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WEDNESDAY
13 March 2019

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STEVE'S RANT

Members say...



Well Done Not So Well Done



School NEWS



BRANXTON OPEN HOUSE






8 Russell St, Branxton
Saturday 16th March 2019
10am ~ 10:30am
(See page 12 for details)

Local Business Chamber & Cessnock Rotary donate \$2500 to Greta Public School



GRETA Public School is the beneficiary of the proceeds of a movie night held in Greta on the 2nd March where approx. 800 people attended. \$2500 was presented to the school last Monday. "The Central Hunter Business Chamber gave their net proceeds from the night which was \$2300 & Cessnock Rotary Club gave \$200," said chamber president Brett Wild. "We would like to thank the Rotary club for their generosity." "The 'movie night' was organised by the Central Hunter Business Chamber with a myriad of sponsors helping to defray the cost. Sponsors for the evening ~ Major sponsors were Greta McDonalds, **McKg**. The following local businesses also tipped in: Bettie's Cleaning Solutions, Branxton Crib Box Café, Branxton Pharmacy, Excellence Laser Clinic, Forage Espresso, Hughes Mechanical, Hunter Pet Motel, Renew Energy & Electrical, Shaw & Bunner Legal, Tillys Play & Development Centre Greta & our wonderful local newspaper 'The Branxton Greta Vineyards News'," said Brett. Michelle Woodhouse, P&C president said that the money would go towards a 'smart board'. "On behalf of our school we cannot thank the chamber & Cessnock Rotary enough," said Michelle

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Photo above: (L-R): Beau - Deputy Prime Minister of Greta Public School, Ebony - Prime Minister of Greta Public School, M/s Sharon Morris - Greta Public School Principal, Brett Wild President - Central Hunter Business Chamber, Helen Scott - Secretary Central Hunter Business Chamber & Michelle Woodhouse - P & C President

Expressions of interest invited for Cessnock Vineyard District Community Working Group

Cessnock City Council is calling for expressions of interest (EOI) for community members who may be interested in participating in a working group that will help inform the Cessnock Vineyard District Planning Project. The working group will be made up of 15 people who will give their time voluntarily to assist Council in the planning project. Landowners, viticulturists, wine and tourism professionals, recreation and accommodation

providers are encouraged to apply. The objective of the project is to develop a suite of clear policy outcomes for the Cessnock Vineyard District that allows for and considers land use differentiation between the District's existing 'character' precincts. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said this is an opportunity to hear from a broad range of people and obtain a range of views in the development of these

important policies. "The working group will attend a number of meetings and provide assistance to Council in developing local strategic planning policy that reflects the Vineyards District Community Vision. This vision statement was established by the community and we're looking forward to continuing working with our community towards achieving the vision." "Our vineyard district is a national treasure attracting

visitors from around the world and we must ensure local planning policies reflect our vision for the vineyards region to continue to flourish." Not all EOI will be successful and Council will assess each EOI with a view of obtaining representation from a diverse range of community members. All EOI must be received by 5.00pm on 25 March 2019. To find out more and how to submit an EOI visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/planning-and-development/vineyarddistrict.

Draft Code of Meeting Practice, Code of Code of Conduct and Procedures

Did you know that you are invited to all Cessnock City Council meetings? Attending these meetings is a great way to find out what is happening in your community and provides you with a chance to voice your concerns on topics that are important to you and being considered at Council meetings. We are about to change how we do business and we need your help. Council is inviting members of the public to review our draft 'Code of Conduct and Procedures' and 'Code of Meeting

Practice'. These documents will guide Council on the way we do business and how we communicate and engage with our community and stakeholders. Council has undertaken a comprehensive review of these documents in line with the Models prescribed by the Office of Local Government. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent encourages residents to review the documents and provide feedback. "This is an important opportunity for members of the public to get involved

and shape how we do business as a council." For more information on these documents and timeframes to provide feedback please visit the [exhibitions](#) page of Council's website or you can contact Council's Customer Service Centre on 02 4993 4100. [Draft Code of Meeting Practice](#) - on public exhibition until 20 March 2019 (note: feedback can be provided up until 4 April 2019). [Draft Code of Conduct and Procedures](#) - on public exhibition until 20 March.



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 February 2019 to 28 February 2019.

Locality	Reference	Decision Date	Property Address	Application Description
BRANXTON	008/2018/00000560/001	8-Feb-2019	28 Station ST	Removal of Seven (7) Demountable Classroom Buildings and Construction of Six (6) Permanent Classrooms (in Three (3) Buildings) and associated Amenities and Landscaping
BRANXTON	008/2018/00000920/001	8-Feb-2019	46 Bowen ST	Garage
BRANXTON	008/2019/00000104/001	25-Feb-2019	96 Maitland ST	Inground Swimming Pool
EAST BRANXTON	008/2019/00000035/001	4-Feb-2019	21 Wyndham ST	Shed
GRETA	008/2019/00000008/001	5-Feb-2019	17 Talleyrand CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
GRETA	008/2018/00000260/001	6-Feb-2019	LOT: 1 DP: 1064564 High ST	Phased Development "Phase 1: One (1) into Three (3) Lot Subdivision Phase 2: Construction" of a Dwelling and One (1) into Two (2) Lot Subdivision
GRETA	008/2019/00000014/001	8-Feb-2019	123 Talleyrand CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
GRETA	008/2019/00000022/001	11-Feb-2019	4 Price ST	Carport
GRETA	009/2019/00000033/001	12-Feb-2019	122 Talleyrand CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage and Retaining Walls
GRETA	008/2019/00000083/001	20-Feb-2019	16 Bell ST	Two Patio Covers
GRETA	008/2019/00000066/001	21-Feb-2019	25 Popham ST	Shed
GRETA	008/2018/00000444/001	28-Feb-2019	100 High ST	Demolition of Small Existing Commercial Premises and Construction of Two (2) Commercial Premises
GRETA	008/2019/00000092/001	28-Feb-2019	10 Popham ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000870/001	5-Feb-2019	24 Rothbury ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Wall
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000884/001	5-Feb-2019	18 Saxby AV	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2018/00000904/001	7-Feb-2019	72 Kesterton RISE	New Single Storey Brick Veneer Dwelling
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000044/001	14-Feb-2019	57 Kesterton RISE	Two Storey Dwelling and Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000070/001	19-Feb-2019	15 Harkin RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage and Associated Retaining Walls
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000078/001	25-Feb-2019	76 Kesterton RISE	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NULKABA	008/2017/00000761/001	28-Feb-2019	16 O'Connors RD	Phased Subdivision Resulting in Six (6) Lots. Phase 1: One (1) Lot into Four (4) Lots. Phase 2: One (1) Lot into Three (3) Lots.
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000879/001	5-Feb-2019	99 Casuarina DR	Two Storey Dwelling and Garage
POKOLBIN	008/2019/00000007/001	11-Feb-2019	80 Casuarina DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000762/001	13-Feb-2019	2144 Broke RD	Change of Use to Cellar Door
POKOLBIN	008/2019/00000099/001	25-Feb-2019	107 Halls RD	Inground Swimming Pool

Disability advocacy services still fighting for their future – Cessnock electorate

The future of disability advocacy services in the Cessnock Electorate remains under threat due to the Government's failure to fund services on an ongoing basis.

Last year, the NSW Government had planned to cut all funding to disability advocacy services.

In the face of an enormous backlash from the sector, the Government announced a highly-conditional, two year reprieve.

This week, the NSW Disability Advocacy Alliance has resumed their state-wide campaign for ongoing funding, calling on the Government to commit to restoring funding in perpetuity.

Acting Shadow Minister for Disability Services, Kate Washington, and Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr have joined the fight for permanent funding in support of the incredible



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP disability advocacy services in the Cessnock region. With the National Disability Insurance Scheme now rolled out across the state, the increasing demand for disability advocacy services is undeniable,

in recognition of the important role they play in creating an inclusive and accepting society for all.

Quotes attributable to Kate Washington MP, Acting Shadow Minister for Disability Services:

"Disability advocacy services across NSW remain under threat.

"With the rapidly changing landscape in disability services, people with disabilities need advocates now more than ever. The government's eleventh hour reprieve was a politically convenient position which provides little certainty for the future.

"The Government is only concerned with surviving this next election. It's clear they still don't understand the disability sector, refusing to accept that the NDIS is not the solution to every problem."

Clayton Barr Member for Cessnock said that the disability sector is getting more and more complex for local participants, and it is taking a toll.

"Too many people are falling through the cracks.

"It is not fair for people with a disability to be left to navigate the system by themselves. Groups like Disability Advocacy NSW do essential work and should be supported, not under threat of funding uncertainty.

"I will continue to fight for guaranteed funding for groups like Disability Advocacy NSW so that they can focus on advocating for others, rather than their own survival."

Mark Grierson, CEO of Disability Advocacy NSW said that many NSW advocacy services felt short changed by the decision to provide two years funding.

"In reality, the government has slashed this offer to many services that received NDIS ILC (Information, linkages and capacity building) funding for extra work that is not advocacy."

particularly given the rapidly changing landscape within the disability sector. With problems surrounding the implementation of the NDIS and the Government's complete privatisation of the sector, people with disabilities are in need of advocates now more than ever. The Government has privatised the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care which previously provided much needed support to people with a disability.

Labor has committed to ongoing funding for disability advocacy services across NSW

An Irish priest was transferred to Texas. Father O'Malley rose from his bed one morning. It was a fine spring day in his new west Texas mission parish. He walked to the window of his bedroom to get a deep breath of the beautiful day outside.

He then noticed there was a donkey lying dead in the middle of his front lawn. He promptly called the local police station. The conversation went like this: "Good morning. This is Sergeant Jones. How might I help you?" "And the best of the day to yourself. This is Father O'Malley at St. Ann's Catholic Church. There's a donkey lying dead in me front lawn and would ye be so kind as to send a couple o'yer lads to take care of the matter?" Sergeant Jones, considering himself to be quite a wit and recognising the foreign accent, thought he would have a little fun with the good father, replied, "Well now Father, it was always my impression that you people took care of the last rites!" There was dead silence on the line for a moment.....

Father O'Malley then replied: "Aye, 'tis certainly true: but we are also obliged to notify the next of kin first, which is the reason for me call."



Branxton Town Centre Draft Public Domain Plan and Draft Development Control Plan



Residents were invited to view and discuss the Branxton Town Centre Draft Public Domain Plan and Draft Development Control Plan at a public information session held on Thursday 28 February evening with a good attendance.

In August 2017 a community workshop was held and the Branxton community provided initial input into the development of the plans which proposes significant improvements to the Branxton Town Centre including new pavements, street tree planting, a new public square and upgrades to the Branxton Oval car park.

The exhibition is running until Wednesday, 20 March 2019 and we encourage all residents to check it out & have your say (Note: Check out proposed parking).

<http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/exhibition/5720171BranxtonPDPandDCP>

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Council to farewell General Manager, Stephen Glen

Cessnock City Council's General Manager, Stephen Glen has announced his resignation after more than five years in the position. Mr Glen started with Council on the 3 June 2013 and this July will celebrate 30 years of service in local government.

This marks the start of Mr Glen's retirement where he looks forward to travelling and spending time with his family.

Mr Glen said its been a pleasure to serve the community of Cessnock.

"I've enjoyed working with the Mayor, Councillors and staff as we work toward the common goal of achieving for the Cessnock Local Government Area and its residents."

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent congratulated Mr Glen

on his retirement and thanked him for his commitment.

"Stephen has led Council with integrity and excellence, with community needs at the forefront of his mind. His knowledge of local government and extensive experience has ensured Council is in a strong position. I wish Stephen all the best in his future endeavours, as he enjoys time with his wife Christine and children."

A report will go to the Council meeting of the 20 March 2019 and with Council's consent Mr Glen will finish up in July 2019.



Retiring General Manager at Cessnock City Council Stephen Glen

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STEVE'S RANT

It appears that neither of the major parties contesting the upcoming State election have any clue as to what the State actually needs or what the people want.

Both are hell bent on this carbon reduction crusade, each trying to out do each other to gain brownie points among the Lefty Loonies from Sydney.

So, who are these Lefty Loonies? The majority are the young Millennials, who have been brainwashed by the Lefty Loonie public education system and the huge cohort of people employed in the public service in each of the levels of government administration. This is a large proportion of Sydney's population and when you add them together with the even larger group who take their cue from the likes of the ABC and popular media you can see where the major parties are coming from.

The question is do these people represent the best interest of the State and its people.

Well, if you can accept that's it is okay for the State Government to repudiate its responsibility to provide electricity and water to the people then fine; I don't think that is fine.

It takes a consortium of Australians with the financial and technological

where-with-all of a Chinese company to offer to do what the State Government should be doing, and what they have been requested to do time and again. A least once by me.

So, Kurri Kurri is one of the proposed sites for a new High Efficiency Low Emission coal fired power station. Ask your local member and those seeking election next week if they are going to back this venture? I have heard nothing from any of them. We live in hope.

Now about this carbon thing. Carbon is the element that is crucial in any storage or production of energy. This is also the basic element in all life forms as we know them.

One of the compounds of carbon, carbon dioxide (CO₂), is an essential step in the process of plant growth and food production. That is the process of photosynthesis whereby plants turn CO₂ into complex hydrocarbons to build and nourish themselves and at the same time release free oxygen atoms. This is powered by sunlight.

We had a wonderful fall of rain last Saturday, just watch the result of that in your garden and the countryside. YES, water is the other ingredient for life. Despite this common



knowledge of how plants work and therefore provide food for the animals and fish of the world we have this crazy ideology of the Lefty Loonie and the Green socialists which attempts to deny a reality which any gardener farmer or basically educated person knows. How can a rational, educated and informed population become so afraid of carbon that they abandon common sense and what is self-evident when viewed without the ideology of this world-wide scare campaign. For goodness sake they even have Tony Abbott supporting the Paris agreement. How has it come to this? I suppose if you were a citizen of Germany in the late 1930's you would also ask yourself how has it come to this?

We must look on the bright side of life (apologies to the Life of Brian), and life will go on as usual whichever party wins the state and federal elections. Just remember self-reliance and allowing your neighbour to get on with their enterprise

and life are the surest way of providing a future for our society. One last thing; when you vote for the upper house in each election you do not have to vote above the line. You only have to vote for 12 people below the line who you know. Jim Moylan is not a bad choice. He's a good man, an ex-soldier (Major General) and is listed below the line. The idiot NSW Liberal Party have put him in an unwinnable position on their senate ticket. Jim is married to Anne and they have three daughters and a son. One of their daughters is Erin Molan, a presenter of the rugby league television program, The Footy Show. Cheers, Steve



with Mike Lowing

But firstly it has already been proven that humans can influence the earth's atmosphere. From the 1970's a steady lowering of the amount of ozone was noted, the main cause being manufactured chemicals CFCs and HCFCs. Ozone depletion increases the likelihood of cancer among other effects. The 1989 Montreal protocol banned these chemicals and since then the ozone layer is recovering. This is proof of how even minute amounts of the wrong, man-made gas in the atmosphere can affect

the whole earth. Secondly, in Mrs Rants' letter when discussing dinosaurs which lived 65 million years ago, she states "new research indicates the gassy emissions from these giant dinosaurs may have been enough to warm the earth". "The researchers found that the greenhouse gas methane produced by all sauropods across the globe would have been about 520 million tonnes per year, a number on par with the total amount of methane currently produced by both natural and man-made sources". If 520 Mtpy emitted by dinosaurs was enough to

HAVE just been advised that Stephen Glen, General Manager Cessnock Council, has given notice that he intends to retire from the position this July. Stephen stepped into the position of General Manager on the 3 June 2013 and this July will celebrate 30 years of service in local government. Stephen is a qualified engineer and has a graduate diploma in local government. He has had extensive local government experience gained over 30 years as well as a wealth of experience in the private sector. Prior to joining Cessnock City Council Stephen was employed at Gosford City Council as the director of city services and had acted as the general manager of that council on a number of occasions for extensive periods of time. We wish him well in his retirement.

Last week I was reminded, once again, of the futility of trying to make sense of politics in general & its

warm the earth, then the current 520 Mtpy must also be enough to warm the earth. And why does Mrs Rants believe the dinosaur researchers but not today's climate researchers who are arguing the same effects of greenhouse gases? Allan Thomas, Lochinvar 2321 Age shall weary them This morning (Sat 2 Mar) was 'clean-up the village day in North Rothbury' and I witnessed the fall of a civilization; there was Mark on the mowers and whippersnappers, Steve, Ian, Tom, Margaret and Lee, Margaret H and Robyn and I. All of us, bar two, were being septuagenarians. The other two were quinquagenarian, or maybe sexagenarian. Steve didn't see a rock in the grass and the ride-on stopped mowing and the whipper snipper was unco operative. During the morning most

inherent bureaucracy. "Yes Minister" does come to mind. Here's one for the record.... our local Branxton RSL Sub-branch is the local custodian of our War Memorial known generally at the Rotunda. Built in 1922, nearly a hundred years old, it's in need of a revamp as a matter of respect for those who served & made the supreme sacrifice. The Sub-branch applied for a NSW state government grant to do the necessary work. The government came back to them and said that it would be appropriate to have a heritage study before going any further & gave them around \$3000 to complete the study. Going well so far.... The heritage study, when completed, suggested that a minimum of \$13,000 was needed to do the necessary work.

Still going well ... Last week the Minister for Counter Terrorism, Minister for Corrections,

who turned up were walking wounded. One with a bad ankle, one who had been stung by wasps, bad back, sore bums etc. Kate couldn't come because she was in Sydney Bill was ill with high fever, Pat was pale and too unwell and the rest were really incapacitated in one form or other. Is everyone else in the village lame or just too plain lazy to help out? Most of the rubbish on the way to Hanwood was alcohol bottles (whisky) and numerous credit cards, plus 'take away' rubbish. What kind of people are Australians? Look in the mirror ... are you happy to live in a dump? Are you happy to live like this? Then great. Nothing to see here. I explained to a young man the other day... if you swear in front of your girlfriend then other men will feel free to do so. To disrespect her. It had not occurred to him. You set

and Minister for Veterans the Hon. David Elliott asked for local representatives from the community to attend a presentation at the Rotunda.

Still going well in anticipation ... Members of the Branxton RSL Sub-branch, the president of the local business chamber & the media attended. The Minister handed the RSL Sub-branch a cheque for \$2000.

Not going well from this point The Minister had trouble understanding the irony of the situation & why the attendees were not happy. As Brian Furner OA, president of the Branxton RSL Sub-branch, said ... "I'd like to have told him to stick it where the sun don't shine but there were some school students present so I used my better judgement." Yes Minister!!

Cheers, Mike

the standards. No one else. Same with community pride.

As the result the ladies came to a consensus that nobody was going to do it anymore. The last clean up by Tidy Towns has been done. Mind you the village looks a treat but the cost of toil and the non-participation by those who could have given up a morning every couple of months has cost the community a happy team. We are all too old, and grievances are being aired. Think of this when you drive through. This is where a lack of appreciation of our physical age leads to resignation and creates friction in the group actually causing physical harm in the form of stress and anxiety. Its just too hard for us.

Unless the Generation X, Xennials, Millennials Generation Y, start getting off their arses. There won't be any input from the older people. Count on it. We have done our bit. Name & all details supplied by not recorded at request of writer



Mrs Steve Rants' letter
Mrs Steve Rants' letter of 27th February regarding climate change, ends by asserting that ... "to assume we can influence the climate of this planet is

supreme arrogance, the ultimate conceit". Presumably she believes humans are too puny to possibly influence the planet's atmosphere.

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Branxton.....	4938 3396	
Rural Fire Brigades		
Belford.....	6574 7149	
Broke.....	6579 1491	
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Rothbury.....	4991 1733	
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	1800 011 511	
Domestic Violence Support		
	4990 9609	
Centrelink Self Service		
	136 240	
Medicare	132 011	
Native Animal Rescue		
	0418 628 483	



Council supports Junior Landcare Warriors



undulatum, and a number of other garden escapees. Council's Parks Team will help remove illegally dumped rubbish and garden waste, while the Weeds Team will provide resources, information, practical skills and knowledge. Once the weeds have been dealt with the Warriors will follow up with replanting in early

Autumn or Winter, placing specially built nest boxes within the area to encourage native fauna back. The message from Council's Weeds Team is clear, you're never too young to learn how to care for our environment and become a weed warrior.

Any young person keen to join in can contact Robert Martin on rlbkmartin@bigpond.

Cessnock City Council is pleased to support the 'Junior Landcare Warriors', 12 Scouts who'll be taking on a rehabilitation project in one of our local parks. The group contacted Council to find out how they could assist. Council were keen to provide them with a project and space to learn about natural vegetation and habitat, offering up 'The Mound' within Log of Knowledge Park, Kurri Kurri. This is the raised area in the park that could use some love and care. The group will set about restoring the woodland patch to bring it back to its natural vegetation community and associated habitat values. The Scouts attended their first meeting at the park last night. Council's Biosecurity Weeds

Team, Barry Shepherd and Maria Edmonds as well as Stacy Mail from Landcare took the Warriors on a walk and talk educating them about the site and what they could achieve. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent also attended the first meeting and encouraged the Scouts as they embark on the journey. "It's great to see young people who are enthusiastic about their local environment and I look forward to following the Warriors as they carry out this project." Council's Weeds Team are keen to see the group tackle a few of the parks environmental weeds. These include Asparagus Fern, Bridal Creeper, Lantana, African Olive, Tecoma, Camphor Laurel, Pittsporum

Peter John BUTLER 2/1/73 ~ 16/3/03

WE shared so much happiness in times of yesterday and to say how much we miss you; we could never find a way. We wish with all our hearts that you were still with us. Because if memories keep you near; we are never far apart because you're always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts. Always loved and in our hearts.

Mum, Dad, Melissa & families



REFLECTIONS

Keeping a Holy Lent

The Season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday and lasts for forty days, finishing on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. Lent is a time of repentance and renewal, that enables us to prepare for the celebration of Easter Day, by being intentional about our focus on our relationship with God. This includes reflecting on the choices we make that separate us from God and seeking God's forgiveness.

Keeping a Holy Lent includes self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, self-denial and acts of generosity, and reading and meditating on the word of God. These are often called Lenten disciplines, and their purpose is to help us to draw closer to God. As we practice our Lenten disciplines each day, we can often be surprised by God's gifts of hope, peace and love. The question, "What did you give up for Lent?" is often asked of us and by us. Many Christians make a commitment to fasting and giving up some of the luxuries of life, to recall the forty days that Jesus was in the desert. During this time Jesus was tempted by the devil, but He did not sin, He did not give in or give up, rather He walked in step with God. May our Lenten disciplines equip us also to give up sin and walk in step with God.

Perhaps another question that could also be asked is, "What did you take up or change for Lent?" To begin something new or make change in the way we do things can also lead us closer to God. When we recognise that we sometimes are like the "fig tree planted in the vineyard" (Luke 13.6) that bears no fruit, we are given the opportunity to make changes that, with God's help, will equip us to bear good fruit. The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5.22-23)

Whether we give up something, or take up something this Lent, the most important parts of our Lenten journey are that we examine our heart and our spiritual health to enable us to return to God, to walk in step with God, to deepen our faith in God and to turn away from sin. God is good and gracious, always waiting for us, His children, to repent and return to Him. Where our hearts are, we shall also find our treasure. May we all keep a Holy Lent, may we come to know Jesus as our Lord and Saviour, and may each of us know God's blessings in our lives. Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Every blessing for a Holy Lent, Reverend Nicole



VOTE
1

Clayton Barr

COUNTRY LABOR FOR THE CESSNOCK ELECTORATE

A LOCAL WE CAN COUNT ON

Clayton was born and raised in Cessnock where he lives with his wife and their four children and because he lives locally he knows and understands local issues and will fight for our local community.

Clayton has been very active in our community, attending many functions and events and hosting more than 100 Barr-beques across the Electorate to make sure that he is available to everyone.

He has also managed to form relationships in Parliament that have allowed him to deliver for the community, despite being in Opposition. Clayton has shown that he can get the job done by being sensible, articulate and persistent.

CLAYTON BARR WILL PUT PEOPLE FIRST

Clayton and Country Labor will put the Cessnock Electorate first by stopping the Nationals' \$2.2 billion splurge on Sydney stadiums.

Clayton will:

- ✓ Properly fund our local schools and rebuild our regional TAFEs to train our workers;
- ✓ Ensure our Health and Emergency Services receive the funding and support they deserve;
- ✓ Protect local jobs by reinstating penalty rates and stopping the casualisation of the workforce;
- ✓ Ensure our Police services respond to our growing population.



Members say



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

The Cessnock LGA is about to make a better first impression on visitors and residents alike as Cessnock City Council install new gateway and suburb entry signage. The erection of suburb entry signage is well underway for Bellbird and North Rothbury. Each sign has been carefully designed to tell a story about the suburb bearing a distinct logo that represents what makes these areas unique. This project has been truly collaborative and Council would like to thank residents for their input. Council will continue pursuing additional funding opportunities to expand this project to other suburbs in the LGA. The installation of suburb entry signage and the gateway signage is expected to be completed by the end of March, weather permitting. These projects form part of the Hunter Valley Wine Country Tourism Signage Implementation Project and are partly funded by a NSW Government grant of \$1.2 million under the Building Better Regions Fund. For more information visit <http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/council/news/signagetoshowofftheCessnockLGA>

Applications closed on Friday 1 March for the 2019 Mayoral Academic Scholarships. Each year, the Scholarship program offers students enrolled at TAFE or University who are residents of the Cessnock LGA the chance to apply for a range of scholarships valued at \$2,500 each. We believe the scholarships not only help students financially to achieve their academic goals but provide them with important recognition they are on the right track. The winners will be revealed at the Scholarship presentation night Tuesday 7 May 2019, which marks the 18th year of this tradition. We would like to thank everyone who took the time to apply and to our generous sponsors. For more information about the Mayoral Academic Scholarships, visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/council/mayor/scholarships
Cheers, Bob



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

Raising the BARR
OUR POLICE ARE LISTENING
There is no doubt that our local area could use more Police. This is, as always, an ongoing work in progress. Certainly our crime rates, our geography and our workload

per Police officer tell the story that we clearly need more Police. But historically Police have been allocated based on population, and by this measure, we have struggled to have our local Police numbers lifted in any significant way. Despite the lack of staffing, our local Police do all that they can with the small numbers that they have. And this means that they are stretched across a really big area. The result of this stretching is that our community sometimes feels like the Police are ignoring their needs. Nothing could be further from the truth. Recently, the Police held a community meeting with the people of Greta/Branxton. The purpose was to provide a chance for the Police to hear directly from the residents the things that were worrying them. It was a terrific, pro-active step for the Police to take. My congratulations to them. Having a town hall meeting doesn't mean that everything is going to be fixed tomorrow, but it does mean that the conversation is being had and that efforts will be made to find solutions. Meanwhile, it is my job, as the local State Member, to be making the argument for more Police and making sure that they have the Police Stations and equipment to do their job. To this end, I have been, and will continue to, work with our local Police in the belief that together we can make the difference.

IT'S ELECTION TIME!
This will be my final column prior to the election and possibly ever (if I am not re-elected). If I no longer have a role to play in serving our community, I want to thank you for giving me your confidence in the eight years that you have. On Election Day and in the days leading up to the election all political parties will have dozens of volunteers out there helping. *Please be nice to the volunteers* – they are often just family and friends and they don't deserve any abuse. And despite feeling the pain of being forced to vote, try to imagine how bad things could be if you didn't get the chance to vote or if that you were murdered in your efforts to cast a vote, as happens in some countries around this world of ours.
Cheers Clayton



Cr Ben Mitchell - Maitland City Council-West Ward

Mr Maitland
The 27th of February was a

sad day for many Maitland residents as we were told of the passing of Mr Milton Morris AO, affectionately known as "Mr Maitland". Mr Morris was the longest serving state Member for Maitland. The former Liberal politician was Member for Maitland from 1956 to 1980 and the NSW Transport Minister from 1965 to 1975 in the Askin government. He won 9 elections before retiring to contest the federal seat of Lyne. He has been remembered as a man of great integrity who was popular on all sides of politics. Many normally loyal Labor voters have told me that they'd normally vote for their party's candidate "but for Milton he'd get my vote". Many good stories came out for a man who touched so many of our lives. The fact that Mr Morris would insist on walking from his office at one end of the High street to collect the mail at the other so that he could meet as many locals along the way as possible showed how much he loved this community and how accessible he made himself.

As the state's longest serving Minister for Transport I learned that whenever he had an announcement to make as minister, he always made sure the local member was present, regardless of what side of politics they were on. He always showed them respect. After politics he was the founding chairman of Hunter Valley Training Company and stayed in that position for 30 years. In that time HVTC helped 21,000 young people get apprenticeships and training. In 2011 he became the company's patron. Mr Maitland was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1988. For my part, I moved here long after Mr Maitland ceased being the local member but his shadow loomed large. I knew him as a humble branch member who I only met a handful of times. I was very touched when he sent me a short hand written note upon my election wishing me all the best. The NSW Premier released the following statement- "I am saddened by the passing of former NSW Minister for Transport, Milton Morris AO. On behalf of the people of NSW, I extend my deepest sympathies and condolences to Mr Morris' family. Mr Morris was a tireless advocate for his community as the Member for Maitland between 1956 and 1980, and was a giant of the Parliament of NSW and the Liberal Party. Mr Morris also served as Minister for Lands, Minister for Forests, and Minister for Decentralisation and Development. During World War II, he served with the Royal Australian Navy and the Volunteer Defence Corps. As Minister for Transport, Mr Morris was instrumental in the introduction of road safety initiatives we take for granted today, such as compulsory seatbelts and breathalysers. Road safety measures introduced in more recent years, such as 'Towards

Zero', are grounded in the pioneering work of Mr Morris.

The son of a railway guard, Mr Morris forever left a mark on Sydney by reviving John Bradfield's vision of an Eastern Suburbs Railway, initiating the planning and building of this transformative project. During my tenure in the transport portfolio, Mr Morris was generous with his time in providing me with wise counsel and practical advice. His indubitable legacy is the thousands of lives his road safety reforms saved."

In Maitland, Mr Morris will be remembered as a truly decent man who cared deeply about this community. His legacy lives on not only in the road safety initiatives he founded as Minister but also in the thousands of young people who got their start in life through what Mr Morris did in his time after politics. If anyone in Maitland deserved to take on the city's name it is surely "Mr Maitland".

I and all of Maitland extend my sympathy to Mr Morris' family at this difficult time.
Ben



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

With the countdown to the polls well and truly underway, time is running out for funding promises for Singleton ahead of next week's State Government election. But there's never a deadline for solid commitments, and I can promise that our dedication to keeping Singleton at the forefront of Macquarie Street won't stop when the votes have been counted. In fact, I'd like to extend the first invitation to the newly-elected Premier – whoever that may be – to make their first order of business a visit to Singleton so they can see the powerhouse of NSW for themselves. And while Ms Berejiklian or Mr Daley are doing the sums on the mining royalties derived from our local government area each year, they can also see where we need just a little bit back for public transport, education facilities and post-mining land use – to name a few.

I admit that I'm disappointed there haven't been more announcements for Singleton during campaigning. Having said that, I certainly did not want empty promises tied with political caveats. The people of Singleton are not pawns on an election game board, and the issues in our community are not to be cheapened as point-scoring photo opportunities. Our purpose in local government is to create the Singleton now and for the

future – with or without mining – that our community deserves. What we need to do that is outlined in our community's Advocacy Agenda, which has been sent to every election candidate and government minister. Included on the 20-strong list are construction of the Singleton Bypass, upgrades to Singleton Police Station, increased passenger train services, expansion of health services, solutions to overcrowding at Singleton High School and expansion of TAFE services in Singleton. So regardless of who wins on 23 March, no one can say they are not aware of what the people of Singleton need.

What's more, we've made it really easy for whoever the Local Member will be, and whoever is in Government, to get straight to work on delivering for our community. We have a real opportunity in Singleton to build on a vibrant, modern and connected community that supports our residents and businesses to thrive. To Gladys Berejiklian and Michael Daley: we don't want promises. What we're looking for over the next four years is action to help us lead the way in planning for a future post-mining, to ensure Singleton can continue to work hard for NSW.

Cheers, Sue



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP
Member for Hunter

I feel like a great weight has been lifted off my shoulders with positive developments on both the Muswellbrook and Singleton by-passes. While much work still needs to be done, I can rest easy that we are well and truly on our way to seeing both projects come to fruition within the next few years. In my time in Parliament, it's been a struggle to secure funding for four key and expensive New England Highway projects: the Belford Bends Deviation, the Scone by-pass, the Muswellbrook by-pass and the Singleton by-pass. Each is now complete, underway or has a funding commitment. So far only Federal Labor has committed substantial money for the Singleton project but I've no doubt the Coalition will match our pledge at some point because it has a business case which speaks for itself. Progress on the by-passes is good for residents, good for local businesses, and good for commuters who have to negotiate the traffic nightmare on a daily basis. It is also good for the economies of the Hunter and those to our north. It will make the New England more attractive as an option for those

traveling between Sydney and Brisbane maintaining its viability as a corridor of commerce.

The NSW election is a little more than a week away and from there readers will be back to the polling booths for a federal election less than 8 weeks later. One of the many things which is sure to leave voters scratching their heads is the different voting system. NSW has an "optional preferential" voting system and the Commonwealth has a "compulsory preferential" voting system. That means that in the NSW election, you can place a 1 next to the name of your preferred candidate and leave the other squares blank. Alternatively, you can fill out some or all of the other boxes. Each is a formal vote. But in the Federal election, you must fill in every box in the order of your preferences. Filling in just one box or square will result in your vote being informal and it won't be counted. People in many countries around the world are denied the right to choose who governs them. Please be careful not to waste your right to do so here in Australia.

People often ask me why we have preferential voting. They can't understand why we don't just award the prize to the person who received the most primary (or number 1 votes). Think about this: there are 3 candidates standing and there are 85,000 voters. Candidate A receives 40,000 votes, Candidate B receives 30,000 votes and Candidate C receives 25,000 votes. Candidate A is clearly the winner on a first-past-the-post basis. But while Candidate A received the most "primary" or "first preference" votes, 40,000 people, voted for her but 55,000 (more than half) voted for someone else. So under the preferential system we ask people to indicate who they would prefer out of the three candidates as their second choice if their first preference does not achieve fifty percent of the primary votes. After the primary votes are counted, the candidate with the lowest primary vote is eliminated and his or her votes pass to one of the other candidates. Which candidate the vote passes to is determined by the candidate who received the voters' second preference. It seems pretty fair.
Cheers, Joel



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News
P: 4938 1773

Pharmacist Advice

Medicines and alcohol

Alcohol can interact with some medicines, including those you can buy over the counter. Some of these interactions can be harmful or stop your medicine from working properly, so it's important to know when it isn't safe to mix the two.

How are medicines and alcohol metabolised?

Your liver breaks down much of the food, drinks, medicines and alcohol that enter your body. It does this through chemical reactions in the cells. Chemical reactions in cells often need other chemicals called enzymes to speed them along. The cell uses particular enzymes to help them break down different substances.

In some cases, both medicines and alcohol use the same enzymes. The medicines and alcohol interfere with each other, with the result that some medicines can be made less effective, and some can become toxic.

There's also the risk that alcohol enhances the side effects of some medicines and make them worse. Problems from alcohol interacting with medicines can happen with many different medicines. The most common ones are antibiotics, antidepressants, painkillers, sleeping tablets and certain antihistamines used in cough and cold remedies as well as some travel and allergy medicines.

If you take the wrong medicine with alcohol, you can get:

- * nausea and vomiting
- * headaches
- * drowsiness or sleepiness
- * dizziness and fainting
- * blood pressure changes
- * uncharacteristic behaviour
- * poor or loss of coordination
- * accidents

It can take time for your body to metabolise alcohol and medicines, so you can have these symptoms even if you don't take the medicine at exactly the same time as consuming alcohol.

Possible complications There is a risk of serious complications such as:

- * liver damage
- * heart problems
- * internal bleeding
- * weakened breathing
- * depression

Who is at greatest risk? Women, older people and those with liver problems are at greatest risk.

You are also at greater risk of you:

- * drink a lot of alcohol
- * are small
- * aren't healthy

Safe use of medicines and

alcohol: **Always read the label of your medicine. If it carries a warning, avoid alcohol. It's also best to seek doctor's or pharmacist's advice if you are unsure, and before you take any new medicine, including complementary (sometimes called natural or herbal) medicines.**

Medications Not to Take With Alcohol

Here a short list of brand-name drugs you should not take with alcohol.

Allergy, Cold, and Flu Medications You should avoid drinking if taking allergy medications and any multi-symptom cold and flu formulation. Drowsiness and dizziness are common, interfering with your ability to drive or operate heavy machinery. Because the combined use can impair judgment, there is also an increased risk of overdose.

Avoiding using alcohol with: Alavert, Allegra or Allegra-D, Benadryl, Clarinex, Claritin or Claritin-D, Dimetapp Cold and Allergy, Sudafed Sinus and Allergy, Triaminic Cold and Allergy, Tylenol Cold and Flu, Zyrtec Angina Medications Angina, also known as ischemic chest pain, is a type of pain caused by reduced blood flow to the heart. Taking alcohol with the angina medication nitroglycerin can lead to a rapid heartbeat (tachycardia), sudden changes in blood pressure, dizziness, and fainting.

Avoid drinking when taking any brand of nitroglycerin. Anti-Anxiety and Epilepsy Medications The combined use of alcohol and anti-anxiety and epilepsy medications can cause drowsiness, dizziness, slowed breathing, breathing restriction, impaired motor control, abnormal behaviour, liver damage, and memory loss. Avoid taking alcohol with: Ativan, Klonopin, Paxil, Valium, Xanax

Antibiotics The combined use of alcohol and certain antibiotics can cause rapid heartbeat (tachycardia), sudden changes in blood pressure, stomach pain, vomiting, headache, flushing, and liver damage. Avoid taking alcohol with: Amoxicillin, Flagyl, Nizoral, Nydrasid, Tindamax

Antidepressants As a rule, the combined use of alcohol and antidepressants can cause drowsiness, dizziness, increased feelings of depression, or suicidal thoughts (especially in young people). Anti-Nausea Medications The combined use of alcohol and anti-nausea medications can cause drowsiness, dizziness, and impaired motor control. Avoid taking alcohol with: Antivert, Atarax, Dramamine, Phenergan

Anti-Seizure Medications The combined use of alcohol and anti-seizure medications can cause drowsiness, dizziness, and even the very seizures they are meant to prevent. Avoid taking alcohol with: Dilantin, Klonopin Arthritis Medications The combined use of alcohol and certain arthritis medications can cause ulcers, stomach bleeding, and liver problems. Avoid taking alcohol with: Celebrex, Naprosyn, Voltaren

cause bleeding or have the opposite effect, enhancing blood clot formation and increasing the risk of stroke or heart attacks. Avoid taking alcohol with: Coumadin (warfarin) Cholesterol Medications The combined use of alcohol and certain cholesterol-lowering medications can cause flushing, itching, stomach bleeding, and liver damage.

Avoid taking alcohol with: Advicor, Altacor, Crestor, Lipitor, Mevacor, Niaspan, Vytorin, Zocor Cough Suppressants As with cold and flu remedies, the combined use of alcohol and cough medications can lead to drowsiness, dizziness, and motor impairment.

Avoid taking alcohol with: Robitussin A-C or Robitussin Cough, Delsym Diabetes Medications The combined use of alcohol and certain diabetes medications can cause abnormally low blood sugar, nausea, vomiting, headache, rapid heartbeat, and sudden changes in blood pressure. Avoid taking alcohol with: Glucophage, Micronase, Orinase

Heartburn Medications The combined use of alcohol and certain heartburn medications can cause rapid heartbeat (tachycardia), sudden changes in blood pressure, and enhanced alcohol effect. Avoid taking alcohol with: Axid, Reglan, Tagamet, Zantac High Blood Pressure Medications The combined use of alcohol and hypertension medications can cause dizziness, fainting, drowsiness, and irregular heartbeat (arrhythmia).

Avoid taking alcohol with: Accupril, Capozide, Cardura, Catapres, Cozaar, Hytrin, Lopressor HCT, Lotensin, Minipress, Vasoretic Muscle Relaxants The combined use of alcohol and muscle relaxants can cause drowsiness, dizziness, slowed or impaired breathing, impaired motor control, abnormal behavior, memory loss, and seizures. Avoid taking alcohol with: Flexeril, Soma, Antivert, Atarax

Narcotic Pain Medications As a rule, the combined use of alcohol and narcotic pain medications can cause drowsiness, dizziness, slowed or impaired breathing, impaired motor control, abnormal behaviour, memory loss, and an increased risk of overdose. Avoid taking alcohol with: Darvocet-N, Demerol, Fiorinal, Percocet, Vicodin

Over-the-Counter Pain Medications The combined use of alcohol and painkillers (including nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) can cause stomach upset, stomach bleeding, stomach ulcers, rapid heartbeat (tachycardia), and liver damage. Avoid taking alcohol with: Advil, Aleve, Excedrin, Motrin, Tylenol

Any drug or multi-symptom remedy containing ibuprofen Prostate Medications The combined use of alcohol and prostate medications can cause dizziness, lightheadedness, and fainting. Avoid taking alcohol with: Cardura, Flomax, Minipress

Sleep Aids As a rule, the combined use of alcohol and sleep medications should be avoided. It can cause slowed or impaired breathing, impaired motor control, abnormal behavior, memory loss, and fainting.

2019 Premier's Volunteer Recognition program

State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Clayton Barr, MP, is pleased to announce the successful recipients from the Cessnock Electorate who have been recognised through the Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program. The Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program was established to recognise and appreciate the contribution of volunteers who have made active efforts to strengthen our



community. The successful recipients of the Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program from within the Cessnock Electorate are: Les Goldie – awarded for 40 years of volunteering experience; Dale Goldie – awarded for volunteering effort in the community; Ray Fallon – awarded for volunteering effort by the newly retired; Jane Goldie – awarded for 25 years of volunteering experience.

1 in 3 people in NSW volunteer, giving their time, skills and energy to help others. They all deserve recognition for their contribution to community life. State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Mr Clayton Barr said "I am very pleased to offer my congratulations to the successful recipients" "Volunteers are indispensable within the community. This award is a celebration of hard working people who have made proactive and selfless contributions to our community over a significant part of their lives". "The contribution these individuals have made to the local community is outstanding, in no way do any of these volunteers seek public recognition, but given their achievements, I think each of them deserve to be applauded by our community". "Volunteers are the lifeblood of our community and we rely so heavily on them. Without volunteers, there is no doubt our community would not be able to function as successfully as it does".

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- Ingredients**
- 4 chicken breast minute steaks
 - 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
 - 1 brown onion, finely diced
 - 2 garlic cloves, crushed
 - 2 teaspoons dried oregano
 - 700g tomato passata
 - 1 teaspoon white sugar
 - 250g cherry tomatoes
 - 3/4 cup mixed olives
 - 30g Greek fetta, crumbled
 - Fresh oregano leaves, to serve
 - 4 warmed pita pocket breads, to serve

- Method**
- Step 1**
Season both sides of the chicken with salt and pepper.
- Step 2**
Heat 1/2 the oil in a large, deep frying pan over high heat. Add chicken. Cook for about 45 seconds each side or until browned and just cooked through. Transfer to a plate.

15-minute Greek chicken



- Step 3**
Add remaining oil to pan. Reduce heat to medium-high. Add the onion, garlic and dried oregano. Cook, stirring, for 2 minutes 30 seconds. Add passata, sugar, tomatoes and olives. Bring to a simmer. Cook for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Season with salt and pepper.
- Step 4**
Return chicken to pan. Cook for 1 to 2 minutes or until chicken is heated through. Sprinkle with fetta. Top with fresh oregano. Serve with pita bread.
- Nutrition:**
2387 kJ Energy, 20.9g Fat Total, 4.3g Saturated Fat, 5g Fibre 44.3g Protein, 93mg Cholesterol, 1114mg Sodium & 47.9g Carbs (total)
All nutrition values are per serve

Newcastle Writers' Festival is coming to Cessnock!



said last year's event was excellent and it's wonderful to see it coming back to Cessnock.

"The festival has been running since 2013 and continues to grow. Last year the program boasted 140 writers, over 80 events and was enjoyed by around over 11 000 visitors, including 3 000 school children. We are excited to be a part of this fantastic celebration of writers and welcome visitors to our local government area." On Thursday 4 April local school students will be lucky enough to meet and hear from acclaimed Australian children's

authors Matt Stanton, Katrina Nannestad and Oliver Phommavanh. The authors will visit nine locations, attended by a total of 18 schools as part of the Festival's Schools Program. The visiting writers will perform their work, talk about their craft and take questions offering students a unique and creative learning experience.

On Saturday 6 April at 7.30pm, *Secrets and Lies: An Evening with Michael Robotham* will be held at CPAC. In 2018, Michael was headed to Cessnock as part of the Festival but instead found himself having life-saving heart surgery. We are proud to announce this much-anticipated talk has been rescheduled for this

year's festival.

There is no doubt it will be a memorable evening with the novelist in his early years working as an investigative journalist across America, Australia and Britain. He investigated notorious cases such as the serial killer couple, Fred and Rosemary West and worked with clinical and forensic psychologists assisting police investigate psychological driven crimes. In 1993, Michael quit journalism to become a ghostwriter for non-fiction titles involving prominent figures in the military, arts, sport, and science. Michael's 2004 debut thriller, *The Suspect*, sold more than one million copies around the world. In 2015, he won the UK's prestigious Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger Award with his standalone thriller *Life or Death* and in 2018 won

the Australian Book Industry Award for General Fiction Book of the Year with *The Secret She Keeps*. He has now written 13 novels that have sold millions of copies worldwide. Tickets to *Secrets and Lies: An Evening with Michael*

Robotham are \$25 and available by contacting CPAC on 4993 4266. This event will be hosted by award-winning author Barry Maitland. Michael Robotham will also be signing books after the event.

Cessnock City Council is thrilled to welcome the 2019 Newcastle Writers Festival back to Cessnock for the second time. Once again the Festival is teaming up with Cessnock City Library and Cessnock

Performing Arts Centre (CPAC) to host a prestigious author event and popular children's author program in local schools. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent

NOTICE FOR EVERYONE WITH A CONNECTION TO THE GRETA CAMP



To celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Army Camp and the 70th anniversary of the Migrant Camp, Greta Museum is asking for YOUR STORY, in the year 2019.

- Only one page is required, so it needs to be summarised. Please also provide a photograph (old or new). The title will be 'My Story of Coming to Greta Camp, by ...'
- All the stories will be stored in the Greta Museum for future generations to learn about the past, in a specific file and filed under whichever name/s you prefer
- One story may be chosen randomly each fortnight to print in *The News*

Send, or bring in, to Neridah at Greta Museum, 96 High Street Greta NSW 2334. Open Wed. & Sat. 11am-3pm or email to gretamuseum@gmail.com (queries: call 0427657150)



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EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CESSNOCK VINEYARD DISTRICT COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP 59/2018/4 - VINEYARD DISTRICT PLANNING PROJECT

Cessnock City Council is inviting members of our community to participate in an exciting opportunity to shape the future of the Vineyard District. The Vineyard District Working Group is calling Landowners, Viticulturalists and Wine Tourism Professionals to provide their expertise, ideas and a broad range of views regarding the Vineyard District.

The Working Group will contain up to fifteen people and participation is voluntary. The Working Group will provide Council with insights and feedback on developing the Vineyard District.

Further information regarding the expressions of interest, including application form, can be found on Council's website.

In order to be considered by Council, expressions of interest must be received by **5.00pm on 25 March 2019** and should quote **"59/2018/4 - Vineyard District Planning Project"**. Expressions of Interest should be addressed to The General Manager and can be submitted via:

- Email to council@cessnock.nsw.gov.au; or
- Post to PO Box 152, CESSNOCK NSW 2325

All relevant supporting information must be attached to your completed Expression of Interest Form.

Any enquiries should be directed to Council's Strategic Land Use Planning section on 4993 4155.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL CEMETERIES MASTERPLAN

At its meeting of 8 February 2019, Council resolved to place on Public Exhibition The Draft Cessnock City Council Cemeteries Masterplan.

The Public Exhibition period will be from **Monday 11 February to Wednesday 13 March 2019**. The document can be viewed at the following locations:

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

Written submissions should be addressed to the General Manager and will be accepted up **until 4.00 pm Wednesday 13 March** via email recreation@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or post.

SINGLETON SHIRE LANDCARE NETWORK INVITES YOU TO A WORKSHOP ON

'The Brilliance of Australian Flora and Birdlife'


31 March 2019 (9.30am - 1pm)
 Elderslie Hall, 758 Elderslie Rd

- 9.30 to 10.30 Brilliance of Australian flora by Mark Abell of Australian Plants Society
- 10.30 to 11.00 morning tea
- 11.00 to 12.00 Australian Birds presentation by Hunter Bird Observers Club
- 12.00 to 13.00 Australian bush tucker by Deidrie Jinks (director of the Sydney Rainforest)

Entry cost \$10 per person includes morning tea. Native plants will be available to purchase on the day.

Book your space at <https://sslflora.eventbrite.ie> or email lowerhunterlandcare@gmail.com 0429444305






WITH

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

SHAW & BUNNER

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The introduction of evidence suggesting previous criminality

This week we consider another High Court decision relating to the introduction of evidence. The matter, Perry v The Queen, was heard in 1982.

In 1982, Emily Phyllis Gertrude Perry appealed to the High Court after being sentenced to 15 years' jail in the South Australian Supreme Court for the attempted murder of her third husband, Kenneth Warwick Henry Perry, by arsenic poisoning. Mr Perry was found to be suffering from arsenic poisoning. Mr Perry gave evidence asserting his wife's innocence. The defence said Mr Perry must have ingested the arsenic while restoring a musical instrument.

At the trial the Crown led evidence that Mrs Perry's second husband, Albert Otto Haag, and her brother, Francis William Montgomerie, had died of arsenic poisoning in 1961 and 1962 respectively, and that her de facto husband, Jim Duncan, had died of an

overdose of barbiturates in 1970. The accused benefited financially from the deaths of her second husband and her de facto husband, and would have benefited from the death of her third husband if he had died. An inquest was held into the death of the second husband, but no charges resulted. The question for the High Court was whether evidence of the earlier deaths should have been admitted. Usually, evidence of previous convictions or evidence suggesting previous criminality is not usually admissible. However, the law makes an exception for what is called "similar facts", but as the court held in this case the evidence tendered to prove similar facts must have a strong degree of probative force. It is not enough that it merely raises a suspicion that the accused may have been guilty of the similar misconduct alleged or of



the crime charged. The Court held that critical parts of the evidence were more prejudicial than probative and were not admissible. Mrs Perry's conviction was quashed. The Court ordered a new trial, but the Crown did not proceed with it. The case illustrates the importance of the rules of evidence in reducing the danger of prejudice and misplaced suspicion.

Mr and Mrs Perry went on to give television interviews regarding the matter and resumed married life. Cheers, Gemma



New report reveals rental vacancies increase across most of NSW



The latest REINSW Residential Vacancy Rate Report, released on 22 February 2018, reveals a 0.5 per cent increase in rental vacancies across Sydney, as well as increases in key NSW areas such as the Illawarra region (1.4 per cent increase) and the Hunter region (0.1 per

cent increase). The REINSW Residential Vacancy Rate Report is based on the proportion of unlet residential dwellings to the total rent roll of REINSW member agents on the 15th of each month. Carried out monthly, the research – a survey of REINSW member agents conducted by Survey Matters – collects the total properties on agency rent rolls, the number of properties that were vacant on the 15th of the month, and in which postcode the majority of agents' rental properties are located. The suburb-level

rates reported by agents are weighted based on the ABS 2016 Census Selected Dwelling Characteristics [1]. The latest report – taken on 15 January – is based on survey responses covering 132,493 residential rental properties.

Sydney data
Overall, Sydney experienced a 3.7 per cent vacancy rate in January, compared with 3.2 per cent in December. Inner Sydney [2] and Outer Sydney [3] saw modest increases from December, while Middle Sydney [4] saw a 0.9 per cent drop in vacancies from the previous month – down to 4.2 per cent.

REINSW President Leanne Pilkington says: "Feedback from real estate agencies in Sydney's middle ring – such as in Parramatta, Auburn and Bankstown – has been that the higher vacancy rates are due to new apartment developments, which have led to a market surplus. Landlords are finding it difficult to adjust by reducing rent.

"At the same time, real estate agencies in Sydney's inner ring who report to us regularly – for example in Campsie, Gladesville and Artarmon – have shown a decrease in their vacancy

rates this month."

The Hunter region
While vacancies in the Hunter region overall remained fairly steady, Newcastle saw an increase of 0.6 per cent from December, to 2.5 per cent this month. Leanne says, "Agent feedback in Newcastle suggests that it is getting harder to find tenants, with a slower market and a surplus of properties up for lease."

The Illawarra region
Wollongong saw a significant jump in rental vacancies, from 2.7 per cent on 15 January, to 2.9 per cent on 15 January. "Agents have let us know there are a lot of new developments in the area – mainly for student housing – boosting Wollongong's vacancy rate," Leanne says. "Demand for student housing has also led to established residents in the area renting out their granny flats and rooms, which is also a contributing factor."

Other regional NSW areas The rest of NSW saw mild increases in five key areas: the Central Coast (to 2.3 per cent), Mid-North Coast (2.1 per cent), Murrumbidgee (1.0 per cent), New England (to 2.1 per cent) and Riverina (which saw an increase of 0.9 per cent, to 3.1 per cent this month).

The Central West (2.2 per cent vacancy rate), Coffs Harbour (1.2 per cent) and

the South Eastern regions (1.3 per cent) saw the largest decreases, of between 0.5 and 0.7 per cent.

RBA keeps interest rates on hold, giving a cooling economy the benefit of the doubt

The Reserve Bank has given the Australian economy the benefit of the doubt, leaving interest rates on hold despite mounting evidence of a serious slowdown. The RBA last moved in August 2016 when it cut its cash rate to 1.5 per cent, an historic low.

The decision to hold was taken ahead of what is expected to be weak economic growth to be released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Only last month the RBA cut its forecast for GDP growth to 2.4 per cent for the year to June 2019, having in November forecast a much more robust, above-trend 3.2 per cent.

The central bank also adopted a neutral stance on rates, suggesting the next move was as likely to be down as up – a departure from its previously stated desire to raise rates.

The continuing decline in house prices – coupled with weak consumer

sentiment, insipid wage growth and construction sector rolling over – has led to fears the economy is not only slowing, but could stall or even go into reverse. Weak partial data feeding into fourth quarter GDP numbers has led most market economists to slash their forecasts for growth to well below even the RBA's downgraded expectations. However, the decision to hold for a record 28th consecutive meeting came as little surprise, with the market pricing in only a 2 per cent chance of a cut, and no chance of a hike.

Positive outlook
RBA governor Philip Lowe maintained an upbeat assessment of the economy, which he said was being supported by rising business investment, higher levels of spending on public infrastructure and increased employment. "The central scenario is still for the Australian economy to grow by around 3 per cent this year," Dr Lowe said. "The main domestic uncertainty continues to be the strength of household consumption in the context of weak growth in household income and falling housing prices in some cities. "A pick-up in growth in household income is nonetheless expected to

support household spending over the next year."

Rate cuts on their way: economists

Indeed Asia-Pacific economist Callam Pickering said, despite the RBA's optimism, the market expects rates to be cut before the end of the year.

"The sheer number of spot fires across the Australian economy – which includes core inflation well below its target and falling house prices – has created an environment where cutting rates may be the most prudent course to take," Mr Pickering said.

"Even if that hasn't occurred, growth has eased considerably over the past six months and household consumption, which accounts for well over half the Australian economy, is coming under intense pressure from low wage growth and falling property prices."

Mr Pickering noted a struggling household sector has never been a recipe for economic success.

UBS economist George Tharenou said only a burst of government spending looks to have saved the economy shrinking in the fourth quarter.

Mr Tharenou said he expected the economy slowed to annual growth of 2.4 per cent, well below the RBA's forecast, and raised the risk of an earlier than expected cut.

EVENTS FOR THE 80TH ARMY CAMP & 70TH MIGRANT CAMP

2019 ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Anniversary

This year there will be a number of events in Greta, Cessnock and Newcastle to celebrate the anniversaries of the camps. To keep up-to-date of what is happening go to:

<http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/greta-camp-anniversaries-2019>

Alternatively, the calendar of events is available in Greta Museum, 96 High Street, Greta, open Wednesdays & Saturdays 11am – 3pm.

Upcoming Greta events will also be advertised on the outside of the Greta Museum door and Greta Bakery noticeboard. Some events will need to be booked ahead, so don't miss out!



Branxton Royal Federal Hotel raises over \$5000 'Worlds Greatest Shave'

LAST Saturday evening saw staff, guests and patrons gather at the Royal Federal Hotel Branxton to raise money for the Leukaemia Foundation. "The Worlds Greatest Shave" has become an annual event at the Royal Federal & this years evening has surpassed all previous years funds raised with over \$5000 going to the foundation.

This year the Leukaemia Foundation celebrated 21 years of the World's Greatest Shave campaign.

The World's Greatest Shave began back in 1998 is now one of Australia's biggest and most loved fundraising events.

People of all ages will shave, colour, or wax the hair



The Royal Federal Hotel chef, Gilbert., before and after



on their head, chest or face – supported all the way by proud family, friends, colleagues and classmates. Some will have a personal connection to blood cancer, while others take part simply to have fun, tick a bucket list box and raise money for a good cause. More than 2 million Aussies have taken part over the past two decades, with an estimated 37,5000 kilograms of hair removed! **At the end of 2018 \$8,183,473 had been raised.**



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Things You May Not Know About

with Neridah Kentwell

.....GRETA

A True Love Story from the First World War

On Friday 12 May 1916, in the *Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners' Advocate*, the Greta District News column reported six members of the Miners Corps were entertained at the Central Hall on the previous Wednesday evening, as a goodbye before they left for war. One of these men was listed as W. Morris from the Central Greta mine. Behind this

Georgina and William Morris. However, his official address on enlistment was Day Dawn, Murchison in WA, a gold mining municipality, where his family had probably moved for work. William was classified as a sapper, and become part of the No 4 Tunnelling Company. A sapper was usually a private with skills in jobs such as building and repairing roads and bridges, laying and clearing mines and as 29 year old William became part of a tunnelling company it showed that he was to use his coal mining skills to help undermine the enemy. He enrolled in

around 1912 due to Walter's ill health, caused from working in the mines, and moved to Pelaw Main to run the local grocery store.

Nobody knows where William Morris and Sadie Melville actually met although William seemed to move about a bit.

They could have met in Greta when Sadie was too young to marry, or at Pelaw Main when he called in to their store to buy something.

When William left to go to war she would have been aged 25; perhaps her family convinced her to wait until he returned before they married. Both families had come out from Lanarkshire in Scotland to find work in the mines. William was obviously determined to do his bit for his country before he settled down, and she was in the same mind as she became a nurse during WW1 after moving to Sydney to work and live with one of her sisters.

Sadly, William's war ended when he was returned to



initialled Christian name was a William who had a heart full of hope that he would return, as he had a special woman in his life to come back to.

According to his AIF records William had been born in Charlestown in NSW to

Sydney but his medical was performed at West Maitland.

Sarah (Sadie)

Melville was born in Greta in 1891 and lived with her family of many siblings and parents, Walter and Christina Melville. The family left Greta sometime

Australia on 4 May 1917. He was suffering from what they then called 'shell shock', now known as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), as well as shell concussion, both serious conditions.

This occurred after only two months in France, in around November 1916.

After arriving in Australia he was then sent straight to his family in Western Australia and Sadie lost her love in a terrible way, as he became an invalid for the rest of his life and they may never have seen each other again.

William did not actually die until 22 August 1944 in the Repatriation Ward of a hospital in Perth. In one of his death notices by a relative he was remembered as 'A smiling face, a heart of gold'.

Sadie died at age 91. Her great niece, Ann, says the family story was that Sadie had lost her beau in the war, and in a way she certainly did.

She never married and her precious box of mementos was passed down to Ann who found in it, and researched, the gold medallion given to William by the 'Citizens of Greta' at his farewell gathering.

Sadly Sadie didn't seem to have owned a photo of William, but the keepsake, perhaps given to Sadie by William's family, or perhaps by



• Sadie Melville in her nurses uniform

Do you REMEMBER when....

The news Issue No 59 27th Jan 2000 Page 6

Letters to the Editor

Informative article on snake bite
Veterinary Surgeon John Richardson wrote a timely and very informative article on snake bite in pets in No 57 issue of 'The News'. As John said, this season is the worse for three years and I agree with him. I would like to wake people up to the high toxicity of Australian snakes; I know many people believe the Rattlesnake and the Cobra are the most dangerous ~ this is only because they have an excellent publicity agent in "Hollywood". Australian scientists Peter Mirtschin and Dr Richard Davis have published a relative toxicity comparison of Australian snakes with exotic foreign species. Taking the Asian Cobra (*Naja naja*) with a reading of 1, the King Cobra (*Ophiophagus hannah*) has a toxicity reading of 0.26, the Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake (*Crotalus Adamanteus*) is 0.06. Now we get into the "big league".

Our common Tiger Snake has a toxicity reading of 4.25, the Taipan is 7.87, our local Eastern Brown snake is 12.35 (the second most toxic snake in the world), but the big boy is our Inland Taipan (*Oxyuranus microlepidotus*) with a rating of 49.5 times more toxic than the Asian Cobra; its lethal dose of venom is 0.01² ~ one bite will yield a massive 44.2mg of venom & this one bite has enough venom to kill 200,000 mice, an overkill, the reason being is that it snap bites and the prey has to die within recovery distance. It is the deadliest terrestrial snake known to man. Fortunately it is not aggressive if left alone and lives in remote arid regions.

As John said, the only striped snakes in the area are juvenile brown snakes, some carry these stripes into adulthood ~ juveniles are just as dangerous as the adults. To avoid confusion we prefer to call the King Brown Snake the Mulga

Snake; this snake, which can be from light brown to a rich coppery brown, is in fact a member of the Black Snake family. Brown Snakes are of the family *Psuedonaja* meaning false cobra. Black Snakes are of the family *Psuedechis*. Different anti venoms have to be used for the Brown Snake, Brown Snake anti venom, for the Black Snake, Black snake anti venom and Tiger Snake or Black Snake anti venom if the snake has not been identified. New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia and Papua New Guinea can use a polyvalent snake anti venom. The CSIRO has produced a venom detection kit which will reduce the need to administer large volumes of polyvalent anti venoms. Very many Australians owe their lives to great researchers like Dr C.H Kellaway of the CSIRO, who in the 1920's set out to find an anti venom for the Tiger Snake; this was successfully produced in 1929. It also gave cross protection against some other species. In modern times Dr Struan Sutherland will always be remembered for his great efforts. Dr Barnes of North Queensland dived with death when he waded out into the sea and captured Box Jellyfish (*Chironex fleckeri*), the late Dr Barnes brought the full potential of this lethal creature to light by his courage and dedication. He estimated that 6m of tentacles would, if untreated, kill a child or small adult.

These great scientists have given us a greater margin of safety to enjoy the bush providing we don't do stupid things.

In 1951 I was working with Queensland Forestry & a motorist on the Brisbane Valley Highway saw a Brown Snake cross the road and go into the grass. He stopped his car and tried to kill it with his crank handle, bitten, he died 39 hours

later in Brisbane General Hospital. In 1973 an intoxicated man walked into a social club in Sydney, pulled a small snake with large head from his pocket and to frighten people put it on the bar. He thought it was a baby python. It bit him on the hand three times & a short time later he had a fit of coughing and fell down dead. The snake was recognised as a highly venomous Rough Scaled Snake (*Tropidechus carinatus*). With our very dangerous snakes there is no margin of error. Leave them alone.

Jack Walsh, Lower Belford

Millenium Drive joining Greta and Branxton

A definite ☺ to the owners of the farm at Black Creek for allowing the \$ to dictate – thus creating another Bill-Board blot on our beautiful landscape. Don't we get enough advertising as it is via the media, T.V and electronic wizardry without resorting to spoiling the environment?—Shame!

As a gesture towards unity and community spirit, the idea of a Millenium Drive joining Greta and Branxton with an Avenue of trees, say, for example, Jacarandas and Silky Oaks, seems to me a really great idea. These trees, although relatively slow growing, would live for 100 years and more, and be a spectacular sight as they both bloom at the same time. Perhaps families could sponsor a tree and have a living tree for the next generation to remember them by. And what better time then now for our two tidy towns organisations to plant an "Avenue for the Millenium".
Yours sincerely, Mrs. Helen Rix, Standen Drive, Lower Belford



• Sarah (Sadie) Melville lost her William to the Great War

William himself before he left, was obviously cherished by her for the rest of her life.

In this year of the 80th anniversary of the Army Training Camp at Greta it is time to think about your own family's love stories.

For more war and army related stories, photos and displays, or to add your own



one page family story with a photo to our collection, call into Greta Museum on a Wednesday or a Saturday between 11am and 3pm. Contact the museum by email at gretamuseum@gmail.com or phone Neridah on 0427657150.

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Royal Easter Show will be on from 12th – 23rd April and it falls in the school holidays. The CWA have Tea Rooms open there every day of the Show, so please if you go keep a lookout. Funds raised from the Tea Rooms go towards CWA Projects, including Disaster and Drought Relief. The CWA State Conference is on 6th-10th May at Albury. In 2020, it will be in Newcastle which is great – venue TBA.

It is with great pleasure that we are catering for the Cancer Council Australia's Biggest Morning Tea which will be held on Tuesday, 14th May, at Branxton Community Hall, 10.00am. Cost \$15.00. RSVP to Marie Shearer on 0402015850. All monies raised go to the Cancer Council. Another item of interest which if you don't know about, you may enjoy is THE FESTIVAL OF FLEECES held on the Long Weekend in June, every year at MERRIWA. So if you can't go this year, there is always next year. I have been, so can highly recommend it. Saturday is the day when they run the sheep up the street with the coloured socks on. You have to be there – it's a great sight. And yes, there is a CWA Rooms there also, serving you



lovely scones, cakes etc. Country of Study for 2019 is Papua New Guinea. Fauna – Koala. Flora – Kurrajong Tree. Foe – Carp. Product Promotion – Australian Honey. Will advise other functions in future articles. We would happily welcome anyone interested in helping to raise money to help others in need, or assist in any other ways, and also making

new friends. Should anyone be interested in joining Branxton/Greta CWA, or like any information, or attending any of our functions, please contact our Secretary, Marie Shearer on 0402015850 or email branxtongretacwa@hotmail.com Denise McGoldrick
Publicity Officer.

Photo above: (l-r) Leanne Bendeich, Marie Shearer, Noeleen Bendeich & Terri Collins at HRG Council Meeting

After all members feeling rejuvenated after a wonderful long break, It was back to work on 12th February, 2019, for our first meeting of the year. First CWA function on the calendar was the Hunter River Group (HRG) Council Meeting held at Singleton on 25th February, attended by Noeleen, Leanne, Marie, Denise and new member Terri Collins. It was also the Judging of the Handicraft which Leanne assisted with. The results of the judging will not be known until the HRG Day on 18th March. Next on the calendar will be the HRG Land Cookery/Handicraft/Cultural Day on Monday, 18th March which is being held this year at Branxton, so members are busy preparing for what will be a great day. For anyone interested, the Sydney

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HEARD IT THROUGH the GRAPEVINE



Visit us at winecountry.com.au THE HUNTER VALLEY WINE TOURISM INDUSTRY REPRESENTED AT AIME 2019

The Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association (HVWTA) attended the Asia Pacific Incentives Meetings Event (AIME) in Melbourne last week on behalf of our wine & tourism industries. The HVWTA had an unprecedented 187 requests for meetings prior to AIME (100 is considered an excellent benchmark) and secured a maximum 32 appointments over 2 days. AIME is the leading exhibition for the meetings, incentives and events industry. As the largest international event of its kind in Australia, each year the exhibition invites a community of over 4,000 suppliers and meeting and event planners under one roof in Melbourne. The event turns the exhibition floor into a stage where major industry players meet senior influencers to connect, perform and prosper resulting in over 11,000 fact-to-face meetings over two days. The HVWTA is now working with professional conference organisers, business owners and Associations to secure meetings, incentive groups and conferences ranging in group numbers from 10 to up to 1000 delegates to book their future event in the Hunter Valley. This is a key priority for the HVWTA to increase midweek overnight visitation to the region.



with Jo Thomas, General Manager HVWTA

Photo Above: Jo Thomas (left) General Manager and Sam Ford (right) Business Events Coordinator from the HVWTA using VR technology to promote the Hunter Valley.

Cessnock City Council rates high in small business digital innovation



The award recognises the work the council have done with engaging with small businesses online, and supporting business owners to renew their digital strategies. It also demonstrates Council's ongoing commitment to promoting small business innovation and empowering business owners with the knowledge and tools for growth. Mayor Bob Pynsent says the Advance Cessnock City platform has been a huge success. "Advance Cessnock City is the online platform and business engagement tool that is our region's one-stop-shop for local business and prospective businesses. It has enabled our economic development team at Cessnock City Council to be more responsive, better engaged with businesses and provide opportunities for small and micro businesses to access official training programs such as the popular Digital Bootcamps". Council's Acting Economic Development

Manager Rhiannon Stevens says digital literacy is becoming more and more important for businesses.

"We are really pleased to be able to better facilitate businesses to work on their digital strategies, providing opportunities to up-skill through workshops and training promoted through our Advance Cessnock City fortnightly business emails." "Research conducted by Deloitte confirms that businesses who are digitally engaged grow faster, employ on average two more people & earn more revenue per employee. "We've been really pleased to be able to bring these opportunities to our business community to accelerate their growth and make a positive impact to their bottom line."

All of the winners of the inaugural *Digital Innovation Advocates Awards* were:
Local council - Cessnock City Council, Business Chamber - Gosford Erina & Coastal Chamber, Industry Body - Retail Drinks Australia, and Federal Agency - Regional Development Australia, Orana. Cessnock City Council have also announced a fresh digital marketing workshop tailored for tourism and services businesses on 21 March, 2019. For more information or to book, visit advancecessnock.com.au.

Photo Above: (L-R) The Award recipients - Dinesh De Silva (NetStripes); Megan Dixon (RDA Orana); Rhiannon Stevens (Retail Drinks Australia); Saadia De Silva (NetStripes).



Cessnock Day Night Pharmacy

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202 Wollombi Road, Cessnock (opposite ALDI)

Greta Museum

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Greta Workers Sports & Rec Club Ltd

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Lisa Jackson tells readers right away this was written back in the 1980's and readers will be able to see the amazing growth the author has come through. The men in the stories are rough and demanding. They grab and take what they want even though the women are suffering the loss of their innocents youth. The story is a second chance romance. The romance comes off forced, demanding and lot most pushing to the women. The mystery is second or third to the romance. The Colton Brothers are jerks and do not change has the stories develop. The story lacks drive and focus other than punishing the woman they love. The stories are not what readers have come to know about Lisa Jackson now.

and Denver McLean, filled with a whole lot of bad memories. It's been seven years since a fire claimed their parents' lives and drove both brothers away. Now their uncle's death has brought them back to a place where loyalty and love runs deep—but so do grudges. Suspicion still swirls about what caused that tragic fire. It created a rift between Denver and the foreman's daughter, Tessa Kramer. Now Tessa hopes to buy the ranch, if Denver and Colton will agree to sell, but the property is beset by problems. A prized stallion disappears. Other horses start falling sick. Someone seems determined to disrupt—or destroy—the McLean family's legacy by any means necessary. And finding answers will turn this homecoming into a time of reckoning with enemies past and present.

Synopsis:
 The ranch country of Montana is beautiful, unforgiving, and for Colton 3.5/5



ABOUT
Lisa Jackson is the number-one New York Times bestselling author of more than 85 novels. She is also the co-author of the Colony Series, co-written with her sister, Nancy Bush. There are over 20 million copies of Lisa Jackson's books in print in twenty languages. Before she became a nationally bestselling author, Lisa Jackson was a mother struggling to keep food on the table by writing novels, hoping against hope that someone would pay her for them. Today, neck deep in murder, her books appear on The New York Times, the USA Today, and the Publishers Weekly national bestseller lists. With over thirty bestsellers to her name, Lisa Jackson is a master of taking readers to the edge of sanity – and back – in novels that buzz with dangerous secrets and deadly passions. She continues to be fascinated by the minds and motives of both her killers and their pursuers—the personal, the professional and downright twisted. As she builds the puzzle of relationships, actions, clues, lies and personal histories that haunt her protagonists, she must also confront the fear and terror faced by her victims, and the harsh and enduring truth that, in the real world, terror and madness touch far too many lives and families.

In her words
Montana has provided the setting for some of my favourite stories. In the late 1980s I wrote *Tender Trap* and *Aftermath* featuring Denver and Colton McLean—two brothers returning to their family ranch after years away, confronting the secrets left behind. I'm thrilled that they're now available in one volume, with a striking new cover and title, *Backlash* . . .

The ranch country of Montana is beautiful, unforgiving, and for Colton and Denver McLean, filled with a whole lot of bad memories. It's been seven years since a fire claimed their parents' lives and drove both brothers away. Now their uncle's death has brought them back to a place where loyalty and love runs deep—but so do grudges. Suspicion still swirls about what caused that tragic fire. It created a rift between Denver and the foreman's daughter, Tessa Kramer. Now Tessa hopes to buy the ranch, if Denver and Colton will agree to sell, but the property is beset by problems. A prized stallion disappears. Other horses start falling sick. Someone seems determined to disrupt—or destroy—the McLean family's legacy by any means necessary. And finding answers will turn this homecoming into a time of reckoning with enemies past and present .

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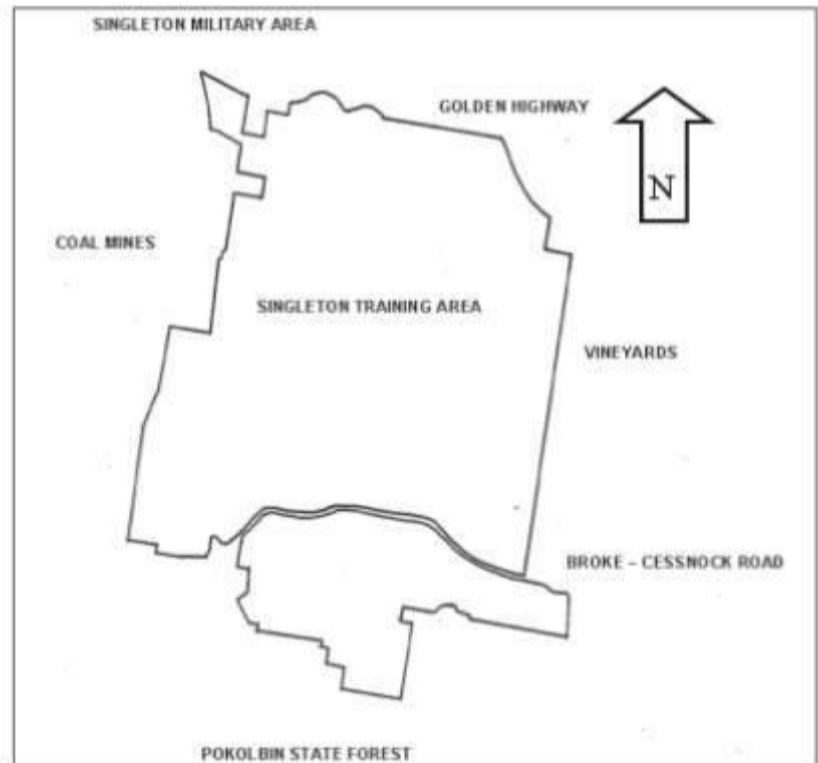
The New York Times Best Sellers
Combined Print & E-Book Fiction (17 March 2019)

- 25 weeks on the list**
 WHERE THE CROWD SING – by Delia Owens
 In a quiet town on the North Carolina coast in 1969, a young woman who survived alone in the marsh becomes a murder suspect.
- 25 weeks on the list**
 THE TATTOOIST OF AUSCHWITZ – by Heather Morris
 A concentration camp detainee tasked with permanently marking fellow prisoners falls in love with one of them.
- New this week**
 THE HUNTRESS – by Kate Quinn
 A British journalist and a Russian female bomber pilot go after a Nazi war criminal.
- New this week**
 THE BORDER – by Don Winslow
The third book in the Power of the Dog series. Art Keller's fight to keep drugs out of the country has taken a complicated turn.
- 2 weeks on the list**
 THE CHEF – by James Patterson and Max DiLallo
 Caleb Rooney, a police detective and celebrity food truck chef, must clear his name of murder allegations.
- New this week**
 CHOCOLATE CREAM PIE MURDER – by Joanne Fluke
 Hannah Swensen teams up with a former lover to find out who left a dead body in her bedroom.
- 4 weeks on the list**
 THE SILENT PATIENT – by Alex Michaelides
 Theo Faber looks into the mystery of a famous painter who stops speaking after shooting her husband.
- 5 weeks on the list**
 THE LOST GIRLS OF PARIS – by Pam Jenoff
 Grace Healey investigates the fates of 12 women who were sent to occupied Europe to help the resistance during World War II.
- New this week**
 BACKLASH – by Lisa Jackson
 Two stories featuring Denver and Colton McLean: "Tender Trap" and "Aftermath."
- 28 weeks on the list**
 ELEANOR OLIPHANT IS COMPLETELY FINE – by Gail Honeyman
A young woman's well-ordered life is disrupted by the I.T. guy from her office.



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.

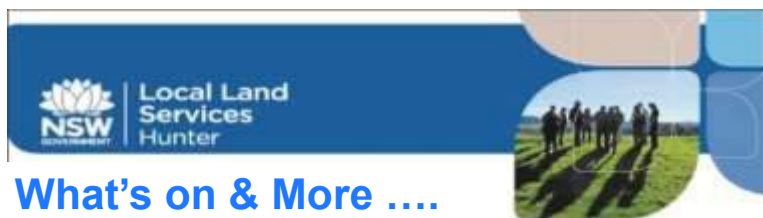
Death or serious injury may result from being struck by a projectile. Eye damage may occur when viewing laser beams from within the training area boundary.

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



What's on & More

COMING EVENTS....

Emergency Services Expo - Singleton

When: 16 Mar 2019 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Where: Townhead Park, Singleton

Details

Services attending include:

- NSW Police, NSW Mines Rescue, Singleton Council, The Salvation Army, Red Cross, Westpac Rescue Helicopter, NSW State Emergency Service, NSW Rural Fire Service, NSW Fire and Rescue, NSW Ambulance, **Hunter Local Land Services**

Live demonstrations on the day include quad bike rollover, water rescue and kitchen fire.

Got Horses? Do you have a PIC number?

28 February 2019

Hunter Local Land Services is reminding all horse owners they must have a Property Identification Code (PIC) and in some circumstances require a Transported Stock Statement (TSS) if they are moving horses in NSW.

Transported Stock Statements and PIC numbers are important biosecurity measures and are critical for monitoring and reporting outbreaks of viruses such as Equine Influenza.

Hunter Local Land Services District Vet Kristi Arnot said it is a legal requirement to have a PIC number, and equine organisations and event coordinators are enforcing this at local events.

"With local agricultural show season underway in our region, horse owners attending these and many other equine events will find they are being asked to supply a PIC number," said Kristi Arnot.

"Ignorance is not acceptable, if a sick horse attends a local event, we need to be able to trace where it came from, and stop any disease outbreaks at the source.

"We are seeing increasing numbers of people contacting us wondering what it is all about – this is not a new regulation and horse owners must comply, even if you only own a pony for the kids.

"Even if your horse never leaves your property, you are still required to have a PIC."

Registering for a PIC is a simple process, undertaken by contacting Local Land Services, it can usually be arranged in under 24 hours.

Transported Stock Statements are available individually or in booklets from Local Land Services.

You are required to have a TSS on hand for all horse movements, unless you have:

- horses being transported to or from any agricultural show, exhibition, gymkhana, pony club meeting or similar function,
- racehorses or harness racing horses being transported from one place to another,
- horses being transported to or from any place for use as working horses,
- horses being transported to and from a place for veterinary treatment.

Authorities may stop your vehicle and request to see your statement at any time.

"PIC numbers and Transport statements are crucial to maintaining Australia's enviable disease free status for so many dreadful viruses," said Dr Arnot.

"Please help ensure the health of your livestock and pets, by adhering to the regulations and doing your bit to maintain these systems.

"Our team at Hunter Local Land Services can set you up with a PIC quickly, and this will make it much easier for you to take your horse or pony to local events, and can also be crucial in an emergency such as fire or flood, so we know where animals that may need evacuating are located."

If you need to inquire about obtaining a PIC number or Travelling Stock Statement booklet, please call 1300 795 299, or visit your nearest Local Land Services office.

Racing review

set the early pace and at one stage led by six lengths.

The Hugh Bowman-ridden Winx won by more than a length from Happy Clapper in what was her fourth consecutive victory in the 1,600-metre Chipping Norton Stakes.

The previous record for Group One wins was held by retired Irish jumper Hurricane Fly.

"The pace was very solid throughout, as you could all see, and we had to make our own way into the race," Bowman told Channel Seven.

"But she is an amazing horse."

Bowman admitted Winx had much work to do with 700 metres remaining but at no point did she panic. "I knew when I balanced her up she would find the extra gear and she did it

with relative ease in the end as I expected she would," he said.

"I had the horse to get me out of trouble and she has done it time and time again."

Winx's trainer Chris Waller was full of praise for the mare following her win.

"The horse, she is a superstar," he said "She is very, very special."

Winx described as a 'freak' following record win

In another era, the popular Happy Clapper and his trainer Pat Webster, would be hailed as champions, especially over the Randwick mile. "It's probably one of his (Happy Clapper) best runs ever outside of winning the Doncaster," Webster said.



Saleyard reports - cattle

[Detailed Cattle report for Singleton](#)

Last reported 6th March 2019

Consignments increased by 20%, with the majority being younger cattle, the bulk of the penning suitable for the restocker and lot feeder orders. There were numbers of prime conditioned younger cattle suitable for the butcher orders, although on average, yield was lower week-on-week. There were approximately 86 cows offered and the market trend was cheaper throughout all categories. The over 200kg vealer steers to restocker orders decreased 40c and made from 140c to 200c/kg. The same weight heifer portion also to the restocker and backgrounder orders eased 25c in value, with prices varying from 114c to 188c/kg. Similar decreases were recorded for the yearlings to the feeders, with the steers making from 142c to 200c, as the heifers received from 120c to 202c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers declined 15c to 20c, with the highest yielding pen topping at 302c/kg. Grown steers to processors reached 232c, as the bullocks made 219c/kg. The plainer cows trended 20c cheaper and received from 70c to 140c/kg. The better covered heavy weights sold 5c cheaper and made from 168c to 178c/kg.

[Detailed Cattle report for TRLX Tamworth](#)

Last reported 4th March 2019

A record was set for numbers at the prime sale. There were large volumes of cows, vealers and yearlings as a bleak outlook for winter presents itself. The quality of the offering was very mixed. There were increased numbers of secondary and very plain quality young cattle presented. Condition was on the lean side of the spectrum, with a reasonably small percentage of finished cattle. All regular processors and most regular lot feeders were in attendance. Restocker activity was rather subdued, with some Southern competition. Market trends were cheaper through the young cattle, where the increased supply affected quality in most categories. The better quality medium weight vealer steers to restockers were only marginally cheaper, however the secondary quality lots struggled to attract much competition. Vealer heifers to restockers saw both breed and quality affect price change on a cheaper market trend. Medium weight yearling steers to feed remained close to firm, with quality related price changes. Similar weight yearling heifers saw a firm to cheaper market trend, with only the better quality heifers unaffected. In all the young cattle classes, the secondary and plain quality cattle struggled to attract much demand. The few heavy grown steers to processors sold to a cheaper trend of up to 12c/kg, with an odd sale remaining firm. Well finished grown heifers to processors sold to a cheaper trend. Large numbers of plain condition cows saw a cheaper trend of up to 11c/kg on the better quality lots. The plainest condition cows saw some sales fall by more, while odd sales to a restocker were dearer in places. The well finished medium and heavy weight cows averaged from 7c to 15c/kg cheaper, and more in places where yields were lower. Heavy bulls sold to a dearer trend under some spirited competition, recovering most of last week's losses.

[Detailed Cattle report for Scone](#)

Last reported 5th March 2019

Consignments remained similar in number, as the quality was mixed, with the majority entering the younger categories. Yearling steers were limited in supply, while the vealers were well represented. There were approximately 350 cows in the penning, and the market trend was cheaper throughout all categories. The over 200kg vealers to the restockers sold from 20c to 30c/kg cheaper, however breed and quality did contribute in places. The steers sold from 126c to 222c, as the heifer portion made from 102c to 228c/kg. The better end of the yearling steers to feed sold close to firm, however the plainer drafts trended cheaper. The yearling heifers to feed made from 154c to 210c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers topped at 322c/kg, however this came from an exceptional yearling heifer weighing 380kg lwt. The plainer older heifers with little weight struggled to attract any competition, with the very low muscle scores selling as low as 20c/kg. The better end to the processors eased by 5c and made from 196c to 210c/kg. The plainer cows trended 20c cheaper, with the 1 and 2 scores making from 80c to 163c/kg. The better finished heavy weights sold 8c cheaper, to make from 160c to 190c/kg. The best heavy weight bull topped at 210c/kg.

[Detailed Cattle report for Gunnedah](#)

Last reported 5th March 2019

There was a reduction in overall numbers, all of those in young cattle. There were large volumes of cows, increased on last week. The quality of the offering showed a great variation, some very good quality young cattle and a fair percentage of very plain cattle. The condition was also mixed and most of the well finished cattle were cows. The usual processors attended. There was reduced feedlot competition, while southern and local restocker activity was down. Market trends through the young cattle were generally cheaper. Steer vealers to restockers eased 19c/kg and more in places, where quality was a factor. The heifer portion followed a similar trend. The few well finished vealers suitable to the trade also sold to a cheaper trend. Medium and heavy weight yearling feeder steers sold to a cheaper trend of 9c to 17c/kg, with a large variation in quality and breeds. Similar weight yearling heifers to feed sold to a cheaper trend of 7c/kg. Very plain quality young cattle attracted little interest from either restockers or processors and sold down to their lowest level for some time. No heavy grown steers to quote. A limited supply of well finished grown heifers were as much as 20c/kg cheaper. There were cheaper trends of 25c/kg and more in places throughout the cow market. The large supply taking its toll on the market, with both processors and restockers saturated for numbers as the offload continues

"Hughie (Bowman) was just kidding. The only time at the 600 his elbows were going and then he was just kidding after that."

Happy Clapper's jockey Blake Shinn was also in awe of Winx.

"What can I say about my horse?" he said.

"He put up a Group One-winning performance but there are no superlatives you can say about the winner.

"She just a freak and she had to put up a freakish performance to beat Happy Clapper."

This campaign has followed her traditional path with runs in the Chipping Norton Stakes at Randwick, the George Ryder Stakes at Rosehill on March 18 and a finale in the Queen Elizabeth

Photo: Hugh Bowman pumps his fist, as he and Winx return to scale. (AAP: Simon Bullard)
Winx will be out to claim another Queen Elizabeth this campaign



Stakes during The Championships on April 13.



New iPhone 11 release date, price, news and leaks

By John McCam, Matt Swider
Apple's iPhone 2019 may be all about the camera

The iPhone 11 release date is likely in September, but Apple is already rumored to be testing out several iPhone 2019 concepts months in advance, as you'll see below.

There are plenty of iPhone 11 leaks to pore over on this page, and all of them point to a more significant upgrade than last year's rather incremental iPhone XS design.

It may not be a radical top-to-bottom change considering the iPhone X redesigned launched in late 2017, but the rear camera may get a big upgrade if you turn your attention to the back of every new iPhone 11 concept we've seen.

That's good news because Apple isn't selling as many iPhones as previously forecast, so its next flagship has to wow everyone or come down in price to stay competitive.

Update: Your iPhone 11's screen may even work in the pouring rain, if a new rumor is to be believed.

Having analyzed previous Apple events, we predict that the iPhone 11 launch date will be on Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

With three iPhones launched in 2018, we expect Apple to repeat the trifecta this year with the iPhone 11 possibly launching alongside the iPhone 11 Max and the iPhone 11R (names TBC).

So what new features will the iPhone 11 have, and will it still have a notch? Let's investigate what we expect from Apple's next flagship iPhone.

Cut to the chase

●**What is it?** The iPhone 11 will be Apple's next flagship

●**When is it out?** Launch is likely to be mid-September 2019

●**What will it cost?** Likely no more than last year's iPhone XS

New iPhone 11 leaks and latest news

We're seeing iPhone 11 renders months ahead of Apple's expected launch event, and all of the attention so far has been to the back.

The images show three cameras in a central block on the back, a back which looks to be made of glass, as we'd expect, while the front retains the notch from the iPhone XS. We've seen this design rumored a second time now, so it could be accurate.

However, it's not the only design doing the rounds, with another showing a triple-lens camera in the left corner. That would be more in line with where Apple currently places the camera.

These images also show a likely glass back and the same arrangement of buttons as the iPhone XS, and multiple leakers have claimed they're right.

The source of the images added that three new iPhone models are in the works – successors to the iPhone XS, iPhone XS Max and iPhone XR.

So which design is accurate? One source has said that both designs are being evaluated, so

ultimately one might be ditched, or they both might be used, or maybe we'll see neither.

However, we have now heard from another source that the highest-end iPhone 2019 (which we'll call the iPhone 11 Max for now) will have three rear cameras, so at least some of these pictures could well be accurate.

The same source says that the other two handsets will have dual-lens cameras and that the iPhone XR successor will stick with an LCD screen.

In fact, we're hearing this from multiple publications now. The iPhone 11 Max may be the one version with a triple-lens camera, while the iPhone 11 and 11R may get them "eventually," reports Bloomberg.

Interestingly, a laser-powered 3D camera was destined for the iPhone 11, but said to have been delayed to the iPhone 12 (or whatever Apple calls its iPhone 2020 model). This iPhone roadmap suggests Apple is going all in on augmented reality (AR).

We've also heard that the iPhone XI will have a 5.8-inch display, just like the iPhone XS, but with smaller bezels, and that it won't support 5G, but that it will, surprisingly, have a 4,000mAh battery and a USB-C port. The same source says to expect space grey, gold, silver and blue colors.

However, another source says it won't have USB-C, adding that the front camera will be upped to 10MP (from 7MP on current models), and that the rear camera will have 14MP and 10MP lenses, as well as a third, currently unknown one.

We've now heard multiple times that it won't get USB-C, so don't count on a change from Lightning.

One new feature it might get though is two-way wireless charging, allowing you to use the iPhone 11 as a charging mat for other devices.

The same source adds that we might see a frosted glass back, and ultra-wide band connectivity, which would allow for improved indoor positioning. That could help with navigating interiors or might benefit AR applications.

The new iPhones may even be easy to use in the rain. A new report claims Apple is experimenting with a new tech that allows you to use the iPhone's screen underwater.

In other news, one report points to the inclusion of Sony's next-gen 3D sensors in the new iPhone, which could in turn offer quicker face unlock, better Portrait mode depth-sensing and some potentially cool 3D modeling features and (AR) implementations. We recently watched a sample of Sony's AR camera capabilities.

As well as a better front-facing camera though, the iPhone 11 could also pack the snapper and related sensors into a smaller notch, as a new tech created by one of Apple's camera component suppliers allows for some of the sensors to be placed under the screen.

There's no confirmation that

Apple will use this tech, but we'd expect the company will be looking for ways to shrink the notch.

Meanwhile, another iPhone 11 leak suggests the new handsets could support input from the Apple Pencil that currently only works with iPads.

Apple usually introduces a new chipset with its new iPhone launches, and the A13 chip is being touted for the iPhone 11, with analysts claiming a manufacturer is already lined up to produce the A13 chip.

Inside the device we've heard talk that the iPhone 11 will include support for the latest Wi-Fi 6 connection standards – though 5G tech might have to wait until the 2020 iPhones.

New iPhone 11 release date

●**iPhone 11 launch date:** **September 10, 2019** (TechRadar predicts)

●**iPhone 11 pre-order date:** **September 13, 2019** (TechRadar predicts)

●**iPhone 11 release date:** **September 20, 2019** (TechRadar predicts)

The iPhone 11 launch date may be a little later than previous years, as Europe's biggest tech show, IFA 2019 in Berlin, is set to run from September 6-11 this year - which may see Apple defer its new iPhone launch to the following week.

It's unlikely though, as the new iPhone launch has crossed over with the show a number of times (including 2014, 2015 and 2016), which means we're still most likely to see an announcement week commencing September 9.

Apple historically hasn't held its phone event on a Monday, with Tuesday or Wednesday the most commonly used days.

With the Wednesday being September 11, a day of mourning in the US, **Apple will most likely pick an iPhone 11 launch date of Tuesday, September 10 2019.**

If Apple does opt to delay the launch by a week, we could be looking at a potential iPhone 11 launch date of either September 17 or September 18.

Apple hasn't launched an iPhone this late since 2011, when it announced the iPhone 4S on October 4, and we fully expect the Cupertino, California based firm to stick with a September arrival for the new iPhone in 2019.

As for the iPhone 11 pre-order date, Apple tends to open them on the Friday following the launch, which would be September 13 by our calculations.

Finally, the new iPhone 11 release date - the day when you'll actually be able to get your hands on the handset for the first time - could be just a week after the pre-orders open, so September 20 if our analysis is correct.

These dates could quite easily shift though, and we wouldn't be surprised if Apple followed more recent tradition and launch the new iPhone 11 on September 10.

New iPhone 11 price

●**iPhone 11 price likely to start around \$999 (£999, AU\$1,579)**

●There could be a new price strategy

Even without the official iPhone 11 price, we know it'll cost a lot. After all, Apple priced the iPhone XS and iPhone X starting at \$999 (£999, AU\$1,579). We could see identical prices for the iPhone 11.

With news that Apple isn't selling as many iPhones as it previously forecast, there's a chance the iPhone 11 price will offer a more affordable look - although we reckon a price freeze, rather than a reduction, is a more likely move by Apple.

It could mean good news for the successor to the well-received iPhone XR, with the main complaint about the first handset being it was still a little steep price-wise. If Apple can reduce the price on the iPhone 11R, it may help soften a lofty iPhone 11 price tag.

New iPhone, iPhone 11 or iPhone XI?

What will Apple call the new iPhone 11? It's a puzzling conundrum and there are a variety of different options for Apple to potentially pick from.

It seems Apple has backed itself into somewhat of a naming corner with the recent XS, XS Max and XR monikers - so where does it go from here? Will it stick to roman numerals, revert back to traditional digits, or ditch them all together? At this stage, with sparse new iPhone leaks around, nothing is off the table.

At this moment in time, we're seeing most of you searching for 'new iPhone', and that's a strong contender. Apple has already ditched numbered increments for Mac, Macbooks, TV and iPads, so new iPhone would be a logical next step.

However, the numbers are a great way to easily distinguish new devices from old, so both iPhone 11 and iPhone XI are very much in the running. Apple never did give us an iPhone 9 though - with the iPhone 8 the final digit before the 'X' revolution - so going back to '11' may look a little odd.

New iPhone 11: what we want to see

The iPhone XS and iPhone XS Max are great smartphones, but there's always room for improvement and human nature desires more every time - which means Apple needs to shake a few things up.

Here at TechRadar we like to think of the whole tech community as one great, big family who help each other out, so we've come up with a few upgrades we reckon would go down a treat on the new iPhone.

1. No notch (or, at least, a smaller one)

Love it or hate it, the notch has taken the smartphone world by storm, with a sharp influx in the design aesthetic after the arrival of the iPhone X - however it seems many of the competition have already surpassed Apple's implementation.

The Apple notch is distinctive thanks to its size, but that's also its Achilles heel. It takes up a large amount of space along the top of the screen while we seen Android makers bring us dew-drop screens which are only as big a single front facing camera.

Cont Next Page

MOVIE REVIEW

"Mary Queen of Scots" & "The Favourite"



Early 18th century, England is at war with the French. Nevertheless, duck racing and pineapple eating are thriving. A frail Queen Anne (Olivia Colman) occupies the throne and her close friend Lady Sarah Churchill (Rachel Weisz) governs the country in her stead while tending to Anne's ill health and mercurial temper. When a new servant Abigail Masham (Emma Stone) arrives, her charm endears her to Sarah. Sarah takes Abigail under her wing and Abigail sees a chance at a return to her aristocratic roots. As the politics of war become quite time consuming for Sarah, Abigail steps into the breach to fill in as the Queen's companion. Their burgeoning friendship gives her a chance to fulfill her ambitions and she will not let woman, man, politics or rabbit stand in her way.

Rating: MA 15+

Genre: Drama

Directed By: Yorgos Lanthimos

Written By: Deborah Davis, Tony McNamara

In Theatres: Feb 12, 2019

Runtime: 119 minutes

Studio: Fox Searchlight Pictures, Film4 and Waypoint

Olivia Colman is set to rake in more than \$45 million after her stunning Oscars triumph for her role in *The Favourite*.

The actress, 45, beat her idol Glenn Close to the coveted Best Actress award and will now see her earnings potential skyrocket, according to a US entertainment consultant.



'The Favourite,' 'Mary Queen of Scots' take royally different paths

Adam Graham, Detroit News Film Critic

Two royal houses, two vastly different approaches to filmmaking, two very different results.

"The Favourite" and "Mary Queen of Scots" arrive in theaters concurrently, but share little in common beyond their costumes and royal subject matter.

"The Favourite" is director Yorgos Lanthimos' ("The Lobster") deliciously catty comedy about the power struggle inside the castle of Queen Anne, played by a marvelous Olivia Colman.

Rachel Weisz is Sarah Churchill, Duchess of Marlborough, who is Anne's right-and woman and sometime lover. Her proximity to the throne affords her great political power, but her position is threatened when Abigail Hill (Emma Stone), a maid, enters Anne's chamber and begins jockeying for Churchill's position.

"The Favourite" is an uproarious send-up of the aloofness of royals, and comes alive thanks to its sterling ensemble cast (Nicholas Hoult is also worthy of note, playing a young British statesman) and Lanthimos' pristine direction. He uses superwide lenses, nearing a fisheye effect, which allows his shots to overflow with the rich



detail of the immaculate production design. And while his previous films, particularly "The Lobster" and last year's jarring "The Killing of a Sacred Deer," have been cold and callous, he allows room for humanity in "The Favourite," which makes the story relatable far beyond the sometimes short reach of heavily costumed period fare. "Mary Queen of Scots" is more traditional in its approach to its royal subject matter. The 16th century tale stars Saoirse Ronan in the title role and Margot Robbie as Queen Elizabeth I, and explores their testy relationship and Mary's attempts to overthrow Elizabeth. Where "The Favourite" pointedly avoids the stuffiness typical of period

pieces and follows a blueprint that translates easily to any office or friendship situation, "Mary Queen of Scots" feels like sitting through a history lesson, and not a particularly enlightening one. It comes alive when the fireworks between Mary and Liz finally explode, but it's a long time coming, and the ride is a bumpy one.

The key to the two films is in their approach. "The Favourite" crackles because it's a soapy story that's fun to roll around in, while "Mary Queen of Scots" has a handsome look, but feels like it belongs on a shelf inside a library, collecting dust. agraham@detroitnews.com @grahamorama **'The Favourite' GRADE: A-**

Record number of Catholics attend drive thru Ash Wednesday services in Ireland

BY: Jack Beresford
"The Irish Post"
March 07, 2019

IP



AN INCREASING number of Irish Catholics are taking advantage of 'drive-thru' religious services in a bid to maintain their faith, albeit in a timely manner.

It comes as a Galway Parish reports experiencing a record number of attendees to its new drive-thru Ash Wednesday Service. Traditionally, Irish Catholics are encouraged to visit their local church on Ash Wednesday. It's custom for Catholics to get ashes on their forehead as a reminder of their own mortality, often accompanied by the words "we are dust and to dust we shall return". They are also encouraged to attend Mass on Ash Wednesday, though it's not a holy day of obligation, meaning many opt out of the latter. Eager to provide a quick and easy service to its congregation, St Patrick's Church in Glenamaddy introduced a unique Ash

Wednesday service a few years back. It allows parishioners to drive up to the church in a car, bike, truck or event tractor to get their ashes from a priest or volunteer.

This year St Patrick's Church reported seeing a record number of people using its drive thru service. "Record numbers attended the Drive Thru Ashes this morning outside of St. Patrick's Church, Glenamaddy. Mass will be celebrated at 7pm this evening in Glenamaddy," a Facebook post reads. The upsurge comes during a time when the Catholic Church is increasingly under the microscope following a string of sexual abuse scandals involving priests. Ireland, meanwhile, is facing an uncertain future with Brexit looming and the border on the island of Ireland a major point of contention in the ongoing negotiations.



We say this every year, but the fact remains that iPhones still aren't the strongest performers when it comes to battery life.

The iPhone XS provided an improvement in battery over the iPhone X, but as we noted in our review, it's still "a long way from the best on the market."

It's time Apple really got to grips with battery life, giving the new iPhone 11 a power pack that will see it comfortably through one day and into the next without a panic about finding a charger overnight. Battery technology isn't going to give us the multiple days of battery life we saw from feature phones back in the early 2000s, but an iPhone that could stretch to two days from a single charge would really get people talking.

4. eSIM only

The latest round of iPhones (the XS and co.) offer dual SIM capabilities, but they can only hold one physical SIM. That's because the other one is an eSIM, which is built into the handset and can be assigned to a network upon activation.

Having to slide a SIM card into a new phone feels rather old fashioned in 2019, so we'd like to see the physical card ditched in favor of a dual eSIM setup in the new iPhone 11.

We'd also want an easy to use setting that allows us to easily jump onto a network of our choosing at a tariff of our choice and, more importantly, be able to easily switch to a different network when our current deal expires.

Plus, it would also mean the removal of the SIM tray, allowing for a sleeker design and potentially freeing up some precious additional space inside the handset for new features (or more battery!).

This is only partly on Apple however, as carriers around the world would have to fully support eSIM technology and at the moment only a handful do so.

However, with the introduction of 5G in 2019 and the presence of eSIM already inside one generation of iPhone, this ask isn't totally out of the question.

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

New iPhone 11 release date, price, news and leaks

What's preventing the notch from simply being ditched is all the tech Apple has crammed into it, and to remove it completely could mean a loss of some features - such as Face ID.

Apple can probably relocate the microphone, proximity sensor and speaker, which in turn may see a reduction in size of the notch - which would be a step in the right direction.

But, no notch would be the killer look - with a clean, elegant design that will surely turn heads.

2. A new design

The current design of the XS and XS Max is fantastic - solid, premium and sleek, it's one of the most desirable looks on the market, so is it cheeky of us to ask for something new? We don't think so.

Apple's used the same design for the past two generations, and to avoid the new iPhone 11 being branded another incremental update, a fresh new look would help.

If Apple does ditch the notch as we've so very kindly asked for above, that would be the first step towards a new design, but we'd like to see it go further. It's already removed the headphone jack and home button, so our focus is now on the alert slider, volume buttons and power key.

We've seen HTC and Google implement squeezable sides on their phones, and if Apple can hone this technology to make it even more user friendly it could be the end of any physical button or switch on the handset.

3. Better battery life

IT DRIES THE WASHING USING THE VERY LATEST TECHNOLOGY - A COMBINATION OF SOLAR AND WIND POWER.



THE NEWS | No.494 | WEDNESDAY 13 Mar 2019 9 19

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

and

NOT SO

God spare me from a lower deck lawyer. These insufferable creeps are at best a self-educated (not) experts in all matters pertaining to their 'rights'. A know-it-all sailor ready to give other sailors advice, especially when dealing with any legal or disciplinary matters. North Rothbury has one. One too many.

I found an old copy of 'The News' yesterday dated 16 July 2013 wherein it stated, in the smiles' section *To the Hunter Valley Railway Trust who have given an undertaking to supply an old coal wagon to be installed at the North Rothbury Ayrefield Memorial Park. A fabulous gesture which will compliment the new playground & shelter to make our park a great feature for the hamlet. Well done Chris Richards who is the Governing Trustee of the Hunter Valley Railway Trust.*

? Where is it ?

To the litterbugs who made it necessary that some residents North Rothbury Tidy Town had to give a portion of their Saturday to clean-up after you. Why not leave the rubbish in your vehicle & de-rubbish when you arrive at your destination!! Also, Unless the Generation X, Xennials, Millennials Generation Y, start getting off their arses. There won't be any input from the older people. Count on it. We have done our bit (see Letters page 4).

To the new caterers at Miller Park Sports & Recreation Club; great food & good on you for having a go!

FREE! Classifieds

Classified's

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

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

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

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

For Sale: 15-inch Commodore wheel with new tyre \$50 P: 0421 102 711

For Sale: Practically new medium sized Mobility Scooter . Only 3yrs old and driven 3 times, as owner didn't have the confidence to use it. Brand new batteries just installed as it has been unused. or a long time. Always kept inside. Comes with canopy and shopping bag. 2200 ONO (value \$4500) Inspection by arrangement. Please call Cherie on 0458721077

For Sale: Alpacas Ph 4930 6291

For Sale: New 'Star Post' rammer \$35 P: 0421 102 711

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

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

Seamstress: Sewing & mending P; Brune 0413 351 057

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

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

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

Work Wanted: Need an extra hand? I do all maintenance, labouring, construction, asbestos & have working with children licence. P (Pat) 0414 278 292

Work Wanted: Home maintenance. Building repairs, painting, tiling and more. Fully insured. Ph: 0418 982 657. Prompt service to local areas.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Work Wanted: Lawn & Garden Maintenance. P: 4938 3153

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

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

Has your phone stopped ringing?
You need to advertise your business
Call Mike at 'The News'
P: 4938 1773 M: 0414 757 826

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

Dates for your diary >

TUE 12 Mar — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigid's Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

THUR 14 March — Branxton VIEW Club meeting at Greta Workers Club. 10.30am All welcome. Enquiries Bethany 0419 429 364

SAT 16 Mar — Kiely Minoque at Bimbadgen Estate

TUE 19 Mar — Branxton Public School Visiting author Tim Harris

SUN 24 Mar — Free Community Event Social Tennis and BBQ. Sunday afternoons 5:30-7:30pm (fortnightly). Miller Park Tennis Courts. Family fun and meet some locals. Hosted by Gospel Church. Contact Darren 0407 490 646.

THUR 28 Mar — Cessnock Prostate Cancer Support Group meet 3pm Cessnock Leagues Club- Guest- Support group member Terry Pearce- Topic- Information about his journey from Biopsy, Scans, Radical Prostatectomy, Salvage Radiation, Incontinence issues, Artificial urinary sphincter installed, Participated in Hormone Trails. All welcome. Cost- Free. Barry 49904554. Rose 0457073852.

SAT 31 Mar — Singleton Shire Landcare running workshop at Elderslie Hall 9:30am - 1pm on The Brilliance of Australian Flora & Birdlife. \$10 /head. P: 0429 444 305 to book.

SUN 24 Mar — Free Community Event Social Tennis and BBQ. Sunday afternoons 5:30-7:30pm (fortnightly). Miller Park Tennis Courts. Family fun and meet some locals. Hosted by Gospel Church - Central Hunter. Contact Darren 0407 490 646.

WED 2 Apr — Branxton VIEW Club donna-lou Fashion Parade. Latest Autumn/Winter affordable clothes. \$15 includes luncheon. Contact Bethany 0419 429 364

TUE 9 Apl — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigid's Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

1 April - 31 May — Exhibitions on the history of the Greta Army Camp and the history of the Greta Migrant Camp. Cessnock Library. Two exhibitions in the Cessnock Library foyer on the history of the Greta Army Camp and the history of the Greta Migrant Camp. Accessible whenever the Library is open.

THUR 25 Apl — ANZAC DAY

SAT 11 May — Landcare is holding a Wildlife Discovery Workshop at the Hunter River Reserve at Greta starting at 9.30am. (Landcare is also holding the Brilliance of Australian Flora and Birdlife Workshop on Sunday 31st March at 9.30am at Elderslie Hall).

SUN 12 May — Mothers Day

TUE 14 May — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigid's Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

FRI 7 Jun — 'Back to Greta' 'Back to Greta' is an all-day event. Includes: morning tea with the Mayor at the Library, a trip to the camp site and a visit to Greta Museum. For information about the event contact Kimberly O'Sullivan. To RSVP for the event call the Library directly: (02) 4993 4399.

MON 10 June — Queens Birthday Public Holiday

TUES 11 JUNE — Branxton Greta CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigid's Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

TUE 9 JULY — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigid's Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

TUES 13 AUG — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigid's Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

SUN 1 Sept — Fathers day

TUES 10 SEP — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigid's Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

SAT 7 DEC — North Rothbury Tidy Town Twilight Markets 4pm - 8pm



Pilot unhurt after Hunter Valley plane crash

Monday, 04 March 2019 04:42:30 PM

Police and emergency services are at the scene of a light plane crash at Pokolbin, in NSW Hunter Valley, this afternoon. The crash occurred on Wine Country Drive around 3.45pm (Monday 4 March 2019).

The male pilot and sole occupant of the plane was not hurt. After speaking with police at the scene, he was taken to John Hunter Hospital for precautionary medical checks.

Inquiries are continuing

Man charged after more than 20kg of Cannabis allegedly found in car near Dubbo

Sunday, 10 March 2019 07:29:04 PMA man has been charged after more than

20 kilograms of Cannabis was allegedly found during a search of his car near Dubbo today.

About 10.40am (Sunday 10 March 2019), police from Orana-Mid Western Police District were patrolling the Dunedoo township, about 100km north-east of Dubbo, when the officers stopped a Ford utility travelling on the Golden Highway.

The driver, a 56-year-old man, was subject to a roadside breath and drug test, returning a negative result. During a subsequent search of the car, police allegedly located 20.7 kilograms of Cannabis leaf, packed under ice and

beer in an esky.

The man was arrested and taken to Mudgee Police Station. He was charged with supply prohibited drug – indictable quantity, possess prohibited drug. The Cessnock man was granted conditional bail to appear at Dunedoo Local Court on Friday 5 April 2019.



On the 2nd March Branxton Lions Club held a raffle at Branxton. 1st prize (\$30 Voucher for Branxton IGA) to Ron Hebbe. 2nd prize \$ 30 Branxton Butchery to John Staffa. Branxton Lions hope to have a raffle once a month with proceeds going to the local community. Meeting dates for 2019:- April 2, May 9, June 4, July 2, August 6, Sept 3, October 1, November 5 & December 3 ~ to be held at Branxton Golf Club @ 4 pm

Ken Meany, Publicity Officer.



The news Issue No. 59 27th Jan 2000 Page 15

Greta historical building saved

Greta PreSchool premises were fortunate that some observant party goers were passing recently. In the early hours of New Years day, local residents Judy & John Neumann, Christine Hodges & Greg Kopetinsky were in the vicinity of the PreSchool when they noticed a fire within the PreSchool premises. Christine & Judy headed for the phone-booth outside the Silky Oak Café to raise the alarm whilst Greg & John headed for the fire. When the girls reached the phone booth they discovered that the phone was inoperative through vandalism. Quick thinking on the girls behalf saw Judy proceed at full speed, in high heels, to the Greta Rural Fire Brigade's Captains residence to raise the alarm, whilst Christine stood guard at High Street corner. The Brigade Captain contacted 000 in case assistance was required, and then proceeded towards the new fire station.

Whilst the girls were running around town, Greg & John searched for equipment to extinguish the blaze which by now was lapping at the eaves of the building. Fortunately, Greg & John were able to locate a garden hose nearby and, after upturning the wheelie bin which was the seat of the blaze, gallantly proceeded to extinguish the blaze. The local police & fire brigade attended the scene and were disappointed that there was no fire to extinguish, and proceeded to mop up.

The local community has been saved from the loss of a valuable asset by the observations & quick thinking of these individuals & we thank them for their actions.

Investigations are continuing into the cause of the blaze.



BE SMART. SUPERVISE.

It only takes a few centimetres of water to lose a life. Keep watch and secure all pools.

BE POOL SAFE

cessnock.nsw.gov.au/poolsafety



A big congratulations to Wollombi Road Providore who took out the Service Excellence Award in the greengrocer category at the 2018 Sydney

Markets Fresh Awards. We are the first store outside of Sydney to have ever won this category Follow us on Facebook and Instagram enquiries@wollombiroadprovidore.com.au

Contact use for orders & enquiries

80 Wollombi Road, Cessnock

49902468

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate 4938 3300



School NEWS



Greta Public School

With Sharon Morris
Principal, Greta Public School

worthwhile Australia wide event. It was nice see students and teachers working together to make a difference to our school and town.

Mrs Hemsworth
Co-Ordinator

Congratulations

also to our students who received FLO RA awards as a result of their positive behaviour at the end of 2018. FLORA awards are earned when student collect 20 points on their school FLORA

card. Points are awarded for behaviour that displays the FLORA values of friendship, learning, opportunity respect and achievement.

20 points = A bronze award

Another 20 points = A silver award

Another 20 points = A gold award.

Bronze, silver and gold awards are recognized by a certificate and a FLORA pin at our school assemblies.

Congratulations

to John who received his bronze award and to Jasmine and Taylor who received their silver awards.

A very special congratulations to Felina

who was the only student to reach her g



old award last year—
Great effort! And to Savanna for

consistently

demonstrating our FLORA value of opportunity and attempting all activities with a positive attitude.



School Leaders 2019



Kinder 2019



CLEANUP AUSTRALIA DAY

A huge thankyou to our students and staff who participated in the 32nd annual Clean up Australia Day. Armed with gloves, bags and great attitudes we picked up quite a bit of rubbish both within the school grounds and around the township. Students demonstrated Greta Public School's Core values and showed great enthusiasm to support this very



Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service – Mission Reports – January / February 2019



The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service is vital our region as it provides a fast and effective medical treatment to those in need and a vital link to major hospitals in Newcastle, Tamworth and Sydney. Each month, the service responds to numerous call outs to the Hunter Valley region and the beginning of the year has been no different, with the month of January. During the month, both the Newcastle and Tamworth based aircraft, which provide coverage to the Upper Hunter, where tasked to over 59 missions in January and 59 missions in February.

The Service can be requested for several reasons, including primary missions (to attend an accident site, to treat and transfer patients to hospital), secondary missions (to transfer patients between hospitals for specialist treatment) and search and rescue (help to locate missing people, rescue and return to safety). In January, the Australia Day long weekend proved to be extremely busy period for crews with 12 missions being flown in just a 3 day period. Further demonstrating the vast distances that the Rescue Helicopter is able to response to with these missions taking place

in in Port Stephens, Coffs Harbour, Dungog, Port Stephens, Scone and Dubbo
On January 29, the helicopter was tasked to a male patient with a medical condition from Muswellbrook Hospital to John Hunter Hospital for specialist treatment. Then days later, on January 27, the

Tamworth based helicopter was tasked to assist with searching for a missing male at Glenbawn Dam. The missing person was located by local SES teams.

On February 2, the helicopter to Scone to attend a riding competition where an 18 year old male had been thrown from a bull. The helicopter's critical care medical team treated the patient for head injuries before transporting him to the John Hunter Hospital for further treatment.
On February 6, the Service was called to Muswellbrook Hospital to undertake an inter-hospital transfer for a 65 year old male suffering serve asthma to Hornsby Hospital for specialist treatment.

January 2019 Mission Summary	February 2019 Mission Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Missions – 29 • Secondary Missions – 27 • Search & Rescue – 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Missions – 21 • Secondary Missions – 33 • Search & Rescue - 5

Then on two consecutive day the Helicopter was tasked to the Singleton area for two separate primary mission. On February 16 to a 21 year old male suffering leg fractures as a result of falling from a motorbike and then on the following day a 45 year old male and an 11 year old male treated at the scene of a motor vehicle accident. The patients of both missions

where transported to John Hunter Hospital for further treatment.
The community's own rescue helicopter
No one has ever had to pay to be assisted by the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and that is because people in our community. To discover and understand the importance of the Rescue Helicopter Service, a community an information

session is being held on March 27th at Muswellbrook RSL Club. You will discover all there is to know about this vital lifesaving service, Meet veteran air crew officer Graham Nick-isson and discover how you can play your part in becoming a volunteer. To reserve your seat call 1800 155 155 or visit www.rescuehelicopter.com.au

Hunter Valley Wine Country Official Visitor Map launched!

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent launched the first edition of the Hunter Valley Wine Country Official Visitor Map, alongside local business owners today at the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre. The map has been developed by Council in collaboration with local businesses who feature on the map. The end result is a comprehensive, user friendly tool for both locals and visitors.



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

“This map provides important and helpful information which will assist visitors exploring the area,” Mayor Pynsent said. “Our Visitor Centre’s mantra is, ‘let us inspire you’ and the team proudly live up to this. The official visitor map will drive the visitor economy, encourage repeat visitation and support personal recommendations of where to explore by family and friends.”
Council’s Acting Economic Development Manager, Rhiannon Stevens, said the response and participation from local businesses has been overwhelming. “Our team at the Visitor Information Centre have truly delivered a wonderful outcome, and are already receiving interest for the next edition of the map. We are proud to be delivering positive economic development initiatives embraced by local businesses.”
“We appreciate the ongoing support of our business community and we are proud to showcase the wonderful experiences here in the Hunter Valley.”
With over 500 local businesses represented, the map is an authentic showcase of all the experiences on offer in the area. The Visitor Centre is not just for visitors, with local residents loving the enormous gift shop of locally produced and handcrafted items, and the range of great information on offer.

Copies of the new map can be obtained from the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre in Pokolbin, or the Council Administration Building in Vincent Street, Cessnock. To find out more about the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre visit www.huntervalleyvisitorcentre.com.au.

MARCH

**LIVE
MUSIC**

8.30PM

**FRIDAY NIGHT
FOOTY 6.00PM**

FRI 1ST	THE AFTER PARTY
SAT 2ND	MISBEHAVE
FRI 8TH	LITHIUM
SAT 9TH	OUTLAW AVENUE
FRI 15TH	KNIGHTS vs SHARKS 6PM ROOSTERS vs RABBITOHS 7.55PM
SAT 16TH	OVERLOAD
FRI 22ND	RAIDERS vs STORM 6PM BRONCOS vs COWBOYS 7.55PM
SAT 23RD	JADE HOLLAND BAND
FRI 29TH	RAIDERS vs KNIGHTS 6PM EELS vs ROOSTERS 7.55PM
SAT 23RD	V-DUBS

Branxton Veteran Golfers

Results 28-2-19

Stableford -

"Millenium Trophy"

1st R McMillan 37 pts
2nd I Harris 33 pts
3rd G Noble 32 pts
4th R Brooks 31 pts (c/b)
5th C Caldwell 31 pts
The last day of Summer??, however it appears the summer weather may continue. The weather was pleasantly warm with a gentle breeze, which made conditions for playing golf more comfortable. Congratulations to Robert McMillan on winning the trophy, with an excellent score of 37 pts. And a well done to the place-getters.

Results 7-3-19

Stableford

Div 1 Winner R Crooks 33 pts
R/u J Sheedy 31 pts
3rd G Anderson 29 pts
Div 2 Winner A Cannon 34 pts
(SOD) R/u S Condran 32 pts
3rd R McMillan 31 pts (c/b)
Ladies Winner J Scobie 24 pts
R/u C Caldwell 23 pts
3rd J Harris (c/b) 22 pts
NTPs Ladies R McCarthy
Gents B Ward
Members draw - Not won
WOW!!! Someone really turned the thermostat down, however the overcast day with a fresh breeze blowing made it a good day for playing golf and almost had players reaching for jumper & jackets. Congratulations to Daryl Sheppard for achieving a "Hole-in-One" (11th). Congratulations to Alan Cannon on winning his division and gaining the 'Score of the Day' and a well done to all other winners and placegetters. Another closely contested round.

LN Bootes. Hon Sec

Branxton Ladies Golf

27th February 2019 - Stableford
WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK JOHN MARTIN FOR SPONSORING OUR 9TH/18TH HOLE IN ONE!
Winner: Kerrie O'Connell with 34 points
Runner-up: Jan Scobie with 31 points
3rd: Trish McMillan with 30 points
4th: Di Williams on 27 points
Nearest to the pin: Kerrie O'Connell

Hunter Valley Golf Club

Jarad Hofman has won the Weekly Challenge with an excellent 44 point round from Jason Varley of the Vintage GC with 41 points on countback. Ball winners were: Gerard Irwin 41, Adrian Russell 40, Justin Field v40, Rob MacBeth v38, Steven Kane 37, Ryan McGregor 37, Shane Atkins v36, Jason Cowburn 36 and Jason Pizzey 35 c/b

Tuesday 26th February

Rob Bradford made light work of the Tuesday field with a massive 46 points runner up went to Brad Hoolahan with 40 points with Peter Payne 3rd with 39 points. Ball winners were: Rick Turnchini 38, Steve Piggott 38, Steven Balks 38, Bob Prentice 38, Garry Clarke 36, Paul Smith 36, Graeme Flynn 35, Nathan Sweeney 35, David Peel 34 and Wayne Burgess 34 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Garry Clarke (3rd) Steven Kane (4th & 10th) and Peter Payne (17th)

Wednesday 27th February

The Ladies Season Opener 2 Person Ambrose went to Sue Williams and Leesa Robinson with 69.5 net from Jenny Chambers and Dale Hamilton

71 with Sue Peel and Kerrie Anne Skinner 3rd with 73 net. Next week the Ladies have no golf due to a corporate booking. Golf will resume on the 13th March with Rd 1 of the Golf NSW Medal and Putting comp.

Thursday 28th February

Wayne Drayton has won the Vets Medley Stableford with a sound 42 point return from John Pascoe 40 on countback to Dave Blackburn in 3rd place. Ball winners were: Wayne Barber 39, Steve Piggott 39, John Carmody 38, John Stewart 38, Kevin Smith 37, Wayne Burgess 37, Greg Amlöh 37, Paul Smith 36, Ken Wright 36 and David Peel 36 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Greg Amlöh (3rd) Ray Boyd (4th) Graeme Flynn (8th) Wayne Barber (10th) and David Peel (17th). Next week the Vets will play a Medley Stableford

Saturday 2nd March

The Monthly Medal for March has been won by Bohdi King with a great 63 net round. A Grade to David Peel with 69 from Steve Piggott 70, B Grade to Robert King with 64 from Jai Kumar 67 on countback and C Grade to Chris Lawson with 72 on countback to Michael McNab. Ball winners were: Wade Attewell 67, Bruce Chambers 68, Jeremie Morton 69, Ray Newton 70, Wayne Drayton 70, Troy Wallis 70, Anthony Bower 70, Alex Crowther v72, Mark Eddy 72, Shanon Attewell 72, Dale Porter 72, Russell Calderwood 72, John Brown 72, Ben Hedley 72, Jeff Morton 72 and Mitch Attewell 73 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Anthony Bower (3rd) Bruce Chambers (4th) and Wade Attewell (17th). Next week's event will be a Medley Stableford

Sunday 3rd March

The Weekly Challenge has been won by Charlestown GC visitor Richard Hoare with 37 points on countback to Jason Cowburn. Ball winners were: Ryan McGregor 36, Justin Woodbine 36, Doris Hoare v35, Wade Frith v35, Lloyd Barrett 35 and Grahame Mankelov 35 c/b

Tuesday 5th March

The Tuesday Stableford has gone to David Peel with 41 points with Rick Turnchini 2nd with 39 on countback to Mark Fullbrook in 3rd place also on countback. Ball winners were: Rex Talbot 39, Graeme Flynn 39, Brett Jansen v39, Ryan McGregor 38, Dean Morison 37, Gerry Irwin 37, Scott Goldman v35, Aaron Fox v34 and Garry Clarke 34 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to David Peel (3rd, 4th & 10th) David Kennedy (17th). Next week's Golf will be an Irish Stableford

Wednesday 6th March

No Ladies Golf this week due to corporate bookings the Ladies will resume Wednesday with Stroke being Rd 1 of the Golf NSW Medal and putting comp.

Thursday 7th March

Wayne Drayton with a solid 42 point round claimed the Vets Medley Stableford from Barry Chin 40 and Peter Payne in 3rd place with 39 on countback. Ball winners were: Gerry Irwin 39, John Stewart 38, Geoff Sweetman 37, David Peel 37, Steve Piggott 37, Paul Smith 36, Wayne Berry 35, Ray Newton 34, David Blackburn 34, Darrell Preston 34 and Ken Harris 34 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Ken Springbett (3rd) Graeme Flynn (4th & 8th) Ken Harris (10th) and Steve Piggott (17th). This week's raffle has been won by Paul Smith. The Misty Glen Wines player of the month of February was John Pascoe. Next week's event will be on **FRIDAY** due to a corporate booking and will be an Irish Stableford

Saturday 9th March

The Medley Stableford has produced some excellent scoring due to the course conditions, many thanks to our tireless greens staff. A Grade has been won by David Peel with 40 points with Daniel McLeod runner up with 39 on countback, B

Grade to Nathan Sweeney with 42 points from Jeff Morton 41 c/b and C Grade to Nic Bates with 42 on countback to Nicholas Hain. Ball winners were: David Preece 41, Wayne Drayton 41, Lloyd Barrett 41, Jai Kumar 39, Paul Bullock 39, Todd Mitchell 38, Peter Tierney 38, Mike Carter 38, Michael McNab 37 and Wayne Barber 36 on countback. Nearest-the-Pins went to Nic Bates (3rd) Michael McNab (4th) Wayne Draton (8th) and Jai Kumar (10th). Next week's event will be a Medley Irish Stableford

Branxton Golf Club

Sat Comp

Saturday, 2 March 2019

MONTHLY MEDAL - STROKE
Field: 49

Winners A Isaiah Wolferstan 65
Grades A Peter Wilton 67
Grades A Chris O' Brien 68
Grades A Chris Zawirski 68
Grades B John Martin 66
Grades B Troy Mc Caw 71
Grades B Neil Jordan 71
Grades C Kelvin Mather 66
Grades C Lennard Porter 67
Grades C Jarrod Makin 67
NTP 2/11 A 2nd Chris Zawirski 152cm
NTP 4 C 4th Kelvin Mather 82cm
NTP 9/18 B 9th Ed Garland 56cm
NTP 13 A 13th Steve Eccles 383cm
Balls 15 Distributed down to score: 75
Saturday's Monthly Medal provided some excellent scores in each grade. Isaiah Wolferstan showed his class in winning the overall monthly medal with a wonderful 65 nett, a 1 under par round. He is starting to play the golf of which he is capable, as he showed in the USA a few years ago when he was a plus marker. Peter Wilton continues to play great golf with his 67 nett good enough for second in A Grade with Chris O'Brien back t the podium with his 68 nett, equal with this year's form player Chris Zawirski. John Martin played out of his skin to win B Grade with a wonderful 66 nett, well ahead of Trow McCaw and Neil Jordan with their 71 nett scores. Kelvin Mather enjoyed his day out winning C Grade with his 66 nett score, a round which included a Nearest the pin on the 4th, finishing only 82 cms from the pin. Lennie Porter was runner up with an excellent 67 nett the dame score as Jarrod Makin who finished third on countback. The shot of the day belonged to Eddie Garland on the 9th, with his tee shot finishing only 56 cms away—a great shot!
The Pennants season continued on Sunday with very mixed results. A Grade had a bye and are still favourites to reach the finals they are only one point behind The Vintage—they have a vastly superior for and against and The Vintage have yet to have their bye. The B Grade team may have finally run their race as they were beaten 2-1 by Paterson at Maitland. C Grade had a 1.5 draw with Hunter Valley at Muswellbrook, whilst The Seniors lost 2-1 against Scone at Cessnock

Saturday, 9 March 2019

Event: SATURDAY COMP - STABLE

Field: 39

Grades A Peter Wilton 37

Grades A Mark Moylan 36

Grades B Gary Walsh 40

Grades B Troy Mc Caw 39

Grades C Col Hughes 44

Grades C Kelvin Mather 38

NTP 2/11 C 2nd Lennard Porter

NTP 4 C 4th Steven Berlin

NTP 9/18 A 9th Mark Moylan

NTP 13 B 3th Roger Yandle

Balls 12 Distributed down to score: 33
Saturday's stableford produced some excellent scores across the grades with the A Grade competition proving the closest with Peter Wilton, once again, showing his class to win the stableford competition with his 37 pts, just ahead of Mark Moylan's 36 pts, on a day where 33 pts was needed to win a ball. Gary "Barney" Walsh won B Grade with an excellent 40 pts, just ahead of

Troy McCaw's 39 pts—a great form guide to both players heading into Sunday's Pennants matches. The round of the day belonged to Col Hughes in C Grade with his superb 44 pts destroying the field. Kel Mather's 38 pts gave him the runner up spot. Sunday's Pennants proved to be a great day for the Branxton Club, with all team's winning their respective matches. The A Grade team won a tight tussle against Maitland at Cessnock, winning 3 -2 against their arch rivals. They are now running second with one game to go and looking good. B Grade won 2.5 - 0.5 against Muswellbrook at their home course, putting them in equal second place with one game to go. C Grade won 2.5 - 0.5 against Maitland at Kurri. However their last round bye counts them out of finals aspirations, in a really tight competition. The Seniors kept themselves in the hunt with a comprehensive 3-0 win against Kurri at Muswellbrook, leaving them in third place with one game to go—even a draw next week could be good enough to make the semi-finals. Good luck to all teams next week after a very competitive season in all grades.



The BDNC netball season is underway with pre-season training and round 1 starting on Saturday the 30th of March. We are working hard this year to provide our players opportunities to develop their skills across all areas including playing, coaching and umpiring. BDNC are offering the following development courses during the months of March and April.
Free Umpiring Information session run by badged umpire Cathy Pickles on Saturday the 23rd March @ 9am run at Branxton netball courts. This session is for players aged under 12 years and older.
Playing and Development Clinic run by Newcastle based Next Level Clinics. Thank you to the McKeogh group for sponsoring this clinic and giving our girls the opportunity to experience professional coaching at our very own courts. This clinic will be held on Sunday the 24th of March at 9.30am
Katie Miller from KFITT will be running fitness sessions commencing on Wednesday the 3rd of April. These sessions will aim to improve aerobic fitness, influence powerful and explosive movements and enhance overall fitness. Cost will only be \$5 per player
Coach the Coach run by Netty Head Tiffany Gilmour. Tiffany is an ex National League Netballer who will be sharing her knowledge and experience with our coaches on how to get the most out of a training session. Our coaches will learn new drills and training

techniques that can be shared with all our Branxton teams. BDNC would also like to thank and acknowledge our sponsors for coming on board for the 2019 season. We very much appreciate all of our sponsors and cannot wait to utilize your contribution to develop and expand the learning and playing opportunities for BDNC. On behalf of all the BDNC committee and members, thank you for supporting our local netballers.

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Jenna Cole
BDNC President



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Branxton Greta Little Athletics have good season



• Above: Members of Branxton Greta Little athletics who competed in events at the East Maitland Pentathlon in November last year. (Left to right & front) T. Hedges, L. Hellewell, Ashlee Chew, Emma Russell, B. Hellewell & William Hedges.

With almost eighty members, 'Branxton Greta Little Athletics' has enjoyed a strong season. Joy Clarke, Club President, said that the most pleasing part of this season has been the greater participation of the parents who have made the good running of the Club a much easier job for their Committee. "When the parents are behind the members it certainly makes our job that much easier", Joy said.
The club meets every Wednesday evening from 5pm at Miller Park and the evening usually finishes by around 7pm. For any budding athlete who would like to join the club, this year is almost over, so you will have to watch 'The News' for the commencement of the coming season which is usually in October.
The last carnival of the year will be held in Taree next month so we wish all the 'little athletes', good luck.

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Above: Two local Champion Golfers, Ken Dorn & Molly Collins, holding their 'Hole in One' trophies. The chance of getting a hole in one are odds of thousands to one but Molly and Ken had theirs' within a week of each other. WELL DONE!!!!

The New **SPORT**

GBUCC First and Third Grade to Contest Grand Finals



with Mark Bercini

Greta/Branxton United Cricket Club contested semi finals in all three grades last Saturday, with First and Third Grade progressing through to the big day. Unfortunately Second and Fourth Grade bowed out of the race to defend their premiership titles. The First Grade game at Miller 1 was washed out at the change of innings after minor premiers Greta/Branxton skittled Wine Country for just 74. The wickets were fairly evenly distributed, with Brett



■ Veteran Greg Andrews on his way to a half century against Peden's Hotel at East End.

Bridge (3-12 off 6), Pat Andrews (3-16 off 6) and Martin Shearer (3-7 off 5) picking up a treble each. Veteran second gripper Greg Andrews had a memorable day in the field, showing the reflexes of someone well below his age in his three sharp snares. Greta/Branxton were about to commence the run-chase when the heavens opened up, with play abandoned shortly after. The Blues progress to just their fourth grand final appearance since coming into the competition in 1988-89, where they will take on Mulbring at East

End Oval. Second Grade were soundly beaten in a replay of last year's decider against Chelmsford Hotel at Chinaman's Hollow. Greta/Branxton managed just 84 batting first, with Connor Thomson (18), Jason Haines (16no) and Anthony Brunson (13) making starts. Chelly reached the with 7 wickets in hand, with 16-year-old Thomson finishing off a great year with 2-27 off 6. Third Grade White will contest their first premiership decider after Miller 2 was also washed out after 32

overs. Wine Country were 7-112 when play was abandoned, with Will Young (2-26 off 3.4), Ethan Spliet-Miller (1-8 off 6), Jamie McNamara (1-17 off 6), Ben Miezes (1-6 off 6) and Cory Stephenson (1-36 off 6) sharing the wickets. They will take on Bellbird in the decider to be played at Bellbird's

Carmichael 1. Fourth Grade were well below their best when they were rolled for just 68 against Bellbird at Baddeley 1. Skipper Sam Dagg played sensibly for 23, but unfortunately the wickets were falling to rapidly around him. Bellbird lost 5 wickets in reply before reaching the target, with Sam Hines (3-17 off 3) and Doug Engel (2-19 off 4) collecting the wickets. **Cricket Report - Week 15** The final round of district cricket saw wins to First, Second and Third Grade White, with Third Grade

Blue and Fourth Grade suffering defeats. Unfortunately Bellbird, who were in hot pursuit for the club championship, won all four grades to pass Greta/Branxton and win the prestigious award by just over 4 points. First grade made it ten straight wins in their hard-fought 23-run win over a gallant Peden's Hotel at East End. Batting first, the Blues compiled a healthy 220 although they were bowled out in the 39th over. Greg Andrews (50) blasted a fine half-century, with Nathan Holz (45), Josh Dagg (43), Ben Hogan (21), Joey Butler (15) and Jake Goodyer (14no) all productive at the crease. Inspired by the vocal crowd on "Old Boys" day, Peden's made a real spirited and competitive run chase, but were eventually all out in the final over for 197. In what has been becoming the norm of late, Martin Shearer (5-54 off 10) took another five-fa for the Blues in a fine spell of medium pace bowling. Second Grade jumped into third spot on the ladder on the back of their 133-run thrashing of Peden's Hotel at

Miller 1. Greta/Branxton compiled a healthy 6-190 batting first, with Logan Millard again showing the advantages of great genetics with a timely 44. Anthony Brunson carried on his good season form with 41, with Reuben Andrews (25no), Connor Thomson (24), James Shoulder sr (19no) and skipper Trent Fuller (16) all cashing in on the good conditions. Peden's were skittled for just 57 in reply, with Dylan Lipscombe (5-9 off 4) and Thomson (4-15 off 6) completing an exceptional all-round game. Third Grade White wrapped up the minor premiership by the narrowest of margins following their 4-wicket win over Wine Country at Miller 2. Wine Country managed just 86 batting first, with Stephenson brothers Cory (4-28 off 9) and Aaron (2-12 off 3.1) doing the majority of the damage. Greta/Branxton struggled a little in reply, but reached the target after losing 6 wickets. Jayden Miller top scored with 34, Jamie McNamara made 15, with Cory Stephenson completing a man-of-the-match performance with 28.

Third Grade Blue's below-par season ended on a low note when they were trounced by 6 wickets at the hands of Bellbird at Carmichael 2. The Blues were dismissed for just 77 batting first, with Ryan O'Donnell (31) and James Shoulders jnr (17) the only pair to show any sort of resistance. Bellbird passed the total after losing 6 wickets, with Mal Hedger claiming 2-4 off 4. Fourth Grade went down convincingly by 94 runs at the hands of Cessnock Hotel at Jeffery Park. Batting first, Cessnock Hotel made a healthy 193. Sam Hines was the best of the Greta/Branxton attack with 5-36 off 10, with Daniel McCann (2-46 off 10) and Doug "Espresso Martini" Engel (2-14 off 3) picking up a brace of wickets each. Greta/Branxton were dismissed for 99 in reply, with Correy Stone (37), Luke Whitaker (15), Ethan Allerton (13) and Daniel McCann (13) providing the majority of the runs.

Final Standings
First Grade Greta/Branxton 89, Mulbring 78, Bellbird 77, Wine Country 61, Supporters 60, Peden's Hotel 55.
Second Grade Bellbird 81, Chelmsford Hotel 79, Greta/Branxton 72, Peden's Hotel 69, Wine Country 68, Supporters 61.
Third Grade Greta/Branxton White 75, Bellbird 74, Mulbring 71, Wine Country 69, Greta/Branxton Blue 62, Laguna 49.
Fourth Grade Chelmsford Hotel 81, Bellbird 77, Greta/Branxton 73, Peden's Hotel White 65, Wine Country 62, Cessnock Hotel 60, Peden's Hotel Blue 58, Supporters 42.
Club Championship Bellbird 701.52, Greta/Branxton 697.12, Wine Country 585.38, Supporters 443.80, Peden's Hotel 442.03, Mulbring 415.45.

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