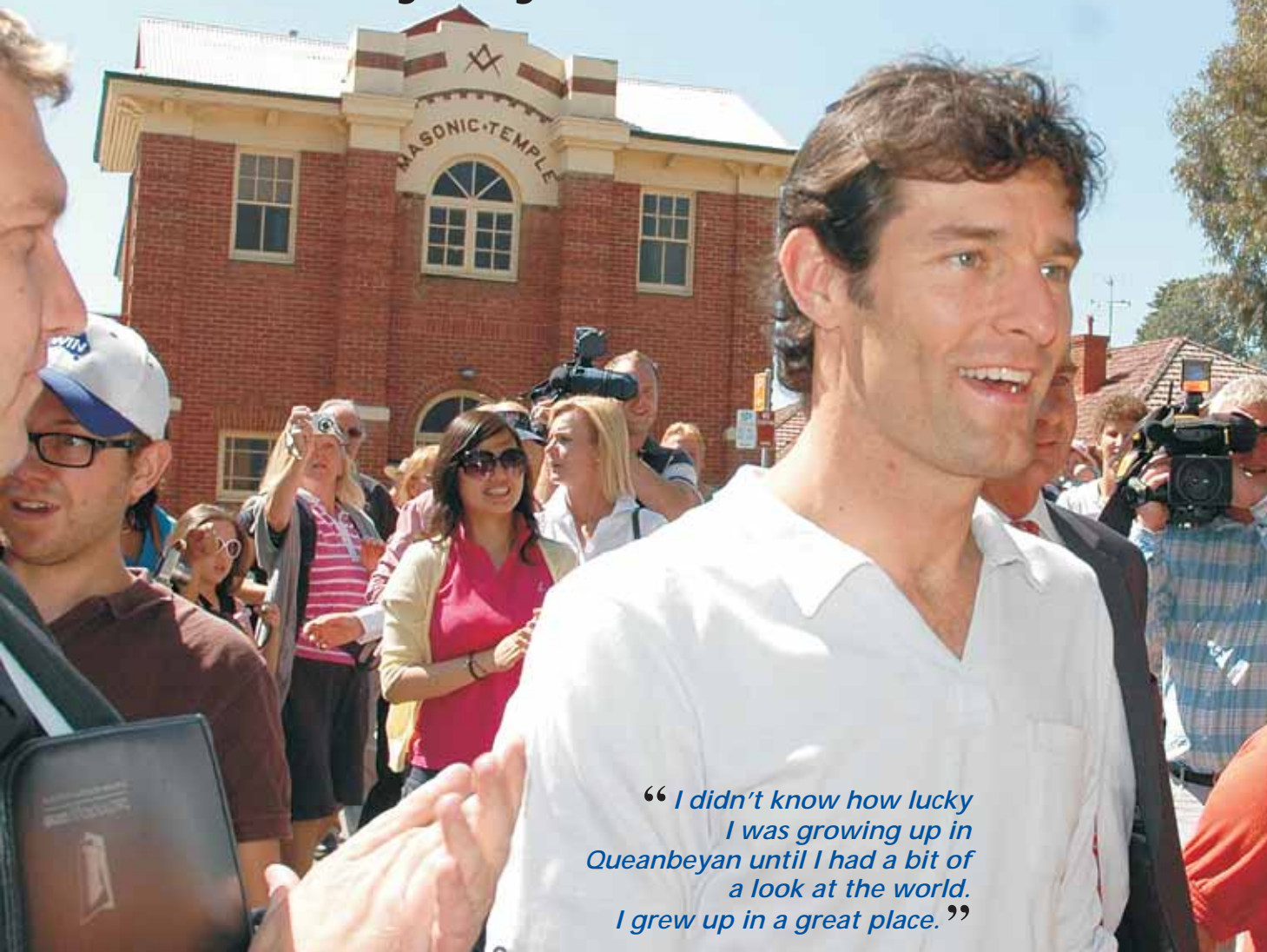


Bulletin

Published monthly for Palerang and Queanbeyan region including: Bungendore, Braidwood, Burra, Bywong, Captains Flat, Carwoola, Greenleigh, Gundaroo, Hoskinstown, Majors Creek, Mongarlowe, Queanbeyan plazas, The Ridgeway, Royalla, Sutton, Tarago, and Wamboin

Mark Webber – country boy with a dream by Nichole Smith



“I didn’t know how lucky I was growing up in Queanbeyan until I had a bit of a look at the world. I grew up in a great place.”

FOLLOWING AN IMPRESSIVE and much-celebrated 2009 season, Australia’s only current Formula One driver, Mark Webber, has suddenly become a household name.

However, in his hometown of Queanbeyan, where he made a stopover in March on his way to the Melbourne Grand Prix, most have long been aware of the journey he has undertaken and the full extent of what he has achieved, and none more so than his family and closest friends.

After eight seasons, 139 starts and six podium finishes, Webber had his first ever F1

wins, taking out the German Grand Prix in July followed up with the Brazilian Grand Prix in October and finishing the year in a career-best fourth-place overall in the prestigious international competition.

Although he’s had a disappointing start for the 2010 season in Bahrain and now at the Melbourne Grand Prix, Webber is still considered a hot favourite with a serious chance of becoming the first Australian World Champion since Alan Jones attained the title in 1980 and only the third Australian ever to do so.

His father Alan, who regularly travels the world to watch his son compete and who was present for the maiden win in Germany, said that while success in 2009 proved what Webber is capable of, it only reinforced what his supporters have known all along.

“It was just terrific,” Alan commented. “At the time it felt like it was the best day of my life – but of course I have been married, and had two children and now am a grandparent, so I would certainly say it was equal to all of that.”

Continued p6

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Landscape the garden with daisies **p5**

No such thing as a modern dinosaur!

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WIN FAMILY PASSES details... **p7**



Canberra Airport vision: lotsa planes and trucks (but no trains) **p8**

Life in an arts dynasty: a chat with Lucinda Boyd **p9**

Latest from CSIRO and Met Bureau: Oz climate changing **p10**

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Front cover: Queanbeyan honoured local sporting hero Mark Webber with a street parade and civic reception in late March.
Photo: Trudy Taylor

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FEED-IN TARIFF Making pay while the sun shines

by Paul Cockram

WHO WOULD have thought that saving the planet would be so difficult? I'm writing this story as quickly as I can and submitting it at the last minute to give it the greatest chance of still being current by the time you read it.

In May last year, after reading a story about Pyramid Power in our local paper, I organised a meeting at the National Theatre in Braidwood to hear what Pyramid had to offer with their solar bulk buy scheme.

As a result of that presentation, around twenty-six households in and around Braidwood signed on to have grid-connected solar panels installed on the roof.

The Federal Government's solar subsidy at that stage was \$8,000 and it made the cost of a 1kW system around \$1,500, which is very reasonable. A 1kW system will make about 5 or 6kW hours per day on a nice sunny day.

You can see on your own electricity bill how many kilowatt-hours per day you currently use to get some idea of how useful a system like this would be in your particular circumstances.

In fact, the solar scheme was so popular, 'overheating' was the way Peter Garrett described it when he closed down the scheme a few weeks earlier than the advertised deadline of 30 June, it threw the application process into chaos. We were lucky that Pyramid Power was able to call on the services of a team of dedicated workers who slaved all night on the day that the scheme was ended to ensure that all applications were processed in time.

When we first signed on for our solar panels, the New South Wales Government had not yet decided whether to offer a net or a gross feed-in tariff. We were delighted to learn, later in the year, that Premier Nathan Rees had decided that New South Wales would have a gross feed-in tariff.

It has since transpired that the whole idea was probably cobbled together on the back of a table napkin after a particularly good night out. It certainly caught Country Energy and the other electricity utilities completely by surprise.

Current state-of-play and June 30 deadline

Okay, so what we have now is this: if you have a solar grid-connected array on your roof, you can be paid for all the electricity your panels produce regardless of how much you use. As well, the rate paid for this electricity is 60¢ per kilowatt hour, which is nearly four times what you pay for it. To measure your production, ignoring what you use, it is necessary to install a separate meter, called a gross meter, which is supplied free of charge



by Country Energy but needs to be installed by an accredited service provider at the customer's cost.

Because Country Energy was caught on the hop by Nathan Rees's sudden announcement and enacted legislation, there has been some delay in getting the gross meters. There is a transitional scheme whereby any customer who has a working feed-to-grid solar array running through their existing net meter will be paid the 60¢ per kilowatt hour, measured in 15 minute blocks, for all electricity produced in excess of what is being consumed.

There is, however, a deadline for this offer of 30 June 2010 and any customer who has not had their gross meter installed by this time will not be paid the higher tariff until the gross meter is installed.

The current grid connection legislation also requires that the scheme be reviewed when the total installed capacity reaches 50 megawatts or in 2013, whichever comes first. With 5,700 customers already installed or approved, the 50MW should come quite soon. The legislation is not clear about whether the 60¢ tariff is for the seven-year life of the scheme or whether this figure could be changed at the first review.

Electricity utilities won't lose profits with solar energy payments to customers

Another little sting in the tail is the legislative provision that the electricity providers, who must pay the higher gross feed-in tariff, are able to recoup this cost by bumping up the price of electricity to all consumers. The

fact that our electricity utilities are indemnified from any loss of profits by the introduction of alternative energy fed into the grid, shows how far we have yet to go in formulating a sensible future energy policy in this country.

Anyway, if you have solar panels on your roof that feed to the grid, find yourself an accredited service provider to order a gross meter on your behalf, get a quote for the installation, then sit back and make pay while the sun shines.

Despite good intentions, rules still protect the status quo

– Comment –

COMPLEX RULES FAVOUR STATUS QUO

If we want to make a sustainable future by moving towards alternative and renewable energy, it seems a pity that every move we make in this direction is thwarted by niggling regulations that appear to have no other purpose than to protect the status quo.

Rather than taking out advertisements in the media championing the benefits of 'home-grown' solar power, both the federal and state governments make it difficult with complex, sometimes contradictory, regulations with lashings of arbitrary deadlines on the side.

Continued p7

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ABOUT 20 years ago, I produced a documentary on the woodchipping of the South East forests and the ongoing threats to remaining koala habitat and also documented in newspaper accounts NSW State Forests’ attempts to deny the exist-ence of endangered regional populations of koalas in these forests.

What has changed? Some escarpment national parks were created in the mid-1990s with the strong support of former Premier Bob Carr. But for the koala, hanging onto a handkerchief-size remnant of prime coastal habitat in State forest currently threatened by roads, chainsaws and fire for a woodchipping operation, apparently precious little changed.

Wood-chipping old growth forest for a net dollar loss to the people of NSW – who must pay for roadworks and other infrastructure required by the industry – is still a form of State welfare for some rural communities supported by the powerful mining and forestry union – which can make it difficult for Labor politicians to object.

At the close of the festival celebrating Lake George/Weereewa a couple of weeks ago, festival patron and federal Treasury Secretary Ken Henry spoke of his concerns about persistent attitudes to Australian land management. Hundreds of

plant and animal species are listed as endangered in this county, and Australia has the unenviable track record of presiding over the largest rate of mammal extinction of any country in the past 200 years.

Dr Henry said the evidence points to policy concern about a species only when it is too late. So we have the unedifying spectacle of concerns in the ACT about endangered lizards and sun moths on native grassland (reduced to a fragment by human activities), leading officials to a convenient scapegoat, the kangaroo, with new plans for killing them announced at the end of March. (*Meanwhile airport expansion, see our story p8, will again threaten the remaining ACT grasslands.*)

That other furry icon of Australia’s national image, the koala, has been the victim of wholesale eradication since the mid 1800s on our beloved South Coast. The same is true of less iconic tree-dwelling mammals, as well as some birds and understorey species like the Long-footed Potoroo.

“The last tiny colony of koalas on the South Coast live in Mumbulla and Murrah State Forest. There are only 30 to 50 of them left in the whole South East region. Once there were 100,000 koalas in the nearby Bega

Valley but all this habitat was cleared for farming, dairying and timber last century. Most of the koalas were shot or trapped for a short-lived fur trade.

“Koalas are now barely hanging on in the South East forests but their last haven, Mumbulla State Forest and the adjoining Murrah, are next on the woodchipping block. Logging commenced on March 29 at compartment 2135 on Mumbulla Trig and Clarkes Road, the most westerly of two compartments due to be logged. The road has been closed and entry has been prohibited.” (*From a news release by the coalition of conservation groups battling the forestry operation.*)

As we go to press following the Easter break, there is a glimmer that sanity will prevail at the official level with the recognition that conserving the forests (with their ability to store carbon as just one benefit), and protecting the koalas and other resident species must be seen as far more valuable to our nation than the short-term gains of extracting a few tonnes of low-value woodchips. If not, it will be a national disgrace.

— Maria Taylor

Some Palerang Councillors have taken the controversial position that a local environment plan (LEP) does not need to establish specific local rules and conditions, and local environmental limitations and safeguards. This thinking runs counter to the self-interest of developers and residents, as consultant town planner Viv Straw explains.

Local Environmental Plan (LEP) What do developers want?

THE PURPOSE of the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) is a planning framework to provide the following basic principles: certainty about outcomes; clarity about the rules; accuracy about maps and interpretation; and, guidelines in regard to permitted development types.

The term ‘developer’ is not always a dirty word. Developers cover a great proportion of the community and can be property investors, homeowners, farmers, landowners and residents just like you and me. As developers, people assess risk and invest according to the level of return they are likely to get. In turn, the return on land is based on protection of amenity. The LEP is the place they look for the ground rules.

Village amenity includes the social, heritage, natural (trees), and cultural aspects that make a village a desirable place to live. A small town or village needs to be sure that it can protect recreation areas, schools and other services from unregulated development and maintain its unique character as well as a balanced vision for future growth with schools and supporting services. A village needs clarity around what is allowed and what is not, especially in a tight community setting.

In rural residential areas amenity can be as simple as protecting the ridgeline against development that protrudes through vistas. This can become very important in a tightly developed rural residential area. It may also include keeping tracts of natural bush, grasslands and vegetation with appropriate development including height limits and land clearing restrictions.

Assets such as greenways should be identified and zoned accordingly, not just blanketed with the surrounding zoning. An LEP is the

document to provide protection zones along ridges and waterways, around the edges of agricultural areas and provide overlays that give guidance in regard to future agricultural or light industrial development adjacent to people’s homes.

Local plans expected to go beyond state template

The current Palerang LEP process follows the New South Wales planning template which gives blanket guidelines to councils about what they can and can’t include in planning documentation. It is easy for councils to hide behind these guidelines as if they cannot go beyond certain so-called ‘prescribed’ requirements.

The first responsibility of a local council in developing its plan is to push these boundaries, include things that will protect the amenity and investment value of all of its residents and their natural assets. Each Council has unique features, topographical and ecological, cultural or social that should be recognised in the LEP. These features must be described and protected in the LEP to a level of detail that sets a clear definition at a local level.

Local environmental plans earmark new areas for development and clearly identify what surrounding land uses are permissible or prohibited. Most Land and Environment Court battles and contentious development come from ambiguous and conflicting zone information that were not well thought out in the LEP development. These are expensive for the whole community.

If there are clear and certain rules the whole community benefits from a known outcome.

CLIMATE CHANGE, POPULATION AND ACTION a ‘spiritual’ viewpoint

by Catherine Moore

On Friday 12 March I attended Spiritual-ity in the Pub in Braidwood, on the topic of climate change. There were two speakers: George Browning – former Anglican bishop of Canberra and Goulburn, and Tony Kevin – engineer, economist, diplomat and author, whose latest book is entitled Crunch time. They both gave riveting presentations, and some of my notes and observations follow.

DENIALISM, which seems to be growing in strength at the same rate as climate science becomes more definite, often tries to discredit the latter by claiming the science is based on models which cannot be relied upon, whereas in fact, climate science is based on data and paleo-climatology. The overwhelming body of evidence now supports climate science, and there isn’t an equal body that doesn’t. While climate sceptics often quote (geologist) Ian

Plimer as an authority on climate change, it is worth noting that he is the director of at least three mining companies.

both speakers supported a carbon tax

A genuine commitment to decarbonisation means that we have to put aside all our opposition to windfarms and hydropower because of scenic reasons. James Hansen, one of the most, if not the most highly regarded climate scientist in the world, and author of the recent book *Storms of my grandchildren*, says that if we are to have any hope of minimising our impact, our priorities must be to stop burning coal, and not open any more coal mines, even if we have to use civil disobedience to do it. What a long way behind we are in Australia, with government support for new coal mines not dwindling but gaining in momentum...

Continued p15

PALERANG COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

Council will hold an Extraordinary Meeting at the Bungendore Chambers, 10 Majara Street, on Thursday 8 April 2010 from 10.00am

Items of business on the agenda for the Extraordinary Meeting are as follows:

1. Opening
2. Apologies
3. Disclosures of Pecuniary or Conflict of Interest
4. Items for Determination
 - 4.1 Working draft Palerang Local Environmental Plan 2010
5. Closure.

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Deadline for contributions and advertising commitment:
20 April 2010
Website: www.palerangbulletin.com.au

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Published monthly by: The Bungendore Bulletin Pty Ltd ISSN 1035-1299



This is the location for a recent large-scale development plan sensibly rejected by the NSW Land and Environment Court.

A few years ago Council engaged a consultant to prepare a study of our floodplain hydrology – how and where the waters move during a flood. It was adopted by Council in March 2005 and may now be obsolete.

The three local creeks (Turallo Creek, Millpost Creek and Halfway Creek) all flood from time to time. Water ‘backs up’ where the creeks join or in narrow places, causing flooding upstream. Typically the water rises quickly, and falls within a few hours. The waters are known to be quite treacherous with a number of drownings being recorded.

These days the creeks are checked by levy banks: north of Turallo Terrace (albeit old fashioned and needing repairs), and the low areas north of the Elmslea Ponds (Bungendore North). They are filled with earth and built up to the one hundred year level.

The new railway bridge has a large opening so the water shouldn’t back up as much as it used to (during a big flood it used to go over the railway line). Also the new road bridge on Tarago Road would be less of a barrier to large volumes of water, so less water backing up. Importantly it would also mean water would probably flow more quickly through the Common.

Still flood prone

The most flood-prone places nowadays include Frog Hollow, as well as the area adjacent to the intersection of Molonglo Street and Turallo Terrace. The area around Mecca Lane and towards the railway bridge could get pretty wet too. Copies of the study include inundation maps which may be of some interest. The study used to be available from Council, but I’m happy to share my old papers with anyone that’s interested.

Engineering solutions for Bungendore would include modernising, repairing and raising the existing levy bank; extending the levy bank to certain areas; and creating bypass channels to divert peak water flows. Of course all of these measures would be expensive.



1



2



3



4



5

Landscaping with native daisies

(*Vittadinia*, *Leucochrysum* and *Calotis* for those in the know)

MANY OF the smaller native daisy species have a long flowering period, often with several flushes of flowers. They come in a range of colours, and a pleasing landscape can be developed from growing only daisies.

In addition to their aesthetic value, daisies are a favoured food source of parrots. Sulphur-crested cockatoos, crimson rosellas and galahs spend considerable time feeding on the abundant seed produced by some of these little plants.

There are several species of small daisies that grow naturally in the local area, and, because they seem to be more drought tolerant than some other plants, they have proliferated during the recent run of dry years.

One of these, Fuzzweed (*Vittadinia muelleri*, photo 1), gets its name from the prominent and dense clusters of fluffy seedheads. At my place, this species has taken over some of the drier north-facing slopes. It is a neat little plant that grows to only about 15cm and has dainty, three-pronged leaves and a good covering of tiny pale blue flowers.

Two other species in the same genus, *V. gracilis* and *V. cuneata*, also grow locally but are slightly taller and more upright and their flowers are usually a deeper blue or, very occasionally, pink.

Hoary Sunray anyone?

Leucochrysum albicans (Hoary Sunray, photo 2) seems to prefer slightly moister but well-drained soils. This daisy can be seen in several localities around the shire, growing in often dense patches by roadsides – they seem to be intolerant of grazing, so have disappeared from nearby paddocks where they may have previously grown.

There are two distinct colour forms, one with yellow-centred white flowers (sometimes with dark pink buds), and, on the Bungendore–Tarago Road and the Kings Highway between Bungendore and Braidwood, a golden yellow form. They bear a lot of viable seed, and the few planted on my place a few years ago have now increased into several sizeable populations.

Beautiful Burr-daisies

The Yellow Burr-daisy, (*Calotis lappulacea*, photo 3), must be about the toughest of the local daisies, often growing on sites that not much else would tolerate. The first one I planted died, but not before it had shed its seed. Seedlings came up (and thrived) in the cracks of nearby pavers. As mature plants, they shed their own seed, and I haven’t been without them since.

This neat little daisy grows to about 15cm, and its masses of tiny yellow flowers are borne on longish stems above the small bright green leaves. They will grow in compacted, bare soil, but also thrive in better soils.

Another local *Calotis* is *C. scabiosifolia* var. *integrifolia*, a ground-covering plant that spreads by suckering. This one prefers moister, heavy soils and grows usually in partially shaded woodland areas. The flowers are pale to dark blue and the leaves a dark, glossy green.

C. glandulosa (photo 4), which usually grows in fairly heavy but well-drained soils in open grasslands, is another beautiful Burr-daisy. The soft green foliage alone makes this plant attractive, but it is even more so when the flowers appear. These are mostly in shades of blue, but pink and white flowers are common.

Daisies spreading their seed and feeding the local parrots

Vittadinia and *Leucochrysum* seeds are spread by the wind, as they are topped by a circle of long dainty hairs called a pappus.

Calotis are known as Burr-daisies for a very good reason. There are rigid, barbed awns on their seeds which tend to persist as a whole seedhead until the stem dries out. The seedhead then drops to the ground, or, probably more often, is transported to a new site entangled in the fur or feathers of wildlife.

These are just a few of the local daisies that are well worth growing, both for visual effect and as a food source for the local parrots (photo 5).

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Classic start in a go-kart

In a career that has so far spanned from a beginning in a go-kart at age 14 to becoming the first Australian in almost 30 years to win a Grand Prix, Mark says he has been overwhelmed with the world-wide recognition of his accomplishments. Perhaps closest to his heart though, was the recent street parade and civic reception held in honour of the 33-year-old in the town where he grew up and with which he still has a strong affinity.

"I didn't know how lucky I was growing up in Queanbeyan until I had a bit of a look at the world. It's where the best memories are. I grew up in a great place."

Organised by Queanbeyan City Council during a whirlwind stop between the Bahrain Grand Prix on 14 March and the Melbourne Grand Prix on 26 March, the civic reception was attended by over 300 guests including childhood friend and former player and now coach of the Raiders, David Furner.

Queanbeyan Mayor Tim Overall said: "Mark is a tremendous ambassador for our country and our city. His story is one of determination, perseverance and commitment, and there is much to admire in what he has achieved. The civic reception was a way in which his hometown could show its recognition of these accomplishments."

Help on the rocky road to the top

Webber is the first to admit he has not done it on his own and is always quick to acknowledge his partner and manager Ann Neal, his family and the many friends and fans who have supported him throughout his career in one of the most challenging, physically demanding and expensive sports in the world.

"I have always had the full support of my family and loved ones and I wouldn't be where I am today without Annie."

Ann, who first met Mark when he was competing in the Australian Formula Ford Championship and helped him secure a much-needed

THE WOMEN IN MARK'S LIFE



Mother Diane Webber and partner Ann Neal are in the front row of supporters who have cheered and contributed to Mark Webber's 'against all odds' rise from a community start in Queanbeyan to world ranking in Formula One racing. Photos: Trudy Taylor

sponsorship before going on to become his manager, says that maintaining the division between personal and professional is sometimes hard.

"It can be stressful but it's just a matter of getting in there and doing what needs to be done. The race starts are usually the worst but after the first lap I settle down a bit."

She reflects the fact that the trip to the top has been far from easy and Mark has overcome considerable adversity in pursuing his love of motorsport. A potentially career-ending injury, spectacular car crashes, machine malfunctions, lack of money and interest from sponsors, he's faced it all. At six foot two inches tall, he's even been criticised for being too big for the elite sport.

"It was a long, tough road and at one point we had nothing left," he comments. "We didn't know where to turn for help, but we weren't about to give up."

The move to England in an attempt to break into the European circuit proved particularly difficult. While winning races and gaining attention, a lack of financial backing and mounting costs almost ended the dream. In the end, another famous fellow Queanbeyanite came to Webber's aid.



Dave Campese pitches in...

David Campese, arguably one of the best rugby union players Australia has ever produced, immediately offered financial assistance and within two years Webber was well on his way, completing successful seasons with Mercedes in Formula Three before finishing fifth in his Formula One debut in Melbourne in 2002.

In the process, Webber earned a reputation for achieving success based on his skill rather than the commercial considerations of sponsors and suppliers.

"We didn't have a lot compared to what some of the guys start out with and so what Mark has achieved has been through his own hard work and sheer determination," says his father. "There have also been times where things did go our way such as the tremendous Queanbeyan camaraderie that Campo showed in pitching in to help."

All involved also realise the battle is far from over as Webber passionately wants to stand on the podium as World Champion. To achieve this goal he must earn the most points over the 19 races scheduled for the 2010 season – and just as he did when he predicted early in 2009 that he could win perhaps more than one race in that season, he is confident in his abilities.

"If you had told me I would drive in more Grand Prix races than any other Australian I would not have believed it. If something is worth doing though, it's probably not going to be easy. I know I can do it." The true-believers readily point out that for them this has never been in doubt.

Issues with his car in Bahrain saw him come in eighth for the opener of the season and then in the much anticipated Melbourne race, two minor clashes with McLaren driver Lewis Hamilton caused his car leave the track, resulting in a ninth place finish. With another 17 races to go in the exceptionally hectic F1 schedule, there is certainly still time for him to make amends.

The true-believers readily point out that for them Webber's capacity to achieve the ultimate victory has never been in doubt.

"We've been saying it for years – he can do it and it couldn't happen to a nicer fellow," says Carol Hughes, a close family friend and long-time supporter who was in Melbourne to watch the race.

As one of the older drivers currently in the competition, there is some speculation that should Webber win the title of World Champion this year, he may well hang up his helmet and go out on top. Whatever happens, no one can doubt Mark Webber has more than shown them what a boy from a country town with a dream can do.



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Business taglines that sell

by Lydia Teo

AN EFFECTIVE business tagline is a constant source of premium advertising that will reinforce your brand while generating sales. So, what is a tagline?

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The Palerang Bulletin: the only local publication to distribute to mailboxes in both Bungendore & Braidwood and throughout the district – reaching some 17,000 readers in Palerang and Queanbeyan.

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Queanbeyan rate increase KEEPING THE ROADS FROM CRUMBLING and sporting fields tip top

by Maria Taylor

THE QUESTION of how to keep town and rural-residential infrastructure maintained and renewed is behind Queanbeyan Council's first-ever bid for a special rate variation which has gone to the NSW Minister for Local Government.

Councillors voted 9-1 at their March 24 meeting to proceed with the request for a 5.8% rate increase above the standard 'rate-pegged' increase allowed by the NSW government.

Council went through an extensive community consultation with a slim majority of residents and ratepayers backing the proposed rate increase. Queanbeyan Mayor Tim Overall conceded that it has been a difficult decision, but said that Council received a report at the end of October 2009 detailing the maintenance needs of the city's roads, footpaths, parks and sports fields.

"This highlighted that Council historically had allocated insufficient funds to adequately

maintain these assets and that little was being done to fund their ultimate replacement once they reached the end of their economic life."

Palerang, other councils, in same boat

The situation is not unique to Queanbeyan. It faces Palerang, Yass, Goulburn and every other local government in NSW as Councils develop required asset-management plan in the next three years. "Every council in NSW is struggling with this same situation due to the impact of 33 years of rate-pegging. NSW has reached a critical tipping point in respect of asset maintenance and renewal. The alarm bells have been ringing for many years now."

Local governments argue that rate-pegging in NSW has kept Council rate revenues far lower than the increase in costs for building and road-making or maintenance. Rate-pegging refers to the Minister for Local Government's ability to set a maximum percentage that annual rates can increase. The fact that rates are not keeping up with costs will continue as long as the main burden for infrastructure funding remains with local ratepayers.

Queanbeyan's special 5.8% increase is expected to raise an extra \$1 million annually for Council's works program expenditures in the next five years. That money will go toward a program the Council is calling CityCARE and it refers to the maintenance and upgrading of roads, footpaths, parks and sports fields.

"An additional \$1.8 million per year is needed just to maintain the present condition of our 265km road network. The city's footpaths have over 6,000 defects of which 3,991 require prompt repair costing \$1.12 million. An additional \$200,000 per year is needed to adequately maintain the 147km footpath network.

"An additional \$55,000 per year is needed to adequately maintain the existing facilities with the 362 hectares of our parks and sports fields." This and much background can be found in a user-friendly Council question and answer (Q&A) publication (available from www.qcc.nsw.gov.au - go to Council's Homepage, click on Current Projects in the Latest News box then click on CityCARE and then Q&A).

If approved by the Minister for Local Government, the 5.8% will be in addition to the 2.6% rate-pegged increase for the 2010-11 financial year. This will increase the Council's general income by \$1.02 million for 2010-11.

The 5.8% equates to an average increase of \$51.63 per year for residential rates. Councillors decided that pensioners will not be unfairly burdened and will introduce an additional rebate (on top of the NSW rebate) for pensioners at a maximum of \$40 per year for those who are eligible to receive the NSW Pensioner Rebate.



Pet a dinosaur this school holidays BE IN THE DRAW FOR FREE FAMILY PASSES!

Erth's Dinosaur Petting Zoo hosted by 'The Q' will be at the Queanbeyan Conference Centre with performances from Tuesday 13 April to Thursday 15. Here's what other people have said:

"The most impressive 'puppet' show we have ever seen! I took my 5-year-old son and a friend's 10-year-old daughter and we were all transfixed."

"Groundbreaking live theatre."

For more info on times and for booking visit www.theq.net.au or call the box office at 6298 0290.

THE BULLETIN WILL BE GIVING AWAY TWO FREE FAMILY PASSES FOR THE SHOW ON THE 13TH APRIL AT 11AM! BE IN THE DRAW!

Send the *Bulletin* the names of two dinosaurs or attach a child's drawing of a dino, either way with your names and contact details to media@palerangbulletin.com.au. The lucky winners will be drawn on **Sunday 11 April**. We will also publish the best drawings.

Pssst: we've heard a rumour that a Dinosaur will be doing a walk through the streets of Queanbeyan and into Riverside Plaza on Monday 12 April at 3.30pm.

FEED-IN TARIFF

Cont'd from 3

There is no doubt that the price of electricity is going to rise and keep on rising. There is no way a country like Australia can reduce its carbon emissions without putting a higher price on electricity, the main source of our emissions and the energy sector that most obviously needs to change its ways. (We might add that the largest part of the promised electricity price hike coming up is for infrastructure renewal of existing but ageing power plants, not for a price on carbon which shows little sign of coming into play in the near future with the current political stalemate - Ed.)

No excuse can be made for any new house to be built from now on without solar panels on its roof to at least cover its own energy usage. This is especially true for houses with air-conditioning. With even a modest house costing several hundred thousand dollars to build, another \$10,000 for a properly aspected solar array on the roof will make a worthwhile

investment for the homeowner and the community at large.

If we are fair dinkum about our future and leaving a planet for our children that is worth living on, we need to stop making unforced errors. Whether the changes we need to make come gradually by evolution, or suddenly by revolution, is surely determined by how soon we get on with it.

- Paul Cockram is a Palerang Councillor and Independent candidate for Monaro

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Tanya Nadin (nee Hannaford) will continue to be available for casual appointments on Tuesday afternoons and, by appointment, on Tuesday evenings.

Ian Marjason is available for casual appointments on Friday afternoons.

Both Ian and Tanya may be available at other times by appointment or alternatively both are available Monday to Friday in the Queanbeyan office.

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Airport vision: 315 flights per day, freight traffic roll over native dragons

by Judith Turley

CANBERRA AIRPORT has been transformed over the past 10 years. Since it left public hands it has become not just a place where aircraft take off and land, but a centre of commerce and a business park. Investors have spent \$600 million on this transformation, involving some 8,000 jobs.

Roads have been totally rebuilt for the huge volume of traffic attracted to the site. The removal of swathes of trees and increased traffic and noise are threatening to destroy what used to be one of Canberra's treasures, Pialligo. The lives of Pialligo's residents have changed forever and some will decide to move; as they sell their properties the character of that special part of Canberra is set to change as well.

A national/international airfreight hub is part of the Airport Master Plan, approved in August 2009 by Federal Minister for Transport Anthony Albanese. Therefore, as well as a sharp increase in passenger flights the airport will be looking to attract freight aircraft and this in turn will increase freight traffic on Canberra and regional roads to feed this hub.

It's expected that jobs will be created from expansion of related businesses and the

advent of new support industries. The building industry will benefit in the short term with the need for new buildings such as warehouses.

Explosion in number of flights, road traffic

Canberra Airport has acknowledged that aircraft noise will be an issue for many residents of Canberra, Queanbeyan and Palerang (ie Burra and Royalla). When addressing Palerang Council in December 2009, Canberra Airport representative Noel McCann assured Councillors that airport managers would be implementing noise amelioration measures wherever possible. This is just as well, given the escalation in aircraft numbers we are likely to see soon.

In the late 1990s there were about 350 jet movements per week, but the plan is that by 2015 there could be 315 per day. Likewise, the volume of vehicular traffic to and from the airport has increased by more than a third over the past ten years.

In 1997-98 there were 1.8 million passengers per annum using the airport but today that's risen to 3 million. Over the next five years it's due to rise further to 4 million

passengers per annum, with direct flights to New Zealand and Asia commencing.

Infrastructure upgrades will provide up to 44 check-in counters and six baggage reclaim belts. The Airline Club Lounge area will expand to four times its current area.

Carbon footprint of air-freight versus rail-freight

The other increase we will see is in the carbon footprint of our region as a result of this development. In July 2008 Palerang farmer Richard Begbie spoke on ABC Radio National's *Ockham's Razor* about this 'last taboo':

By its nature, human flight is about as energy inefficient a mode of travel as we have devised. As Ivan Illich noted years ago, the only form of locomotion on the planet more energy-hungry than a man in an aeroplane is a man in a helicopter. To lift the aeroplane as well as its human cargo nine or 10 kilometres vertically above ground and hold them there requires massive energy reserves before a single cross-country metre has been gained. The IPCC tells us the actual greenhouse effect of aircraft emissions at 30,000 feet is two to seven times that suggested by their raw CO₂ emission figure.

Endangered species habitat loss to roads and buildings

Meantime, Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment in the ACT Maxine Cooper fears we might see a further decrease in habitat for the Grassland Earless Dragon and the Golden Sun Moth. In her *Report on ACT Lowland Native Grassland Investigation* she notes that development of runway infrastructure in 2001 and more recently the building of Brand Depot have already resulted in the decline of these species.

Canberra Airport now intends constructing a four-lane road including median strip and cyclepath through a Category 1: Core Conservation Site containing the largest remaining patch of Endangered Natural Temperate Grassland in the ACT that provides habitat for a number of threatened species including the Grassland Earless Dragon and the Golden Sun Moth.

This road, to be excised from the Majura Training Area to the Department of Transport and Regional Services for incorporation into the lease area of Canberra International Airport, would connect the Fairbairn precinct to Majura Road immediately north of the airport.

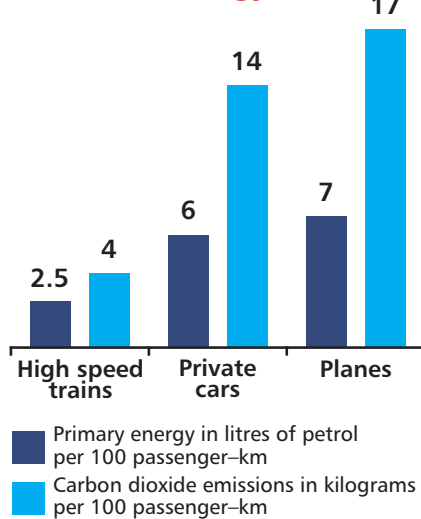
Comment

For almost all Australians, air travel has become so cheap that it has become a way of life, yet we seem to be in denial as to any environmental damage we may be causing. Now we can add insult to injury (to our planet) thanks to the opportunities afforded by air-freight. We can order goods from the other side of the world knowing we will have them in our grasp within hours.

Meanwhile the peoples of the South Pacific are packing up and leaving their disappearing homes, millions in Bangladesh await the next inundation and Inuit survey expanses of ocean where once they hunted on the ice sheets. Few of us seem willing to connect the dots and see the whole picture.

— Judith Turley, Palerang Councillor

Carbon dioxide emissions and energy use



If you can't deter them, at least shut'em up

THE FEDERAL government just announced rules for quieter aircraft, particular for freight, as the answer to resident concerns about aircraft noise – locally in Queanbeyan, Burra and Royalla – as well as elsewhere in the country. From 1 September 2010, older, noisy jet aircraft will be banned from Australia's major airports.

A press release from Member for Eden-Monaro, Mike Kelly, says that a ban will be phased in on older, 'marginally noise-compliant' jets such as Boeing 727s. From 1 July 2010, no new services using these types of aircraft will be allowed at major airports including Canberra.

Marginally compliant aircraft are predominantly used in the air freight industry and have been an ongoing source of concern for residents around Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth airports, and in relation to the proposed freight handling in Canberra.

Meanwhile, *The Land* newspaper reported at the end of March that rising shipping costs are shifting some export movement of stock (cattle were mentioned) to air freight and this is a trend expected to increase. As our old Mum would say, "What is the world coming to!"

PUBLIC NOTICE

Section 82A Review of Development Application DEV.2007.0514 (Amended)

Advertised Local Development

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The following information is provided for public interest and consultation:

Application Number: POD.2010.0034 (DEV.2007.0514)
Applicant name: Dukest Holdings CB Pty Ltd c/o Kevin Snell Architects
Proposal: Seven (7) Townhouses and Seven (7) Lot Strata Subdivision
Land Description: Lot 6 & 7 Sec 24 DP 758183
Property Address: 55-57 Ellendon Street, Bungendore
Consent Authority: Palerang Council
Consultation Period: From 7 April 2010 to 21 April 2010
Application information: The application and supporting documentation may be inspected at Council's Bungendore office during normal business hours.
Contact Officer: Belinda McManus – Please note that Council planners are not available after 12noon.

Lodging a Submission: Any person, during the period specified above, may make a written submission in relation to the Development Application to the General Manager, Palerang Council, PO Box 348, Bungendore NSW 2621.

If your submission is an objection to the proposal, the grounds of the objection must be stated. Please note that all submissions are publicly available, may be included in Council reports, published on Council's website or discussed at meetings. Council will not suppress the identity of submitters.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All submissions must include a 'Political Donations and Gifts Disclosure Statement' under s. 147(5) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Please contact Council to request a copy of the disclosure statement by mail, or collect in person at Palerang Council offices.

PALERANG COUNCIL

Peter Bascomb
GENERAL MANAGER

Finding herself in the Australian bush

by Heike Hahner

SPENDING A FEW moments in the presence of Lucinda and David Boyd, two members of Australia's most famous artistic family, is a rare pleasure. Sitting with them at a round kitchen table in Braidwood, the room quickly fills with people, laughing and chatting. There is a beautiful sense of mixing past and present for that moment; but also a sense of being lost in a crowd of powerful personalities – where it is necessary to assert oneself to be heard.

David, at 85, is a good-humoured, talkative Bohemian, who sparkles with wit and engaging conversation. Lucinda, his daughter, is more serious but just as willing to disclose her thoughts on art, her works and the driving motivation behind them.

Meeting David, and experiencing his engaging personality briefly before talking to Lucinda, highlights her struggle over the years to be an artist in her own right. Coming from a large family of well-known artists, she humorously refers to herself and her siblings as the 'poor little Boyds'.

In recent times, the battle for identity and autonomy by relatives of famous people has been well documented. Lucinda has struggled for most of her life with, on the one hand, being part of, and inseparable from, a strong and prominent family and, on the other, being recognised as an artist, independent from her artistic heritage. Her life is defined by dealing with pre-conceived ideas of who and what she should be and who she really is.

Lucinda never wanted to be anything other than an artist. She never attended art school. Her joy at being self-taught and having got there on her own are clearly evident when she talks about her life and work.

She describes herself as having less natural talent than her younger sister and recalls that she did not have a strong sense of self in her youth. Her struggle and determination to master the art media and to establish herself as an artist have also helped her to develop personally and strengthened her idea of self.

The sights and sounds of Bombay on the Shoalhaven

Lucinda's most recent exhibition of drawings, 'River's Edge' at Studio Altenburg, ended in early April. The work is based on the landscape around Bombay swimming hole on the Shoalhaven River, outside Braidwood.

Lucinda revels in the memories of being out there, alone; marvelling, for example, at a cathedral-like rockface and the natural sounds that surrounded her. Descriptions of her field trips contain a strong component of what is not in her artworks, especially the sounds of birds which can be heard but never need to be seen.

Lucinda describes herself as a landscape artist. Creating landscapes, which to us seem devoid of any beings, give her the opportunity to be able to experience 'being'.

For Lucinda the landscapes are far from empty. For her, her works are developmental stages, filled with memories of being in a place: of observing goannas and snakes, and listening to birds. She delights in telling a funny little episode of a noisy, passing Kingfisher, encountered during her recent sojourns to Bombay.

One of the artists Lucinda mentions as an influence on her work is Henri Rousseau, a self-taught French painter, who painted jungle scenes from memory. Rousseau is most famous for his dense forests with fantastic foliage through which we see a range of animals lurking, such as tigers, lions or monkeys. Rousseau also struggled to find recognition as an artist but for different reasons – including his working-class background and the naive manner in which he executed his imagery.

Lucinda's lovingly rendered drawings are highly detailed with a deliberate lack of distance. Here we can see her work reflecting the influence of Rousseau, re-creating the dense presence of the Australian bush. Every detail is recorded but a simplicity of line and shape is maintained.

Her drawings capture the essence of the day or the mood that she, the artist, was in, rather than striving to be acutely representational of her surroundings. Her charcoal and graphite, pastels and 'conte' drawing *Cypress pines above the river* (shown), has the trees swaying in merriment like a social gathering of friends.

Lucinda first exhibited in 1985 in Newcastle. Now 25 years on, she says her drawings of the Australian bush have become a unique means of recordkeeping, both of her personal development and of her natural surroundings. Her goals – to experience a sense of 'being' and artistic autonomy – seem to be finally within reach.



Open Gardens: April, May



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Woowoolahra

6 London Bridge Rd, Burra

Beautifully constructed rock walls divide rooms in mature garden. Large lawn areas surround old trees and frame views of Burra Valley. Paths ramble through cypress woodland to open areas and dams abundant with bird life. Espaliered fruit trees surround berry garden.

BUNGENDORE 1-2 May

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27 Modbury St, Bungendore

Shady deciduous trees and densely planted boundaries of plum trees, hawthorns and photinias provide privacy for charming garden surrounding 1880s cottage. Heritage varieties of plums, pears, apples and roses. Water tanks and recycled materials introduce a contemporary theme of sustainability.

Tirra Tirra (pictured)

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A classic country garden full of romantic scented perennials and herbs. A woodland opens to a classic loggia for year-round outdoor living. Densely planted roses, buddleias, perennials and bulbs surround a large sweep of lawn. Paths lead to attractive vegetable plot and chicken run.

Gardens will be open between 10am and 4.30pm at an entry fee of \$6 per garden. Children under 18 are admitted free.

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Climate now: the latest Australian 'snapshot'

with Sonja Chandler

WILD WEATHER HITS Perth with damage estimated in the hundreds of millions of dollars; record-breaking rain falls in the Northern Territory, Queensland and far northern NSW; a cyclone ravages the Whitsundays – all in the last couple of months. Climate confusion is also seen closer to home – a local apple tree has ripe fruit and new blossom on the same branch. We all want to know, what's happening with the weather?

A new joint CSIRO/Bureau of Meteorology release gives an update of how Australia's climate has changed and what it means. The snapshot combines more than 100 years of data on temperature, rainfall, sea surface temperature, and atmospheric carbon dioxide and methane levels.

What the latest Oz climate review has found: warming during the past 50 years, shifting rainfall patterns, sea levels rising ...

All of Australia experienced warming over the past 50 years; since 1960 there has been a mean increase of about 0.7°C. In addition, over the same time period, the average number of days each decade with record hot temperatures increased and the average number of days with record cold temperatures decreased. The long-term trend of warming was clear, but there was still year-to-year variability and region-to-region variation.

While total rainfall on the continent was relatively stable, geographic distribution of rainfall has changed significantly. Trends over five decades were for increased rainfall in many parts of northern and central Australia and decreased rainfall across much of southern and eastern Australia.

Sea surface temperatures around Australia increased by about 0.4°C in the past 50 years; sea level rise during 1993 to 2009 was 1.5 to 3mm per year in the south and east of the continent and 7 to 10mm per year in the north and west.

Data from the Cape Grim air pollution station in north-western Tasmania showed an increase in atmospheric CO₂ concentration over the past 35 years. This agreed with measurements showing rapid rises in global CO₂ concentration in the last century.

What it means – snapshot projections of hotter and drier days

Average temperatures in Australia are projected to rise by 0.6 to 1.5°C by 2030; if global greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise according to past trends, warming projections are in the range of 2.2 to 5°C by 2070. Warming is projected to be lower near the coast and in Tasmania and higher in central and north-western Australia. Sea temperatures around Australia will also rise.

Much of Australia will be drier in coming decades. Rainfall is likely to decrease in the southern areas of Australia during winter, in southern and eastern areas during spring and in south-west Western Australia during autumn. The number of dry days is expected to increase across the country but it is also likely that intense rainfall events will increase in many areas.

Where to find the snapshot

View the data and read the complete snapshot online at <http://www.csiro.au/files/files/pvfo.pdf> or <http://www.bom.gov.au/inside/eiab/State-of-climate-2010.pdf>.

Pancakes, rabbits, spaghetti?

THE FOOD THAT DEFINES EASTER

IT WAS a busy time just before Easter with lots happening at Shepherds Run. Preparations for the Grape Harvest Festival were underway and grape



by
Peter Davies

picking at local vineyards was getting close. By the way, if you would like to be involved in picking, ring one of the local wineries and ask. It's lots of fun and an excellent lunch is usually assured.

While Easter is once again behind us, it's still interesting to review a few of our Easter food traditions and a little of their history.

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before Lent in the Christian tradition. In earlier days there were many foods that observant Christians would not eat during Lent, such as meat and fish, eggs and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the shroving Tuesday and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off.

Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday because they were a dish that could use up perishable foodstuffs such as eggs, fats and milk, with just the addition of flour.

Pancake races are thought to have begun in 1445. Many Australian groups and communities make and share pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. Selling pancakes to raise money for charity is also popular.

Hot cross buns are sweet, spiced buns made with dried fruit and leavened with yeast. A cross, the symbol of Christ, is placed on top of the buns, either

with pastry or a simple mixture of flour and water.

The buns are traditionally eaten on Good Friday; however, in Australia they are available in bakeries and stores many (many!) weeks before Easter.



Why do we celebrate rabbits?

Eggs, symbolising new life, have long been associated with the Easter festival. Early on Easter Sunday morning the Easter Bunny 'delivers' chocolate Easter eggs to children in Australia, as he does in many parts of the world.

The rabbit and the hare have long been associated with fertility, for good reason as we know, and have therefore been associated with spring and spring festivals (in the Northern Hemisphere). The rabbit as a symbol of Easter seems to have originated in Germany where it was first recorded in writings in the 16th century.

The first edible Easter bunnies, made from sugared pastry, were made in Germany in the 19th century.

Rabbits are an introduced species in Australia and are a pain in the neck because of the damage they do to the land. In 1991, a campaign was started by the Anti-Rabbit Research Foundation to replace the Easter Bunny with the Easter Bilby (an endangered species). Author Jenny Bright wrote a children's story called *Burra Nimu the Easter Bilby* to support the campaign.

The Ulladulla Blessing of the Fleet Festival at Easter on the New South Wales south coast is an old tradition which originated in Sicily to ensure that the fishermen would return to port and have a bountiful catch.

In 1956, Italian fishermen and their families organised Ulladulla's first Blessing of the Fleet, with St Peter being chosen as the patron Saint of Fishermen. Activities included the spaghetti-eating contest, climbing of the greasy pole, apple on a string, greasy pig and the naming of the Fishermen's Princess; traditions which still continue.

Now you are well armed with foody information for next Easter.

– Wine and Food Quiz –

1. How many are there in a 'baker's dozen'?
2. What is the origin of 'fiasco' in wine?
3. Who said "Stop drinking nothing but water; take a little wine for the sake of your digestion, for your frequent ailments"?
4. What is 'crème'?
5. What is a 'barrique'?
6. What is a 'pink lady'?
7. What is the difference between Greek yoghurt and other yoghurts?
8. What is the origin of the term 'plonk'?
9. How much is there in a teaspoon, tablespoon, and a cup?
10. Who said "Whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting over"?

Answers p11 >

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*(Refer to Gig Guide for line up)

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Talking with Richard Miller, a beekeeper in Bywong, it doesn't take too long to discover that bees are among the most amazing creatures in the world.

It's a honey: the wonderful world of bees

After 30 years of dedicating himself to this hobby, Richard could speak for hours about the beehive's organisation: from the queen's birth to her first and single flight, from the bee guards that protect the hive front door from 'intruders' to the infertile females that carry out their duties as bee workers. I could listen for another couple of hours!

Everything starts with the construction of the comb with its hexagonal wax cells, made to stock honey and pollen and to host the queen's laid eggs.

The bees then fly to collect nectar from flowers. They take it back to the hive, and with the help of other bees regurgitate it, spread it out in the comb and flap their small wings to help evaporate the water in the nectar until it gets to the right consistency. The result of this craft is honey.

Gifts from the bees: natural antibiotic and a range of tastes

Bees also collect natural resins from trees and produce propolis. They use the propolis to protect the hive's front door. It is a potent natural antibiotic that prevents the hive from being contaminated by bacteria and fungi.

The flavour of honey depends 100 percent on the flowers from which nectar is collected, resulting in a big range of consistency, colours and taste. Most New South Wales honey is made from the nectar of



by
Marcelle Martins

eucalyptus blossoms. This produces a sweet, thin and light honey.

From his five hives, Richard extracts around 30kg of honey a year, enough for his family consumption and to give away to friends.


According to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia's apiary industry generates income of \$60–65 million per year, of which \$49 million is from honey production. New South Wales,

Queensland and Victoria have 82 percent of the beekeepers and 80 percent of the hives.

Cooking with honey

I've been collecting some honey recipes. I love the traditional and well-known mix of mustard and honey for the roast chicken and, at Christmas, to prepare a beautiful gravy for my (free-range) ham with honey and cloves. But when the subject is dessert and patisserie, my repertoire is vast and I could write pages and pages of wonderful recipes!

For this issue, I'm bringing something simple and delicious. Autumn is here and there is nothing better than a cosy cup of tea on foggy afternoons with a home-made cashew and honey cookie.




Autumn cookies

Ingredients:

- 2 cups of flour
- 3/4 cup of brown sugar
- 1/2 cup of honey
- 80g of oats
- pinch of salt
- 1 teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda
- 1 egg
- 1 egg yolk
- 140g of unsalted butter, melted
- 150g of cashews

Method:

Cover a tray with baking paper. Pre-heat the oven in 180°C. Combine flour, sugar, oats, salt and bicarbonate of soda in a bowl. Add the egg, egg yolk, butter, honey and cashews. Mix them all together until you get a firm dough. With a spoon, scoop a bit of dough, roll into a ball and squeeze with both hands to get a cookie shape. Bake for 10 minutes, and let cool before serving.



COMING UP IN MAY...

Major cool climate wine tasting



THE ROTARY CLUB of Bungendore has organised an extraordinary wine event, a tasting from Lake George's boutique wineries with more than 10 wineries participating in the upcoming Lake George

Harvest Festival on 15 May. This is a rare opportunity for wine enthusiasts and amateurs to sample and purchase from a selection of limited-production wineries at a single wine tasting event.

There is something very special about a celebration of cool climate wines. No matter if you want to discuss 'terroir', length and complexity or if you just want to pick up a unique quaffable wine for your next BBQ, the Rotary Club of Bungendore has assembled wineries of the region operated by passionate boutique owners. The wineries include: Joshua's Fault, Kingsdale Wines, Koonaburra, Lamberts, Lerida, Little Bridges, Mt Majura, Shepherds Run, Tallagandra and Wongaburra Home-stead.

the potential to produce world class Pinot Gris

A program of talks is planned for the VIP tent. Sponsors and special guests will be able to listen to David Crossley of Domaine Rogha Crois Vineyard speak on why the Lake George area has the potential to produce world class Pinot Gris; Local French Chef Christophe Gregoire from Le Tres Bon Restaurant will speak about matching food and wine; and Sherry McArdle-English will unlock the mysteries of the truffle. If you would like to find out more about the VIP program please email the event coordinator using the email address listed below.

Park your car in Bungendore and stroll from stall to stall finding out why the wines taste very different. Is it because they are grown in different soil types and at different altitudes with varying rainfall? Is it because the small size operations allow owners to experiment with varieties and blends to bring out the best and produce some very unique wines? Is it because the acidic soil allows the wine to be cellared for a longer period of time? Is it the slope of the hill or the amount of sunshine?

Your tastebuds will not be disappointed with olives, chocolates and gourmet BBQ food on offer. Bring your children along to experience old fashioned entertainment such as egg and spoon races, sack races and kite making and flying. The Air Force hot-air balloon will enthrall all ages.

After discovering the best little wine you have tasted for years, use the Rotary Wine and

Art/Craft trail map on Sunday 16 May and visit your favourite cellar doors.

The Rotary Lake George Harvest Festival will be held on 15 May on Bungendore Oval and on 16 May at participating cellar doors and art/craft galleries. To find out more about the Wine and Food Festival go to www.rotaryharvestfestival.com or email: harvest.festival@y7mail.com

Wine and Food Quiz: ANSWERS

- 1: There are 13 – because bread sometimes does not rise as expected or the loaf can be small, bakers often added an additional loaf to the dozen.
- 2: When the Etruscans began to develop glass production in the fourth century BC they discovered that it was possible to blow a bottle in the shape of a round bubble. However, when the bubble cooled and they tried to stand it upright it fell over – a 'fiasco'. They wove flat straw bases into which the bottles were inserted – a style of packaging still used in Chianti.
- 3: St Paul, writing to Timothy in 1 Timothy 5: 23.
- 4: Literally 'cream' in French, this term leads to crème anglaise (egg custard), crème patissiere (pastry cream), crème caramel (baked caramel custard), and crème fraiche (naturally soured cream). It can be very confusing to English speaking cooks.
- 5: It is a 225 litre (49.5 gallon) cask best known in Bordeaux but widely seen and used in the new world, especially popular in Canberra wineries.

Primarily used for the ageing of red wines by imparting oak tannins, while allowing new wine to breathe.

6: A new cross between Golden Delicious and Lady Williams apples, which originated in Western Australia. It has been hugely successful and is now earning royalties in more than 18 countries. It has dense firm flesh with a flavour similar to its Golden Delicious parent and is also an excellent eating apple.

7: Greek yoghurt is richer and thicker than normal yoghurt with a higher fat content (8–10 percent compared to 3–4 percent).

8: From the Cockney rhyming slang – 'plink plonk, vin blanc' – possibly developed by Londoners who served as soldiers in the First World War.

9: Teaspoon – 5ml, tablespoon – 20 ml, ¼ cup – 60ml, ½ cup – 125ml, one cup – 250ml. Australian measures differ from UK and US measures so be careful to check recipe specifications.

10: Mark Twain.

Thanks also to Andrew Jones – *Wine Talk* – and Stephanie Alexander – *The Cook's Companion: The Complete Book of Ingredients and Recipes for the Australian Kitchen*.



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On safari with ALEXANDER McCALL SMITH by Judith Miller

IT TOOK LESS than two days to fully subscribe 'a conversation with Alexander McCall Smith' in Canberra in February. It was thankfully a one-sided 'conversation' as 'Sandy' McCall Smith delighted his audience with a raconteur master class. He speaks as he writes: in a simple, witty and philosophical style. And the stories kept coming.

The audience consisted of several hundred, mostly women 'of a certain age' with a few men, also of a certain age, dotted about the lecture theatre at ANU. It is this audience demographic worldwide which has taken the McCall Smith phrase – the 'traditionally-built lady' – as its own and made it part of the English lexicon.

His fans will be delighted to know that in 2010, we can expect another in the 44 Scotland Street series and a new Isabelle Dalhousie mystery to complement the just-released latest novel in the No 1 Ladies Detective Agency series, *The Double Comfort Safari Club*.

This story continues the adventures of Mma Precious Ramotswa, Botswana's No 1 (and no doubt only) lady detective, as she sets about on a number of investigations

with her usual tolerance and perspicacity: a legatee of an American tourist must be located; a family matter for a friend is resolved; and once again, help is needed by her assistant Mma Makutsi in her pursuit of marriage with fiancée Mr Phuti Radiphuti. This time, help is provided by the redoubtable Matron Mma Potokwani, whose character is based on an actual person living in Botswana, and all ends happily as usual.

Crime fiction that binds us together

In a McCall Smith novel, the plot, while enough to hold the novel together, is always secondary to the characters, their philosophical musings, and the depiction of the country and its people, be it Botswana for the No 1 Ladies Detective Agency or Scotland for the 44 Scotland Street and Isabelle Dalhousie novels.

To read about Precious Ramotswa's Botswana is to hear the people, taste the food, and see and smell the countryside. It is to recognise that the people of Botswana are no different from the people in Scotland or from us.



It is McCall Smith's ability to depict humanity across several continents, to demonstrate what we have in common and not what separates us, which takes his writing to a higher level than mere crime fiction.

Returning to crime fiction, however, here is a little bit of advance intelligence about the doings of wonderful dog Cyril in the forthcoming 44 Scotland Street novel gleaned from my own brief private conversation with Sandy. Apparently Domenica and Angus take Cyril to Italy where he is instrumental in solving a crime. Inspector Rex, late of Austria and now in Rome, beware! The Scottish sleuth dog with the gold tooth is baying at your heels.

WHAT IF WE JUST WENT AWAY?

by Di Johnstone

The World Without Us
by Alan Weisman

Virgin Books

Available Paperchain, Manuka, \$27.95

EVER WONDERED what might happen to the planet if one day humans completely vanished? What legacy would we leave? And for how long?

In *The World Without Us*, journalist and author Alan Weisman asks these intriguing questions of experts from many fields. If you thought that if we disappeared the earth would simply return to an earlier Eden, you couldn't be more wrong. What this book tells us is, while nature has a great capacity for renewal, humans have wrought changes to the planet that will last millions, even billions, of years.

In an attention-grabbing start, the book explains what would happen to New York if humans just disappeared. With no electricity for pumps, subway tunnels under New York would fill with water.

Fix and recycle antique crockery

THANKFULLY THE ERA of the disposable everything seems to be drawing to a close. There was a time (that I can still remember) when resources were so scarce, because of availability or affordability, that everything down to the shortest piece of string was jealously hoarded for reuse.

It didn't matter if plates had a chip or a scratch or, heaven forbid, didn't match, if they were useable, they continued to be used. If they were repairable they were repaired.

As the eldest of six children we handed down and recycled everything. I still 'save'

all sorts of things 'just in case' I might need them one day.

This leads me to admire the skill of the craftsmen who made some of the repairs to broken crockery. I have several items which I have purchased purely to allow me to do this, and to use as a chatting point when showing other people.

The first is a stunning hand-painted Royal Staffordshire hexagonal-shaped dessert set of six small bowls and a larger serving bowl. The set was made by Arthur J Wilkinson (Ltd) who operated at the Royal Staffordshire Pottery in Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, between 1886 and the early 1990s. The pottery mark on this set would date it to the mid-1940s, making the set about 65–70 years old and thereby classifying it as 'vintage'.

One of the bowls has had a corner piece about 5cm long broken off. As high-quality glues were not available in the past, old time pottery and porcelain was repaired using staples or rivets.

Riveting Chinese repair techniques

The use of rivets on porcelain (or metal clamp repair as it was once known) has its

origins in China and ceramic restoration was once the work of metal smiths and jewellers. It was a preferred method of repair in Europe from the 1600s up until the 1960s.

Rivets actually lasted longer in the West than they should have. With the advent of epoxy and polyester resins, restorers were able to bond vitreous materials (porcelain and glass) without the aid of rivets or wire laces.

In my dessert bowl, holes were drilled on both sides of the break to insert the staples which hold the broken edges together. The repair is a work of art in itself.

Two staples have been inserted from the front of the bowl through the purpose-drilled holes, and bent around at the back before being soldered so that there is no visible join. While showing this repair and discussing the craftsmanship with an English couple, they mentioned that they had seen staple repairs where you couldn't see the staple at the back of the piece.

This led me to search for my next talking piece which is a Royal Worcester fine bone china egg cup. I would say the cup has been dropped as it was badly broken into five pieces.

This piece has been repaired with staples which are only visible from the outside of the piece. Even though you can now see the adhesive on the inside of the cup due to the age of the repair, the repair itself is just beautiful.

A unique way of recycling has been taken up by a friend who loves the patterns and the history behind antique and vintage china. She has almost completed a table setting for eight, calling it her 'exquisite dinner service'.




Each six-piece place setting of large plate, smaller plate, side plate, soup bowl, and cup and saucer is from a different dinner set, but matches in tones. They all have a cream base, with different patterns with colours that blend with each other – it is exquisite.

Mystery item



My mystery item this month is a wooden 'thing'. It has four arms which concertina out. The arms turn on the base. Drop me a line at joyce@anniescollectables.com.au. Till next month, happy browsing.

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Bridges would fold and buckle. Highrise buildings would burn, crumble and fall as windows shatter with heat and cold. Pavements would crack and be consumed by plant life.

Forests would eventually swallow the city, but would be dramatically different to their original form, changed by human habitation, pollution and invasive species. As for city animals, apparently cats and birds would thrive but rats and cockroaches would perish.

Weisman visits several unusual locations and provides answers from experts to the question – what would happen here? The Panama Canal is a riveting case study. Other grimmer places – Chernobyl, the Korean demilitarized zone, an abandoned city in Cyprus – hint at possible futures.

We learn water is a great destroyer. Stone structures, including ones from ancient times, will outlast structures made from more modern materials, especially those using dubious concrete mixes. Bronze artifacts will be around long after bridges and roads have disintegrated. Structures built underground may survive longer than those on the earth's surface.

What would other species do?

And what would happen to non-human species without us? Weisman investigates a theory that humans caused the disappearance of mega fauna and asks whether, if humans disappeared, such large creatures would return.

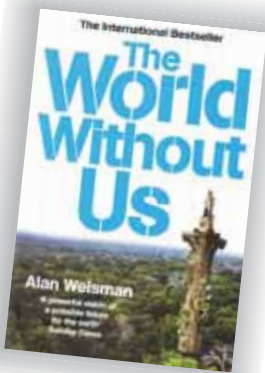
He contemplates what might happen to our monkey ancestors. Would they evolve again and into what? Would one day something humanlike return to the planet? Weisman even looks at the possible fate of micro-organisms that live on us and viruses we spread.

Truly chilling is what this book tells us of the terrible damage humans have already done, damage that would linger on long after we had gone. Weisman catalogues huge sea rubbish dumps, indestructible synthetic tyre mountains, toxic wastelands created by oil and chemical plants, massive and widespread heavy metal concentrations, polymers and organic pollutants lasting thousands of years, nuclear waste and depleted uranium lasting billions of years, permanently devastated agricultural land, extinct animal populations and more teetering on extinction.

Apparently, too, indestructible radio waves packed with information about us are already pulsing through space to other universes and possibly to other beings!

As for where we go from here, Weisman, rather optimistically, suggests reversing at least some of the damage done through drastic population control.

This thought-provoking book is crammed with fascinating information. It starts with a leap of imagination, but delivers powerful environmental messages very effectively. It's also a lively and very good read.



TIN PAN AUSSIE Shortis and Simpson unpack the archive

Tin Pan Aussie traces the story of Australian popular music before rock 'n' roll, from the waltzes, polkas and marches of the 19th century to the introduction of ragtime and syncopation. Shortis and Simpson bring this era to life with songs, witty dialogue, and archival footage. Bungendore's John Shortis explains the labour of love that has produced this remarkable piece of musical history offering something that everyone will remember.



FOR ABOUT 10 years, from the early '70s to the early '80s, I worked as a freelance scriptwriter/musical director for the ABC schools radio broadcasts, in the days when each classroom had a loudspeaker in the ceiling. As part of the research for a particular series I was working on, I needed some Australian songs from the pre-rock 'n' roll days.

So I came down to Canberra from Sydney and was introduced to the sheet music collection at the National Library, when it was still in cardboard boxes. I was entranced by it and my interest in this era of Aussie song goes back to that day.

From then on, every time I came to the Canberra region to do gigs at places like the School of Arts Café I would head off to the library in my spare time and keep digging.

We moved here in 1996, and my visits became more regular, to the point where the National Library awarded me a Harold White Fellowship to research the sheet music and turn it into a series of shows.

Tin Pan Aussie is the result of those 35 years of research and fascination. I'm the narrator, Moya (Simpson) is the singer, and we'll have a hot band made up of top local musicians – Ian Blake (bass and woodwinds), Peter J Casey (piano), Jon Jones (drums) and Dave O'Neill (guitar and fiddle).

It's the story of the old dances and styles, like the polka and waltz, giving way to the dynamic syncopation of ragtime and jazz – music that was performed in dance halls, in movie theatres, on the vaudeville stage, on radio and on gramophone.

And it's the story of an emerging Australia, making its way from Federation, through two wars and the Depression. Along the way there's a lot of great music, some familiar, some uncovered gems.

Characters range from the well-known, like Tex Morton, Slim Dusty, Jack O'Hagan, George Wallace, Roy Rene and Jack Davey, to the lesser known, but equally important.

It's a story that has not been as well documented as the rock 'n' roll era, and it's time to tell it.

OLD BLOKES CAN STILL DO IT

A FULL HOUSE laughed, cheered and sang along at times with 'The Q's' season-opening production of *Codgers* late last month.

Billed as a new and award-winning Australian comedy by playwright Don Reid, it features five older fellows hanging out at the gym, cracking one liners, creaking up and down and still learning about life, love, investment pitfalls and tolerance. And the audience loved them.

Whether it was because of well-known names in the universally excellent acting line-up – including Shane Porteous (ex *Country Practice*) and Ronald Falk (ex *Flying Doctors* and *Neighbours*) – or because 'The Q' has established its local and regional following, the audience was there on opening night.

This show starts a season that offers new and innovative Australian theatre, as well as some old favourites. Coming up is *Erth's Dinosaur Petting Zoo*, the show for children of all ages starting Tuesday 13; followed by *The Age I'm In* then *Tin Pan Aussie*, by the region's own Shortis and Simpson later in the month (see ads below); and *Maria Lanzo* in early May. For the season's program go to www.theq.net.au.

Brassy

Sunday 11 April 2.30pm

A contemporary outdoor music and dance event at Poachers Pantry Tales of pioneering women of our region & the life of Miles Franklin

Mirramu Dance Company
& The Lake Dancers
The Hall Village Brass Band
with bush poet Robyn Sykes

Phone Poachers Pantry 6230 2487
for picnic hamper orders with show tickets

Yass Valley Council 6226 2557 tickets only
\$10 full, \$8 conc., \$25 family

Force Majeure's

A dance theatre performance
directed by Kate Champion

THE A T E

"...an affecting, embracing hybrid of contemporary dance, multimedia documentary and physical theatre."
The Sun-Herald

Showing at 'The Q'
Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre, 16 & 17 April.
Adults: \$39
Conc. & groups: \$34
Under 26: \$29
All Matinee Tickets: \$25

Bookings: 6298 0290 or
www.theq.net.au

THE Q QUEANBEYAN PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Queanbeyan City Council

force majeure

Australian Government
Playing Australia

KEIR FOUNDATION

NSW Communities arts nsw

Shortis & Simpson in

TIN PAN AUSSIE

Written by
John Shortis

Band members
Ian Blake,
Peter J Casey,
Jon Jones and
Dave O'Neill

"you've heard nothing till you've heard the phenomenal Simpson sing..."

'The Q' – Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre, Thursday 29 April, Friday 30 April and Saturday 1 May.
All shows 8.00pm. Adult \$39. Concession & Groups \$34. Under 26 \$29.

Bookings ph 6298 0290 or visit www.theq.net.au

THE Q QUEANBEYAN PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Queanbeyan City Council

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been received by Council from
1 to 5 March 2010

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0057	Dwelling	1/03/2010	Station Street BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2010.0058	Patio	1/03/2010	17 Larmer Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0059	Water Tank	2/03/2010	32 Elmslea Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0060	Shed	2/03/2010	Kings Highway NORTHANGERA
DEV.2010.0061	Tree Removal	2/03/2010	54 Forster Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0062	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	3/03/2010	Tarago Road LAKE GEORGE
DEV.2010.0063	Music Event	3/03/2010	206 Cooma Road BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2010.0064	Dwelling & Carport	4/03/2010	156 Narranghi Road NORTHANGERA
DEV.2010.0065	Shed	5/03/2010	23 Birch Drive BUNGENDORE

The following applications have been received by Council from
8 to 12 March 2010

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0066	Shed	8/03/2010	48 McCusker Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0067	Tree Removal	8/03/2010	13 Mealla Way BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0068	Three (3) Lot Subdivision	8/03/2010	84 Naylor Road URILA
DEV.2010.0069	Shed	9/03/2010	174 Hogan Drive WAMBOIN
DEV.2010.0070	Shed	10/03/2010	15 Lithgow Place BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0071	Signage	10/03/2010	75 Tarago Road BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0072	Dwelling	10/03/2010	1581 Cooma Road BENDOURA
DEV.2010.0073	Dwelling & Shed	11/03/2010	258 Forbes Creek Road FORBES CREEK
DEV.2010.0074	Dwelling	11/03/2010	66 Ryrie Street BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2010.0075	Studio/Home Office	11/03/2010	1744 Bungendore Road BYWONG
DEV.2010.0076	Dwelling & Carport	12/03/2010	28 Simms Drive BUNGENDORE

The following applications have been received by Council from
15 to 19 March 2010

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0077	Dwelling	16/03/2010	89 Millynn Road BYWONG
DEV.2010.0078	Garage and Water Tank	17/03/2010	1 Hyland Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0079	Alterations and Additions	18/03/2010	1012 Norton Road WAMBOIN
DEV.2010.0080	Shed and modify building envelope	18/03/2010	114 Creekborough Road BYWONG
DEV.2010.0081	Dwelling and Shed (temporary occupancy of shed)	19/03/2010	61 Sherwood Place ROYALLA

The following applications have been received by Council from
22 to 26 March 2010

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0082	2 Lot Subdivision	22/03/2010	366 Williamsdale Road BURRA
DEV.2010.0083	Alterations & Additions	22/03/2010	556 Cookanulla Road DURRAN DURRA
DEV.2010.0084	Dwelling	22/03/2010	10 Simms Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0085	Fence and Water Tank	26/03/2010	124 Gibraltar Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0086	Tree Removal	26/03/2010	46 Rutledge Street BUNGENDORE

The following applications have been received by Council from
29 March to 1 April 2010

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0087	Tree Works	29/03/2010	64 Forster Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0088	Dual Occupancy	30/03/2010	52 Modbury Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0089	Dwelling	31/03/2010	43 McCusker Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0090	Dwelling	1/04/2010	47 Ryans Road WAMBOIN

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADJUSTED TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON COOMA (ex CAPTAINS FLAT) ROAD DURING REPLACEMENT OF BRIDGE OVER JEMBAICUMBENE CREEK, 10km SOUTH-WEST OF BRAIDWOOD

Demolition of the existing bridge will commence about 1 April 2010, and the construction of the replacement structure is expected to be completed by mid-October 2010 subject to weather conditions.

An unsealed one-way by-pass located adjacent to the work site will be available to all traffic with access controlled by traffic lights.

In the event of flooding of the by-pass, detour arrangements will be put in place using Majors Creek and Wallaces Gap Roads. Appropriate sign posting will be placed at major intersections.

Council regrets any inconvenience caused to road users during the course of effecting these improvements.

Peter Bascomb
General Manager

PO Box 348
BUNGENDORE NSW 2621
Email: records@palerang.nsw.gov.au

**PALERANG
COUNCIL**

PALERANG COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT DETERMINATIONS

Notification in accordance with Section 101 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* Council determined the following development applications in

March 2010

Application No	Description	Stage/Decision	Determined	Address
DEV.2009.0144	Dwelling Carport & Garage	Approved	10/03/2010	Lot 5 DP755970 Nerriga Road TOMBOYE
DEV.2009.0252	Site Shed and 15 Containers	Approved	18/03/2010	36 Araluen Road BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2009.0261	3 Lot Subdivision	Approved	25/03/2010	Lot 2 DP543076 KARRABAH Cooma Road BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2009.0273	Lake George Harvest Festival	Approved	2/03/2010	BUNGENDORE PARK Butmaroo Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0276	Alterations & Additions to Hotel	Approved	15/03/2010	22 Gibraltar Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0286	Dwelling and Shed	Approved	19/03/2010	7 O'Neill Place BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0292	Erosion Control	Refused	3/03/2010	99 Shearer Drive ROYALLA
DEV.2009.0328	Dwelling Shed and Garage	Approved	9/03/2010	746 Mount Fairy Road MOUNT FAIRY
DEV.2009.0340	Dwelling	Approved	10/03/2010	5 Lithgow Place BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0342	Dwelling, Two Sheds & Temporary Occupancy of Existing Shed	Approved	8/03/2010	Lot 1 DP1089987 Foss Elbow Road WARRI
DEV.2009.0359	Shed	Approved	11/03/2010	1686 Captains Flat Rd CARWOOLA
DEV.2009.0373	2 Lot Subdivision	Approved	22/03/2010	85 Ellendon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0384	Garage, Carport and Alterations & Additions to Dwelling	Approved	31/03/2010	400 Joe Rocks Road BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0387	Dwelling and Shed	Approved	17/03/2010	Lot 17 DP1132936 Foss Elbow Road WARRI
DEV.2009.0388	Dwelling	Approved	3/03/2010	170 Bidges Road SUTTON
DEV.2009.0391	Dwelling and Housing of 4 Dogs	Approved	8/03/2010	12 Ireland Place BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0001	Addition and Ensuite	Approved	2/03/2010	113 Weeroona Drive WAMBOIN
DEV.2010.0008	Dwelling	Approved	2/03/2010	20 Simms Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0009	Alterations & Additions to Existing Dwelling and Garage	Approved	9/03/2010	5 Woolshed Lane BYWONG
DEV.2010.0014	Garage	Approved	22/03/2010	205 Old Gold Mines Rd SUTTON
DEV.2010.0027	Dwelling Shed and Temporary Occupancy of Shed	Approved	11/03/2010	106 Macdiarmid Road BURRA
DEV.2010.0029	Dwelling	Approved	2/03/2010	254 Macdiarmid Road BURRA
DEV.2010.0033	Garage	Approved	3/03/2010	54 Ellendon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0037	Dwelling	Approved	2/03/2010	2 Hill Street MAJORS CREEK
DEV.2010.0038	Dual Occupancy – Granny Flat	Approved	3/03/2010	114 Gibraltar Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0058	Patio	Approved	10/03/2010	17 Larmer Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0059	Rainwater Tank	Approved	9/03/2010	32 Elmslea Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0060	Shed	Approved	30/03/2010	Lot 20 DP1107749 Kings Highway NORTHANGERA
DEV.2010.0061	Tree Removal	Approved	5/03/2010	54 Forster Street BUNGENDORE

Development consents are available for public inspection, free of charge, during ordinary office hours (8.30am–5.00pm) at Palerang Council offices at 10 Majara Street, Bungendore and 144 Wallace Street, Braidwood.

PO BOX 348, BUNGENDORE NSW 2621

Smoke is in the air

THE NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is pleased to report a successful hazard-reduction burn program covering some 20,000 hectares in Kosciuszko National Park this season thanks to ideal weather – wet, calm and mild.

South West Slopes Regional Manager, Steve Horsley said “It’s been a very good result. These operations take months of planning with many staff involved and it can all come undone if we get poor weather.” Unseasonable smoke is a trade-off for fuel reduction lessening the intensity of future wildfires.

Chokers mostly ineffective or dangerous

by Heike Hahner

THE USE of choker chains used to be limited to the training of German Shepherds for Army and Police purposes. The German Shepherd is a very pain-sensitive breed, especially in the neck area, and therefore training with the use of the choker was quick and efficient.

Sadly, in the ‘60s and ‘70s the choker chain was heavily promoted by dog trainer and television personality Barbara Woodhouse as a magical training tool for dogs. In the hands of an experienced trainer and the right dog, the choke collar can be an effective way to train; however, in the hands of inexperienced or impatient trainers, the effect of the choker varies from ineffectual to cruel.

Vets have reported damage resulting from choker chains to a dog’s spine, voice box and windpipe. This happens because a lot of breeds such as Huskies, Malamutes, Staffies, Bulldogs, Mastiffs, etc. are not pain sensitive in the neck area. Worse, some dogs are killed by choke chains as they hang and strangle themselves from garden fences, the backs of cars or the verandah.

By the ‘90s, there was a strong move away from using fear/pain-based training methods, such as the choke chain, towards motivational training using food and toys. In recent times there has been a resurgence of the choker chain, due in part to the strong influence of TV personalities such as Cesar Millan, who appears to use the choker frequently.

Millan has a lot of very good information on dogs and dog behaviour to offer; such as the need for exercise, discipline, affection, the setting of clear boundaries and daily routines. The choker chain has no place in this line-up of qualities.

The most common reason for owners to put a choker collar on a dog is because the dog pulls on lead or the dog has a narrow head and the contracting choker collar stops the dog from escaping. Dogs, that have a narrow head and who can slip their collars easily, can be stopped by very wide collars, such as greyhound collars or part-webbing/part-chain collars that contract to some degree but do not strangle. These cannot be slipped over the head and are gentler on the throat and neck area.

Training to walk on lead

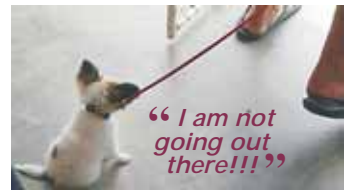
To train dogs to walk properly on lead these days, there are a range of less pain or fear inducing methods and equipment available. Pups mostly will follow naturally and this can be exploited by rewarding the pup with attention, a treat or a toy while it follows along. Changing direction frequently will also keep the walk more interesting for the pup and young dog.

Dogs that pull and are older than 10–12 months can be fitted with a Halti or Gentle Leader. These head collars are similar to a horse’s halter, and put pressure on the dog’s nose, mimicking a natural gesture of submission in dogs: the ‘hold across the muzzle’. The Gentle Leader is well suited for shorter-nosed dogs.

Head collars can be ideal for very boisterous, strong dogs or dogs that pull constantly. However, it is advisable to have an experienced person show you how to use these head collars, as some dogs resist them and can learn to pull in these as well. Also, please never tie your dog up with a head collar; always clip the lead back onto the buckle collar.

So before you consider what type of equipment you are going to use to walk your dog, here is what your dog would say: “Please use food or a toy and a positive attitude for training, it is more fun for both of us, dog and owner, and causes no pain and fear for me, your dog.”

Contact dog trainer and behaviour consultant Heike at hhahner@bigpond.com or phone: 02 4842 7143



Musical return to Gundaroo

by Christina Taylor



The Palarang, Queanbeyan and surrounding districts have produced numerous sporting success stories including Wamboin’s BMX champion, Cameron White, and Queanbeyan’s Formula 1 driver, Mark Webber, to name just two. There are also many rising talents on the music scene – one of whom will play in our area in April as a returning home-town girl. Meet Gundaroo’s Marji Curran (centre) of The Adam Hole and Marji Curran Band. Before embarking on an international music career, the singer-songwriter spent the early part of her childhood living in Gundaroo. Marji reflects fondly of ringing the town’s church bell, spending time with her grandmother, Marjorie Alchin, and later, directing the Outside Hours Care Centre at the local school. “Gundaroo is a rich part of my family history” she says proudly.

She moved to Queensland where she honed her live skills in a disco show group before meeting Adam Hole, a talented slide guitarist. Band drummer, Phoebe Juskevics, joined and the three developed their fusion of genres sound. For the past five years they have been touring locally and internationally at events such as The Jazz and Blues Festival in New Zealand and the Bathurst 1000.

The Adam Hole and Marji Curran Band returns to Gundaroo to play at the Colonial Inn on Saturday the 10 April (see gig guide for details). For band and album info visit www.adamhole.com.

Want to grow food while reducing energy and water usage?

PERMACULTURE DESIGN offers gardening principles to increase resilience to weather extremes and boost productivity. The course runs over April 10–11 for \$330. For details contact Donna at donna@mullooncreeknaturalfarms.com or call 0413 535 957.

Sustainable grazing course

THE PROGRAZE course is presented as a series of eight 1-day sessions over 10–12 months and is designed to suit the needs of new and experienced farmers.

The course uses a hands-on approach, with days being conducted on group members’ farms. Explore profitable and sustainable grazing systems, learn to visually assess pasture quantity and quality, manage your pastures and use pasture and livestock assessments to match pastures to livestock requirements.

Session one runs April 17–18 in Braidwood. For more details, including costs and enrolment, contact James Cornwell at james.cornwell@industry.nsw.gov.au or on 4828 6600.

Places are limited so please register your interest by Friday 9 April 2010.

RIDDING COUNCIL AREAS OF ILLEGAL DUMPING

with Geoff Pryor



The offender of this incident was apprehended.

A DETAILED investigation is underway regarding the establishment of a Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) Squad in the SERRROC region. This is the outcome

of the SERRROC forum held in Queanbeyan on illegal dumping in mid-February.

Representatives from many local councils in the SERRROC region were present as were representatives from the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW). All agreed illegal dumping is a problem that suggests a Regional Illegal Dumping Squad be established.

Queanbeyan Councillor Tom Mavec, Chair of SERRROC, highlighted that illegal dumping may be different in different Councils and at different times of the year. SERRROC was pleased to facilitate serious consideration of the issue among its Council members.

Layla McNeil, Senior Project Officer responsible for RID projects in the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, and John Moore, Investigator of the Greater Southern RID Squad, were key-note speakers at the forum. Their presentations dealt with the extent and nature of the illegal dumping problem, which amounted to more than seven thousand tonnes of waste in the south coast where the Greater Southern RID squad operates and it cost those who did the wrong thing more than \$33,000 in 2009 in the same area.

The presentations also provided information on how a local squad might operate, including the fact that the RID Squads pay their way in terms of savings and many other benefits to Councils.

The tasks they undertake include:

- coordination of Council activities;
- education of residents and potential dumpers;
- investigation of incidents;
- surveillance of areas of concern;
- hot spot targeting;
- special operations;
- issuing fines when needed; and
- prosecution when needed.

The forum decided it needed to further investigate a number of issues, including the most effective administration options, before proposing specific actions to their Councils. A report will go to the next SERRROC quarterly meeting this month.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Cont’d from p4

Endless growth is impossible

It was pleasing to hear both speakers supporting a carbon tax, which could start at \$10 per tonne a year, and which could increase incrementally year by year. We will certainly get nowhere with carbon trading; how does it do anything other than providing a way for the worst emitters to pay to keep emitting?

George Browning said that by the time his grandchildren’s generation are his age – 67 – they will be using five times the resources that we are now. This is the reality of exponential growth, and not to accept the limitations of the planet is absolute madness.

The definition of sustainability used by these speakers is that people should have the resources to meet their needs as long as they don’t impinge on the resources of the next generation. Pity that this thinking doesn’t permeate some of our decision-making bodies... (This definition of sustainability is the basis of the term ‘ecologically-sustainable development’ which is supposed to be the guiding principle of local development plans).

– Catherine Moore is a Palarang Councillor and newly-announced Greens candidate for Eden-Monaro

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Local courses in

Braidwood on Monday, 15 March

Braidwood on Friday, 30 April

Bungendore on Thursday, 29 April

Queanbeyan on Wednesday, 28 April

For other course dates or to enrol call now

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Fax 02 6895 3282

www.ChemCert.com.au

Ending Sunday 11
Com.pulsive
The Q' Exhibition Space, 253 Crawford St, Queanbeyan, Monday to Friday 10am–4pm, Saturday 10am–3pm. Sculptor Rachel Develin and Painter Jenny Blake present their latest works in reaction to their shared working history in the media/communications industry; with very different outcomes.

Ending Wednesday 21
Studio Furniture 2010 Exhibition
Bungendore Wood Works Gallery, 18 Malbon St, Bungendore. Each piece of furniture is an individually designed and made work, showing an appropriate use of hand work so as to distinguish it from mass-produced manufacture. Most pieces are made exclusively from Australian timber species.

Saturday 10
Braidwood Rodeo
Braidwood Showground, Kings Hwy, gates open at 9am. It's been 30 years since there's been a full program of rodeo in Braidwood. Adults \$15, Family \$35, Children/Concession \$5 and under 6 free. For details call the rodeo club secretary on 4842 2454 or visit www.braidwoodrodeo.com.au.

Away With the Birds written and performed by Harry Laing
National Theatre, Wallace St, Braidwood, 7.30pm. The play is supported by Southern Tablelands Arts. General entry tickets \$20 and concession \$15. Bookings at McLeod Gallery 4842 2626 or contact 4846 1096.

Captains Flat Youth Week Talent Night
Captains Flat Community Hall, Foxlow St, Captains Flat, 6.30–8.30pm. An exciting opportunity to experience Palerang's local talent! To enter your talent (singing, dancing, etc) register at the canteen and pay the \$2 fee before 7pm on the night. Drinks and snacks will be available. Children under 6 must be supervised by an adult at all times.

Queanbeyan Rotary Club Car Boot Market
Queen Elizabeth Park, corner of Morrisett and Lowe Sts, 10am–2pm. For more info call 6299 0219 or 0439 002 183.

Saturday 10 – Sunday 11
Canberra District Wine Harvest Festival
Wineries in the ACT and surrounding regions will be opening their doors to the public this weekend. Take the chance to taste some of the district's award-winning wines. Among the many talented vineyards producing top wines in Palerang and the district are: Shepherds Run in Wamboin, Affleck, Lark Hill, and Koonaburra in Bywong, Tallagandra near Gundaroo and nearby Lerida Estate at Lake George. For the full list and details on activities, visit www.canberrawines.com.au or call 1300 554 114.

Sunday 11
Wamboin Golf Club – Wamboin Mini Masters
Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin, register at 12.15 pm. Tee-off from the Clubhouse (community hall) from 12.30pm. All are welcome. For more info contact Peter Greenwood on 6238 3358.

Thresholds: doors, entrances and pathways – exhibition and poetry
Bungendore Fine Art, 42 Ellendon St, Bungendore, opening begins at 2pm, general viewing hours 10am–

AT ST MARY'S and COUNTRY PARISHES
MASSES: First & Third Sunday of the month 8.30am
Second, Fourth & Fifth Weekend (Vigil Mass) – Saturday 6.00pm
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY MASS 9.00am
LITURGY OF THE WORD: THURSDAY & FRIDAY 9.00am
Hoskinstown – 10.30am 1st Sunday of the Month
Tarago – 10.30am 2nd Sunday of the Month
Gundaroo – 10.30am 3rd Sunday of the Month
Reconciliation: 30 minutes before the Weekend Masses
Baptisms and weddings: By appointment

What's On – April

Compiled by Christina Taylor
Send your announcements to whatson@palerangbulletin.com.au

4.30pm. Ray Barnett, Terry Davys and Ross Donlon present *'Thresholds'*, a poet's take on paintings by a watercolourist and oil painter. Come to the opening and hear what the poet has to say about the paintings. For more info contact the gallery on 6238 1640.

Tuesday 13 – Thursday 15
Erth's Dinosaur Petting Zoo
The Queanbeyan Conference Centre, 253 Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Meet erth's awesome prehistoric creatures, from cute baby dinos to teeth-gnashing giants. Ancient life-like dinosaurs are alive and mostly friendly in this fun, educational and unique performance. Recommended for children 5+ and families. All tickets are \$18. For show times and more info visit www.theq.net.au or call 6298 0290.

Tuesday 13 (continued April 17)
Sutton Landcare AGM and Guest Speaker Alison Elvin
Sutton Primary Library, Bywong St, Sutton, AGM begins at 7.30pm. At 8pm Alison Elvin will speak about plants for dams and other wetlands. Learn how you can identify many of the common species and functions of water plants growing in your waterways. On April 17 there's a local field trip where Alison will identify and explain the plants currently growing in dams. For details call Gay McNeill on 6230 3569 or David Vincent on 6230 3584.

Friday 16
Captains Flat SES Bingo Fundraiser
Captains Flat RSL & Bowling Club, 59–61 Foxlow St, tickets on sale from 6pm with the event commencing at 7pm. A \$20 book will give you 20 games with some great prizes up for grabs! Tea, coffee and snacks available for a gold coin donation.

Friday 16 – Saturday 17
Braidwood Film Club Mini Film Festival
National Theatre, Wallace St, Braidwood. Films by English Director, Ken Loach. 6.30pm Friday *Kes*; 3.00pm Saturday *My Name is Joe*; 7.00pm Saturday *The Wind that Shakes the Barley*. Pay \$40 annual membership (\$65 for couple) at the door. For details contact Jill McLeod on 4842 2626 or email dunvegan@activ8.net.au.

Saturday 17
Algae Workshop
Molonglo Catchment Group Meeting Room, Unit 10, Cassidy's Arcade, 72–76 Monaro St, Queanbeyan, 2–4pm. Steve Skinner has come up with a way to use algae as an indicator of water quality in our region. After an hour learning to identify common algae, participants will join Dr. Skinner on a goo sleuth to the Queanbeyan River. For more info contact Dr Skinner at waterwatch@molonglocatchment.com.au.

Sunday 18
The Beez
Anglican Church Hall, 38 Elrington St, Braidwood, 7pm. *The Beez* use four voices, two acoustic guitars, an acoustic bass and an accordion to produce a series of moving, silly and deep pop and rock songs. For bookings visit booking@thebeez.de.

Monday 19
James Keelaghan
Anglican Church Hall, 38 Elrington St, Braidwood, 7pm. James Keelaghan is an artist whose songbook has enlightened, enthralled, and been embraced by audiences around the world. For bookings visit bookings@thebeez.de.

Gospel Services
are being held
Braidwood Central School
– Sundays 3:30pm –
and Community Centre, Bungendore
– Thursdays 7:30pm –
All welcome.
Enquiries: **0419 852 738**

Tuesday 20
Lake George Day View Club monthly meeting
Bungendore, Logan's Cafe, 11.30am for a 12 noon start. RSVP June on 6236 9136. Lunch is \$17 and your support is for the Smith Family. Raffle, door prize and speakers. For more information visit <http://lgdviewclub.blogspot.com>.

Greenways Development – Public Meeting
Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Rd, Bywong, 7.30–9.30pm. The Bywong Community Association invites all interested people to discuss a plan for further development of the Greenways: the public access ways available in Bywong and Wamboin for walking, riding, etc. For additional info contact Nora Stewart on 6230 3305.

Sunday 25 – Anzac Day
Braidwood Anzac Service
Ryrie Park, Wallace St, Braidwood. Service begins at 11am.
Queanbeyan Anzac Day Services
World War I Memorial, 1 Farrer Pl, Queanbeyan, arrive at 5.15am for a 5.30 start. Marchers assemble outside the Queanbeyan RSL Building, Crawford Street at 5.15am and move off from the assembly point at 5.25am. A second service will be held at 10.30am. Marchers arrive at 10am outside the RSL Building to begin the march, led by the Hall Village Brass Band.

'Two-up' in Tarago
Loaded Dog Hotel, 1 Wallace St, Tarago. Games begin at 2pm. Take part in a traditional game of two-up at the Loaded Dog Hotel.

'Two-up' in Bungendore
Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore. Take part in a traditional game of two-up at the Lake George Hotel.

Friday 30
The Pumpkin Festival Ball
Grandma's Little Bakery & Café, 5796 Federal Highway, Fedra Olive Grove, Collector. This event is the precursor to the Collector Pumpkin Festival. Local Band *'The Eight Balls'* will be providing live music and there's an auction and a lucky door prize. Dress in black with a hint of orange! Tickets \$85 each if paid for before 15 April or \$100 if purchased later. For further info email Tania at tjhadlow@gmail.com.

Friday 30 – Sunday 2 May
Festival of Braidwood weekend
The Festival of Braidwood is a celebration of Braidwood and district's heritage and culture and in 2010 the theme is: Braidwood in the '30s! Student photography will be on show at the Photographic Gala Opening on Friday 30 April at 7pm in the National Theatre. The markets (1930s emphasis) will be in Ryrie Park on Saturday 1 May. A grand parade on Saturday at 1pm is a highlight. For detailed locations, events and general info visit www.festivalofbraidwood.org.au.

– GIG GUIDE: LIVE MUSIC –

APRIL:
SPICE. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore. 7.30pm, **Friday 9.**
Solid Gold. Queanbeyan Bowling Club, 97 Campbell St, Queanbeyan. 8pm, **Friday 9.**
The Adam Hole & Marji Curran Band. Gundaroo Colonial Inn, 23 Cork Street, Gundaroo. 8pm, **Saturday 10.**
Adam Conroy. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore 7.30pm, **Friday 16.**
Rhymes With Orange. Queanbeyan Bowling Club, 97 Campbell St, Queanbeyan. 8pm, **Friday 16.**
Paul Costa. Loaded Dog Hotel, 1 Wallace St, Tarago. **Saturday 17.**
Mal Osbourne. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore. 7.30pm, **Friday 23.**
Back to Back. Queanbeyan Bowling Club, 97 Campbell St, Queanbeyan. 8pm, **Friday 23.**
SWIZZ. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore. 7.30pm, **Friday 30.**

EVERY MONTH:
Every Saturday
Capital Region Farmers Market
8–11am, EPIC grounds, Mitchell, www.epic.act.gov.au.
1st Saturday of every month
Captains Flat Country Market
NOTE: No Captains Flat market this month.
2nd Sunday of the month (bar January)
Queanbeyan Cottage Markets
Queanbeyan River, short distance from Queanbeyan Town Centre on the corner of Morrisett and Collett Streets. 9am–2pm. Over 100 stalls with high quality craft, timber products, pottery, leatherwork, handknits, pewter and silver jewellery, children's toys, honey, jam chutney, cakes, plants, food and refreshments. Come spend the day, stay for lunch and enjoy the atmosphere while the children enjoy the rides and jumping castle! Call Kristen Ballard 6299 0219.

3rd Saturday of every month (bar July, August)
Wamboin Produce Market
Wamboin Community Centre, Bingley Way, 9am–2pm. Fresh produce including cheese, eggs, honey, vegetables, nuts, seeds and plants.

3rd Sunday every month
Bungendore Markets
War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9am–2pm. Crafts, trash and treasure and general stalls.
Gundaroo Market
Gundaroo Park, Gundaroo.
Windellama Country Market
Windellama Hall, Cnr Windellama & Oallen Ford Roads, 10am–2pm.

4th Saturday of every month
Braidwood Markets
Ryrie Park, Wallace St, Braidwood, 8am. Local crafts and cooking, plant and natural products. Lots of treasures to be found! Call Geraldine Sutton 4847 5061.

1st and 2nd weekend of every month
Captains Axe Woodworks
55 Foxlow St (old Post Office) Captains Flat, 10am–4pm. Bush furniture, antiques, collectables, model cars and old tools. Something for everyone! Wanted – old tools, farm machinery and collectable items. Call 6236 5799.

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

– Plan ahead for MAY –

Sunday 2
Collector Pumpkin Festival
Collector, 10am–4pm. Now in its 7th year, the festival is famous for great food, including pumpkin scones, pumpkin soup, pumpkin pies and pumpkin bread and also features up to 60 wonderful market stalls with local produce and stunning gifts and creations. For competition details and additional info contact Gary Poile on 0423 672 153 or info@pumpkinfestival.com.au or visit www.pumpkinfestival.com.au.

Braidwood Community Bank Billy Cart Derby
Gillamatong Ln, Braidwood. The Braidwood Lions Club has taken the exciting step of organising a billy cart derby for children, youth and the young at heart in our community. Entry, rules, category and prize details available at <http://braidwoodbillycarts.wordpress.com>.

Saturday 8
Braidwood Film Club's screening of The Bank
National Theatre, Wallace St, Braidwood, 7pm. Pay annual membership (\$40) at the door. Contact Jill McLeod on 4842 2626 or email dunvegan@activ8.net.au.

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