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ISSUE 553

The News

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WEDNESDAY
6 JULY 2022

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

Cessnock Council approve 206 Retirement Villas, with a \$6M Luxury Clubhouse, at Huntlee



Ridge Retirement Living development is a welcome addition to our new town. “We are delighted that construction is underway & I am sure many of the Huntlee buyers will be encouraging friends and family to purchase in Green Ridge to not only be in close proximity to them but also enjoy the ideal location of Huntlee. We look forward to the first villas being completed later this year,” Robert said.

The Housing Industry Authority recently revealed Australia’s strongest markets for home building in the 2022 edition of the HIA Population & Residential Building Hotspots Report. Second on the list, after Thornton, is Branxton – Greta – Pokolbin, that had a population growth rate of 5.2% and \$121.1 million in building approvals.

• *Photo at left: A composite of the new clubhouse which will also include a heated indoor pool, outdoor spa, gym with HUR equipment, group exercise rooms, consulting suites, piano bar, commercial kitchen, indoor dining, covered outdoor dining, lounge, library, cinema, and all overlooking a bowling green plus landscaped garden.*

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Community Retirement Living Operator Sencia has received planning approval from the Cessnock City Council for a 206 Villa Retirement Community with a \$6M luxury Clubhouse at Huntlee.

Construction is scheduled to commence this month &, at its peak, it is anticipated that over 150 people will be onsite constructing the project with a focus on using local trades and suppliers. The development has been designed by Australia’s Jon Friedrich Architects. The project is anticipated to house over 300 residents with a range of 2 and 3-bedroom villas of house size proportions each with a double garage and storage available. The smallest villa will be 145sqm and the largest 168sqm plus generous outdoor dining all set within low maintenance gardens. The new 1400 square metre Clubhouse will feature amenities such as heated indoor pool, outdoor spa, gym with HUR equipment, group exercise rooms, consulting suites, piano bar, commercial

kitchen, indoor dining, covered outdoor dining, lounge, library, cinema, and all overlooking a bowling green plus landscaped garden.

The project comes after the success of its most recent Village The Breeze, Point Lonsdale which is now home to over 250 Residents. According to Stuart Moore, Chief Executive Officer for Sencia there focus is to provide generous and sustainable homes within a community that provides connection and a vibrant lifestyle. “As an Australian owned and operated business with extensive experience in Retirement Living, we have seen firsthand the social and physical benefits to residents living within a thriving community and we look forward to bringing this project to life in the Hunter Valley,” said Stuart. After extensive research of the market Stuart says they saw a gap in the Hunter Valley for luxury retirement living that provides generous house sized villas and the highest quality facilities and services.

“We anticipate people from around NSW will continue to embrace the tree change and recognise Green Ridge Hunter Valley as a great lifestyle proposition,” he said. The site at Kesterton Rise, North Rothbury is just 300m from the Huntlee Town Square which features a Shopping Centre anchored by Coles, Medical Centre, and Restaurant Tavern. The site is bordered by walking trails and parklands, with the popular Hunter Valley wineries, golf courses, horse riding and food offerings just a short 10-minute drive away. Sencia already has strong interest in the Stage 1 release of 27 villas and will be commencing the Clubhouse works as part of the first stage of construction. “You are invited to register your interest at greenridgehuntervalley.com.au,” said Stuart. Robert Crane, Sales Director for Huntlee, said with Huntlee being one of Australia’s fastest growing communities, the Green

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Mayors working together as bypasses progress in Singleton and Muswellbrook



With highway bypasses in Singleton and Muswellbrook likely to be under construction by the end of the year, the mayors, general managers and State and Federal members have met to discuss the future

of both projects. Representatives from Transport for NSW were also in attendance to provide updates following further funding allocations in last week's State budget.

The meeting included Mayor of Singleton Cr Sue Moore, Deputy Mayor of Singleton Cr Tony Jarrett, Singleton Council general manager Jason Linnane, Mayor of Muswellbrook Cr

Steve Reynolds, Muswellbrook Shire Council general manager Fiona Plesman, Member for Upper Hunter Dave Layzell and Federal Member for Hunter Dan Repacholi.

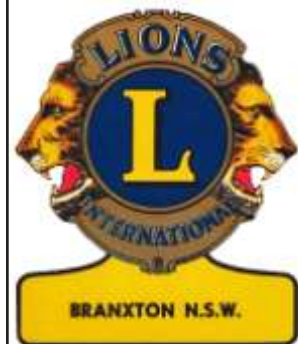
The meeting was timely as the bypass projects continue to be a high priority for residents under the adopted Create Singleton 2032 Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and the Muswellbrook Shire Council Community Strategic Plan.

Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore said it was appropriate for Singleton and Muswellbrook councils to work together on the delivery of the projects, as well as ensure the best social and economic outcomes for both communities with future uses of the existing roadway.

"I can understand that many people are questioning whether progress is being made on the bypasses, and Transport for NSW have provided a thorough overview of the work that is happening and what needs to be

done to allow construction to commence," she said. "We've been told we'll start seeing works on the ground later this year, and construction will take three years. "At the same time, we need to start planning now for the opportunities the bypass will bring to encourage people into our towns to build on economic and social development."

■ Photo at left: left to right: Anna Zycki, Regional Director North, Transport for NSW; Mayor of Singleton Cr Sue Moore; Member for Upper Hunter Dave Layzell; Singleton Council General Manager Jason Linnane; Mayor of Muswellbrook Shire Cr Steve Reynolds; Member for Hunter Dan Repacholi: Chad Griffiths; Deputy Mayor of Singleton Cr Tony Jarrett; Singleton Council Director Corporate and Commercial Services Dwight Graham; Muswellbrook Shire Council General Manager Fiona Plesman.



For membership details Contact Dr. Alan Beckley Secretary, Lions Club of Branxton Inc Email: branxton.nsw@lions.org.au Mobile: 0426 261948

Greta Museum

Come into *Greta Museum* for all things historically multicultural, or multiculturally historic, including our local Aboriginal information.



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STEVE'S RANT

Let's clear things up

WHAT IS A WOMAN?
 Attention: Secretary of the Federal Health Department, Brendan Murphy and others like him who have trouble defining a woman.
 Women, adult females, physically have pelvises with wider sciatic notches, wider pubic angles, wider sacra, and other shape differences correlated with child-bearing. Pre-pubescent females are referred to as girls; they become women with hormone changes. A woman who had a pregnancy and gave birth during her lifetime has scars on the pelvis where the uterine ligaments are attached.
 My wife's nephew, a baby, born with the most well-endowed male genitalia, was sitting and walking by age 2 like a girl. At a young age, he complained about his elder brother reading stick books and having girl posters on their bedroom wall. His mother sent him to a boy's school to toughen him up, and his tortuous life began. As a young man, he worked at Ford's assembly line. The other men would not let him use the men's bathroom. Once, he opened the front door wearing a diaphanous green nightgown and a morning beard, to an expectant religious group. They ran off. His brother's wife was frightened her children might "catch something", the family disintegrated and he left his home forever. As far as I

know, he didn't have a partner. He is a special person but is damaged by the treatment of others who consider themselves 'normal'. He doesn't identify himself as a woman. Genes are revealing. Late research shows that a percentage of people who suffered worst or died due to COVID had a Neanderthal gene. What a mix we are. Embrace others who are different but understand there are variations in gender not in biology.
 As for sport, check out the pelvis. That's pretty much a dead giveaway; simple.
TREACHERY
 Treachery is behaviour or an action in which someone betrays their country or betrays a person who trusts them. Look no further than the Governments of Queensland and Victoria. In NSW, the Treasurer, master of the duck and weave, I believe is a treacherous person. It is my opinion he has betrayed the Liberal Party and the people of NSW.
RENEWABLE ENERGY
 Like faeries and flying pigs, it is a dream which can never be achieved. It is a needless exercise.
 The government is being run by people who don't realise that we are building a time bomb. We



are being asked to turn off our power to save the system which sustains us while there is still no scientific proof that human activity is affecting the climate. We have allowed the Greens to turn us into mushrooms.
TAX REFORM

- Public monies are wasted when grants and allowances are not being income tested.
- Retirees and those over sixty-five should not be treated differently to the general population in regards to tax.
- The Tax burden should be moved from income to spending, i.e., an increase in GST.
- Hold politicians and bureaucrats accountable for the harm they cause to people's welfare and prosperity. This is where the Governor-General and State Governors have a duty to suspend parliaments and call fresh elections.
- Auditors general, state and commonwealth, should assume the duties of the various ICACs

and examine not just expenditures but the value gained, and the legislative authority of all spending.
 The bureaucracy has no reason to sub-contract government business unless the expertise does not exist in the departments. They should do their job, not outsource it (eg., recklessly causing a security risk by allowing Chinese-based coders to write critical software for the Electoral Commission of Queensland.)
THE MINISTER FOR THE REPUBLIC AND VETERAN AFFAIRS.
 A contradiction in terms. If this country becomes a Republic, the Governor-General must be head of state. I do not see any other human with the grace, impartiality and manners who could fit the bill, unless of course we borrow a Royal. Most contenders would have to do a knife and fork course.
 The federal government should know that every serving soldier and those who past served swore alliance to the Monarchy. So have politicians, other armed services, police, and New Australians

before 1994.
 The Australian Constitution requires those elected to the Senate and the House of Representatives to swear or solemnly affirm their allegiance to the Crown. Senators and members must both 'make and subscribe' (sign) an oath or affirmation.
 How does this sit with the Minister for a Republic? How does one Un-swear an oath taken before God?
WHAT HAPPENED IN VICTORIA?
 There must be a code of conduct for all police forces so they cannot get away with beating people up. Such should cause the government to be dismissed by the Governor of the State and in not doing so, the Governor should give his reasons why.
REALITY
 In reality, concerning the Universe, existential nihilism suggests that a single human or even the entire human species is insignificant, without purpose, and unlikely to change in the totality of existence, the planet or the Universe or the climate.
 From Shakespeare's Macbeth;

*Out, out, brief candle!
 Life's but a walking shadow,
 A poor player
 That struts and frets
 his hour upon the stage
 And then is heard no more;
 it is a tale
 Told by an idiot,
 full of sound and fury,
 Signifying nothing.*

Passionate commitment, be it to conquest, creation, or whatever, is meaningless except to those engaged in it.
 Our religions and laws make it possible to live morally and socially together. Those rules exist thanks to our warring ancestors, scholars, and philosophers.
 Whatever we do, the planet will undo when we are extinct. We are as individuals as important to the planet as a Woolly Mammoth. Get over yourselves.

CHEERS STEVE.



...the world is complex and subject to many strange influences.
 How people perceive the world is complex and subject to many strange influences. There are very few who see things as they

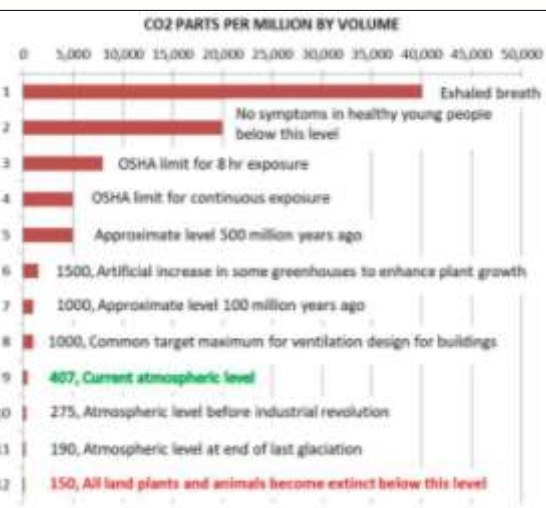
really are and can make judgements appropriate to circumstances.
 We ignore people like that at our peril. Most adult people have jobs or professions which require knowledge and wisdom

quite specific to their vocation or discipline. Outside their speciality they tend to rely on opinions and knowledge gleaned from the press, the internet or the loudest spokesperson with an opinion to push. If the spokesperson is a recognised authority, a government minister, or an ex-prime minister or president, extra weight is given to their pronouncements and much less questioning of the voracity of their claims is made. Sadly, to our collective detriment.
 When we add to this the pressure of public sentiment, well informed or not, it becomes difficult if not impossible to argue a contrary opinion. So strong can public sentiment be those facts, evidence, and the presentation of a contrary opinion is called heresy or blasphemy against the prevailing belief system. *Think here on the persecution of Lindy Chamberlain, Katherine Foley, and Kimberly Kitching.*
 Such is the case for the mad push for a reduction of man-made CO2, even advertisements for totally unrelated stuff are couched with the view to reduce CO2.
 Why has no public authority been tasked with the job of investigating this phenomena? One would think that the CSIRO, simply out of

curiosity, would do a study of temperatures related to CO2 levels. If they have there is no published result. Therefore, the relationship between CO2 ppm and temperature cannot be compared.
 Over the previous 800,000 years, CO2 concentrations varied between about 170 ppm during colder glacial periods to nearly 300 ppm during warmer periods like today. Air extracted from Antarctic ice has recently enabled the record to be extended back to two million years ago, at discrete intervals, showing that CO2 concentrations during the past century are higher than at any time in the ice core record. Even older atmospheric CO2 concentrations can be inferred from ocean sediments and show that the last time that atmospheric CO2 concentrations were the same or higher than today was the Pliocene epoch, over 2.6 million years ago, when mean global

temperatures were 2-3 °C warmer than today.
 Professor Ian Plimer who writes in this field, states that temperatures were higher in the time of the Vikings and the Roman empire.
 No member of any western government can give out a statement without referring it to climate change. They are besotted by it.
 The only reason I can think why this is so is because all politicians and the representatives of various unelected forums must affirm their credentials as beliefs in manmade climate change.
 According to Dan Pangburn MSME P.E.
 ... atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) has no significant effect

on average global temperature. This deduction employs existing data and the computational mandate that temperature change is in response to the time-integral of the net forcing; not proportionately to the instantaneous value of the net forcing itself. This finding also strongly suggests that Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW) is flawed and climate sensitivity (the increase in average global temperature (AGT) due to doubling of CO2 is not significantly different from zero.
 OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration.)
Steve and Maureen Lind, NORTH ROTHBURY.



Submit a letter to the editor

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

or emailed to thenews@hotmail.net.au

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Booming budget and positive plans adopted

It was a positive step forward for Cessnock City Council with the adoption of Council’s 2022-26 Delivery Program, which incorporates the 2022-23 Operational Plan and Budget, at Wednesday night’s extraordinary council meeting.

The community can now look forward to hundreds of exciting projects, with far-reaching benefits, delivered under an impressive \$146 million 2022-23 budget – a budget which is forecast to remain in surplus.

The budget incorporates a record \$59.8 million Capital Works Program, of which more than 50% is grant funded. There has also been an increase in resourcing to fast-track this largely grant funded program of works, as well as an investment in trainee and apprentice roles.

Cessnock City Council Mayor Jay Suvaal said Council has listened to the community and heard loud and clear that our road network needs to be a top priority.

“Local roads and pathways will receive a \$28.2 million investment in 2022-23, and the roads maintenance budget will see a 14.3% increase to \$5.8 million,” Mayor Suvaal said.

“Key road and pathway projects will include a \$2.1 million upgrade to Old Maitland Road, Sawyers Gully, \$1.9 million for the renewal of Sandy Creek Road, Quorrobolong, and \$3.2 million for the Bridges Hill Park to Wine Country shared pathway.”

“Council will also invest \$6.7 million in our local parks, playgrounds, pools and community facilities, which all play a vital role in making our community a wonderful place to live.”

Other highlights of the 2022-23 Budget include:-

- Commencement of the RFS Aviation Base project
- \$4.1 million for Kurri Kurri Town Centre upgrades
- \$3 million to complete the Branxton to Greta Cycleway
- Completion of the Cessnock Airport upgrade
- Black Spot road renewal works at George Downes Drive, Bucketty and Oakey Creek Road, Cessnock
- Watagan Creek, Laguna bridge replacement



\$3 million to complete the Branxton to Greta Cycleway



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Funded by the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program



#supportlocalcessnock

Members say ..



Cllr Sue Moore, Mayor
Singleton Council

With the Create Singleton 2032 Community Strategic Plan and associated Delivery Program 2022/2026 and Operational Plan 2022/2023 now adopted following Council's June ordinary meeting Council is not wasting any time acting on what you told us you wanted for the Singleton of the next decade.

The overwhelming response was for a strengthened focus on "local", through infrastructure such as shared pathways and bike tracks, shopping, events and entertainment, all growing more ways for us to experience and engage with local places and people.

We're already off to a good start with the success of the Firelight Festival, and we'll continue on with the Operational Plan 2022/2023 that identifies 174 actions Council will undertake this new financial year to support our community's priorities.

I'm particularly pleased to confirm that yes, that includes more shared paths, including on Civic Avenue from the Singleton Gym & Swim to Combo Lane, and on Combo Lane from Civic Avenue to Queen Street. We'll also see new footpaths on Patrick Street (from Boundary Street to Queen Street), Market Street (from New England Highway to Patrick Street) and Hunter Street (from Church Street to New England Highway) thanks to funding from the Transport for NSW Active Transport program. In addition to an extensive capital works program, we're preparing to launch applications for the second round of funds in this unique approach to voluntary planning agreement (VPA) monies, in partnership with The Bloomfield Group and Glencore. We'll also continue to work with our VPA committees to enhance our villages in Bulga and Jerrys Plains.

The continuation of our focus on the arts and culture will see a range of exhibitions, programs and events at the newly-opened Arts and Cultural Centre, reflecting our community's identity and cementing Singleton as the heart of the

Hunter for arts and creativity. The new centre is a fantastic addition to appeal to visitors, and an opportunity to build on the relationships and partnerships we have already established to continue to evolve Singleton's economy now and for generations to come. The centre will next feature the work of someone we all know, Vivian Dwyer, in a special exhibition called 'The Art of Being Here' that will open on 8 July. Without discounting the challenges we know lay before us, 2022/2023 is set to be a productive, progressive and prosperous year for Singleton. I look forward to what we'll achieve together for our community.

Cheers, Sue



Member for Cessnock
Clayton Barr MP

Raising the BARR WHAT ELECTRICITY PROBLEM? IT'S THE FREE MARKET BABY!

Recent weeks have shown an electricity market that is drowning in its own desire for profits. To make sure the profits soar, the free market is letting we, the people, freeze.

No doubt some voters out there will be energetically praising the success of this free market model and how successful it's been, despite residents in NSW being asked to turn off electrical appliances in recent weeks and power bills expected to rise by more than 10% in coming months.

People will have views about whether electricity networks and generators should or should not be in public hands. Without entering that debate, I hope that we could all agree that a Government can really only instruct a publicly owned entity on what to do and how to do it, while a Government has extremely limited power to instruct a private company on what to do and how to do it.

And let's not ignore that whether an electricity asset is owned publicly or privately, in either case it is driven toward a profit. But the big difference is that a Government elected by the people is more likely to take action following public pressure and outrage at limited power supply, foregoing some profits for the sake of self-preservation. A private company is less likely to care too much

about the outrage. A reliable electricity supply starts with the size and skills of the workforce, it extends through to the maintenance and reliability of the machinery, and it covers times when the inputs (e.g. coal) may be more expensive than the returns. For a company driven entirely by profit the main game is to shrink the workforce to its minimum size, limit spending on equipment and maintenance, and never, I repeat never, run the business when it's losing money. In recent weeks we have seen electricity supply limited by scheduled maintenance of some generators, some breakdowns of generators that have been poorly maintained and coal prices being at all-time highs on the global market. Imagine how cheap our power could be if coal dug out of our state was reserved for our use first. Ditto the gas!

It seems to me that our electricity supply and network is a bit of a basket-case at the moment. The recent shock to supply requires some serious thinking about where we are heading. The trouble is, humpty dumpty has fallen off the wall and putting it back together, partly privatised and partly publicly owned, will require us all to consider the worthiness of a free market approach where profits are far more important than people.

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



Member for Upper Hunter
Dave Layzell MP

PATIENT ASSISTANCE
A SIGNIFICANT announcement in the 2022-23 NSW Budget is the expansion of the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance

Scheme (IPTAAS). The NSW Government is investing an additional \$149.5 million to increase the subsidies available to ease the financial burden on people in rural and regional NSW who travel to get specialist care.

The subsidy for people requiring accommodation will almost double, while the private vehicle subsidy rate rises from 22 cents to 40 cents per kilometre for patients who have to travel more than 100 kilometres for care.

For the first time, the scheme will be expanded with patients seeking non-commercial clinical trials, high risk foot clinics, highly specialised publicly funded dental health clinics and ophthalmologists to be eligible for assistance.

For more on of the Isolated Patients Travel and Accommodation Assistance Scheme visit: <http://www.iptaas.health.nsw.gov.au/For-patients>

LEGAL ASSISTANCE
Flood-affected communities across the Upper Hunter electorate may be able to obtain free legal advice as a result of \$3 million funding to aid ongoing relief and recovery.

The Commonwealth funding will be divided between agencies including Legal Aid NSW's Disaster Response Legal Service, the Tenants' Union of NSW and Justice Connect to ensure people recovering from the NSW floods can access critical legal support and advice.

A total of 60 local government areas across NSW were impacted by flooding in February and March including Dungog, MidCoast, Mid-Western, Muswellbrook, Singleton and Upper Hunter and it's important the right support is in place to help flood-affected residents access the legal advice and assistance. Further information about the services being provided by the legal assistance sector in response to the floods can be found at www.disasterhelp.legalaid.nsw.gov.au or at <https://www.clcns.org.au/legal-help-flood-affected-communities-nsw-2022>.

GRADUATE RECRUITMENT
NSW Health's GradStart program for graduate nurses and midwives is currently taking applications for 2023.

GradStart is the recruitment process coordinated by the Ministry of Health's Nursing and Midwifery Office for NSW Health facilities in rural, regional and metropolitan NSW. Graduates can apply if they are completing a nursing or midwifery degree between 1 June 2022 and 31 May 2023 and will meet all the requirements to become a registered nurse or registered midwife with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia before the agreed start work date. Applications for 2023 GradStart close on 6 July at: [https://](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/employment/Pages/recruit.aspx)

www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/employment/Pages/recruit.aspx

REAL ESTATE REVIEW
Laws for licensed real estate, property and stock agents are currently in the spotlight with a review of the Property and Stock Agents Regulation 2014. The proposed new Property and Stock Agents Regulation 2022 has been modernised and improved with more clarity, better consumer protections and less administrative load for agents.

It keeps many existing rules with some minor changes, including strengthening the requirements for agents to disclose information about expression of interest deposits and returning deposits to potential buyers and reducing the administrative load for agents by changing the disclosure of material facts requirements. Agents, property owners, consumers and those who work for an industry body are encouraged to provide feedback on the proposed new Regulation. Have your say by completing the online survey or upload a submission by 6 July at: www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/property-and-stock-agents

Cheers, Dave



Jay Suvaal Mayor of Cessnock

This week will see communities across Australia celebrating NAIDOC Week, which is always an important annual event in the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA). NAIDOC Week is an opportunity for our community to celebrate, recognise, and learn about the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The theme for NAIDOC Week 2022 is **Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!** which encourages all of us to champion institutional, structural, collaborative and cooperative change. It also celebrates those who have already driven and led change in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities over generations. Cessnock City Council is proud to support NAIDOC Week and present a fantastic program of events hosted by local community organisations for the community to enjoy. While the program is already underway, there are still some great events to come, including emu egg decorating at Kurri Kurri and Cessnock Libraries,

jewellery making at the Cessnock Youth Centre, a NAIDOC Week art exhibition at The Centre in Kurri Kurri, Barkuma's Winter Walkabout fundraiser, and free film screenings at the Cessnock Performing Arts Centre. I am looking forward to attending the Flag Raising Ceremony and NAIDOC Family Fun Day on Saturday 9 July at TAFE Park. This is always such a wonderful community event as people gather from across our community to mark this important occasion and celebrate together. NAIDOC Week is a whole of community celebration and I encourage everyone to participate in the program to learn more about our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, its culture, art, music and people. Visit Council's website to find out more www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/NAIDOCWeek2022 or pick up a hardcopy program at Cessnock City Libraries, Cessnock Youth Centre and Outreach Service, PCYC or Kurri Kurri Community Centre.

The success of our community relies heavily upon our ability to strategically plan for the future and deliver positive outcomes for every resident in the Cessnock LGA. The adoption of the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Operational Plan and Budget at last week's Extraordinary Council meeting will allow us to do just that. With the new financial year upon us, I look forward to Council delivering for our community, particularly on local roads and pathways, having allocated additional resources and funding to these projects.

Cheers, Jay



Member for Hunter
Daniel Repacholi MP

The first few weeks as your new MP have been a whirlwind. I have spent time setting up my office and employing staff and I am pleased to say that we are open and ready to help you with any Federal Government issues and questions that you may have.

As your local Federal Member, I can assist you with a range of Federal Government matters, such as Centrelink, Medicare, Child Support, Aged Care, Immigration, Tax, NDIS, Communications including the NBN, Veterans Affairs, Superannuation, Passports, Citizenship, Grants,

Certificates, Congratulatory Messages and Flag Requests for Community Groups. My team are working through all your emails and meeting requests and will be following up with everyone as soon as they can.

I have also been meeting with as many local organisations, community groups and local residents as I can in my first few weeks as your MP.

In the last week I have met with the Mayors of Singleton and Muswellbrook, the State Member for Upper Hunter and Transport for NSW, to discuss the timeline for the construction of the vital Singleton and Muswellbrook Bypasses that are long overdue. The rest of the week was spent in Canberra for "Pollie School" for the Class of 2022.

It was an opportunity for all the newly elected first time MPs to come together and get a better understanding of our roles in Parliament and in our electorates.

It was both exciting and a little daunting when we were able to enter the House of

Representatives Chamber, knowing that only 1205 other people have done this before us. I think we all felt the weight of responsibility that we have as new Members of Parliament. The one big thing that I struggled to get used to is people in Parliament House calling me Mr Repacholi. To me that's my dad and my grandfather, so it's been quite different.

I am here to be a big voice for the Hunter and to make sure that we are not left behind. It's great that we now have a coal miner in Parliament that can actually talk about and understand what is important to people in the industry.

As I have said, I am here to be your voice in Canberra, so if you have any issues you would like me to raise, please feel free to reach out to me.

My office is located at 3 Edward Street, Cessnock, and the phone number is 02 4991 1022. I will have regular mobile offices right across the electorate when Parliament is not sitting.

You can email me at any time at Dan.Repacholi.MP@aph.gov.au or you can keep up to date with the latest news and information from around the electorate or message me via any of my social media channels including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and TikTok. My handle is @DanRepacholi.

As your Federal Member, our Government has a positive agenda to deliver, and I look forward to working together to get things done. *Cheers, Dan*

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Fibre and bowel health



The fibre in food helps keep your bowels (intestines) healthy and may protect against bowel cancer. It also helps control your weight, blood cholesterol level and blood sugar level. There are good amounts of fibre in wholegrain breads and cereals, fruits, vegetables, legumes, nuts and seeds. Ask a doctor, your local pharmacist or dietitian for advice.

What is fibre?

Fibre is found in foods that come from plants. It is also called 'roughage' or 'bulk'. Dietary fibre is the part of plant foods that is not digested or absorbed in your stomach or small intestine. Dietary fibre passes unchanged into the large bowel (large intestine, colon), where bacteria break it down. The break-down of fibre may produce a lot of gas (wind) in the large bowel. Most dietary fibres are carbohydrates. The main types of dietary fibre are soluble fibre, insoluble fibre and resistant starch.

Some foods with good amounts of soluble fibre are: oats, barley, rye, fruits, vegetables and legumes (e.g. beans, lentils).

Some foods with good amounts of insoluble fibre are: wheat bran, rice bran, wholegrain foods, the skins of fruits and vegetables, nuts and seeds.

Some foods with good amounts of resistant starch are: unprocessed wholegrain cereals, nuts and seeds, under-ripe bananas, legumes, slightly undercooked ("al dente") pasta and cooked and cooled potato, rice and pasta. Resistant starch (as Hi-Maize) is added to some breakfast cereals and fibre supplement products.

Fibre and health

Some health benefits of a high fibre diet are:

- Fibre increases the size of faeces (bowel motions) and helps to

soften them. Large, soft faeces move quickly and easily through your bowel, and are easy to pass when you empty your bowel.

- High fibre foods can help control body weight. They are often slow to eat (they need more chewing), they are filling, and they often contain less kilojoules (calories) per gram than low fibre foods.

- Soluble fibre slows the absorption of sugar into the blood stream. A high fibre diet can help people with diabetes control their blood sugar levels and may also reduce the risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

- Soluble fibre can help lower your blood

cholesterol level.

- Fibre may reduce the risk of bowel cancer (colorectal cancer).

The breakdown of soluble fibre and resistant starch in the bowel produces short-chain fatty acids, which may protect the bowel from cancer. Also, large, soft faeces moving quickly and easily through the bowel can quickly remove cancer-causing substances from the bowel.

- High fibre foods usually contain many vitamins, minerals and other essential nutrients.

Effects of low fibre

A diet that is low in fibre may cause or worsen some health problems such as:

- constipation
- haemorrhoids (piles)
- bowel cancer
- diverticular disease
- irritable bowel syndrome
- being overweight
- high blood cholesterol
- diabetes.

Self-care

- Eat a wide variety of high fibre foods. Most adults should aim to eat at least 5 serves of vegetables, 2 serves of fruit, 4-6 serves of wholegrain or wholemeal foods, and some nuts and seeds every day. Limit foods high in fat, sugar or salt.

- Increase fibre in your diet gradually, to avoid wind, bloating and cramping.

- Eat regular meals to help your bowel activity.

- Never ignore the urge to empty your bowels.

- Drink enough water every day to satisfy your thirst and to keep your urine 'light-coloured' (unless a doctor advises not to). A person with a high fibre diet needs to drink plenty of fluid, to avoid constipation

- Exercise at a moderate level for at least 30 minutes on all or most days of the week. Exercise can help your bowel activity.

Fibre supplements

The best way to get fibre is to eat high fibre foods. Some people also need to use fibre supplement products. The fibre in these products may produce less gas in the bowel than high fibre foods.

Common fibre supplements are:

- psyllium (e.g. Metamucil, Nucolox)
- inulin (e.g. Metamucil Fibresure)
- ispaghula (e.g. Fybogel)
- sterculia (e.g. Normacol Plus, Normafibe).

When using fibre supplements always follow the instructions carefully.

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- ispaghula (e.g. Fybogel)
- sterculia (e.g. Normacol Plus, Normafibe).

When using fibre supplements always follow the instructions carefully. Fibre supplements:

- must be taken with plenty of fluid
- may reduce absorption of medicines and are best taken 2 hours apart from other medicines.

For further information ask a Piggott's Pharmacist or doctor for advice.

Some high fibre foods

Wholemeal or wholegrain foods contain more dietary fibre, vitamins and minerals than refined grain and cereal foods.

Removing the skin from vegetables and fruits reduces their fibre. Breads, cakes, biscuits

- Wholemeal, wholegrain, multigrain, white with added fibre, soy and linseed breads.

- Cakes, biscuits, scones and muffins made with wholemeal flour (these foods are often high in fat).

- Wholegrain and wholemeal crackers (e.g. Ryvita, Vita Wheat).

Breakfast cereals

- Rolled oats, wholemeal porridge.

- Bran cereals (e.g. All Bran, Sultana Bran).

- Unprocessed wheat bran, oat bran, rice bran.

- Whole wheat breakfast cereals (e.g. Weetbix, Weeties, Vita Brits).

- Muesli (toasted muesli is often high in fat – check the label).

Grains and grain foods

- Oats, rye, barley, buckwheat, cracked wheat, corn, quinoa, rice

- Polenta, couscous, bulgur, noodles, pasta

Vegetables

- Legumes such as chick peas, lentils, beans (e.g., baked, broad, butter, kidney, lima, soy beans).

- Potatoes, carrots, beetroot, parsnips, sweet potatoes, turnips, yams.

- Broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, mushrooms, leeks, peas, snow peas, spinach, asparagus,

Asian greens

Note: Salad vegetables such as celery, lettuce and cucumber are not good sources of fibre.

Nuts and seeds

- All kinds (some nuts are also high in fat).

Fruit

- All fresh and dried fruit, especially with skin, seeds, pith.

- Apples, apricots, bananas, berries, figs, guava, kiwi fruit, mandarin, mango, oranges, pears, plums, quince and rhubarb are very high in fibre.

Note: Fruit juices give you much less fibre than eating the whole fruit.



Man charged after pursuit – Hunter region

Wednesday, 22 June

A man has been charged following a pursuit with police in the Hunter region last week.

About 1.30pm (Wednesday 22 June 2022), officers from Forster Traffic and Highway Patrol attempted to stop a Porsche Cayman on the Pacific Highway, Coolongolook, inland from Forster, after reports

regarding its manner of driving.

The Porsche failed to stop, and a pursuit was initiated, with the vehicle travelling southbound on the highway allegedly at speeds over 200km/h.

The vehicle travelled into the Heatherbrae township and entered a local car park, travelling around the carpark for some time.

The vehicle eventually exited the carpark onto Banks Street, before crashing into a fence.

The driver – a 20-year-old man – was not injured. He was arrested by police and was taken to Maitland Hospital for mandatory testing.

Subsequent inquiries revealed the vehicle was reportedly stolen from a South Brisbane address on Sunday (19 June 2022).

The man has since been taken to Raymond Terrace Police

Station and charged with 11 offences including:

- Larceny
- Destroy or damage property
- Receive etc property stolen outside NSW
- Police pursuit – not stop – drive at speed
- Police pursuit – not stop – drive dangerously
- Drive recklessly/furiously or speed/manner dangerous
- Negligent driving (3)
- Possess prohibited drug
- Never licensed person drive vehicle on road

He was refused bail and appeared before Raymond Terrace Local Court on Thursday 23 June 2022.



MILD CHICKEN CURRY



340 mL NESTLÉ CARNATION Light & Creamy Evaporated Milk 340ml
0.5 cup frozen peas (60g)
steamed rice to serve

METHOD

Heat a wok or large frying pan over high heat to prepare for this mild curry recipe; add oil and chicken; brown well. add onion, cook 2 minutes. add

carrot and potatoes, cook 2 minutes, stir in curry powder, water and MAGGI original seasoning. bring the chicken curry to boil; simmer, covered, 10-15 minutes before you can proceed with the next step of the mild curry recipe.

Blend cornflour with 2 tablespoons NESTLÉ CARNATION Light & Creamy Evaporated Milk; add to the pan with remaining milk and peas. bring to the boil, stirring constantly; reduce heat and simmer for 2 minutes to finish this mild curry recipe. serve the chicken curry with rice.

Prep time 15 min

Cook time 25 min

Serves 4

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp oil
- 500 g chicken breast fillet diced
- 1 onion chopped (150g)
- 1 carrot roughly chopped (120g)
- 2 potatoes cubed (400g)
- 1 tbsp curry powder
- 1 cup water (250ml)
- 3 tsp maggi original seasoning
- 1 tbsp cornflour

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REINSW responds to NSW Budget

The NSW Budget was handed down yesterday and housing affordability was a key focus, with stamp duty reform and the shared equity scheme trial taking centre-stage. The Real Estate Institute of NSW (REINSW) has provided its response to the measures.

The REINSW welcomes the NSW Government's focus on affordability but says the budget misses several opportunities, including addressing the supply shortage and stamp duty bracket creep.

REINSW CEO Tim McKibbin also notes the reforms only benefit first home buyers among domestic purchasers, making them narrow in scope.

"The measures announced in the budget apply only to first home buyers and in the case of the shared equity reform, only to those in select occupations," Mr McKibbin says.

"Limiting the shared equity scheme to a specific group of people seems unjust and there might be some market distortion, and the sub \$1.5 million segment of the market may come under additional pressure, assuming the reforms result in an increase in first home buyer demand.

"Of course, the market's inability to meet already strong demand with sufficient supply is the crux of the affordability problem. There is nothing in these proposed reforms which address the critical shortage of supply.

"The REINSW renews its call for Government to focus on the supply side as this has the greatest potential to contribute to an improvement in affordability," Mr McKibbin says.

In relation to the proposal to offer first home buyers a choice between paying stamp duty up front or an ongoing property tax, Mr McKibbin says:

"For a first home buyer looking for an entry-level property, there's an opportunity to buy a home without paying the stamp duty. At face value, this is positive news, as it means they'll have more money to spend on the property itself, making them more market competitive. However, if the first home buyer is buying their 'forever home', then this option becomes less

attractive," Mr McKibbin says.
"First home buyers should also keep in mind that no stamp duty is payable for a property costing less than \$650,000, and reduced stamp duty is payable between \$650,000 and \$800,000.
"For first home buyers in the market now, the question is 'should I wait for the reforms to kick in?' They may be eligible for a stamp duty refund but would still need to fund the stamp duty at the point of purchase. In the immediate term, it may create some hesitation," he says.
In relation to the proposal to trial a shared equity scheme for first home buyers in specific occupations, Mr McKibbin says:

"We see this as more of a political move than an affordability solution. Its potential impacts as an affordability reform are questionable as its scope is clearly limited, in relation to the occupations it applies to, who must also be first home buyers," Mr McKibbin says.
"Nevertheless, the shared equity scheme represents a means whereby some first home buyers will be able to enter the market when they otherwise wouldn't have been able to.

"But some practical questions arise. For instance, could a person be eligible for both the shared equity scheme and the stamp duty exemption? Does a person who acquired a property utilising the shared equity scheme have to pay all the outgoings? Will that person have to pay all of the stamp duty or property tax under the scheme?"

"Consider a first home buyer who purchases a new property for \$1.083 million under the shared equity scheme. Given they will have only a 60% interest in that property, valued at \$650,000, do they pay no stamp duty? "Another pertinent question to a shared equity scheme relates to improvements made to the home. If the occupier makes improvements and maintains the property, is that contribution calculated in the division of the sale price when it comes time to reimburse Government's stake? "As the drafting of the legislation begins, there will likely be other questions to arise, so it will be critical for Government to consult with industry and stakeholders in developing these policies."

In relation to the lost opportunity to address stamp duty brackets, Mr McKibbin says:

"The budget misses an opportunity to bring stamp duty brackets up to date for all purchasers. Over the past 20 years, Sydney's median house price has increased 280% from approximately \$418,000 to \$1.59 million," he says.

"Over the same period, the stamp duty payable for a median-priced house in Sydney has increased 406%, from \$14,300 to \$72,400.

"For the overwhelming number of property consumers, nothing changes. This reform is certainly not the generational change it was touted to be."

Jury Duty – Part 3



treated like a normal trial day.

- Jury members are not permitted to visit the alleged crime scene without the judge and legal representatives.

During the trial, jurors must not use any material or research tool, including the internet, to find out further information which relates to any matter arising in the trial. The judge decides on points of law and rules on the admissibility of evidence presented in the trial.

At the end of the trial, jurors go to the jury deliberation room to consider their verdict. The deliberations of the jury are kept secret.

In order to reach a fair verdict, each member of the jury must understand and follow the judge's instructions on the law. Provided they follow the judge's instructions, jurors are free to deliberate in any way they wish. A jury panel is given as much time as its members need to decide on the verdict. The foreperson should ensure that discussions are carried out in a free, unhurried and orderly way, focusing on the issues to be decided. Each juror should be given a chance to participate. The representative should respect the opinions and different viewpoints that the jurors

bring to the case. This will help the jury to reach a fair verdict.

If jury members require assistance recalling particular evidence or have a question about the law that needs clarification, the judge can assist. A jury must also get assistance from the judge if any juror does not understand something in the judge's instructions.

Once the jury has decided on a verdict, the foreperson will send a note with the court officer or sheriff's officer advising the judge that a verdict has been reached. The foreperson will not disclose what the verdict is. The jurors will return to the courtroom where they will be asked if they agree on a verdict. The foreperson then announces the verdict. Immediately after this, the judge will discharge the jury and jurors will be permitted to leave the court complex.

In some trials the court may accept a majority verdict and the trial judge will provide guidance if this is required. If the accused or defendant is found guilty, the judge decides what sentence to impose. This does not usually occur immediately after the verdict is given. The sentence may be given days or weeks later, but the jury is no longer required.

If you serve on jury panel, you are exempt from further jury service for a period of 3 years.

After the trial, jury members are provided information about the Juror Support Program.

Cheers, Kerri

For the final article about what is involved in Jury Duty, we turn to the trial. An accused person has the right to a fair trial, so jurors should pay full attention to the trial proceedings. This means a juror should not take unrelated material, such as books, magazines or iPads into the courtroom.

- Jurors should at all times be open-minded, fair and impartial.

- All jury discussions must occur in the jury room and only when all jurors are present.

- A juror cannot discuss the case with any other people or post any discussions or materials from jury service on social media.

- A notebook to take notes is provided, which jurors have to hand this in each day, and at the end of the trial. Once the matter has been finalised, all the notebooks are destroyed.

- Jury members may be required to go on a 'jury view', where they are taken to the scene of the alleged crime, with the judge and legal representatives. These visits are pre-arranged and

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Little Athletics helpers, school staff and parents. It was great to see families there to watch and cheer the students on. Congratulations to our Term 2 Star Readers. These students had completed their Star Reader Challenge by reading for fun at home. They were then drawn out to win a free book to enjoy



Athletics



Athletics carnival

Branxton Public School



Enrolments for Kinder 2023 are now open. Transition events will start in Term 3 with an information evening for families. Enrolments can be completed online or the office can be phoned when staff return on Monday

18th July. Circumstances on the last day of term meant that we couldn't hold our PBL Assemblies as usual, but that didn't mean that our students weren't acknowledged and rewarded! Our Power Pup was on hand to congratulate our students as well. Parent Teacher Interviews will take place early in Term 3. Booking can be made using the code Mrs Ballenden shared on Seesaw. Teachers are looking forward to sharing information about your children and setting goals for the future. The Athletics Carnival was a great success. Students competed in events supported by

over the holidays. Our PSSA Netball team competed against Old Bar Public School in Week 9. They played a great game winning 24-10 and are on to the next round. Well done! Continue to stay updated about school events through SkoolBag and our Facebook.

Dates for the Calendar
 Tuesday 19th July – First day of Term 3 for students
 Wednesday 27th July – Kindergarten Zoo Excursion
 Tuesday 9th August – Stage 2 Sydney Excursion

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BRANXTON WOMEN'S SHED

shop, selling some of our handcrafted items. Our shop is usually only open on Thursdays but we are now about to open on the first Saturday of each month between 9am and 12noon. The money being raised at the moment will be going towards having the ceiling mould cleaned and repainted. We have recently replaced the lighting in both the halls with bright, energy saving LED lights. It's amazing how much easier it is to see what you're doing with great lighting! There has been some requests by some customers to make some items that has inspired us to learn something new. We've made some macrame hat holders and some crocheted jug covers. A few of our ladies who crochet have been busy making baby blankets for premature babies. Soon we will be donating them to an organisation called Life's Little Treasures.

Welcome to our new members, Sue, Shirley and Julie and welcome back Kim, Christine, Ros and Esther. Some days we have quite a small group and other days we have so many we need to move into the big hall. Where ever we are though, you can hear the happy sounds of chatting. It's what we do best.

We've had some birthday celebrations, (Happy birthday Annette and Jo) and are about to celebrate our second birthday for the Women's Shed. We were unable to celebrate our first birthday last year as we were in lockdown, so this year we are having a High Tea Luncheon. Tickets are available through Eventbrite, with the link on our Facebook page.

Cheers, Karen Johanson
womenshedbranxton@aol.com



Beeswax wrap making

with Karen Johanson

We've had some free workshops, learning how to make Beeswax Wraps (with many thanks to Cessnock City Council and Mel from Sustainable Education) and Macrame Keyrings (with many thanks to Kay). Megan from Cessnock City Library visited recently to provide us with some information about what resources are available and how we can access them. There is so much online now. Thank you to Megan. We are a non-for-profit group and run a little



Macramé lesson



Jug cover

A winner is a dreamer who never gives up.

- Nelson Mandela



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EMERGENCY FIRST AID Workshop – Branxton Lions aid the community

Provided by a partnership agreement between Cessnock City Council and the Lions Club of Branxton courtesy of funding from the Bushfire Community Recovery & Resilience Fund (BCRRF). The Lions Club of Branxton co-organised the Emergency First Aid workshop at Greta Workers Club in June which was attended by 22 local participants.

Each participant will receive a Statement of Attainment for **HLTAID011 Provide First Aid**.

The training included:

- Provide Basic Emergency Life Support
- Provide Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Provide First Aid
- Bleeding and Wound Care
- Musculoskeletal injuries: fractures & dislocations, strains, and sprains
- Shock management
- Snake bites, stings, and poisons
- Anaphylaxis

Trainer, Deb, from H&A Training provide the technical knowledge and expertise to successfully guide the trainees to get their First Aid award.



Deb setting up the first aid equipment with the 22 participants carefully listening to Deb's instructions

From the Lions' Den

Be Connected – contact with friends & families for over-50s



LESSONS FOR OVER 50'S



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Would you like to stay in contact with your friends, family, and relatives wherever they live? Are you over 50?

If so, the Be Connected seminars are for **YOU!** - **AND they are FREE!**

These user-friendly, sociable, and relaxed sessions will be held at Miller Park Hotel later in July BUT places are limited so please be sure to book a place as soon as possible by contacting **Branxton Lions Club President, Rod Taylor on 0477 438888**.

Bunnings BBQ – ‘snags’ but a good result all round!

Saturday 25th June was a bright sunny day, and the crowds came out in droves to make some home improvement purchases at the Bunnings Warehouse store at Singleton Heights. Pictured below is the hard-working team from the Lions Club of Branxton who were busy providing the traditional Bunnings Sausage sandwiches all day long. The count was 480 sausages that were consumed on the day – some with onions and some without - and everyone seemed happy in the winter sunshine. A Lions \$1 raffle was also held with prizes of Bunnings gift vouchers and other attractive rewards. The first prize winner of a Bunnings gift voucher of \$100 was Peter Gray from Corlette, but Paul very generously donated his prize back to Branxton Lions Club. Pictured below was the raffle draw featuring a staff member from Bunnings, Branxton Lions: Ken Meany and Cathy Murray.



The Raffle Draw with Bunnings staff member, and Branxton Lions: Ken Meany and Cathy Murray



Lions Club of Branxton Team at Bunnings

Mystery at the Mall: or a case of assault and battery?

Lions Clubs in Australia are in partnership with Battery Recycling company Cycle Solutions to fulfil a major project safeguarding the environment to recycle household batteries around the country. At the moment, only 10% of household batteries are recycled, the majority of the others going to landfill waste disposal sites. This is a deleterious situation for two main reasons: firstly, spent batteries can cause pollution and are a fire hazard and secondly it is a major source of waste as every part of a household battery can be recycled to reclaim metals, rare earth chemicals, and other valuable minerals such as Lithium, but recycling can only be carried out under strictly regulated conditions. The Lioness Lions Club of Singleton recently became involved in the Lions / Ecycle Solutions project and placed a spent battery collection box on the community library site in Singleton shopping centre. However, when the Lions Club President, Sue Gardiner, went to check whether the battery collection box was full, she found that the collection box, the inner fire-resistant bag and all the spent batteries had been removed by someone. Sue said: ‘I checked with all the Lions Club members, and the shopping centre staff whether they had moved the box and they all said no – it is a complete mystery to me as to why someone would want to remove the box and spent batteries’.

This became the mystery at the mall – who would remove such items that were only being collected for recycling and were of no monetary value? Sue contacted the Lions District contact, Global Services Team Coordinator, Alan Beckley, in nearby Branxton. Despite his significant history of successful investigations, Alan could not establish a solution to the mystery. Thankfully Alan had some spare collection boxes and bags and pictured above, he delivered them to Sue Gardiner who was ready to dispose of a spent battery. Anyone who can shed light on the mystery of the mall can contact Sue Gardiner on email: singletonlioness@gmail.com

lionsaustralia we serve

Battery Recycling Program

This is a local drop off point for batteries in appliances, mobile phones, electronics, power tools or general household use.

Accepted Batteries:

- ✓ Lithium (Li-Ion)
- ✓ Alkaline
- ✓ Nickel Metal Hydride
- ✓ Nickel Cadmium



Sue Gardiner, President of Singleton Lioness Lions Club receiving the replacement battery collection box.

Lions Recycle for Sight Australia – information – where to dispose of unwanted spectacles.

Lions Recycle for Sight Australia is part of the Lions Clubs International Worldwide Eyeglass Recycling Program, headquartered in Queensland and operating throughout Australia and overseas. We receive requests from humanitarian organisations either travelling to a developing country or supplying shipping container loads of suitable humanitarian aid from Australia to groups in these countries. Over the 26 years that the Australian program has operated, the program, has delivered over 7 million pairs of refurbished quality spectacles to men, women, and children in need in Africa, Europe, Middle East, Indian Sub-continent, East Asia, and the Far East, China, the countries of the Pacific Rim and Southern Asia and Oceania. In the past 10 years several members of our Marine Branch have been able to use their oceangoing yachts to reach and test villagers, in the remotest areas for eyesight and deliver spectacles to them.

If you have spectacles that you no longer use you can donate them to the Lions Recycle for Sight project at a local optician store or a local pharmacy or contact the mobile number / email below. Branxton Lions members will collect the spectacles and forward them to the program.



Dispose of YOUR household batteries correctly!

Talking about spent batteries, the Government sponsored organisation for administering the household battery recycling scheme throughout Australia, the Battery Stewardship Council, aka ‘B-Cycle’ for short, put out its first quarterly report (www.bcycle.org.au). The report gave a great number of statistics among which it said that there were now 2500+ drop off points in 8 states and territories. Don’t forget we have three in the near vicinity: Coles Supermarket, Huntlee; Greta Pharmacy; and Singleton Shopping Centre.



Upcoming Events in the Branxton Lions Events Diary:

Wednesday 6th July - Lions Club of Branxton Management Board Meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club.

Thursday 21st July – Lions lunch with visit from the Lions District 201 N3 Governor, Denise Bruce.

Saturday 30th July – Bunnings Warehouse BBQ – Singleton Heights.

PROJECTS:

Lions Garden Project – Lions 75th Anniversary in Australia – Lions Park Branxton – garden to be planted in Spring – August which would allow the flowering to be in September. Native species of plants will be used such as: *Xerochrysum* (Strawflower) and/or *Goodenia ovata*.

If you have any questions about any of the content above, please contact Alan Beckley, Lions Club of Branxton. Email: Branxton_Lions@outlook.com Mobile: 0426-261948.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS

Wildlife Park passes to win

Cessnock City Council's Economic Development team is kicking off the New Financial Year with more support for local businesses.

For the month of July, we will be giving away three family passes and five double passes to the Hunter Valley Wildlife Park. To win, all you need to do is tell us in 25 words or less about your favourite recreational activity in the Cessnock Local Government Area, such as visiting an amazing attraction or tourism business, your favourite park, playground or recreational area.



Mayor of the City of Cessnock Jay Suvaal said with so many amazing things to do across our local government area I know it will be hard for people to pick just one that's why we encourage entering multiple times.

"Whether it's spending a summers day at Branxton pool, taking a steam train ride at Richmond Vale, having a barbeque at Bridges Hill Park, or enjoying a day with your family at Hunter Valley Wildlife Park, tell us what you love doing and you'll have a chance to win," Mayor Suvaal said.

Just post your entry to social media, set it to public, and use the hashtag #supportlocalcessnock so we can find your entry. If you mention a business, please tag them in your post.

Winners will be selected randomly, making it even easier to win. Entries are opened on July 1 until July 31, 2022.

Singleton Council gets to work on creating the community of the future

The future of Singleton has begun with the adoption of the Create Singleton 2032 Community Strategic Plan (CSP) that will be the blueprint for the local government area for the next 10 years.

Councillors at its last ordinary meeting of Singleton Council also gave the green light to the Long Term Financial Plan 2022-2032 as well as the Delivery Program 2022-2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023 (including the budget) that took effect on 1 July. Taking direction from about 8,000 pieces of community feedback to develop the Create Singleton 2032 CSP, the Operational Plan includes a \$36 million capital works program, a greater investment in planning resources and the continuation of the focus on arts and culture in 2022/2023.

Key capital works projects for 2022/2023 include:

\$1,600,000 for extension of rugby league amenities building at Pirtek Park, \$1,107,036 for new athletics amenities building at Cook Park #5, \$100,000 for fencing around the children's bike path at Townhead Park, \$100,000 each for new playground equipment at Harry George and Earribee Reserve & \$150,000 for improvements to the Mechanics Institute and Senior Citizens Centre

The Long Term Financial Plan and 2022/2023 budget incorporates IPART's approval of an additional rate variation from 0.70 per cent to 2 per cent (equating to \$15 per year for average urban residential rates) to allow Council to continue to meet its service delivery obligations as inflation stands at 5.1 per cent, costs of materials are going up by about 20 per cent and fuel costs are skyrocketing.

Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore said she was excited for what the new financial year would bring.

"The overwhelming response from our community was for a strengthened focus on 'local', through infrastructure such as shared pathways and bike tracks, shopping, events and entertainment, all growing more ways for us to experience and engage with local places and people," she said.

"We're already off to a good start with the success of the Firelight Festival in May, and we'll continue on with the Operational Plan 2022/2023 that identifies 174 actions Council will undertake this new financial year to support our community's priorities.

"I'm particularly pleased to confirm that yes, that includes more shared paths, including on Civic Avenue from the Singleton Gym & Swim to Combo Lane, and on Combo Lane from Civic Avenue to Queen Street, and we've recently been successful in securing funding from the Transport for NSW Active Transport program for new footpaths for sections of Patrick Street, Market Street and Hunter Street.

"Following on from the opening of the Arts and Cultural Centre earlier this year, we'll also see a range of new exhibitions, programs and events to reflect our community's identity and cement Singleton's place as the heart of the Hunter for arts and creativity."

General Manager Jason Linnane said community connection to our environment and each other were key themes for 2022/2023.

"Sustainability remains a core focus with particular actions to develop a Transport Strategy and investigate the installation of electric car charging facilities in our local government area," he said.

"And we're bringing people together and promoting the wellbeing of our community as we embark on the delivery of upgrades and embellishments identified in our Community Sports Infrastructure Strategy, and progress the work of our Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) committees to enhance our villages in Bulga and Jerrys Plains.

"We're also working on making our two flagship events, Christmas on John Street (to be held on 10 December 2022) and Firelight in 2023 bigger and better than ever as part of our commitment to enhance community inclusiveness, connection, health and wellbeing."

WORKS PROGRAM UPDATE



CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL



Church Street, Branxton

Project type ~ Road Upgrade and Shared Space

Project schedule ~ Design: Mar - May 2021; Construction: Jul 2021 - Jun 2022

Background

With the opening of the Hunter Expressway the Branxton CBD returned from being a main regional thoroughfare, to a village centre. Council engaged Moir Landscape Architecture to develop a conceptual design to make the village centre more approachable and secure for pedestrian users, providing more open space and amenity along Maitland Street including tree planting and general street-scaping beautification. The outcome of this conceptual design was the 'Branxton Town Centre Public Domain Plan and Implementation Plan'.

Council sought, and were successful in obtaining, funding from the State Government, under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) to complete a small project in the Branxton CBD that aligns with and fulfils the intent of the Branxton Town Centre Public Domain Plan and Implementation Plan, stages 1 and 2 of which have already been completed.

This project forms part of [Council's Operational Plan](#). You can find it within the Operational Plan with the Project ID CTB 2021 001.

Location

This project involves the creation of a shared space along 30m of Church Street, Branxton from its intersection with Maitland Street. The width of the shared space is approximately 8m. The total area of treatment is 240m². Church Street is a no-through road that services the rear car park for one business and a service area for the other. Traffic through this space is low and infrequent.

The reclamation of this space will have significant enduring benefits for these businesses and provide an intimate public space for public events (markets, exhibitions, music events) and to celebrate the heritage buildings and streetscape. The space will also include much needed bicycle parking infrastructure associated with the Branxton to Greta Memorial Cycleway.

Funding council has successfully secured funding from the Australian Government - Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Singleton joins forces with Muswellbrook to call for government action now to support the community and the economy

Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore is standing strong with the Mayor of neighbouring shire Muswellbrook, Cr Steve Reynolds, to call for government support now for the economic evolution of the Upper Hunter as BHP prepares to move out.

This week's NSW Budget failed to deliver an injection of funds or clarity around the administration of the \$25 million Royalties for Rejuvenation fund, at the same time as BHP announced its Mt Arthur mine in Muswellbrook would close in 2030.

The importance of the Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund is a key item in Singleton's Advocacy Agenda, along with the establishment of a statutory body.

Cr Moore said if the fund was truly designed to assist mining communities to develop and evolve their industry base in the long-term, then this was when it should be put to use.

She has met with Cr Reynolds and will join forces to demand action by the Federal and State governments not just to support the people of the Upper Hunter, but the Hunter Region as a whole.

"Singleton and Muswellbrook councils are being proactive to put measures in place to help our community and economy thrive into the future. But BHP's announcement reinforces there are decisions outside our control that have significant impacts.

"We need action from all levels of government to support the regions that have supported the prosperity of NSW and our nation through royalties, jobs and exports.

"We're not looking for promises next year at the next State Government election. We need action on the ground now so that the people of the Upper Hunter can be optimistic about their future, the future of our local community, and the future of our local economy.

"We need a commitment to real and tangible leadership, a workable legislative framework, resourcing that reflects the size of the job ahead, transparent governance and accountability to this region.

"Increases in allocations through the Royalties for Rejuvenation Fund and a properly constructed and resourced statutory body would be a good place to start."





Monday: \$16.50 Roast Dinner Deal which includes dinner roll & soft drink/schooner
Tuesday : \$12.00 Cheap Tuesday
Wednesday: \$12.00 'Schnitty' Night & Social Bowls from 4
Thursday: Seafood Night

What's On

Wednesday: Social Bowls ~ Names in by 3pm Start 3:30pm ALL WELCOME
Thursday: * Miller Park Bowlers Raffle ~ 6 x meat trays, 4 x 6 pack of beer & 3 x \$25 Bistro vouchers
 * Spin Betty's Wheel ~ only \$2 per number with chance to win \$25; Ticket sales from 5pm, draw 6pm
Friday: Community Meat Raffle; 20 x Meat Trays, a carton of beer and the "Big Kahuna" tray worth \$100. Tickets go on sale at 5:30pm and will be drawn at 7pm. May beneficiary is Branxton Cricket Club
Saturday: * **Social Bowls** Names in by 12:30pm & 1pm start
 * **Karaoke** ~ every second Saturday from 14th may. 8pm start
Sunday: Raffles 5pm drawn 6pm
 Bowling Green is open for all barefoot bowl events.

*** Restaurant OPEN**
7-Days a week for Lunch & Dinner
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*** Barefoot Bowls**
*** Parties welcome**

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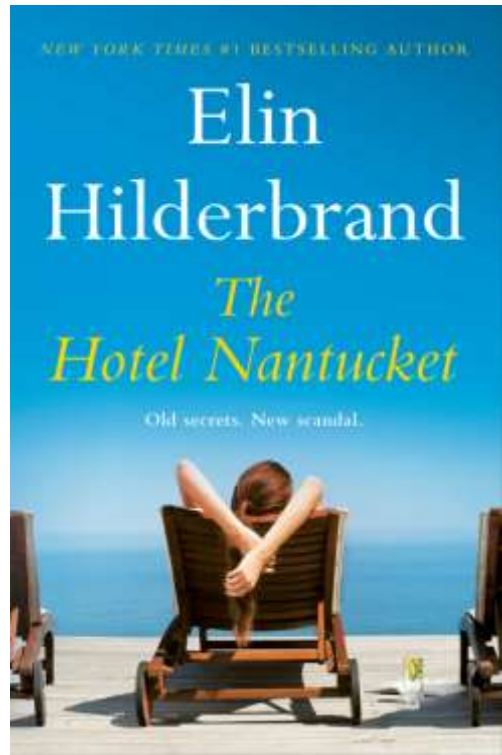


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Beachy, Sun-Kissed Novels Set on Nantucket and Cape Cod

Elin Hilderbrand and Jennifer Weiner deliver their annual instalments of salty air, summer love and personal entanglements.

By Michelle Ruiz

Elin Hilderbrand and Jennifer Weiner deliver their annual instalments of salty air, summer love and personal entanglements.

By Michelle Ruiz

The term “beach read” may be evolving from pejorative to praise, as at least some people become less fusty about the value of popular fiction. To me, beach reads are books to linger over on a lounge chair, to lose yourself in while the real (and lately cruel) world slips away. Anything can be a beach read if it truly holds you in its clutches: Amor Towles’s “Rules of Civility” was one of the most achingly addictive books I happened to read on a blissful trip to St. Lucia; once, a dear family friend brought a fat history of longitude to the beach — his idea of gripping material.

“The Hotel Nantucket,” by Elin Hilderbrand, and Jennifer Weiner’s “The Summer Place” try mightily to be beach reads — and, given the authors’ well-earned followings, both are likely to be successful as such. There are blue covers with female silhouettes in repose; summery settings (a wedding on Cape Cod and a buzzy new hotel); sprawling casts of Clue-game characters and myriad mini-mysteries. Both go down with the ease of a Dirty Shirley, but neither captured my heart or attained that overused marketing promise of “unputdownability.” “The Hotel Nantucket” opens with a crush of insider-y chatter: “Blond Sharon,” a “turbo engine” of gossip, spilling that Lizbet Keaton, an Everywoman who co-ran the popular restaurant The

Deck and invented its famed rosé fountain, had discovered “187 sexually explicit texts” from her long-time boyfriend and the restaurant’s chef, JJ O’Malley, to their wine rep, Christina Cross. The scandal sparks Lizbet’s departure to manage the revival of the “once-grand” Hotel Nantucket, which has fallen into disrepair. As a travelogue, the novel is exquisite, transporting you “on island,” as ACK lingo goes. Hilderbrand revels in the granular details of the Matouk-sheet-swathed lodging, which boasts showers thoughtfully tiled in oyster shells and complimentary minibars stuffed with bluefish pâté. The author sets sumptuous scenes — a retro cottage with “frilled toothpicks purchased some time during the Kennedy administration”; a bougie meal of “milk-braised pork with hand-rolled gnocchi in sage and butter.” I only wished for the same richness in the characters and their stories. Hilderbrand’s spiky, astute observations — a description of a shifty front-desk manager, Alessandra Powell, as “a broken doll, a smashed mirror”; a lament that JJ’s “memory is his superpower and it always made Lizbet feel like he was paying attention” — are too fleeting. There is a plucky 8-year-old sleuth, Wanda Marsh, who tries to solve the mystery of the hotel ghost, a chambermaid named Grace

Hadley, but the book is short on Wanda’s precocious dialogue. (I had my initial doubts about Grace, but she is largely charming in her supernatural ability to sniff out guests’ “rotten” souls.) Others feel thinner, like the hotel’s owner, Xavier Darling, an enigmatic billionaire who, implausibly, has the time and will to send cloying, weekly “Hey, ladies!”-style emails to staff members. High stakes are heaped upon their secrets: Alessandra is “beautiful enough to get away with murder.” Chadwick Winslow, a fratty, moneyed son of Nantucket who joins the housekeeping staff, teases a terrible sin he committed for almost the entire 416 pages. Chad has to “do penance,” Hilderbrand unsobly explains. “That’s what this job is all about — it’s an atonement.” But their truths, once revealed, don’t deliver on the hype. Stylistically, Hilderbrand and, at times, Weiner overdo it on distracting, dated internet-y slang (“#relationshipgoals,” “bruh,” “smoke-show”) that barely survived a few quick digital eras, much less the glacial pace of publishing. By summer 2022, the Gael Greene-esque travel Instagrammer whose five-key rating is so coveted by the Hotel Nantucket would probably be on TikTok. (Readers trying to keep up with their own kids’ language might empathize.) “Gooiest marshmallow dreams,” Hilderbrand’s description of the hotel’s more kits, could also apply to the sex scenes between Lizbet and her new love interest, a chef named Mario Subiaco, who may or may not realize he’s speaking to her in Joe Cocker lyrics (“You are so beautiful to me”). Hilderbrand describes their “lovemaking” as a “storm,” but beyond proximity and mutual cuteness, I’m not sure why, exactly, these two fall for each other. I’m more than happy to suspend disbelief — the last great book I read was Rachel Yoder’s “Nightbitch,” about a stifled mother who believes she’s morphing into a feral she-wolf. That premise was more convincing to me than much of the plot in Weiner’s “The Summer Place,” a family saga hinging on more than one 23andMe test result. I struggled to buy that Eli Danhauser, a kindly periodontist, would immediately recognize — on sight and out of context — the son of a woman he slept with 20 years ago. Ditto for the fact that said son, Gabriel Andrews, who grew up across the country, just so happens to be dating Eli’s daughter, Ruby. (Even Weiner acknowledges the improbability of this “one in a billion” entanglement.) Though a wedding is handy for the plot, it seems anachronistic that Ruby,

an ambitious, Brooklyn-bred N.Y.U. student, would spontaneously decide she wants to marry Gabe right after graduation, a decision she doubts just as quickly. Still more people fall in undying love for indiscernible reasons; at one point, two characters barely exchange words at a club, hook up and subsequently wake up soul mates. Most compelling is the matriarch Veronica Levy, a formerly famous author whose books are made into movies (evoking Weiner’s “In Her Shoes”). But would Ronnie really have said goodbye to all that because an indiscretion from her past made the New York lit world feel icky? Weiner scratches at class and identity tensions through Ronnie: Her new-money summer place on Cape Cod clashes with those of the entitled “Pond People” who try to lay claim to her swimming spot — even if, as Weiner writes in a sentiment I underlined, “people on the Cape could own land right up to the shoreline” but “they could not own the water, either salt or brackish or fresh.” Once upon a time, “the entire Cape was theirs,” Weiner writes; Jewish people were all but barred from buying homes in certain neighbourhoods. I adored the indignation with which Ronnie muses, “Maybe they still wish the whole world belonged to them alone.” Weiner’s take on the Pond People’s shoddy entertaining rings all too true: “They had barrels of booze and no food. Nothing to eat except a sleeve of Ritz crackers and supermarket Cheddar.” This conflict left me longing for more; the flimsy teen romance between Ronnie’s daughter, Sarah, and a Pond boy, Owen Lassiter, doesn’t do it justice.

“The Summer Place” meditates on mothers and daughters. Sarah harbors a petulant grudge against Ronnie for the sin of working too much; Ronnie can’t understand Sarah’s modern-day overscheduling of her boys, why she can’t let them run wild and free on the Cape. Their secrets and similarities seep out. The most elusive of these mothers is Eli’s first wife, Annette, who chose her freedom over him and their baby, Ruby, long ago. “The world made space for men who left; walked away from wives and children sometimes more than once,” Weiner writes. “Women were not offered any such grace.” Annette never wanted motherhood. She went through with it for Eli’s sake, an act that imploded on all three of them. Looking back, Annette remembers that “she’d gazed down at Ruby’s tiny face. She’d touched the downy curve of her skull with one fingertip. And she’d felt nothing.” That’s the sort of biting, delicious, terribly human revelation that makes a beach read.

About...
Elin Hilderbrand is an American writer, mostly of romance novels. Her novels are typically set on and around Nantucket Island, where she resides. She was born and raised in Collegeville, Pennsylvania, is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, and was previously a teaching/writing fellow at the University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop. Her first novels were published by St. Martin’s Press. With *Summer Affair*, published in 2008, she moved to Little, Brown and Company. *The Perfect Couple*, her first murder mystery, was published in 2018. In 1995, Hilderbrand married Chip Cunningham at the Chanticleer in Siasconset, Massachusetts; they divorced in 2015. They have three children together. She had a double mastectomy in June 2014.

The New York Times Best Sellers

Combined Print & E-Book Fiction (3 JULY 2022)

1. NEW THIS WEEK THE HOTEL NANTUCKET by Elin Hilderbrand - The new general manager of a hotel far from its Gilded Age heyday deals with the complicated pasts of her guests and staff.
2. 53 WEEKS ON THE LIST IT ENDS WITH US by Colleen Hoover - A battered wife raised in a violent home attempts to halt the cycle of abuse.
3. 28 WEEKS ON THE LIST VERITY by Colleen Hoover - Lowen Ashleigh is hired by the husband of an injured writer to complete her popular series and uncovers a horrifying truth.
4. 165 WEEKS ON THE LIST WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING by Delia Owens - In a quiet town on the North Carolina coast in 1969, a young woman who survived alone in the marsh becomes a murder suspect.
5. 3 WEEKS ON THE LIST SPARRING PARTNERS by John Grisham - Three novellas: “Homecoming,” “Strawberry Moon” and “Sparring Partners.”
6. 23 WEEKS ON THE LIST UGLY LOVE by Colleen Hoover - Tate Collins and Miles Archer, an airline pilot, think they can handle a no strings attached arrangement. But they can’t.
7. 51 WEEKS ON THE LIST THE SEVEN HUSBANDS OF EVELYN HUGO by Taylor Jenkins Reid - A movie icon recounts stories of her loves and career to a struggling magazine writer.
8. 7 WEEKS ON THE LIST BOOK LOVERS by Emily Henry - While on vacation in North Carolina, a literary agent keeps running into an editor.
9. 30 WEEKS ON THE LIST PEOPLE WE MEET ON VACATION by Emily Henry - Opposites Poppy and Alex meet to vacation together one more time in hopes of saving their relationship.
10. 13 WEEKS ON THE LIST NOVEMBER 9 by Colleen Hoover - Is Ben using his relationship with Fallon as fodder for his novel?

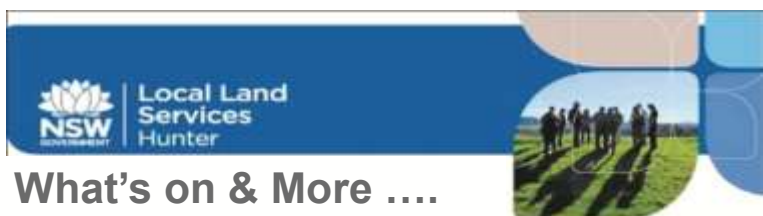
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What's on & More



COMMUNITY WELLBEING DINNER - MOONAN

Paddock Between The Ears 'Sowing the Seeds' - Featuring Mental Health & Wellbeing speaker, Craig Hamilton.

Wouldn't it be amazing if we all put as much time and effort into the care of our own "paddock between the ears" as we do into our day to day lives on and off the farm! Well it's time we made our own health and wellbeing a top priority and this is where it can all start – join Hunter Local Land Services and a swag of community organisations for an evening with ABC radio presenter, broadcaster and leading mental health and wellbeing speaker,

Craig Hamilton as he shares his own story recovering from mental illness along with tools and strategies for better health outcomes. Dinner provided Partnering with:

- Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP)
- Upper Hunter Where there's a Will
- Farmgate Support Program*National Recovery & Resilience Agency
- Murrurundi Men's Shed
- Murrurundi CWA

- Scone & District CWA
- Other community organisations

Information will be available on storm and flood assistance, landholder advisory services, drought and disaster planning, upcoming events and much more from Hunter LLS.

When

2 Aug 2022 6:00 pm

Register to attend:

<https://hunterlls.wufoo.com/forms/community-wellbeing-gathering-moonanmurrurundi/>

Gunnedah

Report Date: 28/06/2022 Total Yarding: 1575 | -225

There was a small reduction in numbers. Vealers and yearlings were well supplied with some well bred lines a feature. Overall the quality and condition of the yarding was fair to very good. There were limited supplies of well finished young cattle to suit the domestic processors. There was extra processor and restocker attendance.

Despite the extra restocker competition, demand weakened through the young cattle. This saw market trends mostly cheaper. Vealer steers to restock were as much as 30c/kg cheaper. Quality variations accounted for the variation in price change. The heifer vealers to restock also sold to cheaper trends. The exception being an isolated sale of high quality cattle. Light weights to process also sold to a dearer trend. Light weight yearling steer classes included younger weaned cattle. This contributed to an improvement in quality and accounted for an increase in average prices. The medium and heavy weight yearling steers to feed sold to cheaper trends and considerably so for the secondary and less sought after lots. In all cases the best of the steers were only marginally cheaper. This was also the case through the yearling heifers to restock and feed. Trade yearling heifers saw isolated dearer sales.

Grown steers to feed up to 500kg sold to a substantially cheaper trend. Those over 500kg including milk tooth lines followed suit. Well finished heavy grown steers to process sold to cheaper trends with those destined to the supermarket trade least affected. The increased processor competition had little impact on the cow market with market trends significantly cheaper.

Market Reporter, James Armitage.

HRLX Singleton

Report Date: 29/06/2022 Total Yarding: 464 | -395

Numbers halved and the quality remained mixed. There were runs of well bred popular breeds along with a supply of the plainer mixed breeds. A good run of dairy steers were also penned. The market trend was substantially cheaper throughout most categories.

The over 200kg vealer steers to the restockers lost 60c and ranged from 444c to 592c/kg, with breed and quality contributing in places. The same weight heifer portion also to the restockers decreased 50c and made from 420c to 518c/kg. Yearling steers to the restockers and lot feeders also trended substantially cheaper and received from 440c to 574c/kg throughout the different weight ranges. Yearling heifers also sold at cheaper trends. The younger cattle in prime condition and purchased by the butchers and processors reached 560c/kg.

The Dairy steers received from 305c to 340c/kg. The better covered heavy weight cows to the processors sold to weaker competition and made from 310c to 330c, as those PTIC and purchased by the restockers topped at 374c/kg.

Market Reporter, Neil Geddes.

Scone

Report Date: 28/06/2022 Total Yarding: 585 | +5

Consignments remained similar, with the majority entering the younger categories and were more suited for the restocker and lot feeder orders. There were approximately 35 cows in the penning. One major restocking buyer was absent in the competition this resulted in a cheaper trend, however the cows sold at similar prices compared to the last sale.

The over 200kg vealer steers to the restockers trended cheaper, however the over 280kg pens remained firm. Prices ranged from 390c to 638/kg. The same weight heifer portion decreased 25c and made from 455c to 548c/kg. The yearling steers also trended cheaper, with the light weights ranging from 500c to 514c, while the heavy weights sold from 540c to 606c/kg. Yearling heifers sold 12c cheaper with the restockers and lot feeders paying from 440c to 495c/kg. The best prime condition and high yielding yearling steers to the butchers reached 590c/kg.

Heavy bullocks reached 426c/kg. The better finished cows made from 318c to 362c/kg. The best heavy weight bull topped at 310c/kg.

Market Reporter, Neil Geddes.

TRLX Tamworth

Report Date: 27/06/2022 Total Yarding: 980 | -540

There was a reduction in numbers for the final sale of the financial year. Young cattle were well supplied, less grown cattle penned. The quality and condition of the offering showed great variation. There were some very well bred young cattle along with some very plain condition, light weight weaners. The regular processors and some extra restocker and feedlot orders were in place.

Market trends varied through the young cattle. The plain condition light weight weaners to restockers sold on a considerably dearer market trend. The opportunity to buy a line was certainly a factor. The better quality medium and heavy weight vealers to restock and feed met varying demand which was reflected in trends and price change. The light weight yearling steer classes included recently weaned vealers, trends cheaper, however age was a factor in price change. The medium and heavy weight yearling steers saw the better quality lines remain close to firm while the secondary quality cattle sold to cheaper trends. Yearling heifers to restock and feed sold to cheaper trends with demand weaker.

Heavy grown steers to feed, including milk tooth lines over 500kg sold to a dearer trend with breed accounting for some of the gains. The well finished steers to process also sold to a dearer trend. An improved quality penning of grown heifers sold to cheaper trends. The cow market saw a cheaper trend of as much as 30c/kg as processor demand weakened.

Market reporter James Armitage



The warmest day over the next 25 days weather in Hunter Valley is forecast to be Wednesday 6th July 2022 at 19°C (66°F) and the warmest night on Monday 4th July 2022 at 13°C (55°F). The average temperature over the next 25 days in Hunter Valley from this forecast is 15°C (59°F) and there will be 3 days of sunshine .

Racing Review & News

Updated Closer Look at Not a Single Doubt



on the Arrowfield roster, Not a Single Doubt remained and flourished giving hope to every studmaster in the country standing a well bred colt whose race record may be less than stellar.

There is also a lesson here in persistence and keeping the faith as his first Group I winner did not come on the scene until his fifth crop of foals.

While champion racehorses frequently produce offspring nowhere near as good as them, Not a Single Doubt has consistently produced horses a lot better than he was and that's a bit of genetic magic!

The lifetime stats for Not a Single Doubt are 73% winner to runner and 7.4% SW to runner.

Not a Single Doubt has no fewer than six sons at stud - -Extreme Choice, Farnan, Dubious, Doubtland, Anders and Squamosa.

• Photo at left: 'Shout the Bar' a Group 1 winning son of champion sire 'Not a Single Doubt'

The sad passing of Arrowfield Stud's champion sire Not a Single Doubt has given us the opportunity to revisit a popular story we did on the much loved son of Redoute's Choice in 2020 showing his rise to success

book by book. Not a Single Doubt was one of those horses that spent most of his stud career being underestimated, which is hardly surprising given the illustrious company he was keeping at Arrowfield.

A speedy Listed winner at two, whose big claim to fame was running second to Dance Hero in a Magic Millions 2YO Classic, Not a Single Doubt had nothing in his race record to suggest he would go on to sire 16 Group I winners (to date) at distances ranging from 1100 to 2500m. He is by champion sire Redoute's Choice from the female family of Snippets, so two big pluses there, but not enough to warrant a fee of any more than \$13,750 in his first six years at stud and nothing more than \$33,000 in the five years after.

While other high profile horses have come and gone



Crop Year (SH)	Foals / Service Fee	Stakes-Winners/ Best Performers
2006	88/ \$13,750	2 SW's / G3 Doubtful Jack
2007	66/ \$13,750	5 SW's / G3 Squamosa
2008	78/ \$13,750	3 SW's / G3 Karuta Queen
2009	114/ \$13,750	5 SW's / Doubtfully
2010	101/ \$13,750	6 SW's / G1 Miracles of Life, G2 Villa Verde Gypsy Diamond
2011	128/ \$13,750	5 SW's / G1 Clearly Innocent, Good Project, G2 Fell Swoop
2012	125/ \$24,750	10 SW's / G1 Scales of Justice, Single Gaze, Secret Agenda, Southern Legend
2013	68/ \$24,750	9 SW's / G1 Kenedna, Extreme Choice, Samadoubt
2014	70/ \$33,000	12 SW's / G1 Mighty Boss, G2 Champagne Cuddles
2015	72/ \$33,000	7 SW's / G1 Qafila, G2 Classique Legend
2016	99/ \$33,000	5 SW's / G1 Shout the Bar, Stronger G2 Dubious
2017	86/ \$71,500	5 SW's / G1 Farnan, Instant Celebrity
2018	92/ \$88,000	4 SW's / G3 Mallory, Gimme Par
2019	39/ \$99,000	1 SW/ Listed Soaring Ambition
2020	36/ \$110,000	Yearlings



10 Things to Look For When Buying a 2nd Hand Device...



It's only 6 months to Christmas time which means our wallets are going to take a battering so here are some tips you can use to negotiate a better deal when buying a 2nd hand Phone or Tablet.

What they say: In great/as new condition with barely a mark on it. Everything works as good as the day I bought it, and only selling due to upgrade...first to see will buy!

What it should say: It's in average condition and only been dropped a few times. The screen is only 7 months old. I had it replaced after one of the drops and it has several scratches on it but none of them affect the way the phone operates. The back glass is cracked but I've been told you can get it replaced for under \$50....just don't let any water near it. The home button sometimes doesn't work but that's ok because you can use the 'on-screen' home button. The battery lasts at least half the day before you need to recharge it. Great phone and Sold in "as is" condition. At Macdroid's we see these "bargains" come in for repair every day of the week. So, here's what to check for:

- 1. The Home button** – Make sure it's not cracked (look closely) and test it. If it's one that has a fingerprint sensor, test to see if it picks up a fingerprint. If the fingerprint function doesn't work, it can't be fixed.
- 2. The screen** – check for

any hair line cracks, unusual lines and odd discolouration. If it's a Samsung and has a small crack, you will eventually need to replace the screen as they ALWAYS fail completely once cracked.

3. Facial recognition – Mainly iPhones. If the facial recognition stops working, it's not only going to be expensive but there are only a few places in Australia that can fix it. Macdroids is one of those places.

4. The charging socket – These normally take a hammering so take a torch and a magnifying glass to look into the socket for obvious signs of damage. Then plug it in and see if it charges.

5. The battery – In iPhones, go into settings > battery > battery health. If it's under 80% it's going to need replacing soon.

6. Does it make a phone call? – This one is easy. Just stick YOUR sim into it and make a phone call. Take a sim pin with you so you can pop out / in as required.

7. Is the sound ok? - On iPhones, make a phone call and check the speaker button. It should NOT be greyed out. If it's greyed out, the audio processor may be faulty and it's expensive to repair.

8. iCloud Locked – On any Apple device, (phones & ipads) if it has someone else's Apple ID in the settings, STAY AWAY. If the original owner can't remember the password to sign out, it may not be their

phone and there is NO WAY to remove it. This means you won't be able to use it, even if you reset the phone.

9. Google locked – On Android devices (phones & tablets) like Samsung, Pixel, Nokia etc. It's similar to an iCloud lock. You won't be able to use the phone even if it's been reset. This type of lock can be removed by specialists like Macdroids but there is a fee involved so if you're going to buy that locked device, negotiate hard.

10. Intermittent Problems – Many devices are sold because they have a random problem occurring that's been annoying the crap out of the owner. Normally due to being dropped (but didn't crack the screen) so, they sell it and make it someone else's problem...yours! Choose carefully because today's BARGAIN may very well turn into tomorrow's NIGHTMARE!

Or you can simply pop into Macdroids and check out the range of Ex Demo and Refurbished iPhones, Tablets and Computers. We guarantee them for 12 months and generally supply a whole bunch of FREEBIES with every purchase. Located at the Greenhills Shopping Centre, bottom carpark entrance. Have a Safe and Happy Xmas with family and friends and if you need help with anything, we're open 7 days a week.

Info@macdroids.com.au



Fire of Love tells the story of two French lovers, Katia and Maurice Krafft, who died in a volcanic explosion doing the very thing that brought them together: unraveling the mysteries of our planet, while simultaneously capturing the most explosive volcano imagery ever recorded. Along the way, they changed our understanding of the natural world, and saved tens of thousands of lives. Previously unseen hours of pristine 16-millimeter film and thousands of photographs reveal the birth of modern volcanology through an unlikely lens -- the love of its two pioneers.

Director: Sara Dosa **Screenwriter:** Shane Boris, Erin Casper, Jocelyne Chaput **Distributor:** National Geographic Documentary Films **Running Time:** 93 min **Year:** 2022



paddle-boating on an acidic lake and professes his dream to go canoeing on a stream of lava. But the couple's cool attitude toward danger doesn't bespeak a general indifference toward death, because while in their early career they focus on the burning-hot but relatively mild "red" volcanoes, their work in the '80s proved to be focused on studying "gray" ones—to try to prevent their much more devastating impact on human populations.

Review: A Dreamy Portrait of the Life and Work of a Volcanologist Couple

The film confidently oscillates between the playfully on the nose and the existentially profound.

By Pat Brown

Natural phenomena are inexhaustible reservoirs of metaphors for human emotions because, say, tornadoes, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions are part of our worldly experience. In *Fire of Love*, director Sara Dosa skilfully navigates between the treatment of nature as a romantic symbol of love and as a catalyst for contemplating our relationship to the earth, including our inevitable return to it as dust and ash. Narrated by the soft, lightly cracking voice of Miranda July, *Fire of Love* consists almost entirely of archival footage shot by volcanologists Katia and Maurice Krafft throughout their careers. Spouses and lifelong collaborators, the Kraffts died together in 1991 while documenting the eruption of Mount Unzen in Japan. (Their story is of a Herzogian kind and, indeed, the Kraffts were briefly profiled in Herzog's 2016 documentary *Into the Inferno*.) The documentary opens with some of their last footage and circles back to their final documented moments of life. There, we see at a distance the couple standing in front of Mount Unzen just before the blast with all the unfazed boldness of professionally reckless volcano scientists.

July's narration then takes us back through the extensively documented lives of the Kraffts, who as a pair might be described as the Jacques Costeau of vulcanology. Publishing books, doing media tours, and establishing their personas as a somewhat quirky husband

-wife duo in an esoteric and inherently dangerous field of research, the Kraffts flirted with mainstream fame (at least in France) at the moment that the study of volcanoes took off.

Fire of Love presents their mutual attraction to volcanoes and each other as being formed not only by their shared memories of life in Strasbourg—atop a fault line whose shifting destroyed Basel, Switzerland, in 1356—but also by the crucible of the Second World War. Strasbourg lies in Alsace, coal-rich territory whose possession was long at the core of the Germany-French tension that exploded into violence over and over again in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Twice in *Fire of Love*, the unpredictable chaos of volcanic activity is compared to the destruction of war: First we're shown glimpses of a city in ruins after WWII and, later, a smash cut brings us from the smoke rising from a rumbling volcano to a bomb being dropped over North Vietnam. One of the earliest images of the Kraffts together, it turns out, is from a front-page photo in a 1967 issue of *L'Humanité* taken during an anti-war protest in Paris. The intersection of and correspondence between geological and geopolitical history pops up again in Maurice's assertion on French television, included later in the documentary, that he wants to live "a kamikaze existence in the volcanic beauty of things." And, indeed, the Kraffts often veer nail-bitingly close to danger in the old-school, platter-scratched footage that Dosa presents to us. To wit: At various points, Maurice goes

Such juxtapositions abound throughout *Fire of Love*, as in the ones between red and gray volcanoes, and those between Maurice the television personality and Katia the writer. The title image, taken from one of the Kraffts' documentaries, shows a lava flow breaking apart, a jagged orange-coloured rift cutting through the dark, partially hardened lava in the centre of the pane. The image is at once lovely and ominous. That's Dosa's documentary in a nutshell, which oscillates between being playfully on the nose and existentially profound with the confidence of a volcano chaser surfing on a river of lava.



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Census exposes the forgotten

Australians

By Osman Faruqi
(Culture news editor and columnist)

The Sydney Morning Herald



Census

The Census is coming this August.

Visit www.census.abs.gov.au for more information.



We are a young, secular, increasingly culturally and linguistically diverse country, where the number of renters has caught up to the number of people who own their home outright, and with more non-traditional families than ever.

That's the picture of contemporary Australia painted by the latest census data, released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics this week.

So what does Australia actually look like? Well, Millennials now equal Baby Boomers in terms of share of the population, largely thanks to overseas migration. More than half the country is made up of first or second-generation migrants, increasingly from countries like China, India and Nepal. The number of single parents, renters, and those living in high-density urban areas has also shot up. But how often are the interests of these cohorts, making up larger and large chunks of the population, represented in our national conversations and policymaking? Does Australia feel like a country where the lives of younger, diverse, and non-property owning people are prioritised? The answer is obviously no.

Instead, most of our institutions – particularly parliaments – have been focused on catering to an increasingly narrow slice of the population: older, whiter, wealthier Australians. And part of the problem is that those institutions don't look anything like the Australia represented by the census, which means they either can't relate to the challenges of these growing cohorts, or just don't care. Look at housing, for example.

Almost every policy for the past few decades has been focused on boosting property prices for people who own their own home or investment properties. The lack of serious affordability measures has consigned a generation to long-term renting. Australia lags behind the rest of the world when it comes to security for tenants and protection from rent increase. But despite the fact a third of the population, according to the census, are renters, how often do our parliaments debate their rights? Politicians are far more

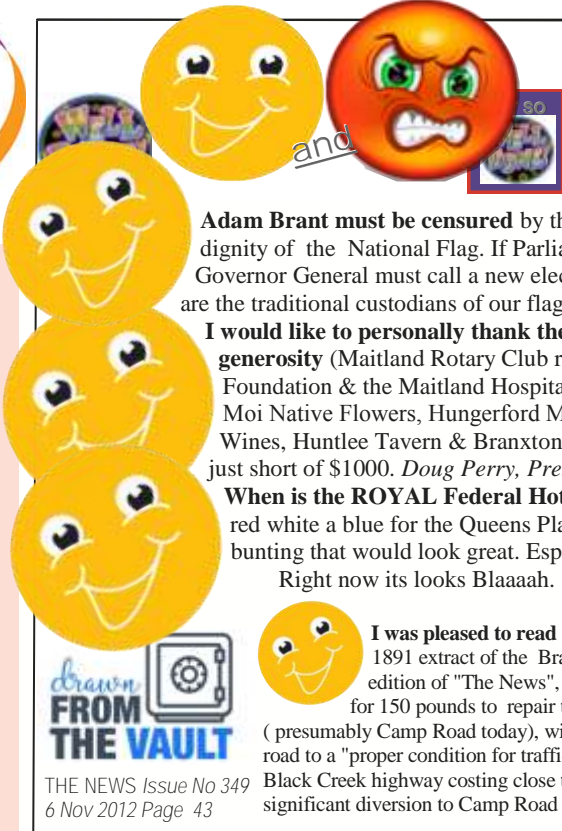
country's diversity – in terms of class, gender and many other metrics. But seeing just how different they now are to the Australia they represent is remarkable, and helps explain why it feels like so many decisions aren't being made in the interests of the many. But it's a problem that extends well beyond politics. Community leaders, businesses, unions, and the media all play a role in helping decide what issues deserve national attention, and what direction the country should head in. Very few of these

institutions look like the Australia the census is showing us. The Reserve Bank of Australia, for

likely to own property and far less likely to rent than the average Australian, which is just one example of the gulf between the people who make decisions and the rest of us who deal with the consequences. The increased cultural diversity pointed to in the census is largely down to migrant workers who have plugged key skills gaps in areas like aged care (where their absence is now keenly being felt), but their voices are almost entirely absent from the crucial debates that impact their lives. Last year's federal budget doubled the time temporary visa holders would have to wait before being able to access welfare, and this came after bipartisan changes to restrict the welfare migrants could access back in 2018. Australia's new parliament is the most culturally diverse ever, but it still remains woefully unrepresentative of these kinds of communities, no doubt impacting policy decisions. Our parliaments have never been truly representative of our

example, is probably the single most powerful body in terms of influencing the housing market and broader economic conditions in Australia. Its board consists entirely of older, white Australians. How many of them are renters or earn anywhere near the median wage of \$805 a week? It's safe to say zero. The board of our national broadcaster, the ABC, that plays an enormously important role in driving national debate, also features little diversity. What could we gain by making those institutions, whether it's the board of the RBA, the ABC, or parliament, more reflective of Australia? Imagine if the bodies in charge of the levers of power – across politics, media and business – featured renters, migrant workers, single-mothers, or others from underrepresented groups? Forcing that kind of change would bring its own problems, but it's hard to argue that Australia would be worse off if decisions were made by people who actually represented the country.

Australian census data shows many large cohorts that are often overlooked by policymakers.



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

Adam Brant must be censured by the Australian Government for his attack the dignity of the National Flag. If Parliament refuses pass this censure, then the Governor General must call a new election. Aussie soldiers of the Australian Army are the traditional custodians of our flag.

I would like to personally thank the following local businesses for their generosity (Maitland Rotary Club ran a raffle for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation & the Maitland Hospital Homestay Accommodation Project). Ah Moi Native Flowers, Hungerford Meat Company, Piggott's Pharmacy, Petersons Wines, Huntlee Tavern & Branxton & Vineyards Real Estate. The raffle raised just short of \$1000. *Doug Perry, President Rotary Club of Maitland*

When is the ROYAL Federal Hotel in Branxton going to paint its balcony rail red white a blue for the Queens Platinum jubilee, and beyond. Along with some bunting that would look great. Especially as Branxton is getting a make-over. Right now its looks Blaaaah.



THE NEWS Issue No 349
6 Nov 2012 Page 43

I was pleased to read (with the aid of a powerful magnifying glass) in the 1891 extract of the Branxton & Greta Gazette, as reproduced in the last edition of "The News", that the *Anvil Creek Improvement Committee* voted for 150 pounds to repair the roadway from Greta Station to Allandale Road, (presumably Camp Road today), with a further 500 pounds to be spent in bringing the road to a "proper condition for traffic". Try this in today's money with the Seahampton to Black Creek highway costing close to \$50,000 per metre, and incidentally, causing a significant diversion to Camp Road cutting through the ankles Molly Morgans Hill.

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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
To Lease: Granny flat or use as treatment room, massage etc, great spot, \$200 per week [no kitchen] 4 week bond in advance text, Edwin for pictures 0487427203
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: 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: agistment, 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



TWIST AND SHOUT: A SALUTE TO ROCK 'N' ROLL
Next date: Saturday, 09 July 2022 | 07:30 PM
An International Tribute Celebrating The Hits of The Rock n Roll Legends of the 50's & 60's
Let's go back to where it all began ! Rock 'n' Roll fans this is the show that you all have been waiting for - all the No 1 hits of the Rock 'n' Roll legends of the 50's & 60's.
Starring the multi-award winning and internationally renowned The Williams Brothers. The Williams Brothers are the sons of one of Australia's leading Rock 'n' Roll pioneers, Warren Williams. The boys were born to carry on the tradition of one of the greatest eras in Music History.
The Williams Brothers perform the classic No 1 hits of the Rock 'n' Roll Legends of the 50's & 60's with the hits of Elvis, Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry, Roy Orbison, The Everly Brothers, Little Richard, Del Shannon, Jerry Lee Lewis and Australia's Johnny O'Keefe, as well as the No 1 hits of The Bee Gees, The Beatles, The Monkees and The Hollies to name a few.
Rock & Roll fans this is a show not to be missed !

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

WED 6 JULY - Lions Club of Branxton Management Board Meeting 4pm Branxton Golf Club.
If you have any questions please contact Alan Beckley, Lions Club of Branxton. Email: Branxton_Lions@outlook.com Mobile: 0426-261948.
TUE 19 JULY - Branxton Public School First day of Term 3 for students
THUR 21 JULY - Branxton Lions lunch with visit from the Lions District 201 N3 Governor, Denise Bruce.
If you have any questions please contact Alan Beckley, Lions Club of Branxton. Email: Branxton_Lions@outlook.com Mobile: 0426-261948.
THUR 21 JULY - Central Hunter Business Chamber Breakfast @ Miller Park Hotel. 7am with guest speaker Dan Repacholi MP newly elected federal member for Hunter. Full breakfast \$20
WED 27 JULY - Branxton Public School Kindergarten Zoo Excursion
SAT 30 JULY - Lions Club of Branxton Bunnings Warehouse BBQ - Singleton Heights.
If you have any questions please contact Alan Beckley, Lions Club of Branxton. Email: Branxton_Lions@outlook.com Mobile: 0426-261948.
TUE 9 AUGUST - Branxton Public School Stage 2 Sydney Excursion
MON 10 OCT - Branxton Community Hall; Dress in Pink High Tea
SEPT 2022 - Lions Garden Project Lions Australia 75th Anniversary garden - Lions Park Branxton.
If you have any questions please contact Alan Beckley, Lions Club of Branxton. Email: Branxton_Lions@outlook.com Mobile: 0426-261948.
SAT 10 DEC - Branxton Community Hall; Christmas Twilight Markets
Upcoming Concerts
ANDREA BOCELLI SAT 29 OCT 2022 - @ Hope Estate
"If God had a singing voice, he would sound a lot like Andrea Bocelli" - Celine Dion
Michael Buble in Concert ~ 30 November 2022 at Newcastle Entertainment Centre

APA Group signs 30 year agreement for the transport and storage of gas to the Hunter Power Project at Kurri.



Australia's largest energy infrastructure business, APA Group (ASX: APA), has announced the execution of a 30-year Gas Transportation and Storage Agreement and a Development Agreement with Snowy Hydro Limited (Snowy Hydro), to commence the development of a pipeline connection, called the Kurri Kurri Lateral, which will include storage, to the Hunter Power Project.

APA are a leading Australian energy infrastructure business & own and/or manage and operate a portfolio of energy assets worth around \$21 billion. APA will build, own and operate the Kurri Kurri Lateral, a gas transmission pipeline approximately 20 km in length, which will connect the Sydney to Newcastle Pipeline to the Hunter Power Project at Kurri Kurri in NSW, and a 70 TJ gas storage facility to service the Hunter Power Project, which are targeting completion by late 2023. The development is subject to APA obtaining certain third-party approvals for the development and operation of the APA facilities (including obtaining a pipeline licence) and various development matters being agreed with Snowy Hydro. Snowy Hydro may extend the Gas Transportation and Storage Agreement for a further 10 years.

APA's total construction costs for the project are currently estimated to be around \$264 million. Final capital expenditure will be subject to detailed engineering design, which is expected to be completed by late 2022. APA has worked closely with Snowy Hydro to ensure that the Kurri Kurri Lateral will be hydrogen-blend ready, as well as committing to procuring electric drive compressors to minimise the emissions intensity of operations.

APA estimates construction jobs will peak at almost 400 workers when construction of the pipeline connection, storage and compressor station overlaps.

APA CEO and Managing Director, Rob Wheals, said APA was pleased to be working with Snowy Hydro on the Kurri Kurri Lateral.

"APA looks forward to delivering this key piece of infrastructure for the Hunter Power Project, which in turn should facilitate further expansion of renewable generation in the National Electricity Market. The current energy crisis has underscored the critical role that gas will continue to play in our energy mix, delivering affordable firming for renewable generation, energy security, and high heat capability for the industrial sector," Mr Wheals said.

"As coal is withdrawn from the National Electricity Market, natural gas is the workhorse of the energy grid. Its flexibility and reliability ensure it is able to be rapidly deployed and sustained for extended periods, delivering energy security when it's needed most."

Maitland & Cessnock are the fastest growing area in Hunter

An analysis of figures from the 2021 Census shows Maitland & Cessnock remain the fastest-growing council areas in the state with a 16.7 & 14.5 respectfully per cent population change in five years.

Along the Hunter Expressway, which opened in 2014, the population of North Rothbury climbed from 898 to 2502 thanks to the Huntlee estate, and Clifftleigh also almost tripled from 888 to 2309 residents.

The growth figures compare with population rises of 8.4 per cent in Greater Sydney, 16.9 per cent in south-west Sydney, 5.8 per cent on the Central Coast and 6.9 per cent in the Illawarra.

The Lower Hunter growth rate was 10.2 per cent over five years, more than two per cent a year.

The *Newcastle Herald* reported last week that the region's population growth was far outstripping the 1.17 per cent annual rise predicted in key state government planning documents.

Growth in the Hunter's greenfield housing subdivisions comes as no surprise, but Newcastle also experienced a sharp rise in population (8.7 per cent), partly due to increasing density in the inner-city and the suburbs.

The CBD, including Newcastle West and Wickham, grew by 3300 from 12,600 to 15,900 people between the two censuses as high-rise unit blocks proliferated.

New subdivisions in Maryland and Fletcher added 2900 residents, and nearby Cameron Park, added another 2000 citizens to Lake Macquarie council area.

But established suburbs also grew as townhouses, duplexes and small apartment buildings replaced free-standing dwellings.

The Adamstown-Kotara statistical area added 1000 people, as did the Merewether-Junction area.

In Port Stephens, the Fern Bay population jumped 1300 and Medowie added 1400 people.

In Lake Macquarie, the Morisset and Cooranbong population leapt 3000.

A Regional Australia Institute report published last week showed migration from capital cities to the Newcastle LGA grew by 13 per cent in the March quarter and seven per cent in a year.

GROWTH CHART HUNTER POPULATION CHANGES BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA 2016-21

LGA	2016	2021	CHANGE
MAITLAND	77,305	90,026	16.7%
CESSNOCK	93,980	108,022	14.5%
NEWCASTLE	156,411	168,873	8.2%
LAKE MACQUARIE	187,371	213,045	8.4%
PORT STEPHENS	88,594	95,236	8.2%
SINGLETON	22,887	24,577	8.1%
WANGGIG	8875	9641	8.2%
MUSWELLBROOK	16,080	16,957	7.1%

LGA	2016	2021	CHANGE
UPPER HUNTER	14,112	14,229	0.8%
HUNTER REGION	621,522	682,483	9.8%
LOWER HUNTER	55,282	611,882	10.2%
GREATER SYDNEY	4,821,981	5,231,147	8.4%
CENTRAL COAST	327,726	346,586	5.8%
ILLAWARRA	253,404	273,842	6.9%
MID COAST	96,382	96,578	0.2%
SYDNEY SOUTH WEST	481,982	474,420	1.6%



Local employment and skills advisory service supporting Singleton's First Nations people kicks off with a community barbecue on Wednesday 13 July

Singleton Council's Indigenous Employment Pathways Advisor, Sam Robinson has teamed up with Blackrock Industries, an indigenous-owned service company providing people and equipment to mining and civil projects across the Hunter Valley, to host a feed and a yarn at Singleton Heights Sports Centre from 11am to 1pm on Wednesday 13 July. The barbecue is a chance for the local First Nations community to get together to talk about the opportunities and barriers to jobs and employment in Singleton.

Vicki Brereton, Council's Director Organisation and Community Capacity said it was a great opportunity for people to learn how the Indigenous Employment Pathways Program can help people link with training, employment and Aboriginal services to get on the right path to get a great job. Funded by the NSW Government's Resources for Regions program and an initiative of Singleton Council and Business Singleton, the Indigenous Employment Pathways program partners with indigenous organisations and services, employment service providers, schools, training organisations and providers, State and Federal government organisations, DESE Hunter Employment Facilitator, industry and community organisations to help Singleton residents access new opportunities locally.

"This is a specialist Employment Pathways program for indigenous people comprising two components: the first to understand the community's needs in terms of barriers to employment, what employment pathway opportunities are available, and understanding what services are available to support those employment pathways," she said.

"The other part is to connect those members of the community who are looking for opportunities with dedicated Aboriginal services and wider networks to put them on the right path to securing long term employment."

Mrs Brereton said employment pathways could include employment, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, or other different kinds of opportunities and services available for Aboriginal people in Singleton.

The program is open to youth, transitioning workers, those already working but looking to upskill, mature workers seeking new opportunities, mothers or fathers returning to work and Aboriginal small business, both start up and established.

"We've already made some strong relationships with services in the community and I'm excited to see what we can achieve together as part of this program," Ms Brereton said.

"The real success will be measured by people getting involved, and I hope people looking for culturally appropriate services and employers will come along to meet Sam and learn about how the program can help you."

■ Photo above: Vicki Brereton, Council's Director Organisation and Community Capacity





Helen Lowing, Proprietor & Licence-in-Charge

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A guide to running a succesful garden in winter

The Hunter Valley has a beautiful climate and is ideal for all gardeners, having the ability to nurture your plants 12 months a year is something many people in the world don't get to enjoy. Mostly mild winter conditions mean there are still a variety of plants that can be grown in the colder months. While many shy away from their garden in the winter, there are still a variety of different ways you can achieve a successful harvest no matter the time of year.

Vegetables that thrive in our winter

Unlike other parts of Australia, in the Hunter Valley you mostly won't have to worry about things such as frost or snow that can turn a garden on its head. All you need is a spot that receives enough sun, some healthy soil and your garden should thrive. Even some vegetables that thrive in the summer months can make it in the winter. Our winter's are relatively mild and luckily we can get away with a lot. Here are some of the best veggies for the winters in no particular order:

Leeks, Carrots, Onions, Broad beans, Chinese broccoli and cabbage, Turnip, Beetroot, Cauliflower, Cabbage, English spinach, Potatoes & Silver beet

Herb gardening

Herbs are some of the easiest and most convenient plant life to grow. Any beginner gardener can start on them and they can be grown in small spaces like balconies or kitchen counters. Some of the best herbs that thrive in our winter are:

Thyme, Tarragon, Parsley, Oregano, Marjoram, Garlic & Coriander

Pests and diseases in the winter

Luckily there are far fewer insect pests in our winter months. Diseases are also less apparent but not entirely. Take the time to plant your seeds with adequate space to ensure quality air circulation and prevent fungal diseases from growing. Do not water the leaves of your garden in the cold months as this can lead the trapped moisture can harbour diseases.

When to grow winter vegetables

It's essential you get your planting underway before the cold really sets in (maybe a bit late for some). This early planting

means your seedlings will be more robust and resilient to extreme temperatures. Make sure to not plant too early or warm season insect pests like caterpillars or snails might eat up your winter seedlings early. Make sure you know the correct time frame for how long a fruit or vegetables will take to grow. Root crops can take three months and if you plant these at the end of winter they might die as the months get warmer. Consider what the weather conditions will be from the time of sowing the seeds to the final harvest.

Pruning in the winter

One of the first thing we start on in the colder months is rose pruning. You're going to have to trim down the rose significantly. You should be leaving just three or four stems left of the rose. Some plants that will also need pruning in winter once they're bear is Hydrangeas, Wisteria and Grapes. If you're going to prune Gardenia's early August is the best time. If you're planning on growing new Frangipanis, cut them off entirely and leave them to dry for a few weeks. Then plant them into a sandy mix with stakes for added support. For your grasses you can use a higher speed on your lawn mower and if they happen to be ornamental grasses, cut them to ground level to allow them to rejuvinate in time for summer.

The best tips for winter gardening

Focus on the sunny spots. In the winter months there's going to be less sunlight per day and the light that does come will be weaker to add cloud coverage. That's why you must emphasise the sunny spots in your garden and plant accordingly. Even if a certain garden bed works in the summer months, it might not make the cut in the winter and you could move the beds and plant positions to an area that receives more sunlight. Making assumptions for the winter months based off the summer months can very easily lead to a pitiful harvest.

Prevent the effects of frost on your garden

If you live on the outskirts of Newcastle you might be unlucky enough to receive some frost. To avoid this and keep your plants healthy, place them in raised beds as they work very well to deter the

effects of frost. If you know frost will come every year plant veggies that grow above ground such as cabbage, lettuce or cucumber. If you want to keep your veggies nice and warm at night, you can erect poles around your veggie patch and put a tarpaulin or plastic over the top to protect them from the effects of frost. Remember you must remove the covering early in the morning so your garden will receive the necessary sunlight.

Crop rotation in the winter

When you're starting a new winter patch try moving around where you plant your vegetables. This is called crop rotation and it will mean that you will have less problems with pests as they won't be accustomed to the same plant each and every year. Another benefit of rotating your crops in here is that it gives the soil a chance to take a break from feeding plant life and gather up new nutrients.

Winter is the best time to weed

Due to the extra rainfall the winter months receive, the soil will be softened and it will be easier to get rid of any unwanted plants. These weeds will come out easily and you won't have the problem of an additional seed load that will begin growing in the warmer months of spring.

Collect and store your compost in the winter months

The cooler months of the year are a perfect time to begin composting. If you don't know what compost is, it's the process of collecting natural food waste in a bin and allowing it to decompose. These food scraps will eventually turn into rich nutrients that will do wonders for your garden. Adding a layer of compost give or take one inch thick will help your plants in any season sprout through the surface and bear an abundant harvest.

Turn down your irrigation systems

You won't have to be watering your garden at such a busy schedule as in the summer months. Your entire garden will require less water in the cooler months so it's best to adjust irrigation systems if you have them as well as reduce your watering habits. Too much water can damage succulents and dry climate plants which already don't do well in the cooler and more moist weather.

Choosing what type of pet is the best for you & family?



What type of pet is the best for you & family?

Popular pets in Australia include: cats, dogs, birds, rabbits, guinea pigs & fish. More unusual pets can include: reptiles, ferrets & stick insects.

Choose a pet that will suit your lifestyle and surroundings. For instance:

- How often are you home? If you work long hours, a dog may not be a good choice of pet, as all dogs require lots of companionship. In this case, pets such as fish might be more suitable.
- How large is your backyard, and do you have good fencing? If you have a small backyard or poor fencing, then a dog may not be a good choice. You could consider a pet such as a cat that lives indoors with you.
- Are you prepared to have more than one pet? Some types of animals, such as birds and rabbits, need the company of each other to stay happy and healthy.
- How much money can you afford to spend on your pet? All pets are expensive — even animals that are

cheap to purchase, like fish, birds and guinea pigs, can cost a lot of money when it comes to buying and setting up tanks, cages and hutches. Some dog breeds will cost more to keep than others. Large dogs need more food, some breeds of dogs need regular clipping of their coats.

- Are you renting? Your landlord may not let you to own a cat or a dog. You may want to consider other pets such as fish.
- Do you live in an apartment? Some birds, such as parrots, can be very noisy, and may attract complaints from neighbours. You may want to consider a quiet pet such as a cat, or fish.
- Do you have young children? Some types of pets tolerate children better than others.
- Are you prepared to have your pet inside with you? Dogs should not be left in the backyard all day — they need to spend time inside the house with you, in order to remain happy and healthy.
- Does your council require cats to be confined

to your property? If so, you must be prepared to have your cat live inside with you, or to buy or build cat proof fencing or a cat enclosure.

• How much time do you have to exercise your pet? Dogs need daily walks. Some breeds of dog are more energetic than others and may need longer or more frequent walks.

• How much time do you have to train your pet? Dogs, particularly puppies or young dogs, need time spent on toilet training and basic obedience training. Puppies and kittens also require lots of socialisation, and regular small meals throughout the day, during the first 6 months of life.

You may be better off adopting an adult dog or cat, who is already house trained and socialised. Search online for information about different types of pets. Some websites offer online surveys that help predict which dog or cat breed would best suit you. Contact dog and cat associations who can put you in touch with breed clubs who can provide information on particular breeds. Speak to your local vet, animal welfare shelter, or people you know or meet who own the particular pet or breed you are considering.

Native animals as pets

Native Australian animals should only be kept as pets when the following criteria can be satisfied:

- * Keeping the particular species is allowed by law (this may vary with state), and the keepers are appropriately licensed
- * The keeper can demonstrate capacity for successful captive keeping, and knowledge of the



species' husbandry, health, welfare and behavioural requirements

* The keeper can demonstrate capacity for successful captive propagation of the species

* The animal is ethically and sustainably sourced from existing captive populations.

The health, welfare and conservation of the 'kept' species are the key concerns.

Native animals as pets in NSW

In NSW you need a licence to keep most native animals as pets.

Not all native animals can be kept as pets, but some species which have been bred in captivity can be kept. None of these animals may be caught in the wild. For most native animals you require a biodiversity conservation licence under Part 2 of the **Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016** to keep them as pets. You must obtain your licence before you start keeping any native animals as a pet. Some native birds, like budgerigars, can be kept without a licence.

Licences help us protect and maintain healthy native animal populations and make sure pet owners have enough experience to safely care for their animals. You must be at least 16 years old to hold a licence. Before you apply for a licence, you'll need to decide what animal you want to keep. The most common native animals kept as pets are snakes, lizards, frogs and birds.

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BRANXTON GOLF CLUB Saturday, 25 June 2022 PAR

Field: 35
 Grades A Mark Moylan 0
 Grades B Dean Fowler +4
 Grades C John Burgess -1
 Grades C Luke Matt +2
 Grades C Matthew Schnell -2
 NTP 2nd Robert Hale 411cm
 NTP 4th Dean Fowler 350cm
 NTP 9th/18th John Bowen 168cm
 NTP 13th Chris Zawirski 490cm
 Balls 11 Distributed down to score: -4

Pro's N.T.P 18th Hole Col Hughes 543cm = \$48 Proshop Voucher
 Mark Moylan won Saturday's par event with an even round, just one shot ahead of Club Captain, Steve Ross. Mark has been a very consistent A Grade golfer for many years now, maintaining his form throughout this challenging wet year. Steve was a little unlucky in that he managed to hit a tree on the 15th AND the ball stayed in it— an unplayable lie (he could have climbed the tree!) leading to a miss on that hole. As we know, golf is a game of inches. Dean Fowler once again played well to win B Grade with the day's best score of +4, well clear of runner up John Burgess with -1. It looks like Dean is ready to battle it out in A Grade once again judging by his recent good scores. Luke Matt, following on from his excellent showing in the Branxton Open last week, won C Grade with an excellent +2, well clear of runner up, Matthew Schnell with his -2. Only a -4 was needed to win a ball. Col Hughes won the Pro's NTPin on the last even though his playing partner wrote his brother's name down instead - I'm sure Noel would have been very pleased to pick up the \$48 voucher! Captain Steve wants to remind everyone that the Pair Knockout starts next week and the Singles Knockout Semi Finals are now confirmed. Coming into July the Pete Matthews Memorial will be played on the 23rd July, a popular event so names should go in early.

Saturday, 2 July 2022 STROKE MONTHLY MEDAL - STROKE
 Field: 29
 Winners A Peter Wilton 71
 Grades A Joshua Tracey 72
 Grades B Robert Hale 74
 Grades C Gary Walsh 73
 NTP 2nd Andrew Keogh 56cm

NTP Mark Moylan 296cm
 NTP 9th Peter Wilton 130cm
 NTP 13th Mark Moylan 583cm
PRO'S N.T.P 18TH HOLE – PETER WILTON 130CM = \$38 Proshop Voucher
 Balls 9 Distributed down to score: 78
 Saturday's Monthly Medal proved to be a real challenge to the small field who braved the damp conditions. Peter Wilton once again showed his class recording a nett 71 off his low handicap to win the overall Monthly Medal. He also, once again, won the Pro's "Peter Wilton" NTPin on the last to add some more credit to his already bulging Pro Shop account. The current Club Champion, Joshua Tracey finished runner up with his 72 nett score, a great score around the slow, damp course. Robert Hale won B Grade with his 74 nett score with Gary Walsh's 73 good enough to win C Grade. A 78 nett score was all that was needed to win a ball. Andrew Keogh's shot to the 2nd/11th won him the "shot of the day," finishing only 56 cms from the pin.

BRANXTON LADY GOLFERS
 The Branxton Ladies Golf results for the club day on 29th June 2022 were as follows;
 This was Round 2 of this year's Par Event.
 Winner: Neridah Busch -5 on a count back Runner Up: Jan Scobie -5

HUNTER VALLEY GOLF CLUB
Sunday 19th June
 The Weekly Challenge has been won by Joshua Noble with 37 points from Jesse Woodward with 35 on countback to Peter McLennan in 3rd place also on countback. Ball winners are: Luke McArthur 35, John Knuth 35, Luke Reed 34, Ryan O'connor 34, Rory Conley 33, Robyn Norris 33, Luke Johnston 33, Chris Stebbing 33, Steve Piggott 33, Kevin Dick 32, Lee Heuston 31, Saxon Hulsman 31, Tony Krishna 31, Thomas Knight 31, Marjo Kummeling 31, Don Curran 31, Aaron Tammekand 31, Toni Fisher 30, Andrew Causey 30, Justin Evans 30, Marlene Rooney 30, Erica Ford 30, Dale Johnston 29, Glenda Williams 29 & Terry Webb 29 c/b

Monday 20th June
 Due to the Ladies hosting a District event on Tuesday the Members played the normal Tuesday Stableford today with Darrell Porter surviving a 3 way countback to claim top spot with 37 points from Greg Ireland 2nd & Edward Swan 3rd. Ball winners are: Jack Rachel 36, Lindsay Meyn 36, Jack Rector 35, Edward Holmes 35, Col Bradley 33, John Stewart 33, David Peel 32, Larry Forbes 31, Chris Taggart 29 & Rob Hannah 29 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins to Tom Bell (3rd) Darrell Porter (4th) & Rob Hannah (17th)
Wednesday 22nd June

The Ladies for the Stableford event tough following the course setup for the HRDGA Foursome Championship with Mary Fortey handling the going best with 32 points from Dale Hamilton 30 & Elaine Phillips 3rd with 28 on countback. Ball winners are: Jill Slatter, Sue Williams, Patricia Mackay, Helen McIntosh, Toni Fisher, Glenda Williams, Jenny Chambers, Isabel Skeates, Jeanette Irwin & Di Atton.

Thursday 23rd June
 Inform Darrell Porter did best in Division 1 of the Medley Stableford with 37 points from Gunner 36, Division 2 to Chris Norman with 38 from Banjo 35 and Division 3 to Peter Perkins 35 from Bomber with 34 on countback. Ball winners were: Trevor Collins 35, Marc McGee 34, Fluff 34, John Stewart 34, Spot 34, John McLoughney 34, Graeme Smith 34, Wayne Barber 34, Ryan Wilson 34, John Grayson 33, Rox Jnr 33, Wayne Cowen 33, Garry Marsden 32, Michael Tsakissiris 32, John Pascoe 32, Ian Newell 32, Springy 32, Tony Neale 32, Toot 32, Gerry Irwin 31, Gary Arnold 30, Bindii 30, Terry Webb 30, David Peel 30, Greg Ireland 29, Kevin Coleman 29, Morto 29, Wayne Drayton 29, James Schofield 29 & Graeme Flynn 28 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins to Garry Clarke (3rd) Darrell Porter (4th) Rox Jnr (8th) John Stewart (10th) & Lindsay Meyn (17th).

Saturday 25th June
 The 2021/22 Playoff for the Mug of Mugs & Girls Goblet has resulted in victories for Tom Lundy & Sharon Jones, congratulation to you both from our Board and to all the qualifiers who took part. The Daily Stoke event has been highlighted by a Hole-in-One on the 10th by Peter Huckfeldt, well done Peter, other winners are: A Grade to Mark Noble with 68 net from Dean Freebairn 72, B Grade to Bruce Chambers with 72 on countback to Matt Tomlinson and C Grade to Aaron Marks with 70 from George Copas 71. Ball winners are: Peter Huckfeldt 73, Mick Goldman 73, Aaron Dries 73, Joe Cornow 73, Glenn Miller 73, Steve Piggott 74, Peter McIntyre 74, Spot 74, Wayne Barber 74, Bruce Binns 75, Craig Sharp 75, Tom Foster 75, Bindii 75, Leanne Binns 75, Gerry Irwin 75, Michael Tsakissiris 75, Michael Pollard 75, Gary Arnold 75, Tom Lundy 75, Matt Hopley 76, Col Somerville 76, Garry Marsden 76, Peter Payne 76, Fluff 76, Nathan Pearson 76, Terry Roughan 76, Saxon Hulsman 76, Beepa 77, Morto 77, Glenn Williams 77, Lee Heuston 77, Scott Vowles 77, Don Bradley 78, Graham Morris 78, Ron Higginbottom 78, Peter Puerta 78, Matt Merlo 78, Chris Goward 78, Adrian Kent 79, Wayne Cowen 79, Grulla 79, Ben Bradley 79, Gavin Drennan 79, Muz 80

& Ron Findley 80 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins to Matt Tomlinson (3rd) Craig Sharp (4th) Peter Huckfeldt (10th - Hole-in-One) & Beepa (17th).
Sunday 26th June
 The Weekly Challenge has been won by Alan Jamieson with 37 points from Tony Krishna with 36 on countback to Rey Sabaila in 3rd place. Ball winners are: Brad Murray 35, Dan Olsen 34, Darrin Cussen 34, John Knuth 34, Trevor Taylor 34, Ty Cowley 33, Lorenzo Aquino 33, Mal Wilkinson 32, Sean Constable 32, Philip Punla 31, Ricardo Angeles 31, Justin Woodbine 31, Connor Thomson 30, Kevin Rowley 30, Nathan Bendeich 30, Adam Taggart 30 & Duncan McKinlay 30c/b

Tuesday 28th June
 Adam Taggart with 37 points has won the Tuesday Stableford from Luke Cocking with 36 on countback to Rob Hannah in 3rd place. Ball winners are: Phoussang Sihapanya 35, John Stewart 35, Paul Smith 35, Ed Holmes 35, Ryan Wilson 35, Bindii 34, Matt Tomlinson 34, Garry Marsden 34, David Peel 33, Gary Arnold 33, Tom Foster 33, Rox Jnr 33, Wayne Cowen 33, Stephen Morrow 32, Arthur Cuttriss 32, Lindsay Meyn 32, Beepa 32, Brandon Cole 30, Col Bradley 30, John Carmody 30, Nathan Sweeney 30, John Martin 30, Ian Newell 30, Graeme Flynn 30, Shawn Parish 30, Drew Dewar 30, Joe Laughlin 30, Adam Tomlinson 30, Mark Hollis 29 & Andrew Edwards 28 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins to Peter Franks (3rd) Adam Taggart (8th) Rod Payne (10th) & Lindsay Meyn (17th)

Wednesday 29th June
 Mary Fortey's run of form has continue with a +1 return in the Ladies Par event and the win from Dale Hamilton with square on a countback to Toni Fisher in 3rd. Ball winners are: Marlene Rooney -1, Sue Peel -2, Glenda Williams -2 & Christine Tancred -5. Next week the Ladies will contest the 2022 2 Person Ambrose Championship

Thursday 30th June
 An excellent turnout took part in the Vets 2 Person Stabrose event which ran as a 'Shotgun' start with a well received after golf function held in the Lovedale bar. The winners on the day were: Kerry Porter & Chris Maher with 56 points from Greg Burke & Geoff Sweetman with 55 on countback to Jeanette Irwin & John Martin in 3rd place. Ball winners are: Bruce Chambers & Bomber 54, Neil Petersen & Fluff 53, Michael Cunningham & Dean Morison 53, James Hogg & Bill Harden 53, Tom Bell & Rob Hannah 52, Peter Threadgold & Phil Wetzler 52, James Ellis & Barry Maher 50, Springy & Don Bradley 50, John Grayson & Tony Neale 49, Wayne Burgess & Gary

Arnold 49, Ryan Wilson & Toot 49, Scrum & Steve Jurd 48, Alick Bender & Jock 48, Reddis & Banjo 48, Peter Perkins & Eric Smith 48, Kevin Dick & Chris Taggart 48, Norm Barry & Peter McIntyre 48, Ken Blackett & Alan McKenzie 48, Col Bradley & Michael Tsakissiris 47, Dave Gellwiler & Graham Morris 4, Ruff & Kerry Bartlett 47, Keith Coleman & Garry Clarke 47, Spot & Ron Findley 47, John Tancred & Ian King 47, Mick Gilbert & Col Somerville 46, Wayne Drayton & Gerry Irwin 46, Paul Campbell & Darrell Porter 46, Graeme Flynn & Paul Smith 45, Sue Peel & Pam Snaddon 45, Kevin Smith & David Peel 45, Wayne Cowen & Greg Ireland 45, Bill Freeman &

Bindii 45, Beepa & Renae Stevens 44, Steve Piggott & Rox Jnr 43, Greg Snaddon & Deb Donn 43, Garry Marsden & Ian Newell 43, James Schofield & Jeff Morton 43, Rex Talbot & John Stewart 42, Gunner & Tony Lorrinan 42, Dazza & Mick O'Brien 42, John McLoughney & Graham Donaldson 42, Doug Harley & Rod Williams 42, Wazza & Curly 42, John Carmody & Wayne Barber 41, John Pascoe & Steve Rawlings 40 and Muz & John the Pom c/b. Nearest-the-Pins went to David Peel (3rd) Reddis (4th) Wazza (8th) Paul Campbell (10th) & Renae Stevens (17th)
 Next week the vets will play a Medley Irish Stableford.
Saturday 2nd July
 The return of rain has once

again left many of today's field at home alas. Justin Rankmore with 56 points has won the American Stableford event from Don Bradley with 55 with Greg Duval 3rd with 54. Ball winners are: Shain Kempton 53, Stuart Capel 53, Andrew Zok 52, Aaron Marks 52, Tom Toll 51, Rod Teasdale 51, Shanon Attewell 51, Tom Lundy 49, Dean Freebairn 49, Peter Puerta 49, Darren Mathers 49 & Stephen Zok 49 c/b. Nearest-the-Pins to Ben Pickering (3rd) Andrew Zok (4th) Peter Puerta (10th) & Shanon Attewell (17th). Net week will be The Men's 4BBB Championship with a Medley Stableford for Ladies & visitors.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

THE NEWS Issue No 192 20th October 2005 Page 48

Branxton Greta United Soccer Club celebrates the 2005 season by Peree Dagg

THE Branxton Greta united Soccer Club celebrated a great 2005 with their annual presentation night last weekend. The Presentation was held at major sponsor's the Royal Federal Hotel and was attended by over 90 locals. The club fielded two teams in the Coalfields Amateur Soccer Associations Competition and for the first time this year an Over 35's team. The Over 35's played in the Hunter Valley Soccer Association Friday night Competition and had the pleasure of playing under the newly installed lights at Miller Park for the second half of the season. The Browns finished the season in fourth place in the CASA competition. This is a wonderful night of the year where the club life members join in with the current crop of players and administrators to celebrate their love for the sport and the club. On a sad note one of the club's life members and leading foundation member Doug Carey had passed away since last season. The club acknowledged his passing; he will be surely missed by the senior soccer club.

The night saw awards presented for each of these three teams:

Rookie of the Year:	Golds:	Browns	Over 35's
Most Consistent Player:	Joey Thakum	Chris Farmer	Craig Hawkins
Most Improved:	Matt Bentley	Ben Penton	
Coaches and Managers Award:	Mick Preston	Tim Allen	
Best and Fairest:	Will McGuire	Luke Thrift	Mick Enderby
Players Player:	Shane Shuttleworth	Luke Thrift	Peter Overhauser



The Clubman of the Year, an award given to the person who has contributed the most to the running of the club and upholding its ideals, was presented to Craig McCredie. The club also thanked their sponsors: The Royal Federal Hotel, Branxton Rural Services, Millennium Mining, The Drover's Camp and Branxton Quality Meats. Congratulations were also given to the club coaches and managers for 2005 Craig McCredie, Neil Jordan, Justin Mendyk, Dave Cashin and Mark Robinson.

Left: Luke Thrift in his first season for the club was awarded the Best and Fairest and Player's Player s honours for the Browns Side.

Some Senior humour
 Before the funeral service, the undertaker came up to the very elderly widow and asked, "How old was your husband?" '98,' she replied... 'Two years older than me' 'So you're 96,' the undertaker commented. She responded, 'Hardly worth going home, isn't it?'

The News

YOUR friendly team

Mike Lowing: Editor, Journalist, Photographer & Administrator
 Manager Advertising: Helen Lowing

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BRANXTON GRETA VINEYARDS

The NEWS SPORT

Johnson Snares \$100 Salmon



The May Fishing weekend at Stockton for The Greta Workers Fishing Club saw pretty poor results. Fee Jacobs won the weekend (42.4 points) with a Whiting, Bream and Flathead. She pipped Steve Nevin (34.5) who had a basic catch of Flathead and Nannygai. The jackpot fish (Jewfish) was not caught so the money jackpotted to the June Open species (Salmon).

Steve Nevin won the June weekend with a feed of Skipjack, Tailor, Bream and Jewfish. He scored 117.1 points and just edged out Daniel Johnson (116.2) who weighed in the \$100 Salmon with some Tailor and Bream. His fishing partner Anthony "Salami" Field just missed out on the biggest Salmon by 0.05kg. A special mention to David Hodges who weighed in for the first time in 2022 with Bream and Skipjack (39.9) at his spot (Sandbar). He is the early \$1.70 favourite to take out the July trip which is the Seal Rocks/Sandbar trip 8th-10th July with a target species for \$50 being Whiting. With the Competition points

about to go behind closed doors for the year we have Kez Duncan leading the Womens comp (616.67), Fee Jacobs in second place (203.01) and Summer Spliet-Miller (198.4) in third. Lewis Jacobs leads the Junior comp by a country mile (187.2) ahead of Temperance Hammond (13.8) and Ruby Nevin (13.7) Daniel Johnson leads the overall tally with 792.21 points ahead of Kez in second and Steve "Bodge" Nevin in third (564.86) The Fishing Club have their midyear function Saturday night 25th June with the Greta Workers Club putting on a band for the first time in a long while Pat Vs Cat starting at 8pm. Everyone is

welcome. For fishing club members there will be free drinks and discounted meals. Another thanks to our great sponsors The Greta Workers Club, The Harvest Bistro, The Bottlo, Gocon Rural, Elite Concreting and The Sea Shanty. Pictured below Club Secretary Steve Nevin Presenting the monthly winner of the biggest Salmon Daniel "Boonie" Johnson with \$100 cash.
 ● Photo: 'Bonnie' gets the cash



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