

# Bulletin

COUNTRY LIVING in Queanbeyan, Bungendore and Palerang

RSPCA's Bidda Jones  
PHOTO: Marcelle Martins

## The inside story of Indonesia undercover operation

### INSIDE:

This refugee makes Australia laugh p3



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Braidwood resident **Bidda Jones** is the Chief Scientist for RSPCA Australia and worked with undercover investigator Lyn White from Animals Australia to expose the terrible abuse of cattle shipped to slaughter in Indonesia assisted by 'restraint boxes' provided by Meat and Livestock Australia. The subsequent report on *Four Corners* led to nationwide outrage.

More than 200,000 signatures gathered on a Get Up petition in two days helped persuade the federal government to temporarily ban the live cattle trade to Indonesia with uncertain outcomes as we have learned in the interim. The *Bulletin* talked to Dr Jones about how it all came about, about a future Australian-based industry and what the Islamic community has told her.

#### BULLETIN ...

Can you tell us a bit of background about the RSPCA's concerns, and interaction with Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) in past years, prompting you to take the next step of an active investigation?

#### ... JONES

RSPCA Australia's focus in the past was always on the Middle East regarding treatment of Australian livestock in importing countries. But in 2009 when we became aware of the MLA/Livecorp restraint box program in Indonesia, we asked the federal Minister and the export industry if we could go to Indonesia to see for

ourselves what the conditions for animals were like. We were eventually told by the CEO of Livecorp that we could not visit. At that point we began to suspect that things were not good in that country.

In November 2010, we were invited to a briefing at DAFF [Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry] on a new report on conditions for Australian cattle in Indonesia. It turned out that, following our request to visit, MLA and Livecorp had organised their own 'independent study' of the treatment of cattle. On reading the report, it was absolutely clear to me that cattle were enduring appalling treatment

in slaughterhouses in Indonesia, but that the report had been worded to minimise this conclusion as much as possible.

When the report was released in late January [2011], it met with little interest, despite our concerns about what it actually indicated. The problem was there were no pictures, no images of the conditions. It was clear that video footage was needed to make anything change.

#### BULLETIN ...

When was the investigation together with Animals Australia conceived?

#### ... JONES

Lyn White and I began talking about Indonesia in February this year. At that time I was trying to obtain footage from other sources – it didn't occur to me that Lyn would be prepared to go there as her focus had always been the Middle East, and getting into Indonesian slaughterhouses seemed to me to be a totally different challenge. That was not the first time I would underestimate Lyn's courage and determination to expose the live export trade for what it really is.

#### BULLETIN ...

How did it proceed and how did the ABC contribute?

#### ... JONES

The first stage for Lyn was working out where to go. MLA/Livecorp had installed 103 Mark 1 restraint boxes, but despite requesting information on their location, they would not reveal where these were (an issue in itself, given the amount of taxpayer's money that has gone into the restraint box program). One MLA report listed the names of some of the slaughterhouses where the boxes had been installed, but it was from 2005.

A Google [search] for these places and for any information about slaughterhouses on Java and Sumatra was the first step. Lyn also set about finding local animal protection contacts to translate and drive around. There was no way of knowing how hard it would be for Lyn to find slaughterhouses or to get into them beforehand, but in the end, it was easier than expected.

Continued p15

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# A refuge life: laughs and 'having a crack' pave way to national stardom

Anh Do, a comedian and actor perhaps better known to Generation Y than Baby Boomers, talked to **Nichole Smith** while in Canberra to launch his book *The Happiest Refugee*, a recent winner of the Independent Book of the Year and a story which explores a highly topical subject in a humorous and absorbing way. A special review of the book is on p12.

IF YOU THOUGHT Anh Do was just a really funny comic, you'd be wrong.

Along with being considered one of Australia's 'best-loved comedians', he has a Business/Law degree, has appeared in a number of Australian films, is a regular on some of the country's most popular TV shows and is an in-demand keynote speaker.

Now he is busy promoting his first book, a memoir of his eventful life story to date, *The Happiest Refugee*.

"I wanted to write the book because I like telling stories. I also had a friend who died and it struck me that you can go at any time. After that, I thought I'd better get my family's story down – you know, just in case ..." he says, smiling. "And writing is great. When you write, there are no drunks heckling you."

## To Australia by leaky boat, nothing compared to perils of stand-up

Detailing his family's perilous journey to Australia when Do was just two, in a "leaky fishing boat ... crammed in like sardines" – undertaken to escape the difficulties of a life still impacted by the Vietnam War – the book explores his assimilation into a new

country and way of life. It is written with his typically good-natured form of humour.

"This boat was meant for about six fishermen and we had 40 men, women and children aboard. After five days there was no food or water left, and there were pirates and death and illness, and we didn't care where we were going, we just had to leave Vietnam.

"But that was nothing compared to the life-threatening situations I've had to face doing stand-up – including the time I had to perform for 50 bikies who were actually expecting a stripper!"

Do is a born story-teller. Perhaps this was some of the reason for his original interest in the law, although he says it was mainly about the money. His positivism is contagious and his story is well-told and is as moving as it is funny. He happily discusses the difficulties of fitting in, the divorce of his parents, the pressure to help his family rise above their poverty and the sometimes hard slog on the road to winning Comedian of the Year.

He pokes fun at the trials and tribulations of life in general, as well as his own experiences, in a way that is both honest and encouraging.



PHOTO: NICOLE SMITH

## Camouflage as a "bogan Westie" and immigrant work ethic

"I was always just a bit different, you know. You look a bit different, you sound a bit different, so I learnt to use comedy to fit in. I became the bogan Westie with the Franklin's flannie and the mullet."

For all his humour, Do's work ethic and stellar rise are impressive. Beginning with a business started when he was just 14 selling tropical

fish, at University he had a market stall specialising in American-Indian artefacts that became a four-store franchise. And after turning his back on law ("65 hours work a week seemed a bit much for me"), he starred in films directed by his younger brother Khoa, including the much-loved *Footy Legends*, as well as being a popular guest on TV shows such as *Dancing with the Stars* and *Thank God You're Here*.

When Do was recently short-listed for the 'Indies'; the Independent Booksellers Book of the Year, for *The Happiest Refugee*, he says he was "very moved". "When I was in primary school I was in the Special Needs group and had trouble reading and writing. To find myself nominated for Book of the Year, well, I had a bit of a cry."

"In primary school I was in the special needs group and had trouble reading and writing... to find myself nominated for Book of the Year, well, I had a bit of a cry."

## Parental wisdom: do what you enjoy, now

The diversity and success of Do's career, he says, is about doing what you enjoy.

"It's all about choices and my family has always been so supportive of mine. My dad used to say that there were only two times in life – now and too late – and my mum always said to go for it, to have a crack, so that's what I've done."

Through it all, these familial bonds are perhaps what comes through most strongly – from his father, who orchestrated their escape to "make a better life", to his mother who raised three children on her own after his father left when Anh was 13, and his younger sister and brother of whom he is obviously so proud; to his own wife and three sons, as well as the various uncles and aunts, cousins and friends who make up his extended family.

"Rich wins over poor but family is more important than anything else," he says.

And when asked on a more serious note about the plight of refugees in the current climate, Do becomes quietly reflective. "I think we can probably afford to be a bit more compassionate," he says simply.

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## Senate inquiry probes health and property issues by Ben Mutandadzi

GAG ORDERS, infrasound waves, mysterious illnesses and space-age composites all sound like the makings of a best-selling science fiction novel, but this drama is unfolding over wind farms in Palerang and other locations in Australia.

A recent Federal Senate inquiry, initiated by Family First Senator Steve Fielding, received more than 1,000 submissions, both positive and negative, into the possible effects of wind farms on human health and property prices. The Community Affairs References Committee report, *The Social and Economic Impact of Rural Wind Farms*, recommends that the federal government begin to thoroughly investigate these claims.

According to the Clean Energy Council, there are 53 wind farms operating in Australia, with 1,089 operating turbines that can reach the height of a 45-storey building and have blades up to 50 metres long.

Near Bungendore there is Capital Wind Farm, owned and operated by Infigen Energy. Officially opened in 2009 by former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, the farm comprises 67 Suzlon wind turbines overlooking Lake George.

At the heart of the health claims is the presence of infrasound – low frequency sounds allegedly caused when wind turbines convert wind energy to rotational and acoustic energy. The Senate Committee heard claims from property owners living near wind farms that low frequency sounds, normally inaudible to the human ear, were impacting on their quality of life.

### ‘Wind turbine syndrome’?

The Committee heard that people suffering from alleged health problems from infrasound were experiencing the effects of ‘Wind Turbine Syndrome’.

The term was first used by American medical practitioner Nina Pierpont to describe a group of symptoms suffered by people who have lived in close proximity to wind farms. According to Pierpont, symptoms include sleep disturbance, headaches, dizziness, vertigo, unsteadiness, tinnitus and high blood pressure.

But British acoustics consultant Geoff Leventhall disputed that it specifically related to wind turbines in his statement to the Committee.

“The so called ‘Wind Turbine Syndrome’ cannot be distinguished from the stress effects from a persistent and unwanted sound,” he said. “These are experienced by a small proportion of the population and have been well known for some time.”

Noel Dean, a farmer whose properties are near the Waubra wind farm in Victoria, told the Committee that his family was so badly affected by headaches that they were forced to move to Ballarat.

“I tried to stay away from the farm as much as I could, but I had to make a dollar somehow so we went back. Every time I went back, if the turbines were going, it would probably take me 10 days to get over it,” Dean said.

A Danish acoustics consultancy firm, Delta, produced a report for the Danish Energy Authority and found that “under steady wind conditions the noise from a wind farm may be

exacerbated by a synchrony among noises from more than one turbine. It has been suggested that if the dominant frequencies of different turbines vary by small amounts, an audible beat or dissonance may be heard.”

### Noise rarely an issue beyond 500 metres

However, the Deputy Director of the Institute of Environmental Studies at the University of

New South Wales, Mark Diesendorf, told the Committee that “noise is rarely a problem beyond a distance of 500 metres and very few dwellings in Australia are within 400 metres of a large wind turbine. Licence conditions for wind farms should, and mostly do, set objective, measurable noise limits.”

Infigen Energy spokesperson Richard Farrell believes their wind farms have a proven track record as a safe electricity generating technology.

*Continued p15*

> **More wind & solar innovations p14**

## — YOUR SAY —

### NSW TAX DOLLARS AT WORK: IS TASSIE’S FOREST GAIN, OUR COAST’S LOSS?

## Forest above Bermagui, Bateman’s Bay under assault

*Forest campaigners against woodchipping mature native forest in south-eastern NSW (and also in Gippsland) are watching as the federal government, in alliance with the Greens, takes previously unimagined steps to end native forest logging in Tasmania. However, as taxpayer-subsidised operations for Forests NSW allegedly commit one breach after the other in the forests surrounding some of Canberra’s favourite coastal playgrounds, the question is being asked: will regional forest destruction intensify to make up for Tasmania?*

*And does any of this make sense at a time when the nation is supposed to be storing more carbon (as in mature forests) to combat climate change? The campaigners bring us up to date.*

**RECENTLY**, on the ABC television program *Q&A*, Federal Liberal Senator Eric Abetz highlighted the stark truth that not all ‘native forest woodchips’ have been rejected by the market. The boycott only applies to Tasmanian chips (due to green campaigns). Abetz correctly asserted that the industry at Eden (south-east NSW and Victoria) is EXPANDING.

It is for this reason and the lack of Commonwealth government response to the call of mainland environment groups to halt native forest logging for woodchips in this, the United Nations International Year of Forests, that there have been almost continuous protests in south-east NSW and east Gippsland, Victoria.

There have been extensive delays in government addressing the concerns of mainland environment groups about the

waste of biodiversity, carbon storage, bushfire prevention and planetary protection caused by woodchipping native forest.

Money for contractors to transfer their operations to south-east NSW (as has occurred) is not considered helpful when not a single new Tasmanian or south-east NSW hectare is protected.

*Forests NSW turning this ... into this.*



### Charges that Forests NSW contractors not obeying the law: the latest incident

*Following protests in recent months about koala habitat being logged near Bermagui and Bega protests have followed loggers to Buckenbowra State Forest between Braidwood and the coast. Logging is damaging rocky outcrops and rainforest vegetation and this is cited as the latest example that NSW does not regulate it contractors.*

The site, Compartments 533 and 534, is regulated under the Integrated Forestry Oper-

ations Approvals, which states that rainforest and rocky outcrops must not be logged.

Rainforest elements such as tree ferns, cabbage tree palms and sassafras should have been protected from disturbance. Nationally listed endangered species in the area include the Chef’s Cap Correa and Tiger Quolls.

What is the difference between this beautiful rainforest and that of the adjacent Monga reserve? It should have been protected in 1998. There is a direct line of sight to Batemans Bay and the Clyde River.

Snig tracks on recently logged sites generate seven times as much surface flow and 20 times more sediment. There are a number of studies that have found increased suspended sediment loads in rivers and creeks immediately after logging.

*(At the time of writing at the end of July)* South East Forest Rescue had stopped the machinery from working and called in the state authorities to investigate. They also emailed Julia Gillard’s office asking for her to intervene immediately.

— Lisa Stone, South East Forest Rescue;  
Suzanne Foulkes, Friends of Five Forests;  
Noel Plumb, Chipbusters;  
Prue Acton OBE; Jane Salmon

Community from Bermagui area protest the logging of the spotted gum ‘Cathedral’ on Monday 25 July 2011.



Community reports say that the logging was far more intensive and extensive than the community had been led to anticipate. The forest, a focus of tourism and habitat to the few remaining koalas in the region, will be turned into woodchips.

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*More than half the money raised will assist households.*

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*With the rest, we'll be supporting jobs and investing in our clean energy future.*

Australians are already working together for a clean energy future. But we need to do more. That's why the Government will introduce legislation to implement a range of initiatives – including a carbon price. Find out more at [australia.gov.au/cleanenergyfuture](http://australia.gov.au/cleanenergyfuture) or call 1800 057 590.



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## — PROPERTY MATTERS —

### The year so far in rural residential real estate

by John Sneddon, Peter Blackshaw

AT THE TIME of writing the US debt crisis was still at an impasse and commentators were suggesting it is 50/50 whether the Reserve Bank of Australia will increase interest rates at its August meeting.

It is generally reported that the number of real estate transactions is down on previous years and there has been a softening in the market. The uncertainty around interest rates, a lack of consumer confidence and seasonal conditions are identified as contributing factors.

What does this mean for rural residential sales and how have they been affected?

The table shows the number of sales of rural residential properties and vacant land for the Bywong, Carwoola and Wamboin areas between 1 January and 31 July for the last five years.

#### Points of interest:

- Bywong recorded its lowest number of sales for this five-year period during 2011
- one rural residence has sold in Bywong in the last two months
- currently in Bywong there are seven residences for sale with one under offer
- the number of houses sold in Carwoola in the first seven months of 2011 is only one short of the highest number of sales for this five-year period
- despite the relatively high number of

sales, the last recorded house sale in Carwoola was on 20 May

- currently in Carwoola there are five houses for sale with one under offer
- Wamboin recorded its lowest number of house sales for this five-year period during 2011
- two houses sold in Wamboin during July; the last sale before these was on 21 April
- currently in Wamboin there are 12 houses for sale with one under offer.

In summary, the number of sales is down on previous years in two of the three areas and in all three there has been little sales activity over the last couple of months.

It is not unusual for these dormant periods to be followed by a flood of activity with properties that have been on the market for a week, month or a year all selling within a short period of each other. With an increase in people attending open houses and spring just around the corner, it may be just the impetus that buyers need to re-enter the market with confidence.

	Bywong			Carwoola			Wamboin		
Year	Houses	Land	Total	Houses	Land	Total	Houses	Land	Total
'07	15	5	20	14	4	18	21	7	28
'08	6	5	11	8	4	12	15	4	19
'09	11	1	12	7	2	9	17	2	19
'10	10	0	10	11	15	26	14	11	25
'11	6	3	9	13	2	15	9	11	20

Data sourced from allhomes

## — FINANCIAL MATTERS —

### Transition to retirement – a powerful saving tool

THERE'S NO REASON to stop working if you're not ready and you don't need to be fully retired to access your super.

Until recently, you could only access your super once you turned 65 or retired. This meant it was difficult to reduce your work hours and still maintain your standard of living.

Now, if you're over 55 and have some super, the *transition to retirement* rules could help you boost your super savings significantly without cutting back on your lifestyle. It could even allow you to reduce your hours at work and supplement your reduced salary with payments from your super.

*Transition to retirement* allows you to supplement your income by drawing a regular pension from your super fund. You can access a transition to retirement pension of between 2–10% of your account balance if you've reached preservation age (currently 55) and you are still working.

There are a few ways you can benefit from transition to retirement:

- you can continue to work fulltime but reduce your tax by taking a pension and salary sacrificing more of your income into super

- you can move from fulltime work to part-time work and replace your lost salary with a pre-retirement pension, and
- as a business owner/operator, you could use a preretirement pension to supplement your income needs in quiet times.

A pre-retirement pension may also help reduce your overall tax bill while boosting your total super balance before you retire.

#### How it works

As an example, Nick aged 57 has a salary of \$80,000 per annum (plus 9% super). He wishes to continue to receive his current net income but maximize the effectiveness of his super. He currently has \$400,000 in his super fund and decides to commence a transition to retirement pension of \$37,000 per annum, plus his salary after tax and salary sacrificed to super (net of tax) for a total disposable income of over \$61,000.

By using a transition to retirement strategy Nick does not change his cash income at all, but saves over \$3,000 in tax each year – money which stays in his super account. If Nick continues to work after age 60 the amount withdrawn from his super is tax free.

*Speak with your financial adviser about starting a transition to retirement strategy. If you don't have an adviser, Australian Ethical Investment can refer you. Contact us on 1800 021 227 or visit [www.australianethical.com.au](http://www.australianethical.com.au).*

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*A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject* – Winston Churchill

### FUEL REDUCTION remains stubbornly in thoughts of our RFS guru Doug Palmer

I'VE BEEN banging on over the past few months about the fuel load that has built up in Palerang. There's been a combination of lots of growth in summer, a dry winter and not much stock around to eat the resulting grass. Result: lots of dry grass everywhere.

So, it would be a good thing if landowners, carefully and responsibly, reduced the fire hazards on their lands. But ... the recent weather hasn't been ideal for burning. Lots of dry fuel and lots of wind are a bad combination and several land-owners have found themselves in difficulties.

It's always a bad look if the RFS has to turn up to your burn. It's even worse if they take one look and start calling in other brigades. It's massively worse if the fire escapes from your property and the lawyers start appearing.

#### What you need to know and do before you burn...

At this point, I'd like to start channelling a higher source: Superintendent Doug Willcoxson, the operations officer at Lake George Fire Control, who would like to remind everybody of a few things. If you plan to burn, remember:

- Before anything, make sure you understand what you are doing. You can get advice by phoning Fire Control on 6297 1840 or coming into the control centre. The control centre in Queanbeyan is open during business hours Monday–Friday. The Braidwood office is open most weeks on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

- Before burning, you need to notify Fire Control. Phone 6297 1840 during business hours.
- You also need to notify your neighbours at least 24 hours before lighting up.
- You need to look at the weather forecast several days out from the burn and decide whether it's safe to light up. What you're looking for is the chance that later hot, dry or windy weather will allow some smouldering remains to re-ignite.
- You need to be able to do some firefighting if you run into problems. This means both having the appropriate equipment available and having someone capable of using it.
- You need to be present while the fire is lit.

#### ...and before slashing

If burning sounds all too hard, you may be

considering slashing. There are still a few things you need to think about before starting:

- Slashing or mowing can produce sparks. You need to make sure that you have firefighting equipment on hand. If you are slashing, make sure that the tractor has a knapsack, water extinguisher or dry chemical extinguisher on board.
- If you are using a ride-on mower, remember that it's a lawn mower and not really designed for rough conditions. A danger is that dry grass can build up in front of the cutting deck, just where the hot muffler tends to be.

If you have any further questions, let me recommend the good and knowledgeable people of Fire Control to you. In the meantime, have a safe spring.

### WINTER ENERGY SAVING AND SAFETY TIPS

AS THE COST of grid electricity rises, and will continue to go up along with more demand by more people, energy companies are returning to the model of encouraging efficiency and lower demand for power in homes and businesses. It's good for the wallet and for the environment

Here are some simple tips from Essential Energy which constructs and maintains powerlines and substations throughout NSW.

Topping the energy saving list is keeping the thermostat between 18° and 20°C and checking old appliances (like refrigerators) which may be running inefficiently and sucking a lot more electricity than they should.

Many people are unaware that turning the temperature down by just one degree on the thermostat can make a big difference to overall power use. Every degree above 20°C, pushes the heater to work harder and use more power.

Inspect winter appliances for any signs of wear or tear such as loose electrical plugs or frayed cords. It's a good idea to have electric blankets and heaters that may not have been used in more than six months tested by a licensed professional/electrical repairer before use – potentially reducing the risk of home fires caused by faulty equipment.

Up to 25% of household heat can escape through uncovered windows and under doorways so it makes sense to keep the heat in by fitting heavy curtains and sealing draughts and gaps around external doors and windows.

Close off areas that don't need to be heated, open curtains to north facing windows on sunny days, use ceiling fans to help push down the heat and if you can afford it install insulation in the home or office.

More tips at <http://www.essentialenergy.com.au/content/General-Tips>

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Comrie St ACT 2903  
Tel: 6231 4700



Rural Property Guide

SALES | AUCTIONS | PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



Luke Jamieson

Property Manager



Chris Dixon

Sales Agent



John Sneddon

Sales Agent

English cottage charm

3

2

2



COLLECTOR 135 BREADALBANE ROAD

This charming 3 bedroom, ensuite + loft residence radiates endless appeal and is reminiscent of cottages you would expect to find in the English countryside. Built 4 years ago & boasting floating timber floors, kitchen with stainless steel appliances, in-slab heating to bathroom & ensuite, separate lounge & family rooms. Other features include a sheltered courtyard, garage & carport, workshop, tack room, licensed bore. Only a 35 minute drive to Canberra.  
**Offers over \$530,000**

6262 5122 | Chris Dixon 0414 819 377

Impressive Rural Offering

4

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CARWOOLA 15 PONY PLACE

Nestled privately amongst landscaped gardens on 11 acres of natural bush is this stunning 4-bedroom plus ensuite home. Built to an impeccable standard with impressive inclusions and approx 290sqm of living. Features include stunning parquet flooring, granite benchtop in kitchen, spa bath, rev. cyc. a/c & solid fuel heater, bituminised circular driveway, 4-bay 140sqm shed with 3-phase power, bore, 2 dams and automated irrigation. Mins to Qbn and Canberra.  
**Offers over \$1,075,000**

6262 5122 | John Sneddon 0403 139 701

Peace, privacy & views

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WAMBOIN 832 NORTON ROAD

With a peaceful location this spacious 6 bedroom, ensuite, 2-storey home on an elevated 26 acre block is a must see. The home features a large lounge and dining area, family room, study, well appointed kitchen, slow combustion fire, central heating, 3 spaces to entertain guests, woodfire pizza oven and wine store room. Outside there is a DLUG, 2 dams, grazing areas, colourbond shed and 2 x 90,000L water tanks for household usage. With stunning views to the Brindabella's and Black Mountain Tower this home is only minutes to Bungendore or Queanbeyan.  
**Offers over \$995,000**

6262 5122 | John Sneddon 0403 139 701

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GUNDAROO 123 BERALSTON ROAD

Set amongst pristine bushland with tree-top views, this charming 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with slow combustion log fire to living room, open plan dining & kitchen plus a separate caravan for an extra bonus with bathroom facilities. Outside you will find a large deck and pool all this just 35min from Canberra CBD. **Offers Over \$530,000**

6262 5122 | Chris Dixon 0414 819 377

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BYWONG 107 SUMMER HILL ROAD

Sprawling residence with approx 435m2 under roofline on 40ac of productive grazing land. The home features 4 beds, 2 ens, formal lounge & dining in the main residence with an additional attached self-contained flat. Set in lovely established gardens with storage sheds & stables this versatile property is 25 mins to Canberra's CBD. **Offers over \$995,000**

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2



GOOGONG 277 FERNLEIGH DRIVE

5-bed + ens solid brick home on 5.3ha (13ac) block with creek frontage and sweeping rural views. Features high vaulted ceilings, dbl glazing, ducted evap cooling, gas heating, dbl sided Cheminee Phillipe fire & a number of c'yards for outdoor living. There is a separate entry plus a detached self-contained flat.  
**Offers over \$1,100,000**

6262 5122 | John Sneddon 0403 139 701

UNDER OFFER

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BUNGENDORE 459 BUNGENDORE ROAD

3 bedroom plus study home with impressive infrastructure set on 40 acres with views to Bungendore & Lake George. Featuring a new kitchen with stainless steel appliance, spacious living room, solar hot water, slow combustion heating & large outdoor entertaining area. 2 dams, a bore with commercial irrigation license. **\$849,500**

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Gundaroo

\$1,250,000

661 Shingle Hill Way

570ac (approx) of rolling grazing land 30min to Civic. Potential to sub-divide & with 3 bed cottage, 2 sheds & yards. **John 0403 139 701**

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We currently have several prospective tenants looking for rural properties. If you are thinking of renting your property now is the time to give us a call on 6262 5122

Inner North & Rural (02) 6262 5122



# Palerang local environment plan almost ready, while council power shifts

Comment by Maria Taylor



IF EVERYONE is sitting down, I can report that the Palerang Local Environment Plan (PLEP) has progressed to the stage of being presented to Council as a complete document in August.

Thereafter it will go to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and be submitted to relevant state government authorities for review or comment. After that it will go on public exhibition for residents and ratepayers to have a say.

The complexity of blending Palerang's half-dozen previous local environment plans within a new state government-mandated planning framework has been a mammoth task for both staff and Councillors.

New planning zones have been designated, (rural residential will now be 'environmental living' for example) and maps and lists produced of important natural and built assets. These support rules of how new development should proceed in regard to Palerang's particular natural and built environment.

Severe tensions at times between Councillors speaking for the conservative wing of the agricultural community and for some unregulated individual rights, versus Councillors coming from a 'green' and public interest perspective, have made the task tougher.

The most recent battle was the one over heritage listing, reported in the July *Bulletin*. New rulings or guidelines coming from the Department of Planning have also slowed things down.

The July PLEP meeting saw Councillors facing suggested language changes by the Department on a number of items including permissible dwellings, and, more controversially, clauses to protect biodiversity in environmentally sensitive zones.

A remarkable thing happened. There has clearly been a shift in the number of 'public interest' votes since Pete Harrison joined the Council at the recent by-election.

Councillor Anne Goonan might still be considered a swing vote between the two camps, and on this occasion she spoke along with the Green Councillors and Councillor Harrison to keep the more detailed and specific language the Council had in its version (to protect biodiversity), rejecting the 'simplified' state language, parts of which arguably had some merits as well.

Councillors appeared in no mood to be corralled by Mayor Walter Raynolds' opinions, presented forcefully as always, but visibly to less effect on this occasion. Some robust but

finally good-natured give and take ensued between Councillors Cockram and Raynolds on the subject of whether the Department of Planning under the Coalition is "just here to help Palerang" as the Mayor put it.

In the end there was a positive and unanimous vote to keep the Council's original version intact, with the deletion of a requirement to always commission technical reports. Those will now be discretionary to staff requirements, in line with Department of Planning advice.

## Mayoral election coming up

In the lead up to a mayoral election in September, the balance of power appears to have shifted toward a perspective more in line with the majority of Palerang residents who don't look at the world through the lens of conservative big landholders.

It will be an interesting election with Councillor Cockram and Councillor Moore expected to put their hands up as well as Councillor Raynolds giving it another shot.

## GOOD NEWS AND GOOD NEWS

# Queanbeyan job figures

AS QUEANBEYAN prepares for an increase in the labour force for the new Googong township, a federal government department has revealed that the city's unemployment level has dropped, while the labour market has already increased.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations released figures showing that the city's unemployment rate has dropped by one percent to 1.4 percent of the population. This comes at a time when Queanbeyan's labour market has increased from 22,723 participants in March of 2010, to 24,936 participants by March 2011, a total increase of over 2,000 workers in the last 12 months.

Queanbeyan Mayor, Tim Overall, says he is pleased with the report.

"Queanbeyan's unemployment rate has been on the way down for some time while our population is growing at a rate faster than most other regional centres," Overall said. "Our unemployment rate is well below the national and NSW average of 5.1 percent and also that of its neighbour, the ACT which sits at 3.2 percent."

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics' 2009 Population Estimates data, Queanbeyan's population of 40,661 is projected to expand by up to 72 percent, raising the city's population to at least 65,400 by 2036.

## South East Regional Academy of Sport

# BRAIDWOOD STUDENT ON CAREER TRACK

by Karen Lovatt

THE SOUTH EAST Regional Academy of Sport (SERAS) is dedicated to developing young regional athletes and helping them attain their goals.

For Bridgette Martin, a university student from Braidwood, SERAS has become her stepping stone to a future career.

Martin is studying Sports Coaching and Exercise Science at the University of Canberra, and says that being accepted for a SERAS internship is a "good opportunity".

"I'm not really sure what I want to do as a career, I'm just generally interested in the area, and I sort of see the SERAS internship as an opportunity to have a go in that field and see what I like."

She is part of a group of four students in the 2011 SERAS internship program intake.

Garry Lane, the Executive Director of SERAS, said that the program becomes a cycle, with this year's first-year students becoming the overseeing students in two years' time.

The coaching and exercise students' main responsibility is the overseeing and observation of the strength and conditioning testing. In her first year, Martin will only support and watch, but later, that will change.

"When they progress into their second year of study... they'll progress hopefully into our second-year internship program and they will actually then conduct the testing, under the supervision of our fourth-year student," said Lane.

By the time Martin is a third-year, she will conduct the testing on her own, without supervision, and Lane hopes that she will in



Bridgette Martin (Braidwood) with Emma Friend (Goulburn), on right.

her turn have first-year students working under her. Lane said that the internship program provides experience that the students would not otherwise get.

"They are possibly in a much better position to obtain a job once they leave, because they've had the hands-on experience of actually conducting the testing, where a lot of their peers studying in the same area have really only done the theory component."

Martin hopes to continue with the internship program. "I think it's a great thing they have and a good experience, and it definitely complements the degrees and gives you hands-on experience, and not only that, you get to work with some great people so, I think I'll definitely continue with SERAS."



## Queanbeyan update with Mayor Tim Overall

Welcome to my first Mayoral Message in *The District Bulletin*. This message will become a monthly feature of this publication and I will use it to keep the readers up to date with Council's projects and initiatives. Council's contact details are at the bottom of this column should you require additional information on any of the items mentioned.

### Upgrading our CBD

To commence this month's column I would like to talk about the most significant upgrade the Queanbeyan CBD has ever seen – the Crawford St Lifestyle Precinct. In 2006 Council conducted an extensive community consultation project to get an understanding of what Queanbeyan residents wanted to see happen in the city over the following 20 years. From that exercise it was evident that Queanbeyan residents wanted to see the CBD improved. Council listened to this message and developed a CBD Master Plan which was adopted by Council in 2009. This document outlines a number of recommended improvements to the CBD over a 25-year period. The first stage of this improvement is the Crawford St Lifestyle Precinct. The idea of the Lifestyle Precinct is to turn the section of Crawford St between Monaro and Morisset Sts into a pedestrian-friendly area where alfresco dining and a new mix of retail will be encouraged. When complete, traffic flow will be reduced to a single lane in both directions. The footpaths will be significantly widened and levelled to create a much more pleasant place to enjoy a meal or entertainment or just shop. Existing parking spaces will be retained when construction is complete. This development will completely change the look and feel of Crawford St and I believe it will make Queanbeyan's CBD a much more attractive place to visit. Construction on this significant project commenced in mid-July and is expected to take around 43 weeks to complete. During construction there will be some traffic disruptions, mainly during Stage 1 which is expected to be finished around December. During this stage traffic will be reduced to one-way and single lane along Crawford St in a northbound direction. Throughout construction pedestrian access will be available on both sides of the street and all businesses will remain open. Council will be providing

regular updates on this project via our website ([www.qcc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.qcc.nsw.gov.au)), Facebook ([www.facebook.com/qbncity](http://www.facebook.com/qbncity)) and Twitter (@Queanbeyancity).

### Attracting people to the River

The Queanbeyan River runs through the heart of Queanbeyan, but presently the area is under-used by the community. To help attract more people to the eastern side of the Queanbeyan River, Council constructed the Riverside Cafe which is located next to the Queanbeyan Art Gallery. The Cafe, which has been built in two specially designed shipping containers, will be opened in early September and will provide the ideal place for residents and visitors to enjoy a coffee or a bite to eat. Earlier this year Council appointed Brett and Elaine Richter to operate the Café. Brett and Elaine are very experienced operators and some of you may have visited their other café – the Yarralumla Nursery Cafe in the ACT. Due to the location of the Cafe, Council has developed a food evacuation plan for the building. In the event of rising water in the area the containers will be simply lifted on to the back of a truck by a crane and transported to higher ground.

### Working with our neighbours

Ensuring Queanbeyan has a strong relationship with the ACT is important to the growth of our city. For the past two years I have held regular meetings with the ACT Chief Minister, most recently in late July when I met with Katy Gallagher to discuss cross-border issues. At that meeting we discussed the need for bus lanes on Canberra Avenue, the Queanbeyan Sewerage Treatment Plant, the proposed Ellerton Drive Ring Road Extension and Queanbeyan's 175th birthday, which coincides with Canberra's centenary celebrations. This was an important meeting to confirm the agenda of cooperation between our cities and discuss how we can work most effectively together to address the overlapping needs of our communities.

Cr Tim Overall  
Mayor

257 Crawford St Ph: 6285 6000 Web: [www.qcc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.qcc.nsw.gov.au) Facebook: [www.facebook.com/qbncity](http://www.facebook.com/qbncity) Twitter: [QueanbeyanCity](http://QueanbeyanCity)



Transport  
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## Timber truss road bridges RTA strategy for community comment



The RTA has developed a new strategy for the sustainable conservation of heritage timber truss bridges. A report outlining this proposed strategy has been prepared by the RTA. It is now being exhibited in collaboration with the Heritage Council of NSW for community feedback.

A community summary and technical report is now available on the project website (see details below).

The community is invited to comment on the proposal. Comments must be received by **26 August 2011**.

For more information visit  
[www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/projects/maintenance](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/projects/maintenance) or  
email [timbertruss@rta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:timbertruss@rta.nsw.gov.au) or  
call the project information line on 1800 633 332



# Council can welcome climate of change

by Councillor Paul Cockram

Palerang Council has resolved to achieve a reduction in carbon emissions of 30 percent by 2015.

Reports on street lighting, waste emissions and alternative power  
At the last Climate Change Committee meeting we received reports on street lighting, waste emissions and alternative power for the council building in Bungendore. We have been fortunate to have the services of Su Wild River on the committee who has facilitated the services of her ANU students.

Zong Yao Chua and Geraldine How presented their report, *Sustainable Street Lighting Policy – recommendations for Palerang Council*. This analysis will help the council work with Essential Energy to reduce power consumption and save money.



Councillor Paul Cockram's vision for the future.

The other major report, sponsored by Infigen and Actew/AGL, was the Government Architect's Office pre-feasibility study of a gas-fired cogeneration plant or a solar array for the Bungendore office.

The report found that gas cogeneration is not a viable option for the office at this time. The problem is with the cost of retrofitting the existing ducted system. Hopefully we can revisit the idea with other future projects – the new swimming pool in Bungendore, for example.

The good news though, is that putting solar panels on the roof of the Bungendore office has

a strong business case going for it. The payback period may be as short as seven years.

## Local benefits in move towards renewable energy

Regardless of how the carbon tax debate pans out, local government can have a big part to play in the move towards renewable energy. Our region is perfectly placed to reap the benefits from an expansion into new job-creating technologies.

Most everyone accepts that an increased level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from the burning of fossil fuels is affecting the climate. Sure, the political divide is causing a lot of grief, but the coal industry itself is supporting difficult and expensive reduction measures like geo-sequestration.

That carbon emissions need to be reduced is universally accepted except in a few pockets of 'shock-jock' commentary daring to be different and desperate to be noticed. The question for the rest of us then, is how to best proceed.

The scenario I have in mind goes like this: No amount of solar arrays could be too many in the challenge to replace coal-fired electricity. We have thousands of hectares away from main roads and neighbours on which to build them. The controversial visual dominance plaguing wind turbines is not so much of an issue for solar arrays. We have the capacity to develop a local industry making the frames, laying the footings, mounting the panels and wiring them to the grid.

This means jobs, jobs, and more jobs, right here in Palerang.

## Regional solution to solar rollercoaster?

The on-again, off-again lurching that the solar industry has endured in the last few years must surely end soon. Sensible strategists, regardless of short-term political upheavals, will soon start planning for a steady and sustained increase in the percentage of electricity made from sun and wind. Consumers have shown, even through all the now-you-see-them, now-you-don't rebate schemes that they are willing to invest in solar energy.

Our council could form partnerships with Sydney councils, or the ACT government, to host their residents' solar arrays. There are a great many people in Sydney and Canberra who want to invest in solar energy, for environmental concerns or to secure cheaper electricity in the long term, for who panels on their own roof is not an option.

There is no reason why a householder investing in solar electricity has to have the panels on their own roof. In fact, to put them in arrays close to suitable power line infrastructure brings significant economies of scale through easier construction and maintenance. Crediting the shareholders of the array with their due percentage of its output is merely a bookkeeping exercise.

## Opportunity is there

There is coming towards us a great opportunity for local government to get into the nuts and bolts of addressing climate change. Our major political parties are hell-bent on battering each other with entrenched views and opportunistic short-term slogans. The real work must be done by others who see every new solar panel or wind turbine as part of the inevitable solution for our energy security.

We're certainly in the right place at the right time. If we can't make it work, who can?

# A rare breed that can jump like a kangaroo

by Ken Old



IN THE JULY issue of the *Bulletin*, Sarah Newsome reviewed my book, *Throstle Nest*. While researching family history, on which the book is based, I uncovered a link with a breed of horse, the Cleveland Bay. The Bay is one of only two breeds originating in Britain, the other being the Thoroughbred, of racing eminence.

Unlike the Thoroughbred, the Cleveland Bay is a rare breed and, five years ago, it was estimated that only about 550 pure-breeds existed, worldwide. This despite its several claims to fame, which include drawing one of the carriages down the Mall on the occasion of the recent Royal Wedding, the record for the highest standing jump by any horse (7.5 feet), and remarkable longevity.

A horse by the name of Old Billy lived to the unsurpassed old age of 62 years. Bays were also favourites of Buffalo Bill Cody, who bought several stallions to breed wagon horses for his Wild West show.

## The saga of Fidius Dius

I first learned of the breed at the tender age of eleven, when my grandmother told me that my great, great, grandfather, John Porritt, bred a Cleveland Bay named *Fidius Dius*, on his farm in the Cleveland Hills of North Yorkshire. This story was one of the bits of information that encouraged me to start researching, and then writing, my book.

When I contacted the Cleveland Bay Horse Society, shortly before a trip to the UK, I was told that *Fidius Dius* was indeed bred by John Porritt of Buck Rush Farm, Kilton, and that I could visit the York Livestock Centre to view the Stud Book, where *Fidius Dius* is listed as No 107, foaled in 1871 out of the "Buck Rush Mare", by

"Roseberry". As the first Stud Book was not published until 1884, this puts the stallion as one of the founders of the breed.

I was also given the name of Nigel Cowgill, the unofficial society historian and he kindly did some research for me. Shortly before my trip to England, Nigel phoned me at home. According to Cassell's *Book of the Horse*, published around 1900, John Porritt had "met an untimely end".

He had left home one morning to buy a cow from a farmer in nearby Mickleby, and never returned. Many months later, his decayed remains were found by fox hounds of the Eskdale Hunt, in a roadside culvert on the moors. So this was the end of the Porritts' horse breeding activities, as his bereaved wife and family were forced to leave Buck Rush, with most members settling on industrial Tees Side.

Armed with this information, gleanings from parish records, the 1881 Census and the coroner's findings regarding John Porritt's death, on our visit to North Yorkshire in September 2007, we found the likely location of John's murder. This was made possible by reference to an old Ordnance Survey Map, dated 1864–84, John's death occurring in 1880–81. All this made for a good chapter in my book!

Before returning to Australia, we visited Nigel Cowgill's stud farm in the Yorkshire Dales. Nigel is one of England's foremost breeders of Cleveland Bays and, as well as seeing some of his beautiful horses, I spent an hour or so poring over his collection of books. To my delight, one of these volumes, an illustrated guide to *Farm Livestock of Great Britain*, featured a photograph of none other than *Fidius Dius*.

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# Seasonal delights and slow cooking



IT SEEMS THAT we have seen only flickers of sunlight much of this winter – and there is all of August yet to come.

It is wonderful to go into the garden though, and see some vegetables thrive in the cold. The kale or Cavelo Nero loves the frost and continues to grow, as does the rocket and spinach and lettuce.



by  
*Kate  
Shelton*

A mix of winter greens is a great accompaniment to any meat dish; simply sauté with garlic in a little olive oil, add a squeeze of lemon at the end, then top with parmesan.

Oranges are everywhere at the markets, very sweet this year and at great prices. Navels are at their best. Ruby grapefruit and the sweet lemonade lemons are out now, lovely to juice and keep up the sources of Vitamin C.

Strawberries are back to a reasonable price and are of good quality.

In the summer when the cherries and stone fruit were at their best, I placed them in layers in a large bottle and covered them with sugar and brandy. I opened the bottle last week – so delicious I wish I had done more!

## Winter is crock pot time

Tis the season for the slow cooker; known as the ‘crock pot’ in my youth. We do our corned beef for five hours and do a whole chicken with lots of celery, carrot and onion and a few herbs. If you throw some rice, pasta or potatoes in at the end you have a one pot meal.

We do shanks, Osso Bucco and Beef Bourguignon all in the slow cooker until the tomato sauce thickens and the meat falls off the bone. Tomato, onion, garlic, mushrooms and red wine with almost any red meat – one can’t go wrong.

What a healthy way to prepare food and have a relaxing family evening knowing that the meal is ready to serve at any time.

Save time and energy

## NEW GENERATION PRESSURE COOKER FOR BUSY PEOPLE

A LOT of people will remember that they or their parents had a sturdy iron pot with a pressure release valve in the lid that could puff and whistle in a sometimes alarming fashion and even blow a meal up to the ceiling if opened too soon – the old-style pressure cooker.

A new and safer generation of this kitchen aid can cook a beef casserole in 35 minutes

or civilise lentils and beans in about the same time. For those who don’t have time to start the slow cooker meal in the morning, or who want to save on electricity, the new-age pressure cooker may well be worth a look.

There is plenty of information on the net. Online prices range between \$100 and \$200 (and up) with various brands to choose from. Wikipedia also reminds us that pressure cookers are handy at high altitudes where water boils at a lower temperature, but the food doesn’t cook as quickly. And they may be a good way to minimise toxins in food.

## ChookCam – laying the eggs on the table

A HAPPY healthy hen lays a healthy egg. It’s that simple. Need to see it to believe it? Now you can!

With ChookCam, Australian company ecoeggs is revolutionising the way consumers can witness firsthand the production of the free range eggs they buy at the supermarket. “For us it is all about the hen and keeping the hen happy, enabling her to provide the very best for her certified free range ecoeggs,” said Ray Leach, ecoeggs Owner/Manager.

“Increasingly consumers want to know how their food is produced, where it is produced and that it is ethically produced. We

have responded with the introduction of the ChookCam, which has provided total transparency to consumers by showcasing what happens each day in the life of our hens.”

From late morning to dusk ChookCam viewers can watch the hens as they go about their business, enjoying their natural and relaxed life in the open green pastures. And, it appears people like what they see.

One viewer commented: “Fantastic idea – we love it! Everyone at work has been checking it out and are pleased to see that the birds have beaks and feathers!”

Another viewer wrote: “Many thanks to Ecoeggs – not all companies practice what they preach, but it’s evident that you do.”

To ‘chick’ out the ChookCam or to find out more about ecoeggs visit [www.ecoeggs.com.au](http://www.ecoeggs.com.au).



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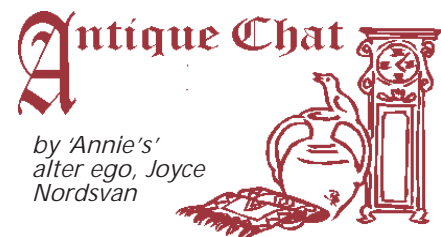
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## Giving up the day job: ‘Annie’ and collection to centre stage



by ‘Annie’s’  
alter ego, Joyce  
Nordsvan

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RECENTLY I RETIRED after 40 years in the public service. I certainly didn’t even think of retirement when I started my working career in 1969. It was all new and exciting in ‘those days’ and you could pick and choose your job. It is a bit different and a lot less flexible now.

I started to think about retiring 10 years ago. I had a very personal wake-up call and decided there had to be more to life than getting up, going to work, coming home to eat and sleep, and then starting it all again. It was at that time I seriously started gathering stock for Annie’s. It took me five years to get ready.

The plan was to reduce the hours at my day job, and

increase the focus on my retirement plan (Annie’s). Unfortunately the reduced hours part didn’t happen, in fact the hours increased. So for the past four years I’ve been working at least 10 hours a day, seven-days-a-week. Seriously time to stop, take a deep breath and re-evaluate.

Wikipedia defines retirement as “the point where a person stops employment completely”. That was never going to happen to me. Our grandchildren have been on school holidays and ‘Annie’ is home and they all love doing craft with Annie. That was followed by a week when I packed up a lot of stock to take to the Christmas in July market at ‘The Q’ in Queanbeyan. Now we are looking after the other two (smaller) grandchildren as their mum is having checks and scans just before the birth of our fifth grandchild.

## Slowing the pace but transport headaches

David and I are planning a trip to Holland (where I was born) and England in October/November. My cousin tells me the antique market in Amsterdam is well worth a visit. The English antiques and collectables markets are going to be fantastic, too. The only problem is how do I get it all home? I have delegated that responsibility to David.

For the past 20 years my retirement plan has included various mental images and incarnations of Annie’s. It has grown since we opened and those visions and dreams have become a reality. The pleasure for me comes from the beautiful things in stock, the research and learning, and the fantastic people you meet that are passionate about what they collect. And, of course, the opportunities to travel to other towns, states or countries, and most of all the friends we have made since I opened Annie’s.

Retire in the defined sense, not likely. We have so many places to go, people to see and so much to do. We are just looking forward to doing it at slightly slower pace.

*With very best (relaxed) wishes  
– ‘til next time, Annie*

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# Buds and leaves for winter colour

Story and photos by Jo Walker

THE MID-WINTER month of July is not a time of riotous colour in local gardens, but there is a surprising amount of colour (albeit subtle) noticeable in the landscape.

Quite a few of the Australian plants we grow in our gardens provide a spectacular display of flowers for only a short period before blending back into the general greenery. But there are many others that bear colourful leaves, developing buds or pale floral leaves during the cold winter months.

## Yellow and brown, green and pink – many shades of each

For almost a month now, there has been a noticeable yellow tinge to the flower buds of the local wattles. Most of the Silver Wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) are still in bud, although one or two in this area have begun to flower. *Acacia decurrens* (Green Wattle, on right) is still covered in clusters of yellow buds. And the leaves of a Wyalong Wattle (*Acacia cardiophylla*) planted in my front garden are almost indiscernible beneath the flourishing mass of buds.

Many of the Pomaderris species have attractive buds in various shades of brown. Coppery bracts surround the flower buds of *Pomaderris andromedifolia* during the early winter, eventually falling to expose a bunch of silky pale green buds. Larger, but similarly coloured flower-heads are found on *P. lanigera*, and paler tan buds in small clusters stand out in contrast to the bright green leaves of *P. eriocephala*. A low-growing species from South Australia, *P. obcordata*, has flattish



heads of dull pink buds nestled amongst the glossy dark green leaves.

One of the larger local Parrot Peas, *Dillwynia sieberi* (formerly *D. juniperina*), carries its heads of silvery buds prominently above the short needle-like leaves – and often sports a few early flowers during July.

The neat little Heath Myrtle (*Micromyrtus ciliata*) has bright pink buds developing along the upper lengths of its reddish stems at present. This is a plant well worth growing because it is attractive for a longer period than many others. The pink buds are followed in spring by a mass of small white flowers which, later, darken to a dense covering of reddish calyces. A larger Victorian plant from the same family, *Thryptomene calycina*, has similar floral attributes, but flowers a bit earlier – its white buds clustered along bronze stems are already almost open.

## Foliage for colour

The foliage of some plants has a bit of a colour change in winter. *Dodonaea sinuolata* (one of the Hop Bushes) takes on a reddish tint in the cold months. The fine-leaved *Westringia eremicola*, a plant that grows naturally in local areas usually near rivers, develops a purplish tinge. And the youngest leaf tips on the Bitter



Pea (*Daviesia mimosoides*) often exhibit dark to bright reddish shades. *Grevillea baueri* (on left) often carries shiny red buds during winter, but is perhaps more noticeable because

of the terminal leaves on its stems which are a dark glowing red.

And then there are the Spyridiums. These plants are in the same family as the Pomaderris (Rhamnaceae), but are distinguished by the white floral leaves that surround the flower heads. *Spyridium parvifolium* is a variable shrub in height and shape, but always bears plentiful pale floral leaves. *S. phyllicifolia* is a small, dense coastal shrub from South Australia and Victoria (but does well here) with narrow dark green leaves and star-like white floral leaves. Both are attractive contrast plants.

So, although we tend to think of winter as a dull time in the garden, there are quite a few plants that can help to brighten things up.

## — TOWN & COUNTRY DOGS —

# Early desexing comes with potential health problems

by Heike Hahner

IT'S IMPORTANT to start this article by saying that I am all for desexing dogs and cats. Although a lot of work is going into reducing Australia's over-population of cats and dogs, they are still destroyed in their tens of thousands every year because there are not enough homes for them. However, a recent push for desexing cats and dogs as early as 8 weeks of age to prevent unwanted breeding is concerning. Designer dogs, especially, are frequently desexed at this age and some rescue organisations are desexing pups to prevent breeding.

## Pre-pubertal desexing – what is it?

Although the reasons behind desexing are valid, there appears to be a move toward desexing all pups and kittens very early. Few owners, however, are told of the potential side effects of such early 'pre-pubertal desexing'.

The onset in puberty in dogs can be as early as 5 months in females and 4–5 month in males, but is generally dependent on breed and individual.

The sex hormones which trigger puberty are known to play a crucial role in the growth and development of dogs. Sex hormones influence many bodily changes, such as bone growth, and determine the closure of growth plates.

## Potential physical problems with early desexing

One of the most annoying and messy problems

associated with pre-pubertal desexing is 'spay incontinence' – in lay terms, your female dog is going to wee itself, usually while sleeping. This can start as early as 14 months.

Owners have reported incontinence after vigorous exercise or even when greeting visitors. To treat incontinence and aggression (*see below*), a hormone replacement can be prescribed by a vet. According to local vet Fiona Cox, spay incontinence can be minimised if a dog is desexed at six months or later.

Cox mentions another reason for delaying desexing until your pup is six months old – some of the smaller designer dogs have a tendency to retain their baby canine teeth. This causes the adult canines to grow out incorrectly and the pup may need to be anaesthetised to remove the baby teeth. Less messy but far more worrying problems that may occur due to early desexing are related to changes in the bone growth of desexed animals, as they generally grow for longer periods of time than intact dogs. According to vet Chris Zink, there may also be links between dogs being desexed before 5.5 months of age and rupture of the cruciate ligament.

Desexing is also suspected to increase the risk of bone cancer, osteosarcoma. Osteosarcoma is a common cause of death in medium to giant breeds and the third-most common cause of death in Golden Retrievers, according to American scientist Laura Sanborn.

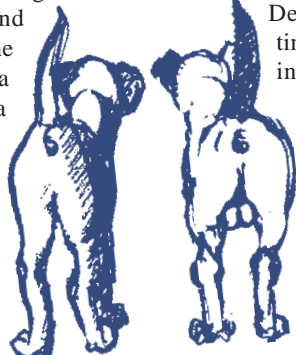
## Dog psychology and desexing

Desexing may also affect a dog's psychology. British vet Valerie O'Farrell has suggested that female dogs with a propensity for aggression

may maintain their aggression or actually become more aggressive after desexing as desexing removes the hormones that make females receptive to mating. Hormone replacement still needs to be accompanied by training and behaviour work.

Desexing females at the 'wrong time of the cycle' may keep them in perpetual PMT – and we all know how horrible that would be! Cox recommends that intact females be spayed one month after their first season to prevent this from happening.

Desexing just before a season or during a season is to be avoided if possible. Waiting for your bitch to have one or two



seasons, however, may increase the chances of her contracting mammary cancer. **Desexing – the benefits outweigh the risks**

Overall, desexing your dog is certainly a good idea, especially if all you want from your dog is a good companion. However, dog owners have a right to know about potential problems when desexing their dog at a young age or buying a dog that has been desexed pre-pubertally.

Sources include: New Zealand Veterinary Association Policy; Virginia P Studdert, Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Veterinary Science, The University of Melbourne; Long-Term Health Risks and Benefits Associated with Spay/Neuter in Dogs by Laura J Sanborn; Larry S Katz, Associate Professor and Chair, Animal Sciences Rutgers University; Chris Zink, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

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# REILLY MAKES GOOD ON HIS PROMISE

## In defense of the airport novel *by Sarah Newsome*

From the dust jacket:

*'In a remote ice station in Antarctica, a team of US scientists find what they believe to be a spaceship buried in 100-million-year-old layer of ice... the team of crack United States Marines is sent into the station to secure this discovery for their country. They are a tight unit, tough and fearless. They would follow their leader into hell. They just did...'*

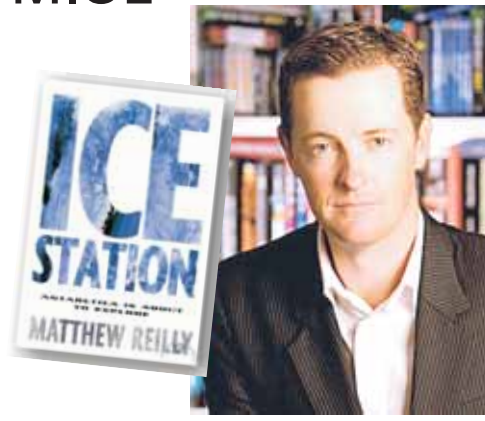
MATTHEW REILLY'S books promise 'action, action, and more action' and they don't disappoint. The Weekend Australian called *Ice Station* "unputdownable". The Daily Telegraph said "it never slows down ... it is unlike any other new Australian novel".

*Ice Station* makes the entire Bourne trilogy seem a little slow. *Contest* is a non-stop, superfast-paced, rollercoaster ride with extra-terrestrial predators that make *Alien* seem tame. *Temple* is like a return to the glory days of Indiana Jones.

Reilly's highly visual style is what the IMAX theatre experience is to a child: outsized, urgent, impossible to ignore. It's a style that works; his books have been published in nine languages in a dozen countries.

### Now that is self confidence

But that wasn't always the case. When every major publisher in Sydney rejected his first book, *Contest*, Reilly raised the funds to publish the book himself. He was a brash 23-year-old law student at the time. Since then, he's published ten novels.



Like any successful action novel, Reilly's books are all about the plot. Don't look for complex character interaction here. His characters are drawn in broad strokes. The emotional palette comes in primary colours.

There's the tough, enigmatic marine; the beautiful double-crossing female; the cute feisty kid and the nerdy scientist.

His work is so pro-American you can almost hear the strains of the Star Spangled Banner in the background. But any writer who can combine international politics, military know-how and complex scientific concepts at a rollercoaster pace deserves respect.

When asked what literary purpose his books serve, Matthew Reilly found it an interesting, if uppity, question. "My books are read by both men and women of all ages... and are filtering into schools and the teenage ranks, in particular, teenage boys, a notoriously reading-resistant group.

"How about this: my books get people reading. Especially young people. My books may not win awards but if they get people reading, then they have a big literary function."

Before the rash of vampire fiction by Stephanie Meyer wannabes or the recent surge of farm romances like those by Rachael Treasure, Reilly was racking up the numbers. It's enough to make publishers chortle with glee.



## The tree at my window

*by Traudi Ribeny*

I always liked trees – but I never thought about them in a special way. They were there – like the road I walk on, or the flowers on the wayside. It was the tree's right to grow there and (I thought) mine to enjoy them. But did I really see them?

No  
I noticed them.

Since I am here, my ways of thinking about trees changed in deeper and different ways.

Each morning here, while walking through the corridors, I come to a window – and there I find a tree – a huge deciduous one, looking in on me through this window.

All the winter months I observed the tree – its bare branches stretching out in the air.

We say good morning to one another and we both wait.

'He' became 'my tree' and 'my friend'. What we were waiting for, I really don't know – perhaps for spring? The watching, leaving an indelible imprint on my soul. You became my friend.

There is not one day without 'good morning'. Hope you are fine and happy. I am happy when I see you.

## Family and comedy gets Anh through life, brilliant!

*A review by special correspondent Nick Overall, 13*

ANH DO NEARLY didn't make it to Australia – and what a tragedy that would have been. Anh's truly incredible story of how he went from war-torn Vietnam to being one of, if not *the* best loved and funniest comedians in Australia, is one we would be poorer without.

In his recently written memoir and first book, *The Happiest Refugee* – which has also just won the Independent Book of the Year award – Anh tells his story of courage, loyalty, love, acceptance, hope, comedy and family. The book is very well written and will send you into hysterics with its humour and wit. It is heart-warming and will make you feel a number of mixed emotions but despite all this, if you had to summarise the book in one word it would be 'inspirational'.

The story starts with Anh's mum and dad meeting and falling in love and then follows Anh, at only two, as he and his family escape Vietnam on an overcrowded boat to come to Australia. He writes of the ups and downs of his childhood and school years as a bit of a misfit, with stories of university where he studied law, and beyond to meeting his wife and having three

sons of his own.

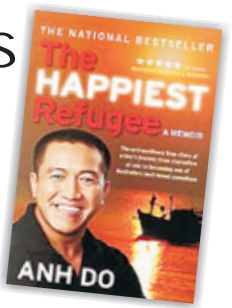
He tells of how he came to comedy and became an 'Australian legend', regularly appearing in popular TV shows such as *Thank God You're Here* and in a starring role in his younger brother's film *Footy Legends*, but just as he'll have you busting your gut with laughter, he will also have you on the edge of your seat and touch your heart with both the good and bad times he has had.

Family and comedy is what shines through it all and is what Anh says makes the tough times better and the good times great.

The book is easily one of the best memoirs you could ever read and will make you feel as if you're watching Anh's life unfold in front of you.

**5/5 STARS, BRILLIANT!**

**NOT BAD FOR ONE WEEKEND:** As we went to press Anh Do scooped the pool at the Australian Book Industry Awards Dinner in Melbourne, taking out three major awards, including the coveted ABIA Book of the Year. He also took out the Nielsen BookData Booksellers' Choice award the night before.



## Why did I do that?!

*by Di Johnstone*

### What makes us tick?

#### The ten desires that drive us

*by Hugh Mackay*

Publisher: Hachette Australia

RRP: \$35 (Paperchain, Manuka)

HUGH MACKAY is a longstanding and prescient observer of Australians. As a

psychologist and social researcher he has listened to us, analysed us and presented us back to ourselves over a number of years. His books are widely read and standard texts.

In this book, Mackay forensically examines our motivations. He requires us to look closely at ourselves and with a measure of honesty. His

raw material has come from his own research, with a focus on small groups of people talking to each other – friends, neighbours and workmates.

Although it is not a very scientific method, it nevertheless seems effective in drawing out the major threads of human behaviour.

Mackay's starting point is the question 'Why did I do THAT?' – a question we may ask when we do something that doesn't reflect who we think or say that we are. There are also times when we act in ways that defy reason or logic and we find it hard to explain this to ourselves.

Mackay suggests that these actions are driven by desires and it is good to understand what these desires are. He identifies ten such desires – to be taken seriously, for my place, for something to believe in, to connect, to be useful, to belong, for more, for control, for something to happen and for love.

It is a long list and he seems to have covered the waterfront. He deliberately left out the desire for sex, arguing that this is a way to satisfy desires not one in itself. Others may differ. He says that he did not order the desires except for the desire to be taken seriously which he thinks is the most important.

This is a desire to be recognised, valued and acknowledged. It is an interesting reflection of Australia's culture and that Australia is a

relatively safe country. In other countries, especially those that have suffered wars, the desire to be safe would be more significant than being taken seriously.

There are surprises. One is the desire for something to happen. We don't, apparently, like to be bored. This is one of the most intriguing chapters and while you might question it at the start you will probably agree by the end.

There is also the vexed issue of the desire to believe in something. Mackay addresses everything from religion and atheism to ghosts and the supernatural, superstition, self help and conspiracy theories. He argues that we have a low tolerance for ambiguity and when confronted with complex ideas we like to simplify them, to both understand and to have a belief – and this is the allure of fundamentalism in its various forms.

Mackay doesn't judge desires. He informs. The judgement is left to the reader. But alongside each desire he also presents what he calls the dark side. In the case of love, for example, there is the "sad, mad and bad love" of control freaks.

This is an engaging book, with many recognisable examples and well written. The book is a page turner and a very useful guide for psychoanalysing friends and acquaintances at family gatherings and dinner parties.



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## TWO TAKES ON MODERN LIFE

*Terrence Malik's long-awaited return to the screen with Tree of Life split the critics at Cannes this year, with cheers and jeers responding to his screening while the star power of his cast created much buzz. The director has attained iconic status with his slender output including The Thin Red Line, Badlands and Days of Heaven and a style, marked by beautiful cinematography, that is all his own. Reviewer Judy Thompson says you'll have to judge for yourself.*

**The Tree of Life** stars Brad Pitt, Sean Penn and Jessica Chastain. This is Malik's fifth feature film in thirty-eight years so it has been long-awaited and highly debated; reviewers have called it insufferable, interminable, magnificent and grandiose – and it won the Palm d'Or at Cannes this year.

The film is based around the character of Jack O'Brien, an architect adrift in an urban, orderly middle age. It deals with his childhood memories as well as dealing with wider issues such as the origin and meaning of life and the universe. The film is fragmented and possibly mirrors the daydreams or meanderings of a mind reviewing past events while searching for meaning.

Beginning with news of the death of Jack's brother, the film moves to pictures of the universe and planets forming and a voice-over of existential questions. This is followed by scenes involving prehistoric beasts with fatal wounds before settling into the early relationship of the O'Briens and their young family in 1950s Texas. Jack's mind gets about.

Most of the film is taken up with Jack's boyhood and his relationship with his parents and community. It shows Jack growing up and becoming aware of the flaws in his parents, community and God. He asks, "If God isn't good why should I be?"

Brad Pitt plays an affectionate but stern 1950s father and Jessica Chastain plays his idealised, almost childlike wife. Mrs O'Brien represents a life lived with grace and Mr O'Brien a life lived with nature. To live with grace is apparently to be unquestioning and without ego, whilst to live with nature means to seek to impose your ego on others.



The final part of the film involves a rocky terrain with Jack both as a young boy and in middle age. There is minimal dialogue. The film shows a sandbar at the sea with people from Jack's childhood memories mingling and embracing each other. The last scene is of him smiling as he leaves the building, possibly off to buy an espresso before moving on with his own life.

In summary, a somewhat surreal but not unpleasant film experience, and I may have got the sandbar scene very wrong.

*Now showing at Dendy Canberra Centre and Greater Union Manuka.*

## And now for something completely different...

**Bridesmaids** is a 'chick flick' for those with a crude adolescent sense of humour. It is surprisingly funny. The film centres around Annie a woman in her early thirties with a failed relationship, a failed bakery business, a shared apartment with the flat mates from hell and an

unfulfilling job selling rings in a jewellery shop.

Annie's main relationships are with her best friend (the soon-to-be-wed Lillian), the truly awful Ted (a mainly sexual relationship), and her long-suffering but encouraging mum.

Annie takes on the task of being maid of honour for Lillian. At the first meeting of the bridesmaids Annie meets Helen, the beautiful and annoyingly accomplished wife of Lillian's fiancé's boss.

Things get very competitive with Helen. Annie's life, which seemed pretty grim to start with, gets much worse and there is a fair bit of collateral damage for the others involved in the wedding preparations as well.

## American Pie

Dinner and cabaret featuring the incredibly prolific Shortis and Simpson!!



Check out the ongoing Shortis and Simpson program at: [www.shortisandsimpson.com](http://www.shortisandsimpson.com)

Helen takes over the role of maid of honour and Annie becomes a recluse after moving in with her mother. Megan, the overweight and raunchy fellow bridesmaid, gives Annie a much-needed pep talk. Annie's life begins to turn around when she meets Nathan, a friendly traffic policeman.

Eventually Lillian becomes overwhelmed by Helen's management of the wedding and goes into hiding. Annie saves the day by finding Lillian with Nathan's help and by doing a last-minute bridal dress alteration.

The wedding is horrible but happy.

Highly recommended for anyone in your family contemplating a wedding – with a bit of luck it will encourage them to elope.

*Now showing at Dendy Canberra Centre and Greater Union Manuka.*

Bungendore's Shortis and Simpson put on their music history hats in August as they celebrate the 40th anniversary of the recording of Don McLean's landmark song, *American Pie*.

John Shortis gives his take on what he reckons those cryptic lyrics mean, as Moya Simpson lends her incredibly versatile voice to the songs of Janis Joplin, Buddy Holly, the Stones, Beatles, Dylan, Don himself, and more – with plenty of laughs, and the odd serious moment.

As usual, Shortis's research unlocks quirky stories, and presents an original interpretation of the song itself, and the '50s and '60s decades it sings about.

**When and where:** Teatro Vivaldi, Friday 26, Saturday 27 August, 7pm \$65/\$75/\$85 (depending on seating). Show only \$30/\$40/\$50 (show starts 8.30pm).

Sunday 28 August, 5.30pm \$40/\$50/\$60 (one show only) – champagne on arrival, canapés at interval. Bookings 6257 2718.

**GET BACK:** Lennon and McCartney channelled at 'The Q' in September

## A CABARET ACT NOT TO BE MISSED

THREE OF AUSTRALIA'S top cabaret performers, Melissa Langton, Libby O'Donovan and Mark Jones, are joining forces to take you on a Magical Mystery Tour through a collection of the finest pop songs ever written.

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There's something for everyone in The Great Liverpoolian Songbook – and this multi-award winning cabaret trio serve it up with their trademark offbeat humour and a healthy dose of the hottest three-part harmonies on the planet!

Expect highbrow harmony and lowbrow comedy... plus the occasional joke about one-legged ex-models.

No song-writing partnership has produced so rich and diverse an output of songs as that of John Lennon and Paul McCartney – from the haunting beauty of *The Long and Winding Road*, *Yesterday*, *Let It Be*, *Norwegian Wood*, *Eleanor Rigby*, *Hey Jude* and *Imagine* to the upbeat, swinging '60s sounds of *Ticket To*

*Ride*, *When I'm 64*, *Lady Madonna*, *Penny Lane*, *Got To Get You Into My Life*, *All You Need is Love* and *Baby You Can Drive My Car* ... beep beep, mm beep beep, Yeah!

*"Killer voices and punchy vocals. A full throttle cabaret show." – Adelaide Now*

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## Whooping cough warning

PARENTS OF YOUNG children in the region are being warned of the potentially fatal dangers of whooping cough, after a 30 percent rise in cases over last year, with more than 660 cases notified across southern NSW.

Beginning in a similar manner to the common cold, whooping cough (pertussis) develops into coughing attacks sometimes followed by bouts of vomiting and respiratory distress.

Director of Public Health Tracey Oakman says it is important for parents to be on the look out for symptoms of whooping cough.

“Whooping cough can be unpleasant for people of any age but it can prove to be very serious in babies, even fatal,” she said.

“Young babies under six months will not have been fully vaccinated so they remain vulnerable to whooping cough. Babies and small children might go blue or even stop breathing during a coughing attack.”

A booster vaccine is available for adults from GPs. Until the end of this year, the vaccine may be free for a range of people including parents or grandparents, healthcare and childcare workers, who have contact with young children.

“Someone with whooping cough will be able to spread it to other people for up to three weeks after onset (unless they are treated with antibiotics). So it is important that people are treated early to stop the spread of the disease,” said Oakman.

NSW Health advises that the best way to protect babies is to keep them away from anyone with a cough and to make sure their immunisations are up to date.



## BUNGENDORE PRIMARY'S NEW PRINCIPAL

BUNGENDORE PARENTS have been excited to welcome Ros Roworth as the primary school's new principal. “She will be nothing but brilliant for our awesome school,” enthused Sharon Baxter-Judge who was the parent representative on the interview panel.

Roworth was supposed to start in January but an accident put her in hospital for 14 weeks instead, and she is still on crutches. Her extensive teaching and administrative experience most recently was in Singleton.

However, she told the *Bulletin* that she is ‘returning’ to an area that she loves and that she has been humbled by the warm welcome. She taught in Queanbeyan for six years prior to Singleton. The agenda at the moment is to get to know the programs, the children and the staff and that should be good for six months at least.

## Pre-teens: Star search is calling you!

IT'S TIME to stop singing Justin Bieber or Lady Gaga songs into your hairbrush and it's time to stop performing your amazing dance moves on the lounge room floor in front of mum and dad!

Like last year's crowd favourite Brihannon Lyons (*pictured below*) from Queanbeyan, you too could be up there performing in lights if you are a pre-teen.



Star Search 2011 is open to all primary-aged school children and we're looking for all kinds of performers: from singers, dancers and acrobats to comedians, musicians and even impersonators. If you love to perform, registrations are open now!

Auditions will be held at Riverside Plaza on Monday 12 and Thursday 15 September, with heats running in the school holidays between Wednesday 29 September and Saturday 8 October 2011.

This year's amazing prize pool includes an I-pod touch package worth over \$498, digital cameras and vouchers to spend in-centre. Prizes will be awarded for first and second place, judges' encouragement award and crowd favourite.

To register for Star Search 2011 download a registration form from [www.riversideplaza.com.au](http://www.riversideplaza.com.au) and drop it into the plaza before 1 September.

For further questions contact 6299 2466 or email [riversideplaza@ampcapital.com](mailto:riversideplaza@ampcapital.com).

## Australia's forests & climate forum

IS PROTECTING Australia's state forests our most cost-effective climate action? For those with an interest, there is a very high-powered forum on forests and climate being held at the ANU on 13 August.

The speakers' list is impressive including academics, environmental lawyers, conservationists, politicians and religious leaders. Sessions include: Honest Carbon Accounting in our Clean Energy Future; Biodiversity, Sustainability & Fire; Jobs, Law & Disorder in Australia's State Forests; Forest Climate Action; and Under the Canopy (Bishop George Browning looks at the Australian religious response to climate change).

The forum will be in the Medical Research Centre Theatre (Building 131) Garran Rd, ANU. Registration is at 9am. Forum ends at 5pm. Cost is \$30 with lunch. Seats are limited. See the program at [naturenet1.sharepoint.com/](http://naturenet1.sharepoint.com/) and book your seat with **Mike Thompson @Nature.Net.au**.

## Line down, mystery solved?

EDDY O'DONAGHUE of Macs Reef Road in Bywong has solved the mystery of why 123 homes lost power in the area on the night of 23 July, continuing into the next morning.



However, his discovery that a tree branch brought down an overhead line raised more questions and made him worry about the potential for grass fires in a different season.

He has been enquiring why Essential Energy's contract vegetation management crew trimmed trees and dropped saplings on his adjacent property, quite a way from the power-line, but overlooked the offending tree, which is perched awkwardly on the verge of Macs Reef Road, quite close to the line.

Essential Energy has told the *Bulletin* that it apologises to affected residents and said the incident occurred while the tree in question was waiting in line for specialised attention by highly-trained trimmers. These are authorised to work from an elevated platform (cherry picker), and are separate from the regular ground vegetation crews.

## Removing barbed wire near public reserves



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS have been removing old barbed wire from fencing adjacent to the Wamboin and Bywong greenways. With Palerang Council ready to establish a new wildlife friendly fencing standard, the Greenways Management Committee also urges neighbouring landholders to consider taking down strands of barbed wire (not essential for most livestock situations and unfriendly to horses as well as wildlife).

Chicken wire and other netting are also wildlife unfriendly and existing fences can easily be modified to allow echidnas, lizards and other native animals to move more freely through the countryside.

volcanic eruptions on the environment and society. He talked about volcanic and seismic activity relating to settlements, infrastructure, and location of nuclear facilities.

- Anny Cazenave (*the French space agency CNES*) reviewed recent progress in precisely measuring global sea level change as well as understanding the causes of the observed rise (ie ocean thermal expansion, land ice loss and terrestrial water storage change). Her work suggests that sea levels are rising faster than predicted.
- Kevin Trenberth (*US National Center for Atmospheric Research*) talked about ‘missing energy’ from the Sun, the Russian heat wave and other recent climate extremes.

## – What's the big idea? –

wind; and by having each turbine run in the opposite direction to its neighbours, drag on each turbine was reduced, allowing it to spin faster.

The increased efficiency was amazing – for every square metre of land occupied, the vertical wind turbines generated up to 47 watts of power compared to 2–3 watts for conventional propeller turbines. While vertical wind turbines are not a new idea, making wind power generation more efficient is always a Big Idea!

## Ocean arteries carry life

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE and Bureau of Meteorology research has revealed a new pattern of ocean circulation that will change how we understand all sorts of ocean events. Rather than just moving in large clockwise (northern hemisphere) and anti-clockwise (southern hemisphere) circular patterns, the open waters of the south-east Indian Ocean flow in east-west bands.

“We found that ocean eddies – the marine analogues of atmospheric weather systems like tropical cyclones – form off Australia and begin a three-year journey across the Indian Ocean along what we call ‘ocean arteries’, transporting seawater and biology with them,” says Prasanth Divakaran from the University of Melbourne.

The findings are important for understanding many ocean events from the movements of marine life, to the prediction of weather and climate. For instance, work on lobster life cycles in Western Australia has shown that the probability of growing into an adult depends on which deep artery of ocean circulation the larvae are swept into.

## Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet

PLANET EARTH has really been shaking, quaking and breaking this year – the Japanese tsunami, the Christchurch earthquakes, Cyclone Yasi, the Chilean ash clouds and more! The 25th International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) General Assembly was held in Melbourne from 28

June to 7 July. There were over 4,700 presentations, including the speakers listed below; the IUGG website <http://www.iugg2011.com/> has the full program.

- Thomas Jordan (*Southern California Earthquake Center*) has helped redefine plate tectonics and how our continents ‘sail’ across the surface of the Earth. He talked about the recent earthquake sequences in Italy, New Zealand, and Japan with a focus on the International Commission of Earthquake Forecasting.
- James Goff (*Australia-Pacific Tsunami Research Centre*) says that we don't know much about tsunamis in the Pacific. This matters because in prehistoric times Australia has been hit by large tsunamis.
- Stephen Self (*US Nuclear Regulatory Commission*) studies the impact of large-scale



with  
Sonja  
Chandler

## Coming soon: solar cells to print on?

PRINTABLE, FLEXIBLE solar cells that could dramatically decrease the cost of renewable energy have been developed by PhD student Brandon MacDonald in collaboration with colleagues from CSIRO's Future Manufacturing Flagship and the University of Melbourne's Bio21 Institute.

Their patented technology is based on inks containing tiny, semiconducting nanocrystals, which can be printed directly onto a variety of surfaces. By choosing the right combination of ink and surface it is possible to make efficient solar cells using very little energy or material – only 1/100th the materials of conventional solar cells.

Brandon says, “Using nanocrystal inks, they [new solar cells] can be manufactured in a continuous manner, which increases throughput and should make the cells much cheaper to produce.”

## Fish studies inspire wind turbines

CONVENTIONAL HORIZONTAL axis – propeller type – wind turbines need large tracts of land to allow for the spacing between turbines needed to avoid aerodynamic interference caused by neighbouring turbines; thus not trapping all the wind energy on a wind farm.



Professor John Dabiri (*above*), a California Institute of Technology aerospace engineer, studied how fish in a school interact with the swirling currents made by the tails of other fish to move in an energy-efficient way. Then, on his experimental wind farm, he placed 42 small, vertical axis – eggbeater type – wind turbines very close to each other. This arrangement allowed the turbines to capture nearly all of the energy of the blowing





Once she was in Jakarta, Lyn (above) joined forces with the male investigator she always works with, and the investigation began with the nearest known slaughterhouse that the MLA had been into. Then Lyn and her colleague were able to locate other places with MLA boxes in the surrounding area just by asking the locals.

There was no issue with them walking into these places as a 'tourist' and filming – clearly the Indonesians did not seem to find this unusual, perhaps because they had seen many Australians before, when MLA people had installed boxes or delivered training.

Four Corners always aim to obtain their own footage. This was an important part of the process as it provided independent verification of what Lyn had seen, and what every MLA or Livecorp person would have seen when they were in these places, installing equipment and 'training' staff.

#### BULLETIN ...

You spent months editing this footage for a report. How hard was it to review this material for three months – most people

could hardly stand it for three minutes! – what gave you the strength to keep going?

#### ... JONES

It was actually 6–8 weeks. My report was to add to the video evidence and provide another crucial way of documenting the systematic abuse of cattle. The report needed to cover all the slaughters to ensure that no-one could claim that what Lyn and her colleague had filmed were one-off incidents and to bear witness to the suffering of every animal.

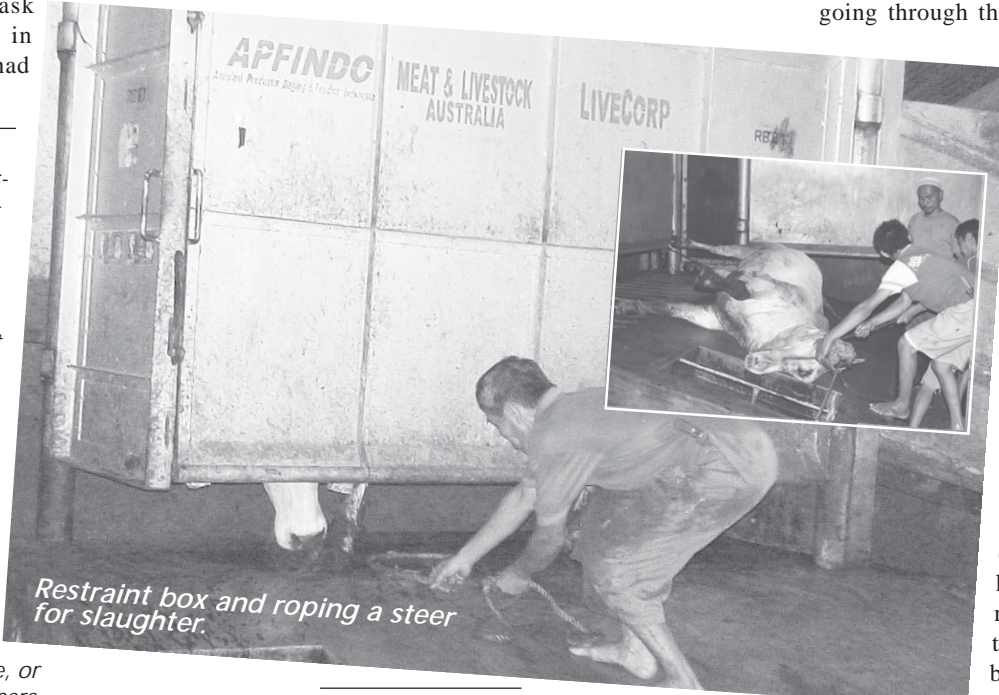
Going through the footage was one of the hardest things I have ever done, but the need for the report was what drove me. During that time I was in a very bad way because of the cruelty I was watching day after day. But it was a much easier task than being there in person, as Lyn had been.

#### BULLETIN ...

The RSPCA released a media statement at the time of the Four Corners report regarding the past role of Meat and Livestock Australia. We believe the term 'absolutely hopeless' was used. Can you elaborate on the history with this industry association when it comes to animal welfare, or informing producers about the problems?

#### ... JONES

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) and more recently, Livecorp, have been working in importing countries to increase market access for Australian livestock for more than 20 years.



Restraint box and roping a steer for slaughter.

Their staff know better than anyone the conditions that Australian animals face in these countries.

They have run programs to improve welfare, but improvements are extremely limited and are always measured against the norms in those countries, not to what we would expect here in Australia.

The worst aspect of MLA and Livecorp's strategy has been to pretend that they really 'care' about animal welfare, that it is their priority! That's a ridiculous front for any industry body that exists to promote livestock exports. If they cared about welfare, they would never have allowed cattle to be exported to Indonesia in the first place.

#### BULLETIN ...

Can you list the benefits to rural communities, producers and workers of slaughtering livestock for export in Australia?

#### ... JONES

The reality is that Indonesia wants to be self-sufficient in beef by 2014. In reality, it may take longer than that, but it is clear that this market, that takes 60 percent of our live export cattle, is not a sustainable one.

A meat-only trade is in the best interests of producers in the long term. Advice we have received from major players in the cattle industry is that increased processing in Northern Australia is not only feasible, but plans are already afoot to develop new facilities. The Queensland Government is also looking at the feasibility of new processing facilities in the top end.

Our boxed-beef exports are worth some six times more than the live trade so it makes sense to expand this far more lucrative industry.

#### BULLETIN ...

Have you had discussions with representatives of the Islamic community in Australia regarding the alleged need to slaughter animals on site, or that maybe they shouldn't be stunned, in order to conform with the dictates of Halal? What have they told you?

#### ... JONES

None of what was observed in Indonesia could be considered Halal and this has been echoed by religious authorities. Australia has some 40 Halal-certified export abattoirs and all animals going through those facilities are restrained

upright and stunned prior to slaughter. This meat goes to every country that we export live animals to. Stunning is widely accepted within the international Islamic community.

#### BULLETIN ...

What is the best outcome you hope to see ahead?

#### ... JONES

The best outcome? An end to live exports for slaughter from Australia, that's what I hope to see ahead... the events of the past months have made that result much more inevitable. In the short term, there is still much to do by supporting the legislation to ban live exports currently

before parliament, and to ensure that conditions in Indonesia for Australian cattle include upright stunning for every animal slaughtered.

**Postscript:** An RSPCA spokesperson in Canberra said the organisation is very disappointed that despite "all this grief to major cattle producers" the federal government has allowed exports to resume without any guarantees of stunning or non 'roping' slaughter or independent audits, while major producers are saying they want animals stunned.

#### 18 August vote in Federal Parliament

The private member's bills (Wilkie in the House and Xenophon in the Senate) to stop all live animal exports from Australia over three years will come up first on 18 August. The RSPCA is urging the government to allow Labor backbenchers a conscience vote.

## 2011 – A WIND ODYSSEY Cont'd from p4



PHOTO: FRED HARDEN

From the Federal Highway past Lake George, the wind turbines of the Capital Wind Farm stand out on the far side of the famous lake.

"Epidemiological studies are usually not undertaken unless there is a compelling body of case studies to identify a problem may exist," Farrell said, "That evidence has not been found, so Infigen believes that any resources expended would be wasted."

### Clean Energy Council welcomes report

Made up of over 500 member companies, the Clean Energy Council is a body representing Australia's alternative energy sector and Clean Energy Council spokesperson Mark Bretherton also welcomed the report.

"We support that if the government believes this is an important enough issue to sink money into then we aren't going to be standing in the way of that and it could actually help to cast a

bit of light onto this issue and possibly put it to bed," he said.

Asked about accusations of gag orders on wind turbine property owners, Bretherton denied the existence of such restrictions.

"Certainly we went out to all of our members to get reassurances from them and everyone who is a member of the Clean Energy Council came back and said that they do not advocate or include gag orders in their contracts."

### Property values

The Committee addressed the effects of wind farms on property values.

A number of submissions referred to a preliminary assessment report prepared for the New South Wales Valuer General. It reached the conclusion that wind farms did not appear to have negatively affected property values as "no reductions in sale price were evident for rural properties or residential properties located in nearby townships with views of the wind farm".

Brady's Countrywide Real Estate has sold many properties in the vicinity of the Capital Wind Farm and owner John Brady believes he has not seen a marked impact on property values.

"Before they were built in this region they definitely had a negative fear factor, a fear of the unknown, but once they were built here, people just took them on their merits," he said. "We recently sold a property on Taylors Creek Road that is about a kilometre from two wind turbines and I had no problem selling that. I've spoken to people who have lived in amongst the wind turbines and they don't seem too bothered."

With the effects of wind farms on health and property prices not yet finally laid to rest, and the federal government still considering the recommendations of the Senate Committee report, it seems certain that this 'novel' will prove to be a long read.

## Dear Editor ...

*New solar consumers give the energy companies a free ride with energy being fed into the grid, virtually for free, but are charged ever-increasing retail rates for the power they use from the grid.*

### NSW GOVERNMENT FAILS HOUSEHOLDS — WHY LOCAL SOLAR ENERGY COMPANY CHANGED DIRECTION

AS A LEADING local solar energy company, we at Pyramid Power blame the lack of any meaningful short-term state government direction for the solar industry as the reason behind continuing difficulties for the industry, and have been forced to scrap our own Feed in Tariff Assistance because of continuing public confusion over tariffs.

Our Managing Director Stephen Garrett has made the following statement: "We introduced our own net Feed in Tariff Assistance as a measure to help consumers until more positive direction and assistance became available from the state government. It is now abundantly clear that in the short term it is futile for the public to continue waiting for positive direction from the government. This ongoing lack of clarity regarding the future has confused potential customers so much that they are indefinitely deferring any decision to purchase solar systems. We don't want to

add to the confusion by continuing with our own tariff assistance, so the program has now been discontinued.

"By removing discussion around tariffs, we will now be able to concentrate on clearly communicating the long-term economic and environmental benefits of solar energy. That doesn't mean we're giving up the fight for a better deal for consumers.

"We will continue to put pressure on the government to take measures that provide greater equity for solar consumers who give the energy companies a free ride with energy being fed into the grid, virtually for free, but who are in turn being charged ever-increasing retail rates for the power they use from the grid. This inequity has to stop."

— Sak Ryoopponen,  
National Business Development Manager,  
Pyramid Power Company,  
Queanbeyan



# What's On – August

Send your announcements to [whatson@districtbulletin.com.au](mailto:whatson@districtbulletin.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](http://www.capitalregionfarmersmarket.com.au)

### 1st Saturday of every month

#### The Captains Flat Country Markets

Community Hall, Foxlow St, Captains Flat, 10–2pm. Bric-a-brac, trash and treasure and local produce. Call 6236 6094 or email [www.captainsflat.org](mailto:www.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/Aug)

#### 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. Crafts, trash and treasure and general stalls.

#### 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](http://www.bungendore.com.au)

[www.visitqueanbeyan.com.au](http://www.visitqueanbeyan.com.au)

[www.visitbraidwood.com.au](http://www.visitbraidwood.com.au)

## – GIG GUIDE: August –

### Saturday 6

**Bill Olson**, 7–11pm, Hotel Queanbeyan.

**Retro DJ**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

### Thursday 11

**Gary Sturgess**, 7–10pm, Royal Hotel, Queanbeyan.

### Friday 12

**Back to Back**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Bowling Club.

**Under the Covers**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Stuart St.

**Phat Cat City**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

### Saturday 13

**Wayne Ryder Trio**, 7–11pm, Hotel Queanbeyan.

**Retro DJ**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

### Sunday 14

**Pugsley Buzzard**, 2–6pm, piano player and singer with a distinctive sound, Gundaroo Colonial Inn. Free entry.

### Thursday 18

**Gary Sturgess**, 7–10pm, Royal Hotel, Queanbeyan.

### Friday 19

**Human Reaction Duo**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Stuart St.

**The Jukes**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

### Saturday 20

**Victoria Baillie**, 8.30–11.30pm, The Loaded Dog, Tarago.

**MLC**, 7–11pm, Hotel Queanbeyan.

**Hit and Run**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club.

**Retro DJ**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

### Sunday 21

**Blue 4**, 2–6pm, jazz, alternative, blues, Indie and ambient grooves, Gundaroo Colonial Inn. Free entry.

### Thursday 25

**Gary Sturgess**, 7–10pm, Royal Hotel, Queanbeyan.

### Friday 26

**Hit and Run**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Stuart St

### Saturday 27

**Hit Parade**, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club.

**Swizz**, 7–11pm, Hotel Queanbeyan.

### Sunday 28

**The Bridge Between**, 2–6pm, vocal harmonies, solo singing, acoustic and electric guitars, slides and inspiring harmonicas, Gundaroo Colonial Inn. Free entry.

### During August

#### Fireside Festival 2010

Now in its 6th year, the Fireside Festival will be held throughout August and hosted by members of The Poacher's Way consortium across a diverse range of lifestyle, food and tourism venues. Look out for such participants as the Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. Dinners, exhibitions, classes and more. See [www.firesidefestival.com.au](http://www.firesidefestival.com.au).

### Until Sunday August 7

#### Four and Twenty Magpies Exhibition – Lucy Watts

Altenburg Fine Art Gallery, 104 Wallace St, Braidwood. Ph 4844 4384 or email [geoldham@yahoo.com.au](mailto:geoldham@yahoo.com.au).

### Until Saturday 13 August

#### Queanbeyan City Council Art Award

'The Q', Crawford St Queanbeyan. Experience the diversity of Queanbeyan's artists as they compete for this coveted Award. For more phone 6285 6290 or visit [www.qcc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.qcc.nsw.gov.au).

### Saturday 6 August until

### Monday 3 October



Evening Approaches

#### Going Bush Exhibition – Ken Knight

Bungendore Wood Works Gallery, Kings Hwy, Bungendore. Ken Knight is an award-winning artist who has been capturing the unique landscape of Australia for over 25 years. Ph 6238 1682.

### Thursday 11 to Sunday 14

#### Canberra Craft and Quilt Fair

Exhibition Park, Mitchell. Australia's favourite craft event – see what's possible, learn new techniques and buy all your craft supplies. For more see [www.craftfair.com.au/Canberra2011/](http://www.craftfair.com.au/Canberra2011/).

### Tuesday 16 to Wednesday 27

#### Art of Colours – Nik Rajic

'The Q', Foyer and Exhibition Space, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. This local painter presents his new work. Official opening on Tuesday 16 at 6pm. Ph 6285 6170.

### Friday 19 August until 11 September

#### Photographic exhibition

Altenburg Fine Art Gallery, 104 Wallace St, Braidwood. Group exhibition of photographic artworks. Ph 4844 4384 or email [geoldham@yahoo.com.au](mailto:geoldham@yahoo.com.au).

### Tuesday 30 August until September 17

#### Pursuit of Imagination Exhibition – Ian Robertson

'The Q', Foyer and Exhibition Space, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Oil and acrylic paintings on canvas. Official opening Tuesday 30 at 6pm. Ph 6285 6170.

### Saturday 6

#### FORM Studio & Gallery Opening

1/30 Aurora Ave, Queanbeyan, 12–1.30pm and 2–3.30pm. Help celebrate the official opening of an exciting new gallery for Queanbeyan with the Grand Opening exhibition by Claire Primrose and Maxine Price. Tickets \$20.

#### Starting School Expo

Queanbeyan Conference Centre, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. For children starting school in 2012 and their families. Information stalls, give-aways, school and pre-school staff to talk about school readiness, jumping castle, face painting, sausage sizzle and more. Win prizes and meet special guests from the Brumbies. For more phone Maureen Howe on 6297 2167.

### Sunday 7

#### Anything Goes Exhibition

Queanbeyan Art Society, Trinculo Pl, Queanbeyan. For more information phone 6297 8181.

#### Collectors Expo

Marulan Hall, 9–3pm. From hats to Royal Doulton, the list is endless! \$10 for a table, or \$5 for entry, includes lunch. Contact Alison on 4841 1570 or Sue on 4841 0288.

### Tuesday 9

#### Census Night

The Australian Bureau of Statistics conducts the census every five years to gain a 'snapshot' of the nation. This year you can do it online. For more information call 1300 338 776 or go to [www.abs.gov.au/census](http://www.abs.gov.au/census).

### Saturday 13

#### Cabaret featuring Peggy Lee and Frank Sinatra

Gundaroo Colonial Inn, Cork St, Gundaroo, from 6pm. Cabaret show featuring a three-course dinner and the sounds of Peggy Lee and Frank Sinatra. Tickets \$65. For further information or bookings please call 6236 8155 or 0411 039 505.

### Sunday 14

#### NATIONAL RALLY calling for end to LIVE ANIMAL EXPORT TRADE

ACT and region: 12pm at Federation Mall, Parliament House. In the leadup to 18 August vote on private members bill in federal Parliament to end exports, family friendly rally organised by RSPCA and Animals Australia for a kinder future for animals.

#### Canberra Sustainable House

Guided tours showcasing the best in sustainable housing and environmentally friendly living. See [www.canberrasustainablehouse.com.au](http://www.canberrasustainablehouse.com.au) or contact Nick on 0429 492 773 for more.

#### Tarago Pony Club Rally

With Lynda Howell instructing and new members are always welcome. Gear check is at 9am, sausage sizzle lunch, \$5 per family. RSVP on 4849 4221 or 4849 4565 or see [www.tarago.org.au](http://www.tarago.org.au).

### Tuesday 16

#### Wamboin Community Association August General Meeting

Wamboin Community Hall, from 7.30pm. All welcome.

### Friday 19

#### Young Canberra Citizen of the Year

Nominations close for the Young Canberra Citizen of the Year award. For more information call 6205 0632 or go to [www.youth.act.gov.au](http://www.youth.act.gov.au).

#### CWA Fundraiser for prostate cancer

CWA Rooms, Tarago from 10.30am. Lucky door prize, raffles, facials and a \$5 lunch. Contact Virginia on 4822 8004.

### Saturday 20

#### Greek banquet

Gundaroo Colonial Inn, Cork St, Gundaroo, from 6pm. Enjoy a Greek banquet, featuring Greek dancing and traditional plate smashing! Tickets \$65. For further information or bookings please call 6236 8155 or 0411 039 505.

#### The Great Wamboin Curry Night

Wamboin Community Hall from 7.30pm. The annual gastronomic event! All diners bring along a prepared dish which are displayed and then on offer to all guests. Entry by gold coin donation, BYO drinks, plates, cutlery. Prizes will be given. For more contact Dave Hubbard on 6238 3308.

## – SPORTS ROUND-UP –

### AFL

#### Saturday 6

**Southport v Queanbeyan Tigers**. Fankhauser Reserve. Tip-off 1pm.

#### Sunday 14

**Queanbeyan Tigers v Sydney Swans**. Dairy Farmers Park, Queanbeyan. Tip-off 2pm.

#### Sunday 21

**Queanbeyan Tigers v Ainslie**. Dairy Farmers Park, Queanbeyan. Tip-off 2pm.

#### Sunday 27

**Queanbeyan Tigers v Tuggeranong**. Dairy Farmers Park, Queanbeyan. Tip-off 2pm.

#### FINALS SERIES –

##### Saturday 3 September

Second Semi, Manuka, 2pm.

##### Sunday 4 September

First Semi, Manuka, 2pm.

### FOOTBALL

#### Saturday 6

**Queanbeyan City v Belconnen United**. Riverside Stadium, Queanbeyan, kick-off 3pm.

#### Sunday 7

**Woden Valley v Monaro Panthers**. Woden Park enclosed, kick-off 3pm.

#### Saturday 13

**Queanbeyan City v University of Canberra**. Uni Canberra 4, kick-off 3pm.

#### Sunday 14

**Canberra FC v Monaro Panthers**. Deakin Stadium, kick-off 3pm.

#### Saturday 20

**Queanbeyan City v Woden Valley**. Riverside Stadium, Queanbeyan, kick-off 3pm.

#### Sunday 28

**TUFC v Monaro Panthers**. Riverside Stadium, Queanbeyan, kick-off 3pm.

### Saturday 20 & Sunday 21

#### Cheese making workshop

The Old Cheese Factory, 92 Sawyers Ridge Rd, Reidsdale. Award-winning cheese maker and Senior Lecturer Barry Lillywhite of Charles Sturt University returns to conduct two cheese making workshops. One-day workshop \$250 inc GST. Two-day workshop \$495 inc GST. To register call 4846 1999 or 0407 292 181 or email [cheesemaking@braidwoodmade.com.au](mailto:cheesemaking@braidwoodmade.com.au).

### Sunday 21

#### Tarago & District Progress Assoc Wine & Cheese Night & Dance

Tarago Hall, starting at 6.30pm. BYO wine, cheese and dancing shoes for a fun evening. Enquiries Gill Shepherd on 4849 4221.

#### Annual Spring Poultry Show

Poultry Pavilion, Goulburn Showgrounds. Meet the breeders and some birds may be on sale following judging. Ph Bob Andrews on 4844 7133 or email [goulburnpoultry@gmail.com](mailto:goulburnpoultry@gmail.com).

### Thursday 25

#### Deepblue – The Dream

'The Q', Crawford St, Queanbeyan. The new show follows the young musician's journey, and explores the fine line between dreams, nightmares and reality ... a perfect combination of multi-media, film, music, rock, electronics and classical. Ph 6285 6290 or visit [www.qcc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.qcc.nsw.gov.au).

### Friday 26 to Sunday 28

#### American Pie – Shortis and Simpson

Teatro Vivaldi, bookings 6257 2718. *See promo p13.*

### Sunday 28

#### 152th anniversary of St Bartholomew's Church

Windellama Church. The Sunday service will be followed by a finger food luncheon in the grounds of the church. An invitation is extended to all to celebrate the anniversary. The Rev'd Vanessa Bennet can be contacted on 4821 3631 or [wgbnanglican@bigpond.com](mailto:wgbnanglican@bigpond.com).

## – Plan ahead for September –

### Saturday 3

#### The Monaro Folk Society Gala Ball

Albert Hall, Canberra. Monaro Folk Society will again be holding its Colonial Ball. Enquires phone Barbara on 6161 2426.

### Sunday 4

#### Tarago Walking Track opening

Tarago Sports Association Recreation Area, Braidwood Rd, Tarago, 12noon. The new Tarago Walking Track will be opened and the whole community is invited to come along to be part of ceremony, meet your neighbours, use the track and join in a family BBQ lunch.

## LEAGUE

### Saturday 6

**Queanbeyan Blues v Tuggeranong Bushrangers**.

Seiffert Oval Queanbeyan, kick-off 3pm.

**Braidwood Bears v Bungendore Tigers**.

Braidwood Recreation Grnds, kick-off 2.30pm.

### Sunday 7

**Queanbeyan Kangaroos vs Goulburn Workers**

**Bulldogs**. Workers Arena Goulburn.

### Saturday 13

**Queanbeyan Kangaroos vs Tuggeranong**

**Bushrangers**. Greenway, kick-off 3pm.

### Sunday 14

**Canberra Raiders v Rabbitohs**. Canberra Stadium,

kick-off 2pm.

**Crookwell Green Devils v Bungendore Tigers**.

Crookwell Memorial Oval, kick-off 2.30pm.

**Minor Semi Finals – 20/21 August**

**Major Semi Finals – 27/28 August**

**Preliminary Finals – 3/4 September**

**GRAND FINALS – 10/11 September**

## UNION

### Saturday 6

**Wests v Queanbeyan Whites**. Campese Oval, Queanbeyan, 3.05pm kick-off.

**Crookwell v Yass**, Yass.

**Boorowa v Jindabyne**, Jindabyne.

**Taralga v Bungendore**, Bungendore.

**Braidwood v Bermagui**, Cobargo.

### Saturday 13

**Queanbeyan Whites v Royals**. Campese Oval, Queanbeyan, 3.05pm kick-off.

**Boorowa v Taralga**, Taralga.

**Jindabyne v Crookwell**, Crookwell.

**FINALS SERIES – Aug 13, 27 & Sept 3 & 10.**