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WEDNESDAY
9 OCTOBER 2019

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Members Well Done say...



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Well Done Not So Well Done



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School NEWS



Branxton 'to the Fore' at Hunter Volunteer Awards

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HUNTER VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENTS (Absent: Mark Bercini & Steve Lind)

On Tuesday 24th September Joel Fitzgibbon, Member for Hunter, presented a number of awards for Hunter Volunteers to honour their contributions to the local communities within the Hunter Electorate.

It was pleasing to note that the township of Branxton was well represented at these prestigious awards. In all a minimum of 6 Branxton representatives were honoured including the following:

- * Lester Bootes for his long term involvement with Branxton RSL,
- * Melita Watson for her untiring involvement with

- Branxton Tidy Towns,
- * Mark Bercini for his involvement with Branxton Rugby League & Cricket clubs over many years,
- * Brian Furner OAM for his commitment to Branxton RSL & Central Hunter Business Chamber,
- * Tony Ernst for his 43 years as member of Branxton Lions with a period of almost 10 years as Treasurer
- * Ronald Hungerford as a founding member of Branxton Lions with 51 years continuous membership.

Those who were present to receive their awards were accompanied by family

members & friends and a well prepared afternoon tea was available after the event.

At the presentation Federal Member for Hunter, Joel Fitzgibbon, thanked the 33 volunteers for their outstanding and selfless contribution to the community. Following the success of last year's inaugural event, Mr Fitzgibbon invited the Hunter community to nominate volunteers who deserved to be acknowledged for their dedication and commitment to their community.

The Hunter Volunteer Awards was attended by

more than 140 people at the Performing Arts Centre, including Deputy Mayor of Cessnock, Melanie Dagg, and Deputy Mayor of Singleton, Tony Jarrett. "The Hunter electorate is without doubt a better place because of the contributions made by our Volunteer Award recipients," Federal Member Joel Fitzgibbon said.

"This was an opportunity for the community to say thank you and acknowledge the generous contribution volunteers make across all sectors of our society.

CONT. PAGE 3

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SINGLETON BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2019 WINNER



**PUBLIC EXHIBITION -
59/2019/2 - DRAFT COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PLAN**

At the Ordinary Meeting of Cessnock City Council on 18 September 2019 Council resolved to place the Draft Community Participation Plan (Draft CPP) on Public Exhibition.

The intent of the Draft CPP is to make it easier for the community to understand when they can get involved in planning matters. It provides guidance on how the community can have a say on the different types of planning matters for which Council is the Planning Authority. The Draft CPP only applies to matters legislated by the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979*.

The Draft Community Participation Plan is on Public Exhibition for a period of Twenty Eight days **from 2 October 2019 until 31 October 2019** and can be viewed at the following locations:

- Council's Administration Building (Customer Service Centre);
- Council's Public Libraries; and
- Council's website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au

In order to be considered by Council, **submissions must be received by 5.00pm on 31 October 2019 and should quote "59/2019/2 - Draft Community Participation Plan"**.

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.

Any enquiries should be directed to Council's Strategic Planning section on 4993 4183.

**PUBLIC EXHIBITION
CESSNOCK POOL MASTERPLAN**

At its meeting held on 18 September 2019, Council resolved to place the Draft Cessnock Pool Masterplan on Public Exhibition.

The Public Exhibition period will be from Monday 23 September to Tuesday 22 October 2019. The document can be viewed at the following locations:

- Council's Administration Building (Customer Service Section)
- Council's website at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au
- Kurri Kurri Library, Lang Street Kurri Kurri
- Cessnock Pool, Allandale Road Cessnock

Written submissions should be addressed to the General Manager and will be accepted **up until 5.00pm Tuesday 22 October 2019** via email recreation@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or post.

**COMING TO A STREET NEAR YOU - PLANNED WORK
ABERDARE, CESSNOCK, GRETA, KITCHENER,
KURRI KURRI, AND POKOLBIN**

WORK: Geotechnical Investigations in preparation for road improvement works.

- LOCATIONS:**
1. **Colliery Street, Aberdare.** between Rawson Street and Congewai Street.
 2. **Buckland Avenue, Cessnock.** between Maclean Street and Burnett Street.
 3. **Henderson Avenue, Cessnock.** between Maitland Road and Ferguson Street.
 4. **Marlton Street, Cessnock.** between Maitland Road and Halcyon Street.
 5. **Macquarie Avenue, Cessnock.** between Sargent Street and Wangi Avenue.
 6. **South Avenue and Snape Street.** Cessnock, between Darwin Street and Vincent Street.
 7. **Camp Road, Greta.** beginning at Mansfield Street and extending approximately 1.4km south along Camp Road.
 8. **Butler Parade, Kurri Kurri.**
 9. **Quorrobolong Road, Kitchener.** between Stanford Street and Mountain View Place.
 10. **Deaseys Road, Pokolbin.** between the Cessnock City Council boundary with Singleton Council and Mary Annes Creek.

TIME FRAME: Mid October 2019 to Mid November 2019, weather permitting.

DISRUPTIONS: During the course of the works, there will be some unavoidable disruptions to traffic and property access. Traffic control measures will be in place to maintain safety and minimise disruption.

INFORMATION: Refer to Roads, Bridges & Drainage on CCC website <http://www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/roads> or contact our friendly customer service team on 02 4993 4100.

We look forward to serving our community with this infrastructure upgrade.

Free mattress drop-off is back



CESSNOCK COMMUNITY PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
PICK OF What's Coming
 www.cessnockperformingartscentre.com.au
 WHAT'S GO TO ON?

Harrison Craig sings Elton John Love Songs – The Piano Sessions

18 October 2019
 Australia's Prince of Crooning and love ballads, **Harrison Craig**, returns in 2019 to embark on a national tour honouring the emotional, intimate and soulful love songs of the great, Sir Elton John.



Queen Bohemian Rhapsody Greatest Hits Tour

11 October 2019
 Get ready, **Queen - Bohemian Rhapsody** will Rock You!



Cessnock City Council is pleased to announce that the hugely popular free mattress drop-off day will take place on **Saturday 9 November 2019** from 8am to 12pm.

The mattress drop-off will take place at the Council Works Depot carpark at 2082 Old Maitland Rd, Cessnock where residents can dispose of up to four mattresses or bases, completely free of charge.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent is encouraging local residents to come along and take advantage of this spring cleaning opportunity. "This event is so popular in our community each year and the best part is, following the drop-off, the mattresses and bases will be sent away where 75% of the materials will be recycled, which is just fantastic."

This event is for Cessnock City Council residents only and proof of address is required. Mattress drop-offs must also be made using a vehicle as there will be no pedestrian access. **If you are unable to attend the drop-off day, mattresses can be taken to the Cessnock Waste Management Centre for disposal for a fee of \$33.**

Photo above: Mayor Bob Pynsent at left with a happy customer at their last mattress drop-off.

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 131 444

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Branxton.....	4938 1244
Lochinvar....	4930 7209
Ambulance	131 233
NSW Fire Brigade	
Branxton.....	4938 3396
Rural Fire Brigades	
Belford.....	6574 7149
Broke.....	6579 1491
Greta.....	4015 0000
Bishops Bdg	4015 0000
Nth R'bury....	4015 0000
Rothbury....	4015 0000
Pokolbin....	4015 0000
Rothbury....	4991 1733
Bishops Bdg	4015 0000
Nth R'bury....	4015 0000
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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
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	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	
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Medicare.....	132 011
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FROM FRONT PAGE

Branxton 'to the Fore' at Hunter Volunteer Awards

"The significant turnout to the Hunter Volunteer Awards Presentation illustrates just how much our community appreciates the hard work and tireless

efforts our volunteers make. "I would also like to thank those who took the time to submit their nominations to ensure the recognition of our local volunteers." Unfortunately, 2 of the 6 awardees from Branxton were unable to attend the award ceremony with work commitments (Mark Bercini) & away from the area (Steve Lind).

HUNTER VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENTS	
Christina Batey	Deadly Cooking, Abernethy Healthy Lifestyle Association
Jamie Bender	Cessnock Hornets and Mulbring Cricket Club
Mark Bercini	Branxton Greta Cricket Club, Branxton Greta Colts Rugby League Club
Lester Bootes	Branxton RSL Sub Branch
Anthony Ernst	Branxton Lions
Rowena Fallon	Abernethy Healthy Lifestyle Association
Brian Furner OAM	Central Hunter Business Chamber, Branxton RSL Sub Branch
Melissa Gontier	Hunter Hands of Hope
Ronald Hungerford	Branxton Lions
Mary Kennedy	Coalfield's Cancer Group, Catholic Church, Masonic Retirement Village, Westpac Rescue Helicopter
Owen Lind (Steve)	North Rothbury Tidy Town
Kim Martin	Mid-Hunter Palliative Care Volunteers
Kellie O'Connor	Cessnock District Netball Association
Mark O'Hara	Wine Country Cricket Club
Colleen and Garry Payne	North Cessnock Community Hall
Heather Phippen	Volunteer Artist, Salvation Army
Melita Watson	Branxton Tidy Towns
Kelly Bell	Soul Café Newcastle, Ronald McDonald House
Isaac Bliss	Southlake Marketplace
Debbie Hobson	Muswellbrook PCYC, Muswellbrook South School Canteen
Denis Lacey (Mick)	Denman and District Development Association, Meals on Wheels Denman, District Rescue Helicopter Support Group, Founding member of 31 years of Local Health Advisory Committee, Men's Shed, Advocate of Welfare and Aged Care, Tennis Club, Denman Creek Group, Life member of Apex Club including 18 months as District Governor
Tracey Marsden	Muswellbrook Preschool Kindergarten
Trevor Parkinson	Muswellbrook junior rugby league and indigenous sport
Jeanette Travers	Denman and District Development Association, Cancer Council, Westpac Rescue Helicopter Support Group, Denman Lions, Meals on Wheels
Shirley Bendeich	Meals on Wheels, Our Care Services Singleton
Elish Coffee	Singleton PCYC
Gary Holland	Dolly's Charity Shop, Samaritans Christmas Lunch, Meals on Wheels, Singleton Anglican Church
Pat Holtz	St Vincent de Paul Singleton
Ruth Rogers	Rotary Club of Singleton Sunrise, Australian Families of Military, Country Women's Association, Cystic Fibrosis NSW, and Integra Assistance Dogs
Michael Stemmer	Darlington Rural Fire Service
Kay Sullivan	Singleton Cancer Appeal Committee
Alona Wyatt	Catholic Church, All Saints Court Singleton



Photo Above: (L-R) Deputy Mayor Clr Melanie Dagg, Branxton Lion & awardee Ron Hungerford, Joel Fitzgibbon MP, Branxton Lion & awardee Tony Ernst & Melita Watson

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Branxton Lions Club welcomes Governor-General as patron of Lions Australia



The Lions Club of Branxton is very pleased to welcome His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley as the new patrons to Lions Australia. "It's fantastic to see the Governor General and his wife announced as patrons of Lions Australia," says Branxton Club President Brian Thomas. "The Governor General the Honourable David Hurley and his wife Linda Hurley are great leaders and are respected by many. It's excellent to have their support," adds Brian. The Governor General of Australia said he was delighted to be a patron of Lions.

"Every day, Lions across Australia go above and beyond to help people in need and make our community a better place to live. From medical research, environmental work, emergency and disaster relief, helping the deaf and blind and supporting our youth, the work of Lions makes such a difference," says the Governor-General of Australia. "Linda and I look forward to working with this wonderful organisation and its many volunteers across Australia," adds the Governor-General.

Branxton Lions Club are local residents committed to helping others and giving back to the community. For more information contact Alan Beckley, Secretary, Lions Club of Branxton on mobile: 0426 261948. Since the first club was formed in Australia 70 years ago Lions has grown dramatically in size and impact with over 1200 Lions Clubs now in Australia including Leo Clubs for young Australians, Lioness Clubs for Women and a range of specialty clubs tailored for specific needs, ethnicities and interests. From environmental work and helping communities get back on their feet after a natural disaster

to assisting the deaf and blind, supporting our youth and a range of ground-breaking medical research projects Lions Australia is an organisation making a big impact. Lions foundations include the Australian Lions Foundation, Australian Lions Childhood Cancer Research Foundation, Australian Lions Children's Mobility Foundation, Lions Eye Health Program, Australian Lions Hearing Dogs, Australian Lions Drug Awareness Foundation. Lions also conduct public awareness work on critical health issues such as blindness prevention, skin cancer and diabetes. 100 per cent of funds donated to Lions go towards funding Lions projects.

Photo at top left: His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley

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STEVE'S RANT



The hysteria produced in young people over the fear of climate change has gone beyond a joke. Advocates of climate change have extrapolated the theory to the point where the extinction of humans is eminent and this must be accepted as a certainty. They do this in the face of evidence that mankind has never before had so many people living out of poverty, in safe conditions and all with a raised expectation of better things to come. The evidence to support the climate change theory is just not there. The headline "SCIENTISTS WARN OF ACCELERATING WARMING OF THE PLANET" is trumpeted by the ABC, the leftist media and the educational fraternity without any attribution as to who these scientists are, no questioning or even explanation of what evidence there is to support the statement. Just simple acceptance that it must be true. Every weather report and every report of a natural disaster not attributable to

an earthquake or volcanic eruption is couched in terms as confirmation that these events are all caused by climate change. The images of glaciers sloughing off icebergs, wildfires, burnt houses, drought-affected land, and the sea flooding low lying countries are shown to reinforce the message of 'Global Warming'. Giving air and screen time to the young Swedish girl, Greta Thunberg, making her impassioned speech to the UN General Assembly is vomit making. Change a few of her words and she could be Adolf Hitler raving on about the threat of Jewry to the world order. Watch her face and animation and ignore what is being said, you can see whatever the subject she speaks about she believes it and can convince adults that what she says is the absolute truth. *Absolute truth* is very hard to find unless we are talking about maths. A sixteen-year-old and absolute truth does not sit well together, no matter the passion, and she is not talking about maths.

People who accept the tenants of their chosen religion find peace and a feeling of completeness which the human condition needs. To have something you can be assured of, like money in the bank, gives a feeling of well-being that many people crave but do not have. So it is; people tend to accept the certainty of Global Warming and the catastrophic effect this is supposed to produce. The desire for certainty over-rides our ability to question ideas the ABC and their hangers-on insist we accept. If these purveyors of doom have any credence there is nothing the Governments can do to reduce CO2 without damaging the economies in any case. If you have young children anxious about climate change or you are worried you can do your bit to reduce CO2 in the atmosphere. The process of photosynthesis uses the energy from sunshine to convert CO2 into complex hydrocarbons and oxygen. This process is performed by trees and plants. As we are told, the Amazon forest is the lungs of the world. That is not quite true but the Amazon with all other forests and sea-dwelling plant life maintain the oxygen levels in the atmosphere. Planting trees and plants or promoting the growth of existing trees and plants in your garden will give you satisfaction and contribute to the removal of CO2 from the atmosphere. But you need not be confined to your garden. Braxton has vast areas along the railway and expressway corridors which were revegetated lightly with a variety of native plants. There is much room to increase the density of vegetation by planting additional trees and shrubs. The suggestion is you claim a little area and plant with native species then follow

up with watering when needed. Involving children in this will promote their interest in trees and the environment which can only be of benefit to everyone. There is the wonderful story of an old Frenchman when walking his dog each day would take a pocket full of acorns and plant them as he went. The area he walked is now an oak forest. Similar stories have occurred in Australia. After the 1939 Black Friday fires in Victoria, school children were bussed into the burnt-out area to plant new trees. Now when you drive over the Black Spur out of Healesville you see the trees, almost as big as the skeletons of the old growth. If you are not prepared to plant something then don't mention climate change.

Cheers, Steve



with Mike Lowing

OUR next edition will be in three weeks time instead of the normal 2-week interval the 30th October 2019 not the 23rd October 2019. I hope this does not inconvenience anyone.

I haven't had a dutiful whinge for sometime but last week I did get annoyed when looking for some treats for our pet dog ... or should I say my pet dog when she misbehaves. It is bad enough when a whole lot of our clothing, electrical goods, souvenirs,



you name it, are made in China or other Asian countries. But it is disgusting when even pet treats are in a packet that says "Australian owned and operated", yet the product is made in China. Why is it that even pet treats have to be made in China? Aren't there any companies or organisations that are capable of making decent pet treats here in Australia? I am sick of not being able to find fully made, fully grown, fully Australian items in our shops. Why not just call this country the dumping ground for other countries? And what has happened to the so-called truth in labelling? Labels are meant to indicate how much of the product was truly Australian made, with a prominent statement

as to where the rest of the product was from. This has not happened, at least not as far as I can see when I am shopping. ... feel better now.

The local business chamber & the Hunter Multicultural Communities Inc coming Silky Oak Festival (9 & 10 November), which is a celebration of the long gone Greta Army Camp & Migrant Camp, is only 4½ weeks away. After months & months of organising/planning the 2-day event will be something not to be missed. The celebration will be officially opened by the Governor General on the Saturday & will feature a military parade, military displays with tanks & armoured/military vehicles,

military displays, light horse demonstrations, helicopter & aircraft fly-overs, massed pipes drums & brass bands, ethnic dancing & music, cultural demonstrations, food stalls & wine tasting, market stalls, international flavoured food vans & a 'kids fun zone'. It will be family friendly being an alcohol free zone. Tickets are available online if you go to www.gretaarmycamp.com.au The 2-day festival will be held on the original site of the migrant/army camp on Camp Road Greta. Family day tickets are \$45, vets & pensioner day tickets \$10, adult day ticket \$15 & children \$10.

Cheers, Mike



Lithium discovery can be turned into a gold mine

Reports of the discovery of a new lithium province in North Queensland are exciting for both the state and the country. It's a great development for the mining sector, the manufacturing sector and, possibly, the agriculture sector. The mining industry has been the backbone of the Australian economy for a long time. Notwithstanding the boom-bust cycle, mining has been a major generator of jobs, a magnet for infrastructure investment and a provider of huge amounts of tax revenue. In my own electorate in the Hunter Valley, the ABC's early-morning traffic report each day begins in the township of Singleton, where the traffic nightmare is generated by the coal-mining industry. Like so many regions across the country, mining has brought wealth to local communities we could otherwise only have dreamt of. We all want our country to be one which continues to make things. Too many of our mining products leave our shores without any value-add. Yet almost everything we use each day - our white goods, mobile phones, computers and television sets - requires the strategic metals we mine in the manufacturing process. Lithium is used in a large range of products including batteries, armourplating and even pacemakers. The presence of potash fertiliser in the North Queensland deposit will be good news for our farmers and will do its bit to strengthen the economics of the mining venture. In Australia, we can and must do better to fairly and safely exploit our natural position as a resources superpower. The North Queensland lithium province should spur us to add more value to the raw product here in our own country. *Joel Fitzgibbon MP Member for Hunter Shadow Minister for Agriculture & Resources*



Alligator weed infestation in Braxton and North Rothbury Village is now

beyond the pale. This is a declared noxious weed and is the responsibility of every land owner and resident to eradicate, or as they say in Dr Who - EXTERMINATE EXTERMINATE!! To control the weed, which is heavily seeded right now, it is best not to mow until you have physically removed the plant and its tap root from the ground.





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

or

emailed to

thenews@hotkey.net.au

When doing this care needs to be taken that you gather all the seeds you can with the weed and dispose of it in the land fill bin. (Red one) Do not put the weed or its seeds into the green waste bin. We don't want to take the risk of spreading this weed to others people's gardens or property. The weeds are easily identified by the white pom pom seed heads, now is the time to tackle your infestation. Use a garden fork to dig into the centre of the weed and recover as much of the tap root and seeds as possible, FYI and I hope quick action, *Steve Lind, North Rothbury.*

Cessnock Performing Arts Centre recognised at Business Excellence Awards



afield from areas including Singleton, Maitland, Newcastle and Lake Macquarie. Not only does the CPAC offer a fantastic program of performances throughout the year, the team is also committed to working closely with the community. CPAC is home to the Cessnock Senior Citizens Association, The Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society, Hunter Drama and works with a number of local schools and dance schools to present their major performances and concerts. The CPAC staff are also responsible for producing major events on behalf of Council, such as Spring Awakening, Carols in the Park and Australia Day as well as partnering with other Council departments and the community for NAIDOC Week, Seniors Festival and Youth Week. Cessnock Performing Arts Centre has developed strong ties with the community, at large, and has a solid reputation as a cultural facility providing a program of professional arts events and performance experiences by leading Australian and International companies. Cessnock Performing Arts Centre offers a range



The Cessnock Performing Arts Centre (CPAC) was awarded Highly Commended in the Hospitality and Tourism category at the 2019 Hunter Region Business Excellence Awards held last week.

This was the 26th year these prestigious awards have taken place and the CPAC is no stranger to being recognised, having won the Customer Service category in 2018. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent said the CPAC is a wonderful community facility and the staff consistently go above and beyond what

is required of them. "I can't speak positively enough about the CPAC, the facility is an asset to our region as people come from all over for both the fantastic shows and the quality customer service they receive." "On behalf of Council, I would like to congratulate the entire CPAC team for this recognition," added Cr Pynsent. Since opening in 2008, the centre has developed a strong reputation as it draws its audience from the Cessnock Local Government Area and further

of partnership and sponsorship opportunities for cash and in-kind sponsorships with a range of benefits tailored to suit the particular needs of each sponsor. Sponsorship benefits include:
 * Invitations to the annual season launch and other special events
 * Opportunity to host exclusive post show events attended by the cast
 * Acknowledgment on a designated panel located in the foyer
 * Acknowledgment in the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre mar-

keting collateral including; advertising, website, newsletters and season brochures
 * Discounted tickets for staff and clients

If you are interested in learning more about partnering opportunities, please download their Sponsorship and Partnership Guidelines or contact Vicki Sienczuk, the Centre Coordinator on 4993 4266 or via email vicki.sienczuk@cessnock.nsw.gov.au

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SINGLETON SHIRE LANDCARE

Bio Workshop
 20 October 2019 9.30am - 12pm
 Catherine Vale Wines
 656 Milbrodale Rd, Fordwich

Biosecurity Biocontrol Biodiversity

Paul Melehan, Upper Hunter Landcare Coordinator, will discuss ways to identify and control some invasive weeds and things you need to know about biosecurity on your property. Priority weeds include tiger pear, madeira vines, african love grass, tree of heaven, bridal creeper, paramatta grass and lantana.

Roy Palmer, local landowner will discuss the value of biocontrol and some alternate ways to control weeds from his experiences.

Rose Porter, Biodiversity Conservation Trust, will discuss the assistance available to help control weeds to help you improve biodiversity and how to establish a protected conservation area on your property.

Bring a weed for identification
 Enjoy delicious morning tea

\$5 Attendance fee to secure your space
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https://20_oct_bio.eventbrite.ie
 Ph 0429 444 305. Email: lowerhunterlandcare@gmail.com

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REFLECTIONS

"How grateful are we for the gifts we receive?"

Being separated from family and community is something that many people today experience. The separation may be because of choices we have made about where we live or where we work. At least we have a say about these things. But what about people who are separated for health reasons? As health declines, there are so many of our family that need to be in care. This is always a tough decision by families and medical experts ... how much say does the person who needs the care have? And what about others who are separated from their family and community by disease or conditions that stop them from being able to participate in 'normal' lives? Surely, they too would choose better health and the ability to participate?

This is where we meet Jesus in the Gospel this week. His journey to Jerusalem is continuing and He is getting close to His destination. He entered a village, in the region between Samaria and Galilee, and ten lepers approached Him, mindful of keeping their distance as required by the Law. They called to Him "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" (Luke 17.13) Jesus saw them and He responded by telling them "Go and show yourselves to the priests. And as they went, they were made clean." (Luke 17.14) Ten lepers were made clean, but only one, the Samaritan, when realising what had occurred, turned, praised God and thanked Jesus.

I wonder which surprises us the most in this parable? The one person who came back and thanked Jesus for the blessing of healing? Or the nine that didn't come back? One man made a faithful response to God, being grateful for the gift he had received.

How often do we thank God for the blessings that we receive in our own lives? Would we be the one? or amongst the nine? Do we feel entitled to health, happiness and every possible comfort? These are gifts, given from God. Are we grateful for the gifts that God gives us? And do we remember to say thank you? For if we fail to thank God for the gifts of each new day, we are indeed among the nine lepers who were healed. Let us be like the one who returned to Jesus praising God and thanking Him.

Every Blessing
 Reverend Nicole

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Members say



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

On Monday, week ago, Council welcomed new General Manager Lotta Jackson to the team and it has been a very productive first couple of days. It is an exciting time for Council as we will benefit from Lotta's extensive local government experience, spanning over 20 years. It is a big move for Lotta as she most recently finished up as the General Manager of Norfolk Island Regional Council. Lotta has held executive positions at Tenterfield Shire Council and Glen Innes Severn Council. Lotta has the proven ability to lead organisations. She is passionate about community and is dedicated to driving positive change. Lotta has a broad range of skills and a genuine focus on community. I look forward to working with Lotta to achieve for the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA).

October is National Safe Work Month which is an opportunity to celebrate that Australia is one of the safest places in the world to work. It allows us to look at how we can all do our bit to make our workplaces even safer. Creating a healthy, safe environment and a culture of care is a key goal for us here at Council. We aim to ensure workers are safe all year round, but it is always good to be reminded about the importance of workplace health and safety. Our staff will be participating in a range of events and activities this week. I encourage all work places in the Cessnock LGA to consider how they can improve work health and safety in the workplace. Remember this is not only about physical safety but about personal wellbeing. Congratulations to the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre (CPAC) who was awarded Highly Commended in the Hospitality and Tourism category at the 2019 Hunter Region Business Excellence Awards. CPAC is a wonderful community facility and the staff consistently go above and beyond to deliver for the community. The facility is an asset to our region as people come from all over for both the fantastic shows and the quality customer service they receive.

Council is calling on the community to have their say on the draft Cessnock Pool Masterplan which is now on

public exhibition. The draft Masterplan includes the construction of a splash park, construction of a program pool, solar heating, relocated heat pumps, additional seating and more shade. Council's long term strategic plan is to provide the community with a bigger and better facility, however we want to ensure the current facility is meeting our community's needs now. To get a better understanding of the vision view the video on Council's website that shows what the Cessnock Pool could look like www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/community/exhibition/cessnockPoolMasterplan. Congratulations to Councillor Melanie Dagg, who was elected to the position of Deputy Mayor for her second term receiving unanimous support from her fellow Councillors. It is no surprise Cr Dagg stood unopposed and received overwhelming support from her colleagues as during her first term she demonstrated commitment to community and has done an outstanding job.

Cheers, Bob



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

The announcement of a further 13 councils added to the list of those eligible for funding under the Federal Government's Drought Communities Program helped to draw national attention to the plight of primary producers right here in the Singleton local government area, but unfortunately in the worst possible way.

As an area built on agriculture and primary industries, and with farmers doing it just as tough as their counterparts in other parts of Australia including neighbouring Muswellbrook, it beggars belief that the Federal Government could have overlooked us. Again, Member for Hunter Joel Fitzgibbon MP was quick to react after last month's announcement, and I was happy to represent our farmers in media coverage that stretched across Australia.

But the most direct action I took was to write to the Prime Minister Scott Morrison to re-issue an invitation to visit our area. Because while rainfall figures may not be a convincing enough case that our people need support, then perhaps the sight of their brown pastures and

their stories of hardship will tip the scales.

The Drought Communities Program is a wonderful initiative to support regional areas affected by drought. In my letter to Mr Morrison, I respectfully submitted it would be a warranted demonstration of support for Singleton to be recognised under the program to provide funding to improve the community's resilience to drought into the future. Further, Council has projects in planning that can be done to support drought-affected properties to develop and enhance drinking water assets, to build longer-term resilience and redundancy so that when the next dry spell comes, the impacts will not be so pronounced.

The prosperity reaped from the land in the Singleton local government area helped to build the nation of Australia, which is faithfully recorded in the stories of farmers stemming back to Benjamin Singleton himself. As we prepare to mark the bicentenary of European exploration and the subsequent development of agriculture in the reaches of the mid Hunter Valley, it is my hope the Federal Government will recognise the farmers in our area are equally deserving of government assistance during this time of significant hardship, and reconsider Singleton's status under the Drought Communities Program.

Cheers, Sue



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP
Member for Upper Hunter

LOCAL STARTUPS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR MINIMUM VIABLE PRODUCT GRANTS

Upper Hunter electorate business startups that are developing new products are invited to apply for Minimum Viable Product (MVP) grants of up to \$25,000 from the NSW Government. Applications for the 2019/20 financial year are now open and eligible local companies are encouraged to apply. This is a great opportunity for innovative local businesses to get assistance from the NSW Government to help fund the development of new technologies. To be eligible for a grant NSW startups need to be at pre-revenue stage and have the rights to a prototype technology that has business potential to grow. Successful applicants can get matched funding for up to half the cost of their project

up to a maximum of \$25,000 to help develop their prototype and assess the market potential for it. I encourage our Upper Hunter electorate entrepreneurs to take a good look at this opportunity and how it could potentially help them realise their business goals.

MVP grants are open to startups that are developing new products that are enabled by technology and that are backed by sound business plans and are scalable for future growth. This funding will help startups develop their solution to a point where it can be successfully demonstrated to potential paying customers.

For further information and to apply for a Minimum Viable Product grant visit <https://www.jobsforNSW.com.au/mvp>



Cr Ben Mitchell - Maitland City Council - West Ward

Reflecting on Restrictions

As of Monday the 16th of September, Maitland and the Lower Hunter has been put on Level 1 water restrictions for the first time in 25 years. How we got here is hardly a matter of debate: low and an unreliable level of rainfall for a prolonged period is the main factor. Debate has also raged about why, where and how more dam and water infrastructure should have been built to better prepare for the situation much of NSW now finds itself in. I suspect that will continue to be debated for a long time to come.

In this week's column I intend to help clarify a few misnomers about the here and now. That is: what are the current restriction levels for Maitland, and how does it affect households?

As I said, Maitland is now on Level 1 water restrictions. These restrictions mean that all outdoor watering should be done before 10am and after 4pm. There is no hosing down of hard surfaces like driveways; you must wash your car on the grass using a trigger nozzle rather than an open ended hose; and households cannot use sprinklers to water gardens. Watering your lawn or garden can be done either with a trigger nozzle on the hose, or using drip irrigation systems.

You are not permitted to use sprinklers, leave taps or hoses running unattended, or hose off hard surfaces. Hunter Water has also put out a number of sensible tips such as aiming for four minute showers, waiting for a full load before putting the dishwasher or washing machine on, and using a pool cover to help reduce evaporation from your pool or spa.

These restrictions will help delay more severe limitations on households and businesses

in the event of continued drought. Please consider how you can further contribute to conserving our most precious resource. Let's all hope for decent rain soon.

Until next time, Ben



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP
Member for Hunter

In war they call it "blue on blue", when soldiers accidentally fire on their own. Never have I heard a politician so publicly and so viciously attack another from the same political party, as NSW Agriculture Minister Adam Marshall did on radio this week. His tirade against Federal Drought Minister David Littleproud reflects the frustration in our community over the Morrison Government's drought response, or lack of it.

Following a visit by David Littleproud to Inverell in Adam Marshall's electorate, the senior state MP said of David Littleproud that he'd "had a gutful of him mouthing off all of the time", and that "he flies in on his big aeroplane, out to the regions like Inverell, offers nothing, blames everyone else, hops back on the plane and flies somewhere else." Ouch.

It was a bad week for the Government in the bush, beginning with the revelation that \$1 million in drought assistance funding had been misallocated to a Shire in Victoria which the recipient Council said is not in drought. Photographs circulated subsequently confirmed it and Singleton residents were right to be angry having been left out of the same drought assistance list.

Later in the week, Treasurer Josh Frydenberg joined David Littleproud on a drought tour in Queensland. The Prime Minister asked his senior ministers to get out and about to secure a better understanding of the severity of the crisis. It was an important thing for Josh Frydenberg to do, we were told, because he's in charge of the Budget. But it all went terribly wrong when in answering a question during a press conference, Frydenberg was forced to admit he hadn't read the report submitted by the Coordinator-General for Drought, Major General Stephen Day.

The Government has had Major General Stephen Day's report for six months but refuses to make it public. Why? We don't know. We do however know that along with the so-called Drought Task Force, which was established within the Prime Minister's office and led by Major General Stephen Day, the exercise cost taxpayers \$5.6 million. Surely we all have a right to read it. The revelation that the Treasurer has not read the report suggests his drought tour was

more of a photo opportunity than a meaningful information gathering exercise.

Unfortunately the bad week didn't end there. On Sunday morning David Littleproud appeared on the ABC's *Insiders* program. There Fran Kelly pressed the Minister for an explanation for the Government's failure to produce a national, comprehensive and long-term drought plan. To the surprise of viewers, David Littleproud said the Government is holding back the Drought Coordinator's report and waiting for the National Farmers' Federation to complete its own drought policy, which he said he would then put to Cabinet. He then told the nation there was nothing in Major General Day's report the Government hasn't already implemented.

So one minute it's a secret because it's the subject of Cabinet consideration, but the next minute it's already been actioned. Both can't be true! I spent the weekend on a dairy farm not far from here. What I saw there was confronting. Yet sadly, our farmers are still a long way from hearing a meaningful long-term drought plan.

Cheers, Joel



Member for Cessnock
Clayton Barr MP

WHAT WOULD A ROTHBURY LOCKOUT LOOK LIKE IN 2019?

I had the good fortune to take in the recent Rothbury Riot display at Cessnock Library a few weeks ago. As much as recognising a significant local event, the occasion also got me to pondering a possible modern response to a similar problem. Almost 90 years ago, the world demand for coal fell massively, as an early sign of the coming Great Depression. This decline in demand created the opportunity for the coal mine owners and NSW conservative Government to severely cut mineworkers wages, remove their workplace rights and introduce non-unionised labour to divide and conquer the bargaining power of workers in this, the most dangerous of all occupations.

Coal miners were locked out from their work right across the state as 40 collieries locked the gates, but it was felt hardest by our local "coalfields" around Branxton, Greta, Cessnock and Kurri Kurri. What followed was widespread poverty because not only were the mineworkers not being paid, but they also had no money to spend in any of the local businesses. The State Government planned to re-open the Rothbury Colliery on

December 18, 1929 using non-unionised "scab" labour being brought in from Sydney, due to arrive on December 16. Local coalminers rallied and decided to confront the arrival of any such workforce. The State Government sent in additional police to ensure their plan. The fuse was lit.

Thousands of men descended on Rothbury during the evening of December 15 and early morning of December 16. Quite literally they walked from Cessnock and Kurri Kurri and Weston and other villages, to be a part of the resistance. The clash of angry poverty stricken men fighting for their very survival and police was a tragic conclusion.

I can't help but wonder a number of things. For instance, is it still the wish of mine owners to cut wages, reduce workers' rights and get rid of unions? Is there a chance that the world might decide that they no longer want our Hunter Valley coal and hence leave us in a terrible strife? Would a current workforce (any occupation) be willing to fight for an issue such as wages and workplace rights to the point that it left their family poor and unable to feed themselves? Would a united group of people be willing to walk 15-20 kilometres, in the middle of the night, to defend a principle?

The lockout of our coalminers during this period has in many ways shaped us as a community. Many of the incredibly hard fought and deeply damaging battles almost 90 years ago laid a foundation for the much better wages and workers' rights of today and by one simple measure, as a result, far fewer coalminers die at work. The "lockouts" and the confrontation at Rothbury will be recognised at a special 90th anniversary event at Rothbury on Sunday, December 15 at 3.00pm. Most will be able to drive there on the day.

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.

Check out my website at www.claytonbarr.com.au
Cheers Clayton

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News
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Pharmacist Advice

Healthy mind and older people

Growing older does not mean that you will automatically lose your memory or other thinking skills. There's a lot you can do to keep your mind healthy. Regular physical activity, a healthy diet and mental exercises may help keep your brain and memory working. Prescription medications or disease can contribute to a marked decline in mental abilities. Older people are more likely to take medications for chronic conditions than younger people. In some cases, a drug (or a combination of drugs) can affect your mental abilities. Certain diseases that are more common with ageing, such as Alzheimer's disease, can also be the underlying cause of loss of brain function. Check with your doctor to make sure cognitive changes, such as memory loss, are not a side effect of medication or associated with an infection or illness.

Summary

- * Keeping physically fit, eating a healthy diet and doing regular mental exercises may help maintain your brain's functions, including memory.
- * Prescription medications or disease can contribute to a marked decline in mental abilities.
- * A brain that gets smaller and lighter with age can still function as effectively as a younger brain.
- * Memory loss may be improved by doing mental exercises. Reading newspapers, magazines and books; playing 'thinking' games like Scrabble, cards and Trivial Pursuit; doing crossword puzzles and word games; studying a topic that interests you; learning a language; or learning something you've never learnt before may all help exercise your brain.
- Conditions and events more common to older age that affect brain function include atherosclerosis (narrowed arteries), dementia (such as Alzheimer's disease), Parkinson's disease and stroke.
- Brain changes with ageing**
- Normal changes to the brain that happen as a person gets older include:
 - * fat and other deposits building up inside brain cells (neurons), which limits their functioning
 - * neurons that die from 'old age' not being replaced
 - * loss of neurons meaning the brain gets smaller with age
 - * messages between neurons being sent at a slower speed.
- A brain that gets smaller and lighter with age can

still function just as well as a younger brain. For example, exercising an older brain can create new connections between neurons. Mental abilities may be 'shared' by various parts of the brain so as some neurons die, their roles are taken up by others.

Physical activity is important for a healthy mind

Some conditions that can affect the brain's ability to function, such as stroke, are associated with diet, obesity and sedentary lifestyle choices. Keeping an active body is crucial if you want an active mind. Regular exercise may improve your brain's memory, reasoning abilities and reaction times. Some things that may help include:

- * Getting at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise every day gives your brain an oxygen boost. This means increasing your heart rate to a level where you can talk but not sing. You don't have to do your 30 minutes of exercise all at once, as exercising in three 10-minute blocks, gives significant health benefits.

Avoiding smoking and drinking too much alcohol. Eat healthy food for a healthy mind

Good nutrition helps keep your brain in good condition. Some tips for eating well include:

- * Make sure your diet contains sufficient nutrition and vitamins.
- * Eat a balanced diet and avoid extreme low-carbohydrate diets, as glucose is the brain's only energy source.
- * Eat more vegetables and some fruit
- * Eat less processed food, especially foods that have a lot of saturated fat (like biscuits, pastries, fast foods), salty foods and drinks, and foods high in sugar.
- Drink enough water for your body size and lifestyle. Improve your mental fitness
- Memory loss can be improved by 30 to 50 per cent simply by doing mental exercises. The brain is like a muscle – if you do not give it regular workouts, it will get weaker.

You may want to try the following:

- * Have a social life and engage in plenty of stimulating conversations.
- * Read newspapers, magazines and books.
- * Play 'thinking' games like Scrabble, cards and Trivial Pursuit.
- * Take a course on a subject that interests you.
- * Take up a new hobby.
- * Learn a language or a dance.
- * Do crossword puzzles and word games.
- * Play games that challenge the intellect and memory, such as chess.
- * Watch 'question and answer' game shows on

television, and play along with the contestants.

- * Try hobbies such as wood-work, as they can improve the brain's spatial awareness (knowing the location of things in relation to your own body).

- * Keep stress under control with regular meditation, exercise and relaxation – an excess of stress hormones like cortisol can be harmful to neurons.

- * You can also keep your memory sharp, by getting regular and adequate sleep.

Boost your memory

Being good at remembering something is a learned skill. Some ways you can improve your memory, no matter what your age, include:

- * paying attention to whatever it is you want to remember. For example, if you are busy thinking about something else, you may not notice where you put the house keys.
- * using memory triggers such as association or visualisation techniques. For example, link a name you want to remember with a mental picture.
- * practising using your memory. For example, try to remember short lists, such as a grocery list. Use memory triggers to help you 'jump' from one item to the next. One type of memory trigger is a walking route that you know well. Mentally attach each item on your list to a landmark along the way. For example, imagine putting the bread at the letterbox, the apples at the next-door neighbour's house and the vegetables at the bus stop. To remember the list, you just have to 'walk' the route in your mind.

How your health affects your brain function

Getting older does not necessarily mean that the brain stops working as well as it once did. However, some conditions more common in older age that affect brain function include:

- * atherosclerosis
- * dehydration
- * dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease
- * depression
- * diabetes mellitus
- * heart disease
- * medications – prescribed medicines should be regularly reviewed so that unwanted side effects are avoided, and drugs should be discontinued if they are no longer required
- * poor nutrition and vitamin deficiency
- * Parkinson's disease
- * stroke.

You might be able to manage the things that affect your brain function by:

- * being physically active
- * eating healthy food and drinking water
- * monitoring conditions such as hypertension, cholesterol and diabetes managing your medications.

Upgrade for New England Highway between Belford and the Golden Highway

It has been announced that the upgrade on the New England Highway between Belford and the Golden Highway is on track to start early next year.

Member for the Upper Hunter, Michael Johnsen, said the detailed design for the upgrade is expected to be completed in the coming months and had been shaped by community feedback.

"We are getting on with the job of upgrading the New England Highway to deliver a smoother, safer journey for motorists," Mr Johnsen said.

"This upgrade will provide two lanes in each direction on the New England Highway and a flyover off-ramp for vehicles turning right from the Golden Highway to improve traffic flow, travel times and safety for motorists.

"Minor design changes have also been implemented after feedback during the community consultation process.

"In particular, a new roundabout on the Golden Highway with a connection to the New England Highway will improve safety for motorists turning left onto the New England Highway towards Singleton and provides safer access to adjoining properties."

Early work will start on site in 2020 and this will include relocating utilities and closing the Whittingham rest area.

The rest area will be removed as part of the upgrade

with motorists encouraged to visit the nearby towns of Singleton and Branxton or rest areas on the Hunter Expressway at Branxton and Buchanan and on the New England Highway, north of Singleton.

Transport for NSW will invite construction tenders to build the upgrade in the first half of 2020 and will notify the community of the timing for main construction work. The Golden Highway connects the New England Highway at Whittingham with Dubbo.

These road corridors are designated B-Double routes and are used extensively by heavy vehicles servicing coal mining, grain production and other industries in the Hunter Valley and the Central West to access the port of Newcastle.

The New England Highway is a critical connection between the urban and employment centres of Maitland and Singleton, which are planned future growth areas for the Hunter region.

Around 22,000 vehicles travel along the New England Highway between Belford and the Golden Highway each day.

This section of the New England Highway is currently two lanes westbound and one lane eastbound and has a history of crashes, particularly near the Golden Highway intersection.

Defibrillator grant program

The Local Sport Defibrillator Grant Program allocates grants to assist local sporting clubs across NSW in the purchase and maintenance of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). The program offers NSW sports clubs and councils the opportunity to acquire an AED package for their club or sports facility at a reduced cost. An AED package will include an AED, AED familiarisation instruction and a minimum of six years of essential AED maintenance.

State Member for the Electorate of Cessnock, Clayton Barr, MP encourages eligible applicants to make an application to the Office of Sports. "This program makes sports safer for our local sporting groups and their supporters."

Applications are currently open and will close at 5pm on Wednesday 8 April 2020 unless funding allocation is exhausted prior.

=== Realisations ===

*There is a slim person inside me struggling to get out but I keep her sedated with chocolate. Anon.
I've got it all together and now I've forgotten where I put it. Anon.
When I married Mr Right I didn't know his first name was Always. Anon*

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Ingredients

- 2.2kg Australian Pork Leg Roast Boneless
- 1 tablespoon sea salt
- 4 ripe peaches, halved, stone removed
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon maple syrup
- 100g baby spinach leaves
- 1/2 cup fresh basil leaves
- 2 tablespoons chopped roasted hazelnuts
- 50g goat's cheese

Method

Step 1 ~ Preheat oven to 230°C. Pat pork dry with paper towel. Rub salt over the rind

Roast pork with peaches, spinach, hazelnut and goats cheese salad



and into the cuts. Place pork into a roasting pan. Roast for 30 mins or until rind begins to crackle.

Step 2 ~ Reduce oven temperature to 200°C. Roast pork for 35 mins. Arrange peaches around pork. Drizzle with 1 tbsp of the vinegar and sprinkle with sugar. Roast for a further 40 mins or until the pork is cooked through. Transfer pork to a plate and cover with foil. Set aside for 15 mins to rest. Thinly slice.

Step 3 ~ Combine oil, maple syrup and remaining vinegar in a jug. Season. Combine spinach, basil and peaches in a serving bowl. Top with hazelnuts and goat's cheese. Drizzle with dressing and serve with pork.

The 'urban dream' became real for Hunter Valley local

By Samantha Cooke



into the property through the help of other businesses in the area. From sending his meat to the Kurri Kurri abattoirs, to having local Singleton builders Link Upward develop the timber stage in the bush amphitheater, Clarry thrives on keeping it local. Working in the underground coal industry for over twenty years, he knew he wanted to run his own business.

Saying the way to do that was to jump right in and make the change,

Clarry purchased an old bath house that he found at a coal mine site near North Rothbury in 1989. He moved it to the property, rebuilt it and in 1994, opened it as the Drovers Camp Restaurant. After securing DA approval, he obtained a Public Theatre Entertainment license and started heating up the cooktops. "Been operating that ever since and it's been a great life.. a great lifestyle. Not a big business but a great business," Clarry says. Twenty-five years on, he is still just as optimistic about the property as he was when he began.

However, living in a hyper modern society, Clarry

states that his main issue with exposure is his lack of knowledge of social media and marketing.

He attempted to hold a few festivals however, the crowds didn't come. "Not being an entrepreneur, not knowing how social media worked, I put the shows on and hoped people turned up. That doesn't happen today," Clarry says. "After three or four years of trying, they were great shows but never drew a big enough crowd to warrant keeping it going. So, I stopped doing it." As any good businessman would do, he turned his attention towards the area that was successfully bringing in revenue; private functions and camping. This was when organisers of Branxton's 'Country at the Camp' music festival,

Cass Shoulders and Luke Thrift approached Clarry and turned things around. They held their first festival in the amphitheater in 2015. With its success, they decided to continue as an annual event. The amphitheater is finally fulfilling the dreams Clarry initially had for it. "It has grown since then. Now the Drovers Camp is certainly a lot more known as an entertainment area than it was when I was running it," Clarry says. "The ambiance of the place and the sound that comes off that stage is as clear at the top of the hill as it is down here." Promoting the festival as a laid-back atmosphere, the non-manufactured bush amphitheater, along with great Australian country artists has proved a

winning formula. The fifth festival will be held on November 9, 2019, with expectations of over one thousand people attending. Clarry's ambition for his property is only growing, and with the support of the local community behind him, his desires for his land are coming true. "It's virtually the final stage in life, but it's a great stage in life," Clarry says. The kitchen operates at certain times a year however, camping and bookings for functions are always available. For more information about Drovers Camp, visit 'The Drovers Camp' Facebook page.

Photo top left: Neil 'Clarry' Jones seated in front of his bush amphitheater stage.

History plays a major role in the local community in the Hunter Valley, NSW. With farmland and properties being passed down the generations, the community flourishes on family history.

It can be a rare find to locate a true local. However, Neil 'Clarry' Jones is the perfect definition. Growing up in Glendon Brook with his family, Clarry has spent his entire life in the area.

"I lived at the foot of the mountains there on a dairy farm. Then Dad bought this property in 1973, and moved the dairy down here," Clarry says. "Been here ever since." His 120-acre property is now famously known to the local community as Drovers Camp.

Positioned in the heart of the Hunter Valley, just out of Branxton, it is the utopian dream to those that are enriched by urban lifestyles. Described as 'a hidden gem', the property

features picturesque views, a country-style restaurant, campgrounds and even a bush amphitheater. Each constituent working nicely together, creating a place that has been hailed 'the best venue in the valley'. Being family and pet friendly, it is the ideal place for people to stay while they explore the wineries, attractions and the countryside of the Hunter Valley region. As far as farms go, this one provides comfort for even the most unsettling travelers.

The property is entirely self-resourceful as all produce grown on the farm is used in the fully licensed Drovers Camp Restaurant. Clarry says, "I run enough cattle and sheep to provide my own meat to the restaurant over the years. You have to add value and the best way to do that is to grow your own and support your own."

Being a strong believer of locals supporting locals, an amount of work has gone

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There will be a military parade, air show and pipe and brass bands.



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Our kids zone includes a jumping castle, balloons, clowns and more!



MARKET & FOOD STALLS

Unwind with our international food stalls and local market stores.

Hosted by the Central Hunter Business Chamber and the Hunter Multicultural Communities Inc. This family friendly event on the 9th & 10th of November 2019 will include:

Military Parade / Tanks / Armoured Vehicles / Military Vehicles / Military Displays / Light Horse Demonstration / Helicopters & Aircraft / Massed Pipes, Drums & Brass Bands / Ethnic Dancing & Music / Cultural Demonstrations / Food & Wine Tasting / Celebration of History / Colour, Diversity & Multiculturalism / Market stalls / International Flavoured Food Vans / Kids Fun Zone & More!

This event is an alcohol & pet free zone.




OWEN
Darcy John
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01.10.19
Aged 97 years
Late of Branxton

Much loved brother to BRUCE, MAX, PICKLES and ADELLE. Uncle to their families. "Uncle Darcy" to the family of MAVIS and JOE POWELL.

Family and Friends of **DARCY** are warmly invited to attend his Funeral Service in St. Brigid's Catholic Church, Branxton on **TUESDAY, 22.10.2019 at 11:00am.**

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

2019 ANNIVERSARIES



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.

WORK INJURY DAMAGES CLAIMS



(WPI) as a result of the workplace injury. The worker must have received all statutory lump sum entitlements for permanent impairment to which they are entitled.

* Negligence - For a worker to prove he or she suffered injury as a result of their employer's negligence, they must prove three things:

- * there was a foreseeable risk of injury associated with the work they were doing;
- * the employer failed to take reasonable steps to minimise that risk of injury; and
- * the employer's negligence caused the worker's loss.

If an injured worker can establish that their injury resulted from the negligence of their employer and they are 15% WPI of greater than they may lodge a work injury damages claim. In NSW a worker bringing a negligence claim against their employer can only recover damages for past and future economic loss. They can't recover damages for future medical and care expenses or pain and suffering.

As entitlements in a work injury damages claim are restricted to economic loss,

it needs to be proven that as a result of the injury, the worker has suffered an incapacity. It has to be shown that as a result of the incapacity, the worker is unable to earn the same rate as they would have, had they not been injured.

It is important to note that if the workers compensation insurer accepts liability in a workers compensation claim, this does not mean that liability in a work injury damages claim is also accepted. This is because workers compensation is a "no fault" scheme whereas in a work injury damages claim, an injured worker is required to establish that the injury sustained resulted from the employer's negligence. The legislation sets out the process for lodging a work injury damages claim including the timeframes involved. In most cases work injury damages claims are listed for mediation in the Workers Compensation Commission to attempt to mediate and reach settlement through discussion with all parties. If an agreement cannot be reached, work injury damages claims are most commonly heard in the District Court. Court proceedings must start no later than three years from the date of injury. If a worker recovers work injury damages, that puts an end to their right to recover statutory compensation payments.

Cheers, Kerri

If a worker suffers a work related injury then they may claim workers compensation. If the claim is accepted by the workers compensation insurer then workers compensation statutory entitlements consist of:

- * weekly benefits of compensation;
- * medical, hospital and rehabilitation expenses; and
- * in some cases lump sum compensation for permanent impairment.

If an injured worker's injury has resulted from their employer's negligence, there are certain circumstances in which they may sue for damages, these type of claims are called work injury damages claims.

In order to bring a work injury damages claim against their employer an injured worker must establish:

- * 15% WPI - An injured worker must satisfy a requirement that they suffer from 15% or more whole person impairment

afford a 0.15 percentage point cut — despite knowing for some time the RBA's move was a virtual certainty, either this month or next.

Late into the night, Westpac and ANZ were still tinkering away on their calculators, quietly hopeful perhaps CBA and NAB would attract a first movers' disadvantage in the media, or some global contremeps would blow up and dominate the news cycle. In fairness to ANZ, it popped its head up first in June, offering the stingiest cut and was duly clobbered by all and sundry. It was never likely to repeat that mistake

Mortgage rates back to the 1960s

Despite the kicking the banks will get from a very aggrieved Treasurer Josh Frydenberg, it could be pointed out mortgage rates are ultra cheap, redefining "a 50-year low" with every cut.

By the time the dust has settled, all the big four banks will have a lowest standard variable offer of around 3.2 per cent.

Shop around and you will find plenty of smaller lenders offering a rate starting with a two.

Just as the global financial crisis hit, 10 per cent was the going home loan rate. Around 1990 mortgages were far higher, a somewhat challenging 17 per cent, or more.

However the historic-low borrowing costs enjoyed by Australian home buyers at the moment are positively exorbitant compared to others on the planet.

Denmark's third largest lender, Jyske Bank, is in effect paying home owners to borrow at the moment, with a standard mortgage of -0.5 per cent; now that's value.

Jyske can do this by borrowing money from institutional investors at a negative rate — and there's plenty of negative interest rate paper floating around at the moment, somewhere north of \$US15 trillion (\$22.37 trillion) in value —

and passing it on to their customers, who then can pay back less than they borrow.

The bank clips the ticket with the usual fees and charges, but leaves the customer grunted and still makes a tidy profit on the loan

RBA just about exhausted

But before Australian homebuyers — or potential homebuyers — get too excited, it isn't going to happen here.

The RBA has just about exhausted its cutting options.

Most pundits argue it has another 0.25 percentage point cut left in its almost-depleted arsenal before having to reach for unconventional weapons. The banks are just about exhausted with the cuts too.

It was noticeable that while they passed on around 80 per cent, or 0.4 percentage points, of the June and July cuts, they are far more tight fisted this time.

The next round of mortgage cuts is likely to be leaner again.

Deposit squeeze

The problem for the banks is their margins are being squashed, because at the same time the lending rates are heading south so are deposit rates.

AMP's Shane Oliver said the RBA was unlikely to cut interest rates down to zero or below.

"Negative rates would be bad for confidence and there is little evidence that negative rates in Europe and Japan have worked," Dr Oliver noted.

"[As well,] it's doubtful that the banks would pass it on because they won't cut their deposit rates below zero."

It is that second reason that is causing the banks so much angst as they watch their margins get ground down by the RBA's rate cuts — or the dreaded "deposit spread squeeze". Deposits account for more than half the big banks' total funding. Ahead of the cuts, around a quarter of

deposits were already paying at, or close to, zero interest rates. That will rise to a third in coming days.

The banks' margins contract if deposit rates are lowered by more than the RBA's cash rate.

In happier times for the banks, if they can raise their deposit rates more than the RBA cash rate, their margin expands and they make more money.

However these are unhappy times for the banks and their depositors.

"The major banks' ability to improve spreads on deposits has been a key source of margin support in recent years," Morgan Stanley's bank analyst Richard Wiles recently told clients.

"However, we think it will be harder for the banks to cut deposit rates by more than the cash rate as the savings rate falls and interest rates get lower

On Morgan Stanley's numbers, if as expected the RBA has one last cut, bank margins will fall by another five basis points even if they pass on only half the cuts. It would be much tougher for them if they pass on more.

In other words, the Treasurer can complain all he likes, but the banks won't be passing on anything like a full cut — they simply can't afford to.

Time for unconventional policy?

So what's left? A bit of fiscal stimulus from the Federal Government might be handy, but unlikely given its priority in driving the budget towards a surplus effectively rules out any large-scale cash splash. The RBA has already deployed the first step of "unconventional" monetary policy by giving explicit forward

guidance that interest rates are not going up for a very, very long time.

There are negative interest rates, but not on this RBA's watch.

Money printing — or quantitative easing — which is popular in the US and Europe, has a diminishing impact as interest rates approach zero. It has a nasty side effect of blowing up asset bubbles and delivering greater inequality.

Term funding, where a central bank provides funding to banks at close to the official cash rate, has proven to be successful in the UK in passing through significant borrowing cost reductions to the real economy.

But none of these unconventional measures are likely to be deployed immediately.

Earlier this year RBA governor Philip Lowe reluctantly mapped out the kind of scenario where it could happen.

"If growth is very weak — it stays in the 1 per cent range for a longer period of time — the unemployment rate starts rising, wages growth doesn't pick up and inflation's falling short," he said.

There's some who would argue we've just about come up to that line in the sand, but it is still probably well off into late 2020 in the RBA's thinking.

So will this cut work where others haven't?

So, in the short term at least, the lower rates will help support the rebound in property prices, but that will be balanced in the RBA's thinking about the risk of expanding household debt further.

The question is whether it will flood more money back into the parts of the economy where households traditionally spend and where jobs are created? It is still a moot point.

The average borrower with a \$400,000 mortgage will pocket around another \$440 a year after today's move and something similar, or more likely less, next time around.



Banks aren't passing on the RBA's full interest rate cut, and while the Treasurer might be furious, there is a reason why

By business reporter Stephen Letts

Perhaps it was a coincidence, but as the clock ticked past the deadline for the morning papers' copy, then the production deadlines for the 6:00pm commercial television news services and nothing had been heard from the banks, one sensed they weren't going to pass on much of a rate cut.

To that end, they didn't disappoint.

CBA tweeted a bit before 6:00pm it would hold back around half of the RBA's 0.25 percentage point rate cut — although not in such blunt language.

Depositors would get a rate cut too. That was buried a bit deeper in the release NAB was a bit more cautious, waiting until 7:05pm and appearing to doing its best to dodge the ABC TV bulletin as well. Either that or it took a while to work out it could only

REINSW welcomes interest rate cut



The Reserve Bank of Australia has moved to cut interest rates to a new record low of 0.75%. It's a move welcomed by the REINSW, with CEO Tim McKibbin calling it a win for current and future homeowners.

"This decision to cut rates will come as a welcome relief for homeowners servicing a mortgage.

"Recent Corelogic data has revealed at least 7% of homeowners are struggling to meet their loan repayments right now," says McKibbin.

"This rate slash is also one less economic factor working against people attempting to buy into the property market, meaning more people can realise their dream of owning a home."

Mr McKibbin added that he expects banks to pass on the 25 basis point cut.

"The rate was changed for a reason, the big banks should do the right thing and deliver the full cut to their customers."



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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~~ \$389,000



BRANXTON

OPEN HOUSE

14 Russell Street, Branxton NSW 2335
Saturday 12th October
1pm ~ 1:30pm

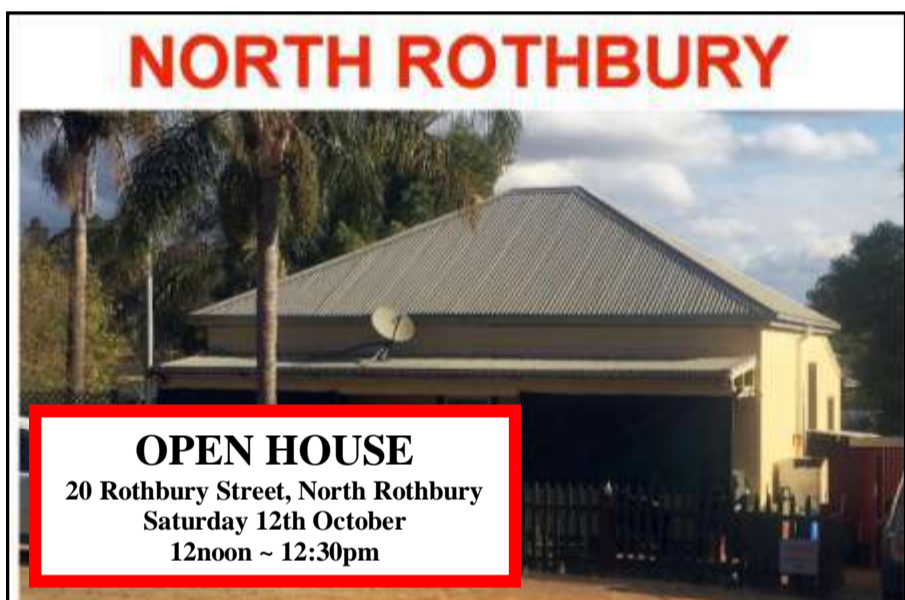
Large modern family home

This charming home is situated in a sought after street in Branxton; handy to schools, shops, golf club and Hunter expressway.

This charming house has all the modern conveniences of today's living; good size bedrooms, office, timber floors, lovely spacious kitchen to die for, modern bathroom and all this opens onto fantastic entertainment area which could cater for over 100 people. Extra unit at rear with own shower and toilet. Still plenty of room for the kids to play or park the van.

Must inspect to see all

MAKE AN OFFER



NORTH ROTHBURY

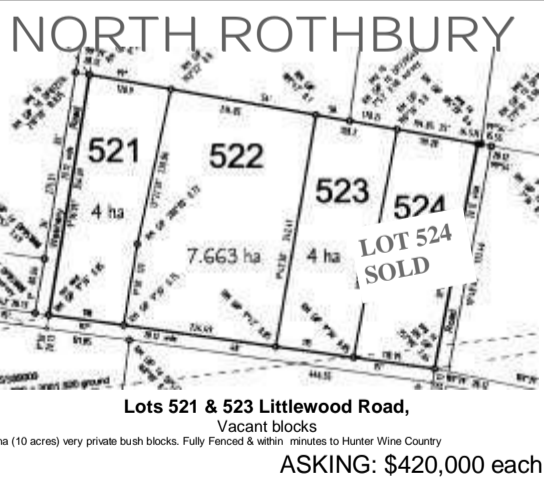
OPEN HOUSE

20 Rothbury Street, North Rothbury
Saturday 12th October
12noon ~ 12:30pm

Old World Charm

That could be transformed into a wonderful family home. All the bones are there. 3 large bedrooms on 809square metre fenced block. Large lounge room with original features and French doors opening onto good decking. *Such a clear slate to work on.*

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Lots 521 & 523 Littlewood Road,
Vacant blocks

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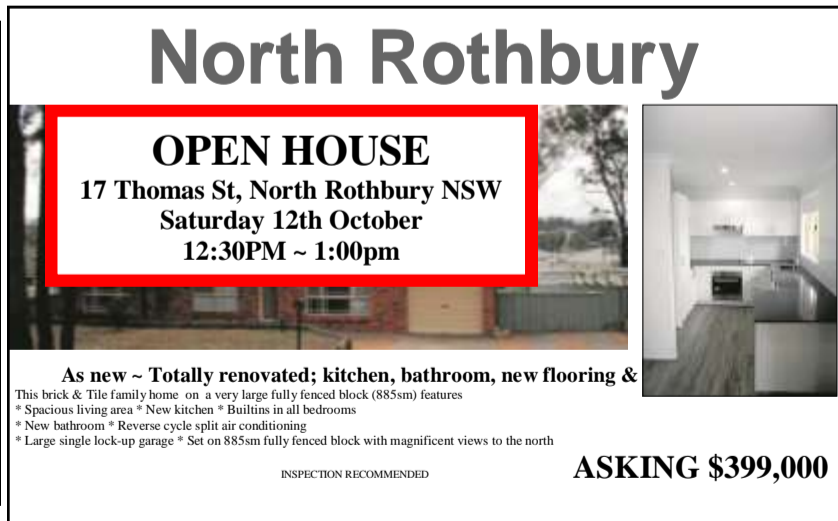


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Low Maintenance 2 Bedroom Unit

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 Stone mantel with low fees. It is currently tenanted at \$290 per week. Situated on a quiet street and conveniently located close to the Hunter Expressway

ASKING \$275,000



North Rothbury

OPEN HOUSE

17 Thomas St, North Rothbury NSW
Saturday 12th October
12:30PM ~ 1:00pm

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

This brick & Tile family home on a very large fully fenced block (885sqm) features
* Spacious living area * New kitchen * Builtins in all bedrooms
* New bathroom * Reverse cycle split air conditioning
* Large single lock-up garage * Set on 885sqm fully fenced block with magnificent views to the north

INSPECTION RECOMMENDED

ASKING \$399,000

Building Blocks

NORTH ROTHBURY Vacant building block ~ 809m²

Vacant Building Block
Fantastic visage

ASKING \$130,000 ono

BELFORD

Vacant Building Block 2559m²

Vacant Land with building approved
Lot 1 DP 1205549
Well over half an acre of good level block.

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NORTH ROTHBURY

Vacant building block

A 809 square metre lot which is relatively flat; an easy build-on.
Wonderful views from the back to the north overlooking Huntlee & the mountains to the north.

ASKING \$135,000



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Something for everyone

As you enter this lovely family estate you will see wide open spaces. 5 good size bedrooms, all with built-ins & main with walk-in robe & ensuite.

There are multiple living areas with a large covered decking off the family area & covered BBQ area.

Other features include ducted air conditioning, all gas cooking, 18 metre shed with toilet & 3-phase power, lovely gardens, water tank & dam.

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A \$350,000 reward for information regarding the hit and run death of 43-year-old New Zealand man Ian Pullen, pictured, has been announced by the NSW State Government.

\$350,000 reward offered

The NSW Government has today announced a \$350,000 reward for information regarding the hit and run death of 43-year-old New Zealand man Ian Pullen one year ago in the NSW Hunter region.

Ian Pullen, aged 43, was visiting as a fire-fighter for the start of the Hunter's bushfire season.

About 5.35am on Saturday 29 September 2018, emergency services were called to Carrington Street, Glenridding, after Ian's body was located on the side of the road.

Inquiries suggest Mr Pullen had been struck and killed by a car between 4.20am and 5am, with the driver fleeing the scene without rendering assistance.

Strike Force Awabakil was established by detectives from Hunter Valley Police District to investigate the circumstances surrounding Ian's death. In acknowledgement of this weekend's one-year anniversary, the NSW Government has announced a \$350,000 reward for information which leads to the arrest and conviction of those responsible. Hunter Valley Police District Crime Manager, Detective Acting Inspector Steve Benson said Ian's family and loved ones in New Zealand deserve answers about what happened.

"Ian was here doing a job - he was here to help our Hunter community during times of natural disaster and crisis. "Detectives have made appeals in the past for people with information about this tragedy to come forward. Today's reward is another opportunity to appeal to those people in the community who have information about Ian's death to let us know. "Someone in the community knows something, and we're urging them to speak up. We want to provide the Pullen family with closure," Det A/Insp Benson said.

Ian's mother Gill Pullen and her son, Guy, have returned to the Hunter to mark one-year since Ian's death. Gill said this past year has been a horrible time for all of Ian's loved ones.

"We never thought the last time we said goodbye would actually be the last.

"He was in Australia doing what he loved - ready to help others at the drop of a hat.

"All we want is answers, and hopefully we get some soon," Mrs Pullen said.

Investigations under Strike Force Awabakil are continuing. Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. Please note you can remain anonymous.

Officer charged - Maitland

Friday, 27 September 2019 04:32:31 PM

A serving NSW Police officer has been charged with multiple domestic violence related charges.

Yesterday (Thursday 26 September 2019), about 11.50am, officers attached to Port Stephens-Hunter Police District and Traffic and Highway Patrol Command attended a property in South Maitland and arrested a 60-year-old man.

The senior constable, attached to Traffic and Highway Patrol Command, was taken to Raymond Terrace Police Station. He was charged with three counts of assault occasioning actual bodily harm, three counts of common assault, three counts of intimidation and illegal access to computer system. The alleged domestic violence offences relate to multiple incidents dating back to 2015.

The unlawful access to police records system allegedly occurred in May 2018.

The man was granted conditional bail which includes no contact with his alleged victims. He will appear at Maitland Local Court on Wednesday 16 October 2019.

The officer's employment is under review.

Man charged after ramming police vehicle near Maitland

Sunday, 06 October 2019 04:44:29 PM

A man has appeared in court today charged after allegedly ramming a police vehicle near Maitland overnight.

Last Sunday 6 October 2019, officers from Port Stephens Police District were patrolling Verge Street, Telarah, when they attempted to stop a Subaru Outback about 12.20am.

The Subaru drove into a dead end before deliberately reversing and hitting a police vehicle, damaging the front bumper.

The Subaru was stopped, and the driver, a 24-year-old man, spoken to. During a search of the vehicle, officers allegedly located cannabis and methylamphetamine.

The man fled after being informed of his arrest. Following a short foot pursuit, officers lost sight of him. With the assistance of additional police and the Dog Unit, the man was found hiding under a nearby house and arrested.

He was taken to Maitland Police Station and charged with negligent driving (no death or grievous bodily harm), two counts of possess prohibited drug, supply prohibited drug, resist officer in execution of duty, enter inclosed land without lawful excuse, and licence expired 2 years or more.

The Rutherford man appeared at Newcastle Local Court on the 6 October 2019 and was refused bail & appeared at Maitland Local Court yesterday (8 October 2019).

Man arrested after two officers stabbed - Lake Macquarie

Sunday, 06 October 2019 04:08:29 PM

A man has been arrested following a confrontation with police last Sunday, leaving two officers hospitalised with stab wounds.

Just before 1pm on Sunday 6 October 2019, police were called to a service station at the intersection of the Boulevard and Carey Street, Toronto, after reports a man was armed with knives.

Officers from Lake Macquarie Police District attended and were confronted by the man, still armed with two knives.

A number of shots were discharged by police; however, the man was uninjured, and two officers suffered stab wounds - one to leg and the other to the hand.

Both have been taken to John Hunter Hospital in a stable condition and will undergo surgery.

The 25-year-old man was arrested and taken to Toronto Police Station.

FROM PAGE 10

Banks aren't passing on the RBA's full interest rate cut, and while the Treasurer might be furious, there is a reason why

The banks' larger June and July cuts haven't delivered much so far, and the law of diminishing returns suggests the latest cuts won't put a rocket under things either.

And as for the vast majority of us who have savings, and embrace the idea of safety in banks, it's probably best not to look at your returns - or if you do, at least contemplate places like Switzerland where some big banks are charging depositors to lend them cash.

Things are getting weird here, but not that weird just yet.

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Things You May Not Know About

with Neridah Kentwell

GRETA & SURROUNDS

The Story About What Became of Greta Council and What Happened Next

(Including when Kearsley Council became 'Red')

On Friday 18th

November 1932, the *Cessnock Eagle & South Maitland Recorder* (NSW: 1913-1954) reported that the Kearsley Shire Council had received a letter from the Greta Municipality Council asking for a portion of the unemployed relief grant in order to help assist the unemployed of the Greta area. The letter mentioned a recent visit by Kearsley Shire engineer, Mr F J Shine, who talked of a road planned from Anvil Creek to link up with Cessnock Road scheduled by the council, which could be used for work that 'would be beneficial for both sections of the unemployed.' The missive was duly received. This application was a sign of how desperate the situation was in Greta in the Great Depression, as there was practically no one working (most were coal miners) and in a position to continue to pay their rates.

On Friday 3rd February 1933 the *Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate* (NSW: 1876-1954) reported the Department of Local Government had forwarded copies of the Government Gazette notice of a proposal to unite Greta Municipality and Kearsley Shire, 'and constitute the united area as a shire.'

In the *Maitland Mercury* on 17 May 1933, the paper included a letter with reasons listed (sent to East Maitland Council by Greta ex-mayor, Thomas H Walton) why Greta Municipal Council should not be absorbed by Kearsley. These

included the potential for smaller councils to be pushed out in the quest for centralisation, the fact that Greta was a 'well laid out town' because all the aldermen lived in the town, and Greta did not owe thousands, in fact (he said) they had assets of over £2000 and liabilities of only £100. Walton suggested government should amend the Act and allow small councils have a part-time clerk to save costs in a depression and said Kearsley Shire would charge more for rates. The communication was received.

On the 29 August 1933, the *Cessnock Eagle and South Maitland Recorder* reported a preliminary conference, in connection with the proposed amalgamation of Greta Municipality with Kearsley Shire, which was held in the Greta Municipal Chambers. The outcome was that the business would be continued at a later date and the result submitted to the Local Government Department. A draft agreement for the amalgamation of the two councils was then presented at the Greta Municipal Council meeting and was reported in the *Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate* on 21 September 1933. It was stated that the Mothers Club Soup Kitchen, then controlled by Greta Council, had a credit of £8/5/8, that council had secured an additional amount for the present overdraft until December 1933 from the Commercial Bank, there was very little chance that the local quarries would re-open, the position of Greta compared to the rest of the population in the state pro rata was unparalleled as it depended entirely on the coal mining industry and there was a large amount of rates and sanitary fees outstanding showing a marked increase during the last six months.

On 20 October 1933, as reported in the *Newcastle*

Morning Herald and Miners Advocate, the Deputy Mayor (Ald. O. Clarke) stated that he and the Town Clerk had signed an agreement regarding the union of the Greta municipal area with Kearsley Shire and had sent it on to Kearsley Shire Council for completion before forwarding it to the Local Government Department. The Deputy Mayor also reported that the council had applied for the emergency relief scheme to be introduced to the area and it was receiving consideration by the Minister for Labour & Industry, Mr J M Dunningham.

In early January 1934, the *Newcastle Morning Herald and Miners Advocate* and the *Maitland Daily Mercury* (NSW: 1894-1939) both reported the first meeting of the provisional Greta-Kearsley Council, which had been appointed by Mr E S Spooner, Minister for Local Government. When it came to electing a new president, each candidate received four votes so they went into a hat and Councillor J Rose, who had been the retiring president of Kearsley Shire, was appointed. On the 23rd January, A Mr. Watton, a Greta rate payer, wrote a letter to the *Newcastle Morning Herald* to complain that there were no selected Greta men present at this meeting, whereas they could have easily elected two to attend.

At a well-attended Greta Dole Workers Association meeting in Greta, reported by the *Maitland Daily Mercury* on June 11 1934, the Chairman of the meeting said the two councillors, President J Rose and Councillor Collins, were invited to the meeting in order to ask why they voted against the additional 6d an hour that was due to the men engaged on main road works. A Mr Burns accused Kearsley Council of being, while professing to be Labour, directly opposing to Union principles i.e. the non-payment of award rates and conditions. The councillors replied that the loan money promised and arranged for, for the work, had as not yet been received by the shire council. They promised that, when it was at their disposal, the award rates would be paid on that particular class of work. After many questions answered it was carried unanimously that 'the explanation of the councillors be received as unsatisfactory', and a motion of no confidence carried in Councillor Collins, as he refused to pledge himself to obtain the 6d per hour increase for the men, although he had



'gone into Kearsley Council on the Labour ticket'.

An interesting article was written for the University of New South Wales School of Social Work by Martin Mowbray, covering a period of the Kearsley Shire entitled 'The Red Shire of Kearsley, 1944-1947: Communists in Local Government'. It stated it was a report on a largely forgotten local government, the only communist controlled council to have been elected in Australia. Apparently the Communist Party had its greatest numbers nationally, about 25,000 members, in December 1944. At this time NSW local government elections were held and, after a state-wide campaign by the Communists they won a majority of five of the eight seats in Kearsley. The Communists elected to Kearsley included Bill Varty, who was elected shire president over the term, as he was experienced and popular and had previously served between 1930 and 1943, for four terms as president and two years as Deputy President, before he stood on a 'Communist ticket'. Three of the others, the males, all worked in the collieries, and one had been sent from Victoria by the Communist Party 'to help ensure continuity of production for the war effort.' The only female had been District Organiser of the Unemployed Workers' Movement, an activist in the Textile Workers' Union in Sydney and was a leader in local service organisations. The local press and radio even covered the Communists' campaign as extensively as the only organised opposition, the Labour Party.

However, when the Kearsley Council started criticizing the British Government, which was reported in the *Cessnock Eagle*, there was a cry of outrage and other councils saw Kearsley as 'disloyal' with their 'deplorable action' as being an inappropriate intervention for local

government. From then on, every time Kearsley delved into international politics there would be 'a sharp rebuke from one organisation or another.' At this time, of course, Kearsley Council covered a vast area which included Greta, Branxton and Rothbury and 20,000 people, over 1200 square kilometres. Of course, socialism appeared to be the solution for the working-class coal miners of the area and their quest for a just deal through the unions, from their bosses; this was highlighted even more after the Rothbury Riot in 1929, at the end a 16-month lock-out, which saw the unfortunate death of Norman Brown become a symbol of the unfairness of the working man's life.

It was obvious Kearsley was intent on improving the lot of the poorer people in their government when they were the only council in NSW 'to exempt all old age and invalid pensioners from the payment of general rates'. However, they then had an application into State Government to seek financial support to this end, which was unsuccessful. Another example of Kearsley Council's actions at this time was seen as 'In the interests of the elimination of profits and lower prices, Council regularly called for the nationalisation of major industries - airlines, banks, breweries, coal and so on.' They had a determined undertaking of working-class interests and did not acknowledge the many small businesses and self-funded members of their community. The end of their office came at the onset of the Cold War and, after at first being fairly even handed, the press started printing nasty articles about Communism whose source mostly came from the Labour Party. The council was seen as a continuation of working-class struggle on the coalfields. The *Local Government (Electoral Provisions) Act* then made voting at local elections compulsory and

the Labour party eventually took seats from the Communist Party in Cessnock and Kearsley.

In November 1952, as reported in the *Singleton Argus* (NSW: 1880-1954), the people of Cessnock Council's jurisdiction were determined to make an effort to convince the acting minister for Local Government, Mr Renshaw, that they wanted nothing to do with the proposed amalgamation with Kearsley Council. Apparently the Cessnock Municipality had separated from Kearsley Shire many years earlier, in 1926, but the intended provisional council was planned for next year with the combined councils to take the name 'City of Cessnock'.

October 25, 1954 saw an article in the *Cessnock Eagle and South Maitland Recorder* that said the now Minister for Local Government, Mr Renshaw, recommended the amalgamation of the Municipality of Cessnock and the Shire of Kearsley, which he would pass on 'for the approval of His Excellency the Governor'. However, he said there would be an investigation into the best places for the boundaries, before it happened. As the *Cessnock Eagle and South Maitland Recorder* and other local newspapers closed down for a while in 1954 before later re-appearing, there is a shortage of news after that year. As Cessnock was declared a city in 1958 it follows that it probably would have been the year the amalgamation was achieved, four years later.

For more information on local history call into Greta Museum at 96 High Street in the former Greta Council Chambers, open Wednesdays and Saturdays, 11am - 3pm. You'll never know what you'll discover!

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WHAT'S ON



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PRIZE MONEY TO BE WON!



The Australian Book Industry Awards releases 2019 best reads shortlist

Overdue for a good read? Look no further than these top picks!

General Fiction Book of the Year

- Scrublands, Chris Hammer (Allen & Unwin)
- The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart, Holly Ringland (HarperCollins Publishers)
- The Nowhere Child, Christian White (Affirm Press)
- The Rúin, Dervla McTiernan (HarperCollins Publishers)
- The Tattooist of Auschwitz, Heather Morris (Echo Publishing)

Literary Fiction Book of the Year

- Boy Swallows Universe, Trent Dalton (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Bridge of Clay, Markus Zusak (Pan Macmillan Australia)
- Shell, Kristina Olsson (Simon & Schuster Australia)
- The Shepherd's Hut, Tim Winton (Penguin Random House Australia)
- Too Much Lip, Melissa Lucashenko (The University of Queensland Press)

Biography Book of the Year

- Back, After the Break, Osher Günsberg (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Challenge Accepted!, Celeste Barber (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Eggshell Skull, Bri Lee (Allen & Unwin)

- Johnathan Thurston: The Autobiography, Johnathan Thurston, with James Phelps (HarperCollins Publishers)
- Teacher, Gabbie Stroud (Allen & Unwin)

Book of the Year for Older Children (ages 13+)

- Amelia Westlake, Erin Gough (Hardie Grant Egmont)
- Catching Teller Crow, Ambelin Kwaymullina and Ezekiel Kwaymullina (Allen and Unwin)
- Hive, A.J. Betts (Pan Macmillan)
- Jane Doe and the Cradle of All Worlds, Jeremy Lachlan (Hardie Grant Egmont)
- Small Spaces, Sarah Epstein (Walker Books)

Book of the Year for Younger Children (ages 7-12)

- Lenny's Book of Everything, Karen Foxlee (Allen & Unwin)
- Real Pigeons Fight Crime, Andrew McDonald & Ben Wood (Hardie Grant Egmont)
- The 104-Storey Treehouse, Andy Griffiths, Terry Denton (Pan Macmillan Australia)
- The Bad Guys Episode 7: Do-You-Think-He-Saurus?!, Aaron Blabey (Scholastic Australia)
- Wundersmith: The Calling of Morrigan Crow: Nevermoor 2, Jessica Townsend (Hachette Australia)

Children's Picture Book of the Year (ages 0-6)

- All the Ways to be Smart, Davina Bell and Allison Colpoys (Scribble Kids' Books)
- Cicada, Shaun Tan (Hachette Australia)
- Claris: The Chicest Mouse in Paris, Megan Hess (Hardie Grant Egmont)
- Macca the Alpaca, Matt Cosgrove (Scholastic Australia)
- Pig the Grub, Aaron Blabey (Scholastic Australia)

General Non-Fiction Book of the Year

- Any Ordinary Day, Leigh Sales (Penguin Random House Australia)
- Boys Will Be Boys, Clementine Ford (Allen & Unwin)
- Dear Santa, Samuel Johnson (Hachette Australia)
- No Friend But the Mountains: Writing from Manus Prison, Behrouz Boochani, Omid Tofighian (translator) (Pan Macmillan Australia)
- Welcome to Country: A Travel Guide to Indigenous Australia, Marcia Langton (Hardie Grant Publishing)

Illustrated Book of the Year

- A Painted Landscape: Across Australia from Bush to Coast, Amber Creswell Bell (Thames & Hudson Australia)
- Family: New vegetable classics to comfort and nourish, Hetty McKinnon (Pan Macmillan Australia)
- Mirka & Georges, Lesley Harding & Kendrah Morgan (Melbourne University Publishing)
- Special Guest, Annabel Crabb and Wendy Sharpe (Murdoch Books)
- The Cook's Apprentice, Stephanie Alexander (Penguin Random House Australia)

International Book of the Year

- Becoming, Michelle Obama (Penguin Random House Australia)

- CIRCE, Madeline Miller (Bloomsbury Publishing)
- Less, Andrew Sean Greer (Hachette Australia)
- Lost Connections, Johann Hari (Bloomsbury Publishing)
- Ottolenghi SIMPLE, Yotam Ottolenghi (Penguin Random House Australia)

Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year

- A Superior Spectre, Angela Meyer (Ventura Press)
- Blakwork, Alison Whittaker (Magabala Books)
- Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia, Dr Anita Heiss (ed.) (Black Inc Books)
- The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted, Robert Hillman (Text Publishing)
- The Geography of Friendship, Sally Piper (The University of Queensland Press)

Small Publishers' Children's Book of the Year

- Black Cockatoo, Carl Merrison and Hakea Hustler (Magabala Books)
- I Had Such Friends, Meg Gatland-Veness (Pantera Press)
- Rhyme Cordial, Antonia Pesenti (Scribble Kids' Books)
- The Extremely Weird Thing that Happened in Huggabie Falls, Adam Cece (illustrated by Andrew Weldon) (Text Publishing)
- Whisper, Lynette Noni (Pantera Press)

The Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year

- Boy Swallows Universe, Trent Dalton (HarperCollins Publishers)
- The Nowhere Child, Christian White (Affirm Press)
- Eggshell Skull, Bri Lee (Allen & Unwin)
- The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart, Holly Ringland (HarperCollins Publishers)
- The Tattooist of Auschwitz, Heather Morris (Echo Publishing)

Audiobook of the Year

- Boy Swallows Universe, Trent Dalton, Narrator Stig

- Weymss (HarperAudio)
- Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia, ed Anita Heiss, Narrators Gregory J Fryer, Tamala Shelton, Lisa Maza, Tony Briggs, Hunter

- Page-Lochard, Shari Stebbens (Wavesound)
- The Clockmaker's Daughter, Kate Morton, Narrator Joanne Froggatt (Bolinda)

- The Lost Man, Jane Harper, Narrator Steve Shanahan (Wavesound)
- The Trauma Cleaner, Sarah Krasnostein, Narrator Rachael Tidd (Audible)

The New York Times Best Sellers

Combined Print & E-Book Fiction (22 September 2019)

1. VENDETTA IN DEATH by J.D. Robb (New this week)
The 49th book of the In Death series. Eve Dallas looks into the misdeeds of a wealthy businessman while a vigilante named Lady Justice uses disguises to avenge women who were wronged.
2. WHERE THE CROWD SINGS by Delia Owens (52 weeks on the list)
In a quiet town on the North Carolina coast in 1969, a young woman who survived alone in the marsh becomes a murder suspect. Ranked 2 last week
3. DARK ILLUSION by Christine Feehan (New this week)
The 33rd book in the Carpathian series. A mage and an ancient warrior must stop a threat against all Carpathians.
4. A BETTER MAN by Louise Penny (2 weeks on the list)
The 15th book in the Chief Inspector Gamache series. The search for a missing girl is imperiled by rising floodwaters across the province.
5. THE GOLDFINCH by Donna Tartt (48 weeks on the list)
A painting smuggled out of the Metropolitan Museum of Art after a bombing becomes a boy's prize, guilt and burden.
6. THIS TENDER LAND by William Kent Krueger (New this week)
Four orphans escape a Minnesota school and encounter a cross-section of different people struggling during the Great Depression.
7. THE GIRL WHO LIVED TWICE by David Lagercrantz (2 weeks on the list)
Mikael Blomkvist helps Lisbeth Salander put her past behind her in the latest installment of Stieg Larsson's Millennium series.
8. THE SECRETS WE KEPT by Lara Prescott (New this week)
During the Cold War, members of the C.I.A.'s typing pool aid its mission to smuggle the banned book "Doctor Zhivago" behind the Iron Curtain.
9. THE ORACLE by Jonathan Cahn (New this week)
A traveler discovers mysteries hidden behind seven locked doors.
10. NOTHING VENTURED New this week
by Jeffrey Archer St. Martin's
While investigating the theft of a Rembrandt painting from the Fitzmolean Museum, the Scotland Yard detective William Warwick falls in love with a research assistant.

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

Do you REMEMBER when.....

The news Issue No 53 7th October 1999 Page 14

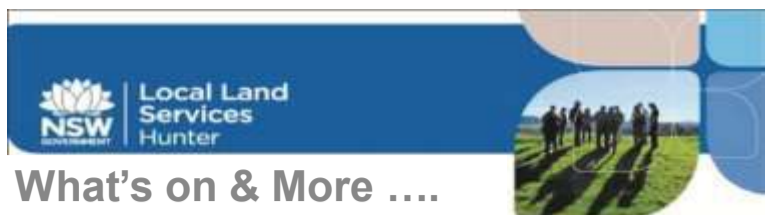
Mayoral visit to Greta

When John Clarence was elected Mayor at the recent Local Government elections he said to me that the first thing he wanted to do was to get to know more about our local area and meet the people. A priority.



Above: (L-R) Cessnock Mayor John Clarence, Greta Tidy Towns Val Randall, Cr Jeff Maybury with helper Emma Randall, Val's granddaughter.

True to his word John came over to Greta last Monday of the long weekend to have morning tea with Greta's Senior Citizens. The invitation was extended by Val Randall, on behalf of Greta Tidy Towns, to both Jeff & John to join the Monthly Tidy Towns Senior Citizens Morning Tea. John & Jeff asked that the invitation be left open so that they can attend the morning teas when ever time permits. The morning teas have been going since 1993& all Senior Cits. are welcome to attend.



What's on & More

Farming downturn leading to upskilling during drought

Hunter farmers affected by the ongoing drought, are taking time away from the paddocks to learn relevant skills and undertake refresher courses, as part of a successful local drought support program. Hunter Local Land Services partnering with TAFE NSW, Training Services NSW and the DPI's Rural Resilience Program created the AgriSkills program, offering a range of local courses tailored specifically for drought affected landholders and farm workers in our region.

With extra personal support on offer, AgriSkills provides an opportunity to get off-farm during the drought and learn new skills in a supportive environment. All fully subsidised for producers.

Regional Drought Coordinator for Hunter Local Land Services, Maria Cameron said for many farming families it has been an important distraction from the pressures of the drought.

"With the drought unfortunately continuing across the Hunter, many producers have chosen to destock completely or reduce stocking rates, which has had a huge impact on not just their workloads, but also morale and day to day activities," said Maria.

"More than 210 locals have now completed AgriSkills courses, in everything from rural welding and fabrication to chemical application and weed identification, and digital farm mapping and drone training.

"We've had overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants, and 98% of the students have completed their courses, thanks to the caring peer environment and extra support being offered by Stuart, Lynne and the team from TAFE NSW, our local DPI Rural Support Worker Karen Sowter and Hunter Local Land Services staff."

It's easy to register and get involved and aside from having your course fees covered, you may also receive relevant Personal Protection Equipment or tools to complete your training as well as an accreditation certificate on completion.

"It's really important to have a chance to get off farm, everyone needs a break sometimes and to be able to meet with like-minded producers has created an avenue for a social outing, that's also a learning opportunity," said Maria.

"You can refresh skills you haven't used for a while like wool classing or first aid, or take on a totally new challenge, as part of our efforts to provide drought assistance and support farm recovery."

Duncan McIntyre and his wife Jill have completed three courses so far, and are encouraging fellow producers to sign up.

"We found this such a great opportunity, it got us off the farm for a few hours each week and gave us a chance to upgrade skills and stop focusing on the drought," said Duncan.

"We were really well looked after, even got home cooked meals, and we built up a strong network of local producers who are going through the same things as us.

"To be honest, it's been a great way to keep myself sane, having something to look forward to each week, and I now have the skills to use the new welder I had bought and wasn't sure how to operate."

TAFE NSW AgriSkills Co-ordinator, Stuart Murphy, said the successful partnership program had already garnered positive feedback, with farmers enjoying the networking opportunities and information nights and requesting specific skills focuses within the workshops.

"Participants have already said that they haven't learnt so much in years because most haven't been enrolled in formal education for a very long time; many have learnt from their families on the farm," he said.

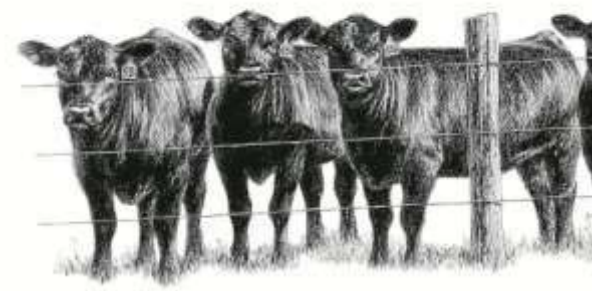
"Now, TAFE NSW Agriskills is opening the farm gate and teaching new relevant skills and safe work methods to pass on."

"We have worked hard to tailor the timing and location of the courses to suit what the farmers want to do in their local community."

Courses on offer include:

- Digital Farm Mapping and Drone Training
- Rural Welding and Fabrication
- Farm Engine and Pump Maintenance
- Computer and Digital Media Skills
- Chainsaw Operations
- Wool Classing Skills
- Chemical Application and Weed ID
- Livestock Nutrition and Assessment
- Farm Business Skills
- Farm First Aid
- MR Truck Licence.

If you would like more information contact Hunter Local Land Services Regional Drought Support Officer, Maria Cameron 0409 636 765 or DPI Rural Support Worker Karen Sowter 0400 869 136.



Detailed Cattle report for Gunnedah

Last reported 24th September 2019

In a sign that the numbers may be starting to settle there was a sharp drop in supply. There were large numbers of yearlings with quite a few having had access to crop. Overall the quality of the young cattle was fair to good, a reduced percentage of really plain quality and condition cattle. There were very few well finished heavy grown steers and a minimal supply of well finished heavy heifers. The condition of the cows varied considerably. The usual processors were in attendance, however there was reduced feedlot competition. Demand for light weight yearling steers from restockers was down. This resulted in those under 330kg selling to a much cheaper market trend, this despite an improvement in quality. Medium and heavy weight yearling feeder steers sold to a slightly cheaper trend, up to 6c/kg with some quality related price change. Medium weight restocker steers averaged dearer with quality a factor. In contrast to the light weight yearling steers the heifer portion attracted stronger competition and sold to a considerably dearer trend. There was also a marked improvement in quality. Medium and heavy weight heifers to feed saw a firm to dearer trend, up to 11c/kg, again quality was a factor. The small number of heavy grown steers sold to a cheaper trend with quality contributing. Well finished grown heifers experienced little but breed and quality related price change. The plainer quality and condition grown heifers attracted keen interest from both restockers and feedlotters to sell to a dearer trend. There was weaker demand for cows of all classes, while there was reduced competition on the well finished cows. This resulted in cheaper trends throughout. The well finished cows down as much as 10c/kg. Quality variations accounted for any other price change. Trends were also cheaper through the bull market.

Detailed Cattle report for HRLX Singleton

Last reported 2nd October 2019

Consignments remained similar to the previous market and the quality remained mixed. There were high yield younger cattle suitable for the butchers, however the majority were purchased by restocker and lot feeder orders. Well finished grown steers and heifers were scarce in the pens, while there were approximately 27 cows offered. The usual buyers competed in a firm to cheaper market. The over 200kg vealers to the restockers sold to a dearer trend, with the steers improving 20c and making from 180c to 270c, as the heifers gained from 8c to 10c and made to 230c/kg. The yearling steers sold 5c either side of firm, depending on the weight offered, with the lot feeders and restockers paying from 176c to 280c/kg to secure their selections. The yearling heifers to the restockers and lot feeder remained firm, with only breed and quality contributing to any price variations, selling from 170c to 246c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers sold to variable trends, with the higher yielding and fresher pens selling well, as the others struggled in the competition. The best topped at 346c/kg. The heavy weight grown steers to the processors made from 240c to 258c, while the heifers sold to 236c/kg. The plainer cows decreased 10c/kg, as the better finished pens trended at firm values. The plainer 1 and 2 scores sold from 70c to 188c, as the 3 and 4 score heavy weights received from 208c to 218c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for Scone

Last reported 1st October 2019

Consignments increased, however numbers were still low, as overall quality and breed also improved, week-on-week. There were percentages of grain assisted younger cattle in prime condition and suitable for the local butchers in the penning, while the bulk of the younger cattle were best suited to the restockers and feeder orders. Grown steers were limited in supply, as were the older heifers, while there were approximately 160 cows offered. The younger better bred cattle trended substantially dearer, as the plainer cows sold at cheaper prices, while the better covered cows remained firm. The over 200kg vealer steers to the restockers gained 30c/kg, however breed and quality did lift compared to the last market. Prices made from 176c to 298c/kg, the latter for the well bred popular breeds. The same weight heifer portion to the restockers and backgrounders maintained firm prices and sold from 170c to 254c/kg. The lighter end of the yearling steers to the lot feeders sold at dearer prices, again breed and quality contributed, as prices ranged from 210c to 302c/kg. The yearling heifers to the restockers and lot feeders also trended dearer and made from 210c to 266c/kg. The prime conditioned younger cattle to the butchers reached a top of 340c/kg. Grown steers and bullocks to the processors received from 254c to 260c, as the older heifers reached a top of 254c/kg. The plainer cows eased 8c, with the D2 pens ranging from 166c to 196c/kg. The better finished heavy weight cows sold close to firm and made from 190c to 222c/kg. The best heavy weight bull reached a top of 260c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for TRLX Tamworth

Last reported 30th September 2019

With the impending long weekend, numbers increased by 600 head. Cow numbers increased and quality lifted for that category, culminating in a dearer trend for the heavy yielding cows. The better end of the feeder cattle also saw a dearer trend. All the regular buyers attended, to see gains in some of the backgrounder cattle. Weaner steers to restockers saw significant increases, along with an increase of 7c/kg for the heifer portion. Yearling steers to feed saw improvements of 20c/kg for drafts under 330kg. Heavy trade steers saw a rise of 15c/kg. Medium weight heifer yearlings saw a modest rise of 4c/kg. Light heifers to backgrounders sold to dearer trends of 14c/kg. Grown heifers to the trade saw a significant reduction in value. Light one score cows to restock and feed cows saw cheaper trends of 10 to 15c/kg. Medium weight trade cows sold to dearer trends, up to 26c/kg. A lift in quality and weight saw heavy cows increase up to 30c/kg for the heavy weights. Bulls sold to mostly cheaper trends.

Chris Waller breaks Australian Group I record with The Metropolitan win

Mitch Cohen

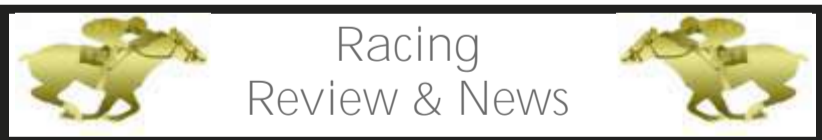
Come Play With Me capped off Chris Waller's record breaking day at Randwick when Brenton Avdulla guided the stayer to a memorable victory in the Group I The Metropolitan (2400m) on Saturday. Waller was dominant at Randwick and Flemington as he became the first trainer in Australian racing history to win four Group Is on the same day. The achievement eclipsed the record of David Hayes, when he claimed three Group I wins on Victoria Derby day in 1990. The premiership winning horseman won the Flight Stakes with Funstar, the Ep-

som Handicap with Kolding while Kings Will Dream saluted in the Turnbull Stakes at Flemington. Waller finished the day with six winners at NSW racing headquarters, winning every race he had a runner in at the venue, and added a further two victories in Melbourne. Waller's only defeat in Sydney and Melbourne came when his last runner at Flemington, Subpoenaed was unplaced in the Edward Manifold Stakes. "It's been a magnificent day," Waller said. "We have a massive team behind us and they put everything into these horses. "Whether it be a maiden at Moe or Kembla or wherever it may be. "Having multiple runners in these big races. No stone is left unturned. I'll emotional



from time to time for my team. "It is a pretty special day and it has been shared around. Yes we have all the big owners around the world that we train for. It is just fantastic for so many people to share in this. "I appreciate all their support. Likewise for Adam Durrant for sending him over here. That is quite a privilege to get a horse of his calibre."

Waller won The Metropolitan twelve months ago with Patrick Erin and fielded five runners in the race in 2019 including the defending champion. The market had Come Play With Me as his second seed at \$8.50 and the former Western Australian needed a well-executed ride from Avdulla to get the job done. Photo above: Come Play With Me (green and yellow) fights it out in The Metropolitan. Photo: Steve Hart



Big Aussie bookies set to merge

Two of Australia's biggest corporate bookies are set to become one.

Parent companies Flutter Entertainment, a bookmaking company created by the merger of Paddy Power and Betfair UK, and Canadian-based Stars Group Inc announced on Wednesday they have completed an all-share deal.

That means their Australian wagering arms Sportsbet and BetEasy will be merged. When the merger is completed, shareholders of Flutter will own approximately

54.64 percent of the new company, with TSG Shareholders owning approximately 45.36 percent of the share capital.

The merged entity is expected to serve approximately four million active customers in more than 100 international markets.

"This is an exciting and transformational combination that will bring together two strong, complementary businesses to create a global leader in the fast-growing online sports betting and gaming industry," Gary McGann, chair of Flutter Entertainment said in a statement.

"Under Peter Jackson's leadership we will bring together a management team with the experience required to ensure a successful integration of the businesses, with minimal disruption, during a time of unprecedented change in the sector.

"The combined group will be a strong voice in the promotion of responsible gaming worldwide and will lead industry standards on the protection of customers, whilst building sustainable relationships with them."



GREGORY'S GIRL

In this charming and frequently hilarious comedy, an awkward Scottish schoolboy is hopelessly in love with the independent female goalie who replaced him on the school soccer team. Luckily, he has a 10-year-old sister to whom he can turn for advice on love!



| Roger Ebert

There was a little item in the paper not long ago that should have been front page news. It was about a survey reporting that physically handsome men were less successful in business, made less money, married younger, and had less "desirable" spouses than men of average or below-average looks. The sociologists who announced these conclusions speculated that the handsome guys tended to get sidetracked in high school, spending more time on social life and less time on studies; they tended to depend on their golden boy charm instead of plowing ahead through college; and they tended, because they were more sexually active at younger ages, to marry sooner and therefore to marry women who were looking for marriage rather than careers. On the average, therefore, the weird kid with acne who's president of Chem Club will do better in the long run than the prom king. Bill Forsyth's "Gregory's Girl" is a charming, innocent, very funny little movie about the weird kid. It is set in Scotland, where the teenagers are quieter, more civilized and more naive than, let's say, those in "Class of 1984." And it is about Gregory (Gordon John Sinclair), a gangling adolescent who has started to shoot up all of a sudden and finds he is hopelessly uncoordinated on the soccer field. Gregory looks sort of like an immensely likable stork. He loses his place on the soccer team to another student who is a good deal faster and more coordinated. The other student happens to be a girl. Her name is Dorothy (Dee Hepburn), and Gregory instantly falls deeply in love with her.



Nothing like this has ever hit him before, and romance becomes for him almost a physical illness. Dorothy is sweet to him, but distant, because she not only suspects Gregory's feelings but is way ahead of him in her analysis of the whole situation. The movie takes place mostly in a pleasant suburb of Glasgow, where the kids hang about and trade endless speculation on the impossibility of being sixteen and happy at the same time. Gregory turns for romantic advice to his younger sister, who is much more interested in ice cream. His sister, in fact, is oblivious to boys, although one pays her an earnest compliment: "She's only ten, but she has the body of a woman of thirteen." Meanwhile, Gregory consoles his best friend, who is fifteen and a half and has never known love. This movie is a reminder that we tend to forget a lot of things about adolescence. For example: That it is no use telling a teenager what his faults are, because he is painfully

aware of every possible fault in the minutest detail; that boys are absolutely helpless in the throes of teenage romance, whereas girls tend to retain at least some perspective; that it is an unwritten law of the universe that no sixteen-year-old ever falls instantly in love with the right person at the right time. The movie has a lot of gentle, civilized fun with insights like that. And along the way, Gregory the stork is led on a wild goose chase with a swan at the end. The movie contains so much wisdom about being alive and teenaged and vulnerable that maybe it would even be painful for a teenager to see it; it's not much help, when you're suffering from those feelings of low self-esteem and an absolutely hopeless crush, to realize that not only are you in pain and suffering an emotional turmoil, but you're not even unique. Maybe only grown-ups should see this movie. You know, people who have gotten over the pains of unrequited love (hollow laugh).



Threats to life, arrest or other

Threats to life, arrest or other involve demands by scammers to pay money that you supposedly owe and threats if you do not cooperate.

How this scam works

These scams use threats designed to frighten you into handing over your money, and can even include threats to your life. The scammer may call you and pressure you into paying immediately, threaten you with arrest, or say they will send the police to your house if you refuse. Scammers will also send emails claiming you owe money for things like a speeding fine, tax office debt or unpaid bill. Scammers have been known to target vulnerable people, such as the elderly and newly arrived migrants. They will often impersonate government officials from agencies such as the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, the Department of Human Services or Centrelink, and the Australian Federal Police. Scammers will tell you that there are problems with your immigration papers or visa status, and threaten deportation unless

fees are paid to correct the errors. In a similar scam, victims will be contacted over the phone by a scammer pretending to be from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). The scammer will ask for payment of an outstanding tax debt and threaten arrest or legal action if you do not comply. Scammers may also pretend to be from trusted organisations, including energy or telecommunications providers, Australia Post, banks and law enforcement agencies. They may use email to send fake invoices or fines, and threaten to cancel your service or charge you excessive penalty fees if you don't pay the bill immediately. If the scam is sent by email, it is likely to include an attachment or link to a fake website where you will be asked to download proof of the 'bill', 'fine' or 'delivery details'. Opening the attachment or downloading the file could infect your computer with malware. The scam is designed to

scare you into handing over your money without seeking any further assistance or information.

Warning signs

- You receive a call out of the blue from someone claiming to be from a government department, debt collection agency or trusted company.
- You may be left a message on your answering machine asking you to ring a number.
- The caller will claim that you have issues with your immigration forms or visa status.
- The caller will tell you that in order to resolve the matter you will need to pay a fee or fine.
- The caller may ask for your personal information such as your passport details, date of birth or bank information.
- The caller may claim the police will come to your door and arrest you if you do not pay the fee or fine immediately.

Protect yourself

- Don't be pressured

by a threatening caller. Stop, think and check whether their story is true.

A government agency or trusted company will never ask you to pay by unusual methods such as by gift or store cards, iTunes vouchers, wire transfers or Bitcoins.

If you receive a phone call from someone threatening you and asking you to pay a fee, hang up and do not respond.

Don't use any contact details provided by the caller. Verify their identity by calling the relevant organisation directly—find them through an independent source such as a phone book, past bill or online search.

Do not respond to texts or emails. If you do, the scammers will escalate their intimidation and attempts to get your money.

Never send money or give credit card details, online account details or personal information to anyone you don't know or trust and never by email or over the phone.

If you are concerned for your safety, contact the police

Malware & ransomware

Malware tricks you into installing software that allows scammers to access your files and track what you are doing, while ransomware demands payment to 'unlock' your computer or files.

How these scams work

Malware

Malware scammers send emails and social media messages at random with links purporting to be on something topical—news, an event or something 'interesting'.

If you click on the link you may be taken to a fake website that looks like the real deal, complete with logos and branding of legitimate sites. In order to view the video, you will be asked to install some software, such as a 'codec', to be able to access the video format. If you download the software, your computer will be infected with malware (malicious software). Another way of delivering a malware scam is through websites and pop-ups that offer 'free' file downloads, including music, movies and games, or free access to content, such as adult sites.

Malware scams work by installing software on your computer that allows scammers to access your files or watch what you are doing on your computer. Scammers use this information to steal your personal details and commit fraudulent activities. They may make unauthorised purchases on your credit card, or use your identity to open accounts such as banking, telephone or energy services. They might take out loans or carry out other illegal business under your name, or

even sell your information to other scammers for further illegal use.

Ransomware

Ransomware is a type of malware that blocks or limits access to your computer or files, and demands a ransom be paid to the scammer for them to be unlocked.

Infected computers often display messages to convince you into paying the ransom. Scammers may pretend to be from the police and claim you have committed an illegal activity and must pay a fine, or they may simply demand payment for a 'key' to unlock your computer.

If you pay the ransom, there is no guarantee your computer will be unlocked.

Warning signs

- You receive an email or social media message out of the blue that claims to contain links to a topical news item or something 'interesting', and you are asked to download software in order to view the material.
- Music files, games, or access to adult sites are offered free of charge if you download a particular program or agree to a pop-up box.
- Pop-up boxes start appearing on your computer screen. These may have simple questions or a button that says 'close'.
- You notice new icons on your computer screen, or your computer is not as fast as it normally is.
- You are approached by scammers or become a victim of another scam where your personal or financial details are already known.

Protect yourself

- Do **not** open attachments or click on



links in emails or social media messages you've received from strangers – just press delete.

* If you want to access footage or information about major or breaking news, use a reliable news source rather than an unknown web link.

* Be wary of free downloads and website access, such as music, games, movies and adult sites, they may install harmful programs without you knowing.

* Always keep your computer security up to date with anti-virus and anti-spyware software, and a good firewall. Only buy computer and anti-virus software from a reputable source.

* Use your security software to run a virus check if you think your computer's security has been compromised. If you still have doubts, contact your anti-virus software provider or a computer specialist.

* Keep your office networks, computers, and mobile devices secure.

* Update your security software, change passwords and

* back up your data regularly.

* ALWAYS store your backups offsite and offline.

Stay Smart

Australian media's coverage of China soars in last year, led by Hong Kong and US-China trade war

by Iris Zhao



THE NEWS | No.508 | WEDNESDAY 9 OCT 2019

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



Shame on Greta Public School - making it later that students are allowed to arrive of a morning! Well, checked with education head office, and the school community (and staff) should've been consulted! But no survey or note was sent to families? Our lives are already a juggle - especially working parents.

Mate, love your newspaper! I read it all the way through. Has a great authenticity about it - you've got a lovely touch with your editorial direction. It's a reflection of how a lot of English regional county newspapers have been going (or have always been) in what is described as a hyperlocal focus in the news coverage. *Greg Hall, journalist*

The speed limit in North Rothbury village is officially 50km. However, the unwritten speed limit is 25-40 depending on conditions and daylight. This is because the roads are dual purpose. There are no footpaths, pedestrians including children, dog walkers, and large kangaroos use the roads. Also ride on mowers and any other configuration of wheels, legs or whatever. New resident who hit aging Donk. SLOW DOWN. Village mothers have been known to take matters into their own hands. A baseball bat thru the windscreen is not out of the question just because Sally has moved. She'll be back.



Problematic for Chinese-Australians
 Professor James Laurenceson, acting director of the Australia-China Relations Institute at the University of Technology Sydney, said he had concerns over the way some issues were being covered. "The scrutiny of potential connections between China and the Chinese Communist Party and Australian organisations and individuals — there is absolutely nothing wrong with that at all. I'm glad Australian media outlets are putting resources into [this]."

Posted 27 Sep 2019, 5:15am Fri 27 Sep 2019, 5:15am

Australian media's coverage of China has more than doubled since this time last year, led by growing interest in topics like Hong Kong and the US-China trade war, new data shows. The research shows a particular surge in the past three months, partly driven by increased mentions of topics generally seen as negative about China, such as human rights and espionage.

Key points:
 * More than 300,000 stories mentioned China in the last year
 * Topics like human rights and espionage are on the rise
 * Experts question the quality of coverage

"[But] sometimes, media coverage and commentators' analysis can be sensationalised and run ahead of facts and evidence, and that can be problematic. And one of the groups it can be problematic for is Chinese-Australians

"The recent spike in China-related coverage has been dramatic, when you consider that China's emergence as a global power has been decades in the making," said Conal Hanna from media monitoring company Stream. Stream compiled data from 28 of the country's major media outlets across online, print, radio and TV, and found trade was the number one topic mentioned, followed by Donald Trump, security and Hong Kong.

"We have a lot of Chinese friends. They tell me that the tone of Australian debate around China relations generally has affected them personally. In particular, [when] their loyalty to Australia is called into question.

"Chinese Government trying to interfere in Australia ... [is] not the entire Chinese-Australian relationship."

"It's a very unfortunate turn and I don't think it's fair." **What about rural China?** The increased interest in China is not happening in Australia alone.

It found more than 300,000 stories mentioned China in the last year, with topics like Crown Casino and Huang Xiangmo experiencing big recent rises. "Almost every week a new story emerges that has China, or a Chinese-Australian, as a central element, whether that be alleged links between Crown Casino and Chinese crime syndicates, ICAC investigating political donations from billionaire Huang Xiangmo or question marks over MP Gladys Liu's links to Chinese organisations," Mr Hanna said. "Often with these big issues, increased attention begets even more scrutiny as reporters dig into the various security, economic and political threads that emerge. But not all of the issues are new either. "It's interesting to me that mentions of human rights are up 150 per cent in China stories year-on-year when there have long been concerns over China's attitude to human rights."

Muyi Xiao from ChinaFile, a US-based not-for-profit online magazine, said she was seeing a rise in coverage of China in global media, but not all of it was hitting the mark. "I've read many very solid China reports coming from international media but at the same time many 'parachuting-style' irresponsible stories," she said. "One thing that matters a lot to the quality of reporting, is the resources the media put into its China coverage. "Human rights issues and geopolitics topics are often in the spotlight of international media coverage. They are indeed very important topics and deserve the attention, especially when these topics can not be brought up in public in China.

FREE Classifieds
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 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 1/2 hour). Beginners welcome. call Josh on 0458 611 362
For Rent: Braxton RSL Hall, air conditioned. Short or long term. P: 0429 438 460
For Sale: Concrete mixer, electric on wheels \$120 P: 4930 7671
For Sale: 2002 Rover 75 in need of a good home. Restoration project. Full leather interior, GPS, fully optioned. Needs new headliner, bonnet respray. Good tyres. Unregistered. P: 0414 757 826
For Sale: 2013 Nissan Navara ST-R (4X4) \$17,000 4 cyl, 2.5 L Transmission Manual Kilometers 101,000 km Body Type Ute / Tray Location North Rothbury, NSW
For Sale: Walk behind slasher/ mower, unused for a long time but was working. Free. 4 x Roll down security shutters, white, 1800,1860,1760 and 1650 wide with most fittings. Free. Painted block board solid door 1985 x 920 x 40, good workshop bench top, \$20. New Humes Prime coat, SCX1, solid core door, 2040 x 820 x 35, \$60, Chain wire, as new 1.2m x 6m, \$15. Edmonds whirlybird roof ventilator, woodland Grey, new in box, \$60 P: 0437312905.
For Sale: Small, almost new, Guinea Pig cage. \$25 P: 0404 499 849
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: Aviary bred Rainbow & Scaly Lorikeets. \$20ea or \$45ea with new cage P: 0421 102 711
For Sale: Alpacas Ph 0400697148
For Sale: Free range eggs. \$4/doz Greta 0412 976 809
Riding Lessons: agistment, horses trained. 0407 453 494
Seamstress: Sewing & mending P: Brune 0413 351 057
Wanted: all kinds of Honda mini bikes qa50 z50a z50j1 z50Jz ct70 st70 & atc70. Contact Drew 0435814841
Work Wanted: HAVE UTE WILL CARRY. Need something moved? Phone Phil on 0447 381989
Work Wanted: Need an extra hand? I do all maintenance, labouring, construction, asbestos & have working with children licence. P (Pat) 0414 278 292
Work Wanted: 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

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

Dates for your diary

WED 26 SEP - SAT 30 NOV — Maitland Regional Museum and the Museum of Clothing are presenting an exhibition-*Maitland High Street-Coming to Town in the 50s* at Brough House, 73 Church St, Maitland. Open Saturdays and Sundays 10.00 am - 3. 00 pm until 30th November, 2019 - \$4 adults, children free. Weekday group visits including Morning Tea and a talk (\$10) can be booked-02 49334450 or email maitlandmuseum@gmail.com
 WED 16 OCT — Braxton's 5th Annual 'Dress in Pink High Tea Fashion Extravaganza 10 am Braxton Community Hall. Featuring 'Sue's Clothing' Rutherford. Proceeds to 'womens cancer'. Catering by Braxton Greta CWA. Tickets \$20. to book call Helen on 0427 047 024
 SAT 19 OCT — Dance at Braxton Community Hall. A mixture Old Time, Nu Vogue, Rock and Roll, Line Dancing and some others. \$10 & bring a plate
 FRI 31 OCT — Closing date (5pm) for applications "2020 Housing NSW Scholarship Program. Go to www.facs.nsw.gov.au/scholarships
 SAT 2 NOV — Trinity House Centenary Community Fair in the grounds of the Anglican Church Lochinvar: market stalls, sausage sizzle, Devonshire Tea, displays & entertainment The New Empire Ragtime & dance Orchestra - FREE ENTRY 11am ~ 3pm 'all Welcome'
 WED 6 NOV — Braxton Lions Club meeting at Braxton Golf Club @ 7 pm. Any information please call secr. Dr Alan Beckley 49381203 Or Ken Meany 65747027.
 SAT 9 NOV — Braxton's annual 'Country at the Camp' music festival at the Drovers Camp, Elderslie Road, Braxton
 SAT 9 NOV — Cessnock City Council's hugely popular free mattress drop-off day will take place on from 8am to 12pm.
 SAT 9 NOV — Dance at Braxton Community Hall. A mixture Old Time, Nu Vogue, Rock and Roll, Line Dancing and some others. \$10 & bring a plate
 SAT 9 & 10 NOV — Silky Oak Festival GRETA: SAVE THIS

Dates for your diary

DATE - we are celebrating the birthdays for Greta Army Camp and Greta Migrant Camp hosted by the Central Hunter Business Chamber (Braxton & Greta).
 TUES 12 NOV — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg - Old St. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Braxton. 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome.
 TUE 26 NOV — Braxton Lions Club Seniors dinners at Greta's Workers Club at 6 pm. Any information please call secr. Dr Alan Beckley 49381203 Or Ken Meany 65747027.
 WED 4 DEC — Braxton Lions Club meeting at Braxton Golf Club @ 7 pm. Any information please call secr. Dr Alan Beckley 49381203 Or Ken Meany 65747027.
 Contact Marie Shearer 0402 015 850 for any information.
 THUR 5 DEC — The NSW Seniors Christmas Concert Times: 10:30am and 2pm Location: Tamworth Capitol Theatre, Level 1, Centrepoint, 374 Peel Street, Tamworth
 SAT 7 DEC — Braxton Lions Club Seniors dinner at the Braxton Community Hall at 6 pm. Any information please call secr. Dr Alan Beckley 49381203 Or Ken Meany 65747027.
 SUN 8 DEC — Where Pigs Fly Open Day - Time: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Location: Where Pigs Fly Animal Sanctuary, Laguna, NSW
 TUES 10 DEC — B/G CWA Mthly Mtg - Old St. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Braxton. 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402 015 850 for any information.
 SUN 15 DEC — North Rothbury Tidy Town Twilight Markets & 90 year Rothbury Riot re-enactment.3pm - 8pm. Call Mike Lowing on 0414 757 826 for further details.
 WED 25 DEC — Christmas Day
 TUE 31 DEC — New Years Eve
 SUN 26 JAN 2020 — Australia Day

Daily Thoughts

"People who've had happy childhoods are wonderful, but they're bland... An unhappy childhood compels you to use your imagination to create a world in which you can be happy. Use your old grief. That's the gift you're given." **Baron Patrick Maynard Stuart Blackett**

In The Garden

Spring flowering plants - fast growing

Spring is the time of year where plants burst into full bloom. With so many new choices on offer how do you choose the best spring colour flowers to plant? Here are the best flowers to plant for spring flower in the garden.

1. Bidens 'Rockstar' *Bidens ferulifolia*

The bright yellow flowers are borne in profusion all through the season. In warmer areas they flower right through the year. Their flowers are larger and longer flowering than other varieties available. They grow best in full sun. The bright golden splashes of colour contrast against other smaller shrubs and flower borders. Plant in pots for patio colour and garden pot combinations. Size: 25cm high x 20-30cm wide.

2. Azaleas

Gardens look magnificent as they come alive for spring. One particularly dazzling spring performer is the azalea. There are many types of azaleas suited to a range of lighting conditions from full sun positions to shaded areas. This gives an excellent range of azaleas to choose from to suit almost any area of your garden. Enquire at your local garden centre for the best varieties to suit and also see what's new in Azaleas. **Azalea Alphonse Anderson** is a classic bloom performer.

3. Calibrachoa

Calibrachoa have small petunia like flowers, which sit on top of

lushes green cascading foliage. Calibrachoa are ideal for planting in hanging baskets, pots on patios and mass planting in the garden bed. They love full sunny positions and flower time and time again if liquid fed with Searles Liquid Flourish Blooms & Foliage Plant Food. Look out for **Calibrachoa 'Holy Moly'** new in store.

4. Lavender

Lavender is a personal favourite of Australian gardeners. There is a suitable variety of lavender which grows well in any climate and garden style making them one of the most versatile flowering plants in the kingdom. They flower prolifically and modern varieties are more resistant to pests and diseases. Don't forget their scent is heavenly as you walk past.

5. Callistemon & Grevilleas

Now for those of you who love to attract more wildlife to the garden, try callistemon and grevilleas. Callistemon and grevilleas are Australian natives, prolific flowering and have big bright colours which attract native birds from everywhere. Look for **Grevillea 'Little Robyn'** and **Callistemon 'Betka Beauty'** available in good garden centres now.

6. Bambino Bougainvilleas

Another personal favourite of ours, Bambino Bougainvilleas. Ours are flowering most of the year and when everything in the garden has finished flowering Bambino Bougainvilleas are still shining the torch. They enjoy dry climates, flowering



Bidens 'Rockstar'

better with less water, though they do need water from time to time. Bambino Bougainvilleas grow more compactly and are better suited to smaller gardens.

7. Osteospermum & Daisies

For instant colour in spring it is pretty hard to go past osteospermum and everlasting daisies. They are compact, provide instant colour and can make quick gap fillers and dazzle as patio potted colour. Make sure they are planted in full sun for better flowering and water regularly. Look out for the new release Osteospermum 'Spring Day'.

8. Mandevilleas

Mandevilla (sometimes called Dipladenia) is a lush, tropical climber that flowers flamboyantly all year round in warmer climates. Hardy and versatile, it flowers in shades of deep burgundy and scarlet, through all shades of pink and white. It is great in large pots where it can bring an instant lush, tropical look to poolsides and outdoor entertaining areas. Give it a sunny position for best flowering, a rich, well drained soil and

plenty of moisture during the growing season.

9. White or pink Jasmine (*Jasminum Polyanthum*)

Jasmine is an evergreen vine with perfumed star-like white flowers appearing in spring and summer. Ideal to soften screening walls, acting as a heat barrier, ground cover and pot specimen. They are versatile and easy to grow. Their sweet perfume hits you when you walk by.

10. Impatiens

Impatiens' dainty bright flowers bloom their best most of the year in garden beds and cottage gardens. Impatiens grow well planted in most soil types, making them easy to maintain to preserve their beauty. They look stunning planted en masse when you are out to impress.



Azalea - Alphonse Anderson

You are invited to
Branxton's 5th Annual Dress in Pink High Tea Fashion Extravaganza
 featuring
Sue's Clothing, Rutherford
 With Sarah Farley as MC
 from 2NURFM
Wednesday 16th October 2019
 10.00am
Branxton Community Hall
 Tickets \$20 to be pre purchased
 for Women's Cancer
 Catering by Branxton Greta CWA Ladies
 Helen 0427 047 024

SECTION 4.59 NOTICE, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT, 1979, APPROVED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES

The public are hereby notified pursuant to 4.59 of the Environmental Planning Assessment Act, 1979 (as amended) that the following applications have been granted consent during the period from 1 September 2019 to 30 September 2019.

Locality	Reference	Decision Date	Property Address	Application Description
EAST BRANXTON	008/2019/00000530/001	11-Sep-2019	26 Middle ST	Swimming Pool
GRETA	008/2019/00000468/001	2-Sep-2019	20 Popham ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
GRETA	008/2019/00000478/001	3-Sep-2019	98 Talleyrand CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage & Associated Retaining Walls
GRETA	008/2019/00000464/001	11-Sep-2019	1A Branxton ST	Subdivision of land creating 5 Lots from 2 existing Lots.
GRETA	008/2019/00000539/001	13-Sep-2019	10 Ouita CL	Retaining Wall
GRETA	008/2019/00000499/001	17-Sep-2019	11 Talleyrand CCT	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
GRETA	008/2019/00000567/001	18-Sep-2019	96 Reginald ST	Shed
GRETA	008/2019/00000448/001	23-Sep-2019	410 Tuckers LANE	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
GRETA	008/2019/00000507/001	30-Sep-2019	8 Laetitia CL	Shed & Carport
LOVEDALE	008/2019/00000529/001	18-Sep-2019	60 Blackburn CL	Swimming Pool
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000467/001	2-Sep-2019	23 Lockwood ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000495/001	2-Sep-2019	68 Kesterton RISE	Shed
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000474/001	6-Sep-2019	42 McGann DR	Single Storey Dwelling, Carport & Associated Retaining Wall
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000475/001	6-Sep-2019	40 McGann DR	Single Storey Dwelling, Carport & Associated Retaining Wall
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000480/001	6-Sep-2019	17 Frederick ST	New Dwelling Comprising of a Manufactured Home & Associated Structures comprising of a Retaining Wall & Outbuilding (Shipping Container)
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000443/001	12-Sep-2019	62 Kesterton RISE	Shed
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000489/001	12-Sep-2019	1 Moran PWY	Exhibition Homes and Associated Advertising Signage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000514/001	13-Sep-2019	58 Triton BLVD	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000532/001	16-Sep-2019	21 Lockwood ST	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000538/001	17-Sep-2019	18 Enright DR	Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000519/001	24-Sep-2019	28 Mitchell ST	Garage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000537/001	25-Sep-2019	19 Peachy Av	Exhibition Home and Associated Advertising Signage
NORTH ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000581/001	27-Sep-2019	16 Harkin RD	Swimming Pool Associated Safety Barriers
POKOLBIN	008/2019/00000365/001	6-Sep-2019	119 McDonalds RD	Temporary Event for Maximum of 5000 People to be held at Four (4) Venues on 14 September 2019 and 19 September 2020.
POKOLBIN	008/2019/00000476/001	10-Sep-2019	188 Palmers LANE	Construct Signage and Pergola to Existing Cellar Door
POKOLBIN	008/2019/00000497/001	12-Sep-2019	19 Maple DR	Detached Entertainment Rooms & Associated Verandah
POKOLBIN	008/2019/00000505/001	25-Sep-2019	5 Fig Tree CR	New Single Storey Dwelling with Attached Garage and Associated Retaining Walls
ROTHBURY	008/2019/00000065/001	25-Sep-2019	1384 Wine Country DR	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.

School News



Kirkton Public School

Kindergarten Orientation

It is that time of years again when we are accepting kindergarten enrolments for 2020 and planning orientation. Help spread the word!

Our term 4 sessions are as follows:

Wednesday 16th October 9.30-11.30

(includes parent information session)

Wednesday 30th October 10.00-11.30

Wednesday 13th November 10.00-11.30

Wednesday 27th November 10.00-11.30

Wednesday 11th December 10.00-11.30

We can't wait to meet our new students and their families!

Very importantly we congratulated Brian Beh on his retirement this week. With 15 years of dedication to our school. I have heard many tales about him solving the impossible problem with creative thinking and know that Kirkton Public School have been lucky to have someone who remains connected to our community.



Well done Brian Beh



Rosary Park Catholic School, Branxton

ROSARY PARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2ND ANNUAL COLOUR EXPLOSION!



Year 6 Lauren Matt; Maddie O'Donnell; Amelia Slomka & Poppie McLean



Rubi and Maici Barnes

On Friday 20th September, the course was set, the students were pumped with excitement and the annual colour run was hosted by the P&F Committee. With perfect weather, the students, staff, parents and siblings prepared themselves to run the challenge and dodge the colour. It was the best day of school ever quoted by the entire student population. All funds raise are donated to the school for further assets for the students.



Jorgia Burgess Year 6



Darby Thomas Kindergarten



Macy and Evie Dunn



Reece Fry and sister Ruby Fry



Sahara & Nevada Adamthwaithe



ROSARY PARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL BRANXTON



Wade Thompson Year 3 and Bella Thompson.



Ramsay Family- Leo; Louisa; Samuel and Finn



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



A weekend of celebrations to acknowledge the Centenary of Trinity House



The Anglican Parish of Branxton Greta Lochinvar are in the process of planning a weekend of celebrations for the Centenary of Trinity House. This will include a Church Service, Community Fair and the Official Re-Opening of

Trinity House at Lochinvar. Until 1960, Trinity House was a Rectory, the home of the Anglican Parish Priest and his family. Since then it has been used for several other functions, including being a parish centre and venue for social and

building back to life and they are seeking to celebrate and share this achievement with the communities of Branxton, Greta and Lochinvar. Any sponsorship will assist in enabling them to engage the New Empire Ragtime and Dance Orchestra who

charitable events. They are seeking donations and sponsorship for the Community Fair to be held on Saturday - 2nd November, from 11am to 3pm, in the grounds of Trinity House and Holy Trinity Anglican Church. Much work has been carried out at Trinity House which has brought the

will provide 1920's music as entertainment. Your valued donation, financial support or raffle prize, would greatly assist them in providing a wonderful day for all. Alternatively, if you are interested in having a stall or display at the Community Fair, they would gladly welcome your enquiry. They look forward to working with you to strengthen and grow the Branxton, Greta and Lochinvar communities as they celebrate together. Their aim of Serving our Community, Loving our Community is a partnership between all stakeholders and members of the community.

Please direct your enquiry to Reverend Nicole on 02 4938 3277 or 0418 269 892

Safety a top priority at Cessnock City Council

For the month of October, Cessnock City Council will celebrate National Safe Work Month and its own safe work culture by hosting a number of events for staff to learn from and enjoy.

Council kicked off the celebrations with a fascinating talk by Rachael Robertson, who successfully led a year-long expedition to Antarctica and is internationally recognised for what great leadership looks like. At just 35 years old, Rachael was the youngest and just the second female expedition leader to Davis Station in Antarctica, putting her leadership to the test, in the toughest environment. Rachel presented to Cessnock City Council staff with great humour and insight, of the lessons she learned about leadership, teamwork and safe work

practices. As an RUOK Day Ambassador, Rachael also touched on the



GM Lotta Jackson, left, with Rachael Robertson

importance of mental health in the workplace and how checking in with your workmates can make the world of difference. Cessnock City Council's General Manager, Lotta Jackson enjoyed Rachael's talk and was pleased to see that safety in the workplace was a top priority in her first week in the job. "It was fantastic to see both our indoor and outdoor staff so engaged in the conversation around safety and I look forward to building on this into the future."

"Creating a safe work

culture is so important and for a large organisation like Council, I believe it is also important that we set a good example in the community, which we will continue to do," added Lotta. Other events and activities included in Council's Safe Work Month calendar include 'Be a Safety Champion Day', personalised ergonomic assessments and health and wellbeing sessions. National Safe Work Month takes place in October each year.

You are invited!

Trinity House Centenary Community Fair

in the grounds of the Anglican Church, Lochinvar

FREE ENTRY - ALL WELCOME!

Market Stalls

Sausage Sizzle	Cold Drinks
Devonshire Tea	Displays

Entertainment by: The New Empire Ragtime and Dance Orchestra

Saturday 2nd November

11am to 3pm

Enquiries: Reverend Nicole 0481 269 892

Anglican Church

Find us on

North Rothbury Tidy Towns

House of the Month Caring for our environment

House of the Month - September 2019

8 Thomas Street, North Rothbury has been picked by last month's winner, as their choice as the best house from North Rothbury, Huntlee and Hanwood. Congratulations on your beautiful garden! ...it all about the backyard dream gardens! This month's winners gets to select next month's winner, and with all this rain everyone should be in with an excellent chance!

Daily Thoughts

"The art of being wise is the art of knowing what to overlook." - William James
 "In time of stress, be bold and valiant." - Horace
 "It takes courage to know when you ought to be afraid." - James A. Michener

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)

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 NSW 2334

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SPORTS RESULTS

RESULTS GOLF

Branxton Veteran Golfers

Results 26-9-19
Stableford

Div 1 Winner G Sheldon 37 pts R/u J Burgess 30 pts (c/b) 3rd J Sheedy 30 pts
Div 2 Winner R McMillan 38 pts (SOD) R/u D Fletcher 34 pts 3rd S Condran 31 pts
Ladies Winner J Scobie 30 pts R/u C Caldwell 27 pts 3rd R Friis 25 pts
NTP Ladies C Caldwell
Gents J Flynn
Members draw - Not won (N Busch)
The golf round to-day, over 14 holes, at the "Ultimate" 9 golf course Branxton, brought out the best in our players, as there was a 'traffic jam' at the top of the scoreboard. That is hardly surprising, what with the wonderful weather continuing, with balmy breezes, light cloud and plenty of sunshine, providing comfortable playing conditions for our members. Congratulations to Robert McMillan on winning

his division and achieving the "Score of the Day", with an excellent 38 pts. A well done to all other winners and placegetters.

Results 3-10-19
"PAR" Event"

Div 1 Winner K Anderson +2 (c/b) R/u R Yandle +2 3rd G Noble +1 (c/b)
Div 2 Winner M Ford +6 (SOD) R/u D Fletcher +5 (c/b) 3rd S Condran +5
Ladies Winner M Hunt square (c/b) R/u S Williams square 3rd Nil
NTP Ladies C Caldwell
Gents R Williams

Members draw - Won (R Yandle)
A pleasant balmy morning, cloudless sky and a gentle westerly breeze greeted the players for to-day's round, with the temperature rising after it was completed. A reminder that summer is on the way. Congratulations to Mike Ford on winning to-day's event and achieving the "Score of the Day", with a creditable score of +6. And a well done to other winners and placegetters.

LN Bootes, Hon Sec

Branxton Lady Golfers

Wednesday 4 September 2019 - Monthly Medal
Winner: Trish McMillan with 75 nett
Runner-up: Ruth McCarthy with 76 nett
Putting Comp: Jen Salna with 30 putts
Carol Miller with 31 putts
Caren Caldwell with 31

putts
Nearest to the pin: Ruth McCarthy
(No comp 11th or 18th September)
Wednesday 25 September 2019 - Stableford
Winner: Di Davies with 37 points
Runner-up: Caren Caldwell with 36 points
3rd: Tracey Miller with 35 points
4th: Robyn Hoffman with 34 points
Nearest to the pin: Carol Miller 155cm - winning the nest of balls (8).

Hunter Valley Golf Club Sunday 22nd September A

3 way countback was required to find the winner of the Weekly Challenge with Steve Piggot getting the judges nod from Nic Bates and Mark Makin in 3rd after all had returned 40 points. Ball winners were: Wendy Green v39, Jarod Makin v39, Justin Lawrence v38, Ian MacDonald v37 and Paul Turner v37

Tuesday 24th September

Chris Taggart will remember his first round in a couple of months following knee surgery with a magnificent 47 point return and a clear win from Maitland visitor Stephen Bear with 44 and Garry Marsden 3rd with 42 points. Ball winners were: Tom Bell 39, Wayne Burgess 39, James Hogg 38, Phil Small 37, Richard Craft 37, John Stewart 36, David Peel 36, David Michael

Menzies 36, Garry Clarke 35, Graeme Flynn 34, Paul Smith 33, Jason Bear 33, Bill Freeman 33, Gary Arnold 33 and Rick Turnchini 33 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Bindii (3rd) Phousang Sihpanya (4th) David Peel (10th) and Phil Small (17th)
Wednesday 25th September
The Ladies 2 Person Ambrose Championship has been won by Jenny Chambers & Dale Hamilton with 71 Scratch with Leesa Robinson & Sue Williams winning the handicap section with 67 Net. The daily event played in conjunction has seen Jenny & Dale winning with 63.75 and Leesa & Sue runners up with 67. Next week the Ladies will have the week off with the Newton Juniors here for the week, golf will resume on the 9th October for Ladies with Stroke/Putting.

Thursday 26th September

The Vets took full advantage of the excellent course conditions on offer following recent coring and rainfall to record some sensation scoring in the Medley Stroke round with Garry Fairlie winning Division 1 with 65 net from Tom Bell with 66, Division 2 to Jock Kendall with 63 from Ryan Wilson with 64 on countback and Division 3 to Terry Webb with an amazing 56 net from Ken Blackett with 61. Ball winners were: Eric Smith 62, Ross Cameron 64, John Pascoe 64, Kevin Smith 65, Peter Fisher 65, Peter Attewell 65, Gary Arnold 65, Ken Morris 66, Kevin Dick 66, Gunther Shilko 67, Mick Gilbert 67, Neil Peterson 68, Kerry Bartlett 68, Dale Macklinshaw 68, Jeff Taylor 68 and Gary Johns 69. Nearest-the-Pins went to Tom Bell (3rd & 8th) John Pascoe (4th) Terry Webb (10th) and Robert Logue (17th). The raffle went to Bill Freeman with Bruce Chambers taking 2nd place. The Misty Glen Wines Outstanding Performance of the Month has been won by Terry Webb.

Saturday 28th September
Players once again cashed in on quality conditions to register some outstanding results. A Grade went to Everglades GC visitor Paul Botting with 40 points from Jake Riley of Toronto GC with 39 points, B Grade to an excited Michael Gilbert who shot a Par round of 71 to record 49 points with Alan Provenzano 2nd with 44 and C Grade to Chris Francis with 43 on countback to Brian Connolly. Ball winners were: Matt Lorenz 41, Ron Higginbottom 41, David Preece 40, Wayne Drayton 40, Dean Blair 39, Nathan Harvey 39, Garry Marsden 39, Richard Craft 39, Graham Morris 39, Wayne Cowan 38, Peter McLennan 38, Peter McIntyre 38, Murray Flannigan 37, David Peel 37 and Steve Piggot 37 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Jake Riley (3rd) Peter Huckfelt (4th & 8th) and Michael Gilbert (17th).

Sunday 29th September

Ricky Blake of the Future GC claimed the Weekly Challenge with 45 points from Luke Johnston 42 and Wentworth GC visitor Darren Wooding 3rd with

40. Ball winners were: Anthony Bower 37, Kason Coomber v37, Grant Selwood v36, Shawn Brown v35, Rod Bowen v35, Grahame Mankelow 35, Jodie Dunn 34, Shawn Parish 33, Scott Goldman v33 and John Knuth v33 c/b
Tuesday 1st October
With the Newton Junior event being held at Hunter Valley Golf Club the club visited Pacific Dunes and played an individual Stableford and 4 BBB event along with the Pacific Dunes Vets Club with some mixed results. Robyn Dunlop was the only lady to collect a prize with a Nearest-the-Pin on the 5th. The men managed to get onto the podium in all grades, with Wayne Barber winning A Grade with 37 points and Ken Harris taking 3rd place with 36 points. B Grade went to Geoff Geason 39 with Rod Williams 3rd with 35 and Bindii Manderson collected 2nd place in C Grade with 35 points with Chris Taggart 3rd with 33 points. Peter Fisher won NTP on the 8th in C Grade while James Hogg, A Grade and Ryan Wilson C Grade collected NTP's on the 17th. In the 4 BBB Ryan Wilson partnered Frank Mullins from Pacific Dunes to claim 3rd place with 45 points. Big thanks to our Club Committee who provided the balls for the event. The day has been hailed a great success and both clubs are looking to put the event on

their yearly calendar.
Saturday 5th October
Strong scoring feature in the Blue Tee Challenge on a day where every season added to the challenge. A Grade went to Jon Lawler with 36 points from Graeme Flynn with 35 on countback, B Grade to Paul Smith with 40 points from Jeremy Holden 38 on countback and C Grade to Chris Francis 40 with Kevin Smith runner up with 38 on countback. Ball winners were: Ron Higginbottom 38, Geoff Tapp v38, Max Hindmarsh 36, Peter Sim v36, Bruce Chambers 36, Russ Lightfoot 36, Peter Milas 36, Zeb Firth 36, Anthony Bower 35, Jaye Hesse v35, Peter McIntyre 35, Tom Bell 35, Paul McCudden 34, David Peel 34, Simon Nicholson 34 and Jeff Morton 34 c/b Nearest-the-Pins went to Tom Bell (3d & 8th) Paul Bullock (4th) Wade Attewell (10th) and Jon Lawler (17th). Next weeks event will be a Medley Stableford

Branxton Golf Club

Saturday, 5 October 2019

STROKE MONTHLY MEDAL - STROKE

Field: 47
Winners A Michael Tracey 64
Grades A Lee Heuston 69
Grades A Peter Wilton 72
Grades B Kelvin Mather 64
Grades B Benjamin Bridge 66
Grades C Robert McMillan 70
Grades C Ted Zawirski 70
NTP 2/11 C 2nd Lennard Porter 94cm

NTP 4 A 4th Greg Noble 128cm
NTP 9/18 A 9th Joshua Tracey 143cm
NTP 13 A 13th Peter Wilton 164cm
Balls 14 Distributed down to score: 72
Mick Tracey showed his class once again, taming the Branxton Golf Course with a wonderful 64 nett, a near par round from this very consistent and talented golfer. He finished well clear of another talented golfer, Lee Heuston, whose 69 nett score from his 4 handicap is a testament to his ability. Peter Wilton, another low handicap golfer finished third with his 72 nett. Kelvin Mather has hit a good patch of form judging by his 64 nett score to win B Grade, just ahead of Benjamin Bridge's nett 66 whilst Rob McMillan prevailed in C Grade, winning with his nett 70, on a countback from Ted Zawirski. The shot of the day belonged to Lennie Porter on the 2nd, with his tee shot finishing only 94 cms from the pin. A 72 nett score was needed to win a ball on a day where the DSR was 69. A reminder to all members that the Club Championships start in two weeks, and next weekend the KCE sponsored day will be celebrating the life of Peter Matthews, who is sadly missed by all that have known him. It is a great opportunity to share our stories about his life, particularly on the golf course.

Do you REMEMBER when....

Branxton junior golfer cleans up

THE NEWS Issue No 113
9th May 2002 Page 40



Matthew McInnes with the Ted Meyn Perpetual Trophy that he won for the best stableford score in this year's Branxton Open.

LOCAL 14 year old Branxton junior golfer, Matthew McInnes, outplayed his more senior players at this years Branxton Open held on the 21st April, 2002.

Matthew won the C Grade scratch event then went on to win the Ted Meyn Perpetual Trophy for the best stableford score out of a field of 91 players. To finish the day on a winning note he also won the best junior trophy over the field.

Matthew, along with two other juniors, late last year, were selected for the NSW~ PGA

Development Programme conducted by their coach Andrew Hayward. The programme is ongoing for twelve months.

Andrew said that this is Matthew's first year playing against the senior members and that he is improving with every round he plays.

"Matthew has a huge potential to go all the way with his game & and, at this stage of his career, I feel that we will be hearing a lot more about him as time goes on", Andrew said.

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Deadlines

"The Branxton Greta Vineyards News" appeals to all advertisers to adhere to the Friday 2PM biweekly deadline which includes all editorial items as well. If you know you will be late please let our office know so that we can save space for you. This newspaper does not accept reports, advertisements or other instructions over the phone. We do accept items by Email.

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MOB: 0412 566 041 0414 757 826

Email: thenews@hotmail.net.au

Office: 12 Cliff Street, Branxton, NSW 2335

BRANXTON GRETA VINEYARDS

The NEWS SPORT

Catch of the weekend!

ELEVEN year old Branxton lad, Ryan Baker has a weekend that he'll never forget. On a fishing trip to Hawk's Nest Beach on Friday 27th September 2019, with his dad, Ryan managed, after a 20 minute struggle, to land a huge Jewfish; with no help from anyone. The fish weighed-in at 9 kilo's & was 92cm long.

For those aficionado's of the noble art of fishing it was during a rising tide and was using squid as bait.

I goes without saying it was the "Catch of the Weekend".



Photos: Eleven year old Ryan Baker with his 9 kilo Jewfish.



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 Friday 9am-5pm
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