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WEDNESDAY  
24 October 2018

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## Well Done Not So Well Done



# First business opens in Huntlee Town Centre



Huntlee ELC officially welcomed its first mini-clients last Monday, taking its place as the first

business to open in the Huntlee Town Centre. The state-of-the-art early learning centre can

accommodate up to 164 children aged from six weeks to five years. It boasts three nursery rooms, two toddler rooms, two junior rooms and two school readiness rooms, as well as the latest educational resources, a spacious, well-equipped outdoor environment and large onsite carpark.

Centre Director Kate Harkness said the privately-owned family business is committed to providing the highest quality care.

"Delivering stimulating, positive experiences and interactions which foster all aspects of early childhood development is at the heart of everything we do," said Kate. "It's exciting to be a part of the new town of Huntlee and the response has been fantastic. We've had a huge number of people register interest and our enrolments are already strong. We expect after the Christmas break we will

have a really solid number of children under our care. Our location adjacent to the Hunter Expressway is certainly proving very appealing for those in the wider area who travel for work, be it south to Maitland/Newcastle or north to the mines," added Kate.

At the official opening on Monday morning, Huntlee Project Director, Stephen Thompson, welcomed the Huntlee ELC staff and noted what a significant milestone this was in the development of the Hunter's first town in more than 50 years. "As a fully master-planned community with a focus on education, employment and recreation opportunities for its residents, Huntlee ELC is an ideal choice as the Town Centre's first business," said Stephen.



"A lot of young families are calling Huntlee their new home town and they're very pleased to have a facility of this calibre in such close proximity. "As a cornerstone facility for the Town Centre, Huntlee ELC has an important role to play in the development of our community and we congratulate them on

showing their commitment to the Huntlee vision. "In further great news for the Huntlee Town Centre, Coles has just lodged their DA with Cessnock Council to construct a 3200m<sup>2</sup> supermarket, a 200m<sup>2</sup> Liquorland and more than 1000m<sup>2</sup> of specialty retail stores. And in a separate DA before council, a service station, drive-thru fast food outlet and

convenience store are proposed for another key location on Wine Country Drive. "We'll also be making a number of other announcements in coming months, so it's definitely an exciting time in Huntlee's evolution," added Stephen.

• Photo Above: Huntlee Project Director, Stephen Thompson, & Centre Director Kate Harkness

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October**  
**MILLER PARK - BRANXTON**  
9.00am - 3.00pm

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### DOGS

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

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



### CATS

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

\$16.00  
Purr cat, purr day





■ Above: Brian Thomas presenting the Lions trivia cheque to Jim Coburg a Trustee of the Lions District 201N3 Diabetes Foundation

The Branxton Lions trivia night in September was a great success. As a fund raising event it achieved our objectives of having funds to provide assistance to the needy in our community and beyond. The total funds raised were \$6337.60.

As a social event it was a very good night with 160 people in attendance at the Branxton Golf Club. Many people took home raffle prizes and the bidding in the auction and silent auction was competitive. Thanks to our auctioneer Neil Thomas for again doing a wonderful job. The trivia event was keenly contested with Eddie Barrett's table the victors for the second year running.

The Lions Club selected three organisations to

benefit from this year's event with fifty percent of the money raised being distributed to; The Motor Neurone Disease Research Institute of Australia, The Lions Diabetes Foundation and Jodie's Place the local Women and Children's Refuge. Each of these organisations received a cheque for \$1056.27. None of

this money goes to administration or wages so will be spent where it is needed.

The Lions sincerely thank our many sponsors who have been acknowledged in a previous edition of this newspaper and to Tony Bercini and the Golf Club for the assistance given in the preparations for the evening.

Branxton Lions Club Seniors dinner 2 dates have been decided for 2018 at their last meeting. The first dinner at Greta is on the 27<sup>th</sup> November held at the Greta Workers Club.

Branxton dinner to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> December at the Branxton Community Hall. Both dinners will commence at 6pm. Branxton Lions Club President Brian Thomas said their members are well organised for the function and are looking forward to meeting our seniors again this year. Anyone wishing to be put on our mailing list please contact Brian on 65747186 or Alan on 0426261048 or 49381203.

*Brian Thomas, President Branxton Lions Club*



■ Above: Brian Thomas presenting the Lions trivia cheque to Paula, the Director of Jodie's Place the local Women and Children's Refuge



**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October**  
**MILLER PARK - BRANXTON**  
 9.00am - 3.00pm

FREE ENTRY | FREE KID'S ZONE | FOOD VANS  
 LOCAL BUSINESS | COMMUNITY | MARKETS  
 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT | PET FRIENDLY

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**EMPLOYEES ANNUAL PICNIC DAY 2018 – TEMPORARY ALTERATION TO SERVICES**

Cessnock City Council Employees Annual Picnic Day will be held on Friday 26 October 2018. The following alterations to services will apply:

Cessnock City Council Administration  
 Building Vincent Street, Cessnock  
 Cessnock & Kurri Kurri Libraries  
 Cessnock Performing Arts Centre

**CLOSED**  
**CLOSED**  
**BOX OFFICE CLOSED**  
**Online ticket sales as normal**

Cessnock Waste Management Centre  
 Greta Transfer Station  
 Waste Collection:

**CLOSED**  
**CLOSED**  
**No household collection of general waste bin on Friday 26 October 2018. If your collection is normally on Friday it will be collected Saturday.**

Recycling Collection  
 Cessnock & Branxton Swimming Pools  
 Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre  
 Ranger Services

**SERVICES AS NORMAL**  
**CLOSED**  
**OPEN AS NORMAL 5.30am to 6pm**  
 A Council Ranger will be on-call for Friday 26 October 2018. **In an Emergency please call the Police.**  
**OPEN AS NORMAL 9am to 5pm**

Hunter Valley Visitors Centre

**EMERGENCY PHONE NO. 4993 4100**

**DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL**

**PROPOSAL:** Section 4.55(1A) Modification to Condition 3 to Enable Parachutist Landings 7 days a Week  
**LAND:** LOT: 2 DP: 545331, LOT: 1 DP: 545331, LOT: 12 DP: 809322 2213 Broke Road POKOLBIN, 228g Broke Road POKOLBIN  
**APPLICANT:** Skydive the Beach and Beyond Hunter Valley Pty Ltd  
**APPLICATION NO.:** 8/2009/69/2  
**CONSENT AUTHORITY:** Cessnock City Council

Council is in receipt of a Section 4.55(1A) Modification for the abovementioned property. For your convenience a locality map and details of the development proposal, as specified above, can be viewed utilising Council's online enquiry system, called 'Application Tracker'.

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

- utilising free internet at either Cessnock and Kurri Kurri Libraries to view electronic documents; or
- inspecting hardcopy documents at Council's Customer Service Counter, between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Before determining the Section 4.55(1A) Modification, Council is inviting the public to make a submission in relation to the proposal. **The notification period commences on 24 October 2018 will conclude 7 November 2018.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have any enquiries in relation to the application please contact Mrs Kristen Wells of Council's Planning and Environment on 4993 4152.

**BRANXTON TOWN CENTRE DRAFT PUBLIC DOMAIN PLAN PRE-EXHIBITION CONSULTATION**

Cessnock City Council will be holding pre-exhibition consultation on the Draft Branxton Town Centre Public Domain Plan at the Branxton Golf Course, Cessnock Road, Branxton between 3pm - 7pm on Thursday 25 October 2018.

Council staff will be there to answer any questions and capture any suggestions and comments from the community before the Draft Plan is put on formal exhibition later in the year.

If you would like any further information, please contact Council's Strategic Planning Team on 4993 4241.



Huntlee

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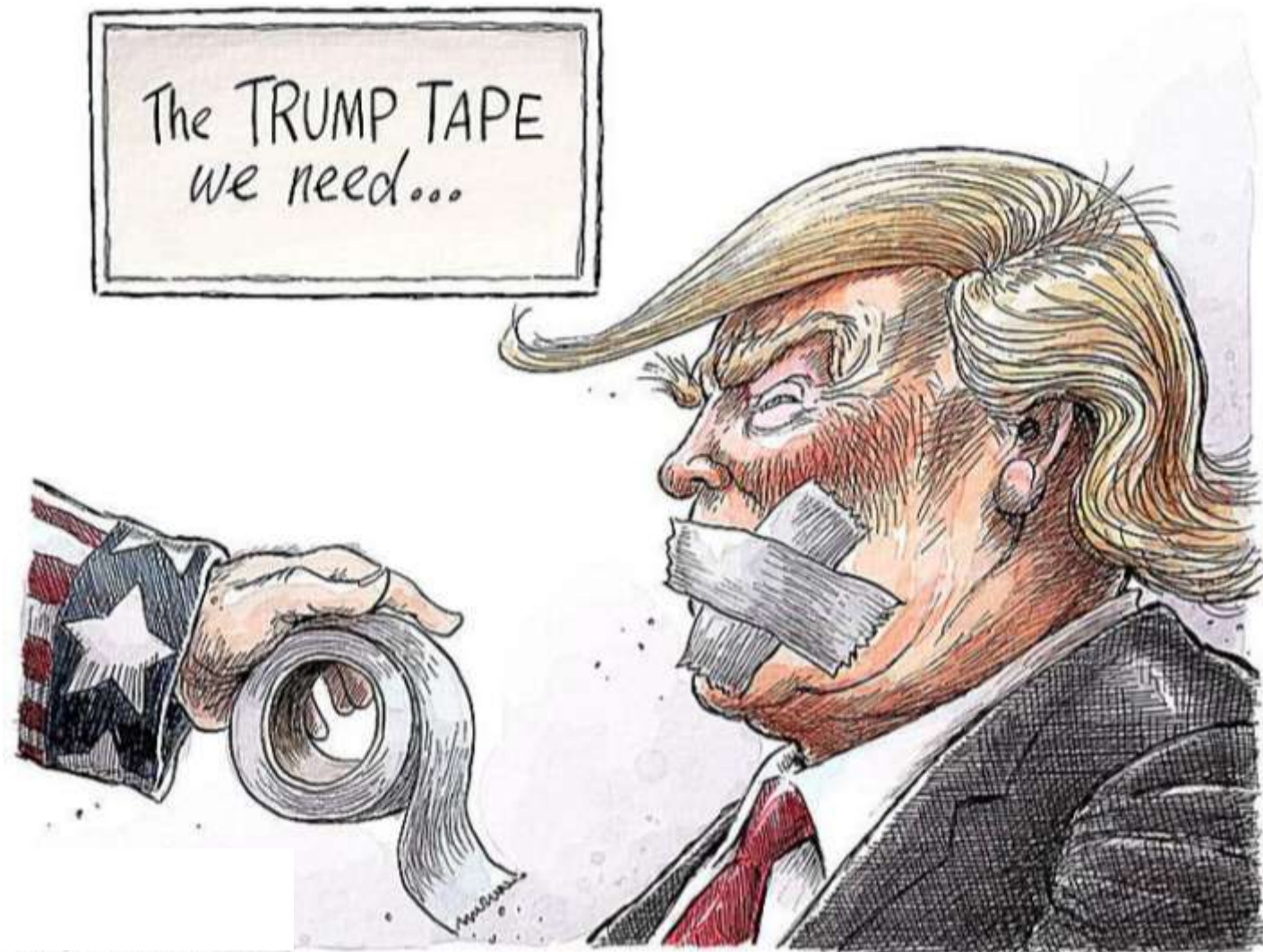
# STEVE'S RANT

## The selfishness of the Union Movement

**Union officials and what they represent are the greatest threat to Australian's economic welfare.**

These manipulators' have never put their own money into an enterprise or business and have absolutely no concept of the difficulties faced by the business community. Unions and what they stand for is one of the major problems for business, let alone the insurance, banking, finance and taxation hardships faced by any free enterprise business. On top of this is the bureaucratic nonsense of rule compliance, reporting of activities and the gaining of countless approvals before you get to sell anything or make anything. The union movement do not exist for the benefit of workers as they would have us believe. Their sole role is to capture membership by blackmailing business, operating a virtually closed shop monopoly in the compulsory superannuation industry and effectively running the Labour Party financially, ideologically and to the further entrenchment of their privileges and legal advantage against the interest of Australia as a

whole. If we take the worst example, the CMFEU, a known entity which advocates breaking the law to implement its aims and does this repeatedly despite massive fines. Obviously, fines are not sufficient to reign in this gangster outfit. Some time in the calaboose might better fit their crimes. How has it come to this? Over the last century we, as a people, have been conditioned to accept the privileged position the union movement has on the assumption that they exist to ensure a fair go for the worker. In the first 50 years of Federation this was true and a deserved esteem. This is no longer the case; they use workers to do their dirty work by stacking branches, (ok, all the political parties try this on, so what?) doing the legwork of door knocking during elections and mustering for protest rallies in support of whatever takes their fancy. The workers do this because they have always done it and it is a bit like Pavlov's Dogs. On a given signal they do something. Legal or not, if the unions say "go slow at work", or "don't do anything outside your job description",



that's it, you have no choice as per the slogan "One out, all out". Try doing this with the local tradies or the self-employed. They would quite rightly tell Unions to "get stuffed". Just as an exercise in self-education, as we approach a spate of elections in the near future make a mental note of the antics these non-representative goons get up to. And if you don't believe they do this, ask John Howard about Work Choices. No wonder the union movement was against it. It was to give the workers freedom of choice as to their working conditions and remove the toxic influence of the unions. That is, to rescue the captive minority of workers these unions had influence over because of legislated

privilege. Workers would be free to negotiate their pay and conditions with an employer without interference from unions. This would enable casual work for parents and carers to fit their hours to suit, enable highly experienced and qualified workers to work multiple jobs as advisors or mentors, give employers the choice of diversifying the skill levels and age levels of their workers so that on the job training and development can be untaken and help identify good workers and those with potential. This is poison to the unions and affront to their privileges. Finally, since the union movement has this great cash cow of superannuation it's about time they paid tax on their earnings like every other enterprise.

Google ANDREW BRAGGS UNIONS SUPER SIDELINE. The Royal Commission kicked off with public hearings, the second most common source of complaints so far have been recorded against superannuation funds. Our \$2 trillion super system is now the biggest part of the financial sector. If only the full truth were known, there would be riots. Over the past decade super funds have sent over 50 million of workers savings to support affiliated trade unions. Without change this will balloon to \$22 million each year. Follow Andrew Bragg for the full story. Check out too; KEEP UNIONS OUT OF SUPER FUNDS- Financial Review. Remember it's your money.

If you are happy to have it available to racketeers that's your business. If you do nothing, nothing will change. *Thought for the week; people drink coffee because they do not know how to make a decent cup of tea.*

Cheers, Steve

good food & coffee, kid's free zone, live entertainment & pet friendly. 2. On Saturday 3 November North Rothbury Tidy Towns are having their second annual Twilight Markets at Ayrefield Miners Park, 6pm—8pm. Last year they fed around 600 attend and had 17 stalls; a wonderful evening with the weather behaving itself. They are still open for stall bookings (P: 0412 566 041)

**What's Happening & other**

with **Mike Lowing**

A gentle reminder for the community to pencil in their diary's three local events that will be staged in the next couple of weeks; all are very worthy of your attendance & support:-  
1. Next Saturday 27th October is the inaugural "Central Hunter Business & Community Expo" to be held at Miller Park Branxton from 9am—3pm. Free entry, over 110 stalls,

3. On Sunday 4 November there is the True Blue Aussie Music & Bush Poems at the Drovers Camp, Branxton. It is a fundraiser supporting the "Save Liddell" campaign. 10am—4pm. The organisers have given me some promotional tickets to give away; half will be for businesses who are current advertisers of the Branxton Greta Vineyard News and the other half for readers. Phone me on 0414 757 826 to get yours. Should be a monster day. *Cheers, Mike*



NSW State Audit

I am pleased to once again report that I issued a clear audit opinion on the state's consolidated financial statements. This demonstrates the government's focus on preparing high quality information on the state's financial position and performance for use by stakeholders. The report notes there are two key areas that need to be addressed to further support the preparation of the state's financial statements. Firstly, some complex accounting matters are not being resolved until late in the financial reporting cycle. This has contributed to an increase in the number of errors in the financial

statements key agencies are submitting for audit, particularly around assessing the value of physical assets. Secondly, the state needs to implement five new accounting standards over the next two years. Agencies will need to devote resources and effort to collect the necessary information and assess the impact at the whole of government level. The report also discusses the state's new financial management IT system, legislative reform and the transition to outcome based budgeting, all part of the NSW Treasury's Financial Management Transformation program. This program aims to reform the financial governance, budgeting and reporting arrangements of

the New South Wales public sector. The report notes the \$4.2 billion state budget surplus. The consolidated financial statements at 30 June 2018 do not reflect the sale of 51 per cent of the state's investment in Sydney Motorway Corporation for which it received \$9.3 billion. The sale was announced on 31 August 2018. *Margaret Crawford, NSW Auditor-General*

Danger to parties It is interesting to read that parliamentarians were allowed a conscience vote on the recent abortion reform law. Commendable but dangerous.

Did the power brokers realise they had only weeks to train their members to think for themselves? And they did bring about this revolutionary miracle. Future politicians who use their conscience to vote are surely a danger to any political party?

It is nonsense to suggest this is only one time. Thinking could become a habit and then our present system of government would collapse. Panic! Panic! The sky is falling. It is the end of the political world as we know it. *Mike McGregor, Narrabri*

### Emergency Phone Numbers

<b>Dial 000</b> FOR FIRE, POLICE AND AMBULANCE ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT FOR 24-HOUR SERVICE It's a free call. Just tell the operator what you need—fire, police or ambulance. Then wait to be connected. When reporting an emergency by calling 000, the telephone number & address you are calling from may be given to the emergency service so they can respond quickly. If you don't want the telephone number or address details passed on, you must call the emergency service direct. <b>ALL CALLS TO 000 ARE VOICE RECORDED</b> <b>For non-life threatening calls.....</b> <b>Police Assistance Line (PAL)....</b> 131 444	<b>Police</b> Branxton..... 4938 1244 Lochinvar... 4930 7209 Greta..... 4015 0000 <b>Ambulance....</b> 131 233 <b>NSW Fire Brigade</b> Branxton..... 4938 3396  <b>Rural Fire Brigades</b> Belford..... 6574 7149 Broke..... 6579 1491 Greta..... 4015 0000 Bishops Bdg 4015 0000 Nth R'bury... 4015 0000 Rothbury.... 4015 0000 Pokolbin.... 4015 0000 Rothbury.... 4991 1733 Bishops Bdg 4015 0000 Nth R'bury... 4015 0000 Rothbury.... 4015 0000 Pokolbin.... 4015 0000 Rothbury.... 4991 1733 Scotts Flat..... 6575 1200 Central (Cessnock)... 4015 0000	<b>Electricity</b> Energy Australia..... 131 388 <b>Hospitals</b> Maitland... 4939 2000 Cessnock.. 4991 0555 Singleton... 6572 2799 <b>SES</b> .....132 500 Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 Poisons Info ..... 131 126 Hunter Water 1300 657 000 Ausgrid ..... 131 388 Gas Emergencies . 131 909 Lifeline .....131 114 Mental Health Line 1800 011 511 Domestic Violence Support 4990 9609 Centrelink Self Service 136 240 Medicare ..... 132 011 Native Animal Rescue 0418 628 483
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*Helen Lowing, Proprietor & License-in-Charge*  
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**The Editor, The BGV News, 12 Clift Street, Branxton NSW 2335**  
or  
**emailed to**  
[thenews@hotmail.net.au](mailto:thenews@hotmail.net.au)

The organisers have given The News some promotional tickets to give away ~ half will be for businesses who are current advertisers of the Branxton Greta Vineyard News and the other half for readers ~ Give me a call today to get your tickets (0414 757 826 or 4938 1773)

# TRUE BLUE AUSSIE MUSIC & BUSH POEMS

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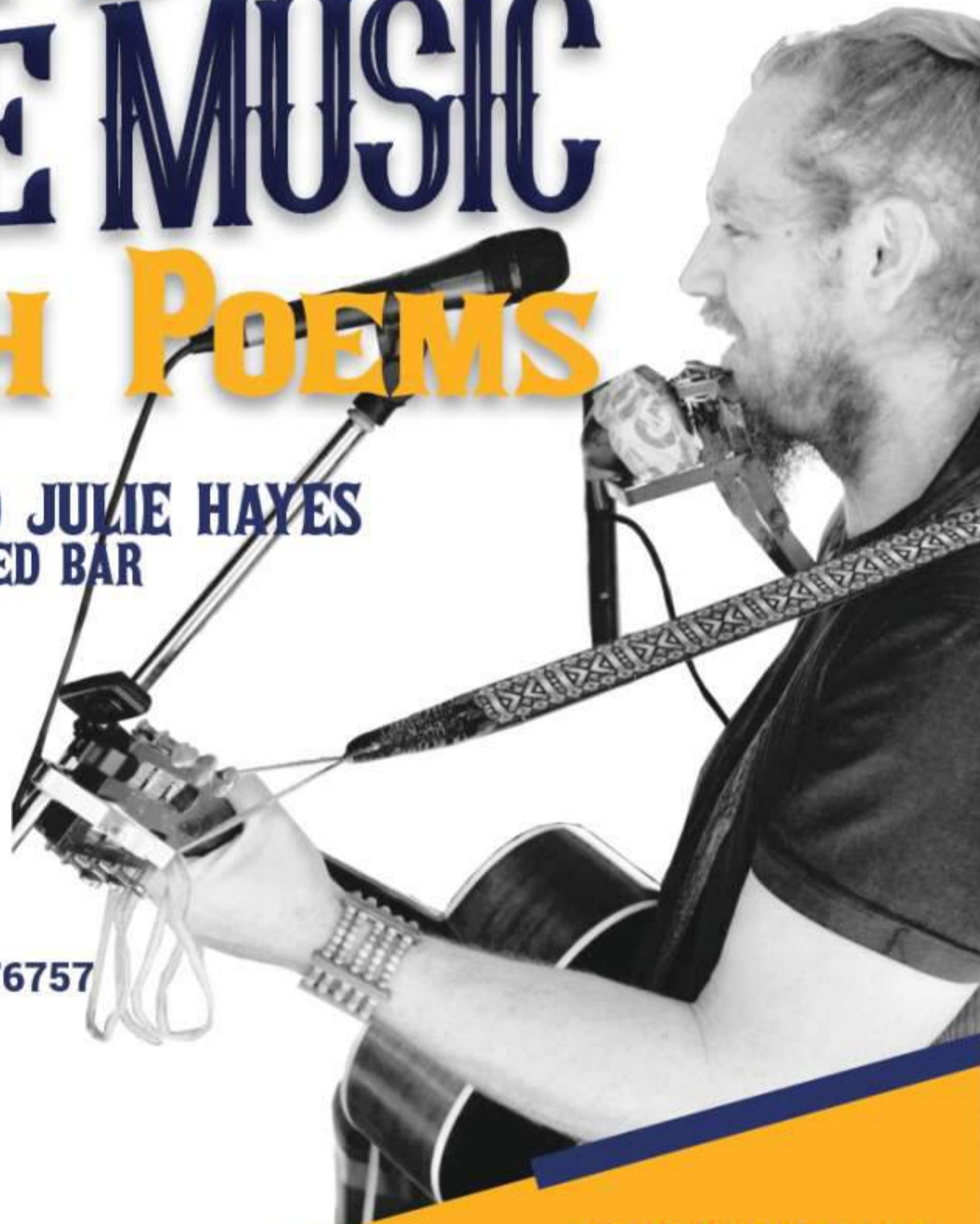
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4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  
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Organiser John Murray 0466 092 732

# Members say ....



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

coordinated which will take place throughout 2019, and Council will be providing in-kind support to ensure their success. A Planning Committee has been created, of which I am a member, and I look forward to working with the community to ensure the 80th anniversary of the Greta Army Camp and the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the Greta Migrant Camp are appropriately commemorated and celebrated.

Cheers, Bob



Cr Ben Mitchell - Maitland City Council-West Ward

## Service and Happiness

In a high school history class I vividly remember being shown a black and white recording of the then 21 year old Princess Elizabeth. It was her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday and she started her speech from Cape Town by saying "that this is a happy day for me, but it is also one that brings serious thoughts, thoughts of life looming ahead with all its challenges and with all its opportunity." Later in her speech this 21 year old future Queen made a promise to her people - "I declare before you all, that my whole life whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service and to the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

71 years later, surely not even the most ardent republican could argue that she hasn't kept her promise. Better still, she has passed that ethic on to the younger generations of her family. This was most evident this week.

Many will recall the moment that Prince Harry met 98 year old war widow Daphne Dunn. Daphne was camped out at the opera house keen to meet her handsome Prince for a third time. Harry recognised her and went straight to the barricade to introduce his new wife. It made Daphne's week, holding back tears of joy she said "you'll make wonderful parents", Meghan said "it's so lovely to meet you and we'll see you next time." A similar effect was seen in drought ravaged Dubbo where 5 year old Luke grabbed Harry's beard and gave both the Duke and Duchess a hug. He later commented that Harry's beard "was better than Santa's."

Both the Duke and Duchess didn't flinch or hesitate, they made a little boy's day and the nations hearts melted. The Duke and Duchess of Sussex are here to open the

Invictus Games, this year being hosted by Sydney. These games are the brainchild and passion of Harry himself. While on active service in Afghanistan, Harry saw first-hand the physical and mental trauma of troops who had to go through things unimaginable to many of us.

This is just one of the many causes he champions. Closer to home, service and the dedication of much of the Maitland community is something that I am so proud of. Our city wouldn't operate without the effort and dedication of the countless volunteers who keep this city ticking along. Many go un-noticed and unthanked, whether it's the sporting club coach and umpire, the P&C parents, the CWA ladies, Masonic Lodge, Lions, Rotary clubs or volunteer emergency services, they all do their little bit to contribute positively to our community. Many of these organisations are also constantly looking for new members, with dwindling numbers and aging memberships, they often struggle to keep doing the invaluable work they do. I have been a member of the Maitland Rotary Club for almost a year now, the men there meet one evening a week and do their bit for their community.

They couldn't have been more welcoming if they tried. The excuse I often hear from people as to why they can't be involved in these sort of groups is because "I haven't got the time." I work two jobs, and I can honestly say that the people I have met and the rewarding nature of the "work" in Rotary means that I have gotten far more out of it than what I put in. My challenge to the reader today is to find a group that suits your circumstances and pitch in. Everyone can give back something to their community. You'll wish you did it years ago.

If you would like further information on clubs and organisations where you can contribute, please contact me and I can put you in touch. Go team Australia at the games! Until next time, Cheers, Ben



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

It's well known that small communities band together when times are tough, and the drought we're experiencing is no exception. The people of Singleton have joined with Council to raise

more than \$6,000 already, putting us well on the way to achieving our goal of \$9,500 to buy a semi-trailer load of hay and transportation through Rural Aid's Buy a Bale program.

And we have the centrepiece of our fundraising campaign, the Pass the Hat community event, still to go on Saturday 27 October 2018.

Hunter Valley Operations came on board to join us to present the event, and it's been great to see the interest from businesses "buying a bale" to support our cause, as well as the significant in-kind contributions.

But while this event is designed for our community to come together to support each other, the most important thing is that it's going to be a lot of fun! We're thrilled to have PowerFM's Power Brekky team, Stolzy and Damien Leith coming to help us MC, and there'll be live music by VanderAa.

People of all ages can come down to the Civic Green, set up a picnic to enjoy the entertainment and grab some dinner from the array of food trucks. Hunter Valley cheese, wine and boutique beers will also be available for purchase on the night.

As well, Council is raising awareness of the importance to conserve water with low-level water restrictions taking effect across the Singleton local government area following a Council resolution at our annual Rural Hall meeting in Bulga last week.

At this stage there is no immediate threat to our water supply and no penalties to apply as a result of the low-level restrictions, but this voluntary measure is a great starting point to raise awareness of how we use water and will mean our community is more prepared if we need to bring in tougher restrictions.

Pass the Hat will be held on Saturday 27 October 2018 from 6pm to 10pm on the Civic Green. Donations can be made on the night, and corporate pledges can be made to Council's Strategy and Engagement team. Cheers, Sue



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

## Raising the BARR

### THE WORLD IS TRYING TO TELL US LIES

Folks, the "truth" is that we need to have our guard up for the long lies that the world is trying to convince us of. For example, there is a current foolish theory floating around that the earth is flat! And yes, people out there believe it to be true and promote the idea. There is also a dangerous theory out there that vaccines are bad for us. This belief, in real terms, is killing some of our children who

unnecessarily catch things like whooping cough and seeing the return of some diseases like polio that had effectively been eliminated. And then there is the silliness of those that defy the science on climate change and the even sillier media reporting of these people, as though their beliefs have any foundation in science.

On this point, in recent weeks we had 6,000 scientists across the planet produce a definitive paper proving the science of climate change, and our Federal Government, the great majority of whom have no qualifications in the sciences, said thanks, but no thanks.

And in NSW we have our own stadium issue that seems to be based on a series of, well, what might politely be called "errors of truth". To tackle this matter, I might rely on some math, which will prevent too much biased opinion, and provide you with the opportunity to come to your own conclusions.

It has become clear that the old Parramatta stadium had a business case put forward that justified its knock down and rebuild as a financially worthy project at a cost of \$350 million. Based on recent news, we now know that the business case relied on 30 rugby league games being played there each season, with a rental fee of \$200,000+per game. That would return \$6 million per season of rent.

The local team, the Parramatta Eels were always "expected" to play their home games there, 10 per season, but at this stage they are saying they are only willing to pay approx. \$100,000 rent per game. Also, because that team only provides 10 home games per year, at least 2 other NRL teams will be required to make up the other 20 games.

To date, the Wests Tigers have agreed to play 4 games there - the price for rent of the stadiums for these 4 games is unknown, so let's assume it was the full \$200,000. That leaves the business case 16 games short at \$200,000 each, and if Parramatta Eels negotiate a rental deal of \$100,000 per match, then the business case is also short a further 10 x \$100,000 (or 5 games at \$200,000 per game).

Nearby teams that "might" play at the new stadium include the Penrith Panthers and the Canterbury Bulldogs. But it seems that no one has told their local fans or stadiums that they are planning to depart their current home grounds and rent arrangements that they are contracted into.

Their fans will be furious and may refuse to physically follow their teams to a new ground. But let's assume that they agree to play all 10 of their respective home games at the new stadium, at a cost of \$200,000 per game. The math tells us that we are still 6 games short at \$200,000 per game and we are 10 games short at \$100,000 per game. Perhaps Manly will agree to play their home games at Parramatta, or perhaps Cronulla will, or perhaps St George Illawarra. Perhaps the "truths" that we had previously been told

about the business case and the need for new stadiums is less than reliable. And the scary thing is this is just the first new stadium. There are 2 more on their way. The problem above will be repeated on 2 more occasions but then you start to run out of Sydney based NRL teams, so you have to start wondering if Brisbane or Melbourne or North Queensland might start playing their home games at a new Sydney Stadium to make the figures add up.

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



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Member for Hunter

## Labor will extend preschool access to 3 year olds

A Shorten Labor Government will introduce a new two year National Preschool and Kindy Program - the biggest ever investment in early childhood education in Australia.

The plan is good for children in the Hunter electorate, good for parents, and good for the economy. From 2021, every three year old in the Hunter electorate will be able to access 15 hours of subsidised early childhood education, so they can get the best start to learning.

Labor will also extend the current arrangement for four year olds accessing preschool programs - creating a quality, two-year program that boosts development in the most important years of a child's development, an investment of an additional \$1.75 billion into early education. 90 per cent of a child's brain development occurs in the first five years of life - an investment in early education is one of the smartest investments our country can make.

Labor's universal access to preschool scheme for four year olds has laid the groundwork for this announcement. Since the first agreement was signed by Labor in 2008, preschool enrolment for four year olds has increased from 77 per cent to between 93-97 per cent. But more needs to be done. Our global competitors have

recognised the value of a two-year early childhood education program, and it's time Australia gets on board, before we fall further behind. The United Kingdom, New Zealand, France, Ireland and China have all expanded their early childhood education programs to include three year olds.

Currently, Scott Morrison has failed to extend preschool funding for four year olds beyond next school year - after his child care changes cut early education from some of Australia's most vulnerable children, including preschool children in the Hunter electorate.

The Liberals see education as a cost - that's why they've cut \$14 billion from public schools and left preschool funding in limbo. Labor sees it as an investment in our collective future.

Labor will work in partnership with the states and territories to deliver this important reform, including in setting enrolment and attendance targets, particularly for Indigenous and vulnerable children.

We've made tough and overdue decisions to rein in unfair tax concessions that predominantly benefit the wealthy - including negative gearing reform and dividend imputation reform - so we can fund the priorities that will make a fairer and more successful nation.

Labor's plan is good for children, good for parents, and good for the economy:

**Children** - Studies have shown that children who access quality early education achieve better results in tests throughout their schooling. Early education is particularly vital in closing the disadvantage gap before a child starts school. Labor's plan will see around 340,000 three year olds and a similar number of four year olds able to access preschool every year.

**Parents** - One of the biggest barriers to accessing early education is finance - expanding access will help with the cost of living, help parents balance work and family and help reduce the child care bill for families with children already in early education. **Economy** - evidence shows that the return on investment in early childhood education is significant. A recent study from the EU showed that for every dollar spent on early childhood education for 3 year olds, \$4 was returned to the economy.

Cheers, Joel

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**News**

P: 4938 1773

# “Save Liddell Power Station”

I THINK it is true to say that the majority of citizens of Australia when they get annoyed about something they feel very strongly about mostly they just let it go; all too hard.

A good friend had that happen & just didn't let it go; he started his own political party and has put the best part of 2 years into helping mitigate his very strong feelings & annoyances

about power generation & power prices in Australia & other matters.

John Murray started the True Blue Party Australia & it is our newest political party.

“I formed it out of a need, initially, for mainstream Australians to have a voice on important issues such as energy policies. There is also immigration, security and freedom of speech,” said the parties Chairman John Murray. Mr Murray, who grew up in the Hunter, has come out strongly against plans by AGL to close both Liddell and Bayswater Power Stations in the Upper Hunter saying these closures are in themselves bad enough but the public announcement means that prime investment opportunities would be walking away from the Hunter Valley today and those existing businesses that need reliable and affordable energy would, also, be now making plans to leave the area as well.

“The Hunter has some of the best quality coal in the world and we



have it in abundance. To close down two of the top 3 coal fired power stations in Australia that sit right on top of some of the richest coal seams in the world is madness! We must oppose these plans by AGL for the alternative is the losses of thousands of jobs, it will

decimate the Hunter and have a massive negative impact on NSW energy supplies as well," said John. "We urgently need to adopt a common-sense approach to securing affordable, reliable base load energy. Coal has been a wonderful resource for

the Hunter and we must continue to use it for base load power until the next generation of affordable & reliable power supply comes along," he said. John Murray will be doing a solo protest walk from Liddell Power Station in the Upper Hunter to Branxton's Drovers Camp at the back of Branxton. He will be pushing a wheelbarrow load of black coal to raise funds.

The 3-day walk will occur late this month in the lead up to a music & fundraising day he has organised at Drovers Camp Restaurant Branxton on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November; the True Blue Aussie Music Day and country BBQ will be held between 10 am and 4 pm.

Limited tickets are available online with Sticky Tickets and the event will be called "True Blue Aussie Music" "If you love the Hunter and are concerned with what these closures will do for this area please come along. We have a great day planned!" said John. "You might even buy a lump of coal as a memento!"

• Photo above: John Murray, pushing his coal barrow, started the True Blue Party Australia & it is our newest political party.

## Pharmacist Advice



### Severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis)

**Anaphylaxis is the most severe form of allergic reaction and is potentially life-threatening.**

**Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency and requires immediate treatment.**

**What are allergies?** Allergies occur when an overactive immune system produces antibodies (IgE) against substances in the environment (allergens) that are usually harmless. Exposure to an allergen can result in symptoms that vary from mild to life-threatening.

**What is anaphylaxis?** Anaphylaxis is a severe and sudden generalised allergic reaction involving the respiratory or cardiovascular system. Other systems such as the skin and/or gastrointestinal tract may also be involved.

It can occur when a susceptible person is exposed to an allergen (such as a particular food or an insect sting). Reactions usually begin within minutes of exposure and can progress rapidly over a period of up to two hours or more. Anaphylaxis is potentially life-threatening and always requires an emergency response.

**How common is anaphylaxis in Australia?** Anaphylaxis is uncommon but not rare, with new cases arising at rates of between 8.4 and 21 per 100 000 patient years.

Anaphylaxis is more common in children than adults. An Australian survey of parent-reported allergy and anaphylaxis found that 1 in 170 preschool children had suffered at least one episode of anaphylaxis.

A good friend had that happen & just didn't let it go; he started his own political party and has put the best part of 2 years into helping mitigate his very strong feelings & annoyances

Hospital-based studies suggest a death rate in the order of 1 per 100-200 episodes of anaphylaxis treated in an emergency department. The most common triggers of anaphylaxis are:

- foods (e.g. peanut, tree nuts, fish, shellfish, cow's milk and other dairy foods, eggs, sesame, soy or wheat) N.B. An individual with IgE-mediated allergy to cow's milk has a 92% chance of being allergic to goat's milk
- insects (e.g. bee stings, wasp stings, jack jumper ant bites)
- latex (e.g. rubber gloves, balloons, swimming caps)

\* medications: including natural and herbal products

**Potentially life-threatening signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis**

The following indicates that there is involvement of the lower respiratory or circulatory system (i.e. anaphylaxis):

- difficulty/noisy breathing
- swelling of tongue
- swelling / tightness in throat
- difficulty talking and / or hoarse voice
- wheeze or persistent cough
- chest tightness
- confusion

• a drop in blood pressure, persistent dizziness, loss of consciousness and / or collapse, or cool, sweaty skin with feeble / thready pulse (shock) & pale skin and floppiness in young children. Additionally, abdominal pain and vomiting are symptoms of anaphylaxis to insect stings or injected medicines.

**Mild or moderate signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis** Mild or moderate allergic reactions may be limited to

the following. Alternatively, these symptoms may precede the onset of anaphylaxis or may occur as part of an anaphylactic reaction:

- swelling of face, lips and eyes
- hives or welts on the skin
- headache
- congestion and watering of the nose and eyes
- anxiety
- Flushing
- abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting

#### Acute treatment of anaphylaxis

Adrenaline is the most important treatment for anaphylaxis and can prevent fatal complications if administered in the early stages of an anaphylactic reaction. Adrenaline administered by intramuscular injection rapidly reverses the effects of anaphylaxis. Individuals considered to be at risk of anaphylaxis should carry an adrenaline auto injector device (EpiPen or Anapen) for use in an emergency. Always call 000 if you suspect an individual is having an anaphylactic reaction. If they have an auto injector, assist them in administering it. A comprehensive management plan for individuals with anaphylaxis should include referral to an allergy specialist.

#### Role of complementary or alternate therapies in treatment

There is no evidence that anaphylaxis can be prevented or treated by complementary or alternate therapies. All individuals who have had an anaphylactic episode or are at risk of anaphylaxis must be assessed by a medical practitioner.

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#### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/4 cup tamari
- 1 tablespoon sriracha chilli sauce, plus extra to serve
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 2 teaspoons sesame oil
- 1 teaspoon sesame seeds
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 12 lamb cutlets, French trimmed
- 1 tablespoon rice wine vinegar
- 2 baby gem lettuce, cut into wedges
- 2 Lebanese cucumbers, halved lengthways, thinly sliced diagonally
- 2 carrots, halved lengthways, thinly sliced diagonally
- 1 cup shredded red cabbage
- 2 spring onions, thinly sliced diagonally
- 2 long red chillies, thinly sliced diagonally
- Japanese-style mayonnaise, to serve

#### Method

##### Step 1

Combine honey, tamari, chilli sauce, garlic, sesame oil and sesame seeds in a medium jug. Set aside.

## Honey sesame lamb cutlets



##### Step 2

Heat vegetable oil in a large frying pan over medium-high heat. Add lamb. Cook for 2 minutes each side or until browned. Add 2/3 of the honey mixture. Cook for a further 2 minutes or until sauce thickens and lamb is coated in sauce.

##### Step 3

Stir vinegar into remaining honey mixture. Place lettuce, cucumber, carrot and cabbage onto a serving tray. Drizzle with honey mixture. Top with lamb. Sprinkle with onion and chilli. Serve with extra chilli sauce and mayonnaise.





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**Kurrajong Trails and Cottages is set on 100 acres in the rugged Hawkesbury sandstone ridges, foothills of the Blue Mountains.**

The homestead and cottages overlook Wheeny Creek, which stretches from Kurrajong to the Colo River, winding its way through majestic wetlands.

This property is set inside the Wollemi National Park, home of the ancient Wollemi Pine whose whereabouts remain a secret. Kurrajong Village, a 15 minute drive away, boasts quaint cafe's + shops for your last minute supplies as well as restaurants.

The Blue Mountains Botanic Gardens, a 50 minute drive up Bells Line of Road offers panoramic views over extensive gardens from their gourmet restaurant.

Historic Richmond and Windsor have many cafe's, restaurants and markets – a 25 minute drive South.



## **Accommodation** - Self contained cottages

**Kurrajong Trails & Cottages** has 4 self contained cottages, each sleeping 6, with a queen bedroom and 4 single beds in loft above. The 'Caretakers Quarters' sleeps 4, with a queen bedroom and 2 single beds in the large living area. Set inside the Wollemi National Park, we are self sufficient with solar power & rainwater tanks.

The Entertainment Shed, with its own kitchen, indoor & outdoor dining area, make it ideal for groups and family gatherings. Linen & towels, included wood burning heater and BBQ with well equipped kitchen, TV & DVD & Child and pet friendly.

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## **Kurrajong Trails & Cottages**


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**TBGVN Article – Coal Miners Accident Pay Cut**  
The Fair Work Commission has recently determined to cut injured coal miners accident pay entitlements. This article provides a brief overview of the decision. The full article can be found on our website [www.shawbunner.com.au](http://www.shawbunner.com.au).

**What is Accident Pay?**  
Accident Pay (“AP”) is an industrial entitlement available to injured workers in the black coal industry pursuant to the Black Coal Mining Industry Award 2010 (“BCMI Award”). The AP entitlement is above and beyond an injured workers standard compensation entitlement and is available pursuant to their industrial agreement.

Some workers AP entitlements are provided for exclusively via the BCMI Award whereas many employees are covered by an enterprise agreement. AP was first introduced into the NSW black coal industry in 1973 at which time a period of 26 weeks was provided for. In February 1980, the AP entitlement was extended to 78 weeks and this has remained in place until now.

**Review of Black Coal Mining Industry Award 2010**

The Fair Work Act 2009 provides that the Fair Work Commission must conduct 4 yearly reviews of modern awards. As part of this process, an application was made from the Coal Mining Industry Employer Group (“CMIEG”) to vary the accident pay provisions of the Award so that, amongst other things, the period of AP is reduced to 52 weeks. The application was heard in the Fair Work Commission at the end of 2017. The application was strongly opposed by the key Union groups, namely APESMA, CFMMEU and AMWU.

**Submissions from CMIEG**  
The application from CMIEG was essentially two-pronged:

1. they sought a reduction in the payment of AP from 78 to 52 weeks;
2. they sought to reduce payments made in the initial 39 week period.

In short, the CMIEG contended that the AP provisions of the BCMI Award did not meet the modern awards objective for a number of reasons including that AP entitlements in the Award are more generous than any contained in any other modern award and that the alleged rationale underpinning the 1980 decision to introduce 78 weeks of AP no

longer exists.

**Submissions from the Unions**  
In summary, the Unions contended that in considering the CMIEG’s application the Commission should have regard to the special features of the industry, including the particular injury risk associated with the industry and the special regime for regulation of safety, workers compensation and accident pay.

**The Findings of the Commission**  
The Decision was handed down by the Commission on 26 September 2018. The Commission was minded to accept the application from CMIEGs to reduce the AP entitlement to 52 weeks. They accepted evidence that the coal mining industry was no more dangerous than a number of other industries and that very few claims in NSW exceed 52 weeks.

The Commission acknowledged that those workers covered by an enterprise agreement would not be immediately affected by the variation of the AP clause. Whilst the Commission felt 52 weeks of AP was appropriate, they did not accept the CMIEG’s application to reduce the entitlement to classification rate at the 26 week mark.

The AP variation will only apply to injuries which occur on or after the date on which the variation commences operation, which is set to take effect on **1 November 2018**.



**Call to step up home fire safety this summer**

As we move out of the colder months, we aren’t using our heaters, electric blankets and fireplaces as much. That means the risk of a house fire should be reduced, right? Unfortunately, no. Australia’s largest provider of smoke alarm compliance and maintenance services to the real estate industry says home fire safety is a year-round issue. Exclusive data obtained by Smoke Alarm Solutions and conducted by Fire & Rescue New South Wales, discovered the state’s firefighters responded to more than 3865 house fires in the past year. Interestingly, 45 per cent of these fires originated in the kitchen. Minimising the risk Smoke Alarm Solutions provides a comprehensive risk-mitigation


service that ensures landlords adhere to their legislative responsibilities, property managers meet their duty of care requirements and tenants are safe from the dangers of fire. CEO, Cameron Davis, says there are many simple steps that can be taken to minimise the threat of house fires this summer. “It’s important for property managers to remind renters to check BBQs before they’re fired up,” he says. “Check there are no cracks in the gas hose and the connections are tight.” And although it seems like stating the obvious, Davis reminds residents to never leave cooking unattended. “We all have competing

priorities when we’re at home, but it takes just seconds for a fire to start,” he says. “Sometimes there are tragic consequences.” Davis says residents must be fire smart outside the home too. “Landlords should ensure there is no rubbish around their properties and gutters are free of leaves and debris,” he says. “Mowed lawns and well-maintained gardens significantly minimise the threat and spread of fires.” Davis also reminds residents to turn appliances off at the wall if they are going on holidays.

**NSW must be more fire smart**  
Davis says it’s worrying that 25 per cent of NSW homes don’t have a working smoke alarm. “Working smoke alarms should be in every home,” he says. “Without working smoke alarms, residents are gambling with their safety and the safety of family and friends. “Nobody thinks it will happen to them, but home fires will claim two lives across the state this month alone.” Davis has previously vocalised his support for more stringent smoke alarm regulation, most recently following the release of the Coroner’s recommendations into the tragic death of Miata Jibba, who was killed in a

## North Rothbury Tidy Towns Annual Twilight Markets

PLANNED FOR Saturday the 3rd NOVEMBER 2018 – 6pm to 8pm



ABOVE: North Rothbury Tidy Towns in full activity mode..

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Please make note that North Rothbury Tidy Towns (encompassing Hanwood, Tuckers Lane Huntlee and surrounds) will be holding a TWILIGHT MARKETS in the park Sat 3rd NOVEMBER 6pm to 8pm.

Mark it on you calendar! Villagers / Visitors will be able to rent a stall site for the price of \$35 to dispose of their handiwork and Christmas gift ideas.

- ★ Schools may have stalls with parents present.
- ★ Persons with only a small amount of stuff might join with neighbors and friends to get a stall up and running.
- ★ This year too we look forward to having some market stalls with produce from local people and those with connections to our village.

The purpose of the Twilight Market is to raise funds for \$4 \$ Tidy Towns’ grant for park improvement. Show you energy and commitment to our area, and make some \$\$\$ for your Christmas.

NRTT will run a sausage sizzle.

PLEASE NOTE NO PARKING ON GRASSED AREAS.

NO PRE ARRANGED STALL POSITIONS. Stall holders will be able to set up from 4pm.

house fire in 2016. “The best investment families and landlords can make this summer is in up-to-date, working smoke alarms.”

**Residential Tenancies Act reforms passed**

Reforms to the Residential Tenancies Act have passed without amendment, according to the Real Estate Institute of New South Wales. These major changes affect the real estate industry, landlords & tenants. REINSW President Leanne Pilkington said the Residential Tenancies Amendment (Review) Bill 2018 has passed and REINSW is now commencing the first phase of educating the property management community. “It is important for our profession to understand all of the changes that the new Bill includes. We will be conducting intensive Training Sessions in 17 locations across the state beginning in Sydney next Thursday 25 October and running to 29 November 2018. “The second phase will follow the release of the Regulation, which are the guidelines that dictate how the act should be applied. “REINSW with the support of the REINSW Property Management Chapter Committee and a dedicated Sub-Committee which formed in June 2015, worked tirelessly to specifically

identify those areas in the current legislation requiring reform.” Ms Pilkington said while many of our lobbying efforts have been adopted in whole or part by the Government, a lot have been ignored, such as the Government’s proposed changes to: Alterations to property

- Break fees
- Domestic violence
- Rent increases, and more.

The bill will now be sent to the Governor of NSW for his assent. A date for the reforms to be implemented is yet to be disclosed.

**REINSW CEO sets the record straight**

In a recent BuzzFeed News article, Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation Matt Kean stated it is not in the public’s interest for real estate agents to regulate themselves. To bolster his claim, Kean cited the prevalence of underquoting\* and reminded the reader that in some surveys real estate agents are perceived to be untrustworthy. In his response to the article and Minister Kean’s comments, REINSW CEO Tim McKibbin set the record straight. **Cooperation, not self-regulation** Mikibbin says the property services industry is not seeking self-regulation, despite what Minister Kean

is implying. “The property services industry is seeking a relationship with a regulator who has competencies in the property services industry and who will work constructively and cooperatively with industry,” he says. “To me, that doesn’t seem unreasonable.” And McKibbin is not alone in his beliefs. Six groups, including the Property Owners’ Association of NSW and the Real Estate Buyers Agents Association of Australia, also argued to take the property services industry out of NSW Fair Trading’s remit. “NSW Fair Trading does not possess sufficient competencies and experience to support industry. It’s that simple,” says McKibbin. McKibbin says NSW Fair Trading is a small dollar value-high frequency transaction regulator. “These transactions are not typically legally or commercially complex – unlike a property transaction,” he says. “I buy a coffee on my way to work. I don’t need my solicitor’s help for that. But I do when I buy or sell real estate. “When six industry bodies all say NSW Fair Trading is not up to the job, how can the Minister ignore them? “Former Premier Mike Baird once rhetorically asked, ‘If industry wants to improve itself then

why would Government stand in the way?’. It’s a great question, but stand in the way they do, with great enthusiasm and determination. “The property services industry is working hard to increase the scope and quality of the services it provides to consumers. Unfortunately, to achieve this we have to fight NSW Fair Trading and Government every step of the way.” **Working to benefit the consumer** In the BuzzFeed article, Sarah Agar, Head of Campaigns and Policy at CHOICE, said the proposed name, Commissioner for the Property Services Industry, “raises alarm bells”. She expressed concern that the name “suggests the focus is on the industry itself and not the people that rely on that industry to give them a safe roof over their heads”. In his response, McKibbin welcomed any contribution or assistance CHOICE and other consumer protection organisations could provide to ensure the consumer is protected. “We want to improve all aspects of the consumers’ experience with the property services industry,” he says. “Prior to 2002, to gain a real estate licence you had to go to TAFE for three years and demonstrate industry experience. Now it can be done in a matter of weeks. “In fact, you can gain a Certificate of Registration [entry level qualification] in less than a week.”

**THIS** is the fourth in a series of articles about local service personal who served our nation in World War 1, the Great War. We will continue the series until the 100th Anniversary of Armistice Day this 11th November 2018. The Memorial Cycleway is not only a vital link between the two main towns of Branxton and Greta a distance of 4.5kms, but is also a living memorial to the sacrifice of those local veterans that enlisted to serve overseas. The cycleway will be from Rotunda to Rotunda, and will have a number of reflection points to all conflicts and peace keeping missions to which Australian service men and women have served.



**TOPPING, John Samuel**  
 Regimental Number: 59111  
 Place of Birth: Adelaide  
 Place of Enlistment: Singleton  
 Date of Enlistment: 28<sup>th</sup> January 1918  
 Occupation: Wheeler  
 Unit: 11<sup>th</sup> NSW General Reinforcement  
 John Samuel Topping is described in his initial medical examination as being 18 years of age, standing 5ft. 7¼ in. (1.70 m) tall, weighing 121 lb. (55 kg) with a dark complexion, blue eyes and fair hair. He was further described as having numerous moles on the front and back of his body along with several scars on his hands and knee. John Topping was a single man at the time of

enlistment and gave his address as Leaver Street, Greta. John had four years military experience with the 14<sup>th</sup> (Hunter River) Infantry Regiment under the Universal Training Scheme. After enlistment John Topping commenced his recruit training at Liverpool. During this training Private Topping was allotted to a number of Army units however on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 1918 he was posted to the 11<sup>th</sup> NSW General Service Reinforcements. This unit embarked at Sydney on board HMAT A30 Borda on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 1918 bound for London which they reached on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 1918. On arrival in the United Kingdom the 11<sup>th</sup> NSW General Service Reinforce-

ments entered Forvant Camp on the Salisbury Plain and commenced training with the 5<sup>th</sup> Overseas Training Battalion preparatory to travelling to France. During training with the Overseas Training Battalion, Private Topping was allocated to the 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF then fighting in Belgium. The Armistice concluding the Great War took effect on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918 while Private Topping was still in England, however, Private Topping did proceed to France via Southampton on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1919. On arrival in France Private Topping passed through the Australian Infantry Base Depot at the staging camp on his way to join the Battalion. The 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion War Diary records that on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1919 a raft of 68 General Reinforcements joined the Battalion at Walcourt, Belgium. The weather was very cold with

heavy snow falling and it is recorded the new reinforcements "find it very severe". The men of the Battalion with the longest overseas service were progressively returning to England and back to Australia. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1919 the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Battalions amalgamated and the new formation was known as the 17/18<sup>th</sup> Battalion comprising four Companies, two each from the former individual Battalions. At 0945 on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 1919 the 17/18<sup>th</sup> Battalion entrained at Walcourt and travelled to Bomere, Belgium arriving there at 1145. From Bomere the combined battalion marched to a new billet at Montigny-les-Tilleul, Belgium. The men of the combined 17/18<sup>th</sup> Battalion worked towards disbanding the Battalion but also had significant recreation time which they filled with recreational lectures on such diverse subjects as town planning, sketching and drawing. There was a mock 5<sup>th</sup> Brigade Parliament where subjects such as "Total Probation" and "Batchelor Tax" were debated.

Private Topping served with the combined 17/18<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion until he was detached to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Divisional Base Depot at Le Harve on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 1919. On the 15<sup>th</sup> April 1919 Private Topping's detachment was changed to a permanent posting and he was formally taken onto the strength of the unit. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1919 Private Topping commenced the process of returning to Australia when he marched out of the Australian Divisional Base Depot and into the staging camp in preparation to return to the United Kingdom. Private Topping departed France on the 24<sup>th</sup> June 1919 arriving at Southampton the following day. On the 1<sup>st</sup> August 1919 Private Topping embarked on HMAT A8 Argyllshire in Liverpool for the trip home. Private Topping disembarked at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Military District, Victoria, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1919 and discharged from the AIF at 2<sup>nd</sup> Military District Headquarters on the 8<sup>th</sup>



**TOPPING, John Samuel**

October 1919. John Topping had served one year and eight months in the AIF of which one year and two months was served overseas. John Topping was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. The name Topping, J.S. is inscribed on the Greta ANZAC Memorial.

## Community comes together for a night of entertainment to pass the hat in support of drought-affected farmers

The skies may not be so forthcoming, but there's a deluge of support as the community comes together for an event to support people doing it tough in the drought. Hunter Valley Operations has partnered with Singleton Council to host Pass the Hat, a night of live music, good food and good

old-fashioned entertainment on Saturday 27 October 2018 from 6pm to 10pm. Local businesses have also come on board to sponsor a hay bale on the night. All proceeds will be passed on to Rural Aid, to be distributed to the farmers who need it most. Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore said the format for the event would be similar to the successful Firelight held in April this year, with a live band, food trucks and the best in Hunter Valley cheeses and wines on offer on the Civic Green. "Live music will come from VenderAa Band, which brings a range of different instruments such as didgeridoos, drum jams and a djembe (African drum) to perform a mix of original songs and covers so there's something for everyone," she said. "It will be a great night for people of all ages to come out and enjoy a picnic on the lawn and take advantage of the great food from food trucks on the night along with Hunter Valley wines. "The idea is to bring people together for a great night of fun and entertainment to demonstrate the support in our community for people affected by the drought, and I'm looking forward to seeing a big crowd." There will also be an opportunity for people to access support and assistance on the night, with representatives on hand from Rural Aid, Rural Resilience Program, Salvation Army and Local Land Services. "First and foremost, we want everyone to have a good time," Cr Moore said. "But we also want to make sure people have access to the help and information they need, so people can also talk to someone or find out more about the assistance available in a way that's convenient and discreet."

SINGLETON COUNCIL PRESENTS

# PASS THE HAT

COMMUNITY SUPPORTING COMMUNITY

**SATURDAY 6PM - 10PM** **27** **OCTOBER CIVIC CENTRE**

Live music by VenderAa | Food Trucks | Beer & Wine Tasting  
 Rural Aid | Rural Resilience Program

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

### REINSW CEO sets the record straight

To demonstrate how easy it is to become a real estate agent, McKibbin says journalists have completed the Certificate of Registration course just so they can write an article on how pathetic the educational requirements are. "We have made this clear to NSW Fair Trading and Government, but did they listen? No," says McKibbin. "This level of education puts consumers at risk and fails those people seeking a career in the industry. "It's incredulous that the Minister and NSW Fair Trading state they are going to lift standards one day then say they want to de-licence auctioneers the next. "An auction is not a theatrical event. It is the making of a contract involving large sums of money and binding people to serious contractual obligations." McKibbin says every time he hears Minister Kean talk about the property services industry, it validates and strengthens his resolve to seek an industry-experienced Property Services Commissioner. When asked by Minister Kean what game he is playing, McKibbin responded: "The game is called 'consumer protection' and you win by providing vastly improved education, training, experience, knowledge of the regulatory environment and accountability to professional conduct." \*Channel 10 Eyewitness News recently reported that since 2016 108 agents have been fined for underquoting – those agents represent just 0.29 per cent of all people working in the real estate industry in NSW

Helen Lowing, Registrar & Licensed in Charge

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



## Branxton

**SOLD**



**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



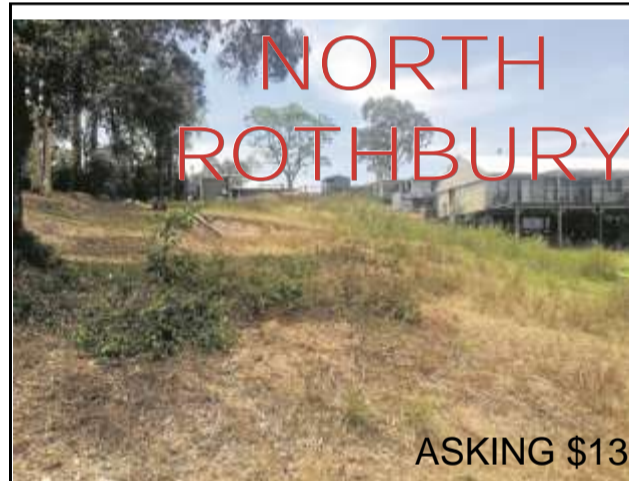
**Vacant Land 2559m<sup>2</sup>**  
Vacant Land with building approved  
Lot 1 DP 1205549  
Well over half an acre of good level block.  
**ASKING \$160,000 ONO**

## 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**

## NORTH ROTHBURY



**Vacant Land 809m<sup>2</sup>**  
  
Vacant Building Block  
Fantastic visage

**ASKING \$130,000 ONO**

## North Rothbury

**new on Market**



**What a package ~ Family home + granny flat + 1911m<sup>2</sup> fenced block**

Family home + Granny Flat all set on almost half an acre

INSPECTION RECOMMENDED

**ASKING \$488,000**

## North Rothbury

**new on Market**



**As new ~ Totally renovated; kitchen, bathroom, new flooring & freshly painted**

- \* Spacious living area
- \* New kitchen
- \* Builtins in all bedrooms
- \* New bathroom
- \* Reverse cycle split air conditioning
- \* Large single lock-up garage
- \* Set on 885sm fully fenced block with magnificent views to the north

INSPECTION RECOMMENDED

**ASKING \$417,000**



# School NEWS



## Branxton Public School

The last day of Term 3 was a busy one! PBL Assemblies took place in the morning and students receiving awards participated in reward activities in the afternoon. The activities this time included science, sport, computers, art and craft, dance party and a Teddy Bear's picnic. At lunch time we had the Oz Tag Challenge between staff and senior students. The staff were victorious with Mrs Thorpe playing a lead role. This term there will be a Netball Challenge! The wait was over for Kindergarten as we officially opened the Kindergarten Friendship Garden. The misty rain did not deter from our enthusiasm as we shared the occasion with



Oz Tag Challenge

our teddies and celebrated with an iced bikkie. We thank Mr Michael Richards and students at Rutherford

Technology High School, Mr Kevin Onslow (our GA), PRD Nationwide Real Estate, Branxton Public School P&C, Mrs Maier's dad and Mrs Maier for helping us make the garden such a beautiful space for our students.

Ms Towns and her gardening crew are doing a fabulous job of improving our other gardens around the school. Particular attention has been paid to the school entry and it looks wonderful. The P&C is holding a Mango Fundraiser. Trays can be ordered before 29<sup>th</sup> October at a cost of \$25 for a 7kg tray. See our school newsletter for details on ordering or check the P&C's Facebook page. Any funds

### Garden



Gardening



Teddy Bear's Picnic



Garden Opening

raised will go towards creating pavement art in our school grounds. Using 2018 ARTC Junior Landcare Grant funds, the P&C have purchased the beautifully healthy citrus trees now planted along the King Street boundary fence. They also have plans to add a little extra planting space to the raised vegie garden near the playground. A big thanks to all who have helped make this happen! The Central Hunter Business and Community Expo takes place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October at Miller Park. Our P&C have a stall at this exciting and important event. It's a great chance for businesses, community groups and local schools to come together to showcase local businesses and fundraise. The P&C will be fundraising with a basket of

books raffle, our fabulous mango trays and a mystery guessing competition. It would be great to see you there on the day to support our school and community! NAPLAN information sessions are being held for parents on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 2:30pm and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 5:30pm. All welcome **Dates for the Calendar** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Stage 1 Wetlands Excursion Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Central Hunter Business &

Community Expo Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October – P&C meeting 6pm in library Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> Kinder Orientation visit

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

Pop this one in your Diary.

# Market FEST

Entertainers, Drum Circles & Open Mic

Sat 4pm-10pm. Crn of Blue Bonnet Rd, Lambs Valley Rd, Lambs Valley 2335. \$10 Donation entry

## 2018 Oct 27<sup>th</sup>

END HOMELESSNESS  
FUN RAISER

**Google: hunterhealinggardens** Check the website for a full program, regular updates, plus all the latest news and events.

**Email: hunterhealinggardens@gmail.com** facebook All ages and family friendly - new volunteers welcome.

\* Children under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Pet friendly, must be leashed.



view from the kitchen was "picture perfect". The fashion parade went off without a hitch and then it was time for the High Tea. The Branxton Crib Box provided the lovely sandwiches. Noeleen, Marie, Leanne and Kerrie provided the slices and scones which were served out on the lovely tiered plates made by Marie.

Congratulations Helen and Marie. Your hard work was worth it. Hopefully all who attended enjoyed the day, as well as knowing that you assisted in raising money for a worthy cause. Poland (CWA 2018 Country of Study) is celebrating 100 years of Independence this year and there will be an exhibition at the Polish Cultural Centre at 122 Chatham Road, Broadmeadow on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> October until Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> October. Daily 10.00am – 8.00pm except Sunday which closes at 5.00pm. There will be exhibits on Historical displays, World War 2, Fall of Communism, Arts and Crafts, Short films, National costumes, Painting Exhibition by Basia Zielinska, Greta Migrant Camp, Music, Food Tasting, Tea and Coffee, Polish Cakes and on Thursday there will be Polish small goods and meats available from 12.00 to 6.00pm. Entry is FREE but there will be a charge placed on food/drinks with money going to the Drought Appeal. Greta Public School, which was joint second in the competition, and other prize winning School Posters will have their Poland Country of Study Poster (with School permission) exhibited for the 4 days. Any enquiries to Halina Paczynski – 0412004051. Noeleen Bendeich, Branch Patron, Life Member, Treasurer and Cultural Officer has



• Above: Noeleen Bendeich wearing sash for Handicraft.



• HRG members gathered for a wonderful lunch



• An ash fire was lit by the indigenous guests and we were invited to walk through the smoke (very moving).

achieved the Top Award at the recent Singleton Show. Noeleen won Most Successful Exhibitor, which consisted of (1<sup>st</sup> places) Most Successful Knitted Duchess Set hand embroid., Knitted Table Centre hand embroid., Crochet Tea Cosy, Knitted Matinee Jacket, Knitted Tea Cosy, Knitted Toy, Knitted Article over 70; (2<sup>nd</sup> places)

Most useful apron, Prettiest apron, Needlework over 70, Crochet under 20, Crochet under 40, Crochet baby jacket, Knitted jumper 5ply, Knitted cardigan 8ply, Knitted baby set. (Highly Commended) Crochet Rug and Knitted Coat Hanger. Congratulations Noeleen. A great achievement. Also, Katie Shearer, Ian and Martin Shearer and Tim Viogt competed in the Young Farmers Challenge (sponsored by Hillview Speckled Park), won 1<sup>st</sup> Place and are going on to compete at the

Royal Easter Show at the Young Farmers Challenge in 2019. Congratulations to all and best wishes for next year. NOV 5 Land Cookery/Product Promotion (Pomegranate) Day, will be held at Branxton Community Hall, 10am for 10.30am. Guest Speaker. Morning Tea, Lunch, Slices etc. Tea/Coffee. \$15. Great Value. Please advise any special dietary requirements to Marie on 0402015850 or Roslyn Shearer



• View from the Kitchen of the colourful Pink High Tea.

(Cookery Officer) on 0427558416 for information re cookery schedule (Non members are

welcome to enter) or email [branxtongretacwa@hotmail.com](mailto:branxtongretacwa@hotmail.com) Denise McGoldrick Publicity Officer.



**BRANXTON/GRETA CWA**  
ARE PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO THE  
**LAND COOKERY DAY**

Where: Community Hall  
Bowen St, Branxton

When: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Time: 10.00am for a 10.30am start


GUEST SPEAKER

Lunch - \$15.00 per person  
Raffle - Lucky Door Prizes

RSVP: Friday 1/11/18 Marie Shearer

Phone- 0402015850 or Email- [branxtongretacwa@hotmail.com](mailto:branxtongretacwa@hotmail.com)

Any dietary requirements before the day please.  
All cooking to be at the Community Hall before 9.00am for judging  
Non-members are eligible to enter



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# Greta Workers Sports & Rec Club Ltd

2 West Street Greta Ph 4938 7325

**"What's On?"**  
IN THE AREA

Friday 26th October

**RAG N BONE**

Friday 2nd November

**SLAM TANGO**



Greta Workers  
Thursdays 4pm—6pm

## The Oaks Restaurant

At Greta Workers



**Open Lunch & Dinner/Wed to Sun**

**TACO Thursday \$15 for 3 Taco's**

## Melbourne Cup



**TAB OPEN FROM 9AM at Greta**

**Miller Park open from 10am**



## Miller Park Sports Club

6 Maitland Street East Branxton Ph 49381226

## Simply D'Vine Restaurant

At Miller Park



LUNCH 12PM—2PM

DINNER 6PM—9PM

WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY



Wednesdays

4pm—7pm



Miller Park

Thurs \$800 & Sun \$5000



Miller Park

Fridays & Sundays

**FREE POOL**



**ALL DAY EVERYDAY**



**ABOUT ....**

**John Sandford**, real name **John Roswell Camp** (born February 23, 1944), is an American novelist and former journalist.



**Early life**

Camp was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the son of Anne Agnes (Barron) and Roswell Sandford Camp. His mother's family was German and Lithuanian. He received a Bachelor's in American History and a Master's in Journalism from the University of Iowa.

From 1971 to 1978, Camp wrote for *The Miami Herald*. In 1978, he moved to Minneapolis and started writing for *The Saint Paul Pioneer Press* as a features reporter; in 1980 he became a daily columnist. That year he was a Pulitzer finalist for a series of stories on Native American culture. In 1985, during the Midwest farm crisis, he wrote a series entitled "Life on the Land: an American farm family", which followed a typical southwest Minnesota farm family through the course of a full year. For that work, he won the annual Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing and the American Society of Newspaper Editors award for Non-Deadline Feature Writing. He worked part-time at the *Pioneer Press* in 1989 and left the next year.

**Fiction writer**

In 1989, Camp wrote two novels that would each spawn a popular series. *The Fool's Run* (Kidd series) was published under his own name, but the publisher asked him to provide a pseudonym for *Rules of Prey* (Prey series) so it was published under the name "John Sandford". After the Prey series proved to be more popular, with its charismatic protagonist Lucas Davenport, *The Fool's Run* and all of its subsequent sequels have been published under John Sandford.

In 2007, Camp started a third series, featuring Virgil Flowers, who was a supporting character in some of the Prey novels, including *Invisible Prey* and *Storm Prey*.

"John Sandford's madly entertaining Virgil Flowers mysteries are more fun than a greased-pig-wrestling contest. The plots are outlandish; the characters peculiar; and the best bits of dialogue are largely unprintable. So it is with *HOLY GHOST* which is set in Wheatfield, Minn., a worn-out town of 650 weary souls who elected Wardell

Holland mayor on the basis of his pitifully honest campaign slogan: "I'll Do What I Can." But nothing less than a miracle could put this hamlet back on its feet. Happily, a miracle is exactly what it gets when apparitions of the Blessed Virgin at St. Mary's Catholic Church bring in hordes of coin-jangling believers to patronize the local stores, including the mayor's own establishment, "Skinner & Holland, Eats & Souvenirs." But just when commerce begins to perk up, a sniper starts taking random potshots at visitors and residents alike. This is a situation that calls for Virgil Flowers, an agent with the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, who brings a fresh eye and a keen sense of humor to the case. Although his formal investigation largely has to do with tracing ballistics, Virgil makes time to take in the sights, teach a lesson to a vicious bully and sample the terrible cooking at Mom's Café."

Marilyn Stasio NY Times

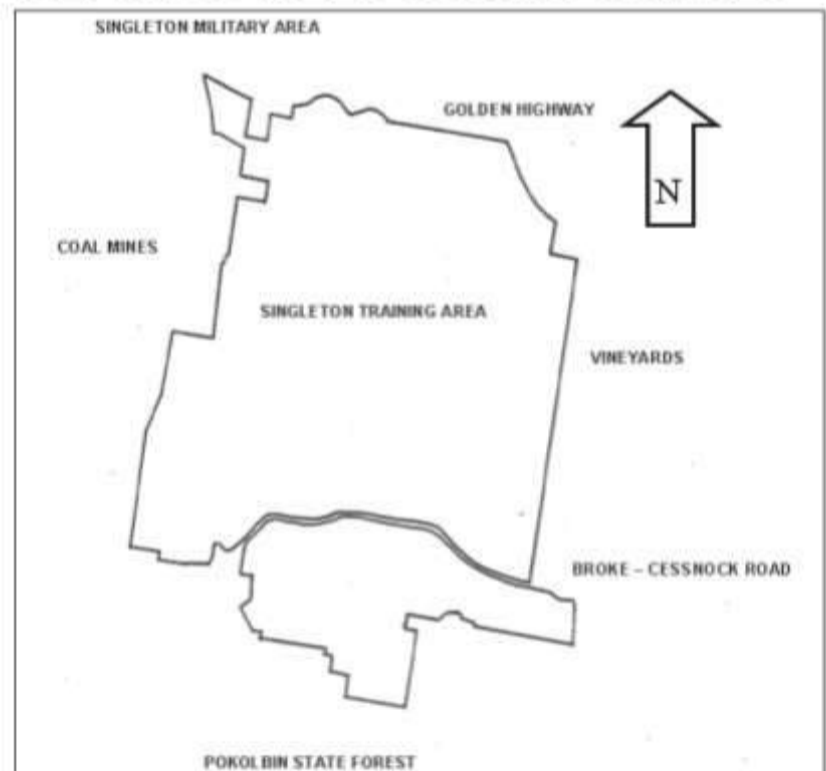
**The New York Times Best Sellers  
Combined Print & E-Book Fiction (28 Oct 2018)**

1. **New this week**  
*HOLY GHOST* by John Sandford  
Virgil Flowers investigates shootings in a Minnesota town following an attempt to revive its ailing economy.
2. **New this week**  
*AMBUSH* by James Patterson and James O. Born  
Michael Bennett discovers that an assassin is targeting him and his family.
3. **New this week**  
*THE NEXT PERSON YOU MEET IN HEAVEN* by Mitch Albom  
The sequel to "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" follows Annie on her heavenly journey.
4. **New this week**  
*THE WITCH ELM* by Tana French  
After Toby Hennessy retreats to his family's ancestral home, a skull discovered in the backyard exposes his family's past.
5. **New this week**  
*THE CLOCKMAKER'S DAUGHTER* by Kate Morton  
A century-old mystery at the Birchwood Manor on the Thames connects the lives of an archivist and artist.
6. **New this week**  
*WINTER IN PARADISE* by Elin Hilderbrand  
Irene Steele uncovers her husband's secret life on a Caribbean island following his death.
7. **2 weeks on the list**  
*A SPARK OF LIGHT* by Jodi Picoult  
The lives of patients, doctors and activists intersect when a gunman holds them all hostage in a woman's health center in Mississippi.
8. **New this week**  
*KILLING COMMENDATORE* by Haruki Murakami  
The discovery of an unseen work in an artist's attic unleashes a series of bizarre occurrences that a painter must navigate.
9. **3 weeks on the list**  
*VINCE FLYNN: RED WAR* by Kyle Mills  
When the Russian prime minister plots to invade the Baltics, only Mitch Rapp can stop him.
10. **5 weeks on the list**  
*WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING* by Delia Owens  
In a quiet town on the North Carolina coast in 1969, a young woman who survived alone in the marsh becomes a murder suspect.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**

**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



**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October**  
**MILLER PARK - BRANXTON**  
9.00am - 3.00pm

FREE ENTRY | FREE KID'S ZONE | FOOD VANS  
LOCAL BUSINESS | COMMUNITY | MARKETS  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT | PET FRIENDLY

*local is the new black!*



Proud major sponsors include:







**Regional beef forum to grow local beef industry**  
 Hunter Local Land Services in partnership with Meat and Livestock Australia is hosting a major regional beef forum "Growing Hunter Beef" in Singleton on Thursday 8 November, to bring together the region's cattle producers to hear from industry experts about smarter beef production in the future. It's been an incredibly challenging period with the drought forcing hard sales of breeding stock and progeny, and driving up the price and availability of feed.

**FREE** return buses are running from the following locations:

Time Bus	From	Time Bus	From
6:00am	Taree - Taree South Service Centre - Pacific Highway	7:00am	Scone - Scone - TRF
6:30am	Nabiac - Nabiac bus station (North Highway exit) across from Nabiac Hotel	7:45am	Merriwa - Merriwa - Blue Heifer Cattle Dog Station (Corner Hill St & Bridge St)
7:00am	Bulahdelah - Coles Express (Shell) petrol station	8:00am	Arive Singleton
8:45am	Arive Singleton		
Gloucester Bus	From	Time Bus	From
6:45am	Gloucester - Galton (corner of Phillip & Church St)	7:00am	Merriwa - Upper Hunter State Council & Bottle Makers (Wentworth St)
7:15am	Stroud Road - Stroud Road Community Hall (13 The Baskets Way)	7:45am	Denman - Jarrat Information and ETC Centre (Palace St)
8:45am	Arive Singleton	8:45am	Arive Singleton

Where you can join in for this major event, looking at the future of the beef industry in our region. [www.hunter.lhs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.hunter.lhs.nsw.gov.au)

It has also affected confidence in the local market and Hunter Local Land Services wants to help producers and their families make strong, clear plans for their future farm businesses. "The drought has had a devastating impact for many farming families, and a lot of people are asking what to do next," says Andrew Hodgson, Manager of Agricultural Production and Protection with Hunter Local Land Services. "We are bringing together industry experts, agricultural technology entrepreneurs, government agencies and support services, plus trade providers for animal health, livestock management and

handling and feed suppliers, to have an honest discussion about building the future of the Hunter beef industry, and how we can all work together beyond this drought. "The Hunter is a renowned cattle producing region, and while times are tough, they will get better and we have a unique opportunity to really boost the quality of cattle grown in our area moving forward, but also prepare ourselves for difficult times in the future." The free event will include discussions on issues including eating quality and compliance, marketing, options for Australian beef in the next 20 years, animal health and producer case

studies. There will also be a range of leading agricultural products and services on display, including new technologies designed to make life easier for farmers and improve livestock handling. Free return buses are running from Scone, Merriwa, Muswellbrook, Denman, Gloucester, Nabiac, Stroud Road, Taree and Bulahdelah. The event will run from 9.00am-4.30pm, with morning tea and lunch included. Please RSVP by calling 1300 795 299. RSVP is essential to assist with catering.

**Free workshops for local landholders**  
 Cessnock City Council is partnering with Hunter Local Land Services (HLLS) and Hunter Region Landcare Network (HRLN) to deliver a series of landholder workshops across the Cessnock local government area in early 2019. The principal focus will be finding out how HLLS and HRLN can support agricultural enterprises in the area undertaking land care activities such as fencing off native vegetation, re-vegetation and erosion control. To assist in developing the workshops and ensuring they are relevant to the issues facing local landholders, Cessnock City Council is calling on landholders to take part in a survey. The online survey will determine what environmental issues are challenging local landholders and also what land care related activities they are currently undertaking to manage and enhance the land under their care. The information gathered in the surveys will help Council staff, HLLS and HRLN to tailor and deliver workshops which are relevant and informative. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent is encouraging all local landholders to take part in this important survey and to come along to the workshops in 2019. "This is about working with landholders to improve their agricultural productivity while enhancing the capacity of the land to support the many threatened species in the area including woodland birds such as the Regent Honeyeater and the Swift Parrot." "The protection of our local environment doesn't have to come at the expense of productivity and has to be a collaborative effort, with each resident and landholder playing their part," added Cr Pynsent. Landholders are encouraged to complete the online survey by visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CessnockWorkshops> by Friday 16 November 2018. The exact dates and locations for the workshops next year will be announced shortly. Find out more by visiting [www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/OurBushland](http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/OurBushland).



# Detailed saleyard report



## Saleyard report - cattle

### Singleton

Last reported 17th October 2018

Consignments increased and the quality remained mixed, with good runs of prime conditioned younger cattle suitable for the butchers, together with runs of the unfinished drafts penned. There were around 50 cows offered. The usual buying orders competing in generally firm to dearer market. The vealers returning to the paddock lifted 4c to 6c, with the steers ranging from 244c to 318c, as the heifer portion received from 226c to 270c/kg. Yearlings sold to solid competition, with the steers to the restockers and feeder orders making from 240c to 302c, while the heifers made from 220c to 272c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle suitable for the butchers remained firm, as the higher yielding vealers reached 348c/kg. Grown steers mainly sold to the feeder orders and made from 230c to 288c, with the majority around the 277c/kg range. The older heifers to slaughter reached 250c/kg. The plainer cows gained 18c, making from 140c to 184c, with the better covered heavy weights lifting 7c to make from 228c to 245c/kg. The best heavy weight bull topped at 230c/kg.

### Scone

Last reported 16th October 2018

Although only moderate rainfall was recorded around the supply area, numbers decreased for a small penning of cattle. There were numbers of prime conditioned young cattle suitable for the butchers, together with a good yarding of cows, some of which with high yield potential. The market trended dearer, with some breed and quality related issues affecting price trends for the unfinished younger drafts. The over 80kg calves lifted 20c, making from 164c to 226c/kg. The heavier pens of the vealer steers topped at 318c/kg. The vealer heifers to restockers sold from 220c to 256c/kg. The yearlings returning to the paddock were limited in supply, as the steers made from 226c to 277c, with the heifers making from 220c to 264c/kg. The prime conditioned young cattle to butchers reached 334c/kg. Prime conditioned heavy weight steers to slaughter reached 270c, with the heifer portion topping at 270c/kg, returning approximately \$1,840/head to the producer. The plainer conditioned cows increased 20c, making from 110c to 195c, as the 2 scores reached 218c/kg. The better finished heavy weights improved 10c making from 228c to 241c/kg. The best heavy weight bull topped at 239c/kg.

### TRLX Tamworth

Last reported 15th October 2018

There was a further reduction in numbers, with the seasonal conditions showing signs of improvement. Cows were a large part of the offering, along with yearlings. There were a few calves and vealers, however no heavy grown steers and very few well finished grown heifers penned. The quality of the offering was fair to good, with some well bred lines of light weight yearlings penned, albeit showing the effects of the season. Additionally, there were large numbers of plain condition cows. There was increased processor competition, with all the regular buyers operating. Restocker activity was strong, boosted by recent rainfall. Market trends were dearer through the young cattle, with restockers particularly strong on the light weight steers and heifers. Breed was a factor in some significant price improvements on the plain condition lightly muscled lots. Despite the improvement, these cattle still represented a relatively low dollar per head outlay. Medium and heavy yearling steers to feed saw some slight improvement, being quality related price changes. Increased competition for light and medium weight feeder heifers saw the yearlings sell to a dearer trend, up to 6c/kg. The limited supply of well finished heifers suitable to the trade also sold to a dearer trend. The few well finished grown heifers sold to dearer trends. The plainer quality and condition grown heifers received stronger competition from both processors and feed lotters to also make dearer trends. There were strong price increases for the plainest condition cows, most notably in the light weight classes that proved difficult to sell a month ago. The well finished cows sold to a dearer trend, however were least affected, increasing 4c/kg. Heavy bulls sold up to 6c/kg dearer.



## Saeed's golden Aussie spring continues in Caulfield Cup

**By Ben Dorries**  
 Saeed Bin Suroor has had plenty of heartache and near misses on Australian shores but Best Solution has given him his second Caulfield Cup and back-to-back Aussie Group I wins. A week after Benbatl took out the Caulfield Stakes and surged into Cox Plate contention, Irish jockey Pat Cosgrave and Saeed were back in business again with a masterful ride making all the difference in a slowly-run Caulfield Cup. Best Solution jumped from barrier 15 and was slow out then five-wide into the first corner but Cosgrave kept pushing forward as leader Ace High jammed on the brakes. Not long after Cosgrave had the Godolphin galloper one-out-one-back and his backers would have been on good terms with themselves. Things worked out even better when The Taj Mahal took off 800m from home and Best Solution got on his back and maintained a strong

gallop, overpowering the Lloyd Williams-owned pair of Homesman and The Cliffsofmoher. In the end, Best Solution (\$12) saluted by a half head to Homesman (\$9.50) and The Cliffsofmoher (\$6.50) who had his chance. Ten years after winning the Caulfield Cup with All The Good, British-based Saeed has another one. He now hoping to be the man who snaps Sheikh Mohammed's long Melbourne Cup drought, with Best Solution now \$9 second favourite for the Melbourne Cup. And he is even daring to dream about making it three Aussie Group Is in three weeks when Benbatl takes on Winx in next Saturday's Cox Plate. "I told Pat before the race if you sit third of fourth, you will win the race," Saeed said. "I saw him there, close, I was sure he would win. "Benbatl I am looking forward to in the Cox Plate. "Winx is a great horse - my

horse it would be great if he wins - if she wins she is the best of the best." After Best Solution's Caulfield Cup win, the TAB firmed him from \$26 to \$9 in Melbourne Cup betting while fourth-placed Duretto (\$26-\$17) turned in a terrific Melbourne Cup trial at a distance short of his best. Runner-up Homesman (\$26-\$17) was another Melbourne Cup firmer of note while seventh-placed Youngstar (\$21 to \$17 in the Melbourne Cup) wasn't suited by a lack of pace but finished strongly. Kings Will Dream (sixth) stumbled at the start and Craig Williams reported the Darren Weir galloper had blood on his foot. Cosgrave is not a Godolphin-retained rider but has now ridden Best Solution 12 times for seven wins. "It's hard to believe he actually won, I had to work so hard to get to where I was," he said. "My horse is a good stayer and he could have shirked it, but he toughed it out well."

Caulfield Cup winning jockey Pat Cosgrave will miss Friday's Group I Manikato Stakes after being suspended for careless riding in the Caulfield Cup. Cosgrave pleaded guilty to shifting in at the 1800m and causing interference to Japanese runner Chestnut Coat. He copped an 11-meeting suspension and, because he wants to ride in Dubai in a fortnight, elected to take the penalty immediately and not ask for a deferment. It means he will miss the ride on Aidan O'Brien-trained sprinter Fleet Review in Friday's Manikato Stakes. Apprentice jockey Ryusei Sakai was also suspended for careless riding from the Caulfield Cup, getting an 11-meeting ban for careless riding aboard Sole Impact. Meanwhile, Jordan Childs was suspended for seven meetings for careless riding on Khulaasa in the first at Caulfield. Childs was already due to commence a suspension on Saturday night.



# What is the NBN?

The National Broadband Network, or NBN for short, is a high speed broadband network that's being rolled out by the Australian Government owned NBN (formerly NBN Co.) The NBN is in charge of providing highspeed broadband connections to every home and office in Australia. It is also giving telephone and internet service providers' access to the NBN so they can deliver services like telephony, entertainment, security and e-health to homes and businesses. To make this happen, the NBN is using a range of broadband technologies, including:

- \* Fibre to the premises or FTTP
- \* Fibre to the building or FTTB
- \* Fibre to the node or FTTN
- \* HybridFibre Coax (HFC) or more commonly known as Pay TV cable
- \* Fixed wireless
- \* Satellite

For most people only the first three options will be important. However any NBN connection means thinking about where your internet equipment is installed in your home or office so the faster broadband speeds work properly wherever you are in the building. No matter which type of technology is used to deliver the NBN it's crucial the home and office wiring has been well planned. If you are cabling a new or renovated home the most important principle is that all cabling should be "star wired Cat 6 cable" from a central location where the NBN equipment will ideally be installed. This star wired cat 6 cabling you have installed can be used to connect telephone, computers, PC, laptops and even WiFi devices where you need them.

**FTTP**  
FTTP is Fibre To The Premises, where fibre is run into your home and terminated on a device supplied by NBN called Network Termination Device (NTD for short). It allows you to have up to 2 different phone service providers and 4 different data service providers. There are 2 sorts of FTTP rollouts. One is in new estates where fibre is the only technology installed to provide telephone and

internet services to every home.

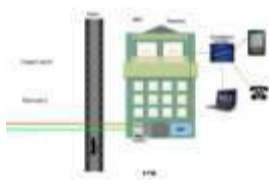


The other one is in existing suburbs. Here the fibre being installed piggybacks on the existing copper telephone network.



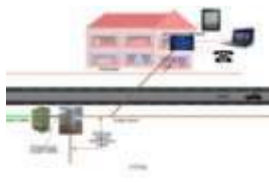
### FTTB

FTTB is where fibre is installed to a building or apartment complex. It terminates at a node that converts the optical signal into one suitable for the existing copper cable in order to 'extend' the broadband service to all apartments or offices. The technology that helps this occur over the copper telephone wire is called VDSL, a faster version than the more common ADSL broadband. The VDSL modem will be very similar to the existing ADSL modems.



### FTTN

FTTN, or Fibre To The Node, is like FTTB except the node is installed outside the premises so it can service multiple premises. The ideal location would be next to an existing telecommunications pillar. The technology from the node to the Multiple Dwelling Unit (apartment building, townhouses, etc) or Single Dwelling Unit (freestanding house) is VDSL. The connection and installation inside the dwelling will be the same as for ADSL. The node needs to be reasonably close to the dwelling so the copper length is kept as short as possible.



### HFC

HFC is where high speed broadband is delivered over the existing pay TV network so the installation inside the home is the same as the existing cable modem. Using the latest technology it is possible to deliver both broadband and

telephony from the cable modem.



### Fixed wireless

Fixed wireless is where NBN will install radio base stations like the ones used for mobile phones and then install an antenna and a fixed modem (NTD) in the premises. This NTD is only for broadband service, the telephony stays on the existing copper wires for now.



### Satellite

The NBN is also using satellites to cover remote areas, installing a satellite dish connected to an NTD. Like fixed wireless this NTD will provide broadband services only.



### Some simple questions & answers about nbn™

#### Do you require a landline connection for NBN?

With an NBN connection there is **no need** to keep an active telephone service. NBN broadband plans & bundles can be provided with no need to pay for traditional telephone line rental.

#### How much faster is the NBN?

According to the NBN, that's the "ideal" for small households that use the internet for everyday browsing. But the NBN offers three other speed options: 12Mbps, 50Mbps and **100Mbps**. While 25Mbps is "ideal for small households", **100Mbps** is best for "lots of people actively online at the same time".

#### Which is better cable or NBN?

NBN plans vary in price depending on download speeds, but can be as cheap as ADSL plans for the slower speed options. NBN services have the potential to be much **faster** than ADSL2+. Currently, cheap NBN 12 plans boast similar speeds to what some users already receive on ADSL2+.

#### Do I have to switch to the

#### NBN?

To continue having a fixed home phone and broadband service, you'll need to **switch** to phone and broadband services on the **nbn** network. In most cases, you **have** 18 months to **switch**, from the date when **nbn** declares your area is 'ready for service'.

#### Is it compulsory to have NBN?

The NBN is **compulsory**, but at least 6 million Australians don't realise it. A survey has found more than one in three Australians **have** no plans to switch to the NBN or don't actually know what it is, apparently unaware that once the new network arrives their existing phone and internet connections will be switched off.

#### Is the NBN free?

A standard installation of **nbn™** Equipment is currently **free** of charge. There is a range of competitive plans available from a number of providers. Speak to your preferred service provider to see if there are any other charges such as set up or activation fees.

#### Who will own the NBN?

NBN Co. NBN Co **Limited** (trading as nbn) is an Australian government-owned corporation tasked to design, build and operate Australia's National Broadband Network as a monopoly wholesale broadband provider. It reports to two shareholder ministers: the Minister for Finance and the **Minister for Communications**.

#### How long does it take for NBN to be activated?

Depending on how NBN is delivered to your property and your property's NBN readiness this will vary from just **48 hours** to around 3 weeks. If you have NBN equipment already installed in your property we should be able to activate this within **48-72 hours** of your successful application.

#### Do I need a new modem for NBN?

**Do I need a new modem for the NBN?** If you are connected to NBN via fibre to the node (FTTN) or fibre to the basement (FTTB) you **need** a VDSL2 compatible **modem**. ... When you talk to the service provider let them know your **needs** and they **should** be able to recommend the correct **modem** and/or router.



# MOVIE REVIEW

## A Star is Born

In this new take on the tragic love story, Bradley Cooper plays seasoned musician Jackson Maine, who discovers--and falls in love with--struggling artist Ally (Gaga). She has just about given up on her dream to make it big as a singer... until Jack coaxes her into the spotlight. But even as Ally's career takes off, the personal side of their relationship is breaking down, as Jack fights an ongoing battle with his own internal demons.

Genre: Drama  
Directed By: Bradley Cooper  
Written By: Will Fetters, Eric Roth, Bradley Cooper  
Runtime: 135 minutes  
Studio: Warner Bros. Pictures



### 'A Star Is Born' Is a Must-See Musical Triumph

#### Bradley Cooper Lands a Hit with His Directorial Debut

Both stunning and heartbreaking, *A Star Is Born* is not a campy remake of an old film, but rather a successful re-imagining of a timeless story—with a modern flare. In his directorial debut, Bradley Cooper manages to effortlessly take a love story last told in the 1970s and bring it into the current day with the perfect combination of wit, raw emotion, and transcendent music. Lady Gaga brilliantly tackles the part of insecure Ally as her first big-screen role—confirming her status as an all-around superstar. Ally works a service industry day job and performs when she can at a local drag bar, but she dreams of making it in the music industry. Jackson Maine (Cooper) is a rugged, well-known rock musician who is suffering from tinnitus, a common hearing issue—something that fuels his already out of control alcoholism. When Jackson and Ally meet, Ally is performing "La Vie en Rose" (a go-to cover for Gaga in recent years), and Jackson is instantly struck by her vocal talent and beauty. The scene, while not in slow motion, feels as though it is, with close up shots of Ally expertly maneuvering her way around the crowded bar. It's one of the best scenes of the entire film, solidifying that Gaga was the perfect choice for the role, and that Cooper is more

than just an amateur director. After their initial meeting and instant chemistry, the scenes that follow show the twists and turns of their passionate, tumultuous relationship and Ally's rise to fame as a singer/song-writer—all while depicting how Jackson copes with their new life and his worsening addictions. Though Ally and Jackson are the focus, the support cast is equally riveting. Ally's dad (Andrew Dice Clay) provides both comedic relief and a steady reminder of Ally's humble beginnings from a working-class family; and Bobby (Sam Elliott), Jackson's older, more grounded brother, is involved in some of the most pivotal moments of the film. Cooper gives one of the best performances of his career, expertly portraying a struggling addict, and his intense character is well-balanced by Gaga's endearing Ally. While Cooper's delivery is first-rate, so is his directing, which features mostly close-up, intimate shots that make the audience feel personally



connected to the story he tells. *A Star Is Born* hits the viewer all at once, leaving you feeling emotionally drained in the best possible way. It's heartfelt, well-paced, and gut-wrenchingly tragic, with the gorgeous music and two main characters taking centre stage by grabbing hold of the audience's emotion until the very last second. Even those who aren't prone to getting emotional will find this one hard to let go of long after the story is done. **A Star is Born Directed by Bradley Cooper Now Playing Five Stars**





Australian politicians are doubling down on a law that allows religious schools, which receive government funding, to discriminate against gay teachers and students.

By Livia Albeck-Ripka

**Hugo Walker was 52 years old when he came out as gay to his family and his bosses at the private Christian school where he worked.**

It was July 2013, and Mr. Walker had been a teacher at the school in Canberra, Australia's capital, for nearly 14 years. He taught science and Japanese. He had an impeccable record. But he tendered his resignation for that September, the end of the school term.

If he had not, the principal could have fired him — legally. "He was furious," Mr. Walker said of the principal's response to his coming out. "It was probably the most stressful three months of my life."

In religious schools around Australia, stories like Mr. Walker's are not uncommon. Teachers and other employees have been fired or forced to resign after revealing that they are gay, marrying their same-sex partners or transitioning to a different gender.

Gay students have also been threatened with expulsion, which is allowable under federal law. While some protections exist for teachers and students on the state level, Australia's Sex Discrimination Act of 1984 makes it lawful for private religious schools to discriminate against teachers and students at religious schools because of their sexuality or gender.

Last week, that act was cast into the spotlight when a leaked "religious freedom" report, commissioned by conservative members of Parliament, recommended the exemptions protecting schools that wish to discriminate against teachers and students be maintained on a national level.

In response to a public backlash over the report, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced on Saturday that new laws would be introduced to protect gay or transgender students from expulsion. But he made no similar promise to protect gay teachers from discrimination in religious schools, even though those institutions receive billions of dollars in federal aid each year.

Same-sex marriage was only legalized in Australia last year, and gay rights activists warn that discrimination remains rife in the Australian workplace and that funding private schools with public funds amounts to a government endorsement of discrimination.

"When you take a bad law and replicate it at a national level, you're giving it new legitimacy," said Rodney Croome, a rights activist and the former director of Australian Marriage Equality. But proponents of the legislation said that it is reasonable for parents who send their children to parochial schools to expect teachers and administrators to adhere to certain religious values.

"If a parent sends their child to a school and they are paying for that school then they expect that school in their leadership, in their teaching faculty, to uphold the values that they believe in," Andrew Broad, the assistant minister to the deputy prime minister, told the local news media on Monday.

Mr. Broad is a member of the National Party, part of the right-leaning coalition government. As in the United States, so-called religious freedom laws, which allow for individuals and institutions to practice discrimination lest they violate personal religious beliefs, have been advanced in recent years by conservative politicians.

Parliament's report on religious freedom, written less than a year after Australia legalized same-sex marriage, was leaked weeks after a contentious shake-up in the leadership of the country's governing coalition and just days ahead of a critical by-election that could upset the coalition's grip on power.

While Mr. Walker now has a job teaching at a public school, other teachers have been less fortunate. In December, Genevieve Doyle revealed she was transgender and soon after was fired from her job at a Catholic school in New South Wales.

"I requested that they support me to transition in the classroom," Ms. Doyle said, recalling her conversation with the school's administrators. "I've got five dependents."

Months later, Ms. Doyle is still looking for a job. While some states currently protect students against discrimination, Tasmania is the only state in which it is illegal to discriminate against a teacher based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Despite the government panel's recommendations, 74 percent of Australian voters oppose laws that allow religious schools to discriminate against students and teachers based on their orientation or identity, according to a recent poll.

On Wednesday, a letter signed by 47 gay, transgender and intersex organizations called on the government to end discrimination. "Teachers should be focusing on educating their students, not worrying about losing their job," the letter said. While the debate on the government's proposal has largely focused on Christian schools, the same exemptions apply to all religious educational institutions (and in New South Wales, to all private schools).

In Melbourne's Orthodox Jewish community, a teacher reported losing her job after revealing she was transgender. And gay Muslim students in Australia often face homophobia, bullying and even violence, say leaders in that community. Nur Warsame, the first openly gay imam in Australia, who runs Marhaba Melbourne — a support group for gay and transgender youth — said he feared that the government's report has opened "the floodgates" for hurt and discrimination in the name of religion.

Even if the laws are amended, discrimination and bullying remain a serious issue for the L.G.B.T. community in Australia. Gay, transgender and intersex people between 16 and 27 years old are five times as likely than the general population to attempt suicide in their lifetimes, according to figures from the National L.G.B.T.I. Health Alliance. Another recent study found that gay conversion therapy, a practice widely discredited by science, is still employed at churches around the country.

"I don't want to see more 13-year-olds jumping off the Gap," said Timothy Hall, a gay man and the former principal of a Christian school in New South Wales, referring to a cliff in Sydney that has become infamous for suicide.

Mr. Hall was blackmailed into resigning after his school found out he was gay.

"It saddens me that I can't go in as a gay teacher, or be a role model, saying you can be gay and you can be Christian and this is the way we move forward," he said of the current rules regarding gay teachers in religious schools.

After teaching at the United Nations International School in New York for 14 years, Mr. Hall returned to Australia in the hopes of eventually returning to work at a religious school.

Churches around the world were becoming more gay-affirming, he said, but Australia continued to drag its feet. "It's tragic that conversation hasn't moved forward," Mr. Hall said. "Society has moved on."

*If you or someone you know needs help, support can be found in your area by clicking here: the International Association for Suicide Prevention. In Australia, call Lifeline on 13 11 14.*

*Livia Albeck Ripka is a freelance journalist based in New York City and Melbourne, Australia.*

@livia\_ar



THE NEWS | No.487 | WEDNESDAY 24 Oct 2018 9 19

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

**Cessnock City Council** has said they will not widen the hazardous edges of Tuckers Lane (less than 50 metres) between the Expressway over-pass and Bell Street, Greta. Instead they have put up "road narrows" sign!! Disgusting, dangerous and disappointing.

**Please stop using our country roads as a speedway to the mines or your workplace!** Zooming 10, 20, 30 or even 40 kms over the speed limit is not OK. ... the number of dead kangaroos on the side of our local country roads is testament to your speeding.

To the person concerned about the environment in Mayne St, North Rothbury: we think you are "barking up the wrong tree". You have us STUMPED; we had all intentions of building a TREE HOUSE on our block but CCCouncil rejected our plans. Maybe you would be so helpful as to landscape our gardens for us when we have finished then you won't have time to whinge and worry about other peoples business. Maybe you should use your mind to BRANCH out into other areas. Alternatively you could LEAF us alone and go out & get R\_\_\_TED.

Drawn FROM THE VAULT

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

**Computer Tuition:** From basics to highly skilled & learn all about ebay. P: 0429 381 908  
**Computer Services:** Repairs, Sales & Service. Phone repairs. Comtronics P: 4991 1128  
**For Rent:** Branxton RSL Hall, air conditioned. Short or long term. P: 0429 438 460  
**For Sale:** Alpacas Ph 4930 6291  
**For Sale:** New 'Star Post' rammer \$35 P: 0421 102 711  
**For Sale:** Free range eggs. \$4/doz Greta 0412 976 809  
**Microchipping:** Cats and Dogs, all sizes and breeds, will come to you. \$20 per animal, please call Angela on 0431649947.  
**Mobile Travel Agent:** 20 yrs experience. Obligation free appointments. P: 1300 365 68 (ext 595) M: 0404 831 867 W: www.mtatravel.com.au/sfenton  
**Garage Sale:** Sat 27th and sun 28th October; 8am to 2pm; Bric a Brac, clothing, toys, books, furniture, plants and more. 62 Wyndham st Greta  
**Riding Lessons:** agistment, horses trained. www.byalee.net 0407 453 494  
**Seamstress:** Sewing & mending (Greta) P: Brune 0413 351 057  
**Wanted:** high quality mechanical wrist watches & clocks. Keen collector. Willing to pay good prices. Prefer Rolex, Omega, Oris & Tag. P: 0414 757 826  
**Wanted:** all kinds of Honda mini bikes qa50 z50a z50j1 z50jz ct70 st70 & atc70. Contact Drew 0435814841  
**Work Wanted:** HAVE UTE WILL CARRY. Need something moved? Phone Phil on 0447 381989  
**Work Wanted:** Need an extra hand? I do all maintenance, labouring, construction, asbestos & have working with children licence. P (Pat) 0414 278 292  
**Work Wanted:** Home maintenance. Building repairs, painting, tiling and more. Fully insured. Ph: 0418 982 657. Prompt service to local areas.  
**Work Wanted:** Lawn Mowing; best rates - large or small area. P: 0459 123 397  
**Work Wanted:** Lawns mowed, rubbish removal &

**slashing. Also 'Bobcat' work, trenching & post hole boring** & general maintenance & handyman work. Phone Steve on 4938 3601  
**Work Wanted:** HORSE CLIPPING - PERFORMANCE READY. Hunter Valley & Central Coast. Phone Caron 0416 128 701  
**Work Wanted:** Lawns properties, mowing, trimming, removals, maintenance. Paul 0478103814 or 49987567  
**Work Wanted:** Sick of cleaning, cooking dinner, washing. Call me! Taking bookings now. Professional and reliable service. Sue 0497257081  
**Work Wanted:** Rural Fencing (TW & A Hollingshed) P: 4998 1583 or Trevor on 0429 320 787 for quotes.  
**Work Wanted:** experienced baby sitter looking for work. Very reliable P: 0458 606 804  
**Work Wanted:** Lawn & Garden Maintenance, P: 4938 3153  
**Work Wanted:** Piano teacher available to give lessons. P: Phil Aughey on 0447 381 989  
**Work Wanted:** Contract stock work with horses & dogs. Design & building wooden stock yards - rural fencing P Shaun: 0416 226 538  
**For Sale:** It has a Brocken drive cable and no seats or full tank and is un-tested. 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). alexanderhughes@gmail.com



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

**Dates for your diary >**

**MON 22-28 OCT** - Aussie Backyard Bird Count: you can count as many times as you like over the week, we just ask that each count is completed over a 20-minute period. The data collected assists BirdLife Australia in understanding more about the birds that live where people live.  
**TUE 23 Oct** - Branxton Public School Stage 1 Wetlands Excursion  
**THUR 25 OCT** - Cessnock Prostate Cancer Support Group meeting 3pm Cessnock Leagues Club. Topic: Katie and Martelle from Cessnock Plaza Pharmacy will talk about Hydration, also will do taste testing of Hydralyte. Cost FREE Wives\ Partners welcome. Contact Barry 90904554 or Rose 0457073852.  
**SAT 27th Oct** - is the inaugural "Central Hunter Business & Community Expo" to be held at Miller Park Branxton from 9am-3pm. Free entry, over 110 stalls, good food & coffee, kid's free zone, live entertainment & pet friendly.  
**SAT 27 OCT** - Kurri Kurri Community Festival @ Rotary Park Kurri Kurri  
**SUN 28 OCT** - Seasons Plate @ Dalwood Estate - Guests will enjoy a magnificent luncheon among the vines and will take home a plate featuring artwork inspired by the season  
**MON 29 Oct** - Branxton Public School P&C meeting 6pm in library  
**MON 29th to WED 31st OCT** - Branxton Public School Stage 3 Bathurst Excursion  
**SAT 3 Nov** - North Rothbury Tidy Towns are having their second annual Twilight Markets at Ayrefield Miners Park, 6pm-8pm. Last year they fed around 600 attend and had 17 stalls: a wonderful evening with the weather behaving itself. They are still open for stall bookings (P: 0412 566 041) Be sure to bring your family and friends down for a beautiful

**Dates for your diary**

evening! There will be a BBQ with food and drink available for purchase. Please note there will be limited seating provided, but you are more than welcome to bring down a picnic rug and chairs.  
 Dogs are welcome, but please make sure they are kept safe on a leash. If you wish to have a stall, please send us an EMAIL to northrothburytidytowns@gmail.com  
**SUN 4 Nov** - the True Blue Aussie Music & Bush Poems at the Drovers Camp. It is a fundraiser supporting the "Save Liddell" campaign. 10am-4pm. The organisers are giving 40 \$20 Adult tickets & 40 \$10 Concession & Kids tickets. Phone me on 414 757 826 to get yours. Should be a monster day  
**MON 5 Nov** - Lions Club of Branxton monthly meeting at Branxton Golf Club  
**Mon 5 Nov** - Branxton Greta CWA Land Cookery/Prod. Prom (Pomegranate) Day, Branx. Comm. Hall, 10am for 10.30am, Guest Speaker, M/T, Lunch, Slices, Tea, Coffee, \$15. RSVP before 01/11 Marie 0402015850 or email branxtongretacwa@hotmail.com  
**TUE 6 Nov** - Rotary Club of Maitland Train to Gosford Race Club for Melbourne Cup. P 0414 757 826 for more details  
**FRI 9 NOV** - Branxton Public School 1st Kinder Orientation visit  
**TUES 13/11** - Branxton Greta 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** - Branxton Greta CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigid's School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton  
**SAT 24 Nov** - Jazz in the Voineyards: Hope Estate. Gates open at 3pm  
**SUN 25 Nov** - Plektra mandolin & guitar ensemble, Sacred Spaces Singleton.

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



**By Sage Swinton**  
*Courtesy Maitland Mercury*

What do 12 Georgio Armani watches, methamphetamine, a Lady Gaga perfume, baby monitors, cigarettes and a packet of sweet chilli chips have in common? Hunter police have connected them all to an alleged crime spree throughout Maitland and Cessnock in the past month. James John Jarrett, of Branxton, has been charged in relation to the numerous alleged incidents, which culminated in his arrest in Branxton on Monday. It began with a credit card which police seized after they stopped and searched the 36-year-old in Paxton on October 9.

Detectives allege that the credit card did not belong to him. Mr Jarrett was released while police conducted further inquiries, which resulted in officers discovering that the credit card had been used to buy flavoured milk, a packet of chips, cigarettes and fuel from a service station in the early hours of October 9. Acting on that information, police caught up with Mr Jarrett again at a Branxton home on Monday. After the officers arrived at the house, police allege he ran from the property and jumped several residential fences before he was caught and arrested. Police claim to have seized a small resealable bag containing what they allege was methamphetamine and a pair of women's sunglasses after searching Mr Jarrett at the

scene. As inquiries continued, police made connections between Mr Jarrett and other alleged incidents around the Hunter. They claim he was involved in a shoplifting offence from Priceline Rutherford on October 2 where a Lady Gaga brand perfume was stolen, as well as incidents at Baby Bunting Rutherford on September 14 and 22 involving the theft of a number of baby video monitors. Police believe Mr Jarrett was also connected to the theft of 12 luxury Georgio Armani watches worth a total of \$5000 from David Jones Green Hills. Two other people have also been arrested in relation to that incident, which is alleged to have occurred on October 10. Mr Jarrett was charged with fraud, driving while unlicensed, possession of a prohibited drug (methamphetamine) shoplifting and dishonestly obtaining property by deception. He was refused bail in Maitland Local Court on Monday to appear in court again on November 29. Port Stephens-Hunter acting crime manager Detective Sergeant Mitch Dubojski said police inquiries into the matter were still continuing. **Hunter crash leaves two seriously injured**  
*Monday, 15 October 2018 09:14:35 AM*  
 Two people have been seriously injured after a crash in the Hunter Valley overnight.

About 7.28pm (Sunday 14 October 2018) yesterday a Toyota Hilux, travelling west, and a Mitsubishi Pajero, travelling east, collided on Lake Road at Elrington, 10km east of Cessnock. A 26-year-old man, who was the driver and sole occupant of the utility, and the 18-year-old female driver of the Pajero were seriously injured. Both have been taken to John Hunter Hospital. A male passenger in the 4WD was also taken to hospital to be checked as a precaution, while a second passenger escaped injury. Crash investigation police are continuing their inquiries into the events leading up to the collision.

**Escapee located - Muswellbrook**


*Thursday, 11 October 2018 10:45:53 AM*  
 A man who escaped custody from a minimum-security correctional facility in Muswellbrook has been arrested and charged. The 41-year-old man allegedly escaped the facility in Muswellbrook, about 6am on Wednesday 10 October 2018. Following a wide scale search, about 7am today (Thursday 11 October 2018), police attended a carpark on Byng Street, Orange, and arrested the 41-year-old man without incident. He was taken to Orange Police Station and charged with inmate escape/attempt to escape from lawful custody. He was refused bail to appear at Orange Local Court on Thursday 11 October 2018.

**Branxton's James John Jarrett charged shoplifting, drug, fraud offences**




If you require assistance please call Mike on

**0414 757 826**



**From the Paddock to the plate...**

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*Come in and Enjoy ~ Lisa and Michael*

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Spring is in the air & it's time to get moving



**FREE COMMUNITY WALKING GROUP AT GRETA**

**Commencing:** 5th September 2018  
**Where:** Greta Central Oval  
**When:** Wednesday's at 5:30pm

*Walk as little or as much as you like!  
 Beginners & families always welcome*

For more information contact Sonnie on 0455 683 607



**A big congratulations to Wollombi Road Providore who took out the Service Excellence Award in the greengrocer category at the 2018 Sydney Markets Fresh Awards. We are the first store outside of Sydney to have ever won this category**

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 Contact use for orders & enquiries

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## The annual 'Dress in Pink High Tea' for Women's Cancer another huge success



This year I hosted our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Dress in Pink High Tea for Women's Cancer on Wednesday 4th October at the Branxton Community Hall. I wish to thank everyone for their generous support and to those who donated the raffle prizes and the lucky door prizes. A special Thank you to the ladies from Branxton Greta CWA ladies who catered for the High Tea and to our sponsors Renew Energy & Electrical and Nicole from Branxton Crib Box Café. We had 140 guests attend this year and they came from Toronto, Raymond Terrace, Singleton, Maitland, Cessnock, The Vintage, Thornton, Branxton who enjoyed a Fashion Parade from Sue's

Clothing of Rutherford with our local models and of course our young models who thoroughly enjoyed themselves and have asked to do it again next year. We raised over \$3000 this year, which means that for the past 4 years our High Teas had donated over \$10,000 to Women's Cancer, many thanks to all our supporters. Our Red Hat Ladies have their own centrepiece for when they attend our functions. Some of our guests have asked to book in again for next year's High Tea, which is fantastic. Thanking All,  
*Helen Scott*

•Photo above: some of the 140 guests

## 2018 Camp Quality 1000k's 4 Kids in 10 days from Sunshine Coast to Newcastle



• Dr Jiwan Jyoti and Dr Deep with Jane Hall at centre

On 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 a small group of ordinary people took part in an annual huge challenge for some special Kids, and as one Team, to accomplish the extraordinary! 1000k's for Kids is the culmination of year round training and fundraising by dedicated and hard working riders and support crew. In 2018 40 Riders and 30 support crew covered 1000

kilometres in a 10 day bike riding adventure to help spread the laughter and awareness of Camp Quality to school children and local communities from the Sunshine Coast hinterland to Warners Bay. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the ride, each year a different location. This years ride passed through wonderful towns starting at Maleny, Esk, Toowoomba,

Warwick, Texas, Warialda, Narrabri, Gunnedah, Murrurundi, Muswellbrook and finishing in Warners Bay. A huge thankyou goes to Phil Johnston at Greta Workers Sport and Recreation Club and Dr Jiwan Jyoti of Greta Medical Centre for their wonderful support of Sponsorship



•Phil Johnston & Jane Hall

for Jane Hall, a rider that took part in the 2018 ride. Jane was a long time resident of Branxton but has recently moved away from the area. A number of locals also donated to this wonderful Charity for which Jane would like to thank, in particular, Wendy

of "Hair at Greta" and those wonderful Branxton /Greta CWA Ladies that provide the most fantastic morning tea each year for the riders as they pass through Branxton on their way to Warners Bay.

## What does your Reflection tell you?



There are less than 10 weeks until 2019. I can't believe how quickly this year has gone, and how much has happened and changed in my life. I have been snow skiing, taken a trip on my own to Western Australia, swum with whale sharks and manta rays, had a week relaxing on the south coast of NSW, and had major changes in my personal relationships. I trained for and competed in two ultramarathons, including my first "100". I was working three jobs at one point and I finally returned to full time work after two and a half years. And there are still 10 weeks left in the year! There is still so much I can do in 10 weeks!

How do you feel when you look back on 2018? Are you happy with what you have achieved? Or, as the year heads closer to its inevitable conclusion, do you feel disheartened at the thought of all the things you haven't done (yet) this year? If you are disheartened, now is the perfect time to reflect on all the things you have done, and why some other things fell by the wayside. It is time to look at what went well and what didn't go so well.



I attribute a lot of my "success" this year to the Vision Board I put together in February. I included pictures of holidays, of sunshine and beaches. I used words that reflected how I wanted to feel, and what I wanted to have in my life.

Of course there are some things which haven't gone exactly how I thought they would. But interestingly, they are things I was going to include on my vision board but I never found quite the right picture, so those things never made it onto the board. I may include them next year ... or maybe I will add them now. After all there are still 10 weeks left this year!

Take some time this week to make a list of what you have done - you will probably surprise yourself. Next, think about the things that didn't go so well - the things you didn't start, or the things you quit. Include projects that fizzled out (like me painting the house, although now I have a quote for a professional painter to do it) and the disasters. Also include the resolutions /goals you had at the start of the year, and whether you achieved them.

Now you have your two lists look at them closely. What would you do differently if you could? You can't change anything that happened, so this isn't about regrets. It's about learning from the past so you can put better plans in place for the future. Even the things that went right can teach us about ourselves and what works well for us. What additional things would you like to have done?

There are over two months left in 2018. How do you want to spend them? Worrying about the things you haven't done, or actually doing some of them? With some reflection and planning you can still make some amazing progress towards your goals and finish the year on a high!

## Central Hunter Business and Community EXPO 2018



Woodfired Pizza, Spring Potato Twisters and Tatler Tapas Restaurant. Lots of options for everyone to enjoy breakfast and lunch, with live music for entertainment. The big draw card for families will be the FREE Kids Zone - Jumping Castles, face painting, a balloon artist and FREE fairy floss.... the sugar high is also free ! The Expo has been laid out so the Kids Zone is central to the Exhibitors, Food Area and Markets The Expo is pet friendly, with all pets to be on a leash. This is a family event, so NO barking or aggressive dogs please.

The Expo 2018 is being held at Miller Park, New England Highway Branxton Parking and pedestrian access from near the tennis courts. Pedestrian access only from the side gate off the New England Highway walkway. Opening hours are 9am till 3pm, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2018. This is sure to be a fantastic day, so come along and see how good the Central Hunter Area is.

**GATES OPEN at 9am**

Central Hunter Business and Community Expo is an event to showcase local business and community services.

The event is the result of Renew Energy and Electrical owner Alana Driver deciding we need to showcase what local skills and talents we have in the Branxton and surrounding areas.

The Central Hunter Business Chamber have been supporting and ensured we have the resources we need to get the day organised. There are 110 exhibitors including local businesses, community groups and services.

So many wonderful services from our area, all in one location.

Local coffee barista Forage Espresso and Crib Box Café will be onsite. The Expo also have 7 gourmet food trucks booked including Bao Brothers Eatery, Crafty Street Eats, Bonjani



Fresh into the Greta Museum in High St.

Rainbow lollipops - 80c or \$1.60

Come in and try one!

Museum is open Wednesdays & Saturdays 11am - 3pm.

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Branxton and surrounding areas

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

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

**Satisfaction Guaranteed!**

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

## Compost Giveaway a 'Sell-Out'

**Spring** is here and to help all fussy gardeners Cessnock City Council, last Thursday, gave away 25 litre bags of their *Garden Organics Compost* made from 100% garden organics collected from households. 1 FREE bag per property, with proof of residency, was available and was open to all residents from Cessnock, Maitland and Singleton, from 3.30pm (till they ran out) at Lions Park, Branxton.

Some Parks & Garden staff attended to the giveaway giving some very friendly helpful advice of which I fastidiously listened too and followed to the letter which is a big change to my normal procedure with something new as I've always had the ability to work things out myself viz., never read instructions! Thankfully I did listen because if I hadn't I would have, most probably, killed half my gardening spouse gardens as it needed to be mixed with soil 50:50 as the compost was still a little hot. In less than an hour the pallets were empty! I hope this becomes a regular affair; well done council.



## Mattress Muster on Saturday 10 November

**Maitland City Council** will hold a Mattress Muster on Saturday 10 November from 8.30am to 12.00pm at the Council Depot Carpark on Metford Road, East Maitland. This project is a NSW EPA Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the waste levy. The Mattress Muster recycling initiative has been a huge success in Maitland and as a result of ten musters since October 2014, Council has received over 6,000 mattresses. There have also been more than 1,800 vehicles bring in mattresses since November 2016.

Each household in the Maitland local government area has the opportunity to recycle up to four mattresses as part of the muster on the weekend. Cot mattresses, innerspring mattresses and ensemble bases will be accepted, however a mattress with an ensemble base will be counted as two items.

Council's Manager Development and Environment David Simm says, 'By participating in this Mattress Muster you will ensure that components of your old mattresses are recycled instead of being disposed of to landfill'.

'This is an opportunity for residents to do their bit for the environment by simply recycling something they might not use anymore, all free of charge,' said Mr Simm.

To participate in this recycling initiative, proof of residence in the Maitland local government area will be required at the time of drop off.

For more about Council's recycling services go to [maitland.nsw.gov.au/Waste](http://maitland.nsw.gov.au/Waste)

## Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate



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**M: 0412 566 041**  
**M: 0414 757 826**

# MELBOURNE CUP

## TUESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

### 3 COURSE LUNCH

**FROM 11AM**

## PUNTERS CLUB • RAFFLES • SWEEPS

[www.royalfederal.com.au](http://www.royalfederal.com.au)
Graphics-Parée Erica

# SPORTS RESULTS GOLF

## Branxton Veteran Golfers Results 18 Oct 2018

First Round for Veterans Championships  
 Winners on the day were:-  
 First Division:-  
 Scratch Winner—J Sheedy 61 R/Up E Barrett 62  
 Nett Winner— R Yandle 47 on a C/B R/Up E Munzenberger 48  
 Stableford Winner – R Yandle 30 Pts  
 Second Division:-  
 Scratch Winner – B Turner 69 on C/B R/Up P Tracey 69  
 Nett Winner – P Tracey 46 on C/B R/Up S Condron 46  
 Stableford Winner – B Turner 30 pts on C/B  
 Ladies Division:-  
 Scratch Winner – R McCarthy 80 R/Up M Hunt 69  
 Nett Winner – R McCarthy 54 R/Up M Hunt 56 on C/B  
 Stableford Winner – J Harris 23 Pts  
 NTP ---- Ladies – R McCarthy Gents – L Hunt

### Branxton Golf Club 2bbb multiplier + single KCE sponsored event

1<sup>st</sup> place Darrell Fletcher/ Richard Barrington 82 pts  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place Daryl Sheppard/Murray Johanson 66 pts  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place Neil Jordan/Paul Bush 65 pts  
 4<sup>th</sup> place Terry Partridge/Graham Bull 64 pts c/b  
 5<sup>th</sup> place Mick Martin/David Kinch 64 pts  
 6<sup>th</sup> place Richard Crooks/Michael Carling 63 pts  
 7<sup>th</sup> place Troy Felan/Ben Porter 62 pts

### single

1<sup>st</sup> place Gary Walsh 42 pts  
 2<sup>nd</sup> place Mick Barrett 40 pts  
 3<sup>rd</sup> place Daryl Sheppard 39 pts c/b  
 The 4 ball multiplier event, once again sponsored by KCE proved popular for members, with each players stableford points multiplying each hole, culminating with their final overall scores to provide the winners. KCE which is an excavating and earth moving contracting business based at Beresfield has been a proud sponsor at Branxton golf club for many years. They chose different events each year, with Gary Walsh deciding upon this event in 2018. Interestingly enough, Gary played some great golf to win the individual event with an outstanding 42 pts, although he wasn't so successful in the team's event. Mick Barrett was runner up with 40 pts with Daryl Sheppard playing well to record 39 pts and third place. The team's event was easily won by Richard Barrington and Darrell Fletcher with an outstanding 82 pts—that is about 4.5 pts a hole—there couldn't have been many zeros recorded—well played boys. club captain Murray Johanson teamed up with his mate Daryl Sheppard to finish runners up, 16 pts behind the winners with 66 pts. the three zero point holes certainly didn't help, as the rest of the field would testify. Neil Jordan and Paul Bush came third with their 65 pts, with placings going down to 7<sup>th</sup> place where 62 pts was needed. The day also included many nearest the pins and longest drives, adding to a great sponsorship by KCE on the day. This weekend (20 & 21) club championships start, going over both days of the next two weekends. good luck to everyone and play well.

**SAT 20<sup>TH</sup> OCT and Sunday, 21<sup>ST</sup> October – Championships**  
**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> October**  
 A GRADE FIRST  
 ROBERT BILES 39 PTS C/B

A GRADE SECOND  
 DANIEL TURNER 39 PTS  
 A GRADE THIRD KEN HUSH 36 PTS  
 B GRADE FIRST ROBERT HALE 42 PTS C/B  
 B GRADE SECOND MICK BARRETT 42 PTS  
 B GRADE THIRD PAUL BUSH 40 PTS  
 C GRADE FIRST MICHAEL CARLING 38 PTS C/B  
 C GRADE SECOND RICHARD ALLEY 38 PTS C/B  
 C GRADE THIRD PETER MATHEWS 38 PTS  
 BALL COMP  
 R BILES 186cm S ROSS 155cm  
 G NOBLE 272cm S ROSS 18cm  
**Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> October**  
 A GRADE FIRST David Matt 39 pts

A GRADE SECOND Cameron Johanson 37 pts c/b  
 A GRADE THIRD Lee Hunt 37 pts  
 B GRADE FIRST Lloyd Barrett 39 pts c/b  
 B GRADE SECOND Peter Marquet 39 pts c/b  
 B GRADE THIRD Daniel Rogers 38 pts  
 C GRADE FIRST Edward Neale 36 pts  
 C GRADE SECOND Mick Lutovac 35 pts c/b  
 C GRADE THIRD John Martin 35 pts  
 BALL COMP 33 pts  
 NTP  
 I Wolferstan 103cm M Johanson 151cm R Biles 394cm G Jones 215cm

The 2018 Club Championships started last weekend, with the first two rounds played on Saturday and Sunday, with the last two rounds scheduled for next weekend. Over 70 starters participated with high hopes for all competitors. On Saturday, Bob Biles won the A Grade Stableford with an excellent 39 pts, just missing breaking the 80 mark with a close putt on the last. Daniel Turner also had 39 pts to finish second, demonstrating some great improvement with his game after some recent lessons, whilst Ken Hush came third with his pleasing 36 pts. Cameron Johanson took the first round lead in the championship with a 73 off the stick, coming home strongly after a 4 over front nine. Isiah Wolferstan was in second place only 2 shots behind, with last year's champion Joshua Tracey third with his 77. Robert Hale showed what he could do with an outstanding 42 pts to win B Grade on a countback from Mick Barrett, with Paul Bush third with his excellent 40 pts. Mick took the first round lead with his 80 off the stick, two shots clear of Bob's 82. Mick Carling had a great day, winning C Grade with his 38 pts, just ahead of Richard Alley and Peter Mathews with the same scores. It looks like the C Grade championship could go down to the wire. The shots of the day belonged to Steve Ross with two nearest the pins, including a wonderful shot to the 9<sup>th</sup>, finishing only 18 cms away. The second round of the Club Championship continued on Sunday—a much cooler day for all golfers. David Matt won A Grade with an excellent 39 pts, from Cameron Johanson's and Lee Hunt's 37 pts. Lloyd Barrett won B Grade with his 39 pts, again on a countback from Peter Marquet, with Daniel Rogers a stroke further back. Eddie Neale took the honours in C Grade with his 36 pts, just ahead of Mick Lutovac and John Martin. The shot of the day belonged to Isiah Wolferstan on the 2<sup>nd</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>, finishing just over a metre from the cup. After the completion of two rounds of the Club Championship, Cameron Johanson has opened up a commanding 8 stroke lead in A Grade, after his wonderful par round of 70 on Sunday. (143 two round total). Cameron is based at the Killara Golf Club during the week but plays most weekends back home at Branxton, having started his golf at this club. Isiah Wolferstan and

Joshua Tracey are his nearest rivals, with this talented trio set for some wonderful golf next weekend. Robert Hale has held his lead after two days in B Grade with a 169 total, after his 82 and 87 rounds, with a host of players hot on his tail. Peter Mathews is the leader in C Grade on 185, with many players not too far back.

### Branxton Ladies golf

10th October 2018 - stableford  
 Winner: Jen Salna on 27 points  
 Runner up: Ruth Mccarthy on 26 points c/b  
 3rd: Toy Martin on 26 points  
 4th: Trish Mcmillan on 25 points  
 NTP Chris Tancred  
 putting comp: Ruth Mccarthy with 30 putts & Jan Scobie with 32 putts c/b  
 Championship results  
 Division 1 – scratch Caren Caldwell  
 Division 1 – nett Toy Martin  
 Division 2 – scratch Ruth Mccarthy  
 Division 2 – nett Jen Salna

### Hunter Valley Golf Club

**Sunday 7th October**, The Weekly Challenge has been won by Annie Hillard of the St Michaels GC with 43 points from Ben Hillard from Waratah GC on 39 and Brendon Boyd 3rd with 37 points. Ball winners were: Sharon Doyle v36, David Lagats 36, Nathan Pearson v36, Tim Smith v36, Louise Allen v35, Tony Langhorn v33, Jeanette Northall v33, Sam Gardel v32, Scott Spierings v32, Dan McLeod 32, Ian McCallum v31, Justin Ely v31, Nathan Spierings v30, Mark Cooper v30 and Mony Cheang v30 c/b

**Monday 8th October** The Ladies held their annual Open Day with a full field Teeing off in the Shotgun start. Pacific Dunes pairing of Janelle Hurley & Sue Miller won the day with 45 points from Marlene Rooney & Glenda Williams of Cessnock GC with 44, 3rd went to Jackie O'Neil and Dorothy Wood from Pacific Dunes with 43 points, 4th to Colleen Rock & Katlin Van Zyl from Singleton GC 5th to Tania Carrigan & Susan Weis of Merriwa GC with 41 on countback to Sue Peel and Pam Snaddon in 6th. Many thanks to the Ladies who supplied morning tea and to the Pro shop and Lovedale for their support.

**Tuesday 9th October** The Tuesday Stableford has been won by Simon Nicholson with a great 42 point round from Ian Newell with 39 and Paul Neuss with 38 on c/b. Ball winners were: Gary Arnold 38, Wayne Cowan 37, Peter Wilson 36, Rex Talbot 36, Gerry Irwin 35, Garry Marsden 33, Drew Dewar 33, Mark Makin 33, Geoff Sweetman 32 and Graeme Flynn 32 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to David Peel (4th & 17th) and Julie Van Den Berg (8th)

**Wednesday 10th October** The Ladies comp was a washout this week, golf will resume next Wednesday with an Individual Stableford.

**Thursday 11th October** The Vets Medley Stableford has been won by John Harrison with a solid 40 points on countback to John Stewart with Ray Newton 3rd with 38 points. Ball winners were: Graeme Flynn 37 and David Peel 36. Nearest-the-Pins went to Wayne Berry (3rd) and John Stewart (4th). Next week the Vets will play 4BBB Par. John Pascoe has won the September Misty Glen Wines Outstanding Performance for September. Today's raffle winner was Greg Ireland.

**Saturday 13th October** Paul Bullock has claimed the Medley Stableford with 38 points on countback to Dean Morison with Clarke Sturman taking 3rd place with 37 also on countback. Ball winners were: Garry Marsden 37, Steve Piggott 35, David Peel 35, Chris Taggart 33 and Wayne Drayton 33 c/b Nearest-the-Pins went to David Peel (3rd, 4th & 17th) Tracy Morison (8th) and John Barbour (10th). Next weeks event will be a Medley American Stableford.  
**Sunday 14th October** Scone GC

visitor Troy Collison has won the Weekly Challenge with 40 points on countback to Nathan Sweeney  
**Tuesday 16th October**  
 Solid scoring featured in the Tuesday Stableford with Rex Talbot leading the way with 41 points from Paul Smith 39 and Geoff Sweetman in 3rd with 37 points on countback. Ball winners were: Wayne Cowan 37, David Peel 36, Barry Watson v36, Jason Cowburn 35 and Ian Newell 35 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to David Peel (3rd & 4th)  
**Wednesday 17th October** Melita Watson took out the Ladies Stableford with 36 points on countback to Robyn Dunlop and Dale Hamilton in 3rd also on countback. Ball winners were: Christine Tancred 36, Kerrie-Anne Skinner 34, Jeanette Irwin 32 and Karen Baillie 31 c/b. Next week the Ladies will play Individual Stableford

**Thursday 18th October** Paul and Greg Ireland combined best in the Vets 4BBB Par event to take top spot with +10 from Graeme Flynn and Rex Talbot with +9 on countback. Nearest-the-Pins went to Greg Ireland (3rd) Rex Talbot (4th) and Kevin Smith (17th) Next week the Vets will play a Medley Stableford.

**Saturday 20th October** A reasonable field turned out in the American Stableford played on Saturday with Mathew Wadsworth winning A Grade with 55 points from Wayne Barber 54, B Grade to Jai Kumar with 54 on countback to Lachlan Peacock and C Grade to 'soon to be in B Grade' Garry Marsden with round of the day 62 points from Michael McNab with 55 points. Ball winners were: Nic Bates 54, Sue Peel 53, Mark Faulkner 52, Mathew Merlo 53, Tony Krishna 50, Craig Sharp 50, Wayne Drayton 50, David Peel 50, Greg Ireland 50, Jeff Morton 50 and Don Lamb v49 on countback. Nearest-the-Pins went to Sue Peel (3rd) Ben Pickering (4th & 10th) Nathan Nancarrow (8th) and Mathew Merlo (17th). Next weeks event will be a Medley Stableford



with Mark Bercini

**Cricket Report - Week 2**  
 Cessnock District Cricket completed round two of competition last Saturday, with Greta/Branxton winning four of their five grades, with the Third Grade White game unfortunately washed out with Greta/Branxton in a strong position. After a less than par batting performance the previous week, First Grade improved to record their first win of the year with a comfortable six-wicket victory over Wine Country at Allandale. Batting first Wine Country compiled a healthy 9-180 from their forty overs. Martin Shearer was the pick of the Greta/Branxton attack with 4-56 off 10. He was well supported



• Greg "Shorty" Andrews who blasted 92no off 58 balls to guide first grade to a 6-wicket victory over Wine Country at Allandale

by co-skipper Nathan Holz (2 -45 off 10), Indian import Tanveer Singh (1-27 off 10) and Alex "Pole Dancer" Walking (1-48 off 10). The match appeared evenly poised with Greta/Branxton 3-46 in the 11th over in reply. This brought 46-year-old veteran Greg "Shorty" Andrews to the crease, and he was on the front foot from the word go, blasting the ball to all parts of the arena to remain unbeaten on 92 from just 58 balls in what was truly an entertaining knock. He was well supported by Holz (32no) who was also there when the winning blow was struck in the 28th over. Co-skipper Joey Butler (19) looked good until he went hard at the ball once too often and was castled, with opening partner Mark Bercini making a scratchy 18. Second Grade got their premiership defence off on the right foot with a 51-run victory over Wine Country on Miller 1. Batting first Greta/Branxton posted a modest 9-141 from their forty overs, with Logan Millard following in the footsteps of father and life member Jamie with a stylish 42. He received good support from Jason Haines and veteran Paul Walking who scored 25 apiece. Wine Country were all out for 90 in reply, with leg-spinner Jason Varley providing the vital wickets with 4-15 off 6. Haines completed a fine all-round game with 2-10 off 5, with Anthony Brunson taking 2-0 off 2.1. Third Grade Blue picked up a 6-wicket victory over Supporters Club at Baddeley 2. Supporters were all out for 113 batting first, with Ayden Wilkinson (3-16 off 6) and Mal Hedger (3-6 off 5) taking a treble of wickets each. Greta/Branxton breezed to victory in reply, losing just the four wickets. Opener Ben Lahey found some nice early season form with an unbeaten 54, with Ryan O'Donnell (25), and Mal Hedger (22) completing a fine all-round game doing enough to get the Blues home. Third Grade White made 9/213 from their forty overs against Laguna at Laguna. Jamie McNamara was

dismissed for the devil's number 87, step son Will Young timed the ball nicely for 48, with Jayden "Box" Miller (18), Jason Stephenson (13) and Cade Bradley (12no) all among the runs. Laguna were 5-94 in reply when rain brought proceedings to a halt. Ethan Spliet-Miller (1-11 off 5), McNamara (1-27 off 9), Daniel Minchin (1-3 off 5) Young (1-8 off 3) and Aaron Stephenson (1-14 off 3) all took a wicket each.

Fourth Grade also got their premiership defence off in style with a 65-run victory over Wine Country on Miller 2. Batting first Greta/Branxton managed 123, with Singleton import Blake Campbell making a fine 68. Correy Stone in his first game back after a few years lay off made 23. Wine Country were skittled for 58 in reply, with Sam Hines taking 6-11 off 7 for Greta/Branxton.

### Points Tables

**First Grade** Bellbird 11, Mulbring 11, Greta/Branxton 10, Supporters 8, Peden's Hotel 7, Wine Country 7.  
**Second Grade** Bellbird 11, Chelmsford Hotel 11, Greta/Branxton 11, Peden's Hotel 7, Supporters 7, Wine Country 7.  
**Third Grade** Bellbird 11, Greta/Branxton Blue 11, Greta/Branxton White 8, Supporters 7, Mulbring 4\*, Wine Country 3\*.  
 \* bytes received, 0 points.  
**Fourth Grade** Bellbird 11, Chelmsford Hotel 11, Greta/Branxton 11, Peden's Hotel Blue 8, Supporters 8, Cessnock Hotel 7, Peden's Hotel White 7, Wine Country 7.  
**Club Championship** Bellbird 99.37, Greta/Branxton 95.63, Supporters 67.72, Wine Country 56.23, Peden's Hotel 51.73, Mulbring 48.07.

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## Greyhound Racing...



### Local Report

with Sam

**POOR OLD COUNTRY COUSINS**  
Muswellbrook, Coonabarabran, Tamworth and Mudgee held meetings on the weekend with total prizemoney of \$12,590. The main races at Muswellbrook, Mudgee and Coonabarabran were Free For All sprints with \$350 to the winners. Tamworth's Maiden Final was worth a cool \$500 to the winner. Greyhound Racing NSW conducted a meeting at Wentworth Park on Saturday night with total prizemoney of \$1,552,971. The major race at Wentworth Park was *The Million Dollar Chase* with \$1,000,000 to the winner. Heats were held at Wentworth Park as well as regional areas of NSW, Bathurst, Dubbo, Bulli,

Grafton, Lismore, Nowra, Temora, Wagga, Newcastle and Maitland. The regional heats were to appease the country folk who had a better chance of winning lotto than beating the leading trainers from Victoria and Western Sydney in the semi finals. Greyhound Racing NSW did however put on a race for country dogs who contested the regional finals but failed to make the big million dollar race; first prize being \$10,000. The **MILLION DOLLAR CHASE** final was represented by four Victorian dogs, **AZKABAN**, (4) **POKE THE BEAR** (5) and **MIDNIGHT STARLET** (1) for Seona Thompson and **DYNA HARPA** (3) for Andrea Dailly. Western Sydney made up the other



•Branxton trainer Lindsay Davis with Frekey at Wentworth Park

four with **JAMELLA JET** (8) and **BIG BUTTERS** (6) for Andrew Crouch, **MYSTIC RIOT** (7) for Jodie Lagogiane and **SKY WAVE** (2) for Vic Sultana. Many felt the money would go south of the border but thankfully it

stayed in NSW; the million bucks went to **MYSTIC RIOT** from box 7 winning in the time of 29.67 sec. over the 520 mtr. trip. **MYSTIC RIOT** is a black bitch by **BARCIA BALE** out of **READY TO RIOT** owned by

Sandra Camden Bermingham and trained at Llandilo by Peter and Jodie Lagogiane. Andrew and Adam Crouch picked up \$100,000 with runner up **JAMELLA JET** and the other Western Sydneysiders Darren and Vic Sultana collected \$45,000 with **SKY WAVE** finishing third. The consolation was taken out by **TRUE TALENT** for Hunter trainer Jason Mackay, **TRUE TALENT** (9) was first reserve and gained a start from box 5 collecting \$25,000 for his connections. The Sydney Cup for the stayers worth \$75,000 to the winner was won by **POCO DORADO** defeating his litter mate **VELOCE NERO**, trained by John Finn at Cranebrook giving Western Sydney another big win on the night. The other feature race at Wentworth Park was The Masters Meteor with the Hunter having two representatives. **FREKEY** a 4 year old black bitch by **DJAYS OCTANE** out of **KEY EXIT** ( 10 wins \$40,970) for Branxton trainer Lindsay Davis and Kelvin Lean. **BLABBER MOUTH** a 41/2 year old black dog by

**MAGIC SPRITE** out of **CINDEEN SHELBY** ( 13 wins \$39,620) for Pelaw Main trainer Cheryl Murray. Both dogs were looking to more than double their career prizemoney with \$100,000 to the winner up for grabs. Unfortunately for the Hunter trainers the race was won by **COSMIC BONUS** for Whiteman Creek (Grafton) trainer Evelyn Harris with **BLABBER MOUTH** running a gallant third for Cheryl. **GRETA GBOTA** Members in the winner's circle in the past month included Lindsay Davis with **FREKEY** at Wentworth Park and **ZINKEY** and **BEAR'S OCTANE** at The Gardens. Garry Kedwell also saluted at The Gardens with **BRAEMAN**. James Porter got the cash with **HARD LEFT** and **MEPUNGA REIGN** at Maitland, **ROCKSTAR ROY** and **BOWLS AND HOLES** at Richmond and **HARD LEFT** and **NINGHAN EXPRESS** at The Gardens. Robbie Neville headed to the Coonamble carnival on the long weekend and covered his fuel, food, drinks and accommodation (maybe not

the excessive drink bill) with **REDNECK GIRL** (1st) and **SKETCHY ALLEY** (3rd). Strangely enough he is welcome back next year. Final meetings for 2018 will be held at **THE GRETA WORKERS CLUB** on Sunday 4th November and Sunday 2nd December 7pm. Participants wishing to join in 2019 are welcome to attend the November and or December meeting as visitors. **SEE YA AT THE TRACK OR THE BAR ~ Midnite.**



MYSTIC RIOT, winner of the \$1m Chase last Saturday evening at Wentworth Park



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