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'OPEN FOR BUSINESS'



OPEN: (L-R) Coles Huntlee store manager Tim Hill, Huntlee project director Stephen Thompson, Cessnock mayor Bob Pynsent, Greta resident Val Randall and Coles NSW North general manager Ivan Slunjski at the store opening on Wednesday morning 16th Sept. '20.

THE official opening and first day of trading for the new Huntlee Coles was on Wednesday 16th Sept 2020.

The formal official opening came with 2 wonderful surprises; Val Randall, a doyen of the local area for her decades of community

involvement, joined Mayor Bob Pynsent in cutting the opening ribbon & Coles presenting \$5000 to our local little athletics club (*see report back page*).

Val was 'stunned', as she said, when they called her up to help the mayor cut the ribbon.

"It was a great honour I must admit," said Val.

With the opening of the new Coles supermarket it has created 102 new jobs for the local community in its state-of-the-art supermarket.

The supermarket forms part of a wider \$1.5 billion LWP master-planned community for 20,000 residents that will include 7,500 dwellings and a 200-hectare town centre. Huntlee Shopping Centre is the first retail centre to open in the new town.

CONT. NEXT PAGE

PIGGOTT'S PHARMACY

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coles

Huntlee

Now Open

Huntlee Shopping Centre, 22 Empire St, Branxton

FROM FRONT PAGE

‘OPEN FOR BUSINESS’

... The new supermarket has been designed to cater to increasing customer demand for convenience, with Coles research finding one in three customers don't have the time to cook from scratch and 52% are not interested in cooking more at home.

The large store features an in-store bakery with the full range of artisan-style sourdough bread, a gourmet delicatessen with a large selection of local and international cheeses, as well as the new ready-made 'Coles Kitchen' convenience meals, including more than 100 quick and easy meal kits across Italian, Asian, Indian and Australian cuisines.

Coles Huntlee Store Manager Tim Hill, who has worked at Coles for 19 years, said he was delighted with the new store and the opportunity to support local jobs.

"We're excited to be launching a brand-new supermarket for people in the Hunter Valley. The modern store brings all the latest customer offerings from the big city right to the people of Huntlee," Tim said.

"We're so proud of the hard work everyone has put in to get the store

launch ready. It's fantastic that we're creating more than 100 local jobs on opening day – we're certainly going to be a big employer the Hunter Valley. "We really want to take a personal approach and get to know our customers so we become part of the community — I'm looking forward to seeing what we can achieve in the next 12 months and over the years to come."

Stephen Thompson, LWP Project Director welcomed Coles and Liquorland to the new Huntlee development and cannot wait to see the locals explore the new shopping centre.

"It is a great day for the residents of Huntlee and those living in surrounding villages, who will now reap the benefits of the new local Coles and Liquorland stores, making a huge difference to their day-to-day lifestyle."

"The opening of the Huntlee Shopping Centre has been highly anticipated by local residents, and to have an offering of this calibre on their doorstep is sure to delight many."

"It's only fitting we welcome Coles as the first major retail project in the new 200-hectare town centre which, over the coming years, will evolve into a major regional hub."

Coles' convenient and complimentary

shopping service Click&Collect, will also be available at the new store, allowing residents from Huntlee and surrounding areas to order their groceries online and have them delivered to their car boot.

Cessnock Mayor, Cr Bob Pynsent said it was a significant occasion for the Cessnock local government area.

"This is special. It is the most modern supermarket in Australia," he said. "This is a historical day for our local government area."

"It is exciting for Cessnock City Council, to have first-class facilities like this, and people wanting to live and work here, and for businesses like Coles, their third store in the LGA, to have confidence in the Cessnock local government area".

Coles NSW North general manager Ivan Slunjski said it was an exciting day.

"It has been an outstanding achievement by everyone involved," he said.

"Days like today don't happen very often - it's not every day we open a new store."

Deb Warwick, centre manager from Colliers, said that the new Coles had exceeded all expectations in its trading and that last Sunday the Coles management decided to extend their trading hours, for that day and that day

only, by an extra hour. Regular store trading hours are 6am -

9pm Monday - Saturday, and 7am - 9pm on Sundays.



Among the first 2 through the doors were Stephen Thompson, LWP Project Director & Mark Bercini of Branxton. Marks' grandfather, Jack Bercini, operated a business in Cessnock Road Branxton for decades which included groceries and produce. It also had a Wine and Spirits License with the cellar situated down under the building.

Right to Know Week 2020

Cessnock City Council is proud to support Right to Know Week NSW 2020 (RTK) which takes place this year from 28 September – 4 October 2020.

Right to Know Week NSW is a campaign that marks International Day for Access to Information, celebrated internationally on 28 September.

Right to Know Week is an important global campaign that aims to raise awareness of each individual's right of access to government information and promote open, transparent government. This right is underpinned the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (NSW) (also known as the GIPA Act).

This year's theme is Right to Know: *Future-proofing information access rights*. Cessnock City Council's, General Manager, Lotta Jackson said it's important everyone understands their right to access information under the GIPA Act, even more so when increasingly government information is held in digital form, and when decision-making and services are increasingly automated.

"Innovation and efficiency is achieved utilising technology however this creates a demand to provide assurance about and assert the community's information rights. We're committed to growing community awareness around their rights and be transparent about access to information and also how we store it. We will also continue to implement processes that assist the community with accessing information."

"Our new website has been designed to ensure the community has ease of access to a variety of information from strategic plans, budgets and maintenance schedules. We're committed to transparency and welcome feedback on how we can continue to improve access to information."



Armistice Day Memorial Service; maybe(?)

A combined Branxton & Greta Armistice Day Memorial Service is in the planning but it will dependant on Covid-19 compliance.

Brian Furner OAM, President of the Branxton RSL Sub Branch, said that they were hopeful that it will be able to be held.

"We did manage to have a service on Vietnam Vets Day which, in the current circumstances, was well attended," said Brian.

"It it goes ahead it will be held in Branxton which will be the first service to be held at the newly restored Rotunda area."

We will keep you informed.

Date 11/11/20 at 11am

Do you and your pooch use our off leash areas? We want to hear from you!



There's nothing better than starting or finishing your day with a trip to an off leash area with your furry friend to blow off some steam and enjoy fresh air. Cessnock City Council understands how important these open spaces are to residents and to their canine friends, and is putting together a plan for the future of these spaces.

Residents are encouraged to undertake a short survey that will inform a strategy Council is developing for off leash dog exercise areas.

Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent encouraged residents who use one of the six off leash areas in the Cessnock Local Government Area to do the quick survey and assist Council in identifying opportunities for improvement.

"We want our residents and their pets to be able to play, exercise and socialise in a safe and accessible way. Whether it's bins, seating or shade we want to hear about improvements that could make your trip to the dog park even more enjoyable."

Once a strategy is developed residents will have another opportunity to provide feedback during the public exhibition period.

To find out where our local off leash areas are located visit their web site or to participate in the survey visit their 'Have your Say' page. The survey closes on Sunday 27 September 2020.



EOI Q2021-58 OBSOLETE LIBRARY BOOKS

Invitation: Council invites any person willing to fulfil the requirements of the following Expression of Interest to submit by the deadline 6th October 2020 @ 3:00pm.

Obtain EOI documents at:

<https://www.vendorpanel.com.au/publictenders.aspx>

EOI: Q2021-58 Obsolete Library Books.

Deadline to submit: 6th October 2020 at 3pm.

Purpose of contract: The sale of Obsolete books from Cessnock library normally sold at the annual book sale which cancelled due to covid19.

Document price: No cost.

Requests for information: Contracts and Tendering Officer via EOI online forum.

www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au 62-78 Vincent St, Cessnock 02 4993 4100

REFLECTIONS

Yes / No

Matthew 21.23-32

It can be frustrating when someone answers a question with another question. The religious leaders question Jesus' authority and its origin while he is teaching in the synagogue, asking Him, 'by what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' [Matthew 21.23b] This sounds like a simple enough question, but on the lips of the chief priests and elders, there is a challenge that is being given a voice that is only thinly disguised. Imagine the frustration that Jesus causes by asking a question of His own, telling the chief priests and elders that if they first answer his question than he will answer theirs. The question Jesus asks, is framed as a question about baptism and its origin. He asks them 'did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' [Matthew 21.25] This too should be a simple enough question for the leaders of the synagogue to answer but they know that their answer will betray them, both to Jesus and to the people, and so they pretend not to know. And so, Jesus does not answer their question, but rather puts before them a parable about repentance.

There is a man who has two sons and he asked the first to work in the vineyard, but he says 'no.' Although he has said no to start with, at some point during the day he reconsiders the request of his father and goes to work in the vineyard. The father also asks the second son, who says 'yes.' However, he also changes his mind and does not go to work in the vineyard. Jesus then asks the question 'which of the two did the will of his father?' [Matthew 21.31] By telling this parable, Jesus shows the religious leaders of His time that the kingdom of God was the vineyard; the son who initially said 'no' represented the sinners; and the son who initially said 'yes' represented the religious leaders. The religious leaders, the ones who promised to work for God failed to do so, but the sinners, the ones who went their own way later turned to God, through Jesus, and did God's work and followed in His way.

How often are we like the two sons in this parable?

Without the freedom given to us by God to say 'yes' or to say 'no' there would be little meaning of either answer. Speaking an answer is only the beginning, once we have said 'yes' to God, we then need to put into action our 'yes' by our active obedience to God's will for our lives. Even the 'no' we speak today, can become tomorrow's 'yes'! God continues to call us through repentance to his heart, to be in relationship with him through Jesus, and loves us as grow into the people He created us to be.

Will you say 'yes' to Jesus today and will your 'yes' be visible in your life?

Blessings,
Reverend Nicole

Branxton Police "engagement day" 9:30 28th Sept



The Hunter Valley Police District will be holding a Community Engagement in Branxton on Monday the 28th of September, 2020 from 9.30am.

The Police Bus will be located in the car park at the intersection of Maitland and Cessnock Rd's (beside the Royal Federal Hotel). Present on the day will be the Officer-in-Charge of Singleton Police, Inspector Jo SCHULTZ, Branxton Police, A/Sgt Rob BILES, as well as the Hunter Valley Police District Crime Prevention Unit.

If you have any concerns, issues or questions that you wish to raise regarding policing in the Branxton, Greta, Huntlee and surrounding areas, or policing in general, you are more than welcome to stop by.

The Police expect to be there until 11.30am but are more than happy to stay longer if the community continues to drop in. Covid19 Social Distancing guidelines will be in place.

Photo: Inspector Jo SCHULTZ

Cessnock Council Library's flourishing

Great news for the readers of Cessnock and surrounds! As of Saturday 19 September Cessnock and Kurri Kurri Library hours returned to normal.

Members can still use the new Call and Collect Service and phone Cessnock Library on 4993 4399, Kurri Kurri Library on 4937 1638 or email library@cessnock.nsw.gov.au to advise the items they require and negotiate a time to collect them.

For those who, for medical reasons are unable to visit, the Home Library Service is operating in partnership with Northern Coalfields Community Care Association. People eligible for this service can contact their local branch to discuss deliveries.

Council's Library Services Co-ordinator, Rose-marie Walters said the eBranch usage has soared, with eLoans in the past month up almost 250% on the same time last year. "Members are making the most of the thousands of eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, eFilms and the millions of free songs to download in our eMusic library. We've also recently added free access StoryBox Library, a platform created for children to view stories being read aloud by fantastic, predominantly Australian and New Zealand, storytellers."

Visitors to Cessnock Library can enjoy the *Celluloid Dreams* exhibition currently on display in the library foyer. *Celluloid Dreams* tells the stories of Cessnock's local cinemas, from the first silent films shown in community halls, to the grand buildings that stood from Kurri Kurri to Paxton.

For the kids, the school holidays programme is out, with two in-library events. A *Drawing From Nature* workshop run by Gillian Hewitt from Imaginaturalists and *Whose Bum is That?* workshop that looks at native animals and their dietary and excretory habits, run by Emma Best from the Newcastle Museum. Bookings are essential and can be made on the library's Eventbrite page.

CESSNOCK

Library News



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NOW OPEN: Coles, Liquorland, Lake & Valley Optical, Fibonacci Coffee Cart and Lotus Nails.

COMING SOON: Big Scaevola, Piggott's Pharmacy, Huntlee Medical, Huntlee Dental, Fibonacci Cafe, Nargis Indian and Kebabs.

WWW.HUNTLEESHOPPINGCENTRE.COM.AU

22 Empire Drive, Branxton

PIGGOTT'S PHARMACY

ask Piggotts!

local caring service

PIGGOTT'S PHARMACY BRANXTON WELCOMES A SISTER STORE TO TOWN!

MEET YOUR BRANXTON PHARMACIST

Tanya

- Piggott's Pharmacy Huntlee will be opening soon offering the same great caring service while also expanding professional facilities to include;
- ♥ Ultra-Lite Ketogenic Weight Loss Program ♥
 - ♥ Sleep Apnoea Support ♥ La Belle Ruby Beauty Therapy ♥
 - ♥ Home Medication Reviews ♥
 - ♥ National Diabetes Service Scheme ♥
 - ♥ Blood Pressure Monitoring ♥ Compounding Medication ♥
 - ♥ Deliveries and outreach support ♥
 - ♥ Dose Administration Packing ♥

MEET YOUR HUNTLEE PHARMACIST

Jo

Caring for Newcastle and The Hunter since 1970... ask Piggotts!

PIGGOTT'S PHARMACY BRANXTON

56 Maitland St, Branxton • Phone: 4938 1156

OPEN: Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5:30pm, Saturday 8.30am – 1pm, closed Sunday

PIGGOTT'S PHARMACY HUNTLEE

Shop 1, Huntlee Town Centre, Branxton • Phone: 4067 7866

OPEN: Monday to Wednesday & Friday 9am – 5:30pm, Thursday 9am – 9pm, Saturday 9am – 5pm, Sunday 10am – 4pm

STEVE'S RANT

Individual accountability

Since the dawn of time, individual freedom has been whittled away by the necessity of rules of behaviour that civilisations developed. Periodically the rights and freedoms of individuals were proclaimed when the restrictions to personal endeavour or action became unbearable; generally, after a rebellion or revolution. To give an example, I quote an incident described in Winston Churchill's book "A History of the English Speaking Peoples, Vol 111." Two hundred and fifty years ago King George 3rd became incensed with an article published in THE NORTH BRITON which attacked Ministers as "tools of despotism and corruption." The writer hinted that the peace treaty with France was not only dishonourably but also dishonestly negotiated and that the king was party to it. A week later the Secretary of State issued a warrant commanding that the author, printer and publishers of "The North Briton" No 45, none of whom were named, should be found and arrested. Among those arrested was John Wilkes, a member of Parliament. Sent to the Tower, he refused to answer questions. He protested the warrant was illegal, and further, claimed Parliamentary privilege against the arrest. A result of this and further shenanigans, when the matter came before the

Court, the Judges ruled that the warrants were illegal. *The officials pleaded that they were immune because they were acting under government orders. The Chief Justice rejected this large and sinister defence in words which remain a classic statement on the rule of law. "With respect to the argument of State necessity," declared Lord Camden, "or a distinction which has been aimed at between State offences and others, the common law does not understand that kind of reasoning, nor do our books take notice of any such distinction."* "If a minister of the Crown ordered something to be done that was unlawful, then both he and his servants must answer for it in the ordinary courts of law in exactly the same way as a private person. Here indeed was a potent weapon against overbearing Ministers and zealous officials". Similarly, the defence offered by Nazi War Criminals at the Nuremberg War Crime Trials, that they were "following orders" was dismissed by the Court and they were duly hung or killed themselves. The legality of current lockdown and border closures is yet to be tested, against common law and our constitution. The uproar against general warrants led finally to pronouncements of 18th-century judges which led to the liberty of the individual, freedom of

speech and the power of parliament. So, if the young mother arrested at her home in Ballarat in Victoria wished to, I believe she's entitled to take those police officers to court. Those police officers should therefore be personally liable for any damages and any costs. What the police unions or the police superintendent's thought or authorised, how they get out of that, is their problem. Any policeman, or government operative or politician is obliged to use their discretion and accepted moral and ethical standards in the exercise of their duty. To knowingly impinge the rights of

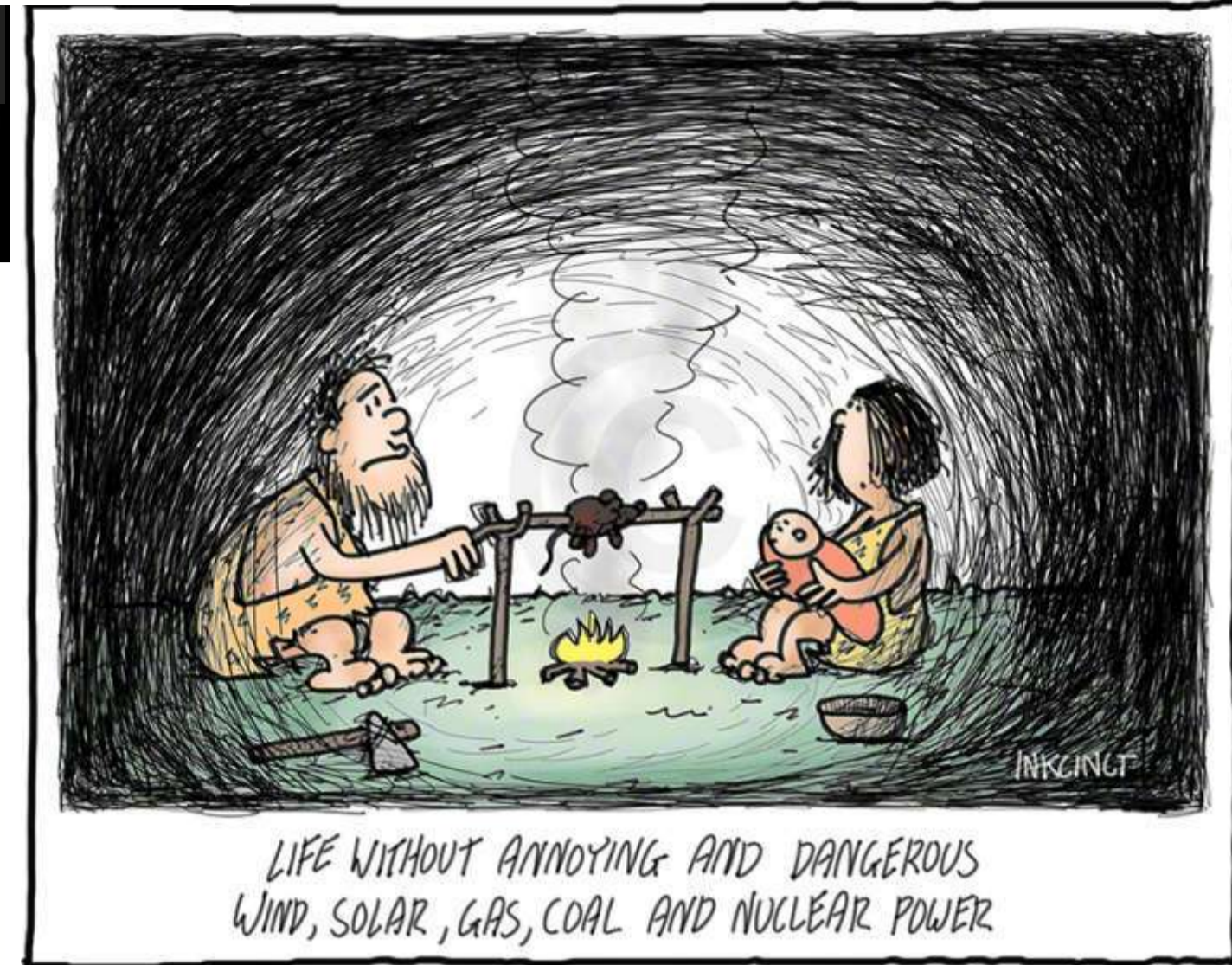
citizens without due regard to the acceptable standards of the day is to abrogate the authority of their position as officers of the crown. All members of the armed forces, Federal State and Territory police forces and all politicians are sworn to the crown. They do not swear to any ideology or individual but are bound to serve in the best interests of the community. If they believe rightly or wrongly, the instructions their superiors have given them is illegal or immoral; they must exercise their judgement or face the consequences if subsequent events prove their action was illegal or immoral. For

example, we currently have investigations underway of the activities of soldiers in Afghanistan. And there will be subsequent investigations after the lockdowns, and border closures have ceased. Yet to be tested in court is the legality and justification for these measures. The legal profession will have a ball. The freedoms and liberties that Australians thought they enjoyed have been put at risk by overzealous politician's and bureaucrats in the name of fighting the virus. We must not let what has happened in the past six months, and is still happening, become a precedent for tyrannical

officialdom. The framework for dismantling the oppressive actions of government and officialdom must include:-
 1. Revocation of fixed terms for parliament, for all States and Territories,
 2. A mechanism for the recall of parliaments by the people &
 3. Redistribution of electoral boundaries to better reflect the importance of areas that produce the wealth, and the devolution of taxation back to the States and Territories to make the States and Territories responsible for their finances. Competition between the States and Territories will be an imperative driver of responsible government and administration. The notion

that competition is somehow wrong or something to be avoided has gained irrational acceptance among the teacher's unions, at universities, and among the general public to the detriment of the vigour of community. Competition is a fundamental part of Darwin's theory of evolution, as it is absolute to all aspects of human endeavour. Without examples of excellence, we cannot judge our achievements or even achieve anything to which we may aspire. Let not 'dumbing down' to become a national policy. That is socialism, where misery is equally shared.

Cheers STEVE



LIFE WITHOUT ANNOYING AND DANGEROUS WIND, SOLAR, GAS, COAL AND NUCLEAR POWER

cannot get at Woollies or Coles" and she agreed wholeheartedly. Again I know it is a bit more expensive but it is far better quality than what the supermarkets want to ram down our throats purely for profit margin. So, while many consider the opening of Coles a good thing I cannot join in the happiness but see just another step in the gradual

erosion of quality of life in our area. It removes character from our area and turns it into just another bland boring suburbia. **D Wesseling, North Rothbury**
 Is this the heart of the community?
 ON July 27th 2020 a hand full of people being the board of directors decided to close Miller Park Sports Club. The vote was 3

people to stay open and 3 people said close the club; the deciding vote then went to the president who decided to close the club. This was all done without consultation with the members of Miller Park Sports Club. The future of MPSC is in your hands with a meeting to be held at Greta Workers club at 10am on Sunday 27th September. This meeting is to determine the future of Miller Park, without the support of our community the club will be sold and lost forever. With many members of the community in their senior years, they used the club as a means of maintaining a social life and a place to stay connected with friends and others in the community. This was done through the few things available at

Miller Park some of which included bingo, social bowls, darts, a game of cards and even trying their luck on the horses or in the meat raffles. For many, these activities gave people a reason to get out of bed in the morning and something to look forward too. With the amalgamation with Greta Workers Club offering to improve the facilities at Miller Park, to help attract more patrons. Some of these included new signage to promote the club-this was completed just before its closing, tab facilities-installed after quite some time, expansion of the kitchen and installation of Foxtel sports channels-neither were completed. They did however allow Miller Park the use of the courtesy bus. How can you expect a different result, with continually doing the same thing?

There were numerous suggestions put forward to the board by the community on things that would bring them to Miller Park and improve their enjoyment while at the club; yes this meant spending a bit of money, however, it would have also increased patronage which then boosts profits. Some suggestions were at a very minimal cost however they were never considered. Over the years support from Miller Park to local sporting clubs had diminished and therefore some locals decided to take their patronage to other establishments that supported their clubs. On the 9th of July 1946 RW Miller purchased 55 acres for the community and the birth of Miller Park, on the 27th of September (this Sunday), let's all get to the meeting and keep it going. **Tony Munce, Stanhope NSW**



New Huntlee Coles

Today was a day of celebration in Huntlee with the official opening of Coles. As the mayor of Cessnock was pleased to announce, a great event for the region. However, I tend to disagree with the sentiment of quite a lot of locals that it was high time it opened. I have been and still am an advocate for the many signs around our 'Town' to Buy Local. The opening of Coles is seen as a great benefit for the area with many (?) local jobs being created but how many will be lost when the supermarket juggernaut will

eventually have eradicated the local IGA, bakery and butcher. I am aware that many consider the local shops to be more expensive than Coles or Woolworth but both of these work primarily for the shareholders and not for the consumers. At IGA I can buy MY brand of article and I am not forced to select any of the Coles brands. Just the other day I was in the butcher shop and observed another customer excitedly looking at the many delicious cured meats and products in there. I said "Now that is what you

Emergency Phone Numbers		
Dial 000	Police	Electricity
FOR FIRE, POLICE AND AMBULANCE ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT FOR 24-HOUR SERVICE	Branxton..... 4938 1244	Energy
It's a free call. Just tell the operator what you need-fire, police or ambulance. Then wait to be connected.	Lochinvar..... 4930 7209	Australia..... 131 388
When reporting an emergency by calling 000, the telephone number & address you are calling from may be given to the emergency service so they can respond quickly. If you don't want the telephone number or address details passed on, you must call the emergency service direct.	Ambulance..... 131 233	Hospitals
ALL CALLS TO 000 ARE VOICE RECORDED	NSW Fire Brigade	Maitland... 4939 2000
For non-life threatening calls.....	Branxton..... 4938 3396	Cessnock... 4991 0555
Police Assistance Line (PAL)....	Rural Fire Brigades	Singleton... 6572 2799
131 444	Belford..... 6574 7149	SES132 500
	Broke..... 6579 1491	Crime Stoppers
	Greta..... 4015 0000	1800 333 000
	Bishops Bdg 4015 0000	Poisons Info 131 126
	Nth R'bury... 4015 0000	Hunter Water
	Rothbury.... 4015 0000	1300 657 000
	Pokolbin.... 4015 0000	Ausgrid 131 388
	Rothbury.... 4991 1733	Gas Emergencies . 131 909
	Bishops Bdg 4015 0000	Lifeline131 114
	Nth R'bury... 4015 0000	Mental Health Line
	Rothbury.... 4015 0000	1800 011 511
	Pokolbin.... 4015 0000	Domestic Violence Support
	Rothbury.... 4991 1733	4990 9609
	Scotts	Centrelink Self Service
	Flat..... 6575 1200	136 240
	Central	Medicare 132 011
	(Cessnock).... 4015 0000	Native Animal Rescue
		0418 628 483



Piggott's Pharmacy will be giving away \$50 every day for 50 days in every store from 1st October, as they celebrate 50 years of serving Newcastle and the Hunter with personal service and care in November.

Chris and Shirley Piggott met in Sydney University whilst studying Pharmacy, they got married, enjoyed a working/travel honeymoon and moved to Newcastle to start their new business. The first Piggott's Pharmacy was purchased in November 1970 at Orchardtown Road,

Blackbutt (New Lambton- Newcastle). At the time, Shirley was three weeks away from delivering the couple's first child, a daughter, Petrina "Maddi". The Piggott family lived in an apartment above the Pharmacy for three years with Chris and Shirley alternating Pharmacist, management, accounting and parenting roles. Chris and Shirley now have 4 children; Petrina "Maddi" almost 50, Andrew 48, Anthony 40 and Skye 38 plus nine grandchildren. Nobody would have

foretold that 3 of them would later follow in their parent's footsteps and become Pharmacists. The one son who instead studied Surveying, later fell in love and married an Austrian Pharmacist! So, Pharmacy certainly does run rich in their veins. In 1979, with the opening of Charlestown Square was an opportunity that allowed Piggott's Pharmacy to expand to open a Soul Pattinson Pharmacy which became one of the busier Pharmacies in the Hunter Region. This Pharmacy was revolutionary at the time, as

well as providing all Pharmacy needs, a photo lab, Juvena beauty products and of course the much loved "Homyped" and "masseur sandals" were a staple part of business. Chris was a big personality and became well known as a genuine, knowledgeable and caring Pharmacist with regular radio and TV appearances. Having two Pharmacies allowed combined buying to benefit both and also training and developing team members. Some 32 staff are employed between both shops.

Chris had sporting, church and Rotary involvements alongside his Pharmacy interests that culminated in his being President of the Newcastle & Hunter Valley Pharmacists Association. Chris also had all his Pharmacists trained in Naturopathy and Herbal Medicines to lead in the thirst for knowledge that the public require to stay healthy. Small business is important to local communities - that is where you know your local retailers by name, and they know you. It is the human side that contrasts so vividly against big, impersonal businesses. Nowhere did you see that personal touch better than at Blackbutt and to hear Chris crack a joke or read poems with the locals he loves. Chris Piggott's Soul Pattinson Pharmacy was in the family until the mid-1990's when Chris made the decision to "cut back a little" Anthony is the second son and third child of the Piggott's and grew up around his family Pharmacies. After finishing his studies in Sydney, he was in London working at Croydon University Hospital in South London, doing first-in-human drug trials, before working in Airlie Beach for a successful Queensland Pharmacist. Anthony returned to Newcastle as his father was

preparing to sell his original Pharmacy at Blackbutt. In 2009 when the youngest children, Skye and Anthony, took over the family business. The original Pharmacy at Blackbutt has seen considerable growth since. Its initial consistent growth also involved adding a small medical centre to the former upstairs living area, but in 2013 the Pharmacy was extended, and the medical centre expanded and renovated completely. Anthony Piggott, with support from his father and family is now the driving force, quickly expanding in Hamilton, Hamilton South, Branxton, Lambton and the newest edition, Piggott's Pharmacy Huntlee. This expansion has not only been with assistance from his father but also with the help of his brother, and wife Sandra, and great Community Pharmacists Lee Grundy, Brett Plumb and now Jo Jennings as business partners. Anthony is very active in the local community and the Pharmacy community alike. He is well entrenched in providing traditional Pharmacy values, genuine care, and quality service and advice. When you go to a Piggott's Pharmacy you will feel a warm welcome from staff who love their job. We invite you and your family to visit us or call us should you need any trusted health

advice. Piggott's Pharmacy has been serving the Newcastle and Hunter Community for 50 years with personal service and care. Piggott's Pharmacy is not a generic brand, we are a local family Pharmacy caring for your family and community. Piggott's Pharmacy have engaging and happy staff members, who value each and every customer. Caring service is what we strive to provide, with a smile. You are welcome to challenge our claim by visiting any Piggott's Pharmacy - When you experience the difference, you will be glad you did! Piggott's Pharmacy staff have always enjoyed being apart, of the Piggott Family. These values are reflected in their delivering happy and caring service to their customers. The family continue to honour the traits of business drilled into them by their father. The Pharmacies regularly support a wide range of causes and community groups including making significant contributions to not-for-profit organisations. POP into any Piggott's Pharmacy to 'Celebrate' with us and you could WIN a \$50 voucher!

Photo above: Left & Right, Shirley & Chris Piggott & son Anthony

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Members say ..



Bob Pynsent, Mayor Cessnock City Council

Last week marked National Child Protection Week and Friday was White Balloon Day which is now in its 24th year. White Balloon Day is Australia's longest running annual national awareness campaign for the prevention of child sexual assault and exploitation. The message couldn't be stronger – child protection is everyone's job. It is not solely the responsibility of parents and grandparents. Teachers and police officers can only do so much. When it comes to keeping the country's most vulnerable souls safe from harm, we all have a role to play.

A great resource has been put together by Bravehearts. The Parents Guide to Personal Safety booklet includes information about the occurrence, prevention, and disclosure of child sexual assault and harm, as well as activities and tips for parents to help teach their children about personal safety and a list of child-safety emergency contacts. To view the book visit www.whiteballoonday.com.

Last weekend was Get Ready Weekend hosted by the NSW Rural Fire Service both in person and online. Following the devastating 2019/20 bushfire season, communities are understandably keen to know more about getting ready in the lead up to the 2020/21 season. Follow the Rural Fire Service Lower Hunter Facebook Page for information as it becomes available. You can also visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au for more information.

Cessnock City Council is currently conducting a survey to hear from those in the community who were impacted by the last bushfire season. The survey has been put together with the help of Resilience NSW in order to get a better insight into community needs and the assistance residents may still require. Anyone interested in doing the survey can contact Council's Community Recovery Officer Melissa Boucher at Melissa.boucher@cessnock.nsw.gov.au or phone 4993 4257.

Stage One and Two works on Gingers Lane are now complete and Stage Three is well underway between Woodlands Drive and Stringybark Place. A road closure is currently in place

on Gingers Lane for Stage Three road works between Woodlands Drive and Stringybark Place. Detours are in place via Frame Drive and Sawyers Gully Road as the staged construction progresses. During the course of the upgrade, there have been some unavoidable delays and the expected completion date is now March 2021. The patience of residents is appreciated as these works are carried out.

It was great to attend the opening of Coles Huntlee this morning. This facility is positive for our local community providing jobs and also increasing convenience and liveability for our residents.

Cheers, Bob



Sue Moore, Mayor Singleton Council

Anyone who's driven along John Street in Singleton recently can see the evidence of progress happening in our local government area, although we might grumble about the short-term disruptions to traffic.

In retrospect, the \$7 million Town Centre Upgrade - Stage 2 could not have come at a better time as our community continues to grapple with the economic impacts of COVID-19. The Town Centre project represents an investment in the future and resilience of our local government area, and an injection of money and people in John Street particularly through opportunities for local sub-contractors and businesses. Accordingly, Council's \$45 million capital works budget for 2020/2021 is more than just the list of projects we're working on this year: it's also an important boost for COVID recovery. Projects like the Town Centre Upgrade, the new Animal Management Facility and water main upgrades are generating investment and jobs in the short-term, and setting us up for the opportunities that will come into the future.

And with all the uncertainty in the world at the moment, that's a ray of good news. But it doesn't end there. We're always looking to engage as many local contractors as possible and Council is currently reviewing our procurement policies to give this even greater emphasis.

Council's injection is also being compounded by announcements in other industries, namely \$42.2 million for the Singleton Mid-Term Refresh Project. I

said at the time that this was a wonderful demonstration of the Australian Defence Force's commitment to the importance of the Singleton Military Area. But what's most significant is the target that has been set for 82 per cent of subcontract packages to benefit businesses in Singleton and the Hunter Region throughout the duration of the project to 2022.

Council is also working hard to secure more funding under opportunities from the Federal and State governments that would not have factored in our works program otherwise. That includes \$500,000 under the Streets as Shared Spaces program to continue the revitalisation of the Town Centre with some creative ideas for Burns Lane, Bourkes Arcade Lane, Tre Bella Lane and Evidence Lane.

And of course, we're looking forward to the outcome of our Resources for Regions applications in November, which add up to a further \$4.5 million injection for infrastructure and programs to benefit our community. But we know wellbeing isn't all about money and shiny new projects. And that's why we're also looking at how this funding can also bring us all together – in ways that comply with COVID-19 restrictions. I hope we have even more good news to share soon.

Cheers, Sue



JOEL FITZGIBBON MP
Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Resources & Member for Hunter

'Powering the Hunter'

In 2015 AGL gave 5 years' notice it would need to decommission Liddell power station by 2022. That sort of notice has never been given before. I immediately began working with and lobbying AGL to ensure power station workers would be taken care of and AGL invested in new local generation and storage capacity.

The generation gap is 1,000 megawatt hours. Liddell's installed capacity is 2,000 MWh but she is so old she can't ramp-up to much more than 1,000 MWh. So AGL's plan has been to upgrade the Bayswater power station (100 MWh), build a local gas-fired power station (250 MWh), build pumped-hydro at Bell's Mountain (250 MWh) and to build a battery on the Liddell site (500 MWh). All of these initiatives would provide firming power to keep our electricity grid stable. Each of the projects should

have been closer to reality now but Scott Morrison ran interference on them by trying to bully AGL into extending the life of Liddell. Last week, he ran up the white flag on that silly campaign and backed AGL's plans. Now he's standing out of our way, we can get on with it.

We've also been working on a second gas-fired power station, this one to be built by Snowy Hydro. The 350 MWh station will be built on the former Hydro (Alcan) Aluminium site in Kurri Kurri.

To make these new gas-fired generators work, we need more gas. We are going to make that happen, I hope, by getting the Narrabri gas project across the line after 10 years in the making, and a new gas pipeline from Queensland, where there is an abundance of gas. If all goes well, the Hunter will remain the powerhouse of NSW, jobs will be created, and our electricity will be more reliable and affordable. All of these are happening not thanks to the Prime Minister, but despite him.

Cheers, Joel



Member for Cessnock Clayton Barr MP

Raising the BARR

WINTER SPORT WIND DOWN
As the tens of thousands of volunteers at our winter sports start to pull down the shutters of the canteen, wash and pack away the jumpers and find a way to sell-out the last of the chips and lollies, it is a terrific time to think about how important they are.

Being a volunteer at any sport always requires hours and hours and hours of time given and spent making it possible for the sport to happen. And in season 2020, these volunteers also had to become health specialists, social distancing police and the keepers of COVID registers. What an incredible season! Season 2020 has also been tough for the athletes who thrive at the weekend sport event. Some are interested in the friends and laughs and general good time, while others are far more into the competition of it all, both of

which are great for our mental health. And then there are the mums and dads and the grandparents and family and friends. Most of these have been "locked out" this season, for everyone's safety, and it has undoubtedly been difficult to miss the regular weekend sport events.

So please, take on board the thanks of our entire community in all that you have all done this season and all of the sacrifices that you have made. Without you and your willingness to respect the health crisis that we are all trying to live with, our winter sport season would never have been able to go ahead. Thank you all.

TOURISM MAYHEM

It would be impossible to not have noticed the masses of tourist traffic that have filled the roads and car parks of the Hunter over recent months. By Friday mornings the M1 is spilling tens of thousands of tourists into our region. Cafés and supermarkets and accommodation and restaurants all fill very quickly.

There is no doubt that this all poses a COVID risk, but currently, with COVID numbers being quite low in NSW, that risk is minimal and the benefits are quite significant. Tourism is a key part of our economy and while tourism is operating and thriving then our locals can be busily and happily at work, making a quid that ultimately gets spent back into our local businesses. There may well come a time in the not too distant future when this tourism is switched off again, as it was back in March-June. This will be devastating for local businesses and their employees and the families that rely on these income streams. But for now, let's just manage the COVID risk, operate and work safely and hope that the current mayhem survives for quite some time. Makes me wonder if we really do want the borders to reopen and lose all of that interstate traffic to our interstate markets.

For enquiries regarding the State Government or its departments, or to put you in contact with someone who can help, please contact my office. My office can be contacted by phoning 4991-1466, by email to cessnock@parliament.nsw.gov.au or call into 118 Vincent Street (PO Box 242), Cessnock 2325. You can also follow me on my Facebook page "www.facebook.com/claytonbarrmp", go to

Twitter and search @claytonbarrmp or check out my website at www.claytonbarr.com.au
Cheers, Clayton



MICHAEL JOHNSEN MP
Member for Upper Hunter

State Matters New Program to Strengthen Rural Student Voice

The NSW Government has announced a new program aimed at boosting the aspirations and leadership capabilities of young people in rural and regional schools. The NSW Rural Youth Ambassador 2020 Pilot Program will immerse 28 year 11 students from Willyama to Warialda in six months of leadership development, advocacy and learning.

I am delighted to announce that two students from our Upper Hunter electorate have been nominated as delegates of the NSW Government's inaugural Rural Youth Ambassador Pilot Program. Congratulations to Chloe Black of Singleton High School & Harrison Amidy of Merriwa Central School. Rural and regional communities offer a range of opportunities for young people to exercise leadership, but this initiative goes further by offering some of those young leaders the opportunity to share ideas, engage with successful business and thought leaders from rural communities, explore opportunities with key decision makers and energise each other.

Each of the Rural Youth Ambassadors will emerge with enhanced leadership skills and knowledge, plus stronger confidence in their future and a network of peers with whom they share interests and aspirations. This pilot will give these students the opportunity to interact with experienced local leaders and learn how they thrive where they live. The NSW Rural Youth Ambassador 2020 Pilot Program will commence next term with the young leaders participating in online forums, discussions and working groups ahead of a planned three-day forum in term four.

More Training for Jobs of the Future

I encourage locals looking for the opportunity to reskill for the jobs of the future could benefit from the NSW Government's Skilling for Recovery initiative.

The NSW Government has committed \$159.3 million to match the Federal Government's JobTrainer funding, which will be a key component to the State's COVID-19 Recovery Plan.

This initiative is an excellent opportunity for people in our Upper Hunter electorate to upskill or reskill and for school leavers to enter the workforce for the first time.

Our community is battling COVID-19 like the rest of the state, so it is important for job seekers to look to industries of the future. I encourage anyone who has had their work situation impacted by COVID to see if these training opportunities can help them. This investment will help job seekers enhance their credentials.

Education and skills are key pillars to the NSW Government's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, so it is a critical step to commit to these additional training places. I expect industries such as health, manufacturing and construction to be key training areas. Skilling for Recovery includes:

- Infrastructure-specific training to support the record spending on projects such as the Aerotropolis, hospital redevelopments and regional road upgrades
- Full-qualifications to retrain and become qualified

- Short course micro-credentials to upskill
- Support for apprentices and trainees

- A new online Skills and Employment Hub
- Regional employment brokers to connect industry and trainers with job seekers;
- Tailored support to re-engage young people in regional areas back into school, training or employment.

Training is expected to commence in the coming months.

Cheers, Michael

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News
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Pharmacist Advice



Medical Advice

Medicinal cannabis, explained



What is medicinal cannabis?

Cannabis is a flowering plant in the *Cannabaceae* family. Humans have been growing and using cannabis for multiple purposes over thousands of years. Medicinal cannabis products are mostly made from chemicals found in the cannabis plant. These are called phytocannabinoids (in Greek, phyto means 'of a plant').

Some medicinal cannabis products are produced synthetically in a laboratory to mimic the actions of phytocannabinoids. These are called synthetic cannabinoids. Some synthetic cannabinoids can have more harmful side effects than phytocannabinoids, and when used have resulted in a number of deaths.

How does medicinal cannabis work? Cannabis contains chemicals called phytocannabinoids (commonly referred to as cannabinoids). There are more than 100 different types of cannabinoids found in cannabis plants. Cannabinoids can also be found in the human body. These are called endocannabinoids and they affect appetite, sleep, memory, pain and inflammation. Cannabinoids from the cannabis plant act on receptors in the brain and other parts of the body by mimicking naturally occurring endocannabinoids. Two of the most common cannabinoids used in medicinal cannabis products are THC (delta 9-tetrahydrocannabinol) and CBD (cannabidiol). These work differently.

• THC may be used to reduce symptoms of nausea, vomiting, pain and muscle spasticity as well as improve sleep and appetite. In some people, THC may cause the 'high' generally associated with recreational cannabis use.

• CBD does not cause a 'high' and may reduce the unwanted side effects of THC.

• Research is continuing into the medicinal uses of CBD and THC combined. The combination is thought to be useful in the management of seizures and pain and may also help to reduce anxiety. Medicinal cannabis is not considered a 'first-line' treatment for any health condition. Treatment with medicinal cannabis should only be considered by a prescribing doctor once all other standard approved treatments have been unsuccessful. **Is medicinal cannabis the same as recreational cannabis?** No. Medicinal cannabis is different from recreational cannabis (also known as marijuana).

• Medicinal cannabis is a therapeutic good, which means it is regulated to ensure its safety.

• Medicinal cannabis producers must comply with Australian standards for producing pharmaceutical-grade medicines.

• Pharmaceutical-grade medicinal cannabis products are cultivated and manufactured to meet stringent Australian quality and safety standards.

• Medicinal cannabis products must contain known quantities of the cannabinoids THC and CBD. Products must not contain any moulds, fungi, bacteria, pesticides, heavy metals or other potentially harmful substances.

What are some of the conditions for which medicinal cannabis treatment has been approved? In Australia, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved applications for the use of medicinal cannabis to treat conditions including:

- epilepsy in children
- palliative care
- cancer pain
- neuropathic pain
- spasticity from conditions such as multiple sclerosis
- anorexia and wasting associated with chronic illness such as cancer.

Who can prescribe medicinal cannabis? Medicinal cannabis is subject to laws and regulations in Australia. Because medicinal cannabis is not considered a 'first line' treatment for any condition, it should only be considered by a prescribing doctor if the usual approved treatments have not worked effectively. If your doctor is considering prescribing medicinal cannabis after you have tried all other usual approved treatments without success, they should read a summary of the evidence and assess whether medicinal cannabis may be effective for your health condition. Prescribing doctors must apply for approval to prescribe the product from the Australian government regulatory authority and state/territory health departments (if required).

What are the side effects of medicinal cannabis? Like all medicines, medicinal cannabis products can have side effects. The known side effects from medicinal cannabis treatment include

- fatigue and sedation
- dizziness
- confusion
- nausea and vomiting
- fever
- decreased or increased appetite
- dry mouth, and diarrhoea.

CONT PAGE 10

A sustainable voice

In a monumental move that will see enormous potential unlocked for local tourism operators in Australia's most visited wine region, last Wednesday evening Cessnock City Council (CCC) approved the formation of a Joint Tourism Services Agreement between the Hunter Valley Visitor Information Centre (VIC) and the Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association (HVWTA).

It is anticipated that at a Special General Meeting of the member-run Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association will see the Agreement formalised in late October, creating a powerful single brand for Hunter Valley Wine Country fulfilling both destination marketing and delivering best practise in-destination tourism services.

In response to member feedback received earlier in the year the HVWTA sought to streamline services and gain greater resource and asset efficiencies as well as access to funding, by forming a working alliance with Cessnock City Council. "Building on the momentum of The Alliance, we set out

to create one tourism service representing the interests of operators in Hunter Valley Wine Country, delivering a range of economic benefits to members, while creating a single unified entity to promote, market and advocate on behalf of wine country. The model will also unlock significant potential funding streams to support a sustainable and highly-competitive tourism brand, capable of advocating across all levels of government." Explains Christina Tulloch, President of the HVWTA. "To achieve this we're working on forming a 'Joint Tourism Services Agreement' whereby together with the VIC, the HVWTA will become a more powerful single unified entity to better market and promote the Hunter Valley Wine Country brand and offer visitors to our region a more seamless visitor experience." Christina adds. "Beyond the immediate benefit of a seamless visitor experience, with the hefty de-duplication of assets and streamlining resources, working in close partnership has advantages for industry in giving our region its best chance ever of strengthening



our presence as a destination of choice. We are using this opportunity to create a more equitable membership model, which is sustainable and predictable. With strong economic benefits of achieving unity between local government and industry, we'll speak with one voice to attract new funding streams, and to advocate and lobby on behalf of the region." Comments Amy Cooper, CEO, HVWTA. A major part of bringing together the two organisations is the creation of a new funding model to identify cost savings, increase income from the visitor economy, improve access to grant funding, and most importantly implementing a fee structure that equitably and fairly levies membership fees from all those who either directly or indirectly rely on the success of the Hunter Valley

Wine Country brand to sustain their business. "It's a win-win for all involved and no doubt there will be significant benefits from a collaborative approach" Comments Mayor Pynsent. "What it will effectively mean is a single membership for the whole of industry and one strong, united voice to market, promote and advocate for our region." Comments Tony Chadwick, Economic Development and Tourism Manager, Cessnock City Council. The Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association is hosting an Industry Forum today 24 September at 10am, followed by a Special General Meeting in late October 2020.

■ Photo above: Amy Cooper, CEO, HVWTA, Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent and Christina Tulloch, President of the HVWTA.



Nothing is as comforting as a big plate of traditional curried sausages.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 kg thick beef sausages
- 1 tablespoon peanut oil
- 1 medium brown onion, sliced
- 2 tablespoons curry powder
- 1 cup (250ml) Massel beef stock
- 400g can diced tomatoes
- 1 cup (150g) frozen peas
- 1/2 cup sultanas
- Rice, to serve
- Yoghurt, to serve
- Fresh coriander, to serve

METHOD

Step 1 Place sausages in large pan, cover with cold water. Bring to a boil over high heat, boil 2 minutes. Drain sausages. Thickly slice on the diagonal.

Grandma's curried sausages



Step 2

Heat oil in large saucepan, cook onion, stirring about 3 minutes or until soft. Add curry powder, cook, stirring about 1 minute or until fragrant.

Step 3

Add sausages, stir to coat in curry mixture. Add stock and tomatoes, simmer, uncovered about 5 minutes or until thickened slightly. Stir in peas and sultanas. Cook a further 5 minutes until thickened and peas are heated through. Serve with rice, yoghurt and coriander.

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The Branxton Greta Menshed has been coming out of its COVID induced hibernation for several weeks now.

Most members have (re) started various projects of their own and we have also assisted with a number of projects asked for by the public. At top right is a photo of the tree surrounds created for the residents of Dalwood Street, Greta to enhance the scenic beauty of the street. On request of the Lower Hunter Land Care Group we have created several nest boxes for specific bird species which will be installed along the lower Hunter in the area. Currently works is being completed on a sturdy

outdoor garden bench which will be part of our upcoming Christmas Raffle. As always we welcome all to come and visit us or join us as members on Wednesday and Friday mornings. In particular we are looking for some model railway enthusiasts to help with our own setup and possible one of our members with his home setup. For more information contact Richard Wesseling 0417422560 or come and have a cuppa at the Shed. 49 Branxton Street, Greta (in the grounds of the old St Mary's primary school).

Councillor Gray elected to serve as Cessnock Deputy Mayor

Congratulations to Councillor Darrin Gray, who was elected to the position of Deputy Mayor of Cessnock City Council at councils meeting last week.



Newly elected Cessnock Deputy Mayor Cllr Darrin Gray

Council's General Manager Lotta Jackson was the returning officer for the election and declared Councillor Gray the successful candidate during last week's council meeting. Councillor Gray will replace Councillor Melanie Dagg who has held the position for the last two years. Cessnock City Mayor, Councillor Bob Pynsent recognised Councillor Dagg on her fantastic work. "Cr Dagg has served her community proudly during her term and has represented me at various events doing an exceptional job. Cr Dagg is extremely passionate advocate for our community and no doubt will continue this in her role as a Councillor." Cr Gray said he is honoured to be supported by his fellow Councillors and take on the position. "I have lived in the Cessnock Local Government Area all my life, as have generations before me. I feel both a sense of obligation and privilege to be able to contribute to our ongoing prosperity for future generations." "I'm looking forward to the new role and the opportunity it brings to continue to advocate for our community."

A diplomat is a man who always remembers a woman's birthday but never remembers her age.
Robert Frost (1874-1963)

Democracy is a process by which the people are free to choose the man who will get the blame.
Laurence J. Peter



'Gladys' say 'yes' to school formals now it's time to go shopping



Say Yes To the Dress!!!!
'Formal Boutique'
Monday
12th Oct 9am-12noon
Saturday
17th Oct 10am to 12noon
Branxton Community Hall
Beautiful formal/semi-formal clean Gently Worn dresses, purses and shoes, that are ready to go home.
From Year 6 to Year 12 young ladies
Please contact:
Helen 0427 047 024
Check our Facebook page

2020 has been a year of the unknown and hardship, for many of our community. To help our students, we are hosting 2 popup shops, too on sell the formal dresses, shoes, Jewellery and clutches that the lovely ladies of Branxton, Newcastle and surrounding areas that have been dropped off to us.

The POP-UP SHOP will be on Monday 12th October from 10am to 12noon and Saturday 17th October from 10am to 12noon at Branxton Community Hall. We have an amazing variety of clothes in many colours, styles and sizes from 6 to 26, some with BNWT (Brand New With Tags), from Miss Anne, Mr K, and City Chic.

Beautiful Jewellery, shoes and clutch purses also available.
JOIN US FOR A MORNING OF FUN shopping for formal items to CELEBRATE YOUR DREAM NIGHT.
Check out our Facebook page, Declutter your Wardrobe.




GG accepts invitation to be patron of Hunter ANZAC Memorial

The Governor General, the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) has accepted an invitation to patron the proposed Hunter ANZAC Memorial walkway which will take shape after the completion of the Branxton to Greta cycleway.

The Governor General was previously patron when he was the Governor of NSW but upon appointment as Governor General the patronage lapsed. Brett Wild, Chairman of the ANZAC Memorial walkway said a feature of the walkway would be a memorial wall etched with the names of 321 men from the Greta-Branxton area who enlisted, along with sculptures of a soldier and a miner. "Roughly 40 per cent of the adult male population of the area enlisted, and nearly 40 per cent of those 321 were miners or mine-related workers," Mr Wild said.

"In an era when they are now all gone, I think this is a perfect opportunity to say in a little part of the Hunter Valley, nearly 40 per cent of the men went to war," he said.






WITH

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

SHAW & BUNNER

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7 Weird and Wonderful Laws from around the Globe

We thought we would have some fun this edition and share some interesting laws from around the world, starting with Australia.

1. Illegal to change a light bulb in Victoria
Under Victorian law, changing a light bulb without a valid licence to do so was against the law and attracted a fine of 10 Australia dollars. The law was reviewed in 1998 when the Electricity Safety Act updated the law. A spokesperson from Energy Safe Australia stated that: *"While the Electricity Safety Act makes it illegal to do your own electrical work if you are not licensed, changing a light bulb and removing a plug from a socket were specifically exempted from this requirement under Order in Council G17."*

2. Illegal to hold a salmon under suspicious circumstances
In England and Wales, the Salmon Act of 1986 states that it is an offence to handle salmon under suspicious circumstances. Section 32 creates an office for

any period who receives or disposes of any salmon in circumstances where they believe or could reasonable believe that the salmon has been illegal fished. The offence carries a maximum penalty of two years in prison.

3. Illegal not to smile
Italians are often known as one of the happiest countries in the world but did you know that in Milan, the law compels a person to smile. It is prescribed by a city relation from Austro-Hungarian times that was never repealed. Exemptions included funeral workers or those at the bedside of an ill family member. For everybody else there is no excuse for being glum, the



alternative being a fine.

4. Illegal to let your chickens cross the road

In Quitman, Georgia (USA) the law states that your chickens must be under control at all times. This makes sense however the law specifically states that you are not allowed to let your chickens cross the road. They do like their fried chicken in Georgia, hence the importance of keeping them safe from becoming road kill!

5. Illegal to pass wind in a public place after 6pm on Thursdays
This one is in Florida and is a forgotten law having never really been enforced, but strange all the same. It was likely written in the 1800's and forgotten about. It is not clear why this ever became a law, or a rumored law, in the first place.

6. Illegal to forget your wife's birthday
This one is in Samoa and you will get more than silent treatment if you forget your wife's birthday. It is unclear on what the sentence would be bet best not forget.

7. Illegal to have a sleeping donkey in your bathtub after 7pm
This law exists in Arizona and was brought into effect due to a public menace case in 1924. A merchant used to allow his donkey to sleep in a bathtub. The town flooded when a local dam broke and the donkey was washed a mile down the valley. Thankfully the donkey survived however the locals spent a lot of time and manpower to save the animal. This law was passed shortly afterwards.

Cheers, Gemma

followed a 0.7 per cent drop in June and a 0.4 per cent drop in May. Overall values have slipped 0.7 per cent since the pandemic began to bite in the middle of March. For that month values were up 0.7 per cent, followed by an increase of 0.3 per cent in March. The figures indicate the resilience of the market, according to CoreLogic's head of research Tim Lawless. "The impact from COVID-19 on housing values has been orderly to-date, with CoreLogic's national index falling

only 1.6 per cent since the recent high in April and housing turnover has recovered quickly after it's sharp fall in late March and April," he said. Melbourne, which has been hit hardest by COVID-19 saw housing values slide the greatest by 1.2 per cent. In Sydney they fell 0.9 per cent, in Perth by -0.6 per cent, in Hobart by -0.2 per cent and in Darwin by -0.3 per cent. Adelaide (0.1 per cent) and Canberra (0.6 per cent) were the only cities to enjoy a value increase in July.

Record low interest rates, government support and loan repayment holidays for distressed borrowers have helped to insulate the housing market from a more significant downturn," Mr Lawless said.

"Advertised supply levels have remained tight, with the total number of properties for sale falling a further 4.3 per cent in the four weeks to July 27th, sitting 15.2 per cent below where they were this time last year. "Additionally, increased demand driven by housing specific incentives from both federal and state governments, especially for first home buyers, have become more substantial.

With welfare packages JobKeeper and JobSeeker to be scaled down from October and Victoria entering stage four lockdown yesterday, the medium term outlook is for a continued drift downward of the market. "Urgent sales are likely to become more common as we approach these milestones, which will test the market's resilience," Mr Lawless said.

"Similarly, the recent concerns of a second wave of the virus and the potential for renewed border closures and stricter social distancing policies are likely to further push consumer sentiment down. This is likely to weigh on both home buying and selling activity more broadly." This is likely to be reflected first at the premium end of the market, Mr Lawless pointed out.

"Higher value markets tend to be more reactive to changes in the economic environment, having led both the upswing and the downturn over previous cycles," he said. "The COVID related downturn has seen this trend playing out again, with upper quartile values down 2.9 per cent across the combined capital city index since the end of March, while lower quartile values have fallen by only 0.5 per cent."

Auctions provide positive outlook
Meanwhile the auction market is exemplifying the stability of the real estate market nationally. Over the weekend just gone the clearance rate was up 54.1 per cent to 65.3 per cent, with 1,162 homes going under the hammer, according to CoreLogic. On the same weekend last year, the clearance rate was 66.4 per cent with fewer homes (1,108) sold. In Melbourne, 351 Melbourne homes scheduled for auction, lower than the 540 over the week prior. Melbourne's preliminary clearance rate was 59.8 per cent of auctions successful as fewer withdrawn auctions were recorded this week lifting the success rate. One year ago, 500 Melbourne homes were auctioned with a final clearance rate of 70.9 per cent.

In Sydney, 578 homes were taken to auction early August returning a preliminary auction clearance rate of 68.2 per cent, up from last week's final clearance rate of 60.6 per cent across 594 auctions. Over the same week last year, Sydney volumes were 386 with a success rate of 72 per cent. Across the smaller cities, Adelaide and Canberra came in with equal highest clearance rate over the week with 80 per cent of homes selling at auction, according to CoreLogic. James MacSmith, Realestate.com.au

Study reveals which Aussie cities have the cleanest and dirtiest homes

The COVID-19 pandemic has made us all obsessed with cleaning, according to new research. A study of households across capital cities revealed Sydneysiders devoted the most time to

cleaning their properties and were more likely to get into arguments over household chores. Harbour City residents also spent the most time ironing and washing up, with about a third of those surveyed admitting they spent an average of more than six hours every week doing these activities. Adelaide residents were the messiest measured by the amount of time they spent cleaning, with Brisbane residents close behind. About 77 per cent of residents in these cities said they spent less than three hours cleaning their homes each week. The time Perth and Melbourne residents spent cleaning their homes was marginally lower than in Sydney, according to the poll of more than 1000 Aussies by Fantastic Services Group.

The cleaning firm's CEO Rune Sovndahl said housing styles in capital cities may also have an influence on different cleaning priorities. Sydney residents tended to have the smallest properties, which may explain a lower tolerance for clutter. Housing costs were also higher — an incentive for Sydney residents to be more aware of the upkeep of their properties, Mr Sovndahl said. "It could be that Sydney residents feel a sense of pressure to maintain these high standards, or perhaps are just more house proud than our other capital cities," he said.

Little Bay resident Amanda White said she could empathise with that sentiment. "You go to work and most of it's to pay the mortgage. You want to be proud of your house so you want to keep it neat and tidy. We do a lot of cleaning," she said. "It easy for clutter to build up and, I wouldn't say I'm OCD, but I really don't like that."

Mr Sovndahl said there was a general sense of increased concern and anxiety over the cleanliness of surfaces because of COVID-19. "Due to the pandemic, we've noted many of our clients have wanted to increase the frequency of their cleans, going from fortnightly to weekly," Mr Sovndahl said. This often resulted in unusual requests, he said. "One of our cleaners recently sanitised every single individual toy in a clients' home ... it took hours." The most effective cleaning for COVID-19 focused on high traffic touch points such as the kitchen, light switches and door handles, Mr Sovndahl said.

Aidan Devine, Daily Telegraph

(Ed., When I came across this article I knew I had to share it)

CONT. FROM PAGE 8

Medicinal cannabis, explained

...Products high in tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) have been associated with

- feeling 'high' or feeling dissatisfied
 - depression
 - confusion
 - hallucinations
 - paranoid delusions
 - psychosis, and cognitive distortion (having thoughts that are not true).
- Medicinal cannabis side effects are commonly dose-dependent, so it's important to follow the dosing recommendations. Medicinal cannabis products should only be taken under medical advice because they may interact with other medicines or cause side effects.

What are the risks of buying medicinal cannabis online?
Medicines that are not regulated by the TGA, and can be ordered from overseas, carry a number of risks.

- They may be counterfeit and contain no active ingredients.
- They may contain unknown amounts of the active ingredient and either be too weak to help you, or strong enough to harm you.
- They may be contaminated or adulterated with toxic substances. They may contain undisclosed or dangerous ingredients. Australia has a very good system for maintaining the safety and quality of medicines that are sold here. Medicinal cannabis is being regulated as a medicine in Australia to ensure the safety of the people for whom it is prescribed. Even if they have an authorised prescription, it is illegal for an individual to personally order medicinal cannabis products online, or to import medicinal cannabis for personal use. The licence to import will only be issued by the Office of Drug Control to doctors or pharmacists. NPS MedicineWise



Australian home prices have fallen for the third successive month, due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic



Australian home prices have fallen for the third successive month, due to

the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. According to CoreLogic's home value index, housing prices nationally dropped by 0.6 per cent in July. This

Work starts on memorial

Work on building a monument at Greta Camp has finally started 60 years after the camp closed.

The foundations of the new monument, located just north of the main gate of the camp (towards Greta town) off Camp Road were dug and the cement was poured on September 8, 2020.

Local historian, Mr Alek Schulha, has been campaigning for many years to have a monument built at the site to honour the 60,000 soldiers and 100,000 migrants who passed through Greta Camp between 1939 and 1960. Greta Tidy Towns Committee joined forces with Mr Schulha to take their dreams to Cessnock City Council for consideration. The construction costs of the monument will be funded jointly, dollar for dollar, between the Greta Tidy Towns Committee and Cessnock City Council. Some original bricks from the former camp site will be incorporated in the monument design (see photo top right. The 12 bricks at the top of the memorial are the original bricks). The original Greta Army Camp was built in 1939 to train soldiers for World War 11.

Over 450 buildings were constructed at the camp. It became the largest training facility for soldiers in Australia.

After the end of WW 11, the Greta camp site was repurposed as a migrant camp and in 1949 it started to accept migrants, displaced persons and stateless people under an agreement with the International Refugee Organisation (IRO). The Minister for Immigration, Mr Arthur Calwell's post war

immigration scheme changed the face of Australian society.

For the multitude of post war migrants to Australia, Greta was a breathing space between a difficult past and a bright future. The first batch of 600 migrants arrived at Greta on June 7, 1949.

It is estimated that 100 000 migrants lived in Greta Camp between 1949 and 1960, when it closed.

During that time it had become the second largest migrant camp in Australia. After it closed, its buildings were sold off and scattered throughout the Hunter Valley and beyond. The site currently exhibits little resemblance to its heyday activities. Up until now, many people did not know where the camp was actually located.

"This is a great day for the former occupants of the camp and all their descendants," Mr Schulha said.

"For years we have had the children and grandchildren of migrants who wanted to trace their family story but were unable to find the place where their time in Australia had begun. There was nothing to signify where the camp had been located.

"I believe this is more important than building the camp in the first place in 1939.

"This monument stands for something. People can now see where their family's started their lives in Australia.

"It's taken 60 years since the camp closed to get to this point. Wow! What an achievement!"

Mr Schulha has just recently released a book about Greta Camp called "Beneath the Shadows of Mount Molly Morgan", in which he talks to hundreds of former camp dwellers.



A CRISIS OUT THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR VIOLENCE IN HERE.

THERE'S NO PLACE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HELP IS HERE
CONTACT 1800RESPECT

1800 737 732

1800RESPECT.ORG.AU

If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse or domestic violence, help is here. Get free, confidential online and phone advice and counselling for women and men. 24/7.



Australian Government

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra.

A man brings his best buddy home for dinner unannounced at 5:30 after work. His wife begins screaming at him and his friend just sits and listens in. "My hair & makeup are not done, the house is a mess, the dishes are not done, I'm still in my pyjamas and I can't be bothered with cooking tonight! Why the hell did you bring him home?" Husband answers: "Because he's thinking of getting married"

Cessnock Day Night Pharmacy

Open 7 days
8am - 8pm

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202 Wollombi Road, Cessnock
(opposite ALDI)

For Sale



BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300

The best location in town!

BRANXTON

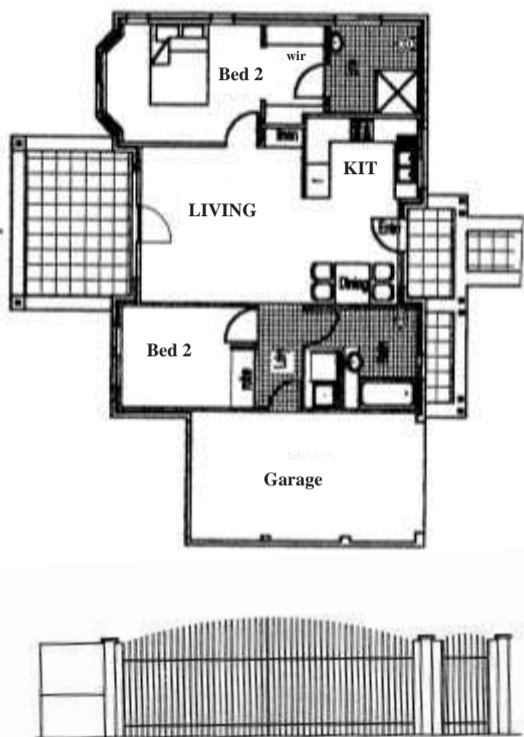
SENIOR LIVING "Branxton Gardens"



Unit 18 Branxton Gardens "Senior Living"

This heritage designed 2 bedroom strata unit has an ensuite to the main bedroom, a lock-up garage & your own private courtyard. It also feature security gating. The unit is next to Branxton Medical Centre, is a 2 minute walk to the main shopping & amenities area, is just short drive to the famous Hunter Valley Wineries, resorts & golf courses.

ASKING \$320,000



GATE DETAIL

* The dwellings may provide accommodation only for the following persons: 1. seniors or people who have a disability; 2. people who live within the same household with seniors or people who have a disability; 3. staff employed to assist in the administration of & provision of services to housing provided under that policy. "Seniors" is defined as persons aged 55 years & over.

BRANXTON

SENIOR LIVING "Branxton Gardens"



Two-bedroom unit 'Branxton Gardens' Senior Living

Features include ~ heritage designed 2 bedroom strata unit with an ensuite to the main bedroom, walk-in robe, a lock-up garage, natural gas & your own private totally landscaped courtyard. Other features include air-con in main bedroom & living area, recently layed laminated wood flooring in living area + many other features. It is totally landscaped & also features security gating. The unit is next to Branxton Medical Centre, is a 2 minute walk to the main shopping & amenities area, is just 5 minutes drive to the famous Hunter Valley Wineries, resorts & golf courses.

ASKING \$360,000



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.

ASKING \$160,000 ONO

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



For Sale



BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE

P: 4938 3300

NTH. ROTHBURY



Well maintained 3 bedroom family home on large fenced block

Very well maintained 3 bedroom family home set on a 809sm fenced block.

Double brick and colorbond roof.

Features include:-

- * Split system air con
- * LUG and garden shed
- * Fresh water tank
- * landscapped yard
- * Built-ins in all bedrooms
- * wonderful Cathedral ceiling in living area.
- * deck off living area on the northern side
- * Fans in all bedrooms
- * Shower & bath in bathroom
- * Sep toilet
- * Roofing, carpet & guttering in good condition



ASKING \$430,000

NTH. ROTHBURY



With optional potential home sites, the property has plenty of opportunity for a weekender country escape or unique rural lifestyle existence. Under a 2-hour drive from Sydney, approx. 70 min drive from the M1 interchange Wahroonga...

Things You Will Love About This Escape Acreage...

- Approx. 14.65 hectare (36.2 acre) rural holding with dwelling entitlement
- Stunning views from elevated sites
- Potential building sites
- Unique lifestyle acreage
- Abundant wildlife and native flora

ASKING 745,000

GRETA



Wow ~ if size matters then this is it!!!

Lovely spacious family home on approx half an acre.

Features include:-

- 4 good large bedrooms
- Ensuite to main bedroom & good sized main bathroom
- Open plan kitchen, dining & family
- Separate lounge room
- Decking at rear
- Large water tanks
- Plenty of good shedding
- Double garage currently used as a studio

All this set on over 2000 square metres

ASKING \$620,000

BRANXTON



Low Maintenance 2 Bedroom Unit

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

Situated on a quiet street and conveniently located close to the Hunter Expressway

ASKING \$275,000



the



■ District Governor Geoff Kilmurray, at left, with incoming President Brian Thomas



■ Directors in the Branxton Lions Club: Enri Winter and Ron Hungerford

participate in sport and community organisations; help for the local Domestic Violence refuge; introduction of a town street library; enhancing public places in the towns of Greta and Branxton; an Aboriginal youth program. One of the main messages is that respondents want to bring the community(s) together in some community events, and ensure good communications through local media and social media; another suggestion was to introduce a youth drop-in centre for the twin towns of Branxton and Greta. All-in-all a very worthwhile exercise as residents have clear views on what is required in the community. Although most responses recognised the Lions Club of Branxton and the work they do, one person said: 'Until I seen this survey, I didn't realise Branxton still had an active lions club!' So that was also a good message to get out to the community – the Lions Club of Branxton is still alive and well and listening to the community!

Please contact the secretary Alan Beckley if you would like to add your thoughts to those above by phoning on 0426-261948 or email: alanbeckley2001@yahoo.com

District Governor's Visit & Changeover

Lions are members of the largest service-oriented group of clubs within an international organisation.

Each member enjoys fellowship, develops leadership capability, and dedicates part of their free time to help those in need within our own community firstly, but also to needy others, outside of Australia. Lions members are elected to positions within their club for a period of twelve months and the "changeover" is the occasion when the outgoing team hands over duties and responsibilities to the incoming team. The fact that the incoming team have been elected by the members of their Club, bears witness to the trust placed in them by their fellow Lions. This year the changeover coincided with the annual visit of the District Governor to the Lions Club of Branxton. The event at the Greta Worker's Club on Thursday 17th September saw the District Governor, Geoff Kilmurray, fulfilled the role of "Installing Officer" to those appointed to leadership positions for

coming term. During the proceedings, club President, Mr. Brian Thomas thanked the outgoing leadership team for their efforts over the last year and briefly summarised the Club's highs and lows during the last twelve months, with particular emphasis on the impact of Covid - 19 on the Clubs fund raising activities. Some of the Community Service and Fund Raising activities the club were involved in prior to the onset of Covid-19 included several Bunnings' BBQ's at Singleton, a Father's Day Raffle, a wedding breakfast at Wombat Crossing and a two-day BBQ at Hungerford Hill. The major fund raising activity for the year was the Lions Trivia Night held at the Branxton Golf Club. This event is strongly supported by local business and on the night, with 240 people in attendance, over \$10,000 was raised with 50% of that amount being shared equally between three charities, Australian Lions Child Hood Cancer Research Foundation, Harry's House Family Retreat at Stockton, and Jodie's Place, the local women's and children's

refuge. In all, the Lions Club of Branxton, donated \$11,689 to a very diversified group of charities, predominately in the local area, but also to groups whose services are utilised across Australia and overseas. The Lions Club of Branxton, as a community service activity, hosts Seniors Christmas Dinners at both Greta and Branxton, where invited guests enjoy a three course meal, drinks and entertainment. President Brian Thomas highlighted that this year, the Seniors' Christmas Dinners may be interrupted by Covid-19, however, every endeavour is being made to hold the events as per normal, but

only time will tell whether the dinners shall go ahead this year. District Governor Geoff Kilmurray, congratulated President Brian Thomas on the successful year achieved by the club, and especially congratulated the outgoing management team on the splendid results for their efforts. The District Governor then officiated at the installation of the incoming management team, addressing each incoming member individually to confirm their willingness to carry out the duties of their elected position. At the conclusion of the installations, the District Governor shared his thoughts on the importance

of Lions activities within Australia especially in light of the current pandemic. He concluded his remarks by encouraging club members to be ready for when the pandemic passes to resume the community service and fundraising activities for which Lions are renowned. **Community Needs Assessment** The Branxton Lions Club community needs assessment was ended on the 16th September, but Secretary Alan Beckley was disappointed with the lower than expected number of responses. However, there was a wide range of responses from people with a

wide range of backgrounds: tourism and education; tourism and hospitality; youth community leadership; health; public information and also from ordinary members of the community. All of those inputs are very welcome and they made suggestions such as widening the diversity of offerings in sport; safe facilities for children to play in; musical programs; arts programs; gardening programs; assistance for parents and children from disadvantaged backgrounds to



Branxton VIEW Club's President, Helen Rix welcomed our members and prospective members to our meeting on 10th September.

Ann Louise O'Connor, our National Councillor, sent a thank you letter re her attendance at our 31st birthday celebration last month. Jan Bennet was presented with a badge for 30 years

membership. Congratulations Jan ! Evelyn Thrift, Edith Mc Rae and Jane Travis were also presented with badges. Our eldest and youngest VIEW members. Our annual Fashion Parade to be held on Monday, 26th October-10am at Branxton Community Hall was discussed at length. Models were chosen and catering arrangements

made. All clothing can be purchased on the day with donna-lou fashions showing the latest Spring and Summer styles. \$15 per person includes a light lunch and all monies raised goes to support our seven disadvantaged Australian school children whom we support through the Smith Family Learning For Life program. So, come along and bring a friend-everyone welcome . Branxton VIEW club members Pam McDonald and Dianne Gray entertained us with amusing snippets from their life histories to date which promoted much laughter! Thank you ladies . Bethany reminded us that Melbourne Cup celebrations would be held at her home.

Thanks, Bethany! 3rd November - not far away... Bring a plate (yes, I know), with something edible on it!) \$5 donation-hats optional although a Hat Parade could eventuate ?? Further information phone Bethany 0419 429 364. While this conorvirus situation is prominent in our news I thought of what my grandma once told me which sustained her in depression times. "Dance like there is nobody watching, Love like you will never get hurt, Sing like there is nobody listening and LIVE like it's Heaven on Earth!" *Peace and love to everyone, Judy Spillard*

■ Photo below: President Helen Rix, second from right, with members at Branxton VIEW's last meeting



Greta Museum now has for sale – Alek Schula's epic book, 'Beneath the Shadow of Mount Molly Morgan', of people's stories who came to stay in the Greta Migrant Camp - \$55 a copy



Hand-Made Washable Masks - only \$10 each (two designs, with one style suitable for those that wear glasses)



Greta Museum is open Wednesdays & Saturdays 11am-3pm, at 96 High Street Greta, in the former Greta Council Chambers. Cash only please.

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

Greta Workers Sports & Rec Club Ltd

2 West Street Greta Ph 4938 7325

MEAT RAFFLES

FRIDAY

Tickets on sale 6.30pm
drawn 7.30pm



SUNDAY

Tickets on sale 11am
drawn 12 noon



COURTESY BUS

Wed 4pm-7pm Fri 5pm-11pm
Sun 11am-3pm & 5pm-8pm



4pm
to 6pm

Thursdays

\$4.00 Schooners

MEMBERS FREE

CHOOK Raffle

EVERY

WED 5.30pm



HARVEST BISTRO

Lunch & Dinner

Open

Wednesday to Sunday
Dine-in or Takeaway



Members Badge Draw
Every Wednesday & Sunday
\$700 Wed 23/9

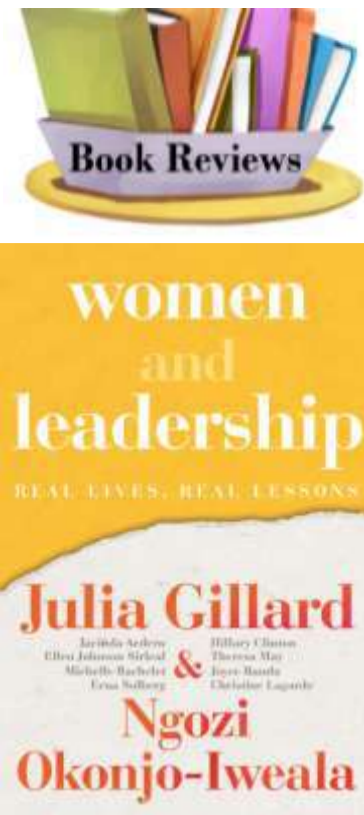


\$600 as at Sun 20/9
Jackpots \$100 EACH DRAW

HOUSIE



WED 10am



“Women and Leadership”

Real Lives, Real Lessons ~ Julia Gillard & Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
An inspirational and practical book written by two high-achieving women, sharing the experience and advice of some of our most extraordinary women leaders, in their own words.

As a result of their broad experience on the world stage in politics, economics and global not-for-profits, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and Julia Gillard have some strong ideas about the impact of gender on the treatment of leaders. *Women and Leadership* takes a consistent and comprehensive approach to teasing out what is different for women who lead.

Almost every year new findings are published about the way people see women leaders compared with their male counterparts. The authors have taken that academic work and tested it in the real world. The same set of interview questions were put to each leader in frank face-to-face interviews. Their responses were then used to examine each woman’s journey in leadership and whether their lived experiences were in line with or different from what the research would predict.

Women and Leadership presents a lively and readable analysis of the influence of gender on women’s access to positions of leadership, the perceptions of them as leaders, the trajectory of their leadership and the circumstances in which it comes to an end. By presenting the lessons that can be learned from women leaders, Julia and Ngozi provide a road map of essential knowledge to inspire us all, and an action agenda for change that allows women to take control and combat gender bias. Featuring Jacinda Ardern, Hillary Clinton, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Theresa May, Michelle Bachelet, Joyce Banda, Erna Solberg, Christine Lagarde and more.

About the authors

Julia Gillard

Julia Gillard was sworn in as the 27th Prime Minister of Australia on 24 June 2010 and served in that office until June 2013. Ms Gillard is the first woman to ever serve as Australia’s Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister. As Prime Minister and in her previous role as Deputy Prime Minister, Ms Gillard delivered

nation-changing policies including reforming Australian education at every level from early childhood to university education, creating an emissions trading scheme to combat climate change, improving health care, commencing the nation’s first ever national scheme to care for people with disabilities, addressing the gender pay gap for social and community sector workers and delivering an apology to all those who had suffered through the practice of forced adoptions. In October 2012, Ms Gillard received

worldwide attention for her speech in Parliament on the treatment of women in professional and public life. She currently serves as the inaugural Chair of the Global Institute for Women’s Leadership at Kings College in London, which through research, practice and advocacy, is addressing women’s under-representation in leadership.

Ms Gillard is the Chair of Beyond Blue, one of Australia’s leading mental health awareness bodies; is Chair of global funding body for education in developing countries, the Global Partnership for Education; and is Patron of the Campaign for Female Education. Ms Gillard’s memoirs, *My Story*, were published by Random House in September 2014.

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is an economist and international development expert with over 30 years of experience. She is Chair of the Board of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance and of the African Risk Capacity (ARC). She is Co-Chair of The Global Commission on the Economy and Climate. She also sits on the Boards of Standard Chartered PLC and Twitter Inc. She was recently appointed as AU Special Envoy to mobilise International support for the fight against COVID-19 and WHO Special Envoy for Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator. Previously, Dr Okonjo-Iweala was a Senior Advisor at Lazard from September 2015 – October 2019. She served twice as Nigeria’s Finance Minister, from 2003-2006, 2011-2015, and briefly as Foreign Minister, the first woman to hold both positions. She spent a 25-year career at the World Bank as a development economist, rising to the No.2 position of Managing Director, overseeing an \$81 billion operational portfolio in Africa, South Asia, Europe and Central Asia. Dr Okonjo-Iweala was named Minister



Julia Gillard

of the Decade, People’s Choice Award (2020) by Nigeria’s This Day newspaper. In 2019, she was named one of Transparency International’s 8 Female Anti-Corruption Fighters



Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Who Inspire. She has been ranked by *Fortune* as one of the 50 Greatest World Leaders in 2015, by *Forbes* as one of the Top 100 Most Powerful Women in the World consecutively for four years, by *Time* as one of the Top 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2014, and by the UK *Guardian* as one of the Top 100 Women in the World in 2011. Dr Okonjo-Iweala holds a Bachelor’s in Economics from Harvard University and a PhD in Regional Economics and Development from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is an Angelopoulos Global Public Leader at Harvard University Kennedy School, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has received over fifteen honorary degrees, including from Yale University, the University of Pennsylvania, Brown University, Tel Aviv University and Trinity College, Dublin. She is the author of numerous articles on finance and development, and several books including *Fighting Corruption is Dangerous: The Story Behind the Headlines* (MIT Press, 2018) and *Reforming the Unreformable: Lessons from Nigeria* (MIT Press, 2012).

What Confucius did not say....words of wisdom that the great man did not utter...!

* Man who drives like hell is bound to get there * War does not determine who is right, it determines who is left. * Man who runs in front of car gets tired. Man who runs behind car gets exhausted.

The New York Times Best Sellers (13 September 2020)

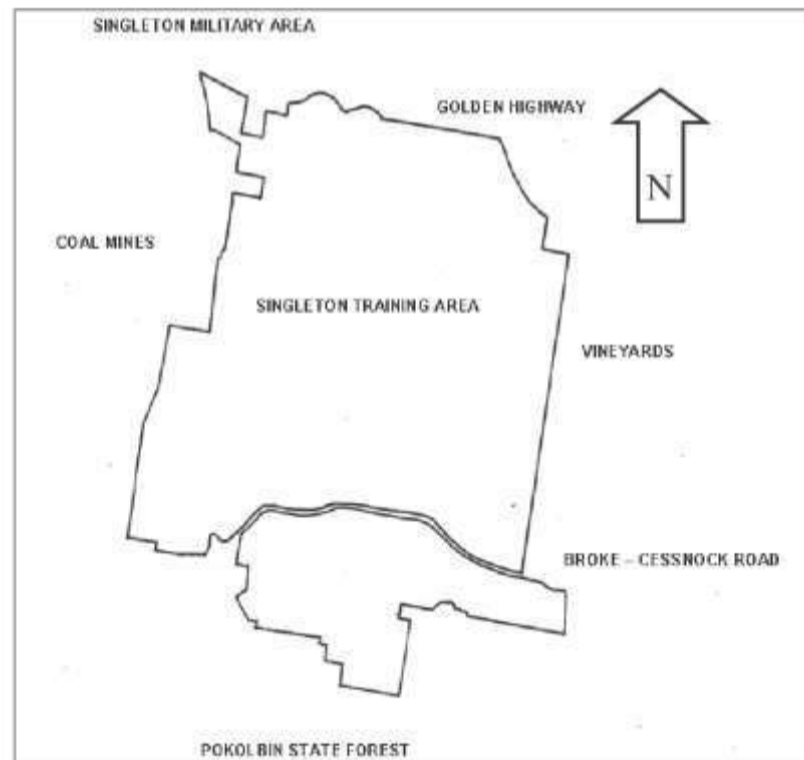
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The lives of twin sisters who run away from a Southern Black community at age 16 diverge as one returns and the other takes on a different racial identity but their fates intertwine.
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A bookseller flees Mexico for the United States with her son while pursued by the head of a drug cartel.
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Ten years after her daughter disappears, a woman tries to get her life in order but remains haunted by unanswered questions.



Australian Government
Department of Defence

WARNING NOTICE DEFENCE FIELD FIRING RANGES



Residents of areas adjacent to Singleton Training Area are warned it is a Defence Army Live Firing Range.

Singleton Training Area is described generally as the area bounded to the south by Pokolbin State Forest, to the east by commercial vineyards and to the west by a combination of rural developments and open cut coal mines. The northern boundary is defined by the Golden Highway which separates the range area from the Singleton Military Area.

Firing practices using live ammunition are conducted continuously on this training area. Low power laser range finders are also used.

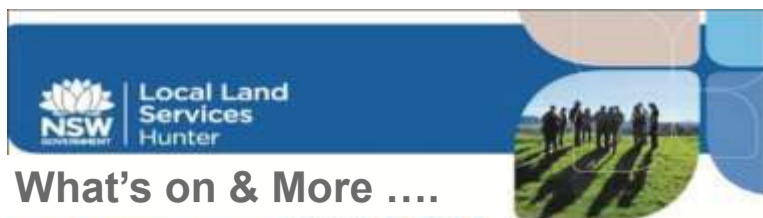
Death or serious injury may result from being struck by a projectile. Eye damage may occur when viewing laser beams from within the training area boundary.

Unexploded ammunition is extremely DANGEROUS and should NOT be handled, but should be reported immediately to the nearest Police Station or Army unit. No reward will be paid for the reporting of ammunition which may be located on the training area.

Persons found trespassing on Defence Training Areas will be prosecuted.

Enquiries regarding the Singleton Training Area should be directed to:

The Range Control Officer
Directorate of Operations and Training Area Management
Range Control Centre
Range Road
Singleton Training Area
Singleton NSW 2331



What's on & More

Drought-breaking rains provide 'field laboratory' for vets



The worst drought in living memory and the relieving rain that followed in parts of NSW has provided Local Land Services with a 'field laboratory' for observing potentially devastating livestock diseases.

The disease investigations also provide an example of where Local Land Services works with producers to conduct surveillance to exclude serious animal diseases.

Working in the Walgett and Narrabri districts in the north west of the state, District Vet, Shaun Slattery, is keenly aware that the area represents the first line of defence in detecting notifiable animal disease that could enter NSW from Queensland and further north in Australia.

While it was a relief to receive drought-breaking rains in February, Dr Slattery said he saw a spike in farmers reporting livestock diseases and he was concerned.

"In the first six months of this year, I conducted around 80 investigations which was roughly double the amount I would see in a normal year.

"Also linked to the breaking of the drought, many of the diseases I investigated presented with unusual clinical signs and history," Dr Slattery said.

"It was distressing to see losses of livestock people had invested so much in emotionally," he said. "One family I visited lost a couple of hundred ewes they had held onto and hand-fed through drought, only to have them die after the rains came."

The diseases Dr Slattery saw included nitrite/nitrate poisoning from lush pigweed (*Portulaca*), foot abscess caused by orf infection (normally associated with scabby mouth of lambs) and Contagious Ophthalmia of sheep (blight).

Sometimes the conditions presented with non-classical symptoms such as bovine ephemeral fever with little to no drooling and foot abscesses when the ground was not extremely wet.

Dr Slattery said the region also experienced the highest bush fly numbers he had seen in 30 years as a veterinarian.



In a number of cases this caused behavioural changes in sheep and in one case a loss of condition, despite the good season. Dr Slattery indicated that many of the sudden death investigations were to exclude Anthrax. While the Walgett area is within NSW where most of the historical cases have occurred, it is a number of decades since the region's last known case.

However, Anthrax can remain dormant for decades, if the spores are undisturbed. During the drought there was significant wind-blown soil movement potentially exposing any dormant Anthrax spores.

With the breaking of the drought, the short pasture caused stock to eat close to the ground creating conditions for anthrax to occur if dormant spores had become exposed.

Anthrax was excluded in all sudden death investigations using an Anthrax carcass site test.

The high midge pressure also raised the potential for Bluetongue, a serious notifiable disease of sheep spread by midges. Again, Bluetongue was excluded on all investigations.

In his 78 investigations, Dr Slattery also excluded other NSW notifiable diseases including Footrot which he considered a possibility with the large numbers of sheep being introduced into the region.

"We always have to be vigilant and question whether each animal disease presentation could potentially be a notifiable or Emergency Animal Disease, even if it hasn't been in this part of NSW for many years," he said. Dr Slattery said problem solving livestock health issues alongside landholders is one of the most satisfying parts of his job as a District Veterinarian with Local Land Services.

"Every time a District Veterinarian goes on-farm, conducts an investigation and excludes a notifiable disease, we are maintaining the good disease control record of NSW and helping to keep markets open.

Dr Slattery has presented his findings in two webinars for veterinarians

from around NSW, including his District Veterinarian and DPI colleagues, those in private practice and from other government departments. The webinars clearly met a need within the profession with more than 130 veterinarians registering. His on-ground data, as well as that from all Local Land Services District Veterinarians around the state is routinely provided to the NSW Department of Industries for disease monitoring purposes.

Dr Slattery said the webinars were intended to pass on the lessons learnt with the breaking of the drought in the Walgett and Narrabri districts to other veterinarians working with livestock. Hopefully this will assist when similar cases arise in other districts as drought conditions hopefully ease and when future droughts break.

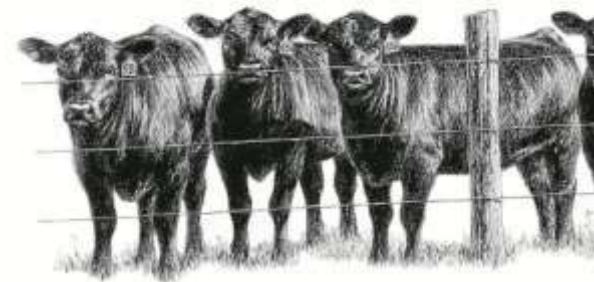
"How livestock diseases present in the field varies from district to district and from year to year. Often these are significantly different to the classical descriptions in many of our textbooks.

"It is important that field veterinarians share their case reports with others working in the field. "The more the knowledge is available to the wider Australian veterinary profession, the more equipped we will be in the future to manage potential threats and outbreaks together."

Dr Slattery encouraged livestock producers who are still in drought or in the breaking phase with livestock health problems to contact their Local Land Services District Veterinarian or private vet, especially when it is a presentation outside the producer's normal experience.

"As my recent experience has shown, not only are we able to rule out serious diseases, but we have been able to prevent further cases, and provide advice on management and treatment for ill animals".

Photos above: the same scene in North West NSW, May 2019 compared to March 2020.



Detailed Cattle report for Gunnedah

Last reported 15th September 2020

The numbers reduced this week, there was a good supply of yearlings along with increased supplies of heavy weight grown steers. The condition of the offering reflected the very good season being experienced. Plain condition cattle were scarce. This also limited the availability of light weight cattle. Overall the quality of the offering was fair to good. There was restricted processor competition, while demand for heavy weight cattle was a little weaker. Strong restocker demand saw vealer steers sell to dearer trends, posting strong gains. Limited supplies of vealer heifers sold to restockers on a dearer market trend also. Light weight yearling steers to restockers sold to cheaper trends with quality a factor in price fluctuations. Medium and heavy weight feeder steers sold to a dearer trend, up by as much as 10c/kg. There was strong demand from restockers for light weight heifer yearlings to go onto grass and crop. This resulted in a dearer trend with some significant price improvement. There was little but quality related change in the market for medium and heavy weight yearling heifers to feed. Reduced domestic processor demand saw trade yearlings sell to cheaper trends. The exception being the small numbers sold to local butcher orders. Well finished heavy grown steers attracted both feedlot and processor competition. There were feedlot orders operating on steers well in excess of 500kg. With reduced export and domestic trade demand market trends were slightly cheaper. This was also the case for well finished grown heifers. Reduced competition from processors saw the cow market record cheaper trends of 5c/kg. Heavy bulls also sold to cheaper trends.

Detailed Cattle report for HRLX Singleton

Last reported 16th September 2020

Consignments slipped lower, with the younger cattle showing extra weight this week. The quality was fair to good, with good percentages high yielding and suitable for the butcher orders. There were fair numbers of older steers identified with 2 teeth in the market, while the cows were limited in supply. The market trend on average was firm to dearer. The over 200kg vealer steers returning to the paddock maintained strong prices and ranged from 414c to 514c, as the heavier drafts reached 456c/kg. The same weight heifer portion increased 8c and made from 420c to 474c/kg. The yearlings remained firm, with the steers to the restockers and lot feeders receiving from 394c to 436c, as the lighter weights reached 460c/kg. The heifer portion to the restockers and feeder orders made from 334c to 414c/kg. The younger prime conditioned and high yielding cattle to the butchers sold to strong competition and trended dearer, with the best vealer steers reaching 468c/kg. The grown steers purchased by the lot feeders and restockers trended dearer, with those identified with 2 teeth ranging from 336c to 390c/kg. The heavier bullocks to the processors remained firm at 300c to 304c/kg. The heifer portion sold from 300c to 386c/kg, with the majority sold to the restocker orders. Cows sold close to firm, with the better covered heavy weights making from 240c to 270c/kg. The best heavy weight bull reached 255c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for Scone

Last reported 15th September 2020

Consignments decreased, while the quality was on average good, with the majority carrying a good fat cover. The bulk were younger drafts, with approximately 12 cows penned. There was a good yarding of heavy grown steers and bullocks and the market trend overall was solid throughout, however the vealer steers to the restockers did struggle in the competition. The over 200kg vealer steers to the restockers lost 10c and received from 450c to 508c/kg. The same weight vealer heifers also to the restockers improved 12c and made from 434c to 472c/kg. The yearling steers remained firm, with the medium weights to feed and the restocker orders ranging from 344c to 426c/kg. Yearling heifers mostly sold to the butchers or processor orders, with some in prime condition also purchased by the lot feeders for future sale to the supermarket order. The prime conditioned younger cattle suitable for the butchers and the processor orders sold well with extra weight this week, as the best yearling reached 426c/kg. Grown steers to the processors remained firm and ranged from 300c to 324c, as the lighter end to the restockers reached 410c/kg. The grown heifers to the processors made from 296c to 382c, as lot feeders paid from 346c to 370c/kg for prime conditioned pens identified with 2 teeth. The cows also maintained firm values, with the better covered heavy weight receiving from 250c to 266c/kg. The heavy weight bulls remained firm at 220c to 288c/kg.

Detailed Cattle report for TRLX Tamworth

Last reported 14th September 2020

Numbers fell by 30% with yearlings making up the largest part of the offering. There were limited supplies in most other categories. It was a mixed quality penning from both a breeding and breed perspective. There were a few high quality lines of feeder cattle. The condition of the offering showed improvement with a large number showing the benefit of crop finishing. There was good restocker and feedlot competition, along with domestic trade. Export processor activity was restricted. Both breed and quality impacted prices for vealers in a cheaper market trend. Medium and heavy weight yearling steers to restock and feed sold to a slightly dearer market trend, again quality was a factor in some of the price change. That trend continued into the heavy trade steers with all going to the supermarket trade. Light weight yearling heifers to restock and feed sold to dearer trends with some good quality lots available. Medium weight feeder heifers sold to a slightly cheaper trend. Trade heifers also sold to a cheaper trend. Grown steers to feed sold on a firm to cheaper market with breed a contributing factor in price change. Heavy grown steers sold a shade cheaper with limited export processor competition. This followed into the cow and bull market with cows selling to a cheaper trend of 12c/kg and more in places. Heavy weight bulls were quite a bit cheaper with a drop in quality.

\$2.3 million blueblood gets the snip

Article Author ~ Brad Waters

Gelding a \$2.3 million yearling buy would be one of racing's toughest decisions.

Groundswell's connections made the tough choice after the now four-year-old failed to live up to expectations during a Sydney autumn preparation. As a brother to triple Group 1 winner Shoals by Fastnet Rock, Groundswell fetched the enormous price tag as a future stallion prospect. The plan looked promising when Groundswell ran third in the Caulfield Guineas last spring but four unplaced runs in autumn convinced connections the horse would not make the grade as a stallion.

Co-trainer Sam Freedman said Groundswell's temperament wasn't an issue but his performances failed to live up to his early promise.

"His manners were never really an issue as a colt. It was just that we held him in quite high regard and he kept letting us down," Freedman, who trains Groundswell in partnership with his father Anthony, said.

"We probably felt his last preparation was well below where we expected him to be performing at. "It wasn't an easy decision for the owners. It was their call ultimately but they were invested in his racing future and they wanted to see what this operation could do for him." Groundswell will have his first start as a gelding in Saturday's Arrowfield for Living Legends Handicap (1200m) at Caulfield.

He will go into the Benchmark 78 race on the back of a smart jumpout win at Flemington.

But Freedman said he has performed

well in jumpouts in the past before letting down the stable.

"He has jumped out like that before. He did do that in Sydney and then was disappointing at his following start so we're wary that we want to see him do it riceday."

"I think we've got to get him out rolling, much like he did in the Caulfield Guineas where more or less rode the speed.

"Last prep, we thought riding him quiet was the way to go but we're pretty confident now that the way to ride him is to put him into the race."



The Freedman's and Groundswell



happen but that's of no comfort to a person living on their own, has several thousand photos on their device, never ever used a passcode...but this morning there is one there that's preventing access to their device.

This may not seem like a problem unless you have thousands of photos that weren't backed up.

Here's what to do: Don't keep trying random numbers. You know what your passcode is right? If you've tried a few variations and now the phone is saying 'disabled for 1 minute', you need to go to the next step. **Contact Apple.** You'll hear things like, "is it your phone?" "Did you buy it 2nd hand?" "You must have had a passcode previously", and finally, "your phone will have to be reset to be able to use it".

This is sort of true, however, if you didn't have a backup to iCloud, **DON'T RESET IT JUST YET.** We may be able to retrieve your photos first. If you reset your phone, then all is lost unless you have a backup.

Apple screens are pretty good. We've seen phones where they were run over by a truck, pieces missing out of it and it still worked! When replacing the screen, try and always fit an original Apple screen...they are better than the generics (Macdroids has both options available) The charging sockets are also very reliable. This is because the charge cable fits in no matter which way you insert it.

All glass phones are attractive, but not very practical. One drop and it's all over. In most cases, the back glass will crack and maybe the screen too. Not even a Lifeproof or Otterbox case will protect it in every situation. We can replace the back glass on ANY iPhone for \$150.

One thing I don't like is Apples refusal to reset any device to default and remove the icloud login information. If you're like most people, you bought an Apple device years ago, set up your Apple ID with user name and password and then never had to use it again, until now. Many of my clients can't remember their Apple ID password and haven't recorded it anywhere and if you can't remember the answers to those stupid SECRET QUESTIONS, what then?

Again, you'll need to contact Apple but if you can't prove that you are the owner of that device, they won't help you and that device now becomes a door stopper or Frisbee. It's a crazy system. It's like a bank saying... 'you forgot your password? Hahahaha, sorry but we've got to close

your account and keep your money too!" Would the banks get away with doing that? HELL NO!

In effect, that's what Apple is doing so why do we just accept it? That's why I don't use Apple devices.

If you're Apple, it's a great business model as it results in the sale of a new device.

Samsung Devices. Samsungs security is also pretty good. If you have a Samsung phone you can protect yourself simply by inserting an SD Memory card into the phone. It's a cheap way of backing up your photos and its automatic once inserted. Samsung devices are less restrictive than Apple in the way they operate but their screens are not as durable. If you crack a Samsung screen, sooner or later it will turn off (go black, flash red or green) and then you'll have 2 choices. Replace the screen or replace the phone.

Recently, we've had a flood of Samsung customers coming in because they woke up one morning and a passcode appeared where they had never previously had one or it's now changed from the one they had. This is very uncharacteristic of Samsung devices and something that we've only seen happen in the last few weeks. Like Apple, if you can't work it out, you'll have to reset your device and everything on it will be lost unless you had a backup. You can backup to many different systems.

Unlike Apple devices, getting stuff of your Samsung phone or tablet is easy and you can back up to your cloud account, SD card, Computer or even USB stick in a matter of minutes.

Cloud Backup is the way to go.

There are a few options available. In settings > Backup & Restore > Backup In there you'll find Samsungs Cloud option, Googles back up option and if you have a memory card inserted you can also do a full backup to the card. The SD card option is easy and cheap but don't lose your phone.

A cloud backup means that you're storing your information on someone else's computer like Google, Samsung, Dropbox etc. These are relatively safe. Having said that, I don't store passwords there, but they're great for all your photos. I use a combination of SD Card and Dropbox. This means if I lose my phone I can get all my stuff back from my Cloud account.

Are Cloud accounts safe? I guess there's always a risk but typically, backups don't store passwords so although your photos, contacts and other bits of info are up there, they won't have access to your passwords. I see half a dozen people a day for repairs where they don't have a backup.

And finally, decide whether you're an Apple family or a Samsung family as these brands don't talk to each other very well. Sign of the times in this anti-social media world I guess?

help@macdroids.com.au

(Ed., I regularly use Frank for any technical problems we have with our mobile phones & computer systems.

I can highly recommend him as a highly competent & ethical businessman)

MOVIE REVIEW



Bill & Ted Face the Music

The stakes are higher than ever for the time-traveling exploits of William "Bill" S. Preston Esq. and Theodore "Ted" Logan. Yet to fulfill their rock and roll destiny, the now middle aged best friends set out on a new adventure when a visitor from the future warns them that only their song can save life as we know it.

The latest "Bill & Ted" adventure is more bogus than excellent, despite some chuckles

Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter are back to rekindle that Wyld Stallyns magic, and time travel shenanigans ensue

GARY M. KRAMER

Whoa! Bill (Alex Winter) and Ted (Keanu Reeves) are back! Sure, it seems like the two dudes from San Dimas have been lost in the Circuits of Time for three decades — they have! — and now the teens are middle aged fathers. Bogus! Or excellent?! "Bill & Ted Face the Music" opens with a brief recap of what the guys have been up to since "Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey" back in 1991. Their band, Wyld Stallyns, did have a hit single but they also broke up. They married the Princesses, Elizabeth (Erinn Hayes) and Joanna (Jayma Mays), and each had a daughter — Thea (Samara Weaving) and Billie (Brigitte Lundy-Paine). Oh, and they still need to write the song that unites the entire world and prevents time from folding in on itself.

However, as the film opens and Wyld Stallyns are seen performing a song with a theremin, bagpipes, and throat-singing, this critical task may be next to impossible. Following a gag involving bootstrap paradoxes and causal loops, Ted admits that he is tired and thinking of selling his Les Paul. Bill, however, reminds him they have a destiny to fulfill. So, it is good that Kelly (Kristen Schaal) arrives from the future to guide the guys to San Dimas 2720 AD.

Kelly is, it is revealed, the daughter of Rufus (George Carlin, in a holographic cameo), and her mom (Holland Taylor) is "The Great Leader," who tells Bill and Ted they need to "save reality as we know it by uniting humanity across all time" with the song they are supposed to create. And they have only 77 minutes and 25 seconds to do this.

Yes, it's a flimsy plot, but "Bill & Ted Face the Music" uses it as a framework to riff on the storylines of the previous two outings. In one plotline, Bill and Ted use their time travelling phone booth to see their future selves and steal the song they must have written. (This echoes "Bogus Journey," where the pair met their evil doubles).



There is some amusement in seeing future Bill and Ted slumming at an open mic night, or as bulked up and tattooed prisoners. The whole "other us-es" gimmick feels most inspired when Bill and Ted meet themselves as old men near death. There's a poignant, philosophical moment where wise old Ted tells his younger self, "I looked at you and saw myself." But most of these encounters are silly, especially one scene set in a large mansion that features a clever musical cameo and Reeves in a rather eye-popping fat suit. "Bill & Ted Face the Music" could have milked more humour out of the guys' travels and costumes, but it generates most of its smiles from the duo talking in sync. The real appeal of this installment is Thea and Billie's excellent adventures, which take them back in time to round up a supergroup consisting of the world's greatest musicians so they can play in their fathers' band. Recalling the collection of historical figures from the first "Bill & Ted" film, they meet Jimi Hendrix (DazMann Still), Louis Armstrong (Jeremiah Craft), Ling Lun (Sharon Gee), and Mozart (Daniel Dorr) among others. The film has great fun when Mozart plays the piano and Hendrix accompanies him on electric guitar. However bodacious the Thea and Billie storyline is, "Bill & Ted Face the Music" includes a goofy subplot involving Dennis (Anthony Carrigan), a robot sent by the Great Leader to kill Bill and Ted that ends up being lame. Its main purpose is to land the major characters

in Hell with the song deadline fast approaching. This extended sequence is more strained than funny until Bill and Ted's former bandmate, Death (William Sadler), turns up. The banter between the guys and their former band mate yields a few smiles, but finesse is needed where Death's ego is involved. Finesse is not something this film employs much of. At times "Bill & Ted Face the Music" feels sloppy or lazy. Reeves' expression often appears to be a scowl of incomprehension. His performance is disappointingly listless. In contrast, Winter seems to be providing most of the energy, which dampens the enjoyment of the pair reuniting. Better are Weaving and Lundy-Paine who create their own Bill-and-Ted dynamic. They could almost have their own spin-off film based on their work here. But will there be a rallying call for that? Were fans of the first two films campaigning for this three-quel?

As for the supporting cast, Schaal is underused in a role that mostly has her phoning The Great Leader and complaining, and Kid Cudi plays himself and spouts quantum physics, for what it's worth. The film, ultimately, is about the song. And to its credit, "Bill & Ted Face the Music" delivers the sweet message that music has the power to unite the world in its special-effect laden mash-up finale. Now if only Bill and Ted could travel back in time and fix the problems with this new film that would be most excellent. At least the post-credits cookie should make fans chuckle.



When is a Warranty is NOT a Warranty.... True or False?

Your 18 month old iPhone died this morning and you're going to cop a HUGE repair bill to get it fixed.

Well, it depends. If it has physical damage like a broken screen or back glass or obvious signs of case damage, get your credit card ready as no matter what is wrong with the device, they'll claim that the impact damage caused any/all existing faults.

However, if you've looked after your pride and joy that cost as much as a small used car to buy, and there is NO physical damage, you're in luck!

The ACCC & ASIC recently introduced a great term. It's called 'Implied Warranty'. This means that although manufactures state that your device is covered for a certain period, say 1 year from the date of purchase, **Implied warranty** coverage can last as long as four years, although the length of the coverage varies from state to state.

AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER LAW

The Manufacturers Return Policy and Limited Product Warranty is in addition to any other rights and remedies that you may have under the Australian Consumer Law. Goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss or damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure.

So, if you believe that your phone should last say at least 3 years without breaking down, then THAT is the warranty period, regardless of what the manufacture claims. The device must be of merchantable quality.

Retailers and Manufacturers hate it with a passion but in this throw away society, why should the people who genuinely look after their devices be punished due to crappy technology?

Try it and let me know how you go but remember, if there is any physical damage at all, get your credit card ready. BTW, it doesn't hurt to cry a little when you go to get it fixed.

help@macdroids.com.au

When is a 3 month guarantee on repairs better than a lifetime guarantee on repairs?

The short answer is NEVER!

Here's the reason for the variety of length of repair guarantees...

No Guarantee – Generally, these are repairs done by mates in exchange for alcohol and if you've seen the sort of tragic 'mates' repairs that I have, you might want to pay them with Pepsi Max instead.

3 months – It's a cheap repair using inferior parts by generally untrained people and the repair centre expects it to break down soon after 3 months so you can get on the merry go round again.

6 months – Marginally better than 3 months but they're still expecting you to come around again and fork out more of your hard earn cash. Generally done by untrained staff. Don't be afraid to ask them what formal training they've had (that doesn't include YouTube videos).

12 months - This should be the minimum. If the repair centre is doing the job properly with quality parts they should have no hesitation in offering this.

Lifetime Guarantee – These guys are at the top of their game. Sure, the repair may cost a few bucks more but you'll only pay once. The repair centre doesn't want you to come back with the same fault again because they know it'll be FREE, and that's just a huge waste of their time and resources so they'll do the job properly with the best parts available, the first time.

help@macdroids.com.au

Apple or Samsung?

It's a bit like saying Microsoft or Apple (with computers).

If we're talking about phones, everyone has an opinion. If you were a senior executive at Nokia you'd now be saying 'what the hell happened'?

Apple Devices.

If you like the multilayer of Apples phone security, you'll never switch to an Android phone. But if you woke up one morning and all of a sudden your passcode has changed, you'll quickly realise how devastating Apples system can be as they offer NO WAY in, no matter the circumstance.

Apple say this can never

For Sales, Service & Advice...

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Phones

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cracked Screens ● Water Damage ● Refurbishment ● Recycle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Battery Replacement ● Software Issues ● Network Unlocks ● Screen Issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Passcode Removal ● Fan Problems ● Internal Cleaning ● Motherboard Repairs
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1300 622 376

WHY I WANT LABOR TO HELP THE PM FIX THE ENERGY MESS



By JOEL FITZGIBBON MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR
AGRICULTURE AND RESOURCES
& MEMBER FOR HUNTER

The Sydney Morning Herald



COVID-19 and our first recession in thirty years demand a new approach from our political class.

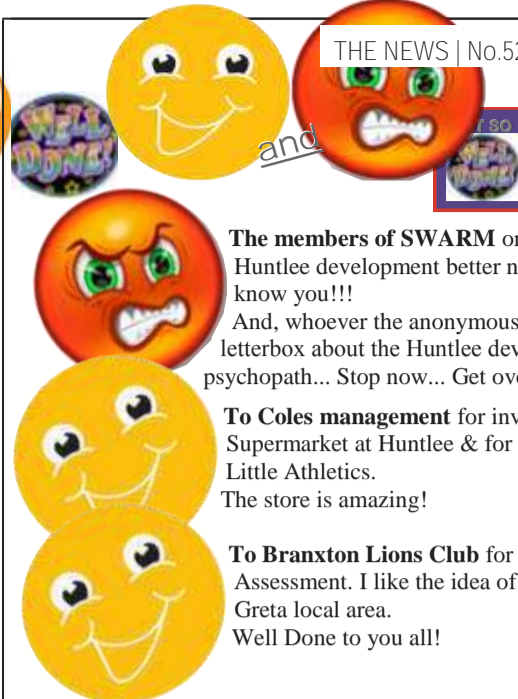
A series of Government announcements on gas, electricity generation and low emissions-technologies this week were an admission of six years of inaction and failure. Scott Morrison is now scrambling to fix the consequences of

JOEL FITZGIBBON MP
Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Resources & Member for Hunter

that inaction and Labor has to find a way of giving him the space to do so. One of the unpalatable realities of Labor's 2019 election loss is our inability to call the shots. Now, our unemployment rate gives us one million reasons to be open-minded and flexible in our responses to Scott Morrison's attempts to address his Government's failings. More gas into the market and new gas-fired generation will put downward pressure on energy prices, create jobs, and stabilise our electricity system. More firming power will allow more renewable electricity into the grid. That's a good thing. In repairing his wrongs, Scott Morrison will do things differently than we would, but Labor needs to be to mindful not to let the perfect get in the way of the possible. The Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) and the Australian Renewable Energy Authority (ARENA) are proud Labor achievements and despite the Government's best efforts, growth in our renewables sector has been impressive. It's now for Scott Morrison to demonstrate that with more money, he can expand tasks of the CEFC and ARENA without distracting them from their focus, the renewable energy sector. A little more than six years ago, the Abbott Government taught us what no to do. By repealing the Gillard Government's sophisticated and legislated carbon-pricing mechanism, he guaranteed the "carbon wars" would remain a feature of the Australian political landscape for at least another decade. We are all now paying a price. If Gillard's architecture had remained in place, today's energy prices would likely be lower,

manufacturing job numbers would be higher, carbon pollution would be lower, the electricity grid more reliable, and like the GST, people would barely know it was there. Investors would be making good returns from a more modern and predictable energy system, resources companies would still be exporting their coal, gas and iron ore, and both industrial and household consumers would be looking favourably upon Julia Gillard's legacy. Further, Australia would now be holding its head high on the international stage, using its carbon reduction achievements to argue, with credibility, that our under-performing friends around the world should follow our example. If Tony Abbot had not abolished Labor's \$1.7 billion carbon capture and storage fund, that technology would now be more advanced. If Malcolm Turnbull and Scott Morrison had not wasted so much time and energy on the politics of the Liddell power station, our progress on hydrogen might also be better. Since 2014, Coalition Prime Ministers have been telling us the policy architecture it has in place will be sufficient to keep energy prices down, reduce carbon output, and to keep our electricity grid stable and reliable. But despite that, they have constantly changed direction. They proposed a NEG, a CET and an EIS, but delivered none of them. They promised "direct action" through the ERF would bring carbon pollution down. It hasn't. They told us farmers would be able to participate in the carbon market. Not true. The Prime Minister's hand-picked adviser Andrew Liveris told the National Press Club on Wednesday he stands with all those who have taken the pledge on zero-net emissions. This should be Scott Morrison's next step, just before finally releasing a coherent energy policy. Let's get on with it. Now more than ever, the nation needs effective action from its politicians.

This article was published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on Thursday, 18 September 2020



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

The members of SWARM or whatever they were called who opposed the Huntlee development better not be shopping at Coles North Rothbury. I know you!!!

And, whoever the anonymous creep is who is putting lying sh*t in my letterbox about the Huntlee development in my opinion you are a psychopath... Stop now... Get over it... Get a life.

To Coles management for inviting Val Randall to co-open the new Coles Supermarket at Huntlee & for Coles generous donation of \$5000 to our local Little Athletics.

The store is amazing!

To Branxton Lions Club for having the initiative to do a Community Needs Assessment. I like the idea of a Youth Drop-In Centre for the Branxton & Greta local area.

Well Done to you all!



Classified's

Classified's

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

Computer Tuition: From basics to highly skilled & learn all about ebay. P: 0429 381 908 repairs. Comtronics P: 4991 1128
Drum lessons: Young Musician studying Bachelor of Music will conduct lessons (drum) your home or mine. (\$25.00 at mine \$30 for away for 1/2 hour). Beginners welcome. call Josh on 0458 611 362

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

For Sale: 2 ton chainblock \$100, Hardwood Timber beam 4800 x 290 x 75, \$50. 2470 x 140 x 100, \$20, Humes prime coat solid exterior door, 2040 x 820 x 35, New \$120, sell \$50, Painted solid door 1985 x 920 x 40, \$20, trailer axle with Holden hubs and stub axles, \$20, 4 White roll down security shutters 1800, 1860, 1760, 1650 wide with 2000 drop, Free Ph.0437312905

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: 2000 Holden Rodeo LXTFR9 Dual Cab lpg/petrol (WSE547) rego 27/6/20. 156,239 bull bar ute liner canopy silvergrey \$2950 neg. olwynca@gmail.com P: 0249387430

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: Collectable rabbit traps from \$10 P: 0421 102 711

For Sale: Alpacas Ph 0400697148

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

Riding Lessons: agjstment, horses trained. 0407 453 494

Share Accommodation: East Branxton \$180 + share utilities cost P: 0407 383 026

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

Wanted: Clean Fill Required North Branxton area. No builders rubble or materials P: 0413161296 Fred

Work Wanted: Need a house cleaner \$25/hr P: 0488 588 333

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Work Wanted: Contract stock work with horses & dogs. Design & building wooden stock yards - rural fencing

Dates for your diary

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

Dates for your diary >

Dates for your diary >

EVERY WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY MORNINGS — The Branxton Greta Mens Shed meet in the mornings: come and have a cuppa at the Shed. 49 Branxton Street, Greta (in the grounds of the old St Mary's primary school) For more information contact Richard Wesseling 0417422560

MON 28 SEPT — The Hunter Valley Police District Community Engagement in Branxton from 9.30am. in the car park at the intersection of Maitland and Cessnock Rd's (beside the Royal Federal Hotel)

MON 5 OCT 2020 — Labour Day Public Holiday
TUES 13 OCT 2020 — Branxton Greta CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

MON 26 OCT 2020 — Branxton VIEW Annual Fashion Parade. 10am Branxton Community Hall \$15pp.

TUES 10 NOV 2020 — Branxton Greta CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

TUES 8 DEC 2020 — Branxton Greta CWA Mthly Mtg — Old St. Brigids Staff Room, Station St., Branxton, 9.30am, Morning Tea following. Visitors and New Members welcome. Contact Marie Shearer 0402015850 for any information.

Upcoming Concerts

SAT 24 OCT 2020 — Rod Stewart Live @ Roche Estate

SAT 31 OCT 2020 — "Jazz in the Vineyards" (Kate Cebrano) @ Hope Estate

SAT 21 NOV 2020 — A Day on the Green (James Blunt & Jason Mraz) at Bimbaden, Hunter Valley

SAT 5 DEC 2020 — Iconic Scottish band SIMPLE MINDS will be performing at a day on the green wineries.



6 October 2020
"Loose Ends"
Produced by Jens Altheimer
Out-of-the-Ordinary Visual Theatre



8 October 2020
"Ross Noble" ~ Humouroid
If Robin Williams, Billy Connolly and the Monty Python team had a baby, it would be Ross Noble. And Noble would probably tell you how they did it, in all its absurd detail.



17 October 2020
"THE ROCK SHOW - OZ EDITION"
Featuring the TRILOGY OF ROCK band and STEVE MULRY (Ted Mulry Gang)
21 January 2021



"The Gruffalo's Child"
Adapted from the award-winning picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. Published by Macmillan Children's Books.



5 March 2021
"Johnny Cash THE CONCERT"
Back to San Quentin
Featuring the great moments of Johnny Cash's seminal *At San Quentin* album.



GIVE US A BREAK

DUMPING ISN'T GIVING

STOP DUMPING Take your garbage to the Waste Management Centre.

CHARITY OPERATORS ARE NOT GARBAGE SERVICES

A NSW EPA Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the Waste Levy



Mayor demands better than “second-best” Singleton bypass option

Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore says she will refuse to settle for a second-best bypass of the New England Highway for Singleton, citing critical issues including the single lane design and access to the Town Centre.

After a thorough review of the Submissions Report by Transport for NSW in relation to the bypass, issued on 10 August, Cr Moore said she was disappointed with the responses to the two biggest concerns raised by Council and the community.

They were:

- that Putty Road should be a full interchange to allow all motorists, but particularly service vehicles, access to and from the Town Centre from the bypass; and

- the need for two lanes in both directions along the length of the bypass to ensure the road operates at satisfactory levels of service now and into the future.

The route also has implications for Council’s historical Water Works Lane depot, which houses critical assets as the main connection for the supply of water to downtown Singleton as well as Mt Thorley, Broke and

Whittingham.

Council’s position for a full interchange would also better serve a relocated standpipe that would be required to make way for the road.

“I am whole-heartedly supportive of the concept of the Singleton bypass and the importance of this vital piece of infrastructure to our community, but we only get one chance to get it right,” Cr Moore said.

“It is vital that any bypass of Singleton includes ease of access for all traffic to quickly, easily and safely turn off into the Singleton Town Centre.

“Transport for NSW maintains that motorists can access the Town Centre from Newcastle by the existing New England Highway route, and those coming from the north can use the proposed Putty Road half interchange. However, Council’s position is that travelers in both directions should have the option to pull into the Town Centre while they are on the bypass.

“We should also be planning for the long-term now with two lanes in both directions to cope with anticipated traffic volumes and to provide adequate space for vehicles to negotiate obstructions such as a broken down vehicle.

“I do not want to see the people of Singleton ripped off with a second-rate option that threatens economic opportunities for the Singleton Town Centre and will require a new advocacy campaign later on to expand the road to double lanes.

“I will be taking this matter to the Member for Upper Hunter Michael Johnsen MP, and as far as I need to in order to ensure our community gets the bypass they deserve.”

Transport for NSW indicated they would progress with other matters raised in Council’s submission, including further

consideration of a less confusing layout of the Gowrie Gates interchange and intended operation of the Putty Road and Waterworks Lane intersection.

In addition, Transport for NSW would undertake additional analysis considering socio economic impacts, including but not limited to emergency access, community connectedness, the Singleton CBD and tourism.

Council also requested to be fully involved in the traffic management planning for construction, with appropriate conditions in place to minimise the impact on the community.

General Manager Jason Linnane said Council staff are preparing a response to the Submissions Report to raise the disappointment with Transport for NSW’s position on the Putty Road interchange and single lane design.

“Council’s focus is to represent the interests of our community, and these were significant issues that were raised in Council’s submission and by the people of Singleton,” he said.

“We are also concerned about the impacts on the Water Works Lane depot, and the implications not only to relocate vital infrastructure for the supply of water, but to ensure ease of access for our crews and customers, and continuity of supply.

“We maintain the view that as the project stands, it will result in a deficient outcome for our community in terms of economic and safety impacts that have been reinforced by the Police.

“We will be making our case again in writing to Transport for NSW in hope there will be a reconsideration of those factors that make this a poor result for everyone who currently uses the New England Highway and will use the bypass.”

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Pools to open

Cessnock City Council is pleased to announce that the 2020/21 pool season will kick off this Saturday 26 September, with both Cessnock and Branxton Pools opening at 7am.

While our local pools are hugely popular in the warmer months, Council has had to introduce some restrictions to ensure compliance with the Public Health Order.

These include:

- * Amended operating hours until at least 31 December 2020, Monday to Friday 6am to 5pm, Saturday and Sunday 7am to 5pm.

The maximum capacity will be 60 people at Branxton Pool and 75 people at Cessnock Pool (this excludes Swimming Club nights).

- 1.5m social distancing at all times (unless living in the same house)

- * Use of hand sanitiser on entry and exit of facility.

- *All patrons must either scan in using the QR code on entry or manually sign in.

- *Patrons are asked to pay using EFTPOS or bring correct change to reduce cash handling.

- * All high touch surfaces will be sanitised by pool staff every hour. Pools will be vacated daily between 12.45pm and 1.15pm to allow staff to do a thorough disinfectant clean of the amenities and high touch surfaces.

Following an announcement by the NSW Department of Education to cancel their swimming and water safety program, no school bookings will be approved for term 4.

Cessnock City Council’s General Manager, Lotta Jackson said these measures are in place to keep both staff and the community safe during the 2020/21 pool season.

“We want to see the community enjoying our wonderful pool facilities over the warmer months, but it was important to put a COVID Safety Plan in place to ensure everyone’s safety,” said Lotta.

School News



Branxton Public School

Our School Leaders and House Captains have been busy organising and leading the introduction of the Sport Court and playground activities. COVID restrictions have reduced the options available for play time but they have come up with some COVID safe ideas to keep our students busy, safe and happy during breaks.

One school activity which is still going strong is debating! Our Debating teams had their Round 3 debate via Zoom Technology again. The girls went first against Greta Public School and beat them convincingly, meaning they are still undefeated and are now the Zone champions who will continue to the State Knockout next term. Well done to Emily, Lucy, Grace B and Josie. Unfortunately for our second team we had two members away and we were narrowly beaten by Bolwarra Public. Big thanks to Max, Pat, Braydon and Gracie D for stepping up and doing a sensational job on the day with no notice.

The ANZ Tennis Hot Shots Racquet Roadshow is again providing 30,000 racquets to Kindergarten students around Australia, thanks to ANZ and Tennis Australia. We are one of 832 lucky schools to be receiving racquets. It's a great opportunity to get our kids moving, both at home and at school! The students have also been given a special certificate to take home to celebrate their new tennis racquets. Meanwhile, Stage 1 and 2 students have been enjoying Tennis activities over the last few Wednesdays. Some tennis stars in the making perhaps!

Kinder Kookaburras were the last of the Kinder classes to host their assembly in Week 9. Emus, Magpies and now Kookaburras were all given the opportunity to host a short assembly just for Kindergarten and have enjoyed using the microphone! We've had singing with signing, poetry and a presentation of artwork and information about echidnas. Kindergarten parents can view these on Seesaw.

Kinder Orientation will be quite different this year, but we are preparing information to be delivered to parents and students through the Kinder 2021 Seesaw. Starting school can be a big step for little ones, and their parents, so we'll try to make this easier by providing as much information as we can. If you have someone enrolled for next year and you haven't received an emailed invite to the Kinder 2021 Seesaw, please phone the office and ensure that we have your details recorded correctly.

COVID restrictions will continue in schools for the foreseeable future and important updates are shared by Mrs Blakemore as they come to us. Please continue to check SkoolBag regularly to stay informed.

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



@ Emus Tennis



@ Kookaburras Tennis



@ Debators



@ New Sport Court



@ Magpies

WANTED

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LEASE

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

BRANXTON & VINEYARDS REAL ESTATE
P: 4938 3300



"Branxton Gardens" Senior Living, Branxton

Recent sales

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





HANDY TIPS

Compost

Whether using a bin, tumbler or open bay, the theory is the same. Perfect compost depends on maintaining a good balance of carbon-containing ingredients and nitrogen-containing ingredients. An easy way of remembering which products contain carbon and which contain nitrogen is to simply think 'brown' ingredients are carbons and 'green' ingredients are nitrogen.

Carbons - Autumn leaves, pea straw, lucerne hay, sugarcane mulch, moistened cardboard, shredded newspaper (not glossy paper).
Nitrogen: Lawn clippings, garden prunings, green leaves, kitchen scraps, citrus peel, egg shells, tea bags and coffee grounds. A ratio of about 60% "green" material to 40% "brown" material is ideal, but not essential.

Large material should be cut up as small as possible: the smaller things are, the quicker they break down. Animal manure will also speed up the process. If making a heap or bay, build it directly onto the ground, rather than on concrete or paving, as this allows worms, bacteria, fungi and other beneficial organisms to get into the compost.

- Layer the materials like a lasagne - brown, manure, green, manure etc

- Water after each manure layer with molasses tea to feed the compost microbes. Mix 2 table-spoons of molasses in a 9 litre watering can. Turn the heap every two weeks for oxygenation - the microbes that break things down quickest need oxygen.

This compost will be ready to use in about three months.

How to Water

The amount of water your vegies need and how often they need it depends on your soil type - is it sand, loam or clay. Water percolates straight through sandy soils, whilst clay can become boggy.

- The simplest and most effective way of knowing when to water is to explore the soil. Dig down and feel, smell and see whether the soil is moist.

- Another way to tell whether or not to water is to look at your plants. When plants need watering the leaves wilt, lose colour, and turn grey. If the leaves are

firm, then the plant is fine. It's important to learn which are good indicator plants in the garden. No textbook can tell you, it's one of those acquired skills that gardeners develop.

- Water in the morning if you have fungal problems so the sun dries off the leaves; or the evening if you want your plants to have all night to soak it up. Either method will reduce evaporation and the amount of water you use.

Surface watering damages plants. Roots grow towards the surface, where the soil is hotter and they're more prone to drought. Water plants deeply, ensuring the water penetrates to at least 30 centimetres. This will draw the roots further down into the cool soil, and will firmly anchor the roots and develop good plants. These tips should keep your plants healthy and happy, whilst minimising your water use.

Make Your Own Fertiliser

Whatever soil your vegie garden has, a complete organic fertiliser will improve your soil. You need:

- Seed mill - the crushed husks of seeds, like linseed, canola or wheat, available from stockfeed suppliers. High in nitrogen and the bulk improves soil structure

- Gypsum - Calcium sulphate, which also improves soil structure

- Blood and bone - source of nitrogen and phosphorous
- Rock dust - contains trace elements like calcium, silica, copper, zinc and manganese

Mix together approx. 60% seed mill, 20 % blood and bone, 10% rock minerals and 10% gypsum. Apply as needed.

Liquid v Solid Fertilisers

All fertilisers contain nutrients that make for healthy plant growth, but some are complete plant foods that supply all sixteen essential nutrients, while others target specific needs or deficiencies. Some are designed to be applied as solids while others are applied as liquids.

- **Liquid** fertilisers offer a quick response. The nutrients are almost immediately available to be absorbed through the roots or leaves, correcting nutrient deficiencies quickly or giving the plant a general

boost through the growing season. You need to decide whether to use an inorganic or organic liquid because the results can be vastly different depending on which you choose.

If you're looking for a slow release general feed over a whole season for a mature tree or pot plant then solid fertilisers are ideal. Another advantage if you're time-poor is that they only need to be applied once a year.

Choosing Mulch

Mulch your garden to slow down moisture loss, regulate soil temperature, inhibit weed growth and with organic mulches, feed the soil.

- Inorganic mulches like crushed terracotta or rock, scoria, pebbles or recycled glass make good decorative mulches, whilst allowing moisture to go right through to the soil. Good for bush-fire zones as they don't burn. Pale colours can help reflect heat away from plant roots.

- Living mulches - dense, low-growing plants are great for insulating soil surfaces and suppressing weed growth. On sloped ground, they will also help prevent erosion. Organic mulches like chipped prunings, pea straw or lucerne hay are good on vegies as they add nutrients to the soil. However, it has to be topped up regularly. Water before mulching vegies at a depth of 50mm to 100mm.

Soil pH

If your soil is too acidic or too alkaline, your plants won't be able to get all the nutrients they need, no matter how much fertiliser you add. Test your soil pH to ensure your soil is between 6 and 7.

- **Too acid?** If your soil test indicates that your soil pH is too low or too acidic (which applies to most Australian soils) the solution is to add agricultural lime or dolomite. You can also use poultry manure.

- **Too alkaline?** If your soil is alkaline, it means it has a high pH. You can increase the acidity of your soil by adding things like compost and manures, leaf litter and mulch. Iron chelates work too. In extreme situations, you can use powdered sulphur - one handful per square metre, once a year. Sulphur works very slowly and you won't notice a change in your pH for about 6 months.

pH testing kits are widely available from nurseries and hardware stores.



The almost unbearable burden of raising a puppy.

Have you ever had a puppy or are you thinking of adding a puppy to your family soon - maybe even this Christmas? Living with a puppy can be loads of fun but at times even the most patient person might feel more than a little exhausted. But it is not the exuberant and impulsive puppy behaviour that we should be most concerned with. The biggest responsibility of raising a puppy is not to teach them "manners", it is to ensure they have a bright future. And that future lies in your hands.

Guiding the young of any species through their most vulnerable time in life is always a bit daunting. So many things can go wrong. If you've never even thought about it, start before you venture down the path of getting a puppy or a kitten or any other young life that needs your care. Their total dependence on you gives you total power over them. And that is an enormous responsibility.

Your new puppy will have the first culture shock when they arrive at your home. Having been removed from their mother and siblings, now they are placed in a foreign place, expected to understand very different rules and forced to spend much time by themselves. Up until then your puppy had never been alone. So what if you intend to leave your new puppy for eight to ten hours a day because of your work? What if you don't want them in the bedroom and they have to sleep alone, maybe even outdoors?

Then there are all those normal puppy behaviours, like jumping and biting, that you try so hard to erase. For the last few weeks your puppy has been happily romping around with his mates. Now those playful behaviours are suddenly met with hostility? How will your puppy cope? Trying to see life from your puppy's perspective - as difficult as this is, being human - is a good first step to prevent any major traumas. Understanding what your dog's emotional and physical needs are is even better. Those first three months of your puppy's life are just too important to be casual about. Yes, your dog may grow up regardless and - if they are lucky - somehow

muddle through life no matter what you do. They are an extremely adaptable species after all. But would it be better to give them the best start possible? You bet. If our dogs' poor upbringing resulted in more dog attacks than is currently the case, we would already have regulations around puppy socialisation, handling and training. But the fallout of our failings is hidden away behind the bars of countless animal shelters and the exorbitant number of young lives lost due to premature euthanasia. And that is not to say that the rest of them are happy and well-adapted dogs living in loving homes. Dogs largely suffer in silence. You rarely hear them complain. Their lives may be dull, riddled with anxiety or even barely livable, yet most of them just carry on. Why don't we see their plight?

I believe the reason for our collective blindness to the prevalence of fear, stress and anxiety in dogs - as well as cats and other animals - is desensitisation. It starts in early childhood where we learn that it is OK to manhandle animals and make them do what we want. We either never learned what fear, stress and anxiety in animals looks like or it has been "normalised" in our minds. We have adapted to living with anxious pets. They are everywhere. Animals are being restrained and manhandled for grooming and veterinary procedures, pushed, shoved, strangled, hurt and yelled at in the name of training and left in solitary confinement day after day, year after year. If all this fear and anxiety in our pets would burst into aggression on a massive scale, we would have long learned to pay more attention.

"You have the power to make your dog happy."

You - as a new puppy parent - can make sure your dog does not become one of the silent sufferers. You can prevent the mental and emotional distress that may one day prompt your dog to become aggressive. You have the power to make your dog happy. And the welcome side effect for you is a much decreased risk of behaviour problems and a more enjoyable life with your dog. Being physically

Tips For Your Dogs



manipulated is one of the major sources of anxiety in our pets but something we can easily prevent or change. Dogs, and other animals, can learn to voluntarily cooperate with whatever needs to be done for their health and safety. They can be taught to enjoy all the groping and smooching we bestow on them.

You also have the power to prevent fear of strangers, children, noises, novel objects and situations in your dog - all potential sources of anxiety - by understanding what socialisation is really about and by doing the best job you possibly can.

So, here are some guidelines for the first twelve to fourteen weeks of your dog's life to get you on the right track.
COMPANIONSHIP
Let the puppy sleep near you during the first few days and slowly wean them towards their own bed and ultimate sleeping location. Keep your puppy company, especially during the first few weeks. If you work long hours, get someone else to help out. Gradually get your dog used to spending time alone. Spend quality time with your puppy daily. Play with your dog using toys so they can chase, grab and tug. Invite people to your house. Take your puppy to work or social activities (take a crate so the puppy can rest undisturbed at times).

HOUSE TRAINING
Invest the time to properly house train your puppy. Supervise, confine and reward. Never punish a puppy for eliminating where they shouldn't!
SOCIALISATION
Take your puppy out into the world from the get go. If your dog only had their first vaccination, carry them on your arms or let them watch from the car.

The importance of socialisation cannot be overstated. Create positive associations with lots of lots of sounds, sights, people, other animals - anything your dog could possibly encounter in their lives.

Prevent fear of strangers by introducing a large variety of humans in a positive manner including children. Let the stranger give your dog treats, but be careful the puppy does not get overwhelmed. Do not allow people to simply walk up

and handle your puppy. Always watch your pup for signs of stress and back up if necessary.

The primary time for you to socialise your dog is from the moment you get them to about twelve weeks of age. Everything your dog experiences during that time will have an especially deep and lasting impact. Make sure the experiences are positive. Do not waste a day! After that continue socialising your dog to maintain their skills and well-being.

Attend a well-run puppy preschool which includes off leash play.

If your puppy is shy, never force them! Allow them to explore the world at their own pace.

BODY HANDLING
Teach your dog to enjoy being touched, held, squeezed, poked etc. by starting with brief handling and gradually work up to more invasive handling. Always give a tasty treat after handling. The higher the value of your treats, the more the dog will enjoy being handled.

Allow strangers, including children, to touch your dog but supervise closely to make sure your dog enjoys it. Always follow the handling with treats. Take your dog to the vet outside appointment times and give them treats in the waiting area, exam room and on the exam table. Perform mock vet exams to make them comfortable with various types of procedures.

TRAINING
Attend a well run puppy school which uses positive reinforcement training. Socialisation is the most important thing at this stage whereas training can be done at any time. Focus on three or four behaviours such as sit and drop/down, stay or wait and 'leave it' and do lots of repetitions in different places.

Use rewards to train your puppy. Do not use coercive methods such as physical manipulation or raising your voice. Redirect unwanted behaviour towards alternative behaviours, e.g. ask the dog to sit or go fetch a toy in situations where they are likely to jump up. You may have your new pet for many, many years so initial house training, socialisation, body handling etc., is so, so important. Good Luck!

SPORTS RESULTS

RESULTS GOLF

Branxton Veterans Golf

14 Hole Individual Stableford
10 September 2020
42 players Hit Off and completed the round.
Div 1 Winner P Conroy 30 pts r/u M Ford 29 pts
3rd M Ryan 27 pts
Div 2 SOD G Beeton 30 pts c/b r/u D Fletcher 29 pts
3rd M Kingston 28 pts
Ladies Winner M Hunt 21 pts c/b r/u R Friis 21 pts
3rd J Harris 19 pts c/b
NTPs Ladies J Harris

Gents E Munzenberger

L Hunt (Capt)

Results 17-9-20
Stableford - 2BBB

1st N Wheeler & M Carling 36 pts
2nd I Harris & J Harris 35 pts (c/b)
3rd G Musialik & R Moylan 35 pts
4th R McCarthy & G McCarthy 34 pts (c/b)
5th P Tracey & G Wilton 34 pts

NTP Ladies R Friis
Gents D Sheppard
Members draw - Not won
Spring at it's best, certainly set the scene for to-day's event with some added interest, in that, two husband & wife teams and a player on a "purple patch" were well placed. Congratulations to Nick Wheeler & Mick Carling (PP) on winning to-day's play. And a well done to all other winners and place getters.

LN Bootes, Hon Sec

Branxton Ladies Golf

9th September 2020
Stableford

Winner: Robyn Hoffman with 38 point c/b
Runner-up: Caren Caldwell with 38 points
3rd: Jan Scobie with 34pts

Branxton Golf Club SATURDAY COMP STABLEFORD

Saturday, 12 Sept. 2020

Field: 71
Grades A Peter Conroy 41
Grades A Stephen Ross 40
Grades A Peter Wilton 39
Grades B Errol Munzenberger 40
Grades B Robert Hale 36
Grades B Ken Radunz 36
Grades C Richard Turnbull 39
Grades C Darrell Fletcher 34
Grades C Robert Miller 34
Balls 21 Distributed down to score: 32
NTP'S

A GRADE M TRACEY
B GRADE K SHARP
C GRADE G GEASON

A large field of 71 players enjoyed the excellent conditions on Saturday with the winning scores reflecting some good golf. Peter Conroy, fresh from a win on Thursday in the Vets won A Grade with an excellent 41 pts, just clear of Club Captain Steve Ross with 40 pts, with Peter Wilton's sub-par round of 39 pts only good enough for third place—it is a tough school Peter! Errol Munzenberger has found some wonderful

form of late, winning B Grade with a very pleasing 40 pts, well clear of runners up Robert Hale and Ken Radunz with their 36 pts. Singleton High School Teacher, Richie Turnbull enjoyed his day out once again, easily winning C Grade with his 39 pts, well clear of Darrell Fletcher and Robert Miller with their 34 pts. 21 players won a ball, needing 32 pts to do so.

SATURDAY COMP STABLEFORD

Saturday, 19 Sept 2020

Field: 67
Grades A Mark Moylan 41
Grades A Edward Barrett 40
Grades A Gregory Tearle 38
Grades B Sam Edmonds 44
Grades B Paul Bush 40
Grades B John Bowen 40
Grades C Benjamin Summers 40
Grades C Izach Dennis 38
Grades C Pip Lancaster 38
Balls 20 Distributed down to score: 34
NTP'S

A GRADE P WILTON
B GRADE B TURNER
C GRADE P LANCASTER
Mark Moylan produced an excellent round of golf to win Saturday's A Grade Stableford Competition with 41 pts, just ahead of the unbelievably consistent local senior Eddie Barrett with his 40 pts. Greg Tearle's 38 pts was good enough for third. Sam Edmonds produced a stunning round of 44 pts to easily win B Grade. Paul Bush and John Bowen filled the minor placings with their 40 pts, scores usually good enough to win most Saturday competitions. Benjamin Summers won C Grade with his 40 pts, with Izach Dennis runner up with 38 pts, and Pip Lancaster third with the same score. 34 pts was needed to win a ball with the nearest the pins going to Peter Wilton, Barry Turner and Pip Lancaster. Peter's shot in particular finished less than a metre in front of the hole—it must have looked really good in transit—a great shot from one of the best shot makers in the club.

HUNTER VALLEY GOLF CLUB

Sunday 13th September

Jeff Shanahan has continued his good form with a 45 point return to win the Weekly Challenge easily from Ian Smith 38 and Wollongong GC visitor John Della Vedova with 37 on countback.
Ball winners were: Phil Douglas 37, Carly Wren v37, Robert Meers v37, Nigel Black v37, Peree

Watson 36, Tim Arkell v36, Matt Wells v36, Craig Mould 35, Jan Scobie v34, Brad Oldfield 34, Hieu Le 34 & Tony Krishna 33 c/b
Tuesday 15th September
With the greens settling after the recent coring solid scores were returned in the Tuesday Stableford with Richard Craft doing best with 42 points from a 5 way countback for the minor placings with Ian Smith getting the nod for 2nd and Dean Morrison 3rd from the bunch who all carded 40 points. Ball winners were: Steve Piggot 40, Robert Wilton 40, Graeme Flynn 40, Tim Dunn 39, Wayne Steadman v39, Damien Porter 38, Bill Simpson v37, Wayne Cowan 37, Peter Wilson 37, Paul Smith 37, Robert MacKenzie 36, Ryan Wilson 36, Mark Fullbrook 36, Lindsay Self 36, Bindi 36, Jodie Dunn 36, Chris Taggart 36, Nic Bates 36, David Michael Menzies 35 & Darrell Porter 35 c/b.
Nearest-the-Pins went to Robert Wilton (3rd) Jodie Dunn (4th) Wayne Burgess (8th) Graeme Flynn (10th) & Ryan Wilson (17th)

Wednesday 16th September

Jill Slatter has won the Ladies Stableford event on countback to Mary Fortey after both carded 36 points with Leesa Robinson 3rd with 35 also on countback. Ball winners were: Maureen Donaldson 35, Di Atton 34, Melita Watson 33 and Jenny Chambers 32 c/b. Next week the Ladies will play the 2020 4BBB Stableford Championship.

Thursday 17th September

The Vets Stabrose event has been won by Ken McLaughlan & Paul York with 56 points c/b to Phil Wetzler & Peter Threadgold, 3rd to Tom Bell & Rob Hannah with 55 points
Ball winners were: Col Somerville / Mick Gilbert 54, Bruce Matthews / Ryan Wilson 54, Peter Perkins / Eric Smith 53, Wayne Drayton / Paul Bullock 53, Ken Wright / Wayne

Burgess 53, Garry Marsden / Ian Newell 53, Evan Powell / Rod Williams 52, Greg Harder / Peter McIntyre 52, Maureen Donaldson / Kerry Bartlett 52, Tony Neale / John Grayson 52, Wayne Cowan / B Arthur / K Fawcett 52, Don Bradley / Bruce Chambers 51, Graham Morris / Dave Gellwiler 50, Chris Taggart / Kev Gibson 50, James & Danny Schofield 50, Richard Craft / Lyndsay Meyn 49, Bill Freeman / Bindii 49, Bill Mitchell / Ron Findlay 49, Greg Ireland / Doug Wand 49 on countback. Nearest-The-Pins went to Evan Powell (3rd) Beepa (4th) Kerry Bartlett (8th) John Grayson (10th) & Bruce Chambers (17th). Next week the Vets will play a Medley Stableford.

Saturday 19th September

A superb day greeting the field in the Blue Tee Challenge which led to some solid scoring from the back markers. A Grade went to Shannon Attewell with an even Par 36 on countback to David Peel, B Grade to Peter McIntyre with 39 points also on countback to Paul York and C Grade to Ron Findlay with 39 points from Alan Provenzano 38 c/b. Ball winners were: Graham Morris 38, Graeme Smith 37, Paul Bullock 37, Max Hindmarsh 37, Bruce Chambers 36, Simon Nicholson 36, Darren Mathers v36, Matt Delforce 35, Dean Freebairn 35, Stephen Zok 34, Ron Higginbottom 34, Jeff Morton 34, Peter Puerta 34, Craig Sharp 34, Kerrie O'Connell v33, Greg Harder 33, Tony Butler 33, Richard Lyons 32, Michael Gilbert 32, David Hollis 32, Stephen Morgan 32, Wayne Barber 32 and Paul Adams 32 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to Russ Lightfoot (3rd) Graeme Smith (4th) Paul Adams (8th) & Michael McNab (17th). Next week's event will be the 2020 4BBB Stableford Championship.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

THE NEWS Issue No 113 9th May 2002 Page 40

Branxton junior golfer cleans up



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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Coles Huntlee donate \$5000 to Branxton Greta Little Athletics



“A very much welcomed surprise,” said Branxton Greta Little Athletics President Daniel Webber when informed that Coles Huntlee had decided to donate \$5000 to their club. The donation set a ‘trifecta’ in moneys granted to the club in the last 6months. “We were granted \$98,000 to extend the club house storage area & another \$9,000 for a much needed ride-on-mower courtesy of the state government, under ‘The Community Building Partnership Program’, through their local state member for Cessnock, Clayton Barr MP.,” said

Daniel. “We have now decided to put the \$5,000 towards a discus throwing area. Once we have that in place we will then be able to host all local, regional & even National events. I does mean a lot to the club.” said Daniel. “We cannot thank Coles at Huntlee enough for this very generous donation.” The club committee will meet in a couple of weeks to decide on how they can go forward under the present Covid-19 pandemic. “We are hopeful that within the next couple of weeks

the situation will be much clearer and we would hope that the club will be able to operate in a reasonable fashion. “Our young athletes are as keen as mustard to get up and running, excuse the pun, and for the club to be able to function in the current environment it would be just fantastic. “We are keeping our fingers crossed that it will eventuate,” said Daniel.

■ Photo at front: Branxton Greta Little Athletics President Daniel Webber, Coles Manager Tim Hill & Karen Webber. The other grown-up is Kelly Knox at the back.

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