

Keep your business in town and you keep your town in business!!!!

thebranxtonnews.com.au/

The News FREE

Serving the local community since 1997

...for your enjoyment

T: 49381773
M: 0414 757 826

FREE

“Your paper of choice”

All the local news since 1997

WEDNESDAY
29 May 2019

Page 4

STEVE'S RANT

Page 6

Members Well Done Not So Well Done



Page 19

School NEWS

Page 21



‘Coal’ sends a loud message to Joel Fitzgibbon MP

LOCAL member for Hunter & Labor frontbencher Joel Fitzgibbon MP, the shadow agriculture minister, will spend another three years on the Opposition benches after the Coalition defied the predictions of bookies and pollsters.

Fitzgibbon said he had given notice to his Labor colleagues that the party's emphasis on climate action over coal jobs was eroding its support in regional Australia, as soul-searching began into why voters have abandoned Labor in crucial mining seats.

The seat of Hunter was a safe Labor seat until this election going from a safe 12.5% margin to just 2%.

One Nation's Hunter candidate, Stuart Bonds, a mine worker, gained 21 per cent of the primary vote, all but matching the Nationals' Josh Angus.

“I did have some private polling that indicated that the One Nation vote would be up around where it landed. I thought that poll was probably a little bit exaggerated but I was predicting about 15% which was huge in itself but I couldn't have imagined it would get to 21 per cent so it is a big wake up call to both me and the party,” said Joel.

He told Channel Seven's *Sunrise* that any leaders of the Labor Party would need to be able to say that while they were committed to action on climate

change, “I'm equally committed to the mining industry. I equally committed to getting gas out of the ground to fuel our jobs in the manufacturing sector and I'm committed to giving regional Australia a big seat at the decision making table.”

Joel was also reported to have said that the Labor Party had been punished for its “fence sitting” on the future of the Adani coal mine and had failed to declare emphatic support for the mining industry.

He also said that if the ALP did not have someone from the bush at the decision making table “we will continue to make the same mistakes”.

Mr Fitzgibbon said the ALP had to get back to the centre of politics & had threatened to stand as a ‘centrist’ for party leadership but at the close of nominations last Monday he had not nominated and had thrown his support behind Albanese.

The latest results show Prime Minister Scott Morrison on track for a majority of 77 seats. Labor has 66 seats, with the possibility of 67, and there are six crossbenchers.

The Tasmanian seat of Bass was taken off the too-close-to call list last Monday evening, with Liberal candidate Bridget Archer 701 votes ahead of Labor incumbent Ross Hart.

There are only about seven per cent of votes yet to be counted as of last Monday.



•If One Nation had of manned the polling booths it could have been a wave ‘good bye’

HUNTER PET
motel

ABN 85 542 243 982

Cat & dog
boarding

With every dog boarding booking over 5 days your pet will receive a free dog wash & every Cat will receive a free cat toy*

*Conditions apply, EXCLUDES SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – valid until the 31 August 2019, ex members of the Defence Force receive a 10% discount over the same period.

The Hunter's ONLY fully accredited boarding facility

169 Springvale Road, Elderslie NSW 2335 P 02 4938 3710
E enquiries@hunterpetmotel.com.au W www.hunterpetmotel.com.au

FINALIST

Singlton
**OUTSTANDING
BUSINESS AWARDS
2018**

SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND



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 April 2019 to 30 April 2019.

Locality	Reference	Decision Date	Property Address	Application Description
EAST BRANXTON	008/2019/0000202/001	24-Apr-2019	1 Dalwood RD	Shed
GRETA	008/2019/0000166/001	1-Apr-2019	29 Popham ST	Shed
GRETA	008/2019/0000165/001	9-Apr-2019	131 Talleyrand CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
LOVEDALE	008/2019/0000156/001	2-Apr-2019	158 Wilderness RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
LOVEDALE	008/2019/0000113/001	3-Apr-2019	53 Brickmans LANE	Demolition of an Existing Carport & Construction of a New Garage & Carport
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/0000160/001	2-Apr-2019	2 Slattery RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/0000180/001	5-Apr-2019	10 Emerton RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Deck
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/0000154/001	15-Apr-2019	16 Harkin RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Walls
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/0000214/001	24-Apr-2019	29 Wethered CR	Inground Swimming Pool
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/0000238/001	29-Apr-2019	4 Parnell RD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/0000242/001	29-Apr-2019	5 Saxby AV	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
POKOLBIN	008/2019/0000204/001	11-Apr-2019	48 Casuarina DR	Swimming Pool
POKOLBIN	008/2019/0000220/001	16-Apr-2019	106 Casuarina DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
POKOLBIN	008/2019/0000227/001	16-Apr-2019	103 Casuarina DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Walls
POKOLBIN	008/2019/0000090/001	17-Apr-2019	328 De Beyers RD	Change of Use to Tourist Accommodation & Signage
POKOLBIN	008/2019/0000197/001	18-Apr-2019	102 Casuarina DR	Single Storey Dwelling With Attached Garage
POKOLBIN	008/2018/00000680/001	23-Apr-2019	587 De Beyers RD	Construct Integrated Development consisting of Six (6) Cellar Doors, Bakery, Brewery, Cafe, Butchery with Shop, Vineyards & Associated Landscaping, Parking & Access Works followed by Two (2) Lot Subdivision

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

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

General Manager Stephen Glen



PUBLIC EXHIBITION DRAFT 2019-20 OPERATIONAL PLAN

At its meeting of **1 May 2019** Council resolved to place the draft 2019-20 Operational Plan on Public Exhibition from **9 May 2019 to 5 June 2019**.

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

The Draft 2019-20 Operational Plan details Council's proposed activities for 2019-20 including the Draft Budget, as well as Council's proposed Revenue Policy and Schedule of Fees and Charges.

The Draft documents can be viewed at the following locations:

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

Written submissions on the Draft documents should be addressed to the General Manager and will be accepted up **until 5.00 pm Wednesday 5 June 2019**.

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

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

Q1819-50 QUOTATION - CATERING FOR CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL

Invitation: Council invites any person willing to fulfil the requirements of the following contract Catering of Morning/Afternoon Teas. Light meals (eg. Lunches, training requirements, staff and Civic Functions).

Obtain tender documents by emailing: Procurement@cessnock.nsw.gov.au

Quotation: Q1819-50 Quotation - Catering for Cessnock Council

Deadline to submit: 2:00pm Tuesday 28 May 2019.

Purchase price: No cost.

Requests for information: Mr Craig Wade.

PICK OF What's Coming



Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow

6 June 2019
CPAC presents Melbourne International Comedy Festival's production. Looking for a laugh? The Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow is coming to town.



Buddy Holly and the Beatles In Concert

15 June 2019
Ben Maiorana Entertainment
Hey Rock & Roll music fans! The wait is over - let's go back to where it all began as we relive the magic & hits of legendary music icons Buddy Holly & The Beatles Together Live In Concert.



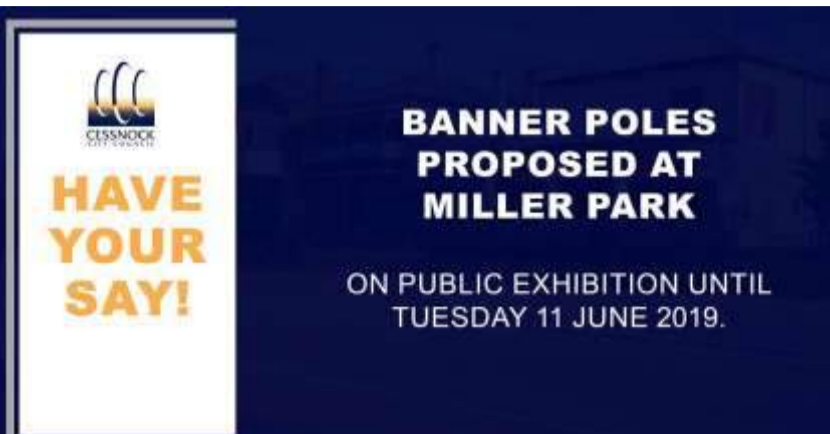
Stars of the Hunter Valley

29 June 2019
Cancer Council
Stars of the Hunter Valley will see eight local community stars dance off for the title of the inaugural STAR OF THE HUNTER VALLEY!



Banner poles proposed at Miller Park, Branxton

REMINDER: Public exhibition closes Tuesday 11 June



Cessnock City Council is asking the community for feedback on proposed locations for the installation of three banner poles at Miller Park, Branxton. Council received \$19,046 in grant funding from the Department of Veteran Affairs to install new banner poles in the Cessnock Local Government Area. Following community consultation in January 2019 it was determined poles would be installed in Maybury Peace Park, Weston and along the New England Highway, Greta. In consideration of community feedback collected it was determined Wollombi was not a suitable location for

the installation of banner poles and the location at Miller Park, Branxton has now been identified. The exact location selected for the installation of the three poles is at the edge of the park, along Maitland Street. This location was selected as banner will be easily seen from the roadway and it aligns with the Miller Park Masterplan. The poles will be used to display Armistice Day banners for years to come and other banners that mark important occasions including ANZAC Day. Council will also utilise these poles to hang banners that promote community events such as Seniors Festival and NAIDOC

Week. The poles will also be available to hire for community groups. Currently the community can apply to utilise the poles located on Vincent Street, Cessnock and Victoria Street, Kurri Kurri. To view the application for these poles visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/business/bannerpoles. **The proposed exact locations of the three poles can be viewed on CCC website** Council is encouraging residents to have their say on the proposed locations and email communication@cessnock.nsw.gov.au with any feedback

Financial management and sustainability the real bottom line in Singleton's 2019/2020 operational plan



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

A \$37.6 million capital works program – including the biggest investment in water and sewer infrastructure since 2006, 153 projects and a projected budget surplus have been signed off in Singleton Council's 2019/2020 Operational Plan to take effect from 1 July. The document was formally adopted at Council's ordinary meeting last night, also reinforcing the organisation's successful approach to financial management with continued downward pressure on operating expenses and improvement in all Fit for the Future benchmarks while increasing expenditure on asset maintenance and renewal.

Some of the actions in Council's plans for the coming financial year are the community commemoration of Singleton's bicentenary in March 2020; continuation of the Singleton Town Centre upgrade; increased commitment to advocacy and socio-economic planning; and finalisation of the Floodplain Risk Management Plan. General Manager Jason Linnane said the 2019/2020 Operational Plan was built

on sustained operational improvements over the past three years, underpinned by difficult but necessary decisions by councillors and staff.

"What I'm most excited about is the focus on asset renewal, with \$29.4 million allocated to keeping assets at a high standard to serve our community into the future," he said.

"We will see a significant investment in our water and sewer network amounting to \$17.1 million to upgrade the infrastructure required to provide our most essential services.

"And there's a great range of projects to support a range of interests in our community, such as the new roof for the Singleton Museum in Burdekin Park and improvements to Howe Park including irrigation and a white picket fence for the cricket oval."

The capital works budget includes:

- \$10.42 million for roads;
- \$9.27 million for water infrastructure;
- \$7.84 million for sewer infrastructure; and
- \$4.37 million for recreation and buildings.

Mr Linnane said the coming financial year was the final in Council's four-year special rate variation, which had helped to lay the foundations for asset management into the future – and in line with the State Government's Fit for the Future measurements.

"Our community can be confident Council is doing what we say we're going to do, with respect for careful and considered utilisation of the resources available,

as well as the needs of our residents," he said.

"The draft Operational Plan allows for increases in rates and charges ranging from 5.8% to 9.78%, keeping average residential rates in Singleton at less than 80% of the Hunter Region average.

"Our waste, water and sewer charges are also among the comparatively lowest in our region.

"But the bottom line is we will continue to work hard during this coming year to deliver the highest quality services to our community, while maintaining our commitment to sound financial management and sustainability."

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



STANHOPE HANDYMAN SERVICES

Branxton and surrounding areas

I'll consider any job and will tell you if I can't do the work!

- ✓ Broad experience
- ✓ Lots of tools and equipment
- ✓ Small construction work
- ✓ Sheds built
- ✓ IKEA and other flat pack units built and installed
- ✓ Repairs and maintenance
- ✓ Renovations, painting and decorating
- ✓ Landscaping, paths, steps, pergolas, arbours, gardens, fire pits etc.
- ✓ High pressure water cleaning
- ✓ Clean-up and rubbish removed
- ✓ Firewood cut, split and stacked

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

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

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

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

Darwin Award Winners

1. When his 38-caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber, James Elliot, did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked. And now, the honourable mentions:
2. The chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and after a little hopping around, submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company expecting negligence, sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.
3. A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.
4. After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for three days.

Daily Thoughts ...

- One who walks in another's tracks leaves no footprints. -- **Unknown**
- Forgive all who have offended you. Not for them, but for yourself. -- **Harriet Nelson**
- Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little. -- **Edmund Burke**
- A bend in the road doesn't mean the end of the road. -- **Unknown**
- Happiness consists not in having much, but in being content with little. -- **Unknown**
- The difference between fiction and reality? Fiction has to make sense. -- **Tom Clancy**

Lawrence's AG & Machinery Repairs

30 Years "Hands-On" Experience



Call Clayton....

- AG & Truck Air Conditioning
- All types of Ag Repairs
- Mobile Service .. All Work Guaranteed Competitive Rates..

Mob: 0414 234 841 Ph: 4930 7078 A/H

your local **OPTOMETRIST** book your appointment online

bulk billed to Medicare

OPTICAL frames

DAKLEY in store NOW

5/71 Maitland Street BRANXTON

4 9 3 8 1 1 7 Lake Valley OPTICAL

STEVE'S RANT

Why Joel should put his hand up for the Leadership of the Parliamentary Labor Party

As we have seen, the policies Labor presented to the people leading up to the very recent federal election were for and of the inner-city elites of Melbourne, Sydney and the other state capitals.

Labor policy gave the finger to the mortgage belts of suburbia, the vast rural electorate and those dependant on the mining industries.

As I write this the two candidates nominated for the leadership are just more of the same. In fact, Chris Bowen is the architect of these failed policies and continues to defend them. 'Albo' to me is an unknown quantity. He is of the left and consequently a socialist. This does not necessarily disqualify him and he is a popular politician but he is of the inner city of Sydney.

Joel is the only sitting member of federal Labor who is of the and from the rural and mining industry fraternity.

He has demonstrated his concerns and support for his electorate, of the Hunter, over the last few years.

His time as the shadow minister for primary industry give him insight into the many problems across areas devastated by drought and low employment prospects. Besides this he would be

able to deal with his nemesis Barnaby Joyce from a position of greater authority.

I strongly recommend that he make himself available for election because he is not aligned to any particular faction in the party and has demonstrated his qualifications for the job.

Australia needs a good opposition to support the government in matters of common concern and to ginger the debate while establishing its own policies and communication with the people.

Whether he makes this move or not I have a bullet or two for him to fire.

Here we go

Why is Australia totally dependent on imported petrol and other liquid fuels?

Why do we only have 10 to 20 days' supply of these fuels stockpiled at any one time? Why are our petrol prices subject to exchange rate charges on top of changes to the base price of world crude oil?

Australia has oil and gas fields both onshore and offshore such that we export huge amounts of liquified gas and liquified condensates and crude oil. Yet we have no ability to process the condensates or crude to provide petrol, aviation turbine fuel, diesel and other fuels domestically.

This is a grave threat to our security.

Any aggressive country can hold us hostage by cutting the sea lanes between



Singapore and Australia. As with the power supply companies; the government must address this failure of the big oil companies to build and maintain our own domestic refining capacity. It is my belief that BP, Shell, Caltex et al are happy to avoid this kind of massive investment for several reasons.

One - The importation of refined oils allows them to profit from exchange rate fluctuations.

Two—The companies avoid the massive accumulated liabilities of employing local workers on any refining sites.

Three - They have not been kicked up the backside by any government to change the situation.

Another bullet that Joel can keep in his 'Powder Horn' is the Bradfield Irrigation Scheme.

He will be able to join forces with Barnaby Joyce on this one.

The Bradfield Scheme was a plan to dam East Coast rivers in high rainfall areas and divert water inland via the west flowing rivers such as the Burdekin in Queensland and the Darling in New South Wales.

The general principle of this scheme is also applicable to the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

The water is there it just needs the will of the Government to implement it.

The Colonial Government of Western Australia was able to pipe water from Perth to Kalgoorlie over a hundred years ago.

What is wrong with us that we cannot do this kind of thing.

When you see the size of

earth moving equipment being floated along the New England Highway you can be assured that the means to do these things are very much available.

Another bullet is what to do with the bloody great holes being dug in the coalfields.

Cheers Steve.



with Mike Lowing

Now that the federal election is 'done & dusted' for another 3-years the retrospective analysis of the unexpected outcome is now in full force.

Some of the media are now reporting that the result wasn't unexpected even though they, almost in entirety, didn't pick it prior to the day; easy in retrospect!

The polls where wrong, the media absolutely missed the swing coming & the biggest 'surprise' of the outcome was written on, never-to-be PM, Bill Shortens face just prior to conceding defeat which he said was 'clearly on climate action, amongst others, parts of our nation remain deeply divided'.

His ambit that the government was hopeless and riven by ideological division didn't bear up.

Locally, Joel Fitzgibbon MP was very lucky to survive with a 9.7% swing against him.

Joel had a real conundrum with 12,000 coal miners,

who represent close to 10% of all voters in the seat of Hunter, in his electorate. The CFMEU, who are their work protectors, have a right and responsibility to protect their jobs, naturally. (you have, no doubt, seen their opposition to the pernicious spread of casual labour hire, now rife, in the industry).

Protecting their jobs does come at the expense of the ALP's policy of renewable energy & there lies the unholy conundrum.

I see no panacea only a paradigm shift away from Labor in the seat of Hunter & all the other ALP seats, federal & state, in the Hunter Valley.

Pauline Hanson & One Nation obviously share my view ~ she was in Maitland scrutineering last week.

Cheers, Mike



He made an enormous contribution

I once asked an elderly man who he thought was Australia's greatest prime minister, and without thinking for a second he said Bob Hawke.

From my point of view Bob Hawke was our greatest leader for a number of reasons. From an emotional point of view, he was prime minister when I was at university, one of the greatest

times of my life. Economically and politically, Mr Hawke and his talented government oversaw the introduction of Medicare, floated the dollar, deregulated the financial system, forged a historic wage accord between the trade unions, business and government, prevented the damming of Tasmania's Franklin River, increased the number of people finishing high school and established APEC (Asia Pacific

remain in Australia after the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989.

It is a very sad day for the Labor Party, the union movement and Australia, because in many ways he was the quintessential Australian everyone loved. I will have a beer and privately remember the enormous contribution this intelligent, caring, gifted man made to the country he loved.

Name & Address supplied but not published at request of writer

Remembering an extraordinary man
I talked to a tradie about Bob Hawke's death. He'd never known the Hawke years. He'd never been to a rally and listened with awe as Hawke mesmerised the crowd with the sheer force of

his personality, never saw the man's tears as his emotion with injustices overwhelmed, never lived through the kept promises of social reform. The tradie arrived after the sweeping changes and now lives with their benefit. An era that may never be replicated has passed. Vale Bob Hawke, an extraordinary man.

Mike McGregor, Narrabri NSW

Emergency Phone Numbers

Dial 000

FOR FIRE, POLICE AND AMBULANCE ANY TIME. DAY OR NIGHT FOR 24-HOUR SERVICE

It's a free call. Just tell the operator what you need—fire, police or ambulance. Then wait to be connected.

When reporting an emergency by calling 000, the telephone number & address you are calling from may be given to the emergency service so they can respond quickly. If you don't want the telephone number or address details passed on, you must call the emergency service direct.

ALL CALLS TO 000 ARE VOICE RECORDED

For non-life threatening calls.....

Police Assistance Line (PAL).... 131 444

Police	
Branxton.....	4938 1244
Lochinvar.....	4930 7209
Ambulance.....	131 233
NSW Fire Brigade	
Branxton.....	4938 3396
Rural Fire Brigades	
Belford.....	6574 7149
Broke.....	6579 1491
Greta.....	4015 0000
Bishops Bdg	
Nth R'bury....	4015 0000
Rothbury.....	4015 0000
Pokolbin.....	4015 0000
Rothbury.....	4991 1733
Bishops Bdg	
Nth R'bury....	4015 0000
Rothbury.....	4015 0000
Pokolbin.....	4015 0000
Rothbury.....	4991 1733
Scotts	
Flat.....	6575 1200
Central	
(Cessnock)....	4015 0000

Electricity	
Energy	
Australia.....	131 388
Hospitals	
Maitland....	4939 2000
Cessnock..	4991 0555
Singleton..	6572 2799
SES	132 500
Crime Stoppers	
	1800 333 000
Poisons Info	131 126
Hunter Water	
	1300 657 000
Ausgrid	131 388
Gas Emergencies .	131 909
Lifeline	131 114
Mental Health Line	
	1800 011 511
Domestic Violence Support	
	4990 9609
Centrelink Self Service	
	136 240
Medicare	132 011
Native Animal Rescue	
	0418 628 483

Submit a letter to the editor

The Editor, The BGV News, 12 Clift Street, Branxton NSW 2335

or emailed to thenews@hotmail.net.au

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

.... for all your real estate needs
P: 4938 3300
M: 0412 566 041



Crime Stoppers celebrates 30 years in operation in NSW

For 30 years, NSW Crime Stoppers have played a critical role in helping solve crime across the state, with the assistance of the NSW Police Force and the community.

The organisation has been a global leader in the Crime Stoppers family since its inception in 1989 and has been acknowledged for the following significant milestones:

- The first in the world to enable online reporting
- The first in the world to enable mobile phone reporting
- The first in the world to create a social media platform recognised as world's best practice the last four years in a row
- The first in the world to develop and implement a defensive cybercrime strategy through public education
- The first in the world to have a 24/7 operational call centre
- The first in Australia to take information on domestic violence

NSW Crime Stoppers forms part of a global network which helps solve a crime every 14 minutes around the world. The NSW organisation

is contacted every six minutes, with information leading to an average of four arrests per day.

In the last 20 years, contact to NSW Crime Stoppers has increased from 150 reports each month to almost 8000 per month, with that number likely to continue to rise.

According to the Crime Stoppers Economic and Social Impact of Crime Stoppers Report February 2018, the added economic value of Crime Stoppers in 2017 was \$60 million with \$11.15 added value for every dollar invested.

In all of this, Crime Stoppers could not continue to exist and contribute to crime solving if it weren't for the collaborative efforts of the NSW Police Force and the community.

NSW Crime Stoppers CEO, Peter Price AM, said we cannot underestimate the valuable contribution the community plays in solving crime.

"We know from history that public support helps police intervene in criminal activity and disrupt organised gangs who are responsible for a range of crimes. We all want our children, families and friends to feel safe in our own homes and communities," Mr Price said.

"We don't want to know who you are, we just want to know what you know. We're asking you to be a mate and look out for the welfare of others by reporting to Crime Stoppers."

NSW Crime Stoppers is holding community engagement events in Sydney, Lismore, Wollongong and Dubbo to call on residents to continue to support police by providing information. At the events, the local police and local communities will be commended for their 30 years of collaboration.

Sydney City Police Area Commander, Acting Superintendent John Maricic APM thanked the community for getting behind the work of the NSW Police Force and NSW Crime Stoppers.

"Our officers see the impact of crime on the community on a daily basis, and we want the public to continue to help us disrupt and prevent illegal activity, so we can achieve more positive outcomes," A/Supt Maricic said. "We know that a whole-of-community approach is necessary to effectively tackle criminal behaviour, which is why it is so important to recognise the achievements from the past 30 years.

"Never underestimate the important role you can play in helping police arrest those involved in criminal activity – your phone call could be this missing piece of the puzzle that is essential in solving a crime," A/Supt Maricic said.

NSW Crime Stoppers is looking forward to another 30 years of partnering with NSW Police and local communities to continue making NSW a safer place to live.

Invitation to the Prime Minister to experience highway heavy traffic congestion



Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore has invited re-elected Prime Minister Scott Morrison to experience the congestion on the New England Highway first-hand in a call for cross-government support for the Singleton bypass.

Labor incumbent Joel Fitzgibbon pledged \$250 million to the State Government's \$92 million to deliver the much-needed project in its Federal campaign for the seat of Hunter, and both Nationals candidate Josh Angus and One Nation candidate Stuart Bonds made public commitments in support of delivering the project.

Cr Moore said she had written to Mr Morrison in the wake of the weekend's Federal election to ensure the issue was on the Federal agenda.

She also invited him to come to Singleton to talk to residents about the Government's plans for regional Australia, particularly in regard to infrastructure.

"I have included a copy of the Singleton Federal Advocacy Agenda to highlight those issues our community has identified as being most pertinent," she said.

"The Singleton bypass is obviously at the top of the list.

"The NSW Government has commenced planning for a preferred route and committed \$92 million under Rebuilding NSW. However, bipartisan and cross-government support is required to make this project a reality, particularly to meet our vision for completion before 2024.

"The people of Singleton are looking for Federal leadership to address the major issues the highway presents to our community now, and to benefit Singleton into the future particularly with the emphasis on the role of the coal industry in climate action.

"I would look forward to hosting Mr Morrison on a visit to Singleton so he can experience the heavy vehicle traffic and congestion that our residents, workers and visitors must contend with on a daily basis."

Other issues on the Singleton Federal Advocacy Agenda include:

- commitment to the agriculture industry and improved drought support
- ongoing leadership to address the impacts of the flying-fox colony in Singleton
- environmental issues associated with power stations and mines
- leadership and resources to help respond to recycling issues
- changes to government cost-shifting models
- commitment to support mining-affected regions

We want to do business with you!

Did you know that Cessnock City Council is a big customer when it comes to business and they love to buy locally!

To make doing business with them easier they are launching an 'everything you need to know guide', to get all working better together.

In an effort to take the confusion out of the procurement process, including tendering to providing quotes, Council has launched "Doing Business with Council," a guide that gives you all you need to know about being a Council supplier.

As part of the launch Council held a session today, Wednesday 29 May, at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre (CPAC), where local

businesses were invited to come along to a presentation and networking

event. This was a great opportunity to learn about being a local government supplier and what resources are available for local businesses to navigate partnering with council.

Council provides a huge range of services to the community, including but not limited to; building roads, bridges, to providing our community with library services or operating the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre. Around \$24 million worth of goods and services are acquired by Council via publicly listed tenders and quotes.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent is excited about this evolution in the relationship between Council and the business community.

"We are always looking at ways of improving our services. We often need to engage external suppliers to ensure we're fulfilling our responsibilities. We're proud to present you with this guide that will provide a better understanding of how to do business with Council. It covers tenders, quotations, safety, risk and environmental management. If you need more information our Finance team are happy to assist."

To find out more about the event or for a copy of the guide email procurement@cessnock.nsw.gov.au.

Doing Business
RIGHT

Seasoned Firewood

1 Tonne	\$120
3metres	\$250
4 tonne	\$480

FREE DELIVERY
TW & A HOLLINGSLED
Rural Fencing FREE QUOTES
P: 4998 1583
MOB: 0429 320 787

If you require assistance please call
0414 757 826

REFLECTIONS

"That they may all be one."

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

The theme of love continues as Jesus prays for his disciples "that they may all be one." [John 17.21] It is not only the first disciples who Jesus is praying for, but for all who will come to believe in Him ... and that includes you and me.

Jesus prays that we will be one like He and the Father are one, though they are one, they are also distinct. The oneness that Jesus prays for, is not simply uniformity, that we think, act and believe the same way. It is much deeper and much more fulfilling than that! Love is the key that enables us to give to, receive from and accept each other. With love our distinctions can be our strengths and the things that bind us together.

Can you imagine what it is like for Jesus to pray for you? Can you hear His prayer?

Perhaps the closest we will come to knowing what that might be like, is to listen to our own hearts and minds as we pray for those whom we love. Each of us want the best for those we love. How much more does Jesus pray for us? Love took Jesus to the cross and love raised Jesus from the dead. And Jesus prays that we would know that love in our lives. The love that draws us to be one with Him and the Father ... the love that enables us to be one with one another.

Love is the means by which we are able to be joined to one another, whilst retaining our individuality. Love encourages us to be who we are now, to discover who we are called to be as a child of God, and to create our story as part of the whole story of God's people. Love gives us the freedom to express ourselves. Love allows for our differences to be valued and celebrated. Love provides a space for unity in our diversity.

How much does Jesus love us? In this coming week, can I encourage you to ponder Jesus' love for you, remembering that He was willing to die on a cross for you ... that's how much He loves you!

Every Blessing

Reverend Nicole

Members say



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

This week marks the start of significant works in the Cessnock CBD, as Council works towards implementing the vision of the Cessnock CBD Master Plan and subsequent Cessnock Commercial Precinct Project. This project proposes to enhance Cessnock CBD as an attractive place to visit, with features that appeal to visitors and locals alike. These include thriving retail opportunities, easy access to car parking and well connected, visually appealing public spaces. The new CBD will feature interpretive signage, cycling opportunities and improve pedestrian accessibility.

Work on North Avenue and Keene Street to upgrade pedestrian facilities is nearly finished. The night works have now been completed. On Sunday night, works commenced under Stage 1.1 which is the upgrade of Cooper and Charlton Streets. Stage 1.1 will include road pavement improvement featuring a raised threshold treatment, underground drainage works, new pavers, installation of planter boxes, street trees and provision of bench seating.

In the coming months detours will be in place as we progress the plans for the CBD. Council engaged businesses in preparation of the works and will continue to talk to businesses in the CBD as works are carried out. Council understands this will be a disruptive time and thanks everyone for their patience as we work towards a revitalised CBD. To keep up to date with the project visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/cessnock_construction.

This week is National Reconciliation Week (NRW), a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The dates for NRW remain the same each year; 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively. Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions

of all Australians as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between the wider Australian community, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. To mark NRW, yesterday, we had free screening of the film 'Connection to Country' at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre. It was wonderful to see so many young people at the screening, with support from our school communities. Council is also holding an event to pay our respect to local elders. A priority for Council remains rolling out the actions under Council's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan To view the plan and the actions visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/Aboriginalandtorres#RAP.

Residents are reminded there is still time to undertake a survey and tell Council what they think about the waste services Council provides. All the results will be used to prepare Council's Waste Management Strategy 2020-2024. The survey is open until Friday 31 May. It is important we hear from lots of residents about their experiences and their needs. All residents can access the survey online or request as hardcopy from Council. For more information visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/wastesurvey.
Cheers, Bob



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

IMAGINE OUR COUNTRY WITHOUT MEDICARE?

Last week, Bob Hawke passed away. Reading the many tributes and lists of achievements I was reminded about the historic path of our wonderful scheme called Medicare. And given that you will be reading this column post-election (Federal), I have no fear in being accused of bias for political outcome.

You may recall a Labor Prime Minister, a fellow called Gough Whitlam and his introduction of a universal health care scheme called Medibank in 1975. The idea of Medibank was that every Australian citizen would have access to free medical treatment. After the dismissal of this Whitlam bloke, there was a new fellow in charge, a Liberal Prime Minister called Malcolm Fraser. Malcolm decided, in 1976, that only the people who could pay for

Medibank should be able to access health care funded and covered by Medibank. So up until 1975 and after 1976, medical treatment was not free and accessible for all Australians. It is a hard world to imagine for a person my age. I was born in 1971 and for the great majority of life I have been able to access medical services without fear of the treatment(s) sending me bankrupt.

Then, in 1983, a new Labor Government was elected and this bloke called Bob Hawke liked the idea that Australia would make sure that all Australians could access free universal health care. He liked what Gough had started and disliked the fact that Malcolm had torn it apart. So this Bob Hawke fellow set up a universal medical health care scheme called Medicare. And given that Labor won the next 5 elections, Medicare became deeply and firmly entrenched in our society prior to the next Liberal Government coming along.

Could you imagine us not having Medicare in our society? Could you imagine not being able to access a doctor or a hospital unless you had the money to pay for it (as happens in America and many other countries)? Medicare is not a perfect system but it does provide Australia with a universal health care scheme that is one of the world's best. For what it's worth, I reckon that these blokes called Gough and Bob and the Labor Party did something pretty good for Australia. And for those that don't agree, I look forward to seeing you take to the streets to march and protest against Medicare.

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



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP Member for Hunter

Today's Australia is a prosperous one. The Labor Party and the trade unionists that formed it can take much of the credit. More particularly, they can claim credit for ensuring our wealth is more evenly and fairly shared. Coal miners for example, enjoy good wages thanks to their capacity to bargain collectively and the leadership of their union representatives. They are but

one of many examples of the benefits of strong Labor representation.

Many of those same workers are now self-funded retirees or plan to be. They've been astute enough to use their good earning years to build a nest egg for their years in retirement. At local polling booths on election-day, local mineworkers pushed one another out of the way to vote One Nation. Self-funded retirees did something similar.

Labor can't and shouldn't expect mineworkers, who have worked hard to get ahead, to thank it for their comfortable financial circumstances. What matters is whether Labor's commitment to them remains strong. It does.

But Labor made big mistakes. We did so in a number of ways. I have space for just three examples. First, Labor's leadership seemed unwilling to clearly articulate its appreciation for the great wealth mining brings to our economy and the well-paid jobs it provides.

Second, while Labor took a necessary and light-touch climate change policy to the election, we left ourselves exposed to a scare campaign by announcing it without the capacity to fully explain its impacts. If you leave yourself open to a scare campaign it's what you can expect. Third, when Labor said it would take from the rich and give to the poor, it failed to properly define who the rich are. Did they only live in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs or Melbourne's Toorak? Or did the "savings measures" extend to the miners of the Hunter and Central Queensland? Voters were left in doubt, so many took the safe option.

In some regions the safe option became a Prime Minister who stood for nothing except a promise to change nothing. In our mining regions many couldn't stomach the idea of voting for the "Nats" (who also went backwards) so they parked their protest vote with One Nation, a political party they know can't win and therefore, can do limited harm.

Labor's many positive policies were overwhelmed by other distractions. For many, we looked too different, too complex and too risky. Labor will be back; hopefully smarter for the experience. We'll remain committed to the same ideals and objectives we've always held; a more prosperous society in which every individual has an opportunity to participate and thrive.

Labor made a number of local pre-election promises which sadly, I will now not have the chance to deliver. Amongst them the Singleton Bypass. I lament our schools and hospitals won't receive the funded boost we offered and our cancer and seniors' dental programs have now disappeared due to the election outcome. Readers can be assured I'll keep fighting for our fair share. I thank all those who supported me on May 18, I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve.

Cheers, Joel



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

Council recently moved towards recording our meetings. This has always done in the past, but the recordings will now be available on our website. So, if you are interested in what happens in the Chamber but can't make it each first and third Wednesday evening of the month, you'll now be able to catch up in the comfort of your own home and at your own leisure. This is part of our focus on continuing to improve our transparency and engagement with the community.

Council are currently conducting a survey on the waste and recycling habits of our community. This will inform the future transformation of waste recovery and service delivery in our LGA. With the \$140 per tonne waste levy imposed on Council by the State Government, we are doing all we can to reduce as much waste going to our landfill site and recycle and reuse as much material as possible and in turn, reduce our waste levy obligations. This is not only better for the environment due to less waste in our landfill cells, but it also enables Council to be more financially efficient and stretch the budget even further. I've already completed the survey and I encourage you to do it too. You can find it on Council's website here: www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/wastesurvey

I recently represented Mayor Pynsent at the opening of the Anzac Memorial Garden at Kurri Kurri High School. Year 9 students have taken stewardship of the project from start to finish, and have worked hard to bring their idea to fruition. The project includes a mural, garden and outdoor learning space and was supported by the NSW Government, RAF, local RSL, Australian Army and also Brian McGuigan. It is a beautiful space which will benefit the students now and into the future.

Don't forget submissions are now open regarding the location of some banner poles in Miller Park with the public exhibition closing on 11 June. You can find more details here: www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/exhibition/bannerpolesbraxton
Cheers, Melanie



Cr Ben Mitchell - Maitland City Council-West Ward

Miners, Margins and MPs

Until this point I have tried to keep this column reasonably non-political. I've kept it to local issues or matters of interest but given I keep getting asked for my predations of what is going to happen or getting asked my view on why events have unfolded the way they have, I have decided to try something a little different this week. With that in mind I issue the following warning: The below column is election related and in no way seeks to rub salt into the wounds of my political opposites. Saturday's election result shocked most but not me. To be fair- I hadn't predicted a coalition win but I did say for some time that I thought the result would be a lot closer than some of the wild Labor home run predictions. As we have all seen bear out, the polls weren't anywhere near correct this time. I got this gut feeling after speaking to people in the community. At the time of writing this column the Liberal/National Coalition has won 76 seats, the Labor party 65, The Greens 1 and various independent candidates account for 5. Four seats remain undecided with the Liberal and Labor parties narrowly leading in two each. To form government in your own right in Australia you need a minimum of 76 of the 150 seats in the Lower House as the government traditionally supplies the speaker. Considering that even on the morning of the election some polls and so called experts in the media were predicting a Labor win with 80+ seats it seems almost unbelievable that the government was returned for a third term. No wonder the Prime Minister referred to his win as a 'miracle'. I'll try to explain why I think it happened. The first thing is polling. Those in the know tell me polling is only ever as reliable as the sample you poll. Polls used to be done on a larger scale via fixed landlines, at the time this was far more reflective of a much wider demographic. That method is deemed a much less reliable method now because of the ever shrinking proportion of the population that has a landline in their home; many are in the more senior age bracket. This method isn't therefore reflective of the wider population. Polls are now conducted in a much more varied way and they now vary much more widely in their reliability. Some companies do sit down interviews. This probably works fine if you are looking at one local area. It's much

more difficult if you are trying to predict a national result and definitely much more expensive. Most media companies (with their shrinking profit margins) aren't prepared to pay for many of these sorts of polls anymore. Another method is to do it online either on one media company's page or a social media page. These aren't always reflective of the wider population too. As we all know many media outlets or facebook pages generally now lean one way or another, obviously everyone has their preferred paper of Facebook pages, so if you are only doing a poll on one site then it stands to reason that your poll result is more likely to reflect the bias of the publication, or the audience of the publication than it is the wider population out on the street. Another matter with polls is whether or not people are actually comfortable giving their true thoughts to a pollster anymore. Many people now feel apprehensive about sharing some of their private views at all. When asked they will say one thing and quite often in the privacy of the polling booth disregard what other people think and vote according to their conscience. The simple matter of fact now is that many people feel if they voice how they are feeling on an issue or even who they intend to vote for then they fear being called a bigot or 'unfollowed' by "friends" on social media. My hunch on the outcome came from people on the street, in the shops, at work or just around town. Being a Councillor I move in hugely varied circles of people. The mood I got from the community was not what I saw born out in the polls. Firstly, I think a degree of arrogance was shown in the Labor party when retirees asked legitimate questions about their franking credits policy, their would be treasurer literally said "If you don't like the policy then don't vote for us" these people didn't need to be told twice. Not only that but many of the Labor leaders often referred to "the big end of town" this struck many who are perhaps a bit better off than others or had a negatively geared property that they were next in Labor's sights. Perhaps the biggest factor in the Hunter was the view that Labor is headed more and more towards a greens way of thinking and abandoning their traditional working base. In the state and federal elections I had workers and in particular miners coming into a booth to vote in their hi vis (many with union logos on) coming to get my Liberal how-to-vote card. I recall one Labor volunteer offering theirs only to be rebuked by the miner who said "you lot don't support coal
CONT. PAGE 8



P&L STANDEN BRANXTON
BOBCAT & TIPPER HIRE

Gravel, Soils, Sands,
Trenchers, Auger & Forks
Ph: 4938 3202 or
mob: 0429 983 202



Hunter Deck Co.
Specializing in decks, pergolas and outdoor living

Mick Lombardo
0416 514 208

Email: hdeckco@hotmail.com
Facebook: hdeckco



Hunter Valley Electrics

Mark Mellross
Owner / Operator

400c Standen Drive
Lower Belford NSW 2335
0455 911 700
mark@hunervalleyelectrics.com.au
www.hunervalleyelectrics.com.au
HVE Pty Ltd t/a Hunter Valley Electrics

Local Trades & Services Directory

Local Trades & Services Directory



Can Change Therapy

Psychotherapy, Clinical Hypnotherapy, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP)

Expectations change the structure of our brains! When we learn to expect good things, good things start to happen.
Want to change something in your life? Weight, Smoking, Alcohol, Anxiety, Depression, etc.
Phone 0417 949060 today to discuss, first consultation free.
www.canchange.com.au



Graham Duncan
CONCRETING & LANDSCAPING

Lic. No. 131164C

Plain or Coloured Driveways, Shed Slabs,
Footpaths, Retaining Walls
& Garden Edging

Ph: 4938 7754 Mob: 0415 389 977



ANDP MC DONALD PLASTERING

* Gyprock Interior Linings
* Decorative & Suspended Ceilings
* External Cladding Systems
* Residential/Commercial

For quality workmanship & competitive quote
CALL Wayne

0417 679 619
mcdplaster@activ8.net.au



Clarke's Handyman Services

Brian Clarke
0418 982 657
beejayc43@gmail.com

Specialising in:
Home repairs & maintenance
Paving & outdoor areas
Bond repairs
Seniors discount available

Prompt service to all local areas. No job too small.



News

To enquire about advertising in The Branxton Greta Vineyards News call Mike on 4938 1773

Hunta Karate Martial Arts Club

Non Profit organisation
Located at Branxton Community hall
Train Tuesday & Thursday Night
Please Contact Jerry
0407 077 930

The Branxton Greta Vineyards News
call Mike on 4938 1773

Mark Samuelson
Carpentry ■ Wall & Floor Tiling

General Carpentry * Renovations
* Extensions * Maintenance * Bathroom & Laundry Renovations

P: 4938 7504 M: 0409 391 640

Local Trades & Services Directory

Less than \$14 a week
P: 4938 1773

Local Trades & Services Directory


Less than \$14 a week
P: 4938 1773



CHICKEN MANURE
Get ready for Spring

Free Delivery!

Call Mick
Ph: 0425 835 075
4938 7273



MJZ PLUMBING

Lic No 191131c ABN 92638811064
Constructing, Renovating, Maintaining the Hunter Valley - No Job Too Small

Ph: 4938 1742
Mobile: 0458 342 324

STANHOPE HANDYMAN SERVICES

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

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

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

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



News

For all your advertising needs call Mike on 4938 1773



COMPUTER TECHNICIAN
Repairs, Help & Web Design

Phone Les: 0428 025 509

Midweek share accommodation

Would ideally suit any workers in the area. Mon to Thurs in 6 self contained cottages ranging from 2 to 5 bedroom. Lovedale area.
Call for rates and availability.
P: 0490 403 387

BAGLEY PAINTING

"Quality painting, affordable rates"

- Over 30 years experience so you can be assured of quality & professional service.
- FREE quotes with no obligation

P: 0409 523 056 or 4938 3178

Branxton and Vineyards Real Estate
call Mike or Helen on 4938 3300



News

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate
4938 3300

Local Trades & Services Directory

Less than \$14 a week
P: 4938 1773



COMPUTER TECHNICIAN
Repairs, Help & Web Design

Phone Les: 0428 025 509

Deans Turf Supplies
Your Local Turf Grower of:
*Kings Pride Soft Leaf Buffalo & *Kikuyu

Phone: Scott Dean
Ph: 0249 381 874 Mob: 0407 006 953

e: deansturf@bigpond.com
460 Elderslie Road Branxton
Inspections welcome by appointment



CAT SKID STEER 1.5T MINI EXCAVATOR 5T TIPPER

- Site Preparations & Cleanups
- Chain Trencher
- Driveways
- Post Hole Digging
- Soil Spreading & Removal
- Small Tree & Shrub Removal
- Chainsaw & Laser Level Available

ALL AREAS CALL STU TODAY
0421 630 231

Locally based in Lovedale



Steve's SIMPLE SOLUTIONS
for all your handyman needs

Lawn Mowing General Maintenance Bobcat Work

Call us today for a free quote
H. (02) 4938 3601 M. 0428 081 265



Brett Hubner Plumbing
0421 427 596

~ Your Local Greta Plumber ~
Servicing all areas

Water Services • Gas Services • Hot Water Systems
Blocked Sewers, Drainage & Storm Water
Guttering • Bath & Kitchen Renovations

L/no: 140922C

JT Painting and Plastering
licence no: 292457C

FREE quote and expert recommendation on any project

email: jtpaintingplastering@gmail.com

Phone: 0487756170




Hunter Valley Electrics

Mark Mellross
Owner / Operator

400c Standen Drive
Lower Belford NSW 2335
0455 911 700
mark@hunervalleyelectrics.com.au
www.hunervalleyelectrics.com.au
HVE Pty Ltd t/a Hunter Valley Electrics



News

P: 4938 1773

Pharmacist Advice

Whooping cough (Pertussis)



What you MUST know About **WHOOPING COUGH**

Whooping cough affects people of all ages. It can be especially serious for babies. Vaccination reduces the risk of infection and severe disease.

What is whooping cough?

Whooping cough can be a life threatening infection in babies. Whooping cough in babies can lead to apnoea (pauses in normal breathing), pneumonia, feeding problems and weight loss, seizures, brain damage and, in some cases, death. Older children and adults can get whooping cough too and pass it on to babies.

What are the symptoms?

- Whooping cough usually begins like a cold with a blocked or runny nose, tiredness, mild fever and a cough.
- The cough gets worse and severe bouts of uncontrollable coughing can develop. Coughing bouts can be followed by vomiting, choking or taking a big gasping breath which causes a "whooping" sound. The cough can last for many weeks and can be worse at night.
- Some newborns may not cough at all but they can stop breathing and turn blue. Some babies have difficulties feeding and can choke or gag.

Older children and adults may just have a cough that lasts for many weeks. They may not have the whoop.

How is it spread?

- Whooping cough is spread when an infectious person coughs bacteria into the air which can be inhaled by people nearby. If they are not treated early, people with whooping cough are infectious in the first three weeks of their illness.

Whooping cough spreads easily through families, childcare centres and at school.

Who is at risk?

- Anyone can get whooping cough. People living in the same household as someone with whooping cough are especially at risk.

Immunisation reduces the risk of infection but immunity fades over time. You can still get whooping cough even if you've been immunised.

How is it prevented?

Whooping cough vaccines provide good protection from infection but immunity fades which means that boosters are needed.

Immunisation for babies

- Babies need to be immunised at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and 18 months. The first dose can be given as early as 6 weeks of age.
- Getting your baby vaccinated on time gives them some protection when they are most at risk of severe illness.

If your baby's vaccines are overdue, see your GP now to catch up.

Immunisation for older children

- A whooping cough booster is needed at 4 years of age.
- Check if your child has been vaccinated. Look at their Blue Book, speak to your GP or ring the Australian Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809.

A second whooping cough booster is given in high school through the NSW School-based Vaccination Program.

Immunisation for adults

- A booster for adults is recommended for:
- women who are in the third trimester of pregnancy, preferably at 28 weeks. Free vaccine is provided through GPs and hospital antenatal clinics.
 - other adult household members, grandparents

and carers of infants under 12 months of age.

- adults working with young children, especially health care and child care workers.

If you are a close contact of someone with whooping cough

If you have been exposed to someone with whooping cough early in their illness while they are infectious, watch out for symptoms and see your doctor if you get a new cough.

Some babies and some pregnant women need antibiotics to prevent whooping cough infection if they have had significant contact with an infectious person.

How is whooping cough diagnosed?

Your doctor may ask about your symptoms and whether you've had any contact with whooping cough. If your doctor thinks you have whooping cough, a swab from the back of the nose or throat can confirm the diagnosis.

How is it treated?

- Some babies may need treatment in hospital or in intensive care.
- Antibiotics are used to treat whooping cough in the early stages and can help prevent spreading whooping cough to others. People who are not treated early with the right antibiotics can spread the infection in the first 3 weeks of their illness. After 5 days of antibiotics, you are normally no longer infectious.

The cough often continues for many weeks, despite antibiotics.

What is the public health response?

Doctors and laboratories must confidentially notify cases of pertussis to the local public health unit. Public health unit staff can advise on the best way to stop further spread. Infectious children are restricted from going to pre-school and school. Unimmunised contacts may be excluded from child care unless they take the special antibiotics.

FROM PAGE 6

Cr Ben Mitchell - Maitland City Council - West Ward

Members say

anymore" when the Labor volunteer said they did the miner looked at the Labor how-to-vote, pointed at it and said "then why would you put the greens second!?" This preference deal Labor did with the greens damaged them and made them look anti coal. This combined with the constant stalling of the Adani project by the Labor Qld government and the fact that the Labor leader seemed to support the Adani project in Qld or the Hunter Valley but not in Melbourne saw huge swings to the Coalition in Qld and the Hunter. Another factor I felt was that people didn't like Bill Shorten. They simply didn't trust him and when push came to shove they chose the devil that they

knew or liked "ScoMo" for his perceived authenticity. Perhaps the one moment of authenticity the public felt they saw was when a paper ran that awful headline in the last week of the campaign about Bill Shorten's mother. By then it was probably too late for him.

In closing I wanted to congratulate a few people I worked with here in the Hunter-

In the seat of Paterson the Liberal party ran a first time candidate Sachin Joshi, relatively unknown and with a tiny budget he managed to shave 5.3% off the Labor incumbent's 10.7% margin. Something that shocked even him I think.

In the seat of Hunter the Nationals ran a young café owner who managed to secure an amazing swing of 9.8%.

Labor incumbent Joel Fitzgibbon is now considered in a marginal seat on a 2.7% margin. Hopefully Josh Angus chooses to run again next time.

The Newcastle based seat of Shortland saw the Liberal's Nell McGill secure a swing of 5.8% to bring that margin down to just 4.1%

Cheers, Ben



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

With the Labor party poised to appoint new leaders at both the State and Federal levels at time of writing, it was pleasing to see regional Australia raised as a key consideration in the leadership conversation.

While Federal campaigning often shifts the focus away from local issues, any national debate around climate change and economic development must include the impacts on people literally at the coalface, and the infrastructure required to continue to drive the national economy – whatever it looks like.

It would be easy to sit back and wait to see what comes out of Canberra following the May election. But the people of our area don't have time to waste.

We are calling for Federal leadership to address the major issues for our community now, particularly congestion on the New England Highway, and the future of the Singleton local government area in light of the emphasis on the role of the coal industry in climate action.

I have written to Prime Minister Scott Morrison with a copy of our Federal Advocacy Agenda, as well as an invitation to visit our area so that he may experience these issues personally, as well as talk to our residents about the Government's plans for regional Australia in this next term – particularly on the topic of infrastructure.

What we're looking for is a commitment of Federal funding to the Singleton bypass, which combined with State funding already allocated would allow the project to be complete by 2024 – achieving a big ticket item on our agenda for our community.

Another of our key agenda items is a commitment to the agriculture industry and improved drought support not only to bolster our economy, but the people doing it tough in our area as we still wait for rain... **CONT. PAGE 13**

SINCE 1925

Smyth

FUNERAL SERVICES

Paul and Janelle Smyth and their staff take great pride & personal satisfaction in providing a dignified & timeless service, continuing a tradition started more than 90 years ago on February 2, 1925 by Paul's grandfather, Cecil R Smyth.

A complete set of our hearses, from 1925 to the present day

Serving Branxton, Greta & surrounds

Talk to us about our Pre-paid Funeral Plans & Pre-Arrange Options.

216 WOLLOMBI ROAD, CESSNOCK 120 LANG STREET, KURRI KURRI

7 DAY - 24 HOUR SERVICE

4990 1425 or 4937 4811

Serving Cessnock, Kurri, Branxton, Greta and surrounding districts



These sticky drumsticks taste delicious but they are so simple and quick to prepare

Ingredients

- 80ml (1/3 cup) tomato sauce
- 60ml (1/4 cup) soy sauce
- 60ml (1/4 cup) honey
- 12 (about 1.8kg) chicken drumsticks
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds
- Sweet chilli sauce, to serve

Method

Step 1
Combine the tomato sauce, soy sauce and honey in a glass or ceramic bowl. Add the chicken and toss to coat. Cover and place in the fridge for 30 minutes to marinate.

Step 2
Preheat oven to 200°C. Line a baking tray with non-stick baking paper. Place the chicken on the tray and bake in oven, turning once, for 40 minutes. Sprinkle with the sesame seeds and bake for a further 15 minutes or until

Sticky sesame chicken drumsticks



the chicken is golden and cooked through. Place on a serving platter and serve with sweet chilli sauce

Nutrition

- 1569 kJ Energy
- 19g Fat Total
- 6g Saturated Fat
- 35g Protein
- 165mg Cholesterol
- 949.5mg Sodium
- 15g Carbs (sugar)
- 15g Carbs (total)

(All nutrition values are per serve)

Delicious!





Branxton Community Hall was as colourful as the 130 guests attending the annual Australia's Biggest Morning Tea on Tuesday, 14th May. Also in attendance were Mayor of Cessnock, Bob Pynsent and wife, Kathy (volunteer for Cancer Council), Jenny Atchinson, Member for Maitland and Shadow Minister. Before the day started, 96 trays of slices and scones were delivered to various businesses in the Branxton and Greta areas. Kerrie Bendeich, BG CWA Vice-President introduced the Guest Speaker and announced raffle prizes. Danielle Rae, originally from Elderslie, has been working at Wellington Zoo, New Zealand, mainly with lions and tigers. Danielle will be soon going to Madagascar (lucky lady) and gave an



© Red Hat Ladies looking wonderful



Guests catching up with old friends and checking out the interesting stalls at back of Hall

interesting talk about what she would be doing there. Thank you Danielle and all the best for your future. Glen from Cancer Council updated everyone about what the Cancer Council has available for anyone diagnosed with cancer and needing assistance. Irene

also updated everyone about the importance of breast screening. Thankyou to you both.

For those who did not attend, anyone requiring assistance after a cancer diagnosis and/or treatment can contact Cancer Council for information, assistance and support



Branxton Lions Club presenting Cancer Council and Marie Shearer, BGCWA Secretary with \$250 Donation.

whether it be just verbally or financially. The closest contact in this area is Singleton Ph: 65725400 or outside the local area 131120.

The lovely morning tea of slices, cakes and scones was taken around to

all the tables and enjoyed by all.

Special Donations from:

- Branxton Engineering;
- Central Hunter Business Chamber; Lions Club Branxton \$250.
- 1st - 6th Prize Raffle - Paintings donated by Kim Adamthwaite
- 7th Prize Raffle - Pair of

Paintings donated by Sue Williams

Other Raffle Prizes donated by Helen Scott.

\$3,373 was the final total for the day which will go direct to the Cancer Council. All previous amounts quoted were estimates on numbers of seats and due to some not able to attend, only the

amount in this article is the correct one.

Branxton/Greta CWA and Cancer Council would like to thank all those who attended, all donations, all those who assisted in anyway whether cooking, preparing the Hall, assistance on the day, cleaning and packing up and deliveries of the business orders and also thank you to Branxton Crib Box for sponsoring us.

Congratulations to Marie Shearer and Helen Scott on the hard work they both did in preparing for the day.

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 branxtongre-tacwa@hotmail.com

Denise McGoldrick
Publicity Officer.



Cancer Council volunteers hard at work.



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
CESSNOCK POOL MASTERPLAN & UPGRADE**

Cessnock City Council has resolved to undertake an upgrade of Cessnock Pool that aims to improve the capacity of the Pool and offer more diverse uses to increase patronage. Proposed works include upgrading the leisure pool, heating, built structures and the installation of a splash pad.

Council needs your help with the development of the masterplan and proposed works at the Cessnock Pool including the design of the splash pad. Council wants to involve the community and collaborate to ensure a great result and a facility that people will want to visit time and time again.

The Splash pad design will be universal and strongly influenced by the community.

A community engagement session is scheduled to occur in the club room at Cessnock Pool, Cnr Wollombi & Allandale Rd, Cessnock on **Tuesday 4 June 2019 at 7pm.**

An online survey opening **Thursday 30 May** can also be completed by visiting www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au until **Sunday 16 June 2019**. Persons wishing to attend the community consultation session are asked to RSVP by **3pm on 4 June 2019** by emailing recreation@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or calling 49934282

Greta Museum

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

Come in to INSPECT
what's new in your local museum!



(Wood rimmed child-safe magnifying glass that really works)

Greta Historical Museum
96 High Street Greta
Open 11am-3pm
Wednesdays & Saturdays

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

4938 3300

12 Clift Street,
BRANXTON

.....for all your Real Estate needs

**FREE
PROPERTY
MARKET
APPRAISALS**



M: 0412 566 041

E: thenews@hotmail.net.au
WEB: www.domain.com.au

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)






WITH

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

SHAW & BUNNER

LEGAL P: (02) 4046 1805 | F: (02) 4017 0646



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!

“Uber Drivers and the Law”

The introduction of Uber into Australia and the concept of ridesharing has radically changed the way in which we get from A to B. An interesting case has developed against Uber Australia with law firm Maurice Blackburn Lawyers have recently launched a major class action against Uber Australia in the Victorian Supreme Court. The lawyers are representing more than 6,000 taxi drivers, operators and licence owners from NSW, QLD, Victoria and WA and will allege that Uber Australia acted illegally and had an unfair advantage in the market. It will be alleged that Uber have operated outside of regulations and that Uber entities knew their operations in Australia were illegal. State governments have had various legislative responses to Uber. NSW established a \$250 million “industry adjustment package” to compensate taxi drivers in December 2015. In 2016, Victoria announced an overhaul of the taxi industry, offering to

buy back licences at a small fraction of their worth. It will be an interesting case to watch. And whilst we discuss Uber, a fascinating case arose a few years ago at which time a citizen took the law into his own hands when it came to Uber drivers. The case is *Uber BV v Howarth* [2017] NSWSC 54. It was late 2014/early 2015 and a fellow by the name of Russell Howarth purported to arrest 9 Uber drivers by way of a “citizens arrest”. He commenced what he called an “Arresting Uber” campaign. As part of his campaign, he produced a website, social media handles and a video montage with the *Game of Thrones* theme played throughout. Legal action was commenced by Uber to stop Mr Howarth. On 1 July 2015, Justice Brereton granted an interim injunction restraining Mr Howarth from arresting Uber drivers. This injunction did not stop Mr Howarth however. An incident occurred in August 2015 whereby Mr



Howarth tailgated and intimidated an Uber driver across the Anzac Bridge in Sydney. The matter returned to Court and Uber successful argued all four elements of the tort of intimidation. Mr Howarth alleged that Uber operating in contravention of the *Passenger Transport Act 1990 (NSW)*, and attempted to justify his arrests on the basis of the *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002 (NSW)*, s 100 – a section commonly known as the citizen’s arrest power. Notwithstanding these arguments, Justice Slattery of the Supreme Court if NSW granted a permanent injunction restraining Mr Howarth from intimidating and arresting Uber’s employees. The Court held that Mr Howarth hadn’t exercised the power of arrest in circumstances in which it was necessary, and that he hadn’t exercised the power for the purposes of commencing criminal proceedings.

Cheers, Gemma

smoke alarms serviced by a professional company, you are responsible for ensuring smoke alarms are functioning correctly at the commencement of every tenancy. **What can you do to minimise risk?** As a property manager, you should educate landlords on their duty of care and the steps to take to ensure rental properties are compliant to state legislation. You can educate tenants on safe use of heaters and other household appliances, the dangers of leaving open flames unattended and the importance of replacing devices with exposed wiring.

Low inflation impacting real dwelling value

With the release of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for March 2019 over the past week, the low rate of inflation is resulting in larger inflation adjusted (or real) dwelling value falls. Over the March 2019 quarter, inflation was unchanged over the quarter and 1.3 per cent higher over the past year, its slowest annual rate of growth since September 2016. While housing values are typically looked at through the prism of nominal movements, it is interesting to consider the effects of inflation, especially now considering values are falling. **Real vs. nominal** Given the weak housing market conditions, when the annual change is adjusted for inflation the market looks much weaker. Nationally, nominal values are -6.9 per cent lower over the past year compared to a ‘real’ decline of -8.2 per

cent. Hobart (4.6 per cent) and Canberra (1.7 per cent) are the only two capital cities in which real dwelling values have increased over the past year. Over the past five years, real dwelling values have increased at a rate of 1.4 per cent per annum nationally. Real value growth has been much more varied at an individual capital city level. Perth (-5.3 per cent) and Darwin (-7.5 per cent) have recorded large falls in values over the past decade, while Brisbane (0.3 per cent) and Adelaide (0.9 per cent) have seen small gains. The remaining four capital cities have seen comparatively strong growth, with Hobart’s gain (4.6 per cent) much greater than the rest. Keep in mind, the recent value falls in Sydney and Melbourne, which comprise a substantial weighting within the national and capital city indices, are dragging down the five-year growth rates. **A decade of data** Taking a slightly longer-term look at value growth over the past decade shows that real dwelling values have increased at an annual rate of 1.3 per cent, marginally lower than the 1.4 per cent over the past five years. Once again, the real change is varied throughout the capital cities. Over the past decade, real dwelling values have fallen in Brisbane (-0.6 per cent), Perth (-2.4 per cent) and Darwin (-3.3 per cent) and have barely increased in Adelaide (0.1 per cent). Meanwhile, Sydney and Melbourne have been the standouts for growth with real values increasing 3.3 per cent per annum and 3.1 per cent per annum respectively. **Peaks and troughs** The ongoing decline in

values in Perth and Darwin over the past decade has seen substantial real value declines in both cities, at -34.5 per cent and -37.2 per cent respectively. The other point this data highlights is just how quickly the Sydney and Melbourne markets are experiencing real value declines. Sydney values peaked in the June 2017 quarter and real values are already down -16.5 per cent. This is a larger decline than what has been seen in Brisbane (-15.4 per cent), Adelaide (-6.1 per cent) and Canberra (-3.6 per cent) despite these markets seeing a peak in real dwelling values many years ago. The decline in real dwelling values in Sydney is nearing its peak to trough decline of -17.4 per cent recorded between December 2003 and December 2008. The fall remains more moderate than the one between March 1989 and March 1991 where real dwelling values recorded a peak to trough fall of -20.1 per cent. With dwelling values expected to continue to fall throughout 2019, real dwelling values will fall even further from their previous peaks. Although the market is typically reported in nominal terms, when you take into consideration the effect of inflation, falls are much larger and are occurring rapidly within the two largest capital

cities.

REIA endorses First Home Buyer initiative

The Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) has welcomed the announcement of support for first home buyers through a First Home Loan Deposit Scheme. REIA President, Adrian Kelly, said the scheme initially announced by the Government and now supported by the Opposition will start on 1 January next year and assist first home buyers with their deposit. “Under the proposal, first home owners will be able to buy their first home with a deposit of five per cent compared to 20 per cent which has become the industry norm post the Hayne Royal Commission. “Not only will the scheme see first home buyers achieve their home ownership much earlier, it will save them a considerable amount of around \$10,000 by not having to pay lenders mortgage insurance. “The scheme addresses two hurdles facing first home buyers – the deposit gap and transaction costs, which include mortgage insurance – in a practical way. “The last time the Federal Government introduced a special measure for first home buyers was the First Home Buyers Boost during the GFC. This measure saw first home buyers, as a percentage of total loans financed, increase from 20.2 per cent in October 2008 to 31.4 per cent in May 2009. “With first home buyers currently representing just 17.9 per cent of total housing loan approvals at the beginning of this year, the measure will be a timely boost not just for first home buyers but for the building sector and the economy in general.



their duty of care. These statistics represent the risk posed to your portfolio if smoke alarms are not maintained. Who is responsible?

- One of the most common questions asked in relation to smoke alarm maintenance is "What is my duty of care?" and the answer is simple. Rental properties must be compliant to the relevant legislation and it is the landlord who is held accountable through their duty of tenant care. Legislation in NSW requires landlords to install, test and maintain smoke alarms in rental properties annually, and:
 - At the commencement of any new tenancy agreement
 - Annually (as per the manufacturer's warranty)
 - At alarm malfunction
 It is the property manager's responsibility, however, to ensure their landlords are sufficiently informed and that the obligation to maintain smoke alarms is fulfilled. While you are not legally required to have

Winter is coming: are your properties smoke alarm safe?

With winter coming up fast, it is time to turn on heaters and put the electric blanket on high to stave off the cold. However, with every additional mod-con turned on, the chances of a home fire increase. In fact, home fires are more likely in winter than summer. Working smoke alarms provide early warning and give the best opportunity to save lives and reduce the risk to property. For landlords there is a responsibility to ensure that all rental properties have working smoke alarms and it is important that smoke alarms are checked regularly and maintained. **Some (smoke) alarming facts** Did you know you are twice as

likely to fall victim to a house fire if the property does not have a working smoke alarm? Data collected between 2016 and 2018 shows that 53 per cent of properties across Australia were found non-compliant to their state's smoke alarm legislation standards upon first inspection. Of these properties, 56 per cent of houses and 50 per cent of units were found non-compliant. This means one in two rental properties does not have a working smoke alarm and, therefore, one in two managing agents and landlords have not met

Real Estate News is proudly sponsored by
 **Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate**
4938 3300

For Sale

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS
REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300 M: 0412 566 041

NORTH ROTHBURY

Stylish, tasteful & smart all describe this wonderful 4 bedroom family home.

Stylish, tasteful & smart all describe this wonderful 4 bedroom family home on over 1000sm.

Features include 4 good sized bedrooms with built-ins, large living areas, spacious modern kitchen & bathroom, ducted air con, men's shed and carport. All this overlooking a community park.

ASKING \$485,000ono



BRANXTON GARDENS ~ SENIOR LIVING

Heritage designed 2 bedroom strata unit with an ensuite to the main bedroom

Features include ~ heritage designed 2 bedroom strata unit with an ensuite to the main bedroom, walk-in robe, a lock-up garage, natural gas & your own private courtyard. It is totally landscaped & also features security gating.

The unit is next to Branxton Medical Centre, is a 2 minute walk to the main shopping & amenities area, is just 5 minutes drive to the famous Hunter Valley Wineries, resorts & golf courses.

ASKING \$315,000



Properties are selling well in the local area. Call Helen for a FREE property appraisal



RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LEASE

There is a strong demand for residential rental accommodation in the local area & our office needs more properties to sate the current demand. If you are contemplating renting your property please contact either Helen or Mike on 4938 3300

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS
REAL ESTATE
P: 4938 3300



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

For Sale

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300

Three bedroom, 2 bathroom Family home

3 good sized bedroom family home on large block just a 2 minute walk to the main street & across the road to Branxton Public School. Features include Two bathrooms, separate lounge-room, modern kitchen, dishwasher, split air-con system. All this on 970 square metre fully fenced block.

INSPECTION RECOMMENDED

ASKING \$399,000



BRANXTON

EAST BRANXTON



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

ASKING \$349,000

East Branxton

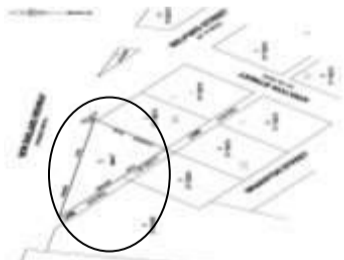


Low Maintenance 2 Bedroom Unit

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

ASKING \$275,000

BELFORD



Vacant Land 2559m²

Vacant Land with building approved
Lot 1 DP 1205549
Well over half an acre of good level block.
ASKING \$160,000 ONO

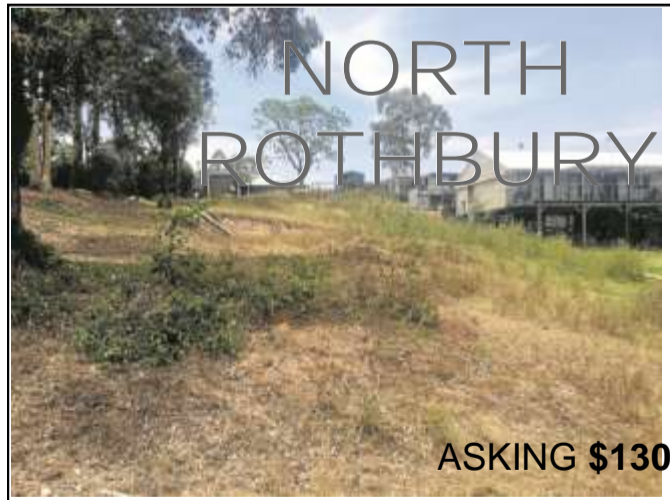
NORTH ROTHBURY



Lots 521 & 523 Littlewood Road, Vacant blocks

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

NORTH ROTHBURY



Vacant Land 809m²

Vacant Building Block
Fantastic visage

ASKING \$130,000 ONO

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

SOLD

Properties are selling well in the local area. Call Helen for a FREE property appraisal



Traffic and Highway Patrol Command's Assistant Commissioner Michael Corboy said that despite the high consequences, people are still ignoring warnings at level crossings.

"Police issued almost 1,000 penalty notices for level crossing traffic offences in the past two years."

"In our most recent campaign in Tamworth, a motorist stopped on the tracks for six seconds waiting for traffic ahead to clear and that driver was also unlicensed."

"This is why we need to continue running these localised campaigns and reinforce our *Train to Stop* message to motorists at level crossings"

Through the road safety campaign Towards Zero, the NSW Government is working hard to drive the road toll down by highlighting there is no acceptable number when it comes to deaths on NSW roads.

"Between July 2008 and June 2018 there were 67 collisions between trains and cars at level crossings, resulting in five people losing their lives. All of which could have been easily avoided."

Residents living in nearby areas were informed of the enforcement period through letterbox drops. Electronic billboards are now in the areas reminding motorists to take care at level crossings. The penalty for disobeying controls is three demerit points and a \$448 fine.

Escapee captured – Singleton

Saturday, 25 May 2019
A man wanted on outstanding warrants has been captured

after escaping from police custody in Singleton this week. The 26-year-old man escaped from police custody at Singleton Police Station, about 2.30pm on Wednesday (22 May 2019).

Following an extensive search operation involving officers from Hunter Valley Police District, PolAir, and the Dog Unit, the 26-year-old man was found at a Muswellbrook hotel just after 6pm yesterday (Friday 24 May 2019). He and a 25-year-old woman were arrested without incident and taken to Muswellbrook Police Station.

The woman was released as inquiries continue. The man was charged with the outstanding warrants, and escape police custody, and refused bail to appear at Wyong Bail Court today (Saturday 25 May 2019).

Man charged after stolen car crashes into cemetery during pursuit – Telarah

Sunday, 26 May 2019
A man has been charged after a pursuit in the Hunter Valley which ended when the vehicle crashed into a cemetery, damaging gravestones. About 10.25pm yesterday (Saturday 25 May 2019), police attempted to stop a Toyota Corolla on the New England Highway, Rutherford, after it was spotted displaying suspected stolen number plates. The vehicle failed to stop and a pursuit was initiated, which travelled through Rutherford and Telarah.

The vehicle continued until reaching the intersection of George Street and South Street,

where it lost control and crashed through the fence to a cemetery and across the tops of several gravestones, causing them significant damage.

The driver fled from the scene but was arrested a short time later after being tracked by the Dog Squad.

Inquiries reveal the Toyota Camry was stolen from Islington.

The 37-year-old man was taken to Maitland Police Station where he was charged with seven offences including police pursuit, disqualified driver, drive vehicle without consent of owner, use vehicle with unauthorised number plates, drive recklessly, possess prohibited drug, and trespass onto rail lines.

He has been refused bail to appear at Maitland Local Court.

Drugs, ammunition and weapons seized; man charged - Boolaroo

Friday, 24 May 2019
A man has been charged with firearms, drugs and weapons offences in the Lake Macquarie region.

About 10am yesterday (Thursday 23 May 2019), officers from Lake Macquarie Police District and Strike Force Utah conducted a Firearms and Weapons Prohibition Order (FPO and WPO) search at a home on Fourth Street, Boolaroo.

During the search, officers allegedly uncovered a hydroponic setup, more than 34 cannabis plants and close to two kilograms of cannabis leaf. Police then executed a search warrant on the home, seizing

three prohibited firearms, and several prohibited weapons including a taser, knuckle duster, ammunition and blow darts.

A 36-year-old man was arrested at the home and taken to Belmont Police Station. He was charged with 11 offences, including:

- Possess or use a prohibited weapon without permit x 4
- Possess unauthorised firearm x 3
- Possess ammunition without holding licence/permit/authority
- Possess prohibited drug
- Enhanced indoor cultivate cannabis for commercial purpose
- Possess/attempt to, prescribed restricted substance

He was refused bail to appear at Toronto Local Court today (Friday 24 May 2019).

Please direct media inquiries to Samantha Long, NSW Police Northern Region Media Liaison Officer on

long1sam@police.nsw.gov.au

Police in the Northern Region are disappointed

Monday, 20 May 2019
Police in the Northern Region are disappointed people continue to get behind the wheel while impaired by alcohol or illicit drugs, following this weekend's Operation Chrome road blitz. Operation Chrome was a two-day road safety enforcement campaign conducted in Western, Southern and Northern regions during Friday 17 and Saturday 18 May 2019.

The operation utilised police from all districts within the Northern region, working alongside officers from the Traffic & Highway Patrol Command. Police targeted poor

driving behaviours on rural roads - including speeding, drink and drug-driving, not wearing seatbelts, using a mobile phone behind the wheel and fatigue.

Traffic and Highway Patrol Command Assistant Commissioner Michael Corboy said Operation Chrome only strengthened the police stance about road safety in rural areas. "We will not hesitate to stop a vehicle if we think the driver's behaviour places everyone in the vehicle at risk of being in a crash," Assistant Commissioner Corboy said.

"Police will continue targeting those roads that lead to the major arterial routes across the state such as the Pacific and New England highways. "The focus on rural roads will not end because Operation Chrome has. We are making state-wide preparations to be on the road in numbers during the June long weekend and school holidays."

During the Northern Region phase of Operation Chrome, 168 police officers conducted almost 11,000 random breath tests and charged 100 people with drink driving. Almost 700 infringement notices were issued for a range of offences, including speeding, mobile phone use and seatbelt offences.

Superintendent Wayne Humphrey, Northern Region Operations Manager, said while some messages are getting through, some drivers are still not listening.

"100 people detected drink driving is not acceptable - we need to continue to push that number down. We need to get our road toll towards zero."

Superintendent Humphrey said.

Anyone with information about any of these incidents is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>. Information is treated in strict confidence. The public is reminded not to report crime via NSW Police social media pages.

See a level crossing? #TrainToStop

Monday, 27 May 2019
Risky driver behaviour at level crossings is being targeted by police in support of a campaign in parts of the state's Hunter Region.

From today (Monday 27 May) to 7 June 2019, police from Traffic and Highway Patrol Command and Newcastle Police Transport Command will be increasing police patrols at level crossings in the Hunter area.

This is part of an ongoing series of awareness and enforcement campaigns relating to level crossings - a joint initiative between the NSW Police Force and the NSW Centre for Road Safety at Transport for NSW.

During the campaign, police will be on the look-out for motorists disobeying level crossing flashing lights and stop signs, vehicles queuing over the railway tracks, speeding near level crossings and drivers who are distracted by illegal use of mobile phones.

Mothers Day Raffle



On the 11 May Lions Branxton held a sausage sizzle and a Mother day raffle at Bunnings Singleton. As usual Lion members


worked hard that day. Bunnings allowed the members to be inside with the raffle. The winners from the raffle are. 1st J Harvey 2nd A Girdler 3rd H bower 4th L valenic. Branxton club wish to thank IGA Branxton and Bunnings Singleton for their support in making their premises available to conduct our raffle and too the many supporters buying our tickets, many thanks.



Leigh from Bunning drew the winning prizes.



Lion members with the prizes



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

FROM PAGE 8

Members say ...

Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

The issue of water has again been raised at Council, with further consideration for water restrictions to be discussed at our next meeting on 17 June. The Singleton supply area currently has voluntary restrictions in place, and with the prospect of a water shortage all too real across our region regardless of where your bill comes from, it's opportune for all of us to consider what we can do to save this precious resource.

At a State level, policing is always an important issue for our community and I was happy to attend the police information session at Branxton Golf Club last night. Including local crime reports, crime prevention tips and updates on police activities in the Branxton Police Sector, it's great to have a proactive relationship between the police and our community. *Cheers, Sue*

'Boys grow up'

© norm Cruickshank

First published Issue 182 2/6/05

IN A WORLD dominated by men is there not time to stop and contemplate the role of women in our lives. No sooner are the apron strings loosened, than boys searching out their dragons to conquer on every street corner, push the bounds of a world they have yet to understand.

No matter how mothers struggle to restrain a boundless energy within some lesser physical hurt regime, there comes a time when she acknowledges he must find the level of his own need. A mother instinctively wanting her boy to stay in a wholesome one piece will endlessly warn her offspring to be careful of life's many pitfalls. From the house gate she follows him till lost from view, winding down

endless streets to the schoolyard world. Here he will lose some of those early gentle years she has ever so patiently offered up to him. Newer and different influences will dog him every step of his long day. These messages of life will be temptingly at odds to many already learnt, testing the strength of her world against theirs. Her message on behaviour and niceness will have to stand the test of many uglier moments, when boys meet out punishment to one another in the stand and fight order of things. Even so she'll forgive him, whatever others may think about his many gentle stumbles from grace.

Those primary school days, shaping and moulding the soft mind of this boy, is a worrying factor to a mother's grip on his unwinding spirit. She with her many feminine responses would maybe have it otherwise and he with an emerging maleness needfully tests her resolve. Each search for ways to hold the line against the other, and fathers watching from the sideline are ever mindful of those demands, knowing full well there is an element of risk that mothers struggle with, and are maybe overly concerned. Encouraging his young heart to test and try new boundaries fosters the confidence he seeks. The teens have difficulties of a very special kind. Not able to go back in time, when play and every day intermingled in some easy innocence, and caring was for older minds, the changes of body and mind alters much of what went before. Here are new and different measure's of concern, not experienced, but challenging. Girls are no longer an uninteresting equation in the whole scheme of things, and the longer a boy thinks about them, an emerging little understood factor will haunt his 'very peace of mind'. Where a day consisted of male against male in almost everything, now a newer strange sensation interests something deeply basic in much of his decision making. To this point in time life was not too complex, until his moment of truth is there to confront. A simple soft 'hello' trips up a male mindset, now strangely excited by the presence of her mysterious power. Not measured in a test of strength, strange honey sweet unnerving side effects stifle any response and with difficulty he struggles to speak and swallow at the same time. Why is his pulse racing madly? Why is he hot and cold for no good reason? Being calm and in control, but literally falling apart is not something mum had warned him about, and now in his moment of greatest need, he has no answers. Then again for some inexplicable reason he is enjoying it, whatever the consequence.

It is now he has passed on through the final gate of childhood and the cloak of boyish innocence slips from his grasp. No more will he return to those carefree younger years, for girls will have changed forever his once peaceful male focus. The initial shock is a heart throbbing disturbed mental strangeness, long periods of light headedness, and the inability to comprehend common sense. The world's full of smiling people. His friends no longer depend on him to religiously punch leather at the 'footy' field, talk wildly about cars or graft sweat for the sheer hell of it. What's the matter with you? they query.

Dad's hand on the shoulder offers his 'take it easy son' advise, while the only female in his life to this point in time, smiles and says she understands. Even though they're sympathetic about the new girlfriend, and want to meet her, it has all been a little too much. 'Oh well, it had to happen one day' is their reasoning.

Elation, confusion, and sleepless nights, are all part of the unknowns he is struggling with, for growing up is different and sometimes scary, but he certainly wouldn't want to go back.

Now that he knows what he now knows or would he?

Luke Thomas receives 'Life Membership'

BRANXTON'S very own Luke Thomas joined an elite group when he was awarded life membership of the Cessnock Rugby League Football Club a fortnight ago at the Club's new home in Baddeley Park.

Thomas played his junior football in the Branxton area, then at the age of 18 carried on into grade football with the Greta/Branxton Diggers in the Upper Hunter Group 21 competition.

As a tireless hard working front rower he continued performing consistently in first grade with the club until in 1995, aged 21, he decided to chance his arm in the stronger Newcastle competition with his current club, the Cessnock Goannas.

He has continued with the Cessnock club up until the present day, and in 2002 he was part of every footballer's dream; a grand final victory, when the Goannas defeated Raymond Terrace 22-20 at Newcastle's No.1 Sportsground. This was the first time the title had visited Cessnock since 1977.

Seasons of niggling injuries saw the rugged front rower absent from many games, however on Sunday 17th April 2005, he led the Goannas onto the field at Western Suburbs' Harker Oval in his 150th first grade game for the club, ultimately entitling him to life membership.

On Saturday 7th May at the opening of the Goannas vast new stadium at Baddeley Park, his life membership was recognised in front of a crowd of 1800 people. Unfortunately, he could not be part of the opening game at the ground due to a recurring knee injury. He hopes to be back on deck in a fortnight's time when they take on Maitland at the new ground.

"He has been a dual winner of the club's 'Ron Saddler Memorial' award for the most dedicated player, and you've only got to witness him on the training paddock for five minutes to see why. This, along with a lot of other achievements, go unnoticed due to the quiet, no fuss, modest nature of the bloke," said club mate & friend Mark Bercini.

Each weekend he can be seen mixing it up in the "Engine Room" with the competition's best heavy-weights and at 32 hopes to finish off his career injury free with another title under his belt.

Well done Luke! Thoroughly deserved and all the best for the future.



Above: Luke Thomas ready to pounce in defence.



The news Issue No. 52 23rd Sept. 1999 Page 18

Clare's Hungi "Appeals" by John Bryant

The spit roasted suckling pig, yams tao, sweet potato, vegetables and salad prepared in the traditional manner by the people from the Tongan community certainly appealed to the taste buds of diners at the Lochinvar Hotel on Sunday 12th September.

Indefatigable Clare Hill staged this unique fund raising event on behalf of the Maitland Cancer Appeal Committee, being the second of Clare's initiatives in less than a month, the first being the Greta Ball.

Island dancers (which included children) together with charming musical items entertained the crowd, who included Clare's loyal friends, many from the Maitland Senior Citizens dance members, locals and visitors totaling about eighty people.

Clare is most grateful to the Tongan's and to the Lochinvar Hotel who provided the venue to enable the committee to help with the funding, all of which is spent in the Hunter Valley for research and the treatment of cancer.

Photo: Clare Hill with some of the appealing food.

Charter members of Branxton Lions Club

THE Branxton Lions Club, who are currently very short of members & who do a great job in our community, have given me a copy of the Charter Roster which is an interesting piece.

The Club was chartered on the 11th February, 1957 with eighteen members. The first president was George Robinson who was the Royal Federal Hotel publican; secretary was Robert Maloney, a school teacher of Lower Belford, & charter treasurer was the late Perc McGuigan of Dalwood. They met on the first & third Wednesday of the month at the Royal Federal Hotel.

The full list of Charter members with their address and classification were:-

1. N. Andrews, Main Street, Nth Rothbury, Miner.
2. J. Aurisch, 5 Russell Street, Branxton, Coal.
3. A. Brett, Public School, Branxton, School Teacher.
4. R. Burns, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.
5. P. Ernst, Branxton, Factory Hand.
6. E. Holz, East Branxton, Butcher.
7. A. Koller, Branxton, Storekeeper.
8. C. Landers, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.
9. T. Landers, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.
10. R. Maloney, Lower Belford, School Teacher.
11. G. McKenzie, Branxton, Storekeeper.
12. P. McGuigan, Dalwood, Vineyard.
13. W. McDonald, East Branxton, Miner.
14. E. Ninnes, Tulloch Street, Branxton, Public Servant.
15. G. E. Robinson, Royal Federal Hotel, Hotel Keeper.
16. P. Sylvester, High Street, Baker.
17. A. Vitnell, "Tangorin" Branxton, Dairy Farmer.
18. W. Webster, Lower Belford, Dairy Farmer.

Five dairy farmers from Lower Belford ~ that's history in itself.

I am sure that the club would like their charter number right now so if you feel that you could help then why not join.

all solutions
Insurance Services

WE ARE YOUR LOCAL INSURANCE BROKER

Samantha and Ian are here to help you for all your insurance needs.
Servicing all of the Newcastle and Hunter Region we can cover you for:-

• Business Insurance	• Farm Insurance	• Home & Content
• Commercial Motor	• Trade Insurance	• Landlord Insurance
• Public Liability	• Management Liability	• Professional Indemnity
• Marine Cargo (Goods in Transit)		

Phone: 1300 966 420 • www.allsolutionsis.com.au

All Solutions Insurance Services Pty Ltd ABN 73 613 337 321 Authorised Representative of Resilium Pty Ltd
ABN 40 096 080 810 AFSL No. 232703 and Resilium Insurance Broking Pty Ltd ABN 92 169 975 973 AFSL 460382

Greta Workers Sports & Rec Club Ltd

2 West Street Greta Ph 4938 7325

**WHAT'S
ON**



Friday 7TH JUNE

SOLID GOLD PARTY

**THE
2 Stufd 2 jump
BAND**



Friday 14TH JUNE

2STUFD 2JUMP

MARRIAH BAND



Friday 21ST JUNE

MARIAH BAND



**CHINESE IS BACK
HARVEST BISTRO**

NOW OPEN



Friday & Sundays

Miller Park Sports Club

6 Maitland Street East Branxton Ph 4938 1226

TUK TUK

**Thai & Aussie
NOW OPEN @
Miller Park
Sports Club**



**MEMBERS'
BADGE
DRAW**

**Every Thursday
& Sunday
Jackpots \$100
each draw not won**



SOCIAL BOWLS

Wednesdays

4pm—6pm

\$3.80 Schooners

WED'S 3PM

**PRIZE MONEY TO
BE WON!**





be very different women and Isabelle's relationship with each of them is unique. When one final turn of fate brings a past secret to light, it bonds mother and daughters closer, turning a challenge into a blessing.

Review

You know that feeling

Isabelle McAvoy and her three very different daughters. Isabelle grew up surrounded by wonderful pieces of art as her father was a curator at the Vanderbilt estate, so it was no surprise that she went into the art world as a consultant for a gallery then progressing on to her own business. This brings three very different men into her life, who give her three daughters. Life is not always easy but sometimes these bad times can bring about a change and be a blessing in disguise.

Danielle Steel always has a strong female lead in her books, and *Blessing in Disguise* is no different. Isabelle McAvoy lives a comfortable life but seems doomed in love; for different reasons she ends up bringing up her three daughters on her own. Putnam Armstrong is a reclusive millionaire living in France, and is probably the love of her life. Collin Stone is an art dealer selling to the rich and famous and all about making money fast, unfortunately he is not all he appears to be. Finally Declan Donahue, a lawyer who seems perfect for Isabelle, finally someone she can trust and share her life with until fate steps in. All three bring something different to Isabelle's life and ultimately make her stronger and more resilient.

I love Danielle Steel's writing, it flows easily and there is always a depth to her characters that make them familiar. She also sets her books in some wonderful locations and in this book we go to Paris, New York, Tuscany and India and is able to feed the senses in her descriptions of these very different places and take us on the journey with her characters.

Danielle Steel is a masterful storyteller and has sold nearly a billion books, and I have no doubt that this book will be

The New York Times Best Sellers

Combined Print & E-Book Fiction (2 June 2019)

- 36 weeks on the list - WHERE THE CROWDADS 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.
- New this week - THE NIGHT WINDOW by Dean Koontz - The fifth book in the Jane Hawk series. The former F.B.I. agent pursues a slew of bad guys, including a Vegas mob boss.
- 3 weeks on the list - THE 18TH ABDUCTION by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro - The 18th book in the Women's Murder Club series. Lindsay Boxer investigates the disappearance of three female teachers.
- 5 weeks on the list - THE MISTER by E L James - Maxim Trevelyan inherits several estates and beds his cleaner Alessia Demachi, an Albanian piano prodigy who has been trafficked into England.
- 11 weeks on the list - PAST TENSE by Lee Child - Jack Reacher explores the New England town where his father was born and a Canadian couple now find themselves stranded.
- 5 weeks on the list - REDEMPTION by David Baldacci - The fifth book in the Memory Man series. The first man Amos Decker put behind bars asks to have his name cleared.
- 56 weeks on the list - A GAME OF THRONES by George R.R. Martin - In the frozen wastes to the north of Winterfell, sinister and supernatural forces are mustering. Basis of the HBO series.
- 2 weeks on the list - BLESSING IN DISGUISE by Danielle Steel - Isabelle McAvoy faces challenges as she raises three daughters from three separate fathers on her own.
- 4 weeks on the list - NEON PREY by John Sandford - The 29th book in the Prey series. Lucas Davenport goes after a serial killer.
- New this week - THE NEVER GAME by Jeffery Deaver - Colter Shaw, the son of a survivalist family, probes the underbelly of Silicon Valley to go after a kidnapper.

another bestseller. *Blessing in Disguise* has an intelligent and tenacious female lead character who is also very relatable. There are breathtaking locations and a story that twists and turns as life and fate change Isabelle's life. This is a

story of falling in love, motherhood, family and overcoming obstacles that life puts in the way. Perfect for the holidays, this is a first class read from one of the most popular and successful authors around.

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate
P: 4938 3300
M: 0412 566 041
FREE PROPERTY MARKET APPRAISALS

DANIELLE STEEL

Blessing in Disguise

A Novel



Synopsis
 As a young intern at an art gallery in Paris, Isabelle McAvoy meets Putnam Armstrong, wealthy, gentle, older and secluded from the world. Her time at his Normandy chateau is the stuff of dreams, for when she learns she is pregnant, she knows that marriage is out of the question. Returning to New York, Isabelle enters a new

relationship that she hopes will be more stable but before long she realizes she has made a terrible mistake and once again finds herself a single mother. With two young daughters Isabelle unexpectedly finds happiness and a love that gives her a third child, a baby as happy as her beloved father. And yet, life brings more change . . . Her three girls grow up to

when you need a good easy read that you know you will enjoy, well that was me last week. My choice of book to feed this need was *Blessing in Disguise* by Danielle Steel. Danielle Steel is an author I come back to again and again as I know the writing, character and plot will be engaging and entertaining. *Blessing in Disguise* is the story of

ABOUT ...

Danielle Fernandes Dominique Schuelein-Steel (born August 14, 1947) is an American writer, best known for her romance novels. She is the best selling author alive and the fourth bestselling fiction author of all time, with over 800 million copies sold. She has written 179 books, including over 146 novels.

Based in California for most of her career, Steel has produced several books a year, often juggling up to five projects at once. Despite "a resounding lack of critical acclaim" (*Publishers Weekly*), all her novels have been bestsellers, including those issued in hardback. Her formula is fairly consistent, often involving rich families facing a crisis, threatened by dark elements such as prison, fraud, blackmail and suicide. Steel has also published children's fiction and poetry, as well as raising funds for the treatment of mental disorders. Her books have been translated into 43 languages, with 22 adapted for television, including two that have received Golden Globe nominations. **Early life:** Steel was born Danielle

Fernandes Dominique Schuelein-Steel in New York City to a German father and a Portuguese mother. Her father, John Schuelein-Steel, was a German-Jewish immigrant and a descendant of owners of Löwenbräu beer. Her mother, Norma da Camera Stone dos Reis, was the daughter of a Portuguese diplomat. She spent much of her childhood in France where from an early age she was included in her parents' dinner parties, giving her an opportunity to observe the habits and lives of the wealthy and famous. Her parents divorced when she was eight, and she was raised primarily by her father, rarely seeing her mother. Steel started writing stories as a child, and by her late teens had begun writing poetry. Raised Catholic, she thought of becoming a nun during her early years. A 1963 graduate of the Lycée Français de New York, she studied literature design and fashion design, first at Parsons School of Design and then at New York University. **1965-Current: First marriage and career beginnings** Steel married French-American banker Claude-Eric Lazard in 1965 at



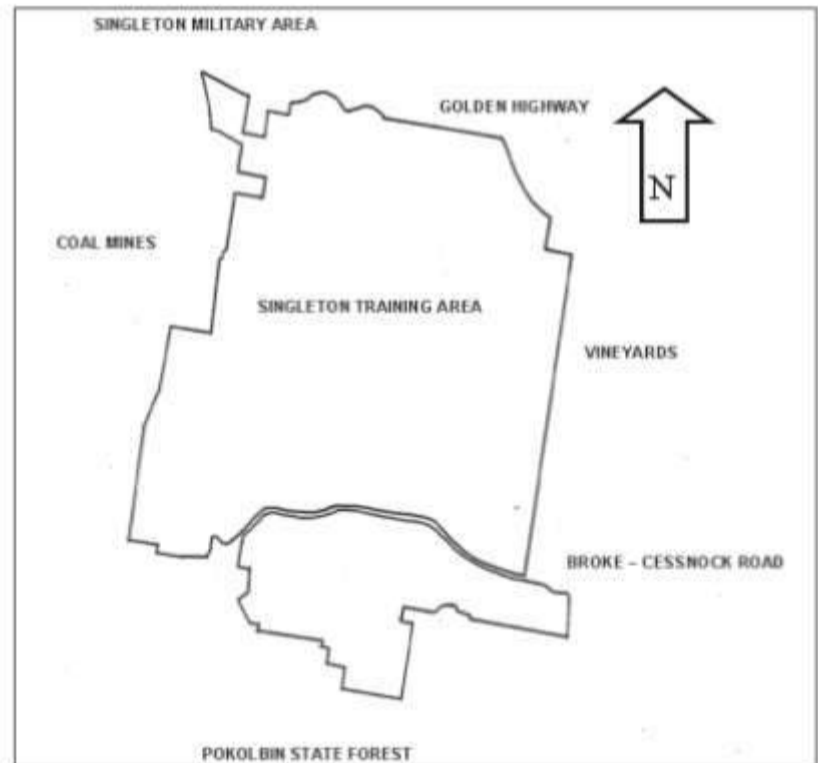
age 18. While a young wife, and still attending New York University, Steel began writing, completing her first manuscript at the age of 19. After the birth of their daughter Beatrix, Steel worked for a public-relations agency in New York called Supergirls. A client, *Ladies' Home Journal* editor John Mack Carter, encouraged her to focus on writing, having been impressed with her freelance articles. He suggested she write a book, which she did. She later moved to San Francisco, and worked as a copywriter for Grey Advertising. The marriage ended in divorce & she has re-married 4 times since then. She has been married 5 times all ending in divorce.



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.

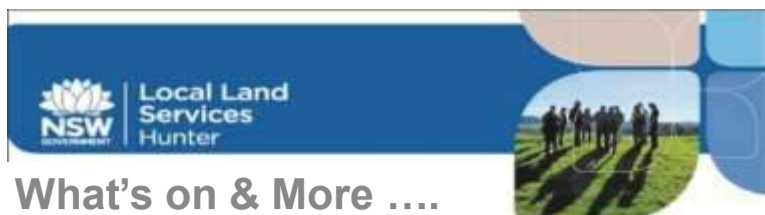
Death or serious injury may result from being struck by a projectile. Eye damage may occur when viewing laser beams from within the training area boundary.

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....

Lambs Valley Wild Dog Information Day - Elderslie

When: 1 Jun 2019 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Where: Elderslie Hall

758 Elderslie Rd

Elderslie

Contact: Kyra O'Brien, Biosecurity Officer

M: 0427 492 958

Details: Come and find out about best practice wild dog management

Join us for a free information day presented by

Hunter Local Land Services Biosecurity Team and wild dog expert Stuart

Boyd-Law.

Talk about wild dog management options with your local community and other land

managers and learn how you can become involved in effective control programs.

This event will include:

- Hands on experience with best practice control techniques
- Learning how to identify signs of wild dog activity
- Evaluating the impacts of wild dogs
- How to become part of an effective wild dog program

Please register via this link: <https://hunterlls.wufoo.com/forms/z1bnjeyj1i63b23/>



Grassland Society Conference - 3-4th July Gunnedah

When: 3 Jul 2019 - 4 Jul 2019

Where: Gunnedah

Details: Save the Date

Renewed focus on livestock systems for resilience - the swing back to forages.

This is a 2 day event which includes a top line up of speakers, bus tour options, a dinner and a great opportunity to network with others working in the industry and lots of producers.

For more information contact:

George Truman

North West Local Land Services

PO Box 546 |35-37 Abbott Street | Gunnedah NSW 2380

T: +61 2 6742 9213 | F: +61 2 6742 4022

M: 0427505040 E: george.truman@lls.nsw.gov.au

Australian Thoroughbred

Compiled by Brian Russell Bloodstock Media Service

Perth tycoon who shook BHP helped make Winx

One of the tragedies in breeding and racing in the past thirty years was the death at the age of only 53 in September 1990 of Perth barrister turned corporate raider Robert Holmes a'Court, one who under the Bell Group shocked the nation with audacious bids for control of major companies including BHP, Elders, Ansett Transport and TNT.

Recognised as Australia's first billionaire, South African born Holmes a Court was also a skilled horseman with the love of thoroughbred breeding and racing, pursuits he followed as owner of one of Western Australia's leading studs, Heytesbury. Here he bred and raised, Black Knight, a George Hanlon trained winner in the Holmes a Court colours of the 1984 Melbourne Cup, a race which his sire Silver Knight (NZ) (by Alcimedes) won in 1971.

Silver Knight was a Heytesbury sire, at one time sharing the stallion complex with repatriated (from America) Golden Slipper Pago Pago and leading

Western Australian sire Haulpak (by Dignitas). Holmes a Court's greatest contribution to the Australian thoroughbred nationally, however, was his importation to Victoria of Success Express, a leading American 2yo whose four wins at this age included the much prized Breeders' Cup Juvenile. Unfortunately, just as Success Expresses first foals arrived in 1990 (finished with about thirty), Holmes a Court died of a heart attack. His untimely death robbed him of enjoying the fruits of his wisdom in securing this son of Hold Your Peace, a representative of the Princequillo male line, one which was a powerful source of toughness and durability, who went on to become a valuable sire despite being used in four different regions, Victoria, New Zealand (two seasons), NSW and Queensland.

His quality as a sire could have projected Holmes a Court into one leaders in Australian breeding. As it was the first crop included six stakes winners and one other stakes placed performed and all of them were from matings made

under Holmes a Court's stewardship.

Born two months after Holmes a Court's death, the best of them was Al Akbar, a winner of eight races (1200m-1600m) to Group1, including the Bayer Classic and Waikato Guineas in New Zealand and the Canterbury Stakes in Australia. Used as a sire in New Zealand, he supplied 17 stakes winners, among them Hustler (NZ) (New Zealand Two Thousand Guineas-G1, Group1 second and third), Aka Built (10 wins, Wanganui Guineas, second VRC Craiglee Stakes), Ad Almalik (Kilmore Cup), Alagant Satin (ARC Eight Classic, Manawatu Eulogy Stakes), Reuben Percival (ATC Winter Cup, third ATC Metropolitan) and Vegas Showgirl (7 wins 880m - 1400m, two Listed events, fourth Group1 Manawatu Sires' Produce Stakes).

Produced by Vegas Magic, a modest racemare by Victoria used Northern Dancer sire Voodoo Rhythm (USA), Vegas Showgirl is now famous as the mother of



Detailed Cattle report for Gunnedah

Last reported 21st May 2019

The numbers almost halved, with yearlings and cows making up the bulk. There was a large reduction in vealers penned. The reduced numbers brought about some quality variation, both from a breed perspective and a reduction in the availability to purchase straight lines. There were some good quality young cattle, just lacking condition alongside some very well finished cows. The usual processors attended, not all operating, while restocker and feedlot competition varied throughout. Market trends through the young cattle saw vealer steers to restockers sell to cheaper trends, with some quality related price change. The heifer portion followed a similar trend. A small number of well finished vealers suitable to the trade were firm to slightly dearer. Light weight yearling steers attracted increased restocker competition to sell to a slightly dearer trend. Reduced competition from feed lotters saw the medium and heavy weights sell on a firm to 10c/kg cheaper trend. Yearling heifers to restock and feed saw a dearer market trend. The light weights to restockers saw the greatest improvement. Medium weight feeders were only slightly dearer. Well finished grown heifers saw the benefit of increased competition to sell to a dearer trend. Plain condition cows saw a firm to slightly dearer market trend, although there was some quality related price change. Well finished heavy weight cows sold to a cheaper trend of 7c to 15c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for Scone

Last reported 21st May 2019

The cheaper prices recorded around regional markets last week caused numbers to decline, however the breed and quality in the penning was fair to good. The majority entered the younger categories, with approximately 40 cows in the market. The younger drafts remained firm to dearer, as the cows trended cheaper. The over 200kg vealer steers returning to the paddock trended 12c dearer and made from 222c to 290c/kg. The same weight heifer portion also to the restockers and backgrounders remained firm, making from 176c to 236c/kg. The yearling steers to the feeder and restocker orders maintained firm prices, receiving from 240c to 282c, as the heifer portion to the same orders sold from 196c to 220c/kg. The lighter end of the yearling heifers made from 174c to 208c/kg. The good selection of the prime conditioned younger drafts purchased by the butchers sold to stronger competition this week and topped at 310c/kg. Cows eased 10c/kg, with the majority in good condition. The heavy weight 3 and 4 score drafts to the processors made from 178c to 210c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for Singleton

Last reported 22nd May 2019

The breed and quality on average was fair to good, with some excellent crossbred vealers in prime condition in the market. Numbers improved, with the majority entering the younger categories and suited to the lot feeder and restocker orders. There were approximately 100 cows, however very few older steers and heifers in the penning. The younger drafts sold firm to dearer, as the cows also sold to stronger competition this week. The over 200kg vealer steers to the restockers increased 6c, making from 200c to 304c/kg. The same weight heifer portion also to the restockers improved in breed and quality compared to the last market, with prices increasing accordingly to sell from 193c to 296c/kg. Yearling steers to feed and the restocker orders remained firm, with breed and quality in places contributing to some price variations. The better end of the yearling steers made from 240c to 296c/kg. Firm prices were also recorded for the heifer portion to the lot feeders, with prices from 178c to 250c/kg. The high yielding prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers trended at similar prices, with the best topping at 324c/kg. Cows were 4c dearer, with the plainer medium weights making from 150c to 180c, while the better covered heavy weights sold from 175c to 200c/kg. The best heavy weight bull made to 210c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for TRLX Tamworth

Last reported 20th May 2019

There was a small reduction in the overall numbers. In what has become a recurring theme, vealers, yearlings and cows made up the bulk of the offering. The quality of the offering was very mixed, with some very well bred lines of young cattle on offer. The condition of the offering was generally on the lower end of the scale, although there were some exceptions. There was reduced processor and feedlot competition, however a strong backgrounder order was present in the yearling steers market. There were varying market trends through the young cattle, while quality variation was a factor in price change. Light and medium weight vealer steers to restockers sold to a cheaper trend, up to 30c/kg in places. The heavier weights were slightly dearer. Heifer vealers to restock and feed saw a firm to dearer market trend, where there were premiums for straight lines. Medium and heavy weight yearling steers saw a firm to cheaper market trend. Some sales were as much as 14c/kg cheaper. Breed was the reason behind the price change in the medium weight restocker steers and included cattle bought by a feedlot to background on grass. There was not a lot of change in market trends for yearling heifers to restock and feed, more of a quality related price change. Well finished heifers suitable to the trade sold to a dearer trend, up to 24c/kg. Too few well finished grown steers to quote. The well finished C muscle grown heifers remained firm. Plain condition light and medium weight cows sold on a firm to slightly dearer market trend, with quite a few purchased by feed lotters. Under some selective processor competition, the well finished cows sold to a cheaper trend of as much as 15c/kg, with some of the change quality related.

one of the greatest thoroughbreds ever bred, the Street Cry (Ire) sired Winx. This means quadruple Cox Plate winner Winx is a granddaughter maternally of the Holmes a Court imported Success Express. She is not the only notable Cox Plate winner with Success Express in its pedigree, being preceded by Savabeel, annexer of the event at three in 2004 and also successful in the Spring Champion Stakes and runner up in the Victoria Derby. A resident of the Waikato Stud, four times champion New Zealand sire and credited with 18 Group1 winners to date, he is by Red Ransom (USA) Zabeel and from Savannah Success, a Success Express dual Group1 New Zealand Filly of the Year. All told Success Express in his career sired 459 winners

(71.1% of his starters) of over 1700 races and \$37million, 37 stakes winners including eight successful in Group1 races, Savannah Success, Al Akbar, Mossman (sire of Buffering), Polar Success (won Golden Slipper), Coogee Walk, It's My Sin, Quick Star and Explosive Quest. Although she did win at Group1 level, one of his best offspring has been Staging, a winner of ten races 1100m - 1600m, three Group 2 wins and a Group1 earner with neck seconds BTC Doomben 10,000 (neck) and Sires' Produce Stake, thirds ATC Chipping Norton, BTC Stradbroke and 4th MR Vic Health Stakes. Typical of the Success Express stock, tough and sound, Staging has also

extended his influence further as a high level broodmare sire. She is the mother of the Group winners and sires Duporth (by Red Ransom), Excites (Danewin) and Tickets (Redoute's Choice). The Success Express broodmare statistics are also impressive, adding up dams of just on 700 winners of 2330 races and in excess of \$70million. They have produced three Cox Plate winners, Savabeel, Shamus Award (a Widden Stud sire by Snitzel) and Pinker Pinker and a runner up in it, Wonderful World. Besides Shamus Award, Duporth (Koorngal, Wagga Wagga), Excites and Tickets, another offspring of a Success Express supplying winners is Arlington (Red Ransom,

Tamalee Stud, Tamworth) and BTC Cup and Among sire avenues of access to Success Express are two proven sires at the Sun Stud in Victoria Squamosa, a Not a Single Doubt stakes winner out of Class Success, a prominent NZ 2yo by Success Express, and Love Conquers All, a son of Mossman. Formerly at Sun Stud's now disposed of Queensland stud, Love Conquers All is the sire of first crop stakes winners Savanna Amour, I'm A Rippa and Mr Marvelous.



Corporate raider Robert Holmes a'Court



Microsoft removes Huawei laptops from its store as ARM cuts ties with Chinese firm

More companies are severing links
By Rob Thubron on May 22, 2019

the Huawei MateBook X Pro listing removed from Microsoft's store—you can see the cached version here—suggesting the Redmond firm is complying with the government ban. Microsoft retail stores will keep selling the laptop, which is



What just happened? It appears that more companies are complying with the ban that prohibits them from doing business with Huawei. The latest of these are Microsoft, which has stopped selling the Huawei MateBook X Pro on its online storefront, and Arm Holdings, whose designs feature in 95 percent of the world's smartphones.

Following President Trump's national emergency declaration that effectively bans US companies from buying and using telecoms equipment from "foreign adversaries," along with Huawei being added to an 'Entity List' barring it from doing business with American firms without government approval, top tech names have been cutting ties with the world's second-largest smartphone firm. After Google initially revoked Huawei's Android license, thereby restricting it to using the Android Open Source Project (AOSP), the US Commerce Department granted a 90-day reprieve allowing Google to continue providing security patches and software updates to Huawei devices. A new development saw

one of the best-reviewed models on the market, until stock is depleted. While Microsoft has refused to confirm or deny if it will stop Huawei from obtaining Windows licenses, the situation isn't looking good for the Chinese giant. While it has been working on Windows and Android replacement operating systems, it's unclear how far along these are and how much consumers would be willing to use them.

Other companies reportedly severing ties with Huawei include British IP vendor Arm, which is affected by the ban as its chip designs contain "US origin technology." Last year we were reporting of a triumphant Huawei who had beaten Qualcomm to make the first 7nm SoC with its own Kirin 980. However, that chip is based on Arm's Cortex-A76 and Mali-G76 technology which now makes it a no-go if the ban continues to be enforced in full. UK mobile carrier EE, meanwhile, has dropped Huawei phones from its 5G network launch in the country

Cyber Threat: Latest Computer Virus In 2019

There have been many cyber-attacks in the past decade. With use of latest techniques and coding, hacking and cyber-threats have become much easier and common. The only thing with the evolution of cyber-attacks is that they have become more dangerous and threatening like never. They can take out any bit of information from the system if they need to.

But, all we can do is sit and wait for it to happen. This is because we aren't aware of the current computer viruses surfacing online in market. And we aren't even aware of the practices that we should follow to stay safe and secure. So, today, in this article, we will be talking about some of the most dangerous computer viruses and also about the latest computer viruses in 2018. And what are the practices and preventions that we need to follow before and after the attack.

Top Computer Virus Names in 2019

- Yatron Ransomware
- Astaroth
- GoBrut
- Jokeroo
- Gandcrab Ransomware

1. Yatron Ransomware

Latest Ransomware-as-a-Service called Yatron is being promoted on Twitter these days. This computer virus works like other ransomware and encrypts targeted files. IT spreads to other computers via Eternal-Blue and DoublePulsar exploits. Not only this Yatron Ransomware tries to delete encrypted files if victim fails to make payment within 72 hours.

Apart from exploiting the weaknesses Yatron computer ransomware will try to spread through P2P programs by copying ransomware executable to default folders.

Preventions:

- * Always keep a backup of important files
- * Avoid enabling macros in attachments received
- * Do not download unsolicited attachments

Use admin account only when necessary

2. Astaroth Trojan:

First emerged in 2017 this latest computer virus has already targeted over 8000 systems. It is being used in spam campaigns across Europe and Brazil. This computer trojan spreads through .7zip file attachments and malicious links. Astaroth Trojan targets anti-virus tools to steal username and passwords.

Preventions:

- * Use 2-FA to add extra layer of security to your machine
- * Keep your machine and security tools updated

* Run latest firewall and dedicated Internet security tool

3. GoBrut:

GoBrut the latest computer virus is not technically sophisticated but can slow down the Internet and cause damage to thousands of computers. This computer virus is Golang based and uses brute force to spread itself on Windows and Linux machines.

This malware can exploit a number of vulnerabilities especially the websites that still use weak passwords are on target. Not only this StealthWorker malware is also capable of updating itself.

Preventions:

- * Use strong and complicated passwords
- * Use progressive delays
- Use change response test to prevent automated submissions

4. Jokeroo:

This computer virus also works as Ransomware-as-a-Service and it is being promoted on Twitter via underground hacking sites. This computer threat allows affiliates to gain access to a functional ransomware and payment server. Jokeroo started promoting itself as a Grand-Crab Ransomware on Exploit.in.

Prevention:

- * Practice safe browsing
- * Update operating system and security applications
- * Regular backup of files and other important data

5. Gandcrab Ransomware

It is one of the most famous computer virus. Gandcrab is a ransomware spread through malvertisements, explicit websites, or spam emails, which leads the user to Rig Exploit Kit Page or Grand-Soft EK page. Through these pages, Gandcrab makes an entry into users' systems and devices.

Once ransomware is active on the system, it starts to gather user's personal information such as username, keyboard type, presence of antivirus, IP, OS version, current Windows version etc. Dangerous computer virus Gandcrab makes its next move on the basis of information collected. After which it kills all tasks & processes running on system so that it can start encrypting the data and files present in system.

It then generates public and private keys on user's system, which are then forwarded to C2 server hosted on .bit domain.

As soon as the key is delivered it starts its process of encryption by using public key generated and adds '.GDCB' extension to all encrypted files. After this, it sends a file containing ransom message on the user's system in return for decryption of their data.

CONT NEXT PAGE

ALADDIN

PG

A street rat frees a genie from a lamp, granting all of his wishes and transforming himself into a charming prince in order to marry a beautiful princess. But soon, an evil sorcerer becomes hell-bent on securing the lamp for his own sinister purposes.

Show More

Rating: PG (for some action/peril)

Genre: Action & Adventure, Kids & Family, Science Fiction & Fantasy

Directed By: Guy Ritchie

Written By: John August, Guy Ritchie

In Theatres: May 24, 2019 WIDE

Runtime: 128 minutes

Studio: Walt Disney Pictures



pretty, and Smith brings a fresh, more street-wise approach to his character, while still honoring the motor-mouthed spirit of Williams's scene-stealing performance. And when I say "street-wise," I don't

mean the marketplace of Agrabah, but the streets of West Philly. As with Williams, Smith's wholly Americanized Genie is just one indicator that Agrabah is closer in spirit to a California theme park than a real caliphate. Another indicator? Aladdin, Jasmine and her handmaiden, Dalia (former SNL cast member Nasim Pedrad) all talk like L.A. high school kids, while every other citizen of Agrabah speaks English with a heavy accent.

More about those streets: "Aladdin" gets



The best things about the new 'Aladdin'? A super-feminist Jasmine, and Will Smith's street-smart Genie.

By Michael O'Sullivan

Right off the bat, you can tell that Disney's live-action "Aladdin" has avoided some of the missteps of the original animated film. The lyrics of the song "Arabian Nights," which is sung in a prologue that frames the new film as a children's fairy tale, have been changed from this description of the film's Middle Eastern setting — "It's barbaric, but hey, it's home" — to this: "It's chaotic, but hey, it's home." (Some of the more offensive lyrics to the song were already softened once before, in response to accusations of racism, when the 1992 film came out on home video, although the word "barbaric" was left in.)

It's just the first corrective that knowledgeable fans of the earlier film will notice. Other changes include casting actors of color:

Mena Massoud plays the title character, an orphaned "street rat" and thief in the fictional land of Agrabah; Naomi Scott is his beloved, the Sultan's daughter, Jasmine; and Will Smith replaces Robin Williams as Genie, who transforms Aladdin into a prince so he can woo Jasmine.

Smith also portrays the nameless mariner whose telling of the tale sets it firmly in a land of wishful thinking. I'm not just talking about magic lamps, flying carpets and a tiger that never seems to eat anything — let alone anyone. I'm talking about the even-more-feminist Jasmine, who doesn't just dream of escaping from under her father's restrictive rules about whom she can marry but who aspires to become her people's first female sultan. There's even a new song written for this empowered Disney princess: "Speechless," in which she sings about not being silenced by men. At times, the film feels like it could easily have been

retitled "Jasmine." Go, girl. That's all for the good, and it makes for a film that has shaken off some of the dust of the past 27 years. The movie is colorful and



underway with a chase through the alleys of the bazaar that sets the tone for the film's action sequences, which are, in general, poorly choreographed and edited, loud and visually confusing. Talk about chaotic. One climactic set piece, involving the aerial pursuit of Aladdin (on his flying carpet) by the villain Jafar's parrot — who has morphed into a gigantic bird of prey — is filled with muddy and overly busy digital effects. The film's big musical production number, on the other hand, set to the song "Prince Ali" — a reference to Aladdin's alter ego — is surprisingly inert. Despite having directed one of his ex-wife Madonna's music videos, not to mention being known for action movies ("King Arthur: Legend of the Sword"), director Guy Ritchie seems inexplicably uncomfortable filming people in motion. It's weird.

The film's theme — don't let yourself be trapped by class, gender politics or, in the case of Genie, a brass lamp — is a nice one, and Ritchie mostly succeeds in keeping things lively, despite some sluggish scenes and a longish running time. It isn't as great a reimagining of the source material as Disney's recent "Dumbo," but it'll do. To borrow Dalia's description of Genie's courtship skills, this earnest but awkward "Aladdin" is "clumsy, but in a charming sort of way."

Self-interest didn't swing the election results, but the scare campaign

did BY Danielle Wood

The Guardian



‘Labor’s plan was bold, and bold is easy to portray as scary.’ The ALP lost the 2019 Australian federal election on Saturday after a concerted scare campaign largely funded by Clive Palmer. Photograph: Mike Bowers/The Guardian

Labor’s chances were not sunk by self-funded retirees, but by the very voters who stood to benefit most from the ALP’s policies. As Labor’s shock defeat crystallised on Saturday night, it didn’t take long for commentators to draw parallels with the unlosable 1993 election. Once again an opposition party within striking distance took a bold tax agenda to an election and was rebuffed by voters. But the emerging consensus that Labor’s tax plans – particularly the changes to franking credit refunds and negative gearing – are solely responsible for its defeat is far too simplistic. The voting figures do not support the idea that angry self-refunded retirees and aspiring property investors had the baseball bats ready for Labor. In fact, many of the areas where people get big tax benefits from negative gearing and franking credits swung away from the Coalition. There were undoubtedly people across the country angry enough about these policies to switch their votes. But the proportion of people over 60 in different electorates had no correlation with the Liberal swing. Other analysis indicates the share of people claiming rental losses and franking credits by electorate was correlated with a swing towards Labor. The overall results suggest the well-heeled were voting on grounds other than their immediate financial self-interest.

“Conversely, the seats that swung most strongly to the Coalition on a two-party-preferred basis – including Dawson, Capricornia, Hunter, Herbert and Forde – span regions with significant economic challenges”

Conversely, the seats that swung most strongly to the Coalition on a two-party-preferred basis – including Dawson, Capricornia, Hunter, Herbert and Forde – span regions with significant economic challenges. Average incomes vary but unemployment levels are above the national average. A much lower share of people in these electorates have tertiary education and so workers are more likely to feel exposed to the threat of unemployment. It seems unlikely that the loss of tax breaks for well-off retirees was high on the protest list for these voters. These results are consistent with the national trends. Seats with lower-than-average incomes and education were more likely to swing to the Coalition. Tony Abbott nailed it on election night when he said: “It’s clear that in what might be described as working seats, we are doing so much better [than Labor].”

The result is almost paradoxical. Labor wanted to scale back tax concessions for the “top end of town” and more to support the less-well-off through investments in social services. But the top end of town embraced them (or at least rejected their opponents) and the people who stood to benefit most instead embraced the Coalition, One Nation and the United Australia party. So if self-interest didn’t swing the vote, what did?

Labor’s plan was bold, and bold is easy to portray as scary. Clive Palmer spent a fair chunk of his reported \$60m doing just that. Real estate agents with plenty to lose from the proposals used heavy-handed tactics to frighten renters into thinking that they would be the ultimate losers from the negative gearing changes. And among the Coalition’s most effective lines was that “Labor can’t manage money so they’ll come after yours.” Scare campaigns are not new in politics. But a scattergun message from Labor and an increasingly cynical electorate helped this one hit the target.

First to the messaging. The campaign was variously about intergenerational fairness, a referendum on cost of living and wages and better schools and hospitals. The spending announcements came thick and fast during the campaign – from eliminating out-of-pockets for cancer treatment, a pensioner dental scheme, boosting childcare subsidies, increasing wages for childcare workers and \$10bn for the Melbourne suburban rail loop. Some of these were well thought out, others seemed more than a little underdone. And even as

someone who follows the policy debate it was hard to keep up.

A big, bold reform program requires voters to take some things on faith. Few outside those directly affected have the time or inclination to delve into the complex details of tax treatment of investment properties or to understand franking credit refunds. In this election, voters were asked to take Labor on trust that its policy plans would not take jobs and the economy down with them.

But trust in politics is in short supply these days. The Australian Election Study, a survey taken after each federal election since 1969, showed voter trust was at its lowest after the 2016 election. My guess is that the 2019 survey will show we have now hit a new low. And voters with lower average levels of income and education have less trust than those in more affluent areas. Narratives need to be clear and powerful to cut through the cynicism. Labor will undoubtedly spend time soul-searching about what it all means. I hope they don’t take the message that major policy change should be consigned to the too-hard basket. The silver lining is that voters can be convinced to put the national interest before immediate self-interest. The challenge for political leaders is to build the trust and understanding with the electorate to back in their vision.

* Danielle Wood from the Grattan Institute.

FROM PAGE 18 Gandcrab Ransomware The name of the file with ransom message is ‘GDCB-DECRYPT.txt’. **Preventions**
* Regular backup of important data and files.
* Update operating system and applications.
* In case of attack, try using ransomware decryption tools.

THE NEWS | No.499 | WEDNESDAY 29 May 2019

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

TO the North Rothbury Rural Fire Service who allowed North Rothbury Tidy Town to run a BBQ on election day. The Fire Station was a polling booth, which a lot of residents were not aware of, & the North Rothbury Rural Fire Service had other matters to attend to & couldn’t have their usual BBQ on polling day. The North Rothbury Tidy Town made \$396 which will help to purchase a new BBQ. Thank you!

TO Cessnock City Council; I am a resident of North Rothbury and I am very concerned over safety issues associated with some of the septic systems in the village. Some residents have been discharging treated effluent from the septic systems onto the verge and the side of the roads, especially various areas along Wine Country Drive, Olivia Place and Rothbury Street. I am worried about the health and safety of all of our residents, especially people walking. Some residents have gotten infections from walking through these areas in the past and other residents walk on the road with the traffic rather than on the verge. Is it possible to get the Environmental Health Officer out to check these areas please? This is the third time I have used this forum & hope it won’t be third time lucky!

TO the local Police Area Command for not giving the local populace good notice about the forum held last Tuesday evening at Branxton Golf Club. I have done my best to get the word around & hope it is a success.

FREE Classified's 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
repairs. Comtronics P: 4991 1128
Drum lessons: Young Musician studying Bachelor of Music will conduct lessons (drum) your home or mine. (\$25.00 at mine \$30 for away for ½ hour). Beginners welcome. call Josh on 0458 611 362
For Rent: Branxton RSL Hall, air conditioned. Short or long term. P: 0429 438 460
For Sale: PRICES REDUCED! Timber bedroom set, brand new, new mattress, 2xside tables, 1xchest draws, 2xbed lamps, 1xsummer sheets & 1xpair winter sheets, dooner and dooner cover also pillows. Moving sale \$900 P: 0428 057 253
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: Dining set 6xchairs, glass top. In very good condition. Moving sale \$250 P: 0428 057 253
For Sale: Aviary bred Rainbow & Scaly Lorikeets. \$20ea or \$45ea with new cage P: 0421 102 711
For Sale: Alpacas Ph 4930 6291
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: all kinds of Honda mini bikes qa50 z50a z50j1 z50jz ct70 sl70 & 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: Lawns mowed, rubbish removal & slashing. Also 'Bobcat' work, trenching & post hole boring & general maintenance & handyman work. Phone Steve on 4938 3607
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

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

Dates for your diary > Hosted by Gospel Church - Central Hunter. Contact Darren 0407 490 646.

Dates for your diary > Hosted by Gospel Church - Central Hunter. Contact Darren 0407 490 646.

SAT 1 Jun — 2.00pm-3.00pm Greta Museum, 96 High Street, Greta (in the former Greta Council Chambers). Last & final of this 13-part TV series, which is a fictional story based on the Snowy Mountains Scheme. Many of the men from Greta Migrant Camp worked on the Snowy scheme. Come to one episode, or all of them.

SUN 2 Jun — Free Community Event Social Tennis and Hot Soup. Sunday afternoons 5:30-7:30pm (fortnightly). Miller Park Tennis Courts, Branxton. Family fun and meet some locals. Hosted by Gospel Church - Central Hunter. Contact Darren 0407 490 646.

TUE 4 Jun — North Rothbury bi-monthly meeting 6:30pm @ 24 Wayne Street, North Rothbury; all welcome

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. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

TUES 11 JUNE — End of exhibition period Proposed Banner Poles at Miller Park.

WED 12 Jun — Branxton Public School – Choose Maths Family Night 6:00-7:30pm

SUN 16 Jun — Free Community Event Social Tennis and Hot Soup. Sunday afternoons 5:30-7:30pm (fortnightly). Miller Park Tennis Courts, Branxton. Family fun and meet some locals. Hosted by Gospel Church - Central Hunter. Contact Darren 0407 490 646.

FRI 28 JUNE — 8am—5pm @ Huntlee – We are encouraging the children to come dressed in their red attire to celebrate Red Nose Day

SUN 30 Jun — Free Community Event Social Tennis and Hot Soup. Sunday afternoons 5:30-7:30pm (fortnightly). Miller Park Tennis Courts, Branxton. Family fun and meet some locals.

MON 8 JUL to **SUN 14 JUL** — NAIDOC Week

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

FRI 26 JULY — School Tree Day

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

TUES 8 OCT — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg – Old St. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

SAT 9 & 10 NOV — Silky Oak Festival GRETA: SAVE THIS DATE - we are celebrating the birthdays for Greta Army Camp and Greta Migrant Camp hosted by the Central Hunter Business Chamber (Branxton & Greta). This is a public event over two days with military parade, market stalls, ethnic dancing and music, food vans and etc

TUES 12 NOV — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg – Old St. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

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

SAT 14 DEC — North Rothbury Tidy Town Twilight Markets & 90 year Rothbury Riot re-enactment.3pm – 8pm. Call Mike Lowing on 0414 757 826 or mark Stanford on 0419 296 635 for further details.



In The Garden

Tips for Beautiful Roses

The reward for gaining and applying the relevant knowledge about rose gardening is big, beautiful rose bushes, laden with colourful and fragrant roses. Here we will help you learn all about pruning roses, preparing rose beds, types of roses and the best way to look after them. The types of rose bushes you can choose from are; Shrub Roses, Miniature Roses, Climber, Grandiflora, Floribunda and Rugosa. Be aware that some of these are quite hardy while others can be sensitive, so be sure to choose wisely and buy ones that are suited to your garden and lifestyle.

Caring for Your Roses

Caring for rose bushes is vital to their general health and vigour, as well as their appearance, below are some helpful guides.

Planting

Plant roses where they will collect a minimum of 5 to 6 hours of full sun per day. Roses grown in weak sun may not die at once, but they weaken progressively. Give them plenty of organic matter

when planting and don't crowd them. Wear sturdy gloves to shield your hands from prickly thorns and have a hose or bucket of water and all your planting utensils nearby. Keep your bare-root rose in water until you are ready to place it in

the ground.

Roses can be cut back and moved in either spring or winter, definitely not in summer, as they may suffer and die in the high temperature. Large rose canes can be cut back by as much as two thirds, and smaller ones to within 6 to 12 inches of the ground.

When you relocate your roses, be sure to dig a much bigger hole than you think you need (for most types, the planting hole should be about 15 to 18 inches wide) and add plenty of organic matter such as compost or aged manure.

Watering

Roses require at least an inch of water weekly throughout their growing season, beginning in spring or following spring planting. Rose bushes are very prone to fungal diseases, such as black spot and powdery mildew, especially when their foliage is kept too wet.

Attentively water your roses, ensure that you soak the entire root zone at least twice a week in dry weather. Elude frequent shallow sprinklings, which won't reach the deeper roots and may

encourage fungus. Roses do best with 90 inches of rain per year, so unless you live in a rain forest, water regularly, although if adequate drainage is not provided, they can easily drown. The ideal soil is rich and loose, with good drainage. One of the worst mistakes you can make is to not provide adequate drainage.

Use mulch to help save water, decrease stress, and encourage healthy growth, apply a 2 to 4 inch layer of chopped and shredded leaves, grass clippings, or shredded bark around the base of your roses. Allow about an inch of space between the mulch and the base stem of the plant.

Feeding

Feed roses on a regular basis before and throughout the blooming cycle (avoid chemical fertilisers and pesticides if you're harvesting for the kitchen), a slow releasing fertiliser is best or apply a balanced granular fertiliser (5-10-5 or 5-10-10) minimum of once a month during the hotter months. Allow ¾ to 1 cup for each bush, and sprinkle it around the drip line, **not** against the stem. Also apply an additional tablespoon of Epsom salts along with your fertiliser; the magnesium



Miniature Rose varieties



Florabunda Roses "French Lace Rose"

sulphate will encourage new growth from the bottom of the bush.

Pruning

Prune roses every spring and terminate all old or diseased plant material.



Grandiflora Roses



The 'Rosie Lowing Rose' named after The News editors Aunt

Start with pruning shears for smaller growth. Use loppers, (the bigger, long-handle shears) for growth that is more than half an inch thick. A small pruning saw is handy, as it cuts on both the push and the pull.

Deadhead religiously and keep beds clean. Every leaf has a growth bud, so removing old flower blossoms encourages the plant to make more flowers instead of using the energy to make seeds. Clean away from around the base of the rosebushes as any trimmed debris that can harbor disease and insects. Stop deadheading all your rose plants 3 to 4 weeks before winter so as not to encourage new growth at a time when new shoots may be damaged by the cold.

Preparing Your Roses for Winter

Do not prune roses in the winter, simply cut off any dead or diseased canes. Stop fertilising 6 weeks prior to winter but continue watering during dry weather to help keep plants fortified. Mulch or add compost **before** the weather turns too cold. Compost, mulch, dry wood chips or chopped leaves are all good for insulating your rose beds.

Pests and Diseases

Good gardening practices such as removing dead leaves and canes will help reduce pests. Find out which pests are most prevalent in your area by checking with your local nursery. Here are some of the more common problems:

- Stem Borers
- Japanese Beetles
- Aphids
- Black Spot/Powdery Mildew
- Spider Mites

Roses are a delectable treat for pests so try planting lavender near your roses. Not only will you have the makings of a nice potpourri, but the scent of lavender discourages most pests.

Fun Fact

Rugosa roses are overloaded with vitamins and used for jams, jellies, syrups, pies, teas, and wine. The petals can be tossed into salads for colour, utilised to decorate cakes, or distilled to make rose water.



ROYAL FEDERAL HOTEL
50 MAITLAND ST, BRANXTON
PH: 4938 1335
www.royalfederal.com.au

**BUY ONE PIZZA
GET ONE
FREE!**



**BUY ONE PIZZA
GET ONE
FREE!**



*Terms & Conditions apply. Original coupon only. One coupon per customer. Valid until May 31st, 2019.



Branxton Public School

On a beautiful Friday morning, about 100 students, parents and teachers walked safely to school as part of the annual Walk Safely to School Day. It was a lovely opportunity for children to get to school a different way and Mrs Baker and her canteen helpers made sure everyone had some nice warm toast on arrival at school. Congratulations to Pat Bush who was presented with his Guluwa scholarship to support his educational journey over the next 3 years. Pat was chosen to



Alpacas with Maracas

Mr Brecard and Mr Tattis made National Simultaneous Storytime a treat for all with their hilarious portrayal of Macca and Al from 'Alpacas with Maracas', this year's book written by Matt Cosgrove. The whole school enjoyed the story at 11am, along with over a million other children in Australia and



Walk Safely to School Day

New Zealand. Thank Mrs Melnik for organising the performance and well done to Max, Bridgette and Mr J for narrating. Check it out on our Facebook page. We are currently taking enrolments for Kindergarten 2020. If you have or know of someone that has a child starting Kindergarten next year, ask them to contact the school office to register their children. Information letters will be sent out at the beginning of Term 3.

Dates for the Calendar

Friday 31st May – PBL Assemblies 9:20 and 9:50am
 Wednesday 12th June – Choose Maths Family Night 6:00-7:30pm

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

Landholders invited to free workshop on protecting our bushland

Cessnock City Council is excited to offer a free landholder workshop educating residents on how they can help enhance biodiversity in the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA). The workshop will be held at Kurri Kurri Senior Citizens Hall on Sunday, 2 June from 10:30am to 12pm. Our LGA is a haven for rare plants and birds, including species such as the Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot, yet public reserves are unlikely to be sufficient to protect these species into the future. The workshop will explore how private landholders can support and enhance local conservation efforts. Those attending the workshop will hear from local experts on a number of topics including managing land in a way that benefits both the environment and agricultural production, and potential funding sources available to landholders to help them protect wildlife in their natural environment. The workshop will be followed by a bird watching walk with a local ecologist from BirdLife Australia. Council has partnered with a number of organisations to bring the workshop to life including Birdlife Australia, Hunter Region Landcare Network, Hunter Local Land Services and the Biodiversity Conservation Trust. This workshop has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust Spots are limited, residents are encouraged to register early at www.trybooking.com/BCSZJ. For more information call 4993 4100 or visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity

Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/BCSZJ>
 For more information call 4993 4100 or
 visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity

CLUBGRANTS APPLICATIONS OPENED 20 MAY 2019 & CLOSE 1 JULY

Local community not for profit organisations are encouraged to apply for funding through ClubGRANTS which opened on Monday 20 May. ClubGRANTS is a responsibility of registered clubs under the Gaming Machine Tax Act 2001. The grants assist not for profit organisations with funding to deliver projects, activities or initiatives that meet local needs relating to community welfare and social services, community development, education, employment, community safety and other projects aimed at improving community health and wellbeing. Successful applicants need to highlight the geographical area their organisation serves and demonstrate how ClubGRANTS support will benefit the local community. Clubs are unlikely to fund duplicates of already successful projects or multiple organisations that are attempting to deliver the same outcome. Successful applicants focus on how their project is different from the rest, and offer to collaborate with similar organisations. The scheme is open from Monday 20 May until Monday 1 July, 2019. Successful applicants will be informed in writing by the end of July and funding is awarded to successful projects in August. For more information or to complete an application form for the ClubGRANTS program visit <https://www.clubgrants.com.au/about>

WANTED

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LEASE
 There is a strong demand for residential rental accommodation in the local area & our office needs more properties to sate the current demand. If you are contemplating renting your property please contact either Helen or Mike on 4938 3300

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE
 P: 4938 3300

"Branxton Gardens" Senior Living, Branxton
 Recent sales

SOLD **SOLD** **SOLD** **SOLD**

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

SPORTS RESULTS



Match Reports

Under 7-3's v Under 7-2's 11th May 2019

Today the Goldsprings under 7-3's and 7-2's had a terrific game of soccer!

Jasmine's tackling was awesome, and Sorren had some fantastic passes and great dribbling.

Koby, Nic and Harrison all had a good game with some top defence and great team work.

We also would like to give a big warm welcome to Lily who has joined our team. It's great to have you with us Lily!

Thank you 7-2's for lots of fun and awesome team work!

Under 8-2s vs Rutherford 11th May 2019

The boys put in a dominant performance today against Rutherford with all of them chasing and fighting hard throughout the whole game. We've been working a lot on



Under 8-2s after match against Cessnock United

passing and keeping possession of the ball at training, and it was good to see glimpses of this coming out in the game. Joel was chosen as best and fairest for being involved all over the park, and when he won the ball took the time to look up and pick out a teammate on multiple occasions. Ashton continues to show steady improvement with each game, and Carter scored the

goal of the game and was unlucky not to score more. Well done guys.

Under 8-2s vs Singleton Strikers 25th May 2019

Really proud of the performance today. Being 'Silent Saturday' the coaches and parents played their part and kept quiet to let the boys play without distraction. It was good to see the players trying to pass between each other and this is something we will

continue to encourage and work on at training. Xander had a good game scoring the first goal and starting a number of plays from the middle of the park which lead to good chances. Will had his strongest game of the season, scoring a goal, tackling hard and chasing down the other team - a deserved winner of the best and fairest this week. It was also good to see Leo getting more involved in the

game and continuing to improve. Good work everyone, keep it up.

Under 8-2s vs Cessnock United 26th May 2019

The team had two games this weekend with their washed out Round 2 game against Cessnock rescheduled for the Sunday. Despite the short turnaround the boys had lots of energy and put on a good performance. Elijah and

Carter showed great sportsmanship by helping out the other team when they didn't have enough players. Harlan had a strong game, contributing some good individual goals, while Jude and Xander ran tirelessly between defence and attack. Leyton showed some good dribbling skills and also contributed with some well taken goals. Carter was chosen as man of the match for winning lots of balls and also passing well with his teammates. It's good to see everyone so eager to play and helping each other out.

Over 35-1s vs Belmont 10th May 2019

Tonight was our toughest match to date against a Belmont side with a number of fit and clever players. The first half was a cagey affair with both sides cautious to commit players forward in fear of getting caught on the counter attack. Grant crafted the best opportunity of the half, beating his opponent out wide and cutting inside only to see his super shot somehow deflected away by the keeper. With the score locked at 0-0 the second half opened up with chances developing at both ends.

Either side could have taken the lead, but it was Belmont that opened the scoring with a clinical finish. It was then all one way traffic as the Wildcats sought an equaliser, but in the end the one goal was enough to see Bel-

mont take all 3 points. The number of chances we created was encouraging, while Chicken and Brimo were solid once again at the back for Branxton.

Over 35-1s vs Swansea 24th May 2019

It was a heavily depleted side that took the field tonight with a number of players carrying injuries or attending an important social gathering. Nevertheless the available players stood up and performed well against the competition leaders. The first half saw Swansea squander two early chances at goal before we were able to settle and take control of the game. Shannon made them pay for their missed opportunities with two well taken goals to give the Wildcats a 2-0 lead at half time. Swansea came out strong in the second half, but our defence lead by DJ was able to break down each of their attacks. Committing players forward left gaps at the back for Swansea and Dan was able to capitalise with a well taken goal. He added two more later on to complete his hat-trick and seal a solid 5-1 win. Brad showed his pace and had a strong game out wide, while Grant played well with a hamstring injury and controlled the midfield. Overall it was an impressive victory with everyone contributing. Well done boys.

Branxton Golf Club A Grade Pennants 2019

Branxton Golf Club was first formed in 1921 and is one of the oldest clubs in NSW. From humble beginnings to a membership base of today at 250 and

growing. We may be a small club but a mighty proud club. Many a talent has been realized through our club. Mr Searston, JJ Bercini, Ian Jordan, Mark Hale, Corey Lamb, Mick Watson and Brent Watson are just a few talented players that have done our club and themselves proud throughout the history

of Branxton Golf Club and NSW Golf. Our club first won the A Grade pennant in 1959 but it wasn't until 1998 that the Club triumphed again. The Club's B, C, Juniors and Seniors have also won many pennants during this time, distinguishing themselves as talents in their own right in the Hunter River District Golf



Association Competition. In 2011 an enthusiastic group of local juniors won the HRDGA Junior Pennants with an ambition to win the A Grade Pennants in the future. The players in this team included Joshua Tracey, Cameron Johanson, Lee Heuston and Isaiah Wolferstan. Fast forward to 2019, these young juniors, now a little older and more experienced, achieved their goal. They rose to the challenge after finishing third the previous two years, defeating the very strong "The Vintage" team (a Greg Norman designed course with the legendary Richard Mercer as their golf director) in a memorable final, 3 games

to 2. This year's victorious team included: Joshua Tracey (C); Cameron Johanson; Lee Hesuston; Isaiah Wolferstan (the 4 juniors from 2011); Cody Fletcher, Mick Tracey and Michael Simpson. Branxton Golf Club has shown it still has the talent in its squad, with their sights set in defending this title next year. The boys want to express their appreciation and support from their fellow members, especially Captain Murray Johanson, the Board Members and Club Professional Marcus Ryter for all they do for this mighty small club. (article researched and written by Mick Tracey)



Our Bushland

LANDHOLDER WORKSHOP

Learn from the experts. Connect with your community

Sunday, 2 June 2019 10:30-12pm
Kurri Kurri Senior Citizens Hall,
132 Barton St, Kurri Kurri

FREE

DID YOU KNOW?

- Cessnock is a haven for rare plants and birds
- Public reserves are not enough to save many of these species from extinction
- You can manage your land in a way that benefits both the environment and agricultural production.
- Funding is available for landholders to help protect wildlife in their natural environment

The workshop will include talks from local experts and information about potential funding sources. Morning tea will be provided.
Limited Space. Book early.

Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/BCSZJ>
 For more information call 4993 4100 or
 visit www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity

This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust





When: Tue 4 June 2019

Where: 24 Mayne St, North
 Rothbury 2335

From: 6:30pm ~ 7:30pm

NEXT MEETING

SPORTS RESULTS GOLF

HUNTER VALLEY GOLF CLUB

Sunday 12th May: The Weekly Challenge has been won by Craig Rhodes with 38 points from Jodie Dunn with 35.

Tuesday 14th May: Luke McArthur did best in the Tuesday Stableford with a fine round of 43 points with Dennis Donn runner up with 42 on countback to Craig Rhodes. Ball winners were: Wayne Burgess 41, Paul Smith 40, Scott Conti 40, Col Bradley 39, Anthony Mudd v39, Ryan Wilson 39, Geoff Boyd 39, Bill Freeman 38, Julie Van Den Berg 37, Robert Hannah 37, Bob Prentice 37, Jarrod Smith v36, Shannon Attewell 36, Michael Watson 36, Ken Wright 35, Chris Taggart 35, David Peel 35, Greg Ireland 35, Peter Wilson 35, Scott Armstrong 34, Robert Logue 34, Greg Harder 34, Ian Newell 34, Bruce Mathews 33 and Richard Craft 33 c/b

Wednesday 15th May: Toni Fisher led the way in the Ladies Stableford with 37 points from Marlene Rooney 35 and Diane Davies 34. Ball winners were: Dianne Oakes 33, Kay Dunn 33, Sharon Blackett 32, Lorraine Clack 30 and Sue Peel 29 c/b.

Thursday 16th May: The Vets individual Stableford event has gone to Rex Talbot with a sizzling 44 point round from Kerry Porter 42 with Don Bradley 3rd with 41 on countback. Ball winners were: John Tancred 41, Graham Donaldson 40, Greg Harder 40, John Hogg 40, Barney Wheki 39, Ken Roe 39, Wayne Barber 39, Ron Stewart 38, Paul Ireland 38, Dave Fury 38, Ken Harris 38, Geoff Boyd 37, Dean Morison 37, Victor Joseph 37, Ken Blackett 37, George Makras 37, John Pascoe 37, Bruce Mathews 37, Evan Powell 37, Dale Macklinshaw 36, Ken Springbett 36, Paul Smith 36, Chris Norman 36, Anthony Neale 36, David Peel 36, David Blackburn 36, Phil Small 35, Doug Wand 35, Murray Flannigan 35, Greg Ireland 35, Greg Amloh 34, Robert Manderson 34, Ian Newell 34, Dennis Donn 34, Wayne Burgess 34, John McLoughney 33 and Gerry Irwin 33 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Paul Ireland (3rd) Stephen Jurd (4th) Kevin Smith (8th) and Doug Wand (17th). The raffle has been won by Ken Springbett & Bruce Chambers, 2nd to Bill Freeman.

Saturday 18th May: Saturday's Medley Par field were greeted with a foggy start which cleared to an exceptional Autumn day which produced some great scoring. A Grade to Jeff Taylor with +5 with Beverley Park GC Myles Cran-Combie runner up with +4 , B Grade to Peter Puerta +5 from Stephen Clark +4 and C Grade to Mike Carter with +1 on countback to Gary Arnold. Ball winners

were: Steve Piggott +3, Andrew Zok +2, Scott Conti +2, Troy McCord +2, Michael Ervin +2, Dean Morison +2, Trevor Collins +1, Shawn Parish +1, Michael Gilbert 0, Wayne Thompson 0, John Brown 0, Wayne Drayton 0, John Parish 0, Paul Adams 0, Dan Massad v0, Glenn Williams -1, Ken Springbett -1, Darrin Cussen -1, Paul Neuss -1, David Peel -1, Scoot Volwes -1, Geoff Boyd -1, Glen Langby v-1, Lachlan McDonald -1, Ray Newton -1, Colin Somerville -1, George Norris -1, Greg Smith v-2, Bobby Karim v-2, Nic Bates -2, John Robertson -2, Anthony Michael v-2, and Lynette Redmond v-2 countback. Nearest-the-Pins went Kevin Smith, Paul Bullock, Michael Ervin and Ray Newton.

Sunday 19th May Singleton's Greg Noble has won the Weekly Challenge with 38 points from Phillippe Byron nudging Mathew Cluff of Kurri GC on countback after both had 37 point returns. Ball winners were: Craig Dillon v36, Jeremie Morton 34, Shawn Parish 34, Brant Job v34, Chole Smith v33, Grahame Mankelov 33, Greg Greatorex 33 and Joshua Udbinac v 33 c/b

Tuesday 21st May Steve Abel produced one of his best to claim the Tuesday Stableford with 40 points from Bruce Mathews 38 with Darrell Porter 3rd with 36 on countback. Ball winners were: Dan Taylor 36, David Peel 36, Mick Barrett 35, Robert Hannah 35, Wayne Barber 34, Pousang Sihapanya 34, Paul Smith 34, Rod Williams 33, Scott Conti 33, Joe Laughlin 33, Jason McBeath 33, Steven Wright v33, Damien Porter 33, Gerry Irwin 33, Brian Rooney 33, Lindsay Meyn 32, Rick Turnchini 32, Col Bradley 32, Mark Barrow 32, Gary Arnold 32, Barney Wheki 31, Greg Harder 31, Hieu Le 31, Robert Logue 31, Michael Watson 31, Tom Bell 30, Greg Ireland 30, Peter Payne 30, Geoff Boyd 30, Richard Craft 30, Wayne Cowan 30, Jason Capararo v29, Garry Marsden 29 and Andrew Edwards v29 countback. Nearest-the-Pins went to Tom Bell (3rd) Col Bradley (4th) Damien Porter (10th) and Garry Clarke (17th)

Thursday 23rd May The Vets 4BBB Par event has been won by Evan Powell and Rod Williams with +12 from Bruce Chambers and Don Bradley +9 on countback. The Individual Par winners were: Evan Powell +6, Wayne Berry 2nd +3 on countback to Michael Gilbert +3 also on countback. Ball winners were: Rod Williams +3, Robert Hannah +3, Graham Donaldson +3, Dennis Wright +2, Kerry Porter +1, Peter Mathews +1, Don Bradley +1, Paul Adams +1, Kevin Smith +1, David Peel +1, John Stewart 0, Darrell Preston 0, Greg Ireland 0, Stephen Clark 0, Peter Bus 0, Wayne Barber 0, William Davey 0, Ryan Wilson 0, Tom Bell 0, Richard Craft -1, Steve Piggott -1, Victor Joseph -1, Terry Webb -1, Dale Macklinshaw -1,

Robert Manderson -1, Greg Harder -1, Garry Marsden -1, Trevor Collins -1, Ken Wright -2, Ken Blackett -2, Kerry Bartlett -2, Bill Freeman -2, Paul Smith -2, Bruce Chambers -2 and Ken Morris -2 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Rex Talbot (3rd) Kevin Smith (4th) James Hogg (8th) Bruce Chambers (10th) and Peter McIntrye (17th) . The raffle was won by Kevin Gibson with Dennis Donn 2nd. Next week the Vets will play a Medley Stableford.

Saturday 25th May Dan Olsen and Darrin Cussen have won the 4BBB played in conjunction with the Blue Tees Stableford with 46 points from Joel Fitzgibbon and Joe Olsen on 45. The individual event had players struggling to match Par with A Grade going to Steve Piggot on countback after he and Shawn Parish carded 33 points, B Grade also on countback with the only 2 scores of the day better than Par saw Tim Caban get the nod from Russ Calderwood with both returning 37 points and C Grade to Joe Olsen with 35 on countback to Lorraine Clack. Ball winners were: John Chenery 36, Paul Bullock 35, Ken Springbett 34, Graham Morris 33, Jeff Morton 33, Greg Harder 33, Darrin Cussen 33, Dan Olsen 32, Joel Fitzgibbon 32, Bruce Chambers 32, David Peel 32, Paul Neuss 32, Adrian Kent 31, Mark Makin 30 and Bill Mitchell 30 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Jeff Morton, Paul Bullock and Russ Calderwood. Next weeks event will be the Monthly Stroke rounds.

BRANXTON LADIES
15th May 2019 - Stableford Winner: Carol Miller with 34 points Runner-up: Chris Tancred with 31 points Nearest to the pin: Carol Miller Putting Comp: 28 Caren Caldwell 28 Melita Watson 31 Kerrie O'Connell 31 Chris Tancred 33 Carol Miller
Branxton Ladies Golf 2019 Championships A Grade Winner: Melita Watson A Grade Runner Up: Carol Miller A Grade Nett Winner: Caren Caldwell c/b A Grade Nett Runner Up: Kerrie O'Connell B Grade Winner: Ruth McCarthy B Grade Runner Up: Jen Salna B Grade Nett Winner: Chris Tancred c/b B Grade Nett Runner Up: Robyn Hoffman C Grade Winner: Neridah Busch

22 May 2019 - Pauline Thomas Round 2 Winner: Jen Salna on 37 points Runner-up: Trish McMillan on 36 points Nearest to the pin: Tracey Miller
BRANXTON GOLF CLUB
STROKE - MONTHLY MEDAL
48 PLAYERS
MEDAL WINNER - EVAN POWELL - 67 NETT
A GRADE WINNER - DAVID MATT 72 NETT
A GRADE RUNNER UP - STUART LORD 73 NETT
B GRADE WINNER -

FRASER WILSON 69 NETT
B GRADE RUNNER UP - ROBERT HALE 72 NETT
C GRADE WINNER - SCOTT DUNCAN 71 NETT
C GRADE RUNNER UP - MICHAEL CARLING 75 NETT
BALL COMP 77 NETT C/B
Saturday's Monthly Medal proved to be a really testing day for all golfers with the ball competition going down to a nett 77 with the day's DSR being a 70. Only 2 players bettered there handicap across all grades. Evan Powell's nett 67 gave him the overall Monthly Medal, an excellent score on a difficult day. Dave Matt continues to play well winning A Grade with a very creditable 72 nett, just ahead of Stuart Lord with his 73 nett score. Fraser Wilson won B Grade with a very solid 69 nett score, with Bobby Hale playing well to finish runner up with his 72 nett. Scott Duncan made a welcome return to the winner's list, winning C Grade with his 71 nett score with Mick Carling runner up with a 75 nett score. Next week's event is the Sharyn and Phil Baker 4 Person Ambrose which is always a fun event. The Branxton Open is fast approaching which will be held for the first time over two days. Saturday 1st June is a 2BBB plus singles event with the Open on Sunday, 2nd June with many prizes on offer. Those wanting a good tee off time need to book early.

SATURDAY 18TH MAY
4 PERSON AMBROSE
PHIL & SHARYN BAKER
SPONSORS DAY
52 PLAYERS
WINNERS - DAN TURNER/CHLOE COLLISON/BARRY TURNER/MICHAEL SIMPSON 53.025 NETT
RUNNERS UP - DARYL SHEPPARD/CHRIS EDWARDS/EDDIE BARRETT/MURRAY JOHANSON 54.75 NETT
THIRD PLACE - LEE HEUSTON/JOSH TRACEY/ISAIAH WOLFERSTAN/FRASER WILSON 55.5 NETT
FOURTH PLACE - KEL

The team's score card highlighting the hole in one

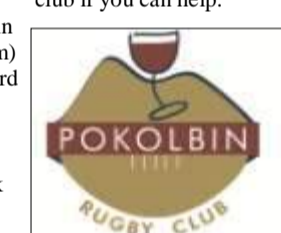


The hole-in-one (albatross) ball - good advertisement for Titleist!

MATHER/CHRIS WEBSTER/NICHOLAS WEBSTER/MICHAEL CARLING 55.75
HOLE IN ONE PAR 4 10TH HOLE ISAIAH WOLFERSTAN
Saturday's 4 Person Ambrose proved to be a very memorable event with local winning A Grade team member, Isaiah Wolferstan, playing one of the shots his life by holing his tee shot on the 10th—a 282 m par 4, surrounded by water, just like an island green. His group couldn't be sure where it landed as it is rather blind from the tee, so after looking around the water hazard, they decided to have a look in the hole, and voila, there it was—unbelievable! From my research this is a 6 million to one shot—this is the first hole in one at the tenth since it was built so Isaiah has earned his place in the Branxton Golf Course history. The day's event was once again generously sponsored by Phil and Sharyn Baker, with the team of Dan Turner, Chloe Collinson, Barry Turner and Mick Simpson winning with a 53.025 score. They are currently proving to be a very formidable team after a recent win in the 6x6x6 event. Just behind them was the team of Eddie Barrett, Club Captain Murray Johanson, Chris Edwards and Daryl Sheppard, with a 54.75 score after having 10 under par and lads of fun. Isaiah's team of former club champion and fellow A Grade Pennants champion Josh Tracey. Lee Heuston (also in the champion pennants team) and Fraser Wilson came third with their 55.5 score—an 11 under par raw score. Kel Mather, Chris Webster, Nicholas Webster and Mick Carling came fourth with their 55.75 score, proving to be a very close competition. Don't forget that the Branxton Open is now only two weeks away. The club's website has the full details but suffice to say there are over \$3000 worth of prizes over the two days, with Sunday being the Branxton Open, and Saturday night's entertainment making a must weekend.

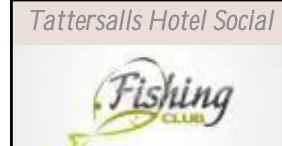
SATURDAY COMP - STABLEFORD 25th May
Field: 48
Grades A Michael Simpson 36
Grades A Stuart Lord 34
Grades A Stephen Kearney 33
Grades B Tom Lundy 38
Grades B Noel Hughes 34
Grades B Reece Caldwell 34
Grades C Darrell Fletcher 37
Grades C Richard Turnbull 36
Grades C Lennard Porter 35
NTP 2/11 A 2nd Joshua Tracey 235 cm
NTP 4 A 4th Joshua Tracey 233 cm
NTP 9/18 B 9th Gary Walsh 46 cm
Balls 14 Distributed down to score: 30
Saturday's Stableford Competition proved to be a real challenge for all golfers on the weekend with only two players, Darrell Fletcher and Tom Lundy playing better than their handicap, and only 30 pts needed to win a ball. Mick Simpson celebrated his A Grade

Pennants winning Presentation night by winning A Grade with an excellent 36 pts from his single figure handicap. This follows some superb play last weekend in the 4 Person Ambrose where his team won, mainly due to his great play. Stuart Lord was runner up with a pleasing 34 pts just ahead of Steve Kearney with his 33 pts. Tom Lundy easily won B Grade with the day's best score of 38 pts with Noel Hughes and Reece Caldwell filling in the minor placings. Darrell Fletcher won C Grade with his 37 pts, a pleasing score as he makes his comeback to golf—look out for Darrell in the upcoming weeks. Richie Turnbull was runner up with a very pleasing 36 pts with Lennie Porter's 35 pts good enough for third. 2017 Club Champion Joshua Tracey showed his class snaring two nearest the pins on the 2nd and 4th holes. The shot of the day belonged to Barney Walsh with his shot finishing only 46 cms from the cup on the 9th hole. This will be the final reminder that the Branxton Open will be played next weekend with a 2BBB medley on Saturday and the Open event on Sunday. There are over \$3000 worth of prizes on offer. All the information for the weekend is on the club's website and the club's facebook page with only a few spaces left. Volunteers as spotters are welcome to assist on Sunday—please contact the club if you can help.



Pokolbin Reds versus Cessnock, Saturday 18th May, 2019
The Pokolbin Reds went down to Cessnock Rugby Union 19-26 in last Saturday's game at Drain Oval. The Mongrels ran away with the first half with 3 tries to Pokolbin's one and showed greater hunger for the ball and field position. At half time with a well worded chat from the coach, the Reds picked up their game and scored 2 tries to Cessnock's one for the second half. The boys showed great tenacity in hanging in there and putting pressure on the Mongrels try line but Cessnock held out well to the final whistle and the game was theirs. A good game to watch but plenty of work for coach Mick and the boys to work on over the next two weeks. Tries went too Shane Doyle, Andrew Orr, Jay Blackie and two conversions to Shane Doyle
Players points went too Geoff Allen 3 points, Steve Lawrence 2 points and Jay Blackie 1 point.
Bye Round last Weekend.

The Reds had a bye last weekend. Their next game will be at home on Saturday June 1st against Southern Lakes.



Tatts Hotel Fishing Club Update

There were no fish to weigh in April but the May 17/18/19 weekend to Sandbar saw a few weigh ins. Judy Masters logged her second catch of the year and biggest Bream to date with a 0.4kg Bream. The competitive Jason "Sumo" Salna was not to be out fished logging 3 Tailor (25.5 points).
Tom Fields registered his first points and is chasing Tyson Nevins lead in the juniors, with 2 Tailor and 1 Bream (35 points). His old man and last year's runner up Troy "tugger" Fields landed a nice catch with 2 Tarwhine (The biggest 0.5kg overtaking Mick Edwards previous biggest), 3 Bream and 1 Tailor.
Membership is down a little on numbers this year but we are hoping that ramps up as the year goes on.
If there is a sponsor out there that would like to sponsor a large Gazebo for the fishing club for these weekends it would be greatly appreciated. We could get your Company Logo printed on it for good advertising. New members are still welcome for \$30 adult and \$50 family, just see the staff at the Tatts to sign you up. Any questions or enquiries please feel free to email Steve.nevin@hvo.com.au or call Nevo on 0457547478.

Local sports results kindly sponsored by

Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate

12 Clift Street, Branxton 2335
4938 3300
M: 0412 566 042
M: 0414 757 826



Has your phone stopped ringing?



You need to advertise your business
Call Mike
at
'The News'
4938 1773

The NewSPORT

Australian 'Title' for Jamie Russell

Jamie Russell of North Rothbury has won his first Australian title of the Australian Scooter Association at the age of 7. Jamie competed in the 2018/2019 season of the ASA in the 7 and under age group. He competed in 5 qualifying rounds which included Warehouse 11 in Artarmon, Slam Factory at Tuggerah and Korrupt Skate Park in Campbelltown. He finished first in every qualifier and made it through to the NSW state titles which were held at Warehouse 11 Skate Park on March 2nd. He also finished first ranking him number one in NSW.

Jamie then progressed through to the Australian titles which were held at Ramp Attack Skate Park in Geebung Queensland on April 26-28 2019.

Jamie came first in his age group with a high score of 221 beating the second place by 23 points.

Jamie is now ranked number one in Australia for the 7 and under age group. His family and friends are extremely proud of Jamie as this is only his second year of riding and competing.

Jamie now has two NSW state titles first places and a first place Australian title and, not to forget, his amazing world record for youngest 'backflip' at the age of 6 years old.

Jamie attends Rosary Park Catholic School of which they are very proud of him.

Check it out on instagram @jamie_russell2012 or search Jamie Russell scooter online.



HOLE IN ONE/PAR 4/10TH HOLE

Branxton Golf Club

ISAIAH

WOLFERSTAN

The 4 Person Ambrose on Saturday, 18th May, at Branxton Golf Club, a small 9 hole course in the heart of Wine Country in the Hunter Valley, proved to be a very memorable event with local winning A Grade team member, Isaiah Wolferstan, playing one of the shots his life by holing his tee shot on the 10th—a 282 m par 4, surrounded by water, just like an island green. His group couldn't be sure where it landed as it is rather blind from the tee, so after looking around the water hazard, they decided to have a look in the hole, and voila, there it was—unbelievable! Isaiah said, "I didn't really think it would ever be a hole in one, the ball had every right to be wet. I hit the ball knowing I probably wasn't seeing it again ha ha!" From my research this is a 6 million to one shot—this is the first hole in one at the tenth since it was built so Isaiah has earned his place in the Branxton Golf Course history.

Isaiah has been a talented golfer for many years. He is currently on a handicap of 3 with his lowest handicap +3 when he was living in the USA. He spent some time in America as his father moved there so he decided to enjoy his golf again—with quite some success, getting through to the match play rounds at the Utah State and Amateur Championships, as well as winning his club championship and points race. His 61 in the Rose Park Pro-Am, his home club, was a testament to his ability.

SATURDAY COMP									
GA White Men					Ambrose 4 Players				
					GA Red Women				
1	Fraser Wilson	2110201862	18 N						
2	Joshua Tracey	2110200935	3 N	3.500	59	8	55.5		
3	Isaiah Wolferstan	2110200482	3 N						
4	Lee Houston	2110200002	4 N						
Pos	Player	Handicap	Score	Net Score	Pos	Player	Handicap	Score	Net Score
1	328	4	3	1	1	PHIL WOLFERSTAN		3	319
10	131	3	2	2	10			10	131
9	383	4	2	3	9			9	383
11	128	3	2	4	11			11	128
1	398	4	4	5	1			1	294
13	465	5	5	6	13			13	465
16	477	5	4	7	16			16	477
1	328	4	4	8	1			1	328
17	131	3	3	9	17			17	130
OUT	2788	35	50		OUT	2388	30		
PHIL & SHARYN BAKER									
9	282	4	1	10	9	281	4		
11	141	3	1	11	11	139	3		
10	331	4	5	12	10	330	4		
7	165	3	3	13	7	167	3		
3	398	4	4	14	3	385	5		
8	508	5	5	15	8	452	5		
16	484	5	4	16	16	343	4		
6	382	4	3	17	6	352	5		
18	131	3	3	18	18	127	3		
IN	2778	35	45	IN	2581	29			
OUT	2788	35	50	OUT	2588	28			
TOTAL	5566	70	95	TOTAL	5169	57			
NET	1038	35		NET	1311	27			
Deduct Daily Handicap									
Net Score									

The team's score card highlighting the hole in one

A-PLUS

CONTRACTING & POLY WELDING

POLY WELDING

EARTHMOVING & LABOUR HIRE

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

www.apluscontracting.com.au