

Bulletin

COUNTRY LIVING in Queanbeyan and Palerang

Regional theatre threatened by minister's decision

SHUTTERSTOCK

THE UNEXPECTED decision by federal arts minister George Brandis to claw back \$104.7 million allocated to the Australia Council, that will now go instead to a special fund under the minister's discretion, has the arts and culture communities reeling. The decision was announced in the May budget.

It cancelled a six-year funding round that most affected small and medium companies. As Ben Eltham reported in the *Guardian*: "After more than 400 organisations spent months developing their applications, the entire round was cancelled ... in order to create [Brandis'] new national program for excellence in the arts."

"The cultural industries employed 311,000 workers at the 2011 census, and account for around 7 percent of the Australian economy ... relatively small amounts of federal funding [until now allocated through a peer-review process by the Australia Council] catalyse huge amounts of cultural activity." (George Brandis

and the arts funding crisis: one hell of a one man show, *The Guardian* <http://gu.com/p/4abtd/sbl>)

All this will affect the ability of smaller performing companies to tour regionally, says Stephen Pike, program manager at 'The Q' in Queanbeyan. He said government grants to these companies very often are used to defray travel and accommodation costs.

Regional arts centres like The Q are thus in the direct firing line of this 'out of the blue' federal decision. Regional touring companies provide the backbone of their yearly theatre programs.

"We've already being sounded out for additional assistance for travel and accommodation, things normally covered by grants," said Pike. "A lot of things will cost us more money which means ticket prices may go up."

"I've never seen so many people in companies asking for spare cash before the end of the fiscal year," he noted.

"The brakes have now been put on everything, with an absolute lack of consultation." He said the greater impact will be felt starting with the 2016 season since bookings have to be made well ahead and the 2015 season is set (possibly with some additional travel support). It will affect The Q's future ability to plan and launch shows.

Larger, well-established performing companies, unaffected by the minister's decision, are unlikely to come to The Q with the bigger Canberra theatre so close by said Pike. On the plus side is The Q's habit of buying some local shows and also producing its own shows during the year.

Interested readers can scan Eltham's report and google others that indicate where the minister has started putting his discretionary cultural dollars: the focus appears to be on classically-focused companies some with reported Liberal Party connections with pipelines to the minister. ■

— Maria Taylor

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Man faces heavy penalty in kangaroo 'cull' arrest

A RETIRED geologist who had called for official assistance for what sounded like a wounded kangaroo crying, was charged on July 1 with 'hinder[ing] a territory public official' during the ACT kangaroo killing season.

The criminal charge, which carries a maximum penalty of two years in jail or a \$30,000 fine (or both), was levied against the man who had been standing on public land outside the closed nature reserve at Wanniasa Hills at around 9pm. No details were divulged on the police report available to the media. The man faced the ACT magistrate on July 9 and pleaded not guilty with a trial set for a later date.

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Mr Fluffy buy-back scheme approved by NSW government

QUEANBEYAN Mayor Tim Overall has welcomed the NSW Government's announcement of a voluntary buy-back and demolition scheme for properties containing the dangerous Mr Fluffy loose-fill asbestos.

The NSW Government has announced a \$250 million voluntary buy-back scheme for NSW properties affected by Mr Fluffy insulation.

"This is a very pleasing outcome for not only Queanbeyan residents, but all of those across NSW who have been affected

by the Mr Fluffy insulation," Cr Overall said. "The outcome has been a long time in the making, but I am very happy that we have arrived at a very fair outcome for the property owners.

"Queanbeyan, along with the ACT, are the most affected areas by Mr Fluffy and this announcement will ease the uncertainty of property owners." [One or two properties in Bungendore as well as some others in the surrounding region of NSW have been identified].

Nineteen properties in the Queanbeyan

local government area, including a block of units, have been identified as having loose-fill asbestos. NSW WorkCover has extended until August 2016 a free testing service for any house that was built before 1980 that is suspected of having Mr Fluffy loose-fill asbestos.

"I urge all owners of homes that fall into this category to take advantage of this window of opportunity and potentially the voluntary buy back and demolition scheme."

The scheme will allow property owners

two options.

- **Option 1:** The NSW Government will purchase the house and land at market value, demolish the house and remediate the land. The original land owner can then purchase the land back at market value or the property can be sold.
- **Option 2:** The NSW Government will purchase the house only at market value, demolish the house and remediate the land and the owner will be able to build on the same block.

— press release

Brighter future for delicate native shrub

These plantings are not in Palerang but nearby and we wanted to know what Pomaderris looks like anyway



CRITICALLY endangered, two known populations of *Pomaderris delicata* received a planting boost in June thanks to dedicated volunteers from Canberra and region.

The team joined by government agency staff and Goulburn Mulwaree Council, planted 500 of the shrubs at the two sites – one between Goulburn and Bungonia and the other south of Windellama.

It's estimated that less than 100 of these plants remained in the wild before the planting.

Senior Threatened Species Officer for NSW Office of Environment & Heritage, Dr Keith McDougall, said *Pomaderris* may be a relic of past climates and fire regimes.

"This means *Pomaderris* may provide indications of how other Australian plants will respond to our changing

climate in the future. Being attractive, compact, hardy shrubs they also have great commercial potential in horticulture," he said.

The Australian National Botanic Gardens grew the shrubs from cuttings collected by the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage. This method worked better than attempts at propagation from seed and provides a model for future similar efforts.

Pomaderris species only occur in Australasia. There are 70 known species and almost half are listed as threatened. ■

PHOTO: COURTESY AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS

Land for Wildlife doing well in region, looking for new members

LAND for Wildlife in Palerang now covers approximately 580 hectares with 36 member properties.

The nationwide program is managed locally by The Palerang Local Action Network for Sustainability (Future PLANS) as part of the Community Environment Network. Currently in NSW there are 1,300 properties comprising approximately 90,000 hectares in the scheme.

The Palerang properties cover a diverse range of habitats including woodland, dry sclerophyll forest and grasslands. The majority of the properties are in Bywong and Wamboin, however, there are member properties in Bungendore, Carwoola, Tarago and Sutton.

Land for Wildlife is a voluntary property registration scheme that aims to assist landholders to maintain wildlife habitat on their land, it is non-binding and does not change the legal status of the property. Properties that join range from rural to suburban.

A Future PLANS representative noted that the benefits to the landholder are many – including a free site assessment, a report about what plants you have and advice on integrating wildlife habitat into farming and other land uses.

A Land for Wildlife workshop held in Wamboin in June worked with local landholders on ways of improving and protecting their wildlife habitat. Guest speakers Geoff Butler from Geary's Gap/Wamboin Landcare Group and Nicki Taws from Greening Australia shared their expertise on re-vegetation and caring for remnant patches of bush. During the afternoon the workshop participants watched a planting demonstration and learnt about establishing re-vegetation sites.

Dr Mel Hillery from the Molonglo Catchment Group discussed the importance of habitat connectivity within the local landscape, the wider bioregion and at the continental scale to create habitat connections in landscapes previously fragmented by land clearing and human settlement.

>> next page

From *The Bulletin* ...

NO AUGUST paper, visit us online instead

Hello, we'd like to let you know that *The Bulletin* is taking a mid-winter break in August (so no August issue in your mailbox or shopping centre) but we will still be updating our online site so please visit us there at online.districtbulletin.com.au.

— *The District Bulletin team*

How to CONTACT US at

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Deadline for contributions and advertising booking
For September issue – 25 August 2015

In addition to mailbox delivery, this free monthly publication is available from:

Braidwood: Miss Ruby's Bookshop and various cafes. **Bungendore:** Food Lovers Market, Gunna Doo Bakery & Cafe. Palerang Council Chambers (Bungendore, Braidwood).

Queanbeyan: Beautiful Gifting, Monaro St; Queanbeyan Library newspaper section; Riverside Plaza; and Karabar, Jerrabomberra Shopping Centres.

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OPTOMETRISTS and CONTACT LENS PRACTITIONERS

Change on domestic violence: regional action not waiting until 2022

MOST families I know, or I think I know, are relatively free from violence in their daily lives. They view with horror the endless and bloody dramas unfolding around the world. Sometimes however, this blinds us to a form of household terrorism that is ongoing, and routinely carried out in many Australian homes.

While the Senate examines a report on domestic violence and a national plan submitted this month by the Finance and Public Administration References Committee, many in our region are keen to see if progress has actually been made.

The federal government's action plans for women in the broader and Indigenous communities are timed to be in place by 2022.

It is a bit frustrating to reflect that a big part of the responsibility for change will inevitably fall on the next generation.

Is this really how the world has to work? It seems feeble (at least to my feeble brain), that in this age of light-speed communication, our generational and institutional responses are still so agonisingly glacial.

What is the situation locally on domestic violence?

Has there been any progress? Well yes, there are encouraging signs, and of course a long way to go.

In June Police Superintendent Rod Smith, of the Monaro Local Area Command, re-

ported that out of the 144 domestic violence related assaults attended in our area [including Palerang] during the last financial year, the number of repeat offences was down to 7–10%. Within our local government area the overall number of domestic assaults attended by police had fallen by 17.4%.

Superintendent Smith said that a major success had been to bring the subject of domestic violence out into the open, so that a topic once regarded as taboo could now be discussed openly.

He was pleased to see that the community is starting to show its intolerance towards violence against women, and was confident that there is now a greater willingness for victims to report domestic violence.

The way forward, he said, is to continue to change community attitudes and to teach young people what is, and what is not acceptable regarding relationships, and how women should be treated.

More work was also required to improve perpetrator programs, particularly where participants are unwilling to change and may only be attending to satisfy the requirements of their sentence or conditions of parole.

Vera Kurtz of the Louisa Domestic Violence Support Service in Queanbeyan says that they are still waiting to feel any real positive effect from the first of the government action plans, and her service had already suffered a number of recent funding cuts.

Named after Louisa Lawson, the mother of Henry Lawson, and an early advocate of

women made homeless by domestic violence, the Louisa service sometimes supplements its funding through raffles and other fundraising activities.

Ms Kurtz would like to see restoration of funding previously cut from special services, and an allowance made for effective monitoring and evaluation of programs.

Support for children very effective, funding and accommodation inadequate

One of the most gratifying aspects of the work of the service, said Ms Kurtz, is the speed at which the lives of children in domestic violence situations can be turned around once support is in place.

Funding also remains an issue for the South Eastern District Women's Violence Court Advocacy Service, with funding available for only six out of the 28 local coordination points for the Safer Pathways program.

Manager Kerry Mobbs explained that from the 1st of July all local police-referred cases would come through the Queanbeyan advocacy unit, resulting in a 70 percent increase in the current workload. In the last financial year the service handled nearly 400 cases.

Ms Mobbs would like to see more resources for teaching programs in schools and specialist resourcing for victims within non-English speaking groups. There is also a desperate need for local accommodation for women forced from their homes as a result of domestic violence, and a shortage of trained domestic violence counselors.

On a positive note Ms Mobbs said that the advocacy service has an excellent working relationship with local police teams, which encourages victims to come forward and report domestic violence. This has enabled a faster and more effective response for women and their families. ■



Land for Wildlife members Heather Lawton, Martin Largey, Kathy Handel, Alison and Brian Charlton with Land for Wildlife Assessor Jo Walker, second from right.

<< Participants were shown the Questagame mobile application which is a tool for biodiversity monitoring. The app allows anyone to record plants, animals and insects from their mobile phone. The mobile app Questagame is available in both android and iOS versions and can be downloaded at www.questagame.com.

Residents are urged to consider joining Future PLANS which helps to continue the

Land for Wildlife registration program and other conservation initiatives in the area. Membership is \$5 and you will receive regular updates about activities and workshops.

For further information on getting involved with Land for Wildlife contact Future PLANS at www.futureplans.org.au/ or enquiries@futureplans.org.au.

— Alex James

Amalgamation

Half Palerang survey respondents want to stand alone, others want to stand elsewhere, and hardly anyone who bothered to answer Queanbeyan survey wants to stand with Palerang

BOTH Palerang and Queanbeyan councils had consultants survey the electorate as to their preferences for amalgamation. Palerang also asked a lot of other background questions like 'where do you shop'.

Palerang results are from phone surveys posed to 1,100 people, (1/15th of the population) on the question of amalgamation with Queanbeyan or (notionally) another adjoining council:

More than half (55%) would like Palerang to continue as an independent council in its own right, three in ten (32%) want it to amalgamate with others: Queanbeyan (21%), Goulburn (9%), Yass (0.4%) or some other council (1.4%), while less than one in

ten (8%) would like to see it split up among adjoining councils, with 6% unsure.

Queanbeyan mailed 14,481 information packs to all Queanbeyan ratepayers in mid-May. The pack contained a reply paid postcard which sought views on three options: Queanbeyan as regional services provider at commercial rates to other councils; merged Queanbeyan–Palerang, or stand alone.

985 replies were returned, representing a 7% response rate: 67% of respondents favoured a regional services provider model, (favoured by Queanbeyan Council but flatly rejected by Palerang Council) as the preferred option for Fit for the Future; 23% preferred stand alone and 10% favoured a merger with Palerang Council.

And here's an interesting table (below) from the Palerang survey on where people shop, get medical care etc. ■

The full report can be found at <http://palerang.nsw.gov.au/featured-programs/1168694-fit-for-the-future-submission>

| Where Palerang shops, educates, etc | Major food, grocery shopping % | Major h'hold items shopping % | Minor top-up food, & groceries % | Healthcare providers % | Entertainment % | Education % |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Canberra only or mainly | 15.2 | 48.3 | 8.0 | 38.9 | 56.3 | 29.9 |
| Canberra and Queanbeyan about equally | 9.4 | 12.1 | 0.0 | 2.1 | 1.9 | 2.9 |
| Queanbeyan only or mainly | 44.8 | 15.1 | 12.9 | 9.0 | 7.8 | 14.8 |
| Total Canberra and/or Queanbeyan | 69.4 | 75.5 | 20.9 | 50.0 | 66.0 | 47.6 |
| Goulburn + nearby towns | 3.6 | 2.5 | 0.4 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 3.6 |
| Total beyond Palerang | 75.2 | 78.7 | 21.3 | 54.2 | 74.1 | 53.0 |
| Braidwood [town] | 18.4 | 13.7 | 31.8 | 27.1 | 5.8 | 12.7 |
| Bungendore [town] | 4.6 | 0.4 | 45.1 | 18.0 | 6.4 | 7.6 |
| Captains Flat [town] | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Sutton [area] | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Not applicable/ don't do that/ unsure | 1.8 | 5.6 | 1.8 | 0.4 | 13.7 | 25.8 |
| <i>Base</i> | <i>1,108</i> | <i>1,108</i> | <i>1,108</i> | <i>1,108</i> | <i>1,108</i> | <i>1,108</i> |

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EXHIBITION OF PALERANG RURAL LANDS STUDY REPORT

The Rural Lands Study Report is being exhibited from **Monday 15 June 2015 until Monday 20 July 2015**.

The report provides data on the rural areas of the Palerang local government area and identifies issues and options for the future. The report is the first stage in the development of a twenty year Rural Lands Strategy for Palerang.

The exhibition will include community information sessions at nine venues. Submissions will then be considered by Council's Rural Land Use Study Committee and following this the draft Strategy will be developed for consideration by Council and exhibition.

The location, dates and times of the remaining community meetings are shown below:

| Location and venue | Date | Time |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Nerriga Hall | Saturday 11 July | 10am–12pm |
| Bywong Hall | Saturday 11 July | 3pm–5pm |
| Bungendore Council Chambers | Sunday 12 July | 11am–1pm |
| Carwoola Hall | Sunday 12 July | 3pm–5pm |

The meetings are not area specific so if it is not possible to attend the closest meeting to your home please attend any of the other meetings.

Any person may make a submission to Council on the Rural Lands Study Report. Submissions should be posted to Palerang Council, PO Box 348, Bungendore NSW 2621, or emailed to records@palerang.nsw.gov.au

The Rural Lands Study Report is available from Council's website www.palerang.nsw.gov.au or on CD by request to Council.

Enquiries relating to the Rural Lands Study should be directed to Sue Robb, Strategic Planning Co-ordinator, telephone 1300 735 6238 or by email to records@palerang.nsw.gov.au

Privacy: Submissions including the author's name and contact details will be provided to Councillors for consideration. However, names and contact information will be removed when the submissions are included in public documents such as Council Business Papers. References to Lot and Deposited Plan numbers will be retained on the submissions in both instances. All submissions are required to be accompanied with a political donations and gifts disclosure statement in accordance with 147(5) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

From the Editor ...

June was the month for terrorist distraction and koala-killing RET solutions

THIS past month we have been treated to PM Tony Abbott and his supporters perfecting weapons of mass distraction from really important issues.

Hang on, you say, what could be more important than saving you and me from 'Death Cult' terrorism and getting the ABC to

shut up or just become a total government mouthpiece and leave the country's agenda to the Murdoch version of reality?

Important issues? Well there is youth unemployment, reportedly nearing 30% in some regional areas, guaranteed to get worse with timely withdrawal of funding for TAFEs and

vocational education, as you do in a clever country; hospitals and schools are staring down the barrel of big budget cuts in two years time, (so lets not get too excited about the Baird government 'surpluses'). Press releases have just lobbied in saying funds to both national parks and child protection services are being cut in NSW.



Since the beginning of the year 45 women, averaging two a week, have died at the hands of 'domestic terrorists'. (You'll find a report on domestic violence response in this region on p3.) Children have also died or been seriously abused by domestic terrorists. Our enquiries showed there is inadequate funding, support and particularly local shelter for women and children in crisis.

A lot more people are affected by sky-high housing costs immigration and population, and even arts funding cuts (see our cover story) than by jihadi terrorism.

Climate change? The new Vice-Chancellor for the ANU, astronomer Brian Schmidt (profiled in the May issue of the *Bulletin*) is the most recent prominent figure to call our changing atmosphere "the great challenge for humanity during the next 100 years".

There is the matter of avoiding climate catastrophes related to the continued burning of fossil fuels – with loss of life, health, shelter, and wealth facing our children and worse in other parts of the world – guaranteeing also many more wars and refugees. The just-released defence white paper shows that the military gets that climate change is a significant security threat to this country.

But our elected leaders and their

cheerleaders in the Murdoch press want us to focus our energies on being outraged at that mouthy Zaky Mallah and the ABC.

With such single-minded focus on distraction it seems action on our most serious problems will have to come from the citizenry.

An encouraging signal is when previous true believers start breaking ranks. And so we find a June piece in the Fairfax media by Ian Dunlop a former industry oil, gas and coal executive and one-time chairman of the Australian Coal Association.

He writes of a fundamental failure of leadership that is leading to disaster. The federal government, all of industry and CSIRO top brass are criticised, not for ignorance, but for silence and wrong action. (More recently there has been an industry and union alliance call for significant action, finally).

Waiting for catastrophe to happen before accepting the impacts is "precisely what sensible risk management is designed to avoid". He cites the moral and ethical dimensions of wilfully destroying our habitable ecosystems highlighted by the Pope. (Dunlop's piece is *Our elites have failed us on climate change, Canberra Times 22 June*). In this issue of the *Bulletin* we also continue our interviews with religious leaders on climate action (p9).

So far the Labor Opposition under Bill Shorten has not distinguished itself standing up to the national security scare campaign or on the natural environment. The latest sad evidence was the cave-in on previous 'never ever' promises to keep the burning of native forests out of a chopped renewable energy target (RET), passed by both houses of parliament with Labor agreement.

>> p9

Sky falls in over Braidwood pool Social media perfect for outrage (or celebrities) but ...

WHAT makes an issue important? Whether at the local or national level the importance of issues facing government and community often take on a life and momentum of their own.

Like those celebrities who are famous simply for being famous (Paris Hilton, Danni Minogue, any of an apparently endless supply of Kardashians), issues may appear more important than they actually are when exposed to social media oxygen.

A month ago it emerged on a Facebook forum that Palerang Council intended to increase the price of a family season pass to the Braidwood pool by around \$120. If outrage could be measured on the Richter scale the response to this announcement would have shaken Braidwood off the map.

Over the next 24 hours the issue flared, with comments ranged from predictions that this would be the end of the pool; refusals to pay the increased price and go to the river instead; and suggestions that the costs of running the pool be incorporated into the rates structure. Sanity prevailed with various councillors reminding participants in the forum that they could make submissions directly to council.

The democratic process: one person taking action led to change

In the event, despite the collective outrage, only one submission was received on the issue but that one submission was enough to give council a base for debate, and at their last meeting council voted down the pricing proposal to a substantially reduced increase.

To judge by the public outrage expressed via social media, one might have thought that the Braidwood pool was the biggest issue in town and that council would be dealing with an armed posse of angry swimmers.

Participatory democracy via social media is not participatory democracy. It is a side-show to the main game. Unless we're prepared to back our outrage with action then there is no real point other than outrage for its own sake.

It is the same at the national level. While Twitter and Facebook went into overdrive over the ABC's Q&A inclusion of Zaky Mallah, a former terrorism suspect, in the studio audience – either in defence of it or opposed to it – the government and opposition quietly combined for legislation that not only guts our Renewable Energy Target but also gives the green light to cutting down and burning native forests under the misleading term of 'clean energy'.

While social media is a valuable tool in mobilising community and disseminating information that doesn't appear in the mainstream media, it is also, if not used discerningly, a distraction from the main game.

Using social media to drive political issues at any level of government is like playing sport: keep your eye on the ball. While venting outrage on a social media forum is a way of expressing an opinion, unless the processes for participation in our democratic processes are followed, those words will fall into the black hole of cyberspace. ■

Spectator POLITICA



with
**Robin
Tennant-
Wood**

Queanbeyan survey of Old Cooma Rd drivers shows EDE not preferred route to Canberra, favour a different 'bypass'

RESULTS announced in early July from a Queanbeyan community-initiated residents' survey shows a preference for Dunns Creek Rd over the Ellerton Drive extension (EDE). Those surveyed live along Old Cooma Rd including Googong township.

The survey found that almost 72 percent of people would be more likely to use Dunns Creek Rd than the EDE or Edwin Land Parkway if Dunns Creek Rd were built.

84 percent of respondents travelled to Canberra daily for work or education and designated either Civic/Parliamentary triangle or Woden/Tuggeranong as their destination. Travelling to Canberra via Yass Rd and the airport would be a wide detour for them.

The survey was conducted over four months to the end of May for the Queanbeyan Conservation Alliance (QCA) and Jerrabomberra Residents' Association (JRA).

"The survey results support the view that Dunns Creek Rd would do a better job of keeping Googong traffic out of the Queanbeyan City network at the critical peak travel periods," the groups said in a joint press release.

"Queanbeyan City Council (QCC) should now progress its own survey of Old Cooma Rd residents, as it agreed to in May. We expect QCC's survey to confirm the findings of our own survey, further supporting the view that the EDE is the wrong road for Queanbeyan." ■

ONLINE at www.districtbulletin.com.au

For further details of the survey look for Queanbeyan survey of Old Cooma Road.

Faulty towers (err) communication

THE following stories come from my own casebook but are echoed frequently around Braidwood town and district. [Ed note: familiar territory elsewhere in Palerang too.]

The ability to communicate with other human beings plays a critical role in our lives. Erin Gilliam from the Department of Biological Sciences, North Dakota State University, takes this premise even further by stating that "the action of, or cue given, by one organism (the sender) is perceived by and thus alters the probability pattern of behaviour in another organism (the receiver) in a fashion adaptive to either one or both of the participants."

This is certainly the case when one has been hanging onto a mobile phone for 40 minutes in a cold, wet and windy paddock waiting for some action relating to a faulty landline phone located at the cosy home one kilometre away down in the valley. My pattern of behaviour had taken a turn for the worse after the first five minutes.

Due to the accent and the total incapability of grasping the concept of distance, I assumed my call was being attended to in a country far far away. Having explained that I was camped on the highest point on the property in order to get mobile reception, I was not mollified by the kind offer, which was repeated three times, of a temporary mobile phone to solve my difficulties.

Together with the useless offer of a temporary mobile I was asked to wait for a period of up to six hours to receive the date and time of a service call two weeks into the future.

Research has shown that it is possible my call was taken in Australia. Both ABC News and the *Sydney Morning Herald*

reported in August 2014, following a speech delivered by Telstra's CEO David Thodey to the Australian Institute of Company Directors, that poor English delivery and failure to understand conditions from a

Telstra call centre had "a 50% chance" of coming out of Perth.

Swings and roundabouts with the service

Prior to the story recorded above I had a nearly successful interaction with Telstra following my home landline handset exploding during a vicious electrical storm. Within only a couple of days a cheerful and helpful technician landed on my doorstep to replace the handset and the burnt out cable and connection.

Sadly within a few months this landline service broke down. It miraculously recovered before a serviceman appeared but the handset no longer rings to herald an incoming call.

My business landline is still out of action, having had one attempt to resurrect itself but it only operated in 'uniplex' communication, not in 'duplex', which meant my caller could hear me but I could not hear my caller. I'm currently using my mobile as a business phone. My town internet is Telstra's BigPond which fails to deliver on a daily basis.

Mobile phones appear to be more reliable than landlines in the Braidwood area. Our problem is the lack of or breakdown of towers which cannot guarantee total and continuous coverage.

Two communication gems save my sanity. Two satellite dishes sit on my roof, one receiving Foxtel TV and one receiving Activ8me internet. Both trouble free!! ■

Braidwood ROUNDS



with
**Jill
McLeod**

Not too late to get a flu shot – bad season shaping up



THINKSTOCK

EXPERTS are warning Australia is headed for a severe flu season and say this may be due to delays with the roll-out of vaccines early in the season.

According to an ABC report following an expert briefing organised by the Australian Science Media Centre, Australia has had a 47 percent increase in confirmed cases of influenza this year, with 11,000 cases already reported. It's expected that 15 percent of the population may come down with the flu rather than the 'normal' 10percent.

The experts say it's not too late to get a flu shot.

Infection possible before symptoms appear

Infection control expert at the University of NSW, Professor Mary-Louise McLaws, said vaccination was the key to avoiding the flu. She said the virus is very easily

spread and people should not go to work if they have it, but also may spread it before symptoms appear.

She said the flu is transmitted by large and small particles. The large, or droplet-size, fall fast but the spread of flu by small particles, after coughing and

speaking, can spread up to 2.5 metres.

"Influenza particles can be spread by just talking and breathing so, if someone is incubating the flu, they are most infective two to three days before they get symptoms."

She suggested that people wash their hands frequently, be careful how they cough and not touch their face too much as virus particles have to make their way to the nose. Even touching eyes can lead to infection as viruses can travel to the nose via tear ducts. Soap and water do kill the virus, augmented by the use of alcohol-based hand rubs.

Thousands of Australians do die from flu and a conservative estimate of the cost to the healthcare system is about \$85 million.

www.abc.net.au/health/thepulse/stories/2015/06/25/4261935.htm

Risking higher blood pressure in 'glorified tents'

"AS WE shiver through the weeks of winter, here's a fact to give you goosebumps: more people die from the cold in Australia than in Sweden. According to a new study published in medical journal *The Lancet*, cold contributed to about 3.9 percent of deaths in Sweden, but 6.5 percent in Australia," so begins a *Sydney Morning Herald* report by Nick Roberts, campaigns director at Environment Victoria.

What's contributing to these death rates?

Roberts writes that it's not extreme events like blizzards that cause the most deaths from cold. Rather, it is things like increased blood pressure from constant exposure to low temperatures.

"The most chilling fact, however, is that these deaths are largely preventable. The reason countries such as Sweden have colder weather but fewer lives lost ultimately comes down to the quality of their housing.

"Commenting on this new study, Professor Adrian Barnett from the Queensland University of Technology has described many Australian homes as nothing more than 'glorified tents', exposing us to much lower temperatures than the Scandinavians endure."

With gas and electricity prices rising many people spend too much of their income just to try and stay warmer. But poorly insulated houses often defeat the low-income and vulnerable, who end up living in chronically cold conditions.

Roberts also notes that the residential

sector contributes nearly 20 percent of our greenhouse emissions every year, so cutting the wasted heat leaking out our windows and doors could make a big difference to meeting our emission reduction targets and tackling climate change.

It's not a new idea but sometimes forgotten: for under \$5,000 energy saving measures can make a big difference. Ceiling insulation, draught-sealing, thick curtains and pelmets, energy efficient lighting and low-flow showerheads are all that's needed. For those who can afford to go further, Roberts says raising performance to five stars can cut household energy bills by about 40 percent, a comprehensive retrofit can usually pay for itself in bill savings in five to seven years.

Renters often miss out and Roberts urges state government action to help out.

"As an example, Environment Victoria's Future Powered Families program helps low-income families to make no-cost or low-cost energy saving changes to their homes. By the end of the program, more than 5,000 families will have taken a workshop, trained as an energy adviser or received a home energy assessment.

"Many of these initiatives are supported by the federal government's Low Income Energy Efficiency Program, which will not continue after June 2016, leaving poor and vulnerable residents out in the cold."

From: <http://m.smh.com.au/x/ghj2ox>

> [More info on how to have an efficient and healthy house, p8](#)

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Nick Goldie, who lives near Michelago, reviews books published by independent Australian publishers. Here is a selection of some recent titles with wonderful untold stories from contemporary history. These reviews were published also in the Cooma Monaro Express.

Anzacs with unspeakable secrets

The Secrets of the Anzacs
by Raden Dunbar
Scribe, 2015

IN 1916, it really was a secret. Australian soldiers with venereal disease, being quietly shipped home from Egypt, hoping that they would be disembarked anywhere but in their home town.

It was a secret that was shared, ultimately, by some 60,000 men of the AIF, almost the same number as the diggers who were killed during the war.

Canberra historian Peter Stanley dealt with the subject in his excellent *Bad Characters* (2010) along with crime, mutiny and murder. The diggers were not saints. Stanley makes the point that the AIF was made up of volunteers, citizen soldiers, who regarded army discipline as a nuisance at best. They were far more likely to get drunk, to catch VD, and to desert than British soldiers.

An infuriated British officer, attempting to make a digger salute him, reminded the man he was a soldier. "No, mate" said the digger, "I'm a farmer."

Author of *The Secrets of the Anzacs* Raden Dunbar gives us the details of the VD scourge. It seems that in the beginning, nobody expected it to happen. Before Gallipoli, the AIF was in training in Egypt, and it seemed not to have occurred to the authorities that Cairo and Alexandria had flourishing brothel quarters, and that Our Boys would be heading there

just as soon as they were off duty.

Dunbar reproduces a rather charming post card, regarded as the rankest pornography in 1916, of a topless Moorish maiden coyly holding an amphora of wine. Who could resist?

Surprising bits of history

This book is full of surprising pieces of history. Infected diggers were shipped home, disappeared from sight back in Australia, re-enlisted under false names. Some of them went on to win fame, like Maurice Buckley, awarded the Victoria Cross under the name of Gerald Sexton. Some of them, like Bert Crozier, never recovered, not so much from the VD, but from the effects of war itself. He ended his days as a homeless alcoholic.

Or Jack Ryan VC of Tumut, with a stirring story of individual courage during the final offensive of 1918, who died in 1941 after years as an unemployed swagman.

In 1917 Major Walter Conder was in charge of the VD hospital at Langwarrin in Victoria. Against the tide, he treated the inmates, not as disgraced criminals, but as patients. He removed the barbed wire, put the patients on their honour, introduced sport and music (the brass band became famous), and planted gardens and trees.

The patients responded in kind, even building an ornamental fountain. The centerpiece of the fountain was, of course, a rather charming Moorish maiden, topless, with an amphora of wine.

Langwarrin is today a nature reserve, with nothing left of the camp. However, during and



after the war it was regarded as a showpiece in the treatment of VD, for both medical and social reasons. This was due largely to the work of Conder, and to the remarkable Sir James Barrett, an outspoken campaigner for open public discussion about what had been a taboo subject.

Barrett was also vice-chancellor of Melbourne University, a founder of the Bush Nursing Association, president of British Medical Association, the Town and Country Planning Association, the Japan Society, the Royal Empire Society, the Royal Life Saving Society, and involved in Melbourne's parklands, symphony orchestras and classical music.

Walter Conder went on to become the second general manager of the ABC. ■

(Young adult fiction)

'You go girl' story with true events

Girl with Wings
Jennifer Bradley
JoJo, 2015

LITTLE boys all want to be pilots. Little girls who want to be pilots are less common.

Girl with Wings is a novel about one of those girls. It's the story of Jessica Mackay, who lives on the family farm at Narromine, near Dubbo. The year is 1929, and her father,

who was wounded during the famous charge of the Light Horse at Beersheba, thinks that his nine-year-old daughter has a perfectly sensible ambition.

Slightly to her surprise, he takes her seriously, and makes a number of practical suggestions, not all of them welcome (mathematics!), some of them surprising. "You should keep up your horse riding. That will help you with the 'seat and hands' that flyers need."

This is a deceptively simple tale, aimed by the publishers at the young adult fiction market, though much younger children (especially girls) would certainly enjoy it. And a smart child might make some connections: Jessica's grandfather, for example, has strong views about the place of women in society.

Women don't need an education, nor should they be allowed to vote. As for the idea of becoming a pilot: "Stuff and nonsense," he almost exploded. "You will do no such thing. No grand-daughter of mine will fly in one of those newfangled machines. And that's an end to it."

Jessica's story never slackens pace. She becomes a sort of junior apprentice to a mechanic, and learns to use tools and get her hands dirty. She assists with the organisation of Narromine's first ever air pageant in 1930 and even gets to fly with Leslie Holden, one of the fliers who found the lost Charles Kingsford Smith in remote WA in 1929.

Narromine is in just the right place between Darwin and Sydney, so it's visited by Arthur Butler in his tiny Comper Swift as he breaks the UK-Australia record in 1931. "I look forward to flying with you one day," says Mr Butler to Jessica at the civic reception.

Next, it's Smithy himself, Air Commodore Charles Kingsford Smith of Australian National Airlines, piloting the *Southern Cross*. Jessica gets a flight with the great man. In her diary, in capital letters she writes: >>

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“I FLEW WITH SMITHY.”
By the end of the book, Jessica is an eighteen-year-old licensed pilot, taking passengers for joy rides, and competing in the Narromine Air Derby – and even hearing the voice of her terrifying grandfather: “You did well.”

And the moral of the story? Girls can do anything they want to do.

In an *Author's Note*, Canberra writer Jennifer Bradley gives a word of explanation. While Jessica and her family are fictional, “much of this story is true. The town of Narromine in New South Wales exists, as does its aerodrome, air pageants and Aero Club. The famous pilots mentioned are real and visited Narromine as they did in the story.” Today Narromine is known for its aeronautical museum, which can be visited online: www.narromineaviationmuseum.org.au. ■

———— * * * ———— Familial trail from birth-control pioneers to Wonder Woman comics: what a story

The Secret History of Wonder Woman
by Jill Lapore
Scribe, 2015

I DON'T like American superhero comics, which seem to me to be poorly drawn, morally dubious, and a waste of good reading time. So I approached the handsome new book from Scribe, *The Secret History of Wonder Woman*, with some doubt. I shouldn't have.

Author Jill Lapore is a history professor and a staff writer for *The New Yorker*, so quality writing was to be expected. What I didn't expect was to be surprised on almost every page.

Most people have heard of Margaret Sanger, who invented the term “birth control” and opened America's first birth control

Reading across the miles by Judith Miller

KEEPING in touch with your grandkids and watching them grow up can be difficult if you live in different parts of the country or indeed, the world. Both our daughters have chosen city living over the bliss of living in Palerang, meaning that our 5 grandchildren live in Sydney or Melbourne.

While we get together several times a year, we miss the more regular contact that we would have if they lived locally. For two of our grandchildren, it is even harder to catch up with their other grandparents, who live in the UK. While we all used Skype, we found that the young people, all primary school age, had the attention span of gnats when chatting with the oldies. In addition, just chatting does not provide much family support in areas such as education.

Then our tech savvy son-in-law came up with an app called ChattyKidz to help increase the attention span of the kids when we are talking to them from the farm. The idea is a video link between computers or iPads where we both see the same storybook and can read to each other on the video call. Now during a video call, I encourage the grandkids to select a book to read, which is easy for me because there are loads there to choose from and it's exciting for the kids to explore a book they have chosen as well. We have also recorded us reading some of the stories for the younger grandkids.

The great thing with ChattyKidz is we get to do more than read in the end. We end up

clinic, in Brooklyn. It was of course illegal, and even talking about the subject was enough to attract a 30-day jail sentence. Margaret Sanger was duly jailed, and so was her sister, Ethel Byrne, who promptly declared a hunger strike and nearly died. She had the distinction of being the first woman in America to be force-fed.

The book opens, however, with one William Moulton Marston, a brilliant Harvard student who was studying psychology and inventing the lie detector. He had strongly



Reading with granddaughter Georgina and daughter Annabelle. I am on the screen of the computer, along with the book we are reading.

discussing the story, talking about what they have been doing, catching up on their siblings, pets and parents! More than a gnat's worth of conversation for sure! Their reading has improved and, with regular sessions scheduled, we provide some long distance back up to busy parents. I love that I can see my grandkids in their kitchen, study, lounge, as if we were visiting each day. We feel we are really part of their family as if we lived in the same town and we can support our daughters and their families even from Bywong!

ChattyKidz provides a variety of other reading programs, and further information can be found on their website www.chattykidz.com. ■

feminist ideas, dabbled in film script writing, and married his fellow student and fellow feminist, Sadie Holloway.

In 1914, Sanger published a feminist monthly called *Woman Rebel*. Inevitably it was declared obscene, and Sanger fled to England, where she met Havelock Ellis, the celebrated author of *Studies in the Psychology of Sex*. Equally inevitably, they became friends and then lovers. (Later, Sanger had a decade-long affair with HG Wells).

Sanger's sister Ethel Byrne was living a

bohemian life in Truro (Massachusetts), in a house she had bought from John Reed (remember Warren Beattie in the movie *Reds*?) and was joined by her daughter Olive, a radical student at Tufts University.

The new professor of psychology at Tufts was none other than WM Marston, who had moved on from lie detection to sex psychology. Before long, Olive had moved in with Marston and his wife. They formed a happy trio, with a neat answer to the feminist question of the hour: how can an emancipated woman balance the demands of career and family?

Holloway (Mrs Marston) brought in the income, Marston flitted from project to project – even doing a stint as ‘house psychologist’ to Universal Pictures – while Olive looked after the growing family and wrote doting articles about Marston for *Family Circle* magazine. The children called Sanger “Aunt Margaret.”

In February 1941 Marston wrote the first episode of *Wonder Woman*. The editor, who was also responsible for *Superman*, thought the new super-heroine was rubbish, but within a year, *Wonder Woman* was the third best-selling comic after *Superman* and *Batman*.

Not everyone agreed. *Wonder Woman* hit the newsstands just in time for a robust attack from Christian moralists of various persuasions, on all comics, especially Batman and Robin (were they gay?).

Wonder Woman did not wear enough clothing it was claimed, and she had a nasty penchant for bondage, which she shared with her creator William Marston.

Wonder Woman didn't survive WWII, but was resurrected, first by the 1960s feminist movement, and then in the person of Lucy Carter, ironically a former beauty star, by television. ■

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Passivhaus – architectural ‘eskies’: no mould

The Building Code of Australia (BCA) sets a bar for minimum building performance, with the new 2015 edition raising this bar once again. However, the BCA requirements to better insulate and air-seal our buildings is now often resulting in mouldy and hence unhealthy buildings. This does not need to be the case.

*Effective and trusted solutions have been developed overseas and are presented briefly in this second of a three-part series about the European ‘Passivhaus’ standard by **Andreas Luzzi**.*

WHILE environmental pollution control and abatement have been making great technical progress over the past decades, our indoor environments are going the opposite way again. This is mainly due to microbial challenges, not due to indoor pollutants.

Most obvious is the resurgence of mould in our homes and apartments. This is the direct result of BCA-compliant albeit inappropriate construction methods that defy fundamental laws of (building) physics.

Bacteria and particularly mould spores grow well in moist and warm environ-

ments. Our buildings provide ample breeding grounds during the colder periods of the year.

What is now happening on a large scale throughout Australia is that the combination of ‘old-fashioned’ construction methods with new building performance demands has ended up shifting the dew-point from previously visible indoor areas right into walls and roof, hidden behind the gyprock lining.

inappropriate construction methods that defy fundamental laws of (building) physics



This is not only jeopardising the structural integrity of the building fabric over time (rotten structural framing), but it also allows growth of significant amounts of mould within the building fabric. This was the case in the northern hemisphere back in the 1980s and 1990s, when mould-related respiratory health problems increased significantly.

These days, New Zealand has advanced as OECD’s asthma-world-leader, not because of its pristine outdoor environment but simply because of sick buildings.

Crucial elements of the passivhaus standard

With the benefit of hindsight, it is rather simple to omit any mould in buildings forever. The European ‘passivhaus’ standard has proven this for 20+ years.

ONLINE at www.districtbulletin.com.au
Tesla solar power storage battery game changer now or when?

JERRABOMBERRA, pouring rain, crane problems but they did it: Jerrabomberra tennis facility started in June. Queanbeyan’s first factory pre-fabricated Passivhaus — ultra-efficient, European style system. Designed by Rudds Engineering, Passivhaus Solutions by LAROS Technologies, made in Australia with Carbonlite’s ‘PanelLite’ system.

Three things are crucial. Firstly, the building envelope has to become truly airtight. This is best achieved by employing moisture-controlling membranes such as ‘intello-plus’ under the gyprock and taped everywhere. Blower-door tests are perfect tools to check air-tightness.

Secondly, thermal bridges must be eliminated. High thermal-conductivity materials such as steel and concrete are not allowed to run through the building fabric, generating cold thermal bridges. Constructing in timber or else employing structural thermo-breaking technologies eliminates any thermal bridges. Infrared cameras are wonderful tools to visualise sinful thermal bridges.

Thirdly, smart ventilation is needed when the building is closed up to keep cold or heat out but to allow fresh air in. A myriad of high-efficiency energy recovery ventilation (ERV) solutions are now available on the Australian market. Operating like fully-filtered breathing lungs for the buildings, ERV systems recoup up to 90 percent of the thermal energy of the exiting stale air when bringing in fresh air.

Andreas Luzzi is CEO LAROS Technologies Pty Ltd. For more information visit www.laros.com.au.

Why sport needs more people like Mitch Clark

by Zach Mackey

GEELONG Cats ruckman Mitch Clark is nothing but an inspiration. Very publically he has suffered and fought depression, the good days and the bad, and has never shied away from his illness.

In a world which still, even with all the work done and words said to us, shuns mental illness and its sufferers, Mitch Clark has been an beacon of strength and a symbol for sufferers out there that it is not only ok to speak up and share your story, but be vocal in the world.

After Geelong smashed Collingwood a few months ago, Clark was pictured in tears, walking into a side room with head coach Chris Scott. The day after, Clark posted on his Facebook page that “Depression makes very little sense and rears its head whenever it chooses and unfortunately last night was one of those times.”

Clark is not trying to make himself out to be an example of how you can ‘beat depression’, rather someone who is always going to battle, always going to struggle to stay on top. He says so himself, “I’m no-

where near ‘cured’ and am still learning how to best deal with my dark days”.

What I think is the most pertinent message to take from Mitch Clark’s story is that everyone can learn from his experiences. The highest paid player at Melbourne, he felt the pressure to perform, and accepted when he could not take it anymore. This led to a premature retirement last year on the back of playing only 14 games in 2013 and 2014.

Any young person who has played sport has at some stage felt the pressure to perform. Any sign of weakness is pushed down, and unfortunately there is not the acceptance of mental illness as there should be.

Please know I am not saying mental health is a weakness. Dr Thelma Dye Holmes has been quoted as saying, “Mental health has a stigma that is tied into weakness and is absolutely the antithesis of what athletes want to portray”. This is the world in which Mitch Clark has stood up and should be seen as an inspiration.

Clark continues to be a source of inspir-

ation, recently posting on his Facebook page that as a sufferer, “[He can be] too scared to tell people how you really feel so you bury it so deep inside that it destroys you”. He continues, stating “I know you can’t see the light within this darkness but please reach out and ask for help”.

This is the most important message to take from Clark’s work – as sportsmen and women, it is not strong to hide away your weaknesses or personal issues. Talk up and share how you’re feeling, whether it’s to your family, teammates or coach. As Clark continues to show, it is an uphill battle, but it is made better by knowing you are not alone, and you are loved.

As a club Geelong should also be congratulated for their handling of Clark. The situation after the Collingwood game was

treated with dignity and respect, and showed that as an organisation they are more than just winning games.

It was a heart-warming scenario after the Collingwood game, and I hope Mitch Clark continues to be seen as an icon and the type of role model sport deserves. I wish him well as he continues to battle depression and face his dark days.

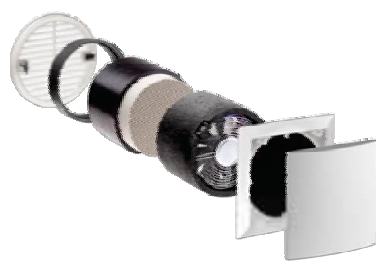
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You’ll also find the moving story by our columnist Robin Tennant-Wood on her personal journey following the loss of her partner ‘An essay on life and loss’.

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Jenny Goldie continues the series of interviews with religious leaders on climate change, talking here with Rabbi Jonathan Keren-Black.

Jewish leader supports Pope's call for climate action and critique of economic focus



RABBI Jonathan Keren-Black joined a delegation of leaders from various faiths in Parliament House, Canberra, on 22 June in endorsing the Pope's encyclical *Laudato Si*.

Pope Francis had called for urgent action by the international community on climate change.

Rabbi Keren-Black, who works for a congregation in Melbourne, is also the Environmental Advisor to the Council of Progressive Rabbis. He spoke by phone to the *Bulletin* on his return from Canberra.

"I am delighted that the Pope has issued such a comprehensive document," said Keren-Black. "It goes way beyond climate and looks at the deeper causes of environmental damage. It addresses industrialisation and also poverty and climate refugees. It points out that some of those on the move now could already be classed as climate refugees; in other words, the problem has already started and it's only going to get worse."

Keren-Black agreed with Pope Francis that the heart of the solution lay in sharing the world's resources more equally.

"My only issue about the encyclical is that, for obvious reasons, it doesn't call to reduce birth rate as part of the solution. Nevertheless, it is a wide-ranging and remarkable document. It reminds us that people of faith really share a common understanding that it is a God-given responsibility to care for the Earth."

As he said in Parliament House, Keren-Black believes that the Australian Government is going backwards on climate change and failing to treat the problem seriously.

"When the Government changed, I had

hoped it would be too late to remove the carbon price but I was wrong. The Government is now introducing indexation on fuel, which at least makes us think again before driving and emitting. However, there is no compensation for those who need assistance with fuel indexation as there was for the carbon price."

While in Canberra, Keren-Black had said Australia was moving in the wrong direction, the other way from most of the significant emitters in the world. He said we should be investing in wind farms, instead of putting limits on them.

"We simply have to pay more to account for the damage we're doing – and to discourage it," he said.

CLIMATE Watch



with
Jennie
Goldie

"Strong ethical and moral reason we have to repair the damage we have done."

Keren-Black said he was not optimistic about the COP21 meeting in Paris later in the year at which the international community will draw up an accord on climate change.

Is Australian government serious about Paris talks?

"When I met with Environment Minister Greg Hunt he stressed the need for world-wide agreement on climate change at Paris. There has been, however, no evidence so far that the government is taking it seriously."

Keren-Black expressed concern that the world now seems to be heavily influenced by a combination of multinationals and media resulting in increasingly short-term voting patterns.

The religious leaders who met in Canberra are part of the Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC). The faith leaders have been both vocal and demanding in calls for climate action, even before the Pope's encyclical. In May, they proposed that the post-2020 targets for Australia should be 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2025, and 80 percent below by 2030. [Some have also engaged in direct action and been arrested at the Whitehaven coal mine at Maul's Creek in northern NSW.]

When questioned about the strong ambition of these post-2020 targets, Keren-Black explained that most targets were set with an

New book release

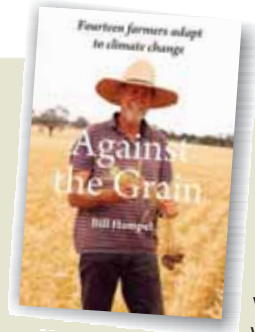
Against the Grain – 14 farmers adapt to climate change

by Bill Hampel

IN WRITING my book, *Against the Grain*, my primary motive for interviewing 14 farmers who accept the science of climate change is that they are bearing the brunt of something that is threatening all life on earth – our plants, trees, animals, birds, reptiles, insects – everything.

Among the great pleasures emerging from my conversations with the 14 was their delight in the big increase in bird life following their planting thousands of trees. One couple recorded over 100 species.

One farmer who raises sheep expressed his admiration for eagles. He was very gratified when, after handing a sick eagle from his property to a wildlife shelter, the person there told him to look up to see the now cured bird soaring overhead. Interestingly, two at least



commented how much they like the snakes on their property. One reported the finding of a rare species. Another said friends were horrified that he was very happy to

have a snake under his house. I spoke with a couple who are revegetating a large block near the South Australian border. Kangaroos roam freely over their property. Any injured animals from surrounding farms, Sue passes on to the local wildlife shelter.

Sue and Bernie have cameras mounted on their land for citizen scientists to record the movements of small terrestrial animals and birds. They also delighted that they now have three active mallee fowl mounds on their property. As a former country boy, I was delighted to share this positive relationship with the natural world. Much of the stories is in their own words.

Purchase enquiries – www.rosenbergpub.com.au; sales@rosenbergpub.com.au

objective of keeping carbon dioxide levels consistent with a cap of 2°C warming.

"Now, however, the experts tell us we should go no higher than 1.5°C if we are to avoid dangerous climate change," said Keren-Black. "Thus, the targets have to be more stringent."

Although generally pessimistic about the situation, he said there were some glimmers of hope.

Progressive Rabbis have divested

"First, it is evident you can get quite rapid change if there's a will to do so. Look at China and how quickly it is developing solar

power. And second, there's the divestment from fossil fuels movement that is spreading rapidly around the world and already having a significant impact – the fossil fuel industry has been described as 'the new tobacco', he said.

"The Council of Progressive Rabbis has moved its bank account out of the big four and to Bank Mecu that guarantees no fossil fuel dealings." ■

ONLINE at www.districtbulletin.com.au

We just took on the world:
Indigenous activists take on Adani in Galilee Basin and are winning

EDITORIAL from p4

Don't be fooled by the benign terminology of 'waste wood'. This is logging industry jargon for anything that is not a saw log. Whole forests of wildlife habitat have been fed into the chippers as waste wood (hence the koala killing label applied by the Greens Larissa Waters). Standing trees are worth more for carbon storage and catchment services than being moved from the chip industry to the furnace for a dubious energy supply.

Another big step into the past, this was a gift to the doomed (by the market) native forest logging sector that was just moving to plantations and job renewal there. Similarly, the commercial kangaroo industry is supported by politicians as a simple-minded nod to regional employment while treating our national icon like a 'thing' to be harvested and sold overseas – just as this country did with the koala 100 years ago.

We have just seen the unedifying spectacle of former Labor leader Kim Beasley as the American ambassador, lobbying against a California ban on importing kangaroo carcasses for meat and skins. What would we think if the US Ambassador to Australia came around hawking Bald Eagle feathers and claws?

The *Bulletin* paper will be taking a winter break in August, but we'll be back for the spring in September. Stay warm and active! ■

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ARREST OF CULL PROTESTOR

According to associates he spoke with after the arrest, he was standing as usual on a public horse paddock next to the closed reserve. The associates added that unexplained shooting has occurred in the past two weeks in the horse paddocks which are outside the license approval for the ACT cull. The horse paddocks have not been posted as off limits to the public.

Since the beginning of the cull in May, the Macarthur man had been acting as a citizen watcher, monitoring and reporting (including to the authorities), activities at the Wanniasa reserve precinct where he said he previously walked daily with his dog amongst the kangaroo mob.

The ACT had a target to shoot and bury 2,400 adult kangaroos and further hundreds of joeys by the end of July. [The cull stopped abruptly on 7 July with a reported 1,689 adults and 701 pouch joeys killed. At Wanniasa 202 were shot of 782 planned.] ■

Exclusive to the District Bulletin

Kangaroo Protectors Diary 2015

ON VARIOUS Canberra reserves during the ACT government kangaroo ‘culling’ program (now in its 5th year) citizens have been engaging in monitoring or civil disobedience, risking heavy fines and drawing public slander from government officials. For some the objective is to bear witness and for others it is also to disrupt the killing and to the extent possible protect some kangaroos and their joeys from the shooters.

The ‘diary’ is compiled from the accounts and anecdotes of various watchers and ‘protectors’ on two reserves, Callum Brae and Wanniasa Hills.

This series will appear on the **Bulletin** ONLINE starting July 10. Here’s a taste.

Saturday 2 May

Four shots fired at Callum Brae around 9 or 10 pm. Saw some dim light where the furthest gate might be – but couldn’t be sure it was there. Fourth shot was very close. Went up to our high hide. No spotlights or headlights, but could hear their voices. Sounded horn for several seconds, then a second blast, then beat a retreat.

Only a day off full moon, and moon

Vale the Australian kangaroo



... what the ACT and other Australian governments don’t want you to see or think about.

— NEWSFLASH —

With commercial shooters prowling our region where may your local kangaroos disappear to?

“MACRO Meats game producer Ray Borda is on the verge of achieving a long-held dream to supply kangaroo meat to the dining tables of China” reported the *Herald Sun* in June. The free-trade agreement with China may help.

Aided by both major political parties and with no opposition from most of the Greens, this private commercial activity is scouring southern NSW, drought-ravaged Queensland and other regions for remaining wild mobs of kangaroos in what has been dubbed the world’s greatest wildlife slaughter. Like the koala trade before it, governments encourage the slaughter citing country jobs and foreign exchange.

Opponents have successfully persuaded some importing countries, most recently Russia, of both the inherent cruelty of the trade and the unsanitary field conditions in which kangaroo meat is obtained, citing evidence of high levels of contamination with *E. coli* and salmonella bacteria. ■



close to its zenith when the shooting occurred. So much for shooters not liking moonlight because it screws their night vision equipment.

One day future holo-vid makers might make a sympathetic comedy series called ‘Mum’s Army’. It will tell the stories of the women (and occasional bloke), mainly aged

between 50 and 80, who tried to save Australia’s national animal from extinction in Australia’s national capital.

We will be hilariously depicted, clambering laboriously over fences, belly-crawling through wombat holes, diving (carefully) into ditches to avoid detection – and it will all be true. ■

: Town and Country Pets :

with Heike Hahner

Humans’ best friend in mental health support

MANY of us feel a deep connection with animals. We enjoy their company and are endlessly fascinated by their behaviours and their interactions with us.

We have also known for decades to utilise this beneficial connection with us by recruiting, especially dogs, as therapy and support dogs in hospitals and nursing homes, as well as guides and support for blind, deaf and disabled people.

In 2011 a new organisation, mindDog, was established in Australia by a small group of volunteers. mindDog sees its role in assisting mental health sufferers to acquire, train and certify psychiatric service dogs.

These dogs assist people with mental health issues and provide much needed emotional support for people whose lives are severely hindered by anxiety and fear.

The dogs make it possible for their owners

to participate again in everyday activities such as travel on public transport, access to public places and to take part in social activities.

For many people with mental health issues the company of animals is less stressful and intrusive than the company of people. Dogs can help control and manage mental health issues such as agoraphobia, the fear of crowded spaces or enclosed public places, depression, bi-polar or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Interestingly, when I spoke recently to Cath Phillips, Chairman of mindDog, on Canberra Radio 2CC, she pointed out that mindDog dogs are self-taught and learn by living with a person in need but need certification for public spaces.

They can be any breed or gender, but preferably have a temperament that is more

than usually focused and positive towards humans. Ideally they are calm, confident and show a willingness to participate positively in their owner’s daily life. However mindDogs still need basic training such as walking well on lead and knowing how to behave well in public places, on public transport and at venues.

A mindDog needs to qualify as an assistance dog after passing a Public Access Assessment test and certification. If you wanted to choose a dog for this job consideration should include the dog’s activity level, size, personality, lifestyle, type of assistance required and coat type/ maintenance.

Heike can be contacted on 4842 7143, or email hhahner@bigpond.com

For more information about mindDog: <http://minddog.org.au/>

Driving through Wamboin and parts of Bywong at dusk one may see small or larger mobs of eastern grey kangaroos grazing peacefully (and doing bushfire prevention duty while spreading grass seed) on paddocks around the area.

Rural residential enclaves have become sanctuaries for kangaroos from the shooting around the region on some larger properties. Let’s keep it that way! Not least for the following safety reasons.

Shooting wildlife near homes ignores ‘safety danger zones’

by Mark Watson, Bywong resident
(printed in the District Bulletin March 2009)

AS I SIT on my lounge composing this article, repeated reports of high-power rifle shots can be heard not far away. I’ve been a shooter for more than 30 years, I was an Army Officer for nearly 17 years, and I’ve studied ballistics at a post-graduate level, so I know what this means.

My life, my wife’s life, and the lives of everyone else for a considerable distance (going about their business, driving along the roads, or in the supposed safety their homes) are being randomly and unnecessarily endangered.

As I said, I’m an active shooter and was formerly an Army Officer. Every range (either military or civilian) or field training area that I’ve ever shot on had something in common, they were surrounded by what is known as a Safety Danger Area. Safety Danger Areas serve as a protective buffer to ensure that no one is endangered by the firing taking place.

It is not a question of being a good shot (or even an excellent shot) – ricochets and their resultant effects are highly random and entirely unpredictable events – and everyone, regardless of how good a shot they are – misses sometimes. After that, it becomes a question of randomness, merciless Newtonian physics.

Projectiles like the ones being used tonight retain enough energy to be lethal even after having travelled more than three kilometres! As I’ve stated publicly, it is a question of ‘risk management’. In a rural residential area, the risk of an unnecessary catastrophe is simply unreasonable.

The fact that this unnecessarily risky activity may well be sanctioned (and in point of order licensed) by the NSW Department of Environment (the agency nominally responsible for the management of the bulk of the native species being killed) adds an ironically farcical edge to the situation.

I invite you to not simply ‘put up’ with your family being endangered. Every time you hear shooting in your neighbourhood, ring the Queanbeyan Police Station (6298 0555) and/or contact the National Parks Service – Queanbeyan) and report it. When enough citizens actively and repeatedly express their concerns, it will stop. ■

What’s wrong with the trees?

DRIVING around the district one sees areas of eucalypts that are suffering severe defoliation. The tree most commonly affected is Blakely’s Red Gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*).

Bywong Landcare co-convenor Geoff Butler has taken a careful look and confirmed that the culprit is the sap-sucking insect Psyllid. The nymphs of Psyllids form protective covers on leaves called lerps.

The infestation is worse than usual this year and is widespread, including along Macs Reef Rd and in the nature reserve alongside the Federal Highway going down the hill into Canberra. The insects seem to attack trees in poor condition, such as those under drought stress. Repeated severe infestations can eventually kill the trees.

Long time residents may remember severe infestations more than 20 years ago. ■

Spaceprobe visits Pluto in July

JULY gives us the opportunity to see the return of the first stars of Spring, although it will be a while yet before we feel the season change back towards warmer nights.

Bright stars in July include blue-white Spica high overhead towards the north-west, orange Arcturus low in the north, yellow Alpha Centauri high overhead, red Antares also high overhead and the harbinger of spring, white Altair, rising in the east.

Have a look at Spica and Arcturus through a pair of binoculars, the colour difference between them will be easy to see. Arcturus is a type of star called an orange

giant, and is relatively nearby. It is very similar to the Sun in terms of its mass, and it is thought that when the Sun ages into a red giant star in a few billion years time (the next stage of its life), it will look pretty much like Arcturus does today.

The planets in July: Venus, Saturn and distant Pluto

The July evening sky has three bright planets on display, all of which are easily visible. After sunset, low in the west is the brilliant bright planet Venus, which continues to shine in our evening skies, and will do so until August when it passes too close to the Sun

— Star Search — with Dr David Weldrake

to be seen.

Venus is closer to the Sun than Earth, and as such displays phases like the Moon. In July a small telescope (or even binoculars if held steadily enough) will show that Venus is a crescent.

The phases of Venus were one of the observed phenomena that proved (in the seventeenth century) that the planets all orbit the Sun, rather than the long-held view that everything in the cosmos orbits around the Earth. July is an excellent opportunity for you to see the phases of Venus for yourself.

The second bright planet visible this month is Saturn, which continues to shine as a fairly bright yellowish 'star' almost directly overhead, close to the red star Antares.

There is a third planet in the evening sky in July, although it is far too faint to be seen except through the largest of backyard telescopes if you know exactly where to look. That is the tiny and distant dwarf planet Pluto.

Pluto is worthy of a special mention this month, as it will be visited for the very first time by a spaceprobe on the 14th. This is an historic event as it is the last of the major solar system bodies to be visited directly.

Pluto is extremely distant, some 40 times further away from us than the Sun, and is tiny, at only 1,200km in diameter. As such it never looks like more than an extremely faint star which slowly moves from night to night.

The appearance of its surface and other details are totally unknown. This has been true since 1930 when it was discovered, until the 14th July this year when the New Horizons spacecraft is due to pass by at a distance of just 12,500km.

New Horizons was launched in 2006, and, despite travelling at over 14,000 km/h, has taken almost ten years to get to Pluto. The 500kg probe will fly past Pluto on the 14th, taking as many pictures as it can while it zips by and continues outward towards the very edge of our Solar System.

What New Horizons will find on Pluto is a total mystery. All that has been previously seen is a vague range of bright and dark patches. New features will be mapped and named and new knowledge gained about the earliest times in the history of our Solar System.

Pluto lies in the constellation Sagittarius, marked on the map for the month. Take a look towards Sagittarius around the night of the 14th July and you will be looking in the direction of history being made.

The Moon was full on the 3rd July, at last quarter (half) phase on the 9th, new on the 16th and at first quarter (half) phase on the 24th. ■

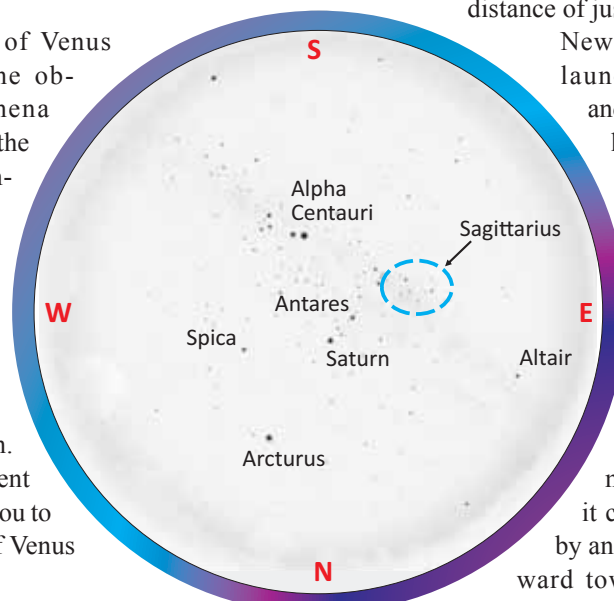


CHART (9PM ON 15 JULY) PRODUCED USING THE STELLARIUM SOFTWARE PACKAGE

— TRAVEL —

50 shades of grey nomad – into France with rain of biblical proportions

Further European adventures with Mavis Davis and the Princess

WE HAD left Italy after another magnificent buffet breakfast. Again, many spare bread rolls and salami slices were secreted away into capacious handbags, to provide a snack later in the day.

A very long day in the bus after leaving Turin and following the coast road, but we were rewarded with very dramatic scenery. Naturally the photos we took through the bus window did not do it justice: magnificent Alps on the right and stunning beach and Monaco on the left, with some very treacherous roads below. France at Last!

A quick stop at Aix-en-Provence. We were amazed at how many youth were hanging around aimlessly and how dirty everything looked after pristine, elegant Turin.

Another two hours of rather flat, farmland scenery until we reached Montpellier. A leisurely walk through Montpellier's lovely main square, Place de Comedie, purportedly the largest square in Europe, noting Montpellier's funky multi-coloured trams and wondered what tomorrow might bring...

Rain! It had been raining heavily all night. Wanting to get the most out of every moment a couple of us decided that a very staid one hour bus trip to see the sites would keep us dry but still satisfy our tourist cravings. The deluge increased and after viewing only a couple of attractions, the bus driver had to abandon the route – influenced by some cars floating away as the waters rose.

Interior waterfalls

The nightmare continued for three hours as the driver tried several routes to get us to the safety of our hotels. Every time the bus braked, a waterfall that had been accumulating in little troughs meant to collect window condensation soaked some poor

British tourists sitting in the front seats for a better view.

The waterfall inside the bus increased, building up to burst out at the back of the bus, again soaking the same British tourists who had fled to the back row for safety. Cars and trucks were abandoned everywhere.

Our heroic bus driver resorted to driving on the wrong side of little side roads if we weren't stuck in traffic jams of epic proportions, working up a sweat in an attempt to get his charges to safety.

At one point a nervous passenger alighted to have a couple of therapeutic cigarettes and got back on no problem as we hadn't moved. Another passenger fled for a mercy dash to the ablution facilities but as we had only moved a few feet was able to get back on the bus of terror.

We crossed the River Lez several times, expecting that the next time we saw it the banks would be broken and Noah's Ark would float by. Eventually our hero dropped us all at the railway station, from which thousands of people spilled as all trains and trams had stopped running long ago.

The Princess and I braved the relatively short walk back to the hotel, bickering about directions, guided by a very soggy map, and arrived soaked through and shivering. No sumptuous meals for us that evening. A stale chicken sandwich and a packet of nuts from a vending machine had to satisfy our hunger as we tried to dry our sodden clothes.

News reports were that 180mm of rain fell in two hours in the Montpellier region. At least that's what I thought they said as it was in French. Either that or 'the pen of my Aunt is on the table'. ■

Bowen Heritage Management

Alister Bowen Archaeologist / Heritage Advisor

I do all types of Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage assessment to comply with the heritage statements often required by Council for Development Applications.

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PALERANG COUNCIL

Development Approvals

Notification in accordance with Section 101 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Council approved the following development applications in **June 2015**

Development Consents are available for public inspection free of charge at Council's offices during ordinary business hours.

| Application No | Development Description | Date | Property Description |
|----------------|--|------------|--|
| DA.2014.018 | Two Lot Subdivision | 01/06/2015 | Lot 3 DP 237898 1183 Bungendore Road BYWONG |
| DA.2014.259 | Operate Dog Boarding Business from Home | 01/06/2015 | Lot 1 DP 874516 2388 Currawang Road CURRAWANG |
| DA.2015.084 | Shed | 05/06/2015 | Lot 8 DP 755901 18 Byrne Lane ARALUEN |
| DA.2015.074 | Dual Occupancy | 05/06/2015 | Lot 261 DP 754915 346 Mathews Lane BUNGENDORE |
| DA.2015.086 | Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling | 05/06/2015 | Lot 3 DP 702249 14 King Street BUNGENDORE |
| DA.2015.049 | Dwelling and Two Sheds | 10/06/2015 | Lot 12 DP 1202236 120 Hawthorne Lane BRAIDWOOD |
| DA.2015.070 | Shed | 11/06/2015 | Lot 1213 DP 1103174 9 Lundie Street BUNGENDORE |
| DA.2015.091 | Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling | 11/06/2015 | Lot 121 DP 1022346 11 Valley Drive ROYALLA |
| DA.2015.029 | Relocatable Dwelling and Carport | 12/06/2015 | Lot 18 Sec 2 DP 976608 40-44 Forster Street BUNGENDORE |
| DA.2015.062 | Dual Occupancy | 12/06/2015 | Lot 10 DP 1089987 385 Foxs Elbow Road WARRI |
| DA.2015.010 | Two Lot Subdivision | 12/06/2015 | Lot 9 DP 247399 92 Finlay Place BURRA |
| DA.2015.106 | Earthworks | 16/06/2015 | Lot 18 DP 255605 177 Widgiewa Road CARWOOLA |
| DA.2014.255 | 3 Lot Subdivision | 16/06/2015 | Lot 2 DP 1071653 & Lot 11 DP 755906 600 Neringla Road NERINGLA |
| DA.2015.063 | Dwelling – Dual Occupancy | 18/06/2015 | Lot 7 DP 882752 80 Hickey Road SUTTON |
| DA.2015.090 | Shed | 18/06/2015 | Lot 5 DP 1002304 9 Rovere Lane BYWONG |
| DA.2015.095 | Garage | 18/06/2015 | Lot 1 DP 1081959 64 Hilltop Road BURRA |
| DA.2014.085 | Shelter, Signs and Viewing Platform | 19/06/2015 | Captains Flat Rail Precinct Captains Flat Railway 1 Captains Flat Road CAPTAINS FLAT |
| DA.2015.099 | Dwelling and Shed | 23/06/2015 | Lot 3 DP 748327 52 Galvins Creek Road ROSSI |
| DA.2015.059 | Dwelling, Shed and Pool | 23/06/2015 | Lot 4 DP 564552 Mount Fairy Road MOUNT FAIRY |
| DA.2015.089 | Shed | 24/06/2015 | Lot 13 DP 629788 82 Gibraltar Street BUNGENDORE |
| DA.2015.073 | Dwelling | 24/06/2015 | Lot 1 DP 1100860 371 Neils Creek Road BUNGENDORE |
| DA.2015.082 | Dwelling | 24/06/2015 | Lot 2 DP 1185949 Captains Flat Road HAROLDS CROSS |

During July
Australian Journeys – Paintings by Doreen Shaw
Bungendore Fine Art, Ellendon St, Bungendore.
Ph 6238 1640 or see www.bungendorefineart.com.au.

Mapping Memories – Tracking Visions – Reclaiming Culture
Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. An Exhibition of Recent Works by North Queensland Indigenous printmakers Glen Mackie, Daniel O’Shane and Paul Bong. For more see www.bungendorewoodworks.com.au.

AXIS Youth Centre Winter Program
Queanbeyan Park. A variety of events and activities. For more see www.qcc.nsw.gov.au/Council-Services/Youth-Services/Axis-Youth-Centres.

The Truffle Festival – Canberra Region
More than 250 individual events, held across a region spanning more than 200km. Events range from gourmet degustation dinners, truffle dishes at cafes, pastries, cooking classes and demonstrations, wine tastings and matchings, farmers markets, truffle hunts and more. For more see trufflefestival.com.au.

Until Wednesday 22 CLAY 2620
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. An exhibition by ceramic artists who are current or former residents of Queanbeyan. Artists Floor talk and Q & A Thursday 16 July, 11am. For more ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.

Until Friday 31
Queanbeyan City Council is seeking **Expressions of Interests from artists** to undertake a cultural and community development project working with local young people and older children to design and apply an artwork to a rail carriage in Henderson Road Reserve. For more see www.qcc.nsw.gov.au/search.aspx?ModuleID=13&keywords=Party%20Train%20Project&multiSite=False.

Thursday 9 School Holiday Bungendore Express
Queanbeyan Railway Station. Be fascinated by the wide range of country scenery the train travels through en route to Bungendore. For more ph 6284 2790, email federalcityexpress@gmail.com or see www.arhsact.org.au.

Friday 10 and Saturday 11 Shortis & Simpson – A Strong Constitution
National Archives of Australia. Proving that the Australian Constitution can be fun! For bookings ph 6212 3600.

What’s On – July 2015

Send announcements to whatson@districtbulletin.com.au

Wednesday 15 Business Management 101
Southern Region Business Enterprise Centre, Farrer Pl, Queanbeyan, 9.30–12.30pm. Presented by Peter Gordon, this information packed workshop is just the ticket for those starting out as well as established businesses. For more ph 6297 3121 or see <http://srbec.com.au>.

L – Mirramu Dance Company
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. This year ADT celebrates 50 years of ongoing innovation and excellence under successive directors. For more ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.

Saturday 18 Colours to Dye For – Dyeing Alpaca Fleece
Alpaca Magic, Sutton Road, 10–1pm. Learn to spin fleece using the Roberta Spinner. For more see www.alpacamagic.com.au.

Sunday 19 The Stockman – Bungendore Market Day Train
Queanbeyan Railway Station. Take a trip back in time, taking in the sights, sound and smells of one of the beautifully restored heritage steam locomotives. For more ph 6284 2790, email federalcityexpress@gmail.com or see www.arhsact.org.au.

Monday 20 New Queanbeyan bus interchange opening
Morisset St, Queanbeyan. The new interchange will be opened and begin operations. For more see www.qcitytransit.com.au/.

25th Anniversary Queanbeyan Children Special Needs Group
The Tree House, Queanbeyan Park, 4–5pm. Come and celebrate this milestone with the Group with an afternoon tea. Please RSVP on 6299 7271.

Saturday 25 Jumble Sale
Queanbeyan Uniting Church, 9–12pm. Funds raised help us in our mission to support those in need in our community.

Le Tres Bon Cooking Class & Lunch
Le Tres Bon Restaurant, Bungendore. Truffle season cooking class and lunch. For more see <https://letresbon.com.au>.

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 One-Off Monster Charity Bookfair
Bicentennial Hall, Crawford Street, Queanbeyan, 10–4pm. By popular demand, clearing a large volume of book donations – thousands of fiction and non-fiction books in top condition, including current releases. Also

GIG GUIDE: July

First Friday of the month: Music and Poetry
Royal Hotel, Bungendore, 7.30pm.

Saturday 11 Double Denim Dolphin Disco: 7.30pm, Royal Hotel, Bungendore.

Saturday 18 Dan Murphy: 9pm–12am, Loaded Dog, Tarago.

Friday 24 Sami: from 9pm, Lake George Hotel, Bungendore.

James Southwell: Iron Bar, Goolabri. See ad below.

includes a huge collection of vinyl records, CDs and videos.

Sunday 26 National Tree Day
Bicentennial carpark, Crest Parade, Queanbeyan, 9.30 am. Join Queanbeyan City Council and Queanbeyan Landcare to celebrate. Free BBQ lunch provided. For more www.qcc.nsw.gov.au.

Capital Country Cavy Club – Guinea Pig Show
Erin Stm Queanbeyan, 10–2pm. 10 Fun categories/ classes and even Fancy Dress categories! Heaps of prizes to be won. Colouring-in competition and loads of information on keeping healthy happy Guinea Pigs. For more see www.capitalcountrycavyclub.org/.

Women’s Golf Guest Day
Queanbeyan Golf Course. For more see www.queanbeyangolf.com.au.

Annual Christmas in July Markets
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan, 11–3pm. Market stalls aplenty, fantastic performances by fantastic local musicians, and tasty Christmas fare. Ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.

Wednesday 29 Community Resilience Program
Karabar High School, Queanbeyan, from 5.30pm. This program teaches Positive Education in schools and offers support in building a culture of resilience. To book see <http://bit.ly/1PRF0rG>.

Grease
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Dust off your leather jackets, pull on your bobby-socks and take a trip to a simpler time as ‘bad boy’ Danny and ‘the girl next door’ Sandy fall in love all over again. Be there or be square! Until August 15. Ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.

LOCAL MARKETS:

1st and 3rd Saturday of every month Braidwood Farmer’s Markets
National Theatre in the main street of Braidwood, from 8am–12.30pm. www.braidwoodfarmersmarket.org.au.

Every Saturday Capital Region Farmers Market
EPIC grounds, Mitchell, 8–11am. A genuine farmers market offering a diverse range of fresh seasonal food straight from the producer to the consumer and an opportunity to discuss with growers. www.capitalregionfarmersmarket.com.au

1st Saturday of every month (except January) The Captains Flat Country Markets
Community Hall, Foxlow St, Captains Flat, 10–2pm. Handmade items, craft, jams, pickles, gourmet doggy treats, preloved goods, cakes, biscuits, plants and much more! Stalls \$12. Call either 0438 600 447 or 0407 661 834 or email markets@captainsflat.org.

2nd and 4th Saturday of every month Southern Harvest Farmers Market
Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9–1pm, (opposite Food Lovers Market).

2nd Sunday of the month (except Jan) Queanbeyan Cottage Markets
Queanbeyan River, on the corner of Morrisett and Collett Streets, 9–2pm. Craft, timber products, pottery, leatherwork, jewellery, toys, honey, jams, chutney, cakes, plants, food and refreshments. Call Kristen 6299 0219.


3rd Saturday of every month (except July/August) Wamboin Produce Market
Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin, 9–12 noon. Fresh produce including cheese, eggs, honey, vegetables, nuts, seeds and plants.

3rd Sunday every month Bungendore Markets
War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9–2pm. Art, craft and local produce.

Windy Hall Country Markets
Windellama Hall, 10–2pm, craft goods, Devonshire tea, deli delights and more. For more contact Bob Shaw on 4844 5001.

4th Saturday of every month Braidwood Markets
Ryrie Park, Wallace St, Braidwood, 8am. Local crafts and cooking, plant and natural products. Call Geraldine 4847 5061.

More on regional and local events and local tourist attractions:
www.bungendore.com.au
www.visitqueanbeyan.com.au
www.visitbraidwood.com.au



IRON BAR Friday 24TH JULY

IRON

JAMES SOUTHWELL

James Southwell commands the stage like few others, with powering riffs and vocals that bite. He is truly world class and would not be out of place on any stage. James is not afraid to push his music past all previously existing boundaries and well past what most musicians consider the limits of what is safe. His music comes from a deep love of the blues with heavy inspirational rock & roll influences. He will capture your attention and you will be totally engrossed as he projects himself off the stage and through you with his music.

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