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WEDNESDAY
26 September 2018

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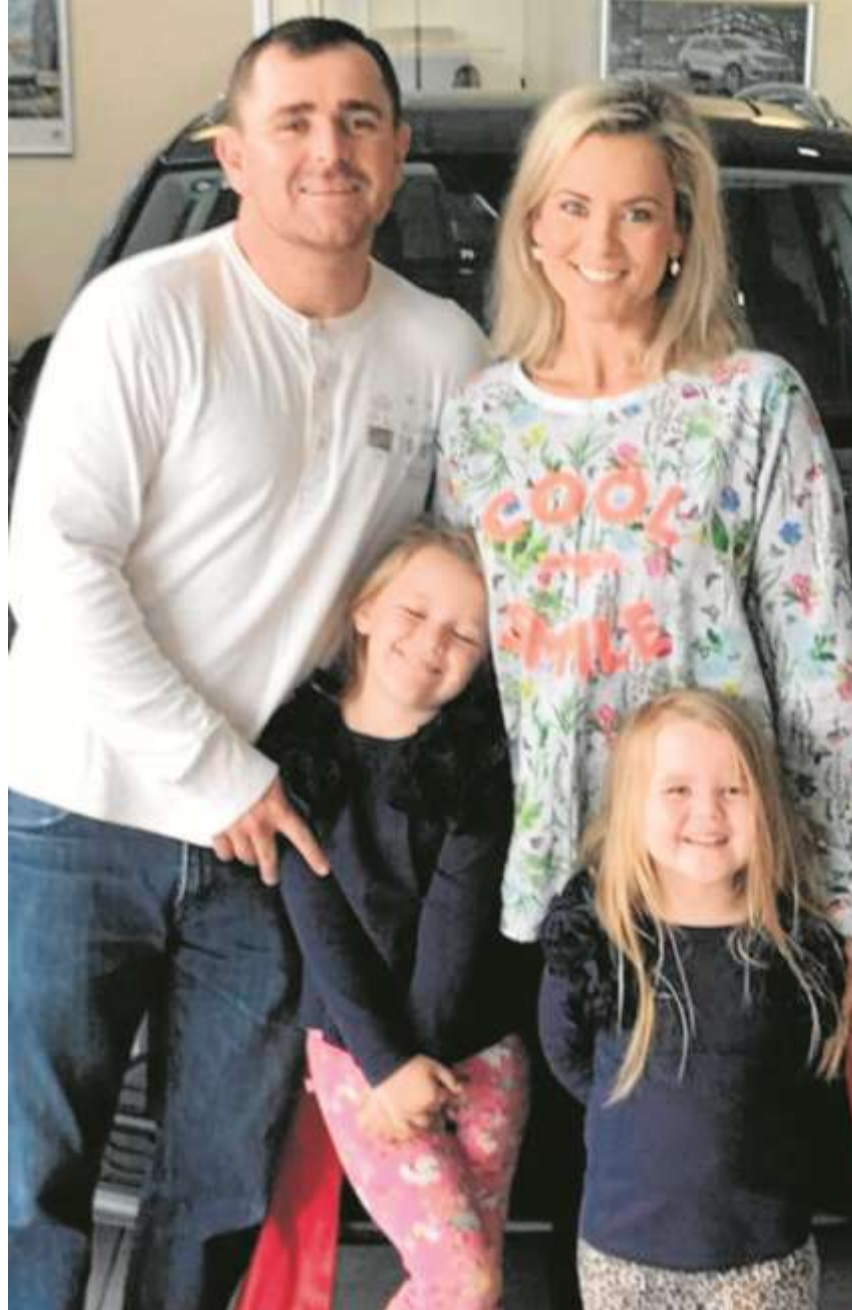
Branxtons' Councillor Melanie Dagg elected Deputy Mayor of Cessnock

Congratulations to Councillor Melanie Dagg, who was elected to the position of Deputy Mayor of Cessnock City Council for the term commencing in October. Council's General Manager Stephen Glen was the returning officer for the election and declared Councillor Dagg the successful candidate after an open ballot during Wednesday's council meeting. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent congratulated Councillor Dagg and thanked Deputy Mayor, Councillor Anthony Burke for his service to the community during the last year. "Councillor Burke has done

an outstanding job at representing Council at numerous community events. He's a fantastic orator making him a great representative for Council and importantly a committed advocate of his community, making him a wonderful community representative." Newly elected Deputy Mayor, Cr Dagg grew up in Cessnock, attending West Cessnock Public School, Mount View High School and later St Marys in Maitland and has recently returned to studying law by correspondence as a mature-aged student. Melanie now lives in Branxton with her husband Josh and their two gorgeous girls Amelia and

Eliza. She is a keen tennis player, although does not have as much time to hit the court between work, study, family life and her work in the community. Cr Dagg serves as a member of the Hunter Water Consultative Committee, the Association of Mining Related Councils and is Council's representative on the Mines Subsidence Board. She has been heavily involved with a number of community and sporting groups, including serving as the Secretary and Treasurer for the Greta-Branxton Cricket Club for six years and is a member of Branxton Lions. She has always had a keen interest in social justice but it was her desire to serve

her community that prompted her to run for Council. As a young mum, Cr Dagg is focused on creating a more liveable, healthy and connected community for every family in the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA) to enjoy. She has a keen interest in Council's governance and transparency, in the promotion of jobs through economic development and ensuring the villages throughout the area aren't overlooked. Cr Dagg looks forward to taking on this extra responsibility. "I'm excited about this new role and will continue to work hard to deliver the needs and wants of this



Deputy Mayor Melanie and family



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wonderful LGA. It's an important position and I'm very grateful for the support of my fellow Councilors."

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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



Gail will be 'walking the walk' to raise money for Diabetes NSW & ACT



When Gail Wright of North Rothbury retired as a community nurse three years ago she didn't expect the unwelcomed diagnosis of having diabetes 2. "It came as a shock as I have continually looked after my health and have kept fit. "Diabetes is a debilitating disease which touches most peoples lives in one way or another. "I have been a competitive swimmer for over 20 years including competing in the Masters Games," said Gail. "One of the main things with diabetes is to keep as active as you can so I decided to take-up some good casual walking and currently I am walking roughly 16k's every second day & swim 2½ k's three times a week." "Earlier this year I saw an advertisement for people to

walk the Great Ocean Road to raise money for diabetes research so I decided to take up the challenge," said Gail. In Gails' case the walk is not really a challenge as they walk around 20k's per day over an eight hour period for 5 days; easy pickings for her. Her real challenge is to raise the requisite money which they ask to be at least \$1250. Gail has, at this stage, raised about half through a raffle she has organised & a 'hero go-fund-me' page on Facebook. "The raffle will be open until 3pm on the 12th October. "I will be selling tickets outside the Branxton IGA Supermarket most of that day until the draw which will be at the IGA Supermarket," said Gail.

"One in four Australian adults has either diabetes or impaired glucose tolerance"

As Gail said she would love to raise well above the minimum level & said that the local community has been very supportive. "If you can spare some to buy some tickets it would be very much appreciated." Type 2 diabetes occurs when the pancreas is not producing enough insulin and the insulin is not working effectively. Type 2

represents 85 – 90% of all cases of diabetes and is managed by regular physical activity and healthy eating. Over time treatment may progress from lifestyle changes to requiring blood glucose-lowering tablets and/or insulin injections. Type 1 diabetes occurs when the pancreas no longer produces the insulin needed, and requires lifelong daily insulin injections or use of an insulin pump, and regular blood glucose level tests. Type 1 diabetes is one of the most common chronic childhood diseases in developed nations and represents 10% – 15% of all cases of diabetes. Diagnosis of Type 1 diabetes usually occurs in childhood or young adulthood, although it can occur at any age.



■ Gail Wright getting ready for 'the walk'



Saturday 27th October
MILLER PARK - BRANXTON
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At a glance

- Fundraising Target: \$1,250 per person**
- Trek Cost: \$1,275 (twin share) includes:**
- Accommodation**
- Meals**
- Daily transfers**
- Melbourne airport transfers**
- \$1275 Early bird registration**
- Duration:** 7 days (5 days walking)
- Dates:** 18 - 24 October 2018

Please purchase some raffle tickets to help support Diabetes NSW & ACT and help make a difference

- 1st Prize (\$300 value):** 2 1/2 Hour Horse and Carriage ride, to choose and chocolate factory in the Viewpoints.
- 2nd Prize (\$180 value):** McSugan Hunter Valley Cellar Door. Any weekday and participate in a 4HP Experience that includes: A Private Winery Tour, Wine Tasting with olive plates, in our Winery Room for up to 8 people.
- 3rd Prize (\$100 value):** Take your child's next birthday and parties to the next level, all themed, they come to you.
- 4th Prize (\$60 value):** Cheese tasting for 12 people.
- 5th Prize (\$55 value):** Meal voucher.
- 6th Prize (\$30 value):** Dinner voucher.
- 7th Prize (\$30 value):** Woolworths Gift Card.
- 8th Prize (\$40 value):** Family Asia Grill/Pot-Put pass.
- 9th Prize (\$20 value):** Wine pack.
- 10th Prize (\$20 value):** Wine pack.
- 11th Prize (\$20 value):** Wine pack.
- 12th and 13th Prize (\$25 value each):** McDonald voucher and a bottle of wine.
- 14th Prize (\$20 value):** Clothing and utility like voucher.
- 15th - 20th Prize (\$25 value each):** McDonald voucher.

2018/19 pool season has arrived
 The pool season kicks off this Saturday and is a great way to start the October Long Weekend with the family. The Branxton and Cessnock Pools will be officially open at 7am on Saturday 29 September.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said the 2018/19 pool season is going to be fantastic. "The Family Fun Days will be held again over the Christmas and New Year school holidays at the Branxton Pool, Cessnock Pool and Kurri Kurri Aquatic and Fitness Centre (KKAFC). This allows residents free access to the pools on certain Sundays. Keep an eye out for more details on our Facebook, website and at the facilities. This is an opportunity for those residents without a pool pass to enjoy our aquatic facilities." "The inflatable fun park will also be a large attraction at our pools and will be rotating between the Cessnock and Branxton Pools, and KKAFC." This pool season Cessnock City Council has teamed up with Royal Life Saving NSW to introduce the new national Keep Watch at Public Pools Water safety awareness program locally. The initiative is about improving children's safety through improved parental supervision. The message is clear while lifeguards are on duty at our aquatic facilities they are watching lots of people at the same time. Parents and carers are being urged to be vigilant and supervise their children during a visit to their local pool and make certain their child is safe. Children aged between 0 to 5 years will be issued a yellow wristband and pool staff will advise that a parent or carer needs to be in the water within an arm's reach of the child at all times. It is recommended that for a child aged between 6 to 10 years, a parent or carer needs to be actively supervising at all times and dressed ready to enter the water. A big thanks to Belgravia Leisure Centre who operate KKAFC. They are also supporting the Keep Watch program.

Open letter of 'Thanks' to the Community

From Brett Wild, Chairman Branxton Greta Memorial Cycleway Limited



■ His Excellency the Governor with the longest serving member of the Branxton RSL Sub Branch Athol Partridge

As you are no doubt aware we held a community morning tea at the Branxton Community Hall on Monday the 10th September 2018. We were very grateful to have His Excellency The Honourable General David Hurley AC, DSC, (Ret'd) Governor of New South Wales and Mrs Linda Hurley attend. The morning was amazing with local residents, service groups and sporting clubs in attendance. Our local schools were all impressive with individual verbal presentations from Branxton Public School, Greta Public School, Kirkton Public School, Rosary Park and St Phillips Christian College all delivered by school representatives on a local

soldier that enlisted to serve in the Great War/ World War 1. The morning tea, which was held from 9 am – 11 am, also had a display of two World War 2 Willys Jeeps at the entrance to the Branxton Community Hall. We must be very proud of Chris Fredrickson and Jim Phylliss who were dressed in period World War 1 Light Horse uniforms and equipment remanent of what was used at the time. His Excellency and Mrs L. Hurley arrived at 9 am and was greeted by myself. I was pleased to present the host for the morning tea, Ms Alana Driver who hosted Mrs Hurley and Mr Kevin Driscoll who hosted His Excellency. His Excellency was officially welcomed by the Branxton Public School choir.

It was very pleasing to see Mr Athol Partridge who, at the age of 94, made the trip from his nursing home in Dungog compliments of Maitland Taxi's to whom we are greatly appreciative. Athol has been a member of the RSL Sub

branch in Branxton for 71 years. Morning tea was an amazing spread of cakes from the CWA and fresh sandwiches; the catering was delivered to a high standard befitting the position the Governor holds as the Queens representative in NSW. The CWA with the assistance of the Lady's View Club set a high standard for our future events. Our morning tea was a free event that was financially supported by Cessnock Council. All the requirements for the catering were purchased locally and were supplemented by further donation's from the IGA in Branxton and Office Works Rutherford. All school children that attended also received a small gift compliments of the Department Of Veterans Affairs that contained material that will assist in future research on World War 1; it also contained pens, rulers and note pads. In the coming week I will be travelling to all the schools and presenting box sets of books of the history of the Australian Military during World War 1 for the libraries. His Excellency and Mrs Hurley have advised me that they were warmly received and enjoyed the morning immensely. Mrs Hurley even paid a visit

next door to our amazing volunteers at Meals on Wheels. His Excellency also made his way to the kitchen to speak with the CWA & I believe that Marie provided a private taste testing of the famous caramel slice. The feedback was to Marie .. 'Mrs Hurley must have the same recipe' – a very diplomatic response from His Excellency.

The morning concluded with His Excellency travelling and visiting the Greta Memorial. This memorial has names of the men that had fallen during the War in order of passing; most memorials in Australia are in alphabetical order. During the planning His Excellency advised me he was keen to visit Greta due to the unique aspects of this memorial. His Excellency and Mrs Hurley were met by the Principal of Greta Public and student representatives. The history of the memorial was presented by Mr Kevin Driscoll to His Excellency and Floral tributes were laid.

Later that day an Official Luncheon was held at the Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley. Mrs Hurley, on arrival, to the dismay of the security detachment decided to be driven around the front seat of a World War Two Willys Jeep. The luncheon was an event not to forget with His Excellency officially welcomed by a Scottish piper. The luncheon was chaired by Mr John Murray with visual presentations shown on the big screens. A wonderful display of Military medals from Mr David Harrower adorned the entrance to the luncheon. The audience heard from myself where I spoke about the meaning of the cycleway, the men that enlisted



■ His Excellency the Governor & Mrs Hurley being greeted by Brett Wild on arrival at the Community Morning Tea

and why we should not forget them. His Excellency spoke on the sacrifice of Australian Forces during the War, the Anzac tradition and the endorsement of the Cycleway Limited to raise the funds. His Excellency was extremely supportive of me as Chairman and spoke to attendees about "getting behind this man – he has the passion". A big thumbs up goes to The Crowne Plaza for providing us with an amazing venue with terrific food and staff that were very attentive to all our needs –

well done. Lunch concluded with a motivational speech by Mr Lawrie McKinna, CEO of the Newcastle Jets. It was a terrific way to end the day. The luncheon was attended by members of the public, corporate sponsors, mining companies and developers and members of the RSL. I wish to thank you all for attending either the morning tea and or luncheon. The following get a special mention, firstly; you the community.
Branxton Greta CWA
Branxton View Club
IGA Branxton

Office Works Rutherford
Brice Webber – Willys Jeep
Bill Haddon – Willys Jeep
Chris Fredrickson
Jim Phylliss
Helen Scott
Kevin Driscoll
Brian Furner OAM
Rod Styles
Greta RFS
Special thanks to: Cessnock City Council & Crowne Plaza Hunter Valley.
Brett Wild, Chairman Branxton Greta Memorial Cycleway Limited



■ His Excellency the Governor, Mrs Hurley & Brett Wild being greeted by Jim Phylliss who wore a full Aust Light Horse regalia.



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\$5 per Class

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- Location: Old St Brigid's School, Station Street, BRANXTON
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STEVE'S RANT



What does it profit a person to torch cars which the police have grounded on the sides of the highway? The poor bugger who claims ownership of these vehicles is obviously hard up and cannot afford to pay the registration or third-party insurance. Too bad you might think but that car is probably the only tradable asset that person has. The past couple of weeks a number of people have attempted to sell their vehicles by leaving them parked beside Wine Country Drive in the vicinity of the traffic lights in North Rothbury. The Cessnock Ranger booked a couple and they soon disappeared, but another poor bugger had their beauty, a Holden ute, torched. Proudly polished and pristine, the owner made the mistake of leaving it out overnight. What an act of bastardry! To torch a car or any other

vehicle is an act of arson. Arsonists are as objectionable to other law-abiding members of the public as are terrorists. In fact, arson is the modus operandi of the terrorist and our attitude to the torching of vehicles should be predicated on the same basis. If, as you are driving or cycling or whatever, you see some people inspecting a parked vehicle, take a note if you can, of the registration of the looker's vehicle. They are most likely just lookers but you never know. If an individual gains some sort of satisfaction from torching other people's cars they may also get their kicks torching other things which are not secure. In the 19th Century it was the torching of haystacks which denoted the idiot arsonist. They are only stopped when they are locked up. As we approach the new

fire risk season we need to be aware that we have in our community some individuals who pose a big risk to life and property. When you see something which doesn't look right, don't just dismiss it as not being your business, call Crime stoppers on 1800 333 000
Cheers, Steve

What's Happening & other

with Mike Lowing

Quite a few local & national anniversaries that will kick in prior to this coming Christmas.



■ Athol Partridge & the NSW Governor at the Community Morning Tea on the 10th September. Athol has been a continuous member of the Branxton RSL Sub Branch for 71 of its 95 years in being & has held, I think, every executive position over that time.

Locally we have the 89th anniversary of the Rothbury Riot on December 16 & the 95 anniversary of the Branxton RSL Sub Branch. Interesting to note that Athol Partridge, from Branxton now in Dungog, has been a continuous member for 71 of those 95 years & was President for 31 years. He was also the local representative on the RSL Hunter Council from 1957 until 2004. Nationally we have the 100th anniversary of Armistice day on the 11th November. To mark both occasions the Branxton RSL Sub Branch intend to have a luncheon

on Sunday 11th Nov at 12:00 - 2018 in the Branxton RSL Hall. This will be after a service at the Branxton Rotunda. (at 11:00 on the 11th November)

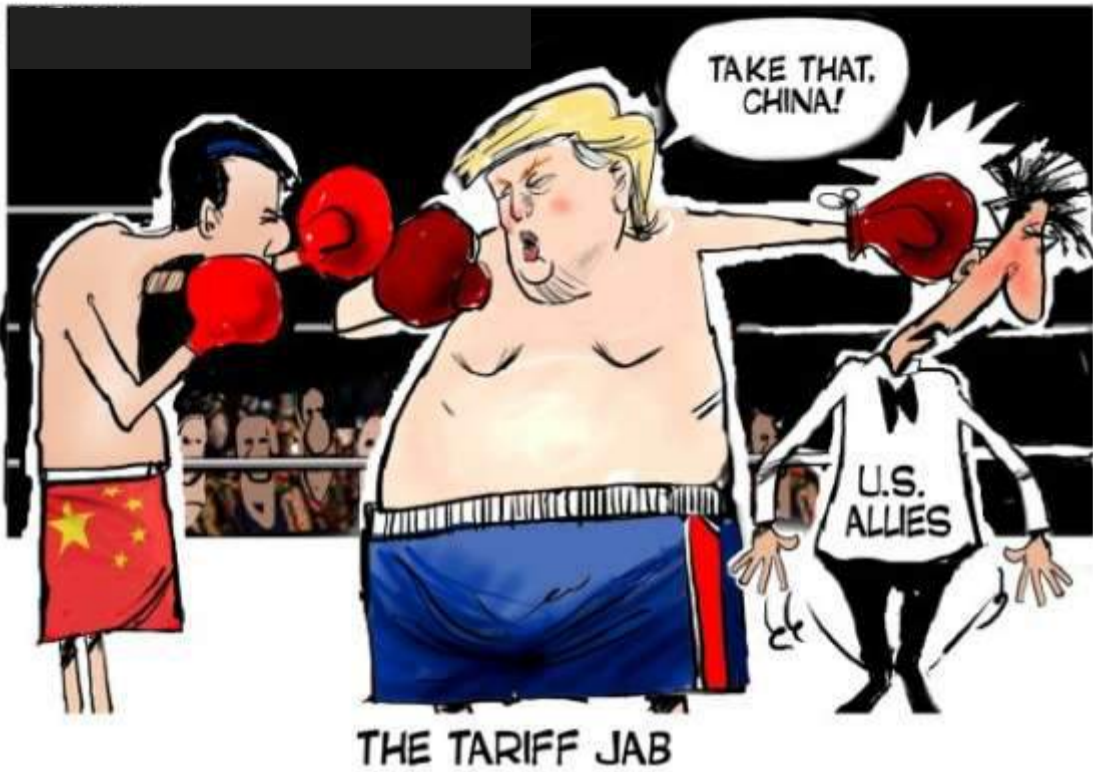


On 16 December 1929, New South Wales Police drew their revolvers and shot into a crowd of locked-out miners killing a 29-year-old miner, Norman Brown, and injuring approximately forty-five miners. The incident became known as the Rothbury affair or the Rothbury riot, and is described as the "bloodiest event in national industrial

who cut off his child's head and was so remorseful that he stuck the first head he came across, back on? So, thousands if not millions worship his son Lord Ganesh with an Elephants head. One wonders why spare heads were lying around the place? All of this might appeal to someone in the stone age, but this is the 21st Century. Religion is akin to an association of sorts and there are as many different beliefs as there are peoples in the world. So, the differences are their ideology. Each has like-minded people whether they are Rotarians or the Salvos, Callithumpians or Muslim. All have rules and philosophy. To express an

opinion about or to criticise religious beliefs is not racism. Racism is the detestable idea that one person's worth is greater than another's depending on their colour, the shape of their eyes or the amount of hair on their body. We here are free because

Common Law allows for free speech. When it comes to allowing other races to come into Australia, politicians' choices should simply be a matter of mathematics. Bureaucrats should not interfere. If every 1000 thousand people of an ideology has 1



■ New Branxton RSL Sub-Branch, a very youthful looking, President Lester Boots (at left) congratulates outgoing President Athol Partridge on his outstanding service to the RSL in February 2004

history." Interestingly the word 'Rothbury' was successfully trademarked by the Fosters Group.

Fosters sold their last remaining Rothbury Estate vineyard to Hope Estate in 2006!

Cheers, Mike

extremist and you allow 50 thousand in, then you have 50 extremists trying to radicalise others. It would make sense to limit the numbers of which ever ideology this applies to; many will suffer exclusion because of the few. Then look at which country with their own individual ideologies has the highest number of extremists per thousand. Italians? Chinese? Poms? Vietnamese? Greeks? I don't think so. You must figure that out for yourselves. The tipping point for any group of migrants or refugees with extremist's ideology is 5% of our population. Any more than

that and our sovereignty and way of life are under threat. This isn't racist. This isn't hate speak. Its fact. Name and address supplied.



Only the truth and the facts matter
Is religion just another ideology?
I'd suggest to your readers to not point a finger at anyone and accuse them of picking on a religion or hate speech unless they are clear on what its ideology entails and in what context it was singled out.
Only the truth and the facts matter.
In my considered opinion all religions are really nothing more than an ideology the same as Communism, Fascism, and Nazism. No religion deserves any respect simply because it exists and the followers have been raised to believe or have swallowed the theories of its doctrine.
Look at the thousands of Catholics in the world ... and the history, including the

Medici's; think of the rampant paedophilia and politics in all religions. If you think the Royals are successful at business, then look at the sale of rosary's and virgin Mary statuette's sales. I see the Pope as the CEO; he offers eternal life, smoke and bells. If you stray you can be ex-communicated. Then you are offered eternal burning in some fictitious place called hell. What do Islamists offer? Power, total power over the opposite sex. If you leave Islam, you are supposed to be killed. Doesn't matter how dumb the bloke is or how smart the women. He's in charge. Some extremists suggest if you are to martyr yourself you will be offered virgins in some place called heaven. What about that Lord Shiva

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ALL CALLS TO 000 ARE VOICE RECORDED		NSW Fire Brigade		Cessnock.....	4991 0555
For non-life threatening calls.....		Branxton.....	4938 3396	Singleton.....	6572 2799
Police Assistance Line (PAL).....		Rural Fire Brigades		SES	132 500
131 444		Belford.....	6574 7149	Crime Stoppers	1800 333 000
		Broke.....	6579 1491	Poisons Info	131 126
		Greta.....	4015 0000	Hunter Water	
		Bishops Bdg	4015 0000		1300 657 000
		Nth R'bury...	4015 0000	Ausgrid	131 388
		Rothbury.....	4015 0000	Gas Emergencies ..	131 909
		Pokolbin.....	4015 0000	Lifeline	131 114
		Rothbury.....	4991 1733	Mental Health Line	
		Bishops Bdg	4015 0000		1800 011 511
		Nth R'bury...	4015 0000	Domestic Violence Support	
		Rothbury.....	4015 0000		4990 9609
		Pokolbin.....	4015 0000	Centrelink Self Service	
		Rothbury.....	4991 1733		136 240
		Scotts		Medicare	132 011
		Flat.....	6575 1200	Native Animal Rescue	
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The Cessnock Performing Arts Centre wins big at Business Excellence Awards



The Cessnock Performing Arts Centre

The Cessnock Performing Arts Centre (CPAC) won the Customer Service Whole Business award at the 2018 Hunter Region Business Excellence Awards held on Friday evening. This was the 25th year these prestigious awards have taken place and while the competition was tough across the Hunter, the CPAC customer service shone through. Cessnock City Mayor,

Councillor Bob Pynsent said this award is very well deserved as the staff at the CPAC consistently go above and beyond what is required of them. "I can't speak positively enough about the level of customer service the CPAC staff provide, from selling tickets to organising events, everything is always delivered in a friendly and professional manner." "On behalf of Council, I would like to congratulate

the entire CPAC team for this fantastic achievement," added Cr Pynsent. Since opening in 2008, the centre has developed a strong reputation as it draws its audience from the Cessnock Local Government Area and further afield from areas including Singleton, Maitland, Newcastle and Lake Macquarie. Not only does the CPAC offer a fantastic program of performances throughout

the year, the team is also committed to working closely with the community. CPAC is home to the Cessnock Senior Citizens Association, The Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society, Hunter Drama and works with a number of local schools and dance schools to present their major performances and concerts. The CPAC staff are also responsible for producing

major events on behalf of Council, such as Spring Awakening, Carols in the Park and Australia Day as well as partnering with other Council departments and the community for NAIDOC Week, Seniors Festival and Youth Week.



■ At the Awards evening - Photo left to right: Gray Clack, Ainslie Rommell, Vicki Sienczuk, Natalie Drage, John Zeder, Cr Darrin Gray and Cr Melanie Dagg

Newly-elected deputy mayor says he has 'big shoes to fill'

Singleton Council has elected Cr Tony Jarrett to the term of deputy mayor for a two-year period in an ordinary vote at last weeks Council meeting. The election marked the end of previous deputy mayor Cr Godfrey Adamthwaite's six years in the role, who again took up the position in one of the first resolutions of Council following the 2016 local government election after serving four years under the previous mayor, Cr John Martin. "I have enjoyed the role, and I'm sure Cr Jarrett will do just as good a job, if not better," he said. Cr Jarrett will now take on the position as the result of a formal ballot process in line with State Government legislation. In his first term of Council, Cr Jarrett paid tribute to Cr Adamthwaite and acknowledged he had "big shoes to fill" in taking on the title of deputy mayor. "It's a great honour to be elected by my fellow councillors," he said. "I look forward to stepping into the role, assisting our Mayor and bringing our community together for the benefit of the people who live and work in Singleton."




Newly elected Deputy Mayor Cr Tony Jarrett who said he has 'big shoes to fill'



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Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

Our community welcomed the New South Wales Governor His Excellency General David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) last Monday, for a two day visit to the region. It was wonderful to welcome His Excellency and Mrs Hurley to our local government area. On Monday Branxton hosted the Governor for a morning tea at the Branxton Community Hall and the Governor heard from school students, about the individual stories of local service men who would be remembered as part of the Branxton Greta Memorial Cycleway project. The Governor spoke about the importance of this project and acknowledged the dedication the community has to seeing the cycleway come to life. The community of Kurri Kurri provided the Governor with an update on a number of projects underway as part of marking the Centenary of Armistice. The visit also involved a special ceremony at Kearsley Community Hall, where the Governor unveiled plaques revealing the names



The New South Wales Governor His Excellency General David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd) & Mrs. Hurley being welcomed to the Branxton Community Hall prior to the Community Morning Tea.

of local men who enlisted and served in WWI. This was an intimate ceremony put on by the Kearsley Dawn Service Committee. It was very moving seeing some of our youngest Kearsley residents lay a rose in memory of each of these men. Congratulations to all the community members involved in hosting the Governor. You have all done our area very proud. On Tuesday we welcomed 20 new people not only into our community but into our nation. The Australian Citizenship Ceremony was a wonderful occasion providing all the attendees with an opportunity to reflect on how lucky we are to call Australia home. We welcomed people from many corners of the globe including from the United Kingdom, Fiji, Italy, Canada, the United States of America, Thailand and India. Council has been extremely

successful under Round Two of the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund. Council secured \$1.7 million for the Cessnock Local Government Area that will be invested into five community infrastructure projects. Bridges Hill Park Regional Themed Playground attracted the largest dollar figure with \$936,315 to be injected into the project. This will be a fantastic long term asset for our community benefiting all local residents. The playground includes fitness equipment, a multi-purpose hard court, a children's bicycle circuit and adventure playground. Branxton did extremely well under Round Two receiving \$400,616 for public domain works including pavement upgrades and tree planting along Maitland Street and for the development of the Branxton town centre. A grant of \$242,355 has also been offered for the

installation of a splash pad at Cessnock Pool and \$126,700 will be invested into upgrading toilets at community halls. Yesterday was a fantastic day for Millfield Public School as an underutilised space in the school underwent a garden overhaul. This was after the school took out the Garden Organics Garden Blitz competition. The Garden Blitz promoted our Garden Organics Service and completed the cycle from the garden organic bin to the garden bed. The mulch and soil conditioner used at Millfield was from our Garden Organics Service. It was great to join the crew who undertook the work for a BBQ and thank them for their hard work to transform the space. The school will also soon celebrate their 150 anniversary. Cessnock Library in assisting the community digitised their 125th Anniversary book and made it available via the online catalogue.

Raising the BARR DRIVING AS A TEAM WILL BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

There is currently a trial to have all vehicles on NSW roads slow down to 40kmh when they are approaching flashing red and blue emergency vehicle lights – Police, Fire, Ambulance. Of course, this is designed to make the work of our emergency service workers much safer. And on that, we can all agree. In any case, it has been my experience in 30 years of driving that people slow down around flashing lights already; as a caution, to sticky-beak and out of fear of being booked for speeding themselves. But that natural tendency to slow down is now law. But here is the thing that we all need to be very mindful of, particularly on high speed roads – trucks take a long time to slow down. I have written before that our road users need to be treating each other as though we were all playing a team game where we want everyone to win. It is obvious that we all want to use the road, get to where we are going and arrive safely. We can do this by creating space to help each other merge, by making allowances for errors, by being mindful of the needs of drivers in front of us, beside us and behind us. After all, none of us individually or personally own the road.



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

me in expressing concern about the coming bush-fire season. Recent events, predicted temperatures, and the big dry suggest we are in for a shocker. We ask people to give early thought to preparation including simple things like cleaning house gutter systems and removing any other unnecessary fuel sources in and around the property. I thank in advance our fire fighters who will give their time and risk their lives no matter when the emergency occurs. Let's do all we can to lighten their considerable load. Finally, let's end the arguments about climate change. It's a fact that the climate is changing in challenging ways and we should be doing all we can to both mitigate causes and to adapt to harsher conditions. Let's think about our children and our grandchildren. Cheers, Joel



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Member for Hunter

GRETA ARMY AND MIGRANT CAMP

Next year marks the 80th Anniversary of the establishment of the Greta Army Camp and the 70th Anniversary of its transformation into a Migrant Camp. I recently lodged a motion in the Parliament calling upon the Federal Government to ensure the occasion is appropriately commemorated and celebrated. Paterson MP Meryl Swanson seconded my motion. Throughout the course of WWII, up to 60,000 soldiers of the Second AIF trained in Greta. It was one of the Army's largest camps. That means Greta played a significant role in the war effort and it's a history worth commemorating. Then between 1949 and 1960, 100,000 new arrivals passed through the former army barracks. Most were fleeing the horrors of post WWII

If you spot a flashing red and blue light on the road please take a moment to look for, and think about, any trucks and large vehicles that might be around you. You might need to quickly weigh up the need to get your own speed below 40kmh and the ability of the nearby large vehicle to match your rapid slow down. This might require you to shift lanes, or take a longer time to slow down or perhaps even just leave a much larger gap between you and the car in front of you just in case you need to create extra space for something coming from behind. Keep your eyes on your rear vision mirror and your side mirrors. Of course we want our emergency services workers to be safe, but I also want you and your family and our heavy vehicle drivers to be safe too.

(OPTIONAL) A FINANCIAL QUICKIE FROM NSW BUDGET

The NSW Government is patting itself on the back about a budget surplus this year. One might assume that this means that they are spending less money than they are receiving as income. Wrong! In NSW this year the NSW Government will borrow \$10.5 billion – that's \$10 500 million dollars. Sure, at the end of the year they expect to have \$3.5 billion left over, but seriously, we are \$7 billion (\$7,000 million) further in debt as a result. If you borrowed \$105 from a bank, spent \$70 and still had \$35 in your wallet, would you think of yourself as being (a) financially ahead; or (b) in debt to the bank?

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.

Cheers, Clayton



Clr Melanie Dagg - Deputy Mayor & Cessnock City Councillor representing Ward 'C'

CESSNOCK CORRECTIVE CENTRE

The entrance to Cessnock Gaol was on our agenda last week after a campaign by Nulkaba residents to keep the new proposed entrance off local, residential roads. Now, the expansion of the Gaol was able to be pushed through Parliament due to a sneaky legislative amendment which allowed it to bypass Council altogether. The Labor team door knocked residents of hospital hill before the last election and we campaigned on firstly, stopping the

expansion and secondly, if that wasn't an option, then the State Government investing in this community as a trade-off for forcing the expansion on us. We wanted the entrance moved to a position where it had a direct link from state roads, not through local rate-payer funded roads. We wanted investment in Cessnock Hospital due to the eventual increased demand from inmates and we also wanted an upgraded Police Station as Cessnock's was no longer fit for purpose and was not big enough to house all the officers. The Government came to the party and announced an upgrade to the Station, which we will welcome once it is built but there has been nothing for the hospital and a long-standing game of ducks and drakes in relation to the entrance. It all came to a head last Wednesday night after a "fact sheet" had been shared with the community. Anger boiled over at the thought of moving the problem from one residential area on hospital hill down to Kerlew Street and the residents of Nulkaba. As a result Council confirmed its position that the current access to the Centre was to be closed and that new access be created via direct route to the State road network to reduce the impact on local roads. However, this is ultimately a State issue about a State asset and the decision will sit with the State, but Council backs our Member, Mr Clayton Barr in pushing the preferred option and we will continue to lobby as hard as we can to ensure that not only does the State adopt this option, but that it also improves its community consultation, which to this point has been pretty poor.

LOCAL WORKS

Grant funding has been received which will be put to good use. The first lot was for the installation of lovely banners along the New England Highway. Greta to improve the streetscape and allow for themed banners at times of social importance such as Armistice Day and other times. The second lot of funding was received under the Stronger Country Communities Fund and will be used for pavement improvements and street tree planting along Maitland Street, Branxton and a further \$280,000 for the Branxton Town Centre. I'll finish my column this week with a note about my recent election as Deputy Mayor. It is a tremendous honour and I intend to do my absolute best to work even harder each and every day for this LGA. I love this community and believe we are incredibly lucky to live in such a picturesque part of the world, surrounded by a beautiful landscape and beautiful people. Councillors and Council generally may not be thought of favourably all the time, but the people working in these positions I'm thankful every day for the honour of serving the community, its more fulfilling than I ever imagined, and I look forward to focusing my efforts on key projects that will have positive impacts for years to come. Cheers, Melanie



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

It's a tag line from a movie about baseball, but the old adage that 'if you build it, they will come' holds water when it comes to an arts and cultural space for Singleton. The idea has long been on the community's priorities list going back to the Singleton Community Social Plan 2004/2005 and most recently, the Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027. But competing priorities has meant Council's budget hasn't yet been able to stretch to make it a reality. That's not to say we haven't been working on it. The Singleton Arts and Cultural Centre in Townhead Park is more than an idea – it's a concept for an architecturally-designed home for an exhibition space, artists' workshops and a media area, which would complement the existing Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre and café. All that stands between the arrival of travelling exhibitions and artists-in-residence is the \$3.5 million price tag. We all know the contribution that Singleton makes to the NSW economy and the importance of our coal mines not only the viability of Macquarie Street, but also the wellbeing of every individual across our State. The importance of the arts to the vibrant communities across is also well-documented, and in most parts of NSW well-resourced. In some cases, facilities such as art galleries may well have been funded from the mining royalties collected right here in Singleton. So I'm making a pitch to NSW Minister for the Arts, Don Harwin and the State Government to join with Council to create a community facility that would strengthen the Singleton economy through greater diversification, reducing the reliance on mining; transform Townhead Park into a regionally-recognised destination; and most importantly, be used and enjoyed by generations to come. And I can assure Minister Harwin that our concept is more realist than abstract. Council has a strong business case for the development of such a facility for Singleton, including a \$7.3 million economic benefit, new jobs and increased tourism. With a State election on the horizon and our community's wish for an arts and culture centre clearly captured in our Strategic Plan, such a facility could just be a masterpiece for the Berejiklian Government's campaign. Cheers, Sue

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PHARMACY ADVISOR**Understanding drug interactions**

Sometimes one medicine can mix badly with another in your body, and this can change how strongly the medicines work or whether they have side effects. This is called an interaction, and it can also happen when medicines mix with certain foods or drinks (including alcohol).

What are interactions, and when are they most likely? Interactions are when another medicine, food or drink (including alcohol) changes how a medicine works, or changes its side effects in some way. These interactions may be serious.

Interactions can be caused in many ways, but the most common are:

- by making your body absorb or get rid of a medicine slower or faster than usual; this can mean your usual dose is either too strong or not strong enough

- by adding together two or more medicines that when combined will give you too strong an effect, which can happen if you are taking two medicines that do similar things in your body.

Interactions are most likely to cause problems when you:

- start taking a medicine
- stop taking a medicine
- increase the dose of a medicine.

Ask your health professional if there are any likely interactions you should know about when you are starting a new medicine, and watch out for unexpected symptoms in the first few days after your medicines change in any way. Interactions between different medicines

Many, but not all, medicines can interact with each other. Although some interactions between medicines are well known, it can be difficult to predict whether a specific person taking the medicine will be affected. The more medicines you are taking, the more likely interactions are. Older people, people with chronic illnesses and young children are more likely to experience interactions because their bodies do not handle medicines as well as **other people's**. But interactions can happen to anybody who takes a combination of medicines.

Always tell your health professional about any other medicines you are using, including complementary or alternative medicines and supplements. Keeping a Medicines List will help you remember all the medicines you are taking.

Interactions between medicines and food. Some medicines should not be taken with meals or certain foods and drinks, because the medicine and the food interact in some way.

All medicines have their own particular instructions about when to take them. Pay attention to these because all medicines are different. Every time you are prescribed a new medicine, ask your health professional if there are any special instructions about food or drink, and check for any instructions on the **medicine's label and in its CMI leaflet in the 'How to take it' section.**

Interactions between medicines and alcohol

Alcohol interacts with many medicines, including some prescription, pharmacy and complementary medicines. The effects of combining alcohol and medicine depend on the type and dose of the medicine, the amount of alcohol consumed, and also on personal factors, such as genetics, gender and other health conditions. In general, women and older people are more likely to experience such interactions, because they are more susceptible to the effects of alcohol.

It can take several hours for alcohol to be removed from the body. Therefore, interactions don't occur only when you consume medicines and alcohol at the same time. Rather, they can occur at any time that you have a significant amount of alcohol in your body.

Always check your medicine's label, and avoid alcohol if this warning is given. If you are unsure about drinking alcohol while taking a medicine, ask your health professional for advice.

When alcohol doesn't mix well with medicines

Sleeping, anti-anxiety and antidepressant medicines - alcohol can increase the effects of medicines that relax or sedate the body, such as sleeping tablets, anti-anxiety medicines and antidepressant medicines. The increased drowsiness and dizziness may make it harder for you to think clearly and affect your physical co-ordination. This may make you more prone to falling and impair your ability to do things like drive a car.

Cough, cold, allergy and travel sickness medicines - many cough, cold, allergy and travel sickness medicines bought from pharmacies contain ingredients that relax or sedate the body. These ingredients may interact with alcohol to cause increased drowsiness and dizziness.

Painkillers - some common painkillers, such as aspirin, celecoxib (Celebrex), ibuprofen (e.g. Nurofen) and naproxen (e.g. Naprosyn), can interact with alcohol to cause stomach upsets, stomach bleeding and ulcers. In general, the occasional drink or two is unlikely to cause problems, but regularly having more than three alcoholic drinks a day may increase your risk of stomach problems with these medicines.

Mixing grapefruit with medicines - Chemicals in grapefruit can affect how medicines work in the body. It has been known for some time that certain chemicals in grapefruit (known as furanocoumarins) can interfere with the way your body metabolises or processes many medicines in the intestine (gut) or liver before they reach your bloodstream. When this happens, more of a medicine may get into your body, making it work too strongly or causing unwanted side effects.

This happens because of their effect on 'CYP3A4' — an enzyme involved in metabolising many medicines. Medicines need to be taken orally (e.g. in the form of a tablet or liquid) to be affected by grapefruit because grapefruit mainly affects this enzyme in the gut.

Some other citrus fruits might have a similar effect. Bitter oranges (e.g. Seville oranges) and limes may also cause interactions with medicines. Other citrus fruits such as sweet oranges and lemons don't have this same effect.

Many medicines are already known to interact with grapefruit

Several prescription, over-the-counter or complementary medicines (herbal, 'natural', vitamin and mineral) are known to interact, or potentially interact, with grapefruit. Common examples include some types of medicines for heart conditions, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, infections, epilepsy, depression, anxiety and sleep problems.

Side effects that are caused by these interactions

The exact side effects from interactions vary and depend on the medicine, but some are serious.

Serious side effects have occurred when certain medicines are taken with grapefruit, including:

- complete heart block (resulting in a very slow heart beat)
- torsade de pointes (rapid heartbeats that can lead to sudden death)
- rhabdomyolysis (severe damage to skeletal muscle that can lead to kidney damage)
- nephrotoxicity (kidney damage)
- myelotoxicity (damage to bone marrow)
- respiratory depression (reduced or slowed breathing).

Consuming any part or form of grapefruit can cause an interaction

The whole fruit including the juice and peel contain furanocoumarins, the chemicals that can interact with medicines.

For this reason, people who take medicines that may interact with grapefruit are usually advised not to eat grapefruit or drink grapefruit juice at all. People may also be advised to avoid other related fruits that could interact with medicines.

Interactions can result from just one serve of grapefruit. Even one glass of juice or one grapefruit can have an effect on a medicine, and an interaction can occur even when the grapefruit or juice is eaten or drunk at a different time. The severity of the interaction may also depend on how often you consume grapefruit or grapefruit juice.

How to avoid harmful interactions

Find out whether any of your medicines interact with grapefruit juice by talking to your doctor or pharmacist, or read the 'Taking other medicines' section of the consumer medicine information (CMI) leaflet. You can download the CMI for your medicine from the NPS [Medicine Finder](#) or ask your pharmacist or doctor to print it out for you.

Get advice from your doctor or pharmacist if you're taking a medicine that may interact and you want grapefruit in your diet. Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss your risk of an interaction with you and suggest an alternative treatment if appropriate.

Call the [NPS Medicines Line](#) on 1300 MEDICINE (1300 633 424) to get information about interactions with your prescription, over-the-counter and complementary medicines (herbal, 'natural', vitamins and minerals) from a pharmacist.

Call the [Adverse Medicines Events \(AME\) Line](#) on 1300 134 237 if you suspect that your medicine is causing a problem and you're worried about using it. AME line provides consumers with an avenue for reporting and discussing adverse experiences with medicines.

Acclaimed Author, Jackie French Visits Cessnock local government area



Renowned children's author, Jackie French visited the Cessnock Local Government Area for a two day visit with local schools last week.

Ms French inspired and entertained 1500 students from numerous schools including, Cessnock High, Kitchener Public School, Bellbird Public School, Cessnock Public School, East Cessnock Public School, West Cessnock Public School, St Patricks Public School, Millfield Public School, Laguna Public School, Paxton Public School, Nulkaba Public School, Pelaw Main Public School and Stanford Merthyr Public School.

Ms French also did a free all ages talk at Kurri Kurri Library last Wednesday evening to an audience of 70 people.

Library Services Co-ordinator Rose-marie Walters said we were honoured to host a visit from Jackie as part of Regional Arts NSW Country Arts Support Program.

A strong message from Jackie French was about the importance of reading, of libraries and the power of words to change the world.

"The best place of all to

actually learn not just about yourself but about other people, about other generations of people, other cultures, other languages,

Ms Walters said this was an important message especially considering that Ms French herself struggled with reading and

other ideas, other religions, who you can be, who people have been, is here in the library. It's here in all of these books and the librarians are basically the custodians of all that is greatest in humanity."

dyslexia.

As part of Jackie's visit Cessnock City Library held a membership drive for school students and their families with hundreds of new membership cards delivered during the school visits.

To acknowledge Jackie's passion for wildlife and wombats and to thank her for visiting Cessnock, several of the schools fundraised with a book sale and gold coin donation on the day with all proceeds going to the Cedar Creek Wombat Rescue Inc and Hospital.

■ *Photo above:* Jackie French with some of the 1500 students that she inspired

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Ingredients

4 green shallots, trimmed, thinly sliced, plus extra, to serve
2 garlic cloves, crushed
1 long fresh red chilli, thinly sliced, plus extra, to serve
2 teaspoons finely grated fresh ginger
60ml (1/4 cup) soy sauce
2 tablespoons honey
1 teaspoon sesame oil
4 x 200g skinless salmon fillets
500g broccoli, cut into florets
1 tablespoon olive oil
Steamed jasmine rice, to serve

Method

Step 1

Combine the shallot, garlic, chilli, ginger, soy sauce, honey and sesame oil in a large glass or ceramic dish. Add the salmon fillets and turn to coat. Set aside for 30 minutes to marinate.

One-pan salmon and broccoli bake



Step 2

Meanwhile, preheat oven to 200C/ 180C fan forced. Line a baking tray with baking paper. Place the broccoli in a bowl, toss with olive oil and season. Place on the prepared tray and roast for 15 minutes.

Step 3

Push the broccoli to the sides of the tray. Place the salmon fillets in the centre of the tray and drizzle with the marinade. Roast for a further 12-15 minutes or until the salmon is cooked through. Sprinkle with the extra green shallot and chilli. Serve with steamed rice.





drivers to realise some of their fellow road users are not as protected as they are. "All riders should ride according to their skills and ability and buy the best bike for their riding level." Summary of crashes - A 53-year-old male motorcyclist has died after a crash between a motorbike and car at Spencer, on the Hawkesbury River. About 11.30am yesterday (Sunday 23 September 2018) police attended Wisemans Ferry Road – between Berecree Road and Mangrove Creek Road – after reports of a collision. The motorcyclist from Wallsend died at the scene.

A 21-year-old man died following a motorcycle crash at Dubbo on Saturday. The crash occurred about 10.40pm (Saturday 22 September 2018), when emergency services were called Beddoes Avenue, following reports a male rider had crashed into a fence. The 21-year-old man died at the scene.

An 18-year-old man died and three people – a 17-year-old girl and two boys, aged 14 and 12 – were seriously injured when a car crashed and rolled near Armidale. The crash occurred about 5.15pm (Saturday 22 September 2018), emergency services were called to Castledoyle Road at Castle Doyle, about 11km east of Armidale.

A 46-year-old man died after a motorcycle crash at Blackbutt, near Shellharbour. Just after 2.30pm (Saturday 22 September 2018), a male rider was travelling north along Chillawong Circuit when it appears he has lost control and hit a tree. The 46-year-old local man died at the scene

About 2.20pm (Friday 21 September 2018), emergency services were called to Bangalow Road at Clunes, about 20km north-east of Lismore, following reports a motorcycle had collided with a tip truck and a Subaru Outback station wagon. The rider, a man believed

to be aged in his 50s, died at the scene. A man has died after the trail bike he was riding hit a tree at Rappville just south of Casino. Around 2pm (Saturday 22 September 2018), three men were riding trail bikes along Carwong Road when it appears one of the riders lost control and hit a tree. Emergency services attended the crash scene; however, the man was unable to be revived.

Two illegal motorcycles crushed – Operation RIDA

Friday, 14 September 2018 01:16:39 PM
Hunter Valley Police District officers are taking firm action against the riders of unregistered motorbikes in the local area.

Many complaints have been received by police of noisy, anti-social and illegal behaviour by riders. Operation RIDA (Report Illegal Dirtbike Activity) is a local operation targeting illegal riders on unregistered motorbikes upon public streets. Senior Constable Michael Steele said the number of people riding unregistered trail bikes is a big problem, especially in the Cessnock local government area.

"Two motorcycles were recently seized by Cessnock police. One motorcycle was seized after the rider lost control and crashed in the Cessnock CBD. The other motorcycle was seized after a rider was stopped while carrying an 18-month-old child on his lap while riding." said Senior Constable Steele.

To send a strong message that this behaviour is not acceptable, successful applications were made to the courts for the bikes to be forfeited to the crown and destroyed. If anyone has information about illegal riding activities they should contact Crime

Man charged following assault at railway station – Maitland

Sunday, 23 September 2018 08:10:57 PM

A man has been charged following an assault of another man at Maitland last weekend.

About 1.10am on Saturday 15 September 2018, a 45-year-old man was approached by another man while waiting at Maitland Railway Station, before being allegedly punched in the face and kicked. Officers from Port Stephens -Hunter Police District attended and located the injured man, who was treated by paramedics at the scene. He was taken to Maitland Hospital for treatment.

An investigation into the incident was launched and detectives (Sunday 23 September 2018), arrested a 23-year-old Rutherford man.

He was charged at Waratah Police Station with assault occasioning grievous bodily harm and assault occasioning actual bodily harm. He was granted conditional bail to appear in Maitland Local Court on 17 October 2018.

Personal Safety

Some good advise
Always be aware of your surroundings. If you feel you are in danger go to a place where there are plenty of people, like a shop or service station.

- What Should I Do?**
- * Always keep enough money for a taxi or telephone call
 - * Have your keys ready before you get to your home or car
 - * Carry a personal alarm or whistle if you have reason to feel unsafe
 - * Where possible, park your car in a busy, well lit area
 - * If someone in a car threatens you, run in the

opposite direction the car is facing
* If attacked, shout as loudly as you can.

If we stop one person from committing a crime, there is a good chance we will prevent them carrying out further crimes. We need you to provide us with any information you have on crime, even if you can't identify the offender.

Information retrieved may assist investigators to apprehend offenders and develop police and community crime prevention strategies.

- Please report all information including:
- * description of offenders
 - * direction offenders headed
 - * time
 - * details of offence
 - * car registration
 - * witness details

Nuisance Calls
Never give out personal information over the telephone to unknown callers

Nuisance callers will often try to upset you. As soon as you feel that a call is unusual, hang up. If the calls persist, contact your telephone service provider and seek their advice.

Out and About
Don't let the fear of crime rule your life and stop you from enjoying the things you like doing. A few simple precautions can considerably reduce your risk.

It is best not to carry large sums of money. Try to pay large bills by card.

If you carry a purse or bag, hold it under your arm or in front of you. Never leave it unattended. If you use a wallet, put it inside your jacket or a front pocket instead of your bag, then if your bag does get snatched your wallet will still be safe. Try not to carry more money than you need.

Visitors
If someone is at the door and you are alone and feel a bit frightened, pretend there is someone else in the house. If someone wants to use your telephone for an emergency, don't feel rude not to let them in. Offer to

make the call for them - if they are a genuine caller they will not mind. Be suspicious of people requesting entry to your home to check appliances or equipment. Ask to see their identity card and take time to look at it carefully before letting them in. If you are still unsure, ring their company to check. If in doubt, keep them out. Make sure your home number can be clearly seen from the street. This not only helps in emergencies, it makes it easier for visitors to find your home. Be discreet if you live alone. It is better not to indicate on house directories or name plates that you are a Ms, Miss, Mrs or Mr. Just use your surname.

Make arrangements to have regular contact with someone you trust. Try setting up a code like three rings on a telephone each morning or simply lifting your blind up at the start of each day so they know you're OK. Don't be afraid you will make things worse by involving the police. We can help you and protect you.

Call 000 in an emergency Residential - Home Safety

Some good advise

- * Display street number at the front of the house to assist emergency services to locate your home;
- * Ensure all perimeter fences are in good order and that gates are kept closed and locked to restrict unauthorised access to your property;
- * Trim trees and shrubs from around doors and windows so as not to provide concealment to intruders and increase visibility to and from the street;
- * Install quality security lights around the perimeter of your home to provide more effective illumination at night;
- * The power board to your home should be housed within a metal cabinet

secured with an electricity authority lock to restrict tampering;

- * All perimeter doors to your home should be of solid construction and fitted with quality dead lock sets to restrict unauthorised access to the home;
- * All perimeter windows should be secured with key operated locks to restrict unauthorised access;
- * Glass within doors and windows should be reinforced by either adhering a shatter resistant film, replacing with laminated glass or having quality metal security grilles or shutters fitted to restrict unauthorised access;
- * Record descriptions, models and serial numbers of all your valuables to assist in easy identification should they be reported lost or stolen;
- * Engrave your driver's licence number prefixed by the initials "NSW" on all items of value again to assist in easy identification;
- * Photograph jewellery and other collectables for easy identification.

* Consider having a monitored intruder alarm system installed. Obtain at least three quotes from licensed security companies;

* Garages should be locked to restrict access. Roller tilt and panel lift doors can be secured with additional lock sets in the form of hasp and staple or padlocks;

* Garden sheds should be securely anchored to the ground to prevent lifting. A suitable lock set should also be fitted;

* Garden tools, equipment and ladders should be locked away when not in use to prevent them being used to gain access to your home.

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

Call Mike at 'The News'

4938 1773

Helen Lowing, Proprietor & Licensee-in-Charge
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LAW REPORT

WITH

Gemma BUNNER BA/LLB (Hons), Acc Spec (Personal Injury) & Kerri SHAW B.Comm/LLB (Hons)

SHAW & BUNNER

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Removing feral pigs from the local area a priority



year round and when conditions improve after the drought, feral pigs will be one of the first species to recover, and every individual controlled now is a group we will not

Hunter Local Land Services is working with partners in the Singleton area to undertake a major feral pig control program, after increasing reports of sightings and damage from the community. During the rest of September and early October our Biosecurity Officers will be working with a number of large mining and industrial companies to undertake a strategic trapping and baiting control program on their properties. Biosecurity Officer Matt Kennedy said the ongoing drought is bringing feral pigs closer to populated areas, and they are impacting remaining pasture and feed supplies on local farms. "With the drought stretching into another

spring in the Singleton area we are seeing more pigs searching for scarce food and water and they are competing with livestock for these resources and also damaging crops," said Matt. "Feral pigs are known to carry a range of diseases that affect not just domestic animals, but also humans so it's vitally important they are removed. "We are also encouraging any local farmers that want to take part in the current control program to get in touch now, as it is not too late to join in." The program will see Hunter Local Land Services Biosecurity Officers work alongside employees from the various companies, to identify and target hotspots for feral pig activity. "Pigs continue to breed all

control later," said Matt. "It is great to see these large land managers in our region coming on board to target feral pigs, which can reside in remote bush and vegetated agriculture land but are now also coming closer to town because of the drought. "We want to build on this partnership and see more landholders and public land managers get involved so we can ensure the feral pig population in this area is appropriately managed." If you want to participate in the program or have seen feral pigs in your area please contact your local Biosecurity Officer for the Singleton area, Matt Kennedy on matt.kennedy@lls.nsw.gov.au or by phone 0428 686 178.

Helen Lawing, Licence-in-Charge with 30 years Real Estate experience in the local area.

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Greta Museum



Honours the sacrifices of our local Service People - Come in to see our displays and photographs about them, and many other subjects. Open Wed. & Sat. 11- 3pm 96 High Street Greta



tail gate of the truck. The defendant was charged with an offence on that basis that as a person who had a health and safety duty under Section 19(2) of the Act, it failed to comply with that duty and thereby exposed the employee of the horse float owner to a risk of death or serious injury. Section 19(2) of the Act states "A person conducting a business or undertaking must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the health and safety of other persons is not put at risk from work carried out as part of the conduct of the business or undertaking." The defendant sought an order dismissing the charge on the basis that on a proper construction of the Act, the employee of the horse float owner was not an "other person". The District Court had to

consider whether the employee of the horse float owner an "other person" for whose safety the defendant was responsible. The defendant argued that section the s19(2) duty should also be geographically limited to the workplace where a person conducting a business or undertaking owes a duty for an indeterminate time to an indeterminate class. The prosecutor pointed out that there was no language in section 19(2) which requires "other persons" to be at work or at a workplace, nor does it limit the duties to the period of time in which work was actually being carried out. The Court accepted this argument. In the case of *Safe Work NSW v Wagga Motors Pty Ltd* the employees of the horse float's owner were in proximity to the risk created by the tailgate, so they were "other persons" for the purposes of the vehicle repairer's work health and safety obligations.

Health and safety duty extends to "other persons"

The recent District Court case of *Safe Work NSW v Wagga Motors Pty Ltd 2018* provides an overview of how the health and safety duty under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (the Act) extends to "other persons". A horse float was taken to the defendant's premises to be repaired, including repair of an oil leak in the hydraulic tail gate. During the course of the repair, the oil level in the hydraulic system became low, creating a risk that when the locks on the tail gate were released that it could fall to the ground. The operation of the tail gate was not tested by the defendant before returning the truck to its owner. The owner drove the horse float back to his premises. An employee of the horse float's owner was required to weld a ladder on the truck before removing the partitions from inside it. The employee was found deceased, trapped under the



Housing prices continue to fall

Property prices across Australian capital cities fell in the June quarter 2018, according to the Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA). The weighted average median price decreased by 0.8 per cent for houses and 0.3 per cent for other dwellings. The *Real Estate Market Facts* report shows the weighted average median price for houses across Australia slid to \$765,098 over the quarter, with prices dropping in all capital cities except Brisbane, Adelaide and Hobart. REIA president, Malcolm Gunning, says the weighted average median price for other dwellings decreased to \$590,935 over the quarter, with prices falling in all capital cities except Melbourne, Brisbane, Hobart and Darwin. Prices falling across Australia "Canberra had the largest fall

in house prices and Adelaide had the largest decline in other dwellings," he says. "Adelaide has both the lowest median price for houses at \$471,000 and the lowest median price for other dwellings at \$354,167. "Over the quarter, the median rent for three-bedroom houses increased in Canberra and Darwin, remained steady in Perth and decreased in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Hobart. The median rent for two-bedroom other dwellings increased in Canberra and Hobart, remained steady in Perth and decreased in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Darwin. "Hobart had the largest increase while Brisbane



had the largest decrease." Gunning also says the weighted average vacancy rate for the eight capital cities fell to 2.5 per cent during the June quarter 2018. This indicates a tighter rental market. Canberra has the tightest market with a vacancy rate of 0.8 per cent. "Over the past 12 months, loan numbers have decreased by 3.8 per cent across the country with declines in all states and territories except Tasmania," he continues. "The largest decrease of 13.6 per cent was in Western Australia. In Sydney and Melbourne – the two cities which have had the largest price increases over the past few years – the drop in loans is attributable to APRA restrictions on investment loans and more stringent home lending criteria. "The June quarter figures reflect reports of a changing dynamic in the market, particularly in the nation's major cities." **Impact on NSW house prices** Over the June quarter 2018, the median house price in Sydney fell to \$1,144,217. This is a decrease of 1.4 per cent over the quarter and 4.5 per cent over the year. Inner Sydney and Middle Sydney median house prices both decreased, but

Outer Sydney saw a small increase of 0.6 per cent. The median price for other dwellings also fell to \$737,000, a decrease of 0.5 per cent over the quarter and 3.5 per cent over the year. **Rent returns also decreasing** Over the June quarter 2018, the median rent for three-bedroom houses in Sydney decreased to \$500 per week, falling 3.8 per cent over the quarter but remaining steady year on year. Median rents for all size houses in Sydney remained steady or decreased over the June quarter 2018. Decreases ranged from 1.0 per cent for two-bedroom houses in Sydney Middle to 2.6 per cent for two-bedroom houses in Sydney Outer.

What is owner-builder work?

Owner-builder work is any work, including supervision and coordination of the construction, alterations, repairs or additions to a property:

- where the reasonable market cost (including labour and materials) exceeds \$10,000, and
- which relates to a single dwelling-house, dual occupancy or a secondary dwelling that:

requires development consent under Part 4 of the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, or

is a complying development within the meaning of that Act. ***Note:** an owner-builder permit will only be issued regarding a dual occupancy in cases of special circumstances. **Should I do owner-builder work?** An owner-builder permit is for people who have the skill or capacity to build their own house or supervise construction work. While an owner-builder permit is not a builder's licence, as an owner-builder, you are responsible for the building work as a fully licensed builder would be. **What are my responsibilities?** As an owner-builder, you are responsible for:

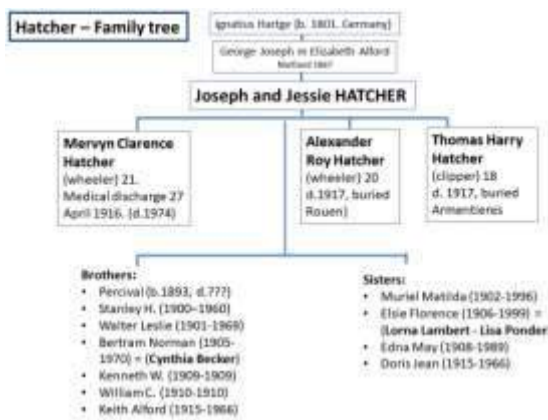
- overseeing and supervising all tradespeople
- ordering materials and managing the building site
- obtaining all necessary council and authority approvals
- ensuring that the financial, taxation and insurance requirements of the building work are met and fully comply with all laws being aware of your

obligations under the *Workers Compensation Act 1987* and the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* to provide a safe work environment that complies with SafeWork NSW requirements. Significant penalties may apply if you don't meet this obligation. Our dealing with hazardous materials page has more information on some possible risks, such as asbestos and lead

- ensuring any contractor engaged is appropriately licensed and insured to do the work contracted for warranting that the materials and work will be fit for the purpose and result in a dwelling that can be occupied.

How do I get an owner-builder permit? To get an owner-builder permit, you must lodge an owner-builder permit application either: **online using the online application form and process in person at a Service NSW centre.** **What are my limitations under the permit?** An owner-builder permit is not a building licence. It does not allow you to do:

- work other than the project covered by the development application or complying development certificate
- specialist work such as electrical, plumbing, gasfitting, airconditioning and refrigeration work (unless you hold a licence for such work).



Dead Man Penny



Dead Man Penny

Hatcher
Just 3 days after Mervyn's enlistment, on 3 December 1915, **Alexander Roy** also joined the 35th Battalion as a private, Regimental No. 456 and needed to have his parents' permission to enlist. He had also been serving in the 14th Infantry.

Alexander was 20 years and three months of age, standing 5 ft. 5 in. (1.65 m), weighing 125 lb. (56.8 kg) with a medium complexion, hazel eyes and brown hair.

After training in Broadmeadow, he sailed from Sydney with the 35th Battalion, D Company, and disembarked on 9 July 1916 at Plymouth, England. The Battalion then proceeded to France on 21 November 1916 from Southampton. On the 7th June 1917, Private Hatcher received a gun-shot wound to the left hand which was addressed by the Casualty Clearance Station. On the 8th June 1917 Private Hatcher was admitted to the 1st Canadian Hospital at Etaples for treatment. From Etaples, he was transported to England on the Hospital Ship *Essequibo*, being admitted to hospital in England on the 12th June 1917.

Private Hatcher remained hospitalised until he was furloughed from hospital on 19th July 1917 until the 28th July when he joined No. 3 Command Depot on

Pernham Down. At No. 3 Command Depot Private Hatcher undertook physical fitness training to prepare him to return to his unit in France. On the 18th of August 1917 Private Hatcher was transferred out of Command Depot No. 3 and into the Overseas Training Brigade, the role of which was to "toughen up" soldiers before they entered the fighting in Europe. Private Hatcher returned to France via Southampton arriving at the 3rd Australian Divisional Base Depot at Rouelles and marched out to join the 35th Battalion on the 22nd September 1917. On the 1st October 1917 Private Hatcher received a gun-shot wound to his right thigh. He was treated at the Casualty Clearance Station and transferred to the Ambulance Train on the 6th of October 1917. On the 7th of October Private Hatcher was admitted to the 12th



St Johns Church Pulpit

General Hospital at Rouen where he succumbed to his wound on 23rd October 1917. Private Alexander Roy Hatcher is buried at the St Sever Cemetery Extension at Rouen, France. The Hatcher family accepted Alexander's 1914/15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal. During 1922 the Hatcher family also received a copy of *Where Australian's Rest*, the Memorial Scroll and Plaque.

Thomas Harry Hatcher **Thomas** enlisted on 12 January 1916 with his parents' permission and joined the 34th Battalion, D Company as a Private, Regimental No. 1144. Thomas was 18 years and 11 months of age, standing 5 ft. 6 in. (1.67 m), weighing 129 lb. (58.5 kg) with a fair complexion, brown eyes and brown hair. Private Hatcher sailed from Sydney to Plymouth, arriving there on the 23rd June 1916 on board HMT *Aragon*. After training in England, 34 Battalion proceeded to France through Southampton on the evening of the 21st November 1916. On the 27th January 1917, Thomas Harry Hatcher was killed in action. He rests in the Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery at Armentiers, France. Thomas Hatcher was awarded the 1914/15 Star, the British War Medal and the name Hatcher, T.H. is inscribed on a memorial panel of the Branxton Memorial Rotunda. Joseph Hatcher, Thomas' next of kin received a photograph of his grave in France during May 1920 and this was followed by a Memorial Scroll and a Memorial Plaque. Thomas' middle name was incorrectly cast on the Memorial Plaque reading Henry rather than Harry. During January 1923 a corrected Memorial Plaque was sent to the family. **Memorial** Of the three sons who enlisted, the Hatcher family had lost 2 sons within 9 months, the other son

returned home with health issues. A memorial service was held at St Johns Church, Branxton on 13 January, 1918. A Holy Table, in the form of an altar and a pulpit, made of carved oak, were donated by Joseph and Jessie Hatcher in memory of their sons. The altar and pulpit, which are of high quality design and manufacture, are highly venerated and remain in use in worship to this day in the church, holding prominent positions within the magnificent building. The brass plaque on the Pulpit reads: 'Dedicated by Mr. & Mrs Joe Hatcher in loving memory of their son, Private Thomas Harry Hatcher, aged 20, killed in France, Jan 27, 1917 while fighting for King and Country'. The brass plaque on the Altar reads: 'Dedicated by Mr and Mrs Joseph Hatcher in loving memory of their son Alexander Roy A.I.F. died of wounds received in France 23.10.17 while fighting for King & Country'.

Acknowledgements The people who have contributed to the research, writing, photographs, narration and printing of this article on behalf of the Branxton Greta Memorial Cycleway Limited are hereby recognized for their contribution, without which, the article could not have been produced. We wish to especially thank the descends of the Hatcher family including Mrs. Cynthia Becker, East Branxton, Mrs. Lorna Lambert, Lower Belford, Noel Lambert and Lisa Ponder in Queensland. Mrs. Dianne Davis of Sawtell, a distant cousin of the family, Mrs. Neridah Kentwell from the Greta Historical Museum and Alan Beckley from Branxton. Additionally, we would like to thank Mr. David Harrower for making his collection and photographs available for this article. *Kevin Driscoll Branxton Greta Memorial Cycleway Limited* www.bgms.org.au



The Hatcher brothers

One local family's incredible sacrifice in the Great War

The Hatcher family story starts in Germany with their ancestor, Ignatius Hartge, born 1801, who brought his family to Australia in 1849. The German surname was changed to Hatcher upon arrival in New South Wales, although some members of the family changed the surname to Hartcher, related to the Brown family of Cessnock. The Hatcher family's German heritage was in common with the most famous Australian military commander, General Sir John Monash, GCMG, KCB, VD. George Joseph (known as Joseph) was the son of Ignatius; he was born in Germany and became a naturalized Australian in

1906. George was married in Maitland in 1867 to Elizabeth Alford and had a son, Joseph. Joseph married Jessie May Hughes in 1893 in Greta and lived at Summerhill near Branxton, where they were described as dairy farmers, and had a total of 14 children; ten boys and four girls. Joseph and Jessie had three sons who enlisted for military service at West Maitland: Mervyn Clarence, Alexander Roy and Thomas Harry who had all been born in Branxton. All three boys were employed in the local area in the mining industry looking after horses; Mervyn and Alexander were wheelers who act as guides for horses and Thomas was a clipper who connects horse and cart to the mine winch cables. The lives and fortunes of the three boys, during their time in the Australian Imperial Force, will now be recounted in order of their

age:
Mervyn Clarence Hatcher The first to enlist was **Mervyn Clarence** on 30 November 1915. He had already been in the local 14th Infantry Regiment for over 3 years. Most of the local boys were in that regiment as part of the government's regulation to prepare the country for war. He was accepted as a private in the 35th Battalion, Regimental No. 457, and was sent to Broadmeadow Camp for training. Mervyn was described as 20 years and seven months of age (although as he was born in 1894 he was possibly 21), 5 ft. 5 in (1.6 m) tall, weighing 122 lb. (55.3 kg) with a medium complexion, brown eyes and brown hair. Whilst at Broadmeadow Camp undertaking training Private Hatcher frequently attended sick parade complaining of pains in the abdomen. On the 27th April 1916, Private Hatcher was the subject of a Medical Review and as a result he was medically discharged from the AIF. The name Hatcher, M.C. appears on a memorial Panel of the Branxton Memorial Rotunda. Mervyn died in 1974. Alexander Roy



St Johns altar



Natives Bee Workshop

Venue: Elderslie Community Hall, 758 Elderslie Rd, Elderslie
Date & time: 14th October 2018 starts 0930 & finishes 1230
Presenter: Dr. Tobias Smith from Sugarbag Bees in Queensland
Participants: limited number
Funded by Singleton Shire & Lamb Valley Landcare
Free admission with morning tea
Please book as soon as possible with Ah Moi by email (ah.moi@hotmail.com) or phone **M: 0401 921 837**

East Branxton



Low Maintenance 2 Bedroom Unit
Are you seeking your first home or maybe an investment. Well this is the opportunity to buy at a low price. A brick and tile two bedroom unit with a large open living area and large bedrooms. The property has its own private outdoor space and internal access to the garage. Updated Bathroom and Strata managed with low fees. It is currently tenanted at \$260 per week. Situated on a quiet street and conveniently located close to the Hunter Expressway
ASKING \$275,000

East Branxton

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 under-cover entertainment area, large double lock-up garage, in quite area. New carpet & blinds.
ASKING \$350,000



Branxton



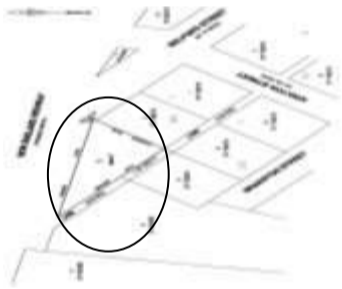
One for the Handyman
The bones are good ~ just needs to be tidied up.
Three good sized bedrooms, sep lounge, eat-in kitchen opening onto back decking. Good sized block.
ASKING \$299,000 Neg

Branxton

Beautiful old home with many special features of a by gone era. Features include polished Floors, high ceilings, 2 large bedrooms with builtins, separate dining, modern kitchen with dishwasher, spacious lounge room with split air con, large entertainment area at rear & free standing double garage. All this on a low maintenance fully fenced block.
PRICE: All reasonable offers considered



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

NORTH ROTHBURY



Lots 521 & 523 Littlewood Road,
Vacant blocks
4ha (10 acres) very private bush blocks. Fully Fenced & within minutes to Hunter Wine Country
ASKING: \$420,000 each



Vacant Land 809m²

Vacant Building Block
Fantastic visage

ASKING \$130,000 ONO

East Branxton



Solid Home ~ Solid investment
This brick & Tile family home is potential plus+. Features include:-
* Spacious formal & informal living areas * Country feel kitchen * Builtins in all bedrooms * Modern bathroom & 1 extra * Enclosed BBQ area * Massive shedding to house all your 'grown up' toys (boats, caravans etc.) * Set on 1183sm fully fenced block
INSPECTION RECOMMENDED

ASKING \$550,000



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 x10.5m 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 ono

Greta army and migrant camp anniversaries & the return of the Silky Oak Festival



Troops from the 2/11th Battalion. They arrived at the camp on 15 December 1939 and were later joined by the 2/10th Battalion.

Federal Member for Hunter Joel Fitzgibbon wants Government support to ensure the anniversaries of the Greta Army and Migrant Camps are appropriately commemorated and celebrated. Backed by Member for Paterson Meryl Swanson, Mr Fitzgibbon moved a motion in the Parliament calling on the Government to do all it can to make the anniversaries a success. Mr Fitzgibbon has also asked the Government to assist in the establishment of a monument on the site with appropriate signage to assist families of migrants with links to the camp seeking to make a pilgrimage back to the site. "2019 marks the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Greta Army Camp in the Hunter electorate. It also marks the 70th anniversary of its transformation into a Migrant Camp," Mr

Fitzgibbon told the Parliament. "Throughout the course of WWII, up to 60,000 soldiers of the Second AIF trained in Greta. It was one of the Army's largest camps. That means Greta played a significant role in the war effort and it's a history worth commemorating. "Then between 1949 and 1960, 100,000 new arrivals passed through the former army barracks. Most were fleeing the horrors of post WWII Europe. "Our local communities remain enriched by the ongoing presence of many of the new arrivals and their children and grandchildren. In addition to commemorating and celebrating the 70th anniversary, we hope to ensure people who have an affinity with the former camp have somewhere and something prominent to visit.

"We must facilitate their pilgrimage and keep the memories and history alive." Prior to Mr Fitzgibbon's call the Braxton Greta Memorial Cycleway had decided to bring back to Greta a community event that was previously called the Silky Oak Festival. The event was held amongst the beautiful Silky Oak trees that line the main street of Greta which celebrated the huge effort of everyday men and women that have enlisted to serve our country in a number of wars from Federation to modern times. The event was held the closest Saturday to Armistice Day/ Remembrance Day each year and was last held in 1988. "We have planned to bring the event back, the event date will be the 9th November 2019, the event at this stage will not only pay homage to those

veterans from the area that served, it will remember the strong link to the military heritage of the Greta community. We plan to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Greta Migrant Camp and the sanctuary that the area afforded those people at the time and acknowledge the diverse culture that makes Australia an amazing country with a bright future. The day will have food stalls, displays of vintage military vehicles, programmed events, music and much more," said Brett Wild local business chamber president. "We will, also, in the coming days be discussing the involvement of the Australian Defence Force on this the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Greta Army Camp. Planning has already commenced & we will, over the coming months, plan to liaise with all interested groups to ensure its truly an amazing event. If you have questions or suggestions drop us an email to chairman@bgmc.org.au," said Brett. The Greta Army Camp was an Australian army camp built in 1939 near Greta. It was used for training soldiers of the Second AIF (2AIF) during World War II. The Australian army sold the site at auction in 1980. In November 1939, 2,930 acres (11.9 km²) of land was compulsorily acquired in the Allandale-Greta area to create one of the Australian Army's largest training camps.



"Chocolate City"

Built for the training of the 6th Division of the 2AIF because the existing Australian army facilities were occupied by Citizens Military Force units. The 2/11th Battalion arrived at the camp on 15 December 1939 and were later joined by the 2/10th Battalion. The camp facilities were expanded during the war, with two parts of the camp known as "Chocolate City", due to the brown-coloured oiled timber weatherboard

buildings in that part of the camp and "Silver City", due to corrugated iron Nissen huts built in that part of the camp. Citizens Military Force units were also trained at the camp, with up to 60,000 Australian soldiers trained during World War II. After the war, much of the field training areas were returned to grazing purposes, however the camp was required for the training of troops preparing to

join the occupation forces in Japan. In 1949, Greta Camp was transferred to the Department of Immigration and until 1960 it was used as a reception and training centre for European migrants with over 100,000 immigrants passing through the centre. The Army resumed control of the camp in 1962 and, after being used intermittently for training exercises. It was sold at auction by the Australian army in 1980.



Donation makes accessing fires easier

Hunter Valley District firefighters last week celebrated the arrival of their new equipment, two new Suzuki Trail Bikes and a custom-built trailer donated by Glencore . NSW Rural



Fire Service (NSW RFS) District Manager, Paul Best, was joined by Glencore representatives when the new equipment was at a special ceremony to mark the occasion. Mr Best said the \$50,000 package from Glencore provided NSW RFS with significantly increased capabilities across the District. "These new bikes and their trailer mean that fire fighters can quickly deploy to reported fires anywhere in the district. Once at the fire, they can provide

valuable intelligence and help fire managers make more informed decisions about tactics and, more importantly, appropriate advice and warnings to the community," Mr Best said. "These bikes can also be used to proactively patrol areas of known arson, or where lightning has occurred after dry storms, particularly in places that our four-wheel drive vehicles cannot access. Early detection of these fires gives us a better chance of containing

the fire to a smaller area." Glencore Coal's Community Relations Manager, Craig Strudwick, said the donation of the trail bikes continued the company's long-standing partnership with the service. "As a member of the Hunter community, we're very thankful for the service these

amazing volunteers provide 24-hours a day, seven days a week, and we're delighted to continue our support of them," Mr Strudwick said. We've been able to assist with some key donations, including the land on which the

Hunter Valley Fire Control Centre was developed. "We're hoping these trail bikes will further enhance the RFS's emergency response and its work in keeping our communities safe."

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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.

Development Consultation Forum continues to be a success



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

Councillor Bob Pynsent thanked attendees for their continued support of these forums and emphasised the importance of providing Council with feedback. "We've had nearly 400 attendees come to our forums since the inception of this initiative. These forums are a great opportunity to have an open dialogue and build on collaboration."

The forum featured a presentation from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's Michael Luchitti on the Low Rise Medium Density Code and the new Greenfield Housing Code. Attendees also got an

update on 'Easy to do business' off Blake Leeson from Service NSW. Council partnered with Service NSW to promote the online platform that offers a free service to business.

Council's Acting Strategic Planning Manager, Keren Brown provided an update on Council's strategic land use planning program and Council's Infrastructure Manager, Katrina Kerr gave an update on Council's infrastructure program and the traffic committee program.

One thing was clear, healthy growth continues in the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA).

The population has increased and is nearing 58,000 with a growth rate of about 1.6% each year. The LGA's total development value for the 2017/18 year to date in May was over \$313 million, up from \$100 million only five years ago. The data from the ABS does not yet include the data from June 2018. Council expects the figure to increase, another healthy indicator of the growth the LGA is experiencing.

Those interested in attending a future forum should contact Council's Planning and Environment Team on 4993 4100

Increased fines for dog attacks

The NSW Government has increased fines for owners of animals involved in a dog attack under the *Companion Animal Act 1988* (NSW). The fine has increased significantly from \$550 to over \$1300 under the new laws.

Cessnock City Council's Ranger Team Leader, Kurt Livens said the increased penalties have been introduced to encourage pet owners to be more responsible. "If you own a dog you need to be aware of your responsibilities. We want every

dog owner in the Cessnock Local Government Area to be aware of their responsibilities to ensure the welfare of the animal but also the safety of our community."

"Council recently launched a responsible pet ownership campaign and one of the key messages is about keeping your dog on a lead in areas that are not suitable for your pet to be

off-leash. If your dog does not socialise well with other dogs or people it should remain on a lead to ensure the safety of those nearby."

Other changes in the legislation include the ability for council rangers to declare a dog "potentially dangerous" if they believe it's likely to attack. Owners are now also required to get their animals registered at three months old rather than six months.

The Development Consultation Forum at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre on Wednesday was a milestone for Cessnock City Council, marking the tenth forum hosted by Council.

Cessnock City Mayor,

Dress in Pink High Tea for Women's Cancer

A note from the organiser

As you are aware this is my 4th year of hosting the 'Dress in Pink High Tea for Women's Cancer'. The tickets this year are \$15 per person.

I have a lovely lady, Brittney Maloney, who is the grand daughter of *Hunter Lifestyle Magazine* when it first started, and is donating her services as a photographer for the day.

I would like to thank Dawn from *Sue's Clothing of Rutherford* who is showcasing her clothes with local models from Branxton. I am extremely grateful of all the support from everyone.

The *Branxton Greta CWA* ladies are catering again and we all know that their food is delicious.

Also we have Nicole from Branxton Crib Box Café and also Alana & Marc Driver from Renew Energy & Electrical has sponsors this year.

The CWA ladies and I are excited for this year's High Tea which is to be a little different to what has happened in the past. People need to attend to see.

Many Thanks for your ongoing support. Details below

Cheers, Helen Scott



Branxton Greta Men's Shed Open Day

Men's Shed Week 2018 Theme – Celebrating Mateship

As part of the national annual Mens's Shed Week (September 24 till September 30) the Branxton Greta Men's Shed is holding an open day on Friday 28 September at our shed at 49 Branxton Street Greta. They are inviting all interested to come a see what

they do, how they do it, have cuppa & have a chat. Men's Shed Week is the annual opportunity to collectively showcase Men's Sheds to the world. It's a great chance to focus government, corporate partners, media and the community on the benefits and positive contributions Men's Sheds make to the Australian community.



Gosford Race Day
6th November 2018



The Rotary Club of Maitland are again organizing a fundraising event planned to take place on **Tuesday the 6th November 2018**. The "vintage train" will depart mid morning from Branxton (timetable to be advised nearer the date). After departing the train will pick up at allocated stations along the way. Relax and enjoy some magnificent scenery as we travel through the "Magnificent Hawkesbury Waterways". As the train meanders towards our destination you can relax and enjoy a complimentary Sparkling Wine or Soft Drink with Nibbles and/or Morning Tea. Upon our arrival in Gosford we will join a coach for a short journey and arrive at the Racecourse in time for the first race of the day.

PLEASE NOTE—Ticket Sales are to be offered in two differently Priced Packages:

Option 1—"GOLD PACKAGE" - \$155 per person entitles the ticketholder to the following: Return Train/Coach shuttle; Complimentary Wine or soft drink; Nibbles. Tea/Coffee will be served on both forward and return train travel; Admission to Racecourse & Race Program; A Deluxe Seafood Banquet as well as access to the Members area.



GOLD PACKAGE TICKETS ARE LIMITED and as such "tickets will be sold on a first in basis".

Option 2—"SILVER PACKAGE" - \$60 per person entitles the ticketholder to the following: Return Train/Coach shuttle; Complimentary Wine or soft drink; Nibbles; Tea/Coffee on both forward and return train trip. This package **DOES NOT** include lunch, however there are numerous eateries offering a wide range of foods for sale throughout the grounds.

BOOKING INFORMATION :

Further information and/or tickets please contact:

President Mike Lowing on : Ph: 0249 381 773 or Mobile 0414 757 826
or email: thenews1@gmail.com

Guests are permitted to take food/drinks on the train (due to space limitation small eskies only)
Departure times to be confirmed nearer to the date, but expect early morning (possibly 9.30am or thereabouts)

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

You are invited to

Branxton's 4th Annual Dress in Pink High Tea Fashion Extravaganza

featuring

Sue's Clothing, Rutherford

Maloney Designs, local photographer

With local models

Wednesday 10th October 2018
10:00am

Branxton Community Hall
Contact Helen 0427 047 024

Tickets \$15 to be pre purchased for women's cancer

Catering by Branxton Greta CWA Ladies

Proudly supported by Renew Energy & Electrical and Branxton Crib Box Cafe

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6 Maitland Street East Branxton Ph 49381226

The Oaks Restaurant

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Open Lunch & Dinner Wed—Sun

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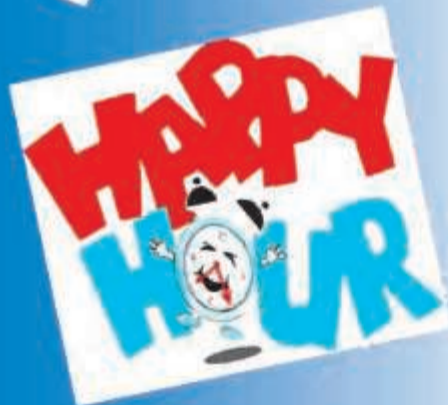
WHAT'S ON

Friday 28th September

PAT V'S CAT

Friday 5th October

COVER GIRLS



Members Badge Draw
Greta Workers

Wed \$1900 & Sun \$2600

Miller Park

Thurs \$1800 & Sun \$5000



Greta Workers
Fridays & Sundays

Miller Park

Fridays & Sundays

Courtesy Bus

Wed, Friday & Sundays

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SERVICING BOTH CLUB PREMISES



MEMBERS DINNER

Saturday 20th October, 2018

2 West Street, Greta.

\$30 Dinner & Show 6.30pm

Bookings essential, tickets available from club Phone 4938-7325.

Simply D'Vine Restaurant

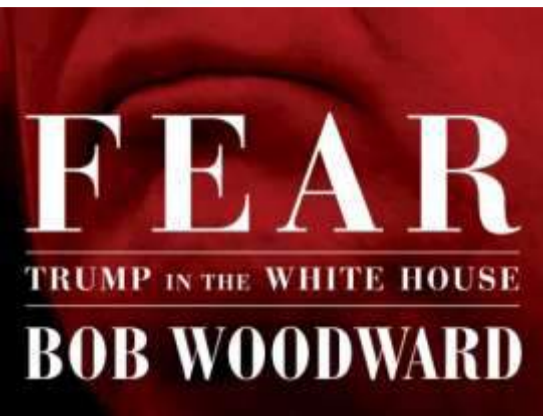
AT Miller Park

LUNCH 12PM—2PM

DINNER 6PM—9PM

WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY





Review - Bob Woodward's meticulous, frightening look inside the Trump White House

Jill Abramson

Jill Abramson, the former executive editor of the New York Times, is a columnist for the Guardian and senior lecturer in Harvard's English department. Her book "Merchants of Truth: The Business of Facts and the Future of News" will be published in January.

It's hard to imagine a more disturbing portrait of a president than the one Bob Woodward painted of Richard Nixon in his final days: paranoid, poisoned by power, pounding the carpet and talking to the portraits on the walls. But the early days of Donald Trump's presidency, as recounted by Woodward in his new book, "Fear," are strikingly similar and in some ways even more gut-wrenching. Then, as now, the country faced a crisis of leadership caused by a president's fatal flaws and inability to function in the job.

In both "Fear" and "The Final Days," which he co-authored with Carl Bernstein, Woodward shows how a federal criminal investigation clouds and then comes to obsess a president and paralyze the operations of the White House. At a moment when feverish talk of presidential impeachment dominates the political discourse, "Fear" is full of Nixonian echoes, including Trump's childishly short attention span and refusal to read briefing papers. Nixon's aides were instructed not to give him anything more complicated than a Reader's Digest article. "Fear" is an important book, not only because it raises serious questions about the president's basic fitness for the office but also because of who the author is. Woodward's dogged investigative reporting led to Nixon's resignation. He has written or co-authored 18 books, 12 of them No. 1 bestsellers; broken other major stories as a reporter and associate editor of The Washington Post; and won two Pulitzer Prizes. His work has been factually unassailable. (His judgment is certainly not perfect, and he has been self-critical about his belief, based on reporting before the Iraq War, that there were weapons of mass destruction.)

During Watergate, Woodward and Bernstein were often alone on the story. Now, the din of daily disclosure and opinion is almost deafening. But what was important about Woodward's meticulous reporting in the 1970s is even more invaluable today: His utter devotion to "just the facts" digging and his compulsively thorough interviews, preserved on tape for this book, make him a reliable narrator. In an age of "alternative facts" and corrosive tweets about "fake news," Woodward is truth's gold standard.

At a moment when social media and cable television are filled with journalists spouting invective about the White House and Trump blasts the press as "the enemy of the people," Woodward has clung to old-fashioned notions of journalistic objectivity. "My job is not to take sides," he told a Vox interviewer in March. "I think our job is not to love or loathe people we're trying to explain and understand. It is to tell exactly what people have done, what it might mean, what drives them, and who they are."

In his previous books about eight presidents, Woodward has always eschewed making judgments or inserting his own analytic spin. His insistence on relying on dialogue drawn from interviews has prompted harsh assessments from various critics, including the writer Joan Didion, who famously called him a "stenographer." (A reviewer for The Post, writing about his book "The Price of Politics," described his style as the "literary equivalent of C-SPAN3.") But these days Woodward's flat, reportorial tone seems like the perfect antidote to the adversarial roar on Fox or Twitter. The authority of dogged reporting, utterly denuded of opinion, gives the book its credibility.

There have been other insider accounts about the dysfunction of the Trump White House and the president's personal shortcomings, but none have been as revealing or convincing as "Fear," which is based on eyewitness recollections, often supplemented with dates and transcripts of conversations. Michael Wolff's "Fire and Fury" was a major bestseller but seemed overly reliant on its chief source, Steve Bannon, among other flaws. Another recent bestseller, "Unhinged," came from former White House aide and onetime "Apprentice" star Omarosa Manigault Newman, who had been fired and possibly had an ax to grind. The daily press, especially The Post and the New York Times, has offered periodic and tantalizing glimpses into the inner workings of the Trump White House and the

psyche of Trump himself. But "Fear" provides a more complete picture, based on multiple interviews with some of the president's closest advisers. Woodward resists the fast-paced reporting demanded by the Internet, visiting his subjects away from their offices and testing their memories again and again.

From the very first pages of the gripping prologue it is a shocking view. Woodward opens the book with a killer anecdote about how two of the president's closest advisers purposely thwarted his directives. In one instance, Trump had ordered up a letter announcing the U.S. withdrawal from a trade agreement with South Korea. His then-chief economic adviser, Gary Cohn, and then-staff secretary, Rob Porter, who are both obviously major sources for the book, recognize the letter for the disaster it is, so Cohn filches it off the president's desk. With Trump's fitful attention span, out of sight is out of mind. The ploy buys time and short-circuits an impulsive presidential decision that had gone through none of the proper vetting channels. (If the reader should doubt the authenticity of the anecdote, the prologue ends with a facsimile of the unsigned letter.) The suspenseful scene sets up the story to follow. "The reality was that the United States in 2017 was tethered to the words and actions of an emotionally overwrought, mercurial and unpredictable leader," Woodward writes. "Members of his staff had joined to purposefully block some of what they believed were the president's most dangerous impulses. It was a nervous breakdown of the executive power of the most powerful country in the world."

"Fear" supports this bracing assessment in a chronological trajectory, from the arrival of Bannon to lead the campaign in 2016 to the resignation, in March, of John Dowd, the lawyer representing the president in Robert S. Mueller's probe. Over and over again, there are vivid scenes that show feckless decision-making by Trump and then mad scurrying by his aides to undo the damage.

The episodes from the campaign are more familiar and less compelling, as is some of the palace intrigue that fascinates Woodward, including strife between advisers and Cabinet secretaries who are long gone (like former national security adviser H.R. McMaster, former secretary of state Rex Tillerson and Bannon). When Trump recedes for too many pages, as when Woodward gets bogged down in policy details, the reader's interest can flag.

Some of the more explosive anecdotes, including his current chief of staff calling Trump an "idiot" and Defence Secretary Jim Mattis ignoring an order from the president to assassinate Syria's President Bashar al-Assad, leaked out before the book's publication. Porter, the staff secretary, is consistently trying to derail and delay Trump's efforts to withdraw from treaties, not only the South Korean trade deal but also NAFTA and even NATO. These and other illustrations convey the panicked frustration of aides who see themselves as protecting the public from an out-of-control president. This is a recurring theme.

One vivid example involves the president's impulsive decision to bar transgender people from military service. As was customary, a decision memo had been prepared for him outlining four possible options, from maintaining the Obama policy of allowing transgender people to serve openly to an outright ban. But before he had even read the memo, Trump tweeted his decision to ban them, catching his defence secretary and the entire military leadership completely off guard. So they rebelled. Joseph Dunford, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, promptly responded by sending out a letter declaring the old policy unchanged until Mattis could issue guidance. Meanwhile, the federal courts entered preliminary judgments against Trump's decision. On Jan. 1, 2018, the Pentagon, under court order, began accepting transgender recruits. Woodward uses the scene to powerfully illustrate the chaos that invariably ensues from capricious governing by tweet.

As a profile of Trump, the book is devastating. Even the most jaded readers will be struck by numerous examples of his childishness and cruelty. He denounces his generals in such harsh language that his secretary of state cringes. He derides the suit McMaster dons for an interview as something a beer salesman would wear. He greets his national security adviser, whose briefings he finds tedious, by saying, "You again?" He imitates Attorney General Jeff Sessions's Southern accent and calls him "mentally retarded." He tells his 79-year-old commerce secretary, Wilbur Ross, that he has "lost it" and not to do any more negotiating.

Cohn, who comes as close as anyone in the book to being a principled character, is alarmed that Trump doesn't understand the rudiments of the economy. The president thinks it's inspired to call his tax cut measure, the only substantial legislation passed in his first year in office, the "Cut, Cut, Cut Bill." In childish scrawl on his edit of a speech, and reprinted in his hand in the book, the president writes, "Trade is bad." As Woodward explains it, "The president clung to an outdated view of America — locomotives, factories with huge smokestacks, workers busy on assembly lines." When Cohn presses Trump on why he clings to such beliefs, the president simply responds: "I just do. I've had those views for 30 years."

In previous books, Woodward has delved deeply into presidential decision-making and foreign policy. He devoted four books to President George W. Bush and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In "Fear," he tries to explore how policies on North Korea and Afghanistan evolve. But the Trump administration's approach is so inchoate and irrational that this proves difficult. The president seems completely detached and ill-informed about foreign affairs. He can't follow briefings, and when McMaster tries to outline policy options on Afghanistan, Trump explodes at McMaster, Mattis and his generals: "I want to get out. And you're telling me the answer is to get deeper in." The president continually threatens to withdraw all troops but is also strangely obsessed with getting the country's minerals. Woodward describes an elaborate attempt to school Trump on world affairs inside the Pentagon's famous and secure Tank, which, unsurprisingly and somewhat hilariously, ends in abject failure. Predictably, Trump is impressed by the gold carpets and curtains.

There are small, fascinating details scattered throughout, including that Trump doesn't ever touch a computer keyboard and that his answer in a deposition to what he did for a living took up 16 pages.

Jaw-dropping anecdotes are mostly told in Woodward's signature, understated narrative voice. Some of the writing, which is also typical of the Woodward oeuvre, is hackneyed: "Victory was as sweet as it got," "Sessions's recusal was a wound that remained open." Russian election interference is "another political football to kick around."

Another familiar Woodward habit is making harsh assessments about people who don't cooperate with him. (Trump, for one, was not interviewed for the book. In a phone conversation with Woodward in August, after the project was done, the president said that no one brought him an official interview request and that he would have talked.) Sources who play ball, on the other hand, get covered in kindness. Thus, it is unsurprising to find Porter described as someone who "ordinarily tried to remain an honest broker who facilitated the discussion."

Readers hoping for inside accounts of the Mueller probe or clues about where it will lead will be disappointed. Mainly, what Woodward provides are Dowd's worries that the president will surely perjure himself and wind up in an orange jumpsuit if he agrees to testify. Still, the lawyer doesn't think Mueller has much of a case. The book was completed before the conviction of Paul Manafort or the plea deal with Michael Cohen, Trump's longtime New York lawyer.

"Fear" ends on a cliffhanger, with Dowd's resignation. "But in the man and his presidency Dowd had seen the tragic flaw. In the political back-and-forth, the evasions, the denials, the tweeting, the obscuring, crying 'Fake News,' the indignation, Trump had one overriding problem that Dowd knew but could not bring himself to say to the president: 'You're a f***ing liar.'"

Lying, as it happens, was Nixon's undoing.

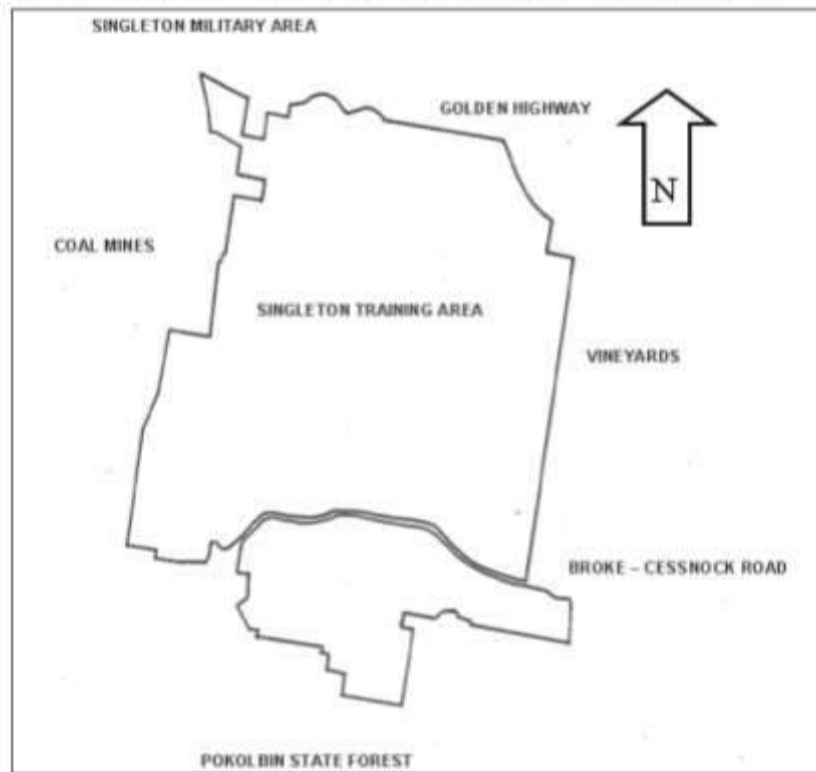
Fear

"Trump in the White House"

By Bob Woodward



WARNING NOTICE DEFENCE FIELD FIRING RANGES



Residents of areas adjacent to Singleton Training Area are warned it is a Defence 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 Defence Training Areas will be prosecuted.

Enquiries regarding the Singleton Training Area should be directed to:

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



Local Land Services seeking 13 local board members

Local Land Services is calling for nominations from community members to join regional boards around the state.

The 13 Minister-appointed roles will be recruited for the Northern Tablelands, North West, South East, Western, Central Tablelands, Hunter and Murray Local Land Services regions.

Local Land Services State Chair, Richard Bull said joining the Local Land Services board is an excellent opportunity to make a difference to land management in NSW. "We're here to make a difference, and a big part of that is drawing on the experience and talent of our board members.

"Our boards share our vision to see resilient communities in productive, healthy landscapes."

Mr Bull said the new staggered approach to board recruitment would mean local boards remain fresh and relevant with a rolling membership, and would reduce the risk of losing valuable skills and knowledge from the agency.

"We work with board members to make sure we're connected to our customers in local communities, industries and businesses" he added.

Local Land Services is on the ground, delivering agricultural production advice, biosecurity, natural resource management, emergency management, sustainable land management and soil conservation services.

Mr Bull said the Local Land Services hoped to attract candidates with a commitment to high ethical standards and teamwork and who bring unique experiences and knowledge to the Local Boards.

"We want a diverse and dynamic board that represents NSW communities. A mix of people who are able to provide strategic direction, improve service delivery and work closely with our regional communities" he said.

Local Land Services CEO, David Witherdin said the NSW Government is committed to providing greater opportunities for the community to participate in its decision making process, and has particular interest in increasing women's representation on its boards and committees, as well as people from other under-represented groups.

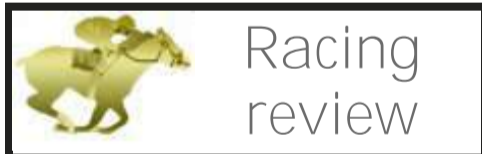
"As a local board member, you'll be working with the local staff and board to deliver on key Government priorities. It's an opportunity to be a voice for your region" he said.

Candidates will need to demonstrate a strong understanding of corporate governance, a commitment to high ethical standards and teamwork, and well developed communication, negotiation, advocacy and influencing skills.

Local Land Services is interested in people who have expertise, knowledge and skills in one or more of the following areas:

- Leadership, strategic planning and management
- Community participation
- Regional service delivery
- Working with industry, government and other partners
- Audit, financial control, reporting and risk management
- Primary industries or providing services to support this sector
- Contemporary biosecurity programs in animal and plant health, pest and weed management
- Emergency management especially biosecurity and natural disaster emergencies
- Natural resource management and biodiversity conservation
- Working with Aboriginal groups and communities and/or local government.

A recruitment package is available on Local Land Services website and applications close Thursday 4 October 2018.



Racing review

Chautauqua Jumps and Competes

Darryl Sherer - Friday September 21

Arguably the most famous horse in racing outside of Winx, Chautauqua started on terms with the field in his Flemington jumpout last Friday morning.

With Tommy Berry in the saddle Chautauquawas in the first heat of the morning, one of four starters in the 800m jumpout.

The popular grey gelding-travelled at the rear of the field, allowed to cruise through late behind stablemate Sunset Watch in a hand-timed 45.03 seconds, the heat won by the Leon and Troy Corstens -trained Runson.

Co-trainer Wayne Hawkes was realistic about the future after the hit-out.

"It was great to see him jump away," Hawkes said. "It's been a lot of hard work from everyone in Sydney, all I've done is just welcome him back here at Flemington.

"We're not getting ahead of ourselves, it's only a track work jumpout but it's a step in the right direction. He did seem a different horse when he came back to us - he came with a different attitude for sure, there was a real difference to him and I think it showed this morning.

"He wasn't out there to have a hard trial, it was all about the first five seconds and he's passed that so we'll just see what happens, speak to the stewards and see what we have to do.

"The dream hasn't died but it's still alive shall we say."



Detailed saleyard report



Saleyard report - cattle

Singleton *report date 19 Sep 2018*

Yarding 736

Consignments lifted marginally for a mixed quality penning of mainly younger cattle, with the majority in store condition and suitable for the restocker and feeder orders. There were also some well-presented supplementary fed vealers and yearlings suitable for the local butchers in the penning. There were 64 cows in the offering. An extra restocker order returned to the competition, this produced a stronger market for the better bred pens, while the plainer pens struggled and sold at cheaper trends.

The over 200kg vealer steers returning to the paddock lifted 11c and ranged from 200c to 312c/kg. The same weight heifer portion sold well for the better bred drafts, however there were greater percentages of breeds that were less sought after on offer this week. Prices topped at 270c, with the majority around the 225c/kg range. Yearling steers trended dearer, with the lighter end to the restockers and lot feeders ranging from 252c to 308c/kg. The heifer portion made from 170c to 270c, as the plainer drafts sold down as low as 130c/kg. The grain assisted younger cattle suitable for the butchers trended dearer, yield also improved, week-on-week, with the better muscled pens topping at 340c/kg. Heavy weight grown steers to slaughter made from 240c to 260c, as the lighter steers purchased to feed on averaged 262c, after reaching 270c/kg. The heifer portion to the processors reached 276c/kg. Cows remained firm, with the plainer 1 and 2 scores making from 100c to 205c, while the better covered heavy weights ranged from 210c to 219c/kg.

Scone *report date 18 Sep 2018*

Yarding 703

Consignments increased and the quality remained mixed, with plainer cattle and better bred drafts penned. There were good runs of split calves, with bulk light weights and 165 cows, all of which were plainer lines showing the effects of the season. There were percentages of supplementary fed younger drafts suitable for butchers, however on average yield potential is lower week-on-week. Overall, the market was firm to dearer.

There was less competition for the light calves as they sold from 98c to 190c/kg. The heavier over 80kg pens improved 4c to top at 244c, averaging 210c/kg. The better bred end of the vealers to restockers remained firm to 10c dearer, with the steers making from 214c to 288c, as the heifer portion sold from 178c to 270c/kg. The yearlings remained firm, with some quality related price variations, as steers to feed sold from 255c to 296c, while heifers made from 230c to 276c/kg. The higher yielding supplementary fed young cattle to butchers topped at 312c/kg.

Grown heifers to feed sold from 200c to 206c/kg. The plainer light weight and over 400kg 1 score cows gained as much as 30c/kg in places, with all purchases by processors. Prices sold from 128c to 194c, with the better covered 2 scores improving 6c and making from 190c to 199c/kg. The best heavy weight bull reached 235c/kg.

TRLX Tamworth *report date 17 Sep 2018*

Yarding 1516

Overall numbers increased, with an improvement in condition. The quality was fair to good through all categories, with good supplies of well finished cattle. The majority of those well finished cattle came off crop or were supplementary fed. Feeder cattle were well supplied, while cows made up the biggest percentage of grown cattle. The full complement of buyers attended and there was some restocker competition on the lighter weight cattle.

Market trends varied through the young cattle, with heifer vealers to restockers going to a much cheaper trend due to quality. Light weight yearlings to restockers sold on a firm to slightly dearer market trend, with some of the plainest quality cattle improving. Medium and heavy yearling feeder steers saw a mostly firm market trend, with a few cheaper sales present. There was greater variation in quality through the yearling feeder heifers, with increased numbers in the 3 score class. The market trend was firm to slightly cheaper.

Well finished heavy grown steers were in limited numbers and sold to a dearer trend of up to 10c/kg. A fair supply of grain assisted dairy steers sold strong in comparison to the beef breeds. Well finished grown heifers attracted strong competition from processors, resulting in a dearer trend of 8c to 10c/kg. There was little change in the market for the plainer condition cows, however the price range was large due to variations in breed, weight, yield and muscle pattern. The well finished 3 and 4 score cows sold to a dearer trend of 6c/kg and more in places.

Cattle prices state-by-state ~ 19 September 2018

In general, cattle prices have trended down during 2018 as drought conditions increased pressure on the market. However, some states have been more stable than others.

In the eastern states, young cattle have struggled to find consistent support in the market as the poor season has unfolded, with the Eastern Young Cattle Indicator (EYCI) on a downward trajectory for the most part of 2018. EYCI category cattle in Queensland have seen the biggest decrease for the year, down 99¢/kg carcass weight (cwt) from the beginning of 2018 to the 16th of September, while NSW has declined 61¢/kg cwt. Prices in Victoria have remained relatively stable easing 10¢/kg cwt.

WA has benefited from a more typical season, especially in the south with prices down only 8¢/kg cwt for the year. Young cattle in the west are now trading at a considerable premium through the yards, with a 52¢/kg cwt premium over NSW and 57¢/kg cwt above Victorian prices.

For the year-to-date (to 16th September):

NSW – down 61¢ to 504¢/kg cwt

Queensland – down 99¢ to 482¢/kg cwt

Victoria – down 10¢ to 499¢/kg cwt

WA – down 8¢ to 556¢/kg cwt

Chautauqua's part owner Rupert Legh was at Flemington to witness his star galloper's performance and indicated the stable are in contact with the Moonee Valley Racing Club in an attempt to have a barrier trial held during an upcoming race meeting. Chautauqua must also complete, to stewards satisfaction, an official barrier trial before an embargo is lifted to allow the champion sprinter to head back to the races.

There remains an outside hope that Chautauqua could line up in the \$13m The Everest at Randwick on October 13 with the slot held by Max Whitby and Neil Werrett still to be announced



One to Watch- Wins Again

Tara Madgwick - Friday September 21

Kris Lees has a crackerjack team of three year-olds this spring and Miss Fabulass is not the only talented filly in his stable by world champion Frankel.

A homebred for Bruce Neill's Cressfield, Frankely Awesome was a Breednet 'One to Watch' when scoring on debut at Newcastle at the start of the month and was even more impressive easy at her second start.

A short priced favourite in the 1600 metre Class Two event at Scone, she powered home down the straight to win running away by nearly two lengths showing herself to be a class above her rivals.

She is the first foal of stakes-winning Street Cry mare Street Secret (USA), who comes from the family of legendary champion racemare and blue hen Urban Sea, the dam of champion sires Galileo and Seat the Stars.

Cressfield sold Street Secret in foal to Snitzel at the 2017 Inglis Chairman's Sale for \$680,000 to Paul Moroney Bloodstock on behalf of Sir Owen Glenn's Go Bloodstock. She produced a filly for them last spring and then missed to Criterion.

Frankel has some lovely three year-olds in Australia with Frankely Awesome his third winner this season joining Group II ATC Tea Rose Stakes winner Miss Fabulass and Farooq.



Apple updates iOS, macOS, tvOS and watchOS, but don't rush

As part of its launch of its new, shiny and rather expensive Apple iPhone XS range, Apple also announced when the new versions of its operating systems for all of its products will be available to consumers.

If you're especially keen, they've been available for some months in beta forms, but that carries with it the risks of quite significant bugs. Apple specifically provides public betas as a form of live test to see where those bugs are, and

have to wait a little longer to see the next generation of macOS, but not by much. That's because macOS Mojave was released on 24 September, again at Apple's timing whim.

Apple doesn't charge a fee for downloading these updates, although you do need to have a machine capable of running the upgrade. For iOS 12, that's the following devices:

- iPhone 5s and later
- iPad Air
- iPad Pro
- iPad 5th and 6th generation
- iPad mini 2
- iPod touch 6th generation

of lines of code, and that means that bugs are all but inevitable. You most definitely should not upgrade until you've got a good backup in place of all your critical data, because while catastrophic errors are rare, they're not impossible. Smart money says that within a few weeks, Apple will release "point" updates to deal with the most egregious bugs, and it's around that time that it might make more sense to update. All of these upgrades — and the same story is true on the Windows and Android sides of the IT fence, by the way — shouldn't be ignored, because they also add important security updates to your devices. I'm certainly not stating you should never upgrade. Just that while Apple might hype the new features, unless you need them, there's really no rush.

What you should do when you accidentally delete important files
Losing important files can be a nightmare so make sure you're prepared to recover them.

We're all going to lose some important data at some point. With more and more of our important information stored digitally there are a number of causes from data corruption, accidental deletion, viruses and sudden power outages that could cause your data to become inaccessible. This is a problem that professionals and home users will experience alike, so weather it's your latest work project or your precious family photos and videos; we're all at risk of this happening to us. Having a contingency in place for when the inevitable does happen will save you a whole lot of grief and worry. There are a couple of recovery methods you can try yourself, but if they don't work you're going to need some specialist software to recover your data — luckily these options are readily available, inexpensive and not difficult to use. When data becomes lost, corrupted or deleted it's still possible to recover it as it isn't completely gone. The data will be recoverable if that part of the drive has not been overwritten by newer data, so if the loss has happened relatively recently then you shouldn't have trouble recovering it.

How to recover your lost files

There are a couple of fixes you can try before you have to start thinking about more advanced software. These are nice and simple, but could still be the answer you're looking for.

Check your recycle bin
You'll be able to find the recycle bin on your desktop or by searching for it on your computer. Open it up and have a look at the files inside. These files are waiting to be recycled, which will happen periodically or manually depending on how you have it set up. Have a look through the files in here, and if you find what you're looking for, right click on the file(s) and hit 'Restore'.

Search your PC
If you know what the file is called then you can search for it on your PC. If you're on Windows 10, type the name of the file into the search box at the bottom left of your screen. This will search the available files on your PC for your entry, and show you the location of the file if it does find anything. If you're sure that the files have been lost, then stop using your computer for other tasks (this will minimise the risk of your lost data being overwritten by new data as your PC works) and immediately download some trusted data recovery software.

Wondershare has developed the Recoverit software for just these situations.
Use Recoverit by Wondershare to recover your lost data

Available for both Windows and Mac, Recoverit allows you to recover data from any device while supporting more than 550 different types of data formats. Making use of its powerful data-analyser engine, Recoverit uses an advanced deep-scan algorithm to search through your storage to bring back more than 96% of your lost data. Recoverit can retrieve data lost in formatted hard drives, raw hard drives and even in lost or resized partitions and can perform full data recover on almost any device.

The program is powerful but easy to use, with an intuitive interface that will allow you to scan and retrieve your files in moments. Recoverit is completely free to download, and will let you recover 100MB of files on their standard version.

How to prevent data loss on your PC in future

The best way to avoid this happening in future is to employ a few preventative measures.

MOVIE REVIEW

Johnny English Strikes Again

Johnny English Strikes Again is the third instalment of the Johnny English comedy series, with Rowan Atkinson returning as the much loved accidental secret agent. The new adventure begins when a cyber-attack reveals the identity of all active undercover agents in Britain, leaving Johnny English as the secret service's last hope. Called out of retirement, English dives head first into action with the mission to find the mastermind hacker. As a man with few skills and analogue methods, Johnny English must overcome the challenges of modern technology to make this mission a success.



After a cyber-attack reveals the identity of all of the active undercover agents in Britain, Johnny English is forced to come out of retirement to find the mastermind hacker.

Review by Louise Keller:

You've got to hand it to Rowan Atkinson. He is a genius. Whether playing comedy or drama, he keeps everything contained. Even if the comedy is broad, Atkinson keeps his performance small, which of course exaggerates the lunacy of the situation at hand.

Delightful from start to finish, this third film in the franchise offers chuckles galore amid hilarious concepts, stunning locations and beautiful women. In fact there are two women - Olga Kurylenko as a drop-dead gorgeous spy who wears fabulous gowns and Emma Thompson, in wonderful comedic form as the British Prime Minister, struggling to handle a major cyber attack that puts all undercover agents at risk.

Jake Lacy plays Jason, Silicon Valley billionaire and expert at virtual reality. Playing it straight is Ben Miller as Johnny English's trusty side-kick Bough, who suffers all the faux pas that are dished out. And of course there is Atkinson: the former spy put out to pasture as a teacher, gleefully showing kids the art of camouflage and other spy-technique skills. William Davies' script cleverly allows for each set up to be carefully promoted before the delicious execution.

Director David Kerr has a real feel for the tempo of the comedy and delivers it all with restraint and style. The film is every bit as fresh and funny as Johnny English Reborn (2011); this time around, the humour is a tad more sophisticated and contained. I love the scene when English and Bough surreptitiously climb up the side of the luxury yacht, Dot Calm at night, wearing magnetic boots - only to discover that the magnet also sucks up

cutlery from the kitchen. One of my favourite sequences involves a Mont Blanc pen (jazzed up for spies), a cup of tea and a room of old timer spies. There's a letter-box red Aston Martin that roars around the hairpin bends of the South of France roads, a glam bar in the Hotel de Paris at Cagnes-sur-Mer and a little bottle of green and red pills - one for sleep, the other for being plugged into an electric current. The scene when insomniac English takes the wrong colour pill and ends up on the dance floor wearing a white suit, Saturday Night Fever style, is hilarious. I laughed throughout this funny, fabulous spy spoof, satisfied by the clever ideas and brilliant execution. Johnny English is British through and through and it is the marvelous touches of authenticity and humour that make it zing.



If ending Syria's war means accepting Assad and Russia have won, so be it

By Jonathan Steele

Western governments bear partial responsibility for prolonging this savage conflict. They must now push for peace

Just when it seems the Syrian war cannot get more complex, it does. In the skies above the Mediterranean, Syrian missiles shoot down an allied Russian surveillance plane after mistaking it for an Israeli bomber. In the Black Sea resort of Sochi, the Russian and Turkish presidents produce a plan for Turkey to use its control of part of Idlib province to disarm the worst jihadi extremists, including Chechens, Uighurs and other foreigners, as well as homegrown Syrian fanatics.

Two points stand out. One is the proliferation of outside interference in what began in 2011 as a purely Syrian campaign for reform. The other is the central and indispensable role that Russia now plays. On Syria's south-western flank, it deploys military police near the Israeli-occupied Golan so as to prevent pro-Iranian militias from moving up and provoking Israeli forces. It turns a blind eye to Israeli air attacks on Iranian advisers in Syria. Only now with Monday's loss of a Russian plane does it give the Israelis a public dressing-down for creating the confusion that led to the missile mistake.

Russia's relationship with Turkey is equally multifaceted. It condemns Turkey's occupation of northern Syrian territory, including parts of Idlib, but uses Turkey's presence to demand that Turkey disarm the jihadis it once supported there. Whether Monday's Sochi agreement will be implemented remains to be seen. Turkey has made earlier promises to tackle the extremists that have come to nothing.

In a separate part of Idlib, Syrian government forces and Russian aircraft are still massing for an assault on other anti-Assad fighters. Here the outside players include Britain, France and the US. They have been mounting a vigorous campaign to prevent a Russian bombing onslaught. While their motives are in part humanitarian, since heavy bombing is bound to cause death and displacement on a massive scale, their calls for a ceasefire are tainted with less honourable motives. They are designed to delay the success that the Syrian army and its Russian allies are about to achieve by regaining control over the last rebel-held region in the Syrian heartland. Britain, France and the US, along with the Gulf Arab monarchies, have been intimately involved in Syria's civil war since the uprising against Assad was militarised in 2012. They have aided and financed rebel fighting groups, including jihadi extremists. Calling for ceasefires is a device for helping the rebels rather than the civilians they rule, often in brutal fashion. There is a far better way to protect the 2 million or more civilians now huddled in Idlib, many in makeshift camps and other deplorable conditions. It is to find a political settlement

Continued From Page 18

What you should do when you accidentally delete important files

- Make sure you save your data frequently if you're working on it
- Back up your sensitive data by keeping a copy of it on The Cloud or an external hard drive (or both).
- Purchase some anti-virus software to give yourself extra protection against any malicious software. Wondershare is the creator of Recoverit and has been developing powerful, easy-to-use software solutions for a wide range of common problems since 2003. With over 5 million users of Recoverit alone, Wondershare has its products in over 160 countries across the globe. Its outstanding free tech support is available 24/7 and any products come with a 7 day money back guarantee. Wondershare also offers Filmora as their intuitive and powerful video editing tool, pdfElement which allows you to annotate and edit PDF files quickly and easily, and finally dr.fone as their Smartphone data recovery tool for both iOS and Android.



'Two million or more civilians [are] now huddled in Idlib.' The 'Hope' camp in Kafaldin on the Syrian-Turkish border. Photograph: Omar Haj Kadour/ AFP/Getty Images

under which the rebels surrender. The Syrian government has negotiated more than 100 surrender pacts with various rebel groups over the past two years. Described euphemistically as "reconciliation agreements", they have permitted thousands of rebels to leave besieged areas. Most have moved to Idlib. Eager to reassert government control, Syrian forces even allowed the rebels to take their rifles and side-arms with them and be transported in government buses.

Thousands of family members and other civilians have gone with the armed fighters, which is why Idlib is now so full of displaced people. But thousands of other Syrians have taken advantage of the reconciliation deals to start rebuilding their homes. They would rather live under Syrian government control than remain in towns and villages at war. The Syrian conflict was never a simple binary struggle between supporters and opponents of Assad. Millions of Syrians had little or no faith in either side but deplored the militarisation of what had started as a non-violent uprising and became a proxy war in which outside states used Syria as a battleground for their own interests.

While Turkey is involved in areas of Idlib run by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) – formerly Jabhat al-Nusra, an affiliate of al-Qaida – other parts are under the sway of fighters of Ahrar al-Sham and Nouredine al-Zinki, two groups with whom western special forces have had links. There is also the group known as the White Helmets, who are still on the British, French and US payroll. Russian planes have been dropping leaflets urging the Idlib rebels to surrender. As happened in eastern Aleppo two years ago, there are reports that rebels punish people who pick up and distribute the leaflets or spread the message that it is better to make peace than go on with a fruitless war. Even at this late stage, the rebels have not given up the hope of a US-led bombing campaign on Assad's headquarters in Damascus.

Another rebel message is that anyone who surrenders, whether fighter or civilian, will be detained or killed by Syrian forces. The idea that the Syrian authorities would kill civilians who return to government control makes little sense. But even where there are legitimate fears of reprisals, the dangers inherent in carrying on the conflict will inevitably be greater.

Nevertheless, the Syrian government should announce loudly and clearly that amnesty will be given to all of Idlib's surrendering rebels, provided they have not been part of Islamic State or HTS. They will not even be conscripted into the Syrian army (as happened under previous deals), since the government will not need so many troops now that the war is almost over. In return, the British, French and US governments should urge their proxies not to obstruct surrender deals.

It will be hard for many Syrians to admit that the anti-Assad revolution has failed, but denying reality only condemns Syria to more months of suffering. It will be hard for western governments to accept that Assad has won after seven years of demanding that he resign. It will also be hard to accept that Russian intervention has helped bring the war to an end.

The war's most-repeated cliché is the phrase that Assad has been killing his own people. But that merely underlines that this seven-year-struggle is a civil war in which, by the same logic, the rebels have also been killing their own people. Western governments bear partial responsibility for the carnage. By taking the right course over Idlib, they can begin to make amends.

• Jonathan Steele is a former Guardian foreign correspondent

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

When are the police going to do something about the ARSE-onist who is burning cars in the Valley? Will he/she move on to bush fires in summer? Should be 10 year's goal for this person/s.

To the people, in a local small hamlet close to you, who have a very large, angry & short tempered dog which looks like it has a breeding cross with a large Shetland pony. One day the electrical tape at the gate will fail & somebody, maybe a small child, will be badly injured. Your restraining call from the back of the house may not work.

To the organizing committee who initiated & organized the recent visit by the Governor of NSW & his gorgeous wife to Branxton for the community morning tea; it was the most delightful event that I have ever been involved with & it certainly endorsed my patronage & feelings towards the Commonwealth of Nations! To all those naysayers who argue that Australia should be a republic please reconsider (*ed.* The organizing committee were the Branxton Greta Memorial Cycleway Trust & the Branxton & the Greta RSL Sub-branches. Elsewhere in this edition is an article thanking all those who helped & contributed to make the day very special).

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Work Wanted: Piano teacher available to give lessons P: Phil Aughey on 0447 381 989
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For Sale: It has a Broken drive cable and no seats or full tank and is untested. But the motor works and no cracks or leaks in it and has a great retro string wheel with is so comfy, And has an anchor. I'm looking to get \$800 but im willing to trade for a drone. If you do not like the price and think it to be un fair please call and we can negotiate. P 0457112346 (please only call me on week days from 3:00pm till 9:00 and you can call me any time on the week-end). arexanderhughes@gmail.com

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

Dates for your diary > **Dates for your diary >**

21st & 22nd SEPT - WOLLOMBI MUSIC FESTIVAL
TUES 25/09 - BRANXTON VIEW CLUB FASHION PARADE- Branxton Community Hall. All welcome \$15 includes light lunch Phone Bethany 0419 429 364
Thur 27 Sept - Cessnock Prostate Cancer support group meet 3pm Cessnock Leagues Club. Topic: Showing information via DVD featuring a panel of experts talking about everything you need to know about Prostate Cancer Awareness. PSA. Gleason Score. Grading. Scans. etc: Cost FREE. Wives/Partners welcome. Contact: Barry 49904554. Rose 0457073852.
Thur 27 Sept - Madame Butterfly // Melbourne City Ballet 8PM. Cessnock Performing Arts Centre, 198 Vincent Street, Cessnock. Artistic Director, Michael Pappalardo brings to life the tragic opera favourite, Madame Butterfly, featuring Puccini's signature score. Expect gorgeous costumes, impressive new scenery and stunning hair pieces in this dazzling work.
FRI 28 SEPT - Branxton Public School PBL Assembly & Reward Afternoon, last day of Term 3
Mon 1 OCT - Labour Day public holiday
TUE 2 OCT - Branxton Lions Club Monthly meeting 4pm Brxt Golf Club
SAT 6 OCT - Jane Rutter presents Madame Flute! // French Classical Cabaret @ Cessnock Performing Arts Centre
SAT 6 OCT - Live at the Crossing 2pm 6 Caledonia St, Kearsley Live poetry, spoken word, & storytelling. Open mic. Local poets & guest artists. All welcome.
TUES 09/10 - B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigid's School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton
WED 10 OCT - 'Dress in Pink High Tea'. Brxt Community Hall 10am. Further info call Helen on 0427 047 024
MON 15 OCT - Branxton Public School First day of Term 4 for students and teachers
TUE 23 OCT - Branxton Public School Stage 1 Wetlands Excursion
SAT 27 OCT - The Central Hunter Business & Community Expo @ Miller Park Branxton. 9 to 3pm. FREE Entry & FREE entertainment.
MON 29th to WED 31st OCT - Branxton Public School Stage 3 Bathurst Excursion
SAT 3/11 - North Rothbury Tidy Town Twilight Markets
FRI 9 NOV - Branxton Public School 1st Kinder Orientation visit
TUES 13/11 - B/G CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigid's 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
SUN 25 Nov - Plektra mandolin & guitar ensemble, Sacred Spaces Singleton
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
8 Dec - Shania Twain 'NOW' - 2018 Tour Hope Estate in what promises to be one of the most anticipated tours of 2018, Global superstar Shania Twain has announced that she will hit the road this year in support of her new album, NOW. It's been 15 years since Shania Twain released the hit album 'Up!'
Other dates to remember
6th Oct - OPERA IN THE VINEYARDS

School News



Branxton Public School



≡ Governor's visit



≡ Concert

Our School Captains and some of the Primary Choir attended the Community Morning Tea with His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley (Governor of NSW), to mark the official start of the Branxton Greta Memorial Cycleway project. The captains presented a speech on Oliver Gibbs, and the choir sang the National Anthem and 'In the Silence'. Mrs Maier and Mrs Mungoven were extraordinarily impressed with the impeccable behaviour of our students. Well done to everyone! The Jump Rope for Heart 'Jump Off' was a great success. Students wore red to school on the day and participated in a range of activities to keep their hearts healthy. A huge thank you to our community who have helped raise over \$2000. A fantastic job! Thank you to Greta Branxton United Cricket Club who have donated some cricket gear to our school. We look forward to using this in the playground. Last week was our School Concert – A Journey in Music and Time. Students, staff and family



≡ Concert



≡ Jump rope



≡ Jump rope



≡ Cricket

members worked tirelessly to produce this fabulous event. It was a celebration of the diverse talents of our students and gave our Stage 3 students a chance to truly shine in their roles, either on the stage or behind the scenes. Congratulations to Mrs Mungoven who brought the whole show together calmly and efficiently, with the help of her Concert Committee, making the whole process fun and exciting for all involved.

Dates for the Calendar

- Friday 28th September – PBL Assembly & Reward Afternoon, last day of Term 3
- Monday 15th October – First day of Term 4 for students and teachers
- Tuesday 23rd October – Stage 1 Wetlands Excursion
- Monday 29th to Wednesday 31st October – Stage 3 Bathurst Excursion
- Friday 9th November – 1st Kinder Orientation visit

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



≡ Jump rope



visiting to talk about the Memorial Walk/Cycleway which is proposed between Branxton and Greta. Branxton/Greta CWA ladies and Branxton VIEW ladies co-catered the Morning Tea



which commenced right on time and everything went smoothly. Am sure all have their own special memories of the day. Looking forward to seeing the Branxton/Greta Memorial Walk/Cycleway

come to fruition, not only to honour and in remembrance of our veterans but to also give a safe Walk/Cycleway between Branxton and Greta. It is wonderful to be part of a community that can work together for a such a special cause.

On Sunday, 16th September, we greeted the Camp Quality 1,000km Ride4Kids consisting of approx. 60 bicycle riders and approx. 20 support crew for a complimentary morning tea at the McCauley Hall, Branxton.

After starting at Malaney in Queensland, their last stop before us was Muswellbrook and they will be finishing in Newcastle. This is a ride they do every year to raise money to support children with cancer or recovering from cancer. They always thank us for the morning tea but we say THANK YOU for your hard work and cycling all that way to raise the money that you do. At last count, the money raised was \$440,000. CONGRATULATIONS to you all.

Our last fund raising



function for the year will be the Land Cookery/Product Promotion Day which will be held on Monday 5th November. It will be held at The Branxton Community Hall. As we did not have a meeting in September, other details will be in the next edition. Any non-members who want to enter can phone Marie Shearer, as per below details, for copies of a Cookery Schedule.

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

Denise McGoldrick
Publicity Officer.

■ Photo above: The Governor with Branxton VIEW Club members who, with the local CWA did a magnificent job catering for the Governors visit.

■ Photo at top middle: Camp Quality Bicycle Riders on way to Newcastle

■ Photo at left: CWA members enjoying the Governors visit to the kitchen. The Governor did take a sneak snack to their delight!



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"Branxton Gardens" Senior Living, Branxton
Recent sales






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

Harry's Wonderful House Worth a 'Challenge'



WHEN Neil 'Clarry' Jones first spoke to me about raising money for 'Harry's House' at Stockton I said I'd like to go and have a look for myself. Some 9 months later, just last week, I finally made it and what pleasant surprise!

In between then & now Clarry, with help from a lot of local people, had his 'weight loss challenge' in which they raised over \$11,000 for Harry's House.

Just to recant; Mary Scully, who worked tirelessly over the challenge period, wrote an article at the very start of the challenge which we published. The article set the backdrop for fundraising 'Challenge'.

It read
"Reading the book 'Our Mate Tom' inspired Clarry Jones of The Drovers Camp Restaurant to raise much needed funds for a worthy cause. The book, written by Sharon and Marcus Kirkwood, is a compelling account of their life; the great times and the truly bad times. Sharon and Marcus tell of their son Sam's battle with, and recovery from, leukaemia; their son Harrison's diagnosis, prolonged treatment and eventual acceptance of a life-long visual impairment, and Tom's courageous battle with a brain tumour.

Tom died nine years after being diagnosed, just one day before his eighteenth birthday. Joe, one would have to say the lucky one, also endured the consequences of his brothers' misfortunes.

The story of the family's journey is harrowing and one can't begin to imagine what the families of cancer sufferers endure, especially when the victims are children.

One such family with whom Marcus and Sharon interacted on their horrendous journey were David and Samantha Meyn whose son Harry tragically died of a brain tumour at the age of seven. David and Samantha set up The Harry Meyn Foundation in his memory.

The charity was initially established to raise funds for children's cancer charities and in December 2011 Harry's House at Stockton was established as a retreat for families with a child undergoing treatment, and also as a refuge for families grieving the loss of a child to cancer.

Marcus and his family sought solace there after Tom's demise.

The Foundation's mission is to help more families by establishing a Harry's House in many other locations.

Harry's great-grandfather Ted was a policeman in Branxton and the family have lived in the area for many years, so it is a cause that especially resonated with Clarry."

Harry's House Family Retreat is located at 22 Maitland St Stockton (Newcastle) close to the ferry terminal, shops, harbour, foreshore park & beach.

The Family Retreat is 3 bedroom, fully self-contained with a well equipped kitchen, laundry and an outdoor BBQ area that accommodates one family at a time.

The garage is fully equipped for a young family with surfing equipment, pushbikes & skateboards.



■ Above: Clarry & Samantha in the living area of Harry's House

Samantha proudly showed me what they had achieved since the Foundation purchased the property & it is truly a 'home away from home'.

Since the Challenge they have added another string to their bow: Harry's House Mobile Retreat which is a 6 Birth Avida Australian Winnebago) Ceduna Motorhome that the families can use for a week long unique holiday experience. It was proudly supported by the Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation, and that's another marvellous story.

North Rothbury resident receives Wildlife Illustration Award 2014

Local resident of North Rothbury Linda Lunnon, has won the 2014 Margaret Senior Wildlife Illustration Award, which was presented by Simon Stroud, Manager of Visitor Experience and Education, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

Margaret Senior was one of Australia's most prominent and respected wildlife illustrators who died in 1995 leaving a bequest to the University of Newcastle to encourage the continuing study of natural history. The award is open to students studying in their final year of the Natural History Illustration degree at the University. During the last six months, students

have worked to complete 10 illustrations in a variety of media based on Australian plant and wildlife. Linda said that the local surroundings inspired her to base her artworks on what can be found around North Rothbury, including the endemic *Persoonia Pauciflora*, the subject of her botanical painting. 'I think illustration is one of the best ways of connecting people with our fascinating natural environment, and with education comes appreciation. If people can appreciate the value of something, they are hopefully more likely to want to protect and conserve it. I wanted to show in my major project work that even a little village like North Rothbury has some amazing plants and wildlife when you take the time to look,' said Linda. Linda has a background in environmental science and is aiming to establish herself as a full-time artist following the completion of her degree.

■ Photos
 Linda in front of her artworks and one of her entries, a kangaroo portrait.



WHAT'S ON

MON	2 FOR 1 PIZZA FROM 6PM	Dine In Only
TUE	STEAK STAMPEDE LUNCH & DINNER	Dine In Only
WED	PASTA LUNCH & DINNER	
THU	\$12.50 SNITTY LUNCH & DINNER	Dine In Only
FRI	FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLES FROM 6PM	
SAT	LIVE MUSIC FROM 8.30PM	
SUN	FREE POOL ALL DAY	

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Graphics - Parée Erica

Branxton Veteran Golfers

Results 13 -9-18 Stableford
 Div 1 Winner J Sheedy 34 pts R/u E Munzenberger 33 pts (c/b) D Sheppard 33 pts
 Div 2 Winner G Scobie 38 pts (SOD) R/u I Harris 36 pts
 3rd 34 pts P Hocking 35 pts
 Ladies - Insufficient numbers to form division.
 NTPs Ladies J Harris Gents M Ryan
 Members draw - Not won
 Goodness gracious me !!!
 Marvelous what a lovely Spring day will do for the scoring at to-day's round. It was quite crowded at the top of the scoreboard, as the numbers will confirm. It was great for our players to be part of an event to be so closely contested.
 Congratulations to Graeme Scobie on winning his division and achieving the "Score of the Day". And a 'BIG' well done to all other winners, placegetters and fellow players participating in to-day's round.

Results 20-9-18 Stableford "Two ball Best ball"
 1ST T Seamer & T Martin 37 pts (c/b)
 2nd M Ford & R McMillan 37 pts
 3rd G Scobie & D Fletcher 36 pts (c/b)
 4th (Tie) J Atton & R Friis 36 pts (c/b) (13) B Smith & P Bailey 36 pts
 5th (Tie) E Munzenberger & G Anderson 36 pts (c/b) (12) I Harris & J Harris 36 pts

NTPs - Ladies T Martin Gents G Anderson
 Members draw - Not won
 Our Scorer certainly needed a 'good lie down' after sorting to-day's scores out, as it was a bit of a traffic jam at the top. Perhaps the small amount of precipitation had something to do with it.
 Congratulations to Tony Seamer and Toy Martin on winning the event. Well done to the runners-up.

LN Bootes, Hon Sec
 Branxton Ladies Golf 12 September 2018
Stableford
 Winner: Ruth McCarthy with 39 points
 Runner-up: Carol Miller with 37 points
 3rd: Robyn Hoffman with 36 points
 4th: Jen Salna with 35 points
 Nearest to the pin: Carol Miller

BRANXTON GOLF CLUB SAT 15TH SEPTEMBER 2BBB STABLEFORD + SINGLE

2BBB WINNERS ~ TERRY PARTRIDGE/ JOHN BURGESS 50 PTS
 2BBB SECOND ~ ROGER YANDLE/ TOM LUNDY 49 PTS
 2BBB ~ THIRD RICHARD CROOKS/ MICHAEL CARLING 48 PTS C/B
 2BBB FOURTH ~ STEVEN PRIMMER/ PETER MATHEWS 48 PTS
 SINGLE 1ST ~ TOM LUNDY 45 PTS
 SINGLE 2ND ~ LEE HUNT 43 PTS
 SINGLE 3RD ~ RICHARD CROOKS 41 PTS

BALL COMP 32 pts
 T LUNDY 92CM
 T PARTRIDGE 124CM
 R ALLEY 321CM
 G WILTON 97CM
 Saturday's hot weather brought some very hot scores at the Royal Branxton Golf Course. Tom Lundy recorded an incredible 45 pts to win the overall single stableford competition. Tom has only recently returned to competition golf with this score indicating that he will soon be playing off a much lower handicap. Not to be outdone, Lee Hunt had an incredible day himself, having 43 pts, meaning he easily broke the 80 barrier of the stick—something Lee can do with his power game. Richard Crook's 41 pts only won him third place—a score he would usually win with any other week. Terry Partridge and John Burgess won the day's 2BBB competition with an excellent 50 pts, just ahead of Roger Yandle and Tom Lundy with 49 pts, with Richard Crooks, Mick Carling, Steve Primmer and Peter Mathews filling the minor placings with their impressive 48 pts. The shots of the day belonged to Gary Wilton and Tom Lundy who won their respective nearest the pins with wonderful shots, less than a metre from the cup.

The final of the 5 Skins competition was held on Saturday afternoon with Tom Lundy, Eddie Barrett, Peter Marquet and David Kinch fighting out the \$440 on offer in this skins event. Each of these players was backing up from the morning event, an incredible effort on such a warm day. The final finished up being an incredibly competitive, high quality contest between these 4 players. The more the contest continued, the better the golf produced. In the end, Tom Lundy finished with the honours of the day, winning \$155 in vouchers—he continued his great play from the morning round, making his day one of his most memorable on the golf course. Peter Marquet won \$100 in vouchers, winning the 15th and 16th holes with wonderful up and downs for a par and a birdie—this birdie was recorded with David Kinch awaiting to hit his birdie putt but without a shot on the hole it would be to no avail. Eddie Barrett, representing the Branxton Veterans, acquitted himself beautifully, winning \$95 in vouchers. The quality of his play as the low marker was most impressive. Not to be outdone, David Kinch won \$90 himself, ensuring the money was split very evenly amongst the 4 players.

The Holden Scramble, a 4 person Ambrose event, will be played at Branxton on Sunday, 30th September. At a cost of \$40 per player, each team will be vying for a place in the Regional final, with the winners going to the Sunshine Coast in Queensland for the National Final—the opportunities can be too good to miss. Players who wish to enter should contact Marcus in the Pro Shop as soon as possible. If your team misses out at Branxton, there are places at the Singleton Golf Club.

BRANXTON GOLF CLUB

SAT 22ND SEPTEMBER STABLEFORD
 A GRADE FIRST Mark Moylan 39 pts
 A GRADE SECOND Ian Barnes 38 pts
 A GRADE THIRD Stephen Ross 37 pts c/b
 B GRADE FIRST Lee Hunt 39 pts c/b
 B GRADE SECOND Ed Garland 39 pts
 B GRADE THIRD Douglas Muncaster 37 pts
 C GRADE FIRST Steven Primmer 44 pts
 C GRADE SECOND Lennard Porter 40pts
 C GRADE THIRD Peter Mathews 36 pts
 BALL COMP 33 pts
 NTP's 2^{nd/11th} D Sheppard 97cm 4th D Rogers 122cm 13th S. Primmer 26cm 9^{th/18th} T Seamer 61 cms
 Saturday's Stableford, played in beautiful spring weather, produced some excellent scores across all grades, including some pin point shots to each par three for the nearest the pins. Mark Moylan played very well to win A Grade with an excellent 39 pts, just ahead of Ian Barnes' 38 pts with Steve Ross third on a countback with his 37 pts. Lee Hunt continued his recent good form to win B Grade with his 39 pts, only on a countback from Eddie Garland who hit some great shots all day (he was in front of my group) with Douglas Muncaster third with his 37 pts. The score of the day belonged to Steve Primmer who amassed 44 pts, a wonderful score on any day. His round included the shot of the day on the difficult 13th, which finished only 26 cms from the pin. Lennie Porter made a great comeback from some recent ill health, finishing runner up with his 40 pts, with Peter Mathews third with 36 pts. The nearest the pins were incredible with all shots around very close to the pin. The Club Championships are not far away (starting on the weekend of the 20th September) so all members are reminded to put their names down to access their preferred times for this 4 day event over two consecutive weekends.

Hunter Valley Golf Club Sun 9 Sept. Saul Bourke of the Tamworth GC has won the Weekly Challenge with an even Par 36 points from Thomas Waite who survived a 3 way countback for runner up with 35 points.

Tuesday 11th September Steve Piggott returned to form shooting 70 off the stick to claim the Tuesday Stableford with 42 points from Drew Dewar who nudged Grahame Sheldon for 2nd spot after both had 41 point returns. Ball winners were: Bob Prentice 40, Gary Arnold 39, Steven Kane 38, Graeme Flynn 38, Brian Kinsey v37, Thomas Waite 37, Greg Thompson v37, Glen Batty v36 and Ian Newell 36 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went o David Peel (3rd & 17th) Bob Prentice (8th) and Michael Watson (10th)
Wednesday 12th September The 2018 Ladies Champion is Dale Hamilton who staged a great final round to take the lead ending on 282 for the 3 rounds overtaking Melita Watson who had led the first 2 rounds by 5 strokes, B Grade went to Sue Peel with 295 from Jenelle Jurd on 306 and C Grade to Kay Dunn

with 352 from Jeanette Irwin who finished with 357. The 54 hole across the field Net winner was Leesa Robinson with 235 with Sue Williams claiming A Grade with 236 Net, Pam Snaddon B Grade with 237 Net and Jeanette Irwin C Grade with 255 Net. Congratulations to all our winners and to those who competed. The Daily Stroke round results in a good win to Jill Ramsden with an even Par 71 net from Dale Hamilton 74 and Sue Peel 3rd with 75 net. Ball winners were:Christine Tancred 76, Di Oakes 76, Leesa Robinson 77, Kay Dunn 77 and Mary Fortey 78. Next week's event will be Individual Stableford

Thursday 13th September The Vets Irish Stableford event has been won by Eric Smith with an excellent 83 point round from Paul Ireland 80 and Gerry Irwin in 3rd with 79. Ball winners were: Darrell Preston 75, David Peel 74, Graeme Flynn 74, John Harrison 74, Greg Amlöh 73, Greg Ireland 73, Geoff Sweetman 72, Dave Fury 70, Ken Harris 69 and Ian Newell 69 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Ken Harris (3rd) Wayne Barber (4th) David Peel (10th) and Dave Fury (17th). Next week the Vets will play 2 Man No Scotch. This week's raffle was won by David Peel

Saturday 15th September The Medley Stableford on Saturday had Shawn Parish doing best to claim A Grade with a solid 40 point return from Justin Preece 37, B Grade went to Muree GC visitor Andrew grant with 36 points from Paul Bullock on 34 and C Grade to Sue Peel with 39 on countback to Geoff Sweetman. Ball winners were: Jeff Morton 38, Ken Harris 37, Wayne Butgess 37, Shannon Attewell 36, Ian Newell 36, David Peel 36, kerrie-Anne Skinner 35, Dean Blair 35, Russell Calderwood 34, Michael McNab 34, Julie Van Den Berg 34, David Preece 34, Troy Edmonds 33, Chris Taggart 33 and Wayne Drayton 33 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to David Preece (3rd) Paul Bullock (4th) Wayne Drayton (8th) and Grahame Sheldon (17th). Next week s event will a Medley 4 BBB.

Sunday 16th Sept. HVGC held their annual Open Day with a solid field taking part in the 3/2/1 Stableford event with the team of Graham Bull, Bruce Murphy, Peter Maer and Anthony Carney doing best with 106 points for a decisive win from Mark Makin, Llyod Barrett, Mick Barrett and Matt Lorenz on 91 on countback to Denise Collins, Helen Kirk, Paul Neuss and Paul Smith in 3rd place and Garry Clarke, Peter Attewell, Gerry Irwin and Jason Varley with 88 4th. Ball winners were: Pam & Greg Snaddon, Sue & David Peel 86 and Andrew Zok, Craig Sharp, Tania Hutchins and Paul Bullock also with 86. The social players winners were Brian Young, Billy Arnold and Craig Larry with 90 and Rhett Hahn, Malloy, Rippon and Giggins with 88 points. Nearest-the-Pins went to Paul Bullock (3rd) Blake Pautz (10th) and Stewart Hamilton (17th). Straightest Drive on the 5th To Craig Hutchinson and Longest Drive on

Australian Croquet Championships come to the Hunter Valley

The Australian Croquet Championships and inter State competition have come to the Hunter Valley and Central Coast and are being played from the 7 to the 16th Of September at grounds in Newcastle, Maitland, Toronto, Hawkes Nest, Bateau Bay and BRANXTON. Branxton Croquet Club were hosts to the Men's Plate Block D competition on the 10th September at the club's grounds adjacent to Branxton Oval on John Rose Avenue Branxton.

It was good to see we had a number of spectators from our sister Club Cessnock as well as most of our club members

We had some of the county's elite players on court from 8.00am in the morning until 4.30pm and it was a great exhibition of croquet. The competition included players from Western Australia and South Australia as well as NSW.

The block was won by Brett Mchardy (WA) with the runner up David Woods (Sutherland NSW), Brett won all 7 of his games and was a clear winner.

Brett, our winner, was and extremely hard hitter and who had been known beforehand for the damage he inflicted on surrounding facilities: as a result I organized to arrange a row of several chairs in front of the glass doors of the clubhouse and put unsuspecting spectators on them in a bid to save the glass, I had forgotten about our sponsorship signs, they paid a heavy penalty. It was a great day for the club and we had very positive feedback from the players on the hospitality they received during their visit. A big thank you to all the members who contributed to the successful running of the event, job well done.



■ Photo: The winner Brett McHardy



■ Photo: Back row (left to right) - Trevor Black (Referee), Michael Reidy, Stewart Kingsborough, Hunter McPherson (NSW), John Arney (SA). Front Row (left to right) - Hugh Denny, Brett McHardy (WA), David Woods (NSW), John Doepele

the 16th Adrian Kent.

Sunday 16th September

The Weekly Challenge gas been won by Craig Jeans of the Maitland GC with 37 points from Wayne Oliver from Branxton GC with an even Par 36 points.

Tuesday 18th September

No Golf this week due to Greens coring, normal competition will resume next Tuesday.

Wednesday 19th September

Leesa Robinson found the freshly cored greens to her liking with an excellent 42 point round to clearly win the Ladies Stableford event from Kay Dunn with 36 points on countback to Robyn Dunlop who also survived a countback for 3rd. Ball winners were: Mary Fortey 36, Di Atton 36, Kerrie-Anne Skinner 35, Sue Williams 34, Dale Hamilton 33 and Molly Hamilton 32. Nearest-the-Pins went to Karen Baillie (3rd) Leesa Robinson (4th) Melita Watson (8th) and Jeanette Irwin (17th). Next week the Ladies will play 4BBB Stableford.

Thursday 20th September

The Vets 2 Man No Scotch event has been won by Bruce Chambers and Wayne Burgess with 65 net, 2nd went to Grahame Sheldon and Ken Wright with 67 net. Ball winners : Dave Fury & Geoff Sweetman 67 3/4, Wayne Barber & John Carmody 68, John Harrison & Wayne Berry 69, John Pascoe & Dave Blackburn 69 3/4, Rex Talbot & Eric Smith 70 3/4, Greg Amlöh & Steve Rawlings 72 3/4. Nearest-the-Pins went to Grahame Sheldon (3rd & 10th) Wayne Barber (8th) The Raffle has been won by Bruce Chambers....as well!! Next week's golf is Stroke
Saturday 22nd September Garry Hedges & Garry Marsden have won the 4BBB with 50 points from Michael McNab & John Carmody with 48 points on countback to Ray Newton & Paul



■ Photo: The 2018 Branxton Golf Club 5-Skins finalists in order from left to right are: Tom Lundy, Eddie Barrett, David Kinch & Peter Marquet

Bullock in 3rd. No other details have been released at this time. Next weeks event will be a Medley Stableford from the Blue Tees.
**** The final placings in the 2018 Club Championship are:** Club Champion Angello Wood with 238 countback, A Grade net winner Ken Harris 213, B Grade

Champion Nathan Sweeney 261, B Grade net winner Bruce Chambers 217, C Grade Champion Kevin Smith 281, C Grade net winner Michael McNab 209 and 54 hole Over the Field winner Wayne Barber with 204.

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The **News**SPORT

Greta Branxton 'Wildcats' Win A-Grade Inter-District Football Premiership in the clubs 50th Season



GBFC 'A Grade' Grand Final Winners 2018

In Greta Branxton Football Clubs 50th Season, the club has achieved arguably their greatest ever honour by taking out the Inter district 'A Grade' Men's competition for the Macquarie, Newcastle and Hunter area. In 2015 the Wildcats 'First grade' men's team took out D grade with an astounding grand final win in extra time, with further promotion to B grade for the 2016 season. Following on from this, the team competed solidly in the 2016 season to fall just one game short of the grand final. This performance prompted further promotion to the Inter-districts A grade competition for the 2017 season where the side narrowly missed out on playing finals football by just one point. The start of the 2018 season saw the team recruit strongly with Harry Skinner, Fraser Pearce, Lachlan Eccles and Mitchell Nugent all joining the squad as well as Matt Valencic returning from a knee reconstruction, while Cameron Fisher & Cameron Anacki had earned their spot in the top team in previous

seasons. After the completion of the 2018 regular season the boys finished third in the tightest of competition ladders ever seen in football. The Wildcats needed two extra time wins in the minor semi final and preliminary final to work their way up to a home grand final against Merewether. Greta Branxton FC is well renowned for heading into a final series the hard way, but with passion and a drive to 'want the win'. With this motivation the boys climbed the ladder throughout the finals with both preliminary wins and a spectacular goal from Tom Skinner to place them into a home ground Grand Final, on the clubs 50th anniversary year, in the final game of the day. The home side took the ascendancy in the 35th minute of the grand final after a shaky start to take a one nil lead courtesy of a Tom Skinner goal. Scores remained stagnant until the 70th minute when Harry Skinner out-leaped his opponent to put away a well placed header and give the

locals a 2 goal lead. With seven minutes remaining Merewether set up a frenetic finale by scoring an unfortunate own goal. The wildcats were able to hold on for the final few minutes to record their second premiership in four years with a huge home crowd cheering them all the way. The 2018 squad consisted of 8 strong & solid players from its 2015 premiership winning squad including Brendan Fairfull, Jamie Fairfull, Luke Thrift, Damien Austin, Ben Penton, Trent Fuller, Tom Skinner and Dan Turner. These boys were ecstatic to climb the grade ladder and better their previous win in the highest inter-district grade. While David Anderson, also in the previous grand final win, messed up dates and ended up in Japan on holidays watching his phone for nail biting updates while Blake Lambert was called up to play and Cameron Fisher took Dave's position sweeping nicely all game, still leaving the opposition with all legs intact. The senior men's teams will now advance to bigger and better things in 2019 by entering the areas Zone Premier League 3 competition. This will involve a first and reserve grade structure playing again in Newcastle/Macquarie/Hunter areas with some great football & skill

level to watch. President & Men's Coach Luke Thrift said that we have attracted & retained some great senior football players who have great skills that have developed well over the last few seasons. "This years A Grade win is a great advancement for the club & seniors football in this area. We as a club, are ready for the new challenge of Zone League Football & are looking forward to the 2019 season," said Luke. The clubs over 35s men's team also must be noted also for a great season. Three players Stewart Thrift, Tom Redgrove & David Carey all played in the original year the club commenced in 1969 as juniors. 50 years on, they are still strapping on their boots and have a great impact on the teams wins with their skill and wealth of experience. This is an amazing achievement; not only is it a great testament to the club but to the sport they all so passionately love & still play 50 years later. The Over 35s played well all year, finishing second on the ladder by a narrow 1 point lead. The team played well in semi finals and preliminary finals but no matter how hard they fought, just couldn't put the goal in the back of the net to get a 1 point lead in either game, resulting in an extra 20 minutes of game time, followed by penalty shoot outs two weeks in a row. With crowds cheering on, they won both penalty shoot outs with some very exhausted players and some well saved goals from all 3 keepers. Finally heading to their home grand final was a memorable one, particularly for Stewart, Tom & Dave. The team played



GBFC 35's stalwarts Stewart Thrift, Tom Redgrove & Dave Carey

well, however, wasn't so fortunate in their grand final, going down by two goals to one against Gresford. After falling behind by a goal early on, Adam Petit leveled the scores with a cracking strike with 20 minutes to go. It, however, wasn't to be for our 35s with a late penalty being awarded to Gresford which was calmly converted from the spot. It has been a super season and the club would like to give a few special mentions: A big 'Thank You', once again, to our Senior Team Major Sponsors The Royal Federal Hotel, Greta Workers & Miller Park Sports Club, The Bottle-O Greta & TGE Engineering. Thanks to all of the spectators that came to support both local grand final sides. An extra thanks you to the Wildcats volunteers who assisted in the smooth running of 3 nights and 2 days of finals football at Miller Park, including these grand finals. It was a spectacular finish for the clubs 50th Anniversary year! Greta Branxton Football Club is already looking forward to a bigger and better 2019 season with the excitement of moving to Zone Premier League 3, U10 & 11s junior development squads & 3/4 year old mini kick off program running for the second season, and for the very first time this Summer, 'Tafe Summer 6's' which already has over 200 registered to play, so is again looking like a bumper addition to the 'Wildcats'.



GBFC 35's Runners-up 2018



Wildcats Win 'A Grade' Inter-District Football Premiership in the clubs 50th Season

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