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WEDNESDAY
21 November 2018

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STEVE'S RANT

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Members say...



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School NEWS



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Well Done Not So Well Done



Branxton Uniting Church celebrates their Centenary



LAST Sunday, 18th November, the local Branxton Uniting Church congregation celebrated 100 years of the laying of the church Foundation Stone. The congregation and invited guests commenced the day with a 'Celebration Service' conducted by their

Minister, The Rev Dr John E. Webster MA(hons) Ph.D. The Welcome to Country & Welcome to Guests was given by parishioner Maureen Dick. The Branxton Primary School Choir gave a wonderful rendition of

'What a Wonderful World' & parishioner Karen Johanson introduced their compiled 'Centenary Book'. Among the guests were John & Jay Tulloch whose great step grandmother, Mrs. J.A. Tulloch, actually laid the Foundation Stone on the 2nd November 1918.

After the service all parishioners & guests enjoyed some refreshments & helped to make sure there was nothing left of the "Centenary Cake" & spent some quality time in fellowship. The organising committee would like to acknowledge & thank the following for making the day such a special event:- Branxton Primary School Choir, Cessnock Uniting Church Soul Purpose Group, Branxton Golf Club for the sausage sizzle, Karen & Murray Johanson & Judy & Frazer Spillard & Maureen Dick as without their contribution the day would not have been the outstanding success that it was.

In our next edition we have quite a few photos that will be published in 'Out & About'.



Special guests at the Centenary Celebration from L-R: Clayton Barr MP, Singleton Mayor Sue Moore, Joel Fitzgibbon MP & Cessnock Mayor Bob Pynsent



The Rev Dr John E. Webster MA(hons) Ph.D

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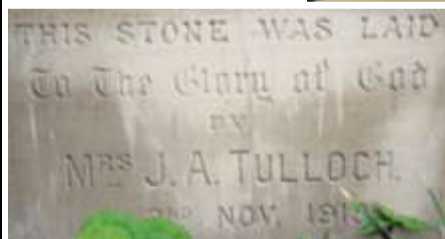
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DOGS

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

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



CATS

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

\$16.00

Purr cat, purr day



Help those who need it this Christmas

Residents of the Cessnock Local Government area are being encouraged to give generously to this year's Cessnock City Council Christmas Gift and Food Appeal that starts on Monday 26 November. This year all donations will go to the Samaritans Information and Neighbourhood Centre (Cessnock). Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent is encouraging residents to support the appeal that will provide much needed assistance to those doing it tough this festive season.

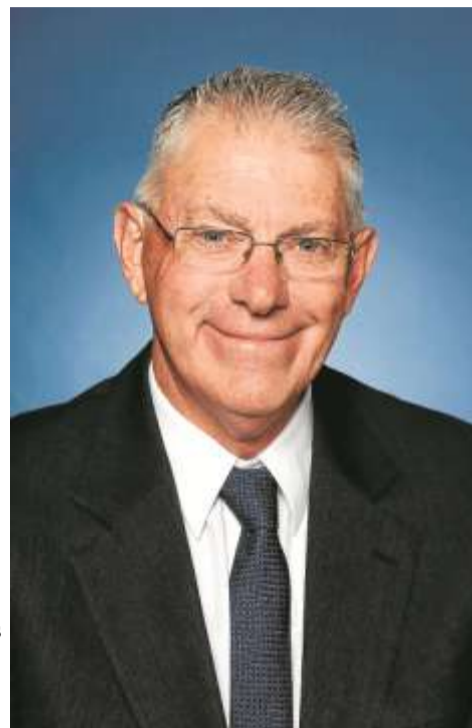
"All donations we receive will go to local families and those more vulnerable people in our community that need extra support. This year we are accepting toys and non-perishable food items."

Peter Woolven from Samaritans Information and Neighbourhood Centre (Cessnock) said the donations were essential in providing assistance to local families in need.

"In 2017 we were able to support 42 families and 123 children from the Cessnock Local Government Area. Each year, requests for support are increasing for Christmas gifts and non-perishable food items."

"Christmas is sometimes a sad and challenging time for people. With the continued support of the community, Samaritans will go the extra mile to ensure that those who are lonely, isolated or experiencing disadvantage are included in the joy," Peter said.

Council hopes the community will show their support and give generously to the appeal. Donations will be accepted up until **Thursday 13 December**. Donation drop off points include Council's administration building under the Christmas tree. This will be erected in the first week of December, any donations before this time can be put into a donation box located in the administration building. Residents can also make donations at the Cessnock and Kurri Kurri libraries. For health and safety reasons, please ensure all donations are new and unwrapped.



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: PLANNING PROPOSAL - 18/2017/7/1 RECLASSIFY AND REZONE VARIOUS PROPERTIES AT ABERDARE, CESSNOCK, EAST BRANXTON, KITCHENER

In accordance with the NSW Local Government Act 1993, notice is given of the holding of a public hearing for the proposed reclassifications and rezoning of Council owned land.

The public hearing will be held on **Thursday 13 December 2018 at 6pm** in the Councillors Ante Room at the Council offices at 62-78 Vincent Street Cessnock. The hearing will be facilitated by an independent chairperson. Members of the public are invited to attend the public hearing. There is no requirement to register your attendance with Council.

All Submissions previously submitted during the exhibition period will be considered by the independent chairperson prior to the public hearing. The public hearing provides an additional opportunity to provide any comments that you may have on the proposed reclassification of Council-owned land. Following the public hearing Council will make the report of the independent chairperson available for public review at the office of the Council within four days of the public hearing.

On 31 July 2018 the Department of Planning and Environment issued a Gateway determination enabling Council to place the Planning Proposal, **18/2017/7/1 - Reclassification and Rezone various properties at Aberdare, Cessnock, East Branxton and Kitchener** on exhibition for a period of 28 days. This is consistent with Council's resolution to proceed with this Proposal at its Ordinary Meeting held on 4 April 2018.

The purpose of the Planning Proposal is to reclassify the following properties from community to operational:

- Lot 18 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 62 Cessnock Street, Aberdare
- Lot 17 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 64 Cessnock Street, Aberdare
- Lot 16 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 66 Cessnock Street Aberdare
- Lot 15 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 68 Cessnock Street, Aberdare
- Lot 14 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 70 Cessnock Street, Aberdare
- Lot 13 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 72 Cessnock Street, Aberdare
- Lot 12 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 74 Cessnock Street Aberdare
- Lot 11 Sec 46 DP 758002 - 76 Cessnock Street Aberdare
- Lot 3 Sec J DP 4927 - 6 William Street, Cessnock
- Lot 7 Sec A DP 5015 - 16A Stephen Street, Cessnock
- Lot 507 DP 755215 - 10 Quorrobolong Road Cessnock
- Lot 508 DP 755215 - 12 Quorrobolong Road Cessnock
- Lot 9 DP: 259718 - 26 Tulloch Street East Branxton
- Lot 9 Sec 15 DP 758576 - 29 Cessnock Street, Kitchener
- Lot 10 Sec 15 DP 758576 - 31 Cessnock Street, Kitchener
- Lot 11 Sec 15 DP 758576 - 29 Aberdare Street, Kitchener
- Lot 12 Sec 15 DP 758576 - 27 Aberdare Street, Kitchener

The Planning Proposal also seeks to rezone the Lot 7 Sec A DP 5015 16A Stephen Street Cessnock from RE1 Public Recreation to R3 Medium Density Residential and to amend the lot size map for this site from nil to 450m2.

The Planning Proposal was placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 15 August 2018 to 14 September 2018.

Details of the proposed reclassifications and rezoning are available for viewing on the Council's website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

Any enquiries should be directed to Council's Strategic Land Use Planning section on 02 4993 4168.

www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au 62-75 Vincent St, Cessnock 02 4993 4100

CESSNOCK COMMUNITY
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www.cessnockperformingartscentre.com.au
WHAT'S ON?
GO TO



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

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

Locality	Reference	Decision Date	Property Address	Application Description
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000510/0	2-Oct-2018	29 Wethered CR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000636/001	5-Oct-2018	41 Tooze CCT	Retaining Wall
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000646/001	16-Oct-2018	16 Emerton RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000634/001	16-Oct-2018	69 Tooze CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	009/2018/00000239/001	22-Oct-2018	95 Tooze CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000630/001	23-Oct-2018	LOT: 43 DP: 755211 Wine Country DR	Use of Land - Exhibition Village
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000587/001	25-Oct-2018	5 Jolley RD	Two (2) Storey Dwelling
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000720/001	30-Oct-2018	36 Harkin RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000590/001	30-Oct-2018	122 Washery RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
PAXTON	008/2018/00000461/001	2-Oct-2018	9 Earps RD	Subdivision of One (1) Lot into Ten (10) Lots in Two (2) Phases and Creation of Drainage Reserve
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000562/001	11-Oct-2018	58 Casuarina DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Walls
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000679/001	11-Oct-2018	10 Hilli Lane PRIV	Swimming Pool
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000643/001	11-Oct-2018	455 Wine Country DR	Aircraft Hangar (Helicopter)
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000525/001	22-Oct-2018	16 Casuarina DR	Enclosed Garage Addition

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

Award winning true café and chocolate

Local Lochinvar café takes out top award in Hunter Region Business Excellence Awards for New Start Business 2018. Both the judges and secret shoppers acknowledged Chef Edwin's distinct business vision, the relaxing vintage decor theme combined with his delicious hand-crafted gourmet pies, a very unique freshly churned udder farm icecream range coupled together with exceptional customer service. Smooth rich coffee, classic foodie favourites, indulgence chocolate in store range of True Belgium chocolates, and our sought after ice cream flavours; Chef Edwin hand makes each one at his award winning True Café & Chocolate in Lochinvar. Chef Edwin, an executive chef for many famous venues throughout Asia, Europe and Hunter Valley will delight your tastebuds with his tempting menu. If you're after one of Chef Edwin's hearty steak pies pop in early. The secret of True Café's homemade pies has travelled through the tradie network and they sell out fast. The new sliced beef stroganoff or local Calvin Estate black beer with braised chunky beef in our crisp flakey pastry. These are freshly baked here every hour" when open. True Café is rapidly becoming the gathering place for cosy business meetings and mum's catching up over coffee. Community groups rallying to support local issues choose True Café for their lunchtime gatherings, whilst daydreaming children await their house-made ice-cream after school. True café can also cater for private dinner parties or a unique choice for Christmas/office parties, family functions and makes the perfect venue for children's birthday parties with the purpose built children's playroom. Once each month Chef Edwin delights dinner guests with a special Theme evening feast. These gourmet evenings include a 3 course celebration of international cuisine. See <https://www.facebook.com/TrueChocolates/> Chef Edwin's extensive culinary knowledge will provide a memorable experience with every creation and every plate. True Cafe can be privately booked out for your family event, Christmas party, birthday party.

Successful applicants for the 2018 Community Building Partnership Program – Cessnock electorate



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

The State Electorate of Cessnock has secured \$330,000.00 in funding for a total of eighteen projects through the NSW Government's 2018 Community Building Partnership Program. The Community Building Partnership program was established in 2009 by the then Labor Government and has provided funding to hundreds of community groups, sporting clubs and councils across NSW to build or upgrade local facilities. State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Clayton Barr, MP said the State Government funds will deliver much-needed improvements to local facilities. (See attached list containing full details of the projects that have been funded). "This is fantastic news for the Cessnock Electorate, this grassroots funding will directly help to create a more vibrant and inclusive local community with positive social and recreational outcomes," State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Mr Clayton Barr said. "I congratulate all the organisations that were successful in their application and look forward to seeing how these projects make a real difference for community groups in the area."

Cessnock – Community Building Partnership program 2018 Successful Projects

Organisation	Project title	Amount Funded
Kurri Kurri Public School P & C Association	Inclusive Outdoor Learning Environment at Kurri Kurri Public School	\$30,000
Country Women's Association of NSW - Cessnock	Roof Replacement, Kitchen Refurbishment And Air Conditioning To Enhance Community Use	\$22,300
Life Education NSW Ltd.	Touch Screens to Maximise Children's Engagement in Preventative Health Education	\$12,958
Cessnock City Council	Kurri Kurri Senior Citizens Centre Kitchen Replacement	\$26,500
Bellbird Cricket Club Inc.	Construct Shelter, Tables, Seats and Scoreboard Facilities	\$9,000
Cessnock City Council	Kurri Kurri Aquatic Centre Family Amenities Upgrades	\$20,000
Abermain Bowling and Recreation Club Ltd.	Update and Upgrade Handrails on Greens Access	\$13,000
The Girl Guides Association of New South Wales	Kurri Kurri Guide Hall - Kitchen Upgrade	\$8,202
Richmond Vale Preservation Co-operative Society Ltd.	Refurbishment and Upgrade of Interpretive and Directional Signage	\$39,488
Greta Brawton Football Club	Extend Concrete for Wheelchair Access, Upgrade Fencing and Digouts	\$15,000
Police Citizens Youth Clubs NSW Ltd.	Contemporary Upgrades to Sport and Protection of Club Assets	\$10,238
Cessnock Croquet Club Inc.	Croquet Court Levelling and In-Ground Watering System	\$15,394
Cardiff Australian Football Club	Purchase and installation of Multi-Purpose Scoreboard	\$31,000
Edgeworth Community Preschool Inc.	Inclusive Upgrade to Existing Bathroom	\$19,690
Cessnock City Council	Upgrade of File-Winder and Chain Hoists systems	\$20,000
West Walkend Football Club Inc.	Ride on Mower Purchase	\$14,000
Hunter Region Business Enterprise Centre Inc.	Upgrade and Enhance the Hub	\$15,000
Cessnock District Netball Association Inc.	Clubhouse Display Cabinets	\$8,770
TOTAL		\$330,000

Cessnock Mayoral Scholarships 2019 up for grabs



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

Cessnock City Council is proud to announce the Mayoral Scholarships are open again for residents looking to further their education in 2019. The Mayoral Scholarships support those in the community who are working hard to build a career and are enrolled to study next year. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said this program is fantastic and offers a number of scholarships for a variety of areas. "If you're studying at university or TAFE see if you are eligible for one of the nine scholarships on offer. The scholarships are \$2,500 and can be used at the recipient's discretion to support their studies. Textbooks, travel or tools can be very costly, this can take some of the pressure off and allow a student to focus on their study." Students enrolled in TAFE or university in 2019 who are residents of the Cessnock Local Government Area can apply. Please read the criteria for each scholarship carefully.

The following scholarships are available: Scholarships are for one year and are valued at

\$2,500. Applications are now open and close Friday 1 March 2019. For more information and to apply online visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/council/mayor/scholarships.

Sponsor	Scholarship
Austar Coal Mine (part of the Yancoal Australia Group)	Mining Technical/ Engineering
Cessnock Retired Mineworkers	Mining
The Rotary Club of Cessnock	Building and Associated Trades
Cessnock Leagues Club	John Kripe Memorial Hospitality and Tourism
Hunter Resource Recovery	Post HSC (Graduated in the past 2 years)
Hunter Resource Recovery	Undergraduate (Current Student from 2017)
Solo Resource Recovery	TAFE
Kurri Kurri Retired Mineworkers Association	Local Government
Northern District Retired Mineworkers	Merv Mahon Memorial Undergraduate



Seniors Class \$5 per Class

- Tuesdays at 9am
- Location: Greta Workers Club
- 45-minute Seniors Class suitable for all ages & fitness levels. The class is designed to build strength for everyday life & increase mobility
- Welcome, supportive & enjoyable
- Classes started on 6th November 2018

Contact: Katie on 0432 387 805

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STEVE'S RANT

Have a good think about this

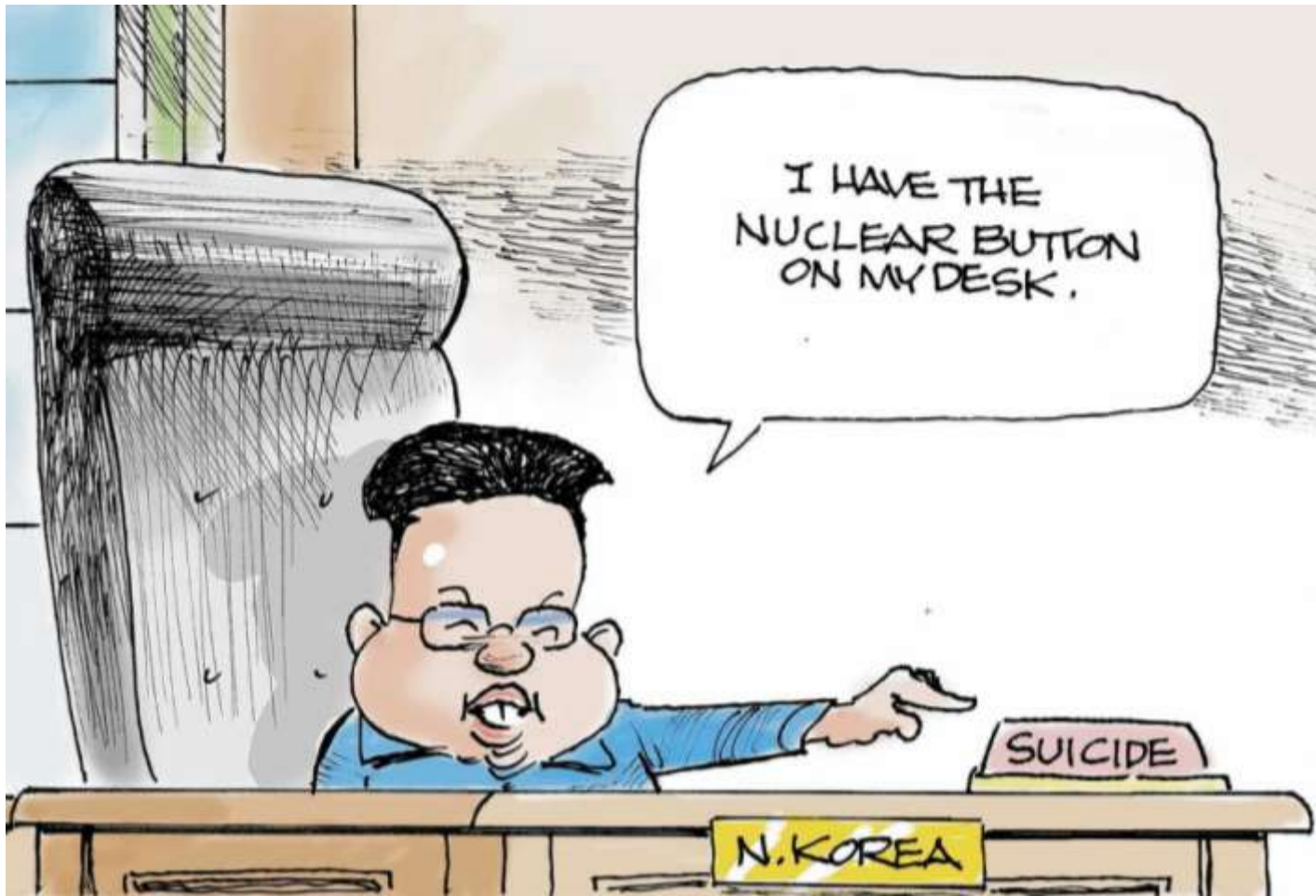
.....
I have not received any further correspondence from the State Government of NSW regarding coal fired power stations so I have concluded that they have dismissed my follow up letter. Perhaps that is not surprising but we do need to continue to demand action by the State Government to provide the electrical power needed by households and business. This has always been their responsibility. It is evident the power companies see no need for more dispatchable power when the price of electricity can be artificially inflated by using the intermittent power from wind and solar which has a guaranteed share of the market because of dim-witted Government policy. This is how the system works. Once the capital expense of the construction of wind and solar generation has been met, the energy provided from these installations has very little input costs. Few employees to pay, record low interest payments on the borrowed capital and a fixed term of life which can be anticipated and provided for in the running of the

scheme. This is all very good and makes complete sense for a business model. In normal conditions when the wind is blowing and the sun is shining the return for each kilowatt hour of power is say, \$20. However, when the system is under stress from heavy demand and there is no wind in many parts of the state the price per kilowatt hour can go up to \$500. So, if only 10% of a company's wind turbines are operating and there is heavy demand the return on this 10% is in theory 10% X \$500 (\$5000) instead of 100% X \$20. (\$2000). This may be a crude calculation but serves to illustrate my point. Tomago Aluminium has had to shut down their plant on three occasions when the price of power per kilowatt hour went over \$1600. The Commonwealth and State Governments have legislated to make this happen in the mistaken belief that they are 'saving the planet'. This is the duplicity of politicians and the conceit of the 'Looney Left Greens' and formally Malcolm Turnbull who was willing to sell out the nations prosperity and welfare in order to garner votes to stay in power, or



Climate change is real and not something to joke about. Thumbs down to Steve of 'Steve's Rant' fame in this local paper; scientific evidence that we are destroying the planet

cannot be ignored. I, like many others, despair at the thought of what sort of environment our children and grandchildren will live in, as a direct



gain power and to satisfy some demonic ideology which says 'we will all be rooned'. Well, we have seen these predictions of doom before and they have never materialised. THINK; the collapse of the world computer systems at the end of the 20th Century, the Club of Rome prediction of 'World-Wide Starvation by 1990'. Probably the best example was the prediction of world chaos if, and when, The Donald was elected President of the USA. We the people have to become pro-active in determining the future of Australia. Here are a few subjects you might like to write about: the cost of beer, energy security, national security, education standards and methodology, over-regulation at all levels of government, protection of Australians sovereignty, closing the gap in opportunity for our indigenous peoples, focusing our foreign aid

and influence more in our area of concern, (the South West Pacific), re-energising our federal system so that competition between states is encouraged. That's a few to start with. And, by-the-way, don't bother typing your letter but exercise your beautiful copperplate handwriting - complete with bad punctuation and spelling errors. Those don't matter but what you have to say does. Joel Fitzgibbon and Clayton Bar will be delighted to get your letters. Now for a brief audit of Scott Morrison's go as Prime Minister so far; on the debit side is his proposed ratification of the UN agreement on refugees. Any international treaty agreement, concord, or responsibility that we sign up to must not erode our sovereignty. The refugee agreement does just that. Not on, Scott Morrison. To his credit; he has made himself available to the people and appears to be listening to what he is told. If you have the time and a

particular concern write him a letter c/- Parliament House, Canberra. *Happy letter writing, Steve*



with **Mike Lowing**

Nominations are now open for the 2019 Australia Day Awards and Cessnock City Council & Singleton Council are calling on the community to nominate locals who deserve to be recognised. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent urged residents to nominate people who deserve recognition for their contribution to the community. He said that this is a chance to acknowledge those in our community who give up their own time and dedicate

themselves to making our community a better place & this gives us an opportunity to say thanks and celebrate their achievements. He also said that last year they had some magnificent people take to the stage to accept their award and they have all continued to contribute to our community over the last twelve months.' In 2019 a new award has been announced and is inspired by women contributing service to the community. The Marie Callaghan Young Female Achiever Award will acknowledge the barriers women face in seeking public office and being seen as "leaders". The recipient will be a positive and inspirational role model to other young women, who shows leadership. Nominations must be submitted by Monday 10 December 2018. Nomination forms and selection criteria can be found on Council's website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/

community/events-ceremonies/australiaday. Nominations for Singleton Council are open until Friday 30 November 2018 & they are encouraging anyone who knows someone who has made a significant contribution to the community to nominate them. Singleton Mayor Sue Moore said that this is a chance to acknowledge those in our community who give up their own time and dedicate themselves to making their community a better place. This gives us an opportunity to say thanks and celebrate their achievements. Singleton Australia Day Committee chairperson, Cr Danny Thompson said he was looking forward to plenty of nominations as well as plenty of people coming out to celebrate on Australia Day. www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/australiadayawards Again nominations for Singleton close 30/11/18 & Cessnock on the 10/12/18. *Cheers, Mike*

result of continued government inaction to address the pressing issue of climate change. Government ministers argue that we are such a small country, and therefore our actions will make little difference, but on a per capita basis Australia is among the highest emitters in the world. If all of the 90 or so nations that contribute less than 1 percent of emissions were to act, that would account for around a third of the global total.

How simple and cost effective it would be with a carbon price. Those who tore down our carbon price should face scrutiny, for both ruining our economy and our environment. We must put climate change action front and centre at the forthcoming election and make our politicians accountable too. *Mike McGregor, Gunnedah*

give it a run. I refer to the article by Jessica Irvine (What's an arts degree really worth? SMH 08/11/18) and am not surprised that she has taken the proper view that a person educated in the humanities is a "employable". There has been a pattern of government support (championed by the Howard government) for school leavers to take up degrees that, in their view, make them employable (such as engineering law and medicine). It is my opinion that such degrees should only be allowed after an undergraduate degree in humanities. This would ensure the professionals are indeed educated. In my six years at university the only subjects I remember teaching me to think rationally and to

broaden my outlook were the elective Arts subjects we did in the B.Com degree. There were no elective subjects in the LL.B course. This may be an indicia of the lack of

vision shown by the majority of politicians who, unfortunately, are mostly lawyers, accountants and such like. **Peter Lowing, Darlinghurst NSW**

Emergency Phone Numbers

Dial 000 FOR FIRE, POLICE AND AMBULANCE ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT FOR 24-HOUR SERVICE. It's a free call. Just tell the operator what you need-fire, police or ambulance. Then wait to be connected. When reporting an emergency by calling 000, the telephone number & address you are calling from may be given to the emergency service so they can respond quickly. If you don't want the telephone number or address details passed on, you must call the emergency service direct. ALL CALLS TO 000 ARE VOICE RECORDED	Police Branxton..... 4938 1244 Lochinvar..... 4930 7209 Ambulance 131 233 NSW Fire Brigade Branxton..... 4938 3396 Rural Fire Brigades Belford..... 6574 7149 Broke..... 6579 1491 Greta..... 4015 0000 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	Electricity Energy..... 131 388 Hospitals Maitland... 4939 2000 Cessnock... 4991 0555 Singleton... 6572 2799 SES132 500 Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 Poisons Info 131 126 Hunter Water 1300 657 000 Ausgrid 131 388 Gas Emergencies . 131 909 Lifeline131 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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Cessnock Waste Management Centre turns one



Today marks the one year anniversary since Cessnock City Council opened the redeveloped Cessnock Waste Management Centre and the results so far have been impressive. The new centre has provided the community with the opportunity to lessen their impact on the local environment by increasing resource recovery opportunities. The addition of the Community Recycling Centre (CRC) to the site has allowed for 71 tonnes of toxic problem waste, including paints, oils and gas bottles to be diverted

from landfill. The CRC has also seen 69 tonnes of electronic waste be sent for reprocessing which has greatly reduced the contamination rates. Since the centre opened 12 months ago, there has been a resource recovery rate of 36%, which is an increase of 12% from the previous year. There has also been a 47% increase in recoverable materials being separated at the centre to be sent for recycling which has resulted in close to \$200,000 in rebates from the waste levy paid to the NSW Government.

Just last week, the Cessnock Waste Management Centre was also recognised with awards by two prominent organisations. The first saw the centre win a highly commended award in the Institute of Public Works Engineers Association's Excellence Awards in the Resource Recovery category. The second saw the centre win the Waste Less Recycle More Waste Minimisation Award in the iconic Keep Australia Beautiful NSW 2018 Sustainable Communities Awards. Cessnock City Mayor,

Councillor Bob Pynsent said, "I am proud of what the centre has achieved and look forward to seeing even better results in the next 12 months." "We are dedicated to taking steps to future proof our services to ensure generations to come benefit and this facility will ensure our community has critical infrastructure to divert material from landfill," added Cr Pynsent. For more information about the Cessnock Waste Management Centre, visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/wastecentre.

Branxton Playgroup Hall undergoing restoration work




Husband Creche

Is he getting under your feet
Is he moaning about shopping
Would your morning be stress free without him
Ladies we have the answer

The Branxton Greta Menshed has a husband crèche every Wednesday and Friday mornings. Drop him off at our husband crèche. We'll take good care of him and he may even learn something

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

RESTORATION work on the Branxton Playgroup Hall are well underway. Prior to the work commencing the hall was in its original 1979 condition & with 1000's of young children using the facility over that time it is a credit to the group that it was still in pretty good condition. The front door and front windows are being replaced with a glass sliding door and 'floor to ceiling' windows to increase visibility from outdoor to indoor as well as natural light indoors. The funding for the renovations came by a 65% FRRR grant with the remaining being supplied by donations from Branxton Engineering & the Coalfields Classic

Motorcycle Club & the playgroup fundraisers. "Updating these premises for the enjoyment and longevity of our local playgroup was the defining factor in applying for the grant," said a spokesperson for the playgroup. "We would also like to thank our donors, Branxton Engineering & the Coalfields Classic Motorcycle Club, for their generosity."

Photos: as it was prior to work beginning



CLEARING SALE

64 Dangar Road
Singleton NSW 2330

Saturday October 27th @ 10:30 am

TD90D New Holland Tractor low hours, 1411 Discbine mower conditioner (just rebuilt at Chapman & Slattery Workshop), Kuhn 300 hay rake 12 months old, 400 ltr Hardi boom spray with foam marker, New Holland Forage harvester, New Holland Hay Elevator x 2, 100cc Yamaha ag bike, Rondini super spreader, Ferozo DX Daihatsu 4x4 farm vehicle, 40 ft pipe trailer, 30 ft pipe trailer, Boggie Wheel heavy duty box trailer, 1 ton dumpster, sml hay trailer, 6 ft slasher, 5 tyne Agro plough, 20 plate disc plough with wheels, 5 tyne chisel plough, 8 inch steel pipe 8 lengths 6 mtr, I beam for skilion roof, railway line, 10 ft steel roller, 16 plate disc harrow no wheels, 4x steel roof trusses, steel cabinets, bath tubs, sundry items.

Directions :

Terms: EFTPOS facilities available. Number system to operate (ID required). Light refreshments & toilets available on sale day.

For bookings & Enquiries:

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Scott Bailey 0407 722705
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Zac Ede 0448 722705



Branxton Lions Club recently held a fund raising events at Millar Park Branxton business Expo on the 27.10.18 with plenty of other stalls as usual Lions cooked a sausage sizzle meeting all the locals. Then on the 3.11.18 Branxton Lions had a BBQ at Bunnings Singleton it was a very hot day. And lions did well making money for local charities in need.



Soon Branxton Lions are holding the annual senior dinner free of charge; if any seniors would like to come to Greta workers on the 27th of November or Branxton Community Hall on 4th of December Please contact LION Brian Thomas on 65747186 or lion Ken Meany on 65747027 for catering. *Ken Meany, Publicity Officer*



If you require assistance please call

0414 757 826

Members say



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

Millfield Public School held their 150th anniversary celebration on Saturday 3 November which was a fantastic day out for the local community. As part of the celebrations, we officially opened the school's new garden which had a remarkable makeover as part of the 2018 Garden Blitz project. The Garden Blitz has been the key education project of the Garden Organics service which was designed to demonstrate how the green waste from your green bin is processed into high quality organic soil conditioner. This soil is then used by home gardeners and farmers, ultimately completing the cycle from your organics bin to the garden bed.

On Monday 5 November, our council was invited present to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Industry, Innovation, Science and Resources inquiry hearing at Singleton Diggers Club. During the presentation, I voiced to the Committee Chair, Hon Barnaby Joyce MP how mining challenges for communities endure long after the mining boom and how local businesses could be better supported. This invitation followed a detailed submission to the inquiry into how the mining sector can better support businesses in regional economies. I am proud of the submission Council made and it was wonderful to have the opportunity to speak at the public hearing.

I also attended the Cessnock Chamber of Commerce Customer Service Awards last Friday evening, which are always a wonderful opportunity to recognise those who go above and beyond providing outstanding customer service across our region. We are certainly spoilt when it comes to experiencing exceptional customer service in the Cessnock LGA. Whether you are picking up your daily coffee, getting your car repaired, getting your hair cut or dining in one of the many establishments, you'll always be greeted with a smile and a can-do attitude. I'd like to congratulate everyone who was nominated and those who took home an award on the night.

On Sunday 11 November, I attended the Remembrance Day Service in Kearsley which had special signifi-

cance this year as it marked the 100th anniversary of the Armistice which ended the First World War. In the four years of the war more than 330,000 Australians had served overseas, and more than 60,000 of them had died. Included in this number were local service personnel who we took a minute silence for to remember on Sunday. It was particularly special for the Kearsley, Edenville and Abernathy community as just two months ago, a ceremony was held to unveil plaques for 20 local service personnel who served in WWI. Prior to this discovery, it was believed that only nine local men had served.

The Cessnock Chamber of Commerce held their White Ribbon Breakfast yesterday which was a great opportunity to talk about domestic violence as an issue not only in Australia, but right here within our region. As a White Ribbon Ambassador, I am passionate bringing this issue to the forefront of people's minds because if we don't talk about, it simply won't improve. The local statistics of domestic violence are harrowing to say the least. Collectively, we have the ability shift the culture of violence across the region and as a community we have a responsibility to speak out and prevent this tragedy from continuing. The Branxton Uniting Church will celebrate their 100th anniversary with a community event this Sunday from 10am. This special occasion will be marked with service at the church followed by a sausage sizzle and fun for the whole family including a jumping castle, face painting and more. We've got some exciting events coming up! Postie bikes will once again roar through Cessnock on Sunday 18 November for the fifth annual Postie Bike Grand Prix. This is an exciting event and I encourage the community to come along and show their support. The popular Carols in the Park event is also coming up on Friday 7 December, so make sure you save the date and bring the whole family along! As always, there will be fabulous live music and delicious food stalls for the local community to enjoy from 6.30pm at the Cessnock Sportsground. *Cheers, Bob*



Cr Ben Mitchell - Maitland City Council-West Ward

Moving in the Right Direction.

"On the Move" is Maitland

City Council's six monthly report that is full of interesting information on the delivery of projects and activities included in Council's current delivery program (2018-2021). The latest report which was published this week covers the period from April to September 2018.

I've cherry picked some of the highlights for you below - Maitland's new and impressive No.1 Sportsground hosted two A League matches which saw 5,200 people watch games between the Newcastle Jets, Western Sydney Wanderers and Central Coast Mariners (including Usain Bolt). The festival program for that period included the popular Aroma Coffee and Chocolate Festival, Steamfest, and the celebration of NAIDOC and Youth week.

The Riverlink Building in the Levee was opened in April and now has a tenant in Coqun and also has new public amenities for the Levee.

Major Infrastructure works for West Ward continue on track, these include the new Gillieston Heights community centre and improvements to the intersection of Louth Park Rd and Mount Vincent Rd to improve safety.

In September Council secured \$1.8 million in state government grants which will go towards providing shade structures in four playgrounds across the city, a long overdue upgrade of the change room facilities at Lochinvar Sports Complex as well as a number of other projects around Maitland. During this period Council approved 542 development applications, one of which was for the construction of the Maitland Regional Athletics Centre next to No. 1 Sportsground.

Council has established a new committee, being the Aboriginal Consultative Committee which I was pleased to be appointed unanimously to.

For the reporting period April to September, Council had 4,713 service requests. The top five were the usual suspects namely - garbage bin repairs, stray dogs, barking dogs, Bin service missed and road potholes. Council's income and expenditure breakdowns also made for interesting reading. I noted that rates only account for 50% of Council's income. 21.5% comes from state and federal government grants. This highlights the fantastic success rate that our council staff have in being able to apply and receive grants funding. This success is the envy of a lot of other council's I speak to and applying for these grants is highly competitive. It is an absolute credit to Council's hard working staff. Our two largest expenditures are capital works being 34% and employee costs at 27.5%.

Visitations to Council facilities including the Library, Art Gallery, Visitors Centre, Maitland Gaol and our swimming pools were largely either increasing or staying roughly where they were at this time last year. A whopping 35,566 people visited the indoor pool, up from 20,092 the previous year.

This report gives an excellent snapshot of where your Council is currently sitting. It's well worth a read and is available to the community via hard copies at Council's administration building on High street and it can also be viewed on Council's website at www.maitland.nsw.gov.au *Until next time, Ben.*



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

Raising the BARR

POLITICS FOR ALL OF US I am not silly enough to think for one moment that everyone cares about politics. For many, probably for most, compulsory voting is an inconvenience that can't be avoided when an election is called.

However, having said that many people don't care, it is my experience that almost everyone has an opinion about politics. And this is a very reasonable thing, given that the politics affects every single life of every person every day. I get to hear people's opinions on most days, many of them are clever, insightful, common sense solutions to the problems that we face. So as we gear up to go towards State and Federal elections, the media will turn most of their attention to the politics and as a result, the attention of the masses will be so turned. And possibly then, and only then, will you bother to learn the names of the cast and actors, the ideas that each is putting forward and, importantly, on what day you need to turn out to vote.

If you are a little bit more interested, you should probably touch base with the political party of your choice and let them know that you are happy to assist. This might mean helping out with posters, or letter-boxing or possibly even handing out how to votes on elections day. You might even take the step to join the local branch of your preferred political team.

On the day that you vote you might be tempted to vote for one of the minor parties with single issue platforms. You might consider your vote to be anti-establishment. At the moment, these small-interest, sometimes self-interest, parties can be elected with just 3%-4% of the total vote. This means that their issue is not important to the other 96% of the people. And yet, today, and for most of the

past two decades, these groups have been able to hold to ransom the Government of the day, despite the divisiveness of the issue on which they campaign.

GAOL HOUSE ROAD For those interested in the entry/exit road into the Cessnock gaol, at the time of writing this column I have two meetings coming in the next couple of days. I will meet with the team responsible for building projects in gaols (known as Corrections Infrastructure) and I will meet with the fellow responsible for Health land and building assets. At some point we need to have an entry/exit road that either goes north, south, east or west. No matter which way you go, people will be impacted. At this time, we all just need to be compassionate and empathetic to each other, realising that someone is going to be impacted in some way. In real terms, we as a community have had this situation forced on us; it is not of our asking.

For enquiries regarding the State Government or its departments, or to put you in contact with someone who can, please contact my office. My office can be contacted by phoning 4991-1466, by email to cessnock@parliament.nsw.gov.au or call into 118 Vincent Street (PO Box 242), Cessnock 2325.

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



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

We all know that times flies, and perhaps the people who began the Uniting Church in Branxton would not believe 100 years have passed since the institution became part of the community. It was wonderful to join my political colleagues in Member for Hunter Joel Fitzgibbon, Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr and Cessnock Mayor Bob Pynsent for an extra special church service and a cuppa to celebrate the anniversary on Sunday.

It was a well-organised event for us all to pause to look back at where we've come from as well as a timely reminder to consider the legacy we're leaving now for future generations - and a perfect segue into the opening of the Singleton Heights Public School sensory garden last week. The school was the lucky winner of the Gardens Organics' Garden Blitz

makeover competition, a very fitting offshoot from the green bin collection service introduced across Singleton, Maitland and Cessnock earlier this year. The initiative is another great example of what we're doing as a community to minimise waste and our impact on the environment - so imagine what we could do with even more resources, and more money.

That's why I put up a Mayor Minute to make Singleton the first regional council and the second in in NSW to get behind a state-wide campaign for 100 per cent of the waste levy collected each year by the State Government to be reinvested in waste management, recycling and resource recovery. The waste levy is the amount payable to the Government on every tonne of waste received by licensed waste facilities. The contribution aims to reduce the amount of waste from landfill, with the money used to promote recycling and resource recovery initiatives. In 2016/2017, the NSW Government collected \$726 million from local government, community, businesses and industry from the waste levy. Yet only 10 per cent - or \$72 million - was spent on waste minimisation and recycling in 2017/2018.

Singleton Council paid more than \$1 million under the waste levy for the financial year 2017/2018, while we received just \$67,193 in contestable/non-contestable funding for the same period to assist with Council's waste management and recycling infrastructure, programs and education. Regardless of how you look at it, all the numbers add up to the same outcome: very little of the waste levy is currently used to support waste minimisation, recycling and resource recovery. And what is left over is returned to NSW Government coffers.

Local Government NSW is leading the "Save Our Recycling" campaign calling for bipartisan support to see 100 per cent of the waste levy directed to the cause it is collected for - initiatives to reduce waste and create new opportunities to turn our rubbish into resources. If we can make that happen, I'm confident we'll see plenty more outcomes just like the Garden Organics' Garden Blitz that will not only reduce our impact on our environment in Singleton, but also produce tangible outcomes for our community that our successors will be equally proud to celebrate in 100 years. *Cheers, Sue*

Members say
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JOEL FITZGIBBON MP
Member for Hunter

The number of workers not receiving their superannuation payments from employers is on the rise. The rip-off may amount to as much as \$6 billion annually which means some workers will be earning thousands of dollars less in retirement than they would have if properly paid. It's long been a point of frustration for me and affected employees alike. Under current laws, it's just too hard to pursue offending bosses. But the rise of the problem has given the issue more prominence. So much so that the major political parties now agree on methods for fixing the problem. They include allowing the Tax Commissioner, in cases where employers fail to comply with their superannuation guarantee obligations, to issue directions to pay unpaid superannuation guarantee. But sadly, the changes are part of a package of superannuation bills which contain other measures not acceptable to the Parliament. Amongst them is an amnesty for non-paying employers. The Government should carve-out the changes the parties agree on and leave the other fights for another day. Unpaid super is too important an issue to be left caught up in other fights. Given we all agree, let's fix it now.

The Singleton Local Government Area remains locked-out of the Federal Government's Drought Communities Grants Program. While we welcome the assistance in the Muswellbrook Shire, there is no argument that Singleton is not just as deserving. Meanwhile, the NSW Government recently announced funding to assist child-care centres in drought affected areas. I'm still chasing information about who is in and who is out, but I do know centres in Branxton and Greta are amongst those who have benefitted.

While I'm happy for the successful groups, how is it that the NSW Government believes groups further down the valley are worthy of drought support while the Federal Government says Singleton is not worthy? No wonder people are losing faith in politics!

Cheers, Joel



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News
P: 4938 1773

Cessnock named NSW Tidiest Town!

Cessnock has been named the 2018 NSW Tidiest Town in the iconic Keep Australia Beautiful NSW 2018 Sustainable Communities Awards and picked up another six awards.

The top award for NSW Tidiest Town recognises ongoing commitment to civic pride, community spirit, community partnerships as well as environmental achievements.

Tidy Town Assessor Doug MacDonald spent a day in Cessnock earlier in the year learning about the multiple sustainability and environmental initiatives by both community groups and Cessnock City Council.

The itinerary saw a stop off at the Cessnock Men's Shed, the Cessnock Regional Art Gallery and Cessnock City Council. Highlights of the visit included learning about the extensive community engagement with seniors, young people and the entire community. A presentation was also given on



Council's coordinated waste and recycling program and Council's Biodiversity Communication Engagement

More Waste Cessnock Biodiversity Communication Engagement Strategy, Habitat and

Strategy. The Strategy centres on the unique biodiversity of the Cessnock area and explains how the community can help care for it. Cessnock not only took out the major award but a number of other significant awards including: Cessnock Regional Art Gallery, Heritage and Cultural Award Yengo Galley Wollombi, Heritage and Cultural Award Cessnock Waste Management Centre Transfer Station, Waste Less Recycle Minimisation Award

Pharmacist Advice

Snake bites

It can be difficult to know if a bite from a snake is dangerous or not. This article explains the best first aid treatment depending on the type of snake involved. It's important to be aware that bites from snakes can cause a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) in some people. Learn more about first aid treatment for severe allergic reactions in the 'anaphylaxis' section below.

Snake bites

Australia has some 140 species of land snake, and around 32 species of sea snakes have been recorded in Australian waters.

About 100 Australian snakes are venomous, although only 12 are likely to inflict a wound that could kill you. These include Taipans, Brown snakes, Tiger snakes, Death Adders, Black snakes, Copperhead snakes, Rough Scaled snakes as well as some sea snakes.

Most snake bites happen when people try to kill or capture them. If you come across a snake, don't panic. Back away to a safe distance and let it move away. Snakes often want to escape when disturbed.

All snake bites must be treated as potentially life-threatening. If you are bitten by a snake, call triple zero (000) for an ambulance.

Different types of snake bites

Dry bites

A dry bite is when the snake strikes but no venom is released. Dry bites will be painful and may cause swelling and redness around the area of the snake bite. Because you can't tell if a snake's bite is a dry bite always assume that you have been injected with venom, and manage the bite as a medical emergency. Once medically assessed, there is usually no need for further treatment, such as with antivenoms. Many snake bites in Australia do not result in envenomation, and so they can be managed without antivenom.

Venomous bites

Venomous bites are when the snake bites and releases venom (poison) into a wound. Snake venom contains poisons which are designed to stun, numb, or kill other animals. Symptoms of a venomous bite include:

- severe pain around the bite, this might come on later
- swelling, bruising or bleeding from the bite
- bite marks on the skin (these might be obvious puncture wounds or almost invisible small scratches)
- swollen and tender glands in the armpit or groin of the limb that has been bitten
- tingling, stinging,



burning or abnormal feelings of the skin

- feeling anxious nausea (feeling sick) or vomiting (being sick)
- dizziness
- blurred vision, headache breathing difficulties
- problems swallowing stomach pain
- irregular heartbeat
- muscle weakness confusion
- blood oozing from the site or gums
- collapse
- paralysis, coma or death (in the most severe cases)

In Australia, there are approximately two deaths a year from venomous snake bites.

Snake identification

Identification of venomous snakes can be made from venom present on clothing or the skin using a so called 'venom detection' kit. For this reason do not wash or suck the bite or discard clothing. It's not recommended to kill the snake for purposes of identification, because medical services do not rely on visual identification of the snake species.

Antivenom is available for all venomous Australian snake bites.

First aid for snake bites

For all snake bites, provide emergency care including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) if needed. Call triple zero (000) for an ambulance. Apply a pressure immobilisation bandage and keep the person calm and as still as possible until medical help arrives. Avoid washing the bite area because any venom left on the skin can help identify the snake. DO NOT apply a tourniquet, cut the wound or attempt to suck the venom out.

Pressure immobilisation bandage

A pressure immobilisation bandage is recommended for anyone bitten by a venomous snake. This involves firmly bandaging the area of the body involved, such as the arm or leg, and keeping the person calm and still until medical help arrives.

Follow these steps to apply a pressure immobilisation bandage:

- First put a pressure bandage over the bite itself. It should be tight and you should not be able to easily slide a finger between the bandage and the skin.
- Then use a heavy crepe or elasticised roller bandage to immobilize the whole limb. Start just above the fingers or toes of the bitten limb, and move upwards on the limb as far as the body. Splint the limb including joints on either side of the bite.

Keep the person and the limb completely at rest. If possible, mark the site of the bite on the bandage with a pen. A guide to pressure immobilisation bandages can be found on the Australian Resuscitation Council website.

Anaphylactic shock

Snake bites can be painful. Occasionally some people have a severe allergic reaction to being bitten. In cases of severe allergic reaction, the whole body can react within minutes to the bite which can lead to anaphylactic shock. Anaphylactic shock is very serious and can be fatal. Symptoms of anaphylactic shock may include:

- difficult or noisy breathing
- difficulty talking and/or hoarse voice
- a swollen tongue
- persistent dizziness or collapse
- swelling or tightness in the throat
- pale and floppy (young children)
- wheeze or persistent cough

Call triple zero (000) for an ambulance. If the person has a 'personal action plan' to manage a known severe allergy, they may need assistance to follow their plan. This may include administering adrenaline to the person via an autoinjector (such as an EpiPen®) if one is available.

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Glazed Christmas ham with sweet and tangy barbecue sauce

For the perfect Christmas centrepiece try Curtis Stone's sweet and tangy glazed ham.

Ingredients

- 1 double-smoked ham leg (about 4.5kg)
- 1 cup golden syrup
- 1/4 cup tomato sauce (ketchup)
- 60g unsalted butter
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 2 garlic cloves, very finely chopped
- 1 teaspoon chilli flakes

Method

Step 1

Prepare a covered barbecue for indirect cooking. For a gas barbecue, heat one burner on medium-high and leave the other burner(s) off. For a charcoal barbecue, build a fire on one side of the charcoal grate, leaving the other side of the barbecue empty, and let burn just until the coals are covered with white ash. Do not spread out the coals.

Step 2

Line a large heavy rimmed baking tray with foil. Remove all the packaging from the ham. Run a sharp knife down the back of the ham and using your fingers, gently separate the skin from the fat. Run the knife over the fat to lightly score it all over. Place the ham on the tray and set the tray on the side of the barbecue that is off. Close the lid and leave to cook (the barbecue temperature should be about 190C) for 1 1/2 hours or until a meat thermometer inserted into the thickest part of the ham registers



42C.

Step 3

Meanwhile, in a medium heavy saucepan over medium heat, whisk the golden syrup, tomato sauce, butter, mustard, lemon juice, vinegar, Worcestershire sauce, garlic and chilli flakes until the butter melts and the mixture is well blended. Remove the glaze from the heat and set it aside.

Step 4

When the ham is warmed through, increase the barbecue temperature slightly (so the barbecue temperature reaches 200C). Using a pastry brush, brush some of the glaze all over the ham. Cook the ham, basting it about every 5 mins with the glaze, for a further 45 mins or until the thickest part of the ham registers 52C on the meat thermometer and the ham is evenly caramelised.

Step 5

Remove the ham from the barbecue and set it aside on a carving board for 10 mins to rest. Meanwhile, pour off the juices from the baking tray into a tall and narrow heatproof container and allow the fat to settle to the top. Skim off as much of the fat as possible. In a serving bowl, combine equal parts of the skimmed juices and remaining glaze.

Cessnock is now nominated in the national Tidy Town Awards which will be held in March 2019. As the 2018 Tidiest Town, Cessnock will also have the opportunity to show off the Cessnock Local Government Area as the host of the 2019 state awards.

• Photo above: Cessnock City Council's Environment and Waste Services Manager, Michael Alexander, Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent, Sustainability Officer Karinda Stone and Sustainability Officer Michelle Lindsay.

Branxton Uniting Church Centenary Celebration of the laying of the Church Foundation Stone in November 1918. The celebration was held last Sunday 19th November.

Out & About

with Mike Lowing



• At Left: the Foundation Stone laid by Mrs J A Tulloch in November 1918



• Above: the wonderful choir leading the hymns



• Above: (L-R) Clayton Barr MP, Singleton Mayor Sue Moore, Joel Fitzgibbon MP & Cessnock Mayor Bob Pynsent



• Above: Attendees helping celebrate the centenary



• Above: (L-R) John Tulloch & John Y Tulloch whose great step grandmother mother, Mrs J A Tulloch laid the foundation stone 100 years ago



Apprentice chef Jacob Hobbs wins 2018 Brett Graham Scholarship

Jacob Hobbs of Branxton is \$10,000 better off & has a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to fly to London and work alongside Graham at The Ledbury in London's Notting Hill, which is currently ranked in the World's 50 Best Restaurants list.

Jacob was awarded this year's \$10,000 Brett Graham Scholarship &, at only 17, is one of the youngest to receive the momentous award.

The three Brett Graham Scholarship finalists – Hobbs, alongside Kody Hutchinson and Ryan Jones, both from Bistro Molines – were selected from an initial group of nine apprentices. Each created, prepared and cooked a menu based on ingredients selected by Graham while also managing and directing a kitchen "support team" of apprentices. The individual courses were served to industry guests and the panel of expert judges.

TAFE NSW Commercial Cookery teacher and head judge Tracey Amos said the standard of dishes produced by this year's entrants was "exceptionally high", with all three finalists "showing a great understanding of the importance of using quality produce and creating subtle flavour combinations in their dishes".

Hunter Culinary Association Chairman Gus Maher said it was "the most competitive year yet, and the judges were very impressed with the high calibre of front-of-house applicants who all performed strongly".

Jacob grew up in Branxton, went to Branxton Public School and then finishing at Rutherford High School. He finished his schooling in year 10 after he was offered a chef apprenticeship and is currently working at Muse Restaurant in Pokolbin.

Congratulations.



• Above: The Centenary cake



• Above: Refreshments & fellowship after the service



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Does a worker have a right to “smoke breaks” in the workplace?

Over the years we have seen significant societal changes in terms of the regulation of cigarette smoking and there is often confusion as to a smoker’s rights within the workplace. Is it legal for an employee to have a “smoke break”? There are some key things to know:-

1. There is not specific entitlement for a worker to take a smoke break under the Fair Work Act 2009 (Cth). Some modern awards and enterprise agreements set out entitlements to meal and “rest” breaks however not smoke breaks.
2. It is not unlawful to discriminate against a smoker. Being a smoker or smoking is not named as a protected attribute in federal or state discrimination law.
3. An employer can dictate where and when an employee is allowed to smoke at work. There is not right to take smoke breaks and it is up to the employers how they manage this within the workplace.
4. Employers can make their workplaces “smoke free” if they choose to do so.
5. Employers can set workplace policies and procedures which cover things such as whether employees can take

smoke breaks, whether there are designated smoking or non-smoking areas, smoking in company property (i.e. company cars), OH&S hazards such as smoking around flammable substances and employee assistance programs for smoking addiction. Each case turns on its own facts however an employee can be dismissed for smoking at work and this was determined recently by a decision of *Bajada v Trend Windows and Doors Pty Limited [2018] FWC 5937*. In this case, the Fair Work Commission held that smoking at work can be a valid reason for dismissal in circumstances where an employee is aware of, but continued to wilfully breach, a workplace policy. Mr Bajada worked as a multi-skilled labourer for the employer for approximately 14 years. The employer’s smoking policy allowed for smoke breaks, but only during scheduled meal or rest breaks. Mr Bajada was given 5 warnings for breaching the employer’s smoking policy by taking unauthorised smoke breaks from 2014 to 2017. Mr Bajada’s response to the warnings was that he thought that he should be entitled to smoke when and where he

liked because smoking helped him relax when he found dealing with management stressful. In October 2017, the employer offered Mr Bajada leave so that he could seek support to deal with his addiction to smoking. On his first day back at work following this leave, Mr Bajada was caught smoking outside his scheduled break time again, after which Mr Bajada left work without authorisation. His employment was terminated a short time later for repeated breaches of the employer’s smoking policy and for leaving work without authorisation. The Commissioner found that the employer’s policy was clear and reasonable and that it had been more than patient in dealing with Mr Bajada’s “*breathhtaking disobedience*”. Despite Mr Bajada’s long period of service and otherwise sound work record, Commissioner Johns dismissed Mr Bajada’s unfair dismissal claim: “*It is often said that “smoking kills”, well on this occasion it killed Mr Bajada’s employment. And just as smoking is one of the largest causes of preventable death and illness in Australia, the devastating outcome for Mr Bajada was also preventable. All he had to do was comply with the policy. He could continue to smoke so long as he did it during identifiable breaks and in designated areas. He chose not to do so.*”

engage an appropriately experienced buyers’ agent to assist them in the delivery of that service. “Buyers’ agents are an integral part of the property services industry and provide invaluable and specialist knowledge to consumers. They level the playing field and offer independent representation for buyers, helping them to achieve their property goals. “Acknowledgement through this fact sheet on NSW Fair Trading’s website gives credence and recognition to this important profession.”

How does the real estate industry impact NSW?

Did you know, NSW real estate is a \$107 billion industry annually? It’s bigger than the mining industry (\$21 billion), the retail industry (\$22.8 billion) and tourism industry (\$38.1 billion). We know, impressive right? So now a little more about the impact of real estate on the NSW economy and how real estate professionals contribute to a stronger state.

Strategy to drive more food & wine visitors to the Hunter

More food and wine lovers across the globe are set to put the Hunter on their travel itinerary with the state Government launching its first NSW Food & Wine Tourism Strategy & Action Plan 2018-2022. Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald MLC said it was fantastic to have a food and wine



blueprint to help grow the sector in the Hunter.

“We’re excited by the release of this strategy and action plan which reinforces the Government’s commitment to working closely with industry and travel partners to make sure we continue to boost local economies, jobs and investment across our communities,” Mr MacDonald said.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events Adam Marshall said the strategy and action plan would help grow the vibrant food and wine industry, which currently contributes around \$9.2 billion annually to the NSW visitor economy, and offer visitors the best and most diverse food and wine tourism experiences.

“The Government will be rolling out 27 actions to support the sector through activities such as marketing, product development workshops and research to identify local opportunities, trends and gaps,” Mr Marshall said. “Ongoing collaboration between Government and industry will play a key role in achieving the objectives and I encourage the State’s food and wine operators to become familiar with this plan so we can all work together to ensure travellers continue to develop a real hunger and thirst for NSW.”

Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association Chair Lindy Hyam said the Hunter wine industry is the oldest continuing wine region in Australia and generates at least 2800 jobs in the region.

“Securing our future depends on marketing to new and existing customers and innovative product development building on our established and new and emerging food and wine brands. This Strategy and Action plan will promote achievement of this goal,” Ms Hyam said.

The strategy and action plan includes five key strategic pillars – Product Development, Industry Development, Event Development, Marketing & Public Relations, and Research & Insights.

To view the NSW Food & Wine Tourism Strategy & Action Plan 2018-2022, go to www.destinationnsw.com.au/foodandwine



Buyers’ agents recognised by NSW Fair Trading

Consumers looking to engage a buyers’ agent now have an REINSW Buyers’ Agent Chapter Committee-approved fact sheet to refer to. The fact sheet Using an agent to buy property is very similar to the updated fact sheet the Buyers’ Agent Chapter Committee worked on a year earlier, between July and September 2017. Rich Harvey, CEO and Founder at propertybuyer, says this is a big step towards recognising the important role buyers’ agents play in the property services industry. “It’s critical that consumers understand the difference between a buyers’ agent and a selling agent,” he says. “When looking to buy a property,

some consumers may think a selling agent is there to represent them, however, the selling agent’s client is, in fact, the vendor. “A buyers’ agent has complete loyalty to the buyer and is only paid on the buying side of the transaction. This fact sheet helps consumers understand the skills and motivations of a buyers’ agent.” Harvey also says the fact sheet helps consumers understand the scope of service to expect when engaging a buyers’ agent. “Consumers can now feel more confident in knowing what will be delivered and use this information to

There are approximately 37,703 real estate agents employed across NSW. A typical agent is a woman in her 30s, working full-time and earning around \$58,468 in a job she juggles with childcare and unpaid domestic duties.

Challenges of the NSW market

There are more than 3.05 million dwellings across NSW, including 2.024 million houses and 1.03 million units.

With the median sale price in Sydney sitting at \$985,000, it currently takes 12.1 years to save a deposit on a Sydney property (compared to 10.8 years for properties in Melbourne). It’s not surprising then that Sydney and NSW are the least affordable places to live in the country.

It doesn’t help that across Sydney only 306 suburbs have a median sale price is below \$1m and 118 suburbs have a median sale price above \$2 million.

In suburbs with a median sale price of \$1.5 million, \$68,000 in stamp duty tax goes to the Government per transaction. (This doesn’t include the extra ten per cent in GST).

Research from real estate group LJ Hooker identified the high cost of stamp duty played an important role in the lack of property listings, with just over a quarter of respondents stating the cost of buying a new home was too high due to stamp duty. To put the impact of this

tax into perspective, in the 2017–18 financial year, stamp duty contributed \$8.4 billion to the NSW economy across 220,313 transactions. To illustrate this further, in NSW alone, 51 per cent of renters indicated they want to buy an investment property first to support their dreams of home ownership in the country’s most unaffordable state.

Importance of the NSW property industry

The importance of the property industry – and its impact on NSW voters – is extensive, with 49 per cent of residents owning a property and 33 per cent renting. (12 per cent live at home and six per cent have other arrangements). This bolstered Real Estate Institute of NSW’s decision to resign from the Real Estate Reference Group. It also drove the Real Estate Institute of NSW’s call for a dedicated Property Services Commissioner that can accurately represent an industry that so significantly contributes to the NSW economy and community.

Stamp duty reforms are an insult, says REINSW

Reforms to Stamp Duty announced by the NSW Government is an insult to those people trying to

purchase a home in NSW.

The Treasurer’s statement last week (5 November) provides no genuine relief to home buyers, it’s nothing more than hype and bluster in the lead up to the election, according to Real Estate Institute of NSW.

REINSW CEO Tim McKibbin said the State Government’s intention to index Stamp Duty by reference to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) starting from 1 July 2019 without adjusting the tax brackets is a real sleight of hand.

“NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet has acknowledged that the stamp duty rates have not been amended since they were introduced in 1986 and then says that he is going to apply indexation (CPI) to the set of tax brackets that are 32 years out of date!” Mr McKibbin said

“In 1986 the Sydney median house price was \$93,576 and the median unit price was \$86,109. “At that time the overwhelming amount of property transactions did not attract the higher rates of tax. Now with the Sydney median house price at \$956,000 and the median unit price at \$730,000 the overwhelming amount of transactions do attract

the higher rates of tax.” Mr McKibbin said by sitting on their hands for 32 years successive Governments have unconscionably profited at the expense of the home buyers including the most vulnerable - first home buyers.

“The first tax bracket tops out at, \$14,000. I ask rhetorically when was the last time you heard of someone buying a house for \$14,000? Yes, indexing is good, and the Treasury says had it been introduced 15 years ago then it would be better now - I agree. In fact if it had of been done 32 years ago it would be even better and deliver a far more equitable outcome for the property consumer.” Mr McKibbin said if the Government is serious about Stamp Duty reform it must adjust the brackets to reflect today’s median house price and then index it from there.

“To do anything other than that is delivering reform without substance and is just disingenuous political grandstanding.

“The Government’s own published data sets out clearly the continuing decline in property transactions and consequential Stamp Duty revenue. The irony? There is empirical evidence demonstrating that a reduction in the rate of tax will drive more additional transactions and consequently more revenue for Government,” Mr McKibbin said.



Kurrajong Trails & Cottages

Total relaxation and Wollemi National Park as your backyard. That is just one of the things Kurrajong Trails and Cottages is the most famous for. Of course we offer a lot more!

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.

Activities - Scenic bush walking tracks | Canoeing | Swimming | Games Shed | Fishing | Bird Watching | 2kms away from Wheeny Creek |



Kurrajong Trails & Cottages

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Lee: 0418 668 571

Landline: (02) 4576 1417

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North Rothbury



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

This brick & Tile family home on a very large fully fenced block (885sm) features

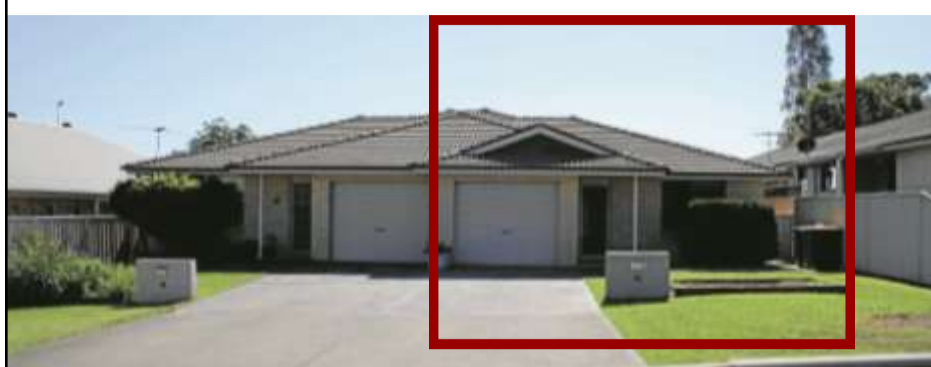
- * Spacious living area
- * New kitchen
- * Builtins in all bedrooms
- * New bathroom
- * Reverse cycle split air conditioning
- * Large single lock-up garage
- * Set on 885sm fully fenced block with magnificent views to the north



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ASKING \$417,000

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Three bedroom Duplex with large backyard

Immaculate Duplex with 3 large bedrooms all with built-ins. Other features include large open plan living area opening onto under-cover entertainment area, large double lock-up garage, in quite area. New carpet & blinds.

NORTH ROTHBURY



Totally renovated cottage

Tasteful & smart describe this fully renovated large family home. Generous sized bedrooms, open plan living, gorgeous kitchen & beautiful bathroom, high ceilings & polished floorboards. Large verandah at rear to catch the great views to the Brokenback ranges. French doors & scattered leadlight windows add to its charm. All this on a 809 square metre fully fenced block.

ASKING \$495,000

BRANXTON

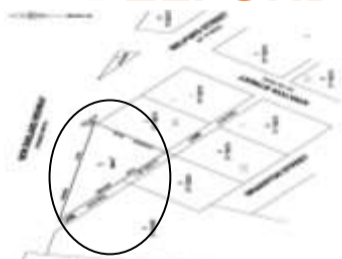


Beautiful older home

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

PRICE: All reasonable offers considered

BELFORD



Vacant Land 2559m²

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ASKING \$160,000 ONO

NORTH ROTHBURY

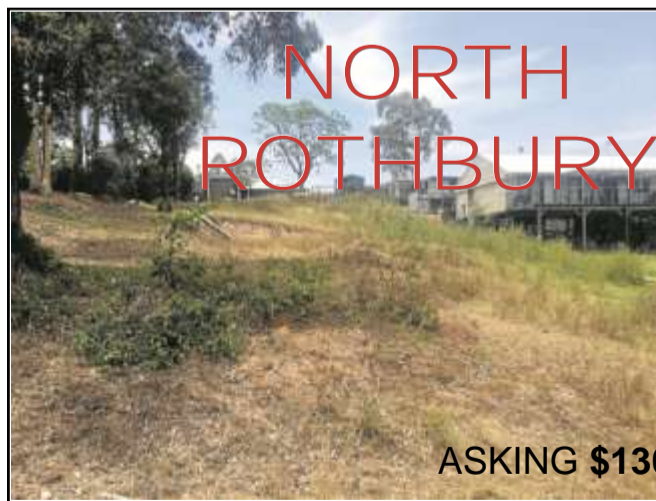


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ASKING: \$420,000 each

NORTH ROTHBURY



Vacant Land 809m²

Vacant Building Block
Fantastic visage

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SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

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School News



Branxton Public School

Classes are rehearsing their performance pieces for our Carols by Torchlight to be held on Thursday 6th December. The P&C have been busy organising everything else so that our families and the wider community can enjoy a lovely evening together.

Thank you to the parents who came along to the information sessions on our school's

performance in NAPLAN presented by Mrs Ballenden and Mrs Quilty. Our school is showing good positive growth, with our results in Numeracy reflecting the hard work of our staff in their TENS Training, work with I Can statements and rich tasks with Marcus from CHOOSE Maths. We are particularly proud of the value added results for students from Year 3 to Year 5 which have been identified as excellent!



Well done to ALL students who presented a leadership speech in Week 5. You all demonstrated our school expectations of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best. A further congratulations to Jorja, Alana, Oscar, Joel, Arianne, Jasmine, Ian, Pat, Tia & Danyelle who have been chosen by the Year 5 students and teachers to present their speeches to the whole school in Week 6. We will find out the results on Presentation Day. Good luck.

Project Rokit <https://www.projectrokit.com.au/> are coming to speak with our older students and parents in Week 6. The parent session will be on Wednesday, November 21st 6pm - 7:30pm and is an opportunity for the broader school community to come together and learn from our team of expert presenters about the strengths and challenges of navigating the online world as a young person. Our wonderful P&C are holding a Spring Working Bee on Sunday 25th November to establish a new vegetable garden and refresh the existing one. They will also be having their annual Bunnings BBQ fundraiser at Maitland Bunnings on Saturday 8th December. Keep an eye on Facebook and newsletters for further details on each of these events and how you can help.

Dates for the Calendar

- Friday 23rd November – 3rd Kinder Orientation visit
- Sunday 25th November – P&C's Spring working bee 8am-11am.
- Thursday 6th December – P&C's Carols by Torchlight
- Saturday 8th December – P&C Bunnings BBQ
- Tuesday 11th December – Presentation Day at Community Hall
- Wednesday 12th December – Year 6 Dinner
- Thursday 13th December – Sport Assembly
- Wednesday 19th December – last day for students.

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



Our PBL Assembly was in Week 5 with many more students completing their 2nd Principal's passport and receiving their purple Power Pup badge – how exciting! Students participated in rewards in the afternoon which included a disco, robotics, art and craft, sport and quiet games in the library. There was something for everyone and smiles all round! Year 6 held their Spiders and Ice Cream fundraiser last week with many happy customers. They raised almost \$630 towards their end of year gift. Well done!

WANTED

Croquet players wanted to join friendly, established club at 8 John Rose Avenue, Branxton. Come and try for free, no experience or equipment needed. You'll have lots of fun! Phone Carole on

0249387234

or call at grounds between 9am and 12am on Tuesday or Saturday.

School News



Kirkton Public School

Market Day & Colour Run

We thank everyone for their support of our Market Day and Colour Run. It takes a lot of effort to coordinate an event, especially for the first time. Thank you to those who invested countless hours in the preparation of prizes, resources, stock and interest rallying. Your help was noticed and appreciated!



We had great music and some fantastic market stalls with great quality products. It was fantastic to see so many people (although many were hard to recognise after the colour run.) Congratulations to our lucky raffle winners. Thank you Sabastien who raised the most individual amount of money (\$200) towards our school raffle - great effort.



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Friday 23rd November

Hummdinger

Friday 30th November

Marriah



Greta Workers
Every Wed & Sun



The Oaks Restaurant



At Greta Workers
Open Lunch & Dinner
Wednesday to Sunday



HAPPY HOUR

Thursdays 4pm—6pm

Fridays & Sundays

Xmas Ham Raffles

Commencing

18th November



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6 Maitland Street East Branxton Ph 49381226

Simply D'Vine



At Miller Park

LUNCH 12PM—2PM

DINNER 6PM—9PM

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Wed 4pm-7pm
Fri 6pm—12am
Sun 11am-2pm &
4.30pm—8.30pm



Every Thurs & Sun



Wednesdays

4pm—6pm



Raffles

Fridays & Sundays

Hams commencing 18th Nov





Reviewed by: Lloyd Sederer
If you think the age of the Knight of the Round Table is over, not to worry. He lives on. Jack Reacher is a wanderer whose meanderings follow no predictable itinerary, a man who moves on, as a rule, from day to day. Unless he pauses because there is a wrong to be righted, justice to be served, or that his working rule ("if you leave me alone, I'll leave you alone.") is violated. He is seeing the America he never did as a military child stationed around the world, at West Point, or when he was Army active duty until he mustered out after 13 years.

Reacher, not Jack, no middle name, is how he calls himself, as even his mother did when he was a boy. While he moves around alone he is not a loner. He finds interesting company, transiently, along the way, adding to the texture of each book. His best co-travelers on any adventure are able women and old-timers. Women may be the superior gender in his mind, not just mentally but physically as well.

Reacher likes women, and they can find his unruly appearance and life attractive, as well as is his remarkable capacity to observe, deduce and problem solve. Some of his better angels call him "Sherlock Homeless." Reacher is almost unique among male, fictional heroes. He doesn't drink alcohol (to any excess) and does not smoke, though he loves coffee, lots of it. He is not a lost soul, but rather a soul on an American pilgrimage. He has no car or motorcycle, and carries no luggage (except for a fold up toothbrush in his pocket). He hitchhikes, uses buses and trains, and

once in a while has to take a plane. He likes to walk. He doesn't have a lot to carry. He is an imposing creature: six foot, five inches and 250 pounds of muscle. He is a lethal weapon if he needs to be, without any armaments. Reacher is like a land mine you don't want to step on. He speaks French (his mother was a French resistance fighter), has an encyclopedic mind and can calculate about anything in his head, with no calculator, including having an unerringly accurate mind clock ticking that tells him the time. He is a former Army Major who had been Commanding Officer of an elite unit of Military Police, cops who had to police military law with soldiers trained to kill—and who were called on when classified troubles of the military erupted. *Past Tense* is the 23rd Reacher novel; the first 22 were all on the *New York Times* bestseller list (13 were #1). Lee Child's new novel is more measured—cerebral—in its exposition, which allows for the suspense to more methodically reach its boiling point. There are still the signature explosive fights and confrontations that Reacher fans love, and he continues to dispatch those that dare perturb him or don't treat others right, no matter how tipped against him the odds may be. By happenstance, as is usually his case, Reacher finds himself near Laconia, NH, where his Marine father was raised. He decides to take a look back which quickly proves

disquieting and leads to past and present troubles. A local, female police detective becomes his ally once the trouble starts, though she wishes it would never have come to her quiet town. Reacher is an irresistible force, so expect sparks on both the relationship and righting wrong fronts. Some will be familiar with Reacher from the two hit films, *Jack Reacher* (from the novel *One Shot*) and *Jack Reacher: Never Go Back*, both hugely fast paced, good versus bad tales. Controversy brews as to whether Tom Cruise, who optioned the Lee Child books and cast himself as the lead, is a credible Reacher. You can decide. Keep an eye out for Mr. Child's brief, uniformed, cameos, like Hitchcock did. A reader's heart often sinks when there are but 100 or so pages to the finish of a Reacher book. That's because we don't want Mr. Child's storytelling to end, however much one wants the suspense to be resolved. For the record, these books are not "guy" stories: turns out, well over half of his readers are women. The walls of two deadly and one family plot converge in the closing chapters of *Past Tense*. What has been said about being a "page-turner," the crescendo that propels a reader forward certainly applies here. When Reacher steps into the fray, he does not like to lose, though the path to closure is always novel in all these books. We are

left knowing that his family heritage remains true—how the acorn does not fall far from the tree.
Lloyd Sederer is a staff reviewer at New York Journal of Books.

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The New York Times Best Sellers

Combined Print & E-Book Fiction (25 Nov 2018)

1. New this week **PAST TENSE** by Lee Child
Jack Reacher explores the New England town where his father was born and a Canadian couple now find themselves stranded.
2. New this week **NINE PERFECT STRANGERS** by Liane Moriarty
A romance writer becomes fascinated by the owner and director of a health resort.
3. 3 weeks on the list **THE RECKONING** by John Grisham
A decorated World War II veteran shoots and kills a pastor inside a Mississippi church.
4. 2 weeks on the list **DARK SACRED NIGHT** by Michael Connelly
Detective Renée Ballard teams up with the retired detective Harry Bosch, who is working on a cold case.
5. 4 weeks on the list **EVERY BREATH** by Nicholas Sparks
Difficult choices surface when Hope Anderson and Tru Walls meet in a North Carolina seaside town.
6. New this week **SEA OF GREED** by Clive Cussler and Graham Brown
The 16th book in the NUMA Files series.
7. 2 weeks on the list **ELEVATION** by Stephen King
A man who is losing weight without getting thinner forms an unlikely alliance with his neighbors who are dealing with prejudices.
8. New this week **LEOPARD'S RUN** by Christine Feehan
A leopard shifter sniffs out the new barista working in his sister-in-law's bakery.
9. New this week **YOU DON'T OWN ME** by Mary Higgins Clark and Alafair Burke
A television producer investigates the murder of a physician and whether it was his wife who killed him.
10. New this week **HEADS YOU WIN** by Jeffrey Archer
When his father is assassinated by the K.G.B., Alexander Karpenko makes an irreversible choice based on a coin toss



ABOUT
James D. "Jim" Grant (born 29 October 1954), primarily known by his pen name **Lee Child**, is a British author who writes thriller novels, and is best known for his *Jack Reacher* novel series. The books follow the adventures of a former American military policeman, Jack Reacher, who wanders the United States. His first novel, *Killing Floor*, won both the Anthony Award, and the Barry Award for Best First Novel.
Early life
Jim Grant was born in Coventry, England. His father was a civil servant. He is the second of four sons;^[7] his younger brother, Andrew Grant, is also a thriller novelist. Grant's family relocated to Handsworth Wood in Birmingham when he was four years old so that the boys could receive a better education. Grant attended Cherry Orchard Primary School in Handsworth Wood until the age of 11. He attended King Edward's School, Birmingham.
In 1974, at age 20, Grant studied law^[10] at University of Sheffield, though he had no intention of entering the legal profession and, during his student days, worked backstage in a theatre. After graduating, he worked in commercial television. He received a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) Degree from the University of Sheffield in 1977 and returned to the University to receive an Honorary Doctor of Letters (D.Litt) in 2009.
Personal life ~ Grant married his wife Jane in 1975 & they reside in her native New York. They have a daughter. Grant is a fan of Aston Villa Football Club and has been known to include the names of Aston Villa

players in his books. In 2013, the *Daily Mail* quoted him saying that he writes while intoxicated ("high") by cannabis and that he has smoked the recreational drug five nights a week for 44 years. However, in a phone interview in November 2013, he clarified his comments to the *Irish Examiner*, saying he's never written while high. "Yeah, that's true," Child told *The Post-Standard*. "I mean, people say to me, 'There was that story in the newspaper,' and I say, 'No, that's *The Daily Mail*.' In Britain, that's not a newspaper, you know, that's a scandal sheet where they make stuff up. It's not very reliable. And certainly I don't deny smoking the occasional joint, but I don't work when I'm stoned because you don't get much done that way."

Writing career ~ After being made redundant from his job due to corporate restructuring, Grant decided to start writing novels, stating they are "the purest form of entertainment." In 1997, his first novel, *Killing Floor*, was published, and he moved to the United States in the summer of 1998. Grant starts each new installment of his book series on the anniversary day he began writing the first book in the wake of a job loss. His pen name "Lee" comes from a family joke about a heard mispronunciation of the name of Renault's Le Car, as 'Lee Car'. Calling anything 'Lee' became a family gag. His daughter, Ruth, was 'lee child'. Happily for Grant, 'Child' places his books alphabetically on bookstore and library shelves between crime fiction greats Raymond Chandler and Agatha Christie. Grant has said that he chose the name Reacher for the central character in his novels because he himself is tall and when they were grocery shopping his wife Jane remarked: "'Hey, if this writing thing doesn't pan out, you could always be a reacher in a supermarket.' ... 'I thought, Reacher — good name.'" Some books in the Reacher series are written in first person, while others are written in the third person. Grant has characterised the books as revenge stories – "Somebody does a very bad thing, and Reacher takes revenge" – driven by his anger at the downsizing at Granada. Although English, he deliberately chose to write American-style thrillers. In 2007, Grant collaborated with 14 other writers to create the 17-part serial thriller *The Chopin Manuscript*, narrated by Alfred Molina. This was broadcast weekly on Audible.com between 25 September 2007 and 13 November 2007. On 30 June 2008, it was announced that Grant would be taking up a Visiting Professorship at the University of Sheffield from November 2008. In 2009, Grant funded 52 Jack Reacher scholarships for students at the university. Grant was elected president of the Mystery Writers of America in 2009.

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



COMING EVENTS....

Beef Basics - Tocal

When ~ 28th Nov 2018 9:00am-3:30pm

Where ~ Tocal Dairy Training Centre, 815 Tocal Rd, Tocal

Contact ~ Dr Kylie Greentree (02) 4930 1030

Details

An introduction to beef production for new producers.

Hunter Local Land Services District vets and our agricultural extension team will be joined by stock agents from Bowe and Lidbury for practical livestock handling demonstrations and discussions covering topics including:

- Livestock markets and enterprise options
- Pastures basics, fodder budgeting and suitable stocking rates
- Livestock health, common diseases and good biosecurity practices
- Livestock vaccination and worm control
- Landholder regulatory compliance and protecting the beef industry
- Protecting your health from zoonotic diseases
- Common equipment used in beef production

Morning tea and lunch provided - numbers are limited.

Direct Seeding Solutions Field Day - Martindale

When ~ 25th Nov 2018 9:30am-2:30pm

Where ~ Martindale Hall, followed by a field trip to Springdale Farm for direct seeding demonstration (Transportation to Springdale farm is provided)

Martindale

Details ~ Direct Seeding Solutions for Your Farm - Getting More for Less

Learn how direct seeding of native feed and fodder species, fencing and appropriate grazing management can create a landscape of abundance and enhance the natural and financial values of your property.

Salt bush, Wattles, native grasses - these plants not only cope best with tough soil and climatic conditions, they provide highly palatable feed for your farm animals.

Book your place now in this free workshop to learn how to grow and manage native feed species on your farm!

Supported by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust Spaces are limited. To find out more about the workshop and to reserve your place, please contact: Ashley Bacales - NRM Project Coordinator Hunter Joint Organisation P: (02) 4978 4028 E: ashleyb@huntercouncils.com.au W: www.hccrems.com.au

Moving stock

Australia is a world leader in disease control and traceability of stock consigned for human consumption. To maintain this status, stock activity needs to be monitored.

All movement of stock must be accompanied by the appropriate form of documentation and meet the necessary National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS) requirements to ensure stock activity can be monitored and to assist in the tracing of disease. Owners will also require a Property Identification Code before trading or moving cattle, sheep, goats or pigs in NSW.

What you need to do before moving stock

Your Local Land Services office can tell you what the requirements are for moving stock and can help you obtain the correct paperwork for your type of stock movement. Forms that may be required for the movement of stock include Transported Stock Statements (TSS), National Vendor Declarations (NVD), Animal Health Statements and stock permits.

National Livestock Identification System database

The NLIS database must be updated for any movement, agistment or sale of sheep, goats and cattle. This is generally the responsibility of the purchaser/receiver.

For detailed information on these procedures call the NLIS hotline on 1800 654 743 (1800 NLIS ID) or visit the DPI website.

Racing review

Godolphin Bred Wins Top Jumping Prize

by Tara Madgwick

Last week Sheikh Mohammed and his Godolphin team were

celebrating the joy of having bred and owned their first Melbourne Cup winner in Cross Counter, but he wasn't the only Darley home bred doing amazing things.

Falklands and Victoria Hoy - courtesy Horse Deals Gallery

At the 2018 Australian National Showjumping Championships at Boneo Park in Victoria last week, Victoria Hoy had a great show competing on her 10 year-old Viscount gelding Falklands.

Contesting the highly competitive junior riders division, Victoria and Falklands finished tenth overall in the championship class of that event which was enough to give them overall honours as most successful off the track thoroughbred at the show.

A talented racehorse, Falklands won six of 40 starts and placed a further 13 times earning over \$200,000 in prizemoney, but was not

raced by Godolphin as he was sold by Darley as a weanling for \$4,500.

His trainer Marc Quinn bought him for \$9,000 at the Inglis Scone Yearling Sale and what a good purchase he turned out to be! Falklands had his last race in November 2014 and is one of those genuinely useful thoroughbreds that can turn his hand to anything. Racing Victoria Off the Track Awards – Most successful OTT jumpers at Australian National Championships.

1st - Falklands (Falklands – 2008 Viscount x Mystikos) and Victoria Hoy

2nd - Al Nemo (Al Nemo – 2008 Al Maher x Group) and Samuel Robertson

3rd - Harbarty (Harbarty – 1998 Quest for Fame x Nogara Princess) and Kane Johnson.



Falklands and Victoria Hoy - courtesy Horse Deals Gallery

Detailed saleyard report



Saleyard report - cattle

Detailed Cattle report for Scone

Last reported 13th November 2018

Quality was very mixed and the numbers remained similar, with the younger cattle well supplied. Calf numbers were reduced, as butchers competed for the better end. There were approximately 135 cows in the penning and overall the market trend was dearer. The vealer steers returning to the paddock increased 5c, making from 224c to 292c/kg. The same weight heifer portion defied the dearer trends and eased by 4c, with prices ranging from 202c to 258c/kg.

Competition was solid for the yearlings, with the steers to the restockers and feeder orders gaining 8c and receiving from 238c to 308c/kg. The yearling heifers to feed improved 10c, making from 230c to 266c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers remained firm, with the best making 323c/kg. Grown steers were mainly suitable for the lot feeders and these returned from 256c to 288c/kg. The best older heifer to slaughter reached 254c/kg. Increased restocker demand helped improve the cow prices by 6c to 10c, with the plainer 1 and 2 scores ranging from 174c to 220c/kg. The better covered heavy weights to the processors ranged from 224c to 230c, with the best heavy weight bull receiving 252c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for Singleton

Last reported 14th November 2018

Quality on average improved, with greater percentages in the market carrying extra fat cover compared to recent markets. Numbers increased by 60%, with the majority entering the younger categories. Cows tripled in number and the usual buyers competed in a generally dearer market. The over 200kg vealer steers returning to the paddock gained 5c, making from 260c to 312c/kg. The equivalent weighted heifer portion also to the restockers eased 7c to make from 204c to 256c/kg. The yearlings sold to stronger competition, as the steers trended 7c dearer, receiving from 250c to 312c/kg, with the higher price paid from the restocker orders. The heifer portion to the restocker and feeder orders improved 4c, making from 196c to 276c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers remained close to firm, with a very high yielding and well muscled vealer heifer topping at 374c/kg. The bulk of the older steers sold to the lot feeders and received from 220c to 276c/kg. The plainer cows lifted 11c/kg, as the better covered pens to the processors maintained firm prices. The 1 and 2 fat scores sold from 136c to 212c, with the better covered heavy weights making from 220c to 230c/kg. The best heavy weight bull reached 210c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for TRLX Tamworth

Last reported 12th November 2018

There was a further reduction in supply. Yearlings were again well represented, alongside increased numbers of heavy grown cattle and a fair supply of cows. The quality of the offering was fair to good, with condition variable. The usual buyers attended, with demand for well finished grown steers and heifers increasing from processors. Heavy feeder steers were also keenly sought. There was an increased supply of young calves penned, that attracted keen restocker competition to sell to dearer trends. Breed contributed to price improvements in the light weight yearling steers to restock. However, the trend was firm to slightly cheaper on the better quality lots. Medium and heavy feeder steers sold on a firm market trend, with an odd dearer sale in the heavy weights. Breed was again a factor in some price change. Light weight yearling heifers to restockers followed a similar trend to that of the light weight steers. Medium weight yearling heifers to feed sold on a firm to dearer trend, with increased supplies and improved quality and conditioned lots. The increased supply of heavy grown steers brought about some quality change, while increased demand saw the market trend firm to slightly dearer. Well finished grown heifers also attracted keen demand from processors to sell to a dearer trend, up 9c/kg in places. Apart from a few cows purchased by restockers the cow market saw cheaper trends. The change was not great, except where quality was a factor. There was a single pen of high yielding heavy weights attracting a higher price than the top seen last week.

Detailed Cattle report for Gunnedah

Last reported 13th November 2018

Following less than expected rainfall during the week, numbers increased. The yarding was highlighted by the numbers of plain condition and secondary quality cattle penned, with quite a few drawn from Western areas. Well finished cattle were in limited supply, while there were some lines of out of condition well-bred young cattle. The usual processors were in attendance and there was increased restocker and feedlot competition. Both restocker and feedlot demand increased and resulted in dearer trends through the young cattle. The plainer quality young cattle experienced the greatest improvements, while there was some quality improvement in the better C muscle lots. Light weight yearling steers were dearer by 11c to 17c/kg. Good quality medium and heavy weight feeder steers sold to a dearer trend of 2c to 4c/kg and more in places taking breed into account. Light weight yearling heifers to restockers sold firm to 12c/kg dearer, with the plainer cattle again showing the better improvement. Limited supplies of medium and heavy weight yearling heifers experienced little but quality related price change. Small numbers of well finished heavy grown steers were well received by processors selling close to firm. The well finished grown heifers saw little change in market trends. Quite a few plainer quality and condition grown heifers attracted strong demand from both restockers and feedlotters to show a market improvement in price. There was little change in the market trend for plain condition cows. Some of the higher yielding lots attracted increased prices. The well finished heavy weight cows sold to a dearer trend of as much as 16c/kg, however there was also an improvement in the quality of those high priced lots.

Not always on the first Tuesday by Brian Russell

Tradition has it that the nation stops every year at mid afternoon on the first Tuesday in November to cheer the horses contesting the world's most prestigious staying race, a handicap over 3200m at Flemington in Melbourne. A race launched back in 1861, it saw the first thirteen Cups bar one held on a Thursday, the exception being the 1863 edition on Friday November 20. It was switched to Tuesday in 1875 and has been held on that day ever since with the exception of World War 11 years 1942, 1943 and 1944. Racing was restricted to Saturdays in those years.

Japanese import another Newcastle syndicate star

by Brian Russell

His win in the \$1million Group1 Manikato (1200m) at the evening meeting at Moonee Valley on the eve of this year's Cox Plate program, has confirmed that the Darren Weir trained, Hugh Bowman ridden Australian Bloodstock, Newcastle syndicated Japan bred 6-year-old stallion *Brave Smash* is one of the best of the current Australian sprinters.



Brave Smash

click's



Windows 10

Windows 10 review ~ October 2018 Update makes for the most useful Windows yet

The Verdict
With the April 2018 Update, Windows 10 is more useful and secure than ever, introducing features that could genuinely save you time and frustration as well as focus on work. Of course, there's always room for improvement, but Windows 10 is better than it has ever been and continues to evolve.

- Start menu improvements
- Action Centre, Cortana are useful
- Edge continues to improve
- Windows Hello faster, easier
- *Timeline genuinely useful*
- *Against*
- OneDrive needs work
- Improvements also cause issues

Some changes are incomplete. In the past a new version of Windows would arrive about as often as the US elected presidents. It was exciting to see updates because of how slowly they'd roll out. However, everything changed with Windows 10, and the shift in strategy worked – there are now more than 700 million Windows 10 users as of March 2018. Ever since Windows 10 hit the streets, it's grown into Microsoft's sole operating system (OS), constantly evolving with new features and supported form factors. The most recent of these evolutions is the October 2018 Update, which makes the operating system better than ever before. Not only does this major

update introduce Dark Mode in File Explorer and a more robust 'Your Phone' app, but we're also getting some much-improved screenshot tools.

These days, Windows 10 PCs and devices are easier to use than ever before, thanks to alternative modes like Windows 10 S Mode. If Windows 10 S doesn't go far enough in terms of security, you're in luck – word on the street is that Microsoft is working on a Windows 10 Lean Mode, which will lock down the OS even more. It's thanks to Windows 10 updates, revisions and spin-offs that this OS continues to move with the times, with features and support that go way further than what you may expect from a traditional PC. And now that Windows 10 on ARM is a thing, we could see more of these low power modes that have Windows 10 adapting to the hardware it runs on. We've also heard some rumors that suggest that Microsoft is busy working on a super-secure, 'next-generation' OS, that could be completely modular.

If you're on the market for a new OS, Microsoft Windows 10 will set you back \$139 (£119, AU\$199) for Windows 10 Home, while Pro will set you back \$199 (£219, AU\$339). However, you should be able to find downloads of Windows 10 Home for just \$99 in the US. Plus, Black Friday is right around the corner, and you should be able to get a pretty massive discount on top of all the PC components deals out there. After first diving deeper into

the major beats of the Windows 10 October 2018 Update, let's determine for you whether a copy of the OS is worth the price.

Windows 10 October 2018 Update

The Windows 10 October 2018 Update is finally here, and while there are definitely some October Update problems out there – which can even lead to data loss – there are still some brand new Windows 10 features that make the OS better than ever. Let's break down the most important features and updates of the Windows 10 October 2018 Update.

Cloud Clipboard and Clipboard History

If you're anything like us, you have to copy and paste about a million things a day. And, luckily, Microsoft is making that easier for everyone. With the October Update, you'll have access to a Clipboard History that'll keep track of everything you've copied. By hitting Win + V, you can quickly access different things you've copied, which can save a ton of time. But, that's not the only Clipboard feature in the Windows 10 October 2018 Update. We've also got the Cloud Clipboard, which will sync your Clipboard across different devices. This means you can save time, even when you're using multiple Windows 10 devices.

Your Phone App
With the Windows 10 October 2018 Update, there is way more compatibility with your phone – as long as you're an Android user. Natively within Windows 10, you can now add photos from your phone, respond to

messages and so much more. Finally, Windows 10 and Android users have access to some of the cross-platform capabilities that the Apple ecosystem boasts with macOS Mojave and iOS 12. **Snip & Sketch** Microsoft has killed the Snipping Tool that we all know and love in the October 2018 Update, replacing it with Snip & Sketch – which is much better. Instead of having to open a program, hitting Ctrl+N and dragging a square over what you want to capture, you can just hit Win + Shift + S to immediately jump into a partial screenshot. You can use a traditional box, circle or even draw a custom shape. Your screenshot will immediately go to your clipboard, too, saving a ton of time. It's a huge improvement, and an example of Windows 10 adopting some of macOS' best features.

Storage Sense
One of the biggest problems with Windows 10, or any modern desktop OS for that matter, is the sheer amount of clutter that can build up on your hard drive over time. Luckily, the Windows 10 October 2018 Update has a fix – Storage Sense. This awesome new technology will automatically archive old, unused files in the cloud, while getting rid of local files. This is a great middle ground between archival and free disk space, as you still have access to all the files that have been uploaded to the cloud.

Windows 10 News App
One of the headline features of macOS Mojave was the iOS News app getting ported over to the desktop, and Microsoft has followed suit with a revamped Windows 10 News app. This handy little news aggregator will collect all your news in one curated location, that you can customize however you want. The bonus? It looks amazing.

Dark Mode in File Explorer
Windows 10 has had a Dark Mode for years now, but for some reason File Explorer was stuck with its all-white colour scheme. Luckily, the Windows 10 October 2018 Update is here to save our eyes. Dark Mode has finally been implemented for File Explorer, and it looks great – especially if you've had Dark Mode enabled this whole time like we have.

my documents, pictures, music, videos are gone." Perhaps the worst part about all this is it turns out Windows Insiders had been warning Microsoft about this for months. Unfortunately, the reports were either lost or ignored. Something which has prompted even the most ardent Microsoft fans to attack the company. As it stands, there is no information on how or why the data loss occurred and Microsoft has not provided any timescale as to when the 1809 rollout will resume. Windows 10 users have long demanded Microsoft give them greater control over updates, and this is just the latest in a string of incidents. Notably, in January Windows 10 updates turned PCs with AMD hardware into an "unbootable state", while a major April update was pulled after reports it was causing the dreaded Blue Screen of Death (BSOD). That said it is the automated and permanent deletion of user data which is, without doubt, the number one nightmare scenario of any user on any platform. If you weren't already, now would be a very good time to invest in an external backup drive and make sure you set it to sync at least once a day...

category that retards open discussion. There is a weight of guilt associated with any sex-related "sin" and, for adolescents with a belief in the truth and legitimacy of their religion, a violation of a sacred rule can be a source of torment. Rates

4/5

MOVIE REVIEW

Boy Erased

AACTA Awards 2018 (Australian Academy Cinema Television Arts) ~ Congratulations to Boy Erased for being nominated in the AACTA Awards for 2018
Why does this movie have an Australian Flag next to it?

Directed by NSW born and Golden Globe nominee, Joel Edgerton, with Oscar and Golden Globe winning actress and actor Nicole Kidman and Russell Crowe, Boy Erased showcases big Aussie stars on the BIG screen! Joel is better known for starring in The Gift (2015) and The Great Gatsby (2013) where he played Tom Buchanan. Russell plays the Baptist preacher in Boy Erased and is well known for his outbreak leading role performance in Gladiator (2000) and starring in Les Miserables (2012). Nicole, one of Hollywood's most elegant and top Australian talent plays Russell Crowe character's wife, and is best known for her role in Moulin Rouge! (2002) and her role in American TV series Big Little Lies (2017-2018).

Director	Joel Edgerton
Main Cast	Nicole Kidman, Joel Edgerton, Xavier Dolan, Russell Crowe, Joe Alwyn, Lucas Hedges, Troye Sivan
Genre	Biography, Drama
Running Time	115 MIN
Release Date	08 Nov 2018



Conversion Therapy." It sounds benign, perhaps even welcoming. The truth, as exposed in the articles and memoirs written by Garrard Conley, is far different. The intention of this process, which has been vociferously denounced by nearly every respected psychologist and psychiatrist as being ineffective and damaging, is to "convert" someone with homosexual or bisexual tendencies into a heterosexual. Most often perpetrated on underage children, conversion therapy applies techniques that verge on what one might expect from an "enhanced interrogation," including physical and mental abuse. By rejecting a simple black-and-white view of the motivations behind conversion therapy (if not necessarily the process itself), *Boy Erased* offers the dramatically compelling story of one man who accepts the emotional scars and emerges from the other side stronger and more self-assured (both in terms of accepting his sexuality and as a person). Jared Eamons (Lucas Hedges) is the son of Arkansas Baptist preacher Marshall Eamons (Russell Crowe) and his devout, devoted wife, Nancy (Nicole Kidman). Throughout high school, he believes himself to be an "ordinary" heterosexual and attributes his reluctance to engage in sexual activity with his girlfriend, Chloe (Madelyn Cline), as a desire to remain chaste. Two events in college involving fellow male students – one

consensual and one non-consensual – change his perspective. When he admits to his parents that he may be gay, his father consults church elders and the decision is made to enroll Jared in a day clinic for conversion therapy. At first, unaware of what this entails, Jared is on-board with it and his initial impressions of the place and the man who runs it, Victor Sykes (Joel Edgerton), are positive. Over time, however, he becomes disturbed and frightened by the methods used to achieve this conversion and, when physical intimidation is mixed with psychological bullying, he enlists his mother's help in "escaping."

Like this year's *The Miseducation of Cameron Post*, *Boy Erased* shines a light on a practice that has been aggressive and ongoing for decades. Conversion Therapy was more widely used in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s than it is today but it is by no means a defunct industry. Laws have made it more difficult to kidnap and detain individuals against their will (even minors) but many participants are desirous of the process because the homophobia of some fundamentalist religions have made them fearful of the consequences of being gay. *Boy Erased* offers a perceptible treatment of religious (in this case, Southern White Baptist) attitudes toward sexuality, showing how all aspects, not just sexual orientation, are placed into a "taboo"

of suicide are higher among deeply religious young homosexuals than in the general population because of the difficulty of reconciling innate feelings and inclinations with something they are told is sinful and despised by God.

The absurdity of Conversion Therapy is illustrated in its central tenet: choice.

According to what Jared is taught, being gay is a "choice," not unlike being a football player. One isn't born a football player – one chooses to become one. It's the same thing, Sykes argues, with homosexuality, although he is willing to admit that heredity may play a part. He believes that if one's parents and grandparents frequently committed certain sins, it might result in an environment conducive to the choice of homosexuality. One obvious question isn't addressed: Why would anyone choose to be in a minority when a smoother life's path could be had via heterosexuality? If it was a matter of free will with no biological component, why would anyone choose to be gay? This makes no sense yet it is at the core of Conversion Therapy.

Although *Boy Erased* is presented from Jared's perspective, we are afforded glimpses of how his struggles with his sexual identity impact his parents. His mother, although initially horrified by his admission, discerns her son's suffering and comes to his defense. It's more difficult for the stern Marshall, who is not only sincere in his belief that homosexuality is an abomination in the eyes of God, but because it tarnishes his image a pillar of righteousness in the community. Eventually, he is forced to confront what for him is an almost impossible choice. Reports about what goes on behind the closed doors of Conversion Therapy camps have been in the press for years and the film's vivid presentation engages the viewer on a visceral level. The actors, especially an uncharacteristically low-key Russell Crowe, are effective in bringing the personalities to life and director Joel Edgerton (who adapted the source material and also acts) avoids the kind of extreme melodrama that could unbalance a project like this. Although *Boy Erased* depicts a series of injustices, its ultimate message is one of the hope and optimism that can accompany acceptance.

Microsoft Warns Windows 10 Update Deletes Personal Data

Although introduced new Windows 10 monthly charges, that has not improved the quality of its updates. In fact, Microsoft has just warned all Windows 10 users that its latest upgrade may permanently delete their personal data... Microsoft's admission comes after angry Windows 10 users took to Reddit (1,2), Spiceworks and the company's own support site warning others to urgently postpone the major 1809 update. And, worse still, it turns out this should've been preventable. For its part, Microsoft confirmed the news saying: "We have paused the rollout of the Windows 10 October 2018 Update (version 1809) for all users as we investigate isolated reports of users missing some files after updating." Of course, Microsoft's terminology differs drastically from the real world reports of others (just one) "Windows 1809 update wiped my documents. So after updating, I discovered that

BHP derailment: Mining giant reveals details behind cause of runaway iron ore train drama near Port Hedland

By Stuart McKinnon/The West Australian



The cause was a combination of brake system failure and incorrect operating procedure. Picture: Seven News

BHP has attributed the 5 November runaway train derailment in the Pilbara to a combination brake system failure and incorrect operating procedure.

The mining giant released details of its preliminary investigation into the incident on the morning of Monday, November 5, in which a 268-car train was able to career driverless for 50 minutes at an average speed of 110km/h before it was deliberately derailed about 120km south of Port Hedland.

The driver had stopped about 210km from the port and got off to inspect a wagon but the train started to move with no one aboard.

BHP's WA iron ore asset president Edgar Basto this afternoon said initial findings showed the train came to a stop after a braking system control cable became disconnected.

"The train began to move after the driver had disembarked to carry out an inspection, becoming what is termed a rollaway train," he said.

"Our initial findings show that the emergency air brake for the entire train was not engaged as required by the relevant operating procedure. "In addition, the electric braking system that initially stopped the train, automatically released after an hour while the driver was still outside.

"Due to integration failure of the back-up braking system, it was not able to deploy successfully." Mr Basto said the train was derailed intentionally because it could not be stopped with the braking system.

He said the company had put in place a range of safety controls as a result of its initial findings into the incident.

The mining giant restarted rail operations across its Pilbara iron ore network last week after clearing the track and repairing the damaged section of it. Mr Basto said investigations by regulators, which included the Australian Transport Safety Bureau and the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator, were ongoing and the company was working with them to learn from the incident. "Our focus remains on the safety of our people and our operations," Mr Basto said.

Morrison's Israel embassy policy cannot be fathomed – and risks his political survival

By Katharine Murphy/The Guardian

You'd need a degree in tea leaf reading to grasp the PM's motives and conservatives will eviscerate him if he can't deliver

In June of this year, party members at the Liberal party's annual federal council voted in favour of moving the Australian embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, endorsing Donald Trump's controversial Middle East policy.

The push to follow Trump had bubbled up from the party's conservative base and from the youth wing. The June vote was a totemic gesture in line with the resting (or perhaps restive) disposition of the faction that likes to control the play in the Liberal party of 2018.

The then foreign affairs minister, Julie Bishop, was quick to rule out changing Australia's long-held policy. She understood "the sentiment behind this resolution" but she was clear the embassy relocation would not be happening. "Jerusalem is a final status issue and we have maintained that position for decades," she told her colleagues at the council.

Two days after Bishop's comments, Scott Morrison, the treasurer, on Tasmanian radio, said exactly the same thing. Asked whether there was "any sense that the parliamentary party might actually support" moving the embassy, Morrison was curt. "No," was the response.

He was pressed. Why not? "Because it's not the government's policy, it's never been under review and we are not doing it."

The government, or at least senior figures in the government led then by Malcolm Turnbull, had mulled mimicking Trump on the Middle East policy shift. There was a conversation, sources insist, in the national security committee of cabinet, and the consensus was the risks associated with the shift far outweighed any benefit.

Whatever the truth of that, the diplomatic blow-back (apart from Bibi) was immediate, and the bold move did not save the Liberal party in Wentworth.

Morrison has been in political trouble ever since: Jakarta is playing hardball, taking the free-trade deal off the table, and government MPs are split between people who now worry about Morrison's judgment, or want absolutely this policy shift to happen, or absolutely oppose it.

Confusingly too, the defence minister, Christopher Pyne, who was, sources say, in the circle of trust before Morrison's first public statement, says the foreign policy shift the government is contemplating involves setting up two embassies, not just moving one – something Morrison has never said publicly.

One of the major hurdles was the negative reaction

of Indonesia and, to a lesser degree, Malaysia. The relationship with Jakarta was in good shape. A free-trade deal was in prospect, and the Indonesians had been constructive in policing people-smuggling operations, which served an important domestic political imperative of the Coalition: stopping the boats.

The status quo would prevail, although some colleagues insist that Morrison has always privately favoured the Trump position, which is supported by a large number of evangelical Christians. Morrison, for the record, has said his view on the Jerusalem question is not influenced by his faith.

Roll forward now to mid-October, the week before the Wentworth byelection, and a growing sense of alarm that the government would not hold Turnbull's vacated seat. The government's lower-house majority was in play.

Morrison consulted his leadership group (but few others, as it turned out, although one of the people in the circle of trust was the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu) and then flagged the embassy shift publicly.

Some colleagues characterise Morrison's behaviour pre-Wentworth as pure panic, others think the byelection gave him opportunity to flag a change he had wanted to pursue and the opening to do it with minimal resistance from colleagues.

Pyne shared this view the day after Morrison rolled the diplomatic dice pre-Wentworth, and he said it again this week. "In the event we did establish an embassy in West Jerusalem and move from Tel Aviv, and in the event there was a second state, I would envisage there would be an embassy in East Jerusalem for the Palestinian state," Pyne told Sky News.

Conservative Eric Abetz has echoed Pyne's view. Moving the embassy to West Jerusalem would trigger "an equaliser", the Tasmanian conservative says – consideration of East Jerusalem as the capital of a Palestinian state.

If this is the Australian government's position, it's strange Morrison has never articulated it. Perhaps two embassies is implicit in what the prime minister has been saying: that he supports moving the embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and he's also committed to achieving a two-state solution – but you'd need an advanced degree in tea leaf reading to fathom it.

In any case, Morrison has now washed up in a position where harmonious relations with a key ally are at stake, and conservatives within his own ranks will eviscerate him if he doesn't follow through with shifting the embassy.

To buy time, the prime minister has fallen back

THE NEWS | No.489 | WEDNESDAY 21 Nov 2018

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

The Hunter will be for the worse come March 2018 when Scot McDonald MLC stands down at the election. Scot has been an outstanding politician and really supported the Hunter.

Some big Crosses for the vandals that broke into the Branxton Greta Mens Shed recently and managed to rubbish the place, empty the fire extinguisher and sprayed graffiti on the walls.

Big ticks for the Branxton Smash
Repairs who were so generous to spray paint the wooden pedal car lovingly put together by *the shedders*. A true community spirit job.

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

Dates for your diary >

SAT 24 Nov – Scoot, Skate & Ride Competition @ Cessnock Skate Park; 10am - 4pm-
SAT 24 Nov – Jazz in the Vineyards; Hope Estate. Gates open at 3pm
SUN 25 Nov – Plektra mandolin & guitar ensemble, Sacred Spaces Singleton.
SUN 25 Nov – Branxton Public School P&C's Spring working bee 8am-11am.
WED 5 Dec – Lions Club of Branxton Monthly Meeting: 4pm at

Dates for your diary >

Branxton Golf Club
THUR 6 Dec – Branxton Public School P&C's Carols by Torchlight
SAT 8 Dec – Branxton Public School P&C Bunnings BBQ
SAT 8 Dec – Shania Twain @ Hope Estate
TUES 11 Dec – Branxton Greta CWA Mtg. 9.30am, Old St Brigid's School Staff Room, Station St, Branxton
TUE 11 Dec – Branxton Public School Presentation Day at Community Hall
WED 12 Dec – Branxton Public School Year 6 Dinner
THUR 13 Dec – Branxton Public School Sport Assembly
WED 19 Dec – Branxton Public School last day for students.
TUE 25 Dec – Christmas Day
WED 26 Dec – Boxing Day
SAT 26 Jan 2019 – Australia Day
SAT 23 Feb – Red Hot Chillii Peppers at Hope Estate
SAT 16 Mar 2019 – Kiely Minoque at Bimbadgen Estate
THUR 25 Apl 2019 –
SUN 12 May 2019 – Mothers Day
MON 10 June 2019 – Queens Birthday Public Holiday
SUN 1 Sept 2019 – Fathers day

on a process where the government's final decision will be determined by Christmas, possibly at 11.59pm on 24 December. Ho, ho, ho. Everyone is now front-running that process. Pyne's comments are an example (or possibly he's just attempting to explain what Morrison, inexplicably, hasn't). The current treasurer, Josh Frydenberg, a supporter of the Trump position, has decided attack is the best form of defence, and given the Malaysian prime minister a hard clip around the ears. This week Mahathir Mohamad (who doesn't mind giving Australia a serve) warned that Australia moving its embassy in Israel could encourage terrorism. Frydenberg responded by unfurling previous antisemitic contributions from Mahathir, and invoking Australian sovereignty over its own foreign policy.

CONT. NEXT PAGE

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Man charged after firearms located during vehicle stop in the Hunter

Thursday, 15 November 2018
03:12:30 PM



A man has been charged with drug and firearms offences, which arose from a vehicle stop in the Hunter region last night. About 8pm (Wednesday 14 November 2018), officers from the Criminal Groups Squad's Strike Force Raptor North stopped a vehicle on Newcastle Road, New Lambton, and spoke with the 23-year-old female driver and a 23-year-old male passenger. Officers removed the man from the vehicle and located a .22 calibre single-shot revolver in his waistband. Following a subsequent search of the vehicle, police located and seized a homemade 12-gauge shotgun, 12-gauge cartridges, .22 calibre ammunition, and a shotgun barrel. The pair was arrested and taken to Waratah Police Station, where the man was served a Firearms Prohibition Order (FPO). During a subsequent FPO search

of a New Lambton home, investigators seized further ammunition, and methylamphetamine, cannabis, suspected steroids, prescription medications, and cash. The man was charged with 10 firearms offences, supply prohibited drug, and possess prohibited drug. He was refused bail to appear at Newcastle Local Court today (Thursday 15 November 2018). The woman was released pending further inquiries. Strike Force Raptor was established in 2009 and conducts proactive investigations and intelligence-based, high-impact policing operations to prevent and disrupt conflicts, and dismantle any network engaged in serious organised criminal activity. Anyone with information,

including relevant photos and videos, that may assist Strike Force Raptor can report it directly to investigators via the Strike Force Raptor online reporting page.

NSW Police to retain Newcastle Airport role
New South Wales Police will retain policing operation duties when Newcastle Airport begins international operations later this month. From Thursday 22 November 2018, Newcastle Airport Pty Ltd (NAPL) will introduce Virgin Australia flights between Australia and New Zealand three days a week. The 13-week arrangement is due to continue until Sunday 17 February 2019. The Port Stephens-Hunter Police District has been working closely with the airport, Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), Australian Federal Police (AFP) and Australian Border Force (ABF)

to prepare for the changes. Despite the introduction of international flights, Port Stephens-Hunter Commander, Detective Superintendent Craig Jackson, said the responsibility for policing will remain with NSW Police. "The airport's classification has moved from category three to category two, but it's not deemed a "designated" facility, so there's no requirement for the Australian Federal Police to staff the airport," Det. Supt Jackson said. "However, the AFP has started training local NSW officers to deal with international crime detection and the prosecution of offences under state and federal legislation," he added. "There are new areas of policing for us to consider, relating to importation, immigration and aviation offences, as well as the airport's own procedures."

NSW Police acknowledge 'World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims'
Sunday, 18 November 2018
04:35:05 AM
The NSW Police Force have acknowledged World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims last Sunday (Sunday 18 November 2018), as people across the world reflected on the number of lives lost on our roads. Traffic and Highway Patrol Commander, Acting Assistant Commissioner Julie Middlemiss is marking the day by reminding all road users to take extra care. "The day is a special advocacy day for road traffic prevention," Acting Assistant Commissioner Middlemiss said. "1193 lives have been lost on Australian roads in the last 12 months to the end of October, with 384 of those in New South Wales. "When you consider those directly impacted as well as the emergency services personnel including police, paramedics, fire fighters, emergency volunteers and medical professionals, indirectly affected, these numbers are significant and we all need to do more to minimise the risks to others on our roads. "I encouraged everyone to pause for a moment and reflect on the grief they have endured.

World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is a United Nations initiative that started in 1993 as a global day observed on the third Sunday of November each year.

Acting Assistant Commissioner Middlemiss said whether you are driving, riding, cycling, or walking, you need to ensure the roads are shared safely and responsibly. "We know speeding, drink and drug driving, not wearing a seat belt or proper helmet, driving distracted, or fatigued, are all the key causes of fatal and serious injury crashes on our roads, and personal responsibility is the key in keeping yourself, your passengers, and other road users safe on local roads and highways," Acting Assistant Commissioner Middlemiss said. "I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the work done by the NSW Police Force, emergency and medical services, and road safety professionals in enforcement, treatment and advocacy, all focussed on driving down the road toll."

World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is a United Nations initiative that started in 1993 as a global day observed on the third Sunday of November each year.

Morrison's Israel embassy policy cannot be fathomed – and risks his political survival

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE
Others duly chimed in with feelings. Morrison agreed with Frydenberg. Conservative Andrew Hastie wondered on Facebook "whose side" the former Labor foreign affairs minister Bob Carr was on. Carr had criticised Frydenberg's comments. Liberal James Paterson, who is passionately pro-Israel, and orbits with conservatives despite his libertarian tendencies, made a sprint for the barricades. If Australia was not permitted to move its diplomatic facilities "because it might enrage terrorists" this would effectively grant a veto over Australian foreign policy to "violent extremists". So what does a prime minister do, faced with a situation that is escalating into drawing room farce? That is hard to predict, given the government is currently engaged in sprinting chaotically in all directions in an attempt to foil what the polls suggest will be electoral annihilation next year. That adrenaline-charged environment does not generally contribute to cool heads and calm contemplation. Objectively, shifting Australia's embassy doesn't advance our national interest. We are already close to America and to Israel. We don't need to make this gesture to enhance those relationships. It won't contribute to securing Middle East peace. Adjusting the current position buys us trouble from Indonesia, and Jakarta is already an important relationship that's in our interests to deepen. Possibly a compromise is possible. Morrison could recognise West Jerusalem as the capital, flag an intention to move the embassy, but way off in the never-never, and hope that diffuses the problem while saving face. It would be better, all other things being equal, for Morrison to drop the idea entirely and move on. But the prime minister is in a serious bind. If he reverts to the status quo, the perception will be Australia has bowed to Jakarta, which hurts him with the voters he's just spent two months courting with the fair-dinkum, oi-oi-oi tour. Government conservatives, who have been plastering on fake smiles and trying to play nice, will also be given just cause to go to war with the prime minister. And we all know how that story ends.

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Things You May Not Know About

with Neridah Kentwell

GRETA, BRANXTON & SURROUNDS



* Cup-and ball game from St Fagans Museum of Natural History



* Young girls at play

A Short History of Children's Toys & Games & how it relates to our area

With the school holidays and Christmas rapidly approaching it seems an appropriate time to think about how children once played and how to help our current children play and enjoy the holidays while getting them away from their endless 'screens'. According to Cassie White, health journalist, structured games are great but it's the other unplanned ones that allows children to be free to play and gives them the creative and physical exercise they need. Helen Topor, author of *Outdoor Games for Today's Kids with Instructions* who has a Master's Degree in Education, also understands the importance of play for children and says that 'not only do children learn how to learn' through play, they also learn patience, how to wait their turn, how to resolve conflicts, lead and follow, as well as many physical skills such as balance and endurance. In the Victorian era even the wealthy's children weren't allowed many toys and only the most well-off could afford a rocking horse. Early toys could cost more than a father's average weekly wage then, as the first ones had to be hand-made, so the poor had to be content with a home-made doll or a loving father's whittled wooden toy, such as a wooden acrobat that could be made to jump and spin when its frame was squeezed (one of which the Greta Museum has on show). However, as the industrial revolution progressed, toys became cheaper.

Very early toys and games that may still be seen around today include: Jumping or skipping rope - with fancy carved handles for those that could afford it, or plain rope for those that couldn't. Jacks or knuckle bones- said to be played by the ancient Greeks, this

game involved throwing up and catching and picking up five or more jacks in different ways. Marbles - originally made of clay for the poor and marble for the rich, and now made of glass which are relatively safe as spheres are less likely to break than flat glass. Hoop and stick- once very popular in the Victorian period and played to see who could keep the hoop rolling, using the stick, the longest or the farthest. It must have been great exercise, if a little dangerous near people and traffic of any kind. The hula hoop could be seen as a modern equivalent. Kaleidoscope - were popular then and are still around today as a way of seeing pretty psychedelic designs that can be changed with a shake or a turn of the end. Hobby horses - unlike the more expensive rocking horses, in an era when horses were common forms of transportation, hobby horses were cheap to make with a wooden pole, a horse's head and sometimes wheels and could be taken outside as well to play with. Spinning tops - are still around and the small wooden ones are particularly nice to hold and use. The whip and top appeared to be the predecessor of the spinning top, but was a little clumsier to operate. Jacobs Ladder - is a wooden game made of blocks that are joined together and can be manipulated into different shapes, and is still available. (Note: A tied piece of string can also create the shape of a 'jacob's ladder', much the same as the way a 'cat's cradle' or 'cup and saucer' is made). Cup and ball game - first known as 'Biloquet' in France, became a craze in Elizabeth I period in England. It involves throwing a ball (which is joined to a cup on a handle with string) into the air and catching it in the cup,

making it a game of skill. (See the photo of this toy from the St Fagans National Museum of History in Wales.) Yo-yo - these little toys were known to have been played with as long ago as 500BC and were used by many children in the Victorian days ((1830-1900) which then became popular in the 1900s and can be a great skill to master today. Clockwork trains- are still around and can be made from soldered tin, or even plastic for the little ones. Football and soccer - have been known to exist since at least from 2500BC. The well-to-do had their balls made from animal skins while the poor made their own balls from anything available, including rags stuffed into a rag bag. Skittles - Possibly the early predecessor of bowling and lawn bowls, this game could be played by all as the skittle sets could be cheaply made. Books - Children in the 1800s loved them and would read the same ones constantly, much as young children of today do when they have a favourite, and as we did as children. The first example of a children's book is said to be 'A Little Pretty Pocket-Book' written and published by John Newberry in 1744 in London. May Gibbs was the first to write truly Australian children's books in 1918, with her Snugglepot and Cuddlepie babies who use gumnut caps for hats and live in the bush. The wonderful libraries we now have means there should never be a shortage of reading material when they want to relax after a hard day of physical play (and includes Greta Museum's Street library where books are

completely free to take without any paperwork). The 'baby boomers' (1949-1964) childhoods, similarly reflected in the post WWII migrant children such as those at the Greta Migrant Camp who arrived after the Second World War, had different childhood games and toys to the ones that children have now and some may be thought of as nostalgic. The games they played in the migrant camps were often similar when compared to those beyond the fences. After living in the Greta Migrant Camp (which was open 1949-1960) Liz Matt said, as was later quoted in the Maitland Mercury on 11 June 2015, that her favourite games included 'marbles, skipping rope, hop scotch, ... hide and seek and tipple topple with sticks and bats'. You will need to ask Liz about how to play the last one. In the Benalla Migrant Camp (in rural Victoria, open 1949 -1967) the games would have been similar in many ways, with a few unique differences, and are remembered by Helen Topor, who was there and has since turned them into a book, *Outdoor Games for Today's Kids with Instructions*, which included the following: Marbles - known as Kugels in the camp which is also German for ball, was played by both girls and boys in all weathers. Larger marbles were called tombolas and were also used for a variety of the game. Knucklebones - Also known as knuckles or jacks, this game was also popular and were actually ankle bones of sheep or goats, although small stones could be used. They were later manufactured from many materials. Palanta - a Polish game, was similar to baseball, and needed two teams of 6-8 players with a captain for each and a smooth wooden stick and tennis or rubber ball. Hand tennis or hand ball - needed a marked out area to be played within. Games of tag and/or hide and seek- also included the variant 'What's the Time Mister Wolf?' Great excitement was generated when a 'lamb' could potentially be eaten by the 'wolf' after the lambs, separated by some distance, first asked what time it was



* Jacob's Ladder on sale at Greta Museum



* Hoop rolling

and the wolf told them the time, and that number of steps was taken. The process was then repeated several times, with the wolf finally replying 'dinner time!' and a scramble for safety ensued, to everyone's delight. The caught lamb became the next wolf. Corners - a game for five in a space with four corners played much the same as musical chairs without the music or chairs. All five start in the middle, with corners replacing the chairs, and the odd one out misses out. String games - are also one of the world's oldest games, and teaches finger dexterity and control and can be played by only one or two. Finger and French knitting and making pom poms- creating pom poms was particularly popular during the Great Depression as a cheap way to make great Christmas decorations if a suitable material was used. Hop scotch and skipping rope- hop scotch goes back to Roman times and needs a



* Jacob's Ladder in Scientific America Vol 61 No 15

hopscotch 'court' which only needs a piece of chalk and a concrete slab to be created, and also has several versions. 'Seven sticks' and 'fly' - are similar versions of a jumping game so again are great exercise. Clapping games - are good fun and create a good sense of rhythm and hand-eye coordination e.g. 'A sailor went to sea, sea, sea'. Other hand games are interesting for younger children, e.g. 'Here is the church,

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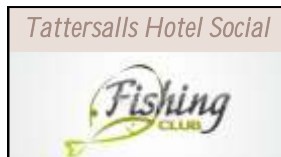
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weighed in top points with a good Bream and a Salmon (41.05). The only other weigh ins were Lachlan Chown (1 Bream), Brooksey (1 Bream, 1 Whiting, 1 Tarwhine) and Troy Fields (1 Bream and 1 Salmon) who assumed the lead in the overall points for the year. Our last outing of the year is fast approaching. It is an Open event on 30th November-2nd December. The leaderboard is very close with 0.3 of a point splitting Troy Fields and former champion Scott Beckett, closely followed by Glenn and Rob Beckett, and Steve Nevin with outside chances.

The Annual Fishing Club Christmas Party and Presentation will be held at the Tatts Hotel Sunday 16th December so make sure you keep that date free for another great afternoon for the family.

October/November Fishing Club Update

The October Open weekend for the Tatts Hotel Fishing Club saw members fish far and wide and some good scores were produced. Norm "Stooby" Beckett weighed his first fish for the year with two nice bass at St Clair. His fishing partner and brother Glenn scored the highest points for the weekend with 76.4 (4 bass and 2 catfish). Rob Beckett weighed in the biggest Bass of the year (1kg) and biggest Silver perch (0.5kg). Troy Fields fished the beach and weighed in 9 Bream (52 points). The September Seal Rocks Trip was more of a social outing than a fishing trip as the fishing was very quiet. Club Secretary Nevo

'Kiss' to perform at this weeks Supercars

Rock legends KISS will perform at the 2019 Coates Hire Newcastle 500, in the first of two NSW concerts next year. Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald MLC said the international superstars would provide even more incentive for visitors to travel to Newcastle for the event. "Rock bands don't come much bigger than KISS and with the Newcastle 500 to be the first of only two NSW shows, it is a massive win for the event, motorsport fans and the local community," Mr MacDonald said. "The Newcastle 500 is a highlight of the Virgin

Australia Supercars Championship calendar and already attracts thousands of overnight visitors. The

The band, which has sold more than 100 million albums worldwide, will play at the No.1 Sports-



addition of KISS to next year's schedule is sure to fill the No.1 Sportsground and see many more people travel to the spectacular Hunter region."

ground this Saturday 23 November, 2019. Tickets are still available for the grand finale of this year's Virgin Australia Supercars Championship,

which will return to Newcastle in just over three weeks. Mr MacDonald said the success of last year's inaugural event means the city will be abuzz with visitors once again. "The 2017 Newcastle 500 was one of the biggest events on the State's sporting calendar and with the sensational weather, huge crowds and down-to-the-wire finish, it certainly lived up to the hype," Mr MacDonald said. "Over 20,500 domestic and international overnight visitors travelled specifically to attend last

year's event. In total, these visitors spent over \$12.5 million during their visit, with about 85 per cent spent in Newcastle and the wider Hunter region." This year's event promises to be just as entertaining, with plenty of action on and off the track including performances by Scottish rock legends Simple Minds and Aussie favourites Birds of Tokyo. The Newcastle 500 was secured exclusively for Newcastle for five years by the NSW Liberal National Government in partnership with the Newcastle City Council. The Coates Hire Newcastle 500 will take place from 23 to 25 November 2018. For further information and tickets, visit <http://www.supercars.com/newcastle/>.

Make your vote count for Waste Ops 2018

Cessnock City and Maitland City Councils offered local Year 7 and 8 students the opportunity to enter the 2018 Waste Ops short film contest and it's now up to the community to decide the winner!

The competition called for schools to enter their storyboards for a two minute short film encouraging people to reduce the amount of waste they generate. Seven schools entered the competition, but Rutherford Technology High School and Kurri Kurri High School took out the finalist positions and were given the opportunity to have their storyboards professionally filmed.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said the Waste Ops competition is a wonderful opportunity for our local students and is encouraging the community support the initiative by voting for their favourite film. "This competition not only gets young people thinking about our environment, but it is a great way to engage students, spark their imagination and creativity and improve their persuasive writing skills."

The two films will go live on the Waste Ops website at www.wasteops.com.au on Tuesday 6 November and the community is encouraged to go online and vote for their favourite. Voting will close on Tuesday 27 November 2018 and the winner will be announced shortly after. This is a NSW EPA Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the waste levy.



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November

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

8.30pm

FRIDAY NIGHTS

2ND	V-DUBS
9TH	MISBEHAVE
16TH	XYZ
23RD	BAD PARIS
30TH	JEFF HORN vs ANTHONY MUNDINE

SATURDAY NIGHTS

3RD	PHONIC TRIO
10TH	LITHIUM
17TH	THE AFTER PARTY
24TH	MOJO BANDITS

www.royalfederal.com.au Graphics - Parée Erica

SPORTS RESULTS GOLF

Branxton Veterans Results
08 Nov 2018
Stableford Competition
 Div 1 winner—K Anderson SOD c/b 30 pts
 R/u – E Barrett 27 pts c/b
 3rd – M Ryan 27 pts
 Div 2 winner – R Brooks 30pts c/b
 R/u – G Scobie 30 pts
 3rd – B Smith 29pts
 NTPs Ladies – M Hunt
 Gents – I Harris
15th Nov 2018
Stableford Competition
 Div 1 Winner – R Yandle 33pts
 R/u G Jones 32 pts
 3rd G wilton 30 pts
 Div 2 Winner and Score of the day
 – L Bootes 34 pts
 R/u S Condron 32 pts
 3rd R Brooks 31 pts
 Ladies Div Winner M Hunt 29 pts
 R/u R Friis 28 pts on c/b
 3rd T Martin 28 pts
 NTPs Ladies T Martin
 Mens R Crooks

Branxton Lady Golfers

4th November - Mixed Foursomes Championships
 Scratch ~ Winners Steve Kearney and Toy Martin 85
 Runner Up: Eddie Barrett and Melita Watson 89
 Nett ~ Winners Dave Hollis and Kerrie O'Connell 71.5 nett
 Runner Up: Robert Miller and Carol Miller 73 nett
 Ball comp ~ Richard Crooks and Jen Salna, Jimmy Sheedy and Chris Tancred, Gary Walsh and Ruth McCarthy
 NTP
 Ladies - Melita Watson
 Mens - Gary Walsh
31st October - Stableford
 Winner: Jen Salna on 36 points
 Runner-up: Trish McMillan on 28 points
7th November - 9 hole stableford
 Winner: Jan Scobie on 20 points
 Runner-up: Carol Miller on 18 points

Hunter Valley Golf Club

Sunday 4th November
 The Weekly Challenge has been won by Grahame Mankelow with 43 points from Mark Makin 40 on countback to Matt Lorenz
Tuesday 6th November
 Ideal golf conditions greeted the Tuesday field with scores reflecting the day, Greg Ireland produced one of his best to win the day on countback from Chris Taggart after both returned 42 points, Peter Wilson in 3rd place with 41. Ball winners were: David Peel 40, Nathan Sweeney 39, Mark Barrow 39, Steve Rawlings 38, Rex Talbot 38, Ken Scott-MacKenzie 38, Steve Abel 37, Garry Hedges 37 and Lindsay Self 37. Nearest-the-Pins went to Wayne Cowan (3rd) David Peel (4th) Graeme Flynn (8th) Wayne Barber (10th) and Steve Abel (17th)
Wednesday 7th November
 A mid morning storm left only the bravest of the Ladies to complete their rounds with many staying in the 19th at the halfway mark. Dale Hamilton shone with a 38 point round to claim the day from Kay Dunn and Christine Tancred 3rd. Ball winners were: Sharon Blackett, Brenda Mannix, Monica Geason, Jenny Chambers, Melita Watson and Mary Fortey. Nearest-the-Pins were won on the 3rd,4th,8th and 17th by Dale Hamilton. Next week the Ladies will play a Teams Event, draw for

partners.
Thursday 8th November
 Graeme Flynn produced an exceptional 45 point round to clearly win the Vets Stableford from Wayne Drayton 43 and John Harrison 3rd with 39. Ball winners were: Eric Smith 39, Garry Marsden 38, Doug Wand 37, Wayne Barber 37, Peter Payne 36, Kevin Smith 36, Paul Ireland 36 and John Pascoe 36. Nearest-the-Pins went to Wayne Barber (3rd) David Peel (8th) Paul Smith (10th) and Doug Wand (17th). Next week the Vets will play Stroke.

Saturday 10th November
 The annual playoff for the Men's Mug of Mugs and the Girls Goblet played in conjunction with the November Stroke rounds has resulted in wins for Matt Lorenz and Tracy Morison. Congratulation to both. The daily event has been won by Jeff Morton with an outstanding 61 net. A Grade went to Steve Piggott with 66 net from Brad Burgess 68, B Grade to Adrian Kent 63 from Matt Lorenz 66 and C Grade to Nick Hain with 70 on countback to Wayne Cowan. Ball winners were: John Brown 70, Wayne Barber 71, Nick Looby 71, Angello Wood 72, Nathan Sweeney 72, Dean Morison 72, Ray Newton 72, John Parish 73, Bruce Chambers 73, Graeme Flynn 73, Lloyd Barrett 74 Garry Marsden 75 and David Peel 75 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Garry Marsden(3rd) John Stewart (4th) Julie Van Den Berg (8th) and Adrian Kent (17th). Next weeks event will be a Medley Stableford from the Blue Tees.
Sunday 11th November Singleton GC member Brett Janssen has won the Weekly Challenge with a solid 41 point round from Mark Fullbrook 39 in 2nd spot. Ball winners were: Nick Argyropoulos 36, Anthony Lucas 36, John Carmody 35, Bruce Dunbar 35 and Steve Piggott 35.

Tuesday 13th November Chris Taggart backed up last weeks effort with a winning round of 43 points to claim the Tuesday Stableford from Dean Morison 42 and Greg Ireland continuing hid run of form with 40 points in 3rd. Ball winners were: Garry Hedges 38, Robert MacBeth 38, Jason Cowburn 37, Mark Barrow 36, Ian Newell 36, David Peel 36 and Garry Marsden 36 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Greg Ireland (3rd) Rick Turnchini (4th) Jason Cowburn (8th & 17th) and John Stewart (10th). Please note next week's event will be American Stableford

Wednesday 14th November The Ladies draw for partners event has been won by Isabel Skeates & Karen Baillie with 44 points from Sue Williams & Leesa Robinson with 40 on countback. Next week the Ladies will play American Stableford
Thursday 15th November Garry Marsden has won the Vets Stroke event with 69 nett from Dave Fury 70 on countback to David Peel in 3rd place also on countback. Ball winners were: Steve rawlings 70, Wayne Barber 71, Paul Ireland 71, Ken Harris 71, Doug Wand 71, David Blackburn 71, Michael Watson 71, Wayne Berry 72 and Greg Ireland 72 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to John Stewart (3rd & 10th) Steve Rawlings (8th) & David Peel (4th & 17th). Next week the Vets will play American Stableford.

Saturday 17th November Scoring has continued to be solid despite the Blue Tees and tough pin placements mainly aided by splendid course conditions helping all who took on the challenge. A Grade went to Wayne Barber with an even round 36 points from Ken Harris 35, B Grade went Nick Looby with a solid 40 point return

from Tracy Morison 39 and C Grade to Phil Darcy with the 'round of the day' an excellent 44 points from Ray Newton 39. Ball winners were: Christine Harrison 38, Bruce Chambers 37, Julie Van Den Berg 36, Wayne Drayton 36, Shawn Parish 34, Paul Reece 34, Lorraine Clack 34 and Peter Franks 34 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Peter Milas (3rd) Peter Franks (8th) and Michael McNab (10th). Next weeks event will be American Stableford

Branxton Golf Club

Sat 10th Nov 2018- stableford
 A grade: first Troy Felan 39 pts
 A grade second: Robert Biles 38 pts c/b
 B grade first: Mick Martin 38pts c/b
 B grade second: Peter Marquet 38 pts c/b
 C grade first: Mick Lutovac 40 pts
 C grade second: Sam Bridge 37 pts
 Ball comp ~ 35 pts
 NTP L Heuston 64cm
 D Matt 173cm
 C Zawirski 140cm

Saturday's stableford competition was very competitive in all grades with Troy Felan winning A Grade with his pleasing 39 pts, just ahead of Bob Biles with his 38 pts. Mick Martin won B Grade with 38 pts on a countback from Peter Marquet with Mick Lutovac's 40 pts the best stableford score of the day, allowing him to convincingly win C Grade from Sam Bridge with his 37 pts. 35 pts was needed to win a ball in a very even competition. The shot of the day belonged to Lee Heuston on the 2nd/11th, finishing only 64 cms from the pin. The difficult 13th proved to be just that with no nearest the pins recorded.

Last Sunday, 4th November, the club's Mixed Foursomes Championships were held with Steve Kearney and Toy Martin victorious with a scratch score of 85, with Eddie Barrett and Melita Watson runners up with their 88. The nett winners were Dave Hollis and Kerrie O'Connell were the nett winners with their nett score of 71.5 just ahead of Carol and Robert Miller with a 73. The ball competition winners were Richard Crooks, J.Salna, Jim Sheedy, C.Tancred, Gary Walsh and R.McCarthy. Melita Watson and Gary Walsh won the nearest the pins on the 9th/18th hole. All prizes will be presented on the club's Presentation Night. Congratulations to all participants.

Branxton Golf Club

Sat 17th November 2018
Stableford
 A GRADE
 Winner David Matt 43 pts
 Runner Up Robert Biles 37 pts
 3rd Peter Wilton 36 pts
 B GRADE
 Winner Reece Caldwell 43 pts c/b
 Runner Up Norm Redgrove 43 pts
 3rd Murray Johanson 40 pts
 C GRADE
 Winner Michael Carling 38 pts c/b
 Runner Up Robert Brooks 38 pts
 3rd Benjamin Bridge 36 pts
 Ball comp 34 pts
 NTP
 2nd/11th 4th 13th 9th/18th
 I Wolferstan 161cm R Biles 262cm
 R Yandle 476cm R Biles 74cm
 Saturday's stableford brought out some excellent scores across all grades with an overall DSR of 68 and ball winners needing 34 pts an indication of the perfect playing conditions on offer. David Matt produced one of his best rounds this year, winning A Grade with an excellent 43 pts, a mid 70s score off the stick—a great round. He was 6 points clear of runner up Bob Biles with his 37 pts with Peter Wilton continuing his consistent golf off his low handicap, third on 36 pts. Reece Caldwell's 43 pts

was good enough to win B Grade (just), only on a countback from Norm Redgrove—it is hard to believe you cannot win with 43 pts! Club Captain Murray Johanson finished third with his 40 pts, despite starting late and missing the first hole—he is starting to

hit his straps once again. Mick Carling won C Grade with his 38 pts, again on a countback from Robert Brooks with Benjamin Bridge third with 36 pts. The shot of the day and sharp shooter for the day belonged

to Bob Biles who won two nearest the pins, with his shot to the last finishing only 74 cms away—very impressive. Next Saturday is the John Martin 2BBB, an annual and popular event, followed by the club's Annual Presentation.

Do you REMEMBER when...

ISSUE 83 15 February 2001

Shark in the Vines



Above: Greg Norman & Cessnock Mayor John Clarence at the official presentation of the new "Vintage" golf course & residential development last Thursday.

Last Thursday Greg Norman unveiled the beginning of development work at 'The Vintage', the golf, country club & 482 lot residential project at Black Creek, Pokolbin.

Although formal sales at the project do not open until March 2001, development partners have reported strong levels of expressions of interest, with the property following a statewide trend toward lifestyle property investment.

The Vintage is a joint development between Medallist Golf Developments (the partnership between Greg Norman's Great White Shark Enterprises and Macquarie Bank) and the Stevens Group.

In the last few weeks, or months if I am honest about it, my life has been a bit of a roller coaster.

In fact on some days I felt like I was on the twister ride at the Easter Show – you know the one that sends you one direction and then another, then up and down at the same time?

I had a few days where I just wanted to curl up and yell and scream and cry, and I let myself do that.

I drank a bit more wine for a few days, and didn't exercise quite so much, but I did not let myself fall completely "off the wagon". I have worked too hard to get where I am, and my habits are far too ingrained.

Five things you need for lasting change:-

1. A vision you desire – for something to change in your life, you really need to be able to see yourself doing it. For example, if you want a new job, you need to see yourself doing that job. Imagine what it would look like to arrive at work each morning, what your desk will look like, who you will speak to when you are on your lunch break. If your vision is fitness related, picture yourself running, or walking, or riding. See yourself doing it, the clothes you are wearing and imagine how you will feel when you are doing the thing you most desire.

For me, when I was at sixes and sevens a few weeks ago, I pictured myself running the 85km race I have entered in New Zealand in February. I knew if I fell off the wagon now, the chances of me finishing that event within cut off would be slim. I want to run in that event, and I want to finish.

2. Belief – desire and personal motivation is not enough. You also need to believe that what you want is achievable. For example, last year I wanted to run the Blackmores Sydney Half Marathon in 1 hour 45 mins. The more I thought about it, and the more I compared my existing half marathon time with my desired time, the less confident I was. The result was I did not end up training as much as I could have because I did not believe that it was possible for me to run that fast. It wasn't until I finished in 2 hours and 6mins (15 mins faster than I had previously) that I started to believe that my goal was achievable.

Next year when I run in the Old Ghost Road Ultra, it will be the first time I have run a race without seeing at least part of the course first. I was scared of doing it on my own, but I messaged my coach, made sure I had accommodation with some other runners, and reassured myself that I would have support at the event.

3. A Goal which is aligned with your values. It's great to have a goal, but if that goal is not aligned with the things you hold dear or consider important, then you will not be happy or you will not take the actions necessary to be successful at that goal. For example if your goal is to fit into your skinny jeans but you value time spent sleeping over getting up early to exercise, then you may need to revisit your goal.

Running makes me happy. When I run I feel fit and strong, like I could conquer the world if I had to. The idea of not running was one I didn't even contemplate, although it would have been understandable. Instead, I sought out friends, and contacted some running groups who had local runs planned. I went and met some new people, and because they were expecting me they helped hold me accountable to my running plan.

4. Clear Action Steps – A goal is not an action. For example losing weight is not a goal, it is an action which may help you achieve your goal of fitting back into your skinny jeans. Going to a fitness class every day may be an action which will help you reach your goal of running 5kms without stopping. Whatever your goal, you need to know the action steps which are needed to help you progress towards your goal. In short, you need a plan.

The most successful people set a goal, then they forget about the goal. Instead they focus on the individual steps which will help them achieve their goal. Before they know it, their goal is within reach, because they focussed on taking action. I did that too. I stopped worrying about the goal, and how I was going to run 85km on my own, and I focussed on taking one step at a time – looking at my training program and making sure I got at least part of it done.

5. Support – One of the things which correlates most highly with success is the level of support received. Support can take many forms – it can be financial support, or moral support. It can be everything from your partner looking after the kids while you go to an exercise class to a coach who devises a plan for you or a friend who holds you accountable when you would rather go to the pub on Friday afternoons than go to the gym. And Remember – you are your biggest support. Make it easy for yourself to take action – lay your clothes out the night before if you plan to get up early and exercise, line up a friend to go to the gym with you, and tell your family your plans so they know what to expect. Each time you take a positive step towards your goal you create momentum for lasting change.



BRANXTON GRETA VINEYARDS

The News SPORT



Local Cricket Results



with Mark Bercini

Cricket Report - Week 5
Butler Blasts Unbeaten Ton
 Greta/Branxton first grade co-captain Joey Butler belted an unbeaten century to guide his side to victory over Peden's Hotel at East End to provide the highlight for week 5 of District Cricket. In pursuit of a competitive 203 for victory, Butler caressed the first ball of the innings past mid-off for four, then after surviving a sharp chance at slip when he was on 12, he proceeded to hit a further thirteen boundaries and two maximums in a masterful batting display, with his drives through the off side as

good as you will see. It was his maiden century in club colours, after scoring a century in rep cricket at Singleton last year, then coming agonizingly close on this very ground with 99no as well last year. The Blues cruised to victory inside 34 overs, with Butler carrying his bat on 117 from just 113 deliveries. Carrying on from his return-to-form half century the previous week, Josh Dagg played a supporting role 46no in the nine-wicket victory. Darren Thomson also found form in his unfamiliar role of opener with 39. Earlier in the day Peden's Hotel compiled a healthy 9-202 from their mandatory 40 overs. Martin Shearer was the pick of the Blues' attack with 3-37 off 10, with co-skipper Nathan Holz (2-54 off 8) and Thomson (2-38 off 10) taking a brace of wickets each. Second Grade came within a whisker of pulling off victory against highly fancied Peden's Hotel at Miller 1. Peden's made 5-192 batting first, with Dylan Lipscombe Greta/Branxton's best with 2-35 off 10. Greta/Branxton remained on target throughout the entire run chase, courtesy of some power hitting from Anthony Brunson who blasted 77. He received good support from in form Jason Haines (31),

former skipper Peter Mackenzie (22) and Lipscombe (18). Greta/Branxton required 4 to win off the last ball but unfortunately could not achieve it. Third Grade White made it 3 wins on the trot when they disposed of Bellbird by 4 wickets at Jeffrey Park. Bellbird made a competitive 10-179 batting first, with Daniel Minchin (4-56 off 10), Jamie McNamara (3-34 off 9.4) and skipper Steve Daunt (2-24 off 10) sharing the wickets. Greta/Branxton achieved the target after losing 6 wickets, with Jamie McNamara batting beautifully for 96. Opener Daniel Minchin carried the bat for an unbeaten 61, with Cade Bradley making 13. In contrast Third Grade Blue slumped to their third straight loss, this time by 5 wickets at the hands of Laguna at Miller 2. Greta/Branxton managed 8-138 from their forty overs batting first, with James Shoulders timing them nicely for 59. Mal Hedger made 26, with Matt Lahey (17) also making a start. Laguna reached the target in the 38th over after losing 5 wickets. Dave Seabrook was the pick of the Greta/Branxton bowlers with 2-15 off 5, with Jarrad Wilkinson (1-22 off 8), brother Ayden (1-26 off 7) Hedger (1-32 off 8) taking a wicket each. Fourth Grade received a late

forfeit from Supporters Club. **Cricket Report - Week 6**
 Week 6 of District Cricket saw Greta/Branxton claim wins in First and Fourth grade, with Second Grade going down, Third Grade Blue and Third Grade White receiving a bye and forfeit respectively. First grade victories at Mulbring have been as rare as hen's teeth in the past, and what made the two wicket victory even more satisfying was that Mulbring were previously undefeated. Greta/Branxton turned in their best bowling performance of the year thus far, knocking the home side over for what was a modest 154 in pretty good batting conditions. Co-skipper Nathan Holz (4-43 off 10) and Martin Shearer (3-37 off 10) bowled beautifully, and were both on a hat-trick at different times. Mulbring bowled typically well in reply, and the match remained in the balance throughout the Greta/Branxton run chase. They reached the target with 9 balls to spare after losing 8 wickets. In what has been a great run for the co-skippers, Holz turned in a man-of-the-match all-round performance with an unbeaten 43, and it was only fitting that he landed the knockout blow in the 39th over. He received great support from Pat Andrews (15) and Martin Shearer (15), with openers Joey Butler (14)

and Mark Bercini (24) making starts. This win took the Blues to the top of the ladder after six rounds. In the grand final rematch from last season, second grade couldn't repeat the dose as they were humbled by 51 runs at the hands of Chelmsford Hotel at Miller 1. Chelmsford Hotel made 6-170 in the pristine batting conditions, with Connor Thomson (2-7 off 4.3) and Paul Walking (2-50 off 7) taking a brace of wickets each. Greta/Branxton were skittled inside 26 overs for 119 in reply, with Brett Bridge (45), Anthony Brunson (16) and Peter MacKenzie providing the majority of the runs. Fourth Grade's title defence is on track early following their third successive victory, this time by one wicket over Bellbird at Miller 2. Bellbird were all out 126 batting first. Correy Stone completed a very economical spell of bowling to collect 4-16 off 10, with Sam Hines (3-38 off 10) and Daniel McCann (2-36 off 9.3). Greta/Branxton fell over the line in reply with just the final wicket in hand. Stone remained cool throughout the innings with a patient and more importantly unbeaten 48 in a fine all-round performance. Skipper Sam Dagg (20), Blake Campbell (13), and Luke Whitaker (12) chimed in to get the Blues across the line to jump into second place on

the ladder.
Points Tables
First Grade Greta/Branxton 38, Mulbring 35, Bellbird 31, Wine Country 27, Supporters 21, Peden's Hotel 20.
Second Grade Bellbird 35, Chelmsford Hotel 31, Greta/Branxton 31, Peden's Hotel 31, Supporters 23, Wine Country 23.
Third Grade Greta/Branxton White 36, Bellbird 28*, Wine Country 27, Mulbring 24*, Laguna 21*, Greta/Branxton Blue 20*, Supporters 10*. * byes received, 0 points.
Fourth Grade Chelmsford

Hotel 39, Greta/Branxton 35, Bellbird 35, Cessnock Hotel 28, Wine Country 27, Peden's Hotel Blue 21, Peden's Hotel White 19, Supporters 15.
Club Championship Greta/Branxton 289.92, Bellbird 288.98, Wine Country 232.70, Mulbring 172.67, Peden's Hotel 177.22, Supporters 171.55.
 • Photo Above: Greta/Branxton first grade co-captain Joey Butler who belted an unbeaten century to guide his side to victory over Peden's Hotel at East End to provide the highlight for week 5 of District Cricket.

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