



The News

http://thebranxtonnews.com.au/

FREE

...for your enjoyment

Serving the local community since 1997

T: 49381773
F: 49383301

FREE "Your paper of choice"

CIRCULATION
4,400

TUESDAY
28 JUNE 2016

Half of current Cessnock Councillors not standing at coming local government elections

Ward 'C' Councillor Suellen Wrightson resigns



Ward 'C' Councillor Suellen Wrightson who has resigned prior to the coming 2016 Local Government elections. Cllr Wrightson is an endorsed Palmer United Party candidate for a federal senate seat in NSW.

Local Ward C Councillor Suellen Wrightson has announced her resignation from Cessnock Council to be able to contest a senate position in the coming federal election. Cllr Wrightson is an endorsed Palmer United Party candidate for a federal senate seat in NSW. Legally she cannot stay on council & seek election in the federal sphere. "In order to abide by Section 44 of our Constitution I reluctantly had to resign last week prior to my NSW Senate

nomination being lodged," said Suellen. Councillor Wrightson was elected as a Liberal Party Councillor in 2012 and this is her first & only term on Council. In her letter of resignation she mentioned the late Councillor Jeff Maybury. "He had a commitment and love for his community that was unwavering. It was Jeff who taught me to believe in the people and that actions speak louder than words – something all politicians should learn," Suellen said.

The same time that Councillor Wrightson tendered her resignation single-term Ward B Liberal Councillor Bryce Gibson announced he would not be standing for election in the coming poll. With that announcement it brought the total to six councillors who are not contesting in the coming election.

Current councillors are:-
Councillors Ward A
Cr Allan Stapleford
Cr Cordelia Troy
Cr James Hawkins

Councillors Ward B
Cr Morgan Campbell
Cr Ian Olsen
Cr Bryce Gibson

Councillors Ward C
Cr Catherine Parsons
Cr Suellen Wrightson (resigned)

Councillors Ward D
Cr Graham Smith
Cr James Ryan
Cr Rod Doherty

Councillors who have elected not to seek re-election are:-

Cr Cordelia Troy (Liberal turned Independent),
Cr Morgan Campbell (Labor)
Cr Bryce Gibson, (Liberal)
Cr Catherine Parsons, (Labor)
Cr Suellen Wrightson (resigned) (Liberal)
And Cr Graham Smith (Labor).
In Ward 'C' we will see three new councillors with the loss of long term ALP Councillor Jeff Maybury,

long term ALP Councillor Cath Parsons not seeking re-election & the resignation of Councillor Wrightson. The local government election will be held on Saturday 10 September. The likely lead-up will be:-
01 August 2016 ~ Close of rolls (6:00pm)

01 August 2016 ~ Nominations open
04 August 2016 ~ Pre nominations briefing (6:00pm)
10 August 2016 ~ Close of nominations (12:00 noon)
10 September 2016 ~ Election Day (8:00am to 6:00pm)

Federal Election this Saturday 2nd July 2016

Voting is Compulsory
Polling Booths open from
8am ~ 6pm

The Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918, under section 245(1), states: "It shall be the duty of every elector to vote at each election".

Under the Electoral Act, the actual duty of the elector is to attend a polling place, have their name marked off the certified list, receive a ballot paper and take it to an individual voting booth, mark it, fold the ballot paper and place it in the ballot box.

It is not the case, as some people have claimed, that it is only compulsory to attend the polling place and have your name marked off, and this has been upheld by a number of legal decisions.

Warmer weather on the way

Winter certainly has come to the Hunter with light snow still falling at Barrington Tops yesterday. It is expected to warm up for the



coming week with temperatures to creep back up to 18 degrees Celsius locally. With the cloud cover over the region yesterday it meant the mercury only reached 13 degrees locally. With the school holidays just about on us it could be a good day out to see the snow at Barrington Tops!

"PORK LOIN" CHOPS
\$14.99KG

"BBQ" THICK SNAGS
\$6.99KG

TENDER "RUMP" STEAK
\$19.99KG

SPECIALS AVAILABLE FROM
29.6.16 to 5.7.16



10 NEW
QUALITY MEAT
PACKS

ORDER ONLINE
TODAY

www.branxtonbeefierky.com.au

SAVE UPTO 50%
NOW

"BUTCHERS" CORNED SILVERSIDE
\$12.99KG

QUALITY "SCOTCH FILLET"
\$29.99KG



47 MAITLAND RD
BRANXTON

49 381435

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate
for all your Real Estate needs.....

4938 3300



FOR SALE

all details page 16



Cessnock City Council Statutory Notices

Phone during working hours 4993 4100
 After Hours Emergency 4940 7816

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

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Council advises of the following Meeting which is open to the public:-

DATE	TIME	COMMITTEE MEETING	VENUE
6 July 2016	6.30 pm	Council Meeting	Council Chambers

The agenda for this meeting will be available for viewing at Council's Administration Building and Cessnock and Kurri Kurri Libraries from 3.30 pm on the Friday preceding the meeting. Also, Council has the Agenda for Council Meetings on the Internet available from 3.30 pm on the Friday, preceding the meeting date at <http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au>.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION CESSNOCK AQUATIC CENTRE FEASIBILITY & DESIGN REPORT

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

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

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

Written submissions should be addressed to the General Manager and will be accepted up until 4:00 pm Friday 19 August 2016 via email recreation@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or post:

JULY HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AT YOUR LIBRARY

Bookings essential, tickets on sale now. Numbers strictly limited

Make a Rube Goldberg Machine For ages 8+	Monday 4 July	Kurri Kurri Library 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm
	Monday 11 July	Cessnock Library 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm FREE
Knit a Snake For ages 5-12	Tuesday 5 July	Cessnock Library 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm
	Wednesday 6 July	Kurri Kurri Library 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm Cost: \$3.00
Dreamtime Story time For ages 2-8	Tuesday 5 July	Cessnock Library 10.00 am – 11.00 am
	Wednesday 6 July	Kurri Kurri Library 10.00 am – 11.00 am FREE
Aboriginal Art Workshop For ages 5-12	Thursday 7 July	Kurri Kurri Library 10.00 am – 11.00 am
		Cessnock Library 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm Cost: \$5.00
Traditional Aboriginal Basket Weaving Workshop For ages 10+	Friday 8 July	Kurri Kurri Library 10.00 am – 12.00 pm
		Cessnock Library 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm Cost - \$5.00
Snugglepot & Cuddlepie Story time For ages 2-8	Tuesday 12 July	Cessnock Library 10am – 11 am
	Wednesday 13 July	Kurri Kurri Library 10.00 am – 11.00 am FREE
Tell Me a Story Model Building Competition For ages 5-12	Tuesday 12 July	Cessnock Library 12.00 pm – 1.00 pm
	Wednesday 13 July	Kurri Kurri Library 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm 1.00pm - 2.00 pm 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm FREE
Dead Stuffed Things for Kids! For ages 5+	Friday 15 July	Kurri Kurri Library 10.00 am – 11.00 am
		Cessnock Library 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm Cost - \$3.00

Cessnock Library 49 934399
 PO BOX 152
 CESSNOCK 2325

Kurri Kurri Library 49 371638
 STEPHEN GLEN
 GENERAL MANAGER

Live on stage!

[Snugglepot & Cuddlepie](#)
 14 July 2016

by May Gibbs

Relive the magic & great hits of three country superstars in a truly unique and inspiring tribute performance.

[Big Guns of Country](#)
 23 July 2016

Glen Campbell, Linda Ronstadt & John Denver

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

[John Paul Young and the Allstar Band](#)
 13 August 2016

The Vanda & Young Songbook

Council' adopts the 2016-17 Operational Plan & Budget

Cessnock City Councillors adopted the 2016-17 Operational Plan & Budget which sets out the delivery of Council's long term vision for the community.

The Cessnock City Council is committed to the improvement of roads and infrastructure with the budget including a capital works program worth over \$18.3 million.

Funding has been earmarked for construction, maintenance of roads, timber bridges, footpaths and cycle ways.

Over the next financial year work will be undertaken on a number of significant infrastructure projects including Frame Drive Bridge and the Hermitage Road project.

The adoption of the budget will enable Council to continue supporting a range of community, cultural, environmental and recreational services essential to the community.

This includes funding for vital facilities such as local swimming pools, libraries, sporting facilities, community halls, Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre, Cessnock Community Performing Arts Centre, youth centre and outreach service.

Council's Corporate and Community Services Director Robert Maginnity said this budget is all about balance.

"It is focused on cost containment whilst maintaining existing levels of service", Mr Maginnity said. "Council and residents both have a lot they want to achieve for our local government area however it must be recognised Council are responsible for delivering a range of services and must do so with limited resources".

Council will continue to work hard to seek external funding for activities outside of the budget program including for improvements to infrastructure.

The 2016-17 Operational Plan & Budget will come into action on July 1 2016.



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

NAIDOC Week 2016



These include the 'Songlines Print Project' Exhibition which features work produced by local Aboriginal artists and the 'Tell me your Story' Exhibition, both at the Cessnock Regional Art Gallery.

Sixteen activities have been planned for the 2016 program including workshops, art exhibitions, library

activities, flag raising ceremonies, the NAIDOC Awards night and the annual Black Creek Aboriginal Corporation Street Parade through Cessnock as part of the family Fun Day. It offers something for the whole community.

The major events of the week are the two family

fun days, run by Barkuma Neighbourhood Centre in Kurri Kurri and Black Creek Aboriginal Corporation in Cessnock. These are great family events which include a traditional dancers, food stalls, rides and Australian Hip Hop Legends 'The Last Kinection' hosted by the Drop the Beat Program. Come along for a great day out!

The Fun Days are an opportunity for Indigenous and non-Indigenous residents to join together and celebrate the vibrant culture of Indigenous Australia.

The whole community is encouraged to get involved in NAIDOC Week and become part of promoting understanding, acceptance and harmony.

The full program and details can be found in the 'What's On' calendar at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

NAIDOC Week 2016 is underway in the Cessnock Local Government Area as the community celebrates Indigenous culture through an exciting calendar of events.

Officially NAIDOC Week runs from July 3-10 however a variety of activities have been organised throughout June.

620 new beds allocated to Cessnock prison



The NSW Government is introducing performance targets and benchmarked budgets to all public and private prisons over the next two years through its Better Prisons reform program.

As part of the plan, more than 1100 additional beds

will be delivered across the system by the end of 2017. 620 of the new beds will be located at Cessnock Correctional Centre. The government announced last year that it would spend \$10 million to build 80 pre-fabricated modular cells, but the 620 at

Cessnock would represent a significant increase in their use in the state's prison system. The modular cells are made at Cessnock and Muswellbrook jails by inmates, and can accommodate two medium-security prisoners.

A spokesman for Corrective Services said the department would work out whether inmates were capable of producing the number of cells needed in the new allocation.

Prisons Minister David Elliott also revealed that as well 620 beds at Cessnock there will be 160 extra beds at South Coast Correctional, 142 at Long Bay, 75 at Berrima, 60 at Wollongong, 40 at Dillwynia and 27 at Kempsey. A 2015 report on the state's

prison system found half of all jails are operating over capacity, but Steve McMahon from the Public Service Association said the modular cells would not help ease congestion in the system because the majority of demand is for remand and maximum security cells.

When this major expansion is complete it will make Cessnock Prison the largest in NSW. This is in addition to the new prison at Grafton and expanding Parklea, delivering at least 1,650 extra beds in the long term. Better Prisons will also implement standardised targets for indicators such as out-of-cell time and inmate participation in programs and employment.

Annual Luncheon for Seniors by John Saxon Bryant. OAM

East Maitland Bowling Club and Billabong's Family Restaurant combined to provide, reportedly, over 2,000 free lunches for Members aged 80 and over, with prizes for a number of those present on each occasion.

Surely, considering the most affordable cost of \$15 per head, the total exceeds around \$30,000!

For a Club and Restaurant to continue with this unparalleled, splendid gesture, for about the past 20 years, is absolutely unbelievable!

The former Manager, Jimmy Po, has stepped back from full time work and has appointed Chef Ly, (his son-in-law) as Manager of Billabongs.

Several new dishes have been added to the already excellent Menu, including Sushi and an expanded Seafood Bar, as well as the writer's favourite curry dish, Rogan Josh.

All at "The News" congratulate both the Club and Billabong's, who deserve thanks from both Members and the Community for their Supreme Generosity.

See you at Billabongs!



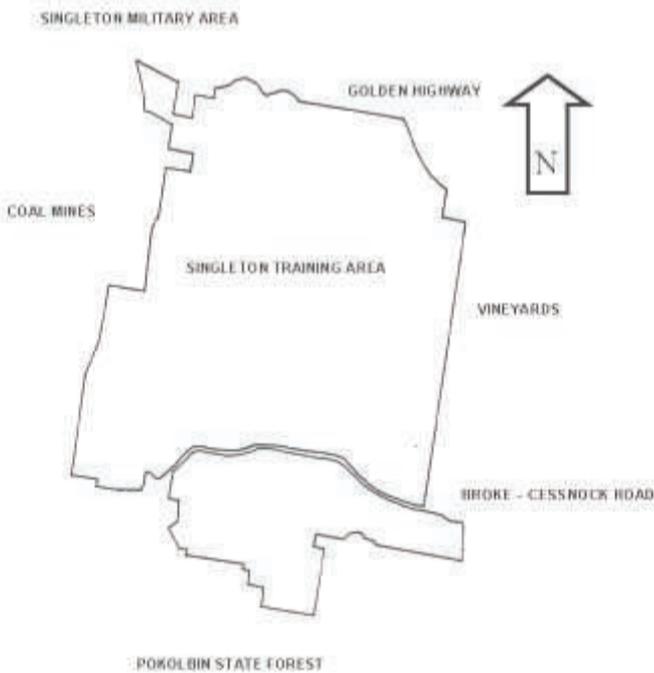
Photo: John Bryant and Manager Ly at Billabongs Free Lunch recently. Photos by Shirley Bryant.



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
Range Road
Singleton Training Area
Singleton NSW 2331.

Do you work with horses?

Michael Johnsen, Member for Upper Hunter has urged Hunter residents and those involved with the horse industry to have their say and contribute to the Code of Practice for managing the risks when new and inexperienced persons interact with horses.

Safe Work NSW has produced a draft Code of Practice to guide and educate people who deal with horses, especially new and inexperienced people in order to stay safe and enjoy your work.

Mr. Johnsen noted the statistics regarding injuries in the horse industry.

"One worker is hospitalised each day in Australia due to a horse related injury," Mr Johnsen said.

"For every worker, another ten non-workers are injured, often at workplaces like riding schools, equestrian centres and trail riding businesses. Common causes of injury include falls and being hit by a horse," Mr

Johnsen continued.

"There are many businesses that involve work activities where workers and others interact with horses. For example, a worker on a horse stud might ride and tend to a horse daily. At equestrian centres both workers and others may regularly ride and handle horses.

"Operators of 'farm stay' accommodation may offer riding experiences to their customers. A worker might also be a horse transporter or a volunteer on a farm with horses. Many of the risks and control measures associated with new and inexperienced persons are similar for a variety of businesses or undertakings where interaction with horses occurs."

"Upper Hunter is internationally known as the Horse Capital of Australia and we want to continue to build our reputation and keep accidents to an absolute minimum", Mr Johnsen concluded.

Submit your feedback by midnight on Thursday 30 June 2016 via their online feedback form: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J2RCN6K>, or

via email horsecode@safework.nsw.gov.au. Alternatively, the community can write to:

SafeWork NSW
Attention: Team Coordinator Legislation Coordination

Locked Bay 2906
Lisarow NSW 225

FORDY'S Mechanical & Electrical



AutoRepairs



Lic No: MVRL52182

- Vehicle servicing all makes including 4WD
- Vehicle air conditioning repairs & servicing
- Rego inspections including gas (LPG) vehicles
- Blue slips
- Diesel specialist
- Mowers, brush cutters & all small motors

Our workshop is based at Stanhope. We offer a **FREE** pick-up & delivery service. All work is guaranteed & carried out by a licensed tradesman with 45 years Trade Experience

P: 0439 329 654

What's Happening & other matters

with **Mike Lowing**

Having already voted pre-poll I was interested in what Councillor Rod Doherty had to say about the new Senate laws. I did some investigating & found a recent article published by News Corp Australia written by Malcolm Farr (a distinguished political journo of some 40 years standing) & he iterated what Rod had said. The article reads:-

'GET ready for some prolonged polling booth seminars next Saturday as officials try to explain to voters what they need to do and what they can do under new Senate laws. There is a difference, and the first test of voter comprehension came when early voting opened for the double-dissolution poll. And campaign organisers for all parties fear a flood of informal ballots as the electorate tries to implement the new Senate

voting provisions which were designed to give individuals greater control over their preferences and limit vote harvesting by micro parties. A problem is most people vote above the line and they are being told by

the Australian Electoral Commission to do one thing when they can just as easily do another. The AEC says on its web site Senate voters "need to either number at least six boxes above the line for the parties or groups of your choice, or number at least 12 boxes below the line for individual candidates of your choice". That's what the AEC would like you to do, but not what you "need" to do. You could number just one box above the line and your ballot would be valid. "A 'one only' above the line vote is captured under the savings provisions in the legislation but voters are encouraged to follow the voting rules as instructed on the ballot papers to avoid the potential for their vote to be informal," a spokeswoman for the AEC told news.com.au. These "savings provisions" essentially forgive an informal vote if the clear intention of the voter can

be read and the mistake was unintentional. The AEC is obliged to implement the legislation and if there is a problem it is the fault of the law. However, any uncertainty could be magnified by the fact the double-dissolution election demands voters pick 12 senators in a state and not the six of a regular half-Senate election. A raft of candidates in micro parties are contesting Senate slots this election, keen to take advantage of the fact they would need only half the usual quota of votes to be successful. That and the new laws could ensure it will take longer for a final count in the upper house, where the fate of the new government's legislation will be decided. There are some 800,000 eligible voters who have not enrolled, 280,000 aged 24 to 39. You can vote early — in person or by post — if you:

- Will be travelling outside the electorate where you are enrolled to vote on July 2;
- Are more than 8km from a polling place;
- Are unable to leave your workplace to vote;
- Are seriously ill, infirm or due to give birth shortly (or caring for someone who is);
- Are a patient in hospital and can't vote at the hospital;
- Have religious beliefs that prevent you from attending a polling place;



- Are in prison serving a sentence of less than three years or otherwise detained;
- Are a silent elector who has had identification removed from the electoral roll because you "believe having your address on the electoral roll would put you or your family's safety at risk";
- Have a reasonable fear for your safety.'

On pre-polling ~ until quite recently, one had to give a valid reason for pre-poll voting before election day

itself. This has been abandoned and now anyone can vote pre-poll before the election. And as many pundits suggest & it has been proved, what is to stop those people voting again on election day at any or all the polling stations in that electorate? No-one will know who the vote comes from and their vote will be counted.

At the 2010 Federal Election, Shadow Minister Eric Abetz estimated that of those who pre-poll voted

20,000 – 30,000 voted multiple times. In early August, 2013, the government removed the limitations around pre-polling and as a consequence around 560,000 votes were cast at polling booths and 1,329,988 votes were cast via post. The AEC has admitted that 18,770

multiple votes occurred in the 7 September 2013 election, and of these 8,000 cases were passed on to the Police, yet nobody was prosecuted. So, the old adage still can apply 'vote early & vote often'!

Cheers, Mike



NBNco Fixed Wifi

The roll out of the NBNco Fixed Wifi has begun in the Branxton area. The NBNco website can help you determine your coverage and eligibility. It's important to remember that your property will be classified by the NBNco as to what service you are offered. The new Fixed Wifi towers will cover many homes in the area. Due to geography or distance some premises will be classified as Satellite. To be able to access the Fixed Wifi you must have line of sight of a tower and be no more than 14 kilometres from a tower. The satellite service has been provided to allow remote Australians internet access. It's very limited in the data you can access, and its expensive. Satellite allows you a maximum of

50GB of data for the month in peak use, Offpeak is from 1am to 7am. Many of the people accessing the satellite have no mobile phone coverage, so they have no option to even use a Data pack from a provider to access the internet. Its important that only those absolutely needing the satellite access it. The fixed wifi internet access is far superior to the Satellite service. It would be worth your effort to try and get access to the Fixed wifi system. The data plans and costs are closer to what is available on the FTTN system. If anyone in our area has been told they are classified for Satellite, don't give up and just accept that from the NBNco. There is a wonderful group called BIRRAUS (Better Internet for Rural, Regional and Remote Australia). Their website www.birraus.com offers some very helpful advice on non-standard

installations. They also have a facebook page. The information available on the website is excellent and there are inspiring examples of how people have successfully accessed the Fixed Wifi System when told they could not access it. In some cases having a signal test done proved they could get Fixed Wifi with a standard installation, so the NBNco can get it wrong. In other cases it came down to lateral thinking and a bit of extra work. There are a number of stories, including photos, which show the lengths they have gone to get access to the Fixed Wifi. A non-standard installation may not be expensive, sometimes just a few hundred dollars will buy the items you need to get Fixed Wifi. Another useful site is www.finder.com.au/nbn-tracker/map. This site has information about the towers, the number of homes they are servicing, and dates as to when they

will be active (not always accurate). If you do contact BIRRAUS through the website or facebook, please remember that the administrators run this group for free. They are working to get better internet for themselves and the community. If you are able to get a fixed wifi connection after being classified Satellite, please let them know as what you do may help someone else. Jo-Anne Adam, Branxton NSW 2335 Truth has become open to one's interpretation. The News' anonymous correspondent (14 May '16) wrote "we are all terribly modern and there is no longer any reflection of power in words". That writer is correct and truth has become open to one's interpretation. For example, today's discussion is not about discrimination, 'same-sex marriage' or 'gay rights'. It is about - what is truth? Gay people are our

citizens, and indeed are our brothers and sisters. Most certainly they are entitled to live together and share in a variety of benefits. So their union deserves to own a specific title which is appropriate to their 'type' of union. The word unify means "make one", so perhaps gays could be a 'united Couple' with a Certificate of Unification issued at their "ceremony". Prosecutions for discrimination would not apply at all, as is happening in UK, Canada USA and Ireland where the truth of marriage has been tampered with (redefined). So, what is marriage? A wedding ceremony is a family in waiting, from the two who have become one flesh, and from whom shall come the child who is indeed flesh of their flesh. Since time began, generation after generation, marriage has been nature's prescription for renewing humankind. Child

bearing is a basic and natural function of marriage, as eyesight is a natural requirement and function of driving. While procreation can, and does occur outside of marriage, nevertheless two homosexuals cannot provide a womb nor two lesbians produce sperm. A child born is with the input of a third party - a surrogate or sperm donor. So simple logic declares a gay union different to marriage, and there cannot be "equality" because equal means identical. Truth tells 1+1=2; period. But 1+2 does not equal 2. The truth of mathematics, and what is true in all things, is unchangeable. The union of a male and a female constitutes the truth of the state of marriage, and it is this

complementarily that avoids the extinction of any and all species. A married couple bear children who in turn have children of their own, then there comes great grandchildren. With the progress of time, the elder couple pass on and leave the younger generations to be the future. And so it has been century after century. It is true; "Change what we can, accept what we cannot change, and cultivate the wisdom of knowing the difference". Peter Young, Greta NSW



The **Branxton Greta Vineyards News** is a member of the **Country Press Association of New South Wales Inc.**

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

12 Clift Street, Branxton

.... for all your real estate needs

P: 4938 3300

F: 4938 3301

M: 0412 566 041

Email: bandvrealstate@hotmail.net.au

Web: www.domain.com.au

Emergency Phone Numbers

Dial 000

FOR FIRE, POLICE AND AMBULANCE ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT FOR 24-HOUR SERVICE It's a free call. Just tell the operator what you need-fire, police or ambulance. Then wait to be connected. When reporting an emergency by calling 000, the telephone number & address you are calling from may be given to the emergency service so they can respond quickly. If you don't want the telephone number or address details passed on, you must call the emergency service direct. ALL CALLS TO 000 ARE VOICE RECORDED

For non-life threatening calls.....

Police Assistance Line (PAL)..... 131 444
Police
 Branxton.... 4938 1244
 Lochinvar... 4930 7209
Ambulance... 131 233
NSW Fire Brigade
 Branxton.... 4938 3396

Rural Fire Brigades
 Belford..... 6574 7149
 Broke..... 6579 1491
 Greta..... 4015 0000

Bishops Bdg 4015 0000
 Nth R'bury...4015 0000
 Rothbury....4015 0000
 Pokolbin....4015 0000
 Rothbury....4991 1733
 Scotts
 Flat..... 6574 5186
 Central (Cessnock)...4015 0000
Electricity
 Energy
 Australia..... 131 388
Hospitals

Maitland... 4939 2000
 Cessnock... 4991 0555
 Singleton... 6572 2799
SES132 500



Letters to the editor can be sent to: **The Editor, The BGV News, 12 Clift Street, Branxton NSW 2335**

or **fax to**

4938 3301

or emailed to

thenews@hotmail.net.au



Joel Fitzgibbon MP

Delivering for Hunter

A Shorten Labor Government has a clear plan for economic growth, and a clear plan to pay for it. Under our plan for budget repair, we will reduce the deficit every year and return the budget to balance the same year as the Coalition – and we'll do it while delivering better schools, protecting Medicare and investing in job-creating infrastructure.

JOEL FITZGIBBON & LABOR WILL

- ✓ Protect Medicare and properly fund our hospitals.
- ✓ Fund Gonski reforms in our schools.
- ✓ Guarantee TAFE funding and stop \$100,000 university degrees.
- ✓ Protect Australian jobs, penalty rates and working conditions.
- ✓ Deliver the real National Broadband Network.

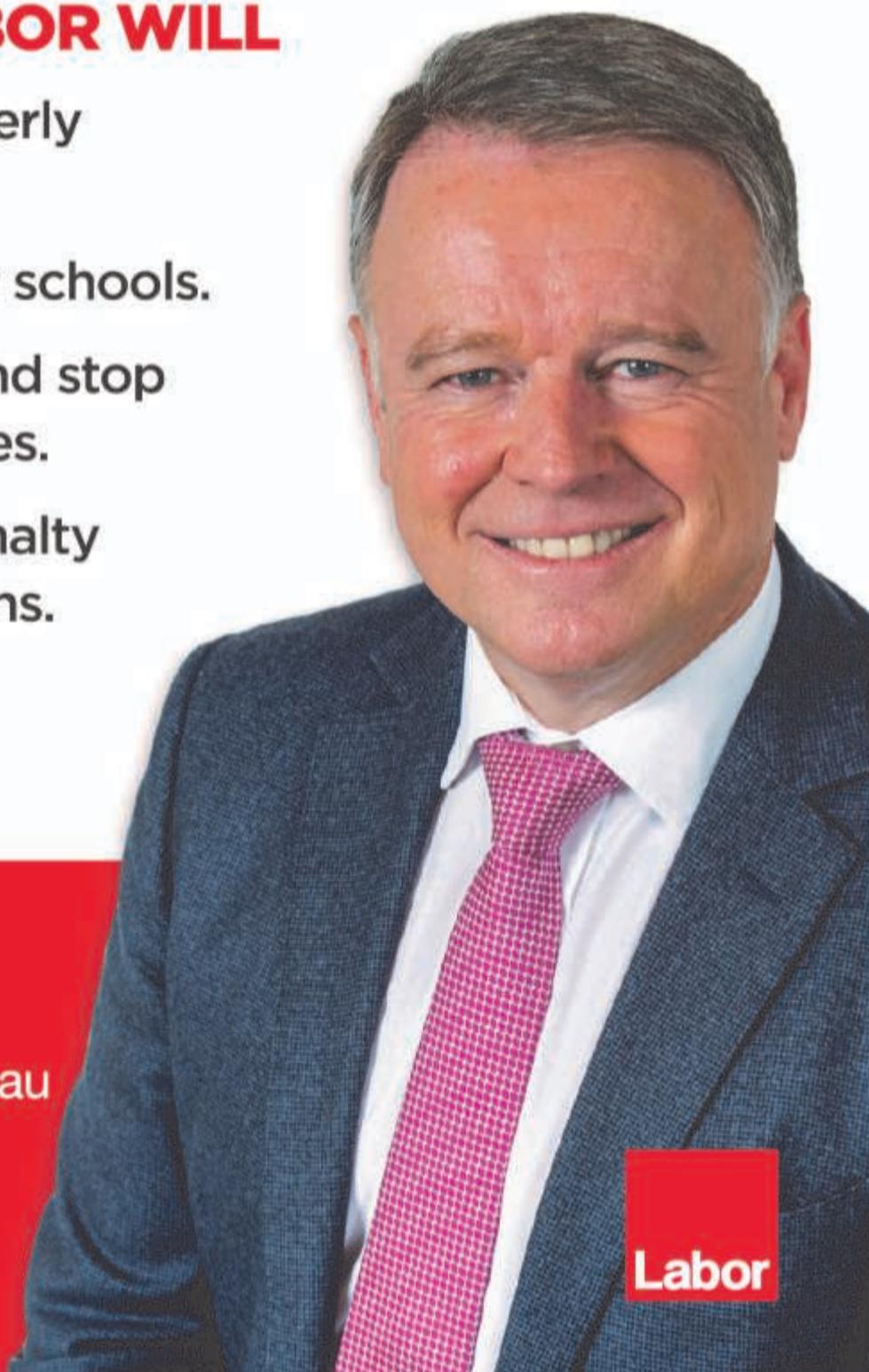
GET IN TOUCH WITH JOEL

Phone: 4991 1022

Email: joel.fitzgibbon.mp@aph.gov.au

www.joelfitzgibbon.com

Authorised by AJ Hartcher, 25 Tomalpin Street,
Kearsley NSW 2325.



Labor

ARIAT
Ariat®
 @
Baileys Of Greta

WINTER STOCK Now in Store



The Country Clothing Specialist in Your Area!!!!



ALL WINTER STOCK NOW IN-STORE

ARIAT HERITAGE COLLECTION

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

Normal Trading Hours: 9am to 5pm Mon to Fri ~ 9am to 2pm Saturday

108 New England Hwy, Greta 2334 P: 4938 7899

Plenty for young scientists to do these holidays!



Cessnock City Library and Kurri Kurri Library have an exciting range of activities planned for the upcoming school holidays. A highlight will be a workshop presented by Emma Best from Newcastle Museum. Touch fur, feathers and scales! The hands-on

educational workshop involves interaction with real stuffed Australian native animals. Participants will be able to download a face-swapping app and take a selfie with their favourite Australian animal. Local young inventors will

have the opportunity to turn their ideas into reality and build a Rube Goldberg machine. Students will explore scientific principles through building whacky contraptions out of everyday objects to perform a simple task. Those who

have seen Wallace and Gromit will have a good understanding of what an exciting and fun day it will be. NAIDOC week celebrations are planned for both libraries, including Aboriginal Art and Basket Weaving workshops, as well as sharing Dreamtime stories. The great annual Cessnock City Library Lego brick building competition is on again and this year is about recreating your favourite story or song in bricks. You've got to be in it to win it! Pick up an entry form, put your thinking cap on and join in the fun these holidays! Contact Cessnock City Library on 4993 4399 or Kurri Kurri Library on 4937 1638 for more information or to secure a booking.

Candidate Briefing Sessions prior LG Elections 2016

Singleton Council will be holding two Candidate Briefing Sessions on Monday 11 July 2016 at the Singleton Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre, North Room, Townhead Park, Singleton. The first session will start

from 9am to 12pm, with a second session in the evening from 5pm to 8pm. The purpose of the sessions is to enable those interested in becoming a Councillor gain a better understanding of the role and responsibilities that are required as an

elected member of Council. Singleton Council's Director of Corporate and Community Services Group Anthony Egan says Councillors can play a key role in making decisions that influence both the short-term concerns and

long-term strategic direction of their local community. "It is a big commitment, and prospective Councillors need to know what will be expected of them," he says. "The sessions are designed to provide prospective Councillors with the information they need to make a considered

decision." The sessions include:
 □ The benefits and importance of Local Government
 □ Understanding the role of Council and the role of the Councillor
 □ A typical Council structure
 □ Challenges of the role

and how to meet them
 □ The importance of diverse representation on Council
 □ Importance of speaking out on key issues and how to do this confidently
 □ Meeting procedures and rules of debate
 □ Support available including information and networks
 □ Introduction to Local Government jargon and what it means
 □ Putting it together: making the commitment
 The next Local Government Election will be carried out on Saturday 10 September 2016 and will be facilitated by the NSW Electoral Commission. More information on the 2016 Elections can be found on Council's elections page at singleton.nsw.gov.au or by contacting Council on 02 6578 7290. The elections page includes information and links for candidates, voters and people wishing to claim inclusion on the non-residential roll.

Singleton Council adopts 2016/17 Operation Plan

The Singleton Council has adopted the Draft 2016/17 Operational Plan. As part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework Council is required to prepare an Operational Plan each year to outline the specific activities that will be carried out by Council during the following 12 months. This includes Council's draft budget. The plan links to Council's four-year Delivery Program and the 10-year Singleton Community Strategic Plan. The 2016/17 budget indicates an operating deficit of \$2.720 million, including non-cash items such as depreciation (\$12.152 million). Council anticipates total expenditure in 2016/17 to be \$79.76 million which includes \$32.19 million in capital expenditure. Singleton Council Director of Corporate and Community Services Group Anthony Egan says big ticket items in the budget include \$8.3 million for the Hermitage Rd upgrade and cycleway project, \$2.2 million for design and construction of a new Brookers Bridge, \$5.59 million for the redevelopment of the Singleton Regional Livestock Market and \$1.33 million for construction of Riverside Park on John St. "Council is proposing \$32.19 million in capital works in 2016/17 of which more than \$21 million comes from external grants and contributions," he says. "This is an amazing effort and reduces the impact on ratepayers having to fund these works. "We've reduced our operating deficit from \$4.04 million in 2015/16 to \$2.720 million and with the success of our application for a special rate variation this will continue to improve over the next four years. "Waste disposal fees for Council's Waste Management Facility have been reduced by \$10 per tonne compared to the original proposed fees, due to a lower than anticipated state waste levy. Full details on the Operational Plan 2016/17 is available to view on Council's website www.singleton.nsw.gov.au

Lawrence's AG & Machinery Repairs

30 Years "Hands On" Experience

Call Clayton....

- AG & Truck Air Conditioning
- All types of Ag Repairs
- Mobile Service .. All Work Guaranteed Competitive Rates..

Mob: 0414 234 841 Ph: 4930 7078 A/H

Maitland Ready Mixed Concrete Pty Ltd

ONE STOP SHOP

MINT OR MAXI LOADS Monday to Saturday

TIMBA-LIKE CONCRETE SLEEPERS
 Suppliers of Sand, Soil, Gravel, Reinforcing Mesh, Blocks & Pavers

327 New England H'way, Rutherford

4932 8222

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPS PEOPLE

If you require assistance please call

0414 757 826

Members say



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

The 2016 Weston Art Show was a great success once again showing how many talented artists call our community home. It was fantastic to see a healthy number of entries in a range of categories giving artists the opportunity to be recognised for their speciality or demonstrate their versatility in multiple sections. The quality of art did not disappoint and as expected was tough competition. Congratulations to Susan Ryman who took out the Major Prize with 'Devolution' and to the Regional Art Prize winner Michele Heibel with one of her works, 'The Overwhelming Minority,' both sections proudly sponsored by Cessnock City Council. Thank you to the Weston Art Show Committee who does a great job at putting on this event. The art community is lucky to have such dedicated people to ensure events such as the Weston Art show continue and thrive.

It is now change over time for service clubs across our local government area. This is a chance to acknowledge the wonderful contribution service clubs make to our community. They provide our community with great support and are always the first to put their hand up when we need assistance. A special mention to the Wine Country Rotary Club which has just 5 dedicated members. Despite their small membership they managed to distribute \$12,000 into our community over the last year. This is a tremendous effort reflecting their hard work and passion for community. I recommend people looking to contribute and assist their community to consider a service club membership.

Council accepted a tender from Waeger Constructions at last Council meeting with work expected to commence shortly on Frame Drive Bridge, Abermain. Relocation of public utilities is expected to start in August with work to start soon after. I very much look forward to seeing the commencement of the construction phase. Once again I thank the community for their patience and understanding on this matter.

NAIDOC Week 2016 officially starts this Saturday but celebrations across our community are already underway. Events this week include the Kurri Kurri Cook Off which is all about tasting traditional recipes. Art After Hours is also being held tomorrow night where a guest speaker will discuss works from the 'Songlines Print Project' at the Cessnock Regional Art Gallery. Remember the Black Creek Aboriginal Corporation Flag Raising Ceremony and Street Parade is on July 9 starting at 10am which is shaping up to be a great event. For more information go to <http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/events-ceremonies/naidoc>.

'Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm'

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Cheers, Bob



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

A BRIEF HISTORY OF MEDICARE AND WHY WE SHOULD ALL CARE

I was at a function just last week and the speaker was trying to offer up an incredibly brief summary of Medicare – in light of its uncertain future. The story goes that back in the 1940's, during and post WWII, the Federal Labor Government through Curtin and Chifley invested in a national approach to research and eradication the terrible disease Tuberculosis. Motivated by the success in the fight against Tuberculosis, Chifley floated the idea of a national health care scheme where everybody, every man, woman and child, would be able to access top quality health care, no matter how much, or importantly, how little, money they had. The Menzies era of Liberal Government followed for the next 20+ years, and no progress was made on a national health care scheme. Then came a bloke called Whitlam who would offer up a public health scheme that would fulfil Chifley's idea. Whitlam called it Medibank.

Incredibly, it passed our Federal Lower House, held by a Labor majority, in '72, '73 and '75, but was blocked and refused each time by the Liberal-National controlled Senate. Finally, in late 1975, with a Joint Sitting of both Houses, the federal scheme of Medibank was passed and activated. Sadly, with a change of Government, the new Liberal Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser, would dismantle Medibank far more quickly than it had been built. A national health care scheme would then be left in the never never until the next Labor Government was voted in to office in 1983. The new Prime Minister Hawke would re-establish a federal health scheme, that would ensure access for all, and he called it Medicare. Over a 35+ year period, there was a clear pattern that Labor believed that the scheme should exist and that the Liberal Party believed that it should not. If we now fast forward another 33 years, the time since Hawke was elected, there are some tell-tale signs that Medicare might be being gradually pulled apart and stripped down, right before our eyes. In my lifetime, no-one could ever have believed that this would be thought of, never mind actually happen. To cite some examples, the Federal Liberal Government has massively decreased funding in State Hospitals, they have sought to introduce the GP co-payment, and they have moved to block bulk billing of blood tests. You might have thought that after all these decades, with Medicare having helped so many people; there might finally be a consensus to keep it the way it is. Sadly it seems the struggle goes on. Labor keeps trying to build Medicare up, and the Liberals keep trying to knock it down.

HUNTER WATER AND IPART

Hunter Water's Operating Licence is coming to the end of its term and that provides an opportunity for members of the public to provide feedback on the quality and suitability of their services.

IPART is doing an end of term review of Hunter Water and they want our input into whether 'health, environmental, customer and business objectives are met'. The first stage of this consultation is a call for written submissions and it's open until July 29. So if you have an opinion about the services Hunter Water provides and the way they provide them, now is the time to air it. You can find out more about this process at www.ipart.nsw.gov.au

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

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

Cheers Clayton



JOEL FITZGIBBON prior Member for Hunter & Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Rural Affairs, Fisheries and Forestry & ALP Candidate for Hunter in coming Federal Election

After an eight-week-long campaign readers will no doubt be relieved the federal election is almost over. Yours truly will be too, it's been an exhausting ride. But we should always be careful to remember how lucky we are to live in such a vibrant democracy where we have a say in who leads our country. But it's not just the right to vote. It's also the impact regular elections have on the behaviour of the Country's leadership. Dictators can behave pretty much as they please but elected leaders must by definition, follow the will of the electorate.

There is another point worth making about our own special democracy. So far at least, we can change government without changing the fundamentals of our economy and our society. Sure, the major parties have their differences but there is also much on which we agree. In other words, we are currently locked in battle over priorities - investing in education and health v business tax cuts for example. But we are not debating the worth of the US Alliance or the appropriate level of defence spending. Nor are either of the major parties advocating for a major diminution of our civil rights or some dramatic change in our rule of law. So when you visit the polling booth on what will probably be a very cold Saturday, think about the billions around the world who would love to be doing the same but are denied the opportunity.

Cheers, Joel

Members say..... is proudly sponsored by...
The Branxton Greta Vineyards News
4938 1773



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP Member for Upper Hunter

NSW BUDGET – UPPER HUNTER

Last week in Parliament was a busy time with the NSW State Budget being handed delivered by the NSW Coalition Government. I am glad to say that Upper Hunter was a winner in this strong, fiscally responsible budget, which provides record investments across the state for essential services including health, education, Family and Community Services and continues spending to employ more frontline workers – more teachers, more nurses and more police. The 2016-17 Budget has reported a surplus of \$3.4 billion in 2015-16. The Budget forecasts an even higher surplus of \$3.7 billion in 2016-17 and surpluses across the forward estimates. The State's triple-A credit rating has been reaffirmed by both ratings agencies.

I am pleased to announce projects that are funded in the 2016-2017 Budget in Upper Hunter include:

- \$10 million continue planning for New England Highway bypass of Scone (State and Federal funded)
- \$5.7 million for upgrade of bridge over Glennies Creek on Middle Falbrook Road
- \$4 million to continue planning the New England Highway upgrade between Belford and the Golden Highway, including grade separation of the Golden Highway intersection.
- \$3.1 million to progress planning for the New England Highway Muswellbrook Bypass.
- Total of \$7.7 million in health including \$5.4 million for Singleton Hospital Upgrade and \$2.3 million for Muswellbrook Hospital Redevelopment Stage 2
- \$3.5 million water monitoring framework.

In delivering the 2016-2017 NSW Budget, we are continuing to build the infrastructure our State desperately needs while boosting frontline services in rural and regional areas such as our Upper Hunter Electorate. **RESOURCES FOR REGIONS** This week I have had the honour of officially opening the \$2.9 million Ryan Avenue project funded by the NSW Government's Resources for Regions program. The Resources for Regions program supports infrastructure projects that improve the social amenity, economic growth and productivity in mining related communities across regional NSW, and the Ryan Avenue project is a wonderful example of the benefits of that program, and one in which the people of Singleton can be proud. I am also delighted by the news that last week, the NSW Government included Stage 2 of the Town Centre upgrade in those projects shortlisted by the NSW Minister for Regional Development.

JP HONOURED FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

It was a pleasure last week at Parliament House to host Justices of the Peace from the Upper Hunter Electorate in celebrating their volunteer work for the community.

It was an honour to have Graham Holstein from Gloucester to be recognised as one of the state's longest serving Justices of the Peace, with a commendation for 50 years of service. Graham was presented with his commendation by the Attorney General, the Hon Gabrielle Upton MP at a celebratory event at New South Wales Parliament House.

It is a rare achievement to provide an important voluntary service to the community for such a long period of time and Graham thoroughly deserves to be honoured.

Justices of the Peace serve as an independent witness to documents people use for official or legal purposes. Their duties include witnessing the signing of statutory declarations or affidavits and certifying copies of original documents. JPs are essential to many aspects of community life, including the efficient functioning of our legal system and these unsung heroes deserve recognition and our heartfelt thanks for their service.

People can search for a Justice of the Peace in their area by visiting the online public register of JPs at: www.jp.nsw.gov.au.

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

Cheers, Michael

Members say is proudly sponsored by

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

12 Clift Street, Branxton NSW 2335

... for all your real estate needs..

- * Property Management
- * Real Estate property Sales
- * Clearing Sales & Property Auctions

FREE PROPERTY APPRAISALS

Ph: 4938 3300

Fax: 4938 3301

W: www.domain.com.au

Spectrom
Services Pty Ltd

Electrical, General Maintenance & Handyman Services

Mark 0455 786 206 or Jake 0434 372 483
spectromservices@bigpond.com
ABN 75 108 627 814

DISCOVER YOUR HERITAGE

With help from
Neridah Kentwell
Experienced Researcher

Reasonable rates and pensioner discount
Phone: 0427 657 150
Email: neridah.kentwell@gmail.com
Website: www.heritagewords.com

P&L STANDEN BRANXTON
BOBCAT & TIPPER HIRE

Gravel, Soils, Sands, Trenchers, Auger & Forks

Ph: 4938 3202 or mob: 0429 983 202

BOBCAT & TIPPER

AARDVARK
Bobcat & Tipper service

NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL
Earthmoving, landscaping, driveways, building sites cleared, rubbish removed
Ted Oldfield (Prop)
4938 7597 or Mob: 0419 612 319

Local Trades & Services Directory

Local Trades & Services Directory

VISUAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS P/L

..local people working locally

* Rain water Tanks
* Metrol@ Building Products
* Capral Aluminium
* Ace Gutters
* We also install roofing & guttering
* Patio's Cladding etc., etc.

Phone 4938 3282

..we supply all RAIN WATER TANKS

Harley Drew
Carpenter & Joiner
(Lic No 53661)
Small Jobs a specialty
Quality Guaranteed

**Ph: 4932 3441
Mob: 0407 959 258**

HVB Hunter Valley Building Pty Ltd
Domestic & Commercial Work
Extensions, Renovations, Decks, Pergolas etc.
Builders Licence No. 131097C

Ph: Tony 0403 646 230

News

To enquire about advertising in The Branxton Greta Vineyards News call Mike on 4938 1773

News

Greta Branxton and Surrounding areas

IAN BARNES
0432542767
IAN BARNES ELECTRICAL & HOME MAINTENANCE

Honest and Reliable workmanship
ian.barnes@live.com
Electrical Lic no. 218778C

ANDP MC DONALD PLASTERING

* Gyrock Interior Linings
* Decorative & Suspended Ceilings
* External Cladding Systems
* Residential/Commercial

For quality workmanship & competitive quote
CALL Wayne
0417 679 619
mcdplaster@activ8.net.au

Geoff the Handyman
Got a job? No time to do it? Get Geoff the Handyman to do it. He has the tools & time to do the jobs you've been wanting done: MOWING, WEEDING, REPAIRS, GUTTER CLEANING, DECK STAINING, RUBBISH REMOVAL, FENCING, WELDING, FABRICATION & LOTS MORE

Phone: 0401 066 259

Mark Samuelson
Carpentry ■ Wall & Floor Tiling

General Carpentry * Renovations * Extensions * Maintenance * Bathroom & Laundry Renovations

P: 4938 7504 M: 0409 391 640

Cessnock SCREENS & DOORS

Your local manufacturer of
• SECURITY DOORS & WINDOW GRILLES
• FLYSCREEN DOORS & FLYSCREENS
• ALL REPAIRS & REMESHING
• LOCKS REPLACED • PET DOORS INSTALLED

CALL STEVE REYNOLDS
0408 207 013
Email: cessnockscreens@bigpond.com
L/N No 42868082

HUNTER POOL & YARD MAINTENANCE

Anthony Smolenaers is a trusted local serviceman who has over 11 years experience in the pool service industry from Sydney to the Hunter

- Pool testing
- Pool cleaning
- Lawn Mowing
- Pool chemicals
- Yard cleanup
- General handyman
- Spa maintenance

Ph: 65791228 mob: 0400 367 025

Graham Duncan CONCRETING

Plain or Patterned Driveways, Shed Slabs & House Extensions

Ph: 4938 7754
Fax: 4938 7754
Mob: 0415 389 977
Lic. No. 131164C

The Branxton Greta Vineyards News

call Mike on 4938 1773

News

FORDY'S
Mechanical & Electrical

All mechanical & electrical repairs
Rego inspections/Blue Slips
Vehicle air-con Service/Repairs

P: 0439 329 654

JERRY'S PLAINS VETERINARY HOSPITAL
EQUINE & GENERAL PRACTICE

JAMES A. ROODER
General Practice Veterinarian & Equine Practitioner

(02) 6576 4162

C & M Edwards Earth-moving Contractors

Quality screened gravel & oversize rock. Grader, Excavators, BobCat, Roller, Back Hoe, D6 Dozer, 150HP Tractor & Slasher & modern hay-making equipment.
WE SPECIALISE IN FARM ROADS & HOUSE & SHED PADS

P: 0400 041 311 & (02) 6574 1316

STANHOPE HANDYMAN SERVICES

Free quotes or will work for hourly rate on any project. *Seniors Discount!*

Great attention to detail and always clean-up at the end of the day! References available.

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

For a FREE quote, call Peter on: 0419 441 257

News

For all your advertising needs call Mike on 4938 1773

News

Brett Hubner Plumbing

0421 427 596

~ Your Local Greta Plumber ~
Servicing all areas

Water Services • Gas Services • Hot Water Systems
Blocked Sewers, Drainage & Storm Water
Guttering • Bath & Kitchen Renovations

L/no: 140922C

Local Trades & Services Directory

SWITCHED ON
POWER AND ELECTRICAL

ALL FORMS OF ELECTRICAL WORK
UNDERGROUND MAINS SPECIALIST

Contact - luke.manning.10@icloud.com
P: 0447 916 957
Lic.No: 186646C
ABN: 97 487 112 886

Branxton and Vineyards Real Estate

call Mike or Helen on **4938 3300**

News

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

4938 3300

WE MOW LAWNS & GRASS TOO
CALL WAYNE 0404091899

LAWN MOWING
WHIPPER SNIP
EDGE TRIMMING
HIGH PRESSURE CLEANING
AGREAGE
GUTTERS CLEANED
FULLY INSURED
NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL
CALL US TODAY

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN
Repairs, Help & Web Design

Phone Les: 0428 025 509

BAGLEY PAINTING

"Quality painting, affordable rates"

- Over 30 years experience so you can be assured of quality & professional service.
- FREE quotes with no obligation

P: 0409 523 056 or 4938 3178

CANNON
AUTOMOTIVE

For all Vehicle Mechanical Work
Cannon Automotive Services

130 Melbourne Street, East Maitland, NSW 2323
P > 02 4933 4372
E > trd001@hotmail.com

MJZ PLUMBING

Lic No 191131c ABN 92638811064

Constructing, Renovating, Maintaining the Hunter Valley - No Job Too Small
Ph: 4938 1742
Mobile: 0458 342 324

Steve's SIMPLE SOLUTIONS
for all your handyman needs

Lawn Mowing • General Maintenance • Bobcat Work

Call us today for a free quote
H: (02) 4938 3601 M: 0428 081 265

ELECTRICIAN

- Licensed, Experienced and reliable
- All types of Electrical work including rewires

PLEASE PHONE PETER BERGHOFER
0429 696 215

Local Trades & Services Directory

Local Trades & Services Directory

Hunter Electrics
Domestic Commercial & Light Industrial

Peter Butcher
0423 098 241
Licence No: 195208c
www.hunterelectrics.com

Deans Turf Supplies
Your Local Turf Grower of:
*Kings Pride Soft Leaf Buffalo & *Kikuyu

Phone: Scott Dean
Ph: 0249 381 874 Mob: 0407 006 953

e: deansturf@bigpond.com
460 Elderslie Road Branxton
Inspections welcome by appointment

News

To enquire about advertising in The Branxton Greta Vineyards News call Mike on 4938 1773

SINCE 1925

Smyth

FUNERAL SERVICES

Paul and Janelle Smyth and their Staff, take great pride and personal satisfaction in providing a dignified and timeless service, continuing a tradition started 85 years ago on February 2, 1925 by Paul's grandfather, Cecil. R. Smyth.



A complete set of our hearses, from 1925 to the present day

Serving Branxton, Greta & surrounds
Talk to us about our re-paid Funeral Plans & Pre-Arrange Options.

216 WOLLOMBI ROAD, CESSNOCK 120 LANG STREET, KURRI KURRI

7 DAY - 24 HOUR SERVICE
4990 1425 or 4937 4811

NEWCASTLE PERMANENT PRE-PAID FUNERAL FUND

Serving Cessnock, Kurri, Branxton, Greta and surrounding districts

The Funeral Directors Association of N.S.W. Ltd.

BRANXTON NEWS



PRESCHOOL



As we reach the halfway point for 2016 we have been reflecting on all the amazing things that have happened this year already. We had the Dog Safety Program, Bob Turner Wildlife Show, Learning Naturally Community Engagement afternoon, Parent Dinner and Parent Morn-

This then led to a fire brigade visit from North Rothbury Rural Fire Brigade. They spoke to the children about safe and unsafe fires, how to get down low and go go go and also stop drop and roll. They too were amazed at the children's



knowledge of what to do if there was a fire at Preschool. We practice our fire evacuation and lock down procedures regularly and have to maintain that every child is a part of these practices to ensure they all know what to do and how to exit safely. We had a visit from Masonic Village Nursing Home. This was a time for the children to give back to the elderly within our community. Together we sang, shared stories and had morning tea together. It was a very emotional and rewarding visit for us all. The look of enjoyment on both the elderly and the children faces were over whelming. Uncle Perry will be in on our last week of term to help us celebrate NAIDOC. This is a very important celebration for all of our children as we connect with our Aboriginal heritage and embrace our national culture. We would encourage any Aboriginal Elders who might like to join us throughout the last week of term to please make contact with the Preschool. We would love to have you come into Preschool to visit, tell dreamtime stories, do some art with the children or just touch base with us.

We have fresh fruit and vegetable boxes currently being delivered to Preschool each Tuesday. They are \$35 each. These boxes are a great way to get fresh fruit and veg each week. If anyone within the community would like to know more please feel free to give us a call on 49381990. They are set boxes and usually cater for



4 people in the family. This photo is an example of last weeks produce. We would encourage anyone who is thinking about enrolling at Preschool in 2017 to please come in or jump on our website and fill out a waiting list form. Enrolments will commence next term. Our website is www.branxtonpreschool.com or you can ring Alison on Ph: 49381990 if you would like to know more.

PHARMACY ADVISOR



Lee Grundy, Pharmacist & proprietor of Branxton Pharmacy

Travel Health
Due to improved ease of travel and our well-known sense of adventure, more and more Australians are travelling overseas – often to exotic and remote locations. As the number of Australians travelling overseas increases, so do the number of travellers who become ill – sometimes fatally. There are many things you can do to ensure you are a healthy traveller. First of all, visit your general practitioner for a thorough check-up to ensure there are no underlying health issues, which may affect your travels. Then speak to your local pharmacist or look for a pharmacy offering travel advice services or travel clinics. They can advise you on issues such as vaccinations, travelling with medicines, and treating common travel illnesses. Infectious diseases that cause some of the illnesses, when travelling, are often vaccine-preventable. Vaccinations may be an entry requirement for some countries so check with the embassy or consulate of the countries you are intending to visit, or transit through. In some countries, you may be refused entry or be required to have the vaccination at the border. It is recommended you seek professional advice and have any vaccinations prior to leaving Australia.

It's never too late to vaccinate. However, some vaccines require a long period to take effect and more than one dose may be needed – so factor this time into your plans. You may also need boosters for childhood vaccines. Discuss your personal travel plans with a pharmacist or visit a pharmacy providing a travel advisory service. They can help to ensure you are aware of the required vaccinations for your trip, and any booster doses of childhood vaccinations. The pharmacist will refer you to a doctor if needed. Also make sure to visit your GP/pharmacist before travelling for a supply of any prescription/over the counter medicines you may need (checking with the relevant embassy or consulate in Australia to see if there are limitations on what you can take). Take enough medicine to cover the length of your trip. If you need to travel with large quantities of medicine, it's good practice to divide portions among different pieces of your luggage in case bags go missing. It is an offence to carry or send Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) medicine overseas unless it's for your own personal use, or for the use of someone travelling with you. You could be fined \$5,000 and spend two years in prison if you break the law. More detailed information is available on the Department of Health website or by calling the PBS information line on 1800 020 613. The Australian Government's Smart Traveller website (www.smarttraveller.gov.au) recommends carrying a letter from your doctor detailing what the medicine is, how much you'll be taking with you, and stating that it's for your own personal use. While travelling, make sure

to:

- * Keep all medicine in the original container clearly labelled with your name and dosage instructions to avoid customs problems.
- * If you have to inject your medicine, it may be preferable to carry your own needles and syringes, if permissible in the countries you're visiting. (If you buy needles and syringes overseas, ensure they are sealed and sterile).

Your local pharmacy is your health destination. Pharmacists and pharmacy staff can advise on travel health and travel health-related services. Your local pharmacy can also supply you with other useful items such as:

- * rehydration fluid
- * sunscreen and insect repellent
- * items for the plane including ear plugs, eye drops for dry eye, compression garments
- * basic pain relief
- * allergy medicine
- * wound care products
- * foot care products.

It can be difficult to buy medicines and first aid supplies in countries where you do not speak or read the language. If you still need to purchase medicine at your travel destination, be careful to avoid imitation or counterfeit medicines (including prescription medicines), and always check the strength of a medicine with a doctor. Be aware that packaging and labelling may be similar to those available in Australia, but the strength and active ingredients can vary from country to country. 'Travellers' diarrhoea' is a common, but often preventable problem for travellers and there are some simple medicines to take with you that make a great addition to any travel insurance policy.
Cheers, Lee



ACRES 2 MOW

Quality, Reliability & Value

- Rubbish Removal & Yard Clean-ups
- Slashing
- Commercial Properties
- Mowing & Trimming Large Lawns & Acreages
- Clearing Overgrown Vacant Blocks & Houses




Locally Owned & Operated

Call Greg or Kim on 0414 586 699

Lochinvar 4930 7075
E: office@acres2mow.com.au

Cessnock's Cycling Strategy is on track

Cessnock City is one step closer to becoming a bicycle friendly community after the draft Cycling Strategy was adopted by Council.

It creates a vision for a safe, attractive and accessible cycleway network improving the community's connections with key destinations and encourages residents of all ages to use their bicycle for recreation and everyday transport. The recommendations are based on a comprehensive cycling facilities audit, community and stakeholder consultation, industry trend analysis and consideration of local environmental, economic and social influences.

"This is a great opportunity to integrate bicycle friendly infrastructure into future capital works, making riding safer and more enjoyable in our local area", Cessnock City Mayor Councillor Bob Pynsent said.

"Council looks forward to building inter-agency relationships to assist with

infrastructure and resource opportunities with Roads and Maritime Service,

Community Groups and Local Schools," Cr Pynsent said.

Serving as a guide for the Pathways Program the strategy will aid future capital works programs and will sit with other strategies to inform decisions.

\$60 million worth of cycleway infrastructure has been identified to satisfy the strategic objectives and will be allocated on a priority basis as resources allow.

Council will rely on partnerships with Roads and Maritime Service, community groups and



local industry to achieve the detailed actions and attract funding for priority projects.

The strategy also details key actions for education programs, advocacy for cycling, and community

events such as bike week.

To view the Cycling Strategy please visit Council's website <http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/sport/plans>

Photo: Cyclists travelling on Quorrolong Rd, Kitchener NSW.

Wood Smoke impacts

Many local activities impact on the air quality in our local area.

During the winter months wood smoke is the largest contributor to air pollution contributing 62% and 38% respectively to the fine particulates in the air.

Wood smoke is a concern because it contains particles that are small enough to be inhaled deep into the lungs. In fact, if you can smell wood smoke you are breathing in pollution which could be harming your health.

In the short term, high concentration of fine particles in the air lead to increased hospitalisations due to respiratory and cardiovascular disease.

There are many studies linking increased mortality rates with long term exposure to fine particles.

For this reason two of our near neighbouring councils, Singleton and Muswellbrook, have received funding to undertake a joint wood smoke reduction campaign in the winter months of 2016 and 2017.

The health impacts of long term exposure to fine particles in the air have been linked to cardiopulmonary

disease, which is why both councils are taking the issue of wood smoke so seriously. For example, the air pollution from wood fire heaters now poses a bigger immediate health danger to Sydneysiders than cars or cigarettes.

NSW Chief Medical Officer says the heaters are so detrimental to the health she supported banning and phasing out the heaters in built-up urban areas as an option to control wood smoke.

Health experts say the growth in wood fire heaters and the resulting smoke is triggering complications among asthmatics, emphysema and chronic bronchitis sufferers.

In July, an estimated 83,000 heaters are responsible for up to 75 per cent of fine particle pollution in Sydney's basin, according to the NSW EPA. Known as the new asbestos, fine particulate matter is a key component of smog, which can penetrate deep into the lungs.

Standards Australia is reviewing new technical standards for wood fire heaters for this country and New Zealand. However,

critics say the settings for emissions - a maximum 2.5 grams for every kilo of wood burnt - are 20 years behind best practice countries and will do little to stop fine particle pollution.

Asthma Foundation CEO Michele Goldman said Australians should be alarmed by the dangers posed by wood fire heaters. She said the small particles produced were the greatest concern because they travelled into people's airways, some even reaching the alveolus, with direct access to the bloodstream.

FIVE TIPS TO REDUCE WOOD SMOKE

* Don't let your heater smoulder overnight - keep enough air in the fire to maintain a flame.

* Burn only dry, aged hardwood in your wood heater. At least dried for eight months.

* When lighting a cold heater, use plenty of dry kindling.

* Use several small logs rather than one large log and stack them loosely in your heater, so air can circulate around them. Don't cram the firebox.

• Fire should only smoke when first lit and when adding extra fuel. Open air controls fully for five minutes before and 20 minutes after reloading. Rebates are available for residents who would like to remove their old wood heaters and install a less smoky form of heating.

Polls Apart

2016 is shaping up to be the year of elections; with Federal and Local Government polls being held just 2 months apart. This year's Council elections for those Councils not subject to amalgamation or merger proposals will be held on Saturday, 10 September 2016.

Pre-poll will commence on Monday, 29 August 2016.

The NSW Electoral Commission has launched a dedicated website that provides

current updates regarding electoral rolls, nominations and polling places. Information is also available regarding election-related employment opportunities. The website address is: www.votensw.info

To provide assistance with access to information for community members, Cessnock City Council has provided a direct link via its own website that can be found at:

<http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/council/election>

Enquiries can be directed to the NSW Electoral Commission via the website or to Robert Maginnity,

Council's Director Corporate & Community Services on 4993 4175.

DONT COMPLAIN. VOTE



DALE DROPLET SAYS...

Look after your AWTS!

WATER - REUSE - RECYCLE



What is an AWTS?

An Aerated Wastewater Treatment System (AWTS) is an onsite sewage treatment plant. The wastewater produced is put through a series of treatment and disinfectant processes and then distributed on lawns and gardens.

How to maintain your AWTS

The effective operation of your AWTS depends on:

- quarterly service and maintenance by a qualified service technician
- ensuring that treated effluent is not running or being sprayed onto neighbouring properties
- power to the system not being turned off.

Owner's responsibilities

The owner of the AWTS is responsible for:

- fixing the system when problems are detected
- ensuring the system is inspected quarterly by a qualified service technician and the service report is sent to Council within 7 days
- desludging the system when solid levels become high (usually every 3-5 years)
- complying with Council's request for inspections or maintenance
- ensuring compliance with your Approval to Operate (licence) issued by Council annually
- displaying a sign stating "Recycled water, avoid contact, do not drink" is clearly visible around the disposal area.



Following these simple points will extend the life of your AWTS, reduce water consumption and save you money.

Further information can be found at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au or contact our Environmental Health team on (02) 4993 4100.

RICHEEN

BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

ABN 19 109 065 983

■ HUNTER VALLEY BASED BOOKKEEPING SERVICE

■ SPECIALISING IN SMALL, MICRO SIZED BUSINESSES

■ ALL GENERAL BOOKKEEPING INCLUDING BAS, GENERAL TAX & FULL REPORTING ON MYOB, QUICKBOOKS OR XERO SOFTWARE

0466 72 8118

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT?

FEDERAL ELECTION, SATURDAY 2 JULY

This year, the way you vote for the Senate has changed and it's important that you understand how to vote correctly.

On election day, you'll receive two ballot papers:

- a green one for the House of Representatives
- a large white one for the Senate

On the green ballot paper you are voting for a candidate to represent your local area or electorate in the House of Representatives.

On the white ballot paper you are voting for representatives of your state or territory in the Senate.

Don't worry if you make a mistake. Just ask for another ballot paper and start again.

Green ballot paper

Number every box in the order of your choice.

Sample ballot paper

White ballot paper – you can choose to vote either above or below the line

Either vote above the line

Number at least 6 boxes for parties or groups, in the order of your choice.

OR below the line

Number at least 12 boxes for individual candidates, in the order of your choice.

Sample ballot paper

Your vote will help shape Australia. Practise voting now at www.aec.gov.au

To learn more www.aec.gov.au 13 23 26



Billy a hit at Rugby Club function



≡ Billy Birmingham & his best mimic of Tony Greig; 'To me a grudge is nothing more than a place to pork your cor'

Last Friday the Singleton Rugby Club hosted Billy Birmingham as their #41 "Lunch with a Legend" guest. About 200 members & guests packed the club & enjoyed a wonderful meal provided by Ken from Wine Country Catering. The obligatory fund raising auction saw some good prices paid for 5 different items with a framed & signed Darren Lockyer Queensland Maroons jumper being knocked down for \$3600. The main event saw MC, local comedian & BarTV sports anchor, Gareth Wasik play the straight man by asking Billy some very leading questions which saw some very funny 'mimicked' answers.

It appears that Billy Birmingham started his working life in the record industry, then became the only recording artist to have seven consecutive Australian No.1 albums. His famous parodies of cricketers and commentators have been a sound of summer for almost three decades. A condensed version, without many of his expletives, went as follows: Q: Are there any people who you take the mickey out of who you have become great mates with? A: Jack Gibson adopted me after I took the mickey out of him. We used to play golf pretty much every week. I invited Jack along to the celebration of The Wired World of Sports, the

first one, in '87 and he gave me an old cardigan he used to wear on the show. One day on a flight to Brisbane he said he pulled out his new book called Done Strong, Played Fine. I nearly fell over. I said "Nooo, you say 'Done Good, Played Strong' ... Jack, I'm the one who made you famous for saying it. You've got it wrong in the title'. And he looks at me and says 'Well it's a bit late now'. Q: As a record executive you had to deal in that crazy, hazy decade of the 1980s. They must have been interesting times? A: We had this piss-up one night for AC/DC for a platinum record presentation. Because they were such an important act, even some of the old collar and tie execs came along. Bon Scott walks in, as casual as you like he starts pulling out all these cigarette papers and starts joining them together, to make a West Indian joint about eight inches long. Then he gets this big rock of hashish and starts breaking it up as if he's at home at his kitchen table. Q: As a young employee of the record firm you must have been stunned? A: I'm looking around thinking "What am I supposed to do here? Am I supposed to run interference for him? Block him from view?" No ... he didn't even care. He was just telling yarns, didn't miss a beat. So I just gave up. I thought "well you

guys are the ones selling millions of records, what are you gonna do?" Q: What about AC/DC guitarist Angus Young. Any stories? A: I have never seen a musician who is more lost in his music than Angus. We were doing the Rocktober gig on a pontoon under the Harbour Bridge. When their show finished they had this pleasure craft moored to the pontoon, as kind of a dressing room. The water was really choppy and just as Angus goes to step of the pontoon the boat bobs down and he falls through the gap into the water. The first thing he does is wrap his arms around the bloody Gibson guitar that was his baby. He took the full brunt on his shoulder and head to protect his guitar. Q: You could make a fortune out of performing live but you don't want to do it. Why? A: Not too sure. I think it's because the fear of failure has always been something that has beset me more than a lot of other people. I'm not obsessed by it, but for some reason I've gravitated towards being script driven. I was one of the class clowns at school, but I never wanted to get up on stage, be part of the school plays or any kind of performance. I never to put my hand up in class and answer any questions but I loved being silly as a cut snake with my mates. Q: The world is a different place since you did those records. Do you think you'd be able to get away with all those quirky Pakistani names now? A: It just never entered my mind, because I don't have a racist bone in my body. Anyone who listens to Australiana, I mean, stuffing around with the English language is just something that I've always done. I've always put it down to the fact that I did six years of Latin and French when I was in high school. And even though I wasn't particularly good at them, it did inspire me to analyse words and the sounds of words.



≡ Singletonians Mike Launders & Sandra Swann enjoying the luncheon

Q: Was it true you once attempted to sponsor a side in the World Cup? A: Yes. I offered 25,000 Scotland pounds to have the 12th Man emblazoned across their shirts. I've still got the letter from the Scottish Cricket Union saying thanks for your generous offer, but the game's very new here in Scotland and we just don't think this is the way to introduce young people to the game. I said "Bulls---! It's the perfect way to introduce young people to the game." Q: Is it true you did all your recordings in your back shed? A: No state-of-the-art hi-tech here. It's just literally three mattresses shoved into the corner of a room to try to get that simulation of a recording booth and then I'd throw a blanket or a dooner over the top to give it a roof. Opening the studio door was basically lifting up a dooner. Every record has been done the same way. Q: Apparently Merv Hughes was taken aback when you got the mattresses out? A: We recorded Merv in a hotel and he was very

generous with his time. So we go up to his hotel room and I've ordered three mattresses. Then Merv starts to look a bit edgy and says "I dunno, just seems a bit weird. Three blokes up in the room, you're ordering three mattresses". I said "Oh yeah, I hadn't thought about that". Q: When did you first start to mimic people? A: I enjoyed it when I would make mum and dad laugh, so if I was watching TV and it was the old Red Skelton or Jackie Gleason or any of those shows that mum and dad used to like watching in the 60s I would imitate the voices of people and get a chuckle out of them. Q: It must have been a big moment when you met Richie Benaud? A: I had just arrived in England in 1999 to do a promotion tour and I was at The Oval. So I'm standing there and I just heard the dulcet tones coming from somewhere. I didn't know if it was him or if it was someone doing an impersonation of me. I look across the room and there he was talking on a mobile phone. Q: Were you a bit coy about saying hello?

A: Yes. I've said to the PR guy "what the ... there's Richie!" And he said "Are you gonna say giddyday to him?" and I said "I've never met him." He said "Oh, well you've gotta say giddyday don't you?" and I said "Well, he's put the kids through school, I probably should." Q: And ...? A: Anyway, I've jumped in front of him, stuck the hand out, and said "Richie, some things you can't put off forever, mate. Billy Birmingham, how are you?" You could just tell that my face was probably the same look as his face, which was shock. Because of all the places for him to meet me, there I was at The Oval. So anyway, he goes (imitating) "Oh, Billy, so how do you do. What a strange place to be seeing you." Then my mind's rushing and I'm thinking "Don't ask me what I'm doing here", because I'm going to have to say "I'm here to take the mickey out of you!" Q: What's the story behind your new line of memorabilia? A: There's one thing that's come out of that loyalty that the fans have shown and the affection that they have for the 12th man, and that is that all of those catch phrases that I've made famous. And if there's one thing that I'm kind of kicking myself over the years that I haven't done, is to take those expressions, and whack them on a T-shirt. And then I've thought, what about the BBQs in summer. So I have brought out stubby holders, coffee mugs and sell them on www.the12thman.com.



≡ Brothers Greg (at right) & Barry McTaggart from Singleton & Broke respectively enjoying a much deserved day out.



About 200 members & guests packed the Singleton Rugby Club to enjoy listening to 'the 12th man'.

Why You Shouldn't Use Water To Extinguish a Grease Fire



After attending a small house fire in Greta recently I interviewed the homeowner about what happened and it was basically "chips on the stove". What ensued was he threw an ordinary house blanket over the flames which was successful in putting the fire out momentarily till the Braxton Fire and Rescue turned up and competently doused the fire and cleared the house of smoke. The message here is everyone of you out there should enquire at Kmart or Big W and even at any hardware shop about spending a small amount of money on a fire extinguisher and a fire blanket; both of these could have been utilised at the time to

bring about a speedier result with this fire. Winter time is notorious for house fires so do not think it will not happen to me as it could possibly be you; this is an early warning & a good one. Another 'NO NO' is to **not** put water on oil fat fires. If anything throw plain flour onto the flames & then turn the power off at the power board.

Ned Roberts, Greta RFS Captain

CHEAP STEEL

* Eftpos/Deliveries available. * Open Sat 8 ~ 11
* As always quantity discounts & free quotes for all ROOFING in colorbond and reinforcing mesh.

4991 1009

ONLY AT CESSNOCK METAL MATES WE DELIVER !!

CESSNOCK ST, CESSNOCK

10 cleaning habits that will stop you getting sick this winter

Sally Duggan

There's clean – and then there's stupidly clean. Scientists in recent times have theorised that overuse of anti-bacterial cleaners and hand sanitisers could be making our homes so sterile that it weakens our kids' immunity, and increases their chances of developing hay fever, asthma and other allergies. Regular hard scrubbing with bleaches and spray-on wipes, it seems, is probably not necessary or healthy. On the other hand, there's no doubt that some household germs, such as staphylococcus and campylobacter, can cause nasty illnesses, some of which are more common in winter.

So what are the cleaning and hygiene habits that really matter? We talked to Dr Simon Swift, an associate professor in microbiology and infectious disease at the University of Auckland, about the

cleaning habits you should adopt to stop you getting sick.

10 tips for a healthy home

1. Small and often cleaning is better than binge cleaning. Develop good kitchen and bathroom cleaning routines to avoid transmitting bacteria, and stick to them. "You need to do it all the time," says Dr Swift.

2. Be vigilant about cleaning up after preparing meat and chicken. Just a drop of blood left on the kitchen bench can be a breeding ground for bugs like campylobacter and salmonella: if you put your toast on top of it the next morning, you will take those bugs on board when you eat it. After handling meat, wipe down all surfaces, removing all organic matter and disinfect with a commercial spray (Dr Swift says most commercial sprays are effective against bacteria, including the new eco-friendly citrus-based

ones). It is a good idea to have a separate plastic chopping board for meat and chicken, and to put it in the dishwasher after use.

3. Beware sponges. The tiny crevices in sponges can harbour bacteria: so if you wipe up rotting food scraps with a sponge, then continue wiping the rest of the bench, you could just be spreading germs across a wider surface. Dr Swift suggests using paper towels then throwing them out, or having a big supply of cleaning cloths that you wash after a single use.

4. Use your common sense – and your nose – to help clean out the fridge. Meat or other products that are a day or two past their "use by" might be okay, but "not if they are smelly and have a green sheen," says Dr Swift. Raw meat that leaks blood through the fridge can contaminate other foods that you don't cook, so clean it up thoroughly.

5. In the bathroom, it's ideal to have separate

towels for each household member, or wash them after a single use. This is most important if someone in the house has acne, or another infection, or if there are a lot of people using a bathroom.

6. Areas of mould – on window frames, or walls or anywhere that water pools – can generate spores that exacerbate respiratory illness, so should be cleaned up, especially if you have an asthmatic in the house.

7. When you are cleaning the toilet area, be aware that anything that people touch after using the toilet and before they wash their hands is likely to be covered in germs. Use a spray-on disinfectant for the flush knob and the toilet door handle.

8. Practise good pet hygiene. "Animals are going to lick their bottoms and then lick your face: we all know that," says Dr Swift. Sensible habits to lower the risk of getting



infected by your pet are discouraging licking, taking them to the vet if they are sick, and washing hands after handling them. Reptiles are particularly prone to harbour salmonella.

9. Eliminate insects where possible. Wash out your pet's bowl after it is used, and don't leave dirty dishes on the bench where they will attract flies and spread infection. Treat your

pet for fleas regularly.

10. If you're a gardener, make sure you wash your hands after harvesting food or digging in the earth (especially if your pet uses the garden as a toilet) and try not to trek dirt into the house.

And then there's appearance cleaning
Of course, cleaning is not JUST about beating the bugs. If you want a house that looks spanking clean,

as well as being safe to live in, you will have to go beyond Dr Swift's anti-illness routines to include regular vacuuming, dusting, polishing ... and those extra finishing touches that make truly houseproud folk stand out from the masses of merely clean.

Mary Dowle, who has been a franchise holder with Meticulous Maids in Albany and Orewa for 20 years, says the hallmarks of a really well cleaned house include benches and floors that are completely free of smears even when the sun shines on them (she suggests drying them down after a thorough soap and water wash); sparkling appliances and taps; streak-free mirrors; clean window sills (use a toothbrush in the corners); and absolutely no cobwebs (attack them with a long-handled brush).

Oh, and like Dr Swift, she reckons using your nose to tell you if the job is done properly. "Dust has a real stale smell ... but you get used to it in your own house and you don't notice it. After we've done a house, the owners will come in and say "Wow! It smells GOOD."

TAYLOR

PROPERTY MARKETING

1300 803 300

taylorrealestate.com.au

401 Camp Road, GRETA

SOLD \$380,000

30 Budgereee Drive, ABERGLASSLYN

SOLD \$327,500

3 2 4

'Country Living'

- Brick and Iron home
- 3 Bedrooms with built in robes
- Main bedroom with ensuite
- Open plan living
- Separate dining
- Functional kitchen
- Entertainment patio area
- 4 Bay Shed with drive through access, concrete floor and power
- 4 Dog kennel runs
- Chook pen; garden Shed
- Fully fenced; 2 street frontages
- Land size: 1.25 Acres (5060sqm)

Agent: Catherine Taylor 0408 688 836

4 2 2

'Great Family Home'

- 4 Bedrooms
- Main with ensuite & BIRs
- 3 Good sized bedrooms all with BIRs
- Modern bathroom with separate WC
- Open plan air conditioned kitchen & living rooms
- DLUG with internal access & auto doors
- Private entertainment area
- Corner block
- Potential Rent: \$365 per week
- Land size: 603sqm

Agent: Catherine Taylor 0408 688 836

“ Knowing just where you stand in the market gives you better choices! ”

A Free Market Appraisal is a start, it gives you the peace of mind of knowing where you stand in the market. I can then plan a successful marketing campaign for your property.

Call me now for a **FREE** market appraisal and let's discuss your options.

Catherine Taylor 0408 688 836





Introducing

Ben Bridge - Sales Consultant
Coming from a family with deep roots in the Greta Branxton community, Ben has a lifelong understanding of the community & its people. Through this love of the area, Ben has a great knowledge of the real estate market trends around this area & has had extensive training through the LJ Hooker network. Ben is looking forward to dealing with people to help meet their real estate dreams.
Call 0404 564 725



4 3 4

Greta
4 Nelson Street

Storage/Sheds on 1 Acre

This 4 bedroom with study 3 bathroom home has it all. Open plan living with stylish centre piece kitchen containing all the mod cons and ceaser stone benchtops. Floating timber floor boards, combustion fire & ducted air conditioning. Fully fenced 4000m² of yard space, with in ground pool and BBQ area for entertaining.
Price: \$569,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

Branxton
22 Station Street

4 Bedrooms/Large Shed on 900m²

4 bedrooms, three with built in robes, large block & great shed. The combined lounge & dining room has RC/AC & polished pine timber floorboards throughout. The colourbond garage also has plenty of storage cupboards and a second shower and toilet. This garage could easily accommodate 2 large vehicles as well as storage space.
Price: \$375,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

East Branxton
3B Grape Street

A New Opportunity

Bedrooms with built in robes, master bedroom has a walk in robe & ensuite. Large lounge room, with a separate dining/family room adjoining the kitchen plus a pantry. Outdoor patio & low maintenance backyard. Quick possession & new home buyer grants available. This property would lease for approximately \$380-\$400 a week
Price: \$ 399,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



3 1 2

Greta
28 York Street

First Time on the Market

Family home in a pleasant area awaits. Brick & tile with beautifully presented gardens ready for the picking. Air conditioned living & kitchen area makes the house comfortable all year round. Covered timber deck overlooks the large backyard. This home is ideal for the young family or a couple looking to downsize.
Price: \$290,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

Whittingham
472 Mitchell Line of Road

Rural Property with Town Water

Set on 10.13 hectares offering a 4 bedroom home with ensuite, formal lounge & dining, large dining/family off the kitchen, rumpus plus screened Queensland room. Outside there is a timber pergola with BBQ area & double shed. The property carries 8 cows & calves, has its own cattle yards, a large dam.
Price: \$740,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 1 2

North Rothbury
42 Lindsay Road

29 ACRES

Built-in robes in 3 bedrooms, main offering walk in & private reading room or nursery, combustion fire place & air conditioning to living area, ducted vacuum throughout, storage, spa, verandas, pizza oven, carport, garden shed, 3 dams & shelters for horses.
Price: \$699,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

Branxton
42 Rosehill Place

Rural Living With Views Dalwood Acres

Opportunity to purchase 2 acres in the fast moving estate Dalwood Acres, located closely to the Hunter Expressway. This block has access to town water and electricity. Fully fenced and ready to be built upon.
Price: \$305,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



3 1 1

North Rothbury
28 Rothbury Street

Village Living

This cottage style home has 3 large bedrooms in the growing area of North Rothbury. Just minutes from the Hunter Expressway & all the Hunter has to offer. A large backyard & a front garden make this property feel like home. Comfort is assured with split systems air conditioning & a large contemporary kitchen.
Price: \$310,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



3 1 1

East Branxton
5 Grape Street

Street Appeal

Modernised 3 bedroom family home on corner block. Renovated throughout with great kitchen. Single garage with plenty of storage space. Timber deck & pergola for entertaining guests & fully fenced yard to keep kids & animals safe. The home is rendered & painted to give that street appeal you have been looking for.
Price: \$350,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



4 2 2

Thornton
78 Golden Wattle Crescent

Safe Investment

Ideal for Self-Managed Super Funds & those wanting a secure tenant. This property is for sale on behalf of a Defence Housing Australia lessor & has a Defence Housing Australia lease in place. Vis it dha.gov.au to learn the benefits of investing in Defence Housing Australia Property. As a DHA your rent is guaranteed.
Price: \$460,000
View: by appointment
Contact Ben Bridge
0404 564 725
LJ Hooker Greta/Branxton 4938 7779
7/172 John Street, Singleton NSW



LJ Hooker Greta-Branxton currently have
NO VACANCIES!!

With the enquiry rate increasing in the area we are seeking new rental properties. If you have a vacant property or know someone with a vacancy contact Bernadette Gleeson 0401 296 884 today for an obligation free assessment or to discuss your property management needs.

Call Helen or Mike

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300

ELDERSLIE



Lifestyle 100acres

100 acres of beautiful rolling countryside.

Views to die for!

4 bedroom family home featuring open plan living, verandah, large new shed & free standing double garage



PRICE \$830,000



East Branxton

Everything is BRAND NEW!!!!

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

PRICE \$340,000 NEG



North Rothbury

Sophisticated!!!!

Jewel Box Bush Cottage

“Airy” & “Open”

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

The home has a number of decor/design features that make this cottage a unique experience.

A must to inspect

Offers over \$305,000



Branxton

Family home well loved and cared for

Spacious living areas plus a large Queenslander at rear.

A good sized carport.

3 bedrooms which includes built-ins in two. Ensuite plus sunroom in main bedroom.

All this on a large fenced block & lovely gardens

A must to inspect

ASKING \$390,000 NEG

Call Helen or Mike

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300



BRANXTON

A couple of minutes to town
BUY OFF THE PLAN

LOT 1

4 Hectares ~

Picturesque block of land on the edge of town. Why not enjoy the peaceful rural lifestyle with all the conveniences of town living.

PRICE \$520,000



LOT 3

5.337 Hectares

Large 3 bedroom homestead with 3 large living areas with plenty of outdoor living & entertainment areas & great verandahs. Also double free standing garage.

PRICE \$830,000

BRANXTON

NEW ON MARKET

First home or investment.

This family home features a low maintenance brick & tile structure and includes a stylish bathroom, well presented kitchen, separate lounge with slow combustion fire, 3 good sized bedrooms (main with 'walk-in' robe), 2 x garages, fully fenced with many more features.
ASKING \$340,000



Call Helen or Mike

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300



EAST BRANXTON

Features include:-

Balcony / Patio / Terrace, Bath, Block 1145sm, Built in Wardrobes, Close to Schools, Close to Shops, Close to Transport, Fireplace(s), Formal Dining, Formal Lounge, Garden, Internal Laundry, Large Fenced Block, Lovely Queensland Room, Modern Bathroom, Modern Kitchen, Quiet Location, Views.

Formal lounge & dining with split system air conditioning & slow combustion fire. Modern kitchen, expansive Queensland room with spa. Three good sized bedrooms. All this on a 1145sm fenced block!

PRICE \$370,000

MUST SELL!

Open to all reasonable offers



EAST BRANXTON

Lovely family home

3 Bedroom family home with good built-ins in two.

Separate dining & living room with neat kitchen which includes granite bench tops.

Other features include:-

Combustion fire & air conditioning, lovely decking at rear, free standing garage.

All this on a very large fenced block.

Absolutely nothing to do just move in!

PRICE ~ Open to all reasonable offers

Call Helen or Mike

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300



NORTH ROTHBURY

Lovely modern family home

3 minutes to Hunter Valley Pokolbin Vineyards with its wine cellars, shops & entertainment.

Not a thing to do! Three bedrooms with built-in robes in all bedrooms. Spectacular modern bathroom & separate lounge. Other features include modern kitchen, split system aircon, slow combustion fire, beautiful BBQ area with alfresco dining area & large shed. The property also has a lock up garage, landscaped yard & is fully fenced.



ASKING \$400,000 ONO



BRANXTON

An opportunity not to be missed!



An opportunity not to be missed! Well maintained family home in premier street.

This is a well maintained 3 bedroom weatherboard family home on a 1320 square metre block.

A combined living lounge room & dining room + large family room will add to your living pleasure.

Modern kitchen & bathroom give some olden day charm with modern living. Fully fenced with a huge back yard which includes a non intrusive 6-bay garage + another free standing garage & fernery.



ASKING \$399,000

Call Helen or Mike

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300



NORTH ROTHBURY

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

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

PRICE \$420,000



GRETA

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

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

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



EAST BRANXTON

Modern Villa ~ first home buyer or investor
In a sought after area n Branxton ~ two bedroom villa

Quality inclusions Features Include ~ Internal Laundry, Modern Bathroom, Modern Kitchen, Quiet Location, Balcony / Patio / Terrace, Built in Wardrobes, Close to School, Close to Shops & Close to Transport

PRICE \$320,000



BELFORD

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

PRICE \$160,000 ONO



BRANXTON Senior Living

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

PRICE \$265,000



BRANXTON Senior Living

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

PRICE POA



- 2023m2 block
- 3 bedrooms
- Large rear deck

WINGEN

Village living at its best

Located in the hamlet of Wingen which is 10 minutes from Scone in the Upper Hunter Valley "Rose Cottage" offers great access to the show-ground to exercise or have fun with your horse or dog. The house is situated on a generous block & includes freshly painted bedrooms, modern bathroom, timber kitchen, open plan living, front verandah & large rear deck. New reverse cycle air conditioner installed & room for extensions, school bus to primary & high schools. The property is fully fenced with a separately fenced yard ideal for the kids pony or menagerie of other small farm animals.

PRICE NEGOTIABLE



Branxton ~ 3 bedroom renovated cottage with carport. \$350/week
North Rothbury ~ entirely renovated 3 bedroom home with carport, ensuite to main. \$360/week
Branxton ~ Renovated 2/3 bedroom home with good entertainment area, fenced block & free standing lock-up garage. \$330/week
East Branxton ~ large modern unit with double garage & courtyard. \$320/week



LOWER BELFORD

Features Include:-
4 Bedrooms, Balcony / Deck, Bath, Built in wardrobe, Dishwasher, Floorboards, Fully fenced, Internal Laundry, Pets allowed.
Enjoy the rural peace & quiet!

\$420 per week



GRETA

This self contained studio apartment has uninterrupted panoramic & peaceful views over the Hunter river. Sleeps up to 8. If you want peace & quiet with the best views the Hunter Valley has to offer then this is for you. The decor is immaculate & the position just perfect!

\$350 per week

Tocal Field Days - Appreciation Event

TOCAL FIELD DAYS held a function this week to acknowledge the assistance of community volunteers and to present cheques to community organisations who manage various roles at the event.

A total of \$23,000 in cheques was presented to:

- Newcastle Men's Shed
- Branxton Greta Men's Shed
- Maitland Community Care
- Vacy Public School
- Hunter Horse Welfare

- Tocal Homestead
- Maitland Lions Club
- Paterson Bolwarra Scouts

Phyllis Saul, Denise Johnson and Robyn Dunford were also acknowledged for their volunteer work in the lead up to the event.

Tocal College Principal and Chair of the Tocal Field Days, Darren Bayley, said that it was important to acknowledge the great support the event gets from both community volunteers



and organisations.

"It gives us great pleasure to be able to make financial contributions to local community groups", he said.

"They play various essential roles during the event and really are integral to the success of Tocal Field Days".

Photo above: Chair of Tocal Field Days Darren Bayley with Stephen Wall and Kevin Bell representing Branxton Greta Men's Shed

NOW OPEN

Greta Museum's
Old Style New
Wares
& Sweet Shop
Great for gifts or
just to indulge

Any profit goes back to Greta Tidy Towns
Open 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month
High Street, Greta



Pets and Patrols with Ranger Kurt

All dog and cat owners are required to take two steps to protect their pet for life. Step one is permanent identification through microchipping which can be done by your vet, RSPCA or Council Rangers. Step two is lifetime registration through Council.

Have you registered your pet yet? Now is a great time to do it before prices go up in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) after Friday 1 July 2016. The price is set by the NSW Government and you can save your hard earned dollars by registering before this date. Remember if your pet is over six months of age it is the law to have them registered. You can do this by coming into council during business hours or contacting Council over the phone providing your pet's microchip number. Otherwise you can contact the RSPCA in Rutherford on a weekend. Find out more on the responsibilities of being a pet owner by visiting Council's website www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/animals

Last chance to get your furry friend desexed with only 15 spots up for grabs for Council's free desexing program. Over the last two months the program has run thanks to the help of the RSPCA and Office of Local Government. To be eligible and nab the last spots you need a current pension card, live in the LGA, the pet must be microchipped and in your name. The benefits of caring for a companion animal are many and Council Rangers want to make the costs of being a pet owner easier for those in need.

Are you aware of the road rules around stopping in a construction or works zone? Don't risk an offence by observing the 'works zone' parking sign and avoid stopping in a works zone unless the driver is engaged in construction work in the zone, or dropping off, or picking up, passengers. To find out more visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roads/safety-rules/road-rules/parking.html

You can contact Council on 02 4993 4300
or www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

As Time Goes By

A sample of local real estate for sale on

The news Issue No 45
17 June 1999

Nothing to do with this well appointed and well located family home. Three good sized bedrooms, large lounge leading into a good sized dining room. There is also a double garage and decking at the rear of the home.
\$118,000

Greta
\$79,000
Plenty of space - Well maintained 3 bedroom home-large lounge, separate kitchen, free standing double garage. Nothing to do!

NORTH ROTHBURY
Perfect little cottage: 2/3 bedroom, large lounge, modern kitchen. L/u garage.
\$85,000

LOWER BELFORD

A family home that says welcome ~ spacious lounge/dining ~ light and airy kitchen/family room ~ covered BBQ/entertainment area leading onto sparkling inground pool ~ Landscaped Block.
\$166,000

Investment Opportunity - Commercial Property 56 Maitland Street, Branxton NSW (Currently Leased) Business premises with residential accommodation. * Plans available for extension. Currently 172SqM of commercial space. ALSO storage shed of 210SqM * Lot size 1255SqM. * Upstairs residence comprises 3 bedrooms, an office off main bedroom, lounge/dining, sunroom & enclosed verandah.

Investment opportunity

North Rothbury
\$85,000
Why Rent? This lovely three bedroom cottage is located in a quiet street. It has a large easy to maintain yard.

A prudent buyer will soon realise what a 'gem' this property is.
* Charm & Character
* Polished boards
* Double level Block
* 2 x large sheds
* 3 x phase power
* 3 bedrooms & country style kitchen
* Sub-Division potential
Price by Negotiation

Branxton
A house just like **Granny's**. You can even hide in the gardens. 4B/R Wonderful family kitchen. Double garage - Many surprises. A Golden Oldie.
Perfection
Asking \$118,000

North Rothbury
\$85,000
Why Rent? This lovely three bedroom cottage is located in a quiet street. It has a large easy to maintain yard.

Trees & Tranquillity. Enjoy the natural beauty of rural living. Imposing trees & Lovely shrubbery enhance this tranquil setting. Modern brick & tile home situated on 5 beautiful acres in total privacy.
Price Range \$175,000 to \$190,000



EAST BRANXTON

Very deceiving from the outside! This large home has been meticulously maintained- Formal & informal areas, in-ground pool, double block - Many, many extras.
\$165,000

GRETA WORKERS CLUB
2 WEST ST GRETA
4938 7325

MILLER PARK SPORTS CLUB
6 MAITLAND RD EAST BRANXTON
4938 1226

GRETA WORKERS

THE OAKS
FAMILY RESTAURANT
CHINESE & AUSTRALIAN
TUESDAY—SUNDAY
LUNCH & DINNER

COURTESY BUS
WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS &
SUNDAYS
Ring the Club for more details

MEAT RAFFLES
FRIDAY 7.00pm
SUNDAY 12.00 Noon

MILLER PARK

MEMBERS BADGE DRAW
THURSDAY 30th JUNE
\$4,800
SUNDAY 3rd JULY
\$2,600
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

MEAT RAFFLES
FRIDAY 7.00pm
SUNDAY 6.00pm

FRIDAY NIGHT **ENTERTAINMENT**

1st JULY

OZ ROCK

8th JULY

DEFACED

MEMBERS BADGE DRAW

WEDNESDAY

29th JUNE

\$4,300

SUNDAY

3rd JULY

\$2,600

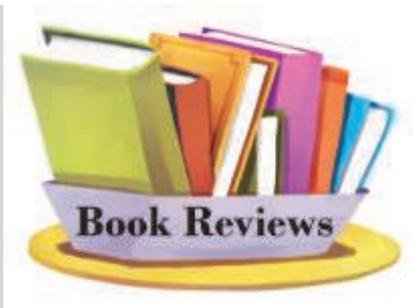
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

SAMMY'S AT THE PARK

FAMILY RESTAURANT
WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY
LUNCH & DINNER

2 HAPPY HOURS
MILLER PARK
WEDNESDAY 4 - 6pm

GRETA
THURSDAY 4 - 6pm
\$3.30 SCHOONERS



- Novels**
 The Suspect (2004)
 Lost (2005) (aka The Drowning Man)
 The Night Ferry (2007)
 Shatter (2008)
 Bombproof (2008)
 Bleed For Me (2010)
 The Wreckage (2011)
 Say You're Sorry (2012)
 Watching You (2013)
 Life or Death (2014)
 Close Your Eyes (2015)

About the Authors



Born in Australia in November 1960, Michael Robotham grew up in small country towns that had more dogs than people and more flies than dogs. He escaped in 1979 and became a cadet journalist on an afternoon newspaper in Sydney.

For the next fourteen years he wrote for newspapers and magazines in Australia, Britain and America. As a senior feature writer for the UK's Mail on Sunday he was among the first people to view the letters and diaries of Czar Nicholas II and his wife Empress Alexandra, unearthed in the Moscow State Archives in 1991. He also gained access to Stalin's Hitler files, which had been missing for nearly fifty years until a cleaner stumbled upon a cardboard box that had been misplaced and misfiled.

In 1993 he quit journalism to become a ghostwriter, collaborating with politicians, pop stars, psychologists, adventurers and showbusiness personalities to write their autobiographies. Twelve of these non-fiction titles were bestsellers with combined sales of more than 2 million copies.

His first novel 'The Suspect', a psychological thriller, was chosen by the world's largest consortium of book clubs as

only the fifth "International Book of the Month", making it the top recommendation to 28 million book club members in fifteen countries. It has been translated into twenty-two languages, including some he's barely heard of. His second novel 'Lost' won the Ned Kelly Award for the Crime Book of the Year in 2005, given by the Australian Crime Writers Association. It was also shortlisted for the 2006 Barry Award for the BEST BRITISH NOVEL published in the US in 2005.

Michael's subsequent novels 'The Night Ferry' and 'Shatter' were both shortlisted for UK Crime Writers Association Steel Dagger in 2007 and 2008. 'Shatter' was also shortlisted in the inaugural ITV3 Thriller Awards in the UK and for South Africa's Boeke Prize. In August 2008 'Shatter' won the Ned Kelly award for Australia's best crime novel. More recently, 'Bleed for Me' – Michael's sixth novel – was shortlisted for the 2010 Ned Kelly Award. Michael can most often be found working in his 'pit of despair' (basement office) on Sydney's northern beaches where he funds the extravagant lifestyles of a wife and three daughters

This year he was named as Australia's second favourite author by Booktopia.

a decade in prison for an armed robbery in which four people were killed, including two of his gang. The \$5 million stolen in the robbery has never been recovered and despite years of beatings and threats Palmer has never revealed where the money is. Now Palmer is on the run and an assortment of crooks and police are trying to chase him down. Palmer, however, has no intention of grabbing the money and fleeing the country. Instead he is on a mission to save a life. As the pursuers close in, the truth behind Palmer's escape becomes gradually clearer.

This is a tour de force of crime writing that combines a brisk pace with some great action scenes, a tricky surprising plot and a strong cast of well-developed characters, including Palmer's former cellmate Moss Webster, who is freed to help track down the escapee. There are also moments of unsettling poignancy and moving reflections on childhood and the role of fathers.

the novel races to a violent and gripping conclusion.

Although *Life Or Death* is set a long way from O'Loughlin's London, Robotham's research means that the locations ring true and add to the book's pleasure. The descriptions are simple, but effective, and convey mood as well detail: "... he

walks past factories and car yards and fast-food joints that cling like the six-lane like grease." The reflections on the underbelly of society that Palmer and Moss move through are also sadly believable: "Now the drug dealers are usually black teenagers with faces full of arrogant self-regard and designer pockets

full of the latest technology".

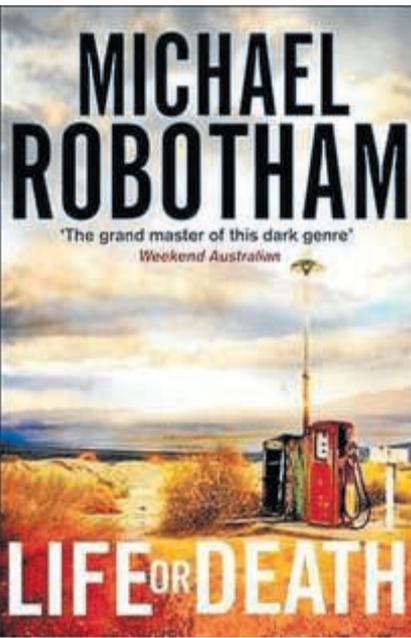
In all this is a terrific thriller that showcases Robotham's ability to challenge the reader's expectations and to tackle different themes and styles.

Highly recommended.

Life or Death (Editors choice)

ISBN	9780751552904
Preceded by	Watching You
Followed by	Close Your Eyes

Life or Death (2014) is a crime novel that won the 2015 Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger Award. This is his first book to not involve either of his two main characters; Joe O'Loughlin and Vincent Ruiz.



people he was writing about. These skills are abundantly clear in this novel *Life Or Death*.

Robotham's first nine novels of psychological suspense were, by and large, mainly written from the perspective of former London policeman Vincent Ruiz and clinical psychologist Joe O'Lough-

lin, who suffers from MS. In a surprising move, Robotham has shifted the location in his latest book away from London to Texas, and has focused on an eclectic variety of desperate characters, who are a long way from the fragile and introspective professor O'Loughlin. However, Robotham's research and ability to get under his character's skin means that there are no false notes and the story is always convincing.

Life Or Death opens with the escape from prison of Audie Palmer on the day before he is due to be released. Palmer has spent

Reviewer: JEFF POPPLE

Michael Robotham's decade long experience as a ghost writer has served him well in his new career as a bestselling author of taut crime novels.

Before turning to crime, Robotham was a popular ghost writer detailing the lives of SAS soldiers, social campaigners and minor celebrities, such as Geri Halliwell and the now infamous Rolf Harris. As a ghost writer Robotham had to turn masses of research and personal papers into readable and entertaining stories and was also required to write in a variety of different voices and to get into heads of the

MAITLAND REPERTORY THEATRE

Cinderella

by Michele L. Vacca

A pumpkin becomes a golden coach?
 Four mice become stately horses?
 A rat becomes a coachman?



Magic is in the air.

Take one group of young, enthusiastic and talented actors and add a dash of humour and romance. Then beautifully weave all this together with a generous touch of magic to bring to life the timeless French tale, *Cinderella*.

Maitland Repertory Theatre presents the children's classic *Cinderella*, written by Michele L. Vacca and directed by Leilani Boughton.

Two casts totalling 50 young actors drawn from the theatre's acting classes have been rehearsing for months under Leilani's direction. For this production Leilani has been assisted by Matt Collins and Tanya Keen.

Come along and find out what happens next when Cinderella, a sweet young girl with a lot of practical common sense, and her not-so-nice stepsisters Thelma and Gertrude go to the King's ball.

Cinderella opens on Friday, July 8 at 7:30pm at Maitland Repertory Theatre with doors opening at 7.00pm. The 10 performances continue on Friday evenings at 7:30pm with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2pm until July 24. There's also a special Saturday evening performance on 16 July at 7:30pm. Bookings can be made on 4931 2800 or online at www.maitlandreptheatre.org.

All tickets are \$17. Doors open 30 minutes before performances.

Has your phone stopped ringing?



You need to advertise your Business locally

Call Mike At 'The News'

4938
1773



Open 7 days
8am - 8pm

4990 3485

202 Wollombi Road, Cessnock
(opposite ALDI)

STANHOPE HANDYMAN SERVICES

Branxton and surrounding areas

I'll consider any job and will tell you if I can't do the work!

- ✓ Broad experience
- ✓ Lots of tools and equipment
- ✓ Small construction work
- ✓ Sheds built
- ✓ IKEA and other flat pack units built and installed
- ✓ Repairs and maintenance
- ✓ Renovations, painting and decorating
- ✓ Landscaping, paths, steps, pergolas, arbours, gardens, fire pits etc.
- ✓ High pressure water cleaning
- ✓ Clean-up and rubbish removed
- ✓ Firewood cut, split and stacked

Free quotes or will work for hourly rate on any project. **Seniors Discount!**

Great attention to detail and always clean-up at the end of the day! References available.

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

For a FREE quote, call Peter on: 0419 441 257



Police Report

Break, Enter and Steal/Howes Valley:

Between 08:00 on Saturday 11 June 2016 and 20:10 on Sunday 12 June 2016 unknown person/s have gained entry to the stated location being Putty Rd, Howes Valley by forcing the lock on the ground floor side door by an unknown means.

Once inside the offender/s have stolen a ride on mower, mower, whipper snipper, chainsaw and 2 pushbikes.

Steal from MV/Singleton:

Location : Dangar Rd Singleton

Veh: White Toyota Cab

On Saturday the 11th June 2016, the victim left his vehicle locked and secured in the driveway of the above address. At 11.00 am on Monday the 13th June 2016, the victim returned to the address and found that his vehicle had been broken into. He states unknown persons had broken the window seal and somehow managed to jimmy the lock open. The victim believed that nothing was stolen, but was later made aware that his ANZ savings account had been accessed on Monday the 13th June 2016.

House Fire/Glendon Brook:

TIME/DATE: Between 5:00pm on Friday the 10th of June and 10:00am Tuesday the 14th of June, 2016

LOCATION: Glendonbrook Road, Glendonbrook

DAMAGED STRUCTURES: Whole house

FIRE CREW: Not required. House destroyed. No smoulder/fire. EXTINGUISHED

The premises located at Glendonbrook Road, Glendonbrook is an isolated single storey three bedroom dwelling of weatherboard construction with a steel roof. The house is not occupied and renovations have been conducted over the past year.

Around 5:00pm on Friday the 10th of June, 2016 the owner attended the property turning on an external water pump for his sheep. Once finished has placed an old tarp over the pump and turned the power off to the house. Both owners left the property. Around 10:00am on Tuesday the 14th of June, 2016, the owners returned home and observed the house to be completely destroyed by fire and subsequently contacted Police.

Police and Detectives attended and inspected the property and it was revealed that the fire was not suspicious and resulted from the tarp melting onto the water pump causing. This in conjunction with high winds over the weekend caused a fire which spread to the house. The entire premise sustained extensive damage and was completely destroyed. No occupants were inside at the time of the fire and no persons were injured.

Dive in and have your say!

Cessnock LGA residents have the opportunity to weigh in on the establishment of a new Aquatic Centre for Cessnock with the draft Cessnock Aquatic Centre Feasibility and Design Report now on public exhibition for 60 days. The draft Report details two options for the new aquatic facility comprising of a medium embellishment and high embellishment construction. The establishment of a new aquatic centre has been prompted by the

recommendations of an Aquatics Needs Analysis completed by Council in 2014. The new facility would include either a 50m indoor or outdoor pool, 25m indoor pool, warm water therapy, a learn to swim pool, a spa, sauna, leisure water and water play area. Both options also include car parking and club facilities such as meeting rooms. Assessment of the facility options involved detailed financial modelling and funding over 15 years. Modelling within the draft Report shows it may be more cost effective to construct a

new facility than to continue funding repairs and maintenance of the existing Cessnock pool. Cessnock City Mayor Councillor Bob Pynsent said "I encourage community members to take a look at the plans and provide feedback over the exhibition period". "Regardless of which option the Council considers it is a very exciting and first rate proposal for the entire community", Cr Pynsent said. Council has endorsed Turner Park on Aberdare Road, Aberdare as the preferred site. The public exhibition period closes on Friday 19 August 2016. All submissions are welcome.

HEARD IT THROUGH the GRAPEVINE

with Jo Thomas
General Manager HVWTA



with Jo Thomas, General Manager HVWTA

HVWTA Chairman, Honourable George Souris AM awarded an Order of Australia (AM)

The Queen's Birthday 2016 Honours List was announced last Monday 13th June and recognises a diverse range of contributions and service across all fields, including professional endeavours, community work, Australia's Defence Force and Emergency Services. The Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association's Chairman, Honourable George Souris AM, was awarded an Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to the people and Parliament of New South Wales, and to the community of the Upper Hunter. On behalf of the Wine and Tourism community I would like to extend our congratulations for his achievement and outstanding contribution.



The Hon. George Souris AM, Chairman HVWTA

Hunter Valley Wine & Food Festival

The Hunter Valley Wine & Food Festival, highlights some of the festivals most exciting and popular events this weekend including Burning of the Barrel at Glandore Estate, Cheese Lovers Festival at Sebel Kirkton Park, Cork & Fork Cup at The Vintage Golf Club and Meet The Farmer Dinner at Margan Family Wines to name a few. For a full list of what's on during the festival, book your event, accommodation and more information please visit winecountry.com.au

Domestic Visitors to NSW Attract a Record \$16 billion

According to the new data from the Tourism Research Australia's National Visitor Survey interstate visitors, holiday makers and business travellers have contributed a massive \$16.4 billion in the year ending March 2016 to the State's domestic tourism market. Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events Stuart Ayres said "not only is NSW attracting more interstate visitors but more people are also choosing to visit our regions. Regional NSW welcomed a record 20.2 million overnight visitors, who contributed a record \$9.6 billion in overnight expenditure." The Hunter has also experienced an 8% growth in business travellers over the same period and alongside interstate visitors and holiday makers delivers a massive injection in local restaurants, hotels and tourism attractions.



Branxton Golf Club



Phone: 4938 1421 Fax: 4938 3571 Email: branxtongolfclub@westnet.com.au

Information for Members and Guest.

**Champion vs Champion
CORMIER VS JONES**

Thursday Night

Trivia: 7-9pm \$10 per team- cash prizes

Badge Draw: **\$800.00** as at 30/6/16

Friday Night Raffles

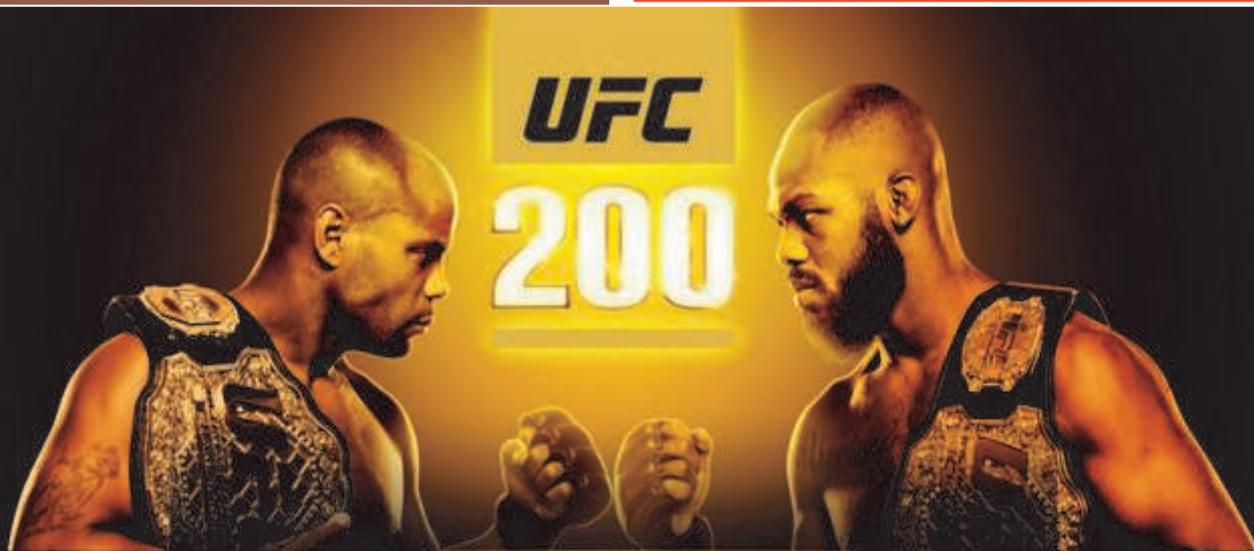
7.30pm

Meat And Vegies

Badge Draw \$1750 As At 23/6/16

Lions Trivia Night

Saturday 23rd July



SUNDAY JULY

10th

12.00pm

We support the responsible service of alcohol
Is gambling a problem call
G-line 18006333635

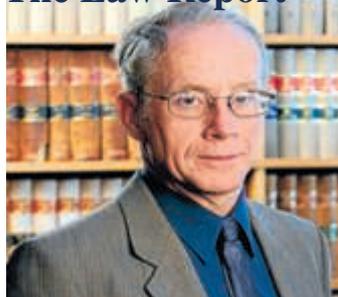
OUR TOWNS GOT TALENT

Sunday 30th July

Entry \$5.00 Adults \$2.00 Children
Interested local talent—call club for details

Supporting Harry Meyn Foundation

The Law Report



Peter KIRSOP B.A., LL.B., Acc Spec (Prop) of MRM Thompson Norrie Lawyers, Maitland NSW

use someone else's land for a limited purpose. So it must leave the owner of the burdened land with some use of that land. There are a string of cases on this subject- and they differ (which makes it very hard for solicitors to advise their clients). They differ on whether in determining whether it's a valid easement you look at the effect of the easement site only or on the effect of the whole parcel of land in asking whether the owner of the burdened land has some use of it.

Jea lost on this first ground because only the surface area was affected by the easement. Jea could use the land above the surface. So for example it could build a shopping centre on piers just like the Kmart Shopping Centre in Maitland is built entirely on piers above the car park that occupies the surface of the land. So it didn't matter if the easement affected the whole of the surface area (which it did) or only part of the land - the owner still had some use of it.

But Jea won- at least to begin with on the second ground. It said that the easement had never been 'validly created' and the law is that only 'validly created' easements can be said to be 'omitted' and so can prevail even if they are not registered.

It said the easement was not validly created for two main reasons. First because it was not created as an easement. In 1964 when the "covenant" was registered easements had to be in a format set out in the Real Property act. It seems unlikely (though the judgements are not that clear) that the covenant was not created in the format for easements. After all it was called a covenant not an easement when registered. The judge who decided the case to begin with didn't refer to this much. Rather he concentrated on the second reason- that to be validly created the easement had to be registered on the land burdened. This (I thought) was the most important issue.

Ignorance of the *burden* of an easement carries more consequences than does ignorance of the *benefit* of an easement and the judge agreed and the wording of the relevant section (that the easement had to be registered on the title of the "affected land") supported this.

Ordinary language suggests that "affected" means "impaired" or "detrimentally burdened", rather than "advantageously favoured" or simply "benefited". And the judge agreed.

Then the adjoining owner and the Registrar General appealed. And the Court of Appeal -surprisingly - allowed the appeal.

The Court of Appeal simply seems to have overlooked the first point- that the proper form wasn't used to create the easement (I am not alone in thinking this, the writer of the Conveyancing and Property Section in the Australian Law Journal says this).

And equally surprisingly it said that the easement only had to be registered on the title of the land benefited. IT did this because -as I wrote above- the transfer completing the sale contained the 'covenant'. Only one parcel of land was being transferred and the transfer could only 'affect' the land being transferred. So the 'affected' land was the transferred land -the land with the benefit of the easement.

This means- and this is one of the things that make me wonder- if the transaction had been in two stages- the transfer of lot 5 by one document, the easement created over lot 4 by another then there would have been a different answer. Then lot 4 would be the 'affected' land. But the real thing that makes me wonder is how do you find out if land is burdened by an easement if it is not registered? In the case of the old system land it's not that hard. Often- usually perhaps- the physical layout of the land alerts you (there might be a track over the land leading to adjoining land- this happens even in blocks of land in High Street in central Maitland, there might be an alleyway leading from the street to the land behind). Your lawyer then can search back- finding first the former old system reference to the land and then second the old system conveyance which would set out the easement. But you just can't search the Torrens register in the same way in cases like this - because the easement was never registered on the title to the land burdened by the easement. Now it seems we may have to search the titles of all the adjoining land. This hardly makes for easier conveyancing.

Cheers, Peter

MRM Thompson Norrie serving Maitland and the Hunter... since 1864

MRM Thompson Norrie Lawyers, providing personalised & professional law services

Insurance Law	Property - Buying/Selling
Estate Planning	Trademarks
Litigation	Land & Environmental Law
Family Law	Commercial Law
Workplace Issues	Notary Public
Superannuation	Local Government Law
Employment Law	
Wills & Inheritance	
Disputes Disability	

Traditional values | Professional approach | Modern delivery

FOR YOUR LEGAL ISSUES CALL

MRM THOMPSON NORRIE LAWYERS
 PH: 4933 6399
 FAX: 4933 6475
 FREECALL: 1800 678007

Stephen Bray, Paul Mantach, Martin Kelly, Wayne Dever, Max Mantach, George Williams, Peter Kirsop

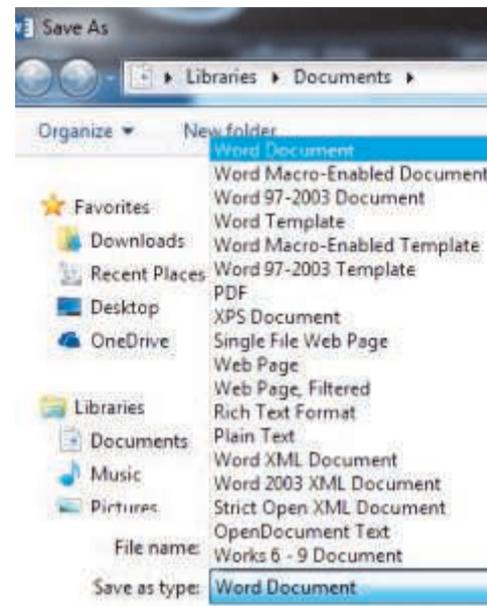
9 Church Street, Maitland NSW 2320 | WWW.MRM.COM.AU
 NEWCASTLE • SINGLETON • CENTRAL COAST

click



Word Document Formats Explained

If you use Microsoft Word, you'll see that you have the option to save documents in several formats.



Many of you have asked what these formats are, and what the difference is between them. Below I've got a list of the types of files available in Word and what they mean.

Word Document - Word files will show up as .docx files. This is the default file format for Word 2007 and beyond. In addition to text, .docx files can contain styles, objects, styles formats, and images. All of these separate items are compressed together into one file.

Word Macro-Enabled Document - These files have the .docm extensions. The documents contain macros. Macros are a set of instructions that can perform a task. For example, a macro could allow you to change all of your text to a different font and size with a single key-stroke.

Word 97-2003 Document - This is the file format used for earlier versions of Word. In addition to text, these files can contain formatting information and can also contain active hyperlinks.

Word 97-2003 Template - This allows you to turn a document into a template that will work in Word 97 - 2003

PDF - stands for Portable Document Format. This format can be read on computers, smartphones, and tablets.

XPS Document - This file format keeps the document formatting and makes file sharing easier. It is difficult to change the data in the file and you can only open them with a program that can read .xps documents

Single File Web Page, Web Page, Web Page, filtered - these formats save a document in the form of a .html file. These are designed for being read on the web. These files can include images, sounds and more.

Rich Text Format - .rtf is a format originally implemented by Microsoft. It allowed products to be shared across various platforms. You can include photos in rich text documents.

Plain Text - .txt files contain the text but do not transfer formatting, hyperlinks or photos.

Word XML Document, Word 2003 XML Document, Strict Open XML Document - The .xml extension stands for Extensible Markup Language and is used for including data in files. XML is similar to HTML.

OpenDocument Text -Open Document text is an open -source format used for programs like Open Office and Libre Office. .odt files are compatible between these open-source programs and Microsoft Word. Some formatting may be lost if a Word file is saved in this format.

Works 6-9 Document - .wps is the default format for Microsoft Works version 6-9.0. It does not include the advanced formatting options found in Word documents.

Why Is Tablet Storage Limited?

Many tablets offer the option to expand storage, but usually not a lot. A reader asks: "Do iPads and tablets limit the added memory to 16 GB because opening and running too much stuff would overload them? With all the large memory available these days, it seems a shame to limit them so much. Times sure have changed. I remember emailing a chip manufacturer to ask if I could use my camera chip the other way and store files on it. The answer was they didn't know, but it would not hurt the computer to try. How's that for eons ago?? They must have tried it themselves because within months they were selling them as memory chips...all 8 MB. Bottom line...I like the tablet you're selling, but it would need to hold more. Hopeless to wish for a regular USB port to print? (I'm not

set up for Bluetooth.)"



First, let's clear up the difference between memory and storage. I think what you're talking about is expandable storage. Meaning that many mobile devices allow you the option of using a microSD card to add additional storage space to the device. This isn't referring to memory (RAM) in the way that you would for a PC, where you can actually add extra RAM to speed up your PC. No tablet that I know of allows you to do that.



Many tablets do allow you to expand the storage space with a microSD card. Interestingly enough, the very popular iPad is not among them. Apple expects you to store things like photos and music in their cloud.

This is why mobile devices tend not to have a lot of storage. They are internet appliances designed to interact with the cloud. Your music, your images, your apps, your eBooks, and your documents are meant to be stored online and only downloaded to the devices as needed. For example, while I have over 1,000 books in my cloud Amazon library, there are only a few of them actually on my Kindle.

Expandable storage does come in handy if you have a whole lot of apps, take lots of photos, or just want your music available for listening when a WiFi connection isn't possible.



You aren't limited to 16GB of expandable storage on all devices. Many have a limit of 16GB or 32GB, but there are some that hold more. Part of that is to keep the weight of the tablet down, but also because tablets are designed for accessing things, but not really for storing a lot of files on them. Companies like Google, Amazon and now Microsoft want you to become a user of their cloud services, not be tied to one device. The idea is that you'll be able to access all of your content from multiple devices and also that you'll get used to using their app stores and storage services. One alternative for those looking for more storage space is a wireless or Bluetooth external drive.

Some Windows tablets, like the Surface, do offer full USB ports. But it's unlikely that you'd see them on Android or Apple products just because they would add quite a bit of weight to devices and not really add any new functionality.

The good news is that you don't need Bluetooth to print from a tablet. There are apps that will print to wireless printers. You can also upload anything you wish to print to the cloud and use your PC to print it. Hope this clears things up.

There are court decisions that make me wonder

Sometimes there are court decisions that make me wonder.

They often happen in family provision cases where someone challenges a Will because they didn't get what they think is their fair share. I've written about these cases before; how people who've attacked, insulted or ignored their parents sometimes for decades bring a claim- and are usually successful. I've written about what I still hope was the limit of this - Foley v Ellis where a daughter compared her Orthodox Jewish father to Adolf Hitler and said living in her Orthodox Jewish home was like living in Dachau concentration camp. In her Will Mrs. Ellis left her daughter a little under \$200,000 which was about a one fifteenth of her estate. The court of appeal increased that gift to \$500,000 plus most of her legal expenses

I wrote at the time that I couldn't understand this -In Australia people were generally free to leave their property as they saw fit in their Wills. The family provision law was to redress Wills which had failed to provide properly for an 'eligible person's' proper support or maintenance in life.

I'm glad that the court of appeal seems to have changed its views. Earlier this year In Burke v Burke it gave an adult son in a far worse financial position than Mrs. Foley was nothing mainly because he had not spoken with his mother for many years.

Still as I wrote at the beginning ...sometimes I wonder. The most recent case that has made me wonder concerns an easement- or rather what the court in the end decided was an easement that had not been registered properly.

The Torrens system is -as I have written so many times that you're probably tired of reading it - a system of title by registration. What's registered is meant to mirror what is in existence so you don't have to check anywhere but the Torrens register-. So in an ideal world, a search of the title to both the land benefited by the easement and the burdened land would show the easement. Otherwise how can people interested in buying the land know about it?

However some easements that are not registered- what the Real Property Act which governs Torrens Title land calls 'omitted easements' can sometimes be enforced. One reason for this is historic - to work out under old system title what land was burdened and what was benefited by an easement could be difficult. The conversion process bringing land under the Torrens system sidestepped this difficulty by simply not registering easements at all when converting from old system title. Someone claiming an easement could lodge a 'request' at the Land Titles Office with the evidence supporting the claim. The Registrar General's legal officers consider the evidence and if they think it substantiates the claim, write to the owner of the affected land and if that owner doesn't object they register the easement. If they think the evidence doesn't support the claim or if the owner of the affected land objects the person claiming the easement can go to court to prove his or her claim.

I have dealt with clams both where the Registrar General's officers believed the evidence substantiated the claim and where they did not. I can understand the problem the Land Titles Office has with old system deeds- the confusion they created was the main reason behind the Torrens system.

But I shake my head and wonder at a recent Court of Appeal decision involving a shopping centre at Green Valley.

In 1964 the owner subdivided the land into 5 lots. While the subdivision was being registered the owner sold lot 5 'off the plan' to an hotelier. The transfer completing the sale after the subdivision was registered contained a 'covenant'. The covenant limited the use of all of the surface area of Lot 4 to car parking for the use of the owners tenants and customers of Lots 1 to 5. The 'covenant' was registered on the certificate of title to lot 5 but not on that for lot 4. Both lots were sold and mortgaged several times. In 2012 the Registrar-General of New South Wales served a notice on Jea Holdings by the owner of lot 4 advising that he was proposing to record the covenant on Lot 4 unless restrained by Court order from doing so Jea sought such a restraining order

It did so on two main grounds. The first ground is whether the law recognises an easement for car- parking because this is what the 'covenant' really was. A covenant restricts an owner's use of the land in some way (one common way is to provide that any house on the land must be built of brick). But an easement is a right to



REINSW warns against renting asbestos register property

Dwellings listed on a register of residential properties affected by loose-fill asbestos insulation are uninhabitable, according to the Real Estate Institute of New South Wales.

REINSW President John Cunningham said from 30 May 2016, NSW Fair Trading made the listing of residential premises on the Loose-fill Asbestos Insulation Register (LFAI Register) a material fact, requiring an agent to advise a prospective tenant of that listing. "We are of the view that if the dwelling is on the LFAI Register it should not be made available for rent and have voiced our concerns with NSW Fair Trading," Mr Cunningham said.

"Meanwhile if a premises is added to the LFAI Register during a tenancy, then the landlord must notify the tenant in writing within 14 days of the premises being listed. "REINSW considers this to be insufficient as it fails to accurately reflect what happens to the lease in the event the premises is listed on the LFAI Register during a tenancy. "Pursuant to the Residential Tenancies Act 2010 (NSW), the premises will become wholly uninhabitable and the residential tenancy agreement will become frustrated. In those circumstances, the landlord or tenant may give the other party a termination notice.

"REINSW is concerned that unsophisticated tenants and other people in low socio-economic circumstances who may agree to lease premises listed on the LFAI Register will be adversely impacted if they receive a discounted rent. "REINSW believes that the Government should be preventing those situations, not encouraging them," Mr Cunningham said.

Complaints Register to launch in August



THE public need to be aware of the new Complaints Register which is being provided to the public from August and will be based on data collected from 1 July 2016.

Currently NSW Fair Trading receives over 45,000 complaints a year. As a result NSW Fair Trading has decided to bring in the Register to provide businesses with an incentive to provide better customer service and help consumers make more informed decisions about where to shop. It is designed to provide information about businesses, including real estate agencies, which receive 10 or more complaints in a calendar month.

The Register will be published on NSW Fair Trading website in the second half of each month with data from the previous calendar month.

REINSW made a submission to NSW Fair Trading regarding the proposal Register in October 2015.

REINSW CEO Tim McKibbin said: "In principle we think the Complaints Register is a good idea. We have always supported providing consumers with relevant and accurate information so that they can make an informed choice.

"It is, however, open to abuse and interpretation which could mislead consumers and end up unfairly tarnishing a business's reputation.

"Before a complaint goes up on the Register it needs to be properly investigated by NSW Fair Trading and be deemed genuine as part of its criteria.

He added: "The Register needs to record accurate, complete and useful information that will result in the delivery of better customer service and more informed decisions.

"We will be closely monitoring the Register and providing feedback to NSW Fair Trading on amendments and improvements where needed."

To be listed on the Register, a complaint must include the person's name and contact details. It must be related to a real interaction with a business, and a receipt for the transaction or other supporting information may be requested. If the consumer is not able to provide sufficient information, it will

not be included in the Register.

Those agencies who are placed on the Register will have their business name listed, the number of complaints made against them and the product groups complained about. It will not disclose information about the specific complaint or outcome.

The Complaints Register is also an open data initiative. The NSW Government's open data policy aims to release Government-held information wherever possible, in recognition of the important role that information plays in the economy and the community.

Managing vexatious complaints ~ NSW Fair Trading takes reasonable steps to ensure that all complaints included on the Register are from a real person, who had a real interaction with the business being complained about. These checks reduce the potential of false or fictitious complaints being included in the Register. To be listed on the Register, a complaint must include sufficient information for NSW Fair Trading staff to be able to contact the consumer. There must be a name and at least one form of contact provided (phone number or email address). If either of these details are incomplete, the complaint will not be included in the Register. NSW Fair Trading will also seek to determine whether a complaint was likely to be related to a real interaction with a business. NSW Fair Trading may request that the consumer provide a receipt for the transaction or other supporting information (eg. the date, time and location of the incident or name of the business's employee). This reduces the potential for false claims about fictitious transactions being made for the purpose of damaging a business's reputation. If the consumer is not able to provide sufficient information about their interaction with the business being complained about, the complaint will not be included in the Register.

The limitations of our data ~ In considering the Complaints Register data, consumers and businesses should be aware of its limitations:

- The Complaints Register only reports on complaints that have been made to NSW Fair Trading. Other complaints may have been reported either directly to the business or to other entities (eg. another regulator or an industry Ombudsman). As such, the Complaints Register data may only provide a partial picture of complaints relating to any business. The Complaints Register does not provide information about the severity or seriousness of a complaint, or the level of harm experienced.
- A complaint to NSW Fair Trading does not necessarily mean that the business being complained about has breached any laws. Complaints can involve poor customer service or a business perceived to be not responding adequately to an existing concern.
- Larger businesses may attract greater numbers of complaints due to the larger number of transactions undertaken.
- Certain types of businesses may generate more complaints than others due to the nature of the products or services offered.
- Businesses operate under a variety of legal structures (eg. franchise, independently owned subsidiary, etc.) which can impact how much influence a particular store or staff member has over policies or decisions.
- Media attention and publicity about a matter can generate additional complaints. Alternatively, where the public is aware that NSW Fair Trading is unable to act on an issue (such as when it is outside of its jurisdiction), this may discourage complaints.

The Complaints Register is established under s86AA of the Fair Trading Act

What is due diligence?

By Tim McKibbin – REINSW CEO

You will often hear people say they are doing their "due diligence" before buying a business, property or some other asset.

So what does it mean? Due diligence in simple terms means undertaking enquiries and investigation prior to your purchase to gain a full understanding of what you are buying. You then are guided by your research and not simply your emotions. All too often we see people buying property with their heart and not their head.

For most of us buying our home will be the most financially important decision we will ever make. Despite this, often too little research is done to investigate and fully understand what we are buying. Then, when the excitement of the purchase ends and the realities set in, disappointment can follow. Every property is different and will need different things considered before purchase. Generally it is a wise idea to try and determine the good order of the suburb by viewing the property at different times of day and at night, and if possible, week days and weekends.

In addition, you should always consider getting pest, building and strata (if applicable) reports. Another idea is to speak to the council about the property, and if possible the neighbours, as the information you gather here all goes into the mix of your final decision.

This process will come at some cost and will need an investment of your time, but it will be comparatively cheap if it stops you from buying a bad property.



Helen Lowing, Proprietor, Licencee-in-Charge

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

12 Clift Street
BRANXTON NSW 2335
P: 4938 3300

MOVIE REVIEW

FINDING DORY

Disney-Pixar's 'Finding Dory' reunites everyone's favourite forgetful blue tang, Dory, with her friends Nemo and Marlin on a search for answers about her past. What can she remember? Who are her parents? And where did she learn to speak Whale?



You will remember that Dory is a fish with a serious problem: She has short-term memory loss. Stick by her long enough and you'll imprint yourself in her consciousness – she certainly knows her pal, the clown fish Marlin, and his son Nemo – but much of her aquatic life seems to float by her in a puzzling swirl of turbidity. For all that she is a friendly and lovable character in a sentimental movie for children, the tangential, fragmented nature of her existence can give an adult pause.

And that is just one part of the genius that is *Finding Dory*, a sequel that betters the boffo 2003 animated feature *Finding Nemo* and provides more evidence, after last year's highly original *Inside Out*, that Pixar has finally emerged from the uninspiring years of the *Cars* franchise.

Since Hollywood considers every children's story as a franchise opportunity – what is Disney, Pixar's parent, except the master of spinoffs and merch? – it is tempting to conclude that a sequel is both an inevitable and inevitably lesser thing. *Finding Dory* stands that logic on its head, suggesting that writers and directors who have mastered one story should be able to deepen and enlarge their work as they make subsequent films in a series. In *Finding Nemo*, filmmaker Andrew Stanton simply used Dory's memory problem as an amusing quirk, the source of a running gag about her repeated questions and perpetual confusion. With scant understanding of the past, the little tang fish lived joyfully in the present, displaying a happy-go-lucky attitude that was mainly a way of underlining the anxious nature of the over-protective Marlin.

But in developing a backstory for Dory, Stanton and his co-creators now ask troubling questions about how she finds herself on the Great Barrier Reef and, as she recalls a faint childhood memory, they soon send her off looking for her parents on an adventure in which she

then quickly loses sight of Marlin and Nemo. She winds up at an aquarium in California – it's called the Marine Life Institute and is located in Morro Bay, but is clearly inspired by the real Monterey Bay Aquarium – and that is the second bit of genius here. The artistic foundation of *Toy Story*, the 1995 feature on which Pixar first built its reputation, was the toys' imaginative and comic attempt to operate in the oversized world of their human owners. Aside from its lovely depiction of aquatic life in the Australian ocean, *Finding Nemo* was similarly animated by a story in which the title character finds himself trapped in the saltwater aquarium of a dentist's office and escapes through some inventive disruption of the filtration system and the help of a pelican.

Finding Dory goes several better: The Marine Life Institute is a much larger canvas, full of potential encounters between land and water – or among human, mammal and fish. This time, Dory, Marlin and Nemo conquer not only the giant display tanks and their internal water supply but also the outdoor exhibits of sea lions and seals, and the staff offices and fish hospital behind the scenes – not to mention a gift shop, a splash pad and a baby stroller. They are helped by two bossy Aussie sea lions and one grouchy squid named Hank and, as Dory, Marlin and Nemo pop their heads up to chat with these creatures, you can just imagine the creative team debating how long a talking fish can survive out of water without overtaxing an audience's suspension of disbelief.

The plot – something about the institute's quarantine and a truck full of fish imminently departing for an aquarium back east – is complicated enough adults may have difficulties following it and kids simply won't bother. Perhaps all this info about aquarium practices has something to do with the politics surrounding captivity. (Ironically, the conservationist message of *Finding Nemo* was drowned out by the global demand for tropical fish as pets that the movie quickly created.) Narratively, none of that matters, any more than the exact details of the corporate

bickering between Pixar and Disney that so delayed this sequel.

Thankfully, Ellen DeGeneres, the third bit of genius here, was still available to reprise her standout performance as Dory. Most voice work for children's animation demands that the actors, whether they are the A-listers so prevalent in the field since the success of Tom Hanks and Tim Allen in *Toy Story* or the unknowns who still do all the secondary roles, create characters largely defined by a single trait. Here, Albert Brooks sympathetically relaying the nervous Marlin, Hayden Rolence now taking up the role of the plucky Nemo, or Ed O'Neill dutifully revealing the cantankerous Hank's heart of gold, provide typical examples of the energy and focus that are required to make these gigs work.

DeGeneres goes much further, though, maintaining a delicate balance between Dory's optimistic personality and the hovering anxieties created by her imperfect memory. In *Finding Nemo*, she touchingly revealed how Dory sensed that she annoyed others with her inevitable repetitions even as she was unaware she was repeating herself; here, the tragedy of her memory loss is the emotional spine to the adventure as she keeps swimming up against her past. Will she really be happier to discover how much she has lost? This is a sunny children's movie with rather obvious messages to relay about Dory the fish, who tells herself to "keep on swimming" to find a family that must surely include friends like Marlin and Nemo. But the creators' unlikely choice of disability and DeGeneres's sensitive performance mean that, for an adult at least, there are regular flashes of the existential heartbreaker that is memory loss. Dory is a cartoon character worthy of neurologist Oliver Sacks.



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

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



This article was first published in The News in 2009

The week before last, I left behind the gruelling façade of growing grapes and making and selling wine, for a secret destination in the South Pacific which I will happily share with you its precise location but rest assured, if I tell you I will have to kill you. Any takers? Hhhmmm, I thought not. Seasoned travellers will tell you about amazing

places of discovery but only occasionally will they term the phrase 'Paradise'. So without hesitation, I will sacrifice any future travel karma and declare that paradise was indeed found in an unexpected corner of the globe which has struck a profound chord in the lucky individuals who have visited this land.

The defining moment, that moment of sheer clarity, with which your complete mind and body click into perfect sync with the world, happened whilst surfing an unknown coral reef break which I will simply dub as 'no-names'. The sun was shining, the water was crystal clear and a perfect temperature. The waves were perfection and dolphins danced away directly in front of us, as if showing off. Paradise.....Nirvana.....Eden.....however you describe it.....this was it!

I was surfing with three guys I know from very different walks of life. The first chap is one of Australia's most formidable financial traders. He is known world-wide for his ruthless investing prowess and has spent many years in various countries building a portfolio second to none. His name is Peter (*not his real name). The second chap is one of the country's most gifted culinary experts. A chef and food connoisseur, he has mastered dishes in Australia's best restaurants and is among other things, the chief executive of the largest corporate catering outfit in the country. His name is Paul (*not his real name). The third chap was seven years behind me at my school in Sydney. Therefore, he was a young punk who had to follow the rules and toughen up if he wanted to get by and in hindsight he has done a relatively fair job. He was a pretty handy rugby player and so after leaving the big pearly gates of The King's School, he decided to see if he could make a life in rugby. As current Australian Rugby Union captain, chances are he may have succeeded. His name is Stirling (*his real name - there is unfortunately only one captain). My claim to fame of course, is being able to match beer for beer with big Errol Campbell at the old Tallawanta Hotel throughout the 1990s and live to tell the tale. Enough said.

Now, there was a fifth chap. He is an Australian living on the island we were staying on, who acted as our guide. He is paid by a resort to look after outdoor activities for guests. His name is Nate (*his real name-not too many people would make that one up!).

The moment the five of us jumped from the boat and paddled over to the reef, we had no idea of the schizophrenic charm of the place. The first set rolled in, almost creeping politely as if not to wake us from a daydream. Then, without a hint of warning, the giant waves would hit the take off zone, pitch up to almost double in size and ruthlessly spill over the reef with unrelenting force. It is difficult to describe surfing a reef-break so a clear analogy could be something along the lines of this.....

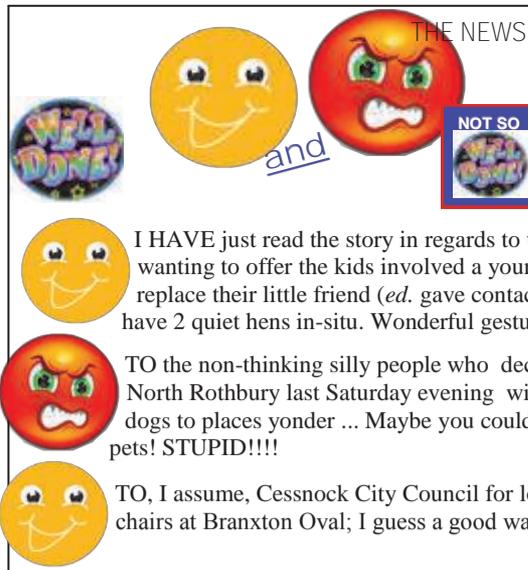
It is a beautiful sunny day, everything in your life is nice and calm and you feel on top of the world. You are sitting on the second floor of your office building thinking of how fortunate you are when all of a sudden you look out of the window and you notice that the entire street is flooded but only one to one and a half feet under water. Before you know it, you notice that there is a rope tied to your leg. You trace it down and realise the other end is tied to a speeding car. In the instant your brain sends a message to your arms to quickly untie the rope, you are pulled from the building, free-falling down to land in the water. As it is only knee-high deep, you hit the bottom with tremendous force, landing on the sharp stones from your office car park. Believing you have possibly broken a bone or two, the car hurtles away, dragging you through the street fast enough to scrape the skin off you, but slow enough for you to believe that you can grab something to stop the drag. Suddenly the car stops and you sigh in relief. As you come up gasping for air, the car starts up again, dragging you further down the gravelly road...and again...and again. As if things could not get any worse, the car loses control and careers down a small cliff and onto an oyster farm, where you are feebly dragged one last time before the car's momentum dies. How would you feel? I cannot describe surfing a coral reef break any clearer than that!!

Of course, if you don't fall, it is the greatest feeling in the world, but the unknown wreaks havoc with your mind the entire time you're out there. So it was this particular day. Within a few minutes, there was clear evidence within the group that an off-beat trepidation drifted unconsciously between us. The profiles I have shared with you regarding Peter, Paul and Stirling would have any baby boomer, Gen X or Gen Y marvelling and awe-struck at the feats of these men. Clearly at the pillar of their chosen fields, stepping outside their comfort zones, one would believe to be a genetic disposition. My point is this. Peter would punt on a 0.0005% index change in a foreign market and stand to lose a million dollars in a morning's work and not think anything of it. Paul is expected to religiously pump out five-star culinary dishes for Sydney's society and corporate world and consistently

win affection from the harshest of critics. To see these two identities nervously chit-chatting between waves in a vain effort to boost some confidence in the face of slipping well out of their comfort zones was an intriguing experience, yet a forgiving one, all the same. Slight angst steps into the realm of fear however, when you view Stirling, who at the age of twenty, marked one of the largest and most feared rugby players the world has ever seen, Jonah Lomu, turning a desperate shade of white as he paddles for a wave, looks down the face and retreats in a stricken panic. What hope do the rest of us have? I may just add that I don't think the Australian Rugby Union would be too thrilled if they knew that their star player was playing roulette with his health on a barnacle-ridden coral reef in the middle of nowhere, five hundred kilometres from the nearest hospital, so I trust that this will not reach the wrong ears.

As the day sails on and we enjoy one of the greatest surfing experiences of all time, we are becoming familiar with our guide, Nate. Nate is twenty-eight years old; is from no fixed address; has a tongue ring and peroxided blonde hair and spends his life taking groups of tourists scuba-diving and groups of idiot males surfing on the reef. He has no idea who Peter, Paul and Stirling are and when asked how much he earns a year, he quips with enormous pride that last year he earned \$6000.....that's right.....\$6000! Peter earns that while he eats breakfast. Paul spends that on butter per day and Stirling earns that simply by donning a hat with a logo at the end of a game; yet there is an amazing aura surrounding Nate which is endearing and contagious. There is a quality about Nate that have these three guys (and just quietly myself) lustfully intuned. He lives in a pair of boardshorts the entire year. He lives on fresh fruit, nuts, fresh water and (we suspect) marijuana. He is friendly, popular with all at the resort and the only care in the world to him is that there are waves. Nate displays no negativities in conversation, employs a constant smile on his face and whistles when he takes off on the biggest waves of the set whilst staring down at the danger lurking below, with the excitement of a child receiving an ice cream. The most endearing thing about Nate is, as a consequence of being cut off from mainstream society, there are no agendas. None! He takes people at face value and is not quick to judge. He talks confidently, fluently and lovingly of nature and the environment. Nate is a product of himself and is a happy and gratuitous person who is unaffected by the hoo-hah we as a society have created, built and nurtured upon an inflexible capitalist platform. I begin to sense that our group not only see Nate as an equal but distinctly suspect we are humbled by his presence and quietly harbour an unprovoked envy. As we pull into the bay from our boat ride back from the reef, we notice a large group of kids ranging from about fourteen to four, eagerly awaiting the arrival of Stirling, brandishing note pads and pens. Once off, the swarm of kids envelope the poor bugger (he can't go anywhere) and he places his surfboard down and begins to sign away. Nate smiles away as he notices this frenzy and brazenly asks "Is Stirling famous or something?" I fill him in and he smiles, completely non-plussed. We wait for Stirling to finish and meander over to the bar for a drink. We all agree that the world is a beautiful place and what a paradise this place was. Within minutes Stirling is again covered in kids and signing autographs and he makes a face as if to suggest that...."It's tough but someone has to do it!"....but he looks chuffed and quite comfortable with the attention until his face suddenly breaks into a wry smile and he shakes his head. Sitting over on the lounge is Nate, lying back and enjoying a beer whilst a bevy of hot bikini-clad girls make a huge fuss of him. Stirling looks back to a little boy standing in front of him with a pencil and a drink coaster and turns the little boy around, whispers something in his ear and points in the direction of Nate. The kid runs off towards him. We assume he is just being funny but Paul asks what he said to the kid. Stirling has a big sip of beer and with a big smile on his face he replies.... "I asked if he could tell Nate if we can have our wives back by dinner!"

Cheers, Andrew



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

I HAVE just read the story in regards to the noisy rooster (Issue 432) and was wanting to offer the kids involved a young chicken each (will definitely be hens!) to replace their little friend (*ed.* gave contact phone & assume that the children now have 2 quiet hens in-situ. Wonderful gesture!).

TO the non-thinking silly people who decided to have their own Guy Fawkes night in North Rothbury last Saturday evening with the resultant stampede of local cats & dogs to places yonder ... Maybe you could help find the owners of our lost family pets! STUPID!!!!

TO, I assume, Cessnock City Council for locking the gate to the new covered table & chairs at Branxton Oval; I guess a good way to save 'wear & tear'!

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

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

Computer Tuition: From basics to highly skilled & learn all about ebay. P: 0429 381 908
Computer Services: Repairs, Sales & Service. Phone repairs. Comtronics P: 4991 1128
For Rent: Branxton RSL Hall, air conditioned. Short or long term. P: 0429 438 460
For Sale: Mini Foxie x Jack Russell. 8 weeks old & ready to go. 3M & 1F; microchipped, vaccinated, vet checked & wormed \$480 P: 0477 524 262 or Tania 0439 480 286
For Sale: One solid wooden table with six chairs (in good condition) \$85.00. One exercise bike \$35.00. One NordicTrack T12.2 treadmill (like new, hardly used) \$985.00 ONO. Contact mobile: 0400 526 049 to view.
For Sale: South Suffolk rams, top quality. Price neg but looking for reasonable offers. P: 4938 3236
For Sale: 2002 Rover 75. Unregistered. Needs some TLC which I am not prepared to do. Full leather, GPS. Beautiful vehicle. Price Neg P: 0414 757 826
Guitar Lessons: Branxton. Limited places available. Please inquire soon. P 4938-3380 or 0409-038-271.
Microchipping: Cats and Dogs, all sizes and breeds, will come to you. \$20 per animal, please call Angela on 0431649947.
Personal Trainer: 1 on 1 or small groups. Louise Cairns 'Fit for Life' ALSO Low impact Strength & core Miller Park 8am Tue & Thur \$12/person P: 0439 383 478
Riding Lessons: agjstment, horses trained. www.byalee.net 0407 453 494
Share accommodation: Close to transport & shops, quiet street Branxton; off street parking. \$150p/w includes power & water P: 0423 288 067
Share House: Fully furnished, double bedroom, Built-ins, ceiling fan, Air Con, very quiet. \$165/week. P: 0413 896 866
Wanted: high quality mechanical wrist watches & clocks. Keen

collector. Willing to pay good prices. Prefer Rolex, Omega, Oris & Tag. P: 0414 757 826
Wanted: all kinds of Honda mini bikes qa50 z50a z50j1 z50jz ct70 st70 & atc70. Contact Drew 0435814841
Work Wanted: Need an extra hand? I do all maintenance, labouring, construction, asbestos & have working with children licence. P (Pat) 0414 278 292
Work Wanted: Lawn Mowing; best rates - large or small area. P: 0459 123 397
Work Wanted: Lawns mowed, rubbish removal & slashing. Also 'Bobcat' work, trenching & post hole boring & general maintenance & handyman work. Phone Steve on 4938 3601
Work Wanted: HORSE CLIPPING - PERFORMANCE READY. Hunter Valley & Central Coast. Phone Caron 0416 128 701
Work Wanted: Lawns properties, mowing, trimming, removals, maintenance. Paul 0478103814 or 49987567
Work Wanted: Sick of cleaning, cooking dinner, washing. Call me! Taking bookings now. Professional and reliable service. Sue 0497257081
Work Wanted: Rural Fencing (TW & A Hollingshed) P: 4998 1583 or Trevor on 0429 320 787 for quotes.
Work Wanted: experienced baby sitter looking for work. Very reliable P: 0458 606 804
Work Wanted: Lawn & Garden Maintenance, P: 4938 3153
Work Wanted: Piano teacher available to give lessons P: Phil Aughey on 0447 381 989
Work Wanted: Let me clean your home. Great references & rates (min 3 hours) P: 4990 2936

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

Dates for your diary >

Dates for your diary >

25 Jun to 17 Jul - Mercure Resort Hunter Valley Garden - Snow Time in the Garden is a great opportunity for families and friends to get together and experience an icy wonderland over three huge weeks, including the winter school holidays.
 Sun 26 June - FUND RAISER FOR MICK CAREY 12.30pm at Baxland's Inn Pokolbin. Auction will start at 1.30pm. There will be a luck door prize and auction and all proceeds going to help Mick with his recovery after having a freak carriage accident. If you have anything you would like to donate for the auction please either contact Melissa on 0432259867, Terry on 0447783997 or Sandra on 0423474017. RSVP by 19th June.
 Tue 28 June - Greta Public School 'School Assembly'
 Thur 30 June - Greta Public School Greta Play2Learn Playgroup
 Fri 1 July - Greta Public School Last day term 1
 Fri 1 July - Branxton Public School PBL Assembly 9:20 & Rewards Day
 Sat 2 July - Federal Election/Double dissolution. Pre-poll locations available, although not all of them commence on 14 June. 14th June. East Maitland - East Maitland Church of Christ, Cnr Garnett & Mitchell Drive. Singleton - Old St Patricks School, Patrick Street. Charlestown - 4/45 Pearson Street, Charlestown Newcastle - 485 Hunter Street, Newcastle. 20th June Cessnock - Video Ezy & Pizza Hut Complex, 1/10 Allandale Road Muswellbrook - 3/77 Bridge Street. Toronto 3/7 Pemell Street Cooranong - Cooranong Community Services Hall, 614 Freemans Drive
 Tue 5 July - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
 Wed 6 July - Night Time Bingo @ Greta Workers Club from 7.00pm
 Tue 12 July - B/G CWA Mtg, St Brigids old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
 Sun 17 Jly - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
 Mon 18 Jly - Branxton Public School First day of Term 3 (staff and students)
 Mon 18 July - Branxton Public School P&C Meeting 6pm in library
 Tue 19 July - B/G CWA Birthday Lunch, venue etc. TBA.
 Sat July 23 - Trivia Nite at Branxton Golf Club hosted by Branxton Lions Club. Kitchen open for meals from 5pm. \$10/person. Tickets Brian 0417 282 440 or Bob 4938 1001
 Mon 25 July - Branxton Public School Staff Development Day (pupil free)

Sat 30 Jly - 'Brxt Got Talent'. Brxt Golf Club 7:30pm
 Tue 2 August - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
 Tue 9 Aug - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigids old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
 Sun 21 Aug - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
 Sat 27 Aug - Annual Op Shop Fashion Parade @ Branxton Community Hall from 2.00
 Thur 1 & Fri 2 Sept - Branxton Public School Stage 2 Sydney Excursion
 Tue 6 Sept - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
 Tue 13 Sept - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigids old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
 Thur 15 Sept - Branxton Public School "The Boscars" School Concert
 Sun 18 Sept - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
 Sat 20 Sept - New South Wales Wine Industry Awards at Cessnock Leagues Club
 OCT/NOV - Branxton/Greta CWA Land Cookery/Product Promotion (Blueberries) Day, venue/date TBA.
 Tue 4 Oct - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
 Wed 5 Oct - Night Time Bingo @ Greta Workers Club from 7.00
 Tue 11 Oct - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting AGM, St Brigids old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
 Wed 12 Oct - Rags to Riches High Tea for Women's Cancer @ Branxton Community Hall from 11.30am
 Sun 16 Oct - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
 Tue 1 Nov - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
 Tue 8 Nov - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigids old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room.
 Sun 20 Nov - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds
 Sun 2 Dec - Twilight Market (4.00pm to 8.00pm) - Proceeds to Prostrate Cancer & Beyond Blue
 Tue 6 Dec - Branxton Lions Club meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club
 Fri 9 Dec - Branxton Golf Club Christmas Spectacular
 Tue 13 Dec - Branxton/Greta CWA Meeting, St Brigids old School, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Staff Room, followed by Christmas Lunch.
 Sun 18 Dec - St Brigid's Markets in the old school grounds



Kirkton Public School News

Small Schools Athletics Carnival Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to all our students who recently competed at the Small Schools'

Athletics Carnival. Carnival results are as follows;

Juvenile Girl Champion Runner—up Georgia Mercieca, **Junior Boy Champion Runner—up** Riley McKewen, **Senior Girl Champion** Asha Lane, **Senior Boy Champion** Jago Lambert, **Senior Girl 200m Champion** Asha Lane, **Senior Boy 200m Champion** Jago Lambert, **Senior Girl 800m Champion** Asha Lane, **Junior Boy 800m Champion** Darcy Lane.

Assembly Awards 3rd June

The recipients of awards are:

- Kinder/Year 1: Pippa * *Being a valued member of Kirkton PS. Farewell!*
Aiden * *Having a go at tasks and trying new things*
Georgia * *Improvement in reading and comprehension skills*
- Year 2/3: Lachlan * *improved handwriting*
Zeb * *Improved phonics*
Miguel * *Being caring & helpful to peers*
Swae * *Pleasing progress in reading*
Will * *100% completion of homework & outstanding work ethics*
- Year 4/5/6: Darcy * *Writing very well structured stories.*
Millie * *Positive attitude and excellent work habits*
Michael * *Being a nice person matching to FLORA*



Branxton Public School

Congratulations to the primary students who made the Athletics Carnival in Week 7 such a great success. Students were respectful and did their personal best in the various events. We were very pleased to have students from Rutherford Technology High School, along with Mr Blair Newham, to assist with shot put, discus, high jump and long jump. Many thanks to the wonderful parents who assisted with timing on the day and to the P&C mums and dads for providing lunch.



Infants Jump Off!

Branxton Public School will have a senior and junior dance group performing in the Hunter Dance Festival at Wests next term. This is an exciting opportunity for our students to perform for a much wider audience.

Our Under 10's Rugby League team has qualified for the Knights Knockout Grand Final at Hunter Stadium. An awesome effort! The students are playing on the first week back in Term 3, on Tuesday 19th July and will take a bus of supporters with them.

On Friday of Week 9 we had our Jump Rope for Heart 'Jump Off' to keep fit and raise funds for the Heart Foundation. A very windy day but lots of fun, plenty of pink cheeks and happy faces! So far we have raised over \$2000. Great work Branxton.

Mr Howell is getting the students excited about the Book Parade to be held on 4th August. Students are encouraged to dress as a character from one of their favourite books. A great holiday project!



Ball games



High Jump with RTHS Students watching

The P&C have Entertainment Books available from the front office. The Book or Digital version are \$60 and include hundreds of offers and vouchers for restaurants, movies, holidays and much more.

Next term Branxton Public School will be having the Staff Development Day/Pupil Free Day in Week 2 (25th July) instead of Week 1 (18th July). This is to allow the teachers to attend a writing course which will benefit all our students.

Save the date! BPS students and staff will be presenting "The Boscars" concert on Thursday 15th September. The auditioning process has begun and the excitement is building!

Dates for the Calendar

Friday 1st July – PBL Assembly 9:20 and Rewards Day **Monday 18th July** – First day of Term 3 (staff and students). **Monday 18th July** – P&C Meeting 6pm in library. **Monday 25th July** – Staff Development Day (pupil free). **Thursday 1st & Friday 2nd September** – Stage 2 Sydney Excursion. **Thursday 15th September** – "The Boscars" School Concert

We do great things at Branxton Public School.

Seasoned Firewood

3 Mitre Load \$250
4 Tonne Load \$460
1 Tonne Load \$120

FREE DELIVERY
TW & A HOLLINGSHEED
Rural Fencing FREE QUOTES
P: 4998 1583
MOB: 0429 320 787

Helen Lowing,
Licencee-in-Charge with 30
years Real Estate experience in
the local area
**BRANXTON & VINE-
YARDS REAL ESTATE**

P: 4938 3300
M: 0412 566 041
www.domain.com.au



Things You May Not Know About

with Neridah Kentwell

.....GRETA



Continuing the story of the site in Camp Road that was first used by the army as a large training camp. After the war things definitely looked better for Greta. However, James Proudfoot became worried the town could have another depression if it didn't attract industries to provide more work. Mr Proudfoot was Mayor of Greta Municipal Council for 11 years before the mid-1930s and its merger with Kearsley Shire, so obviously cared for the town. Nevertheless, the saviour for Greta wasn't an industry but a body of displaced people, refugees from the war, who needed a place to call home. And Greta had this in the form of a well-used army camp suitable for their accommodation.

'Populate or perish' had been some of the Australian politicians' catch cry for the previous era but between 1933 - 1947 Australia's population only increased 1%. National development and security, especially after the real fear of being taken over by an enemy country in WWI and WWII, meant a rebirth of a large scale European immigration scheme to help swell Australia's numbers. Over half of the two million migrants that arrived in Australia by the end of 1963 were non-British, arriving under the Mass Settlement Scheme for Displaced Persons, with most of the British coming here on an Assisted Passage Scheme. Post war restoration and growth also aimed at an improvement in housing, education, welfare and employment. The Snowy Mountains Scheme 1949-1974 was a good example of combining this intention of growth and immigration in a grand way.

Australian officers from the Department of Immigration were sent to Europe to screen who came here. The Minister for Immigration, Arthur Calwell, signed an agreement with the International Refugee Organisation, in Europe in July 1945. Plans were then started in 1948 to hand over the Silver City part of the Greta Camp to the Department of Immigration and Greta No 1 Camp opened as a Holding Centre, rather than a Reception and Training Centre, on 3 June 1949. As the new arrivals increased the Army agreed to finally completely vacate the Chocolate City so it could become another Holding Centre to cope with the high numbers of arrivals. To make life easier, it was reclassified as a temporary Reception and Training Centre, along with other camps in the state, to combine reception, training and holding functions in one. This allowed migrant ships to go directly to Newcastle to avoid transport problems and time. Thus the *Fairsea* was the first ship that arrived at Newcastle from Europe, instead of Sydney as the previous newcomers had had to go through. On 19 August 1949, fresh

arrivals from ten different nationalities and adding up to 1896 people landed from their ship to start their final trek towards Greta. The No 2 Camp, Chocolate City, had only been officially opened the day before. Block naming was changed by the DOI from the Army's, for example Block C for the Army became Block A in Chocolate City. Silver City rebuilding had begun in early 1949 with the corrugated-iron huts partitioned off, divided into cubicles 9 feet by 12 feet (2.74 metres by 3.66 metres) and lined only on one side. The outside walls were lined and a shelf was put into each room, the only internal fitting. Most people had already moved in before most of the partitions were built and only two doors were put into each end of the sleeping huts although individual cubicle doors had been planned. Silver city was completed by the end of May and Chocolate City, with the same set up, by August. The Army also transferred the use of the hospital, the supply depot and the sewerage treatment works. The very first group of people, 600 migrants, had arrived at Silver City from the Bathurst Reception and Training Centre on 7th June 1949. It was a mixture of women and children from Estonia, Latvia, Poland, The Ukraine, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, Lithuania and Russia. The post war period allowed for practically full employment for all, and the New Australians on the whole did not take the preferred jobs of the Australians. More men than women arrived on the *Fairsea* and were able to go from Lee Wharf at Newcastle directly to Chocolate City via train, after being welcomed by more than 1000 locals at the wharf. Sadly many of the children on this ship were suffering from malnutrition which caused them to easily catch measles or get broncho-pneumonia, ending with a total of 19 deaths from all camps with six said to be from malnutrition. What a terrible start to their families' new life. The International Refugee Organisation had been responsible for this situation, not the Australian Government, although it is no doubt they did not expect such a huge influx of people and did the best they could under the circumstances. The next ship to arrive in Newcastle, the American transport *General AW Creely*,

had 300 children under ten years of age, who were given milk, orange juice and cod liver oil to supplement their diet and consequently no cases of malnutrition emerged.

1147 men, women and children were being processed at Chocolate City in early October 1949. The men were sent to employment and the women and children to Holding Centres including Silver City, where 1851 previously processed dependents were already living. Each time a new ship docked the business of processing the new arrivals became frantic. These ships included the *Skaugum*, the *General Harry Taylor*, the *Oxfordshire*, the *Amarapoor* (twice), the *Castelbianco*, the *Dundalk Bay* (twice), the *Goya*, and the *Roma*. At times Greta No. 1 Camp (Silver City) and Greta No. 2 Camp (Chocolate City) were so crowded the school rooms were taken over for accommodation and tents had to be erected. However, there was a YMCA Hall and Cinema for the 1000 children's first Australian Bush Christmas Party in December 1949, and classes continued to be held under improvised conditions.

From around May in 1950 Dutch migrants arrived as family groups; Italians also came here who were mostly single male workers, in September 1952. While not Displaced Persons, it seems the Northern Branch of the New Settlers League wanted to change the Greta Holding Centre into a hostel for workers and their families at this stage. Nonetheless it was not to be, although the variety of residents' backgrounds certainly increased.

In 1950 the average birth rate was 45 babies a month from both of the Greta Camps. While the Holding Centre mostly housed the dependants of the men, some of these men worked nearby and could come home each night; husbands were also housed there between jobs, and when they returned at weekends from hostels, private rooms or remote construction camps. Of course there were also the fathers that worked as part of the staff of the Camps who were able to stay at night with their families.

Children attended the play centre at the nursery and the primary school in the Camps. There were also 20 adult education classes per day. Signs were posted to say that all members of staff, no matter how humble, had to learn how to speak English and must use English daily, at threat of losing their jobs.

On the whole the DOI achieved an amazing result in arranging transport, jobs, housing, food, health care, social welfare and education for just under 170,000 people displaced by WWII, in the period 1947 to 1951, as well as the other migrants from Britain and Europe who arrived under an assisted scheme.

Between 1951 and 1952 the Displaced Persons program started to wind down and then stopped. From then on only people that were part of the General Assisted Passage Scheme arrived as migrants at the Camps. On the 7th May 1951 the two camps were amalgamated, with 36 new Nissen Huts ready for use in Silver City. This allowed for an occupation of 6368 people, after all the tents were removed. Without the Reception and Training Centre at Greta, ships no longer came directly to Newcastle and new arrivals had to again travel from Melbourne or Sydney and then be processed at Bonegilla or Bathurst. Christopher Keating reminds us in his book on Greta that 'As self-contained towns, camps like Greta provided accommodation, messing, medical treatment, hospitalisation, transport, education, social services, postal services, welfare and employment services, recreation, amenities, canteen, creche and childcare services and church facilities.' He said Greta Camp was designed as a stepping stone into the community, not for permanent or long term accommodation, and was seen to be a popular one compared to some.

Greta Migrant Camp closed in 1960, and it will be 67 years from the day it opened this year. According to historian Geoffrey Bolton 'the great goal of migration policy' in Australia was assimilation and that has certainly been achieved by those that came to

Greta. Although apparently few would acknowledge Australian food had the same appeal as their original cuisine; it was an ongoing battle of goulash versus Army rations of lamb or mutton. But many of these migrants see Greta as home now and they have one the country, and the town, proud. With thanks to Christopher Keating's book on Greta for much of this information.

An interesting new book is due to be released later this year about life in the Greta Camp. It tells the stories of all the ups and downs of life in an unfamiliar country after the horrors of war, by those that lived here. Alek Schulha, a former Fairfax journalist, has compiled more than 100 of these stories after almost three years of interviews across Australia and overseas, and was born and raised in the camp himself. It's a book to look forward to for the insights it brings. We hope to have copies for sale as soon as possible, in the museum. For more information on the Migrant Camp call into the Greta Museum on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month, or by appointment. Situated in the former Council Chambers in High Street, Greta, the museum now also houses a small souvenir shop, the *Old Style New Wares & Sweet Shop*, so come in to reminisce or to indulge. One of the sweets we carry is Barnes Castlemaine Rock which has been around since the 1850s in Victoria, where it was made by the present owner's great-great grandfather Thomas Shinfield Barnes to sell to the miners, instead of gold mining himself. The rock hard, boiled sweets packed into tins are reminiscent of gold nuggets, and made now by Peter



Barnes using the same recipe and equipment as his ancestor.



For more information call Neridah on 0427657150 or Peter on 0478896722.

DALE DROPLET SAYS...

Do you know what a land application area is?

WATER - REUSE - RECYCLE



Land Application Area

What is a land application area?

For those residents who have an on site sewage management system, this is a designated area of your yard where your domestic waste water is managed. Waste water can be applied to the designated area through a sub-surface absorption system (with trenches) or through an irrigation system (using sprinklers).

Protecting the environment and your health

The waste water is rich in nutrients and can provide excellent nourishment for flower gardens, lawns, certain shrubs and trees. However if the land application area is not correctly installed or maintained it can harm the environment and place your health at risk.

To prevent this it is important to:

- engage suitably qualified people to design and install a land application area
- plant vegetation which is tolerant of high water and nutrient loads
- undertake regular inspections to identify changes to your application area
- fix any problems early



Further information can be found at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au or contact our Environmental Health team on (02) 4993 4100.

Cessnock Electorate budget allocation 2016-2017

State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Clayton Barr, MP announces that the following Program Funding was allocated specifically for the Cessnock Electorate in the 2016-2017 Budget handed down yesterday by the Treasurer:

\$2,800,000 for pavement rebuilding on Wine Country Drive at Nulkaba

\$890,000 for pavement resurfacing on Putty Road between Mount Thorley and Mellong

\$200,000 for a pedestrian crossing facility on Lang Street between Mitchell Avenue and Merthyr Street, Kurri Kurri

\$500,000 funds in addition to last year's \$2,000,000 allocation to install 2 lane roundabout at intersection of Maitland Road and Duffie Drive, Cessnock

\$1,400,000 for installation of median safety barrier along Leggetts Drive, south of Leiberts Lane, Brunkerville

\$1,170,000 for shoulder widening, installation of kerbside safety barrier, and reshaping curve on John Renshaw Drive, west of Averys Lane, Buchanan

\$500,000 for installation of median safety barrier along the Pacific Motorway west of George Both Drive overpass, Seahampton

\$500,000 for shoulder widening and installation of kerbside safety barrier on Putty Road, north of Old Convict Road, Howes Valley.

"There are also funds allocated from Transport for NSW for both Cessnock Community Transport Inc and Coalfields Neighbour Care to continue many community programs totaling \$722,000" Mr Barr said.

"I am extremely disappointed that there has been no funding allocated by the Government to purchase 40 blocks of land surrounding the Butterfly Cave at West Wallsend which is needed to protect this sacred Aboriginal Place".

"I am also extremely disappointed that there is no money for a new Police Station

Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP in Cessnock.

The current station has not changed since before the current Police Minister was stationed there in his previous career so I will keep lobbying the Government for this Station to be upgraded" Mr Barr said.



MONDAY "Curry Monday"

TUESDAY "Steak Stampede"

WEDNESDAY "Sliders & Cider"

THURSDAY "Chicken Snitzel Day"

LIVE MUSIC EVERY

FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS

50 MAITLAND RD BRANXTON 49381335

WWW.ROYALFEDERAL.COM.AU



Gospel, Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

- ¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them out ahead of him in pairs, to all the towns and places he himself would be visiting.
- ² And he said to them, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to do his harvesting.'
- ³ Start off now, but look, I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.
- ⁴ Take no purse with you, no haversack, no sandals. Salute no one on the road.
- ⁵ Whatever house you enter, let your first words be, 'Peace to this house!'
- ⁶ And if a man of peace lives there, your peace will go and rest on him; if not, it will come back to you.
- ⁷ Stay in the same house, taking what food and drink they have to offer, for the labourer deserves his wages; do not move from house to house.
- ⁸ Whenever you go into a town where they make you welcome, eat what is put before you.
- ⁹ Cure those in it who are sick, and say, 'The kingdom of God is very near to you.'
- ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not make you welcome, go out into its streets and say,
- ¹¹ 'We wipe off the very dust of your town that clings to our feet, and leave it with you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God is very near.'
- ¹² I tell you, on the great Day it will be more bearable for Sodom than for that town.
- ¹⁷ The seventy-two came back rejoicing. 'Lord,' they said, 'even the devils submit to us when we use your name.'
- ¹⁸ He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven.'
- ¹⁹ Look, I have given you power to tread down serpents and scorpions and the whole strength of the enemy; nothing shall ever hurt you.
- ²⁰ Yet do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you; rejoice instead that your names are written in heaven.'

What is your vision of the Lord's harvest for today? When Jesus commissioned seventy of his disciples to go on mission, he gave them a vision of a great harvest for the kingdom of God. Jesus frequently used the image of a harvest to convey the coming of God's reign on earth. The harvest is the fruition of labor and growth -- beginning with the sowing of seeds, then growth, and finally fruit for the harvest. In like manner, the word of God is sown in the hearts of receptive men and women who submit to God and honor him as their Lord and King. The harvest Jesus had in mind was not only the people of Israel, but all the peoples (or nations) of the world. *God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life* (John 3:16).

What does Jesus mean when he says his disciples must be *lambs in the midst of wolves*? The prophet Isaiah foretold a time when wolves and lambs will dwell in peace (Isaiah 11:6 and 65:25). This certainly refers to the second coming of Christ when all will be united under the Lordship of Jesus after he has put down his enemies and established the reign of God over the heavens and the earth. In the meantime, the disciples must expect opposition and persecution from those who oppose the gospel. Jesus came as our sacrificial lamb to atone for the sin of the world. We, in turn, must be willing to sacrifice our lives in humble service of our Lord and Master.

What is the significance of Jesus appointing seventy disciples to the ministry of the word? Seventy was a significant number in biblical times. Moses chose seventy elders to help him in the task of leading the people through the wilderness. The Jewish Sanhedrin, the governing council for the nation of Israel, was composed of seventy members. In Jesus' times seventy was held to be the number of nations throughout the world. Jesus commissioned the seventy to a two-fold task: to speak in his name and to act with his power. Jesus gave them instructions in how they were to carry out their ministry. They must go and serve as men without guile, full of charity and peace, and simplicity. They must give their full attention to the proclamation of God's kingdom and not be diverted by other lesser things. They must travel light -- only take what was essential and leave behind whatever would distract them -- in order to concentrate on the task of speaking the word of the God. They must do their work, not for what they can get out of it, but for what they can give freely to others, without expecting special privileges or reward. "Poverty of spirit" frees us from greed and preoccupation with possessions and makes ample room for God's provision. The Lord wants his disciples to be dependent on him and not on themselves.

Jesus ends his instructions with a warning: If people reject God's invitation and refuse his word, then they bring condemnation on themselves. When God gives us his word there comes with it the great responsibility to respond. Indifference will not do. We are either for or against God in how we respond to his word. God gives us his word that we may have life in him. He wills to work through and in each of us for his glory. God shares his word with us and he commissions us to speak it boldly and simply to others. Do you witness the truth and joy of the gospel by word and example to those around you?

"Lord, may the joy and truth of the gospel transform my life that I may witness it to those around me. Grant that I may spread your truth and your light wherever I go."

SPORTS RESULTS

Another note - Next week !!! - 30-6-16 -- 9 hole stableford - 8.00 am for 8.30 am Tee Off (Shotgun).

**LN Bootes, Hon Sec
Branxton Golf Club
Sat 18th June
2 man Ambrose
Championships**

Scratch winners
Mick Tracey / Josh Tracey 63
Nett winners
Tony Seamer / Barry Turner 61 ¼ nett
Scratch runners up
Peter Wilton / Mark Moylan 65
Nett runners up
Brendan Bendeich / Bryce Element 62 Nett
Nett third
Robert Hale / Richard Turnbull 63 ¼ Nett
Nett fourth
Darren Gilroy / Kyle Mounser 64 ½ Nett
Ball comp
66 ¼ nett
NTP'S
2ND/11TH-L Porter 100 cm
4TH-M Johanson 56 cm
13TH-G Wiese 149 cm
9TH/18TH ~ B Element 233 cm
Saturday's Two person Ambrose started in the rain before all players enjoying an excellent day on the golf course. The father/son duo of Mick and Joshua Tracey again triumphed in this event, winning with an

round. And a well done to placegetters.

**Results 23-06-16
Stableford**

Div 1 Winner G Gazzard 36 pts (SOD) R/u G Noble 28 pts (c/b) 3rd R Crooks 28 pts
Div 2 Winner W Oliver 30 pts (c/b) R/u R Showman 30 pts R Friis 27 pts
Ladies - Insufficient numbers to form a division
NTPs Ladies N Craig Gents G Noble
Members draw - Not won. **Note: 30-6-16 - Members draw - drawn until won.**

A Winter's day that some promise, however deteriorated into a cold, blustery day. Nevertheless 29 hardy souls assembled for a round of golf, a convivial glass (or 2) and fellowship. Congratulations to Gary Gazzard on winning his division and achieving the "Score of the Day" (A runaway score at that!). A well done to all winners and placegetters.



**Branxton Veteran Golfers
Results 16-6-16
Pairs Aggregate
Stableford**

1st G Gazzard & R Crooks 63 pts
2nd J Flynn/M Ryan 61 pts
3rd G Scobie & G Wilton 60 pts
4th B Brooks & K Anderson 55 pts (c/b)
5th G Anderson & P Anderson 55 pts
NTPs Ladies N Craig Gents L Bootes
Members draw - Not won
36 players gathered for another round of golf, with the first few groups needing fog-lights. However, the fog cleared and the day developed into a pleasant Winter's Day, with a light breeze. Congratulations to Gary Gazzard & Richard Crooks on winning the

impressive 7 under par 63, a difficult score to attain in this event. Peter Wilton and Mark Moylan finished runner up in the scratch event with a 5 under par, 65. Tony Seamer and Barry Turner teamed beautifully together to win the nett event with a 61 ¼ score. They finished just ahead of the runners up Brendan Bendeich and Bryce Element with a net 62. Third place went to the devastating duo of Robert Hale and Richard Turnbull with 63 ¼. 66 ¼ nett was needed to figure in the ball competition. The shot of the day belonged to Club Captain, Murray Johanson, whose shot to the 4th finished only 56 cms away. On Friday night, the Night Golf 2 Person Ambrose was held with 56 starters enjoying this novelty event. Cameron Johanson and Michael Simpson used their youthful, night goggles to win the event with a 34 scratch score, 1 under par—very impressive. The nett competition was won by James Franklin and Simon Turner with a 27 nett, well clear of the runners up Mark Bercini and Craig Brooks with a 30 ¼ nett score. Many prizes were on offer on Friday night, such as Branxton Golf Shirts, golf vouchers, towels, umbrellas (very useful on Saturday!) and caps, making this popular event very successful.

**Branxton Golf Club
Ladies**

The results for the Branxton

Ladies Golf for Wednesday, **8 June 2016** which was a Stableford and Round 5 of the Season Trophy was as follows; 1st Robyn Hoffman on 34 points
2nd Ruth McCarthy on 33 points
Nearest The Pin winner was Trish McMillan.
The results for the Branxton Ladies Golf for Wednesday, **15 June 2016** which was the Stroke Monthly Medal Round 5 was as follows;
1st Caren Caldwell on 71 on a count back
2nd Robyn Hoffman on 71
Putts winner was Caren Caldwell on 30
Nearest The Pin winner was Robyn Hoffman.
The results of the Branxton Ladies Golf on Wednesday **22 June 2016** which was a Stableford round was as follows;
1st Ruth McCarthy on 35 points
2nd Jenelle Coe on 29 points

HVGC

12th June Drew Collins handed in the outstanding round of the Weekly Challenge with 41 points from Steven Balks 37 and Luke Hueston of Eastlakes GC in 3rd with 35 on a countback. Balls went to Jaye Stevens 35, Warren Thompson v34, Josh Knott v34, Todd Mitchell 34, Mason Gounder 33, Scott Petherbridge 33 and Neil Gounder 32. Nearest-the-Pin went to Sam Cashman. **14th June** Sam O'Hare from WA club

Karatha showed his liking for the layout recording 39 points and the winning score in Tuesday's fog, second went to Lachlan Peacock with 36 points on a countback to Hieu Le in 3rd. Ball winners were Kane Goodchild also with 36 points, Regan Powell 35, Rex Talbot 35, Maclayne Hart 34, Benn Corbett 33, John Milligan v33, Greg Ireland 33, Gerry McLaughlin 32, Angello Korlevic 32, Michael Chapman 32, Geoff Sweetman 32, Ken Aird 31 and Ken Wright 31 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Greg White (3rd) Kane Goodchild (4th) and Rex Talbot (17th) **15th June** The 2016 Ladies Championship has gone down to the wire with Melita Watson coming from behind to claim the title by two strokes from Dale Hamilton. B Grade was clearly won by Jill Ramsden with a 6 stroke advantage over Kerry Choromanski, C Grade was similar with Brenda Mannix winning by 8 strokes from Sue Ellen Borham. The 'over the field' Net winner was Jenny Chambers with 224 net for the 3 rounds. A Grade Net winner was Sue Peel with 227 net, B Grade to Kerry Choromanski with 232 net and C Grade to Sue Ellen Borham with 236 net, well done to all who competed. The daily winners were: Melita Watson from Jenny Chambers and Kerry Choromanski with

countbacks deciding all placings as all had finished 72 net. Ball winners were: Sue Ellen Borham 73, Karen Baillie 75, Sue Peel 77, Di Atton 77, Julie Van Den Berg 77 and Jill Ramsden 77. Nearest-the-Pin went to Dale Hamilton. The Ladies will contest the 3rd round of the singles Knockout and individual Stableford for the rest of the Ladies. **16th June** The Vets competed in thick fog on Thursday morning with Mark Barrow doing best with 37 points, Ray Newton got the better of playing partner Wayne Drayton after both had 36 point returns. Ball winners were: John England v34, Eric Smith 34, Garry Marsden 34, David Peel 34, Greg White 34, Peter Munro 33 and Kevin Smith 33. Next week the Vets will play Bisque Par **18th June** Early morning rain on Saturday led to many cancellations with 35 hardy souls contesting an individual Stableford with John Stewart winning the day with 39 points from Jaye Stevens 38 and Mark Harry 3rd with 37 on a countback. Ball winners were: Graeme Flynn 37, Scott Smith 36, Bruce Chambers 36, Beate Forster 35, Arvin Kumar 35, Peter Milas 34, Reinhold Forster 33, Ben Pickering 33, Greg Morgan 33 and Steve Kemp 33. Nearest-the-Pins went to Steve Kemp (3rd) Ken Smith (4th) John Brown (8th) Scott Norrish (10th) and Graeme Flynn (17th) .



The news Issue No 46 1st July 1999 Page 44

Karate Kid

Kevin Oszinski of Lochinvar has taken to the art of Karate with a great deal of skill & determination and it is showing in tournament results.

Kevin recently took part in his first tournament on the 20th June, 1999, & as the picture on right shows, did exceptionally well. Only aged ten, he chose to compete in four different heats; Kata, Point Sparring, Continuous Sparring & 'Three-in One'. 'Three-in-One' consists of contact sparring, grappling & ground fighting.

He won three medals & narrowly missed a fourth in an elimination bout.

Kevin has been working very hard on his Karate & is well on his way to his 'Black Belt'.



Above: Kevin Oszinski of Lochinvar who is showing great skill & looking for his black belt.

TWO YEAR OLD SET FOR BIG RACE!

The Greg Preston trained "Surprise Victory" scored a good win at Cessnock on the 15th June. Blessed, at last with a good track, the filly won by three-quarters of a length.

A four thousand dollar purchase from the Scone sales, the two year old has now won over five thousand dollars. She has followed the Cessnock win with a good fifth at Muswellbrook last Friday. Hampered by a wide barrier draw, the filly raced six wide for most of the journey, and was only beaten two and three quarter lengths.

Greg is now backing her up in the 2KY TWO YEAR Old Gold Plate at Wyong on the 1st July. All the best to Joe Boland, recovering from a hip operation. Nice it would be to have a horse good enough to race in Sydney next Easter.

Meanwhile, we in the country are told:- "Let them eat cake!".

Phillip Aughey



Visit Your Local Recycle Station!

Did you know you can now recycle the following items?

- Fluorescent Tubes
- Household Batteries
- Mobile Phones*
- Ink Cartridges
- Household Lights

These items require specialist recycling services to recover the metals and chemicals they contain.

Now you can drop them into one of the **FREE** Recycling Stations located at:

- Council's Administration Centre
- Kurri Kurri Library
- Cessnock Library*

(*mobile phones no longer accepted at this location)

Administration Centre
62-78 Vincent Street CESSNOCK NSW Ph: 02 4993 4300
Email: environment@cessnock.nsw.gov.au www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

SPORTS RESULTS

RESULTS GOLF

from Belmont being the 'Over the Field' winner with 80 scratch and Helen Vandenbruggen from Branxton taking the 'Over the Field' handicap section with 73 net. Other winners on the day were Dale Hamilton HVGC in A Grade after defeating Jodie Dunn in a playoff, Sue Wilks from Muswellbrook, Liz White from the Vintage in A Grade. B Grade, Di Thornley the Vintage, Gail Murray Nelson Bay, Helen Routh the Vintage, Lyn Howell Terrigal, Tania Carrigan Merriwa and Leesa Robinson HVGC. C Grade: Bev Carver Nelson Bay, Barb Sewell Aberdeen, Sandy Smith Nelson Bay, Maureen Irwin Aberdeen, Gay Stanton Merriwa and Ruth McCarthy Branxton. **21st June** Tough conditions

were experienced by most player this week with Tuesday's being cool and windy for all who braved it. John Stewart showed a liking for these conditions with an excellent 38 point round to easily take top spot on the day. Second went to Graeme Flynn with 35 points with Paul Smith filling the placing's with 34. Ball winners were: Ken Scott-MacKenzie 33, Trent Wrigley 32, David Peel 32, Phousang Sihappanya v32, Jeff Richardson 31, Gavin West 29 and Col Bradley 29 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Paul Smith (3rd), Mark Barrow (10th) and David Peel (17th). **22nd June** The Ladies individual Stableford went to Brenda Mannix with 32 points from Robyn Dunlop on 30. The 3rd round of the Singles Knockout will be contested this Wednesday with Par played by those not involved in the KO. **23rd June** Robyn Dunlop has shown the Men how to manage one's

Thursday with a great +7 round. Runner up was Peter Wilson on a countback to David Irwin after both had +6 rounds. Ball winners were: Dave Fury +5, Rex Talbot +5, Ray Newton +5, Geoff Sweetman +5, John Stewart +4, Ian Newell +4, Graeme Sheldon +3, Graeme Flynn +3 and Wayne Cowen +3. Nearest-the-Pins went David Irwin (3rd) Graeme Flynn (4th) Rex Talbot (10th) and Ray Hadson (17th). Next week's event will be 2 person Stableford. **25th June** The Blue Tee Challenge proved to be very tough on Saturday with only one player equaling Par with all others shooting over led to the DSR (daily scratch rating) being 75 (4 over Par). A Grade went to Darren Crear with 35 points on a countback to Angello Korlevic, B Grade to Peter Milas on 34 points from Wade Attewell 31 c/b and C Grade to Matt Merlo with 36 points (Par) from Greg Morgan with 31 points. Ball

winners were Dan McLeod 34, Josh Finney 34, Ben Bradley 34, Stephen Kemp 34, Tim Lonegan 32, Tom Bellamy 31, Rex Talbot 31, Mathew Hopley v31, Steve Piggot 30, Kevin Smith 30, Jaye Stevens 30, Bruce chambers 30, Nick Nancarrow 30, Corey Lamb 30, Andrea Connor 29, David Preece 29, John Brown 29 and Brendan Connor 28 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Peter Milas (3rd) Peter Callingham (4th) Wade Attewell (8th) Dan McLeod (10th) and Corey Lamb (17th). Next Saturday will be the Monthly Mug and Girls Goblet Stroke rounds.

Branxton Golf Club - Sat 25th June Stableford

Agrade winner Josh Tracey 37pts
A grade runner up Troy Mccaw 37pts c/b
A grade third Daryl Sheppard 36pts
B grade winner Peter Mackenzie 41pts
B grade runner up



John Vassar 37pts
B grade third Michael Simpson 36pts
C grade winner Patrick Summers 38pts
C grade runner up Col Hughes 36pts
C grade third Michael Carling 35pts
Balls to 31pts NTP

*Tony Summers 200cm
Lenny Porter 69cm
Chris Zawirski 115cm
Reece Caldwell 100cm*
Joshua Tracey showed his class in winning the a grade stableford with an excellent

the day belonged to club legend, Lennie Porter, whose shot to the 4th finished only 69 cms away, although Chris Zawirski's shot to the very difficult 13th, only 115cms away is worthy of mention. Only 31 pts was needed to win a ball.



Langer's Match Report - Reds vs Southern Lakes, Saturday 18th June

37 pts on a difficult, cold, slightly windy day on Saturday. Everyone was coming to grips with playing golf with so many warm clothes on showing that winter has finally

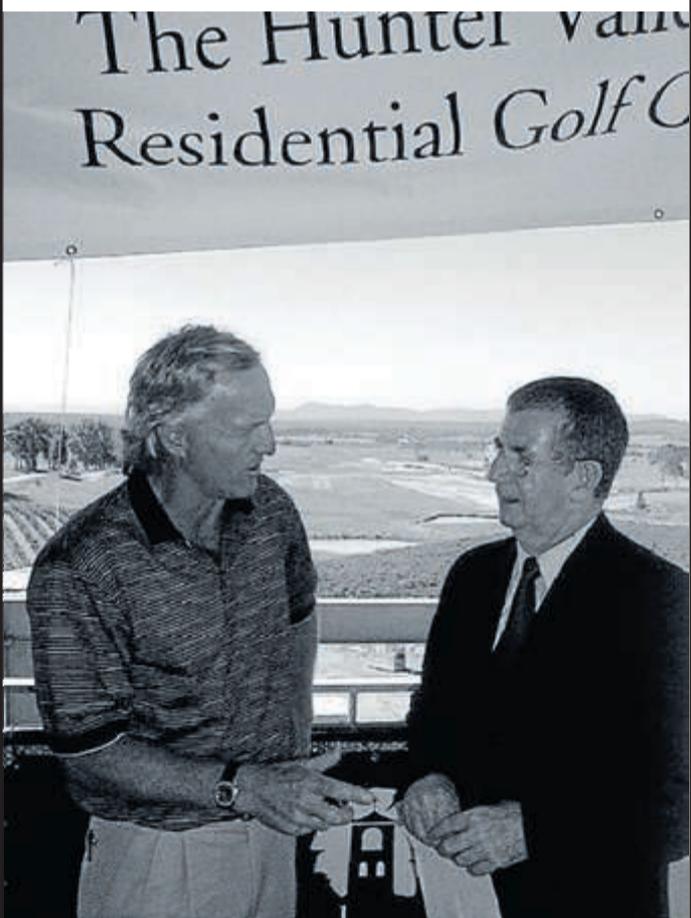
arrived. Joshua teamed with his father to win the 2 person ambrose last Saturday, so today's win just franked the form of this low handicap a grader. Troy Mccaw finished runner up with his 37 pts whilst Daryl Sheppard third with 36pts, despite putting quite poorly all day. Peter Mckenzie recorded the day's best stableford score, winning with 41 pts after starting the day with two wipes—an amazing effort on a difficult day. John Vasser finished runner up with his 37 pts, after having 23 pts on the front nine. this led to him being victorious over club captain Murray Johanson in the singles match play. Michael Simpson's 36 pts was good enough for third place. Patrick Summer won C grade with a very pleasing 38 pts, just ahead of the ever consistent pair Col Hughes and Michael Carling. The shot of

It's been two weeks since our last game against competition leaders Cooks Hill 1 in which the mighty REDS conducted themselves very well and this week, on our home ground, the REDS continued that form against Southern Lakes. Straight from the kick-off the REDS were working as a team. Our forwards put great pressure onto the opposition's forward pack which enabled our backs to attack. This led to 3 tries - 2 by James Grimson & 1 by Jacob Meredith and all converted by Shane Doyle. The half time score was REDS 21 to nil which was a great effort by the team. Unfortunately in the second half the REDS had not gone out with the same attitude as the first with poor execution that led to two tries by Southern Lakes. However the REDS re gathered their momentum attacking the opposition's try line and resulting in a penalty in front of the posts. This was converted by Shane Doyle handing the REDS their third win in 2016. The final score was 24-14. Well done boys!

Players Player - Forwards leader LEE SPARKS 3 points to - SHANE DOYLE
2 points to - SAM WOODS
1 point to - JACK KIRKHAM
Mark Langley (Langers) Coach

As Time Goes By

THE NEWS No. 83 1st Feb. 2001 P. 2



Above: Greg Norman discusses the Vintage Golf Club development with Cessnock Mayor John Clarence.

Greg stated that the development was 'right on track' & that Cessnock City Council could not have been more helpful.

When asked why this area had been chosen he said that it was the second most favoured destination for tourists in NSW, that the provision of permanent water made the upkeep of the Championship Course that much easier & that he "loves wine".

When Greg was asked whether he might be a resident of the development some time in the future he said that, at this stage, his children were still at school & college in the USA & that was his immediate concern but he would not rule it out in the future.

Normans schedule for the day started with him 'teeing off' in the Greg Norman Holden International, completing 18 holes (7 under/2 behind leader!), a helicopter ride to Pokolbin, press conference & official launch at 2:30pm & he then donned his work clothes to inspect the completed works on the new golf course!. At 8:00pm that night he attended a business dinner.



As Time Goes By

THE NEWS Issue No 82 1st February 2001

A Veterans Tale by Norm Brown



Above: Joyce Hayward & Norm Brown in 1998 after their inaugural 'Open Day'.

Almost three years ago Terry Collins asked me to give him a hand in forming a Branxton Veteran Golfers mid-week competition and so we knocked the idea around a bit and sought permission from the club Board. This was granted and, with a modicum of word-of-mouth advertising we commenced operations on the 22nd of January 1998.

Initially we had visions of fielding 15 to 20 players as our view was that we would only attract Branxton members but word soon got round and we were putting out fields of 30 to 35 players by the end of our first year with members coming from many of the local Hunter Valley clubs.

Having the needs of veterans in mind we have experimented with various playing formats but for some time now we have stuck with a 14 hole Stableford complete with our own scorecards and stroke index. This appears to suit everyone and, with an early start, we can get through even the hotter periods without too much discomfort. To further maintain interest we instituted a "Best 4 cards from 5" competition with

the winner receiving a voucher and all players being provided with a complementary lunch on the fifth Thursday.

Over the last two years we have formed an association with the Veterans of both Singleton and Tanilba Bay. We play return fixtures with each and we have had some good golfing "away-days" with them. We have also run several bus-trips to Hawks Nest and Gloucester Golf Clubs. These trips are always well subsidised from the Vets funds. Each year we hold our Vets championship over 36 holes and we also have an Open Day comp. Last year's Open attracted almost a hundred players. One of our finest achievements was in co-hosting a charity day with Snr. Con. Russ Gogerly and his police mates where thousands of dollars were raised for the purchase of community defibrillators.

To anyone interested in joining us, the only proviso is that you are a paid-up playing member of a registered Golf Club. There is a joining fee of \$5 per year and our normal weekly green fee is \$7.00 for the 14 hole comp. Winning a ball each week is easy!

In year 2000 we fielded a total of 2040 players (average 40/week) and we presented 1907 balls (average 36/week) Where else can you get a deal like that?

A point to note: almost all other veterans organisations are male only and I can't understand why. For 2001 we already have 77 paid-up members of whom 17 are ladies. They are full value, economically, socially and golf-wise and we wouldn't be without them.

Finally we would like to thank everyone who has helped us through our formative years, and there have been many, in particular our Pro, Andrew Hayward and club secretary Scott Westwood. Long may Terry Collins' dream continue.

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

4938 3300

12 Clift Street, BRANXTON

.....for all your Real Estate needs

FREE PROPERTY MARKET APPRAISALS
F: 4938 3301
M: 0412 566 041

E: bandvrealstate@hotmail.net.au
WEB: www.domain.com.au

The NEWS SPORT



Pokolbin Junior Rugby Club 18th June Match Reports

Under 9's. This week will be the last report for our Under 9's as we move into the Under 8's comp. On a very damp morning, we met Easts at Dangar Park for a fantastic round of rugby. In the spirit of fun and mateship, the two sides merged and our boys got to experience a much more evenly matched game with the more experienced Easts players sharing their talent

and supporting our boys in a game where those on the sidelines were challenged as to who to support when! Regardless of which jumper was being worn, all our boys played some great rugby. Lachy E had some inspiring runs, being run down two times as he went for the score line and then it was third time lucky and the points were his. The Sutherland brothers are

proving they are merciless in defence, Tyson, Lachlan L and Eli bring assertive and intensive plays in the centres and Jarrod and Lucas are driving the forwards. We have Ash on the wing and Noah as an all rounder completing a team that continues to grow in cohesiveness. When they encounter teams on a more equal level of skill, they are going have a great

end to the season. **Under 10's** travelled to Hawkins Oval to take on the Hamilton Hawks on a wet and muddy track. The Reds posted two tries in the first 6 minutes of the game thanks to Jack Wills and man of the match Alec Gough. The Reds made great metres from strong running by Jack, Zac Cox and Sinclair Marsh. The Reds were up 17 to 7 at half time with Angus Walker crossing the line for

his first try of the season. The breakdown was hotly contested by both teams with Callum Barr and Jessie Shirtcliffe leading the way for the Reds, however the Reds did not commit the numbers to the breakdown and lost possession too many times. The Hawks took advantage of the Reds lost ball and posted three unanswered tries in the second half to finish on top 22 to 17. Both teams played well in the

true spirit of the game and it was an entertaining match. **The under 12's** played last years premiers Easts at home on Saturday 18th June. The boys started well and were leading 14-7 at half time. Half time was not what these boys needed as they failed to turn up early in the second half and allowed Easts to run 5 tries to go to a 38-14 lead, but to this teams credit they fought back what 2 tries to

back in the game eventually going down 38-26. Izach & Riley Walters played some great rugby for their first game while Eden Schreiber showed that size doesn't matter when you tackle correctly. Seth Koop had another outstanding game at half and Laine Meyers showed he has lost none of skill while being injured, welcome back Laine.

Group 21 Rugby League First Grade results Round 10 & 11 & Club Championship

Round 10

Muswellbrook	30	Defeated	Singleton	16
Scone	40	Defeated	Greta Branxton	0
Aberdeen	74	Defeated	Denman	0

Round 11

Greta Branxton	32	Defeated	Denman	10
Singleton	32	Defeated	Scone	30
Aberdeen		Deferred	Muswellbrook	

Ladder after Round 11

Pos	Team	P	W	L	PTS
1	Scone Thoroughbreds	10	9	1	18
2	Muswellbrook Rams	9	7	2	14
3	Singleton Greyhounds	11	5	6	10
4	Greta Branxton Colts	10	5	5	10
5	Aberdeen Tigers	10	4	6	8
6	Denman Devils	10	0	10	0

Club Championship after Round 11

Team	Total
Scone Rugby League Football Club Inc.	83.5
Singleton United Rugby League Football Club Inc.	73
Muswellbrook Rugby League Football Club Inc.	63
Greta Branxton Rugby League Football Club Inc.	47
Aberdeen Rugby League Football Club Inc.	34
Murrumbidgee Rugby League Football Club Inc.	24.5
Merrima Rugby League Football Club Inc.	15
Denman Rugby League Football Club Inc.	9

Newcastle 'Knights' Knockout Report ~ Under 10's to Grand Final on 19 July at Hunter Stadium

On Thursday 16th June, the local Under 10's Rugby league team played in the Newcastle Knights Knockout competition. The team played 4 pool games winning 3 and drawing 1. They beat Largs PS 2-1 (Jayden W 2 tries), Tenambit PS 3-1 (Will, Jye & Jackson scored tries) and Soldiers Point PS 5-1 (Keenan 2 tries, Sam, Jye & Jackson 1 try). They also drew nil all against Dudley PS. This resulted in us tying with Dudley at the top of our pool, but with a better for and against we progressed through to the quarter finals. In the quarter final we played Dudley PS after they qualified, being the next best qualifier in all of the pools. We beat Dudley 4 tries to 3 with Keenan scoring 2 tries and Jye and Jackson scoring one try apiece. This resulted in us progressing to the semi-final against Metford Public. In the semi-final Metford could not get



The Under 10's celebrating their win through our defensive line as our boys kept tackling bigger kids, time and time again. We scored two fantastic tries to Jayden W and Keenan to send us through to the Grand Final. This game will be played at Hunter Stadium on Tuesday 19th July. Congratulations to all the boys on a fantastic effort. Good luck in the Grand final!

CHEAP STEEL

These prices as they are exclusive to your readers

Huge range of 2nds like New in RHS ~ all 8m Galv 50x25x3 \$35.00
 Painted 75x50x3 \$62.00
 Painted 100 x100 x 3 \$100 (many other sizes)
 3m Coro Aluzinc \$23.00
 Mesh
 Sheets 50x50x4mm wire 3mx2400mm sheets \$ 77
 C10015 Purlins \$35.00
 F72 Mesh 6m x2400mm \$59
 Pair of 7 Galv Stairstringers \$236/pair (other sizes available x stock)
 C10015 Purlins \$35.6.1m



Free quotes for Australian made colorbond gutter and roofs and most things in steel email sales @metalmates.com.au

4991 1009

* Eftpos/Deliveries available.
 * Open Sat 8 ~ 11
 * As always quantity discounts & free quotes for all ROOFING in colorbond and reinforcing mesh.

FRECALL

1800 304 304

CESSNOCK ST, CESSNOCK

ONLY AT CESSNOCK METAL MATES WE DELIVER !!

The Branxton Greta Vineyards News is a member of the Country Press Association of New South Wales Inc.