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WEDNESDAY
16 May 2018

Page 2 & 11 Page 6 Page 19 Page 20



Cessnock City Council
NOTICES



Members Say



Well Done
Not So Well Done



SCHOOL NEWS

New spot for Mattress Drop-Off Day

Cessnock City Council is offering a free mattress drop-off service on Saturday 26 May, making it easier for residents to dispose of old mattresses and ensembles. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said these days are very popular and he looks forward to seeing residents taking advantage of the drop-off day in its new location at the Council Depot.

"We always get a huge turn out on our mattress drop off days. It's fantastic to be able to offer such a helpful service to our community and to ensure these materials can be properly disposed of. Many mattresses and ensembles contain valuable materials like steel, timber and foam which can be re-used or recycled", Mr Pynsent said.

The drop-off day will be held on Saturday 26 May 2018 from 8am to 12pm at the Council Work Depot car park, Old Maitland Road, Cessnock.

Up to four mattresses or bases will be accepted per household between 8am and 12 noon. Mattress drop-offs must be made using a vehicle as there will be no pedestrian access.

The service is available to Cessnock City Council residents only and proof of address is required. Find out more by visiting www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/environment/waste/other_waste.

Huge turnout for Branxton 'Biggest Morning Tea' raises over \$3000 for Cancer research



AN estimated 180 local residents & nearby neighbours have helped raise over \$3000 for cancer research by attending "Branxton's Biggest Morning Tea" last Tuesday. For the fourth year in a row the local branch of the CWA have organised the day and very early in the day soon realised that they had catered for only 120 people & needed some quick action to sate the huge crowd; being resourceful they

flew into action and saved the day. "Apart from those attending we had a large number of orders from local businesses & local residents which, thankfully was attended to prior to the onslaught," said spokesperson Helen Scott. Well done CWA!

■ Photo Mayor Bob Pynsent & wife Kathy in the cue




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DOGS

2018 Pricing schedule as of 1st 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 1st February (daily price)

\$16.00

Purr cat, purr day





Cessnock City Council Statutory Notices

Phone during working hours 4993 4100
After Hours Emergency 4940 7816

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

SECTION 4.59 NOTICE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT, 1979, APPROVED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

The public are hereby notified pursuant to Section 4.59 of the Environmental Planning Assessment Act, 1979 (as amended) that the following applications have been granted consent during the period from 1 April 2018 to 30 April 2018.

Locality	Reference	Decision Date	Property Address	Application Description
EAST BRANXTON	008/2018/00000197/001	17-Apr-2018	15 Dalwood RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
EAST BRANXTON	008/2018/00000206/001	19-Apr-2018	10 Durham RD	Shed
GRETA	008/2018/00000080/001	11-Apr-2018	2 Usher ST	Secondary Dwelling
GRETA	008/2018/00000205/001	19-Apr-2018	10 Nelson ST	Shed
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2017/00000765/001	3-Apr-2018	10 Rampling AV	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000179/001	4-Apr-2018	7 Reid ST	Garage & Associated Retaining Walls
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000157/001	6-Apr-2018	21 Tooze CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000169/001	6-Apr-2018	19 Judge RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000161/001	9-Apr-2018	105 Triton BLVD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	009/2018/00000059/001	17-Apr-2018	6 Innes ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000089/001	18-Apr-2018	24 Harkin RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Walls
NORTH ROTHBURY	009/2018/00000061/001	23-Apr-2018	13 Emerton RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000218/001	24-Apr-2018	30 Kinnavane RD	Single Storey Dwelling, Detached Garage & Retaining Wall
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000177/001	30-Apr-2018	16 Rampling AV	Shed
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000188/001	11-Apr-2018	2 Wattle CL	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Cart Storage
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000051/001	13-Apr-2018	267 Deasys RD	Two (2) Storey Rural Dwelling (including Barn)
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000092/001	13-Apr-2018	119 McDonalds RD	Deck & Waste Storage Area
POKOLBIN	008/2017/00000195/001	18-Apr-2018	447 McDonalds RD	Alterations to Existing Winery consisting of Construction of a New Cellar Door, Cafe & Restaurant and the Change of Use of an Existing Cellar Door to a Warehouse
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000156/001	18-Apr-2018	750 De Beyers RD	Special Event - Port to Port Bike Race

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

PO BOX 152
CESSNOCK

STEPHEN GLEN
GENERAL MANAGER

PUBLIC EXHIBITION RECREATION & OPEN SPACE STRATEGIC PLAN

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.

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

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 or post.

PO BOX 152
CESSNOCK 2325

STEPHEN GLEN
GENERAL MANAGER

PUBLIC EXHIBITION DRAFT 2018-19 OPERATIONAL PLAN

At its meeting of 2 May 2018 Council resolved to place the Draft 2018-19 Operational Plan on Public Exhibition from **9 May 2018 to 5 June 2018**.

The Draft document will be on Public Exhibition for twenty eight (28) days in order to seek public comment, as required by section 405 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*.

The Draft 2018-19 Operational Plan details Council's proposed activities for 2018-19 including the Draft Budget, as well as Council's proposed Revenue Policy and Schedule of Fees and Charges.

The Draft documents can be viewed at the following locations:

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

Written submissions on the Draft documents should be addressed to the General Manager and will be accepted up **until 5.00 pm Tuesday, 5 June 2018**.

Any enquires should be directed to Donna Ladmore at donna.ladmore@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or on 4993 4242.

Full copies of submissions (including petitions) may be made available to the public including your name and address, unless Council receives a request for personal details to be suppressed.



Free demystifying energy workshop Vale Ted Rockett



Cessnock City Council has partnered with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage to host an A-Z myth busting workshop on energy efficiency and solar energy.

This free workshop will take place from 4.30 to 6.30pm tomorrow Thursday 17 May 2018 at Cessnock Library.

Come along to better understand your electricity bills and learn some practical energy saving tips to help you reduce your energy use and overall costs.

Solar PV installation is an increasingly popular way for NSW households to save on energy bills and reduce their carbon footprint. Battery storage is also attracting considerable attention and people have become rapidly interested in what options exist for their home.

The information, tools and resources provided in this free workshop will help you decide if a solar or battery storage option is right for your household and the best approach to reducing your energy use in the most cost-effective way.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said rooftop solar installations are booming and more and more people in our community are interested in learning more about solar panels.

"This workshop will provide free, independent advice on solar, battery storage and reducing energy use in cost-effective ways."

If you're interested in coming along, register online at www.eventbrite.com and search 'Demystifying Energy Workshop' or call the team at Cessnock Library on 4993 4399.



The recent passing of long term Branxton resident Ted Rockett has left a void of compassionate mechanical talent in the local area.

Daughter Kendall Harrison said that he will be sadly missed by those friends and family who for decades had relied on Ted's extraordinary mechanical knowledge, generosity and friendship.

"Dad started working in 1962 for Standen's Engineering - a company that used to make earth moving equipment right here in

Branxton, as a Fitter & Turner; working huge lathes. He also worked as a Diesel Mechanic for Dennis Barnes Earth Moving, and Moores Earth Moving, also Branxton businesses that thrived in the 1970's & 1980's. He helped fix many a traveller's car when they broke down on the highway through town, and made many friends through his mechanical skills with steam engines one of his favourite passions. He will be missed by family & friends alike," said Kendall.



"This is the lovely poem that local lady, Mrs. Heather Searles, wrote for dad's funeral. Heather is a published bush poet, and she & her husband Jim have been friends with Ted for many years. There were about 120 people at

Ted Rockett's funeral on Thursday, 25th May, many of them locals who had been helped by dad over the years, and some for whom he had worked as a diesel mechanic or fitter and turner. Steve Furner arranged for the truck, pictured above, and Christian Furner drove dad one last time around Branxton to end up at the Community Hall," said Kendall.

■ Photo Above: the Late Ted Rockett

Ted

Ted wouldn't like fuss, that's the first thing he'd say;
But I think he'd be pleased that we're all here today
To give him a send-off in just the right way
He's been a friend to us all for many a year
And we all owe so much to the fine engineer
If you lost it or broke it or can't buy a part
And you're tearing your hair 'cause the motor won't start;
You'd head off the next day to the man in the shed,
And you'd front up and say, "can you make me one Ted?"
Just give him a lathe and he'd teach it to sing,
He was one of the best, he could make anything.
Or give him an engine that's breathing it's last
One that's seen better days, just a thing of the past;
Then with care and precision as sharp as a knife,
And the skills of a lifetime, he'd bring it to life.
For the sound of an engine was joy to his ears;
He was truly the master with pistons and gears.
For a passion unmeasured ran deep in his veins,
For motors and engines and steam driven trains.
He was good for a yarn as he worked in the shed,
For a man of great depth and opinion was Ted.
With a faraway look he'd tell you his thoughts;
How he felt about pollies and all of their rorts.
And his views of the world, from his side of the fence,
And we'd all have to say, he made pretty good sense.
So we're missing him now, he was one of the best,
But the years took their toll and he's needing a rest.
We'll remember the time with the man in the shed
And the Gospel of Life, according to Ted.

By Heather Searles May 2017



Husband Creche

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

Ladies we have the answer

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

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

Just pay \$2.00 for his morning coffee
'Branxton Greta Menshed' 49 Branxton Street
Greta in the grounds of the old
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Rohan and Kendall wish to thank extended family and friends who came together for the funeral of our father and friend, Ted Rockett, late of Branxton, on 25/5/17. Special thanks go to Steve and Christian Furner, for arranging the 1956 Chev truck to carry Dad to the Community Hall. Sincere appreciation to Fry Bros. Funerals for their professional care, and to Mrs. Heather Searles, of Branxton for her special poem, which says so much about a man who helped so many people during his 55 years in Branxton.



OPTOMETRIST

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STEVE'S RANT

In response to an announcement by Bill Shorten, in which he made the point that the Federal Education Departments system of student evaluation NAPLAN needed to be reviewed – the Federal Minister for Education made the following statements.

“NAPLAN is here to stay as it is essential in providing parents with their children’s educational progress.” A simple idea and one that he, Simon Birmingham, believes to be the case.

But what he is saying is not that simple for he implies that our great !! education system is incapable of assessing student performance against any standard and being able to explain this to parents.

Is this true? Ask your children’s teachers what they think? Have you been happy with your interviews with teachers at parent/teacher events?

I have not been involved in this business for over 30 years so I cannot make an informed comment that is based on personal experience.

My knowledge of our education system is informed by what I read in the papers and by what my grandchildren inform me about university education. It gives me no confidence that Simon Birmingham is wrong. As parents of school aged children we must involve ourselves in this by questioning what is taught, how it is assessed and give parental guidance to instil curiosity and behavioural standards. We cannot be so preoccupied in making ends meet and organizing the day’s activities, that we cannot give time to talk to our children about their day at school. If your child is made to think about their day this will reinforce the lessons of the day and keep their brain focussed on learning. Having done this and having a snack they can be released onto the community to rampage up and down the local street, doing whatever they do these days, to let off steam. Have a nice day. *Cheers, Steve*



The Turnbull Government has delivered another unfair Budget.

We wanted equality of opportunity here in the Hunter in health, education, aged care and childcare and the funding for all of those areas has been cut in this budget.

The Government was talking about a big cash splash on infrastructure but the Hunter has missed out. We have four projects desperately in need of funding that have been forgotten. The Glendale Interchange in Lake Macquarie; the Singleton

bypass; the Muswellbrook bypass; and the proposed “Cessnock Ring Road” linking Cessnock and the Hunter Expressway. All are crucial to our region’s growth and have been stalled for yet another year. A critical priority for me is investment in skills training

for our young people. Many employers have the jobs but can’t find the skilled workforce they need. We need to rebuild our vocational education and training. But the Government frustratingly cut \$270 million out of TAFE.

The budget fails the fairness test

- It fails the fairness test on education – Turnbull is still cutting \$17 billion from schools, and has \$270 million in new cuts to TAFE.
- It fails the fairness test on hospitals – Turnbull’s cuts mean Australians will be stuck on hospital waiting lists for longer.
- It fails the fairness test on Medicare – Turnbull’s freeze on the rebate for specialists means Australians will pay even more when they visit the doctor.

A Labor Government will make fairer choices

- We will improve our schools, fix our hospitals and save Medicare.
- We will make university more

accessible, guarantee the future of TAFE and put local jobs first.

- We will deliver genuine tax relief for working Australians, protect pensioners and improve the budget bottom line.

A Labor Government will deliver a fair go for Australia.

*Joel Fitzgibbon MP
Member for Hunter*
Fuel price a rort

IF IT'S good enough for those running the banking and superannuation industries to face a Royal Commission then its time for those running the petrol industry to suffer the same scrutiny.

For years the oil industry has played fast and loose with the hip pockets of Australian motorists, hiking up the price whenever it felt the need to generate extra profits and collect handsome bonuses for the

executives. The same swindle the banks use on their customers.

No administration or government department has ever attempted to stop the blatant rorting of petrol prices in this country. This is despite the Rudd-Gillard government deceptively appointing a Petrol Pricing Commissioner in 2008.

This was just a stunt to give a highly paid job to a political mate. A job for one of the boys as payment for past favours. In the time this commissioner was operating, not one action was brought against the oil giants. In fact, the commissioner admitted on national television that his job was just to keep an eye on the bowser price of petrol and put it on a website. He had no other authority beyond that and collected a fat pay cheque

for doing nothing. The Turnbull government won't tackle the oil cartels either. Oil companies make huge contributions to the LNP's electoral funding. And it is this lack of consumer protection that has put the government way behind in the polls. The Banking Royal Commission won't save them because they fought tooth and nail to avoid it and now refuse to jail the con artists that have robbed the Australian public for years. They may claw back some lost support if they come down hard on the blatant profiteering by the oil companies. But no government will survive the public backlash if they continue to operate under the Forrest Gump philosophy of "stupid is as stupid does".
Mike McGregor, Narrabri NSW



What's Happening & other matters

with **Mike Lowing**

I caught up with Danny Murphy, Managing Director of LWP Property Group our Huntlee developers, last week.

I first met Danny many years ago when his group was seeking approval for the Huntlee development & during that long process I travelled to Perth (at my own expense) to see what they had done at their huge Swan Valley development, Ellenbrook, just north of Perth.

I wanted to see first-hand how they operated and what to expect in our own backyard if the Huntlee development was to be

approved. Danny was gracious enough to spend a good number of hours showing me around the then almost completed development; 10,000 residential blocks in all.

I was significantly impressed by the magnitude of the project & the urban design which incorporated beautiful parklands, water features, varied designed residential homes all with off-street parking, great commercial & light industrial areas; just a wonderfully planned community.

The only large problem was ingress & egress, mornings and evenings, as people headed off to work & came home.

The WA government had promised to provide rail when the project was approved but it didn't happen (I noticed in the

recent Federal budget that they have committed \$1.8billion to finally have it done).

Last year Danny was awarded Allen Vogan Award by the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) for an outstanding individual who had tirelessly served the Australian development industry.

The citation said that LWP currently had 12 active projects which have an annual turnover of more than 1,000 lots and \$200M. Further to his management role at LWP, Danny has volunteered his time extensively to the industry including serving as UDIA President in South Australia from 1989-1990 and as a Councillor in Western Australia from 1992-1993. He is also very active in providing advice and

mentorship to younger industry professionals and provides invaluable knowledge to UDIA to assist in their advocacy role.

Congratulations on your award.

Anyway, back to Huntlee. The proposed Coles develop, which comprises an approx 3,500SQ super-market & 8 to 10 speciality shops, is close to being approved and he expects it to be opened within 2-years.

The \$3million regional playing fields will be soon commenced and the Wine Country Drive upgrade is near completion.

I did ask if he could have the traffic lights turned off but said it was an RMS requirement to have them operative! They are very annoying especially on a Sunday morning when

there is no traffic and they magically turn red. He also said that they were happy with sales but the hardening requirements of obtaining investment loans has had an impact.



Do stuff. Be clenched, curious. Not waiting for inspiration's shove or society's kiss on your forehead. Pay attention. It's all about paying attention. Attention is vitality. It connects you with others. It makes you eager. Stay eager. - Susan Sontag

I love those who can smile in trouble... Leonardo da Vinci
Time means a lot to me because, you see, I, too, am also a learner and am often lost in the joy of forever developing and simplifying. If you love life, don't waste time, for time is what life is made up of. - Bruce Lee
My life is my message - Mahatma Gandhi

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Branxton..... 4938 1244
Lochinvar..... 4930 7209
Ambulance..... 131 233
NSW Fire Brigade
Branxton..... 4938 3396

Rural Fire Brigades

Belford..... 6574 7149
Broke..... 6579 1491
Greta..... 4015 0000
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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
Flat..... 6575 1200
Central
(Cessnock).... 4015 0000

Electricity

Energy Australia..... 131 388

Hospitals

Maitland... 4939 2000
Cessnock... 4991 0555
Singleton... 6572 2799
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Crime Stoppers
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Economic Development excellence in Cessnock Local Government area recognised



■ Staff from the Hunter Valley Visitor Centre, Council's Economic Development Team, participants in the Youthfirst program and, far right, the General Manager of Cessnock City Council Stephen Glen

Cessnock City Council's Economic Development team have been recognised at a state level attracting two nominations for the 2018 NSW Local Government Excellence Awards. The Economic Development team have been shortlisted as a finalist for two outstanding Cessnock City projects. The *Cessnock City Youth First Employment Toolkit* has been shortlisted in the category of Special Projects and the team's unique business platform *Advance Cessnock City* has been recognised in the category of Service Delivery Initiative. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent congratulated the team on their hard work and for their dedication to excellence.

"It's no surprise the team is a finalist in two categories as they continue to think innovatively and have achieved a great deal through both of these projects. The Youth Employment Project not only supported local young people to become job ready, but the Toolkit developed has now been distributed to every Council across Australia to help unemployed youths nationally, with widespread acclaim." The Advance Cessnock City Platform has also been a huge achievement of the Economic Development team. An online platform that is a one stop shop for local business and prospective businesses. It provides helpful information about Cessnock's economic profile, local business events, free business

profiles, other Council support for business and a popular e-News Monitor. Cessnock City Council's Economic Development Manager, Jane Holdsworth said she's happy the projects have been so successful. It's great these valuable initiatives have been recognised and I look forward to seeing what other wonderful projects have been nominated. Like every success however, you need a team willing to go the extra mile, with enthusiasm and commitment. These accomplishments are due to how we work innovatively together and look at ways to support our business community and grow our economy." The recipients of the awards will be announced at a dinner to be held on Thursday 7 June 2018.

Rug-up, as we are set for a freakishly cold winter

- Amateur forecaster shares his warning

Here in the Hunter Valley we should be gearing up for a much colder than normal winter, with snow falling in places it hasn't touched for a long time,



according to a forecaster who uses an unusual method to predict the weather. Amateur forecaster David Taylor, who runs the East Coast Weather Facebook page and claims to have predicted freakish weather events accurately in the past, uses sunspots to make predictions in a way major

forecasters do not. He says that 2018 will possibly bring one of Australia's coldest-ever winters, because the weather system will see effects that are normally only found in the Northern Hemisphere. "Last winter most of Australia had up to 60 per cent chance of warmer than average winter! Now this

time we have a 60 per cent chance of a colder than normal winter!" Taylor explains on his website. "That's up to a 120 per cent turn around that's amazing and huge." The forecaster noted that there was already evidence of an unusually cold winter from the Northern Hemisphere, where the UK

had been hit with heavy snowfall and freezing temperatures as a blast of Siberian weather dubbed "The Beast from the East" swept across the country. The usually sun-kissed dunes of the Sahara Desert were also been blanketed in snow for the third time in almost 40 years earlier this year.

"So in other words yes its going to be cooler then normal over all and yes we can see snow in places that haven't seen snow before or haven't seen snow in a long time," he wrote. According to Taylor we have just had the coolest February for a long time and it's already snowing in Tasmania, "which is

common but not in the magnitude". The forecaster claims to have predicted the exact path of 2013's Tropical Cyclone Oswald 12 days before the storm hit, the 2012 floods that ravaged Queensland and the unprecedented 2017 hurricane season in the US, among other unusual weather events.

FREE microchip for your furry friend

Cessnock City Council is proud to once again offer local residents free microchipping days for their furry friends during the month of May.

Microchipping your pet is one of the most important things you can do as it ensures they are easily returned home if they become lost rather than being unnecessarily impounded.

The free microchipping days will take place tomorrow Thursday 17 May at the Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre carpark and Thursday 31 May at Turner Park in Aberdare. On both days, Council Rangers will be there in the morning from 8 to 10am and then again in the afternoon from 2 to 4pm.

This is a great opportunity for community members to get their dog microchipped free of charge. While it will only be dogs microchipped on the day, cat owners are encouraged to contact Council if they'd like to make an appointment to get a free microchip for their cat.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent is pleased to see this wonderful initiative being rolled out in our community once again. "Our free microchipping days are always so popular and I encourage anyone who has a dog that needs a microchip to come on down and get it done."

"Council Rangers are not there to pass judgement about your dog not being microchipped, but rather see it as an opportunity to engage the community in a positive discussion about responsible pet ownership."

It is important to note that Council will not microchip litters of puppies as they are at high risk of not being vaccinated or vet checked. Please also ensure your dog is on a lead. For more information on being a responsible pet owner, visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/animals.



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Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

From behind the Mayors desk

Firstly, I'd like to congratulate Cessnock Parkrun as they had 491 runners take part in their first event last weekend. For something that only just started in Cessnock, I can see it getting bigger each and every week! This event is a great thing for our region as it will help to promote the importance of a fit and healthy lifestyle. Yesterday my wife Kathy and I enjoyed the company of the Branxton-Greta Country Women's Association as they hosted a Biggest Morning Tea to support the Cancer Council. It was a brilliant morning supporting a cause that so many of us have been touched by in some way, so well done to all involved. We also held our 2018 Mayoral Academic Scholarships Presentation at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre last night which was a fantastic evening with some of our brightest young people. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each and every person who received one of the \$2,500 scholarships. I believe this will not only help each student financially to achieve their academic goals, but it will provide them with important recognition they are on the right track. These scholarships wouldn't be possible without our wonderful sponsors including Hunter Resource Recovery, Austar Coal Mine, Solo Resource Recovery, Cessnock Leagues Club, Cessnock Rotary Club and the Retired Mineworkers Associations of Cessnock and Kurri Kurri.

On Wednesday 2 May we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Cessnock Youth Centre and Outreach Service (CYCOS), which was a fantastic afternoon. This milestone anniversary was an opportunity to look back at how far the service has come over the years which highlighted CYCOS's enormous commitment to our local young people. One of the biggest achievements has been the recognition of our Youth Week program at a State level. This reflects the hard work of our young people, the CYCOS team and other community groups who make the program so vibrant. Well done to all involved and keep up the

great work. We are proud to once again offer local residents free microchipping days for their furry friends during the month of May. Microchipping your pet is one of the most important things you can do as it ensures they are easily returned home if they become lost rather than being unnecessarily impounded. The free microchipping days will take place on Thursday 17 May at the Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre carpark and Thursday 31 May at Turner Park in Aberdare. On both days, Council Rangers will be there in the morning from 8 to 10am and then again in the afternoon from 2 to 4pm. While it will only be dogs microchipped on these days, cat owners are encouraged to contact Council to make an appointment to get their cat microchipped. Our popular mattress drop-off will also be happening again on Saturday 26 May from 8am to 12pm at the Council Work Depot car park on Old Maitland Road. We always get a huge turnout for these drop-off days and it is fantastic to be able to offer such a helpful service to local residents while also ensuring these materials are disposed of correctly. Cheers, Bob



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

Raising the BARR SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL POLICE

Last Thursday 10 May, our local Police took an incredibly brave step by organising a local community rally. We should all support the cause. It is unusual for Police to openly make such a public plea for help and support, but it is a reflection of the times. Our local Police Officers are asked to do more work than almost every other Police Officer and Police Station in the State. NSW Police know this through their statistics and NSW Police know that this has been the case for almost 10 years, possibly more. Our crime rates, per Police Officer, are sky high. Thursday was a chance for the community to show how much we support our local Police and how much we are expecting of the State Government. Currently, Police are allocated on the basis of population, not crime. This leads to a bizarre situation where Police Stations in the Eastern Suburbs and the North Shore of Sydney are

full of officers, even though the crime rate is very low, while Police Stations like Cessnock are screaming out for more cops to help manage the workload. Last week an extra 30 officers were granted to the Eastern Suburbs and North Shore, while Cessnock got just 1. Under the current restructure of NSW Police, one of the ideal outcomes is to get Police to the places where crime is high and the workload per officer is enormous, regardless of population. The name given to this process is "re-engineering". But the re-engineering hasn't fared well for Cessnock, with Police Officers, now allocated to Cessnock, unable to be based in Cessnock due to the small and inadequate condition of the Police Station. So some of the Cessnock Police are working from other Stations. This affects the people of Kurri Kurri, Greta and Branxton as we are now all under the one Police District. Perhaps Kurri Kurri Police Station needs to be re-opened to at least get our cops into our area.

THE CTP REFUND IS BIG BUSINESS FOR NSW GOVERNMENT

I wrote in my previous column about the CTP refund process and how the Government is looking to take a slice of the money, your money, on the way through. Here are some figures. There are approximately 4 million vehicles registered in NSW. The average CTP refund due is \$120. So the refund scheme is worth \$480M. The Government has decided that they are taking a \$10 handling fee for every account, which is an immediate cash grab of \$40M. The Government have also decided that any refund under \$20 (before the fee is deducted) won't be going out at all, giving themselves an extra \$20M – \$40M. Currently, only 25% of people have sought their refund, meaning the Government have only had to hand out around \$120M, while they are holding on to the other \$360M. I would personally be surprised if the Government end up handing back more than 50% of the total fund, meaning that they get to pocket around \$240M of your money, despite knowing who you are, where you live and how much money they owe you. Imagine if the people of NSW owed them \$240M; I wonder if they would use that knowledge of who we are a little more forcefully? For enquiries regarding the State Government or its departments, or to put you in contact with someone who can, please contact my office. My office can be contacted by phoning 4991-1466, by email to cessnock@parliament.nsw.gov.au or call into 118 Vincent Street (PO Box 242), Cessnock 2325. You also follow me on my

Facebook page "www.facebook.com/claytonbarrmp", go to Twitter and search @claytonbarrmp or check out my website at www.claytonbarr.com.au Cheers, Clayton



Clr Melanie Dagg - Cessnock City Councillor - Ward C

LEST WE FORGET

Well the rain didn't quite hold off, but it was a beautiful day nonetheless and it was again an absolute honour to represent Mayor Pynsent at the Greta Dawn Service. I thank the Greta Sub-Branch for having me and for their incredible hospitality at breakfast afterwards. I wish to also congratulate and thank the various sub-branches for all the work they do in organising their services each year – I'm sure there is much that goes on behind the scenes in preparation. Anzac Day is a special day to different people for different reasons and what it means to me has changed as the years have gone by. I'd like to think my appreciation has deepened and with the benefit of maturity, a greater understanding of the sacrifices made for my benefit and that of us all. We must never forget the difficulties faced by the men and women who gave their lives, or who returned home to fight a very different battle, and to those who continue to fight and serve today. These days, I like to spend the Anzac Day attending the various services around the area and I take a particular interest in how each of them differs from the others, in their own special way. However you like to spend Anzac Day, I do hope you were surrounded by loved ones and the warmth of true friendship. **STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITIES FUND** Council recently prepared a submission to the State Government requesting \$800,000 for up to three street improvement projects in the Branxton Town Centre, being:

- To improve pavements and provide street tree planting between John Rose Avenue and Church Street
- To improve pavements and amenity of the intersection of Clift and Maitland Streets
- To create a park within the council car park (in part) on the corner of Maitland Street and Cessnock Road.

These improvements form part of the Branxton Town Centre Masterplan, which was adopted in 2016 after community consultation over a number of years. Should the grant application be successful it will be incredibly exciting to see the delivery of these projects, which will work in partnership with what's already been done by Branxton Tidy Towns and others.

HART ROAD NIGHTMARE

Last meeting I moved a motion of urgency after there were three accidents at the Hart Road intersection in the week prior. I reached out to some of those involved and pledged my support to fight for change. The Hunter Expressway has been an absolute game-changer for our region – for economic activity, the housing market, travel times and better access to the furthest edge of the Upper Hunter down to the Newcastle coastline. There have however been unintended consequences and they can be seen at the various interchanges. Informal commuter carparks have appeared at each one and the intersections where HEX exits meet local roads have caused chaos for commuters and residents alike. The Hart Road intersection with Government Road and Gingers Lane at Weston is a perfect example and unfortunately the problem won't be solved without a complete remodeling and loads of money. The aim of my motion however, was to start the planning process and get this item on the agenda through a full and thorough investigation, but most importantly the urgent and immediate implementation of traffic calming measures, such as adjusting speed limits, flashing lights and working with the police to hopefully correct driver behavior. A long-term solution is still a long way off but an interim fix is within arms reach. The accidents so far have not resulted in a casualty, but that will not remain the case forever. I was thankful to have the chamber's unanimous support and I hope to see work on the ground in the very near future. Cheers, Melanie



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

It's been a big fortnight with discussions around the future of the Resources for Regions program stretching from one end of NSW to the

other – and I mean that very literally.

Only two weeks ago I was in Sydney to meet with the Deputy Premier, where I was part of a Hunter Joint Organisation and Minerals Council delegation along with representatives from the Association of Mining and Energy Related Councils advocating for improvements to the Resources for Regions program. As the Mayor of Singleton and also an executive of the Association of Mining and Energy Related Councils, I was wearing three hats in Mr Barilaro's office in the discussion around the funding program designed to benefit mining communities. A mere 700 kilometres west, the conversation continued last week in Cobar at the Association Mining and Energy Related Councils meeting, which I attended as a member of the executive committee. The broad consensus is that a review of the guidelines for Resources for Regions is required, and I look forward to what outcomes may eventuate. Conversations are also ongoing regarding more public transport options for Singleton. On the same day I met with the Deputy Premier, the General Manager and I also called in on the NSW Transport Minister Andrew Constance.

We joined representatives from the Two More Trains for Singleton group, including Martin Fallding, his son Samuel and Bruce Henry, to again highlight the shortage of public transport. We particularly reiterated the community's calls for more train services between Singleton and Maitland, which would deliver considerable benefits for the growing population of Branxton with more options for people moving into new land developments such as Huntlee.

I was particularly impressed by the contribution from young Samuel, who knows first-hand the difficulties involved in the connection times between buses and trains as a student travelling from Singleton to Newcastle for school. I believe he made a considerable impression on the Minister, who assured us he was working with Transport for NSW to gather more information on the issue. Cheers, Sue



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Member for Hunter

FUND OUR PRE-SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

Labor has recently launched its national campaign calling on the Turnbull Government to properly fund our pre-schools in the recent Budget and end the uncertainty for families in the Hunter electorate.

The Turnbull Government's lack of support for pre-schools means families and staff in the Hunter can't plan for the future. With funding due to expire at the end of next year, 2370 children in the Hunter electorate are left in limbo. There are around 350,000 children across Australia who access preschool each year who rely on this funding. Instead, year after year the Turnbull Government only begrudgingly roll over one year of stop-gap funding to preschools, creating massive uncertainty not only for families but right across the sector.

That is why Labor has launched our Fund Our Preschools campaign, including a petition, calling on the Turnbull Government to commit long-term funding for universal access to preschool. Since the first agreement was signed by Labor in 2008, preschool enrolment has increased from 77 per cent to almost 93 per cent. There is no doubt that access to four year old preschool gives our children the best head start to school and for life.

The government know this and yet won't commit to long-term funding despite being in office since 2013. Their priorities are all wrong. They would rather give a \$65 billion handout to big business and the banks. This is not good enough for the future of our children. The Turnbull Government needs to stop making excuses, commit to long-term funding and provide funding certainty for our preschools in the Hunter. People can show their support by signing the petition at alp.org.au/FundPreschoolsNow. Cheers, Joel



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP Member for Upper Hunter

UP TO \$30,000 TO KEEP LOCALS SAFE

Local communities in our Upper Hunter electorate know their local streets and roads like the back of their hand. To harness this knowledge, the NSW Government is encouraging communities to identify ways to promote safety in their local area. Applications are now open for the Community Road Safety Grants Program, with up to \$30,000 available for local initiatives ranging from young driver education programs, radio campaigns to workshops for seniors.



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Magnificent autumn days, spectacular sunsets and superb constellations in the night skies- soon to give way to cooler weather. VIEW clubs offer so much to women- a supportive network, educational and social opportunities, fun and friendship whilst supporting the

Smith Family. Why not contact our Secretary, Bethany, 0419 429 364 and arrange to come to a meeting- you will be most welcome! Next month we have two very special local ladies as guest speakers; Kerrie Shaw and Gemma Bunner, from Branxton Shaw and Bunner

Legal. This is a newly established law practice in the Hunter /valley offering a range of general legal services coupled with a boutique skill set in personal injury compensation advice. Their law practice is situated in the former Bank of New South Wales building, Branxton.

Everyone, visitors and friends are invited to this meeting to hear these ladies speak on many topics including making wills, guardianship and other legal matters. They are happy to answer questions from the meeting. You may like to

have lunch with us at Greta Workers Club- 12 noon on Thursday, 14th June. Please phone our Secretary on 0419 429 364. PS. Advance notice of our popular donna-lou Fashion Parade to be held on Tuesday, 25th September at the Branxton Community Hall. Mark this in your diary and on your calendar. Time to find your warm clothes and doonas as Winter approaches and think of hot chocolate, porridge and don't forget to get your flu shot. Peace and love to everyone Judy Spillard

From PAGE 6

Members say ...

MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP Member for Upper Hunter
There are two categories of grants available:-
Smaller projects up to \$5,000
More substantial projects up to \$30,000
Applications are open until Sunday 10 June, 2018.
The NSW Government is awarding up to \$1.6 million in grants over four years, with funding made available through the Community Road Safety Fund. Since 2015, the Government has invested in 76 local community road safety initiatives across the state. Program guidelines and application forms are available online: roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au
Cheers, Michael

Business opportunity: Tech Savvy Small Business Workshops

Small business owners and employees are being offered free training to get more tech savvy in their businesses. The Tech Savvy workshops will be FREE for small businesses in our region and normally worth \$400 per person! The workshops will demonstrate all the benefits of cloud computing and take basic Word and Excel skills to the next level.

What will I learn?

Cloud computing – an understanding of cloud computing and explore some of the options available to small businesses.

Excel – how to use functions, sort data, create charts, and send via emails.

Word – how to format tables, use graphics, work with styles & more.

This is a free training program for eligible small business owners and their employees and attendees will receive a statement of attainment. Brunch will be provided and places are limited.

Find out more or register: <http://advancecessnock.com.au/free-workshop-tech-savvy/>



with Jo Thomas, General Manager HVWTA

HVWTA invests \$100K to boost International Wine Tourism

The Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association (HVWTA) are excited to announce we have been successful in applying for a grant under the Wine Australia International Wine Tourism Competitive Grants Program. The \$50K grant to be matched by the HVWTA and partners will fund a \$100K marketing campaign to boost International Wine Tourism. The project aims to develop augmented reality (AR) content to give international visitors tours of the Hunter Valley. The AR content will focus on key themes (wine, dine, stay, explore and events) and elements will 'come to life' when clicked. The campaign will make a valuable contribution towards building awareness of our brand, increase visitation to the Hunter Valley and boost the local economy. The Hunter Valley Wine sector contributes a significant \$502M to our local economy and supports 2,800 jobs and therefore, it is imperative that we continue to implement marketing campaigns to encourage visitors to our region to grow our wine and tourism industries. The HVWTA will share with you the campaign strategy in the coming weeks and invite industry to partner with the Association to ensure this is a huge success.



Braised whole chicken chilli verde

Start by charring chillies for a deeper flavour then together with spices bake the whole chicken until tender and skin is golden.

Method

Step 1

•Preheat grill on high. Toss bullhorn and poblano chillies with 1 tbs oil on a baking tray. Grill, turning, for 10 mins until charred and tender. Cover. Set aside for 10 mins. Peel and seed. Cut into 2cm-wide strips. Preheat oven to 205°C (185°C fan-forced).
Step 2

•Heat a large ovenproof frying pan over medium-high heat. In a small bowl, mix 2 tbs of the oil with paprika, cumin, 2 tsp salt and 1½ tsp pepper. Rub over chicken.
Step 3

•Place, skin-side down, in pan. Cook for 4 mins or until well browned. Transfer to a plate. Combine stock, chilli strips, onion, garlic, jalapeño or serrano chilli, if using, and ½ cup coriander in pan. Season. Add chicken, skin-side up.
Step 4

•Braise for 1 hour or until chicken shows no sign of pink when pierced in thigh. Set aside for 10 mins to rest. Sprinkle with remaining coriander. Serve with lime wedges and tortillas.

Ingredients

- 2 green bullhorn chillies
- 2 poblano chillies
- 1/4 cup (60ml) olive oil, divided
- 3 teaspoons ground paprika
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 RSPCA Approved Australian Whole Extra Large Chicken (about 2.5kg), backbone removed with kitchen shears, flattened
- 1 cup (250ml) salt-reduced chicken stock
- 1 red onion, halved, cut into 1.5cm-thick wedges
- 3 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 jalapeño or serrano chilli, thickly sliced (optional)
- 2/3 cup coarsely chopped fresh coriander, divided
- 1 lime, cut into wedges
- 8 corn tortillas, warmed

instinctual reaction that fills your body with adrenaline to help you either fight or flee from danger. This process puts a lot of pressure on your nerves, blood flow, body heat, and more. It's commonly thought that this pressure and stress can travel up into your inner ear and contribute to tinnitus symptoms.

9. Get regular checkups
Ask your primary care physician to incorporate hearing screenings into your regular checkups. Because hearing loss develops gradually, it's also recommended that you have annual hearing consultations with a hearing professional.

opinion and care when possible.

5. Take medications only as directed

Certain medications, such as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like aspirin, ibuprofen and naproxen, can sometimes contribute to hearing loss. Discuss medications with your doctor & pharmacist if you're concerned that they'll impact your hearing ability and take them only as directed.

6. Keep your ears dry

Excess moisture can allow bacteria to enter and attack the ear canal. This can cause swimmer's ear or other types of ear infections, which can be dangerous for your hearing ability. Be sure you gently towel-dry your ears after bathing or swimming. If you can feel water in the ear, tilt your head to the side and tug lightly on the ear lobe to coax the water out. You can also ensure that your ears stay dry and healthy by using custom-fit swimmers' earplugs, which block water from entering the ear canal. They're great for adults and kids alike, and they work wonders in preventing swimmer's ear. Make an appointment with your local hearing health professional to get fitted.

7. Get up and move

Did you know that exercise is good for your ears? It's true. Cardio exercises like walking, running, or cycling gets the blood pumping to all parts of your body, including the ears. This helps the ears' internal parts stay healthy and working to their maximum potential. Make sure to stay safe! When cycling, always wear a helmet. If you fall and hit your head, a concussion can harm your hearing.

8. Manage stress levels

Stress and anxiety have been linked to both temporary and permanent tinnitus (a phantom ringing in the ears). High levels of stress cause your body to go into fight or flight mode, which is an

If you like to enjoy music through headphones or ear buds, you can protect your ears by following the 60/60 rule. The suggestion is to listen with headphones at no more than 60% volume for no more than 60 minutes a day.

Ear buds are especially dangerous, as they fit directly next to the eardrum. If possible, opt for over-the-ear headphones.

Don't forget that any loud music, not just music played through headphones, presents a risk for noise-induced hearing loss. If you're hosting a social event, keep the music at a volume which won't force people to shout in order to hold a conversation

3. Give your ears time to recover

If you are exposed to loud noises for a prolonged period of time, like at a concert or a bar, your ears need time to recover. If you can, step outside for five minutes every so often in order to let them rest.

What's more, researchers have found that your ears need an average of 16 hours of quiet to recover from one loud night out.

4. Stop using cotton swabs in your ears

It's common for people to use cotton swabs to clean wax out of their ear canal, but this is definitely not advisable. A little bit of wax in your ears is not only normal, but it's also important. The ears are self-cleaning organs, and wax stops dust and other harmful particles from entering the canal. Plus, inserting anything inside your ear canals risks damaging sensitive organs like your ear drum.

If you have excess wax, you can clean around the canal with a damp towel—gently. You could also use ear wax removal solution over the course of a few nights. This softens the wax so that it will eventually flow out on its own. The best solution is always to seek a professional

PHARMACY ADVISOR



Lee Grundy, Pharmacist & proprietor of Branxton Pharmacy

9 Ways to Protect Your Ears and Hearing Health

Last Updated: 02/21/2018
Once your hearing is damaged, it's gone for good. That's why we raise awareness about the prevalence of hearing loss, the importance of early diagnosis, and the options for taking action to find the best hearing solution for your needs. Don't wait until it's too late to start taking care of your ears! Here are nine easy ways to protect your ears and your hearing health.

1. Use earplugs around loud noises

Approximately 15% of Americans have noise-induced hearing loss because of loud work or leisure environments. Clubs, concerts, lawnmowers, chainsaws, and any other noises that force you to shout so the person next to you can hear your voice all create dangerous levels of sound. Earplugs are convenient and easy to obtain. You can even have a pair custom fitted for your ears by your local hearing healthcare provider. Musicians' earplugs are custom earplugs with filters that allow a person to hear conversations and music but still reduce harmful sound levels while maintaining the quality of the original sound as closely as possible.

2. Turn the volume down

According to the World Health Organization, 1.1 billion teenagers and young adults worldwide are at risk for noise-induced hearing loss from unsafe use of audio devices.



Report

for the genuine reason of Business Security Industry. **What are the genuine reasons for obtaining a firearms licence?**

FIREARMS REGISTRY Information on obtaining a Firearms Licence in NSW

It is an offence in NSW for a person to possess or use a firearm without the authority of a licence or permit.

How do I apply for a firearms licence?

You can request forms to apply for a firearms licence from the homepage of our website https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/online_services/firearms/licences/. Simply fill in the online form, including the categories and genuine reason you wish to apply for and submit it by using the email button on the form. You will receive pre-printed application forms in the mail within 10 days. You may also request application forms by phoning our Customer Service line - 1300 362 562. When you receive the pre-printed application forms in the mail, fill in the sections and send them back with any supporting documents for processing.

Genuine Reason

To make an application for a firearms licence you must be able to prove a genuine reason for possessing and using a firearm. NOTE: Personal protection or the protection of another person does not constitute a genuine reason for possession and use of a firearm. Additionally, the protection of property does not constitute a genuine reason for possession and use of a firearm, other than

There are eight genuine reasons for obtaining a firearms licence.

Sport/Target Shooting - target shooting activities as a club member on an approved target shooting range.

Recreational Hunting/ Vermin Control - hunting and vermin control on rural land where the person is the owner/occupier or has permission to shoot from an owner/occupier or a Government Agency.

Primary Production - the business of Primary Production.

Vertebrate Pest Animal Control - Contract shooters or officers of prescribed government agencies needing to suppress vertebrate pest animals or primary producers participating in an authorised eradication campaign.

Business or Employment - Security Business, security guards, commercial fisherman, or other businesses who can demonstrate a genuine need for a firearms licence.

Rural Occupation - a person employed or engaged in a rural occupation and who requires the use of firearms.

Animal Welfare - RSPCA or Animal Welfare League employees, Veterinary Practitioners, employees of the Department of Lands or Local Land Services, Owner, transporter, drover or other handler of animals which require the use of firearms.

Firearms Collection - a person who is a club member wishing to collect firearms or a genuine historic, thematic, financial

or commemorative value. **Is there a restriction on the category of licence for which I can apply?**

Any person wishing to make application for a licence over and above a category A firearms licence must provide evidence of special need. The special need for a Category B, C, D or H licence is established by the applicant providing evidence that a special need exists and giving reasons why the special need cannot be met by a smaller category of firearm or by any other means. Each licence application includes a genuine reason form which has provision for completion of a special need.

Firearms Safety Training

Prior to applying for a firearms licence you will need to complete an approved firearms licence training course. Training providers are as follows:

For Longarms: The Firearms Safety Training Council - Phone: 02 9486 3077, Sporting Shooters Association of Australia - Phone: 1300 746 683, Department of Primary Industries, Game Licensing Unit - Phone: 02 63913750, Your nearest firearms club.

For Pistols: You must complete the safety training for pistols. Courses are run by approved firearms clubs for club members. For assistance on courses run by other providers, call the Firearms Registry - 1300 362 562.

How long does it take to issue my licence?

A new licence application has a mandatory waiting period of 28 days from the date of receipt before the licence can be issued. Applicants and licensees should familiarise themselves with the Firearms Act 1996 and the associated Regulation, which are available on the NSW Legislation website - www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.

How much will my firearms licence cost?

Firearms Registry A personal firearms licence is issued for 2 or 5 years. * 2

year licence = \$100 * 5 year licence = \$200 Probationary Pistol Licence = \$100 for one year.

Pensioners and Primary Producers are exempt from fees for certain licences.

Where do I pay? Fees for most licences are paid at the RMS when your photo licence is produced.

What would prevent me from being issued a firearms licence in NSW?

There are certain requirements to be met if you wish to hold a firearms licence in NSW. You must: * Be a NSW resident (or about to become a NSW resident). * Be 18 years of age or over. * Complete a firearms safety training course for longarms or handguns. * Confirm that you are able to meet the safe storage requirements for the category of licence concerned. * Be a fit and proper person and be able to be trusted with possession of firearms without presenting a danger to public safety.

Personal History Checks

Personal history checks are conducted on all applicants to ensure that provisions within the legislation, including provisions with respect to public safety, are met. Certain criminal history may prevent a person from obtaining a firearms licence in NSW. A

licence cannot be issued if: * A person is subject to an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO) or Interim Apprehended Violence Order (IAVO), or for 10 years from the expiry of the AVO (unless the AVO has been revoked). * A person is subject to a good behaviour bond for a prescribed offence. * A person is subject to a firearms or weapons prohibition order. * A person is a registrable person or corresponding

registrable person under the Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000. * A person has been convicted within the last 10 years of an offence prescribed by the regulations. A prescribed offence is a conviction for offences involving firearms or weapons, prohibited drugs/plants, fraud/dishonesty/stealing, prescribed restricted substances, terrorism, violence, public order, assaults against law enforcement officers, robbery, organised criminal groups and recruitment, riot, affray or an offence of a sexual nature.

Is there an exemption to the requirement to obtain a firearms licence to authorise the possession and use of firearms?

Yes. There is an exemption to the requirement to hold a

firearms licence to possess and use firearms which applies to police, prison officers and members of the armed forces while acting in the ordinary course of their duties. There is also an exemption which applies to people using an approved shooting range but only while under the direct supervision of an appropriately licensed person and only after completing the required paperwork.

Body modifier arrested over alleged genital mutilation

Tuesday, 01 May 2018

09:17:33 AM

New South Wales

Detectives have arrested a body modifier over the alleged genital mutilation of a woman in Newcastle. Officers allege the 33-year-old woman engaged the body modifier for a procedure at a business in Newcastle West in 2016 but later made a formal complaint of mutilation to police.

Detectives from the Brisbane Water and Tuggerah Lakes Police Districts formed a joint strike force, codenamed Nellievale following the incident.

Around 8am, (Tuesday 1 May), Strike Force

Nellievale officers arrested the tattooist/body modifier at his home at Terrigal on the Central Coast.

The 37-year-old man, who is not a qualified medical practitioner, has been taken to the Gosford Police Station where he is assisting detectives with their inquiries.

Body modification is currently not legislated in New South Wales however members of the so-called Skin Penetration industry are required to follow public health regulations.

Teen charged over alleged armed robbery near Maitland

Wednesday, 02 May 2018

12:13:20 PM

A teen will face court after allegedly robbing another teen at knifepoint at Woodberry.

Police were told about 5.30pm (Tuesday 1 May 2018), a 14-year-old teen was on his bicycle at a skate park on Lawson Avenue, when he was approached by another 14-year-old teen.

A knife was allegedly produced and the rider pushed off his bike, before it was taken by the other teen.

Police from Port Stephens / Hunter Police District were later notified of the incident and commenced inquiries.

About 9.30pm (Tuesday 1 May 2018), officers attended a home in Thornton and arrested a 14-year-old teenager.

He was taken to Maitland Police Station and charged with robbery armed with an offensive weapon.

The teen was refused bail to appear at a children's court.

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Emojis and the law

Technology is everywhere; people young and old are using smart phones, tablet devices and laptops to communicate.

With the increasing use of texts, messaging apps, emails and social media, many people are using emoji in these conversations.

An emoji is a small digital image or icon used to express an idea or emotion, they include, just to name a few, faces, foods, animals, sports and objects.

The options seem almost endless when in the 'category' of faces along there are some 120+ choices.

People are using emoji for a range of purposes from a smiley face at the end of a message to a whole conversation using only emojis, in 2015 Foreign Minister Julie Bishop conducted an interview using just emojis.

While emoji may often be used in a light-hearted, affectionate or humorous way, Professors Elizabeth Kirley and Marilyn

McMahon of Deakin Law School, authors of *'The Emoji Factor: Humanizing the Emerging Law of Digital Speech'*, point out that emoji can also serve more malicious functions and be taken very seriously in the context of law.

The popularity of emoji means they have made their way into evidence in Courts both in Australia and overseas in a variety of different areas of law.

In 2017 Queensland Supreme Court case of *Re Nichol* a man saved a message to the drafts folder in to his phone labelled "My will" with a smiley face emoji, the Judge found that the informality did not prevent it constituting a will.

Turning to contract law, in a case from Israel a landlord was messaging a couple about renting an apartment and removed the listing after receiving a message from them with a string of emoji (a smiley face, a comet, champagne bottle, dancing figures and more) combined with expressions of interest, they

later stopped returning the landlord's messages and he sued them. The Judge relied on the couples repeated expressions of interest, their misleading messages with festive icons and a smiley face at the end of the negotiations to find for the landlord.

Cases in New Zealand, France and the US have included the consideration of the role of emoji in threats. In New Zealand a man sent his ex-partner a message telling her "You're going to f**king get it" followed by an aeroplane emoji.

The Judge concluded generally that the message indicated that the man was "coming to get" his ex-partner and charged him with stalking and sentenced him to 8 months in jail. Kirley and McMahon note "with claims that more than 9 million Australians use emoji, determining their meaning in a particular communication may increasingly emerge as a significant legal issue."



Welcome to this week's edition of the Fresh Produce Report from **Wolombi Road Providore...** Well the cooler nights are now upon us and a welcome change for the farmers who are waiting to plant in cooler earth. Also bringing on the local citrus; mandarins are in plentiful supply now & as the cooler weather comes so does the sweeter tasting mandarins. Perfect fruit for lunch box or a quick snack at home.

Persimmon fruit are now in season; the traditional glossy orange persimmon skin changes to a deep red/orange when it is ripe and ready to eat. Once ripe cut open, remove the seeds and spoon out the soft flesh. Enjoy on its own or with ice cream, Greek or



Beurre Bosc

sweetened yogurt... for something different add to your muesli or cereal of a morning. The persimmon contains twice the dietary fibre of an apple and is a major source of vitamin C. Persimmons are a great alternative on a cheese platter; simply cut into wedges to present. Pears are delicious and in season; try our full flavoured varieties:

The Packham: green and firm serve as they are or add to salads, or slice to poach.

Beurre Bosc: brown and semi soft skin great poached fruit.

Corella: smaller, firm and crispy versatile pear serve as is, cook with, poach or even soup. All our pears are full of

flavour, high in fibre and loaded with sweetness of flavour.

Pears are rich in antioxidants and flavonoids Local Broccoli and Cauliflower are now in store come in and try the Ironman variety fresh from Farmer Richard at Kulnura. They are picked, packed straight from the paddock and to Providore. The local Broccoli has a lot more flavour, you can taste the difference...

Broccoli can be lightly steamed, baked with a drizzle of oil, serve with crushed nuts or cheese or added to stir fries. Quick and easy cook vegetable that contains a high content of vitamin C, also contains vitamin A and B6. Cheers Michael



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



Stamp duty brackets unchanged in 32 years



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 32 years. "The Second Reading to the 1986 Bill which on 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," Ms Pilkington said.

Stamp duty has remained unchanged in NSW for 32 years despite median house prices rising by 1181.55 per cent, according to the REINSW President Leanne Pilkington. When the current NSW Transfer Duty brackets were put into place in 1986 the median dwelling price, according to statistics from CoreLogic, was \$80,675* compared to the current median house price of \$1,033,892. Leanne said: "The government's unwillingness to act on this is outrageous. The numbers speak for themselves. Median unit prices have also seen a similar increase with a rise of 841.80 per cent from \$80,331 to \$756,557.

"Consumers should be angry about this huge injustice and the government needs to start listening. A full review must be undertaken and it must be undertaken now."

The forgotten consumers



Investment in the residential property market is important to the economy, yet government policy seems to be making it as unattractive as

possible. Landlords are subject to a raft of unfair taxes and legal obligations that is encouraging them toward other investment options.

The vast majority of these investors only have one investment property and are 'mum and dad' investors who rely on the rental income the property generates.

They help contribute to tax revenue, job creation, rental accommodation supply, self-funded retirement and economic growth. But as their rights reduce and their compliance costs increase, these property investors are increasingly looking elsewhere for more attractive investment options.

The REINSW will continue to lobby for a fairer go for landlords and property investors.

Property investors to lobby the government

A new lobby group has been formed with the aim of stopping residential landlords being 'singled out'. Property investors to lobby the government The Property Investors Council of Australia describes itself as a not-for-profit association run "by property investors, for the interests of property investors".

It was inevitable that residential property investors would be drawn together to lobby the government, because they shoulder more burden than other types of investors, including the costs of a tenant's personal circumstances.

Every investor has a long list of concerns they focus on, and one of the most important is the threatened abolition of negative gearing.

Real estate institutes across the country have lobbied against negative gearing restrictions for years and we welcome this group lending its voice to these concerns.

NSW needs more residential property, yet government's response is to disincentives investment.

Has your phone stopped ringing?



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The Reserve Bank of Australia has kept interest rates on hold at its May board meeting. REINSW President Leanne Pilkington said the fundamentals have remained relatively static, meaning the RBA has no impetus to adjust interest rates at this time. "There's a strong argument to leave the cash rate unchanged for the foreseeable future," Ms Pilkington said. "Given the downward slide in property prices, the marked

drop in investor lending and other macro challenges to the economy – especially when the banks cannot be trusted not to hike rates independently, there is no need for the RBA to act." The RBA will next meet on Tuesday, 5 June 2018.



Interest rates remain at 1.50%





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

PROPOSAL: Winery Running Festival Hunter Valley 2018
LAND: LOT: 1904 DP: 1202101, LOT: 2 DP: 270636, LOT: 21 DP: 749996 107 Vintage Drive POKOLBIN, 125 Vintage Drive POKOLBIN, 790 McDonalds Road POKOLBIN
APPLICANT: Humphreys Events Pty Ltd T/as H Events
APPLICATION NO.: 8/2018/258/1
CONSENT AUTHORITY: Cessnock City Council

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.

Before determining the Application, Council is inviting the public to make a submission in relation to the proposal. **The notification period commences on 16 May 2018 will conclude 30 May 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.

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 Miss Madaline Smith of Council's Planning and Environment Department on 4993 4110.

REGULATION OF TRAFFIC "WINERY RUN" DEASYS ROAD, McDONALDS ROAD, VINTAGE DRIVE, CLARET ASH DRIVE, CASUARINA DRIVE & MISSION DRIVE, ROTHBURY SUNDAY 22 JULY 2018 – 05.30AM TO 1.30PM

Council advises that it has received an application from Paul Humphreys to conduct the Winery Run on Deasys Road, McDonalds Road, Vintage Drive, Claret Ash Drive, Casuarina Drive & Mission Drive Rothbury, scheduled for 22 July 2018. Council intends to seek consent from Roads and Maritime Services, pursuant to Division 2 of Part 8, of the *Roads Act 1993*, for the regulation of traffic, by means of temporary road closures as follows:

Sunday 22 July 2018 – 5.30am To 1.30pm

Council appreciates that the regulation of traffic may affect road users within the immediate and surrounding areas.

Written submissions relating to the Regulation of Traffic should be forwarded to the General Manager, Cessnock City Council, PO Box 152 Cessnock 2325, endorsed "Regulation of Traffic – Winery Run". The closing date for submissions is 4.00pm on Wednesday 13 June 2018.



Pets and Patrols with Ranger Kurt

There is nothing worse than losing your furry friend, but there is something you can do to ensure they are back with you before you know it – make sure they're microchipped!

We are proud to once again offer local residents free microchipping days for their furry friends during the month of May.

Microchipping your pet is one of the most important things you can do as it ensures they are easily returned home if they become lost rather than being unnecessarily impounded.

The free microchipping days will take place on Thursday 17 May at the Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre carpark and Thursday 31 May at Turner Park in Aberdare.

On both days, Council Rangers will be there in the morning from 8 to 10am and then again in the afternoon from 2 to 4pm.

This is a great opportunity for community members to get their dog microchipped free of charge. While it will only be dogs microchipped on the day, cat owners are encouraged to contact Council if they'd like to make an appointment to get a free microchip for their cat.

We are really pleased roll out this wonderful initiative in our community once again.

Our free microchipping days are always so popular and we encourage anyone who has a dog that needs a microchip to come on down and get it done.

We are not there to pass judgement about your dog not being microchipped, but rather see it as an opportunity to engage the community in a positive discussion about responsible pet ownership.

It is important to note that we will not microchip litters of puppies as they are at high risk of not being vaccinated or vet checked. Please also ensure your dog is on a lead.

For more information on being a responsible pet owner, visit

www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/animals.



You can contact Council on 02 4993 4100
 or www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au



Fashion Show

ANGELICAN BOUTIQUE OP SHOP

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

SATURDAY
 25 AUG 2018
 @ 2.00PM
 AT
 BRANXTON
 COMMUNITY HALL

TICKETS \$10

An Engineer dies and goes to Hell. Dissatisfied with the level of comfort, he starts designing and building improvements. After a while, Hell has air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators. The engineer is a pretty popular guy. One day God calls and asks Satan, "So, how's it going down there?" Satan says, "Hey things are going great. We've got air conditioning and flush toilets and escalators, and there's no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next." God is horrified. "What? You've got an engineer? That's a mistake - he should never have gone down there! You know all engineers go to Heaven. Send him up here!" Satan says, "No way. I like having an engineer on the staff. I'm keeping him." God says, "Send him back up here or I'll sue." "Yeah, right," Satan laughs, "and where are you going to get a lawyer?"

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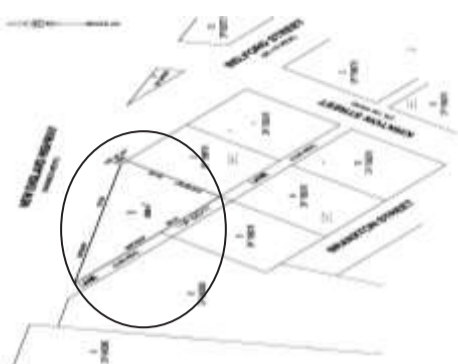


Lots 521, 523 & 524
Littlewood Road,

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

ASKING: \$420,000 each

BELFORD



Vacant Land
2559m²

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
809m²

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



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

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Family history workshop: Earning a Crust



Cessnock Library has partnered with the Cessnock Historical Society to host a free family history workshop aimed

at researching your ancestor's occupations. The workshop will be hosted by professional genealogists

Laurie and Lorraine Turtle and will take place from 9.30am to 12.30pm on Saturday 19 May 2018.

Interested locals will learn about why occupations can be important, where to find out what their ancestors did, what that occupation means and how to access employment records. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said this workshop is a must for anyone who is interested in their family history. "This is a new and highly

practical talk for ancestry researchers from the beginner to the experienced."

Morning tea will be provided and you can book your spot today by calling Cessnock Library on 4993 4399.

The late Errol Jordan

thank you

Errol's family wish to express their sincere appreciation to friends & the Branxton community for the beautiful flowers, cards, telephone calls of condolence & cooking.

Donations to the Australian Cancer Council totalled \$317.00

Please accept this as our personal thanks.

Anne Jordan & Family

2018 Community Building Partnership Program

State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Clayton Barr, MP, has announced that the NSW Government will once again conduct the Community Building Partnership Program in 2018. The Program opened on Monday 7 May, 2018 and will close at 5pm on Friday 15 June, 2018.

"There will \$330,000 available in each NSW electorate, including the Cessnock Electorate and the Program is open to local councils and not-for-profit groups to apply for the funds they need to deliver projects with social, environmental and recreational outcomes" Mr Barr said. "Local sports clubs, charities, Men's Sheds and Scouts or Girl Guides are just some of the groups that can benefit from the Program".

The Community Building Partnership Program, first introduced by the Labor Government in 2009 has provided funding to thousands of community groups, sporting clubs and councils across NSW to build or upgrade local facilities.

Applications can only be made via the Community Building Partnership website www.nsw.gov.au/cbp where potential applicants must read the program guidelines to ensure their club or organisation and the proposed project are eligible.

Applications will close at 5pm on 15 June, 2018 and late applications will not be considered.

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

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



On Saturday 5th May 2018 North Rothbury Tidy Towns completed a 'Cleanup and Work Party' around North Rothbury. We completed a cleanup on both sides of Wine Country Drive from Mitchell Street to Hanwood Estate & collected 13 bags of rubbish. Members Steve and Maureen Lind took these to the Cessnock tip. Some of the rubbish had been chopped into small pieces when the edge of the road had been slashed for maintenance in the past. This section of Wine Country Drive is part of the Adopt-a-Road program. The Branxton Girl Guides and North Rothbury Tidy Towns had maintained this until Huntlee Academy took it over in March 2015. We mowed and whipper snipped the footpath on Wine Country Drive and the Flood Mitigation Area with some of the weeds waist high. We also whipper snipped the sticky beaks on the edge of the car park of the Ayrfield Miners Memorial Park & pruned a dead tree and removed some dead branches from the trees and bushes in the long garden at the Ayrfield Miners Memorial Park. We have asked Cessnock City Council to remove the pruning's as some pieces are too big for us to remove. We certainly have improved the presentation of the village along Wine Country Drive. Thank you everyone for a job well done; it looks fantastic. Pat Abeles, Sec NRTT



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What does a JP do?

The primary functions of a NSW JP are to:

- witness a person making a statutory declaration
- witness a person making an affidavit
- certify that a copy of an original document is a true and accurate copy.

Witnessing a person making a statutory declaration or affidavit involves receiving the person's declaration, oath or affirmation that the contents of the document are true and correct, and witnessing the person's signature on the document.

The law authorises certain people, including JPs, to perform this function. The purpose is to provide independent verification that the signatory provided the information under oath or affirmation and signed the document himself or herself. This may be very important to a court, a government agency or any other organisation that needs to rely on a document.

Another common function of a JP is to certify a copy of an original document, if satisfied that it is a true and accurate copy of the original. A certified copy may sometimes be accepted, instead of the original document, by an organisation that wishes to reply on information contained in the original.



Local Justices of the Peace

To find register go to <http://jp.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/public/welcomePublic.do>

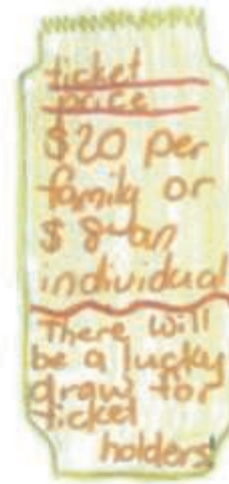
NSW JP Register ~ JPs on the Register are volunteers. They may not be available at short notice or at all times of the day. You must not use the information on the Register to send unsolicited communications, other than those necessary to enable you to make legitimate use of the JP services. When seeking the services of a JP, please telephone in advance to make an appointment. It is best to telephone during weekday business hours. If urgent contact on a weekend is necessary, please limit your call to a reasonable time of the day.

Gail Patricia Jacobs	Ms	02 4938 1665	Branxton	Timothy Robert Pavey	Mr	04 1942 2686	Branxton	Robert James Arnold	Mr	0415830267	Stanhope
Jane Carol Johansen	Mrs	04 0912 7163	Branxton	Anthony John Redgrove	Mr	04 1231 8647	Branxton	Kris BUDERIDGE	Mr	0407892721	Branxton
Gary Francis Kedwell	Mr	0400 684 461	Branxton	Sandra Jane Redgrove	Mrs	04 0958 2858	Branxton	Elizabeth Anne Bailey	Mrs	02 4938 3665	North Rothbury
Lisa Adele Keevill	Mrs	04 1489 4487	Branxton	James Anthony Christopher Sheedy	Mr	02 4938 3907	Branxton	Dianne Therese Bard	Ms	02 4938 1241	Branxton
Jenna Lee Kleinschafer	Mrs	04 3267 1979	Branxton	John Stephen Slusarski	Mr	02 4938 1256	Branxton	Kerrie Ann Bendeich	Mrs	02 4938 3374	Branxton
Phillip Patrick Lancaster	Mr	0427533893	East Branxton	Lauren Ann Smith	Mrs	0412 204 083	East Branxton	Peter Kevin Bridge	Mr	02 4912 2240	Branxton
Amanda Lee Leader	Mrs	02 4938 3910	Branxton	Douglas Fleming Stewart	Mr	02 4938 3107	Branxton	Jodie Lee Cam	Mrs	0419 922 501	Branxton
Michael Denis Lowing	Mr	04 1475 7826	Branxton	Desmond James Thomas	Mr	04 3957 8263	Branxton	Suzanne Denise Clulho	Mrs	04 1949 7008	Branxton
Diane Patricia MacFarlane	Mrs	04 0738 3491	Branxton	Jason Andrew Thomas	Mr	02 4938 3203	Branxton	Andrew John Copeland	Mr	0411 726 393	Belford
Amanda Alison McCaffrey	Ms	04 5831 3333	North Rothbury	Peter John Thorpe	Mr	0429 033 449	Branxton	Natalie Anne Cory	Mrs	04 2938 7425	Lambs Valley
Susan Rosalie Moore	Mrs	0429002431	Elderslie	Wendy Marie Thrift	Mrs	0409 743 947	Branxton	Michael George Craike	Mr	02 4938 3967	East Branxton
Louise Ann Neilson	Mrs	0401783134	Stanhope	Craig Michael Trunk	Mr	04 2875 2362	Branxton	John Andrew Cullen	Mr	04 5914 9450	Branxton
Katherine Maree Nolan	Ms	0412677793	Branxton	Stephen John Wall	Mr	02 4938 1553	Branxton	Carol May Cunningham	Mrs	04 3838 3155	Branxton
Kenneth Ray Partridge	Mr	02 4938 3989	Branxton	Ian Frank Waterman	Mr	02 6574 7179	Lower Belford	Teigan Louise Dagg	Mrs	04 2458 2506	Branxton
Timothy Robert Pavey	Mr	04 1942 2686	Branxton	Annemaree Winter	Mrs	02 4938 1028	Branxton	Bruce Allen Duncan	Mr	04 0419 8319	Branxton
				Geoffrey Winter	Mr	0402 065 692	Branxton	Anou Earl	Mrs	0404 027 954	East Branxton
				Margaret Christue Campbell	Ms	04 6895 4890	Greta	Ty Ferguson	Mr	0412521982	North Rothbury
				Jonathan Arthur Christy	Mr	02 4938 7744	Greta	Sarah Elizabeth Fitzgerald	Mrs	0414 893 383	North Rothbury
				John Shannon Cornuack	Mr	04 0874 5639	Greta	Philippa Margaret Furner	Mrs	02 4938 1020	Branxton
				Monique Jane Crick	Mrs	04 0224 5199	Greta	Stephen Lester Goodworth	Mr	02 6542 4912	Lower Belford
				Nicole Fraser	Mrs	0419 252 911	Greta	Erin Amelia Hall	Miss	02 4938 1922	Branxton
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				Elizabeth Georgina Royston	Mrs	04 1301 4703	Greta	Margaret Dianne Hunt	Mrs	04 2832 3327	Branxton
				Warwick Richard Sharpe	Mr	0431 277 259	Greta	Geoffrey John Hurst	Mr	04 2743 3248	Branxton
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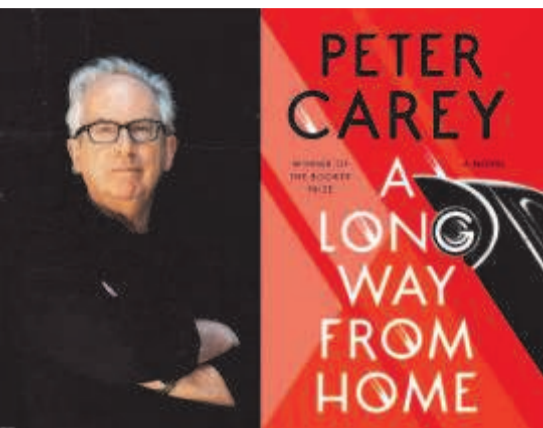
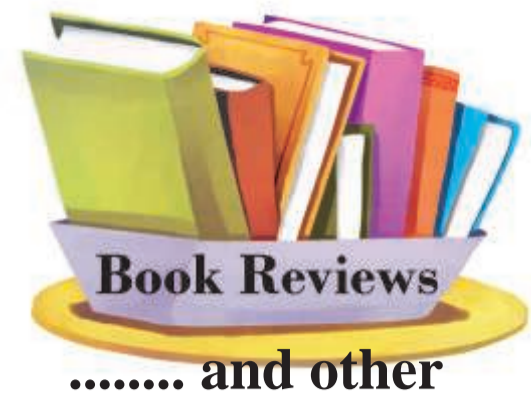
\$3.60 a Schooner

BLANCHIE'S KITCHEN

AT MILLER PARK
CHEF: MATHEW BLANCH

WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY
LUNCH & DINNER

WHY NOT TRY HIS MENU?



Book Review: Peter Carey explores the outback heart of darkness in 'A Long Way From Home'

By Simon CATERSON

Like James Joyce and other literary exiles, Peter Carey left his homeland to live elsewhere and has never ceased writing about the place he departed. A permanent resident of New York for almost 30 years, Carey, in his 14th novel, offers a densely imagined recreation of the Australia of his youth. It is also one of the more pessimistic visions of the country offered so far in Carey's fiction.

A Long Way From Home tells the tale of an outback road trip in the 1950s that takes on a kind of *Heart of Darkness* symbolic significance, albeit with the main characters travelling across the desert within the claustrophobic confines of a sedan rather than heading upstream on a boat into the jungle.

As Carey's motorists venture into the interior of the continent, a vast, arid and barely inhabited landscape which even today most Australians never visit, three ordinary people find themselves confronting deeply troubling aspects of the colonial past involving the treatment of the Indigenous population by European settlers. The physical and psychic stresses of the ordeal force them to question their assumptions about personal identity and their relationships with each other.

The story begins simply enough. In the mid-1950s Irene Bobs agrees to go along when her car salesman husband Titch decides to compete in the Redex Round Australia Trial, taking with them as navigator their neighbour Willie Buchhuber, a former quiz show champion with a fondness for maps.

In real life, the Redex Trials were internationally famous endurance rallies that required competitors to drive for days on end over thousands of kilometres on unmade roads in cars never designed for outback conditions that were not permitted to be modified. A test of reliability rather than speed, the Redex Trials attracted many amateur entrants as well as professional racing drivers. Some of the more flamboyant competitors became celebrities – they were the reality TV stars of their day.

Carey's three main characters live in Bacchus Marsh, the town in Victoria where the author grew up in the 1950s and where his father operated a car dealership. The novel is replete with references to local car culture and post-war rural life which a non-Australian reader of this book would require a lengthy glossary to have fully explained. In this regard, Joyce himself might have approved of Carey's uncompromising provincialism.

Carey in interviews has likened his approach to historical research to that of a magpie. Indeed, the pages are packed with eye-catching pieces of information that evidently have come from a wide range of sources, the accumulation of detail amounting to a kind of kaleidoscope in prose.

In common with other Carey novels, the fast-paced narrative alternates between two contrasting voices – in this case those of the practical Irene and the dreamer Willie. In keeping with the breathless aggregation of factual detail, Carey keeps things moving with short chapters describing brief incidents and fleeting impressions. As they speed across the desert, the characters are so absorbed in the drama of their inner lives that they barely have time to notice the landscape through which they move. The syncopated dual narrative is more attuned to the rhythms of the road than it is to the stillness and quiet of the Australian outback.

In filmmaking terms, it is as though the action in *A Long Way From Home* action has been captured through the lens of a tightly focussed GoPro camera rather than shot with the epic sweep of Super Panavision. A film adaptation of this outback novel would probably suit a director with the frenetic style of a George Miller rather than the more meditative approach of a David Lean or a Nicholas Roeg.

There is some relief from general busyness and intensity. One unforgettable scene involving a night-time Aboriginal fire ritual staged to revive a dead car battery with heat deserves to rank alongside similar displays of set piece virtuosity in Carey's fiction such as the floating glass church in *Oscar & Lucinda*.

In a statement accompanying advance copies of the book, Carey acknowledges that his previous work has "avoided a direct confrontation with race, and the question of what it might mean to be a white Australian". Among the three main characters, the most profound transformation experienced during the journey is that of Willie, who discovers that he is part Aboriginal. This contrivance allows Carey to approach Indigenous characters and themes from a certain respectful distance.

As concerned as the novel is with questions of aboriginality, the prevailing mood is one of despair that non-Indigenous Australians will ever belong in the land of their birth. The original sin that accompanied the foundation of Australia – the dispossession of the original inhabitants and the near erasure of their language and culture – by its very nature can never be extirpated.

Notwithstanding the energy and inventiveness that Carey brings to the storytelling, there is an underlying negativity in *A Long Way From Home* that is made explicit in the very last line of the book. To repeat it here in isolation from the preceding text would be to rob the words of their power.

The bleak message of the novel is signalled earlier on in the words spoken to Irene by a lugubrious Lutheran missionary who lives among the Aborigines in the desert: "There is no right thing", the old man said, "there are just many, many wrong things and sometimes we can do no better than pray to be forgiven".

A Long Way From Home is published by Penguin, \$32.99

ABOUT Peter Carey

Peter Philip Carey AO (born 7 May 1943) is an Australian novelist. Carey has won the Miles Franklin Award three times and is frequently named as Australia's next contender for the Nobel Prize in Literature. Carey is one of only four writers to have won the Booker Prize twice—the others being J. G. Farrell, J. M. Coetzee and Hilary Mantel. Carey won his first Booker Prize in 1988 for *Oscar and Lucinda*, and won for the second time in 2001 with *True History of the Kelly Gang*. In May 2008 he was nominated for the Best of the Booker Prize. In addition to writing fiction, he collaborated on the screenplay of the film *Until the End of the World* with Wim Wenders and is executive director of the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program at Hunter College, part of the City University of New York.

Early life and career: 1943–1970 Peter Carey was born in Bacchus Marsh, Victoria, in 1943. His parents ran a General Motors dealership, Carey Motors. He attended Bacchus Marsh State School from 1948 to 1953, then boarded at Geelong Grammar School between 1954 and 1960. In 1961, Carey enrolled in a science degree at the new Monash University in Melbourne, majoring in chemistry and zoology, but cut his studies short because of a car accident and a lack of interest. It was at university that he met his first wife, Leigh Weetman, who was studying German and philosophy, and who also dropped out.

In 1962, he began to work in advertising. He was employed by various Melbourne agencies between 1962 and 1967, including on campaigns for Volkswagen and Lindeman's Wine. His advertising work brought him into contact with older writers who introduced him to recent European and American fiction: "I didn't really start getting an education until I worked in advertising with people like Barry Oakley and Morris Lurie—and Bruce Petty had an office next door."

During this time, he read widely, particularly the works of Samuel Beckett, William Faulkner, James Joyce, Franz Kafka, and Gabriel Garcia Márquez, and began writing on his own, receiving his first rejection slip in 1964, the same year he married Weetman. Over the next few years he wrote five novels—*Contacts* (1964–1965), *Starts Here, Ends Here* (1965–1967), *The Futility Machine* (1966–1967), *Wog* (1969), and *Adventures on Board the Marie [sic] Celeste* (1971). None of them were published. Sun Books accepted *The Futility Machine* but did not proceed with publication, and *Adventures on Board the Marie Celeste* was accepted by Outback Press before being withdrawn by Carey himself. These and other unpublished manuscripts from the period—including twenty-one short stories—are now held by the Fryer Library at the University of Queensland.

Carey's only publications during the 1960s were "Contacts" (a short extract from the unpublished novel of the same name, in *Under Twenty-Five: An Anthology*, 1966) and "She Wakes" (a short story, in *Australian Letters*, 1967). Towards the end of the decade, Carey and Weetman abandoned Australia with "a certain degree of self-hatred", travelling through Europe and Iran before settling in London in 1968, where Carey

continued to write highly regarded advertising copy and unpublished fiction. Move to New York: 1990–present Carey sold his share of McSpedden Carey and in 1990 moved with Alison Summers and their son to New York, where he took a job teaching creative writing at New York University. He later said that New York would not have been his first choice of place to live, and that moving there was his wife's idea.^[18] Carey and Summers divorced in 2005 after a four-year separation. Carey is now married to the British-born publisher Frances Coady.


The Tax Inspector (1991), begun in Australia, was the first book he completed in the United States. It was followed by *The Unusual Life of Tristan Smith* (1994), a fable in which he explored the relationship between Australia and America, disguised in the novel as "Efica" and "Voorstand".

This is a relationship that has preoccupied him throughout his career, going back to *Bliss* (1981), *Illywhacker* (1985), and the early short stories.

Nevertheless, Carey continued to set his fiction primarily in Australia and remained diffident about writing explicitly on American themes.

It was only after nearly two decades in the United States that he embarked on *Parrot and Olivier in America* (2010), loosely based on events in the life of Alexis de Tocqueville. Carey says "Tocqueville opened a door I could enter. I saw the present in the past. It was accessible, imaginable." Carey continues to extend his canvas; in his most recent novel, *The Chemistry of Tears* (2012), "contemporary London is brought intimately in touch with ... a 19th-century Germany redolent of the Brothers Grimm".


Awards and distinctions ~ Carey has been awarded three honorary degrees. He has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature (1989), an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities (2001), a Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2003), and a Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters (2016), which has also awarded him its Harold D Vursell Memorial Award (2012). In 2010, he appeared on two Australian postage stamps in a series dedicated to "Australian Legends". On 11 June 2012, Carey was named an Officer of the Order of Australia for "distinguished service to literature as a novelist, through international promotion of the Australian identity, as a mentor to emerging writers." And in 2014, Carey was awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters (honoris causa) by Sydney University.



Australian Government
Department of Defence

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

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


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

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

Persons found trespassing on Army Training Areas will be prosecuted.

Enquiries regarding the Singleton Training Area should be directed to:

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



Open 7 days
8am - 8pm
4990 3485
202 Wollombi Road, Cessnock
(opposite ALDI)

Just my opinion...

Marginal seats get more attention



Association and other speakers about community safety, lack of resources and the condition of the current police station. Our local Member of Parliament the Clayton Barr MP introduced the Shadow Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Guy Zangari, to the assembled audience. Now this was an ideal opportunity to make a promise to the residents of the Cessnock LGA, that when elected the NSW Labor party would build a new station and increase the number of police in the district. But alas it wasn't to be as we are in a very safe seat. Let's look at some history of the Cessnock electorate and more broadly the Hunter electorate. The NSW Labor Party have

I went to a public meeting on Thursday 10 May 2018 at the East Cessnock Bowling Club organized by the NSW Police Association Cessnock branch, who are concerned about the lack of duty police officers and the current Police Station. As reported in the Cessnock Advertiser around 150 people attended and heard from the Cessnock Branch president of the Police

been in power in NSW for 23,304 days while the LNP have held State power for 9,193 (as of May 2018) The State seat of Cessnock with the exception of 3 years 1988-1991, which was held by Bob Roberts Liberal, has been held by Labor while the seat of Hunter has been in Labor hands since Federation. In 1996 the then Premier of NSW Bob Carr appointed Police Commissioner Peter Ryan (1996-2002). Commissioner Ryan, approved by Labor, was responsible for the introduction of the Local Area Command (LAC) which was then headquartered in Maitland at the old Hunter Valley County Council building. Prior to this move Cessnock Police Station had a full contingent of Police and a division of detectives, while Kurri Kurri Police Station also had a full roster of police plus a resident based 'Lockup Keeper'? The Local Area Command has been an abject failure in the Regions and this

decision by Labor back in the late 1990s has had serious impacts on the Cessnock LGA. Today Kurri Kurri is unmanned and the district has no rostered detectives as they come across from Maitland and now maybe Muswellbrook under the new LAC structure. In 2011 the Kurri Kurri 2030 committee held a public meeting with community leaders to discuss a new Emergency Services Precinct adjacent to the Hunter Expressway. While supported by the Police and Fire Brigade then, nothing ever eventuated. It is time we the people of the Cessnock LGA stood up to Macquarie Street to both Labor and Liberal to ensure we get a fair share of police resources and a new command centre. Lastly "marginal seats get the attention" from both sides of politics. *Clr. Rod Doherty
1050 Leggett's Drive
Mt Vincent NSW 2323
0409 448 191*

Be scam aware



The 21 to 25 May is National Scams Awareness Week and our local libraries will be screening webinars by the Office of the eSafety Commissioner aimed at helping older Australians stay safe online. In 2017, Australians aged 55 and over lost \$39 million to online scammers which is more than every other age group combined. The webinar screenings will take place at Kurri Kurri

Library from 12.30 to 1.30pm on Friday 18 May and at Cessnock Library from 9 to 10am on Friday 25 May. These one hour presentations will cover the most common scams targeting seniors, tips on how to spot them, what to do or not do and who to speak to when you need help. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent

said the internet is a wonderful place to explore and connect, but it pays to be savvy. "I think we all know someone who has been a victim of online scams and I encourage those who would like to be better informed to book in and come along to these presentations." Book your spot today by calling Kurri Kurri Library on 4937 1638 or Cessnock Library on 4993 4399.

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MUSWELLBROOK GOLF CLUB

FRIDAY 25th MAY 2018

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BSB: 932000 Account Number: 418221

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PO Box 178 Muswellbrook NSW 2333
Email: bruce24273@bigpond.com
Mobile 0427 133 446

Muswellbrook Golf Club [02] 65431767

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The Importance of Strong, Secure Passwords

By Anna Bauman

Unauthorized access is a potentially major problem for anyone who uses a computer or high-tech devices such as smartphones or tablets. The consequences for victims of these break-ins can include the loss of valuable data such as presentations, emails, and music. Victims may also have their bank account information, money, or even their identity stolen.

Moreover, unauthorized users may use someone else's computer to break the law, which could put the victim in legal trouble. A strong password provides essential protection from financial fraud and identity theft.

One of the most common ways that hackers break into computers is by guessing passwords. Simple and commonly used passwords enable intruders to easily gain access and control of a computing device.

Conversely, a password that is difficult to guess makes it prohibitively difficult for common hackers to break into a machine and will force them to look for another target. The more difficult the password, the lower the likelihood that one's computer will fall victim to an unwanted intrusion.

Information Sharing & Security Issues

Thanks to modern technology, computing devices come in many different forms, such as desktop machines, laptops, smartphones, music players, and tablets. Any one of these devices may connect with other computing devices and share information, and in many cases, they may also connect with banks to conduct financial transactions. All of these machines are potentially vulnerable to misuse by unauthorized users, and therefore, users should always protect them with passwords.

Passwords are a means by which a user proves that they are authorized to use a

computing device. A single device may have multiple users, each with their own password. Passwords are not unlike a lock-and-key system, in which only the right key will enable a person to have access. The difference is that each person has a different key for the same door.

Some computing devices, such as desktop computers and laptops, also have a management-level user, or "superuser," who has the ability to control other users and modify the computing devices software, among other things. This superuser account is also known as the "root" or "administrator" account. This is important to know because while hackers will try to acquire any password they can get, they will generally try to guess the superuser password first, as it gives them the most control over a device.

Key points of Password Security

There are key points of password security that users must know in order to reduce the likelihood of a hacker cracking their password and thus gaining access to their device.

- Most importantly, passwords must be long and complex.
- Long and complex passwords require more effort and time for a hacker to guess.
- Passwords should contain at least ten characters and have a combination of characters such as commas, percent signs, and parentheses, as well as upper-case and lower-case letters and numbers.
- Users should never write down their passwords, as that makes it easier for the passwords to be stolen and used by someone else.

Also, never use the same password for two or more devices, as hackers who break into

one machine will try to use the same password to take control of others.

Mobile Devices Security

On mobile devices, a PIN or pass code is also needed. This is like a password for a computer, but it may have a minimum of four characters or digits and be something that is not personal or easily guessed. Pass codes for devices should also be set to time out after a short period of time. Upon timing out, the code will then need to be re-entered. Ideally, the timeout should occur in no more than 20 minutes, although shorter periods between time-outs are best.

Importance of a Strong Password

One of the concerns that people often have when it comes to creating complex passwords is a fear of forgetting them, particularly when there are several to remember. Naturally, a person should try to think of something that will be easy for them to memorize. One way to do that is to turn a sentence or phrase into something that is not easily recognized by others. To do this, use the first letter of every word in the sentence, replacing certain words with numbers or symbols. For example, the word "for" may be replaced with the number 4 or the word "number" with the # symbol. With this method, a password such as "Save the number for later in the year" may read St#4LITY.

Password Security Measures

Passwords are undoubtedly essential to security, but they are not the only method that can or should be used to protect one's computers and devices. In addition to creating a good password, people should learn how to safeguard it and use it wisely. This means never sharing it and, if unable to remember it, keeping the written copy in a secure location.

Other security measures outside of passwords include

only providing personal information on websites that are encrypted. An encrypted website can easily be recognized by the presence of https at the beginning of the Web address. Computer security software is also critical when it comes to securing computers, and both security software and the firmware on mobile devices should be regularly updated. Security measures such as passwords are critical when it comes to preventing the unauthorized access of one's computer and mobile devices. In today's world, hackers and other cyber-criminals are continuously finding new ways to gain access to these devices in order to steal or exploit the information within. Careless use of passwords, however, can be as bad as leaving one's computing devices unprotected. For this reason, people should create and protect their passwords with care.

How do the hackers crack passwords?

These are just a couple: -
Social engineering
 This is becoming a popular method for obtaining passwords. Social engineering takes advantage of the trust people develop in their social media accounts. Conning people into revealing their passwords is a common technique used and surprisingly, it is often very successful. Often the hacker will just ask a user for their password. For example, a hacker might call a user to tell them that there are high priority e-mails stuck in the mail queue, and their password is required to enable the caller to log in and release the messages. As crazy as this sounds, it often works, with no questions asked. "Ask and you shall receive!"
Social engineering is made easy for hackers if staff details (names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses) are posted on company websites. Social media sites such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter can also be used against a company because these sites often reveal

MOVIE REVIEW

TULLY

A new comedy from Academy Award (R)-nominated director Jason Reitman ("Up in the Air") and Academy Award (R)-winning screenwriter Diablo Cody ("Juno"). Marlo (Academy Award (R) winner Charlize Theron), a mother of three including a newborn, is gifted a night nanny by her brother (Mark Duplass). Hesitant to the extravagance at first, Marlo comes to form a unique bond with the thoughtful, surprising, and sometimes challenging young nanny named Tully (Mackenzie Davis).



Jason Reitman's career has been on an odd trajectory since he smashed into the mainstream with his 2008 teen classic Juno. Since then he's produced Academy Award bait (Up in the Air), Nicholas Sparks-style schmaltz (Labor Day), and outright trash (Men, Women and Children).

In the midst of this tonal and qualitative vacillation, he briefly reunited with Junoscreenwriter Diablo Cody for 2011's biting, uncompromising *Young Adult* and now, in his third outing with Cody, he successfully returns to acidic comedy with *Tully*. Marlo, played by Charlize Theron, is a mother of two tricky kids, with a third on the way. She's exhausted, rejecting maternal tropes in favour of the frustrated venom that Theron brought, so brilliantly, to *Young Adult*.

employees' names and contact information.

Keyloggers

A Keylogger is a program that hides in your computer's memory and runs at startup. It logs every keystroke you type and creates a log, which is then sent to the hacker. It can be customised so that it cannot be shown in the "Processes" tab of Windows Task Manager, making it extremely difficult to detect.

Her brother Craig (played by Mark Duplass, whilst the identically squishy middle-aged Ron Livingstone plays her husband, Drew) is some amorphous tech billionaire, and he recommends a night nanny so that Marlo can get some rest and return to peak mental condition. After some "umming" and "ahhing" (which constitutes a fair chunk of the film) enter Tully, played by *Black Mirror* and *Blade Runner 2049*'s Mackenzie Davis.

She is perfect. Not just at her job but as a lifestyle guru, whipping up brownies and reigniting Marlo's diminished sex drive. She's a sort-of hipster *Mary Poppins* in a crop-top. From there, the story transitions from an ode to motherhood to an exploration of womanhood, past, present and future. Theron is predictably terrific, throwing herself into the central role with a commitment that has become her trademark. She reads the tragic darkness of Cody's script with a naturalism that smooths out its occasional, rather arch, edges. Around her, Davis, Duplass and Livingstone orbit like satellites in thrall to the gravity of her charisma.

The problem, when it arises, is the story. There is a vague sense of mystery or

magic that hangs over the film, but when Reitman shows his cards it feels like a cheap reveal. For such a human film to have such a constructed conclusion rings false. There is a tendency in the director's work to include slightly

pompous moralising – see the anti-porn rhetoric in *Men, Women and Children*, or even the lay-offs narrative in *Up in the Air* – that is absent from his best films, like *Thank You For Smoking* and *Juno*, however contentious their subject matter.

Tully ends up feeling as though it has been crowbarred into the zeitgeist conversation about mental health, when it was already, under its own steam, saying a lot about the nature of the female experience in the modern world. The fact that the conclusion manages to hit the double-note of emotional and narrative cliché is only further evidence that a trick has been missed.

But there is enough to redeem *Tully* in the first 80 of its trim 96-minute running time. At the top of her game, as she has been consistently these past few years, Theron is undoubtedly one of the great movie stars of her generation.

Like *Young Adult*, *Tully* will likely end up as a fairly minor instalment in her canon, but that shouldn't distract from the pleasure of watching a performer in full command of material that is occasionally very sad, but often very funny.

3/5



Editors' Choice

Stats. and facts on Australian pubs or some useless bits of info!

Australia has eight different licensing jurisdictions with many and varied categories of licences. There are Hotels, Taverns, Bars, Off-Licences, Roadhouses, Licensed Restaurants, Club Licences and so on.

Gathering information on Hotels or Pubs as I colloquially refer to them, has required making determinations as to the suitability of some categories. I settled on an establishment with a bar with public access, providing either food or accommodation as a basic.

In the process of gathering this information I have come up with the following, interesting, statistics. **Total Hotel Pubs & Bars** 6033 (est.)

By State: NSW ~ 2052, QLD ~ 1251, VIC ~ 1092, SA ~ 658, WA ~ 595, TAS ~ 281, NT ~ 72 & ACT ~ 32

Every Pub Has Its Name:

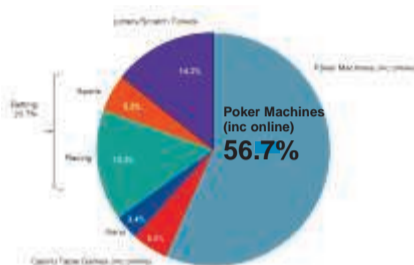
Everyone's heard of the most popular names for pubs – Royal, Commercial, Railway, and Grand etc but never been sure of the definitive lists or popularity of names. So here goes. Be prepared for some interesting surprises.

Royal	242	Federal	31	Farmer	11
Commercial	137	Criterion	29	Telegraph	11
Club	107	Albion	23	Metropolitan	10
Grand	81	Junction	23	Riverview	10
Railway	74	Courthouse	22	Reef	10
Central	44	Shamrock	21	Bush	9
Victoria	43	Palace	20	Commonwealth	8
Exchange	42	Union	19	Oriental	7
Imperial	39	Empire	17	Wheat sheaf	7
Australian	34	Terminus	16	Waterloo	7
Crown	34	Globe	15	Racecourse	6
Golden	34	Post office	16	Robin Hood	6
Star	32	Prince of Wales	14	Jockey	5

Smithy's @ Plumtree via Stange, and The Leap via Mackay. Or, you could stroll to the Amble Inn, relieve yourself at The Lue Hotel and you could 'drive' to The Tap Inn (which has its own indoor driving range). If that's not enough you can wait a while at The Linga Longa Inn if you've just come from The Nevertire Hotel.

Location Facts:

- 69% of hotels/pubs/taverns etc are located on corner blocks.
 - 52% of taverns are located next to or in suburban shopping centres.
 - As a general rule taverns are not required to provide accommodation
- Australian gambling market – December 2017**
Source: Roy Morgan Single Source Australia, January 2017 - December 2017. **Base:** Australians aged 18+.



The true story of the 'Pub with no beer' ~ In 1943 local farmer Dan Sheahan rode 20 miles to town for a beer at the Day Dawn Hotel in Ingham. Beer was rationed during the war and the American servicemen had drunk the bar dry the night before. On hearing this from the publican Gladys Harvey, and unhappy about riding home dry, Dan penned a poem that he called the "Pub without Beer". On January 1st 1944, the NQ Register published the poem in Ben Bowyangs column. In 1956 songwriter Gordon Parsons was handed a scrap of paper at the Taylors Arms Hotel in NSW with the poem as an 'anonymous' verse. He revamped it and presented it as a song to Slim who recorded it on the back of "Saddle Boy" on April Fools Day 1957. Confusion of the songs origin reigned for years until Slim acknowledged Dan's claim in his book "The Country Mile". The Original Day Dawn Hotel was owned by the Harvey family and was partly demolished and rebuilt as Lees Hotel. Recently Lees Hotel received Queensland Icon status through the Queensland Heritage Trust and was formally recognised as the **Original Pub With No Beer**

Irish: There are 85 "Irish - themed" pubs such as O'Malley's, Mick O'Shea and Dooley's. **Some are named after animals:** There are: 13 Bulls, 11 Dogs, 9 Horses, 7 Cows, 6 Ducks, 2 each of Frog, Parrot, Goose, Rabbit, Pelican, Crow, Kangaroo, Wombat, Emus, Hound. And 1 Wallaby, Cat, Koala, Cockatoo, Cattle Dog, Bird and Dingo. But there could be more. We'll leave it to you to search for. **Some pubs have more direction:** Northern ~ 17, Western ~ 14 & Eastern ~ 7 **Australian icons:** It's been popular to name pubs after historical and cultural Australian icons. Here's a few: Digger, Colonial, Billabong, Aussie, Boomerang, Southern Cross, Nugget, Thunderbolt, Bourke & Wills, Cobb & Co, Bunyip, Black Stump, Dad & Dave, Wattle, Buckley's, Geebung Polo Club, Drover, & The Man from Snowy River. Check 'em out. See if you can find some we've missed. While you're at it, there's The Pub with no Beer, The Outback Inn, The Town & Country, The Pickled Parrot,



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

TO Paul Smyth of Smyth Funeral Services, Mother Jane of the Parish of Branxton Greta Lochinvar, my son Andrew (who flew out from Canada), the local St Vincent de Paul Branxton Conference, Carmen from Housing NSW in Newcastle, Josh Davis, Helen from Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate & Kerri & Gemma from Shaw & Bunner Legal for all your unbelievable support after the sudden unexpected loss of my partner Scott Furlong. No words can describe my appreciation & heart-felt thanks for all you have done.
Maureen Taylor, East Branxton.

To the local 'little grubs' who scratched graffiti into the newly refurbished tables in the shelter at North Rothbury Park. I promise you that your days are numbered. We have you on CCTV so expect a visit from you know who!!!

TO the kind hearted lady who found our elderly dog wandering on Dalwood Road in Branxton and took her to the Branxton Vets. Luckily she was microchipped. After a phone call she was reunited with her very worried owners. Thank you so much for taking the time to do such a kind act.

TO our eastern neighbour who chooses to spread chook manure, just yards from my house. Consequently, my whole house stinks including all my clothes. Not content with one day, continues each consecutive day in the late afternoon, just when the easterly is getting up. No prior warning given and when confronted no apology offered.

FREE 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
Moving Sale: two 6-seater patio settings; one 'as new'. Price negotiable P: 4938 3542
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 0411 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, Property - Licensed Agent
BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE
 12 Clift Street
 BRANXTON NSW 2335
 P: 4938 3300

Open Day at Branxton Fire Station

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR OPEN DAY
 10-2PM SAT 19TH MAY



Firefighters are encouraging people to visit Branxton Fire Station for the Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) annual Open Day on Saturday, 19 May 2018. Branxton Fire Station will be open from 10.00am to 2.00pm and families can go along and meet their local firefighters and learn more about home fire safety and fire prevention. A range of free activities will be on offer; including firefighting demonstrations, station tours and fire safety presentations. Firefighters will also be able to provide advice on installing or replacing smoke alarms, and preparing a home fire escape plan. Children will be able to see the fire engines and firefighting equipment up close – always a highlight of this much-anticipated day. They'll also be able to take home a "Brigade Kids" activity booklet, which teaches them vital fire safety lessons.

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

Dates for your diary >

Dates for your diary >

Fri 18 May ~ Branxton Public School Walk Safely to School Day
THUR 24/05 ~ Cessnock Prostate Cancer Support Group 3pm at Cessnock Leagues Club. Guest speaker Alisha Moore Quality Assurance Manager at TROG. Topic- Information on some current and past Prostate Cancer Trials, past achievements and current activities happening at TROG Cancer Research. Public welcome Cost Free. More information- Barry 0457073852 – Rose 49904554
Sat 26 May 2018 ~ New spot for Cessnock City Council Mattress Drop-Off Day; 8am to 12pm at the Council Work Depot car park, Old Maitland Road, Cessnock.
Fri 1 June ~ Branxton Public School PBL Assembly & Regional Cross Country
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 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
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



Branxton Public School

The P&C held their annual Mother's Day stall last week with many happy shoppers making big decisions about which lovely item to buy their loved one. Thank you to the helpers who made the stall so successful. We hope all our Mothers, Grandmothers and Aunties had a lovely Mother's Day. The P&C's next big fundraising event is the Branxton Greta Movie Night on Friday 25th May. The children's movie Coco will start at 5:45pm, with gates open from 4:30pm. The entertainment will start with the JD 4 Magic show at 5:00pm. The local Lions club is running a BBQ and there are many other food and goods stores selling items on the night. There are many community businesses coming together to help us run this great family night including our major sponsors the Greta Branxton Business Chamber and Belford Land. Tickets are on sale soon through Flexi Schools or available on the night at the gate. Please come along and enjoy a wonderful family evening.



Mothers Day Stall



Under 10's Knights Knockout



ANZAC Day

We thank Mrs Heinzel and McDonalds for organising their reading program to visit our school in Week 1. We listened to a story and were encouraged to think about what we want to be when we grow up. They then donated some books to our library. Thank you to the many students who marched with our school in the town Anzac march. So lovely to see our children taking the opportunity to pay respect and honour all those who have served, who still serve and who will serve for our great nation.



Zone Cross Country was a great day for BPS! It was a wonderful performance from all competitors and we have 8 students going to the Regional Carnival in 3 weeks. The first race saw Jake G (1st), Max W (2nd), Jake C (3rd) rounding out the top 3 spots. Ella K (1st), Oliver W (1st), Ella M (2nd), Aden M (5th) & Connor M (5th) also placed and will represent the Zone.

National Walk Safely to School Day is on Friday 18th May. The annual event encourages primary school children and their parents and carers to walk regularly and safely to school. Objectives of the campaign include promoting the health benefits of regular walking, helping children to develop road safety skills, reducing our dependency on cars and reducing air pollution created by motor vehicles. Branxton Public School teachers will be walking from two locations and we invite students and parents to walk with us. We will meet at Miller Park (opposite the pool) or North Rothbury (cnr Wine Country Dr and Thomas St) at 8am to walk safely to school.

Dates for the Calendar

Friday 18th May – Walk Safely to School Day
 Friday 1st June – PBL Assembly & Regional Cross Country

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



Scotts Flat Rural Fire Brigade AGM
5 June 2018
Scotts Flat Station, Glendon Road 7pm
All welcome



SINGLETON COUNCIL

INVITATION TO QUOTE FOR THE PROVISION OF TRADE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES 2018 / 2020

QUOTATION NO: 18/00220

For further information and quotation documents visit www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/tenders

Singleton Council
 PO Box 314
 Singleton NSW 2330

Jason Linnane
 General Manager



Detailed saleyard report



HUNTER COMMUNITY HAS A SAY ON PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Local Land Services has received more than 400 public submissions about 11 draft regional strategic pest animal management plans, after a recent six-week consultation. The draft plans were a direct result from the NSW Government after a Natural Resource Commission report into pest animal management.



Local Land Services Chair, Richard Bull, said nearly 50 face-to-face information sessions were held across the state to explain how the plans were developed, what they mean for land managers and the community and how to provide input.

“The plans target priority pests in each region and outline how government agencies, community groups and landholders will work together to prevent, contain and manage the impacts of pest animals,” he said.

“They will also guide investment decisions for existing government, industry and individual landholder resources that can be dedicated to coordinated pest animal management.

“With the introduction of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, the regional strategic pest animal management plans can be used by all community members to meet their general biosecurity duty obligations.”

Hunter Regional Pest Committee Chair Art Brown said there had been great interest across the community about the plans and what they mean at a local level.

“We received 37 responses about the Hunter draft regional plan, we are now incorporating that feedback to make sure we’ve got the plans right and that they meet the needs of our region,” he said.

“The top priority pest animal species in our region include wild dogs, foxes and deer and we’ve outlined tools and best practice methods to help contain and control these species.

“Once in place, the plans will provide a funded and coordinated approach to the management of pest animals under the *Biosecurity Act*.”

The Hunter region is well placed to implement these plans. Hunter Local Land Services have already tripled the operational funds for biosecurity with an annual program of \$1.4million.

WEED CONTROL WORKSHOP ~ WYEE

When: 31st May 2018 9:00am-12:30pm

Where: Wyee Community Hall 114 Wyee Rd, Wyee

Contact: Carolyn Jenkinson Ph 4355 8205 or 0408 162 174

Details ~ Come to a FREE morning workshop to find out the best methods for weed control and identification.

Hear from Kim Hignell, Lake Macquarie City Council’s Vegetation and Pest Management Coordinator about the most significant weeds in your area and the support and assistance Council can provide you to help reduce the spread of weeds. Meet your Hunter Local Land Services Biosecurity Officer and Veterinarian who will explain your responsibilities in controlling pest animals and the reporting of livestock diseases.

Where possible bring along a weed or two from your own property for identification (please include flowers, leaves, seeds and roots in a sealed container).

Please register by Tuesday 28 May using <https://hunterlls.wufoo.eu/forms/z7fbmfh150pp8r/>

Morning tea will be provided.

Racing review

Peter V'landys calls on Racing Victoria to be "true to its word" and support The Everest Group I push

by Ben Dorries



■ Peter V'landys with jockeys Hugh Bowman and Kerrin McEvoy at The Everest trophy launch last year.

Racing NSW chief executive Peter V'landys has called on Racing Victoria to “be true to its word” and support a push to make The Everest a Group I race.

Racing tensions between the states have escalated with a report in Sydney’s

Daily Telegraph claiming a Victorian official on the Racing Australia board used a power of veto to prevent The Everest receiving elite status. At a recent Racing Australia board meeting the proposal to elevate the \$13m The Everest to Group

I level was knocked back despite NSW officials insisting the race won by Redzel last year was clearly the best sprint race held in Australia in 2017.

It is understood representatives from NSW and Victoria on the board have powers of veto and the Victorians used theirs on this occasion.

It is further understood the potential clash between The Everest and the Caulfield Cup next year was one of the reasons for Victoria using its power of veto. A spokesman for Racing Victoria chief executive Giles Thompson reportedly said “decisions on black type racing are a matter for Racing Australia acting on advice from the Pattern Committee who use well established guidelines”.

And a spokesman for Thompson also said RV is “committed to abiding by the (Pattern Committee) guidelines as we believe it is in the best interests of all stakeholders of Australian

racing”.

V'landys believes there is strong and substantial evidence for The Everest to be promoted to Group I level. “I note that Racing Victoria has said that it supports the Pattern Committee guidelines,” V'landys told Race net.

“Accordingly, they would have determined that The Everest is in compliance with the guidelines. “In particular, there is a clause in the guidelines that enables a race to be promoted in extraordinary circumstances and there is precedent for this clause being activated in other racing jurisdictions.

“If there is another reason which now contradicts their statement on the guidelines, they should come out and detail that reason.

“Racing Victoria states that adherence to the guidelines is critical to the recognition of Australian racing on the world stage and the promotion of The Everest to Group I status only adds prestige and credibility to Australian racing internationally. “We look forward to Racing Victoria being true to its word and supporting The Everest as a Group I race.”

A race usually needs to achieve an internationally recognised rating of 115 or more in three successive years

Saleyard report - cattle

Singleton

Last reported 9th May 2018

Numbers reduced slightly to see a penning of very good drafts of supplementary fed butcher cattle, along with numbers of secondary young cattle through the yarding. There was a very limited penning of grown steers and heifers, but cow numbers remained static, mostly on the plainer side. The regular gallery of buyers were in attendance. Vealers and yearlings to slaughter showed cheaper trends, with the best calves seeing a price correction of 23c and 25c/kg for steers and heifers, respectively. The best yearling steers to slaughter saw a cheaper average of 286c/kg. Light weight feeder steers sold to cheaper trends of 23c, the heifer portion back 25c/kg. There were drafts of plain, medium weight heifers offered, seeing reductions of 20c, with quality affected yearling steers seeing average decreases of 35c/kg. Cow numbers were similar, however quality and weight saw cheaper trends of 4c/kg, with restockers purchasing the very light drafts. Better D3 cows showed cheaper trends of 17c/kg.

Score

Last reported 8th May 2018

Despite continuing dry conditions, numbers reduced for most categories. While there were good drafts of young cattle available, and some saw dearer trends, there were still plenty of plainer quality cattle, particularly drafts of 1 and 2 score cows due to the dry seasonal conditions. The regular gallery of processors were on hand as well as the usual feeder and backgrounder orders. There was a good selection of young calves available with producers opting to sell while there was still some condition in the younger cattle. These mostly went to restockers to grow and feed on. Vealers to the trade sold to firm trends, while weaner steers to restockers saw an improvement, with trends 4c/kg better. Weaner heifers also improved in quality with the better end being 11c/kg dearer. Some plainer conditioned heifers, however, sold to last week's reduced prices. Light yearling steers sold to dearer trends of 8c, with the heavy weight steers up to 15c/kg better. Plainer quality, medium weight heifers saw cheaper trends of 19c/kg. There were insufficient numbers of grown steers and heifers to quote. Very light 1 score cows to restockers saw cheaper trends, while 2 score cows to slaughter experienced corrections of 8c/kg. The best 3 and 4 score cows saw improvements of 2c to 4c/kg.

TRLX Tamworth

Last reported 7th May 2018

Numbers remained steady with young cattle and cows again dominating supply. There were no heavy grown steers and grown heifers were also in limited numbers. The quality of the offering was very mixed and condition, for the most part, was on the lean side. There were small numbers of well finished cattle, mostly restricted to cows. There was reduced processor and feedlot competition and demand was mostly weaker. Restocker activity was somewhat subdued, with most heading into winter with little or no feed. Weaner steers sold to cheaper trends of 15c to 30c/kg with a great range in price brought about by breed and quality. The heifer weaners also sold to a cheaper trend with the better quality lots averaging 11c to 16c/kg easier. The secondary quality weaners were harder to sell, attracting little competition. Medium and heavy weight yearling feeder steers sold on a firm to cheaper market trend. There were few sales that remained firm with those restricted to the sought after breeds. Yearling heifers sold to a cheaper trend of 3c to 9c/kg and more in places. Heifers to the trade experienced greater price reductions than those going onto feed. Due to the low numbers on offer, there was no quote for grown steers and heifers. The large number of plain condition cows sold to cheaper trends, despite restockers competing. The limited supply of well finished cows sold to a slightly dearer market trend.

to warrant being elevated to Group I status.

But there is a clause in Pattern Committee protocols which enables a race to be promoted

under special or extraordinary circumstances.

There is precedence in world racing where this has occurred with the Commonwealth Cup at Royal Ascot in England immediately awarded Group 1 status for its inaugural

running three years ago. With unprecedented hype for a race other than the Melbourne Cup, record betting turnover in NSW and a rating of 120 in its first year, V'landys feels The Everest should be a Group I.

Upcoming Group 1 Races

- 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

Greta Community PreSchool receives grant from State

government

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald MLC has announced that Greta Community Preschool has received funding to help increase the number of Aboriginal children and disadvantaged children participating in quality early childhood education in the year before school. The funding is part of the NSW Government's



Community Grants program of which Greta Community Preschool will receive \$5,020.

"The Community Grants are flexible and preschools can use the funding for specific individual needs, like providing regular healthy breakfasts or new equipment like backpacks for children."

"Children have so much to gain from participating in quality early education – so programs like this where we can make preschool services more affordable and accessible for families is a no-brainer for me," Mrs Mitchell said. "Since the Start Strong program was introduced by the NSW Liberals & Nationals, we have already seen average daily fees reduce by 25 per cent and participation rates increase by a huge 40 per cent, and we are committed to continuing this positive trend."

Rock royalty takes centre stage in a musical author visit to Singleton Library

It's a long way to the top, but finally the story of legendary rocker Angus Young has made it to bookshelves – and Singleton.

Renowned author Jeff Apter has cast the spotlight on the man best known for his trademark schoolboy outfit in *High Voltage: the life of Angus Young – AC/DC's last man standing* and he'll bring the story to Singleton Library in a special event on Friday 25 May from 5.30pm to 7pm.

Nicole Lonsdale, Singleton Council's Coordinator Community Services, said it was an exciting addition to the Library's program of author visits.

"Angus Young is one of the most iconic musicians in the world and the last surviving original member of AC/DC – the biggest rock band on the planet," she said.

"Jeff Apter's book is the first biography to focus exclusively on the endurance of Angus, charting his rise from working-class Glasgow and Sydney through to the death of vocalist Bon Scott and the forced retirement of his brother, Malcolm Young.

"I have no doubt there will be a lot of interest in what Jeff Apter has to say about his observations on Angus Young, and the experience of writing the book."

Ms Lonsdale said Jeff Apter, the author of more than 20 books and who spent four years on staff at Australian Rolling Stone, was himself an interesting speaker.

"Jeff has carved a niche in capturing the stories of musical history, with biographies of the Finn brothers, Johnny O'Keefe, the Bee Gees, Marc Hunter, 'Shirley' Strachan, Silverchair and Keith Urban," she said.

"His knowledge of the Australian music scene and the characters that populate it will make for a very entertaining event and bookings will fill quickly."

Jeff Apter will be at Singleton Library on Friday 25 May 2018 from 5.30pm to 7pm. Bookings are essential on 02 6578 7500. Copies of *High Voltage: the life of Angus Young – AC/DC's last man standing* will be available for sale and signing at the event.



NOTICE

Branxton Golf Club
Sat 19 Sharyn/Phil Baker 4 Person
Ambrose

Next week is a 4 person Ambrose, an event where all golfers can really enjoy themselves, with great shots celebrated by their team mates. This event is once again sponsored by Phil and Sharon Baker with plenty of prizes on offer. The day will be followed by the Pennants dinner to celebrate the excellent season by the club in the Hunter River District Association, especially the awesome B Grade team who defended their title in spectacular fashion. There are still plenty of tickets available for this dinner.



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

BRANXTON GRETA VINEYARDS

The **N**ews**SPORT**

Voluntary Administrator takes control of Cessnock Golf Club



Cessnock Golf Club, one of the oldest golf clubs in the Hunter Valley, has gone into voluntary administration with a reported debt of more than \$11million. The club went into a joint venture with Hunter based

company Daracon Group to spend \$30million to develop its acreage into a golf resort & a 138-lot residential subdivision called Stonebridge Living. The great majority of their debt is owed to David Mingay who is the GM &

owner of the Daracon Group. Administrator Simon Thorn, of PKF Australia, was appointed administrator of the cash strapped club on the 26th April 2018 & is seeking interest from other clubs to

amalgamate so they can continue to have the registered club trade. He was reported to have stated that were several "positive" lines of enquiry and expressions of interest with it closing later this month.



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

Branxton Community Hall

Tickets \$15 to be pre purchased
for Women's Cancer

Catering by Branxton Greta CWA Ladies

Helen 0427 047 024

Sea Fina



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