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WEDNESDAY  
2 May 2018

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Cessnock City Council  
**NOTICES**

Members Say



Well Done Not So Well Done



SCHOOL NEWS ANZAC Day



**ANZAC DAY** WEDNESDAY 25TH APRIL 2018




Photos & full report; pages 3 & 5

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### 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

## DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL "NOMINATED INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT"

**PROPOSAL:** Construction of a 5MW Solar Farm and Associated Infrastructure  
**LAND:** LOT: 5 DP: 1048155 66 Wills Hill Road LOVEDALE  
**APPLICANT:** Schwartz Family Co P/L  
**APPLICATION NO.:** 8/2018/181/1  
**CONSENT AUTHORITY:** Hunter Regional Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP).

Council is in receipt of an Application for the abovementioned property. For your convenience a locality map and details of the development proposal, as specified above, can be viewed utilising Council's online enquiry system, called 'Application Tracker'.

'Application Tracker' can be accessed through Council's website on <http://datracker.cessnock.nsw.gov.au> and using the above application number and then clicking on the "Documents" view link; or alternatively:

- utilising free internet at either Cessnock and Kurri Kurri Libraries to view electronic documents; or
- inspecting hardcopy documents at Council's Customer Service Counter, between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

The proposal is also defined as "Nominated Integrated Development". This means that additional approvals, required under other legislation, are being considered as part of the current development application. The other approvals are as follows:

Additional Approvals Required as Nominated Integrated Development	
Type of Approval	Approval Agency
Water Management Act Section 91	Department of Primary Industries - Water

Before determining the Application, Council is inviting the public to make a submission in relation to the proposal. **The notification period commences on 02 May 2018 and will conclude on 01 June 2018.**

Where a submission is made by way of an objection, the objection must be in writing and the grounds for objection must be clearly specified. The views expressed in written submissions will be considered by Council before a determination is made.

All comments or objections should be made by utilising Council's 'Application Tracker' "Make a Submission" link which is located under the "Exhibition Details/Make a Submission" Tab. Once you have submitted your submission you will

automatically receive a confirmation and copy of your submission via reply email.

During the notification period, any person may make a written submission in relation to the development application. **Submissions are NOT kept confidential.** Council releases submissions when a request is made in accordance with privacy laws and the relevant provisions under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009. When a submission is released by law, Council routinely withholds contact numbers, email addresses and signatures. Should you wish for all personal details or any information that may identify you to be withheld from the public, please advise Council of this in your submission.

Should you intend to make a submission to Council your attention is drawn to your statutory obligations under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 regarding disclosure of political donations and gifts. You are required to complete a Political Donation and Gifts Declaration if you or an associate made any political donations or gifts to a Councillor or Council employee during the two (2) years prior to the submission.

Please also note that should you make a donation or gift to a Councillor or Council employee in the period between the date of your submission and the determination of the Application, you are required to submit a Declaration within seven (7) days of the donation.

Further information regarding Political Donation and Gift Declarations including the Declaration Form can be obtained from Council's website or from Council's Customer Service Centre.

If you have any enquiries in relation to the Application please contact Mrs Kristen Wells of Council's Planning and Environment Department on 4993 4152. At its meeting of 18 April 2018, Council resolved to place on Public Exhibition the Draft Recreation and Open Space Strategic Plan. The Draft Plan aims to provide a long term strategic direction for the future provision and management of recreation facilities, programs and services in the Cessnock LGA.

## PUBLIC EXHIBITION Recreation and Open Space Strategic Plan

**The Public Exhibition period will be from Monday 23 April 2018 to Friday 25 May 2018.** The document can be viewed at the following locations: Council's Administration Building (Customer Service Section); Cessnock Public Library; Branxton Post Office; Kurri Kurri Public Library; Council's website at [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au).

Written submissions should be addressed to the General Manager and will be accepted up **until 4.00 pm Friday 25 May 2018** via email [recreation@cessnock.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recreation@cessnock.nsw.gov.au) or post.

PO BOX 152  
CESSNOCK 2325

STEPHEN GLEN  
GENERAL MANAGER

## There is no excuse for littering

Cessnock LGA residents are being reminded there is no excuse to litter this Autumn as the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) launches the Don't be a Tossler! campaign. The campaign is one of many EPA programs that works reducing the volume of litter in NSW by 40 per cent by the year 2020.

Part of this campaign calls on the community to register to the 'Report to EPA' system and report littering from vehicles as it happens. EPA Litter Prevention Manager, Sharon Owens, says while it can have devastating effects on waterways and the environment, litter has always a preventable problem. "There is no excuse for tossing

rubbish. If we all think about what we do with our rubbish and put it in the bin, litter can become a problem of the past," Ms Owens said. Councils in the Hunter region have an ongoing raft of programs to reduce the amount of litter locally. One of the latest programs involved three councils in the Hunter including Cessnock City Council. The program targeted busy recreational parks which are regularly littered. Using community feedback, Councils worked with residents to tackle the issue at the following sites:

- Mount View Park, Cessnock City Council
- Wallsend Park, Newcastle City Council
- Medowie Skate Park, Port Stephens Council

A range of activities were also carried out to combat litter. In Cessnock a sponsorship agreement was established with

Cessnock Minor Rugby Club ensuring litter prevention initiatives in the future. Since the program there has been a 13 per cent reduction of litter volume at Mount View Park. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said results were positive but there is still work to do. "The results show that the community is on board with reducing litter, we are now calling on locals to register to report littering from vehicles so that they can help us reduce littering in our suburbs." "By having residents report 'Tossers' it sends a strong message that littering is not tolerated in our community and if you litter you will get caught." To find out more about how to register and the campaign visit [www.epa.nsw.gov.au/heytosser](http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/heytosser). You can also pick up rubbish bags for your car at Cessnock City Library and Kurri Kurri Library

CESSNOCK COMMUNITY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE  
WHAT'S ON?  
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ROY ORBISON & JOHNNY CASH  
25 May 2018  
The Men in Black Tour  
Internationally renowned artist Dean Bourne & acclaimed country singer Chris Callaghan will take you on a magical celebration of the iconic hits of superstars Roy Orbison & Johnny Cash in The Men in Black Tour.

You're Invited to

**Biggest Morning Tea**  
**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May**  
10am to 12noon  
**Branxton Community Hall**  
Bowen St, Branxton

Catering by Branxton/Greta CWA  
Delicious Homemade Morning Tea  
Lucky Door & Raffle Prizes  
Other surprises  
**Entry \$10pp**

Enquiries - Marie Shearer - 0402 015 850

We hope you can join us to help raise money to find a cure for 'Cancer' and catch up with old and new friends

"PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD"

# 2018 ANZAC DAY Greta

An estimated 850 people attended the Branxton 2018 ANZAC Day Dawn Service & a larger number, despite threatening rain, made it to the Main Service & March. Greta, as well, saw the largest crowds ever to attend their Dawn Service, March & Main Service. Branxton RSL Sub-Branch President Brian Furner OAM said it was just amazing to see hundreds attending the Branxton Service, in even greater numbers than ever. "Record large sections of the community got involved despite a reduction in the number of veterans remaining. This was the largest attendance to our Dawn Service & March & it is getting larger each year", said Brian. John S. Bryant, who has reported on the Greta ANZAC Day ceremonies for 21 years, has given notice that this year was his last official reporting on ANZAC Day in GRETA. "I'm now 92 years of age now & it is getting harder for me to get around", said John. From all at The News we thank you & wish you well. (John is pictured below, middle, with Greta RSL Sub-Branch Vice-President Jim Phillis & Taffy)



Clayton Barr MP with RSL Member Michael Mendyk (at left) at the Dawn Service Breakfast in Greta



Liz Matt with Cheryl Mendyk at the Dawn Service Breakfast in Greta



Above - Greta Hon. Secretary: Jeffrey Bevan  
Below - Greta President: Mrs. Adrienne Bevan



### 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

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# STEVE'S RANT

In my Rant of the 22<sup>nd</sup> February this year I wrote of 'Closing the Gap'.

To remind you here is part reprinted: The second point I am going to mention, is Richard Flanagan's speech to the National Press Club. You can read it in full for yourself if you wish (Richard Flanagan: 'Our politics is a dreadful black comedy' – press club speech in full. Richard is neither a pacifist or a leftie, and does not belong to any political party).

From the 2017 Referendum Council. **ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART**  
 We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart: Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the 'Creation', according to the common law from 'time immemorial', and according to science more than 60,000 years ago. This sovereignty is a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or 'mother nature', and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born there from, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty. It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown. How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years? With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood. Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future. These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is the torment of our powerlessness. We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take

a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country. We call for the establishment of a 'First Nations Voice' enshrined in the constitution. Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: the coming together after a struggle. It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination. We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history. In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.

**AN EXCERPT FROM RICHARD FLANAGAN'S SPEECH.**

We are an ancient country that insists on thinking itself new. We are a modern nation that insists our recent arrangements are so time honoured that none of them can ever be changed. We are a complex country that insists on being simple minded. We regard simplicity as a national virtue, and when coupled with language unimpeded by the necessity for thought, is regarded as strong character. Which may explain our treasurer Scott Morrison, but little else. And for the past two decades we have doubled down and doubled down again on old myths – lies – that become more dangerous the longer we allow them to go unchallenged. Six days from now, on the eve of Anzac Day, the Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull, will launch a war memorial-cum-museum in France. Costing an extraordinary \$100m, the Monash Centre is reportedly the most expensive museum built in France for many years. It will honour those Australians who so tragically lost their lives on the western front in world war one and, more generally, the 62,000 Australians who died in world war one. Would that someone might whisper into the Prime Minister's ear the last lines of Wilfred Owen's poem about those same fatal trenches: My friend, you would not tell with such high zest

To children ardent for some desperate glory,  
 The old Lie: *Dulce et decorum est Pro patria mori.*

Owen's last Latin phrase – the old lie, as he puts it – is from the Roman poet Horace: "It is sweet and fitting to die for one's country."

Except the Australians didn't even die for Australia. They died for Britain.

For their empire. Not our country. A double lie then: a lie within a lie.

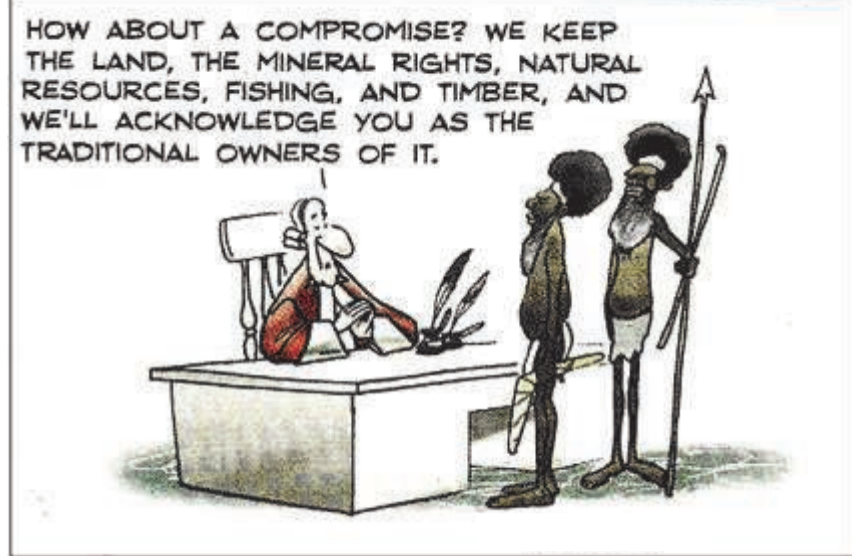
But, as Tony Abbott asked when, as Prime Minister, he announced the building of the museum, what was the alternative in Britain's time of need?

Well, we might answer, staying home for one thing, and not dying in other people's wars.

And yet the horrific suffering of so many Australians for distant empires has now become not a terrible warning, not a salient story of the blood-sacrifice that must be paid by nations lacking independence, not the unhappy beginning of an unbroken habit, but, bizarrely, the purported origin story of us as an independent people.

The growing state-funded cult of Anzac will see \$1.1bn spent by the Australian government on war memorials between 2014 and 2028. Those who lost their lives deserve honour – I know from my father's experience how meaningful that can be. But when veterans struggle for recognition and support for war-related suffering, you begin to wonder what justifies this expense, this growing militarisation of national memory or, to be more precise, a forgetting of anything other than an official version of war as the official version of our country's history, establishing dying in other people's wars as our foundation story.

And so, the Monash Centre, for all its good intentions, for all the honour it does the dead, is at heart a centre for forgetting. It leads us to forget that the 62,000 young men who died in world war one died far from their



country in service of one distant empire fighting other distant empires. It leads us to forget that not one of those deaths it commemorates was necessary. Not 62,000. Not even one. 'Lest we forget' we will all chant next week, as we have all chanted for a century now. And yet it is as if all that chanting only ensures we remember nothing. If we remembered would we 100 years later still allow our young men to be sent off to kill or be killed in distant conflicts defending yet again not our country, but another distant empire, as we have in Iraq and Afghanistan? If all that chanting simply reinforces such forgetting, then what hope have we now in negotiating some independent, safe path for our country between the growing tension of another dying empire, the American, and the rising new empire of the Chinese? Because instead of learning from the tragedies of our past, we are ensuring that we will learn nothing. The forgetting extends to the horrific suffering of war. The Prime Minister who will, no doubt, speak sincerely and movingly of the torn bodies and broken lives of the Australians who fell in France, is also the same Prime Minister who wants to see the Australian arms industry become one of the world's top 10 defence exporters, seeking to boost exports to several countries, including what was described as "the rapidly growing markets in Asia and the Middle East", in particular the United Arab Emirates, a country accused of war crimes in Yemen. Anzac Day, which is a very important day for my family, was always a day to remember all my father's mates who didn't make it home. But it was also a moment to ponder the horror of war more generally. But of late Anzac Day has become enshrouded in cant and entangled in dangerous myth. If this seems overstated ponder the bigoted bile that attended Yassmin Abdel-Magied's tweet last Anzac Day in which she posted "LEST.WE.FORGET. (Manus, Nauru, Syria, Palestine...)" I read this as a plea for compassion drawing on the memory of a national trauma. Most refugees on Manus Island and Nauru are fleeing war, Syria has half

a million dead and more than 11 million people exiled internally and externally because of war, and Palestinians, whatever position one takes, suffer greatly from ongoing conflict. And yet as the attacks on Abdel-Magied showed, some were seeking to transform Anzac Day into a stalking horse for racism, misogyny and anti-Islamic sentiment. For hate, intolerance and bigotry. For all those very forces that create war. The great disrespect to Anzac Day wasn't the original tweet but the perverted attacks made on it, in, of all things, the name of the dead. Those who think they honour Anzac Day by forgetting contemporary victims of war only serve to make a tragic mockery of all that it should be. We should, of course, question these things more. We could ask why – if we were actually genuine about remembering patriots who have died for this country – why would we not first spend \$100m on a museum honouring the at least 65,000 estimated indigenous dead who so tragically lost their lives defending their country here in Australia in the frontier wars of the 1800s? Why is there nowhere in Australia telling the stories of the massacres, the dispossession, and the courageous resistance of these patriots? The figure of 65,000, I should add, is one arrived at by two academics at the University of Queensland and applies only to indigenous deaths in Queensland. If their methodology is correct, the numbers for the indigenous fallen nationally must be extraordinarily large. As one prominent commentator noted, "Individually and collectively, it was sacrifice on a stupendous scale. We should be a nation of memory, not just of memorials, for these are our foundation stories. They should be as important to us as the ride of Paul Revere, or the last stand of King Harold at Hastings, or the incarceration of Nelson Mandela might be to others."

considerable prejudice. And so too Pemulwuy and Jundamurra. Of course, such a reasonable and necessary proposal as a museum for the indigenous fallen would at first be greeted with ridicule and contempt. Because in the deepest, most fundamental way we are not free of our colonial past. Freedom exists in the shadow of memory. For Australia to find out what freedom means it has to face up to the truth of its past. And it's time we decided to accept what we are and where we come from, because only in that truth can we finally be free as a people. Sixty years ago, the scientific consensus was that indigenous Australians had been in Australia for only 6,000 years. But through a series of breath-taking discoveries, science has confirmed what Indigenous people always knew: that they have been here for at least 60,000 years. It makes you wonder if the \$500m earmarked for renovating the Australian War Memorial would not be more wisely spent on a world class national indigenous museum that honours a past unparalleled in human history? Surely, when we have the oldest continuous civilisation on earth, is not such a major institution central to our understanding of ourselves as a people? Is it not necessary, and fundamental to us as a nation? It is, after all, extraordinary, and beyond a disgrace that there is in the 21<sup>st</sup> century no museum telling that extraordinary story, so that all Australians might know it, so that the world might share in it, and so that we might learn something of the struggle and achievement, the culture and unique civilisations that were and are indigenous Australia. We have turned our back on this profound truth again and again, because to acknowledge it is also to acknowledge the other great truth of Australia: that the prosperity of contemporary Australia was built on the destruction of countless indigenous lives up to the present day, and with them dreamings, songlines, languages, alternative ways of comprehending not only our extraordinary country but the very cosmos. And yet if we were to have the courage and largeness to acknowledge as a nation both truths about our past, we would discover a third truth, an extraordinary and liberating truth for our future, about who we are and where we might go.



MAKE THE WORLD A PEACEFUL PLACE  
 Applications are now open for Rotary's prestigious *Rotary Peace Fellowship* program that provides up to 100 individuals the opportunity to obtain professional development certificates or master's degrees in Peace and Conflict Resolution. This is a fantastic opportunity for

interested people to further their education and make a significant contribution to peace and conflict resolution at home and abroad. The fellowships are for study at one of the six Rotary Centres for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution to obtain a master's degree in international relations, peace studies, conflict resolution, and related areas, or a

professional development certificate in peace and conflict studies. The Rotary Centres have been established by The Rotary Foundation in partnership with prestigious universities throughout the world.

During their studies, Rotary World Peace Fellows will work to advance knowledge of issues related to peace, causes of conflict, and world understanding. The fellows will participate in a Rotary Centre seminar and will commit to a career related to international relations, peace, and conflict resolution.

Rotary World Peace Fellowships are for up to two academic years and provide funding for round-trip transportation, tuition and fees, room, board, and other limited expenses.

The six Rotary Centres for International Studies involve the following seven university partners:

- Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
  - Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA
  - International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan
  - Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina
  - University of Bradford, West Yorkshire, England
  - University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
- For more information and a fellowship application, please visit [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)  
 District 9670 Governor, Helen Ryan

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

# 2018 ANZAC DAY



Q Brian Furner President of the Branxton RSL Sub-Branch



Q Lachlan Cooper who gave the Commemoration address at the main service - wonderfully prepared and given solemnly




Q Carol Doherty, Chamber President Brett Wild & Clr Rod Doherty



Q Senior Constable Bob Biles laid a wreath on behalf of the NSW Commissioner of Police



Q Returned soldier Cath Harvey & Dave Axsentieff



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Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

residents to encourage them to spend locally and generate more local dollars. Last minute advertising is still available for businesses find out more please visit <http://advancecessnock.com.au/buy-local/>.

Saturday 5 May marks the first Parkrun to be held in the Cessnock Local Government Area. This is wonderful news for our community. Each week at 8am every resident, of every age and ability can meet at St Phillips Christian College and take part in the 5km run at their own pace. As a community we need to be embracing these types of initiatives and getting involved. Council is certainly very supportive as it fits very nicely into the objectives under our Health and Wellbeing Plan. To get involved in Parkrun visit <http://www.parkrun.com.au/nulkaba/>.

Last Friday we welcomed an announcement by Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter, Scot MacDonald MLC that our community will take part in an innovative program aimed at strengthening social housing communities. Over three years Cessnock will receive \$782,270 in NSW Government funding for a number of targeted projects. Residents will have the opportunity to be involved in consultation and are encouraged to get involved when the time comes.

Cheers, Bob



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

## Raising the BARR A STORY ABOUT YOUR CTP REFUND THAT YOU WON'T BELIEVE

You may or may not have heard that you might be entitled to a part-refund on your CTP for the past 12 months. This has come about because the Government changed the laws to offer less coverage for those that get injured. This is good news for people that don't get injured, because their insurance goes down (temporarily) but it is very bad news for people that actually do get injured because you won't be able to access the treatment and money that you need to recover while injured and unable to work. But this is just background to the story that you are about to read. To manage the refund process, it would have been

the easiest thing in the world for the insurance company to simply send you a cheque. They know who you are, where you live and how much you should be getting. It would have been a very simple straight forward mail-out. But that easy process just wasn't good enough for the Government. No no no! You see they changed the laws and they wanted the thanks, the kudos, the recognition for the refund. So they decided that the refunds would have to go through them, so that when the refund was received it had the Government letterhead and signature, not that of your insurance company.

OK you might think. That's a little bit petty and self-indulgent, but, OK. Well is it OK? Because for you, the consumer, it gets worse. You see, the Government decided that they would charge a \$10 handling fee on the way through, to pay for their efforts in congratulating themselves (your insurance company would never have gotten away with this \$10 charge!). And further to this, the Government decided that if the refund, before their handling fee was deducted was \$20 or less, that you wouldn't get anything because it was just too much effort and too little reward – so the Government would keep the entire amount. By now you might be starting to get a little bit angry at the Government, but the story isn't over yet. The Government, just like the insurance company, know who you are and how much refund you should be getting, but they are not going to send the money directly to you. Instead, you have to apply. You have to apply to get the money owed to you, minus the \$10 fee. People have reported various ease/complexity in registering online for the refund with some saying it took 20-30 minutes and others saying it took over an hour. The application process is a complete farce, completely unnecessary and a ridiculous barrier between you and your money. The purpose of the application process and registration is simple – it is to discourage people from asking for the refund. Why? Because the Government already have the money from the insurance companies, so any unclaimed money stays in their sweaty little palms. For this same reason, the Government is doing as little as it can to advertise your right to a refund. And one last insult to you; when you get your refund, the invoice on Government letterhead will make absolutely zero mention of the \$10 administration fee that they have charged. If you hadn't read this

column, you wouldn't even know that you were being fleeced.

For enquiries regarding the State Government or its departments, or to put you in contact with someone who can, please contact my office. My office can be contacted by phoning 4991-1466, by email to [cessnock@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cessnock@parliament.nsw.gov.au) or call into 118 Vincent Street (PO Box 242), Cessnock 2325. You also follow me on my Facebook page "[www.facebook.com/claytonbarrmp](http://www.facebook.com/claytonbarrmp)", go to Twitter and search @claytonbarrmp or check out my website at [www.claytonbarr.com.au](http://www.claytonbarr.com.au)

Cheers Clayton



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP  
Member for Hunter

Those trying to understand the Turnbull Government's motivation for opposing the Royal Commission into the banking and financial services sectors should look to the actions of the Government right back in 2013.

In 2012 the former Labor Government legislated to ban the outrageous kick-backs and commissions being paid to advisers by the creators of the financial products they were flogging to their customers. Those products included the now infamous Storm Financial and Timbercorp Investments. Many people lost their life savings on these failed ventures. When Labor lost office the new laws, while legislated, had not yet come into effect. The commencement as stipulated by the legislation date had not yet arrived.

Labor's law wound back the ability of banks to reward their staff for recommending the products of the bank they worked for. For complex reasons the new law only applied to future advice but if forced the advisors to tell existing clients how much money was being taken out of their investments each year as commission payments and gave the customer the opportunity to pull out. But just before Christmas 2013 the Coalition Government announced it wanted to make changes to Labor's new law and that the new rules would be watered-down by "regulation".

It then proceeded to do so in the slowest way possible. The banks and the financial services sector then begged for more time to adjust to the new proposals and the Government and ASIC happily accommodated them.

In the end the Government's attempt to water-down the new laws was defeated in the Senate. But the whole process gave the banks and the financial advisers two more years to do their dirty deeds.

Therein lays the explanation for why the Turnbull Government opposed the Royal Commission, they have been battling for the wrong side all along.  
Cheers, Joel



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

This month's Community Satisfaction Survey - which asked you to rate Council's performance - was a timely prompt for the elected Council to reflect on 18 months since we took the Oath of Office, and to perhaps rate ourselves on what has been achieved.

In particular, this term of Council has made countless visits to Macquarie Street for discussions about New England Highway improvements and the Singleton bypass, post-mining land-use, water security planning for the Hunter, education and public transport.

And we're seeing progress. Design work for the Singleton bypass is moving ahead and work at the Gowrie Gates - including replacement of the rail bridge and improvements to the New England Highway for better access for freight and road safety - is underway. Council will work with RMS at the completion of the project to make Gowrie Gates an attractive entry to our town.

In collaboration with Two More Trains for Singleton, we saw the State Government introduce a trial bus service for more direct access between Singleton and Maitland Railway Station. More needs to be done, and we are meeting with NSW Transport Minister Andrew Constance to continue the conversation tomorrow.

We're working hard to continue to secure grant funding, especially from the \$200 million Stronger Country Communities Fund. Our sights are set on a successful announcement by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW John Barilaro after applications close this week.

There's also plenty to celebrate in Council's own capital works program, amounting to more than

\$20 million over two years. Almost \$2.8 million has been invested in bridge upgrades on Gresford Road, Cranky Corner (south) and Stanhope. Other big ticket projects include the rehabilitation of Glendonbrook and Carrowbrook roads, improvements to Lake St Clair, attention for our open space including a shared pathway on Blaxland Avenue and fitness equipment at McDougall Reserve. That's even before we factor in water infrastructure. So far in this term of Council, \$1.1 million has been spent on the Obanvale Water Treatment Plant filter refurbishment - benefiting 19,000 water customers - and \$700,000 per year since 2016 on sewer relining to benefit 5,000 sewer customers. The list of water infrastructure projects is slated to expand under Council's draft Operational Plan for 2018/2019.

The draft Plan charts the course for what we'll be working on in the coming year, not least ongoing customer service improvement and financial management. To view the draft or make a submission, visit [www.singleton.nsw.gov.au](http://www.singleton.nsw.gov.au) <<http://www.singleton.nsw.gov.au>>

Cheers, Sue



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP  
Member for Upper Hunter

## \$3,500 SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS FOR NSW SCHOOLS

I encourage all our Upper Hunter electorate schools to apply for the NSW Environmental Trust's Eco Schools Grant Program which opens for applications on Monday 30 April. The Eco School Grants Program is designed to support and nurture students' passion to protect and learn about the environment. A total of eighty Eco School Grants worth \$3,500 each are now available.

The NSW Environmental Trust Eco School Grants provide schools across NSW with the opportunity to deliver hands-on, curriculum-based environmental education. The grants can be used to support a variety of environmental projects from edible and sustainable eco-gardens, waste audits and learning about enhancing native habitat. Grants this year will be offered to student focused environmental management

projects, including litter and waste reduction, water and energy conservation, bush regeneration, habitat improvement and food gardens.

All NSW Registered schools, registered on the [Sustainable Schools NSW website](http://Sustainable Schools NSW website), can apply for funding as long as they have not received funding under the previous 2017 round.

Grant applications can be submitted until Monday 18 June 2018.

Schools can contact the Environmental Trust on (02) 8837 6093, [info@environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@environmentaltrust.nsw.gov.au) or visit the website for more information: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/schools.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/schools.htm)

## TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIPS BOOST FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN UPPER HUNTER ELECTORATE

Local councils in our Upper Hunter electorate are set to upskill and grow following the statewide rollout of a new \$4.6 million vocational education and skills program.

The program, called the *Local Government Skills Strategy (LGSS)*, is fantastic opportunity to create stronger career pathways within local government in the Upper Hunter electorate.

This program is all about giving councils every opportunity to gain the skills they need to operate as effectively and efficiently as possible.

It will help existing local council employees improve their skills through full or part-time training, and it will also provide opportunities for more people to get into local government careers.

This new program will be rolled out to all Local Government Councils in the Upper Hunter electorate which will give all those councils the chance to boost the skills of their current workers, and take on new trainees and apprentices. The Liberals-Nationals in Government recognise the significance of local government as a major employer in smaller communities, and we want councils to be able to recruit more people and retain their best workers.

For more information on the program visit: <https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/>

Cheers, Michael

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## 'BERT EVANS APPRENTICE SCHOLARSHIPS' & 'STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUNDING' APPLICATION NOW OPEN



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

Our State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Clayton Barr, MP, is encouraging hardworking first-year apprentices who are experiencing financial or other personal hardship to apply for a \$15,000 Bert Evans Scholarship. The Bert Evans Scholarships which are worth \$5,000 a year over three years and are open to both female and male apprentices and trainees to help young people succeed in their career and make a positive contribution to

their families and communities. The scholarships help recipients who are dealing with hardship in their financial circumstances or family situations by providing extra support to help them successfully complete their training. As well as hardship, recipients must also show aptitude and a positive attitude towards their work and training to be eligible for a scholarship. "I encourage local training providers and employers to urge their apprentices who meet the criteria to apply for a Bert Evans scholarship", said Clayton. Apprentices who started their training between 1 March 2017 and 30 May 2018 are eligible to apply for this year's scholarships. The Bert Evans Scholarships have been named after the late Bert Evans, AO who was a passionate advocate of the

VET sector for over 30 years. Applications for the scholarship close on Wednesday 30 May, 2018. For further information visit [www.training.nsw.gov.au/bert-evans-scholarships](http://www.training.nsw.gov.au/bert-evans-scholarships) Clayton is also encouraging eligible applicants in partnership with local councils to make application to the Stronger Country Communities Funding for eligible community infrastructure projects, to deliver crucial local infrastructure to improve quality of life for those living in regional NSW. The Fund will support projects that include: construction of new or refurbishment/upgrade of existing community infrastructure such as community halls, playgrounds, or toilet blocks; construction of new or

refurbishment/upgrade of existing local sporting infrastructure such as change room facilities, walking and cycle pathways, public pool upgrades, indoor sports facilities or oval court lighting; capital works related to street beautification and public 'place making' such as murals, planter boxes or town and tourism signage. Councils must consult with their communities to ensure the submitted projects have a high level of community support. Round two is now open and will close at 5pm on Friday 4 May 2018. For more information and eligibility criteria please visit: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/regional-nsw/regional-growth-fund-stronger-country-communities/>

### PHARMACY ADVISOR



Lee Grundy, Pharmacist & proprietor of Branxton Pharmacy

•Wheezing  
•Severe sore throat, headache or sinus pain  
**For children** — in general, your child doesn't need to see the doctor for a common cold. But seek medical attention right away if your child has any of the following:

- Fever of 100.4 F (38 C) in newborns up to 12 weeks
- Rising fever or fever lasting more than two days in a child of any age
- Symptoms that worsen or fail to improve
- Severe symptoms, such as headache or cough
- Wheezing
- Ear pain
- Extreme fussiness
- Unusual drowsiness
- Lack of appetite

#### Causes

Although many types of viruses can cause a common cold, rhinoviruses are the most common culprit. A cold virus enters your body through your mouth, eyes or nose. The virus can spread through droplets in the air when someone who is sick coughs, sneezes or talks. It also spreads by hand-to-hand contact with someone who has a cold or by sharing contaminated objects, such as utensils, towels, toys or telephones. If you touch your eyes, nose or mouth after such contact or exposure, you're likely to catch a cold.

#### Risk factors

These factors can increase your chances of getting a cold:  
•Age. Children younger than six are at greatest risk of colds, especially if they spend time in child-care settings.  
•Weakened immune system. Having a chronic illness or otherwise weakened immune system increases your risk.  
•Time of year. Both children and adults are more susceptible to colds in fall and winter, but you can get a cold any time.  
•Smoking. You're more likely to catch a cold and to

have more severe colds if you smoke.

•Exposure. If you're around many people, such as at school or on an airplane, you're likely to be exposed to viruses that cause colds.

#### Complications

•Acute ear infection (otitis media). This occurs when bacteria or viruses enter the space behind the eardrum. Typical signs and symptoms include earaches and, in some cases, a green or yellow discharge from the nose or the return of a fever following a common cold.  
•Asthma. A cold can trigger an asthma attack.  
•Acute sinusitis. In adults or children, a common cold that doesn't resolve can lead to inflammation and infection of the sinuses (sinusitis).

•Other secondary infections. These include strep throat (streptococcal pharyngitis), pneumonia, and croup or bronchiolitis in children. These infections need to be treated by a doctor.  
**Prevention**  
There's no vaccine for the common cold, but you can take common-sense precautions to slow the spread of cold viruses:

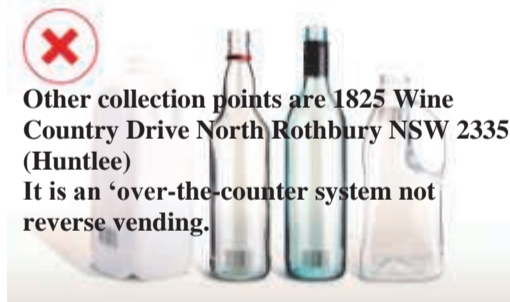
- Wash your hands. Clean your hands thoroughly and often with soap and water, and teach your children the importance of hand-washing. If soap and water aren't available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Disinfect your stuff. Clean kitchen and bathroom countertops with disinfectant, especially when someone in your family has a cold. Wash children's toys periodically.
- Use tissues. Sneeze and cough into tissues. Discard used tissues right away, then wash your hands carefully.
- Teach children to sneeze or cough into the bend of their elbow when they don't have a tissue. That way they cover their mouths without using their hands.

## Return and Earn reverse vending machine opens at Rutherford

It has been announced that Rutherford will have a reverse vending machine for the *Return and Earn* container deposit scheme, where people will be able to claim 10-cent refunds for eligible drink containers they return. The reverse vending machine will be located at 5 Mustang Drive, Rutherford and is open now. People will be able to choose to donate their refund directly to charities, receive a docket redeemable for cash or an electronic transfer using PayPal at the machines. *Return and Earn* is the largest litter reduction initiative to be introduced in NSW as the Government rolls out hundreds of collection points across the State including dozens in the Hunter.

"We appreciate the support of the Maitland community in their utilisation of these Return and Earn machines. I am looking forward to further collection points being announced," Mr MacDonald MLC said. NSW Environment Minister Gabrielle Upton said the Rutherford collection point was one of more than 539 operational sites across the state, with more to be rolled out in the weeks to come. "There has been widespread community support for *Return and Earn*, with over 204 million containers returned across the state since December

1." Said Ms Upton. Most drink containers between 150ml and three litres are eligible for the 10c refund. Containers should be intact (not crushed or broken) and have a readable barcode to be eligible. For more information, including a full list of eligible drink containers, visit: [www.returnandearn.org.au](http://www.returnandearn.org.au)



Other collection points are 1825 Wine Country Drive North Rothbury NSW 2335 (Huntlee) It is an 'over-the-counter system not reverse vending.



## Coq au vin

A new spin on the traditional French dish.

#### Ingredients

- 180ml (3/4 cup) pinot noir

- 4 sprigs fresh thyme
- 3 bay leaves
- 6 chicken thigh cutlets, bone in and skin on
- 1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- 180g speck, rind removed, cut into 1cm-thick batons
- 100g Swiss brown mushrooms, halved
- 3 portobello mushrooms, thickly sliced
- 2 small red onions, quartered
- 60g unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon smoked salt flakes, plus extra, to serve (see tip)
- Small fresh continental parsley leaves, to serve
- Mashed potato, to serve

#### Method

##### Step 1

•Combine the wine, thyme and bay leaves in a glass or ceramic bowl. Add the chicken cutlets and toss to combine. Cover with plastic wrap and place in the fridge, turning occasionally, for 3 hours to marinate. (You can do this a day ahead if you have time.)

##### Step 2

•Preheat oven to 200C/180C fan forced. Heat the oil in a non-stick frying pan over medium-high heat. Drain the chicken and reserve the marinade. Cook the chicken, in 2 batches, skin side down, for 4-5 minutes or until golden. Transfer to a large baking dish, skin side up. Add the speck to the frying pan and cook, tossing, for 2-3 minutes or until starting to turn golden. Set aside.

##### Step 3

•Arrange the mushroom and onion around the chicken in the dish. Pour over the reserved marinade. Scatter with the speck. Season with pepper. Bake for 40-50 minutes or until the chicken is cooked through.

##### Step 4

•Meanwhile, place the butter and salt in a small bowl and mix until combined.

##### Step 5

•Spoon a dollop of the butter mixture over each chicken thigh. Scatter with the parsley and sprinkle with extra salt. Serve with mashed potato.







## Report

access it via the "Help Us Solve a Crime" section at the NSW Police web site. Click on the "Gangs Squad Strike Force Raptor" link and fill in the

required details. This information will then be sent directly to investigators. Alternatively, the following link will take you directly to the "Help Us Solve a Crime" page: <https://www1.police.nsw.gov.au/List.aspx> OMCG activity that should be reported to police includes:

- Any acts of violence, drug-supply activity or other crime involving OMCG members or associates;
- OMCG members wearing gang colours in places where this is prohibited (for example, licensed premises);
- Suspicious behaviour involving OMCG, or suspicious activity around OMCG clubhouses in your area.

### More than 230 new recruits join NSW Police Force

The NSW Police Force will welcome 234 new probationary constables and farewell a retiring Assistant Commissioner at a ceremony at the Police Academy in Goulburn today (Friday 27 April 2018). 'Class 333' includes 164 policemen and 70 policewomen who will complete 12 months on-the-job training and study of the Associate Degree

in Policing Practice by distance education with Charles Sturt University before being confirmed to the rank of constable. NSW Police Commissioner Mick Fuller APM, will be joined by the Governor of NSW, His Excellency General, The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) to inspect the new recruits on the parade ground. Commissioner Fuller said the recruits have worked hard, both physically and academically, to reach today's milestone. "These recruits will be tested with new challenges every day but they will also experience the reward of serving the community as a police officer," Commissioner Fuller said. "They will be stationed right across the state where they will spend the next 12 months learning what it truly means to wear the two-blues uniform." NSW Premier, The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian MP, will also be in attendance to see the new recruits off the parade ground. "The NSW Government is proudly supporting the NSW Police Force with funding for record numbers of officers and state-of-the-art equipment," Ms Berejiklian said. The students will attest with the rank of probationary constable and report to their new stations for work on Monday (30 April 2018). The ceremony will also see Assistant Commissioner John Hartley APM, march off the parade ground to the

salute of Commissioner Fuller. Assistant Commissioner Hartley is retiring after 39 years in the NSW Police Force. Chief Inspector Kelvin McKnight will also be farewelled after 37 years of service.

### Man injured after falling from rear of ute – Bellbird

*Saturday, 21 April 2018 06:20:19 PM*  
A man remains in a critical condition after falling from the rear tray of a utility while it was being driven in the Hunter Valley region this morning. Just after 1.30am, (Saturday 21 April 2018), a Toyota Hilux utility was being driven west along Bell Street at Bellbird. The driver turned right into Atkinson Street when a 23-year-old man travelling on the rear tray of the utility, fell onto the road. The man suffered severe head injuries and was taken to John Hunter Hospital where he remains in a critical condition. Hunter Crash Investigation Unit attended the scene and a commenced an extensive investigation. The driver, a 25-year-old man was subjected to a

where he returned a breath analysis reading of 0.098. He was charged with dangerous driving occasioning grievous bodily harm (DUI), dangerous driving occasioning grievous bodily harm (drive manner dangerous), cause bodily harm by misconduct, negligent driving, mid-range PCA and drive with passenger in/on part of vehicle not enclosed. The man's drivers licence was suspended. He was granted conditional bail to appear in Cessnock Local Court on 20 June 2018.

### Most Wanted Persons



**Full Name:** James DALAMANGAS  
**Date Of Birth:** 12/10/1970  
**Gender:** Male  
**Reward:** \$200,000  
**Wanted For:** Wanted in relation to murder offences.

# CRIME STOPPERS

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## 1800 333 000

### Don't get caught



A reminder to please keep an eye out for counterfeit currency, especially \$50 notes. We are still receiving numerous reports of counterfeit currency being used within the Hunter Valley Police District. If you have any information that may help please contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. I have also updated our facebook page with a number of posts. One of these posts relates to counterfeit currency in the Hunter.

### Online Services

The NSW Police Force is committed to working with our communities to make everyone safer and to do

this we need to be professional, accessible, take appropriate action and keep you informed. Customer service is one of the highest priorities of every police officer and employee. This commitment to customer service extends online. On this site, we aim to provide services that will enable you to report crime, find relevant information and make applications in a timely and efficient manner. See below for the services currently offered on this site  
[www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au) :-  
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LEGAL

### The snail in a bottle case

In Paisley, Scotland in 1928 a lady named Mrs Donoghue sat down to enjoy a bottle of ginger beer. She didn't know it then but what would unfold that day went on to launch the legal concept of negligence as we know it today. Mrs Donoghue had gone out with a friend. Her friend purchased her a bottle of ginger beer. The bottle was made from brown glass. The beer contained a decomposing snail which she had not seen due to the colour of the bottle. She did not notice the snail until having consumed most of the bottles contents. Mrs Donoghue fell ill and was diagnosed with gastroenteritis. The manufacturer of the ginger beer was a Mr Stevenson. Mrs Donoghue lodged a legal claim against Mr Stevenson seeking damages. She could not sue for breach of contract as her friend had purchased the ginger beer, not her. Instead her lawyers argued that Mr Stevenson had breached his

duty of care to his consumers and had caused injury due to his negligence. The arguments ventured into new territory as it was an area of civil law that had largely been untested. At first instance Mrs Donoghues action failed however she took the case to the House of Lords. It was here that the Court found that Mr Stevenson should be responsible for the well-being of individuals who consume his products. The outcome of Donoghue v Stevenson established three primary legal principles: **Negligence.** The House of Lords found that negligence is a tort. A plaintiff can take civil action against a respondent if their negligence caused the plaintiff's injury or loss of property. Prior to this case, the plaintiff had to demonstrate that a contractual agreement, such as the sale of an item or an agreement to obtain a service. **Duty of care.** The case established that manufacturers have a duty

of care to their consumers and the users of their products. The case forms the basis upon which modern laws protect consumers from contaminated or faulty goods. These protections exist both at common law but many have been legislated, such as in the Trade Practices Act (Cth) 1974. **Neighbour principle.** The case also gave rise to the 'neighbour principle. Lord Atkin opined: *"You must take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions which you can reasonably foresee would be likely to injure your neighbor. Who, then, in law, is my neighbour? The answer seems to be persons who are so closely and directly affected by my act that I ought to have them in [mind] when I am [considering these] acts or omissions"*. We are unsure whatever happened to the snail in the end but the House of Lords referred the matter back to the original Court and Mrs Donoghue received a modest award of damages.

## Chambers welcomes announcement to build new electricity generation plant in the Hunter

The Hunter Business Chamber & the Branxton Greta Business Chamber have welcomed the announcement by AGL to build a 252 MW gas-fired electricity generation plant in the Hunter Region. CEO of the Hunter Business Chamber Bob Hawes said this announcement is fantastic news for two reasons. "Firstly, it keeps the investment and business in the Hunter – the business of power generation, the construction and operation jobs that go with a \$400 million investment is good for the region. "We understand AGL had options across the state to consider the placement of this piece of energy infrastructure and we're pleased they have decided the right place is here in the Hunter. This is a vote of confidence that the Hunter is the right place to invest when it comes to the future power generation needs of the state and the nation. "Secondly, it's another piece in the part of the National Energy jigsaw that makes the post Liddell picture clearer. "The Chamber is not suggesting the state or the nation is yet out of the woods when it comes to ensuring long term reliability in energy supply and prices but this is a small

step in the right direction. "Australian businesses and households need to see improvements in energy affordability now and AGL is not the only player in this space and we shouldn't forget that. "Governments must continue to work towards getting the energy investment framework sorted. Energy security and affordability must be above politics and political point scoring if we're to deliver greater certainty for investors and consumers. "We continue to state the relative significance of this issue in the Hunter region cannot be understated given the energy requirements of our collective industries that in turn provide our jobs. "We managed to navigate last summer without the disruption experienced in early 2017. However, we have at least three more summers before significant material benefit of energy generation projects that are in the pipeline will materialise. "We have individual businesses in this region that

consume and demand high amounts of electricity and gas and we must secure supply at a reasonable cost so that these users and the businesses that support them do not come under threat. Australian businesses are paying some of the highest energy prices in the world, which is crazy given Australia is blessed with strong reserves of natural resources, an abundance of sun and significant capability in solar, wind, energy storage, ocean energy, hydro power, geothermal and bioenergy. "We also support calls for the NSW Government to relax the moratorium on exploration and extraction

of coal seam gas given the capacity and capability this source of energy has to fill the potential supply void we face over the next five years. "It doesn't make sense that the country could potentially import gas at a competitive price when the enormous resource we possess lies dormant and underutilised," Bob said. Brett Wild, president of the Branxton Greta Business Chamber, concurred with everything that Bob Hawes said but added that the employment factor will have a very lasting effect for the local area. "It will be a big employer," Brett said.




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



enactment increased NSW Transfer Duty rates and introduced the current base thresholds included the following statement: 'the increased rates for conveyances only affect properties worth more than \$300,000 and thus will not affect the average home purchaser'. "The median house price in Sydney is now at \$1,179,519\*. This clearly shows that the government is ignoring the market in which the current stamp duty rates were to apply. "Last financial year more than \$7.3 billion was collected in stamp duty and to February 2018 the government has raised in excess of \$4.7 billion, on par with the same amount collected in the first eight months of that financial year. "Importantly, there is empirical evidence available that supports that reducing stamp duty will create greater volumes of transactions which in turn generates more revenue for government. This therefore is a win for the property consumer and a win for government. "It is completely disingenuous for government to express sympathy for our first home buyers and other property consumers and then rip them off without dated stamp duty rates. "The NSW Government needs to search for its conscience and fix these out dated stamp duty brackets,"



### Call for stamp duty corrections

It is time for the NSW Government to correct the stamp duty brackets according to REINSW President Leanne Pilkington. REINSW has continuously lobbied the NSW Government in an effort to persuade them to address the punishing effects of stamp duty bracket creep. "However, to date, government has chosen to ignore the damage these outdated tax rates are causing. By doing nothing the government is

simply profiteering at the expense of the consumer. "The government's conduct in regard to this issue is nothing less than unconscionable", Ms Pilkington said. "The current NSW Transfer Duty brackets (other than the top bracket for residential land over \$3 million) have been in place for more than 30 years. "The Second Reading to the 1986 Bill which on

### Future of retail open to discussion

Ms Pilkington said. A new discussion paper is seeking public and industry feedback on the future of the NSW retail sector which is the state's second largest employer. The NSW Government has launched the discussion paper which identifies ways that customer trends are shaping retail today and proposes directions for retail planning into the future. It is on exhibition until 18 May 2018 and follows recommendations made by the Retail Expert Advisory Committee in late 2017. Minister for Planning and Housing, Anthony Roberts, said: "Retail is vital to the NSW economy, employing about 420,000 people each year and adding \$95.6 billion to the state's economy. "Last year retail was the second largest employer in NSW, and the third largest in regional NSW, so it is imperative to get this right for all communities across the state. "But the industry is rapidly changing, so it's vital we adapt our legislation to protect the sector and the thousands employed in it." **What do the proposals include?**

planning policy to shape and support the future of retail to make it more flexible and competitive

- Identifying what the trends, changes and outcomes for retailers and customers are, and consider them earlier in the planning process
- Developing a state-wide retail plan to offer retailers surety, customers a greater range of choice and councils a consistent plan for every part of NSW
- Offering clearer guidance to industry and councils on where retail should go, such as close to new development and in regional NSW.

Minister Roberts revealed that online retailing equates to about eight per cent of total retail sales across Australia, with this share forecast to double by 2025. He added: "The pressures on retail businesses are immense. Customers are demanding more. They can now shop online at any time of day, almost anywhere and either pick up their goods or have them delivered, sometimes within hours of purchase."

estimated that \$360b in housing loans will hit the end of their interest-only periods in the next three years, but downplayed fears saying so far the transition has been smooth. RBA Assistant Governor (financial markets) Christopher Kent told a Housing Industry Association Breakfast in Sydney this morning that the smooth transition from interest-only loans — which made up 40 per cent of housing credit at its height in 2015 — was "likely to remain so" given several years of tighter lending standards. "The substantial transition away from interest-only loans over the past year has been relatively smooth overall, and is likely to remain so. Nevertheless, it is something that we will continue to monitor closely." He said "around two-thirds of interest-only loans in the Reserve Bank's Securitisation Dataset are due to have their interest-only periods expire by 2020", which meant around \$120 billion of interest-only loans rolling over to principal and interest loans each year over the next three years. "This annual figure is equivalent to around 7 per cent of the stock of housing credit out-

standing," a figure that he said "appears large" but was "not unprecedented". "At the end of 2016, a similar value of loans was due to have their interest-only periods expire in 2017." Mr Kent said what was different now was that "many households have already switched willingly in 2017 in response to pricing differentials, and lending standards were tightened further in recent years". "This could affect the ability of some borrowers to extend their interest-only periods or to refinance to a P & I loan with a longer amortising period so as to reduce required payments on the loan." Many borrowers made provisions ahead of time for the rise in required repayments, with half of owner-occupier loans holding prepayment balances of more than six months of scheduled payments, according to RBA data. "For the household sector as a whole, however, the cash flow effect of the transition is likely to be moderate. The effect on household consumption is likely to be even less. This is because some interest-only borrowers will be willing and able to refinance their loans," Mr Kent said. "Also, many others have built up a sufficient pool of savings, or will be able to redirect their current flow of savings to meet the .....

**RBA defuses fears over \$360b in interest-only home loans expiring**

By Sophie Foster  
THE Reserve Bank has

CONT NEXT PAGE

# Feedback needed for intersection upgrade

The Maitland community is invited to provide feedback on the proposal to upgrade the intersection of New England Highway and Wyndella Road at Lochinvar.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald MLC said the NSW Government provided \$1.5 million this financial year through the Housing Acceleration Fund to continue planning for the intersection upgrade, and to start utility adjustment work.

"The New England Highway provides a vital connection between communities and regional towns in

the Hunter including Singleton, Maitland and areas planned for future growth," Mr MacDonald said.

Mr MacDonald said Maitland City Council had rezoned around 650 hectares of rural land near Maitland at Lochinvar, for the Lochinvar Urban Release Area.

"The Lochinvar Urban Release Area could house up to 5000 new lots in the future, so in preparation Roads and Maritime Services developed a concept design for the upgrade of this intersection."

"This upgrade will accommodate

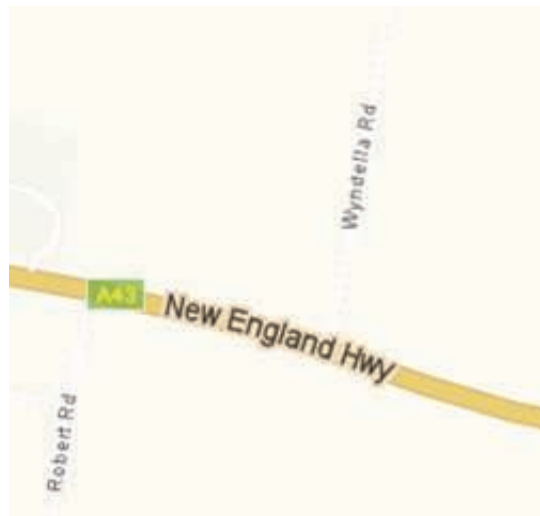
access from the New England Highway and future traffic growth associated with planned residential development in the area."

"The proposed intersection upgrade will involve installing traffic lights, road widening, building part of the future entrance road opposite Wyndella Road and providing facilities for buses, cyclists and pedestrians.

"The New England Highway would be widened to provide two lanes in each direction with right and left turning lanes at the intersection."

More information including a diagram showing the proposed intersection is available on the Roads and Maritime webpage at <http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/hunter/new-england-highway/new-england-highway-and-wyndella-road-intersection-lochinvar/>

Submissions are open until Friday 18<sup>th</sup> by mailing Wyndella Road Project, Roads and Maritime, Locked Bag 2030, Newcastle NSW 2300. Feedback can also be sent by email to Project Manager, Ken Aziz at [ken.aziz@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ken.aziz@rms.nsw.gov.au).



# GETTING YOUR PINK SLIP MADE EVEN EASIER

Getting a pink slip in the Central Coast and the Hunter will soon be easier than ever before following the NSW Government's announcement yesterday to trial mobile safety inspections for cars, motorcycles, boat trailers or caravans.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Central Coast and the Hunter Scot MacDonald MLC welcomed the selection of the Central Coast and Hunter regions as some of the locations for the trial, as an example of the latest way the NSW Government is streamlining services across the state.

"The trial aims to ensure mobile pink slip inspections can be delivered in a safe and effective way, on top of improving convenience and flexibility for motorists," Mr MacDonald said.

"The NSW Government has made a number of services like online registrations, digital licences and online licence replacements easier and simpler. The addition of mobile pink slip inspections will make the registration process even more efficient."

Mr MacDonald said the mobile pink slip trial will be carried out over six months and involves an authorised examiner visiting a customer's location to complete a safety inspection.

"Finding a participating safety examiner will be as simple as a click of the mouse with all proprietor and examiner details to be listed on the Roads and



Maritime website." A customer will make direct

contact with a participating provider, agree a call out fee, identify a safe and suitable area for the inspection and a suitable time for the inspection. The fee for the pink slip will remain the same.

For more information visit: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/news-and-events/news/book-a-mobile-pink-slip-inspection-online/>

**Fashion Show**

ANGLICAN BOUTIQUE OP SHOP

JOIN US FOR AFTERNOON TEA WHILE HAVING FUN, FASHION, AND SHOPPING WITH FRIENDS

SATURDAY 25 AUG 2018 @ 2.00PM AT BRANXTON COMMUNITY HALL

TICKETS \$10

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

# RBA defuses fears over \$360b in interest-only home loans expiring

payments, or have planned for, and will manage, this change in other ways."

Among the options open to borrowers was to "negotiate an extension to their interest-only period with their current lender or refinance their interest-only loan with a different lender" or refinance into a new P & I loan with a longer term to reduce payments.

"A large majority of borrowers would be eligible to alter their loans in at least one of these ways," Mr Kent said. "Any such refinancing will reduce the demands on a borrower's cash flows for a time. However, it is worth noting that by further delaying regular principal repayments, eventually those repayments will be larger than otherwise."

Those who had not built up savings ahead of time or were unable to refinance their loans were "in the minority", he said, and "more importantly, most of them appear to be in a position to service the additional required payments".

"The available data, and our liaison with the banks, suggest that there are only a small minority of borrowers who will need to reduce their expenditure to service their loans when their interest-only periods expire."

The final option for some interest-only borrowers was to consider selling their properties to repay their loans, he said.

"Difficult as that may be — most notably for owner-occupiers — doing so could free up cash flow for other purposes. It would also allow them to extract any equity they have in the property."

He said there would a small percentage of borrowers — the most vulnerable being owner-occupiers, with high loan-to-valuation ratios — needing assistance to manage the transition.

"Over the past year, some banks have reported that there has been a small deterioration in asset quality. For some borrowers this has tended to be only temporary as they take time to adjust their financial affairs to cope with the rise in scheduled payments.

"For a small share of borrowers, though, it reflects difficulty making these higher payments. That share could increase in the event that an adverse shock led to a deterioration in overall economic conditions."

**Pets and Patrols with Ranger Kurt**

Keeping a rooster in a residential area is a sure fire way to annoy your neighbours, keeping a rooster doesn't give you any more eggs but will result in a noise nuisance which will wake up your neighbours. If your neighbour has a rooster please talk to them about the issue before you call Cessnock City Council.

...

Needing to shed a few of those Christmas calories? Walking your dog is a perfect way to do just that. All dogs, young and old, need regular exercise. Taking your dog for a walk improves its fitness, prevents anxiety and increases its overall wellbeing. A big long walk and play not only makes your dog's day; it keeps you fit as well! Why not head down to one of the six off-leash areas in our LGA so that your dog can learn how to play nicely with others.

...

If you are walking your dog there are a few important things to remember when in a public space. Dogs must be leashed and if your pet is antisocial it must be muzzled. Keep your dog under control at all times, even in off-leash areas. Before you leave for a walk make sure you have a poop pouch to take care of any mess your dog leaves behind. Let's work together to keep our parks and walkways poop free.

...

Don't have a poop pouch! Drop in and pick up your free poop pouch from Cessnock City Council. No one wants to step in dog mess. Council Rangers are in the business of making life with your companion animal as easy as possible. If you have any questions about animal ownership, contact the Ranger Services team for more information.

You can contact Council on 02 4993 4300 or [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au)

**all solutions**  
Insurance Services

WE ARE YOUR LOCAL INSURANCE BROKER

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

- Business Insurance
- Commercial Motor
- Public Liability
- Marine Cargo (Goods in Transit)
- Farm Insurance
- Trade Insurance
- Management Liability
- Home & Content
- Landlord Insurance
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# For Sale

## NORTH ROTHBURY

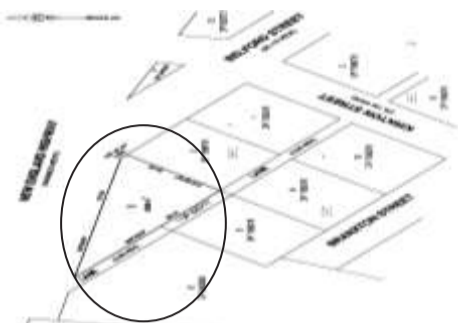


**Lots 521, 523 & 524**  
Littlewood Road,

Vacant blocks  
4ha (10 acres) very private  
bush blocks.  
Fully Fenced & within  
minutes to Hunter Wine  
Country

ASKING: \$420,000 each

## BELFORD



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

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

ASKING \$160,000 ONO

## FERNHILL ROAD, DALWOOD



**14.7HA Vacant**  
**land on Fernhill**  
**Road, Dalwood**  
**NSW 2335**  
**Sec A**  
**Lots 12 & 19.**

ASKING \$400,000

## NORTH ROTHBURY



**Vacant**  
**Land**  
**809m<sup>2</sup>**

Vacant Building Block  
Fantastic visage  
\$130,000 ONO

## East Branxton

**NEW ON MARKET**



### Three bedroom Duplex with large backyard.

Immaculate Duplex with 3 large bedrooms all  
with built-ins. Other features include large open  
plan living area opening onto undercover  
entertainment area, large double lock-up garage,  
in quite area.  
This family home presents 'as new'.

ASKING \$350,000



## Branxton



### A Great Retreat

13.29 Hectares/32.83 Acres

An ideal property for those who want to escape the 'hustle & bustle' of city life. The property, a tad over 32 acres (31.22 acres/12.634Hectares), is just 15 minutes to the centre of Hunter Wine Country which offers all you need in entertainment, the best in Australian wines, many 'hated' restaurants & a selection of great golf courses. The property is nicely secluded with great bush ambiance and only minutes to Branxton. If your enjoyment is of an equine nature then this property is just for you; stables, round yard & makings of a good arena. The large family home has 4 good sized bedrooms with an ensuite off the main bedroom. There is a spacious lounge-room with a split system air conditioning unit & a cosy slow combustion fire. Floorboards accentuate the feel of country living. Two large Queensland rooms at the rear, 'wrap-a-round' verandah & a large in-ground pool make the home ideal for entertainment. There are 3 dams, a large machinery shed plus a large freestanding garage. The land abuts the very popular 'Dalwood Acres' small acreage development & if the area continues its rapid expansion the property would invariably come under consideration for further development.

ASKING \$870,000

## Glendon Brook

(Lot 61 DP  
1100235)  
6.217HA

### Features include:-

15Acres approx divided into 2 paddocks. Double frontage to Webbers Creek (permanent water supply). 90% flat country. Bitumen to front gate. Weekly rubbish service. 20 min to Singleton & Branxton & 15 min to Gresford. 800mm annual rainfall. Fully fenced 2 paddocks + barn area. 20% Kikuyu & 80% native grasses (paspalum, rye, couch etc.). 13.5m x 10.5m 'American Barn' with 3 equal 3.5m bays & a 3m x 10.5m workshop. 3xphase 100amp/phase underground power from front gate to barn. Barn has ample fluro lighting & GPO's, ceiling fans, instantaneous gas Hot Water Service, electric upright stove & oven, small kitchen with sink & microwave + pantry. Bathroom with shower, toilet (flush), laundry tub. Barn has council occupation certificate whilst building new house. Council approved in-situ water treatment plant (enviro-cycle). Phone cable installed underground to barn but not connected. DA approved new residence (Colonial style 4 bedroom with all plans & engineering certificates available). Honda pump on Webbers Creek with underground piping to barn. 2 x 30,000 litre fresh water tanks with pressure pump. 2 x horse stables with underground water from barn & horse proof yards attached. All weather gravel road from front gate to barn & Bushfire free.



ASKING \$680,000

## East Branxton

**NEW ON MARKET**



**OPEN HOUSE Sat 5th May at 11am**  
**78 Yates Street, EAST BRANXTON**

### 4-bedroom modern family home on 780 square metres; presented as new

A beautiful magnificently maintained family home  
situated at the end of cul-de-sac.

This spacious home boasts separate light filled living  
zones catering for all family members. Main  
bedroom has ensuite and all bedrooms have built-ins.  
A modern kitchen with dishwasher, pantry & plenty  
of cupboard space. A large Queenslander  
entertainment area looks out to well manicured  
garden & lawn.

ASKING: \$550,000

# Singleton, Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Cessnock, Port Stephens & Singleton Councils join in pledge to end homelessness



Singleton, Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Cessnock, Port Stephens & Singleton Councils have joined together in a pledge to end homelessness following the latest 2016 Census figures released by the ABS in March that showed homelessness rates had risen by 12% in the Hunter since the previous Census. Singleton Mayor Cr Moore said signing the pledge is an important first step in taking action to reduce homelessness. "This is the start of our action and every year we,

and other pledge takers, will renew our pledge and report our achievements," she said. "Homelessness is a serious community issue and we

*The pledge "We support and pledge to do my part to end homelessness. We commit to working towards ending homelessness by avoiding actions that contribute to homelessness and promoting actions that help end homelessness. We will advocate for change and enlist the support of colleagues, business partners, family, friends and neighbours to join this important effort, and let local leaders know that we support the Newcastle and Hunter Ending Homelessness Pledge." Founding signatories: Singleton Council, Newcastle City Council, Lake Macquarie City Council, Maitland City Council, Cessnock City Council, Port Stephens Council, Singleton Council, Compass Housing Services, Beyond Bank, Sparke Helmore Lawyers, Nova for Women and Children, Samaritans Hunter Homeless Connect Inc, Hunter Water, UQ Power, Got Your Back Sista, Being More Human, Belle Property Newcastle, Path2Change & Respectus Limited.*

are fortunate to have a range of local service organisations in Singleton to support people doing it

tough. Council also offers facilities at Singleton Youth Venue that specifically target homeless young people. "Council is committed to

continue working together with the community to address this issue." Cessnock City Mayor Bob

Pynsent said it was great to see such a strong response from councils across the region and stand beside them to make a pledge to work towards ending homelessness. "Each of us has a role to play and Cessnock City Council is committed to getting involved in positive initiatives that help the more vulnerable people in our community," Cr Pynsent said. The pledge is an initiative of the region's Big Ideas Homelessness Network. Chair of the Network, Professor David Adamson from Compass Housing, congratulated all the involved Councils for joining the global movement to end homelessness. Professor Adamson said homelessness has become the clearest expression of inequality and poverty in Australia. He said eradicating poverty cannot be achieved without

eradicating homelessness. "Homelessness in the Hunter is not an intractable problem – it can be solved

if the whole community is supportive," Prof Adamson said. "Every business, agency and resident, has a stake in preventing homelessness and supporting people who experience homelessness." He said the pledge had been used effectively in other cities overseas including in Canada, the USA, Wales and Scotland. Organisations or local residents wishing to sign the Pledge can visit [bigideashomelessnessnetwork.org/the-pledge](http://bigideashomelessnessnetwork.org/the-pledge) The Newcastle and Hunter Big Ideas Homelessness Network is a collaborative steering group made up of representatives from the community and agencies who have an interest in ending homelessness. It is facilitated by Compass Housing and meet quarterly to share information, ideas and resources.

## Bus shelters ready for new school term



Photos courtesy of Annemaree Winter



The bus shelters erected at the new bus terminus on the corner of Wyndham St & Maitland St, Branxton have been completed &

ready for use in the coming new school term. Well done to Cessnock Council, the RMS & local business chamber.

## FREE ANXIETY DISORDERS SUPPORT GROUPS

### Branxton

3rd THURSDAY of the month  
Branxton Community Hall,  
35 Bowen Street  
10am

### Cessnock

Last MONDAY of the month  
Cessnock PCYC,  
1 B Short Street  
10am

### Rutherford

1st FRIDAY of the month  
Maitland City Corps Church,  
Bunning Avenue  
10am

### Singleton

3rd TUESDAY of the month  
Generate Church,  
3 Campbell Street  
10am

4 free Support Group meetings are held in the Hunter region for people living with an anxiety disorder and their family and friends.

We meet in a friendly caring and supportive environment to share experiences.

Groups are for ages 18+

Anxiety disorders include:  
Generalised anxiety disorder, Panic Attacks, Agoraphobia, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, Social Anxiety and Specific Phobias.

#### For more information

WayAhead Anxiety Disorders Info Line  
1300 794 992

[supportgroups@wayahead.org.au](mailto:supportgroups@wayahead.org.au)



### House of the Month - April 2018

19 Frederick Street, North Rothbury has been picked by last month's winner, as their choice as the best house from North Rothbury, Huntlee and Hanwood. Congratulations on your beautiful home!

This month's winners gets to select next month's winner, and with all this rain everyone should be in with an excellent chance!

## WANTED

### RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LEASE

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

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS  
REAL ESTATE  
P: 4938 3300



"Branxton Gardens" Senior Living, Branxton  
Recent sales

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

# Initiative to help strengthen Cessnock City Council community

Cessnock City Council residents are set to take part in an innovative program aimed at strengthening social housing communities through targeted projects tailored to their needs. The program is a community-led initiative to facilitate projects which create a more connected environment with improved opportunities for education, training and employment. Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter, Scot MacDonald MLC said the program would encourage Cessnock residents to draw on their own skills and knowledge to improve social cohesion in the

community. "These projects build strong and proud communities which help break the cycle of disadvantage," Mr MacDonald said. "We know that members of the community are stronger when they work together towards a shared goal and I look forward to seeing the positive impact that this program will have on the Cessnock community for many years to come." Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said this funding injection is vitally important to support our residents. "We look forward to seeing

the positive impacts these projects will generate and encourage community members to get involved in the consultation phase to help shape the future of their community." The program allows members of the local community to work with government, not-for-profit organisations and local businesses to develop a plan to create positive change. Initiatives under the Place Plan for Cessnock include:

- Creating job opportunities for residents
- Enabling young people to become more involved with sport

- Improving local parks to increase usage of outdoor space
- Intensive mentoring for Aboriginal young people

Cessnock will receive \$728,270 in NSW Government funding over three years to bring the projects to life. Minister for Social Housing Pru Goward said that Cessnock City Council is one of seven new sites to be funded under the Place Plans program in 2018, in addition to nine existing sites. "Each Place Plan draws on the strengths of the local community and I am



Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald MLC, far left, with Cessnock City Council Mayor Bob Pynsent and Family & Community Services, Director Housing, Hunter New England & Central Coast Districts Jeff Mills

pleased that our social housing residents in Cessnock will be able to now access supports that

can assist them fulfil their potential," Ms Goward said. Community consultation on

the design and implementation of programs under the Place Plan will commence shortly.

## FROM Page 4 Steve's Rant

We would discover that though this land and its people were colonised, a 60,000-year-old civilisation is not so easily snuffed out. And the new people who came to Australia, in their dealings with black Australia, were also indigenised, and, in the mash up, indigenous values of land, of country, of time, of family, of space and story, became strong among non-indigenous Australians. Indigenous ways, forms, understandings permeated our mentality in everything from Australian rules football to our sense of humour. As much as there was a process of colonisation, there was also a history of indigenisation – a frequently repressed, often violent process in which a white underclass took on many black ways of living and sometimes, more fundamentally, thinking and feeling, in which may be traced continuities that extend back into deep time.

We would discover that we are not Europeans nor are we Asians. That we are not a new country. We are in the first instance a society that begins in deep time. That is the bedrock of our civilisation as Australians, our birthright, and if we would accept it, rather than spurn it, we might discover so many new possibilities for ourselves as a people. My own island is a good example of both processes. There took place there what was described, not by a contemporary left-wing academic, but an 1830s Van Diemonian attorney general, as "a war of extermination" of the Tasmanian aborigines. A terrible war of which fewer than 100 people survived, the forebears of today's 25,000-strong Palawa population.

To this day Tasmanian society is shaped by the tragedy of a land where the English, as a ship's captain's wife, Rosalie O'Hare, confided in her diary in 1828, "consider the massacre of these people an honour". But it was, for a critical time, also a land where many ex-convicts, to quote a contemporary witness, "dress in kangaroo skins without linen and wear sandals made of seal skins. They smell like foxes." They live in "bark huts like the natives, not cultivating anything, but living entirely on kangaroos, emus, and small porcupines". In coming to understand how to live in this strange new world, they took on Aboriginal partners, ways of life and thinking. No less an authority than John West, the first official editor of the Sydney Morning Herald, wrote in 1856 that whites living outside of the two major Van Diemonian settlements "had a way of life somewhat resembling that of the Aborigines". The bush became freedom, and for a time the Van Diemonian authorities

feared a jacquerie in which the ex-convicts would make common cause with the aboriginal population. It was a messy, often brutal, inescapably human response to extraordinary times and places, out of which emerged a new people. It was a revolution of sense and sensibilities so extraordinary it is even now hard to fully compass its liberating dimensions. If this history is frequently terrible, it is also finally a history of hope for us all. For it shows we are not dispossessed Europeans, but a muddy wash of peoples made anew in the meeting of a pre-industrial, pre-modern European culture with a remarkable indigenous culture and an extraordinary natural world. George Orwell once said that the hardest thing to see is what is in front of your face.

This is what is in front of ours. *We became our own people, not a poor imitation of elsewhere.* We pretend that our national identity is a fixed, frozen thing, but Australia is a molten idea. We have only begun to think of ourselves as Australians within living memory. There was no legal concept of an Australian citizen until 1948. Twenty years later, the Australian population was still divided into three official categories by the ABS in its official year book: British: born in Australia; British: born overseas, and foreign. Indigenous Australia wasn't even recorded as a general category. Indigenous Australia has, after great thought and wide discussion, asked that it be heard, and that this take the form of an advisory body to parliament – a body that would be recognised in the constitution.

"What a gift this is that we give you," Galarrwuy Yunupingu has said, "if you choose to accept us in a meaningful way." The gift we are being offered is vast; the patrimony of 60,000 years, and with it the possibilities for the future that it opens up to us. We can choose to have our beginning and our centre in indigenous culture. Or we can choose to walk away, into a misty world of lies and evasions, pregnant with the possibility of future catastrophe. But this gift needs honouring in what Yunupingu calls a "meaningful way". It needs honouring with institutions, with monuments, with this profound history being made central in our account of ourselves and, above all, with what the indigenous people have asked for repeatedly: constitutional recognition. In truth, we can no longer go forward without addressing this matter. We cannot hope to be a Republic if this is not at the republic's core, because otherwise we are only repeating the error of the colonialists

and the federationists before us. At a moment when democracy around the world is imperilled we are being offered, with the Uluru statement, the chance to complete our democracy, to make it stronger, more inclusive, and more robust. And we would be foolish to turn that offer down.

That saying the things that I have said today might be deemed unreasonable, or shrill, or farfetched, should remind us all of how intolerable the situation remains in this country for Indigenous people, how unbearable it must be for indigenous people to know that their patrimony, their 60-millennia-old culture, which they are willing to share, which has shaped and continues to shape much of what is best in Australia, will, however, continue to be treated as marginal, and they, again, humiliated. Even if you have no respect for indigenous Australia, you should care for the future of your country. And now, more than ever, we need ways of bringing us together, not, as, for example, Australia Day presently does, dividing us. We need a large and open vision sustained in truth, not myths that encourages dangerous illusions.

I know these are large ideas. But perhaps they are the ideas for these times. None of these things are easy. None will be quickly arrived at. But the alternative is worse; the alternative is the slow collapse, it is the many cracks which are already appearing; the inequality; the grounds for an authoritarian revolt, for a hopelessly divided country. It is Holderlin's yearning for the chasm. Definitions belong to the definer not the defined. For 20 years Australians lived with the definition that they were selfish, xenophobic, self-interested and incapable of being roused on larger issues. But the marriage equality debate proved it was not so. Since the marriage equality vote it's clear that Australians are not the mean and pinched people we had been persuaded and bluffed for so many years that we were. We are not small-minded bigots. We are, as it turns out, people who care. We are people who feel and who think. Australia is not a fixed entity, a collection of outdated bigotries and reactionary credos, but rather the invitation to dream, and this country – our country – belongs to its dreamers.

And if after more than 20 years of groundhog day we are finally ready to once more go forward as a people it's time our dreamers were brought in from the cold, and with them Galarrwuy Yunupingu's great gift of the Australian dreaming.

I concur, but can take no credit for these profound sentiments ... Steve

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## NOTICE

North Rothbury Tidy Towns will be conducting a Work Party/Cleanup around the village of North Rothbury and on Wine Country Drive on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2018**.

Meet at the Ayrfield Miners Memorial Park, Rothbury St, North Rothbury at **8 am**.

Come for an hour or two, or for however much time you can. Please bring along gloves and wear appropriate clothing eg., shoes, hat, bright safety vest if you have one.

*Pat Ables, Secretary North Rothbury Tidy Towns*

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4938 7325

**MILLER PARK SPORTS CLUB**  
4938 1226

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# MILLER PARK

## MEMBERS BADGE DRAW

Thursday 3rd MAY  
\$1,100  
Sunday 6th MAY  
\$5,000

Must be present to win

## RAFFLES

*Friday 6.00pm*  
*Sunday 6.00pm*  
*MEAT TRAYS*

## ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY 4th MAY

**DUPLEXITY**

FRIDAY 11th MAY

**LA BAMBA**

## MOTHER'S DAY

*SOLID GOLD*  
*1.00—5.00pm*

## MEMBER'S BADGE DRAW

WEDNESDAY  
2nd MAY - \$1,900

SUNDAY  
6th MAY - \$700  
(\$2,600 Won!!)

*HAPPY HOUR*  
*MILLER PARK WEDNESDAY*  
*4.00—7.00pm*  
*GRETA THURSDAY*  
*4.00—6.00pm*

**\$3.60 a Schooner**

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**WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY**  
**LUNCH & DINNER**  
**WHY NOT TRY HIS MENU?**




## The fortnightly Top 10 Fiction Bestseller List

We are pleased to see three brand new additions to the top 10 list this week: *NYPD Red 5* and *Texas Ranger*, both by the beloved **James Patterson**, as well as Raymond E. Feist's new book, *King of Ashes*. The media has been covering Tim Winton's latest novel *The Shepherd's Hut* as he tours around Australia to promote it. Most of the discussion revolves around the destructiveness of toxic masculinity, and this story is a multi-layered, distinctly Australian portrayal of it. Top of this list, numero uno this week. Well done Tim! Number 2 on our list this week is sure to become one of the most enchanting reads of 2018, *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart*, the story of a girl who has to learn the hard way that she can break the patterns of the past. Readers have devoured Heather Morris' debut novel *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* since its release, so it's no wonder that it's retaining the Number 4 spot on the charts, humbled only by Winton himself. *The Woman in the Window* by A. J. Finn has been on the bestseller list since release, and with good reason: it may very well be the next *Girl on the Train*. Number 7 on this week is new novel, *Accidental Heroes*, by one of the world's favourite authors, and international bestseller Danielle Steel. Number 6 on our list this week is I've Got My Eyes On You, a new thriller from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author and "Queen of Suspense" Mary Higgins Clark. In Jojo Moyes' *Still Me*, Louise Clark moves to New York City and is swept into the upper-echelons of society, where she soon discovers that wealth often comes with a terrible, secretive tax. In *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, one simple act of kindness is about to shatter the walls Eleanor has built around herself. Now she must learn how to navigate the world that everyone else seems to take for granted – while searching for the courage to face the dark corners she's avoided all her life.



## How James Patterson Sells More Books Than J.K. Rowling Or Stephen King

According to Nielsen BookScan, James Patterson has sold more books in the past decade than any other writer — more than Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling or horror master Stephen King. To date, Patterson has sold 300 million copies of 130 novels worldwide.



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Previously a creative director for the massive ad agency J. Walter Thompson, Patterson published his first novel in 1976. Though he now writes across genres, he started in thrillers. Patterson puts the turn into page-turner — quickly paced plots with short chapters, crisp sentences, and a gruesome murder here and there. To allow for his outsize output, Patterson has shifted from the standard method of publishing, where one author writes a given book. Instead, he treats his Alex Cross, Women's Murder Club, and other series the way a television writer might approach a new season of "The West Wing." He's worked with more than 20 co-authors, and, since 2002, he's written only a reported 20% of his books by himself. Thus his outrageously high productivity. He will publish 11 books this year alone. As the U.K.'s Telegraph reported, Patterson has had 4.7 published pages per working day since 1976. We spoke with Patterson about how he writes and approaches his business. (This interview has been condensed and edited.)

### Your book sales show you've developed an ear for knowing what people want to read. How did you develop that?

**James Patterson:** I think to some extent it's story, story, story. I'm a storyteller. That's what a lot of people want out of books. I'm reading "Flash Boys." Michael Lewis is a terrific storyteller. He has that ability to take something that could have been the driest, most boring goddamned thing, but he makes it dramatic. I think that's a piece of it. People who have that ability to turn that situation into a compelling story. That's one of the things. With me, it's a combination of pace and then trying to make sure that the characters I'm writing about hold people's interest and they want to be involved with them.

### Could you walk me through a typical workday for you?

I'm usually up 5:30-ish. I will write for an hour or so. Then quickly blast through the highlights of a few newspapers — The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, USA Today. Frequently, then, I will go and walk the golf course for maybe an hour. I'm usually back here by 9:30 or so. Write until noon. Go to lunch with my wife. Come back and write some more. Occasionally, I'll write later at night if I'm worried about something, or if there's some inspiration and I need to deal with it a bit. It's pretty much seven days a week. Somebody said, you're lucky if you find something you like to do and then it's a miracle somebody will pay you to do it. That's my situation. It's not work for me. These are all stories that I'm really dying to tell.

### What do you do when you sit down to write?

What will be sitting out will be wherever I am on a certain manuscript that I'm writing myself or a manuscript that I'm rewriting, one of the co-authored things or an outline or two. There are usually at least three or four things ... then I just decide which one am I going work on that day, or sometimes I'll work on two or three in the same day.

### What's a good day's writing look like for you?

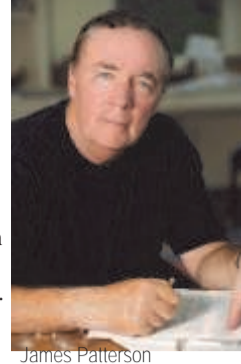
For me it's all rewriting. It's layering. The writing keeps hopefully getting better. The dialogue gets sharper. My style is very colloquial. It's the way we tell stories. It would be a disaster if everybody wrote the way I do. I don't put in a ton of detail.

I used to live across the street from [former U.S. Army General] Alexander Haig. If I were telling you a story and went out to get the mail and there was Haig lying in the driveway, if I then for the next five minutes talked about the palm trees waving and the architecture of the house, you'd say, "What the f—? Stop! What's the story with Haig?" I kind of write that way. I'm going to write about Haig in the driveway, and you're only going to hear about the architecture if it really is relevant to the story I'm telling.

### When you say that the writing and rewriting is a matter of "getting better," what does getting better mean to you?

Emotionally, I just go, "This isn't there yet. I'm not feeling it." I'll put "Be there" on a top of a chapter sometimes. I need to be in the scene. I need to have put enough detail in there where I'm seeing it, I'm certainly feeling it. The dialogue needs to be somewhat

true. It needs to be moving the thing forward instead of marching in place. **I'd like to digress a bit and talk about the way you work with co-authors. Did your former life in advertising help shape this collaborative way of working?** There are a lot of things that are collaborative. You start wandering through Florence and Venice and start looking at these churches. They are all collaborations. You look at these ceilings and you see, like, nine painters. TV scripts — 60 pages, two writers. Movie scripts — four writers. It's a lot more prevalent than people think it is.



James Patterson


### What's the workflow of the collaboration look like?

The outline will be 60 to 80 pages. I then ask what they contribute, for a couple of reasons. One is, I want their ideas. Secondly, I want them invested, which is most important. With all the people I work with, they want to do this as well as they can do it. This is not hack work. There's pride. They are into it emotionally.

I insist on seeing stuff every two or three weeks. With publishers, they say, "We'll see in a year or so," and they go, "Oh, this isn't really what I was thinking of." With me, it's every couple of weeks, and I'll get pages and I'll talk — "This is going well, remember this, remember this. Hold it, we're off the tracks. We got to stop it and figure out where this went." Then we'll talk about that, and then continue.

### When do you feel like you're doing your best work?

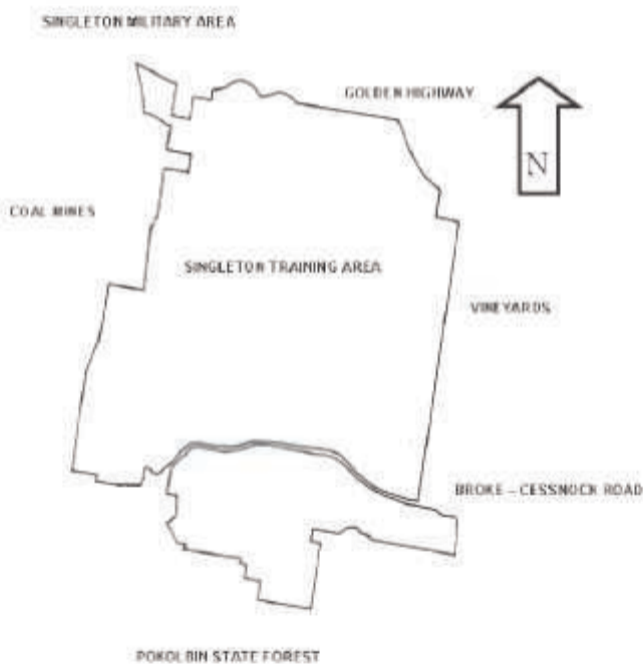
I'll write a good chapter. I'll write a good outline. My outlines, you read one of my 80-page outlines and you felt like you read a book. The story is all there. That's very satisfying to me. I can make a breakthrough on an outline or on a direction or with something that was missing from the story. That is very satisfying. I can come up with a new idea. That's probably the most joyful thing.



**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.

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Lower Belford

At our last meeting President Mrs Jill Bowman presented Mrs Edith Shearer with her 20<sup>th</sup> year long service badge; it was a surprise for Edith to receive her badge. It was also Edith's birthday. Edith has been our craft officer for many years and has won many awards for her craft work and her reports. We wish to congratulate her on a job well done and many thanks. Lower Belford CWA would like to invite anyone to come to our next meeting and meet our members we meet every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 45 Corinda Drive Lowe Belford at 10am. We have a lovely group of



Club President, Mrs Jill Bowman, presents Mrs Edith Shearer with her 20 year Long Service Medal. It was also Mrs Shearers' birthday

ladies who enjoy each other's company, come and make new friends.

Please call Jill on 49304824 or Agnes on 65747027



Branxton Lions Club members manning the Bunnings BBO

On the 7<sup>th</sup> April 18 Branxton Lions Club had another successful fund raising event with a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Singleton. Funds raised on this day will 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 4 pm. Please call Brian on 65747186 or Ken on 65747027, Ken Meany, Publicity Officer Branxton Lions Club

## The years gone by ....

### 'Back-to-Back' Premierships



The news Issue No 52 23rd Sept. 1999 Page 19

Kyle Goggerly, Mitchell Ford and Charles Croucher were part of the successful Singleton Bulls U/12 Rugby Union team which won it's second Newcastle Premiership in as many years. Kyle Goggerly, playing in his first year, excelled in the breakaway and wing positions. Mitchell Ford, a robust hooker, had a fine season representing Newcastle U/12's and Polding (Northern N.S.W. Catholic primary schools). Charles Croucher capped off a great year at no:8 by captaining the team, scoring the only points (a try) in the major semi's and a try in the grandfinal. He also represented Newcastle U/12's and Polding. Congratulations to the three boys on being part of the only Singleton team, both Juniors and Seniors to win a Premiership in 1999.

• Above (L-R): Charles Croucher, Kyle Goggerly (front) & Mitchell Ford. Three up and coming local sportsmen.

Fresh into the Greta Museum in High St.



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## UPPER HUNTER VETERANS OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT MUSWELLBROOK GOLF CLUB FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018

**SHOT GUN START ~ 8.15 for  
a 9.00am START**

**\$30.00 per Person, Includes Lunch**  
**Payment to accompany the Entry Forms.**



### INDIVIDUAL STABLEFORD COMPETITION

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**EFT: U H Veteran Golfers Association [This is the preferred option]**  
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**BSB: 932000 Account Number: 418221**

**Please return entry forms to:** Bruce Robinson [Tournament Director]  
PO Box 178 Muswellbrook NSW 2333  
Email: [bruce24273@bigpond.com](mailto:bruce24273@bigpond.com)  
Mobile 0427 133 446

Muswellbrook Golf Club [02] 65431767

**\*Please Note\*** Carts will start furthest from the Club House



full access to your system, so they can't do permanent harm. These various added layers serve to enhance your protection against malware.

**Firewalls, Ransomware Protection, and More**

Firewalls and spam filtering aren't common antivirus features, but some of our top products include them as bonus features. In fact, some of these antivirus products are more feature-packed than certain products sold as security suites.

Among the other bonus features you'll find are secure browsers for financial transactions, secure deletion of sensitive files, wiping traces of computer and browsing history, credit monitoring, virtual keyboard to foil keyloggers, cross-platform protection, and more. You'll even find products that enhance their automatic malware protection with the expertise of human security technicians. And of course we've already mentioned sandboxing, vulnerability scanning, and application whitelisting.

We're seeing more and more antivirus products adding modules specifically designed for ransomware protection. Some work by preventing unauthorized changes to protected files. Others keep watch for suspicious behaviours that suggest malware. Some even aim to reverse the damage.

**What's the Best Malware Protection?**

Which antivirus should you choose? You have a wealth of options. Kaspersky Anti-Virus and Bitdefender Antivirus Plus regularly rate at the top in independent lab tests. In our hands-on tests, Norton AntiVirus Basic outscored every other recent product except Webroot. A single subscription for McAfee AntiVirus Plus lets you install protection on all of your Windows, Android, Mac OS, and iOS devices. And its unusual behaviour-based detection technology means Webroot SecureAnywhere Antivirus is the tiniest antivirus around. We've named these five Editors' Choice for commercial antivirus, but they're not the only products worth consideration. Read the reviews of our top-rated products, and then make your own decision.

Note that we reviewed many more antivirus utilities than we could include in the chart of top products. If your favourite software isn't listed there, chances are we did review it. You can see all the relevant reviews on PCMag's antivirus software page. All the software listed in this feature are Windows antivirus apps. If you're a macOS user, don't despair, however; PCMag has a separate roundup dedicated solely to the best Mac antivirus software.

# The Best Antivirus Protection

**Malware, Spyware, and Adware Protection**

As the recent ransomware attack on the city of Atlanta demonstrated, recovering from a ransomware attack is no picnic. A city-wide policy of keeping up-to-date antivirus protection on all computers might have headed off this fiasco. You don't want ransomware rendering your own important documents unreadable, or spyware sneaking peeks at you through your webcam. Enforcing an antivirus protection policy on a whole city might be tough, but you can make it your own policy to install antivirus tools on all your devices, and to keep them up to date. Of course, you want the best protection available. We've tested and rated more than 40 antivirus utilities to help you make a decision.

We call it unlikely, but in truth it's unlikely you'll get hit with an actual computer virus. Malware these days is about making money, and there's no easy way to cash in on spreading a virus. Ransomware and data-stealing Trojans are much more common, as are bots that let the bot-herder rent out your computer for nefarious purposes. Modern antivirus utilities handle Trojans, rootkits, spyware, adware, ransomware, and more. We have reviewed more than 40 different commercial antivirus utilities, and that's not even counting the many free antivirus tools. Out of that extensive field we've named five Editors' Choice products. Several other commercial antivirus utilities proved effective enough to earn an excellent four-star rating. We eliminated two special-purpose products that aren't really like the rest: Daily Safety Check Home Edition and VoodooSoft VoodooShield. Also, Check Point's ZoneAlarm PRO uses antivirus licensed from Kaspersky, with almost no lab test results for ZoneAlarm itself.

The release of Sophos Home Premium, another four-star product, put us in a pickle. We have eleven deserving products, but only 10 slots. We elected to put the new Sophos product in the chart and temporarily remove Emsisoft Anti-Malware. That leaves the ten excellent products you see below. If you have malware, one

of these products should do the job. All of them are traditional, full-scale, antivirus tools, with the ability to scan files for malware on access, on demand, or on schedule. These commercial products offer protection beyond the antivirus built into Windows 10; the best free antivirus utilities also offer more. However, Windows Defender is looking a bit better lately, with some very good scores from independent testing labs. In our hands-on tests, it showed a marked improvement since our previous review.

**Listen to the Labs** We take the results reported by independent antivirus testing labs very seriously. The simple fact that a particular vendor's product shows up in the results is a vote of confidence, of sorts. It means the lab considered the product significant, and the vendor felt the cost of testing was worthwhile. Of course, getting good scores in the tests is also important.

We follow four labs that regularly release detailed reports: SE Labs, AV-Test Institute, MRG-Effitas, and AV-Comparatives. We also note whether vendors have contracted with ICSA Labs and West Coast labs for certification. We've devised a system for aggregating their results to yield a rating from 0 to 10.

**We Test Malware, Spyware, and Adware Defenses**

We also subjected every product to our own hands-on test of malware protection, in part to get a feeling for how the product works. Depending on how thoroughly the product prevents malware installation, it can earn up to 10 points for malware protection. Our malware protection test necessarily uses the same set of samples for months. To check a product's handling of brand-new malware, we test each product using 100 extremely new malware-hosting URLs supplied by MRG-Effitas, noting what percentage of them it blocked. Products get equal credit for preventing all access to the malicious URL and for wiping out the malware during download. Some products earn absolutely stellar ratings from the independent

labs, yet don't fare as well in our hands-on tests. In such cases, we defer to the labs, as they bring significantly greater resources to their testing. Want to know more? You can dig in for a detailed description of how we test security software.

**Multilayered Malware Protection**

Antivirus products distinguish themselves by going beyond the basics of on-demand scanning and real-time malware protection. Some rate URLs that you visit or that show up in search results, using a red-yellow-green colour-coding system. Some actively block processes on your system from connecting with known malware-hosting URLs or with fraudulent (phishing) pages. Software has flaws, and sometimes those flaws affect your security. Prudent users keep Windows and all programs patched, fixing those flaws as soon as possible. The vulnerability scan offered by some antivirus products can verify that all necessary patches are present, and even apply any that are missing.

Spyware comes in many forms, from hidden programs that log your every keystroke to Trojans that masquerade as valid programs while mining your personal data. Any antivirus should handle spyware, along with all other types of malware, but some include specialized components devoted to spyware protection. You expect an antivirus to identify and eliminate bad programs, and to leave good programs alone. What about unknowns, programs it can't identify as good or bad? Behaviour-based detection can, in theory, protect you against malware that's so new researchers have never encountered it. However, this isn't always an unmixed blessing. It's not uncommon for behavioural detection systems to flag many innocuous behaviours performed by legitimate programs.

Whitelisting is another approach to the problem of unknown programs. A whitelist-based security system only allows known good programs to run. Unknowns are banned. This mode doesn't suit all situations, but it can be useful. Sandboxing lets unknown programs run, but it isolates them from

# MOVIE REVIEW

## Avengers: Infinity War

An unprecedented cinematic journey ten years in the making and spanning the entire Marvel Cinematic Universe, Marvel Studios' "Avengers: Infinity War" brings to the screen the ultimate, deadliest showdown of all time. The Avengers and their Super Hero allies must be willing to sacrifice all in an attempt to defeat the powerful Thanos before his blitz of devastation and ruin puts an end to the universe.

• Rating: M Genre: Action & Adventure, Science Fiction & Fantasy Directed By: Anthony Russo, Joe Russo Written By: Christopher Markus, Stephen McFeely Runtime: 156 minutes Studio: Walt Disney Pictures



**Movie review: Superheroes team up for 'Avengers: Infinity War,' an adventurous and fun cliffhanger** By Michael Smith

I can't remember the last time I walked out of a movie that I thought was so adventurous, so fun and so incomplete. "Avengers: Infinity War" is that propulsive in moving its action forward. It's that charismatic in forming humorous, heartfelt interactions between characters. And it's that frustrating in its mind-bending conclusion, which is no conclusion at all. At one point, this film's title included "Part 1" to mark a distinction between it and the following Avengers movie in May 2019. But this is "Part 1," and it is the cliffhanger movie, with a payoff not arriving until "Part 2" next summer. Not that "Infinity War" doesn't have its joys — there are many — but not an emotionally satisfying one at the end of 2 hours, 30 minutes so much as a stunned gut-punch. Co-directors Anthony and Joe Russo and co-writers Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely teamed to make the last two "Captain America" movies, the first a cool paranoid thriller ("The Winter Soldier") and the second a tone-setting team-up ("Civil War"). They expand on the darker superhero-movie shadings they introduced in those movies to make a serious-minded epic that finds the Marvel Cinematic Universe combining forces to battle a villain more powerful, and more complex, than usual. That would be Thanos, who's become familiar to MCU fans — he was behind Loki's actions in the first "Avengers" — as a figure long promoted as the big-bad who would someday require the gang getting back together. Josh Brolin voices the gigantic, purple world-wrecker who's seeking a set of galactic gems — stones controlling elements like space, reality, time and more — to complete his mission of murder.

He calls it a mission of "mercy": The Earth's population would thrive by using fewer resources, if he could kill off half of them with the snap of his fingers. That is the power of the stones, if he can attain all of them. It's a unique vision. He's a monster, of course, but one with surprisingly deep feelings, and Brolin, in concert with superb motion-capture CGI, creates a villain worthy of following up Killmonger in "Black Panther." The Thanos horror show is going to require the Avengers expanding the team to include those Wakanda heroes, as well as "Guardians of the Galaxy" members and Doctor Strange. It's also going to require a scorecard for anyone not familiar with this many characters, and they're not passing those out at the theatre. Then you have to recall recent events that have heroes like Captain America and others working underground after being arrested, James Rhodes (War Machine) being paralyzed, Vision and the Scarlet Witch hiding out together as a couple. Where the filmmakers excel is in grouping this cast-of-dozens team for one great moment after another when it comes to mending fences, creating comradeship and striking our funny bone. Post-"Ragnarok" comedic Thor is an inspired match with the GOTG crew, with Chris Hemsworth and Chris Pratt sizing each other up in hilarious ways. With "Infinity War" being a space opera, these two get a lot of play time, both together and with other hero combinations. Just as good is the pairing of Tony Stark and Doctor Strange, with both men grounded in science and possessing outsized egos that spur verbal volleys between wizard and weapons-maker.

The movie's assembly line of zingers are dialogue-gold. Even the smallest interplay between characters, no matter how brief amid battles ("I am Groot," our GOTG tree tells Captain America, who responds: "I am Steve Rogers") are such meet-cute, silly-funny moments that we can be forgiving for the lack of a self-contained story. Conventional action scenes remain, and they are wow-factor caliber, like an orc-like assault on Wakanda's defenses or seeing Thor embark on what looks like an outer-space suicide mission. But "Infinity War" is more about introducing background information for this film and the next one than creating a fully formed plot that moves from conflict to conclusion. It's more like conflict to conflict, with not much breathing room. It's more about having heroes mingle for side-by-side fighting than forming deep-meaning relationships between all, although there is more love shown here than expected, and in multiple forms. Where the story impresses on an emotional level is in connections shown between brothers, sisters and other Marvel family members. Those elements are deepened when there is loss and guilt, and "Infinity War" features both such fractures. This is a wildly entertaining movie but one that leaves too many unanswered questions. It's not on a "Why bother?" level like I felt with "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part One."

**But "Avengers: Infinity War" is also missing something, and it's going to be a long year waiting to find out the answers.**

Bitdefender Anti-virus Plus	McAfee AntiVirus Plus	Webroot SecureAnywhere AntiVirus	Symantec Norton Anti-Virus Basic	Kaspersky Anti-Virus	Avast Pro Antivirus 2017	ESET NOD32 Anti-virus	F-Secure Anti-Virus (2017)	Sophos Home Premium	Trend Micro Antivirus+ Security
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# Pokies still the 'King' of gambling in Australia

Source: Roy Morgan Single Source Australia, January 2017 - December 2017.

Australia's gambling industry is valued in the tens of billions of dollars and although sports and horse race betting has a high profile given the millions of Australians that watch premium events such as the AFL Grand Final (8.4m Australians in 2017) and NRL Grand Final (6.5m Australians in 2017), it is the pokies that still command the majority of the gambling dollar.

Poker machines, including online, comprise a majority of 56.7% of all the dollars gambled in Australia – easily more than double all forms of betting at 20.7% including sports betting (5.2%) and horse racing, harness racing and greyhounds (15.5%) of the overall gambling pie.

A detailed breakdown of Australia's betting habits was covered extensively in last week's release on Australia's betting habits available to view here.

Lottery/Scratch tickets make up a further 14.2% of Australia's gambling dollars followed by Casino table games (including online) at 5.0% and Keno at 3.4%.

These results are drawn from the Roy Morgan Gambling Currency Reports which delves into Australian gambling habits in depth including detailed analysis of betting and sports betting, poker machines, casino table games, keno, lotteries and scratchies.

Michele Levine, CEO, says poker machines are an important source of revenue for pubs and clubs around much of Australia (although not WA) and the over 200,000<sup>11</sup> installed really do deliver 'rivers of gold' to proprietors:

"Poker machines are a controversial part of Australia's pubs and clubs, but there's no doubt the machines are an important revenue source for many pubs and clubs – including for professional sporting clubs that own licensed venues with 'pokies'."

"Over 2.7 million Australians aged 18+ (14.2%) have used a poker machine in an average three months, significantly higher than the 2 million Australians (10.5%) who have placed a bet on a horse race, harness race, greyhounds or sporting event covered in last week's release.

"The popularity of poker machines is highest in Queensland (17.2% of Queenslanders have played a poker machine in an average three months) and NSW/ACT (15.7%). Both of these States have a strong history of licensed 'leagues clubs' associated with sporting teams drawing the punters in.

"It's worth understanding that over three-quarters of Australia's 200,000 poker machines are located in NSW/ACT and Queensland. "The southern States have lower levels of penetration led by South Australia (15.3%), Tasmania (14.0%) and Victoria (13.3%), however the laws preventing poker machines being installed in Western Australian pubs and clubs mean only 4.9% of Western Australians have played a poker machine in an average three months. Poker machines in WA are restricted to Crown Casino Perth.

# Fact-checking the Clinton Foundation controversy

By Lauren Carroll on Thursday, September 1st, 2016 at 5:53 p.m.

A former president travels the world, mingling with the global elite, generating million-dollar partnerships, acting as the face of an organization that bears his name and employs a number of his political allies — all while his wife is secretary of state (written 1/9/16).

Opponents paint Bill and Hillary Clinton and their international foundation as corrupt. It's either a slush fund to fill the Clintons' coffers, or a vehicle for powerful individuals or foreign governments to pay for access to the State Department.

Meanwhile, Hillary Clinton and her presidential campaign have defended the foundation as well as her conduct as secretary of state, arguing there was a clear and unprecedented separation between the charity and State. PolitiFact has fact-checked elements of both sides of the story. We're here to help you sort out the truth. It's not as clear cut as Clinton's attackers describe, and there's nuance missing from the Clintons' defense.

The foundation's acceptance of millions in foreign donations, including from countries with business in front of the State Department while Hillary Clinton was at the helm, is a chief source of concern driving the perception problem.

"The perception issues bother me more than anything," said Tony Proscio, a researcher at Duke University's Center for Strategic Philanthropy and Civil Society. "Not because there's anything inherently corrupt, but because it's asking for political trouble."

In a pre-emptive measure against potential conflicts of interest, the foundation signed a memorandum of understanding with President Barack Obama's administration in December 2008. The foundation promised to report its donors in order to avoid the appearance of conflict of interest. Hillary Clinton also signed a separate ethics agreement with

the State Department, pledging to keep her distance from foundation matters as secretary of state.

Emails from Clinton's State Department, detailed in media reports, show how fuzzy the line was between the department and the foundation. Clinton took many meetings with foundation donors and offered assistance to several. And at times, foundation staff reached out to Clinton's staff to inquire about opportunities for donors.

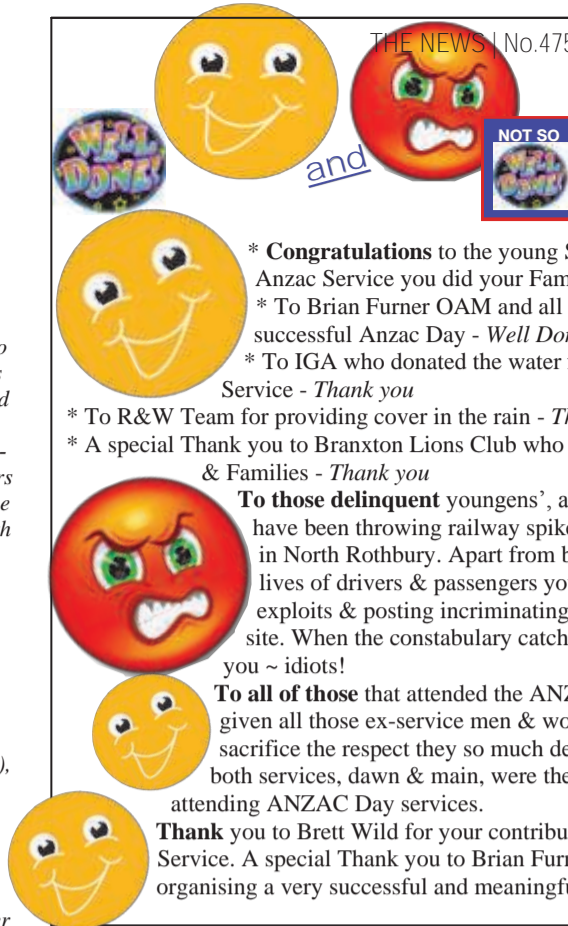
The ethics pledges may not have specifically prohibited emails like these, but they did break the firewall between official government business and Clinton's personal connections that Clinton agreed to preserve. So when Clinton surrogate and former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm said Clinton "abided by the ethics agreement" between the foundation and the Obama administration, PolitiFact rated that claim Mostly False.

Says Hillary Clinton "abided by the ethics agreement" between the Clinton Foundation and the Obama administration. Regarding these ethics agreements, Clinton herself has also said the Clinton Foundation "took steps that went above and beyond all legal requirements and, indeed, all standard requirements followed by every other charitable organization."

Clinton is right that the foundation bearing her family name has done more than what is required of charities by law by disclosing donors and rolling back foreign donations. But the requirements are rather basic to begin with. Other non-profits, including those tied to a few other presidential candidates and presidents, have been similarly forthcoming. So the Clinton Foundation's transparency is not all that remarkable. "The legal requirements are so absolutely minimal that it's like saying, 'No, I haven't shot any-

one today, so you should be grateful," said Daniel Schuman, policy director for Demand Progress, a progressive advocacy group focused on civil liberties and government transparency. PolitiFact ruled Clinton's claim Half True. The Clintons' surge in wealth since they left the White House in 2001 — largely from hefty speaking fees and book advances — and their highly visible involvement in their foundation can leave the impression that they're profiting from the organization, rather than actually engaging in charity work. This is not the case, but some Republican opponents have made it sound like it is.

"The fact is, if they've got about 80 percent overhead and 20 percent of the money's actually getting into the place that it should, then it seems like the only work that the Clinton Foundation is doing is lining the pockets of Bill and Hillary Clinton," said GOP Chair Reince Priebus. PolitiFact rated Priebus' claim False. It is based on a misunderstanding of how the Clinton Foundation works. In reality, about 80 to 90 percent of the organization's expenditures go toward charitable programs. This confusion stems primarily from the fact that "foundation" is in the name. Typically, a private foundation's primary activity is grantmaking, giving money to charities who actually do the work. The Clinton Foundation operates as a public charity, conducting its own charitable programs. Its in-house and affiliated programs include expanding access to low-cost AIDS medication, supporting agriculture in Malawi, providing disaster relief in Haiti, forging partnerships to combat climate change, creating business mentoring programs, drafting school food guidelines, assessing the progress of women's rights globally, and more.



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@holkey.net.au All contributions welcome

**\* Congratulations** to the young Sailor Lachlan who spoke so well at the Anzac Service you did your Family & Community Proud - *Well done*

**\* To Brian Furner OAM** and all of the Branxton RSL Members another successful Anzac Day - *Well Done*

**\* To IGA** who donated the water for the Veterans & Children at the Anzac Service - *Thank you*

**\* To R&W Team** for providing cover in the rain - *Thank you*

**\* A special Thank you** to Branxton Lions Club who always cater so well for the RSL Members & Families - *Thank you*

**To those delinquent** youngens', and apparently one a near grown-up, who have been throwing railway spikes at through traffic on Wine Country Drive in North Rothbury. Apart from being totally irresponsible & endangering the lives of drivers & passengers you are also stupid; bragging about your exploits & posting incriminating pictures of your stupidity on a social media site. When the constabulary catch up with you we hope they throw the book at you ~ idiots!

**To all of those** that attended the ANZAC Day services in our local area; you have given all those ex-service men & women & those that paid the supreme sacrifice the respect they so much deserve. I attended Greta and the crowds at both services, dawn & main, were the largest I have even seen in my 65 years attending ANZAC Day services.

**Thank you** to Brett Wild for your contribution to the Branxton RSL Anzac Day Service. A special Thank you to Brian Furner and Branxton RSL Members for organising a very successful and meaningful Anzac Day Service.

## Classified's Classified's

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

**Agistment wanted** for 6 horses. Phone 0447 381989

**Computer Tuition:** From basics to highly skilled & learn all about ebay. P: 0429 381 908

**Computer Services:** Repairs, Sales & Service. Phone repairs. Comtronics P: 4991 1128

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

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

**For Sale:** Childs violin quarter size in very good condition. Comes with Bow, Resin, Carry Strap and Velvet line case. \$135 ono please ring, Shirley 0476893922. Largs.

**For Sale:** Firewood. Well seasoned, mostly iron bark. 6x4 trailer \$90. Pick-up only Call Greg 011 315 548

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

**Microchipping:** Cats and Dogs, all sizes and breeds, will come to you. \$20 per animal, please call Angela on 0431649947.

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

W: www.mtatravel.com.au/sfenton  
E: sfenton@mtatravel.com.au

**Moving Sale:** two 6-seater patio settings; one 'as new'. Price negotiable P: 4938 3542

**Riding Lessons:** agistment, horses trained. www.byalee.net 0407 453 494

**Share House:** Fully furnished, double bedroom, Built-ins, ceiling fan, Air Con, very quiet. \$165/week. P: 0413 896 866

**Wanted:** high quality mechanical wrist watches & clocks. Keen collector. Willing to pay good prices. Prefer Rolex, Omega, Oris & Tag. P: 0414 757 826

**Wanted:** all kinds of Honda mini bikes qa50 z50a z50j1 z50jz ct70 st70 & atc70. Contact Drew 0435814841

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

**Work Wanted:** Need an extra hand? I do all maintenance,

labouring, construction, asbestos & have working with children licence. P (Pat) 0414 278 292

**Work Wanted:** Lawn Mowing; best rates – large or small area. P: 0459 123 397

**Work Wanted:** Lawns mowed, rubbish removal & slashing. Also 'Bobcat' work, trenching & post hole boring & general maintenance & handyman work. Phone Steve on 4938 3601

**Work Wanted:** HORSE CLIPPING - PERFORMANCE READY. Hunter Valley & Central Coast. Phone Caron 0416 128 701

**Work Wanted:** Lawns properties, mowing, trimming, removals, maintenance. Paul 0478103814 or 49987567

**Work Wanted:** Sick of cleaning, cooking dinner, washing. Call me! Taking bookings now. Professional and reliable service. Sue 0497257081

**Work Wanted:** Rural Fencing (TW & A Hollingshed) P: 4998 1583 or Trevor on 0429 320 787 for quotes.

**Work Wanted:** experienced baby sitter looking for work. Very reliable P: 0458 606 804

**Work Wanted:** Lawn & Garden Maintenance, P: 4938 3153

**Work Wanted:** Piano teacher available to give lessons P: Phil Aughey on 0447 381 989

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

**Helen Lowing, Proprietor & Licensee-in-Charge**

**BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE**

12 Clift Street  
BRANXTON NSW 2335  
P: 4938 3300

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

### Dates for your diary >

Tue 1 May - Branxton Lions Club monthly meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club

Tue 1 May - first day of Term 2 for students at Branxton Public School

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 5/06 - Branxton Lions Club monthly meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club

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, 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

SAT 3/11 - North Rothbury Tidy Town Twilight Markets

TUES 13/11 - B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigids School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton

SUN 18/11 - The Branxton Uniting Church will be 100years old on the 18th November 2018 and a celebratory service will be held on that day in the church. Times TBA

TUES 11/12 - B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigid's School

### Dates for your diary >

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**

5th May - 5:30pm FLICKERFEST the "Best of Australian" Short Films. Head to Peter Drayton's Ironbark Hill Winery and Brewhouse for the main event of the day.

Sunday 6 May 10am start WEDDING FAIR Hunter Valley Gardens, 2090 Broke Road, Pokolbin NSW 2320

Saturday 26 May 6:30pm OPERA BY THE LAKE - A night of fine food, fine wine and world-class opera in the Hunter Valley. Location: Oaks Cypress Lakes Resort, Cnr McDonalds and Thompsons Road, Pokolbin, NSW 2320

Sunday 9 September BROKE VILLAGE FAIR: The famous Vintage Car Display brings all sorts of vintage and classic cars, motorbikes, trucks and tractors and an amazing array of vintage farm machinery. The kids will love the amusement rides, laser tag and the petting zoo while mum and dad can enjoy the festival atmosphere. Over 60 market stalls. McNamara Park, Broke NSW 2330

21st & 22nd Sept - WOLLOMBI MUSIC FESTIVAL

6th Oct - OPERA IN THE VINEYARDS



Proud grandparents, Graham & Louise Enright, who travelled from Taree for the Branxton main service





# Detailed saleyard report



## Livestock advice

Your district veterinarian is a valuable resource for locally relevant, up-to-date, independent advice and information on biosecurity and animal health issues.

Livestock producers can access their district veterinarian to increase their livestock health and profitability or to address livestock biosecurity concerns. Contact us to be put in touch with your district vet.

### Role of the district veterinarian

The district veterinarian contributes to the animal biosecurity and welfare service of Local Land Services including prevention, preparedness, detection and response activities to animal diseases and animal welfare, in line with state and national objectives.

They help safeguard the NSW economy, environment and community and meet national and state standards and outcomes.

District veterinarians implement innovative and strategic policies to deal with new and emerging animal biosecurity and welfare issues, addressing industry and community expectations.

They collaborate and interact with staff from multiple agencies during emergency management responses.

District Veterinarians				
Digby Rayward	Paterson	4939 8966-0427 493 617	<a href="mailto:digby.rayward@lls.nsw.gov.au">digby.rayward@lls.nsw.gov.au</a>	
Kylie Greentree	Maitland	4932 8866-0428 498 687	<a href="mailto:kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au">kylie.greentree@lls.nsw.gov.au</a>	
Jane Bennett	Scone	6540 2419-0427 322 311	<a href="mailto:jane.bennett@lls.nsw.gov.au">jane.bennett@lls.nsw.gov.au</a>	
Lyndell Stone	Wingham	6553 4233-0429 582 855	<a href="mailto:lyndell.stone@lls.nsw.gov.au">lyndell.stone@lls.nsw.gov.au</a>	
Jim Kerr	Total-Singleton	4939 8966 (Total) 6572 2944 (Singleton) 0439 185 275	<a href="mailto:jim.kerr@lls.nsw.gov.au">jim.kerr@lls.nsw.gov.au</a>	

## New code paves the way for landowners to get on with the business of farming

Landowners across NSW have been provided with certainty to get on with the business of farming, following the re-making of the Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code.

It follows the identification of a procedural defect in the making of the previous Code in August 2017.

"The re-made Code is identical to the previous one and is an integral part of the new land management framework which gives landowners the tools and certainty they need," said David Witherdin, Chief Executive Officer of Local Land Services.

"The Code fulfils the recommendations of the Independent Biodiversity Legislation Review Panel and is the result of comprehensive public engagement involving more than 1000 stakeholders," said Mr Witherdin.

"The Code delivers the right balance that supports a productive agricultural sector and a healthy environment," he said.

Landowners now have the certainty to manage native vegetation on their land in accordance with the re-made Code and LLS is on hand to assist with advice and resources.

Landowners with certificates already issued should continue to comply with the conditions of those certificates.

The Office of Environment and Heritage will not take compliance action against landholders who have acted in accordance with the 2017 Code, providing landholders have complied with the conditions on their certificates and clearing is consistent with the notifications and certificates issued under the Code.

"LLS is open for business and working hard to ensure landowners across NSW are supported to make the best possible land management choices for their situation," Mr Witherdin said.

## Saleyard report - cattle

### Singleton

Last reported 18th April 2018

Consignments declined and the quality in the penning was mixed, with the bulk of the younger cattle suitable for the restockers and feeder orders. There were pens of high yielding vealers and yearlings suitable for the local butcher orders and these sold to solid competition. Cow numbers more than doubled compared to the last market and with the exception of the prime high yielding vealers most categories trended at cheaper prices. The over 200kg vealer steers and heifers returning to the paddock eased 20c, with the steer portion making from 240c to 298c, as the heifers topped at 252c after averaging 233c/kg. The yearling steers suitable for the feeders were mainly heavy weights, there were too few penned at the previous market to gain a reliable quote, however prices were cheaper as the better end ranged from 232c to 270c/kg. The prime conditioned and high yielding younger cattle to the butchers sold well considering the recent cheaper prices and reached 336c/kg. Grown steers to feed ranged from 218c to 262c depending on age and breed, while the bullocks to slaughter struggled to attract competition and reached 220c/kg. Cows trended 6c to 10c cheaper, with the plainer drafts making from 130c to 170c, as the better covered heavy weights ranged from 172c to 186c/kg. The best heavy weight bull reached 245c/kg.

### Score

Last reported 24th April 2018

Consignments nearly halved and the quality was fair to good, with the bulk entering the younger categories. The majority were suitable for the restocker and lot feeder orders, with extra prime younger cattle suitable for the butchers also in the offering. There were a number of well-conditioned cows purchased by the processors, however the majority were affected by the dry season and carrying little condition. The lower numbers and the better quality penning contributed to a dearer trend throughout most categories. The over 200kg vealer steers to the restockers lifted 6c, making from 258c to 314c/kg. The same weight heifer portion also to restocker and the backgrounder orders improved 11c, to range from 230c to 273c/kg. The medium weight yearling steers to the lot feeders gained 15c, with quality and breed contributing in places, these made from 238c to 294c/kg. The unfinished yearling heifers to the restockers and lot feeders ranged from 178c to 256c/kg, depending on breed and weight. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers remained close to firm, with the best making 300c/kg. The plainer cows improved 9c, ranging from 130c to 178c/kg, with the majority selling to the processors. The better finished heavy weights sold close to firm, making from 170c to 200c/kg.

### TRLX Tamworth

Last reported 3rd April 2018

There was a large reduction in numbers that also took away the decent lines. The quality of the offering was very mixed in nature with many small and single lots presented. The condition of the penning was on the plainer side with limited supplies of well finished cattle available. There was a similar buying group to last week in attendance. Demand was generally weaker across most categories, light weight weaner cattle representing a relatively low dollar value the exception. Market trends were generally cheaper through the young cattle. The light weight weaners the exception, they sold to dearer trends with some breed related price improvement. The heavier weaner steers were 9c to 13c/kg cheaper. Yearling steers to restock and feed also saw cheaper trends for the most part, heavy feeder steers were up to 6c/kg cheaper. Once again those low dollar value cattle were slightly dearer in places. Medium and heavy yearling heifers to restock and feed sold to a cheaper trend, down 2c to 4c/kg with some other quality related price change. Heavy grown steers sold to a cheaper trend, however there were a couple of pens of well finished heavy weights that stood out and achieved to top c/kg price. Cows met weaker demand and less restocker activity. Despite the reduced restocker competition the plainer condition cows held up well to record a cheaper trend of 2c to 3c/kg. Well finished medium and heavy weight cows saw a cheaper trend of as much as 19c/kg and more for those carrying excess condition.



## Racing review



### Nash Rawiller released but still unknown if charges await

Nash Rawiller was released from custody last Friday but it remains unknown if the disqualified jockey will face criminal charges over his involvement in his tips for gifts betting affair in Hong Kong. Rawiller was taken into custody by Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) on Wednesday afternoon when attempting to leave Hong Kong at the international airport and has spent the past 48 hours in detention.

ICAC is yet to make an announcement if Rawiller will face criminal proceedings.

On Wednesday, Rawiller was disqualified for 15-months by Hong Kong Jockey Club stewards after being found guilty of "having an interest in a bet" and "receiving a benefit for providing tips".

The ban was the longest handed down to a jockey in Hong Kong since Chris Munce was suspended for more than two years for his involvement in the "tips for bets" scandal in 2008. Munce was also convicted of taking bribes in exchange for racing tips by ICAC and served time in a Hong Kong jail before returning to Australia where he served the remainder of his penalty. On Friday, Rawiller's brother Brad, spoke to Racing Victoria in support of Nash. "Obviously we're all behind

Nash. We've got trust and love for him, and respect," Rawiller said.

"Obviously it's been a trying last 24, 48 hours. I just want to thank everyone for their love and support.

"We're all behind him whatever the outcome is. Nash is a good man, a great person and an even better father, brother and family member.

"Don't anyone ever forget that, that's all I want to say."

### Godolphin Discard Wins Godolphin Crown

**Mark Smith**  
Godolphin discard Pecans put a dagger in the heart of the sponsor of Saturday's Group III Godolphin Crown (1300m) at Hawkesbury when she edged the royally-bred Ghisoni in a driving finish.

The Joe Pride-trained filly was making her first start since opening her stakes account in the Group III Belle Of The Turf Stakes (1600m) at Gosford in December.

Given a positive ride by Josh Parr, Pecans defeated Ghisoni (Lonhro) by a neck with Invincibella (I Am Invincible) half a length back in third. Purchased by the Tricolours Syndicate at the Inglis August Thoroughbred Sale for \$50,000, Pecans advances her record to 5 wins and 5 seconds from 13 starts with earnings of \$285,515.

The 4yo daughter of Skilled had just a solitary win, a maiden at Newcastle at her first start on her resume at the time of her sale although she had been runner-up in the three starts before she was sold.

"I just wanted to see a good run from her today, she had a little set-back so for her to come back and do that is a pretty fair effort," Pride said. "I'm not sure I'll take her to Scone, especially on the back of a really nice win like that. It might be a bit of a rush to get her there, so I might just freshen her up and find a nice race in Brisbane for her".

Parr said the win had an extra special meaning for him. "It's nice to get a black-type winner for my man Skilled who was my first Group 1 winner, so that's cool, Parr said. A half-sister to the Listed MRC Merson Cooper Stakes winner Secession (Lonhro) and the stakes-placed Purdy (Lonhro), Pecans descends from a family that served Woodlands well for many decades.

## Upcoming Group 1 Races

### May 2018

- Sat 05 Australasian Oaks (SA) SA \$500,000 2000m Morphettville
- Sat 05 Robert Sangster Stakes (SA) SA \$1,000,000 1200m Morphettville
- Sat 12 Doomben 10000 (QLD) QLD \$700,000 1200m Doomben
- Sat 12 South Australian Derby (SA) SA \$600,000 2500m Morphettville
- Sat 19 The Goodwood (SA) SA \$1,000,000 1200m Morphettville
- Sat 19 Doomben Cup (QLD) QLD \$650,000 2000m Doomben
- Sat 26 Kingsford Smith Cup (QLD) QLD \$700,000 1350m Doomben

### June 2018

- Sat 02 Queensland Oaks (QLD) QLD \$500,000 2200m Doomben
- Sat 09 J J Atkins (QLD) QLD \$600,000 1600m Doomben
- Sat 09 Queensland Derby (QLD) QLD \$600,000 2200m Doomben
- Sat 09 Stradbroke Handicap (QLD) QLD \$1,500,000 1350m Doomben
- Sat 23 Tattersalls Tiara (QLD) QLD \$500,000 1350m Doomben

### August 2018

- Sat 18 Winx Warwick Stakes (NSW) NSW \$500,000 1400m Randwick

### November 2018

- Tue 06 Melbourne Cup (VIC) VIC \$6,200,000 3200m Flemington

# HEARD IT THROUGH the GRAPEVINE



with Jo Thomas, General Manager HVWTA

Committee information to support any recommendations relating to those matters on behalf of the Hunter Valley wine industry. The

WIF subcommittee will also provide support for the Technical sub-committees of wine and viticulture, the HVWTA Marketing Reference Group and the HVWTA in relation to specific wine marketing needs. It's charter is to work with the local industry groups to enhance the education of all hospitality employees in Wine Country and ensure the preservation of the rich history of the Hunter Valley wine industry. The WIF is represented by Chris Tyrrell of Tyrrell's Wines who will Chair the subcommittee, a representative of the HVWTA (GM Jo Thomas), and 9 experienced representatives from the wine and viticulture sector including Jeff Byrne - Agnew Wines, David Hook - David Hook Wines, Stuart Hordern - Brokenwood Wines, Andrew Margan - Margan Wines, Liz Riley - Vitibit, Jerome Scarborough - Scarborough Wines, Shaun Silkman - Silkman Wines, Adrian Sparkes - Mount Pleasant Wines, Andrew Thomas - Thomas Wines. The WIF will be held accountable and provide all information through to the HVWTA Board whilst working towards a common goal with all industries under the HVWTA banner. The first point of business for the WIF will be to hold a meeting with our key stake holders in the wine tourism industry on Tuesday 22nd May at 9.30am (venue TBC). This is an exciting next step for our wine tourism industry.

## The Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association (HVWTA) announces new Subcommittee

We are excited to announce the newly formed subcommittee of the HVWTA, the Wine Industry Forum (WIF). The WIF was formed to address the specific needs of the wine industry with the main to provide a forum for matters of consideration pertaining specifically to the wine industry and to provide the HVWTA

Tattersalls Hotel Social



## 2018 Fishing Club Searching For New Members and New Catch & Release Category Invented

A Belated Happy New year everyone and a belated welcome to 2018! The Tatts Hotel Social Fishing Club has kicked off 2018 and is taking memberships over the bar at the Tatts. Cost has remained at \$30 per single and \$50 per family. We have added a new category for catch and release. To be eligible for a catch and release you need to take a picture of the fish showing the length and the end of year prize will go to the longest eligible fish. We have also made Freshwater catfish and Salmon to the eligible fish at the member's request.

The Committee was voted in at the AGM on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2018 with Dave Hodges being re-elected for President, Terry Roulston being newly elected as Vice President, Steve Nevin being re-elected as Secretary and Ian Foulstone being re-elected at Treasurer. We have an exciting new Fishing Calendar, members are frothing at the mouth to get out and get amongst the action. A reminder to everyone also the Fishing Club Friday night Seafood Raffle is scheduled to start back up this Friday night drawn around 6pm. Tickets can be brought for this raffle anytime throughout the week.

We are also currently looking for anyone interested in becoming a sponsor and would love to come to an arrangement to suit everyone. Please contact Steve Nevin if interested.

We would also like to shout out to our wonderful current Sponsors: The Tattersal Hotel Greta, BCF Rutherford, The Sea Shanty Rutherford, Tuks Thai Restaurant at the Tatts Greta & The Bottle-O Greta. Once again if there are any enquiries about the club email Steve Nevin at: [Steven.nevin@coalandallied.com.au](mailto:Steven.nevin@coalandallied.com.au) or call/text 0402762199.



A gentle reminder for our very busy community that Australia's Biggest Morning Tea is fast approaching and

all involved are busily preparing for the BIG day. Branxton/Greta CWA are again pleased to be hosting this event for our community. So mark it in your diary, Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> May commencing at 10.00am at the Branxton Community Hall and all monies raised will go to the Cancer Council. Donation \$10.00 per person. RSVP to Marie Shearer on 0402015850 or email [branxtongre-tacwa@hotmail.com](mailto:branxtongre-tacwa@hotmail.com) by or

before 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 for catering purposes. The All-in-One Day last year was such a great day we are going to do it again on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July at the Branxton Community Hall. The day encompasses our Birthday, Handicraft, Cultural, International (Poland) and Agricultural/Environment. We are very happy to confirm that we will have a Guest Speaker. Thank you to Noeleen for organising the Guest Speaker.

We would happily welcome anyone interested in helping to raise money to help others in need, or assist in any other ways, and also making new friends. Should anyone be interested in joining Branxton/Greta CWA, or like any information, or attending any of our functions, please contact our Secretary, Marie Shearer on 0402015850 or email [branxtongre-tacwa@hotmail.com](mailto:branxtongre-tacwa@hotmail.com) or email [DeniseMcGoldrick@publicityofficer.com](mailto:DeniseMcGoldrick@publicityofficer.com).

## They said?!? WHAT?!

To get something done a committee should consist of no more than three people, two of whom are absent. - Robert Copeland  
A "Normal" person is the sort of person that might be designed by a committee. You know, "Each person

puts in a pretty colour and it comes out gray." - Alan Sherman  
If computers get too powerful, we can organize them into committees. That'll do them in. - Author Unknown  
If Columbus had an advisory committee he would probably still be at the dock. - Arthur Goldberg



Office of Environment & Heritage



## Wild Dog/Fox 1080 Baiting

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) will be undertaking 1080 ground baiting for wild dog/fox control in Wollemi National Park, Yengo National Park, [Manobalai Nature Reserve](#), Belford National Park, NPWS managed land adjacent to Black Creek, North Rothbury

Ground baiting will commence on 01/05/2018 and cease by 30/06/2018.

A 1080 aerial baiting program for wild dog control will be conducted within Manobalai Nature Reserve commencing between 01/05/2018 to 15/05/2018

These baiting programs are being carried out as part of a broader coordinated control program to mitigate the impacts of wild dogs on stock and wildlife. If you would like to become involved in the cooperative program please contact the Hunter Local Land Services on 1300 795 299.

Domestic pets are not permitted in National Parks or Reserves. Neighbours and park users are reminded that 1080 baits are lethal to domestic pets. Domestic dogs are not permitted in parks/reserves. All areas will have 1080 baiting signs erected at access points to where baiting is being undertaken. In the event of accidental poisoning seek immediate veterinary assistance.

We suggest that working dogs be restrained to ensure that they do not enter the baiting location during poisoning operations, or to muzzle dogs if they are required to work the baiting location during and after poisoning.

For further information please contact NPWS Wollemi Yengo Area office on (02) 6574 5555



# Mother's Day @ the RFH

Breakfast 8am - 10am

Brunch 10am - 12pm

Lunch 12pm - 2pm

Dinner 6pm - 9pm

Free Mimosa for Mum



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# SPORTS RESULTS GOLF

## Branxton Veteran Golfers Results 19-4-18

Stroke - 14 Holes (Par 3)

Div 1 Winner E Barrett 31 pts (c/b) R/u G Musialik 31 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> G Wilton 45 pts  
Div 2 Winner R Chalmers 21 pts R/u G Beeton 28 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> L Bootes 29 pts  
Ladies Winner J Harris 20 pts (SOD) R/u F Oakes 24 pts 3<sup>rd</sup> R McCarthy 31 pts  
NTPs Ladies C Hocking Gents G Gazzard  
Members draw - Not won Well !! Our 'Fun Day' turned out to be just that. A little map reading, orienteering and bushwalking, along with some golf, our happy bunch of players did quite a bit of walking and little 'swinging' of golf clubs, during their round of golf. A pleasant Autumn day with sunshine and a gentle breeze made for comfortable playing conditions. Congratulations to Jan Harris on winning her division and achieving the "Score of the Day", and a well done to other winners and placegetters.

**Special Note:** Congratulations to Gary Wilton on his "Hole-in-One" on the 2<sup>nd</sup> hole  
*LN Bootes, Hon. Sec.*

## Hunter Valley Golf Club Sunday 15th April

The Weekly Challenge has gone to Tanilba Bay visitor Jai Kumar with an even Par 36 points from Grahame Mankelov on 34 points

## Wednesday 18th April

After Coring took place on Monday and Tuesday the Ladies resumed with an Individual Stableford event which Carol Horton won with 36 points from Dale Hamilton 32 and Melita Watson 3rd with 31 on countback. Ball winners were: Jenny Chambers 31, Leesa Robinson 31 and Christine Tancred 31. Next week the Ladies will play Stableford

## Thursday 19th April

The Vets 2 Man No Scotch event has been won by the team of Wayne Berry & Darrell Preston with 64 1/4 from Ken Springbett & Bruce Chambers with 65 1/4. Ball winners were: Dave Fury & Geoff Sweetman 65 1/2, Rex Talbot & Graeme Flynn 65 1/2, John Harrison & Ray Boyd 65 1/2, Ken Harris & John Carmody 68, Wayne Cowan & Garry Hedges 69, Gary Marsden & Ian Newell 69 1/2, Michael Watson & Gerry Irwin 70, David Peel & Ray Newton 71 1/2 and Grahame Sheldom & Ken Wright 71 3/4. Nearest-the Pins went to Ken Harris (3rd & 17th). The raffle winner was Wayne Cowan. Next week the Vets will play round 1 of the 2018 Vets Championship playing Scratch and Handicap Stableford. Hunter Valley financial Vets only in the Championship, visitors most welcome in the daily comp.

## Saturday 21st April

Freshly cored greens have provided some outstanding scoring with Everglades visitor Jason Clifford leading the way in A and all grades with a staggering 49 points from his 7 handicap, a round of 65 scratch, runner up was Steve Abel with 41 points, B Grade to Ken Springbett with 42 points from Nicolas Looby 40 and C Grade to Tallebudgera visitor Greg Smith with an impressive 45 point return from Mangrove GC visitor Greg Rapmund with 42 points. Ball winners were: Bohdi King v41, Robert Kolk 40, Michael Prichard 39, Robert King 39, Scott Jones 39, Chad Mitchison 39, Paul Bullock 38, Michael Booth 38, Ian Newell 38, Dale Macklinshaw 37, John Stewart 37, Steve Pryke v37, Steve Chay 37, Brad Parsons 36, John Barbour 36, Grant Bruce 36, Steve Piggot 36, Craig Hetherington v35, Adrian Kent 35, Bruce Chambers 35, Nick Nancarrow 35 and Ray Hodson 35 c/b. Nearest-the Pins went to Scott Jones (3rd) David Irwin (4th) Ray Hodson (10th) and Adrian Kent (17th). Next Saturday event will be a Medley Blue Tee Stableford.

## Results Week ending 28th April

**Sunday 22nd April**  
The Weekly Challenge has been won by Justin Lawrence with 43 points with Brodie Egan taking 2nd spot on countback from John Rowland after both had 41 point returns. Ball winners were: Mark Glendenning v40, Michael Thompson 39, Nathan Lawrence 39, Luke Johnston 39, Mark Woods 38, Danny Marmo 38, Dale Johnston 37, Tim Hudson v36, Lloyd Barrett 36 and Cassandra Fernandez 36 c/b  
**Tuesday 24th April**  
Ian Newell survived a countback for a rare win in the Tuesday Stableford after he and John Stojanovski returned 38 points, Michael Watson took 3rd with 37. Ball winners were: Andrew Bozinovski 36, Ray Newton 35, Steve Piggot 35, Wayne Cowan 34, Greg Ireland 34, Graeme Flynn 34 and Paul Smith 33 c/b. Nearest-the Pins went to Mark Barrow (3rd) and Steven Abel (10th & 17th)  
**Wednesday 25th April**  
A small field of Ladies played on Anzac Day with Christine Tancred winning the day from Robyn Dunlop. Next week the Ladies will play an Individual Stableford.  
**Thursday 26th April**  
After the conclusion of the first round of the Vets 2018 Championship many chances exist in both categories with Wayne Barber and Ray Hodson tied in the scratch with 4 others within 4 points and Bruce Chambers the handicap leader by 2 points to Paul Bullock and Peter Mathews and 4 other 1 point further back. An interesting finish when the final round is played next week. The daily comp resulted in a win to Bruce Chambers with 41 points from Paul Bullock surviving a countback to Peter Mathews after both had

39 point returns. Ball winners were: Wayne Barber 38, David Peel 38, Gerry Irwin 38, Geoff Sweetman 38, Peter Munro 37, Graeme Flynn 37, John Stewart 37, John Harrison 36 and Ray hodson 36 c/b. Nearest-the Pins went to Doug Wand (3rd) Ray Hodson (4th, 8th & 10th) and Bruce Chambers (17th). Next week will be the final round of the 2018 Championship playing Scratch and handicap Stableford, visitors are most welcome to play in the daily comp.

## Saturday 28th April

The Blue Tee Challenge once again provided few scores of Par or better with A Grade going to Michael Turner with an even Par 36 from Ray Hodson with 33, B Grade to Adrian Kent with the best round of the day 39 points from John Parish with 36 on countback and C Grade to Phil Darcy with 37 points from Luke Johnston on 36 c/b. Ball winners were: Sue Peel 36, Grahame Sheldon 36, Russell Lightfoot 36, Bodhi King v35, Dale Macklinshaw 34, Drew Dewar 34, David Preece 34, Julie Van Den Berg 33, Craig Sharp 33, Lloyd Barrett 32, Justin Preece 32, Peter Wheelhouse 32, John Stewart 32, Robert King 32 and Ray Newton 31 c/b. Nearest-the Pins went to Wade Attewell (4th) Luke Johnston (10th) and Dean Morison (17th). Next week's event will be a Medley Stableford.

## Saturday, 21 April 2018 SATURDAY COMP STABLEFORD

: Field: 44 players  
Grades A Stephen Ross 38 pts c/b  
Grades A Michael Simpson 38 pts  
Grades A Mark Moylan 35 pts  
Grades B Reece Caldwell 40 pts  
Grades B Douglas Muncaster 37 pts c/b  
Grades B Paul Bush 37 pts  
Grades C Lenny Porter 36 pts  
Grades C Lee Jackson 35 pts  
Grades C Peter Mathews 34 pts  
NTP 2/11 P Marquet 184cm  
NTP 4 M Tracey 263cm  
NTP 9/18 R Biles 154cm  
NTP 13 L Heuston 177cm  
Balls 13  
players down to 30 pts  
Steve Ross has begun his A Grade participation in style by winning Saturday's Stableford competition with a very pleasing 38 pts which now creates a new goal of breaking 80 around the tight Branxton course. Michael Simpson continues to play excellent golf, finishing runner up

with 38 pts from his single figure handicap. Mark Moylan's 35 pts was good enough for third meaning two of our B Grade Championship team finished in the placings once again. Reece Caldwell had the best stableford score of the day in winning B Grade with an outstanding 40 pts, on a day when 30 pts was all that was needed to win a ball. Doug Muncaster and Paul Bush filled the placings with their 37 pts. Lenny "the legend" Porter won C Grade with his 36 pts just ahead of Lee Jackson and Peter Matthews who have just returned from the Branxton Golf trip to the north coast, a trip so well organised by Peter. **The shot of the day belonged to Bob Biles** on the last, finishing just over a metre and half away.

## Saturday, 28TH April 2018 SATURDAY COMP STABLEFORD

Field: 48 players  
Grades A Stephen Ross 39 pts  
Grades A Gary Wilton 38 pts  
Grades A Michael Simpson 36 pts  
Grades B Errol Munzenberger 42 pts  
Grades B Reece Caldwell 39 pts  
Grades C Mick Lutovac 37 pts  
Grades C Graham Bull 34 pts  
Grades C Jake Goward 33 pts  
NTP 2/11 Y Kwon 296 cm  
NTP 4 E Munzenberger 220cm  
NTP 9/18 E Garland 418 cm  
NTP 13 N/A  
Balls 14 balls down to 32 pts  
Steve Ross has continued his recent good form, again winning A Grade with a very pleasing 39 pts finishing just ahead of the club's long serving veteran, Gary Wilton, with 38 pts. Mick Simpson has also continued his excellent golf finishing third with 36 pts. Errol Munzenberger played great golf to easily win B Grade with an outstanding 42 pts, ahead of Robert Hale's 39 pts and Reece Caldwell with the same score. Mick Lutovac won C Grade with 37 pts, three points clear of Graham Bull with Jake Howard another point back finishing third. The shot of the day belonged to Errol Munzenberger at the 4<sup>th</sup> which finished only 220 cms away. Unsurprisingly no one conquered the 13<sup>th</sup> with no nearest the pin recorded. Only 32 pts was needed to win a ball.

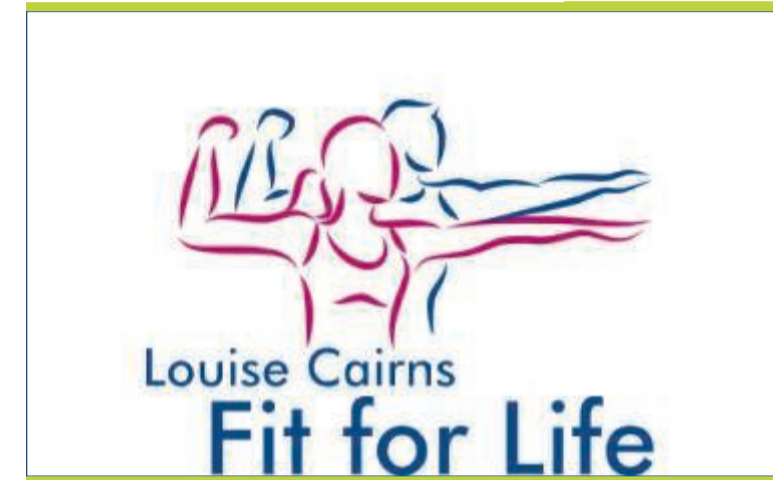
# Do you REMEMBER when...?



Club President John Hunter (left) with Noel Goodyer

## BRANXTON JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE COLTS 2003 AWARDS NIGHT.

Under 18's 'Best & Fairest' & Players Player was Dean Clack & the "The Noel Goodyer Award" went to Matt Hunter



## What do you have time to do?

How many times have you been told, if it matters to you, you make time for it. If you don't make time, it doesn't matter. I hear so many people say they would like to lose weight, or start running again, or spend more time with their family. Many times we say something is important to us but at the end of the day if you look at where you spend your time, then that reveals something to you. There may



'Make more time for what is important to you & the rest will fall into place'

be a whole range of factors and variables that are involved but what I really encourage you to do is to reconnect to the things that matter most.

Firstly, what are the 3 most important things in your life? Is it sport? Is it work? Happiness? Health? Being organised? Is it Family?

Write them done.

A lot of times we find that those things we put at 1 or 2 on the list fall by the wayside as we spend time on the things that are 3,4,5,6, or 7 on the list.

Those who are great at what they do, diligently and ferociously defend their time so they spend time doing the things that matter most to them.

These are the things that energise them. The things that help them connect with their values and who they really are. The things that help them step back and look at the bigger picture.

For me it has always been my horses, and more recently my running that energises me and helps me connect with myself and what is important to me. Being out in the fresh air, sometimes in the bush, sometimes not, sometimes with friends, sometimes on my own. These things energise me and excite me.

What is your why? What are your strengths? What lights you up? Go all out on those things. Pull out your calendar and start blocking out time so you can connect to those things that light you up. You may be amazed at what you can do.

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# BRANXTON GRETA VINEYARDS

# The New SPORT

## Greyhound Racing... GREYHOUNDS STILL IN THE BLOOD



### Local Report

with Sam

The proposed greyhound band by Mike Baird in 2016, tough new rules, more regulations, excessive fees and the proposed litter bond have caused uncertainty amongst greyhound participants in N.S.W. It has not deterred a few young local trainers, James Porter, Chris Kedwell, Bradley Sabotic, Lindsay Davis and Michelle Lil all investing heavily into the sport.

Michael and Michelle Lil sold all their greyhound equipment two years ago but could not get the greyhound blood out of their system. The Greta couple sold their small quarter acre property and purchased a five acre property on the other side of town. They got the greyhound bug when Michael purchased a little black pup for Michelle, the black bitch was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> April four-

teen years ago. The sire of the dog was **TAMBRAV GRVY** so they named their bitch **SPECIAL SAUCE**, she was trained by local trainer Scott Payne and went on to win 14 races before they took her back home to breed. Her offspring which included **BIG BUNGA** from her first litter and **MIDNIGHT CRACKER** from her second litter had plenty of success on the tracks. **BIG BUNGA** had to be hand fed when born and was sold to Jason Preston who sent the dog to the Hunter's leading trainer Jason Mackay after realising the dog had a heap of potential. **BIG BUNGA** won 26 races and \$94,000 in prizemoney, his greatest moment was when he defeated the great **ELITE BLUE SIZE** (\$1:80 FAV.) in the Gold Coast Galaxy, picking up a cheque for \$25,000. They kept a couple of dogs for pets, **HOT SAUCE**

who won 14 races including his first five starts at The Gardens and Gosford and his mum **THICKNESS**, both now enjoying the large galloping areas at their new home. Michael and Michelle have spent the last six months building kennels and erecting fencing on the property, they have also invested in a few race dogs, pups and broodbitches. James Porter and Chris Kedwell decided to go all out and both have invested heavily into their properties. James purchased 10 acres in Greta and currently has 30 dogs in work as well as another 80 running around the paddocks whilst Chris and wife Sarah purchased 27 acres at Elrington and have 10 dogs in work and another 30 running around the paddocks. Bradley Sabotic moved from Sydney to Greta with the hope of breeding some decent pups, his first three litters had a lot of success

on the tracks. His fourth litter **BARCIA BALE / KEIRA'S CHARM** kicked off their racing this year and in just three months seven of the pups have won 16 races between them and the other two not far away from hitting the track. His black bitch **MIDNIGHT MYSTIC** from his third litter won 12 races including 3 over the 720m at Wentworth Park and holds the track record at Gunnehah over the 583m. She whelped a litter of nine pups ( 5 different colours) to Sandown, Warnambool and Ballarat track record holder **UNLAWFUL ENTRY** early last week and is giving Bradley and his parents little rest. Lindsay Davis has a great set up on a large property in Branxton and just keeps producing winners from her **KEY** line with no intentions of easing up. Her stud dog **KEYBOW** is starting to throw some nice pups. **GRETA G.B.O.T.A. WINNERS**

April saw 19 winners salute for members of the Greta G.B.O.T.A. branch. At Maitland success went to Chris Kedwell (**WYEMBA CHARLIE**) James Porter (**IN THE QUE 2** wins and **VIOLET VEMMES**) Garry Kedwell (**BRAEMAN**) and Gary Ernst with **SHAKES**. At The Gardens winners included **LAGOON BONNIE** for Stephen Keith, **ARD APPEAL** and **SILVER KISSES** for Frank Cini, **DOUBLE STITCHED**, **DOUBLE MAC** and **BOWLS AND HOLES** for James Porter and **BEDAZZLED** winning back to back for Graeme Barnett. The long drive from Greta to Richmond paid off for James Porter with 4 winners, **VIOLET VEMMES**, **JERRY CAN** and **DOUBLE STITCHED** winning a double whilst Bradley Sabotic won a heat with **MIDNIGHT ON FIRE** qualifying for this Friday's final. The drive to

Richmond wasn't hard for the two local trainers, James sent his partner Sharee with his dogs and Bradley sent his dad. **G.B.O.T.A. GRETA**

**BRANCH MEETING**  
Members and visitors are reminded the next meeting will be held at **GRETA WORKERS CLUB** Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. **SEE YA AT THE TRACK OR THE BAR MIDNITE**

You are invited to  
Branxton's 4th Annual  
Dress in Pink High Tea  
Fashion Extravaganza  
featuring  
Sue's Clothing, Rutherford  
With local models  
Wednesday 10th October 2018  
10.00am  
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Catering by Branxton Greta CWA Ladies  
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