



Bulletin

COUNTRY LIVING in Queanbeyan, Bungendore and Palerang

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CENTENARY: One hundred years of community nursing

by Shirley Sutton

Hemlines clue to era: Susan McWilliams then Susan Mossop in 1970. She was the youngest person to join the District Nursing Service which reportedly raised a few eyebrows at the time. Here she models the new nursing uniform for a Canberra Times shot.

AT THE BEGINNING of 1911, Canberra, the national capital, was on its way in a modest, yet determined fashion. The federal parliament had decided that the Yass-Canberra site would be the capital's home. Surveyor Charles Scrivener and his team had completed the job of identifying the borders of the Federal Capital Territory's 909 square miles.

By the end of 1911 the Federal Capital Territory comprised the rural properties of the Molonglo River Valley and the more widespread limestone plains, a Commonwealth administrative lease at Acton, the Royal Military College at Duntroon, and some widely scattered rural schools, churches and post offices.

Early medical care looked to Queanbeyan

Six miles east of the Acton settlement was the long established rural and regional centre of Queanbeyan. Although the original Canberra Hospital in Balmain Crescent, Acton, was opened in 1914, it was not an ongoing facility until the early 1920s. Up to that time, those residing in the Federal Capital Territory and nearby needing hospital attention relied heavily on the basic facilities provided at Queanbeyan.

The Queanbeyan Benevolent Asylum was established in 1847, and was principally for the relief and shelter of the poor and homeless. There was little provision made for the treatment of the chronically ill. A cottage in Irishtown (now Dodsworth) on

the site of the present Queanbeyan golf course was rented from Captain Faunce for 20 pounds per annum to accommodate the patients, the Matron (Mrs Mary Ruston), her husband and their children.

The Queanbeyan Hospital was built in 1862. Ten patients were then admitted, the average stay was 10 weeks and three patients died. Queanbeyan was really the major facility for the ill in the region and the major business centre for shopping.

District nursing starts: Bob a Head girls

The first formal District Nursing Service in the ACT commenced as a result of a proposal put to the government by the National Council of Women in 1948.

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'Reforms' fail agriculture and country residents

POORLY considered cuts, and botched and chaotic change are the unfortunate hallmarks of two years of Katrina Hodgkinson's administration of the Primary Industry portfolio, according to the Shadow Minister for this portfolio Steve Whan.

He lists the following examples that now face rural and regional NSW residents.

Agriculture – \$30 million cut, 300 jobs gone – 28 rural communities lose experienced specialist agronomists with hundreds of years of experience.

Drought policy – New policy announced with no detail, drought declarations and stock and fodder transport subsidies abolished.

Local Lands Services (that amalgamate catchment management and primary industries services and responsibilities) announced with no detail, many jobs cut and positions transferred before a structure is settled.

Biosecurity – 50 biosecurity staff sacked, no future funding arrangements for financing locust plague responses or other biosecurity emergencies.

State Water Board – failure to appoint a single representative of country NSW or irrigators (the body's customers) to the State Water Board.

70 percent cut to NSW contribution to Murray Darling Basin Authority – jeopardising infrastructure maintenance and agricultural productivity.

Fish stocks research – botched Cronulla fisheries closure results in loss of expert staff and failure to produce vital fish stock research – the basis for fishing quotas.

Commercial fishing – delayed by a year implementation of the 'Pymont pact' fishing reforms in order to do two reviews, only to then announce 'reform' with all details to be worked out later.

Snowy Scientific Committee – failure for two years to appoint a committee required by legislation, followed by further activity to preclude the committee being 'independent'.

"Ms Hodgkinson seems to think that reform is about a single page media release with someone else working out the details later on," said Whan.

He called a comment that the Minister recently gave to the *The Land* "bizarre" but telling. She reportedly said, "NSW Treasury has advised it can no longer borrow money to pay public servants and requires every government agency to find savings". ■

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Finally in 1950 the first District Nurse was employed – Miss Nan Wilshire (now Thornhill).

Nan and Jean Love were called the ‘Bob a Head girls’ as the cost of a home visit in the early days was one shilling.

Their first base was the Immigration Department ‘wool sheds’ building in Barton. They were paid four pounds per fortnight. No superannuation or uniform allowance, on-call or overtime. They worked atrocious hours, the longest period was 21 days straight. Imagine how exhausted they were.

Nan Thornhill, having just turned 90



Nan Thornhill now aged 90, the 1st ACT District Nurse for the ‘new’ formal service, and Judith Barker Nurse Practitioner cutting the centenary cake at the book launch of *Caring for the Community, Rain, Hail or Shine*.



Changing times and uniforms:

1953 photo of a first contingent of district nurses outside the Patents Office which then housed their headquarters. The coats and hats are a wartime/army holdover. Dresses then were nylon which proved “hot in the summer and cold in the winter”, according to the book. Staff carried the old doctors ‘Gladstone’ bag with supplies for their rounds. Later, small suitcases came into vogue. In the early days, one nurse covered the whole of then Canberra per shift.

years of age and still looking wonderful, was present at the launch of our book about district nursing (left). She remembers those early days clearly.

“These were the days when we sharpened our own needles for injection giving – boiled our syringes and other equipment on the stove before carrying out care and had much fun with the ‘puffing billies’ chip heaters as they were called in those days.

“We would start at one end of the street and light the chip heater and by the time we reached the other end we would then return to use one where the water would be heated ready to bath the patient.” Today is so different.

District or Community Nurses as they are known today do very little personal care. They are skilled in complex

care of patients and using disposable dressings, syringes and other medical equipment.

Nan’s story and many more can be found in the just-launched *Caring for the Community, Rain, Hail or Shine. The*

History of District and Community Nursing in the ACT, 1911 to 2011 – 100 years.

Caring for the Community was a labour of love bringing together many anecdotes and funny stories, along with many photographs. It was published by the ACT Community Nursing History Group convened by retired District Nurse Shirley Sutton working with Canberra historian and author Alan Foskett.

The book is available from Shirley Sutton by phoning 6291 8410 or emailing Pat Shaw at Patsh@webone.com.au. Cost \$40 plus postage.



Online ahoy!

We’re pleased and excited to tell you The Bulletin’s online site, online.districtbulletin.com.au is ready for viewing, while we are still progressing with archiving our columns there. The site, which looks very nice and is easy to navigate, is the work of Christina Taylor. It is different from our website, which will continue as before giving you all our monthly back issues in PDF format as well as other info about the Bulletin.

In comparison the new online site will carry the main stories from each issue as well as an archive of popular columns – like Jo Walker on native plants, Antique Chat with Joyce Nordsvan, Town and Country pets with Heike, and some of our interesting ‘people stories’ from over the years. This part is still a work in progress to be completed soon.

The site also archives stories we follow on an ongoing basis like local and state politics and a historical record over the past years of lethal kangaroo mismanagement in NSW and the ACT.

Check it out and comment as you like.

— Maria Taylor



Centenary memories

The man who moulded the national capital on its grand scale

by Nichole Smith

OVERALL is a name many in the region may recognise as belonging to the mayor currently leading Queanbeyan Council. However the name is equally identifiable over the border, linked to one of the central developmental phases of Canberra’s 100 years of existence.

Tim Overall’s father, Sir John Overall, was the inaugural Commissioner of the National Capital Development Commission (NCDC), appointed in 1958 when the population of Australia’s capital was less than that of Queanbeyan today.

Leading the organisation for almost 15 years, so instrumental was Overall in the formation of the modern capital that on his death in 2001, *The Australian* declared him to be the ‘Man who built Canberra’.

According to Tim, the second of four sons, home life revolved around the remarkable transformations that were taking place.

“Within the family it was inescapable as we lived and breathed Canberra’s extraordinary development as the national capital. When we arrived, it was little more than a country town of about 30,000. By the end of my father’s time at the helm, it had grown to around 150,000, graced with icons like the National Library.”

Canberra’s rather fitful early development had failed in the opinion of some to elevate it to its designed role as the cultural/political centre of the Commonwealth. As attributed in a local monument, under Overall’s direction, the NCDC would help cultivate “an atmosphere and individuality worthy of the

National Capital by providing monumental buildings and suitable special features”.

Lake Burley Griffin might not exist without him



Sir John Overall: opening of Lake Burley Griffin.

The Parliamentary Triangle and the realisation of the ‘Y-plan’ of decentralised centres were developed under his guidance, but possibly his most lasting achievement was the creation of Lake Burley Griffin. This central component of Walter and Marion Burley Griffin’s design was once threatened to be expunged from their plan, save for the efforts of the NCDC Commissioner.

Described in a 1965 edition of *The Age* as a “quietly dynamic man, under whose friendly charm one senses an implacable will”, this was best demonstrated in Overall’s fight to save the lake when funding was withdrawn – in the absence of Prime Minister Robert Menzies who was overseas when the decision was implemented by his Cabinet. On Sir Robert’s return, his Commissioner was waiting to greet him on the tarmac, intent on having the outcome overturned. It is difficult to envisage Canberra today had he failed in this attempt.

Early obstacles and wartime heroism

Much like the city he so admired, John Overall’s path too was initially beset by obstacles and challenges. His publican father fell under the sway of the alcohol he provided

his customers and when he died, John was only seven.

With his already ill mother unable to cope, John and his two sisters were placed in the care of a Masonic orphanage. Itself traumatic enough, the siblings were separated

into boys and girls homes, only seeing one another on a Sunday through the fence that divided the sections.

Overall worked his way to a degree in architecture at Sydney Technical College and built a house for his mother as a first project.

Continued p10

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If you are confused about local planning and how it's changing, here are some good reasons why

NO ONE could be blamed for being confused about what is happening in NSW planning (now Department of Planning and Infrastructure). For two years the state government has been reviewing planning, releasing discussion paper after discussion paper and we are now awaiting the already very late arrival of the proposed laws.

At the same time, locally we have had the process of drafting the new Palerang Local Environment Plan (PLEP) which seems (to me, as an outside observer) to have been going on for years. This has been made more difficult by almost constant changes in state policies over the last few years that also affect other local governments, like Queanbeyan.

Whatever happened to "returning planning powers to local communities"?

The government's policy at the last election said "the NSW Liberal and National Parties are committed to returning local planning powers to local communities (through their councils). We believe that local residents – through councils – are best placed to make local planning decisions affecting their suburbs. After all, it is local residents – not Macquarie Street planners – who have to live with the results of these planning decisions."

(Ed note: if we may interject a comment, use of the word 'suburbs' is telling about the approach to planning by this government that we have seen so far. Rural and rural residential concerns and land use appear far from the view of the planners in Macquarie Street.)

Sounds good in principle but in practice it appears the government is heading towards a system that will actually remove community and council say over a range of individual projects and I am still hearing complaints about one size fits all policies for local communities.

It appears that the government's new planning system will move many more individual planning decisions away from consideration by councils. Joint Regional Planning Panels and the Planning Assessment

Commission were put in place by the former government to provide independent consideration of some planning decisions and they play a valuable role in some circumstances.

In my view those independent panels should provide advice to elected representatives – but not make all decisions at arm's length from elected representatives.

Some cynics might say that elected representatives should never be able to make final decisions on planning – they say there is a corruption risk. The counter argument is about democracy – what is the point of having a democratic vote if your elected representatives can just put up their hands and say, 'it wasn't me'?

Losing local power to object? And rearranging the deck chairs

A lot of the debate we hear on planning at the moment focuses on the big issues in Sydney. But Sydney-centric rules will apply elsewhere.

NSW Capital Watch



with
Steve
Whan

If we don't watch carefully, we could end up being disenfranchised when it comes to objecting to or commenting on where and how development occurs in our communities.

Greater use of complying development and 'independent' planning panels will likely reduce direct local say and will certainly reduce the number of planning decisions made by council.

In the past the Coalition also railed against the number of projects taken out of the hands of local government by being made projects of state significance under the old Part 3A of the planning act. The government promised to abolish Part 3A: they did but they replaced it with virtually the same provision in Part 4 – different name, same power!

Employment figures and fibs

It is a familiar pattern: politicians with statistics at a hundred paces – competing to see who can outdo the other. So here is a bit more of it!

This time it is employment figures. As the O'Farrell government patted itself on the back for its first two years in office, it proudly announced that over the two years it had created 35,000 jobs in rural and regional NSW.

'Really', I thought when I saw the figure. That does not seem to gel with what I saw when I read the labour force statistics. So I had another look and asked the Parliamentary Library for some clarification.

Monthly regional labour force figures are quite volatile. However, the O'Farrell government appears to be touting a figure that is the total number of jobs created to February 2013, so in that sense it might be strictly correct. But they have not subtracted the jobs lost in the same period.

If you subtract the jobs lost, you find that in rural and regional NSW there has been a net increase in jobs of 12,200. In Labor's last two years in government there was a net increase of 62,000 jobs in regional NSW.

Not surprisingly, the O'Farrell government has not been all that keen to talk about the regional unemployment rate which has increased from 5.4 to 5.8 percent. ■

'Dear John' – straight answers from John Barilaro MP

Getting passionate about naming

Q The Palerang Local Environment Plan is being criticised by some members of the public who don't like the zone names applied to certain land-use areas in the shire. For example, E4 Environmental Living was considered the closest match for the previous rural residential zoning (since the latter name is not an option supplied by the department of planning). Can ideological pressure (we don't like the word environmental or some of the environmental objectives) sway a local council or the department to change a name one council at a time? — *The District Bulletin*

A When translating their existing planning controls to the new Standard Instrument LEP format, councils have been provided with flexibility to meet local needs and

priorities, whilst ensuring a consistency across the state. In terms of its former rural residential zones, Palerang Council could have chosen any of the following: RU5 – Village; R5 – Large Lot Residential; RU4 – Primary Production Small Lots; E4 – Environmental Living.

The draft LEP came off exhibition on 8 March 2013 and council staff will now review the submissions and prepare a report and recommendation to the councillors. Council will then forward the draft plan to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, which will assess it, including how council has responded to public submissions and provide its own report to the minister.

You are invited to send YOUR brief and concise question for John Barilaro to media@districtbulletin.com.au.

We will pass on all questions to Mr Barilaro's office and select some for publication.



I receive a great deal of correspondence on this issue and I am working with the minister's office to address the issues.



Funding for new private school

Q How much state recurrent funding, per student, will the new the Googong Anglican Church School receive from the NSW Dept. of Education? — *Sharon Baxter-Judge, Bungendore*

A The proposed Googong Anglican School is still in the planning phase – at this stage it is too early to place a figure on the amount of funding any school would receive. The distribution of funds to non-government schools is based on a 12 Category "needs based" scheme.

All students enrolled in a registered non-government school attract a per capita grant which is determined by the category of the school. The per pupil allowance paid to non-government schools is a percentage of the equivalent average cost to the state of educating a student in a government school, based on the provision of common recurrent services and excluding Commonwealth funds and those allowances and costs that the department meets in relation to both government and non-government schools.

Trial of commuter rail service?

Q Do you support a trial of a commuter rail service from Goulburn to Canberra on the existing heavy train line, which would reduce the number of car trips people make for work, save fuel and cut greenhouse gas emissions?

A There is currently no evidence to suggest demand for a rail service, which would be required to undertake a trial. Furthermore, a trial is not supported because current resources would need to be diverted away from existing services to do so.

Finally, given the location of the rail terminus in Kingston, and the dispersed employment locations in Canberra, it is unlikely that travel times and frequencies would make rail an attractive option to commuters, particularly with the ACT Government's intention to move the rail terminus to Fyshwick, which is even further away from the area.

Encouraging people out of cars

Q The 2011 census showed that Queanbeyan had one of the highest percentages of travel to work by car. How does Mr Barilaro intend to encourage more

Cont'd next page

Grazing rights, chinese whispers and local planning

by Maria Taylor

IN EARLY March an anonymous notice landed in the mailboxes of Wamboin and Bywong residents. "Should you be worried?" it asked.

"Council intends to exercise some control over grazing (horses, cattle, alpacas, etc). You currently don't need consent to do that."

The reference was to the draft Palerang Local Environment Plan (PLEP) out for public comment. The letter also implied council was on a stealth mission.

"Council proposes to change your land zoning from rural residential (1d) to a new zone called Environmental Living E4 with the possibility of detrimental consequences".

The letter urged its readers to come to a meeting at the Bywong hall to find out if they should be worried. The meeting drew about 100 duly worried and angry residents, (with numbers growing with later retelling).

It was chaired by Bywong landholder

Keith Gascoine and featured a short presentation by another local landholder Mike Cramsie, expressing doubts that an existing or new landholder could graze animals in the E4 zone.

Palerang Mayor Pete Harrison was at the meeting to explain that the fear was unfounded. Council was not removing people's grazing rights as a result of the E4 zoning in the new PLEP, he said. Nothing would change for the residents from their current situation.

The subtext for some, said Harrison and others who were at the meeting, appeared to be a distaste for the word 'environmental' (as in 'environmental living' or Palerang Local Environment Plan). There was some passion in this discussion with one resident heatedly vowing not to be dictated to by tofu eaters with hairy armpits.

Lost in translation

Some of the angst might have been avoided with a thorough reading of the council fact sheet attached to the letterbox drop. The

fact sheet aims to translate the meaning of legal definitions for zones and land uses set by the NSW planning department. Undoubtedly the fact sheet could have been organised more understandably because the legalities are layered. (This is the definition, here are the exceptions a page or two later).

Nevertheless, it states clearly under 'what does this mean for properties currently grazing stock?' that those in the rural residential areas have 'existing use rights' and can continue whatever they were doing before in terms of animal husbandry.

Even more to the point for ongoing rights (including under subdivision), it also says the main use of the land in the E4 zone is for residential dwelling and this comes with ongoing related rights, summed up as mainly hobby farming or grazing, just as carried out currently.

As for the name change from the former rural residential (1d) land to E4

Continued p18

What would you like to pay for?

I HEAR that Queanbeyan City Council (QCC) is testing the waters to hit ratepayers with yet another rates increase via a Special Rates Variation (SRV).

In a limited telephone survey conducted for QCC, selected ratepayers (only 600 out of the entire ratepayer population) are being asked if they would agree to pay on average \$100+ extra each year for some services.

Which services? The survey cites, among others:

- **A Queanbeyan bypass.** Queanbeyan ratepayers have never been properly and genuinely consulted on the need for a bypass and/or where any bypass should be located. The decision to create a CBD bypass via construction of the Ellerton Drive Extension and Edwin Land Parkway (through and very close to many residential areas) as opposed to other mooted bypass locations was made in 2009 as part of the Googong-Tralee Traffic Plan. QCC justified that decision on the basis that the ELP/EDE bypass would largely service the needs of future Googong residents (not Queanbeyan residents) and would, therefore, be substantially paid for by the Googong developers, CIC Australia. Why is QCC now testing Queanbeyan ratepayers to see if we will pay for it?
 - **Upgrading the CBD.** So-called improvements to the CBD to date have cost ratepayers several million dollars in the last year or so. Many residents agree that money could have been much better spent elsewhere.
 - **A regional sporting facility** including an aquatic centre. Googong developers CIC are "building community facilities including ... an indoor sports and aquatic centre, and a community clubhouse with facilities such as an indoor eight lane 25m pool, tennis courts and a gym" (www.googong.net). Why then is QCC mooting more such facilities at ratepayers' expense?
- Since 2010, Queanbeyan ratepayers have

been hit with a 5.8 percent rates increase via the SRV (continuing initially for 3 years to 2013).

That SRV has now been approved (by IPART) for continuation on an ongoing basis. QCC justifies that increase on the basis that "the SRV, which funds the CityCARE program of works, has allowed Council to undertake essential maintenance and renewal of the city's roads, footpaths and parks and sportsfields," (www.qcc.nsw.gov.au).

Where is the justification for a further SRV increase?

Come on Council. Be fair. You can't have it all ways. You've had your grab for cash over the last few years. Now give ratepayers a break and spend the money we've given you more wisely on the purpose for which it was raised.

— Claire Cooper, Queanbeyan

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS COMMUNITY SURVEY?

Queanbeyan Council has commissioned a private company to conduct a Community Satisfaction Survey. At the end it flags a list of nine "improvements" that would require a further rate increase.

These include improving or establishing showground, CBD, multi-storey car park, energy and water conservation projects, cycle paths and other environmental projects as well as the items mentioned in Claire Cooper's letter above.

The survey is being conducted by IRIS Research which has been contacting 600 randomly-selected residents from early March.

Some readers have asked how widely council publicised the availability of the survey which can also be completed online. If you don't know about it, the survey is worth 20 minutes to give your opinions of current and proposed services and developments and also Queanbeyan's communication efforts.

(Readers might notice that the survey omits the *Bulletin* as a community news source but this was explained to us as being a benchmarking exercise in comparison with an earlier survey before the *Bulletin* came to Queanbeyan, therefore not entirely up to date).

The survey can be accessed from a link at the QCC website www.qcc.nsw.gov.au.

Palerang Traffic committee gets it wrong
Kings Highway through Braidwood needs more zebra crossings

BRAIDWOOD Regional Seniors Association (BRSA) is calling for an additional safe pedestrian crossing in Wallace Street, Braidwood.

The current zebra crossing is used not only by the elderly, but also regularly by the children from the two schools in the vicinity. It is the only safe crossing point in Wallace Street.

We strongly disagree with the recent *Palerang Council Traffic Report*, which states that the zebra crossing "tends to create safety issues by implying a false sense of priority to pedestrians."

The *Traffic Report* suggests that consideration be given to the removal of zebra markings on the existing pedestrian crossing in Wallace Street. This is completely unacceptable to the members of BRSA.

Although the report states that "RMS (Roads and Maritime Services) has advised that it would not support the introduction of any new

marked crossing on the Highway alignment," BRSA has been encouraged to seek a reversal of this decision. In other jurisdictions there are in fact multiple zebra crossings in operation in some streets.

The BRSA has looked at the *RMS Australian Standards Supplement* dated March 2012, and we see that the RMS is empowered to consider the installation of zebra crossings. Under those standards it would appear that council can apply for special consideration if they can justify the need for a proper pedestrian crossing.

An additional zebra crossing can be justified by the fact that it is the safest method by which pedestrians are able to cross the road. What we're faced with today is a volume of traffic through Wallace Street that makes it unsafe for pedestrians, including the aged, people with disabilities and people with prams and strollers, to cross the road.

Continued p7

active living and transport choices in the Queanbeyan region, including active schools? — Sean Clutterbuck, Queanbeyan Region Bicycle Users Group

The NSW Government supports the principle of moderating traffic growth by encouraging people to leave their car at home and use a range of alternate travel options including cycling, walking, using public transport and carpooling.

The NSW Government has in place a bike plan, the largest program of bicycle construction projects ever prepared for NSW. The cycle

way finder on the Roads and Maritime Service (RMS) website is a tool to search for designated bicycle paths in the Queanbeyan area or the Green Travel Workshop program has been designed for organisations who wish to decrease their employees, customers and client's reliance on cars to travel to and from their premises.

We are a government that supports choice. We don't believe in forcing people to use alternate modes of transport but we do encourage people to explore other alternatives. ■

Standard practice?

I WAS recently in Queanbeyan, staying with some friends, and I attended the Queanbeyan rodeo, just to see what it was like.

I am from a rural background, though I have lived in cities most of my life. When I was growing up, Australian country folk regarded rodeos as a bizarre and strictly American sport that was completely unrelated to the husbandry of farm animals in Australia.

I understand that since then many American states have banned them. I was therefore curious about claims that rodeos are demonstrations of standard animal husbandry skills and practices.

This is what I saw: I saw steers having their tails pulled, bent over and tightly squeezed to make them leave the chute.

I saw a calf lassoed around the neck. The rope was extremely tight and the calf seemed to be gasping for breath. Next she was pulled suddenly and violently back, lifted slammed to the ground, on her side, and her legs tied together.

I saw calves being hit and pulled by their



ears. I saw cattle prods used on calves, which I thought was illegal. On one occasion the prod was used on the animal's face.

I saw horses with the flank strap between the animal's penis and scrotum and pulled as tight as possible before they left the chute to make them buck.

I find it hard to believe that this could be described as a charity event. Any charity that accepts money from this kind of event should be ashamed of itself. It also seems to me that Queanbeyan Council is behaving quite cynically in hosting the rodeo, when the ACT just next door has banned rodeos – presumably because they are so cruel.

If the rodeo I saw in Queanbeyan really does represent standard treatment of animals on Australian farms these days, then practices have changed unbelievably for the worse since I was a child.

In fact, if it does represent normal practices in the treatment of Australian farm animals, I think I will be turning vegetarian.

— Trevor Turner, Sydney

Palerang Council News

PALERANG COUNCIL

Road closure – Macs Reef Rd

Motorists are reminded that Macs Reef Road (Bywong), between Bankers Road and Newington Road, will be closed from 7am on Monday, 8 April until 4 pm on Friday, 17 May 2013 to facilitate the earthworks component of major road works in this area.

No through access will be available on this section of Macs Reef Road for the duration of the closure.

Motorists are advised to use alternate routes, via Norton or Bungendore Roads.

Macs Reef Road Waste Transfer Station

Development Approval was finally granted for the new waste transfer station on Macs Reef Road. At a special sitting of the Joint Regional Planning Panel in Bungendore in January, members of the panel complimented council on the way it had worked with the communities involved to arrive at a mutually beneficial outcome. Apparently this is a rare occurrence where waste facilities are involved.

Intersection road works will be carried out in conjunction with the rehabilitation work on Macs Reef Road in the coming months, with construction of the actual waste transfer station to follow. The tip will remain operational until the new facility is complete, scheduled for the middle of 2014.

Waste collection services on hold

Noting the results of recent resident surveys in Carwoola, Primrose Valley and Sutton East, council has decided not to proceed with the introduction of a general waste collection service in these areas. While the recyclables collection service that has been in operation since last July has been well received, there was not the same enthusiasm for a general waste collection service.

While there was a clear majority opposition to the proposal in Carwoola and Primrose Valley, a relatively small population and moderate survey return rate in Sutton East yielded a marginal result. Much of the opposition to a council service, however, cited the fact that a private contractor was already providing a comparable service in all of these areas and this had a bearing on Council's ultimate decision.

Braidwood and Bungendore Traffic Study

The traffic study commissioned recently by council, in conjunction with NSW Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), is now on public exhibition at Council's offices in Braidwood and Bungendore, until Tuesday, 30 April 2013. The

study can also be downloaded from the council website.

The key objective of the study was the development of road upgrade concepts that would improve amenity for the local communities in Braidwood and Bungendore. Of particular interest was the safety of pedestrians crossing the Kings Highway in these towns at peak times of through traffic.

Written submissions offering comment on the Traffic Study can be lodged, in person, by mail or email (see council address details below) during the exhibition period. Enquiries should be directed to Council's Project Engineer, Brendan Belcher (see council contact details below).

Biological control of Cape Broom

Cape broom is a noxious weed of Mediterranean origin, now present in all southern states of Australia. It is a leguminous shrub that forms dense thickets and produces vast numbers of seeds. Dormant seeds can remain in the soil for many years, so management of Cape broom infestations requires a long-term commitment. Biological control methods are useful at sites that are difficult to access for mechanical and chemical control methods.

The Cape broom psyllid, *Arytinnis hakani*, is a sap sucking plant louse (a small, winged insect) that is abundant on Cape broom in the western Mediterranean. The psyllid was approved for release in south east Australia after tests confirmed that it posed no risk to native flora.

Council has implemented an initial four-year eradication program on the only major infestation in the Palerang area, around Captains Flat, where the weed has spread from gardens into nearby bushland. The Cape broom psyllid was released at Captains Flat two years ago and is making an impressive impact on Cape broom in the area. A recent assessment by officers from Council and other government agencies has revealed that about half of the known plants have been destroyed after a busy summer period.

An initial mapping and education program has been completed, with an intensive control program now in place for this and other noxious weeds in the area. As part of this control program, Council was recently awarded a grant of \$9,000 from the NSW Government to help control noxious weeds, including Cape broom, on Crown land around Captains Flat. Cape broom control will be focused on public land in the coming months, with inspections on private land commencing later in the year.

Solar Surge

WHILE HARDLY anybody was watching, Australia has made a quantum leap in home solar panel installations. So much so, the peak industry body Clean Energy Council reported in early April that more than one million Australian homes now have installed solar power systems.

Clean Energy Council (CEC) Chief Executive David Green said this means approximately 2.5 million Australians now live in a home with a set of solar panels on the roof – more than the entire population of Western Australia. “It is remarkable when you think that just five years ago in 2008 there were only about 20,000 systems installed across the entire country,” Green said.

Now an estimated 200,000 systems are being added annually according to Stephen Garrett, CEO of Pyramid Power one of the longest-standing solar companies, based on the NSW South Coast.

Regional Australia is now a world leader in PV installs. The commercial adoption rate however is lagging, something like 18th in the world, said Garrett. This may change as large solar plants come on-line.

Besides regional households generally, other identified enthusiasts for solar power are those in mortgage-belt suburbs and where there is a preponderance of retirees. While most solar systems are attached to the electricity grid and can import and export power, Garrett says a growing trend is for off-grid battery storage solar systems, and that is not just people living far out in the bush.

What they all have in common is a reaction to the steeply rising cost of electricity in the past two years (not due to the carbon price) and the steep drop in the cost of solar panels during the same time, mainly due to a great increase of Chinese



production. (The federal government’s renewable energy target of 20 percent of power sold continues to also support the cost of installing a solar system).

When the NSW 60 cent per kWh buyback incentive scheme was in play, leading to a rush of solar installations, the cost of a 1.4 kW system was around \$6,000. Now a top quality system is around \$2,900.

The same quality 4 kW system, that can cover much domestic use, can now be had for around \$7,500, about half what it was three years ago. A 5 kW system is a thousand dollars more.

Savings on electricity costs main game, plus saving on greenhouse gas emissions

Garrett said many solar householders have calculated they will be ahead even with no buyback incentive schemes and with only some retailers buying solar electricity that automatically goes into the grid (feed-in tariff). The payment is a meagre 5–7 cents per kWh. The current cost to consumers to buy grid power is about 22–31 cents per kWh.

Back of the envelope calculations confirm that if you use the solar electricity as it is generated, eg by the retired, the self-employed, or parents who stay at home with young children, the savings from not paying those 22–31 cents per kWh puts you ahead over a short time with a currently priced solar system.

Meanwhile, regulating the electricity industry to ensure a fairer return on un-used solar power fed back into the grid (for example by people working away from home during the day), is politically out of sync with the economic thinking of current state governments.

The industry regulator IPART said that if solar households were treated like other wholesale electricity generators, the return should be something like 10.3 cents per kWh. IPART provides a comparison of retailer feed-in tariff offers at www.myenergyoffers.nsw.gov.au. Further fact sheets and discussions are available from both IPART and Trade and Investment NSW.

Finding an installer is helped by the CEC site www.solaraccreditation.com.au. Type in the name of a company to check out the reviews and get a sense of customer satisfaction. The reviews also highlight the dramatic drop in price since 2011.

The solar industry currently employs more than 8,000 Australians and benefits electricity retailers and other consumers by the added clean power but also by taking some load off the grid on hot days, according to the CEC.

Look for an update on what Australia is achieving with ‘Solar Cities’ next month. It’s amazing and seemingly a well-kept secret except where the program is happening.

4 years in: still shooting in the dark

WITH the appearance of ACT government ecologist Don Fletcher on local radio in March running up a flag about more kangaroo culls – citing demand from a parkcare group – the *Bulletin* visited the responsible Minister. We wanted to ask about evaluations and monitoring.

It’s now been four years of killing Australia’s international emblem in the thousands in Canberra’s nature parks and one year at a nearby defence facility guided by the same people and a shifting array of arguments.

Shane Rattenbury (pictured on right) is the affable Minister for Terri-



tory and Municipal Services (TAMS) that includes parks, and the sole remaining Green in the ACT Assembly who now holds the balance of power in the parliament.

He would seem to be in a good position to pause or stop the cull-ing momentum.

In the previous Assembly, he was the only MLA who publicly raised questions about animal welfare issues and the lack of evaluation and monitoring of a program that has been costing ACT taxpayers some \$200,000 a year.

Cont’d p17

HOME in Queanbeyan receives energy boost from ActewAGL

LOCAL charity HOME in Queanbeyan can look forward to a reduction of around \$10,000 in annual operating costs after ActewAGL committed to covering the cost of electricity and gas used in key areas.

HOME (which has been profiled in the *Bulletin*) is a community-initiated success

story that offers residential support to people living with mental illness. The purpose-built facility has been operating for more than two years now with self-contained apartments, along with communal dining and recreation areas and can’t keep up with demand that also comes from across the border in the ACT.

ActewAGL will now cover the cost of energy used in the communal dining, kitchen and recreation areas and offices at HOME, said ActewAGL Director Marketing and Corporate Affairs Paul Walshe.



ActewAGL’s Paul Walshe (right) and HOME in Queanbeyan Board Member Nick Pelle at HOME after the launch of the new energy assistance project.

“There is a real and pressing need for the type of accommodation that HOME in Queanbeyan provides and we are pleased to provide our ongoing support,” said Walshe.

HOME in Queanbeyan Board Member Nick Pelle reminded the community that “we rely on the ongoing support we receive from the community and local organisations like ActewAGL”. Ongoing or one-off tax deductible donations can be made at www.homeinqueanbeyan.org. ■

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BURRA garbage collection
PALERANG Council has moved quickly to ensure Burra residents don't have to store their garbage for months or drive to a tip miles away. When the private household garbage collection guy quit suddenly for family reasons, Burrans thought they might be looking at such dire alternatives, according to the local newsletter *The Intermittent*.

But, says editor Peter Duffy approvingly, talks with Palerang staff and Mayor Pete Harrison have yielded a deal to move up the Council roadside garbage collection starting date to 3 May. This means that residents will have to hoard rubbish for only four weeks rather than three months. Council will be holding meetings with residents on roads which the garbage trucks can't safely turn around in, to work out the best place for pickup points. ■

Stop press Bungendore:

The arrival of Priceline pharmacy reportedly sets a population benchmark that is attracting interest in the village from other large or chain operations. Apparently it's all a matter of numbers. Many chains such as Priceline, (car dealerships being another example) assign their franchise territories competitively. So Bungendore now competes with Queanbeyan and probably Canberra for shoppers' attention proven by the catalogues spilling into our mailboxes.

Queanbeyan finds more homes for abandoned dogs and cats



QUEANBEYAN rangers working with animals rescue organisations have made an impressive dent in the numbers of abandoned animals euthanized in the past three years.

Figures for 2012–2013 indicate that so far only 5 percent of dogs and 15 percent of cats have been euthanized. This compares with 2008–2009 when 11 percent of dogs and 31 percent of cats at the pound had been euthanized.

Mayor Tim Overall had particular praise for the work of Council ranger Sheree Curwen and her team who work with half a dozen rescue groups. Council has introduced behavioural testing to match animals and new owners and extended the pound holding time to 21 days. ■

Energy cost rebates for aged, low income

IT HARDLY keeps up with the soaring cost of electricity (mostly not due to the new carbon price) but the NSW government is trying to help by increasing the rebate for the elderly in retirement villages and those on low income.

The Low Income Household Rebate, currently at \$215, rises to \$225 from 1 July 2013 and to \$235 in 2014. It is available for the first time to eligible retirement village residents.

Information on electricity rebates and assistance measures is available online at www.trade.nsw.gov.au/energy/customers/rebates.

DEAR EDITOR

Cont'd from p5

The population of Braidwood has a high number of people over the age of 65 years. The Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 Census reported that of the total population of Braidwood 20 percent were children aged 0–14 years and 22.6 percent were people over the age of 65 years.

Palerang Council's *Community Strategic Plan 2012–2013* acknowledges that our area's population is ageing and we call on council to support our case that a second zebra crossing for Braidwood is the only sensible solution for our community.

— *Braidwood Regional Seniors Association (BRSA)*
President Eilish Kidd and Secretary Judy Marston

Wildlife versus 'pest' animals revisited (re hunting in national parks)



MY LETTER in the last edition of the *District Bulletin* was written as someone who actually cares about the unique Australian environment; not as a hunter.

I agree with Frankie Seymour and Brigitte Heyer that 1080 is a cruel and inhumane method of controlling the fox population. Having come across foxes dying from 1080 the anxiety in their eyes was palpable, asking for a better way to die! These are the same animals that kill and eat whole colonies of Australian Bilby to the point they are almost extinct in central Australia. There is ample scientific information available on the scale and scope of fox predation on native animals.

Personally, I hate foxes for the damage and destruction they cause in Australia. Would this benign approach to foxes still exist if rabies were to obtain a foothold with foxes in Australia?

Anyone suggesting foxes, cats or pigs should be allowed to breed clearly does not care about the lorikeets, finches, joeys or any of the many small native animals in Australia. Look beyond Brigitte Heyer's 36 acres and it is clear feral pest control is a problem for us all.

So what is the 'best' answer for the Australian environment? Do nothing or do something?

— *Wayne Brown, Queanbeyan*

Ed note: NSW National Parks is hardly doing 'nothing' regarding feral animal control, as made clear by the Member for Monaro in his Q and A session in last month's *Bulletin*. He wrote that more than 40,000 feral animals were culled from national parks in 2010–2011 and some 50,000 in 2011–2012 including 2,700 foxes, 34,000 goats, more than 1,000 wild dogs, 240 cats and 670 deer. The argument about methods: cruel poison versus shooting is another matter.

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John Sneddon describes a good way to meet the market in the current sales climate



I AM OFTEN asked why is it that some properties come on to the market and sell relatively quickly while others take considerably longer and what can be done to achieve a sale in a timely manner?

The simple answer is to meet the market.

Considering rural residential waiting list

So far this year there have been two sales in Bywong with both properties selling in less than 30 days from going on the market. In Carwoola there have been two sales with the properties on the market for 41 and 105 days respectively. In Wamboin there have been four sales, with these properties taking 201, 259, 162 and 206 days to sell.

At the time of writing there are 13 properties for sale in Bywong and they have been on the market for an average of 149 days. In Carwoola there are 15 properties for sale and they have been on the market for an average of 118 days. In Wamboin there are 17 properties for sale and they have been on the market for an average of 184 days.*

Fair value or overpriced?

The evidence suggests that if a property represents fair value to buyers and it meets their needs then it will be seriously considered. On the other hand, if a buyer perceives the property to be overpriced you are encouraging them to look somewhere else. As a seller you want to get the balance

right and recognise that you will only sell for what someone else is prepared to pay.

It is my experience that buyers are concerned with paying too much while sellers worry about underselling. When selling, the temptation is to set an asking price with a view that "we can always come down".

This approach often results in a prolonged time on the market with significant price drops required to achieve a sale. Alternatively, as a seller, if you advertise and sell in the first weekend you would rightly question if you have maximised your sale price.

A successful way to test the market

I recently marketed a property in Carwoola via an Expressions of Interest campaign. At the conclusion of the campaign, 35 days after going on the market we received four written offers and had four other parties interested in negotiating afterwards if the sale didn't conclude. The eventual sale price was over \$1,250,000.

At the end of this process my sellers had a decision to make, sell or not sell. Through the campaign we gathered market feedback, which along with the offers assisted in making the decision to sell. If your property is sitting with a price that is too high, are you maximising your chance to achieve a sale?

This approach has proven successful for the whole range of properties.

* Statistics from Allhomes and RP Data

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Wherefore art thou, regional relocation?

DESPITE a dollar carrot of \$7,000 to relocate, it seems not too many urban NSW voters are keen to move to the 'regions' from the Sydney metro area.



The NSW Opposition has just revealed that the O'Farrell government's regional relocation grants scheme has only motivated 636 families to move, out of the 10,000 annual grants forecast by Treasury.

Reportedly \$1 million was spent on an advertising campaign for the regional relocation grants earlier this year. One third of all grants issued (210) have paid people to leave the Illawarra, Central Coast, Newcastle and the Blue Mountains, not the most congested parts of the state.

It is also not clear whether these people have moved up the road to a neighbouring locality marked 'regional' and pocketed \$7,000 under the scheme. ■

PALERANG COUNCIL

Development Approvals

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

March 2013.

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

Application No	Development Description	Date	Property Description
DA.2012.154	3 Lot Subdivision	14/03/2013	Lot 118 DP 754875 Off Pony Place CARWOOLA
DA.2012.192	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling and New Shed	28/03/2013	Lot 26 DP1012710 61 Lintott Lane SUTTON
DA.2012.295	Dwelling	1/03/2013	Lot 74 DP755949 Back Creek Road BACK CREEK
DA.2012.309	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling	5/03/2013	Lot 7 DP37833 64 Monkitee Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2012.316	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	19/03/2013	Lot 12 DP246156 244 Bidges Road SUTTON
DA.2012.321	Garage and Water Tank	5/03/2013	Lot 3 Sec 12 DP758152 14 Wallace Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2012.329	Two Lot Subdivision	11/03/2013	Lot 112 DP755911 100 Hawthorne Lane BRAIDWOOD
DA.2012.338	Dwelling	6/03/2013	Lot 2 DP1126468 10152 Nerriga Road DURRAN DURRA
DA.2013.005	Alterations and Additions to Dwelling and Pool Fencing	8/03/2013	Lot 6 DP255514 188 Radcliffe Circuit CARWOOLA
DA.2013.006	Dwelling	5/03/2013	Lot 23 DP1168479 12 Hereford Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.007	Carport	5/03/2013	Lot 13 DP754866 230 Harolds Cross Road CAPTAINS FLAT
DA.2013.010	Dwelling	11/03/2013	Lot 1 DP1174129 1139 Bombay Road BOMBAY
DA.2013.012	Dwelling	14/03/2013	Lot 1 DP1111284 Araluen Road JEMBAICUMBENE
DA.2013.014	Dual Occupancy, Swimming Pool and Shed	11/03/2013	Lot 1 DP242374 296 Plains Road HOSKINSTOWN
DA.2013.016	Tree Removal	8/03/2013	Lot D DP23016 74 Ryrie Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2013.020	Inground Swimming Pool	8/03/2013	Lot 1 DP855517 1 Ashby Drive BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.031	Dwelling & Garage	28/03/2013	Lot 3 DP1149369 3 Araluen Lane BRAIDWOOD
DA.2013.037	Extension to Log Cabin	26/03/2013	Lot 3 DP255845 171 Vernelly Road HAROLDS CROSS

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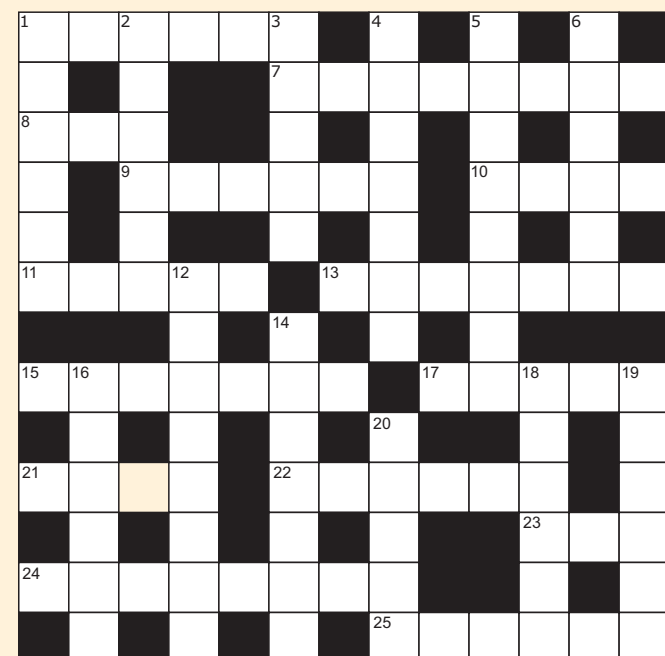
Crossword Solution p18

Across

- 1 Red gem (6)
- 7 Sane (8)
- 8 Nothing (3)
- 9 Frozen spike (6)
- 10 One of a pair (4)
- 11 Very small spot (5)
- 13 Environmental science (7)
- 15 Domestic fowl (7)
- 17 Greta _____, film star (5)
- 21 Stand to support a coffin (4)
- 22 Creature (6)
- 23 Overwhelming feeling of wonder (3)
- 24 Tinder (8)
- 25 Forename of writer Hemingway, whose works include *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (6)

Down

- 1 Sacred river of the Hindus (6)
- 2 Experience again, often in the imagination (6)
- 3 Temporary peace (5)
- 4 Elongate (7)
- 5 Thin unleavened pancake (8)
- 6 Conserving (6)
- 12 American state in the Rocky Mountains (8)
- 14 Republic in the western Balkans (7)
- 16 Ms Newton John, Australian actress (6)
- 18 Recount (6)
- 19 Express dissent (5)
- 20 Act of immoderate indulgence (5)



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GUNDAROO 3444 Yass River Road

'Willow Grove' offers a rare opportunity to acquire a beautiful and highly productive working property. Highlights include Yass River frontage, lucerne flats, irrigation dam, bore, and excellent infrastructure. Gorgeous early 1900s homestead has wonderful charm and cottage gardens.
mcgrath.com.au/173817

🏠 4 🚗 1 🚲 4

For Sale over \$1,290,000
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 2155



GUNDAROO Lot 102 Back Creek Road

A-grade farming land with river frontage and productive river flats are rarely offered. Now is a golden opportunity to acquire this 250 acre lifestyle property with a number of scenic building sites offering views across the Yass River valley. Just 35 minutes drive to Canberra's Inner City.
mcgrath.com.au/175053

For Sale
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 5122



SUTTON 26 Bywong Street

This fantastic residence with versatile floorplan comprises of a large lounge, dining room and open plan kitchen/family room. Features slow combustion fire place, reverse cycle air conditioner, three water tanks and bore.

mcgrath.com.au/172205



🏠 4 🚗 2 🚲 1

For Sale \$639,000
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 5122



WAMBOIN 27 Bingley Way

Set amongst 20 acres of native bush in 'Old Wamboin' is this spacious family home. All rooms are generously sized with separate lounge, dining and family rooms. There is double glazing throughout and floor to ceiling glass in the living rooms allows for lovely bush and garden views.
mcgrath.com.au/180425

🏠 4 🚗 2 🚲 2
For Sale Expressions of Interest close Wednesday 8th May 4.30pm
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
Call 6175 0021



BORO
417 Duckfield Road 🏠 2 🚗 1 🚲 3

All offers considered. There is work to do on this 150 acre property but an inspection is a must as all of the machinery and the added extras are all yours.
For Sale \$360,000
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mcgrath.com.au/159463

CLEAR RANGE
1760 Smiths Road 🏠 1 🚗 1 🚲 2

Picturesque and elevated 102ha (252ac) block with unspoiled native forest, abundant wildlife and river access. Approximately 30 minutes to Tuggeranong.
For Sale over \$525,000
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mcgrath.com.au/177501

DALTON
Lot 2 Bushs Lane

Situated on the outskirts of Dalton is this pristine 141ha (348ac) native bush block. There is a dam, perennial spring and some cleared land for grazing.
For Sale over \$350,000
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
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mcgrath.com.au/177985

GUNDAROO
668 Back Creek Road 🏠 4 🚗 1 🚲 2

This scenic property offers not just a lifestyle, but a way of life. Set on 135 acres with valley views, creek, four water tanks, bore, workshop and shearing shed.
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Call 6175 0014
mcgrath.com.au/170803



GUNDAROO
75 Cork Street

Superb half acre block with park like grounds, north facing orientation allowing to design a solar passive home. Square in shape with feature post and rail fencing.
For Sale over \$300,000
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 5122
mcgrath.com.au/168771

GUNNING
5718 Gundaroo Road 🏠 4 🚗 2 🚲 4

Set on 230 acres of glorious Australian bush this spacious residence features open family living areas with a gorgeous segregated lounge. Make an offer!
For Sale over \$685,000
View by appointment
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Call 6262 5122
mcgrath.com.au/160110

GUNNING
Lots 1 - 8 Biala Street

'Big Hill Estate' offers seven building blocks ranging from 10ha to 12ha in size. Sealed road access, power, phone and town water. A short stroll to Gunning.
For Sale over \$200,000
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
Call 02 6262 5122
mcgrath.com.au/160793

SUTTON
1458 Sutton Road

Price reduced for immediate sale. Build your dream home and enjoy unrivalled views over Canberra and the district on this 30ha dual occupancy block.
For Sale \$670,000
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
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mcgrath.com.au/159603

THE MAN WHO MOULDED THE CAPITAL

Cont'd from p3

He served with distinction in WWII as an army engineer, earning some of the highest military honours for extraordinary feats including surviving a daring escape through the deserts of North Africa.

He would also become intimately acquainted with the difficulties inherent in the world of bureaucracy when the cancellation of the mission of his First Parachute Battalion, of which he was Commander, would ultimately result in the deaths of thousands of Australian PoW's in the infamous Sandakan.

The chief architect

On his return to civilian life, Overall worked as chief architect for the South Australian Housing Trust and later for the Commonwealth between 1952 and 1957. Following his 1957 recommendation that Canberra should have a 'stand-alone authority', he was appointed head of the NCDC and also as chairman of the National Capital Planning Committee.

A decade later, he was knighted for his services to the capital and yet his commitment to the city did not end there. After lobbying for a new parliament house over many years, in 1979 he was appointed Chairman of Assessors for the design of Canberra's new seat of government, the most important piece of national architecture since the Sydney Opera House. The choice by the Parliament House Construction Authority of Romaldo Giurgola would result in the contemporary marvel that currently adorns Capital Hill.

Sir John would write in his memoir *Canberra – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* that the 1988 opening of this newest bastion of Australian democracy was "a wonderful

opportunity to finally establish Canberra as one of the great National Capitals".

His role is perhaps best highlighted on a plaque atop Mount Ainslie, overlooking the city for which he was much responsible: "At a crucial time in the city's history, Sir John Overall led a team which, with organisational skill and political acumen, provided Canberra with a planning vision of clarity and resilience. His years with the NCDC re-

shaped Canberra, confirming a National Capital of international significance".

Had he lived to see Canberra's Centenary, Sir John would no doubt have taken great pride in all that has been achieved. He would also have had cause for personal celebration: he too would have turned 100 in 2013, born in the same year as the city with which his name will always be connected. ■

Before maternity wards in Canberra or Queanbeyan

QUEANBEYAN property 'Yvonne', built in 1908 opposite Queanbeyan Park, has been up for sale. Few know of the life-saving work that was carried out there.

According to documentary film-maker Neal Size, who has recorded a video history of the property, Nurse Mary Johnston delivered 1,700 babies under its roof and another 300 babies in patient's homes from 1910 to 1944.

Size writes: "The catchment area for 'Yvonne' included Queanbeyan, all of the ACT and extended out to areas such as Captains Flat. This care was given during some of our most desperate times; WWI, the great depression, the influenza epidemic and WWII.

"These services were greatly appreciated as it came 33 years before Canberra and 42 years before Queanbeyan opened maternity wards in their hospitals.



"Before establishments such as 'Yvonne', the region's mothers had little choice but to deliver their children at home. Due to the primitive conditions and

medical support, the death rate for Australian mothers during childbirth was 278 times greater in 1910 compared to 2007. The infant mortality rate was also more than 20 times greater. The better sanitation and professional care given at 'Yvonne' gave mothers and their babies a big step up in safety."

Size's documentary was funded by the last owners of the property, Sue and Travis Borgo and is being donated to the Queanbeyan Museum. The documentary is free to view online and can be found on video websites, YouTube and Vimeo.

Documentary Link: *The history of 'Yvonne'*: http://youtu.be/cUgh2Q_K4xs

A regional hand for Glossy Black-Cockatoo comeback

by Tony Robinson

A COMBINED effort by local, state and community agencies is giving Glossy Black-Cockatoos a chance to make a local comeback by connecting habitat land in the Kosciuszko to the Coast (K2C) corridor.

The \$260,000 project to plant 10,000 trees critical to the survival of the vulnerable Glossy Black-Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*) is now underway in the upper Murrumbidgee area from Queanbeyan to Cooma, complementing plantings that have been carried out in the ACT.

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo can be confused with the much more commonly seen Yellow-Tailed Black Cockatoo which is larger and has a yellow patch on the side of the head as well as having yellow tail feathers.

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo is stockier, has no obvious head markings and has red tail feathers. The calls are also different but it would require practice to distinguish between the two species.



PHOTO: BELINDA STRAHORN

The Glossy Black-Cockatoo is listed as vulnerable in NSW and the ACT. A number of factors have contributed to its vulnerability, including historical land clearing, ongoing loss of hollow-bearing trees, urbanisation and grazing.

The vulnerability of the Glossy Black-Cockatoo is also related to its specialist feeding habits, as it feeds exclusively on *Allocasuarina* species (she-oaks), which are particularly susceptible to browsing and lack of regeneration from constant grazing pressure.

The project is being carried out by the K2C partnership, part of the Great Eastern

Continued next page

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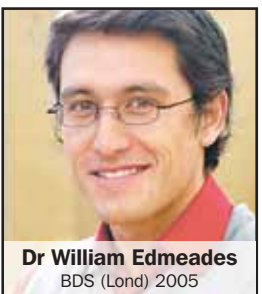
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anges (GER) initiative. K2C and GER aim to provide connectivity across the landscape for species such as the Glossy Black-Cockatoo.

Greening Australia Capital Region will oversee propagation and on-ground aspects of the planting program. Follow-up monitoring of plantings and bird behaviour will be conducted by the project partners.

"This is an exciting project and we have been very pleased with the community response," said Geoff Robertson, Chair of K2C.

"The aim of the project is to increase the area of and connectivity between Glossy Black-Cockatoo foraging habitat, by increasing the availability of Drooping She-oak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*), the main food-source of these cockatoos in our region."

Queanbeyan Landcare, an active partner in the project, is eagerly awaiting Queanbeyan City Council's decision on a formal request to adopt the Glossy Black-Cockatoo as its avian emblem.

"Council is proud to be one of the landowners who will be participating in this important project; we will provide a site for habitat planting for the species," commented Mayor Tim Overall. "However the adoption will have to go out for public consultation."

The project was officially launched in March by Member for Monaro, John Barilaro.

"Preserving the livelihood of our native animals is incredibly important as they are a huge part of what makes our region so special to live in," he said.

The project has been assisted by the NSW Government through its Environmental Trust. ■

— Food matters —

"Good food is the foundation of genuine happiness."

— Auguste Escoffier (1846–1935) French chef, restaurateur and culinary writer

While a full belly brings its own satisfaction, foodstuffs are more than nutrition. This month's Big Idea harvests some thoughts from recent research on food.

One gene could help feed the world

GETTING more out of the food we currently grow could be the difference between global feast or famine. University of Queensland researchers might have found another piece of the food security puzzle with their identification of a single gene in sorghum that can increase its digestibility.

Drought and heat-tolerant, sorghum can grow in regions that are unfit for other crops. It is a major part of dryland cropping systems in north-eastern Australia and used for animal feed (especially for cattle, pigs and poultry). World-wide, sorghum provides essential fodder and food for people living in some of the globe's poorest regions. However, it has low digestibility compared with other cereals such as maize.

Writing in *Nature Communications*, Edward Gilding and colleagues show that sorghum becomes easier to digest if it carries a particular version of a gene involved in starch metabolism (pullulanase). They also demonstrate that carrying this version of the pullulanase gene does not seem to have any negative effects on sorghum growth or yield.

Another plus for the gene variation is that it is already present in the elite plant lines of Queensland's sorghum pre-breeding program – meaning that it's already in the pipeline towards improving global nutrition.

Fast food linked to childhood health troubles

Eating fast food seems to be associated with an increased risk of severe asthma, eczema and rhinitis (inflammation of the nose and its

mucus membranes) in teenagers and children. On the other hand, fruit seems to have a protective effect.

These findings come from a large international study led by researchers at the University of Auckland and are published in the respiratory journal *Thorax*. They collected data on more than 319,000 teenagers (13–14 year-olds) from 107 centres in 51 countries, and more than 181,000 children (6–7 year-olds) from 64 centres in 31 countries; the participants were already part of the International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood, a larger long-standing research project.

The teenagers and parents of children were asked about the severity of their symptoms and their weekly diet. The focus was on certain foods that had already been linked to damaging or protecting effects on health and included meat, fish, fruits and vegetables, cereals, nuts and fast food.

Analysis showed that fast food was the only food type to show the same associations across both age groups and across gender, regional and affluence categories – three or more servings per week was linked to a 39 percent increase in risk of severe asthma among teenagers and a 27 percent increase in risk among children. Eating three or more portions of fruit per week was associated with a reduction in the severity of symptoms

for 11 percent of teens and 14 percent of children.

What you eat may affect how long you sleep

Writing in the journal *Appetite*, sleep researchers at the University of Pennsylvania have found that certain nutrients may play an underlying role in long and short sleep patterns.

The study used data from the 2007–08 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, which represents all ages and demographics of the US population. For this study, survey participants were divided into groups based on their reported sleeping patterns: very short (less than 5 hrs per night), short (5–6 hr), normal (7–8 hr) and long (9 hr or more).

Researchers found associations between sleep patterns and overall nutrition. Short sleepers

consumed the most calories, followed by normal sleepers, followed by very short sleepers, followed by long sleepers. Food variety was highest in normal sleepers, and lowest in very short sleepers.

They also noted that some key nutrients were associated with different sleep patterns. Very short sleep was associated with less intake of tap water, lycopene (found in red- and orange-coloured foods), and total carbohydrates.

Short sleep was associated with less vitamin C, tap water, selenium (found in nuts, meat and shellfish), and more lutein/zeaxanthin (found in green, leafy vegetables). And, long sleep was associated with less intake of theobromine (found in chocolate and tea), dodecanoic acid (a saturated fat) and choline (found in eggs and fatty meats), but with more alcohol. ■

What's the Big Idea?



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Love's hilarious side

by Stephanie L Anderson

QUEANBEYAN Council's upcoming production *I love you, You're perfect, Now change* is on track to be both side-splittingly funny and quite romantic.

I sat in on rehearsals this week and found my uproarious laughter tough to contain.

This play is the longest running off-Broadway musical, and no wonder. The writing is witty, the songs catchy and the subject matter hilarious. It explores the complexities (and hilarities) of relationships, from first dates to lifelong love affairs and everything in-between.

"The desire for love is a fundamental urge, but perhaps as basic is the drive to remake the object of your affection," and "its about people trying to connect" says The Q publicity material. That just about covers everyone so it's not surprising the cast and crew can delve into their own lives for some extra insights. Or gain a few insights.

Council, through The Q, produces at least one major show a year, and this one is also directed by Stephen Pike. At this rehearsal the Canberra-based cast were enjoying themselves and the material and all have high praise for Stephen. "I chose to do the show because I'd get to work with Stephen," said actor Nick Valois.

Actor Greg Sollis said it's a fun "light-hearted look at relationships and love. It shows a picture of everything that happens in love over a lifetime," he said.

"Look out for *the driving song*. It's probably my favourite, I'm exactly like the guy in the song," Sollis laughed.

Actor Krystle Innes thinks audiences will definitely relate to the characters and their stories. "No matter who you are, we've all been 'that girl', everyone goes through the same things in relationships," she chuckled.

Cast members Dave Evans and Jenna Roberts have a unique perspective on the topic of love, as they are both co-stars and off-stage partners. The pair will be performing a number together about marriage, a step they are yet to take in their relationship.

"Every role in the show, if it doesn't remind you of yourself, it reminds you of someone you know... Jenna and I being in a relationship means that we have a great deal of trust in each other, especially important with this show!" said Evans.

Christine Forbes, the only single cast member in the production thought it isn't just molding the loved one into a more pleasing shape: "relationships do change us, and that can be a good thing".

For a truly hilarious (adults only) night out, you cannot go past *I love you, You're perfect, Now change* at The Q, and leave wondering at how much of the skits struck home.

Showing at The Q in Queanbeyan from the 24 April until the 5 May. For session times and ticketing information visit www.theq.net.au. Or see ad below.

— At the flicks —

with Judy Thompson

This month features tales about women driven by loneliness, love and work.

Goddess is an Australian-made musical featuring British actress Laura Michelle Kelly as lonely housewife Elspeth Dickens.

Elspeth has twin sons and lives in rural Tasmania while her husband James (played by Ronan Keating) is often away in the Antarctic studying whales (but not in the Japanese sense).

James gives Elspeth a webcam to improve communication while he is away but then strangely fails to make contact electronically. Elspeth alleviates her loneliness with musical performances to the webcam and is viewed by an increasingly large online audience. The performances vary from washing up glove laments to a parody of corporate life.

Eventually, Elspeth is spotted as advertising talent by Cassandra (played by Magda Szubanski). Elspeth is launched into a new career, which brings inevitable tensions to her home life.

The film doesn't take itself too seriously. If you loved *Bran Nue Dae* you will like this film.

Happily it is doing quite well with *The Herald Sun* reporting on 18 March that it had taken over \$500K and is in the fourth spot in the popularity list at the box office.

Anna Karenina is a British film written by Tom Stoppard based on Leo Tolstoy's famous novel of the same name.

The Telegraph in the UK reports that the Russians hate the film and think Keira Knightley is not voluptuous enough for the part. David Lean's production of *Doctor Zhivago* was also ridiculed by Russian audiences.

The film is 'theatrical' with much of the action taking place on a stage. Some have said that this was a clever way to cut costs. The scenes of Kitty and Levin's rural life were, however, filmed in Russia. Alicia Vikander (who plays Kitty) reported in *The Guardian* that the weather was 40 degrees below and there were warnings about wolves, but that it was a great adventure.

The plot is well known and involves a beautiful young married woman, Anna, who falls in love with a dashing young cavalry officer. Anna pays a very high price for her love by losing her children, social status and eventually her own life when she throws herself under a train in despair.

The hypocrisy of the time is stark if you contrast the consequences of Anna's admittedly more public affair, and its consequences, with Dolly's husband Stiva who is habitually unfaithful, forgiven by his wife and suffers no social opprobrium at all.

Anna's love affair is also contrasted with the newlyweds Kitty and Levin who represent Tolstoy's ideal of married love.

It is a visually very beautiful film well worth a look.

Zero Dark Thirty is about the 2011 assassination of Osama Bin Laden in the raid on his compound in Pakistan.

The film follows Maya, a driven young CIA agent, who is responsible for gathering information on Osama Bin Laden's whereabouts. Maya experiences the effects of terrorism on her colleagues, many of whom are killed in bomb attacks, as well as the effects of the attacks on civilians in the UK and the USA.

Continued p15

THE Q

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24 April-5 May 2013: Wednesday 24 April 8pm; Thursday 25 April 8pm; Friday 26 April 8pm; Saturday 27 April 2pm & 8pm; Sunday 28 April 5pm; Wednesday 1 May 8pm; Thursday 2 May 2pm & 8pm; Friday 3 May 8pm; Saturday 4 May 2pm & 8pm; Sunday 5 May 5pm.

TICKETS: Full price \$45, concession & groups \$40, all matinees: \$35.



Non-traditional circus wows



NOT LONG now until Michael Edgley's Great Moscow Circus lands at the Majura Park Airport Precinct from 12 April playing throughout the school holidays until April 28.

Since it was here three years ago, the Moscow Circus is returning with a totally new show. Michael Edgley, as many people in Australia will recall, is now approaching 50 years in the business! A truly incredible achievement.

The Great Moscow Circus tour began all those years ago and still lives on today.

Gone are the traditional circus animals – now there is a posse of very clever miniature horses, handled by an amazing 11-year-old.

The Globe of Death features five highly

tuned motorbikes whizzing around at breakneck speed before the globe miraculously splits in two, making the unique act even scarier than before!

Twenty sensational acts from Russia and guest performers from around the world will amaze in a packed two hour show.

Having seen the production in Melbourne and Wagga, I have to say it really is the best Moscow Circus and is a delight for people of all ages.

Snowshow in July

The multi-award winning international sensation Slava's Snowshow storms into Australia for a limited season playing at the Canberra Theatre from 3 to 7 July.


Since its creation by renowned Russian clown Slava Polunin in 1993, Slava's Snowshow has played to millions of people in more than 30 countries and 120 cities.

The show has garnered worldwide popular and critical acclaim, as well as a growing number of awards including a Tony nomination for Special Theatrical Event in 2009. Slava's Snowshow has been lauded as "a theatre classic of the 20th century" by *The Times* in London, and Slava Polunin praised as "the best clown in the world."

Hope to see you in a foyer very soon.

— Coralie Wood

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April: Still warm for stargazing and plenty to gaze at and learn

THE DAYS of April get shorter very quickly, giving us extra time under the stars, along with still acceptable temperatures. Have a look at the night sky this month; take advantage of our dark rural skies. You'll see some bright stars, the beginnings of the winter Milky Way and the planet Saturn.

The stars of summer are starting to leave us with the onset of another autumn. Setting in the west is the bright constellation Orion, with its string of three bright stars.

Can you see them in the sky? (Try using the attached map, they are between Rigel and Betelgeuse). In order from left to right, these three are called 'Mintaka', 'Alnilam' and 'Alnitak'.

They form the 'belt' of Orion, and were named by Arabic astronomers many centuries ago. These stars are very distant, ranging from 80 to 150 times the distance to nearby bright Sirius, and range in actual brightness from 100,000 to 900,000 times the luminosity of the Sun.

As mentioned last month, compare the colour of Rigel to Betelgeuse, one (Rigel) is blue-white and the other (Betelgeuse) is red. Binoculars reveal the colours well.

Identifying Saturn

Sirius, Canopus, Achenar and Alpha Centauri make up the rest of the bright stars visible in our April skies. Additionally, rising in the east is the blue-white star Spica, the brightest star in the constellation Virgo. Spica is very useful this month, as it allows us to easily identify April's highlight, the planet Saturn.

The planets in April – Take a look at spectacular Saturn

Saturn reaches 'opposition', the point in its orbit where it appears opposite the sun as seen from Earth, on 28 April. Saturn lies in the constellation Libra and can be seen as a fairly bright yellowish star low in the east just after sunset, not far from the moderately bright blue-white star Spica.

Can you see that Spica twinkles, whereas Saturn does not? This is due to the stars being so distant that they appear as singular points of light. Planets are tiny discs and the turbulence in the Earth's atmosphere (which produces the twinkling) affects planets a lot less on any given night.

Although visible all month, and indeed for some months to come, the ringed planet will be at its brightest and closest to us for the year on the 28th, at a distance 8.82 times the distance from the Earth to the sun.

Through a telescope Saturn is spectacular, the huge ring system that encircles the planet is easily seen, as well as dusky cloud patterns

on the yellow globe of Saturn itself, and several of its moons, which change position relative to Saturn from night to night.

Indeed the brightest moon, Titan, can sometimes be seen with only a pair of binoculars if held steady.

The rings of Saturn are made up of billions of icy particles, some the size of a speck of dust, some the size of a house, all rotating and jostling for position. They originated as a small moon that was shattered (probably by a collision with a second moon) many millions of years ago.

These ring particles continuously rain down onto Saturn's atmosphere, producing a permanent spectacular meteor shower. One day, millions of years hence, all the ring particles will have burned up and the rings will be gone.

Amazingly, the rings are wider than 21 Earths yet are only 100 metres thick, and the overall density of Saturn is so low that if there

were an ocean of water big enough to put it, Saturn would float.

Like the other Gas Giants of the solar system, Saturn does not have a solid surface, and is essentially a huge ball of hydrogen gas so big that we could fit 762 Earths into it. If we were to enter its atmosphere in a spacecraft, we would fall deeper and deeper until being crushed by the immense pressure.

The moon is new on 11 April, full on 26 April and at first quarter phase (half) on 19 April. Have a look at the moon at half-phase, binoculars will reveal many of the lunar mountains, craters and ancient lava plains. ■

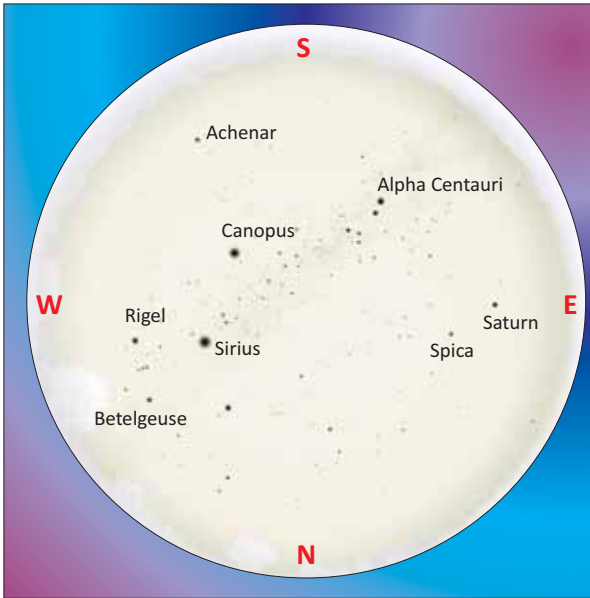


CHART (9PM ON 15 APRIL) PRODUCED USING THE STELLARIUM SOFTWARE PACKAGE

Build a community of neighbours to help fight fires, plus 12 top tips for being prepared

by Robyn Hall

ABOUT 50 property owners from Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton recently attended an information session about what to do when bushfires threaten the local area.

Representatives from the Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade were there to provide comprehensive and potentially life-saving information about what to do when fire threatens homes and properties in rural areas, as they did in this area early this year.

One spokesperson said a helpful thing you can do to protect yourself and your property is to form a community group of about 15 neighbours – with the aim of helping each other if fire threatens.

The idea is to contact your immediate neighbours, meet with them, get their phone numbers, email addresses and any other relevant details about what to do if fire threatens your, or their properties.

One of the best ways to do this is to produce a simple flyer and put it into the letterboxes of your immediate neighbours, or neighbours you would like to have involved in the group.

— Lake George Fire District —

A Wamboin resident told the *Bulletin* that “not only will doing this be a great way to assist each other if fire occurs, it will also be a great way to build community in your area.

“For example, this group could be used to assist each other with difficult jobs that need a few people to do them. To keep a friendly eye on each other in times of

sickness, go for a walk with, help find lost dogs, cats or other pets, swap vegies and other home grown produce, help injured wildlife, organise a card night, or have a progressive dinner party. The list is endless,” she said enthusiastically.



Facing a fire: top tips

Some of the other tips provided by the speakers for those who want to survive bushfires and protect their homes from it are as follows:

- 1 Complete a Bushfire Survival Plan that suggests how to “Prepare. Act. Survive.” You can download a template from www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.
- 2 Have fire retardant, protective clothing, such as: trousers, long-sleeved shirts, shoes or work boots made of leather, a broad-brimmed hat and industrial gloves. To protect your face, invest in protective eyewear, face masks or a dampened handkerchief to protect yourself from inhaling smoke.
- 3 Seal under doors and windows with wet towels or absorbent blankets to create a buffer that prevents smoke and airborne embers from entering your home.
- 4 Keep grass mown, clear away fallen leaves, dead undergrowth, tan bark and wood piles near your home and remove rubbish from the gutters.
- 5 Shut all windows and doors to prevent smoke and flames from entering the house. Move furniture away from windows to prevent sparks entering the house through a broken window and setting alight furniture, which is often made of material that burns easily.
- 6 Fill the bath and buckets with water to putting out any small fires that may start inside the house. Soak towels and woollen blankets with water to cover

your face to protect against smoke inhalation.

- 7 Identify tools such as rakes, shovels and spades that will assist you to cover burning matter with dirt, extinguish spot fires or rake over areas where piles of matter can be a fire hot spot. Use a wet mop and a bucket of water to put out embers.
- 8 Plan ahead and source alternate water in advance so as to not be reliant on your own dam or tank water.
- 9 Keep a ladder handy for roof access inside and outside.
- 10 In a bushfire situation, a radio and a couple of torches that are all battery-operated are a must. (If the electricity goes you still have light and radio.) Fire updates on local ABC radio have proven invaluable although some rural locations cannot get ABC radio. Hence multiple avenues of information are useful. Don't forget spare batteries for both torches and your radio.
- 11 In addition to radio and internet, use social media to stay up to date.
- 12 *Fires Near Me NSW* is the official smart phone application of the NSW Rural Fire Service. Check the Rural Fire Service website www.rfs.nsw.gov.au for download instructions and other sources of information.

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Bungendore Community Health Centre, 2 Majara St (PO Box 355, Bungendore NSW 2621)

What is this collecting mania?

IT'S FASCINATING to talk to people about what they collect, and why and how they started collecting a particular 'thing'.

I have a friend who has started collecting quirky salt and pepper shakers. He didn't intend to start a collection. He brought his beautiful cruet in to Annie's to show me.

It is a fantastic blue colour and is in the shape of a fish. It has the most wonderful pair of fish as the salt and pepper shakers which sit on the fins at the back.



My friend has now added a monkey, a pair of windmills and a slice of Paris to his collection and can definitely be classed as a collector.

I also recently had a visit from a lovely lady who brought along her photo album to show me her collection of over 400 cruets. They were crystal, ceramic and porcelain (no metal, thank you) and appeared in any imagined shapes.

From animals to fruits and vegetables; round, square, triangular – you name it. They were amazing.

The one cruet set she is still searching for is in the shape of the Sydney Harbour Bridge with the salt and pepper making the pylons at either end.

Cruets and salt and pepper shape

I always understood that the word 'cruet' referred to a stand or base plate, with a number of smaller containers or bottles to hold salt, pepper, vinegar, etc.

Wikipedia, however, defines a cruet as "a small flat-bottomed vessel with a narrow

neck. Cruets often have an integral lip or spout, and may also have a handle. Unlike a small carafe, a cruet has a stopper, lid, or phoedelia," (the church name for the stoppers that accompany the cruets.)

It follows that a cruet-stand (or cruet in British English) is a small metal, ceramic or glass stand that holds the containers for condiments. These typically include salt and pepper shakers, and often cruets or bottles of vinegar and olive oil. The stand and containers form a cruet set.

When David and I travel, we keep an eye out for items that customers have requested and salt and pepper shakers is one category where we are looking for a number of specific sets. One is the Sydney Harbour Bridge mentioned above and the other is a married couple – newly married on one side and an older couple on the other.

While we are looking for specific items, we often find others that we just can't leave behind. Some of the salt and peppers we have collected include langouste or lobsters, Mother Goose and her goose, stunning peacocks, beautiful green deco uranium glass, silver plated sets, old Bakelite, vintage 1950s depression glass, crystal, china and pottery.



Of course, we can say that we are not really collectors, we just buy them for Annie's.

Come and have a look at our annual Mother's Day Morning Tea on Friday 10 May from 10.30am. You are welcome to bring a Mother, or a friend (of course my mother was my friend). Please RSVP by Monday 6 May 2013 to 6238 3284 or joyce@anniescollectables.com.au for catering purposes.

Till next time, take care – Annie.

Antique Chat

with 'Annie' Joyce Nordsvan



AT THE FLICKS

Cont'd from p12

She is certainly driven and has unique 'managing upwards' skills. For example, she keeps score of the number of days of inaction on her boss's cubicle glass door with a large marker pen.

The Guardian in the UK gives the film a "B– score on entertainment" and a "C– for History." That review is critical of some word pronunciations as well as the geographical street directions provided in the film. The problems with historical accuracy have been mentioned by various other reviewers as well.



Across the radar screen

I'm not a paranoid, deranged millionaire. God dammit, I'm a billionaire.

~ Howard Hughes

I've been married to a communist and a fascist, and neither would take out the garbage.

~ Zsa Zsa Gabor

Wood burns faster when you have to cut and chop it yourself.

~ Harrison Ford

The best cure for sea sickness, is to sit under a tree.

~ Spike Milligan

Particularly attracting controversy are the torture scenes. Some US senators and CIA executives have said that torture was not instrumental in finding Bin Laden or setting up the final raid on the compound in Pakistan. The film's director Kathryn Bigelow says that torture was used in "the early years of the hunt".

This was not an easy film to watch. It comes highly recommended by some film critics who laud its action sequences (Bigelow is considered a top, if not the best action director working today) while others have focused on the criticisms of its historical claims. ■

When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife.

~ Prince Philip

A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.

~ Emo Philips

After the game, the King and the pawn go into the same box.

~ Italian proverb

The only reason they say 'Women and children first' is to test the strength of the lifeboats.

~ Jean Kerr

Country Living Classifieds

Collectables



Clown collection for sale – 18 clowns. Some vintage 1940's and 50's, some not so old. Some soft, some ceramic. \$10 to \$25 each. Ph Joyce 0408 103 209.



Lovely Vintage. Antique ornate mangle. Original cast iron Mangle Ewban Jewel 326684JG Bond Ltd Chelmsford. Mechanisms and timber fine. Needs sensitive restoration. Joseph 0422 225 358.

Freecycle

Breville 'Steak sear' countertop steak cooker, as new. Preloved sandwich/jaffle maker, Breville, workhorse. Top quality inner-spring single bed mattress, Domino brand. Quick on desk copies: Canon i550 cartridge colour printer – needs service for proper colour reproduction works for B&W. Bill 0412 567 191.

Household

Tagines, the oldest, traditional slow cooking pots. Handmade, from local Bywong Potter. Kiln-

Bulletin Country Classifieds last month rehomed horse gear (rugs and boots); childrens playpen; along with various items from garage sale.

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Farm and Livestock

Pure breed poultry sale and information day



19 May 2013, starts 10am at the Queanbeyan Show Ground

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More information: www.cqpoultryclub.com

fired, some hand painted, some plain made from terracotta. Cook on the stove or oven. Joseph 6236 9155.

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2 x office chairs on casters, grey fabric \$10 each or both for \$15. Krups espresso coffee machine, hardly used, \$30. Ph 6238 1996.

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Where is sports headed? Individual, extreme and corporate-run sports on the rise

by Karen Lovatt

FOR DECADES Australians have become used to the idea that we are a very successful nation in the sporting arena. Cricket, rugby league, rugby union, swimming and hockey were all areas where Australia was often considered the best in the world.

So when the entire first week of the 2012 London Olympic Games passed with

just one gold medal, it is not very surprising that panic buttons were pressed all over the country. From primary school children to the top politicians, it seemed everyone had an opinion about Australia's "bad" performance at the games.

Now in *Australia's Winning Edge*, recently launched in Canberra, CSIRO scientist



Stefan Hajkowicz and his team address the issues that contribute to the perceived loss of sporting dominance, and provide suggestions for the future course of sport.

From extreme to mainstream

Six key areas, dubbed "megatrends" are identified in the report and Dr Hajkowicz analyses the long-term direction of each trend.

The first megatrend is called the *Perfect Fit*. It focuses on the swing towards personal training and other individualised sports, such as walking or running. The trend revolves mainly around time constraints and personal fitness goals and reflects the common move from organised sports to fitness regimes.

The second trend is called *From Extreme to Mainstream*, and focuses on the rise in extreme sports (such as snowboarding, skateboarding and ski jumping) that are popular with young people.

Dr Hajkowicz noted that the International Olympic Committee is responding to these popular sports, by including BMX and almost including kiteboarding at Rio.

The third megatrend *More Than Sport* examines the increasing use of sports to better society. There is increasing evidence to support the idea that participation in sport can improve mental health outcomes, as well as providing unquestionable physical health benefits.

Sport is already being used to promote inclusion and multiculturalism. The AFL's Indigenous football programs and the NRL's Learn Earn Legend program are just two examples of sport being used in such a way.

Lifelong sport

The trend *Everybody's Game* refers to the increasing popularity of sport across generations and cultural groups. As Australia's population grows older, it wants to stay connected to the sports that it has grown up with.

As sporting preferences differ among cultures, the book observes the fluctuations in popularity of traditionally popular sports as a result.

This segues neatly into the fifth trend *New Wealth, New Talent*, which focuses on the improvements other nations have been making in the great sporting race.

There has long been a visible correlation between a country's economic performance and its medal tally at the Olympic Games. Emerging economic powers are now providing tougher competition on the world sporting stage, and they are here to stay.

Effect of suits running sports

The final megatrend *Tracksuits to Business Suits* focuses on the increasingly corporate nature of sport. Codes are now run by boards of businessmen rather than sportspeople – boards of sporting clubs have little experience in the sport.

This leads to communities feeling less involved with their local sports. As society reacts to greater demands for our time and attention, sports are struggling and volunteers are under enormous amounts of pressure. The same tiny core of people struggle to put on sporting events, where before many volunteers may have been helping.

This section addresses the rising costs of becoming involved in organised sport. As some family budgets grow tighter, sport can become an unjustifiable cost.

The report will undoubtedly make for uncomfortable reading for those who still live in the glory days of Australian sport. But such analysis and honest soul-searching is necessary for the country to move forward.

We may not ever be able to reach the glorious heights of yore, but we can ensure that Australian sport remains stable and strong for generations to come. ■

Thanks Mum...



When this press release lobbied in to the *Bulletin* we were intrigued to learn that the winner of the Myer Fashion on the Fields comp at the Black Opal Stakes in mid-March was Bywong resident Viviana Parish. Ms Parish was "ecstatic and shaky," according to the release, as her outfit, featuring a straw headpiece made by her mother, was announced winner of the \$20,000 prize. It was the first time the 21-year-old marketing professional entered such a competition. Viviana confirmed it was pretty exciting.

"I have love of style and am always keeping my eyes open for new trends, colours and styles," she said.

"It was a snap decision to enter the Black Opal Fashion on the Fields. On the Friday before the event I bought a gorgeous yellow and black dress from Australian designer Cue. I rang my mum and said I think I will enter the Black Opal only I will need a hat! Well that was that, by the time I got home from work my mum had constructed the makings of my hat to be."

Not bad for a weekend's work and play. Viviana said she is now keen to try again at other fashion on the field events.

GetUp tracks the brains behind the super misinformation campaign

MISINFORMATION and false claims about the federal government are daily features of News Ltd (Murdoch) papers such as *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Australian*. Nationally 70 percent of the print media in this country including most of the metro papers belong to News.

In a satire using the nom de plume 'Ima Richman', the grassroots political group GetUp (www.getup.org.au) gets us on the inside track of the most recent misinformation scare campaign. This time it's about superannuation reform being savaged by the federal Opposition and its media mates and bizarrely aided by newly-minted Labor backbenchers. Here's a bit of what Ima had to say.

We have a plan: misinformation. It's actually quite clever. Tony Abbott and Simon Crean have come out with some brilliant media lines about "raiding superannuation". Not to brag, but I was actually the person who suggested putting the word "super" in front of "dumb" in today's Daily Tele ... nailed it! We want everyone to think that the plan is to withdraw money from our accounts – it's not true, but only idiots let the truth get in the way of a good story! There actually is no plan to raid anyone's super (including mine) but there are plans to make a dent in my huge tax break and I'm not about to let that money go to some hippy new age cause like education without a fight!

Postscript: the deceptive talk about 'raiding your super' did not stop after the government unveiled its very limited proposal on 5 April.

Here's a recent Tele cover to give you the flavour of what they're about, should you not have seen it. Almost as inspired as visually comparing Senator Stephen Conroy to Hitler, Stalin, Mao and a few other despots around the time of the new media laws discussion. That cover brought a storm of disgusted mail down on the Telegraph, confirming the good sense of many Australians.



Aging in place



The ACT Chief Minister and Health Minister, Katy Gallagher officially opened Canberra's newest aged care facility, David Harper House, at Goodwin Monash, in Canberra, in early April. One of the residents of the 223 independent living villas, 77-year-old Paddy Reardon, is pictured above in front of one of the many beautiful pieces of artwork in the foyer of the new facility. He says the facility is "absolutely fabulous" and looks like the entrance to a modern hotel.

Mr Reardon loves the idea of being able to live independently in his own self contained villa, and if he, or any of his fellow residents get sick, they can move just across the road to David Harper House for additional care. The best thing about ageing in place was that he would always have a community of friends to share the good times, and possibly the not so good times, if he or they get sick.

There are also two onsite aged care facilities, access to in-home assistance through Goodwin Community Care, a well equipped Lifestyle Clubhouse and private par three-hole golf course.

See the ad p11 this issue of The District Bulletin for more information.

Self-sufficient and sustainable lifestyles learning the art of the possible

by Paul Dann

WHEN I FIRST took on my place at Mongarlowe, some four decades ago, I probably thought I knew a bit. After a career in agronomy research and extension, that might have been a reasonable expectation – but I wonder.

‘LaTreen’ had all the attributes for production, such as a north-easterly aspect, permanent creek with fish and eels, good average rainfall, and so on. Yet increasingly I am telling those who come here for workshops – over the years there have been several thousand attendees – the goal of sustainability and self sufficiency is great, but it ain’t easy. The set backs can be many, though on a positive note, the rewards worthwhile.

Challenges like late spring frosts don’t make it easy for many food crops here, and yields from stone fruits are the exception rather than the rule. For years I have tried avocados, but even under the verandah late frosts knock off the young trees. Maybe I’ve the worst micro-environment in the district; in retrospect I could have done better by getting down off the escarpment but I wasn’t to know at the time. And anyhow, it’s been heaps of fun.

Not wishing to indulge in too much technology, I tried wanky things like floating gardens, moat gardens, sunpits, overhanging native trees, plastic (a concession to technology) greenhouses, even doona deprivation (*I think, after 20 years, I might*

have successfully established a bunya bunya pine by wrapping it in my doona for ten winters or so. And the bloody thing will probably thank me by dropping a ten kilo nut-food-laden cone on my head!)

Growing what fits place and inhabitants

Anyhow the floating gardens sank, the moat gardens desiccated, wallabies jumped into the sunpits, the overhanging trees dropped limbs on what I wanted, and so on, and finally I realised I should only grow things that grow here unaided. But it’s been fun.

Actually one of the main problems has been native fauna. It’s all very well to be touchy-feely and plant enough to feed yourself and the birds; my bloody birds want it all for themselves. So, to get anything, a tree has to be bird-netted – more technology.

There can be compromises, of course; bower birds, particularly the females, have an uncanny knack of turning up just as the grapes ripen. They get so greedy, stuffing themselves with grapes, it’s possible to sneak up and grab them; and a couple of grape-fed bower birds make a nice casserole, so it is said.

And the wombats! For some years I was growing good crops of sweet corn, to supply



markets in Canberra and lately Braidwood. Finally the wombats heard about it. They would break into the paddock, saunter along the rows and straddle the ten-foot high plants until they came to the cobs (each worth 50 cents or so); and goodbye 50 cents.

Don’t talk to me about electric fences for wombats (anyhow that’s technology) or touchy-feely approaches like tins of urine or a bag of instant cement in the hole. The irony is that I don’t dislike wombats; I just wish they would leave my corn alone. [Paul says he has since given up growing corn.]

Of borers and poultry

Another unwelcome example of native fauna is a longicorn beetle. A borer, it has a habit of neatly sawing off the trunks of productive 20-year old hazelnut trees – disappointing, as hazels are one of the more successful crops here. But let’s look after the natives, eh.

For 10 years I had a great self-sustaining poultry system. Teaching fowls to roost at night time on top of a netted vegetable garden meant they could forage out in the bush, (no purchased feed) return in the evening and deposit bush-sourced nutrients on the vegetables and at the same time be safe from foxes.

Finding the eggs could be a problem, though. However, I have happy memories

and charming photos of my chooks enjoying the company of native fauna like wallabies, wood ducks, and rosellas, all on the front lawn. But nothing succeeds forever here – eventually foxes woke up to the potential free feeds in the bush, and gradually knocked off the livestock during daylight.

Let’s get real about limits to living without technology

To get back to those workshops, increasingly I find myself pointing out to people that few of them arrive by horse or bicycle. I tell them of how I thought I might help save the world by riding a bike into town, until, as I was sweating up six-mile hill, further out locals glided past in their four-wheel drives on their way to a Braidwood coffee.

I realised that sustainability is a bit of a myth – that is, if people want to continue anything like their current comfortable, often profligate, lifestyles. For that, I suggest, technology is the only hope.

But isn’t life great! As I sit out on the balcony in the evening, flagon of wine at one hand and a favourite dog at the other, and gaze out at my favourite mountain – Currockbilly, scene of many memorable walks with lots of good people – I realise that my parting words to the workshop attendees are probably appropriate: “Forget about being sustainable, folks. Just try to be a bit less unsustainable: and enjoy the lifestyle while you’re at it”. ■

Paul sent us this article to further the country living conversation. It was first published in Paul Cockram’s new Braidwood magazine, BWD.

MINISTER RATTENBURY: STILL WAITING Cont’d from p6

Evaluation would be a cornerstone of evidence-based resource management.

With another cull possibly looming in May, the short answer is the Minister is still waiting for evaluation reports and he did not know when they might be forthcoming. But he said he is expecting to see material and would make it publicly available.

A source privy to a meeting between Rattenbury’s office and the ecology unit last year said it was implied then that it might be a while.

It was argued that so-called ‘conservation culling’ shows its outcomes and impacts in 3–5 years (which would be about now if there is any data). It was also suggested that neither NSW nor Victoria monitor conservation culls. However, neither NSW nor Victoria do anything comparable as a routine matter in nature reserves (or for that matter in built up areas).

No one knows appropriate densities for urban kangaroos?

It was reportedly discussed that no-one knows what an appropriate kangaroo population density is for the ACT urban parks. The shooting quota has aimed in a mechanical fashion to reduce the number of kangaroos in a reserve (first counted by volunteers) to one per hectare and then more recently to one-half a kangaroo per hectare.

However, two kangaroos per hectare has been shown in research outside the ACT and by individual observation to be a stable situation causing no ill-effect on



Kangaroo science ACT-style.

plant diversity.

Assessing what affects long-term biodiversity and soil erosion is complicated by drought, flood, past stock grazing (leaving weed seed banks) and recent massive weed eruptions and ongoing grazing of cattle and sheep on some reserves, preferred by the park service.

A 2006 national review of the science found that actual damage or land degradation by kangaroos has not been provable. The authors said this is important because it takes away the ‘pest’ stigma. Not seemingly in the ACT, where kangaroos and rabbits are accused equally of ‘over-grazing’, putting both firmly outside of ‘biodiversity’.

“You know,” said Rattenbury, “that in the past we (the Greens) were not opposed to the cull. We accepted the argument about ecological imbalance [made by grassland groups and some ACT-based scientists]. But I need to keep asking questions. I don’t want this to become a default option, a matter of habit.”

It is clear that the Minister is pulled in different directions by environmentally-minded constituencies who are at opposite poles on this issue. “You have two groups



of people with similar values. It’s been fiercely contested on both sides of the argument and one of the most difficult issues since I entered the Assembly. It is confronting,” he said.

An offset solution is to focus on development in outlying areas and to work to

avoid the same pattern of habitat fragmentation and lack of safe corridors that have trapped the city kangaroos. Rattenbury readily agrees that human population and development pressures are at the root of this problem.

Evaluation overdue

Nevertheless after four years, an evaluation, preferably independent, of the value and full costs of lethal management of native wildlife appears overdue. Can science otherwise be invoked with this program? As NSW macropod scientist Dan Ramp puts it: killing has to be seen as a last resort: it cannot be an experimental method.

— Maria Taylor

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Palerang Local Action network gets runs on board

MELINDA Hillery, coordinator for the Palerang Local Action Network for Sustainability (PLANS) reports some good progress in recent months.

A PLANS proposal has made it through to the second round of negotiations with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage for a study on the feasibility of a community-owned renewables project in Palerang.

“I would be very keen to hear from anyone who would like to put in an expression of interest to be part of a reference/ steering group (exact nature to be determined) for the project. We will be looking for people with industry background, business experience, social/ community owned enterprise development interests and/ or technical expertise in renewables,” said Mel.

Land for Wildlife

There has been a steady stream of interest in Land for Wildlife in the Bywong and Wamboin areas, with a handful also now in Carwoola, Tarago and Mulloon. Mel Hillery said she has negotiated with Molonglo catchment group to take up the promotion and administration of Land for Wildlife down the Molonglo valley and is looking for a group to take up a similar role in the Braidwood region.

“I have also been working at a regional level to try and become more aware of strategic planning for wildlife and biodiversity corridors that is occurring particularly through the Great Eastern Ranges project which will help to give us an idea of where to prioritise our targeted recruitment of land-holders in future.

“I emphasise that this planning all relies

RFS volunteers honoured with long service medals



PHOTO: NSW RFS COMMISSIONER SHANE FITZSIMMONS

RURAL FIRE Service volunteers, who have clocked up more than 800 years of service among them, have been honoured at a special medal ceremony in Queanbeyan.

The Member for Monaro John Barilaro presented service medals to forty-five volunteers from the Lake George Zone.

Jeff Elliott, Peter Greenwood, Don Evans and David Hubbard were honoured for each having dedicated more than 30 years of service to the RFS.

Andrew Douglas who joined the Burra Brigade in 1963 was presented with a long service medal for giving diligent and active service to the RFS for half a century.

“It’s rare and unique to have a service of such dedicated professionals who often give up their own livelihoods to help others in times of emergency.

“Each volunteer is a shining example to the community and we appreciate and thank them for that sacrifice,” said Mr Barilaro.

on the voluntary participation of land-holders and is looking to build on the larger patches of high quality biodiversity that we have remaining in the landscape.”

Telework coming closer

Following a Sustaining Our Towns report last year looking at a business plan for a telework centre in Bungendore (see www.sustainingourtowns.org.au/regional-initiatives/remote-work-around-the-act/) Regional Development Australia Southern Inland and RDA Capital region have jointly received funding to look at a network of telework centres as part of the Federal Government’s NBN Readiness program.

They are looking at a feasibility study to build centres in Bungendore, Goulburn and Boorowa. They held a meeting in Bungendore recently attended by the general manager of Palerang Council and local member Dr Mike Kelly. There was talk of a proposal to build a telework centre in Ellendon street in the Industrial area of Bungendore, co-located with a Regional Fire control centre and an ambulance station.

Mel encourages residents with ideas on what should be involved in such a centre to get in touch.

For all of the above contact Mel Hillery on melophorus@bigpond.com.

AUSTRALIA’S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Polly puts the kettle on again!

Pauline Segeri (ID 13760)

Thursday 23 May 2013

Last year’s highest individual fundraiser in the ACT – we raised \$6,399.30.

Calling for your support for another successful year.

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Help for independent living

A case shows how it works

THE COMMUNITY Options program provides case management to support people in their homes to remain as independent as possible. We focus on building a support plan that encourages the person to identify what they need to be able to live the life they choose.

This could mean finding out what is already available in their community (informal support) and supplementing their support from a service provider (formal support).

For example, a 67-year-old man lives alone and has minimal contact with his family. He has complex health issues and he cannot walk or get around like he used to.

He can no longer drive the distances he needs to stay in touch with his friends plus he struggles to manage his appointments with his GP, specialist and other health related services. In addition to this he has not made any plans for his future. This gentleman has been referred to Community Options for case management.

As a case manager, our key role is to work closely with this gentleman to help him work out what is important. The goal is to encourage him to do as much as he can for himself and build the network around him to manage his affairs, health and social connections.

We may introduce the use of a diary, connect him to 24-hour helplines, introduce him to social activities that provide transport and liaise with his medical team.

We would provide information about Advance Care planning, a tool to guide him through taking care of his personal affairs, or linkage to Legal Aid and/or other advocacy services may be considered.

Please refer to the advertisement p14 for further contact details and information about the Community Options Illawarra program based in Bungendore.

— Maree O’Rourke

CROSSWORD SOLUTION Across: 1 Garnet, 7 Rational, 8 Nil, 9 Icicle, 10 Twin, 11 Speck, 13 Ecology, 15 Poultry, 17 Garbo, 21 Bier, 22 Animal, 23 Awe, 24 Kindling, 25 Ernest. **Down:** 1 Ganges, 2 Relive, 3 Truce, 4 Stretch, 5 Tortilla, 6 Saving, 12 Colorado, 14 Croatia, 16 Olivia, 18 Relate, 19 Object, 20 Binge.

GRAZING RIGHTS, CHINESE WHISPERS

Cont’d from p4

Environmental Living, councillors and staff explain that it was the closest match of the allowable categories.

For rural residential land, councillors had the choice of village, large lot residential (like Old Elmslea in Bungendore), primary production small lots which is agricultural, and the environmental living designation — which aims for rural residential, with small-scale grazing etc compatible with the land carrying capacity, while maintaining environmental or aesthetic values.

Corridors of green both natural and man-made

In regard to concerns some people have about wildlife corridors and environmental values, Pete Harrison and others have made the case that much positive ‘environmental living’ whether in Bywong/Wamboin or Burra or Carwoola has been created by the tree planting and other aesthetic improvements of the current residents.

Council’s Director of Planning and Environmental Services John Wright says that NSW Department of Environment maps showed there is a regional wildlife corridor that goes through western Palerang.

“Wildlife corridors were identified in the ACT and Sub-region Planning Strategy which was adopted by the Commonwealth,

NSW and ACT Governments and the councils in 1998.

“It’s not a matter of asking people to have a corridor on their property”, he said. “The corridor is already there because land management practices have led to the vegetation that forms the corridor being on their land.” Under the draft PLEP a consent authority must consider whether a new development has any adverse impact on connecting habitat.

What is ‘extensive agriculture’?

Not helping the confusion, the E4 zone designation doesn’t directly talk about grazing except under its definition of ‘extensive agriculture’. This definition covers grazing, cropping, bee-keeping and dairy. (Intensive agriculture comes into play when hand-feeding of animals is primary. Intensive piggeries, chicken farms etc are prohibited under these rules in this zone.)

The draft PLEP aimed at some control of commercial activity by making extensive agriculture a matter requiring consent. This was to control over-grazing, silting up streams and other environmental impacts from larger scale operations. The ‘with consent’ caused the problems for those who didn’t read or want to hear the exceptions regarding hobby farming and residential rights.

The requirement for consent is likely to be revised due to the difficulties of ass-

essing the commercial level of an enterprise. Perhaps also to placate the critics who wrote en masse to council. Council has about 450 submissions on the PLEP.

Taking off ‘with consent’ aimed at bigger operations can open the door to other abuse such as someone clearing the whole block for a crop. While the NSW Native Vegetation Act should prohibit such activity, Wright agreed that control or prosecution would become an ‘after the fact’ action when there is no need for development approval.

Product of the last council, dealing with urban-focused planning

The draft PLEP is the outcome of four years work by the previous Council which certainly did not have a green majority or any Councillors who wanted to deny others their land rights. It was driven by language and a template mandated by the state of NSW with frequent changes along the way.

Palerang General Manager Peter Bascomb notes that an ongoing problem has been the urban focus of the Sydney framers of the LEP template with scant allowance for specific rural issues and environments. The extensive Palerang rural residential zone is unique in NSW and has posed these challenges of easy ‘fit’ with the allowable language and categories. ■

First Friday of the month: Music and Poetry

Royal Hotel, Bungendore, 7.30pm.

Friday 12

Al Green – 8pm, Lake George Hotel, Bungendore.

Friday 19

Old Bones & Blisters – 8pm, Lake George Hotel, Bungendore.

Saturday 20

Steve Eales – The Loaded Dog, Tarago.

Friday 26

Matt Dent – 8pm, Lake George Hotel, Bungendore.

Thursday 25

Anzac Day

Dawn Services 6am. Anzac Day Marches – 10.45am; Commemorative Services – 11am Queanbeyan and Bungendore. To check these and other times, locations and specific information about Anzac Day ceremonies in your area, contact your local Returned Services League sub-branch or ex-service organisation.

Friday 26

Captains Flat Heritage Walk

Details heritage week, www.environment.act.gov.au.

Saturday 27

Queanbeyan Heritage Festival

Queanbeyan Museum, from 11am. Museum Open Day, the announcements of the Local Heritage Awards and the launch of *Oral History* Exhibition.

Queanbeyan Art Society Annual General Meeting

Trinculo Place, 2pm. For more see www.qarts.com.au/index.php.

Printing Museum Open Day

20 Farrer Pl, 12.30–4pm. The Printing Museum preserves Queanbeyan's hot metal printing skills and machinery. John Gale started using a Columbia hand press in September 1860, the year *The Queanbeyan Age* was first printed. For more contact Brigid.Whitbread@qcc.nsw.gov.au.

Monday 29

ACT & NSW Term 2 starts

Already it's April

the market @ bungendore

Sunday April 21st 9am–3pm
at the War Memorial Hall

All your favourite stalls
Come along for a browse
Enjoy a variety of refreshments

jewellery		glass art
giftware		homewares
tea & coffee		greeting cards
local art & craft		beads & findings
garden products	honey	pottery & ceramics
toys & models	preserves	local grown plants
cakes & pastries	hand knits	prints & paintings
soaps & lotions	candles	fruit & vegetables
picture frames	cookies	clothing & footwear

– Plan ahead for May –

Saturday 4 & Sunday 5
Back to Basics – Campout Music Session & Campfire Weekend
Tarago Showground. Fundraiser for Windellama Rural Fire Brigade. Tickets \$20. For more contact 4844 7118 or backtobasicsmusic@hotmail.com.



Sunday 5

Braidwood Billycart Derby

Gillamatong Lane, Braidwood. A fun, family day with various race categories and a parade of 'Traditional Carts' at the start of the day. See www.braidwoodbilycarts.wordpress.com.



Collector Village Pumpkin Festival

Collector Memorial Hall and Village, 10am–4pm. The festival weekend kicks off with a Pumpkin Ball on the Friday night. Stallholders of craft, wine and fine foods arrive early Sunday morning and set up their wares. Exhibitions, events, competitions and demonstrations occur at different times during the day. Featuring the classic heaviest pumpkin competitions, the festival also prides itself on its 'Most Unusual' pumpkin competition. For more, www.pumpkinfestival.com.au.

Fauve & Impressionists

Queanbeyan Art Society, 2pm. Exhibition/competition. For more see www.qarts.com.au/index.php.

Monday 8 to Friday 12

Room on the Broom

The Q, Queanbeyan. A very popular witch and her animal friends are flying in to Queanbeyan, when much loved children's book comes to life on the stage. For bookings visit www.theq.net.au or call 6285 6290.

Friday 12

(continues 13–27) Queanbeyan Heritage Festival

The Way We Wore

The Q, Queanbeyan, 5.30pm. Exhibition launch. The Queanbeyan Museum presents a charming exhibition of bridal, bridesmaids and other gowns dating from the 1880s to the 2000s. Exhibition continues 13 to 27 April.



Friday 12 to

Saturday 27

Milestones in Maps and Monographs

Queanbeyan City Library. Exhibition exploring the city's milestones over 175 years in maps and monographs.

Saturday 13



Women in Farming

Recreation Grounds, Majors Creek, 9.30am–3.30pm. Celebrating the lives, stories and contributions of women on the land. Free event, RSVP essential with morning tea and lunch, call Kristy on 4842 2594.

Saturday 13 & Sunday 14

Canberra Lapidary Club Rock Swap

Exhibition Park (EPIC), Mitchell, 8.30am–5pm. If you love gems and jewellery, collect rocks and minerals, facet or fossick, you'll be sure to find something of interest. Call Norm on 6258 6631 or see www.canberralapidary.org.au for more.

This is Art Market

Yarralumla Woolshed. Art Market supports original, one of a kind art and artists are encouraged to sell their art with affordability in mind. Sat 12–5pm, Sun 9–4pm. For more contact info@thisisartmarket.com or see www.thisisartmarket.com.

Saturday 13 to Wednesday 17

Canberra and Region Heritage Festival

Find out more about our heritage as we celebrate not only Canberra's 100th but Queanbeyan's 175th, Goulburn's 150th as a city, Cooma Public School's 50th and even Bredbo's 125th! Enjoy tours, open days,



The Candidates' Forum is sponsored by:
William Vardon Manufacturing Jewellers
Wallace Street, Braidwood

THE FEDERAL SEAT OF Eden-Monaro IS THE NOTORIOUS NSW bellwether seat,

observed with fascination every Federal election as, for decades, the party that wins Eden-Monaro then goes on to win the election.

What will happen this time?

Voters from all around Eden-Monaro, and political tragics of every stripe are invited to come along to listen to the candidates' plans, views and philosophies, and have their own questions answered at the Eden-Monaro Candidates' Forum. While we are not able to take initial questions from the audience on every matter of interest to them personally, we will be supplying a number of broad discussion points covering:

economics and growth,
population and social policy,
indigenous issues,
agriculture, climate
and future-proofing.

After the Candidates have given us their responses to each question, the audience's further questions on the matter at hand are the integral part of the event.

Join us at **The National Theatre**, Wallace Street, Braidwood **Saturday 13th April, 1.00 – 2.30pm** ... to get your political juices flowing, ask questions, meet the candidates and have your say. The Forum is FREE and everyone is welcome. Don't let September 14th happen without coming along to this Candidates' Forum first!



TWO FIRES FESTIVAL 2013

www.twofiresfestival.org.au

dances, talks, dinners, markets and more. Details see www.environment.act.gov.au.

Sunday 14

National Capital Orchestra

The Q, Queanbeyan, 3pm. A concert featuring the talented pianist Kimberley Steele, performing the *Piano Concerto in E minor 'Piccolo Mondo Antico'* by Nino Rota. Bookings www.theq.net.au or 6285 6290.

Wednesday 17

Captains Flat Community Association Meeting

Community Health Centre, 7.15pm. The Community Association organises various events throughout the year, and lobbies all levels of government on behalf of the local community. For more contact communityassociation@captainsflat.org.

Thursday 18

History and Heritage Meeting

Queanbeyan Library, 6pm. Author Shirley Sutton will talk about her new book: *Caring for the community, rain, hail or shine. The history of district and community health nursing in the ACT 1911 to 2011*. For details contact Brigid.Whitbread@qcc.nsw.gov.au. See our cover story!

Friday 19

From Flyscreens to Electricity Exhibition Launch

Queanbeyan Museum, 6pm. A new exhibition about the revolution in food storage developed by Canberra Institute of Technology Museum Studies Students in partnership with Queanbeyan Museum. Enquiries to qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au.

Saturday 20

Autumn Greenways Walk to Millpost Hill

Bywong and Wamboin Greenways, 1.30–5pm. Join the autumn walk to Millpost Loop from Bywong Hall, covering mostly bush with a number of hills to traverse. Long and more difficult terrain walk of just over 10kms. Register interest with Nora Stewart on 6230 3305.

Time Traveller Tour of Queanbeyan

The Queanbeyan and District Historical Museum Heritage Bus Tours, 9am–12.30pm or 1.30–5pm, departing from The Q, Queanbeyan. Cost \$20. Book at www.queanbeyanmuseum.org.au, 6297 2730 or qbnmuseum@yahoo.com.au.

Sunday 21

Queanbeyan Heritage Pub Crawl with Poetry Shot

Queanbeyan Museum, 1pm. Join us on a Sunday afternoon walk to explore some wonderful heritage pubs to mark Queanbeyan's 175th anniversary. For details and bookings, Brigid.Whitbread@qcc.nsw.gov.au.

Wednesday 24 to May 5

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

The Q, Queanbeyan. This hilarious musical revue is about relationships, how they affect the individual for better or worse and how love can make us crazy. For bookings www.theq.net.au or 6285 6290. See p12 this issue.

Saturday 13 April
< Two Fires Festival
Candidates forum
1–2.30pm



During April Paintings by Vivian Pinder

Bungendore Fine Art, Bungendore. Call 6238 1640 or see www.bungendorefineart.com.au for more info.

Until Monday 14

Strange Cargo

Tyre Gallery, Braidwood. Works by Leah-Kate Hannaford. Details 0429 666 619.

Until Tuesday 30

Two at the Wood Works

Masters of Craft

Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. Masters of Craft presents the work of three exceptional woodworkers considered to be among the best in the world and at the peak of their creative careers.

Paul Garling, Graeme Krake & Jill Noble

An exhibition by three new artists to the gallery. Opening and official launch of Bungendore Wood Works Gallery's 30th year celebrations Saturday 23 April. For more see www.bungendorewoodworks.com.au.

EVERY MONTH:

Every Saturday

Capital Region Farmers Market

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

1st Saturday of every month (except April)

The Captains Flat Country Markets

Community Hall, Foxlow St, Captains Flat, 10–2pm. Handmade items, craft, jams, pickles, gourmet doggy treats, preloved goods, cakes, biscuits, plants and much more! Stalls \$12. Call either 0438 600 447 or 0407 661 834 or email markets@captainsflat.org.

2nd Sunday of the month

(except Jan)

Queanbeyan Cottage Markets

Queanbeyan River, on the corner of Morrisett and Collett Streets, 9–2pm. Craft, timber products, pottery, leatherwork, jewellery, toys, honey, jams, chutney, cakes, plants, food and refreshments. Call Kristen 6299 0219.

3rd Saturday of every month

(except July/August)

Wamboin Produce Market

Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin, 9–12 noon. Fresh produce including cheese, eggs, honey, vegetables, nuts, seeds and plants.

3rd Sunday every month

Bungendore Markets

War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9–2pm. Art, craft and local produce.

Windy Hall Country Markets

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

4th Saturday of every month

Braidwood Markets

Ryrie Park, Wallace St, Braidwood, 8am. Local crafts and cooking, plant and natural products. Call Geraldine 4847 5061.

More on regional and local events and local tourist attractions:

www.bungendore.com.au

www.visitqueanbeyan.com.au

www.visitbraidwood.com.au

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