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# The News

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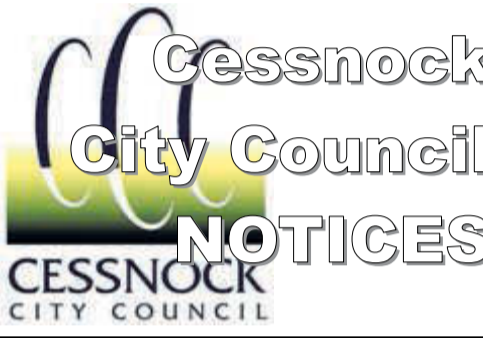
WEDNESDAY  
21 February 2018

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Cessnock City Council  
**NOTICES**

Members Say

Report  
**POLICE REPORT**

**School News**

## The country's oldest winery re-freshed and reopened in 190th year

AUSTRALIA'S oldest winery Dalwood Estate has welcomed back guests for the first time since closing in 2014 thanks to a major revival project by Iris Capital. The historic Dalwood Estate (formerly Wyndham Estate) sat virtually untouched since its closure until 2017 when experienced vineyard operators Iris Capital purchased the property, adding a third winery to its Hunter operation which includes Hungerford Hill Wines and Sweetwater Wines. After a rigorous 12-month renewal program, the 260-acre property has a new lease on life and has been restored to its former glory. With a return to its original 1828 establishment name, Dalwood Estate boasts a stunning heritage winery building, beautifully manicured lawns, pristine garden beds, function centre, cellar door, restaurant, walking trails and public BBQ areas on the banks of the Hunter River. Iris Capital General Manager Craig Hibbard



said the official opening was about celebrating the revival of an Australian icon and reopening it to the community. "It's been a busy 12 months – imagine a 260-acre estate that hasn't been maintained for three years – but we're really proud of Dalwood's transformation and we can't wait to share it with the wider community," Mr Hibbard said. "Dalwood Estate shares historical significance with the winemaking industry and not just in the Hunter Valley – it's Australia's oldest winery and the first winery in the country to establish a commercial shiraz vineyard. "Our aim is to revive the property's heritage and restore it to a fully operational vineyard again." The main building, which has reopened is 2500 square metres and includes the old winery, cellar door, restaurant, beautiful ceremony locations and three function rooms with stylish indoor and outdoor venue settings. The function centre can hold up 400 seated guests and has secured the relevant licences to host live concerts and music festivals. Bookings can be made for private events with fine wine and excellent food offerings. "In the coming months we aim to have the cellar door reopened and fully operational. Our first grapes for vintage 2018 Have been harvested and our team is busily working away on Dalwood's premium Chardonnay, Semillon and Shiraz wines, which will be released this year." Dalwood Estate is one of the first stops off the Hunter Expressway, making it more accessible to visitors from Sydney and Newcastle. The reopening marks Dalwood's 190th year and last weekend 'hated' chef Chris Thornton from Restaurant Mason prepared gourmet canapés for guests on arrival, with Mitch Steele and Luciano Cruz from MEET Restaurant providing a delicious lunch for 60 VIP guests in the function centre. It was 'Styled' by events company Angelic Events and a fabulous evening.




Suite 3, 71 Maitland Street, Branxton, NSW

### Dr T Sasi Sasitharan

MBBS, AMC, DCH (Syd), FRACGP

*Offering cosmetic/anti wrinkle therapy*

**Opening Hours**  
Monday - Friday 8.00 am - 5.30 pm  
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*To make appointments please call*  
Ph. 02 4938 3366 **Online appointments available through health engine**  
Fax 02 4938 3322

**Mixed billing practice**  
Children under 16, pension/health care/DVA card holders/Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander bulk billed

## Lochinvar Pet Motel

206 Old North Road, Lochinvar (Est. 2007)

- \* Air Conditioned for your pets comfort
- \* Heated Flooring for winter

### 49307612 or 49309094

www.lochinvarpetmotel.com.au

### DOGS

2018 Pricing schedule as of 1<sup>st</sup> February (daily price from)

Small dogs	\$20.00
Small dog deluxe	\$27.00
Medium dog	\$23.00
Large dogs	\$27.00
Extra Large	\$30.00

### CATS

2018 Pricing schedule as of 1<sup>st</sup> February (daily price)

## \$16.00

Purr cat, purr day



## Cessnock City Council Statutory Notices

Phone during working hours 4993 4100  
After Hours Emergency 4940 7816

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

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

The public are hereby notified pursuant to Section 101 of the Environmental Planning Assessment Act, 1979 (as amended) that the following applications have been granted consent during the period from 1 January 2018 to 31 January 2018.

Locality	Reference	Decision Date	Property Address	Application Description
BRANXTON	008/2017/00000 402/001	16-Jan-2018	48 Fleet ST	Construct Two (2) New Units, a Carport for Existing Dwelling, Followed by a Three (3) Lot Strata Subdivision
BRANXTON	008/2017/00000 715/001	16-Jan-2018	1843 Wine Country DR	Three (3) Advertising Structures
EAST BRANXTON	008/2017/00000 733/001	18-Jan-2018	2 Church ST	Subdivision - One (1) Lot into Two (2) Lots
EAST BRANXTON	008/2017/00000 736/001	19-Jan-2018	76 Yates ST	Shed
EAST BRANXTON	008/2017/00000 743/001	19-Jan-2018	21 Wyndham ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2017/00000 735/001	18-Jan-2018	4 Chapell ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Detached Garage & Associated Retaining Wall
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2017/00000 747/001	18-Jan-2018	8 Haverty AV	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2017/00000 708/001	19-Jan-2018	7 Haverty AV	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2017/00000 712/001	29-Jan-2018	39 Tooze CCT	Shed & Attached Carport
POKOLBIN	008/2017/00000 770/001	11-Jan-2018	43 Casuarina DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Swimming Pool
POKOLBIN	008/2017/00000 307/001	15-Jan-2018	2457 Broke RD	Use of Existing Marquee for Function Centre with Associated Landscaping & Car Parking
POKOLBIN	008/2017/00000 454/001	15-Jan-2018	97 Palmers LANE	Tourist Accommodation Units (60), Restaurant (and ancillary bar), Function Centre, Car Parking, Associated Works, Panels, Alterations & Deck Extensions to Existing Cellar
POKOLBIN	008/2017/00000 569/001	15-Jan-2018	2457 Broke RD	Construction of New Function Centre (Chapel), Installation of Solar Panels, Alterations & Deck Extensions to Existing Cellar Door/Restaurant, New Amenities Block & Associated Landscaping & Car Parking
POKOLBIN	008/2017/00000 748/001	22-Jan-2018	17 Turpentine CL	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Walls
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000 002/001	25-Jan-2018	56 Casuarina DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000 004/001	25-Jan-2018	4 Hillii Lane PRIV	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Wall

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

PO Box 152  
CESSNOCK 2325

Stephen Glen  
General Manager

### CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL TREE GIVEAWAY

Have you purchased or built a new home during the 2017/2018 financial year? Did you know you can get up to eight (8) free plants for your property from Cessnock City Council? There is a range of trees and shrubs available from ground covers including Creeping Boobalia through to shrubs including Murraya, Bottlebrush and Grevillea, which can reach three (3) metres in height.

Application forms are available from Council's Customer Service Officers, Vincent Street, Cessnock or via Council's website at [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au). Completed application forms must be received no later than 5.00pm Friday 2 March 2018.

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

PO BOX 152  
CESSNOCK 2325

S GLEN  
GENERAL MANAGER

CESSNOCK COMMUNITY  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE  
www.cessnockperformingartscentre.com.au

WHAT'S ON?  
GO TO

James Reyne  
6 April 2018  
A Crawl To Now  
Showcasing a broad selection of Australian Crawl tracks plus his solo hits and songs from his time with Company Of Strangers.

### Get weeds under control!

Residents are encouraged to get involved in a free weeds workshop in Pokolbin next month being delivered by Cessnock City Council and Hunter Local Land Services. Council's Weed's Coordinator Barry Shepherd and Weeds Officer Maria Edmonds are looking forward to the workshop as it will give residents access to practical advice and information. Mr Shepherd is keen to meet with residents and help answer any questions they may have. "This is an opportunity to share information about how Council can help you manage your weeds." "We are encouraging residents to bring along a weed or two from their own property for identification purposes. Residents who decide to bring along flowers, leaves, seeds and roots must do so in a sealed container."

The Hunter Local Land Services Biosecurity Officer and Veterinarian will also be on hand to explain the best way to control pests and report livestock diseases. The workshop will run from 9am to 12.30pm on 8 March 2018 and morning tea will be provided. Please register at <https://hunterlls.wufoo.eu/forms/z2o969u0kmc58q/>. For more information contact Carolyn Jenkinson on 4355 8205/ 0408 162 174 or at [Carolyn.jenkinson@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Carolyn.jenkinson@lls.nsw.gov.au).



Cestrum

# 'Shaw & Bunner Legal' open legal practice in Branxton



firm, Kerri Shaw & Gemma Bunner, hail from a background working in a large national firm in both Sydney and Newcastle. Ms Shaw and Ms Bunner identified a gap in the market for the provision of general legal services in the local area in order to meet the needs of the growing population and the nearby township of Huntlee.

## On Monday 19 February 2018 the doors of Shaw & Bunner Legal officially opened.

The opening of the law practice brings to the Branxton and Greta townships an experienced and local legal service provider. The newly established legal practice is located within the old Westpac Bank/Bank of NSW in Maitland Street. This beautiful landmark building ceased operating as a bank in 1994 and has recently undergone a makeover to bring it back to life to house this new local business. The co-founders behind the

will alleviate the need for people to have to travel outside of the area to see a solicitor. Shaw & Bunner Legal are experienced in the areas of conveyancing and also run a 'Wills and Estates' practice. They can assist with the drafting of Wills, Powers of Attorney and Enduring Guardian as well as assisting with the administration of Estates and Probate. In addition to the general legal services on offer, the principal lawyers of Shaw & Bunner Legal have a unique knowledge of personal injury and

compensation law. Gemma Bunner holds the qualification of being an Accredited Specialist in this area as recognized by the Law Society of New South Wales. Further, both lawyers have an extensive experience in coal mining injuries and compensation. The rights and entitlements of injured coalminers are unique and differ from other workers. Shaw & Bunner Legal is well placed to give expert advice in these matters from their office positioned within the heart of the Hunter Valley coal mining industry. Shaw & Bunner Legal have partnered with the Branxton - Greta Chamber of Commerce for a launch breakfast taking place on Tuesday 27 February 2018 at the RSL Hall in Branxton. Those present will be addressed by the Honorable Jenny Aitkinson MP, Shadow Minister for Small Business, who will touch on the importance of small business within our communities. Attendees will also benefit from a presentation from Shaw & Bunner Legal providing an overview of the business and the services that will be on offer followed by a tour of the new premises. Shaw & Bunner Legal looks forward to providing quality and efficient legal services to the local community. Photo Above: Gemma & Kerri

# A Fresh Funky Florist is in Town

**Wired Stems thrives on impact when designing flower creations; You won't find your typical bouquet here. It's time to bring back the "WOW" in blooms.**

Founder and Florist Leanne Johnson says "Each florist has their own style and that's what makes doing this job personal. We all wear our hearts on our sleeves when it comes to what we create because of the passion we have." Leanne has also planted her own foliage at her Lovedale Studio growing native gum, viburnum, dusty miller and Xanadu. "It's so nice to be able to walk out into the garden and harvest my own foliage. Some trees are still juvenile, so I need to be patient." Leanne studied floristry at Kurri Kurri TAFE, has participated in web-building workshops, photography workshops and currently learning behind the scenes aspects of marketing and communication. She has proudly established her business from the ground up; from designing her own website, to nutting out the finer details of her logo, and her few years of hard work is now starting to flourish. "The support from local independent businesses has played a very large part in establishing Wired Stems and allowing

my blooms to shine". In turn, Leanne proudly supports the valleys local talents by offering handmade Belgium Chocolate crafted by True Café owner Edwin in Lochinvar; Also hand shaped wire hearts and birds from Entwined Wire Designs located in Cessnock, which brings unique to a whole new level. In 2017, Wired Stems was a finalist in the Hunter Business Awards for New Start up Business, hosted by Hunter Region Business Hub (formally known as BEC), and was a proud minor sponsor of the event. "I had a great time decorating the venue and attending the awards night. I look forward to this year's awards which is their 25th anniversary year, and will hopefully get the opportunity to sponsor again. I encourage all local businesses to get involved in this great community resource."

Wired Stems has Popped-Up in several locations around the Hunter Valley, offering Grab-and-Go bouquets and boxed arrangements within retail outlets such as; Greta Metro/Hill Top shop, PKS Olde General Store Cessnock, more recently True Café Lochinvar and Telarah Newsagent/Post Office. Located in the Heart of the

## Local Pop-Up Florist

0401 317 208    wiredstems@gmail.com

wiredstems.com.au

Valley – Lovedale, Leanne is thrilled to announce she will be holding Workshops at her Lovedale Studio. From tea cup art, boxed arrangements, posies or corsages; something as elegant as a Floral Hair Clip will really add a touch of Zazz to your Hens Party, Wine Tour or birthday event- You Decide!! (Bookings are essential). Leanne is also in the process of designing wedding packages so stay tuned!! The Lovedale Studio is also available to our local Rothbury talent Aileen O'Riordan who

makes her own chain mail jewellery, is a Gra Oil consultant and Bowen Therapist. Aileen will be holding jewellery making workshops and Gra Oil information sessions at the studio. To order some beautiful blooms, or to book your workshop contact Leanne on 0401 317 208 wiredstems@gmail.com. Visit the website at www.wiredstems.com.au For more information or to book your jewellery making workshop or Gra Oil information session contact Aileen on 0448 777 136.



Leanne with a 'Wired Stem' creation

# 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



## FREE Community Walking Group

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

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

**Beginners always welcome & it is FREE**

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

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



## Husband Creche

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

### Ladies we have the answer

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

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

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

# STEVES RANT

Over the summer holiday season, if we skip the sporting events, there has been much commentary on TV and the newspapers about, you guessed it ~ climate change, freedom of speech, law and order, education, bridging the gap between indigenous communities and immigrant communities (Anglo Celts, Continentals, Asians and New Zealanders) and the gap between the average income and the cost of living; and let's not forget 'The Donald'.

From my point of view with the exception of 'The Donald' and 'climate', these subjects have been perennial matters of discussion for the last 60 years and we still don't have any practical solutions because agreement as to the exact nature of any problem cannot be made. As they say, identifying the problem is half the solution but due to the multitude of different ideologies, points of view and opinion, we don't seem to get past 'GO'. If we do make a start in something it leads to a dead end because some new fangled approach has been dreamt up and sold to an over enthusiastic bureaucracy dead keen to spend other people's money

and expand their empire. From reading the various opinions expressed in the newspapers over the holidays there seems to me some hope. Let me give you some examples. Education: The lack of improvement in learning outcomes at primary and secondary levels as shown by NAPLAN results is an indictment of education in Australia. I have just read a convoluted statement which attempts to summarise a study into the future demands of education in Australia which was conducted in 2010. It goes on about the conflicting demands of new technology, social mores, a more demanding public, and the threats of litigation blah, blah, blah. The trouble is the study was based on the assumption that educational outcomes will have to change because of the rapidly changing society and the demands of employers. The standard of educational outcomes has not changed in a hundred if not thousands of years, i.e. teach the body of knowledge accepted as the



requirement of the young to grow into useful adults. Now, as in the past, the young must be able to express themselves verbally and in the written form and likewise understand verbal and written communication from others. Adeptness in arithmetic both written and mental is essential if they are to avoid being ripped off when doing business. A firm grasp of their own society's history and the mechanisms of its workings, so they can participate as a voting member. And finally a general knowledge of the world around them. Geography, Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy and how to swim. Anything beyond this is rightfully in the area of parents or guardians and the sports coach. The process of leaning and developing skills starts from the moment a child is born and

continues until we die. However, to expedite this is the function of formal education, so the individual does not have to rediscover skills and knowledge by trial and error but benefit from the elders and the accumulated knowledge of society. If we can read and comprehend we can teach ourselves. The answer is Noel Pearson's direct instruction experiment in the indigenous Cape York communities. As you would expect the education fraternity has pooh poohed his ideas but many mainstream schools are adopting this approach. The results speak for themselves. Just the other day I happened to speak to a young primary school boy after he had been at school. I asked him how it was and he said fine - then I asked him if he enjoyed himself and he said

he did. Then I asked what he learnt today. His answer "nothing". Would you not think a teaching establishment had a duty to spend the last ten minutes of school each day to recapitulate on the days lessons and so reinforce what had been taught. Then at the start of each day spend ten minutes doing this again to set the student up for their next lessons. This preferably should be done with a written test so the process can be assessed as to the effectiveness of the methods of instruction and to judge the progress of the students. It will also reward the student to give them a sense of achievement. Teachers can then address any perceived problems with the subject matter, the students understanding of it and take corrective action as appropriate. This is not rocket science. *Steve*

## What's Happening & other matters

with **Mike Lowing**

Welcome to our first edition of The News in 2018. It should have been out on the 7th February but for a few good reasons we had to defer the date. Our apologies to our advertisers. What changes for the new year? One big one. Since September 2001 Andrew Marsh has provided a fortnightly column, 'Wines & Vines', which was much read & appreciated by almost all who came across it. We did have a perennial few who just didn't get it but we make no apologies. The bad news is that Andrew, Holly & their delightful children Poppy & Sinclair have sold the vineyard & winery (Marsh Estate) and have moved to Sydney. Andrew is pursuing a complete change of career. I'll tell you what he's up to in a future edition. A trained winemaker,

Andrew grew up on Marsh Estate and from his youth had worked with his father and now-deceased mother in the cellar door, the 26-hectare vineyard and the neat 200-tonne-capacity winery. He purchased the vineyard & winery in 1994 & produced

some stunning wines. He had some fixed ideas such as producing only 'rain-fed' wines, that the Hunter is about wine only (no Wally's World) & that wine shows were not the most conducive way to judge wine. On the later he was encouraged to enter the Hunter Valley Wine Show by the then chairman of judges Iain Riggs. Iain was vindicated when in 2014 the \$50 Marsh Estate 2009 Holly's Block Semillon won a gold medal. Andrew wrote about some of the iconic wine makers we have in the Hunter Valley not ever letting on that he was up there with them. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours & thank you for your Contribution to our publication.



HUNTER STUDENTS HURT BY EDUCATION FUNDING CUTS  
Students and teachers have headed back to school this week, and government schools in the Hunter have been hit hard by \$18.9 million in education funding cuts thanks to the Liberal-Nationals

Government.  
The Federal Government is cutting \$17 billion from Australian schools over the next 10 years with NSW government schools losing out on \$856 million of federal government funding over the next two years (2018 and 2019) alone.

These cuts are the equivalent of sacking 8890 teachers. For NSW it equates to almost 3 teachers cut from every school. Nationally, more than 80 per cent of the government's cuts will fall on public schools.

As the 2018 school year commences, I wish students and teachers all the very best for another successful school year.

But, alarmingly, the Liberal-Nationals' school cuts mean our children are missing out. The cuts mean fewer teachers, less one-on-one attention, and less help with the basics like reading, writing, and maths.

Labor believes Australian children deserve the world's best schools, and the world's best

teaching. That's why Labor has committed to restoring every dollar of the \$17 billion cut from schools by the Liberals and Nationals to ensure every child gets the best possible school education.

I'm passionate about education and I remain committed to fighting to ensure all students have the opportunity to reach their full potential. I believe education is critical to guaranteeing Australia has a strong economy and ensuring our young people can look forward to a life of well-paid and rewarding work. Malcolm Turnbull's priorities are all wrong. Labor will restore all of the funding the Liberal-Nationals have cut from our schools.

*Joel Fitzgibbon, MP Member for Hunter, Cessnock*

## Emergency Phone Numbers

<b>Dial 000</b>		
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		
<b>For non-life threatening calls.....</b>		
Police Assistance Line (PAL).....		
131 444		
<b>Police</b>		<b>Electricity</b>
Branxton..... 4938 1244		Energy Australia..... 131 388
Lochinvar..... 4930 7209		<b>Hospitals</b>
Ambulance..... 131 233		Maitland..... 4939 2000
NSW Fire Brigade		Cessnock..... 4991 0555
Branxton..... 4938 3396		Singleton..... 6572 2799
<b>Rural Fire Brigades</b>		SES.....132 500
Belford..... 6574 7149		Crime Stoppers
Broke..... 6579 1491		1800 333 000
Greta..... 4015 0000		Poisons Info..... 131 126
Bishops Bdg		Hunter Water
Nth R'bury... 4015 0000		1300 657 000
Rothbury.... 4015 0000		Ausgrid..... 131 388
Pokolbin.... 4015 0000		Gas Emergencies... 131 909
Rothbury.... 4991 1733		Lifeline.....131 114
Bishops Bdg		Mental Health Line
Nth R'bury... 4015 0000		1800 011 511
Rothbury.... 4015 0000		Domestic Violence Support
Pokolbin.... 4015 0000		4990 9609
Rothbury.... 4991 1733		Centrelink Self Service
Scotts		136 240
Flat..... 6575 1200		Medicare.....132 011
Central		Native Animal Rescue
(Cessnock).... 4015 0000		0418 628 483

Submit a letter to the editor

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

or emailed to **thenews@hotmail.net.au**

**Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate**

.... for all your real estate needs

**P: 4938 3300**  
**M: 0412 566 041**

**Greta Museum's Old Style New Wares & Sweet Shop**

Has a new range of Bulk Sweets -

Buy as little or as much as you want!  
Great for gifts or just to indulge  
Any profit goes back into the museum to keep it open.

Now that's different!



■ Inside the newly opened True Cafe



**True Cafe is a new authentic Vintage designed space shaking up Lochinvar.**

Whether it's a blueberry pancake stack for breakfast, a hearty steak pie for lunch, a salted caramel ice-cream for after school "He makes these old fashioned style ice-creams right here in his Italian ice-cream churning machines "or a unique chocolate, bloc choc or chocubes for well-deserved indulgence, each are hand made by Chef Edwin. Additionally, there are the old favourites such as salads, sandwiches, in house made cakes and even a menu for kids. The house coffee bean has been sourced from one of Australia's coffee roasters adding to the local and real feel of True Cafe. The Cafe feels more like a home than a place to eat. With its quirky surroundings and hand selected furnishings, it is a place that has a warm appeal and whilst only in its infancy, has established itself with the local community and greater Hunter. It is a gathering place for children after school who sample the exciting and ever changing ice cream flavours and local mums as the drop the kids off in the morning as they relax with beautiful

coffee or iced citrus tea while watching the younger kids across the café in the kid's zone.

Private dinner parties or family functions can also be booked for twelve or more people for any evening of the week. The True Cafe is also a great venue for children's birthday parties where they have their own kids zone – all-purpose built fun and interactive room for kids. The True Cafe has been Ed's dream for many years. Ed is very excited to provide local people with his many years of experience working as executive chef for many famous venues throughout Asia, Europe and Hunter Valley. This knowledge provides a memorable experience with every creation and with every plate Ed serves.

Whether a tradie calling through for a homemade pie special, a mum's group looking for their next catch up spot or a couple after a romantic ice cream and chocolate tasting plate, True Cafe truly is the place to try, never seen a cafe that the guests bring back their own plates to the counter, it's a home away from home!

■ Photo above: Ed at work

**Help is on the way;  
wonderful initiative by our library**

**Feeling overwhelmed, stuck on a study question or not sure where to start an assignment? Don't worry, Studiosity has you covered.**

If you are a student from Years 3-12 and have a Cessnock City library card you can access free, online tutoring.

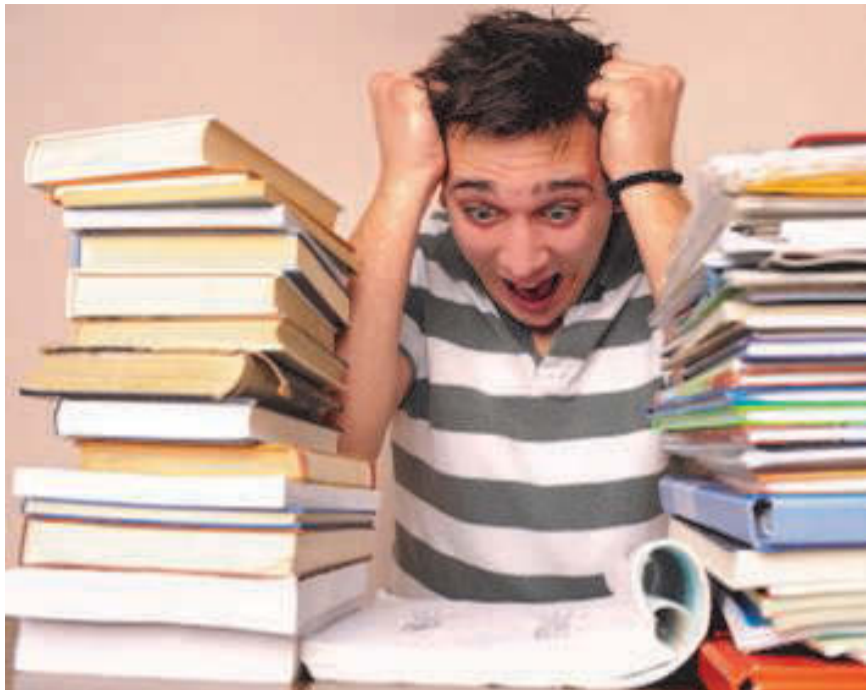
They are inviting students, parents and even teachers to Cessnock Library and Kurri Kurri Library to attend a free Studiosity information session.

You will find out everything you need to know about this vital resource that is an on-demand live study help service.

The service is helping students across Australia keep up to date with their study and achieve their education goals. Studiosity offers students a flexible service, suited to their needs. It includes:

- The 'Connect Live' service is a friendly subject specialist offers expert help in the subject of your choice including english, maths, science, economics and more. It is one-to-one, in real time. Available 3pm to late, Sunday to Friday.
- 'Writing Feedback' is a service offering constructive feedback on your draft essay or assignment in less than 24 hours. It is available 24/7, 365 days a year.

Go along to on either Thursday 22 February from 5.30 to 6.30pm at Cessnock Library or Tuesday 1 May 5.30 to 6.30pm at Kurri Kurri Library. If you are planning on attending please call Cessnock Library on 4993 4399 or Kurri Kurri Library on 4937 1638 to secure your spot.





**HUNTER VALLEY ELECTRICS**

**MARK MELLROSS**

For prompt service call Hunter Valley Electrics | Ph 0455 911 700 | [www.hunternvalleyelectrics.com.au](http://www.hunternvalleyelectrics.com.au)

- 24/7 service to the Hunter
- Servicing Cessnock, Singleton, Branxton, Greta, North Rothbury & surrounding areas
- A family owned business with over 30 years experience in domestic, industrial & commercial electrical work
- FREE quote on all work
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**Limited Vacancies**

Individual programs for all children

Transition to school program

**4a Nelson Street Greta**

**49387211**



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

Council was pleased to open its annual Community and Cultural Development Dollar for Dollar Grants Scheme. Locally based not-for-profit community arts and cultural groups are being encouraged to apply for grants.

It is wonderful to be able to offer this important financial assistance to community groups or community projects that make a real difference in our community. There is no greater pleasure than supporting and investing in our local community. Grants will be provided on a dollar for dollar basis, that is, up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the cost of the project. Applications can be for an amount up to \$3000. Applications close at 5pm on Friday 9 March. Application forms and grant guidelines are available from our website at [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/dollarfordollar](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/dollarfordollar).

Residents who have purchased or built a new home in the 2017/18 financial year are entitled to eight free plants. Council's free tree give away is on again with the popular program running successfully for nearly two decades.

Planting more trees and shrubs in our community is vital not only for the visual appeal but for the long lasting positive environmental impacts. Application forms are available from Council's Customer Service Officers, Vincent Street, Cessnock or via Council's website at [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au). Applications must be received by 5pm Friday 2 March 2018.

Last week we were notified by Local Government NSW we have been successful in securing a \$50,000 grant to help reduce the impact of flying-foxes on residents living in close proximity to the East Cessnock Flying Fox Camp. Council will match this funding with \$50,000 of in-kind staff support making this a \$100,000 project. Council looks forward to releasing more detail on this shortly. Council was very pleased to launch the Business Investment Attraction Program at the Hunter Valley Visitor Centre. It was a fantastic opportunity to share this milestone with our business community as we showcase Cessnock and surrounds to potential investors. The exciting initiative highlights the unlocked potential of the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA) for businesses looking to start up or relocate into the region.

The business investment attraction prospectus offers a range of information needed by interested parties. It includes site selection information, location, economic development support services, research into sector by sector growth opportunities, commercial and industrial lands and an economic summary report. The Business Investment Attraction Program is easily accessible and can be located online at [advancecessnock.com.au/investment/](http://advancecessnock.com.au/investment/). The Cessnock Performing Arts Centre's Season Launch 2018 was an absolute success. The evening not only marked the season launch but the ten year anniversary of this important cultural hub. Congratulations to all the staff for all of your hard work over the years and for putting together another outstanding program. To see what is on visit <http://www.cessnockperformingartscentre.com.au/shows>.

Our Australia Day celebrations at the East Cessnock Bowling Club were wonderful filling me with a large sense of



Commissioner Peter Severin, CSNSW and Mayor Pynsent

community and national pride. Thank you to everyone involved in organising this special occasion. Narelle Campbell our Australia Day Ambassador gave a very insightful, thought provoking address detailing some of her experiences in the remote Australian Antarctic Territory.

In particular it was interesting to hear her perspective on community and how her concept of community was changed by working and living in a secluded, small community for months on end. Narelle spoke about the importance of a diverse community that supports each other. Something I think we do very well here in Cessnock.

To all the Australia Day Award recipients, congratulations and well done. Paul Hughes was named Citizen of the Year, Laurence Ellis was announced as the Senior Citizen of the Year and Olivia Palfreyman was named the Young Citizen of the Year. These three citizens do exceptional work in our community and are very deserving of such recognition.

Australia Day was also a very memorable day for those in our community who received Australia Day honours for excellence, achievement or meritorious service and contributions. Congratulations to three local residents who were named on the honour list receiving an Order of Australia Medal, including Branxton's Pam MacDonald, Jean Martin of Cessnock and North Rothbury resident Peter Vizzard. Congratulations to the 14 new Australia Citizens who took their pledge. It was very special to conduct the citizenship ceremony and welcome you as official citizens.

The Mayoral Cup was taken out by the Cessnock District Cricket Association for the second year running. Congratulations to Nathan Hudson who received the best and fairest award and to all the local players who participated.

Late January marked the commissioning and official opening of the Hunter Correctional Centre, an expansion of the Cessnock Correctional Centre. This new infrastructure will inject 238 jobs into our local government area and I welcome the opportunity this generates for existing and new residents. Council will continue to consult with the community and work with Corrective Services NSW to ensure our community's needs are met. NSW Minister for Veterans Affairs David Elliott conducted a soil collection ceremony at Gordon Williams Cemetery, Aberdare as part of the NSW Anzac Memorial Centenary Project. Soil samples are currently being collected from close to 1,700 localities across NSW, which were given as a place of address by First World War enlistees. The soil will be displayed in a civic artwork at the enhanced Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park, Sydney, opening late this year. Two soil collection ceremonies have been conducted in the Cessnock Local Government Area for this very important veterans project. *Cheers, Bob*

**'Members say'**  
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JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Member for Hunter

When I was a kid I had a Hollywood-driven fascination with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. I imagined a much different world than that I lived in then. I foresaw a "Jetsons" style world in which we all drove aerial vehicles and enjoyed the service of robots.

For the first decade and a half of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century it seemed we'd all overestimated the scope of change, not that much seemed different. Sure, our televisions grew more sophisticated and most of us grew addicted to our mobile devices and the social media they supported.

But as we approach the end of the second decade, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is looking more and more like the one I'd imagined as a child. Driverless cars are being trialled, as are autonomous trucks. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) are appearing in the air above us and every second house appears to be generating its own electricity.

The year 2017 was most marked by the new buzzword "disruption". Rapidly evolving technologies are changing the way we live, work and play.

Inventions are disrupting just about every norm in our lives; the way we shop, exercise, travel, and most importantly, how we communicate. I emphasise the last point because I believe it's the one that matters most and the one affecting us most. Remember the so-called "Arab Spring" in which dictator after dictator in North Africa and the Middle East fell to popular revolts? It arguably could not have happened if weren't for the proliferation of mobile devices and social media platforms.

The same phenomenon is now impacting on our democracies. Along with the associated and crazy news cycle, technology is disrupting our political settlement; the system which has underpinned western democracies for more than one hundred years. Our success in 2018 will largely be determined by the maturity of our response to these changes. Our politicians must both embrace and manage change. It begins with listening harder and opening the mind to a broader range of views and ideas.

Letting your local member know what you think has never been easier. Please do so, I'm listening.

*Cheers, Joel*



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

Given there are approximately 115,000 hectares of mining land in the Singleton Local Government Area, it stands to reason that we should be thinking about the future of this land beyond coal.

I know that for most of us, a time when there won't be a coal industry in

Singleton seems almost impossible. And even if we could believe it, with plenty of other more immediate priorities, it's easy to pass off for "later".

But the reality is, at some stage, there won't be any more coal to mine or there'll be superseding energy technology, and Singleton won't be a coal town anymore.

It will be too late then to consider what happens to the 115,000 hectares of abandoned mining land and too big a job for whatever future generation will have to deal with it.

We all know that decisions around land use and environmental rehabilitation take time, and the results from action can take even longer. That's why we are already having conversations with other mining LGAs, mining bodies and the State Government about the approach to the future of post mining land.

The State Government recently unveiled its Mine Rehabilitation Discussion Paper, which proposes a number of improvements to the regulatory framework for the rehabilitation and closure requirements for all major mines in NSW.

However, the paper appears to be more focused on operational outcomes and does not seek a strategic approach on a sub regional or local level.

In our submission, Singleton Council reinforced our view for the need for a more systematic approach to post mining land use that is integrated with local and regional plans and subject to comprehensive community engagement.

Further, we repeated our call that the State Government actively commit to this strategic planning as a policy position with timeframes and resources.

It's also important that we don't wait until coal mining moves on to press the go button on these strategies. We need to start creating parallel economies and land uses now. We also need to be advocating that research, planning, works and promotion for sites post mining begins to occur, thereby planting seeds for new land uses and economic activities that can mature when coal stops being viable.

Our community makes a significant economic contribution to the NSW Treasury because of the natural resources mined in our LGA.

Our residents deserve the reassurance that a considered and cohesive approach to post mining land is in place to deliver economic, social and environmental benefits, long after the last load of coal has been sent to port.

*Cheers, Sue*



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

**Raising the BARR – THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GDP TO YOU**

Recently, the game-show host currently running America gave a \$1.5T gift to business by way of tax cuts. \$1.5T is more than double the total amount of money that our Australian Government has to spend in an entire year on all services provided. In short, it is a massive amount.

Now the justification used was that it would stimulate the economy and

drive the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). A higher GDP, in really simple terms, means that there is more money going through the system, the economy. Now, if that were going to go towards lifting up people's standards of living, fairness in the health system, increased wages, better education and other issues that help the masses, you might well see an actual impact on people's lives as a result of the higher GDP. But if you simply see more profits going to the super-rich, providing no benefit at all to the broader people, then it is really just a gift to billionaires.

The reason that I write this column is because I am completely outraged by the concept that our own Federal Government are trying to claim that Australia must now give the same tax gifts to our own super rich and international corporations that already pay almost zero tax anyway. It is complete stupidity.

We need more money for hospitals, not less. We need more investment in regional Australia to help increase equity in living standards and life outcomes. We need more investment in our climate actions to prevent a catastrophic warming of more than 2 degrees. We, in Australia could be doing so much more, on all fronts, if our Government had more money, more "taxes", to spend on all fronts. And with the exception of the billionaires and multi-millionaires amongst us who will argue otherwise, this starts with those super wealthy paying their fair share of tax, not less! If our Australian GDP goes up or down by 5% on any given day, it will not make a single iota of difference to your day. Mr Prime Minister, please, get your head out of the sand and give the game-show host a big miss on this absurd idea of tax cuts for the super-rich.

*Cheers Clayton*



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP Upper Hunter

**FUNDING FOR VETERANS PROJECTS IN UPPER HUNTER ELECTORATE**

I am delighted to announce that Witmore Enterprises and Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society Inc. will receive NSW Government funding as part of a proud commitment to help communities educate, protect and repair local war memorials.

Witmore Enterprises were successful in obtaining \$1,500 for commemorative service and client education. Scone & Upper Hunter Historical Society Inc. were successful in obtaining \$1,000 to help display Wartime Memorabilia. More than \$175,000 has been allocated to assist communities protect and repair local war memorials and support projects, which commemorate the service and sacrifice of service men and women. A total of \$126,760 across 21 projects under the Community War Memorials Fund had been invested across the state, with a further \$49,951 for another 43 projects under the Anzac Community Grants Program.

The Government has also called for applications in the latest round of CWMF which is open until Anzac Day. New grants of up to \$10,000 are now available and I encourage all communities who believe their local memorial needs conservation or protection to apply," he said. The next round of applications to the ACPG will open later in the year.

For more information, including application forms are available here <https://www.veterans.nsw.gov.au/> *Cheers, Michael*

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**News**

**P: 4938 1773**

## Locals on lookout for litterbugs



Cessnock City Council is encouraging residents to get involved in a regional anti-littering campaign by registering with the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to report littering offences. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent would like to see community members getting involved in the

crackdown and registering. "Litter damages our natural environments, harms wildlife and makes our public spaces less safe and less attractive." "It's not only costly to our environment, each year over 25,000 tonnes of litter is tossed in NSW and more than \$180 million a year is spent managing that." "The days of getting away

with being a litterbug are over and now each of us can do our bit to protect our local environment," Cr Pynsent said. Across NSW over 21,000 people have registered giving them the opportunity to make an online report when they see someone throwing litter from a vehicle. These reports are made at

the NSW EPA website and fines of \$250 or more are issued to offenders. Roadside litter is one of our region's most unnecessary and preventable environmental problems. By registering to report littering from vehicles, you are part of the solution. @ The NSW State Government is sponsoring an anti-litter campaign.

## Santa receives a present

It is not often that you see Santa receiving a present, however this happened recently when Santa visited Greta Workers Club. Santo received a cheque for \$5,000 from Belinda Owen of Greta Workers to purchase much needed radios for Greta Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade. These radios are considered an essential piece of equipment for communications between teams (and Fire Trucks) when fighting fires. Belinda said it was a privilege to help the local volunteers as they do such a great job protecting homes and land in the local area and can face very harsh and dangerous conditions often placing themselves at risk to ensure a successful outcome. It is hoped the radio equipment will lessen the risks involved. Belinda said Greta Workers Club helps many local organisations and sporting teams and has always been a great supporter of the local community.



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### 11 Ways to Fight Bad Breath Naturally

What's even more humiliating and socially unacceptable than the remains of a spinach salad speckled across a toothy grin? Yes, it's bad breath. Halitosis. A foul odour emanating from the mouth. It's not a medical emergency, of course, but some 25 to 30 percent of the world's population suffer with this distressing problem. The origins of bad breath are not mysterious: dental cavities, gum disease, poor oral hygiene, coated tongue (a white or yellow coating on the tongue, usually due to inflammation) are among the most common. Hundreds of bacteria live in our mouths and some of them—on the tongue or below the gumline or in pockets created by gum disease between gums and teeth, for example—create sulfurous smells. Other causes may include malnutrition (fat breakdown gives your breath a fruity odour), uncontrolled diabetes, and dry mouth (saliva has an antimicrobial effect). Infections such as sore throat or sinusitis, or intestinal disorders, such as heartburn, ulcers, and lactose intolerance, also result in bad breath. Bad breath can be intermittent as well. Food and drink, such as garlic, onions, coffee, and alcohol, can temporarily cause bad breath. Smokers

also suffer from it. Whatever the cause, treatment involves correcting the underlying disorder—and/or perhaps trying a few easy solutions. **Here are 11 ways to fight bad breath:**

- If you wear dentures, remove them at night and clean to get rid of bacterial build up from food and drink.
- Drink plenty of water and swish cool water around in your mouth. This is especially helpful to freshen "morning breath."
- Brush after every meal and floss, preferably twice a day.
- Replace your toothbrush every two to three months.
- Arrange regular dental checkups and cleanings.
- Scrape your tongue each morning with a tongue scraper or spoon to decrease the bacteria, fungi, and dead cells that can cause odor. Hold the tip of the tongue with gauze to pull it forward in order to clean the back of the tongue.
- Chew a handful of cloves, fennel seeds, or aniseeds. Their antiseptic qualities help fight halitosis-causing bacteria.
- Chew a piece of lemon or orange rind for a mouth-freshening burst of flavour.

(Wash the rind thoroughly first.) The citric acid will stimulate the salivary glands—and fight bad breath.

- Chew a fresh sprig of parsley, basil, mint, or cilantro. The chlorophyll in these green plants neutralizes odours.
- Try a 30-second mouthwash rinse that is alcohol-free (unlike many off-the-shelf products). Mix a cup of water with a teaspoon of baking soda (which changes the pH level and fights odour in the mouth) and a few drops of antimicrobial peppermint essential oil. Don't swallow it! (Yields several rinses.)

#### CRUNCH IT

Raw crunchy foods clean the teeth. Apples contain pectin, which helps control food odours and promotes saliva production. Cinnamon is antimicrobial. Active cultures in yogurt help reduce odour-causing bacteria in the mouth.

1 cup apple chunks  
1 cup grated carrot  
1 cup diced celery  
½ cup dried cranberries  
½ cup crushed walnuts  
3 to 5 tablespoons plain nonfat yogurt  
Ground cinnamon

**PREPARATION AND USE:** Mix the apple, carrot, celery, cranberries, and walnuts together in a large bowl. Add yogurt by the tablespoon to moisten the mixture. Sprinkle with cinnamon. (Serves two.) Save Your Breath!



#### Ingredients

- 1.2kg Australian RSPCA Approved Whole Chicken
- ¼ cup (60ml) lime juice
- ¼ cup finely chopped coriander
- 1 tablespoon finely grated ginger
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 2 teaspoons fish sauce
- 1 teaspoon ground turmeric
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon ground paprika
- 1 tablespoon peanut oil
- Coriander sprigs, to serve
- Chargrilled lime halves, to serve

#### Method

##### Step 1

Place chicken, breast-side down, on a clean work surface. Use kitchen scissors to cut along each side of the backbone to remove. Place chicken breast-side up. Press down on breastbone to flatten.

##### Step 2

Place chicken, breast-side down, on a clean work surface. Use kitchen scissors to cut along each side of the backbone to remove. Place chicken breast-side up. Press down on breastbone to flatten.

##### Step 3

Heat a covered barbecue on high. (Alternatively, preheat oven to 180°C.) Brush chicken with oil. Season. Cook on barbecue grill for 5 mins each side or until golden brown. Transfer to a baking dish. Cook in covered barbecue using indirect heat, or in oven, for 1 hour or until the chicken is cooked through. Set aside, covered, for 10 mins to rest.

## Whole butterflied bbq chicken



#### Step 4

Transfer the chicken to a serving platter. Sprinkle with coriander sprigs. Serve with lime halves.

#### Nutrition

- 1292 kJ Energy
  - 21g Fat Total
  - 6g Saturated Fat
  - 1g Fibre
  - 24g Protein
  - 239mg Sodium
  - 6g Carbs (sugar)
  - 7g Carbs (total)
- All nutrition values are per serve*



**Bag a bargain at the library book sale**

Cessnock Library's annual book sale is on again & commenced Friday 16 February & will end on Saturday 3 March 2018, so make sure you don't miss out on a great bargain.

There is sure to be something for everyone, with ex-library items and donations including books, magazines, CDs and DVDs.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said the sale of pre-loved library stock is always very popular with our community.

"Reading is an activity everyone can enjoy and benefit from and I'd like to encourage all residents to check out the bargains on offer," said Cr Pynsent.

The book sale will take place during normal library opening hours and all proceeds of the sale will be used to purchase new stock for the Library.

For further information please call Cessnock Library on 4993 4399.



**NOTICE**

**Elderslie Community Hall AGM**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm at Elderslie Hall**  
AGM has been rescheduled from February.

Everyone is most welcome and we would very much like to hear what functions you would like to see at the hall.

If you cant make the AGM and would like to get involved our regular meetings are first Tuesday every of month at 7.30pm

SIGNED: The Secretary

**Report**

"Despite the numerous warnings and obvious dangers to drivers and innocent road users, the message not to text and drive, is

just not getting through. "In a single day, officers issued more than 1,200 infringements to people who made the selfish choice to use their phone while driving.

"For anyone to take their eyes and concentration off the road and onto a phone while driving shows a complete disregard for personal safety and the safety of everyone else on the road.

"586 defective vehicles in a single day, highlights the level of risk on our roads. Defective brakes, faulty lights, bald tyres, and other issues add to the likelihood of serious injury or death in a crash.

"We have already lost 46 lives on NSW roads this year and the greatest tragedy is that many deaths were avoidable if people took responsibility for their actions and for the maintenance of the vehicles they are driving "Now is the time for all drivers, riders, cyclists and pedestrians to re consider their own behaviour on our roads, and not take what are perfect driving conditions today, for

granted," Assistant Commissioner Corboy said. NSW Police conduct regular compliance operations throughout the year, focussing on key risks on NSW roads.

**Police raid Hunter hydro houses**

Wednesday, 14 February 2018 01:25:13 PM  
Police on the 14th February raided six homes in the Mid-Hunter area, arresting four people and dismantling a major hydroponic drug operation.

Officers from the Port Stephens/Hunter Police District formed Strike Force Devom in December last year to investigate a suspected cluster of so-called hydro houses, residential properties renovated solely to accommodate illegal, commercial cannabis crops. Around 8am on Wednesday 14 February strike teams executed crime scene warrants on six homes in Raworth, Tenambit, Heddon Greta, Aberglasslyn and Chisholm.

Three men and a woman, all Vietnamese nationals, were arrested during the operation and taken to Maitland Police Station. Strike Force Devom investigators say the hydroponic set-ups in each house were extremely sophisticated, featuring scores of fake walls, watering systems, growing lights and transformers. Police called in power company technicians to disconnect illegal electricity supplies at each of the homes.

Port Stephens/Hunter

Police District Commander, Detective Superintendent Craig Jackson, said hundreds of cannabis plants have been found in each of the homes.

"We're now investigating suspected links between the properties as this investigation bears all the hallmarks of organises crime activity," Superintendent Jackson said. Superintendent Jackson has urged the public to continue to inform police about suspected drug operations in the Hunter.

"One of the houses today featured a baby walker in the garage and Christmas lights rigged up outside in a bid to blend into the neighbourhood," Supt Jackson added.

"But there are tell-tale signs to look out for," he said, "so-called hydro houses can give off a pungent odour, activity at the properties tend to be very low key, and windows are often always shut or boarded up."

**Strike Force formed to investigate Maitland shooting**

Wednesday, 14 February 2018 01:15:59 PM

NSW Police have announced the formation of a strike force to investigate a series of attacks in the Maitland area in recent weeks.

Around 9.40pm on Tuesday 13 February shots were fired at a home in Clarence Street, Tenambit. It's believed the shots were fired from a passing vehicle.

No one was inside the house and there have been no reports of injuries. Forensics officers have

examined the crime scene for clues.

Police from the Port Stephens/Hunter Police District are regarding the incident as the latest in a series of targeted attacks. "It's the third such shooting in as many weeks and it appears rival criminal elements are resorting to violence to settle their differences," Port Stephens/Hunter Police District Commander, Detective Superintendent Craig Jackson, said.

"It's not something we're going to tolerate, so today we are announcing the formation of a special multi-jurisdictional strike force to identify those responsible," Supt Jackson said.

"We want to stress to the community that it is our belief that those involved are known to each other and it's our intention to disrupt their violent behaviour," he said.

**Light plane crash – Maitland**

Wednesday, 14 February 2018 12:28:56 PM

Police received reports of a non-fatal light plane crash at Maitland last week.

About 7pm Tuesday 13 February 2018, a 66-year-old man piloted a Dehavlin Chipmunk plane from Luskintyre Airfield. Shortly after take-off, the pilot noticed engine problems and attempted to turn around.

The pilot was able to land the plane on its belly in a paddock adjacent to the air field. The pilot sustained minor injuries and was taken to hospital for observation. He was the

sole occupant of the plane. The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) have been notified of the occurrence.

**KFC Kurri Kurri**

12.02.2018

Counterfeit currency \$50 Australian bank note. On the above time and date two unknown POI's entered the drive-through at the LOC and placed an order. The POI's have proceeded to the collection window and handed over the counterfeit note. The cashier took the note to her manager for inspection suspicious the note was counterfeit. On returning to the window the VOI left the LOC. The POI's did not receive any food from the VIC.

P/R contacted Police to report the matter. Police attended and seized the counterfeit note.

Please remind local businesses that they need to look at the notes that are being handed to them and if they believe they have a counterfeit note to contact their local Police immediately.

**Fire – Cessnock Waste Centre**

8.00pm on the 11/2/2018

About 8.00pm on the 11/2/2018 police observed thick black smoke coming from the vicinity of the Cessnock Waste Centre. Police attended the location and accompanied by the Rural Fire Service gained entry to the location.

Upon entering the site police observed that a large amount of discarded tyres were well alight. Rural Fire

Service Officers extinguished the blaze. Officers remained at the scene as the fire did take some time to extinguish due to the nature of the blaze.

**Aggravated Break, Enter & Commit Serious Indictable Offence**

9:45pm Saturday 10/02/2018

Moore Close, Singleton - 30 year old Female victim from Singleton suffered minor injuries to her wrist. About 9:45pm Saturday 10/02/2018 the victim and witness were watching television at their home in Moore Cl, Singleton with friends when the lights and power to the premises unexpectedly went off. The occupants heard a number of voices gathered outside yelling threats directed towards them, before numerous unknown persons have commenced smashing several external windows and attempted to force entry to the residence through the front door. After a short period of time the front door was forced opened and two suspects have entered the residence.

The victim states she has thrown petrol from a nearby container at the suspects and managed to push them outside and close the front door, injuring her wrist in the process. Offenders fled the scene. The victim's car, which had been parked in the driveway at the time of the incident also sustained significant damaged. Police were contacted and a Crime Scene was declared and FSG and Detectives were in attendance.

**Crime Stoppers**  
**1800 333 000**



**More than 1200 fined for mobile phone use in one-day blitz – Operation Compliance 1**

Thursday, 08 February 2018 11:46:44 AM

Officers from the State's Traffic and Highway Patrol Command issued more than 1,200 infringements for mobile phone use, more than 130 for not keeping left and more than 500 defects in a one-day state-wide traffic operation on the 8th February.

The infringements were issued during Operation Compliance 1 which ran yesterday (Wednesday 7 February 2018), targeting dangerous driver behaviour across the State.

During the operation, officers continued to see people disobeying the law, with officers issuing 1,215 infringements for mobile phone offences, 137 infringements for people not keeping left, and 586 infringements for defective vehicles on NSW Roads. Commander of the Traffic & Highway Patrol, Assistant Commissioner Michael Corboy said that the operation should serve as a warning for all drivers of the risks on our roads.



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**....ON-CALL 7 DAYS A WEEK**



Life program. Our VIEW club supports 4 school children which helps them succeed at school so they can create better futures for themselves.

Back to the AGM ..... Our new office bearers for 2018 are as follows: President- Denise Hungerford, Vice President -Margaret Wilson, Secretary-Bethany Oldfield, Assistant Secretary-Evelyn Thrift Treasurer- Yvonne Bell, Assistant Treasurer-Sandie Smith, Delegate-Judy Groves, Publicity Officer- Judy Spillard. Ann-Louise presented each office bearer with their badge and those elected recited the pledge. The

Code of Conduct was read. Reports for 2017 were pleasing and we achieved enough finance to support our students and had many wonderful fundraising events and lots of fun. Bethany presented Ann-Louise with flowers and we were given some words of wisdom from Ann-Louise which we well understand, "Embrace new ideas". Thank you, Ann-Louise for your wonderful help and giving up your time.

Special thanks to Joan Nightingale for looking after the Trading Table and to Sandie Smith for producing the monthly Newsletter for our meetings. Thanks too to Yvonne Bell for hosting a Friendship day in January for our ladies. Get well soon, Beryl Lydon.

Next month, our guest

speaker will be well known local identity, Val Randall from Greta- a local history lady. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Just phone our secretary, Bethany on 0419 429 3564.

We are a friendly lot and always welcome new members. Grace Brown from Lower Belford was welcomed into our club at this meeting. Grace has been a loyal supporter of our club for many years so it is with great delight that Grace can finally join us.

We celebrate International Women's Day at our next meeting on 8th March, 10.30 am for 11 am start at Greta Workers Club. Members are asked to wear something white if possible to acknowledge support and show our commitment to stopping domestic violence against women.

Membership of VIEW is fun, establishes lasting friendships and contributes to the community. As a valued member one benefits from the satisfaction which comes from providing essential support to disadvantaged school children by enabling them to make the most of their educational and learning opportunities. So don't be lonely, come along to a meeting, have lunch with us and enjoy!

Thank you to everyone who supports our fundraising functions. Keep well and happy. *Peace and love to everyone Judy Spillard*

## Free trees on offer for new home owners



The free tree give away is on again and residents of the Cessnock Local Government Area who have purchased or built a home in the 2017/18 financial year can get up to eight free plants. Cessnock City Council is proud this initiative has been running successfully for nearly two decades benefiting residents and the local government areas natural environment. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent

encourages every resident entitled to apply to submit an application. "The planting of more trees and shrubs in our community is important, not only for the visual appeal but for the long lasting positive environmental impacts." A range of trees and shrubs are available, from ground covers like Creeping Boobalia through to shrubs, including Murraya, Bottlebrush and Grevillea, which can reach three

metres in height. Application forms are available from Council's Customer Service Officers, Vincent Street, Cessnock or via Council's website at [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au). Completed application forms must be received no later than 5pm Friday 2 March 2018. For further information please contact council's Vegetation and Civic Spaces Coordinator, Lyall Green, on 02 4993 4103.



If you are in business in the local area and have not as yet joined please contact Brett Wild on **0488 255 666**. He will make you very welcome



## 75% fail on NSW Fair Trading crackdown



A total of 18 out of 24 real estate agencies failed to comply with NSW Fair Trading legislation in Sydney's west as part of a targeted audit. The inspections checked compliance with the Continuing Professional Development requirements and the laws governing property agents, at premises in Wentworthville, Toongabbie, Pendle Hill, Greystanes, Westmead and Girraween. The operation also targeted compliance with signage re-

quirements, professional indemnity insurance, and renewal of a licence or certificate of registration under the Property, Stock and Business Agents Act 2002. Minister for Better Regulation Matt Kean said the audit results showed many agents weren't meeting industry benchmarks and needed to do better. He added: "The results are totally disappointing with

only six of the 24 agents inspected found to be fully compliant with NSW Fair Trading requirements. "Thirty penalty infringement notices totalling \$31,900 were issued, but of particular concern was one business that was found to be operating without the necessary licence, and three that were using an un-audited trust account. "In addition to the fines, 13 licensees or corporations were fined for failing to supervise their business, while two agents were issued with education letters.

"It's clear these agents need to pull their socks up, and Fair Trading will continue to target those who aren't playing by the rules to make sure consumers are put first." REINSW CEO Tim McKibbin said the results emphasised the importance of the REI's bid for the property services industry to pursue professionalism recognition. If accepted, it would mean agents are bound by a Professional Standards Scheme which is a legal instrument that binds an association to monitor, enforce and improve the professional standards of their members and protect consumers of professional services.

## Housing finance declining across the board

The December 2017 housing finance figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics show that lending for housing is declining across the board, according to the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA). "Overall the figures for December 2017 show, in trend terms that the number of owner-occupied finance commitments decreased by 0.3 per cent – the third consecutive month of decreases," REIA President Malcolm Gunning said. "If refinancing is excluded, in trend terms, the number of owner-occupied finance commitments also decreased by 0.3 per cent – again the third consecutive month of decrease. "In trend terms decreases were recorded in all states and territories except Queensland, the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) and South Australia. The largest decrease of 1.5 per cent was in Western Australia. The ACT had the largest increase of 0.6 per cent and South Australia was flat.

"The value of investment housing commitments decreased by 0.5 per cent in December in trend terms following falls in the previous eleven months. "In trend terms, the number of established dwellings purchase commitments decreased by 0.3 per cent while new dwelling construction decreased by 0.8 per cent and the

purchase of new dwellings decreased by 0.1 per cent. "The proportion of first home buyers, as part of the total owner-occupied housing finance commitments, decreased marginally to 17.9 per cent in December compared to 18.0 per cent in the previous month. "Whilst the figures show that home lending is slowing down first home buyers are continuing to have an increased presence in the market," concluded Mr Gunning.

## Interest rates remain on hold

Reserve Bank of Australia board members have decided to leave interest rates at 1.50 per cent at their first meeting of the year. REINSW President Leanne Pilkington welcomed the decision to keep interest rates steady at the February 2018 board meeting held today. "The most recent data indicates house price growth has slowed in the major capital city markets, reinforcing a wait-and-see approach from the RBA," she said. "The regulator's efforts

to dampen activity appear to be working, with tighter lending criteria having the desired effect. "Though it's worth remembering that a pronounced decline in house prices will impact consumer confidence, so the situation is delicate. "Based on current conditions, we expect there won't be a rise in interest rates until next year," Ms Pilkington added. The RBA will next meet on Tuesday, 6 March 2018.

## Stronger fire safety steps needed

NSW residents are being recommended to focus on the number, location and interconnection of smoke alarms and consider installing sprinklers by Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW).

This advice follows three years of extensive research by FRNSW into residential smoke alarms and sprinklers, which revealed that stronger steps are needed to ensure best practice fire safety and fire prevention in homes. The research outcomes and recommendations signal the biggest shift in fire safety policy since 2006, when legislation mandated the installation of smoke alarms in all existing homes and shared accommodation. The findings of the two research reports will inform

best practice and building code legislation to improve fire safety and reduce the number of fatalities, injuries and damage from residential fires. FRNSW recommendations

- Increase the number of working smoke alarms in homes to one per bedroom and living areas (including hallways and stairways) and to have them interconnected
- Install automated fire suppression systems, such as home sprinklers, to significantly improve fire safety in homes.

Current NSW legislation mandates one smoke alarm must be installed on each level of a residential building and residential sprinklers are not compulsory in all dwellings at the moment. Residential fire safety tips:-

- NEVER turn off your smoke alarms
- ALWAYS test your alarms to ensure they are working
- ALWAYS ensure all occupants in a home know what to do if the smoke alarms sound
- ALWAYS ensure all occupants have a practised home escape plan.

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

# Out & About

with Mike Lowing

**The McGrath Foundation “Pink Stumps” Day** ~ The penultimate round of district cricket was also the McGrath Foundation “Pink Stumps” round for the Greta/Branxton Club played last Saturday. A successful day and night managed to raise over \$2200 for what is a great cause. On field proved to be very successful as well, with club president Sean Wright forced to bring out the cheque book for a keg after winning all grades. This ensured every grade will now feature in the semi-finals in a fortnight’s time.



Josh and Melanie Dagg



Josh Dagg with daughters Eliza and Amelia



: Greta/Branxton First Grade Team



Greta/Branxton First Grade Team Take 2



Barry Richards and Joey Butler

## Better not mess with Cessnock & Fines increase with a crackdown on school zones

In an effort to tackle illegal dumping across the region, Cessnock City Council has teamed up with local personalities to launch a 12 month ‘Better not mess with Cessnock’ campaign. Illegal dumping is the disposal of waste in areas

other than approved management facilities and is a huge problem in the Cessnock Local Government Area, with 377 incidents recorded last year alone. Local sporting personalities including Speedway

Racing Champion, Kiona Sunterton, Kurri Kurri Bulldogs’, Brock Gilmour, Ladies League Tag’s, Leanne Polglase and Cessnock Goannas’, Patrick Jurd will be the faces of the campaign.

Over the next 12 months, you will see Kiona on the back of local buses, Leanne, Brock and Patrick on Council’s garbage trucks, ads in the Cessnock Advertiser and a social media campaign on Council’s Facebook page. This year-long promotion was made possible with a

\$102,118 Illegal Dumping, Clean up and Prevention grant from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent commended Kiona, Brock, Leanne and Patrick for being part of the battle against illegal dumping and hopes locals take note of the message. “There is absolutely no excuse to mess with Cessnock and I can assure people that the fines are far worse than the fees at the Cessnock Waste Management Centre.”

Local Speedway Champion Kiona Sunterton said she is proud to be part of this campaign and believes everyone has a responsibility to do the right thing when it comes to our environment. “I was born and bred here and now I’m raising my kids here, so the area is close to my heart. We need to work together to ensure our region remains beautiful for locals and visitors alike.” Everyone can report illegal dumping and it’s easy to do by simply calling 131 555

or jump online and report it at [ridonline.epa.nsw.gov.au](http://ridonline.epa.nsw.gov.au). Cessnock Council has also endorsed a crackdown on school zones. People caught doing the wrong thing in a school zone will receive an even bigger fine following a move by the NSW Government to keep pedestrians safe. The changes have resulted in several penalties for offences being increased, some by up to \$150. Residents doing the school drop off and pick up are strongly encouraged, more than ever before, to choose safety over convenience and park legally around schools. All drivers are warned that stopping or parking on a footpath/nature strip will result in a fine of \$257. Cessnock City Council, Ranger Team Leader Kurt Livens said the decision by the NSW Government is aimed at putting pedestrian



safety first. “School zones get particularly busy in peak drop off and pick up periods and people parking illegally put not only children at risk but every pedestrian at risk of being involved in an accident.” Drivers are also reminded that they must park their vehicle in the direction of travel if not face a \$330 infringement notice. The increases to infringements are now effective. ■ Photo above: Speedway Racing Champion, Kiona Sunterton

### FREE Community Walking Group



The ‘Walking Group’ was established 5½ years ago in Branxton

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

**Beginners always welcome & it is FREE**  
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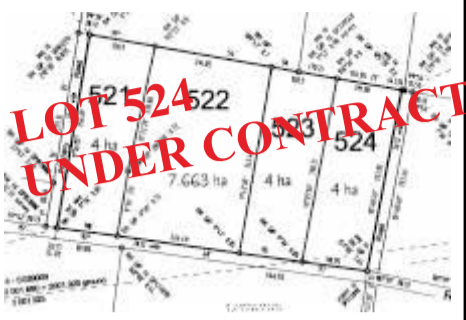
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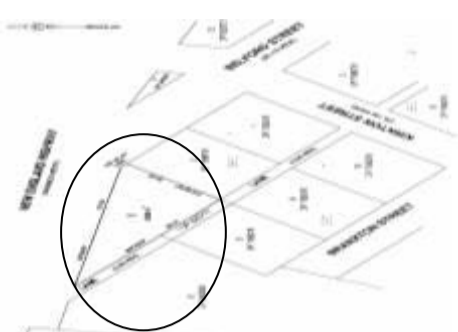


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- Barn has council occupation certificate whilst building new house.
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# Discovering local History & People

## Things You May Not Know About

with Neridah Kentwell

### .....GRETA

#### 1950 & 1952 Greta Local Bakery Financial Journals & Considering the Origin of Some of the Surnames in Greta

Donated to the museum after being found in a Station Street attic, the beautiful old Greta bakery journals, owned by Allen and Brown, show a compilation of their customers' names and what they owed, demonstrating who lived in the town in those years. Some of the 1950 names follow: -

Brown	Wilson	O'Hearn
Kedwell	Baird	Hill
Harman	Teasy	Killihear
Anderson	Learsom	Nevins
Wilton	Picker	Pryor
Melville	Wholert	Samuels
Cornwell	Clark	Baker
Priest	Redgrove	Price
Bull	Thompson	Kay
Summers	McIlroy	Skillicorn
Davis	Selway	Yevins
Smith	Stokes	Woodcraft
Walton	Hopkins	Dooley
Allen	Brittle	Thorpe
Mahar	Delve	Siddens
Chappell	Briscoe	Adumen
Swanson	Pilton	Folder
Murphy	Jones	Bell
Rose	Williamson	Dever
Edwards	Lodge	Pilton
Ford	Scarlett	Hodges
Redpore	Rowley	McCoster
Stokes	Hepplewhite	Gibson
Dimmock	McKindry	King
Riflatt	Wilton	Blackwell
Forsythe	Peters	Mahoney
Mournday	McFarley	Mullins
Charnock	Richardson	Firth
Pilton	Humphries	Leonard
Farrell	Hislop	Doyle

Looking at the selection of names above (spelt as they were recorded in the journal and which may not have always been correct), it is interesting when you consider their origins. People did not have surnames that they inherited before the Middle Ages period in history, because they mostly lived in small farming communities, and

just used first names. However, as the population increased a need for another name to identify them was found to be necessary especially as there were so few personal names, or even nicknames. There were several ways this was achieved.

Local names came from a place, known as a locational name, and is the oldest and most common way to gain a surname. Nearly every single town, village hamlet and house had a name. There were also

rivers, streams, and other landscape features such as hills, trees, tree parts and so on that were used. Therefore this included, from the above list, the names:

Ford - Once a well-known bus company around Greta named for its owner/s, the name comes from a ford or shallow place in a river where men and animals could wade cross, or for someone that lived there. Kedwell - came from Kidael in England, and means cattle valley or cattle well.

Cornwell - in Britain, compiles the meaning of 'corn' - a crane, with a well, spring or stream. Redgrove - from a Parish and a village of Redgrove in Suffolk, which means a reed ditch. Blackwell - comes from a black, or dark coloured, stream or spring, or a dweller beside one of them,

located in various English counties. Stokes - from many places called Stoke, meaning 'stocck/stock' - trunk of a tree, or place of stump clearings. An ancient name which became plural. Melville - of French origin in Normandy, meaning poor soil and settlement. Hill - from living near or on a hill OR a personal name shortening of Hildebrand or Hildegard.

Woodcraft - from Woodcraft Village, or Woodcraft in North Hampshire, it means croft (piece of land) in or by a wood. Firth/Frith - a dweller of scrubland, or barren pasture, from the British Isles.

Occupations also formed into surnames with the most common English surnames becoming Smith, Wright, Taylor, Cook and Turner.

- A pre 7<sup>th</sup> Century Smith came from 'smite' which describes a soldier who probably guarded the local lord of the manor, or later it became a shortened version of blacksmith, whitesmith, tinsmith, goldsmith, and silversmith. - Baker was not only from a bread baker, it could describe the official that took care of the monastery or

castle ovens, the keeper of the communal kitchen or the owner of a kiln, which could have been used for baking pottery or bricks. - Lodge, from an occupational nickname for mason, OR was a topographical name, a residence in a small cottage or temporary dwelling. Loge means cabin. - Picker meant peaker or picker, as an occupation - a man armed with a pike. - Pryor, the name of Greta's first Council's mayor, initially came from the servant of a prior, who was a monastic official, and later became the nickname for a person bearing the qualities of a prior, 'the official one'. - Baird was a poet or minstrel. Bard in France means barro or height for 'hill', so could also have been a locational name. - Priest/Priestman wasn't from an order but was someone who served a priest, or could also be a nickname for someone who acted the part in a religious play. - Clark came from a scribe or secretary, or

from a religious order who could marry - cleric means priest (i.e. not Catholic). Almost the only literate ones. - Bell is from a church bell ringer or someone living at the bell or the sign of a bell. Bel also means handsome so could also have come from a nickname. -Scarlett was of Norman French origin, an occupational name for a dyer or seller of rich coloured cloth, often bright red. -Harper came from the arts and the harper was once the most important player at festivals and fairs in

medieval times. Greta's local hill, Harper's Hill, was named for the man who originally owned it, surveyor William Harper. Nicknames, or personal name shortenings (with some already mentioned), could also become surnames. Examples from the list include: Bull - from someone who had great physical strength, perhaps a keeper of a bull (occupational), or from a sign on a house or inn (locational). Brown - came from a personal name Bruni, as well as a nickname for someone with a brown complexion or hair, or even the dark clothing of a monk or cleric. King - like priest, was not actually a king but was from a nickname for someone who behaved 'kinglike', or won a title, or played a king in a performance. Swanson - first came from the nickname of 'swan', meaning pure or graceful, but had the -son added later to indicate 'the son of'.

Baptismal names became surnames, sometimes without any additions, with an example in Davis from David. By also adding an -s or -son to a father's name, or occasionally to a mother's name, a surname would be created, known as being patronymic. From the list above it can be seen that: -Anderson came from the son of Andreas or Andrew, which meant manly. -Edwards was the son of Edward with a meaning of 'prosperity guard'. -Humphries, with many different spellings, was the son of Humphridus. -Loving, the name of this local paper's hard-working editor, came from Leofing or Lyfing, originally from the masculine 'Leofa', meaning dear or beloved, so became 'son of the beloved one' with the first surname spelt Lywing in 1272. -Richardson was the son of Richard, apparently named because he was powerful or brave/hardy. -Williamson/Wilson came from the baptismal name of Will or William from Willelm/Wilhem meaning will- desire, and helmet or protection. -Thompson came Tom/ Thom/Thomas, with the 'p' added to make it easier to pronounce. -Peters was the son of Peter which came from the Greek meaning 'rock' and was associated with St Peter the

Apostle. -Nevins is both Scottish and Irish. As a Baptismal name it meant 'little saint', or it could have been a nickname for a 'bony man', and the first chief of the clan. - Samuels, formed from Samuel meaning "the name Of God", was popular.

Wales also used the patronymic system of taking the father's first name as the child's surname, with examples:

-Ap Rhys joined to become Price or Preece, meaning son of Rhys, a 'fiery warrior'. Price may have also referred to an occupational name for an early trading standards officer who set the local price of goods.

-Jones is the most common Welsh surname, and came from Johnson (John's son).

In Scotland and Ireland, surnames, also sometimes called by-names, often began with Mac or Mc which was Gaelic for 'son of' or 'descendant of', so McFarley, McKindry, McCoster and McIlroy, from above, were once son of Farley, descendant of Kindry, descendant of Coster, and the son of Ilroy, meaning a 'red-haired youth', which was both Scottish and Irish.

Others living in Ireland had second names that started with 'O', meaning grandson of, such as O'Hearn from above, meaning 'feared one' or perhaps the 'swarthy one' or even the follower of St. Ciaron. This name may also have come from a nickname for someone thought to resemble a heron bird - tall and thin, or perhaps the reverse as a joke. It also may have been locational, from Harome in North Yorkshire.

Some names ending in -kin were a diminutive of the father's name, such as Hopkins (little Hop), associated with Wales and England. Derived from Hrod-berht meaning renowned or famous. The 's' may also have been added in the next generation, as son of little Hop's son.

**To look at the fabulous old bakery journals or for help to try to find more on your ancestors in the area in and around Greta, call into the Greta Museum.**

**Open Wednesdays and Saturdays 11am - 3pm. Or call Neridah on 0427657150 or Peter on 0478896722.**

**Or email the museum at [gretamuseum@gmail.com](mailto:gretamuseum@gmail.com).**




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

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



■ 2017 Lions Club Christmas Seniors Dinner hosted by Branxton Lions & held at Greta Workers Club



■ 2018 Lions Club Bunnings BBQ ~ raising money for the community

Branxton Lions Club held the 2017 Senior Citizens Dinners at Greta Workers Club and the Branxton Community Hall on the 28<sup>th</sup> November and the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017. The dinners were enjoyed by local seniors with entertainment, drinks, food, lucky door prizes and a great raffle. The seniors were entertained by the band 'The Maitland Sing Australia group'. Branxton Lions Club would like to thank Greta Workers club and Branxton IGA for their support. The Branxton Girl Guides helped with serving the dinner. Branxton Lions Club would love to welcome new members to help serve the community with a great bunch of people. For information please call Brian on 65747186 or Alan on 49381654. On the 13<sup>th</sup> January '18 Branxton Loins Club had another successful fund raising event with a sausage sizzle at Bunnings, Singleton. Funds raised on this day go to community projects. Branxton Lions Club is looking for new members to assist us to do what we do best and having fun while raising money for our

community. We hold our monthly meeting at Branxton Golf Club on the first Tuesday of the month at 4pm. Please call Allan on 0427 381 311 or Ken on 6574 7027. Ken Meany  
*Publicity Officer*

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*DRAWING 7.30pm*

*SUNDAY*

*SELLING 11.00am*  
*DRAWING 12 Noon*

## ENTERTAINMENT

*FRIDAY 23rd FEBRUARY*

*ROB WILSON*

*FRIDAY 2nd MARCH*

*COVER GIRLS*

## MEMBER'S BADGE DRAW

*WEDNESDAY*

*21st FEBRUARY - \$800*

*SUNDAY*

*25th FEBRUARY - \$1,900*

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MEMBERS BADGE DRAW  
THURSDAY 22nd FEBRUARY

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SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY

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*MILLER PARK WEDNESDAY*

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*GRETA THURSDAY*

*4.00 – 6.00pm*

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## RAFFLES

**FRIDAY & SUNDAY  
MEAT TRAYS**



## The 10 Best Non-fiction Books of 2017

By Frannie Jackson & Paste Books Staff

**10. *They Can't Kill Us Until They Kill Us* by Hanif Abdurraqib**  
“The truth is, once you understand that there are people who do not want you to exist, that is a difficult card to remove from the table.” Hanif Abdurraqib’s essays, which tackle everything from racism to music to suicide, are necessary reading now more than ever. Challenging and lyrical, his writing delivers compelling observations in bite-sized pieces, allowing you to digest the deeper ramifications of his insights. And *They Can't Kill Us Until They Kill Us* is the perfect place to begin with Abdurraqib, as it collects both published and previously unreleased essays into one tome. — Frannie Jackson

**9. *Meet Me in the Bathroom: Rebirth and Rock and Roll in New York City 2001-2011* by Lizzy Goodman**  
It’s hard to imagine New York as a rock ‘n’ roll graveyard, but that was very much the case in the 1990s, when the city’s music scene shriveled under the sanitized initiatives of Mayor Rudy Giuliani and a growing corporate aristocracy. But as history has demonstrated time and again, these depressing cultural voids often become the soil for new artistic roots, and the seeds of messy rock music were getting ready to sprout. In *Meet Me in the Bathroom*, Lizzy Goodman traces the story of that revival, from the dance parties that spawned a community of young rock fans, through the trauma of the September 11th terrorist attacks and the violent spasms of the recording industry, to the rise of era-defining bands like The Strokes, The Yeah Yeah Yeahs, LCD Soundsystem, TV on the Radio, The National, Vampire Weekend and others. Goodman spent the past six years interviewing just about everyone who played a role, delivering an enthralling history of modern rock ‘n’ roll. —Matthew Oshinsky

**8. *The Blood of Emmett Till* by Timothy B. Tyson**  
Over six decades have passed since Emmett Till, a black 14-year-old from Chicago, was kidnapped and killed in a gruesome lynching in Tallahatchie County, Mississippi. Yet his death, his killers’ acquittal and the subsequent wave of protests—marking the beginning of what we now call the Civil Rights Movement—continue to impact American culture. Timothy B. Tyson, a white southern-born historian, was invited to interview the woman who had accused Till of grabbing her waist and uttering “obscurities.” When speaking with Tyson in 2008, the woman said, “That part’s not true.” This remarkable admission, offered up decades after the trial and its aftermath shook the nation, drove Tyson to write *The Blood of Emmett Till*. The book provides a painstaking recreation of the murder and the trial while also foregrounding the social context. Its best moments come when Tyson dissects the ways in which white supremacy was reinforced at every level of the state and society, puncturing the pieties of those white people—Tyson’s own family included—who believe they, and their ancestors, were free of racial bias. —Lucas Iberico Lozada

**7. *Grown-Up Anger* by Daniel Wolff**  
New Bob Dylan books appear so frequently these days, and it’s become a rare treat to find one that distinguishes itself by delving into deeper mysteries than the Nobel laureate himself. Daniel Wolff’s provocative new book, *Grown-Up Anger*, enumerates the ways Dylan fashioned his early public persona around Woody Guthrie’s Dust Bowl balladeer image, exploring connections in the anger that came across in the two men’s songs. Wolff particularly focuses on the time-transcending rage that made those songs stick, which established Dylan and Guthrie’s voices as connected but distinct, honest, mature, uncompromising and impossible to ignore. As Wolff says, “We could all use a little grown-up

anger.” —Steve Nathans-Kelly

**6. *How to Murder Your Life* by Cat Marnell**  
Press surrounding Cat Marnell’s book deal was dripping with venom. Yellow headlines blared—even a publication as august as *The Atlantic* couldn’t resist running the headline, “Cat Marnell’s Book Deal Could Buy a Lot of Drugs.” The entire saga was laced with hatred, because although Marnell was achieving media success directly because of her sickness, she was not afflicted with something relatable like cancer. Her main condition, the least pitied of all pathologies, is addiction. Yet Marnell’s memoir is wonderful. Her voice is her single greatest asset—a pure stylist who can tackle both beauty tips and the savage electricity of a life on amphetamine. *How to Murder Your Life* turns the addict, trucked with so many galleons watchers’ outrages, into her own fully-formed person. —B. David Zarley

**5. *A Disappearance in Damascus: Friendship and Survival in the Shadow of War* by Deborah Campbell**  
Released in the U.S. this year after an award-winning Canadian launch in 2016, *A Disappearance in Damascus* chronicles the real-life disappearance of a woman in Syria. Deborah Campbell was working as an undercover journalist in Damascus when she hired Ahlam, a talented “fixer,” to help her navigate the city and identify sources for articles. The book begins by highlighting their friendship, slowly revealing Ahlam’s backstory as an Iraqi refugee. By the time Campbell describes Ahlam’s traumatic disappearance, you’ll find yourself devastated for this remarkable woman while anxious to discover what happened. *A Disappearance in Damascus* succeeds in delivering both a gripping tale and a sobering commentary on the devastating fallout of America’s war in Iraq. —Frannie Jackson

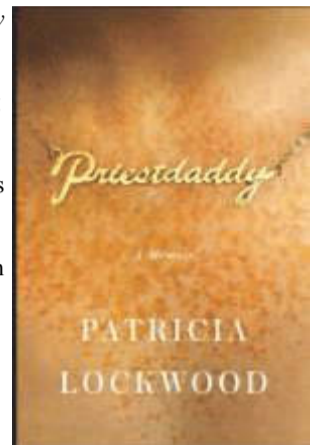
**4. *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy* by Ta-Nehisi Coates**

The title of Ta-Nehisi Coates’ essay collection, *We Were Eight Years in Power*, references Thomas Miller’s statement at South Carolina’s constitutional convention in 1895. A black congressman, Miller recognized that the progress made during Reconstruction was being replaced by white supremacist policies. Coates’ uses this as a jumping off point, introducing his collection of eight essays that were published in *The Atlantic* during President Obama’s time in office. Although fantastic on their own, the essays—each paired with another introductory essay discussing a specific year—serve as a multi-faceted examination of American culture when read together. And Coates, who has mastered the ability to interpret the country’s future by understanding its past, concludes his book with a chilling epilogue that proves necessary reading: his essay on Donald Trump, titled “The First White President.” —Frannie Jackson

**3. *The Future Is History: How Totalitarianism Reclaimed Russia* by Masha Gessen**  
Winner of the National Book Award in Nonfiction, *The Future Is History* follows four Russians from their birth in the 1980s to today. Masha Gessen tackles a tumultuous period in Russian history, as the hope for democracy gradually devolved and an autocratic government stole its place. In spotlighting four individuals coming of age during this period, Gessen transforms a convoluted history into personal stories with personal stakes. *The Future Is History* proves to be a challenging yet rewarding read, illuminating the terrors of Russia’s modern government. —Frannie Jackson

**2. *The Cooking Gene: A Journey Through African American Culinary History in the Old South* by Michael W. Twitty**  
Culinary historian Michael W. Twitty weaves a compelling narrative in *The Cooking Gene*, exploring race through the lenses of Southern food and culture. In mapping his own black and white ancestry, Twitty transforms sweeping topics into a personal history, which proves both informative and wonderfully entertaining. His conversational tone and glorious recipes will draw you in, but it’s his insights—namely, that we must confront the nation’s history of slavery before we can find healing—that will stick with you long after the final page. —Frannie Jackson

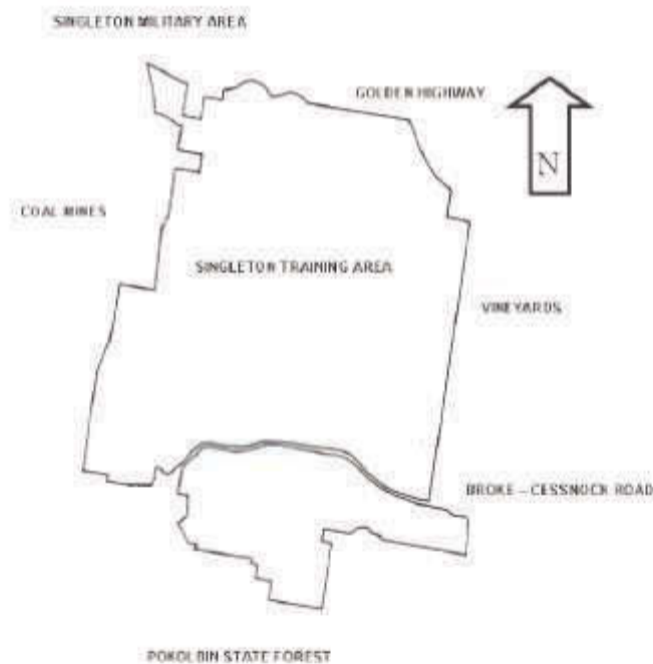
**1. *Priestdaddy* by Patricia Lockwood**  
Patricia Lockwood had an unorthodox childhood. As the child of a Catholic priest, she grew up as an anomaly in the faith, but that detail is only the tip of the bizarre Midwestern upbringing Lockwood recounts in her memoir. Her parents are hilarious and strange, her siblings unique and loud, and Lockwood herself is just as mischievous as her Twitter presence would suggest. But *Priestdaddy* is more than a series of anecdotes; the book is obscene, moving and complex, with Lockwood not shying away from reflecting on the darker areas of the faith in which she grew up. To read *Priestdaddy* is to witness quiet moments of gorgeous prose give way to stories about Lockwood’s mom hitting a man with a van known as “thegrindup.com” after leaving the house “under cover of darkness.” It places the beautiful and the filthy side by side, just as any God with a sense of humour would intend. —Bridey Heing



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:

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# Fishing Club Finishes With a Bang



☞ Sunday afternoon live music after the presentation



☞ Womens winner Judy Masters being congratulated by Club President David Hodges



☞ Overall men's winners Rob and Scott Beckett congratulated by Club Secretary Steve Nevin

## FISHING CLUB RESULTS TALLY 2017

	23/04/2017	28/05/2017	12/06/2017	5/07/2017	13/08/2017	17/09/2017	22/10/2017	12/11/2017	3/12/2017	Total (pts)
Scott Beckett		92.8		33.35	48.45			90.5	67	334.1
Robert Beckett		134.6		56.6	16.1			67.6	59.2	334.1
Steve Nevin	61.4			17.75	83.1	60.2	21.2		38	281.45
Mark Dever	85.3	140.5							14.5	240.3
Glen Beckett						53.35	20.2	109	32.5	215.05
Brad Dorn	36.6	118.1		31.35				21		207.05
Troy Fields	63.5					57.45				120.95
Dave Delforce	119.5									119.5
Daniel Mordue					72.75		30.1			102.85
Judy Masters	31.4	11.7						26.66	25.65	95.41
Devy Dorn				57.7				13.9		71.6
Blake Barnes							39.3	27.1		66.4
Jeff Nevin						25.8			37.5	63.3
Mick Edwards				27.05					30.9	57.95
Tyson Nevin			23			15.7				38.7
Toni Cooper						37.45				37.45
Norm Beckett						34.4				34.4
Jason Salna						29.5				29.5
David Hodges					19.55					19.55
Robert Barnes							15.9			15.9

## FISHING CLUB INDIVIDUAL PRIZES LEADERBOARD

FISH	FISHERMAN	WEIGHT (KG)	WEIGH IN DATE
Tailor	Daniel Mordue	1.91kg	22nd October
Luderick	Mark Dever	0.7kg	23rd April
Flathead	Brad Dorn	1.00kg	12th November
Leatherjacket	Steve Nevin	0.7kg	23rd April
Whiting	Troy Fields	0.24kg	23rd April
Bream	Mark Dever	1.35kg	28th May
Snapper	Dave Delforce	7.39kg	23rd April
Yellowbelly	Scott Beckett	3.44kg	28th May
Bass	Rob Beckett	1.56kg	28th May
Drummer	Daniel Mordue	1.20kg	13th August
Groper	Mick Edwards	1.15kg	3rd December
Tarwhine	Glen Beckett	0.395kg	12th November
Flounder	Judy Masters	0.08kg	3rd December
Silver Perch	Rob Beckett	0.095kg	3rd December
Pearl Perch	Steve Nevin	0.5kg	3rd December

The Final Weigh in for the year in December saw good catches of Snapper, Yellowbelly, Flathead, Bream, and Australian Bass mainly get weighed in and a healthy crowd was in attendance. The Presentation/Christmas Party was held Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December and all the kids left happy after getting a present, many laughs were shared and it really capped off a great first season for the fishing club. Fast

finishing Blake Barnes won the junior overall points on 66.4 just ahead of Tyson Nevin 38.7. Judy Masters 95.41 overcame some stiff opposition from Toni Cooper 37.45 to take out the Women's and a shock drawn result saw the two Beckett Brothers Scott and Robert share the overall points on 334.1. No-one could dispute that our overall winners weren't the most deserving in their categories. There were

many other individual prizes given out to make the day a huge success-See Above. We would really like to thank our Sponsors for the year: The Tatts Hotel Greta, Specks Liquor and BCF. We couldn't have run without you! Our Annual General Meeting was held Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2pm at the Tatts. We are now taking



☞ Club members enjoying "the hut" on Broughton island



☞ Mick Edwards winner of Biggest groper

registrations for 2018. Please call into the Tatts hotel to pay your Rego \$30 per person or \$50 per cou-

ple/family. Please leave your phone number for future correspondence.



### Pets and Patrols with Ranger Kurt

We've seen temperatures soar this summer and we'd like to remind everyone about how important it is to look out for your furry friends over the warmer months. Overheating can cause your pets to suffer heatstroke, which can in turn lead to organ failure or even death in more serious cases.

The good news is, there are a number of things you can do to prevent this from happening! Firstly, make sure you never leave your pet alone in your car or ute as leaving a window down or parking in the shade won't be enough to protect your pet from overheating. Leaving your dog on the back of your ute is also a big no no in the hotter months as they can severely burn themselves on the piping hot tray.

Next up, if you're taking your dog for a walk, try to avoid walking them in the middle of the day. Taking your pooch out early in the morning or later in the afternoon will ensure their paws don't burn on the hot pavement and they'll be less likely to become dehydrated.

There are also things you can do at home to ensure your pet remains comfortable in the heat.

Ensuring they have access to plenty of shade and water should be a top priority! It might be an idea to leave out an extra bowl of fresh, clean water in the hotter months in case their main bowl gets knocked over. You can even put blocks of ice in your pet's water or give them frozen treats to cool them down.

If it gets really hot, like the 43 degree day we had last week, consider bringing your pet inside. You'll be able to keep them cool with fans or air-conditioning and we promise they'll love you for it!

It might also seem like a logical idea to hose your pet down with cold water or place them in a cold bath, but be very cautious.

If your pet is really hot or bordering on heat stroke, it might just make things worse. Lowering your pet's skin and surface temperature too abruptly might actually result in further heating of their internal organs, worsening the overheating of the body's core. Start by dipping their feet in first and getting them used to it and then enter them in to the water slowly.

Keep these helpful tips top of mind for the remainder of the summer because if you do, your pets will be cool, calm, collected and VERY grateful.

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

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL

HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

with Jo Thomas, General Manager

**WSET Success**  
At the end of last year, the Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association (HVWTA) facilitated courses in WSET (Wine & Spirit Education Trust) Levels 1 and 2. The results were tremendous with 22 Level 1 and 19 Level 2 successfully graduating. The WSET Awards is the division of the Wine & Spirit Education Trust responsible for the creation, processing and quality assurance of assessments leading to WSET qualifications. It is recognised as an awarding organisation by Ofqual, the

English regulator for qualifications and examinations. WSET is devoted to the development and delivery of qualifications and courses in wines and spirits. Their mission is to provide accessible, best-in-class education and qualifications to inspire and empower the world's wine and spirit professionals and enthusiasts. They have over 47 years' experience designing and delivering job-relevant training and education in wines and spirits. WSET is the market leader, with their qualifications available in over 70 countries and over half a million individuals have completed a WSET qualification. The HVWTA is dedicated to continue to work with highly recognised courses to our wine and tourism industry to support them in relevant training and education. The following courses will be WSET Level 1 - 1 May, WSET Level 2 - 28 & 29 May and WSET Level 3 - 18,25 June & 2,9,16 July. For more information please contact the HVWTA 02 4990 0900. Pictured: Graduates Dylan Thompson, Pepper Tree Wines (Level 1) and Louise Robertson, The Cellar Restaurant (Level 2).

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## The ATO now holds the voiceprints of one in seven Australians

**Some 3.4 million citizens use their voice as a security control when interacting with the tax office.**

The Australian Taxation Office holds the voiceprints of one in seven Australians, according to figures released to *Computerworld*. As of this month, more than 3.4 million citizens have used their voice as a security control when interacting with the tax office, equivalent to the combined populations of Perth, Adelaide and Canberra.

Voice biometrics are used by the ATO across its call centre and mobile app, as part of the identity authentication process. A citizen is required to repeat the phrase "In Australia my voice identifies me" to prove their identity. Their voice is compared with a stored voiceprint which captures more than 140 unique physical and behavioural characteristics of a person such as length of the vocal tract and nasal passage, the size and shape of the larynx, pitch, cadence and accent.

The comparison produces a confidence score of how closely the caller's voice sample matches the voiceprint.

According to Nuance, the company behind the voiceprint technology being used by the ATO, the technology can detect whether the voice is live or recorded and can't be fooled by an impersonation.

"There is no biometrics system or security system that is 100 per cent fool-proof," the company states. It is at its weakest with twins.

"The chances that a false accept will occur with a genetically related relative of a similar age and of the same gender is much higher than a false accept with a random stranger, and this probability is heightened with a twin," the company says.

The ATO has successfully verified more than 4.8 million interactions since it launched rolled out to its call centre in 2015. Voice biometrics were added to

the ATO app in 2016, making it the first deployment across call centre and app in Australia. As a result, the agency had shaved 48 seconds off of the average inquiry handling time.

The technology is also in use by the Department of Human Services, for example when citizens call Centrelink.

The voiceprints are encrypted and stored in a secure database behind the firewall, "just like any other sensitive client data" Nuance said. "We do not maintain a repository of voiceprints," it added.

The ATO has indicated its voiceprint database could be made available, with consent, to other government agencies. "We maintain a voiceprint database which may in the future become a whole of government voiceprint database," the tax office states in its privacy policy. The government's Digital Transformation Agency is currently working on GovPass, which is intended to make it easier to prove identity when using government services.

The project was revealed in September to be in private beta, although it is not known if voice biometrics will be involved. However, the project has had the input of Australia Post which has worked on a proof of concept integration of its recently launched Digital iD app into the new framework. In 2016 Australia Post's then CEO Ahmed Fahour said the mobile application would employ biometric authentication to confirm identity.

The ATO is one of the biggest customers of Nuance's voice biometrics, others include ICICI Bank, Royal Bank of Canada, Santander, TalkTalk, and Vodafone Turkey. Globally its customers have some 300 million consumers making more than five billion successful voice authentications each year, Nuance said.

### Australia's website-blocking regime under review

**Rohan Pearce (Computerworld)**

**Government seeks feedback 18 months after site-blocking law took effect.**

The government is conducting a review of Australia's anti-piracy website blocking regime 18 months after it came into effect.

The Department of Communications and the Arts is staging a public consultation on the site-blocking mechanism introduced by the *Copyright Amendment (Online Infringement) Act 2015*.

Under the changes to copyright law introduced by the legislation, copyright owners and licensees are able to apply for a Federal Court injunction that requires an Internet service provider to take reasonable steps to block its subscribers' access to piracy-linked websites. The sites targeted by such an injunction must be based overseas and have the primary purpose of infringing copyright or facilitating the infringement of copyright.

The court can take into consideration a number of other factors when deciding whether to grant an injunction, such as the flagrancy of infringement, whether blocking a site is in the public interest, the impact of the injunction, and whether a site-block is a proportionate response to the infringement. The court can take into consideration a number of other factors when deciding whether to grant an injunction, such as the flagrancy of infringement, whether blocking a site is in the public interest, the impact of the injunction, and whether a site-block is a proportionate response to the infringement. Since the legislation came into effect, a number of rights holders have employed the site-blocking mechanism. Roadshow and Foxtel led the charge, successfully applying to have a number of major piracy-linked online services blocked. Since then the pair have successfully sought additional injunctions. Australian music labels have also used the legislation.

There are currently two applications for site-blocks before the Federal Court. Roadshow and Hong Kong broadcaster TVB are seeking to block online services used by a number of Android-based set-top boxes. (Previous injunctions obtained by rights holders have targeted online services that link to BitTorrent files, piracy-linked search engines, and web-based streaming sites.)

### Top 10 Technology Trends for 2018: IEEE Computer Society Predicts the Future of Tech

Tech experts at the IEEE Computer Society (IEEE-CS) annually predict the "Future of Tech" and have revealed what they believe will be the biggest trends in technology for 2018. The forecast by the world's

premier organization of computing professionals is among its most anticipated announcements.

"The Computer Society's predictions, based on a deep-dive analysis by a team of leading technology experts, identify top-trending technologies that hold extensive disruptive potential for 2018," said Jean-Luc Gaudiot, IEEE Computer Society President. "The vast computing community depends on the Computer Society as the provider for relevant technology news and information, and our predictions directly align with our commitment to keeping our community well-informed and prepared for the changing technological landscape of the future."

Dejan Milojicic, Hewlett Packard Enterprise Distinguished Technologist and IEEE Computer Society past president, said, "The following year we will witness some of the most intriguing dilemmas in the future of technology. Will deep learning and AI indeed expand deployment domains or remain within the realms of neural networks? Will cryptocurrency technologies keep their extraordinary evolution or experience a bubble burst? Will new computing and memory technologies finally disrupt the extended life of Moore's law? We've made our bets on our 2018 predictions."

#### The top 10 technology trends predicted to reach adoption in 2018 are: Deep learning (DL).

Machine learning (ML) and more specifically DL are already on the cusp of revolution. They are widely adopted in datacenters (Amazon making graphical processing units [GPUs] available for DL, Google running DL on tensor processing units [TPUs], Microsoft using field programmable gate arrays [FPGAs], etc.), and DL is being explored at the edge of the network to reduce the amount of data propagated back to datacenters. Applications such as image, video, and audio recognition are already being deployed for a variety of verticals. DL heavily depends on accelerators (see #9 below) and is used for a variety of assistive functions (#s 6, 7, and 10).

**Digital currencies.** Bitcoin, Ethereum, and newcomers Litecoin, Dash, and Ripple have become commonly traded currencies. They will continue to become a more widely adopted means of trading. This will trigger improved cybersecurity

## Peter Rabbit

**Release date:** 22 March 2018

**TITLE** ~ Peter Rabbit  
**WRITTEN BY** ~ Rob Lieber and Will Gluck  
**DIRECTED BY** ~ Will Gluck  
**STARRING** ~ Domhnall Gleeson, Rose Byrne and the voice of James

Corden  
**GENRE** ~ Family  
**CLASSIFICATION** ~ CTC  
**COUNTRY** ~ U.K./Australia/U.S.  
**LANGUAGE** ~ English  
**YEAR** ~ 2018

### Despite upgrades, Peter Rabbit honours original story

Peter Rabbit, at least this 2018 version of Peter Rabbit, is a rebel. He's a rascal. He's not your parents' beloved literary icon, nor is he the character your grandparents were once introduced to. He's a

rabbit for the 21st century; a bunny so rooted in modernity that it makes sense for him to be voiced by James Corden and upgraded to CGI. Today, in the view of Sony Pictures, Peter is wisecracking and hell-bent on driving the animal-hating Mr. Thomas.

McGregor (Domhnall Gleeson) from his home and garden. That mostly rings true, as both *Peter Rabbit* the movie and Peter Rabbit the character are adventurous updates of the Beatrix Potter classic. But what the marketing seems to miss is that *Peter Rabbit* is also a movie built on the importance of family, on learning to love and the pain that comes with growing up. What's more: It does a surprisingly solid job of driving those points home. The film's story certainly doesn't waste time getting us there. From the start, we learn that Peter and his sisters (Flopsy, Mopsy and Cotton-Tail, voiced by Margot Robbie,

Elizabeth Debicki and Daisy Ridley, respectively) have been orphaned, and that the kind and compassionate Bea (Rose Byrne) has taken it upon herself to care for them over the years. Unfortunately, things get messy when McGregor Jr. moves in to settle his late uncle's estate and hits it off with Bea. And then messier still when we

grow. That emotional punch packs perhaps unexpected heat. Few of us walk into a James Corden-voiced movie expecting to feel real feelings. (Some of us thought we were just going to watch General Hux square off against an animated bunny for two hours.) But *Peter Rabbit* cements itself as a children's film that



discover how much McGregor detests rabbits. So, of course, Peter and his compadres take up their cause and vow to rid themselves of their new neighbour, regardless of consequences or who gets hurt along the way. Which paves the way for jokes and set pieces. We see choreographed fight sequences between live-action characters and animated animals. We witness what happens when Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle (Sia) grabs hold of an electric fence. And we hear more than a few smart one-liners delivered briskly and casually (and a little too quick for younger kids to pick up). But the real magic of *Peter Rabbit* exists less in its multi-generational appeal (come for the running songbird gag, stay for the chemistry between Byrne and Gleeson), than in its emphasis on what it means to grow and change and accept fault. As Peter continues to wage war on his enemy, he's forced to reconcile what he's fighting for, why he's fighting for it and why he's been so scared to

makes its adult audience take stock of their own actions and ways of thinking, particularly as the story ends up abandoning the concept of heroes and villains, and paints its characters with shades of grey. Evidently, it turns out no one is perfect, most of us are just trying, and we've all obsessed over an issue that's come to eclipse our own well-being. (Plus, there's a lovely scene involving a classic illustration of Peter's late parents.) Yes, the franchise has been updated. Yes, Peter is voiced by James Corden as James Corden at his most James Corden-y. (If you're not a fan, I cannot help you.) And no, the movie is absolutely not your grandparents' beloved book. But like Peter himself, you learn to grow with this update. Because this is a new generation's version of *Peter Rabbit*: one that honours the original while still being itself. Plus, Peter was always a rascal. Dude never even wore pants.

**B+**

because the stakes will be ever higher as their values rise. In addition, digital currencies will continue to enable and be enabled by other technologies, such as storage (see #3), cloud computing (see B in the list of already adopted technologies), the Internet of Things (IoT), edge computing, and more. **Blockchain.**

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

## ..... enjoying the Hunter Wine lifestyle with Andrew Marsh



It's also very fitting that the most applauded person in the Australian & World Wine industry, Len Evans & his family, live and work in our local area. It certainly augers well for the future still having the 'old guard' names at the helm.

There are so many aspects to wine; from the vine, to the fruit, to the winery, and finally the cellar door and into your hands. Many people are required for these processes and most of these people are characters or big personalities. In the coming weeks I will introduce some of these characters and let them explain why they love wine and do what they do. I would also like your input into the articles in the form of any questions you may have in regard to any facet of vineyards or wine and will do my best to answer you as honestly and directly as I can.

The main thing to remember when drinking or seeking wine is that it is very personal. We all have different palates and styles we like, and of course budgets. Always assess why you like a wine or dislike a wine in your words. People may not know what they are trying to say if you're vocal about it, but you'll know. Learning the right jargon is a lot of hard but rewarding work as everyone has a palate; it just needs to be trained correctly. My thirst for knowledge about wine will never cease. If you don't already have the so called 'wine bug' I hope that very soon you do. I promise you you'll never look back. I love my job. You have to start somewhere and two great winemakers come to mind who are both only a few minutes from Branxton/Greta.

**POTHANA WINES**  
Situating in Pothana Lane just off the highway, this great small vineyard and winery has been producing quality Hunter wines for years. Winemaker David Hook and his partner Sherry will be more than happy to look after you in their new Cellar Door facility. Main wines include semillon, chardonnay, verdelho, shiraz. David also has "The Gorge" label. Tasting is by appointment. Ph: 0412 412 783



**MARGAN FAMILY WINES**  
Andrew Margan is a former Tyrrell's winemaker and, like David Hook, has made wine in many parts of the world. With his father Frank & wife Lisa, Andrew decided to tread down the path of so many and start his own place. Success is the only word that comes to mind. Margan Family Wines have been blitzing the wine show circuit for a number of years and their wines speak for themselves.

Enjoy an extensive list of wines featuring semillon, chardonnay, shiraz, cabernet and a delicious botrytis semillon you won't want to miss. Located just off the highway in Hermitage Road, you won't miss it.

If you have any comments or questions please don't hesitate to contact me either through my fax (4998 7884) or through Michael at The News (email: [thenews@nobbys.net.au](mailto:thenews@nobbys.net.au) or phone on 4938 1773.

P.S ~ I'd just like to take my hat off to John Eales, retiring Australian Wallaby Captain



BELOW IS ANDREWS FIRST ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY THE NEWS 13/9/2001. Andrew is no longer with us having sold the vineyard & winery & moved to Sydney

Andrew Marsh, winemaker at Marsh Estate Winery & son of proprietor's Robyn & Peter Marsh, has agreed to take the mantle and continue the 'Wines & Vine' section of 'The News'.

Although I have enjoyed writing the section for the last two years it has, in some cases, not been a labour of love as deadlines reared their ugly head & I hadn't done the necessary work. I was constantly running out of time & I think, in some cases, it showed!

Andrew studied his wine making at Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, & has been the winemaker at Marsh Estate for the last two vintages. I hope you continue to read this section & enjoy Andrews' comments on the wine industry & in particular our own local industry.

A herd of buffalo can move only as fast as the slowest buffalo, so when a herd is hunted it is the slowest and weakest ones that are caught and killed first. This natural selection process is good for the herd as a whole as it is nature's way of culling the weakest members & improving the overall breeding of the herd.

In much the same way the human brain can only operate as fast as the slowest brain cells. When you do have that extra glass of wine it will kill off some of the brain cells. Fortunately it will attack the slowest & weakest brain cells first. In this way the regular consumption of wine eliminates the weaker brain cells making the brain a faster and more efficient machine ~ that's why you always feel smarter after you've had a few drinks!!!!

*Musings*  
Way too often I hear people at social gatherings say, "oh, please don't waste good wine on us; we won't understand it". You don't have to understand it, you just have to drink it and hopefully like it. Wine is made to drink and be enjoyed by everyone not just the select few. It doesn't have to be understood, just drunk.



**To the pecker heads** that park outside the Branxton IGA and Branxton Pharmacy then think it right to do a 'u' turn in the middle of Branxton main street. Please pull your heads in; the road rules are there for a reason. I've almost been collected a few times by these douche-bags and it makes it all the more confusing when people are repeatedly pulling in and out from the Branxton bottle shop. Get a petition sorted to put a round about where the lights are or something because your going to injure someone.

**To the idiot 'tossers'**. The footpath from Branxton to North Rothbury is becoming a "drive-by bottle toss target". This is very displeasing for those of us who choose to use the path for other activities, such as walking or cycling. The "tossers" are so proud of their achievements that they only use the target during the night when they can't be seen. Perhaps in future they could practice on their own driveways, and clean up the glass themselves, after they have found it in their flat tyres and walked it into their carpets.

**If the young lady in the red Suzuki** who parks outside the house on the corner of Thomas and Morgan Streets, drives her little petooty around the village as fast as she did last Saturday afternoon, flying along Thomas, Scott and Mitchell Streets. If she does that again, I will put a rock through her windscreen or her front window; that I promise.

**About 3:30pm on Wednesday 13 December 2017** I fell over on the corner of Drinan Street & Cessnock Road Branxton. A heartfelt thank you to the lovely young mum and her daughter who came to my assistance. Also, the kind young 'tradie' who stopped to see if all was OK. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated, a true Christmas spirit, on a very hot afternoon!

## Classified's Classified's

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**Wanted:** all kinds of Honda mini bikes qa50 z50a z50j1 z50jz ct70 st70 & atc70. Contact Drew 0435814841  
**Work Wanted:** HAVE UTE WILL CARRY. Need something moved? Phone Phil on 0447 381989  
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licence. P (Pat) 0414 278 292  
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**Work Wanted:** Lawns mowed, rubbish removal & slashing. Also 'Bobcat' work, trenching & post hole boring & general maintenance & handyman work. Phone Steve on 4938 3601  
**Work Wanted:** HORSE CLIPPING - PERFORMANCE READY. Hunter Valley & Central Coast. Phone Caron 0416 128 701  
**Work Wanted:** Lawns properties, mowing, trimming, removals, maintenance. Paul 0478103814 or 49987567  
**Work Wanted:** Sick of cleaning, cooking dinner, washing. Call me! Taking bookings now. Professional and reliable service. Sue 0497257081  
**Work Wanted:** Rural Fencing (TW & A Hollingshed) P: 4998 1583 or Trevor on 0429 320 787 for quotes.  
**Work Wanted:** experienced baby sitter looking for work. Very reliable P: 0458 606 804  
**Work Wanted:** Lawn & Garden Maintenance, P: 4938 3153  
**Work Wanted:** Piano teacher available to give lessons P: Phil Aughey on 0447 381 989  
**Work Wanted:** Contract stock work with horses & dogs. Design & building wooden stock yards ~ rural fencing P Shaun: 0416 226 538  
GO TO FOR FURTHER DETAILS .....  
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**For Sale:** Buggy Trailer: Electric Brakes/New Led lights/ New wheel bearings/3 New tyres plus another spare rim .../ Internal measurements for buggy area are Width 2210mm Length 3640mm Drawbar 1450mm/Great to tow and light/ NSW rego \$2000.00 Ph 0447 179 556

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

### Dates for your diary >

**FRIDAY 1 March** - Branxton Public School Whole School PBL Assembly  
**TUE 6 March** - North Rothbury Tidy Town Meeting ~ 6:30pm in par Rothbury Street.  
**TUE 6 March** - Branxton Lions Club monthly meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club  
**TUES 13/03** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton.  
**MON 19/March** - Branxton Public School P&C Annual General Meeting 6pm in the Library, followed by usual meeting  
**23/03-03/04** SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW  
**FRI 30/03** ~ Good Friday  
**SAT 31/03** ~ Easter Saturday  
**SUN 01/04** ~ Easter Sunday  
**MON 02/04** ~ Easter Monday  
**TUE 3 April** - Branxton Lions Club monthly meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club  
**TUES 10/04** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**TUES 08/05** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**TUES 15/05** ~ AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST CANCER MORNING TEA - Venue etc TBC  
**TUES 12/06** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**TUES 03/07** ~ B/G CWA ALL-IN-ONE DAY (Birthday,

### Dates for your diary >

Handicraft, International, Ag/Env). Further Details TBA in 2018.  
**TUES 14/08** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**TUES 11/09** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**TUES 09/10** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**TUES 13/11** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**TUES 11/12** ~ B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**New concert dates to add to your calendar**  
**OPERA IN THE VINEYARDS** at Hope Estate, 6th October 2018  
**JAZZ IN THE VINES** at Hope Estate, 24th November 2018  
**SHANIA TWAIN 'Now Tour'** at Hope Estate, 8th December 2018  
**Other dates to remember**  
10th Mar - A DAY ON THE GREEN, James Blunt  
10th Mar - HOT DUB WINE MACHINE  
24th Mar - CROSSROADS COUNTRY IN THE VINES  
21st & 22nd Sept - WOLLOMBI MUSIC FESTIVAL  
6th Oct - OPERA IN THE VINEYARDS  
24th Nov - JAZZ IN THE VINES  
8th Dec - SHANIA TWAIN 'NOW TOUR'



☞ Cooling down

movement skills. The activities are challenging but also lots of fun. It will continue

**Dates for the Calendar**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Whole School PBL Assembly

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March – P&C Annual General Meeting 6pm in the Library, followed by usual meeting



**Greta Public School**

With Sarah-Jane Hazell

Relieving Principal, Greta Public School

**2018 Starts with a Bang!**

At Greta PS, we are right back into the swing of things for the 2018 school year. We have eight classes in 2018, and our teachers were very excited to welcome the students back to school at the end of January. Our wonderful kindergarten students had a very smooth start to their primary school life. Many of them had participated in our extended 'Smart Starters' transition program in 2017. This will be offered again in term 3, 2018 for students beginning kindergarten in 2019.



☞ Some of our new kindergarten students enjoying maths activities.

We have already had some return visits from our year 6 students from last year, looking fabulous in their high school uniforms, and it is fantastic to see how happy and settled they are already. Our swimming carnival has already taken place at Singleton Pool and it was a great success. This year we had a range of activities for those students who are not confident in the water which followed on from our Learn to Swim and Swimming for Sport programmes last year. If you have been past the school lately, you may have noticed our 'old' building (originally built in 1878) is covered in scaffolding and surrounded by fencing. This is part of a Department of Education upgrade, with the roof being completely replaced. We expect this work to be completed in the next couple of weeks. Feel free to call the school at any time to make an appointment to take a tour to see how things have changed.

**Branxton Public School**

Welcome back to a new year at Branxton Public School. Our Kinder Aqua, Kinder Blue and Kinder Purple students are quickly learning our school routines and expectations. They are having a lovely

time getting to know their Year 6 Buddies and look forward to doing a craft activity with them every week. We hope that our new families will get involved in the school and contribute to all the great things we do.

We welcome a couple of new and enthusiastic staff members in 2018. Mr Tim Tattis will be teaching class 3/4T and Ms Kierrin Elsley will be teaching on 1/2KP (with Mrs Steele) whilst Mrs Osbourne is on maternity leave. Ms Leverton is back full time and is teaching 3/4L and Ms Morrow will be continuing her great work teaching 3/4N.

Congratulations to our SRC Ministers and Library Monitors who were presented with their badges early in the term and are already embracing their important roles. They are responsible for helping our school be a better place for everyone!

Joining the P&C is a great way to get to know the school and make new friends. The next P&C meeting is the AGM and will take place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. The usual meeting will follow. All welcome. Drumming has begun at BPS with a very enthusiastic group of students. The Drum Corp is a creative musical education company who develop programs to spark the imagination and entertain with spectacular performances. We look forward to seeing them in action.

The annual Swimming Carnival was a great success in Week 2. Thank you to the parents who came along to cheer on the students and to the students for being Respectful, Responsible and doing their Personal Best on the day. There are some amazing photos on our school Facebook page thanks to Mrs Goodyer. Ribbons were presented at the Primary Assembly in Week 4.

We are very lucky to have the coaches from Sport in Schools Australia to teach our students Gymnastics and Fundamental Movement. It is a great program with students developing strength, co-ordination and



☞ Gymnastics



☞ Kinder "Buddies"



☞ Library Monitors



☞ SRC Ministers



☞ Swimming Carnival



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

**Has your phone stopped ringing?**  
 You need to advertise your business

**Call Mike at 'The News'**

**4938 1773**



# DETAILED SALEYARD REPORT

## HUNTER LOCAL LAND SERVICES IS HERE TO HELP

As conditions continue to deteriorate across the Hunter region, after little rain since winter, Hunter Local Land Services wants to remind landholders we are here to help.

Our staff have been engaging with local producers since conditions began to worsen, including providing on farm support to discuss pasture conditions, stock management, animal health and welfare concerns as well as issuing roadside grazing permits, assisting with pest animal problems and helping with referrals to other support services.

Water is becoming a critical issue across the region, with many on-farm supplies drying up. It's not just quantity of water that's a problem, District Vet Jane Bennett said the quality of some dams is also an issue.

"Poor quality water can impact on stock whose condition may already be impacted by the ongoing dry conditions," said Upper Hunter District Vet Jane Bennett.

"It's important anyone currently hand feeding stock ensure they receive enough water, as dry feed and the ongoing hot weather makes livestock increasingly thirsty.

"There are a number of health concerns that can arise from poor quality water including problems caused by blue green algae and salinity."

Landholders are being urged to consider taking advantage of good market conditions by selling stock where possible, to reduce the physical, mental and financial burden on themselves of maintenance feeding.

Hunter Local Land Services has three producer updates planned in coming weeks, to provide additional expert for producers managing such a hard season. The workshops in Scone, Tocal and Wingham will be tailored to the current conditions in each district. The Upper Hunter event will focus on drought management advice and support options.

The workshops also provide producers an opportunity to get advice from industry experts and support staff, as well as social support of peers during these challenging times.

If you are concerned about your livestock or property please contact your nearest Local Land Services office today.

If you need to talk to someone about the current conditions in the Hunter we can help.

If you have animal health concerns please contact our vet team on 0427 322 311 or 0439 185 275.

If you are experiencing pest animal problems please contact our biosecurity team on 0429 722 944 or 0429 342 995.

If you want to talk to our agricultural extension team call:

Sustainable Agriculture Officer Sarah Giblin: 0409785172

Regional Livestock Officer Kirstin Bisley: 0438593875

Regional Pastures Officer Justine Baird: 0428107206

If you wish to inquire about roadside grazing permits please contact our

Scone office on 6540 2400 or our Merriwa office on 6548 2175.

For more staff contacts please refer to our web-

site [www.hunter.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hunter.lls.nsw.gov.au)

## Saleyard report - cattle

### Singleton Report date 14/2/18 ~ Yarding 2050 ~ comparison date 7/2/18 Change -70

Producers are continuing to offload cattle due to the drought conditions numbers remained high and was consistent with that yarded at the previous market. Drought affected cows were well supplied, with numbers very poor and of little value to the processors. Calves along with the vealers were well represented, as the prime conditioned younger cattle suitable for the butchers were scarce in the pens. The market trend overall was cheaper. The over 80kg calves to the restockers eased 30c, making from 245c to 356c/kg. The 200kg plus vealer steers returned to the paddock at 270c to 340c, up to 20c/kg cheaper week-on-week. The same weight heifer portion to the restockers eased 15c, ranging from 200c to 316c/kg, however breed and quality did contribute in places. Yearling steers and heifers decreased 20c to 30c in places with the better steers to feed and the restockers making from 246c to 296c/kg. The limited supply of prime conditioned younger cattle suitable for the butchers topped at 338c/kg. The unfinished grown steers to the lot feeders eased 8c, with the better end making from 200c to 260c/kg. The emaciated drought affected cows eased 20c to 30c, with those to the restockers topping at 188c, while processors paid from 120c to 186c/kg to secure their selections. The better covered heavy weights declined 8c to 10c, to sell from 190c to 208c/kg.

### Scone Report date 13/2/18 ~ Yarding 3312 comparison date 6/2/18 Change 694

As the drought continues to affect the Hunter region, numbers increased for a mixed quality offering. Plainer cows were well supplied, as were calves. Vealer steers and heifers were penned with fair numbers, while there were some heavy weight cows suitable for the processors also yarded. The market trend overall was cheaper, however orders from those areas not affected by drought conditions held the values at respectable levels. The over 80kg calves to the restockers eased 10c, making from 250c to 420c/kg. Vealer steers returned to the paddock declined 20c, to make from 300c to 352c/kg. Vealer heifers to the backgrounders and restockers eased 6c, with the better end selling from 258c to 346c/kg. Yearling steers and heifers suitable for the restockers and lot feeder orders trended cheaper overall, however breed and quality did contribute in places. The limited number of prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers topped at 338c/kg. Cows trended cheaper by 5c to 15c/kg, with the lighter end to the restockers experiencing the greatest decline, however the heavier end to the same orders sold firm. The plainer cows to the processors sold from 130c to 195c, as the heavy weights sold from 195c to 210c/kg.

### TRLX Tamworth Report date 12/2/18 ~ Yarding 2520 comparison date 5/2/18 Change 430

As the area affected by drought conditions increases so did the numbers. More and more producers are running out of options and deciding to offload stock. Young cattle were well supplied with increasing supplies of weaners. There was a large offering of cows and some well finished heavy grown steers. Overall the quality was fair to good with condition holding on. All the regular buyers were in attendance, however not all orders were used. Market trends throughout the young cattle were mostly firm to cheaper with the better quality straight lines suitable to restock and feed least affected. Some of the well finished heifers suitable to the trade were a little dearer. Restockers were active through the weaners, albeit at cheaper prices. Odd sales of the better weaner steers sold close to firm. Medium and heavy yearling steers saw a firm to 5c/kg cheaper market trend. There was little but quality related change on the heavy yearling heifers to feed despite reduced competition. The medium weights eased more to average 8c cheaper for feeders. Heavy grown steers remained close to firm for those destined for processing with an improvement in average quality. Weaker demand for cows saw trends cheaper with all classes losing most of last week's gains.



**Australian Thoroughbred**  
Brian Russell Bloodstock Media Service



Snitzel

### \$2million Gold Coast yearling pleases industry veteran

Graham Orr, a prominent identity in breeding and racing for half a century, a career in which he worked for bloodstock sales companies in Sydney (Inglis) and Brisbane, gained horse care knowledge from a stint under leading studmaster Lionel Israel at the Segenhoe Stud near Scone, published stallion registers for the Australian Jockey Club and worked as a

bloodstock consultant, racing manager, syndicator and journalist, may have reaped pleasure from the highest priced lot at the Magic Millions Gold Coast Yearling sale this month.

Knocked down to the trio of Jon Kelly, an American with racing interests in Australia, and west Hunter Valley graziers Paul Frampton (Merriwa) and former Inglis managing director Reg Inglis (Cassilis) for \$2million, the youngster is a Yarraman Park bred August 17 born

half-brother by I Am Invincible to Echo Jet, a Hinchbrook 3-year-old colt raced by Spendthrift Australia out of the Hawkes stables. They are the first two foals of Tai Tai Tess, a Morphettville Guineas winner by Magic Albert bred by a partnership of Graeme Orr, Henry Field, D Molloy, Dianne Molloy, John Mortensen and Elizabeth Mortensen.

Tai Tai Tess is a Last Tycoon sister to the dam of Drumbeats, a Redoute's Choice sire based at the Lyndhurst Stud at Warwick, Qld whose Stuart Kendrick (Sunshine Coast) trained gelded 5-year-old son Tarzan won his ninth race from 21 starts when successful at Doomben on January 20.

The yearling out of Tai Tai Tess took the top sale price honours narrowly from another August born I Am Invincible colt, one which went to one of the major investors at the sale, James Harron Bloodstock Sydney, for \$1,900,000.

Bred by P Horwitz and sold through Segenhoe Stud Pty Ltd, Scone, it is a half-brother to three winners,

including Broadband, a Sebring SAJC Breeders' Stakes winner, Sires' Produce Stakes second and Dequetteville third. They are all the runners out of Electric Dreams, a winner of three in Sydney and three-quarter sister to Anamato, a Redoute's Choice SAJC Australasian Oaks winner.

All told nine lots each sold for \$1million or more at the sale, one hailed as the most successful ever conducted at the Gold Coast, records tumbling over the five sessions of yearling selling. The elite group, Book 1, saw 694 lots go to buyers, an exceptional 90.01% clearance, new high in gross, \$156,655,000, an average of \$225,000 and medium of \$160,000.

In 2017 the elites saw 659 sell, 87.98% clearance, for \$135,188,500, top \$1.3m, average \$205,142 and medium \$150,000 and 2016 sales recorded 601, 89.97%, find buyers for \$116,616,000, a top \$1.6million, average \$194,037 and medium \$150,000.

Besides the I Am Invincibles at \$2,000,000 and \$1,900,000, the

millionaires, all in Book 1, were (name of vendors, all as agents, followed by that of the buyer):

**\$1,800,000**, LOT 733, filly Snitzel – Flidais (Timber Country), Arrowfield Stud, Scone, NSW Jon Kelly, Paul Frampton, Reg Inglis NSW.

**\$1,600,000**, LOT 480, colt Snitzel – Admirelle (General Nediym), Milburn Creek, Wildes Meadow, NSW, Phoenix Th'breeds, Aquis, Yulong, Ciaron Maher B'stock.

**\$1,450,000**, LOT 624, colt, I Am Invincible – Commanding Jewel (Commands), Vinery Stud, Scone, NSW, Jadeskye Racing, BK Racing and Breeding, Brad Widdup Racing.

**\$1,100,000**, LOT 830, colt Snitzel – Intimate Moment (Dubawi), Widden Stud, Widden Valley, NSW Mark Newnham Bloodstock NSW.

**\$1,050,000**, LOT 647, colt, Pierro – Dance Card (Exceed and Excel), Bhima Thoroughbreds NSW, James Harron Bloodstock NSW.

**\$1,000,000**, LOT 591, colt, Redoute's Choice – Cat By

The Tale (USA) (Tale of the Cat), Arrowfield Stud, Scone, NSW, James Moore Racing, Macau. **\$1,000,000**, LOT 239, colt, Fastnet Rock – Risk Aversion (Encosta de Lago), Element Hill, Innisplain, Qld, Tom Magnier, John O'Shea, NSW.

The leading Book 1 buyers by highest expenditure were \$7,240,000, 10 lots, James Harron Bloodstock, Sydney; \$6,585,000, 27 lots, Gai Waterhouse/Adrian Bott/Blue Sky, Sydney; \$5,435,500, 6 lots, Jon Kelly/Reg Inglis/Paul Frampton; \$5,005,000, 17 lots, McEvoy Mitchell Racing South Australia; and \$4,270,000, 10 lots, China Horse Club/Newgate/Winstar.

The market covered by the Book 2 section of the sale was also very strong with 158 grossing \$10,537,000, averaging \$66,690, median \$50,000. The top prices were \$280,000, LOT 1001, Not a Single Doubt filly a/c Grandview Qld, buyer Brandan and Jo Lindsay NZ; \$250,000, LOT 916, I

Am Invincible – Devoirs filly, a/c Yarraman Park, Scone NSW, buyer Kennewell Racing SA; and \$240,000, LOT 866, Spirit of Boom – Air's Precious filly, a/c Eureka Stud, Qld.

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## Charter members of Branxton Lions Club

THE Branxton Lions Club, who are currently very short of members & who do a great job in our community, have given me a copy of the Charter Roster which is an interesting piece.

The Club was chartered on the 11th February, 1957 with eighteen members. The first president was George Robinson who was the Royal Federal Hotel publican; secretary was Robert Maloney, a school teacher from Lower Belford, & charter treasurer was Perc McGuigan of Dalwood. They met on the first & third Wednesday of the month at the Royal Federal

Hotel.

The full list of Charter members with their address and classification were:-

1. N. Andrews, Main Street, Nth Rothbury, Miner.
2. J. Aurisch, 5 Russell Street, Branxton, Coal.
3. A. Brett, Public School, Branxton, School Teacher.
4. R. Burns, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.
5. P. Ernst, Branxton, Factory Hand.
6. E. Holz, East Branxton, Butcher.
7. A. Koller, Branxton, Storekeeper.
8. C. Landers, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.
9. T. Landers, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.
10. R. Maloney, Lower Belford, School Teacher.
11. G. McKenzie, Branxton,

Storekeeper.

12. P. McGuigan, Dalwood, Vineyard.
13. W. McDonald, East Branxton, Miner.
14. E. Nannes, Tulloch Street, Branxton, Public Servant.
15. G. E. Robinson, Royal Federal Hotel, Hotel Keeper.
16. P. Sylvester, High Street, Baker.
17. A. Vitnell, "Tangorin" Branxton, Dairy Farmer.
18. W. Webster, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.

Five dairy farmers from Lower Belford ~ that's history in itself.

I am sure that the club would like their charter number right now so if you feel that you could help then why not join.

## Seniors Morning mingle Morning tea and get together All 50 plus, and carers welcome Greta Workers Club Auditorium First Monday in March 2018 at 10.00am

Come and have a cup of tea or coffee with people with similar interest to you

Free admission and bring some change to purchase raffle tickets on the day

You may wish to bring a small plate of goodies to share or perhaps a small mystery gift to put in the raffle

This may become a regular monthly event if you are interested

If you need Any further information please contact **Peter Hodges 0478896722** or **Tiny Waeger. Greta tidy towns committee**

## FROM PAGE 18 Top 10 Technology Trends for 2018: IEEE Computer Society Predicts the Future of Tech

The use of Bitcoin and the revitalization of peer-to-peer computing have been essential for the adoption of blockchain technology in a broader sense. We predict increased expansion of companies delivering blockchain products and even IT heavyweights entering the market and consolidating the products.

**Industrial IoT.** Empowered by DL at the edge, industrial IoT continues to be the most

widely adopted use case for edge computing. It is driven by real needs and requirements. We anticipate that it will continue to be adopted with a broader set of technical offerings enabled by DL, as well as other uses of IoT (see C and E).

**Robotics.** Even though robotics research has been performed for many decades, robotics adoption has not flourished. However, the past few years have seen increased market availability of consumer robots, as well as more sophisticated military and industrial robots. We predict that this will trigger wider adoption of

robotics in the medical space for caregiving and other healthcare uses. Combined with DL (#1) and AI (#10), robotics will further advance in 2018. Robotics will also motivate further evolution of ethics (see #8).

**Assisted transportation.** While the promise of fully autonomous vehicles has slowed down due to numerous obstacles, a limited use of automated assistance has continued to grow, such as parking assistance, video recognition, and alerts for leaving the lane or identifying sudden obstacles. We anticipate that vehicle assistance will develop further as

automation and ML/DL are deployed in the automotive industry.

**Assisted reality and virtual reality (AR/VR).** Gaming and AR/VR gadgets have grown in adoption in the past year. We anticipate that this trend will grow with modern user interfaces such as 3D projections and movement detection. This will allow for associating individuals with metadata that can be viewed subject to privacy configurations, which will continue to drive international policies for cybersecurity and privacy (see #10).

**Ethics, laws, and policies for privacy, security, and**

**liability.** With the increasing advancement of DL (#1), robotics (#5), technological assistance (#s 6 and 7), and applications of AI (#10), technology has moved beyond society's ability to control it easily. Mandatory guidance has already been deeply analyzed and rolled out in various aspects of design (see the IEEE standards association document), and it is further being applied to autonomous and intelligent systems and in cybersecurity. But adoption of ethical considerations will speed up in many vertical industries and horizontal technologies.

**Accelerators and 3D.** With the end of power scaling and Moore's law and the shift to 3D, accelerators are emerging as a way to continue improving hardware performance and energy efficiency and to reduce costs. There are a number of existing technologies (FPGAs and ASICs) and new ones (such as memristor-based DPE) that hold a lot of promise for accelerating application domains (such as matrix multiplication for the use of DL algorithms). We predict wider diversity and broader applicability of accelerators, leading to more widespread use in 2018.

**Cybersecurity and AI.** Cybersecurity is becoming essential to everyday life and business, yet it is increasingly hard to manage. Exploits have become extremely sophisticated and it is hard for IT to keep up. Pure automation no longer suffices and AI is required to enhance data analytics and automated scripts. It is expected that humans will still be in the loop of taking actions; hence, the relationship to ethics (#8). But AI itself is not immune to cyberattacks. We will need to make AI/DL techniques more robust in the presence of adversarial traffic in any application

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# BRANXTON GRETA VINEYARDS

# The NEWS SPORT

## Greyhound Racing...



### Local Report

with Sam

### LOCAL GREYHOUNDS GOING GREAT

Hunter trainers have cleaned up at Maitland since the New Year with plenty of winners. James Porter won with ONE CALL AWAY, BOWLS AND HOLES and STEVE THE PIRATE. Garry Kedwell won with BRAEMAN whilst son Chris was successful with SCOTT A ITCH, WYEMBA CHARLIE and MAX VELLA. Louise McGee's kennelmates TREEMAN SHELBY and DAINTREE LASS got the cash as well as MIDNITE PARTY (Ken Cheetham) LEGGY BLONDE (Peter Akers) VICTORY PRINCESS (Ian Darcy) (TOUCHE) (Graeme Barnett) SHIMMER CHEVY (Deborah Roach) JASMICRAY (Chad Garrard) and SMILE GOOD. (Cliff Clark)

Tamara Ball has kicked off the year in great style with her Barcia Bale x Roman Queen dog QUEENS ME MUM notching up two wins and three seconds from five starts. Branxton trainer Lindsay Davis wasn't amongst the winners at Maitland but flew the flag for the locals at Wentworth Park with FERRARI KEY and ZINKEY both saluting the judge in the big smoke.

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

#### AWARDS (2017)

Three trainers dominated the Greta G.B.O.T.A. Presentation, Jonny Sledzianowski, Chris

Kedwell and James Porter. Jonny took out leading 1st Quarter Greyhound and leading Country Non-TAB Greyhound with his big black dog, DJANGO'S MATE. Chris collected the SUZAN COOK MEMORIAL BROODBITCH TROPHY with MAD MANALISHI. MAD MANALISHI trailed Bradley Sabotic's broodbitch SHE'S A HUMMIN' up until

November; her pups just kept winning races in the final six weeks of the year, making her a clear cut winner in the end. Chris also won 3rd Quarter Greyhound with RED ONES. James Porter won TRAINER OF THE YEAR, 2nd Quarter Greyhound with CHUNKY BUT FUNKY, 4th Quarter Greyhound with DOUBLE STITCHED and METRO DOG OF THE YEAR. with CHUNKY



GBOTA ~ Hunter directors Bradley Sabotic (far left) Gary Minter (far right) and branch secretary Sharee Robertson. Present Chris Kedwell, Jonny Sledzianowski and James Porter with their awards for 2017

BUT HUNKY and NEW ENGLAND joint winners. GREYHOUND OF THE YEAR was the most hotly contested since my time at the branch with only one win separating JERRYCAN (30pts) DOUBLE STITCHED (31pts) SHAKES (32pts) NINGHAN EXPRESS (32pts) and joint winners RED ONES and CHUNKY BUT HUNKY (33pts) It came down to the last meeting of the year at Maitland with CHUNKY BUT HUNKY finishing 3rd behind LOCHINVAR HUGO, picking up the one point required to catch RED ONES.

#### GRETA GBOTA AGM (2018)

This year's branch positions were filled at the AGM, held at GRETA WORKERS CLUB on Sunday 4th February. Secretary /Sharee Robertson, Chairperson / Sarah Kedwell, Treasurer/ Bradley Sabotic, Pointscore Captain / Garry Kedwell, Publicity Officer / Caroline Sabotic, District Delicates / Sarah Kedwell, Jonny Sledzianowski, Robert and Caroline Sabotic, Auditors / Scott Kedwell and Kevin

Keegan. # New members and visitors are welcome to attend the next meeting, Sunday 4th march, 7pm at Greta Workers Club. Meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month, 7pm at GWC with the

exception of April, September and October when the meetings are held on the second Sunday due to Easter, Father's Day and the NRL grand final. See ya at the track or the bar

Midnite

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