. (I'm an introvert so this was an easy decision!)

The next week I was back at the bookstore to pick up *A is for Alibi, B is for Burglar, and C is for Corpse*. I've been friends with Kinsey ever since. I know, I know, she's a fictional character and we can't really be "friends." But if she was real, I'd be privileged to know her. She's smart and tough with a soft vulnerable side. She's confident in who she

is and doesn't try to be something she's not for anyone. She's strong and independent and she fiercely protects the people she loves. What's not to love?

I've been missing her so much since *X* that I started reading the series all over again while waiting for *Y is for Yesterday*. And now the day has finally arrived and I get to spend more time with her.

First, I had to prepare for the day. I was devoting the entire day to reading after all. I needed nourishment. I made a pot of Harney & Sons Paris tea (strong and smooth with hints of vanilla and fruit, absolutely delicious!), Lemon Basil Chicken Salad, and a little hummus and cucumber on crackers. And since I also need something sweet, apple pastries with warm caramel sauce. Now I was ready for my day!

**Y IS FOR YESTERDAY BY SUE GRAFTON**  
*Y is for Yesterday* starts off with a backstory ten years in the past. A student steals test answers to help a friend who needs a passing grade and that starts a ripple effect that eventually leads to a murder. Now, ten years later, the murderer is free from jail and he is being blackmailed. Enter Kinsey Millhone who is

**ABOUT** ~ Grafton began writing when she was 18 and finished her first novel four years later. She continued writing and completed six more manuscripts. Only two of these seven novels were published. Unable to find success with her novels, Grafton turned to screenplays. Grafton worked for the next 15 years writing screenplays for television movies, including *Sex and the Single Parent*, *Mark, I Love You*, and *Nurse*. Her screenplay for *Walking Through the Fire* earned a Christopher Award in 1979. In collaboration with her husband, Steven Humphrey, she also adapted the Agatha Christie novels *A Caribbean Mystery* and *Sparkling Cyanide* for television and co-wrote *A Killer in the Family* and *Love on the Run*. She is also credited with the story upon which the screenplay for the made for TV movie *Svengali* (1983) was based.



Her experience as a screenwriter taught her the basics of structuring a story, writing dialogue, and creating action sequences. Grafton then felt ready to return to writing fiction. While going through a "bitter divorce and custody battle that lasted six long years," Grafton imagined ways to kill or maim her ex-husband. Her fantasies were so vivid that she decided to write them down. She had long been fascinated by mysteries that had related titles, including those by John D. MacDonald, whose titles referenced colors, and Harry Kemelman, who used days of the week. While reading Edward Gorey's *The Gashlycrumb Tinies*, an alphabetical picture book of children who die by various means, she had the idea to write a series of novels based on the alphabet. She immediately sat down and made a list of all of the crime-related words that she knew.

This exercise led to her best-known works, a chronological series of mystery novels. Known as "the alphabet novels," the stories are set in and around the fictional town of Santa Teresa, California. It is based on Santa Barbara, outside of which Grafton maintains a home in the suburb of Montecito. (Grafton chose to use the name Santa Teresa as a tribute to the author Ross Macdonald, who had used it as a fictional name for Santa Barbara in his own novels.)

In the series, Grafton writes from the perspective of a female private investigator named Kinsey Millhone, who lives in Santa Teresa. In apparent tribute to Macdonald, Millhone refers to her private investigator license as a "photostat," as did Macdonald's character Archer. Grafton's first book of this series is "*A is for Alibi*," written and set in 1982. The series continues with "*B is for Burglar*," "*C is for Corpse*," and so on through the alphabet, with the exception of the 24th novel, simply titled "*X*". After the publication of "*G is for Gumshoe*," Grafton was able to quit her screenwriting job and focus on her novels.

The timeline of the series is slower than real time. "*O is for Quarry*," for example, is set in 1987, even though it was written in 2002. Grafton has publicly stated that the final novel in the series will be titled "*Z is for Zero*."

Grafton's novels have been published in 28 countries and in 26 languages, including Bulgarian and Indonesian. She has refused to sell the film and television rights to her books, as her time writing screenplays had "cured" her of the desire to work with Hollywood. Grafton has also threatened to haunt her children if they sell the film rights after she is dead.

hired to locate the black-mailer.

While I'm not in love with Kinsey's client and his friends, they're a bunch of spoiled kids, Kinsey is always on the side of right whether she likes her clients or not. Let's face it, many of us do not always like our clients. That's just the way of the world. And Kinsey has had some disgraceful ones in the past. Still, she continues to fight for justice.

*Y is for Yesterday* is very different from Sue Grafton's other books in the alphabet series as this one tells two stories consecutively. We see not only Kinsey's search for the truth but also the backstory of what truly happened ten years ago that brought us to this point.

In a previous book, Kinsey had a run-in with a serial killer who tried to kill her then escaped, but now he's back. Knowing that he's out and that she's being watched, makes Kinsey feel a little unhinged. Changing her routine and taking extra precautions, it becomes a battle of wits between Kinsey and someone who's out to get her.

*Y is for Yesterday* is a well-crafted story with charac-

ters you'll love and others that you'll love to hate.

It's a joy to read, not only for the great characters and plot but also for Ms. Grafton's beautiful use of language. Sue Grafton is truly gifted in the way she magically weaves words together to build a story that you can immerse yourself in. *Y is for Yesterday* will keep you guessing (as Sue Grafton's books usually do) right up until the end. If you haven't read any of the previous books in the series, don't worry. Kinsey's narration ensures that you have all the information you need from a previous book to fully understand this story.

I'm sad to be so close to the end and hope for a happily-ever-after for Kinsey in *Z*, as well as her landlord Henry Pitts who I must admit I'm a little in love with. *Y is for Yesterday* is another masterpiece from Sue Grafton. A great read that I know you'll enjoy. Be sure to stop by Tea Cottage Mysteries to learn more about great mysteries and meet some authors!

**Samantha McGraw**

## NY Times Best Seller list ~ FICTION

- New this week*  
**Y IS FOR YESTERDAY**  
by Sue Grafton  
The 25th Kinsey Millhone mystery novel. A former student from an elite private school is released from prison and a sociopath returns to haunt the detective.
- 2 weeks on the list*  
**SEEING RED**  
by Sandra Brown  
The TV journalist Kerra Bailey and former federal agent John Trapper join forces to expose a web of conspiracy behind a hotel bombing in Dallas.
- 2 weeks on the list*  
**THE STORE**  
by James Patterson and Richard DiLallo  
Two New York writers go undercover to expose the secrets of a powerful retailer.
- 23 weeks on the list*  
**THE WHISTLER**  
by John Grisham  
A whistleblower alerts a Florida investigator to judicial corruption involving the Mob and Indian casinos.
- 4 weeks on the list*  
**BEFORE WE WERE YOURS**  
by Lisa Wingate  
A South Carolina lawyer, researching her grandmother's past, learns about a Tennessee



orphanage that kidnapped children and placed them for adoption with wealthy people. Based on a real-life scandal.

- New this week*  
**YOU SAY IT FIRST**  
by Susan Mallery  
A sculptor takes a job as a carpenter at a theme wedding venue and falls for its owner, Pallas Saunders, who is trying to save the business. The first book in the Happily Inc. series.
- 31 weeks on the list*  
**THE WOMAN IN CABIN 10**  
by Ruth Ware  
A travel writer on a cruise is certain she has heard a body thrown overboard, but no one believes her.
- New this week*  
**THE DUCHESS DEAL**  
by Tessa Dare  
The Duke of Ashbury pursues a vicar's daughter in the hopes of having an heir.
- 6 weeks on the list*  
**THE LATE SHOW**  
by Michael Connelly  
Renée Ballard, a young detective with the L.A.P.D., investigates crimes against two
- 12 weeks on the list*  
**CAMINO ISLAND**  
by John Grisham  
A search for stolen rare manuscripts leads to a Florida island.

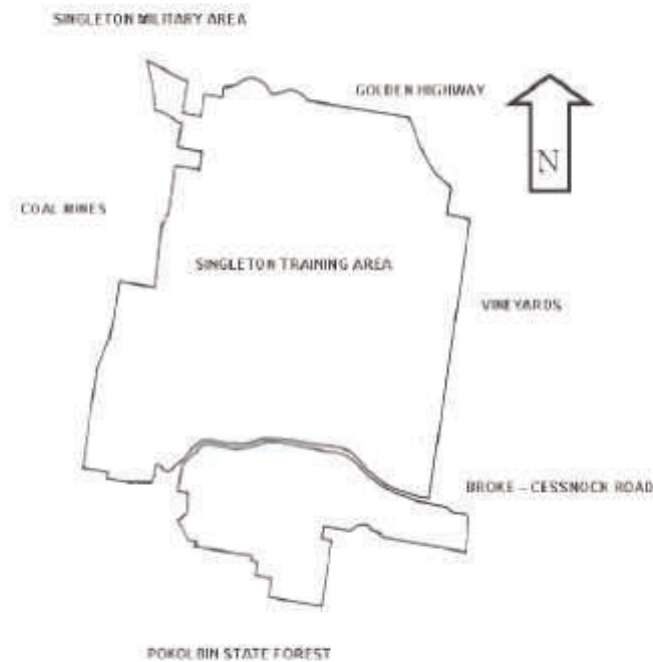
## NY Times Best Seller list ~ FICTION



**Australian Government**  
Department of Defence

# DEFENCE FIELD FIRING RANGES

## WARNING NOTICE



Residents of areas adjacent to Singleton Training Area are warned it is an Army Live Firing Range. Singleton Training Area is described generally as the area bounded to the south by Pokolbin State Forest, to the east by commercial vineyards and to the west by a combination of rural developments and open cut coal mines. The northern boundary is defined by the Golden Highway which separates the range area from the Singleton Military Area.

Firing practices using live ammunition are conducted continuously on this training area. Low power laser range finders are also used.

Death or serious injury may result from being struck by a projectile. Eye damage may occur when viewing laser beams from within the training area boundary.

Unexploded ammunition is extremely DANGEROUS and should NOT be handled, but should be reported immediately to the nearest Police Station or Army unit. No reward will be paid for the reporting of ammunition which may be located on the training area.

Persons found trespassing on Army Training Areas will be prosecuted.

Enquiries regarding the Singleton Training Area should be directed to:

The Range Control Officer  
Range Control,  
Directorate of Operations and Training Area Management  
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Singleton Training Area  
Singleton NSW 2331.

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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dress in Pink High Tea/ Fashion Extravaganza



It was an absolute pleasure to attend this year's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dress in Pink High Tea which was organised by Helen Scott, with the

assistance from the Cancer Council, with catering from the talented Branxton Greta CWA ladies and sponsored by Recommended

Resumes.

All our guests received a gift and were greeted by the Cancer Council and myself. From start to finish, it was

such an enjoyable time watching local models showcasing the most beautiful attire from Sue's Clothing, they all looked like a million dollars! The hall and tables was decorated just right, with quality items on the stage from The Anglican Boutique Op Shop. Each table had mirrored centre pieces encapsulating pink feathers that were simply

elegant, certainly worthy of much discussion on the day. The catering was scrumptious, mini sandwiches of an assortment of yummy fillings, mini quiches, ohhh and the cakes were exquisite, certainly fitting for a Queen.

Each person came with their own personal story of how cancer has affected them or someone close to them and they were there in support to raise funds in helping others who are dealing with this horrid disease. It was discussed how the funds from this event would be used in helping cancer patients either in the form of hospital transport, easing the pain of bills or providing medical equipment in their home, it certainly was a very real moment acknowledging their heartache, however you felt privileged to be able to sit there and have that opportunity to contribute whilst having a wonderful cup of tea. Not only are we blessed with community members who make these events happen, we are blessed to live in a local community who do get behind this worthwhile cause by attending and making a difference. The funds which was over \$2200 will be put to good use in our area. I understand bookings have already been made for next year! I hope to see you there, let's bring on 2018 and let's dine like the Royals. *Cindy Phillips from Recommended Resumes*

## Fundraising, Fashion and Friendship

Branxton Community Hall was transformed on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October into a fashionable High Tea venue. Pink was the theme of the day as the community gathered together to raise money for breast cancer. There was not a spare seat at the elegantly decorated tables, with event coordinator Helen Scott

tirelessly overseeing the many details of the fundraising morning tea. Local businesses lent their support adding to the atmosphere of the High Tea, with special thanks to *Recommended Resumes, Hats on the Hunter* and *Sue's Clothing of Rutherford*. Volunteers from the *Cancer Council* assisted with raffles and shared

their insights into how money raised from fundraising assists in treating and supporting cancer patients.

And of course a High Tea isn't complete without the lovely ladies from *Branxton Greta CWA* donating their time in the kitchen and providing all the delicious treats. In addition to their infamous scones, they baked an array of scrumptious slices and cakes that were enjoyed by all the guests.

To complement the High

Tea the ladies were treated to a fashion parade courtesy of *Sue's Clothing* at Rutherford. Showcasing fashion for all ages, shapes and sizes, the parade was lots of fun for all involved. With more than 100 guests in attendance and each receiving a complimentary gift bag, the High Tea raised over \$2200 for the Cancer Council – a wonderful testament to the generosity of all involved. Thank you to all who attended.



© Branxton Greta CWA ladies, Cancer Council Volunteers

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# Branxton Golf Club



## Monster TOY Raffle

**Friday 1st Dec**  
**Ticket Sales 6.00pm**  
**Raffle 7.15pm**

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**FREE**      1st Sunday of each Month  
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## Bucks for Ben Weekend

Day/ Night golf  
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Golf Day

Nov 3rd-5th November

Twilight golf every Wednesday at  
4.30pm.

Everyone welcome.

Mr J's kiddy golf Tuesday 4.30pm

## Carols on the Course

**Friday 8th Dec**

Tickets on sale 1/12/2017





# click



## 400GB microSD card announced

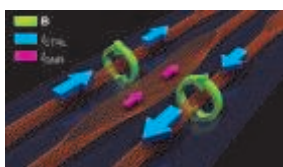


SanDisk has just unveiled a 400 gigabyte (GB) microSD card, which it claims is the world's highest capacity. SanDisk, a subsidiary of Western Digital Corporation, has announced the launch of its 400GB Ultra microSDXC UHS-I card, which it claims to be the world's highest-capacity microSD card. Just two years after introducing its record-breaking 200GB microSD card, SanDisk has doubled the capacity within the same tiny form factor. "Mobile devices have become the epicentre of our lives, and consumers are now accustomed to using their smartphones for anything from entertainment to business. We are collecting and sharing massive amounts of data on smartphones, drones, tablets, PCs, laptops and more. We anticipate that storage needs will only continue to grow as people continue to expect more sophisticated features on their devices and desire higher quality content," said Jeff Janukowicz, vice president of research. "We estimate that mobile device users worldwide will install over 150 billion applications alone this year, which require a ton of memory on all of our favourite devices."

SanDisk has achieved this capacity breakthrough by leveraging its proprietary memory technology and design and production processes that allow for more bits per die. "We continue to push technology boundaries and transform the way consumers use their mobile devices," said Sven Rathjen, vice president of product marketing at Western Digital. "By focusing on achieving new technology milestones, we enable consumers to keep up with their mobile-centric lifestyles with storage solutions they trust." The new card holds up to 40 hours of Full HD video and offers transfer speeds of up to 100MB/s, meaning it can move up to 1,200 photos per minute. Additionally, it meets the AI App Performance Class specification, which means that the card can load apps

faster. Storage capacities of SD and microSD cards are an excellent example of the exponential growth seen in many forms of information technology in recent years and decades. On current trends, it appears likely that the first 1TB microSD card will arrive by around 2020-21.

## Graphene transistors could mean computers that are 1,000 times faster



Next-gen, carbon-based transistors would far outperform today's silicon versions, according to a new research paper from the University of Central Florida (UCF). Traditional silicon-based transistors revolutionised electronics with their ability to switch current on and off. By controlling the flow of current, the creation of smaller computers and other devices was possible. Over the decades, rapid gains in miniaturisation led to computers shrinking from room-sized monoliths, to wardrobe-sized, to desktops and laptops and eventually handheld smartphones — a phenomenon known as Moore's Law. In recent years, however, concerns have arisen that the rate of progress may have slowed, or could even be approaching a fundamental limit.

A solution may be on the horizon. This month, researchers have theorised a next-generation transistor based not on silicon but on a ribbon of graphene, a two-dimensional carbon material with the thickness of a single atom. Their findings — reported in *Nature Communications* — could have big implications for electronics, computing speeds and big data in the future. Graphene-based transistors may someday lead to computers that are 1,000 times faster and use a hundredth of today's power. "If you want to continue to push technology forward, we need faster computers to be able to run bigger and better simulations for climate science, for space exploration, for Wall Street. To get there, we can't rely on silicon transistors anymore," said Ryan M. Gelfand, director of the NanoBioPhotonics. His team found that by applying a magnetic field to a graphene ribbon, they could change the resistance of current flowing through it. For this device, the magnetic

field was controlled by increasing or decreasing the current through adjacent carbon nanotubes. The strength of the magnetic field matched the flow of current through this new kind of transistor, much like a valve controlling the flow of water through a pipe. Transistors act as on and off switches. A series of transistors in different arrangements act as logic gates, allowing microprocessors to solve complex arithmetic and logic problems. But clock speeds that rely on silicon transistors have been relatively stagnant for over a decade now, and are mostly still stuck in the 3 to 4 gigahertz range. A cascading series of graphene transistor-based logic circuits could produce a massive jump, explains Gelfand, with clock speeds approaching the terahertz range — 1,000 times faster — because communication between each of the graphene nanoribbons would occur via electromagnetic waves, instead of the physical movement of electrons. They would also be smaller and far more efficient, allowing device-makers to shrink technology and squeeze in more functionality.

"The concept brings together an assortment of existing nanoscale technologies and combines them in a new way," said Dr. Joseph Friedman, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering at UT Dallas, who collaborated with Gelfand and his team. While the concept is still in the early stages, Friedman said work towards a prototype all-carbon, cascaded spintronic computing system will continue in the NanoSpinCompute research laboratory

## The battle between SSD vs. HDD is over, and the winner is clear

Who wins in the SSD vs. HDD battle? While there are merits to both solid-state drives and hard disk drives, the choice at this point is clear — you need an SSD. The price advantage HDDs once held is quickly slipping and unless you have 1TB or more of data to store, you should buy a system with an SSD. They provide a noticeable bump in performance during boot-up times and data movement, often clocking in at five times faster than the speeds possible on an HDD.

**Storage capacity** First, let's take a look at the difference in size — meaning data capacity — between hard drives and solid state. It isn't difficult to find HDDs with several terabytes worth of storage. In contrast, SSDs don't hold quite as much as

they become prohibitively expensive over 2TB, and are more expensive along the way. When comparing storage capacity, HDDs currently beat out SSDs. Of course, SSDs come with their own advantages over HDD. HDDs have been the standard for desktops and many laptops, as their large storage capacities mean one doesn't have to worry about running out of storage space too quickly, and their magnetic storage method means they have near-infinite read/write capabilities. Storage capacity — while certainly the most important criteria to consider when buying a hard drive — is not the only difference between these two technologies.

**Speed, form factor, and durability** When discussing the speed of HDDs and SSDs, what is being referred to is the speed at which they can read and write data.

For HDDs, the speed at which the platters spin helps determine the read/write times. When accessing a file, the "read" part of the read/write head notes the positioning of the magnetic sections as it flies over the spinning platters. As long as the file being read was written sequentially, the HDD will read it quickly. However, as the disc becomes crowded with data, it's easy for a file to be written across multiple sections. This is called "fragmenting" and leads files taking longer to read. With SSDs, fragmentation is not an issue. Files can be written sporadically across the cells — and in fact are designed to do so — with little impact on read times, as each cell is accessed simultaneously. This easy, simultaneous access to each cell means files are read at incredibly fast speeds — far faster than an HDD can achieve, regardless of fragmentation.

This faster read speed comes with a catch. SSD cells can wear out over time. SSD cells push electrons through a gate to set its state. This process wears on the cell and over time reduces its performance time until the SSD wears out. That said, the time it would take in order for this to happen for most users is quite long; one would likely upgrade their SSD due to either obsolescence or a desire for more storage space before a normal SSD would fail. Still, it's something to keep in mind. The risk for failure is not unique to SSDs. In fact, SSDs are considered far more durable than HDDs, due to a lack of mechanical parts. The moving mechanisms within an HDD are susceptible to not only wear and tear over time but to damage due to movement or forceful contact. If one were to drop a laptop with an HDD, there is a high likelihood that all

those moving parts will collide, resulting in potential data loss and even destructive physical damage that could kill the HDD outright. SSDs have no moving parts so, while they hold the risk of a potentially shorter lifespan, they can survive the rigors we impose upon our portable devices and laptops. Another thing to be mindful of is the form factor of these devices. HDDs are almost always a 3.5-inch or 2.5-inch disk, while SSDs

# MOVIE REVIEW

## Battle of the Sexes



by Robert Roten, Film Critic



**October 17, 2017** — I was expecting this to be more of a comedy than it was, but it is a surprisingly compelling and frank biopic about the two people involved in one of the most famous and important sports events of the last century. Emma Stone ("La La Land") gives a tremendous performance as tennis star and political activist Billie Jean King, and Steve Carrell ("The Big Short") gives a compelling performance as gambler, tennis star and hustler Bobby Riggs. This film is about events leading up to the historic exhibition tennis match they played at the Houston Astrodome in Texas on September 20, 1973. This tennis match was seen by 140 million people worldwide, and in winning it, King struck a major blow for the cause of equal rights for women. Major players in the film include Jack Kramer (played by Bill Pullman of "Independence Day: Resurgence") a former tennis star and power in the world of professional tennis, and Gladys Heldman (played by Sarah Silverman of "A Million Ways to Die in the West") founder of World Tennis Magazine and founder of the Virginia Slims women's tennis tour. The story picks up King arguing with Kramer about equal pay for women tennis players, arguing that ticket

sales for women's tennis equalled that of the men's games, so the prize money should be equal. When Kramer said no, King said the women would not only boycott future events unless the purse was equal, but the women would form their own tour. After she walked out of that meeting, Heldman asked her how she intended to form a woman's tour, and King replied she had no idea, but was determined to do it. King was able to persuade a number of players to join the boycott and Heldman was able to find a sponsor, a tobacco company, which backed the Virginia Slims tour. This would later become the Women's Tennis Association, founded in 1973 by Billie Jean King. The story picks up Bobby Riggs, bored with his desk job, sneaking out to gamble with Kramer and others in card games and tennis matches, even after he had promised his wife, Priscilla (played by Elisabeth Shue of "The Saint") that he would stop gambling. There is a scene at a Gambler's Anonymous meeting where Riggs gives a impassioned defense of gambling so persuasive he blows up the meeting. Riggs, a onetime champion tennis star, is struggling to find a way to be relevant again, when he decides to challenge the number one tennis player in the world, Margaret Court (Jessica McNamee of "CHIPS") to a match. At that time King,



are spreading out into a variety of shapes and sizes. The most common is still the 2.5-inch drive, a slim plastic board with two plugs on one side. Newer desktops are fitted with a place to mount these specific drives, but they can also be mounted into the 3.5-inch brackets with an adapter. While there are SSDs that mount into the PCIe slot, many are now compatible with the relatively new M.2 slot. This thin port, found on the motherboard, allows placement of the drive without cables and enables extremely high transfer speeds.

is having an affair with a hairdresser, Marilyn Barnett (Andrea Riseborough of "Nocturnal Animals") and her tennis game has slipped. Riggs easily beats Court in an exhibition tennis match and brags he can beat any woman in the world. King, determined to save the relevance of the women's tennis tours, agrees to play Riggs, and dedicates herself to defeating him. Riggs promotes the match, bets on himself, and basks in the glow of his victory over Court, confident that he can beat King just as easily. He is relevant again, but his marriage to Priscilla is on the rocks. She throws him out of the house for gambling, and lying about it. The tennis match between King and Riggs is convincingly filmed, and it is compelling tennis, too, with some great shots by both players. The emotional aftermath of the match, for both King and Riggs is equally compelling. For all his bluster, his duplicity and his statements against women, Riggs is a sympathetic character in the film. He is not portrayed as a villain, but more of an obstacle to be overcome by King. King's own struggles with her sexual identity and her marriage (her husband, Larry is given a sensitive portrayal by Austin Stowell of "Whiplash") are explored extensively in the film. Usually this level of frankness in a biographical film is reserved for persons no longer living, like Riggs. Both King and Riggs are well fleshed out as characters. The story is well written by Simon Beaufoy ("Everest" and "127 Hours") and is directed capably by Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris ("Little Miss Sunshine").

This is a compelling film. It rates a B.





You can e-mail, fax or simply drop your  or  into our office:- 12 Clift Street, Branxton or Fax: 4938 3301 or E-mail: [thenews@holkey.net.au](mailto:thenews@holkey.net.au)  
All contributions welcome

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



Within the safe and wonderfully non-judgemental confines of this page, I duly wish to share with you an ongoing and concerningly malevolent default switch in my brain, which shows no respite. I should probably point out now that there are no aggressively underlying intentions surrounding this chronic trait which should have you alarming the authorities, however, that being said, I suggest that whenever you strike the urge to approach me, you do so with strict caution.

A few weeks ago, something happened. That's all I'm saying. In response to this positive event, I followed in the footsteps of the French by giving away something rare and sentimental in my life by virtue of a present, to a person or people with whom I chose to share my good fortune. I have only chosen to do this a handful of times in my life and the implications are remarkable. This is not a simple 'share the wealth' scenario or 'complementary' acknowledgement. A goodwill gift is based on a very deep respect for the recipient. It is strictly based on sentimentality, not price. It is given with 'intent', to enrich the lives of that person or those people. In essence, you are giving away unwritten or unspoken prosperity.

Now, I need not remind you that there is something comfortably and sequentially reassuring about 'giving'. Whether it is your time, effort, money, whatever...life is about giving. Put it this way...a rich and fulfilled life is about giving. So it was with an ironic profanity that I should choose two people of whom I have only recently formed a friendship, to be the recipients. Strangely enough, I believe the gift chooses the person. My reasoning for this belief stems from the fact that I had a cast of people, with historic ties, that should have headed the line. But I intently dislike the word 'should' and I live in the now and that is that. Although I am not inwardly or authoritatively familiar with these people in every way, nor them with me, there is a familiar aura which surrounds our relationship. It's fun! And it's now! It has to start somewhere!

The small gift in question was (surprisingly!) a bottle of Champagne. To bequeath an unexpected bottle of alcohol onto people always brings smiles.....

"Wow! What's this for?"  
"Nothing!"  
"Really?.....Ooooooohhhhaaayyy.....thank you.....I guess." So that part went fine, but here's where my malevolent gene kicks in. When I present the bottle I do it with sheer intent....."May all your dreams come true!" Within seconds however, I take from my pocket, two smaller gifts for each of my friends. A slightly sinister smile creeps onto my face as I hand them what is known as a 'Bee Pop'. For the uninitiated (of which I was until I found them that morning in a so-called health food shop), a Bee Pop is a small lollipop shaped confectionery, rather much like a Chuppa-Chup. A small tag is connected to the stem which simply reads.....'Bee Pop .....contains bee pollen and wheat glucose.....MAY CAUSE ALLERGIC REACTION.'

Now I guess it was only going to be a matter of time before I would unwittingly expose my true colours to my newfound friends. Having masterfully disguised my 'other side' behind a soiree of charming personalities since the day I met them, the arguably magnetic nature of being confronted by a splendidly irrelevant and bewitching novelty, which may have you lying on the ground, covered in welts and gasping for air....is well....just too ludicrously appealing. I had to have one! In fact, I had to have two! And I gave them away with the same intent as I had with the Champagne. However, this time there was a kind of Jekyll/Hyde sentiment of sorts surrounding it.....

"So, you will have to tell us when to drink the Champagne?"  
"Well.....the quicker, the better I suppose...."  
"What about our Bee Pops?"  
"Oh, straight away! Right this second! Mmmmmwwhahahahaha.....let me just get some popcorn.....and the camera.....and the adrenaline syringe....."

Let's discuss. Somehow my brain sounds like it is a little divorced from reality...don't you think? I do! These two people are the most amazing human beings and of whom I am abundantly fond. I wish for them every happiness.....forever. Paradoxically, I also wish for them to be clinging for dear life, in a state of allergic shock, on the side of a road with a Bee Pop protruding from their mouth. Could it be, do you think, in the same vein as watching stuntmen performing outrageously dangerous stunts and thinking to yourself.....

"I hope he makes it.....or do I? Actually, what's the point in watching it if there is absolutely no chance that this may.....just may.....end in tears?"

Hhhhhmmmm! Let's look at it from the other side.....from the side of the bees. I don't know a lot about bees but I am acutely aware of their input into our universe. Bees are the essence of nature. They are the fine mesh of ecological harmony. I remember watching a Sixty Minutes programme recently and without rehashing its content, it made continued references that without bees.....we are all f\*\*\*ed!! You see, a kingdom (or queenom, or whatever it's called.....I'm just making names up now) of bees is as divine and harmonious as the fabric of life itself. Bees have formed these mind-blowing colonies of themselves to keep nature from collapsing. Amazing stuff! This highly organised secret society of over-zealous buzzing revellers, was born and impressively commandeered and sequestered from the rest of the universe with strict instructions from the original Queen bee.....WORLD DOMINATION AT ALL COST!!

Why do you think bees sting us? Because they're trying to kill us, that's why! They're just not very good at it. Occasionally you

hear of someone passing on as a result of a bee sting, but that's not enough for the bees to be happy or successful in their plight (it still amuses me however, when humans act so adamantly surprised by nature's miraculous ability in defending itself). So the bees recently had a world forum.....ok.....and decided that the next phase of their world domination tour would take shape by the introduction of a highly sophisticated and venomously delightful lolly on a stick called....that's right....a Bee Pop!

It unnerves me a little to acknowledge the fact that I understand their way of thinking. They've done their market research, these guys. They realise that doctors worldwide are diagnosing more and more people with food allergies and it is now hitting epidemic proportions (up 1000% from the 80's), particularly in young people. This incessant need for overbearing parents to bubble-wrap their offspring so as to seclude them from any unwanted or unnecessary 'environmental nasties' is carving away a solid platform for the bees to infiltrate their Bee Pops into society.....but wait....there's more! They are smart enough to realise that if they hit the health food market but also brilliantly convey a subtle health warning on the tags, mindless kids and translucent weirdos such as myself, will be helplessly drawn to Bee Pops like ducks to water. They know that if they do not display this warning and there is an 'episode', Bee Pops would be taken straight off the shelves. You can almost sense the closeness the bees have of securing their wishes. I can envisage them coming together in the coming months to ferment (not ferment...not yet, anyway....and that's another made up word....just so you know). I can see them now, gradually building an empire of Starbucks-styled Bee Pop cafes, luring the young and insane to the horror of onlookers observing this abhorrent behaviour.....

"Welcome to the Bee Pop cafe...please select from the following menu...original Bee Pop - lashings of allergy-ridden bee pollen and wheat glucose! Bee Pop Deluxe - a blend of fatalistic natural allergens and honey, topped with granules of poison ivy!"

"Hi....yes, I might order.....uummmm.....one Bee Pop Deluxe, a double shot histamine coffee and .....uummmm.....what are those things?"

"They're our famous brownies....Bee-rownies....they can really mess you up...facial twitching, hives, wheezing....you name it."

"Yeah, great! Give me one of those, too."

"That'll be \$9.60."

"Oh, can you super-size me?"

"Sure! That'll be \$12.95."

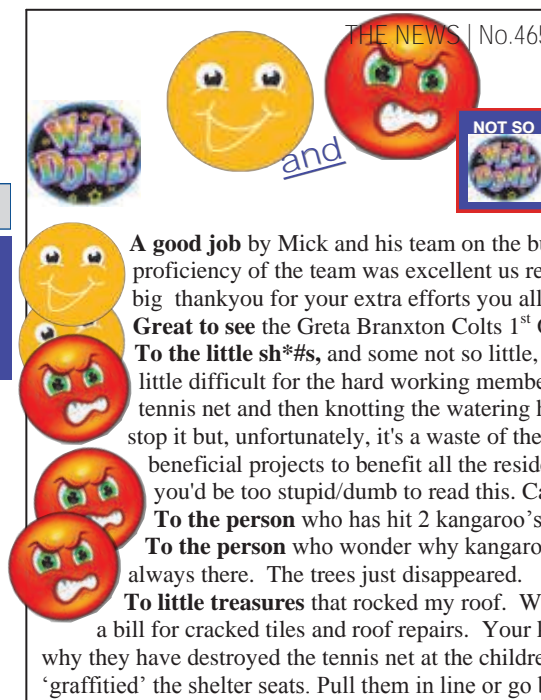
"Wicked!"

Although I have now become one of the bee's greatest fans, I am just a little saddened to note that I have still yet to witness the dire effects of an adverse reaction to a Bee Pop. I have spoken to my friends since and I am again slightly saddened to find that they are still walking around the world unscathed. I have eaten so many.....well, let's just say I went on a three day Bee Pop bender and not one adverse reaction. Not one! Not even a sneeze! I feel somewhat duped. Is it asking too much to walk into a health food shop, see someone eyeing off the Bee Pops, only to purchase one and open it and have an allergic reaction and die right there and then? Just one!

"Oh Wow, there's Julia Gillard....look...over there in that health food shop! She's eyeing off those new Bee Pop things....she looks kind of funny sucking on a lollipop.....CLUMP!!!! Oh s\*\*\*...that couldn't be good!"

It's not asking a lot in my book. It's not as if my concerningly irrational default switch in my brain would ever create something really twisted....like say...a carbon tax! I feel sorry for the bees though, imagine how they are feeling. I'm sure all things will turn around. In saying that...all this Bee Pop talk is too enticing.....so I'll just unwrap this here....there we go.....mmmmmmmmmm.....they are a rather delicate treat all the same....they taste like...ooohhh....is it hot in here suddenly or is it just me....I'm not feeling so good....what are those little pixie-looking things doing dancing on my skin.....I can't seem to breathe....quickly.....somebody call an ambul.....CLUMP!!!

Cheers, Andrew



**A good job** by Mick and his team on the bus upgrade at the end of Dalwood Road, the proficiency of the team was excellent us residents have witnessed. A job well done & a big thankyou for your extra efforts you all put in.

**Great to see** the Greta Branxton Colts 1<sup>st</sup> Grade alive and well in 2018.

**To the little sh\*#s**, and some not so little, in North Rothbury who are making life a little difficult for the hard working members of its Tidy Town. Trying to destroy the tennis net and then knotting the watering hoses is their latest escapade. CCTV will a stop it but, unfortunately, it's a waste of their funds; funds which could be used for more beneficial projects to benefit all the residents. No doubt you will be caught because you'd be too stupid/dumb to read this. Cannot wait for this to happen.

**To the person** who has hit 2 kangaroo's. You are going too fast 'Richard Cranium'. **To the person** who wonder why kangaroos' congregate where they do? They were always there. The trees just disappeared.

**To little treasures** that rocked my roof. We know who they are and you will be getting a bill for cracked tiles and roof repairs. Your kids are new to our area no doubt. That's why they have destroyed the tennis net at the children's park, scratched they names and 'graffitied' the shelter seats. Pull them in line or go back from whence you came.

## FREE Classified's 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

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**For Rent:** Branxton RSL Hall, air conditioned. Short or long term. P: 0429 438 460

**For Sale:** 40ft. shipping container in excellent condition, for sale \$3000. Inspect at John street. Rutherford. Ph. 49345913 [1491nofrackingway@gmail.com](mailto:1491nofrackingway@gmail.com)

**For Sale:** 1993 Ford Laser. No rego. Good for spare parts \$100 Phone Neil 0422 874 634

**For Sale:** Electric cement mixer. Had little use \$290 P: 0421 102 711

**For Sale:** Old collectable rabbit traps from \$10ea. P: 0421 102 711

**For Sale:** Free range eggs. \$4/doz Greta 0412 976 809

**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.

**Mobile Travel Agent:** 20 yrs experience. Will come to you for expert holiday planning. Obligation free appointments. P: 1300 365 68 (ext 595) M: 0404 831 867

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E: [sfenton@mtaltravel.com.au](mailto:sfenton@mtaltravel.com.au)

**Fitness Classes:** 'Core & Strength'. Get fit. Classes are 6am and 10am Tuesday, 6am and 8am Thursday, at Miller Park Branxton \$12/class. Text/Phone Louise P: 0439 383 478

**Riding Lessons:** agjstment, horses trained. [www.byalee.net](http://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 c170 st70 & atc70. Contact Drew 0435814841

**Work Wanted:** HAVE UTE WILL CARRY. Need something moved? Phone Phil on 0447 381989

**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:** Contract stock work with horses & dogs. Design & building wooden stock yards - rural fencing P Shaun: 0416 226 538

GO TO FOR FURTHER DETAILS .....

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

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

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

Dates for your diary >

Dates for your diary >

**OCT/NOV** B/G CWA Land Cookery/Product Promotion (Native Finger Lime) Day, Venue and Date TBA.

**Thu 26 Oct** - Cessnock Prostate Cancer Support Group met at Cessnock Leagues Club 3pm. Guest speaker Assoc. Professor Pauline Chiarelli. Topic- Pauline will outline how the muscles of the pelvic floor work, how best to exercise them, this in-turn would be of benefit to any person with bladder or bowel continence issues as well as erectile dysfunction in men. Meeting open to the public. Cost: FREE. Contact Co Convenors- Barry 0457073852 Rose 49904554.

**Fri 27 Oct** - Kurri Kurri 115 years birthday celebrations dinner at Kurri Bowling Club \$70/head. RSVP 30/9/17 P: Maria 4937 1417

**Wed 1 Nov** - AGM Branxton Greta Business Chamber 6:30pm @ Branxton Golf Club

**Fri 3 Nov** - Branxton Public School 1st Kinder Orientation visit

**Tues 7 Nov** - Lions Club of Branxton monthly meeting: 4pm at Branxton Golf Club

**Tue 7 Nov** - B/G CWA Staff Room, old St Brigid's School, Station St, Branxton

**Thu 9 Nov - Mon 13 Nov** - Western Sydney RV (Recreation Vehicles) Wanderers' (30 RV's) will be staying at Branxton RV Park next to Branxton Oval off John Rose Avenue.

**Fri 10 Nov** - Branxton Public School 2nd Kinder Orientation visit

**Mon 13 Nov** - Branxton/Greta CWA Land Cookery Day, McAuley Hall, Station St., Branxton, 10 for 10.30am, Guest Speaker, Lunch \$15. All welcome.

**Fri 17 Nov** - Branxton Public School 3rd Kinder Orientation visit

**Sun 19 Nov** ~ St Brigid's Markets 9am ~ 1pm

**Sat 25 Nov** ~ Nth Rothbury hosting 'Twilight Market' at Ayrfield Park. 6pm ~ 8pm.

**Tue 28 Nov** ~ Branxton Lions Club Christmas Seniors Dinner at RSL Hall Greta: 6pm start

**Thur 30 Nov** - Branxton Public School P&C's Carols by Torchlight

**Tues 5 Dec** - Lions Club of Branxton monthly meeting: 4pm at Branxton Golf Club

**Tues 5 Dec** - Branxton Lions Club Christmas Seniors Dinner at Branxton Community Hall: 6pm start

**Fri 8 Dec** - 2017 Christmas Spectacular at Branxton Golf Course

**Sun 10 Dec** - Branxton Public School P&C Maitland Bunnings BBO fundraiser

**Tue 12 Dec** - Branxton Public School Presentation Day

**Tues 12 Dec** - Branxton/Greta CWA Staff Room, old St Brigid's School, Station St, Branxton

**Thurs 14 Dec** - Branxton Public School Sports Presentation

**Sun 17 Dec** ~ St Brigid's Markets 9am ~ 1pm CANCELLED

**Helen Lowing, Proprietor - License-in-Charge**

**BRANXTON & VINE-YARDS REAL ESTATE**

12 Clift Street  
BRANXTON NSW 2335  
P: 4938 3300





There are still seats available for the 2017 P&C Sydney Shopping Trip Fundraiser. Please contact Sharna on 0439 891 985. Guaranteed to be an entertaining day with raffles on the bus and visits to Birkenhead Point and Direct Factory Outlets at Homebush for bargain retail shopping. Pick up and return to Branxton on Saturday 28th October. Book your seat on the bus to avoid disappointment. Tickets are \$45pp and can be paid via direct deposit.

Our first Kindergarten Orientation visit is in Week 4 (Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November). Parents are invited to an information session with Mrs Maier and special guests while the 2018 Kindergarteners get to know the school, teachers and their buddies.

**Dates for the Calendar**

- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – 1st Kinder Orientation visit
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November – 2nd Kinder Orientation visit
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – 3rd Kinder Orientation visit
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November – P&C's Carols by Torchlight
- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – P&C Maitland Bunnings BBQ fundraiser
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Presentation Day
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Sports Presentation



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

**Branxton Public School**

Welcome back to another busy term at Branxton Public School. Year 6 are counting down their remaining days at BPS and are looking forward to some special end of year activities.

The Senior and Junior Girls Netball teams travelled to Cessnock in Week 1 for a whole day of netball. Mrs Magann was very proud of the sportsmanship and determination shown by both teams. Well done to all! The Junior Girls team won three of their six games and the Senior Girls won one of their five. Mrs Magann would like to thank Mrs Melnik for managing the Senior team and two of our fabulous ex-students, Josie and Ayannah who umpired on the day. She would also like to thank all the parents who provided support and transport.



Stage 1 students travelled to Williamstown in Week 2 to visit the Murrook Cultural Centre. They had a great day learning about Indigenous Culture in a very hands-on way.

Kindergarten ventured to the Reptile Park in Week 2 and had a wonderful day exploring the park and all the animals there. It was a little damp on the day but our students had a great experience, with many parents and grandparents enjoying the day with us.

The end of Term 3 Barbeque was a great success. Thanks to Sharyn, Kylie and her family, Andrea, Phil and Jeremy for their hard work on the day. All profits made from the canteen and the Barbeque go back into the school. Look out for the new summer menu with a Bento Box meal deal, fried rice, home-made meat balls, and other new items.



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**Greta Public School**  
 With **Sarah-Jane Hazell**  
 Relieving Principal, Greta Public School

more days if we can't find anyone to help out. Can you spare a day each week, each fortnight, each term or each month? Do you have an aunty, uncle, friend, or neighbour who might like to help us? Volunteer hours can be counted towards the Work for the Dole scheme.

**If you can help, please contact Yasmin on 0402676825**

**URGENT – We need you!**

Our canteen can't stay open without new volunteers. Our canteen is in urgent need of volunteers. At the moment we are open four days a week, but we may need to close an extra one or even two







## Helping landholders understand new biosecurity requirements

Local Land Services has played a pivotal role in supporting more than 9,000 landholders through a range of biosecurity changes as they face the challenges of a difficult season.

More than 9,000 producers sought personal advice at workshops coordinated and supported by Local Land Services to help graziers understand and adapt to recent industry-led changes and the new biosecurity legislation requirements.

The workshops helped landholders develop on-farm biosecurity plans, which are a requirement under Meat and Livestock Australia's Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program.

On-farm biosecurity plans were due by 1 October and were also a requirement for maintaining a John's Beef Assurance Score.

The workshops gave Local Land Services, and supporting industry stakeholders, the opportunity to inform landholders of important aspects that make up the new requirements, as well as changes under the new biosecurity legislation.

While Animal Health Australia was responsible for rolling out the new LPA requirements, Local Land Services supported landholders through the transition by staging 161 workshops across the state, as well as taking thousands of phone calls and responding to emails.

Local Land Services Executive Director, David Witherdin was pleased Local Land Services staff played such an important role in assisting landholders through the changes.

"Our staff on the ground are there to support farmers and, while we weren't the lead agency in this process, it has shown we are often the first point of call," Mr Witherdin said.

"We are well positioned to provide independent advice for our ratepayers and we are finding that they turn to us first as their most trusted source of information.

"The upgrades to the LPA will ensure Australia maintains its global reputation as a world leader in red meat safety, integrity and traceability."

Producers who don't have a biosecurity plan in place should phone the Meat and Livestock Australia hotline on 1800 683 111 or visit the Meat and Livestock website for more information

## Transfer of soil conservation service

Minister for Primary Industries, Niall Blair has confirmed the Soil Conservation Service will transfer to Local Land Services on 1 October 2017.

The announcement follows a recommendation from a steering committee formed earlier this year to establish whether the transfer would be viable and in the best interests of Soil Conservation Service staff.

Mr Blair said the transfer would have no impact on the continuity of services for both organisations.

"The business case recommending the move confirmed a natural fit for the services delivered by the two agencies," Mr Blair said.

"I expect to see improved efficiencies and a shared focus on practical natural resource management projects that will benefit customers in regional NSW.

"This could also be a chance to co-locate offices in some regional centres and to create opportunities for better information exchange among customers and staff."

General Manager of the Soil Conservation Service, Tim Ferraro said the service dates back more than 70 years.

"The Soil Conservation Service has a strong reputation for providing reliable, practical solutions to natural resource management issues and is well known and respected for its work," Mr Ferraro said.

"The transfer fits well with the on-ground customer presence Local Land Services has across 11 regions.

"Both organisations work in slightly different ways but have a common set of customers which offers up a great opportunity to learn from each other."

Soil Conservation Service will continue to operate as a fully-commercial subsidiary entity and will maintain an independent profile but be aligned with, and report to, Local Land Services.

Current projects will continue and soil conservation services will still be offered at affordable rates in areas often under-served by private industry.

## Australian Thoroughbred

Brian Russell Bloodstock Media Service

## Hunter Valley bred bargains racing Awards stars

Two Hunter Valley produced sale bargains were among the eight horses who were anointed as champions of the 2016-17 Australian racing year at the National Awards presentations held in Brisbane on Sunday night October 8. Both females got by sires at the time standing at the Arrowfield Stud, Segenhoe Valley who have since been transferred to Victoria, they are She Will Reign (Manhattan Reign – Courgette, by Charge Forward (Red Ransom (USA) Champion 2YO and Yankee Rose (All American (Red Ransom) – Condesaar, by Exaar (GB) Champion 3YO Filly. Bred by G. Bachel and sold to

Darby Racing for \$20,000 through Ambergate Farm, Scone as agent for Middlebrook Station Thoroughbred and in the Gary Portelli Warwick Farm stables for twenty owners, She Will Reign challenges as one of the most brilliant young performers of recent years. Now earner of \$2,859,150, she has won five of six starts, the Golden Slipper (2.3 lengths), Silver Slipper (1.5 lengths), Inglis Nursery (4.0 lengths) and, on debut, a maiden at Kembla Grange (8.3 lengths) at two and only appearance so far a three, the Group1 Moir Stakes at Moonee Valley. Also at two, she recorded dazzling wins in trials at Warwick Farm (9.0 lengths) and Rosehill Gardens (5.3 lengths).

A half-brother by Encosta de Lago to Redoute's Choice now on \$19,250 at Blue Gum Farm, Euroa, Victoria, the sire

Manhattan Rain included in his eleven starts wins at Randwick in the Sires' Produce Stakes and Skyline Stakes, a Cox Plate second and thirds in the Golden Slipper, Caulfield Guineas and Champagne Stakes. Inbred 4x4 to Bletchingly and 5x5x4 to Biscay and a half-sister to a Shamus Award 2yo filly and a Time For War yearling colt, She Will Reign is the first foal from Courgette, a winner twice in 15 starts, including a 1100m event at Canterbury, and from Our Farm Girl, an unraced daughter of Sunshine Sally, a Reislings Slipper Trial winner and AJC Oaks second.

An even cheaper buy (\$10,000) at the Classic sale for the astute Darby Racing group, one headed by Scott Darby and at based at Narellan near Camden NSW has been Yankee Rose, not only champion 3yo filly, but the preceding year's top juvenile filly. Trained for twenty owners by David Vandyke (Sunshine Coast), she has returned over \$2million in prize money with four Sydney wins from ten starts, including appearances in the Sires' Produce Stakes and Spring Champion Stakes. She ran second to Capitalist in the Golden Slipper and third behind Winx and Hartnell in the Cox Plate. Bred by Wexford Farm, Doyles

Breeding and Racing and Wamslet Partnership and sold through Widden Stud, Yankee Rose was got by All American, a Emirates Stakes (Flemington) and Skyline Stakes winner, Blue Diamond and Bill Stutt Stakes (Moonee Valley) second standing in 2017 on \$13,200 at Chatswood Stud, Seymour, Vic, from Condesaar (two starts, non earner), a half-sister to Redoute's Dancer, a New Zealand Derby winner by Redoute's Choice, Also modestly priced, \$50,000 at Easter 2015, was Flying Artie, the Awards 2016-17 Champion 3YO Male. Bred by J. Shannon, Victoria and submitted through Goodwood Farm, Murrurundi, Hunter Valley, was retired to the stallion barns at Newgate Farm after earning \$1,281,000 from a seven start career.

Raced by an elite syndicate of highflyers, Newgate SF Syndicate, China Horse Racing, Blake Sandblom, Paul Whelan's Luskin Park Stud, Wilf Mula's Aston Bloodstock and Sir Owen Glenn's Go Bloodstock, Flying Artie won three stakes in Melbourne, the Coolmore (1200m), Blue Sapphire (1200m) and Blue Diamond Prelude (1100), finished second in the Blue Diamond and Maribyrnong Plate and crossed to Sydney for a Golden Slipper third.

Besides his national award, assessed Leading 3YO Male (Sprint) in the World Rankings, Flying Artie paternally is by dual

hemisphere used Artie Schiller (USA), a former top flight American racehorse by the same sire as Medaglia d'Oro available out here this year on \$33,000 at Aquis conducted Emirates Park at Murrurundi.

Inbred 3x3 to Better Boy (Ire), Flying Artie's dam Flying Ruby is a stakes performed daughter of Rubiton and Parkhill's Flyer, a half-sister by Brigand (USA) to Hall of Fame inducted Better Loosen Up.

Other 2017 Horse Awards went to WINX (bay mare, 6yo, Street Cry (Ire) – Vegas Showgirl (NZ) (Al Akbar) Australian Horse of the Year for the second time; SNITZEL (Arrowfield Stud, Scone) (2002, Redoute's Choice – Snippet's Lass, by Snippets), Champion Australian Sire; CHATAUQUA (grey gelding 7yo, Encosta de Lago – Court, by Anabaa (USA), Champion Sprnter; JAMEKA (bay mare, 5yo Myboycharlie (Ire) – Mine Game, by General Nedym), Champion Stayer; and WELLS (AUST) (bay gelding, 10yo, Galileo (Ire) – Embraceable You (NZ), by Rodrigo de Triano (GB), Champion Jumper.

Winx was bred by John Camileri's Fairway Thoroughbreds, but was foaled and marketed by Coolmore Hunter Valley, graduating from the Gold Coast sales at \$230,000; Snitzel, a \$260,000 Gold Coast yearling, was bred by F. Naude, Qld; Chatauqua was bred and

raised by Woodbury Pty Ltd (the Throsby family) near Maitland, Hunter Valley and submitted at the Easter sale by Neale Bruce's Berkley Park Stud, Scone (passed in \$300,000 - \$400,000); Jameka, like Black Caviar, is a product of Rick Jamieson's Gilgai Farm, Nagambie, Victoria and an Inglis Melbourne Yearling sale graduate at \$130,000; and 3x4x5 Northern Dancer dosed Wells is a Linley Investments, NSW who sold for \$130,000 at the Easter yearling sale.

Jameka was sired at Vinery Stud, Segenhoe Valley, Scone, by shuttled Danehill grandson Myboycharlie (Ire) (foaled 2005), but moved this year to John North's Bowness Stud, Young NSW. He stands the 2017 season on \$8,800.

Besides the horses, 2016-17 national awards were bestowed on Winx's trainer Chris Waller, Rosehill (the Bart Cummings Award for most successful trainer) and rider Hugh Bowman (Champion Group1 Jockey).



Winx

## Detailed saleyard report



## Saleyard report - cattle

### Singleton Report date 18/10/17

(Comparison Date 11/10/17) Yarding 800 Change 140

Consignments lifted, with producers deciding to secure the higher prices attained recently at the regional markets. The bulk were vealers, and around 50 cows were penned, there was also a better selection of heifers suitable for the exporters offered. The over 200kg vealer steers returning to the paddock lifted 20c, with breed contributing in places, as prices ranged from 296c to 378c/kg. The same weight heifer portion improved 4c, making from 290c to 322c/kg. Light weight yearling steers to the restocker orders sold to solid competition, with the breed offered suiting buyers, these sold from 308c to 332c/kg. The limited numbers of the heavier weights reduced competition for these categories. The lighter end of the yearling heifers to the restockers sold well, ranging from 256c to 302c/kg. Prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers were well supplied, with the high yielding pens reaching 341c/kg, the extra weight this week was the contributing factor with any price changes.

Grown heifers were generally younger, week-on-week, with the best reaching 258c/kg. Cows lifted 2c to 5c, with the better covered heavy weights ranging from 215c to 230c/kg. The best heavy weight bull topped at 235c/kg.

### Score report date 17/10/17

(Comparison Date 10/10/17) Yarding 1290 Change 504

The higher prices attained at regional markets during the previous week lifted numbers considerably and the quality was mixed. The bulk were younger cattle, with good percentages suitable for the butcher and processor orders. There were around 100 cows in the penning, the majority heavy weights. The usual buyers competed in a generally firm market. There was little change in the vealer market compared to the previous sale; with the over 200kg steers to the restockers ranging from 300c to 369c, while the heifer portion sold from 298c to 323c/kg. The yearling steers were on average heavier this week and this contributed to lower average prices, with the medium weights to feed making from 280c to 315c/kg. Yearling heifers eased by 10c, with the lighter end to the restockers ranging from 256c to 301c/kg. Prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers and processor orders were again on average heavier, week-on-week, as the best topped at 328c/kg. The limited supply of heavy weight grown steers to slaughter lifted by 10c, with age contributing in places, prices ranged from 240c to 276c/kg. The older heifers sold at similar prices compared to the last market, with the best topping at 260c/kg. Cows improved 6c to 8c, as the better covered heavy weights sold from 212c to 224c/kg. The best heavy weight bull reached 253c/kg.

### TRLX Tamworth report date 16/10/17

(Comparison Date 9/10/17) Yarding 1794 Change +794

The recent improvement in the market following the rain drew extra cattle onto the market with an increase of almost 800 head. The quality and condition of the offering was mostly good with yearlings well supplied. There was a limited supply of heavy steers and heifers and a fair offering of cows. The usual buyers were in attendance, while there was again limited participation from Southern processors. Despite the increased supply, demand was strong and competition increased. Market trends through the young cattle were generally firm to dearer. There was some quality and breed related price change. Light weight yearling steers remained firm.

Medium weights also remained firm to restockers and slightly dearer to feedlot orders. The heavy yearling steers to feed experienced a similar trend. Yearling heifers experienced dearer trends throughout, with light weights improving by as much as 17c/kg. Medium and heavy weights to feed were up to 10c/kg dearer with increased competition.

Heavy grown steers to process saw a dearer trend with an improvement in quality a factor. Grown heifers also sold to a dearer trend. There was little change in the cow market, slightly dearer if anything.



# Love Food on Campus: Hunter Councils a Winner at Environment Awards

The Hunter's *Love Food on Campus: University Food Waste Avoidance Project* was declared the overall winner of the Behaviour Change in Waste category at the Local Government NSW Excellence in the Environment Awards last week. The year-long project was designed and delivered by the Hunter Joint Organisation of Councils and the University of Newcastle involved research on the food waste habits of students living on campus and, from there, to develop skills, tools and resources to positively improve behaviours – and help save money at the same time. According to Michael Neville, Regional Waste Program Manager with the Hunter Joint Organisation of Councils, food waste is a big problem with some simple solutions. He said, "Food waste occurs when we buy too much, cook too much or don't store food correctly. According to the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), NSW households throw away \$2.5 billion of food each year. That's an average of \$1,000 per household." He added, "By asking students directly what information, skills, or tools they needed to help

minimise food waste and to spend less we've been able to produce a toolkit of resources that will enable them to eat well, save money and keep edible food from ending up in landfill." The kit includes a blank meal planner and shopping list to help students to plan meals and only buy what they need. The kit also includes a locally developed cookbook full of simple, nutritionally suitable recipes submitted by staff and students of the University. Quality assurance was a high priority explained Mr Neville. "Every recipe was tested and voted on prior to inclusion, so everyone can be sure of the instructions, quality and taste. Only the best were included." The cookbook also includes details on food preparation and storage, as well as information on



Photo: Chef Danial conducting a cooking demonstration

where to source fresh produce, and different cooking tips and skills to get the best from the local Hunter fare. A digital copy of the cookbook has been made available to all "live in" students through the University. Hunter residents can also download the kit directly

from the Hunter Joint Organisation of Councils website ([www.hccrems.com.au](http://www.hccrems.com.au)).

This project was supported by the Environmental Trust as part of the NSW EPA's *Waste Less, Recycle More initiative*, funded from the waste levy.



Photo: Michael Neville receives the award from Barry Buffer, CEO NSW Environment Protection Authority



**Connecting Carers NSW**

Would like to invite carers to attend

## Foster carer support group Information session

*Are you a foster carer, Kinship or Relative carer?  
Would you like to connect with other carers in your area?  
Would you like update information on the permanence support program?  
Information on different supports in your area?  
Do you need information on how to advocate for support for the children and young people you are caring for?*

**Date:** Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**Time:** 9:30am to 11am

**Venue:** Greta Public School,  
2a Wyndham Street, Greta NSW

*Morning tea will be provided.*

**RSVP Amalia Gangemi via email to:**  
[hunter@connectingcarersnsw.com.au](mailto:hunter@connectingcarersnsw.com.au) or 0448 490 892



Royal Federal Hotel



# Melbourne Cup

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TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER FROM 11AM

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BEST DRESSED PRIZES

2 COURSE LUNCH \$40PP  
LIVE MUSIC FROM 4PM

**ALL FUNDS RAISED ON THE DAY WILL GO  
TO SUPPORTING BUCKS FOR BEN**



# GIG GUIDE



## NOVEMBER

- Fri 3rd - OUTLAW AVENUE
- Sat 4th - V-DUBS
- Fri 10th - BIG NIGHT OUT
- Sat 11th - XYZ
- Fri 17th - THE SMARTS
- Sat 18th - SUN HILL DRIVE
- Fri 24th - LOKO
- Sat 25th - PROJECT X



# SPORTS RESULTS GOLF

## Branxton Veteran Golfers Results 12-10-17 Stableford

Div 1 Winner K Anderson 30 pts (c/b) R/u E Barrett 30 pts (c/b) 3<sup>rd</sup> E Munzenberger 30 pts  
 Div 2 Winner A Hackett 36 pts (c/b) (SOD) R/u Geoff Jones 36 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> S Dunker 31 pts  
 Ladies Winner F Oakes 27 pts (c/b) R/u M Hunt 27 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> J Harris 26pts  
 NTPs Ladies M Hunt  
 Gents G Wilton  
 Members draw - Not won  
 Well! Spring is really being kind to the happy group of golfers, gathering for a round of golf. A sprinkle of rain to freshen the air and then it was into the serious side of getting together, with a determined tussle in Division 1 and a close finish in Division 2, and it was good to see that one of our Octogenarian members was holding his own with some of the "Junior" players. Congratulations to Alan Hackett on winning his division and achieving the "Score of the day" and a well done to other winners and placegetters.

Results 19-10-17

## Vets Championship - Round 1

Div 1 Winner T Seamer 30 pts (c/b) R/u J Vassar 30 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> R Brooks 29 pts (4<sup>th</sup> M Ford 28 pts )  
 Div 2 Winner J Atton 35 pts R/u R Chalmers 33 pts (c/b) 3<sup>rd</sup> R Yandle 33pts (4<sup>th</sup> S Condran 32 pts)  
 Ladies Winner P Threlfo 34 pts R/u T Martin 30 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> F Oakes 28 pts (4<sup>th</sup> R McCarthy 27 pts)  
 NTPs Ladies J Scobie  
 Gents I Harris  
 Members draw - Won (Fran Oakes)  
 Round 1 of the Veterans Championship commenced with a group of 46 players gathering on a glorious spring day, with much excitement for the impending challenge. At the end of play, scores were such, that at the end of Round 2 (26 Oct 17) augers well for an exciting finish. Good luck to all players. Congratulations to Tony Seamer, John Atton and Paula Threlfo on winning their divisions and a well done to all other winners and placegetters. It was great to see Paula back on the course after a short absence.

LN Bootes, Hon Sec

## Branxton Lady Golfers

The results ..... for Wednesday 11th November are: Winner on 36 points Kerrie O'Connell  
 Runner up on 35 points Jan Scobie  
 NTP Robyn Hoffman.  
 Birdie to Trish McMillan on the 14th.  
 Over the past three weeks we have been running our Championships. Division 1 Melita Watson, runner up Caren Caldwell  
 Division 2 Jan Scobie, runner up (by a play off) Robyn Hoffman  
 Division 3 Ruth McCarthy, runner up Chris Trancred  
 Congratulations ladies!  
 Results ..... for Wednesday 18th October Ladies Stableford round.  
 Winner on 31 points Ruth McCarthy  
 Runner up by count back Trish McMillan.  
 NTP Trish McMillan 40cm - winning the nest of balls standing at 9, and then birdied the hole.  
 AGM will now be held on Wednesday 25th of October, and the Presentation Day will now be Wednesday 22nd November.

## Hunter Valley Golf Club

**Sunday 8th October** ~ Shawn Parish has won the Weekly Challenge with a solid 40 point return from Emanuel Kauter with 39 points and Nick Payne of Port

Macquarie GC 3rd with 38 points. Ball comp unavailable at this time.

**Tuesday 10th October** ~ Graeme Flynn led the way in the Tuesday Stableford with an excellent 42 points from Paul Smith with 40 on countback to Ray Newton in 3rd. Ball winners were: Angello Wood 39, Nathan Sweeney 37, Mark Barrow 35, Luke McArthur 35, Wayne Cowan 34, Rick Turnchini 33 and Dale Macklinshaw 33. Nearest-the-Pins went to Ray Newton (3rd) Paul Smith (4th) Angello Wood (8th & 10th) and Graeme Flynn (17th)

**Wednesday 11th October** ~ Ladies Golf will resume Wednesday 18th October with Stableford in conjunction with the Knockout Event

**Thursday 12th October** ~ A 3-way countback was used to separate the placings in the Vets Stableford with Wayne Barber getting the nod from Ken Harris and Michael Watson after all returned 39 point cards. No ball comp or NTP's available at this time. Next week's event will be 4BBB Par  
**Saturday 14th October** ~ Sub Par rounds featured in all grades in Saturday's Medley Stableford with inform Graeme Flynn taking A Grade with 40 points from Viney Creek GC visitor Ryan Shannon with 37, B Grade to Ray Newton with 38 points on countback to Michael Booth and C Grade to Dylan Walsh also on countback from David Gould after both had 42 point returns. Ball winners were: Peter Atwell 41, Kevin Smith 38, Julie Van Den Berg 37, Paul Davies 37, Steve Abel 37, Geoff Sweetman 37, Tony Butler 36, Wayne Cowan 35, Mitchell Capararo 35, Ray Hodson 35, John Brown 35, Garry Marsden 35, Matt Killick 34 and Ken Smith 33 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Matt Killick (3rd) Shannon Atwell (4th) Julie Van Den Berg (8th) Adrian Kent (10th) and Steve Piggot (17th).  
 Next Saturday's event will be Stroke in conjunction with the Playoff for the Mug of Mugs and The Girls Goblet.

**Sunday 15th October** Jason Cowburn has taking out this week's Weekly Challenge with 38 points from Andrew Fensom who returned a 37 point card.

**Tuesday 17th October** Tuesday's fine, warm weather has produced some hot scoring from the field with Rick Turnchini leading the way with 43 points from Ray Hodson 41 and Barry Stokeheld from the Toukley GC with 40 points. Ball winners were: Dale Williams v38, Nick Arts 38, Wayne cowan 37, Gary Arnold 37, Scott Goldman v37, Robert Wiseman v36, David Peel 36, David Kennedy 35, Tim Dunn 35 and Gary Thomas 35 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Lachlan Peacock (3rd) David Peel (4th & 8th) and Reik Turnchini (17th)

**Wednesday 18th October** Jill Slatter has won the Ladies Stableford event after a 3 way countback from Kerry Choromanski and Melita Watson after all had 36 point returns. No further details have been released. Next week the Ladies will play Stableford in conjunction with the Knockout.

**Thursday 19th October** Wayne Barber and Peter Munro claimed the Vets 4BBB Par event with +10 from Michael Watson and David Irwin +9 on countback to Michael Watson and Jerry Irwin in 3rd with +9 c/b. Ball winners were: Greg Ireland & Doug Wand +9, Ken Harris & John Carmody +9, Ken Wright & Bruce Chambers +8 and Paul Ireland & Garry Marsden +6 on countback. Nearest-the-Pins went to Keith Dunlop (3rd), Greg Amlah (8yh) Dave Fury (10th) and Michael Watson (17th) Next week the Vets will play a Medley Stableford.

**Saturday 21st October** Close finishes were the order of the day in the annual Mug of Mugs and Girls Goblet playoff on Saturday with Ben Bradley claiming this years Mug by a stroke to Dan McLeod, the Goblet has been won in similar fashion with Julie Van Den Berg a one stroke winner over Sue Peel. The daily competition has seen great scores across the grades with Ray Hodson taking A Grade with 68 net from Matt Killick 69, B Grade to Pacific Dunes GC visitor Dan Upward with a 66 net from Lachlan Peacock 68 and C Grade to John Barbour with 66 net from Merewether visitor Nathaniel Hodges on 68 net. Ball comp nor NTP's available at this time. Next weeks event will be a Medley Stableford.

## Branxton Golf Club

Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Saturday Comp – 2BBB multiplier + Singles Stableford

Sponsor: KCE Golf Day

Field: 59

Winner: Crooks, Richard & Parr John 80  
 R/UP: Fitzgerald, Patrick & Barrett, Andrew 75

Third: Bull, Graham & Elphick, Doug 73  
 Fourth: Burgess, John & Partridge, John 73 c/b

Fifth: Zawirski, Ted & Jackson, Lee 72  
 Sixth: Miller, Robert & Barnes, Ian 72 c/b

Singles:

Winner Foster, Tom 44

R/UP Burgess, John 43

Third Crooks, Richard 41

NTP 'A' Grade ~ Wilton, Gary

Zawirski, Chris Moylan, Mark & Peter

Wilton

NTP 'B' Grade ~ Moylan, Ted Crooks,

Richard & Barnes, Ian

NTP 'C' Grade ~ Parr, John Turnbull,

Richard Hughes, Col & Barrett, A

Long Drive: 6th ~ McCaw, Troy Barnes,

Ian & Barrett, A

44 Balls: Distributed down to score: All players who didn't win a voucher prize Saturday's KCE Golf Day proved to be an enjoyable event with many thanks to KCE, through local member Barney Walsh, sponsoring this yearly event once again.

Richard Crooks and John Parr had a great day out combining together to win with a fantastic score of 80 points, in an event where stableford scores are multiplied each hole so any zero scores means a zero score for the team—a tough ask for all teams. They finished well clear of Patrick Fitzgerald and Andrew Barrett with 75 pts, with Doug Elphick and Graham Bull finishing third with their 73 pts. The two Johns—Burgess and Partridge finished 4<sup>th</sup> with 73 pts whilst Ted Zawirski must be accumulating many dollars in his pro shop account as he once again finished in the prizes, finishing 5<sup>th</sup> with Lee Jackson. Ian Barnes and Robert "Shirl" Miller finished in the prizes with their 72 pts which included a longest drive for Ian in B Grade. All other players won a ball with many thanks for our sponsor. Tom Foster had a day to remember, winning the individual event with an amazing 44 pts which is a par round from his 8 handicap—a fantastic effort! John Burgess's 43 pts, which is usually good enough to win all comps, won him second prize with Richard Crooks rounding off a great day to finish third with his 41 pts. All players are reminded that the Club Championships begin next weekend, so be sure to find a tee slot as soon as possible.



with Mark Bercini

## Cricket Report – Week 1

Cessnock District Cricket commenced on Saturday 7th October, with Third grade Blue and Fourth grade recording victories, meanwhile First, Second and Third grade White lost their respective matches. First grade were thumped by Wine Country by 129 runs at Allandale. Skipper Brent Watson sent the opposition in to bat, with Watson relying on the new "Dukes" four piece ball to so some early damage. This was not the case though, with the home side piling on 3-231 from their forty overs. Watson (1-43 off 10), Nathan Holz (1-57 off 9) and Cliff Newling (1-40 off 6) were the wicket takers for Greta/Branxton. The Blues were bundled out inside 23 overs for just 102, with Barry Richards (35), Newling (26) and Martin Shearer (17) the only batsmen to show any sort of resistance. Second grade were soundly beaten by 7 wickets at the hands of Bellbird at Miller 1. Batting first Greta/Branxton managed 128, with veteran skipper Peter MacKenzie leading the way with 40.

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## You are what you eat

"If you aren't hungry enough to eat an apple, you aren't really hungry – you're just bored"

The person who gets the most out of any fitness program is the person who puts the most into it. I don't just mean showing up to a fitness class twice a week, or walking the dog every day. I mean the person who is prepared to look at each element of her life and make the necessary changes.

This person gets out of her comfort zone. She pushes a little bit harder each week in her fitness class. She keeps track of how many reps she can do of each exercise and the next week she tries to do more. Or she walks the dog a little further each day, or walks a little faster. The successful person makes plans to exercise with friends so she doesn't change her mind at the last minute, and she looks objectively at her eating habits.

I often see people frustrated that they are not achieving their weight loss or fitness goals even after putting in what feels like a heap of effort.

Fitness Australia recommends healthy adults complete a minimum of 150 minutes (that's two and a half hours) of moderate intensity cardiovascular exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous cardiovascular exercise per week (to maintain a healthy weight).

This means if you are attending two one hour fitness classes a week, where approximately 35 minutes is moderate to vigorous exercise (plus warm up and cool down), you still need to do up to 70 minutes extra of moderate intensity exercise each week to maintain your weight, or longer if you want to lose weight.

If you really want to lose weight you also need to balance your physical activity with a nutritious eating plan. Eating a balanced diet and maintaining an exercise program is the best way to stay healthy and reduce the risk of illness and disease.

Clients who want to lose weight, or who are frustrated with their progress towards their fitness goals, often tell me they "eat healthy" or they say they can't change what they eat because of tummy problems or because they have particular food preferences. The first thing I ask them to do is to keep a food diary. You can do this the old fashioned way using pen and paper, or you can use an App such as "My Fitness Pal". To make it easy I like to start out not worrying about calories or kilojoules (which is why using pen and paper is good). I just like to get into the habit of writing down what I eat and when.

For example, I know a busy Mum (let's call her Clare) who comes to class twice a week. On the other days she meets with a girlfriend to go for a walk, and on the weekend she takes her kids to the beach for a swim. Clare's food diary looks a bit like this:

**Time woke up:** 6am

**Time went to bed:** 11pm

**Physical activity:** Walked to office morning and night (5 minutes each way)

Time	Food and Drink Consumed
6:30am	Cup of tea
9:30am	2 slices of white bread toast with two tablespoons of peanut butter, take away large Cappuccino with Full Cream milk and two sugars
12pm	Sandwich with tomato and sliced cheese, 575ml Coke
1pm	Cup of tea (milk and sugar) with two biscuits
7:00pm	Chicken schnitzel with chips and veges, Glass of wine
9pm	Glass of wine with 5 late crackers and camembert

make the following recommendations:

Replace the white bread with whole meal or multigrain bread. Reduce the amount of peanut butter (one tablespoon is one serve).

I would advise Clare to reduce the amount of fat. Replace full fat milk (eg in your coffee and tea) with low fat milk – this will give her calcium and other vitamins and minerals, with less fat.

There is a lot of sugar in Clare's diet. I would advise her to reduce the amount of sugar and increase the amount of complex carbohydrates (eg found in fruit). Replace the sugar in your tea with honey, and try having coffee with no sugar, or (if you must) with an artificial sweetener. Replace the soft drink at lunch time with a no-calorie (diet) soft drink or, better still, water.

Increase the amount of fruit (on this day there was no fruit eaten) – fruit will add fibre and complex carbohydrates to your diet, making Clare feel full for longer and giving her vital nutrients (vitamins and minerals). Replace the 2 biscuits at afternoon tea time with a piece of fruit, the breakfast could also include a piece of fruit or some raisin toast.

Increase the amount of fruit (on this day there was no fruit eaten) – fruit will add fibre and complex carbohydrates to your diet, making Clare feel full for longer and giving her vital nutrients (vitamins and minerals). Replace the 2 biscuits at afternoon tea time with a piece of fruit, the breakfast could also include a piece of fruit or some raisin toast.

The amount of protein is good – Breakfast lunch and dinner all contain protein. This helps build lean muscle mass. I would replace the chicken schnitzel with grilled chicken breast, as schnitzel contains more fat.

For healthy men and women, drinking no more than two standard drinks on any day reduces the lifetime risk of harm from alcohol-related disease or injury (NHMRC Guidelines 2017). Most bottled wine sold in Australia, one standard drink is based on 100ml, whereas most glasses of wine sold in Australia are 150ml. When drinking at home it would not be unusual for a glass of wine to be closer to 180-200ml. So Clare is potentially consuming 4 standard drinks in one evening. Clare should try and restrict her alcohol intake to 1 glass of wine per day, and have at least 2 days per week with no alcohol.

Clare should watch her portion sizes – for example, a chicken schnitzel contains high amounts of fat, and can often be a "double breast". One small chicken breast with a steamed potato and vegetables would be a more appropriate dinner if Clare's goal is to lose weight.

There is a large gap (about 6 hours) between Clare's lunch and her afternoon snack (12pm and 1pm), and her dinner (7pm). The long gap means Clare is probably really hungry when it is dinner time and therefore more likely to overeat.

If Clare must have a snack after dinner, the Jatz crackers could be replaced with rice crackers (lower in fat but watch the salt content) and the camembert cheese should be no more than 30g (a single serve, or a small wedge).

There are a lot of simple tweaks you can make to your daily diet to make it healthier and to help you achieve your weight loss goals. Writing down what you eat every day for a week can help you look at your diet objectively and help you identify your eating habits as well.

## What else is happening at Louise Cairns Fit for Life?

We have wrapped up the Bring on Sunshine and Spring 6 Week Challenge. The Next challenge will begin in Branxton on 31<sup>st</sup> October and will be a 6 week challenge taking you right through to Christmas (can you believe it?!). Everyone who takes part will get a weekly food diary analysis, a personal goal setting session, and exercises to do between classes along with weekly challenges and membership of my VIP Facebook Group. Remember if you need help setting and achieving your goals, you can also download a copy of my free guidebook from my Website.

## About Louise

Louise Cairns is a Personal Trainer and Life Coach based in Branxton. Louise runs regular fitness classes at Lochinvar and Branxton, as well as PT sessions in Branxton and Kurri Kurri. Louise also helps busy people set and achieve their own goals at work and home, and is available for workplace training. Find Louise on Facebook or check out her website at [www.louisecairns.com.au](http://www.louisecairns.com.au)





# BRANXTON GRETA VINEYARDS

# The New **SPORT**

## Greyhound Racing...



### Local Report

with Sam

\$68.00. The following week, partner, Robbie Neville put the steaks on the barbie with **BLACK BUCKET BOY** winning at the same track, paying \$24.00.

#### OUT ON A WINNING NOTE

Bradley Sabotic is on the lookout

career last week after winning at Gunnedah in the fastest time ever run over 583m. She has racked up twelve wins (three at Wentworth Park) and twenty placings. A strong keen chaser on the track, relaxed in her kennel and lightly raced could make her a good brood bitch. Bred from his handy country bitch **KEIRA'S CHARM** who has her second litter to **BARCIA BALE** hitting the tracks now. Her first winner came in the shape of **MIDNIGHT ON FIRE** who scored at Richmond on Saturday night.

**JAMES STITCHES UP A DOUBLE DOUBLE STITCHED**, trained by

James Porter, landed a double at Gosford last week, winning over 400m in 22.94 after winning his maiden the previous week.

#### MAD MANALISHI KEEPS PRODUCING

**MAD MANALISHI** produced another couple of winners last week. The standout being the Garry Kedwell trained **BRAEMAN** who led all the way at Maitland to win by a couple of lengths in 22.8.

#### GRETA G.B.O.T.A. MEETING

At our last meeting, Sharee Robertson was elected secretary and Sarah Kedwell vice president, after the

retirement of long serving members Helen and Thomas Pullman. Our next meeting will be held at Greta Workers Club on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 p.m.

SEE YOU AT THE TRACK - SAM



© Keira's Charm feeding her second litter to Australia's number one sire Barcia Bale

#### DRINKS AROUND

The matriarch of the White Street Kennels, Tracey Miller shouted the bar, when son Luke won at Maitland with **NEVERLAND PIRATE**, paying

for a stud dog after retiring **MIDNIGHT MYSTIC**, Greta's 2015 greyhound of the year. She ended her



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