

Bulletin

COUNTRY LIVING in Queanbeyan and Palerang

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Koalas with friends hang on, barely

LITTLE Jimmy (pictured here) was found last year beside the road in south-eastern Palerang, having been parted from his mother and suffering from hypoglycaemia. He was lucky enough to be rescued by LAOKO (Looking After Our Kosciusko Orphans) with the help of Wildcare and NARG (Native Animal Rescue Group) and taken to James Fitzgerald's sanctuary and rescue centre in bush country near Jerangle.

James, who is the Wildcare koala coordinator, also provided a recovery home for another koala found a year or so ago in suburban Jerrabomberra. That young male had pneumonia and was starved. Which is not untypical of what happens to young male koalas as they disperse, looking for a new home in a landscape where most of the trees

have been removed since white settlement.

With government encouragement, koalas were slaughtered by the millions for the export fur trade up to the 1930s throughout eastern Australia, leaving few animals to recover and indeed, along with deforestation and fires, the population never did rebound to anywhere near previous numbers. Some estimates are that only 40,000 koalas exist now in Australia. Their habitat is still being logged and some are subjected to 'culling' in remaining confined areas (as recently happened in Victoria).

The upside in our area is that the Tinderry mountains around James' 1,700 acre sanctuary, provide habitat for an apparently stable and even growing koala population of about 30 animals. Cooma Monaro Shire is taking an interest, said James. There is talk of develop-

ing a land management plan to benefit koalas.

James himself monitors their calls to study their movements in the area. At the moment he is excited about an ANU study of a unique bit of behaviour among the local troupe involving bark chewing – unknown from koala literature.

Why this might be going on is being looked at by PhD student Jessie Au of the ANU Research School of Biology.

When we visited James' Two Thumbs Wildlife Trust property, Jessie was starting her sampling for chemistry studies that would hopefully shed light on what distinguished a favoured bark tree of the *Eucalyptus mannifera* (Brittle Gum) species from another that was not chewed. What nutrients might they be offering the furry tree huggers?

>> p10

Fuel security — she may not 'be right'

by Jenny Goldie

"SHE'LL be right" is the federal government's attitude to Australia's fuel security. The market will deal with any interruptions in supply. According to former Air Vice-Marshall John Blackburn AO, however, leaving it all to the market may mean we're left high and dry with insufficient fuel to run the economy.

Blackburn, who is a Canberra resident and was giving a talk on behalf of ACT Peak Oil, told how his farmer brother-in-law has already experienced this when a diesel shortage in northern Victoria meant he temporarily was unable to harvest his \$100,000 crop.

What about the rest of us if, suddenly, there was no transport fuel available and nowhere to buy it from? Petrol stations would run out in three days. Hospitals would run out of drugs in three days though retail pharmacies would last a week. Supermarkets have a week's supply of frozen goods – that's without panic buying – and a bit longer for dry goods; nine days. Blackburn now acts as a consultant who has prepared several fuel security reports that tell us Australia's precarious position. (See end of story, p10.)

Australia is a member of the International Energy Agency (IEA) that requires its members to stockpile at least 90 days of fuel. How much do we hold? At a Senate Inquiry in February, officials from the Department of Industry and Science could not even answer the question. They were told to come back in April with an answer.

They said 35 days. That was bad enough when set against IEA requirements, but as Blackburn points out, useless when you can't break it down into the component fuels: aviation, heating, petrol, diesel and so on. Diesel is particularly critical; it underpins everything. It is not only needed to get crops in

>> p10

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The District Bulletin had a chat with Queanbeyan Councillor Sue Whelan recently, and came away with some news and views on a number of issues of interest to Queanbeyan and the region.

Outcome of recent rates and charges review

IN THE WAKE of recent revelations that Queanbeyan Council was inaccurately charging water and sewer rates to some landholders, particularly commercial properties, a review has prompted council to propose a water meter reassessment program in its 2015–2016 budget.

Councillor Whelan explained that some 40mm meters that had been installed did not reflect the size of pipes (25mm) entering some properties and the actual usage, leading to overcharging. This will affect 160 properties mostly in the industrial areas. Landholders can have their water situation reassessed at the end of June when council's draft fees and charges are adopted (or not).

An assessment fee is involved and full details are available from council and its website. Look for *Water Meter Reassessment Information Sheet*.

"There had been some inference that ratepayers were doing the wrong thing but the bottom line is that council should be as transparent as possible about fees and charges," said Whelan.

Council amalgamations 'fit for the future' or not

"I have some major concerns," said Whelan. "What they are looking to do is merge one or two 'unfit' councils with a 'fit' council but that doesn't make the new entity fit, there's debts and unfunded asset renewal, right across the state. The two other levels of government have contributed to 'unfit' the way they treat local councils."

Family daycare support disappears for Queanbeyan

"Family daycare is an instance where the feds have backed off from any support. They're talking about all this extra money for childcare, but no-one can figure out where family daycare fits into it.

"They've changed the formula (criteria) so Queanbeyan Council which runs all the family daycare (and has done for some 40 years) is no longer eligible for federal funding. Council along with the local small business educators now have to look at how to fill that gap. We are going to have to put the fees up because we have no choice.

"It's now all about centres or nannies for shiftworkers. Well family daycare can work for shiftworkers."

>> pg 4

> *Passivhaus, see article about this revolutionary building method, p6*

Right: Volunteer Phoebe Howe, with produce from the Small Producers Shop. People can drop off their produce to this stall and sell it for a 20 percent commission.



Left: Ruth Girdi from Mamma Rita's Farm that produces a wide range of apples on Norton Road, Wamboin.

Right: Penny from Pendon Farms on Norton Road, Wamboin. Eggs, fruits, vegetables and flowers in season along with preserves made in the district are for sale at Pendon every day and at the markets.



Above: Workers Jessica, Julia and Jesse from Tiandi Farm in Braidwood. The farm, also a wildlife sanctuary, produces organic vegetables, seedlings, and hatchery fish.

Find more information about the markets at www.southernharvest.net.au/market.aspx

Upper House Inquiry into 'forced amalgamations'

SHADOW Minister for Local Government Peter Primrose at the end of May welcomed the announcement of an Upper House Inquiry into the NSW government's 'Fit for the Future' program and what the opposition, including Greens and Independents, calls forced council amalgamations.

The inquiry will examine the criteria

used by the government to assess amalgamation proposals, in particular the scale and capacity criterion – as well as the impact of proposed amalgamations on council finances, staff and communities.

"Numerous councils have raised their concerns about the timeline, criteria and methodology imposed by IPART and the Government," Primrose said.

"Councils will have less than a month to respond to IPART's final methodology but there is still no information as to whether there is a population target for

councils or what it is.

"IPART will have less than a day to assess each council's submission. These sub-missions will be hundreds of pages long – impossible to review in just a day.

"Local councils provide essential services in every community and it is important that any changes are based on accurate, rather than faulty information.

"Labor is determined to get to the bottom of what looks to be a process aimed at rushing through council amalgamations."

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To amalgamate or not?

And let's think creatively about economic development

PUBLIC meetings were held at the end of May in Braidwood and Bungendore regarding the state government's Fit for the Future review of the long-term viability of councils.

Under this program, Palerang and Queanbeyan had been earmarked for a possible amalgamation.

Local government amalgamations are, of course, not new. In 2004 Tallaganda and Yarrowlumla Shires ceased to exist when they were merged and amalgamated with parts of Cooma-Monaro, Mulwarree and Gunning to form Palerang.

Unsurprisingly, a 'gut feeling' in far-spread Palerang (prior to community consultation) is that there is general opposition to amalgamation. An online discussion among Braidwood residents elicited comments such as:

"When a Shire Council becomes larger, people easily become invisible in the new administrative and logistical structure. Simply having a shire office a great distance away from the centre of [one's] town can even be

a major problem, disallowing some people from being able to participate in local government."

"I am definitely against party politics in local councils ... for Councils it is about local matters. We get enough centralised thinking (or one solution fits all) at state and federal level."

A brochure recently distributed by Palerang Council to local residents indicated that the council's preferred position is not to amalgamate. Similarly Queanbeyan Council is not enthusiastic and a merger would not add to 'fitness' (as reported in the May *Bulletin* cover story).

Palerang's brochure states that its financial position, as assessed under the Fit for the Future program, is 'moderate', defined as, "as good as, or better than 75 percent of NSW councils".

Council, here are some ideas for kick starting the Palerang economy

Palerang Council in its brochure seeks input from residents about how to kick start and maintain economic growth in the region.

A public meeting in Braidwood on 16

June will discuss the future of the Braidwood and Villages Tourism Association and how to market Braidwood as a destination rather than pie stop on the way to the coast. One suggestion already being thrown around is a caravan park in or nearby the town.

A recreational rail trail feasibility study has raised a fair bit of interest on the Bungendore Captains Flat side area.

There are numerous opportunities in such a large shire to become a model of sustainability. Sustainable farming demonstrations, renewable energy, transition towns,

farmers markets, wildlife sanctuaries and eco-tourism are just some areas.

Council could encourage residents through incentives to adopt sustainable practices in water conservation, more waste minimisation and sustainable housing rather than throwing up the usual range of obstacles that faces anyone doing anything 'unusual'.

Rather than agonising about economic growth, Palerang could become a sustainable local government and let economic growth follow. ■

Spectator POLITICA



with
**Robin
Tennant-
Wood**

Bungendore residents group says too much unanswered re Palerang 'stand alone' push

IN A DISCUSSION document posted on a community noticeboard, the Bungendore Residents Group has argued that Palerang Council needs to answer more questions before residents and ratepayers can make an informed decision on merger or not.

For example, what is the researched likelihood of merging with Yass or Goulburn with these shires named as options along with Queanbeyan in the community poll?

The group also queries how Palerang defines a forecast 'moderate rate increase' standing alone and whether that is to be offset by more urban expansion in Bungendore. The group lambasts council for its expansionary policies for the village with related pressures on infrastructure and water and council's alleged lack of interest in heritage.

"Palerang Council's track record clearly indicates they have no genuine desire to retain Bungendore, Braidwood or Captains Flat heritage in either built or natural form," says the document, citing multiple past community surveys on the direction for the shire that have been ignored.

> MORE ONLINE at www.districtbulletin.com.au

Crunch time: residents surveyed on merger (or not) between Palerang and Queanbeyan



SUE WHELAN CONTINUED

From p3

The criteria changes appear to relate to ideas that the private sector can fulfil the demand without government help in a regional centre like Queanbeyan.

Ellerton Drive Extension (EDE) road works

With the next date uncertain for a decision on whether Queanbeyan should apply for loans to progress the EDE process, Whelan said councillors still need to know how much the road will actually cost and then decide how

much they would need to borrow.

"Now they are up to \$90 million estimate with a shortfall (from state and federal pledges) of potentially \$40 million. That does concern me and (since the loans will front money that developers will owe) I'm not into giving them a blank cheque. I was the one who said no in the first place."

Final approval? "I will certainly need to know exactly what it will cost and see all the environmental offsets signed and sealed before I consider which way I will go in the end (on approving the road proposal)." A final decision may come in July or later yet. "We all want to make a decision on sound financial information, environmental and amenity issues."

Council still has to conduct a promised survey of residents in and around Googong – where would they in fact be driving to? That may affect councillors' thinking on whether the EDE is actually the best or only solution. ■

A cautionary tale of infrastructure and fish

Cheap and nasty bad investment

HAVING lived in the Braidwood area for 25 years I have been aware of the successes gained by and the failures besetting the local council during the reigns of both Tallaganda and Palerang. Perhaps no failure has been as obvious as the cheap, nasty and poorly engineered Bobs Creek culvert.

Bobs Creek is a crystal clear spring-fed stream rising in the western reaches of the Budawang Mountains, the rugged range that divides the southern tablelands from the lush narrow coastal strip of magnificent southeast NSW beaches and South Pacific Ocean.

Up to the past decade motorists using Charleys Forest Road and needing to cross Bobs Creek were serviced by a cement causeway that was usually only inches under water. Following heavy rains Bobs Creek flooded and became risky to cross or

became too dangerous and was closed to traffic.

Due to increasing interest in country lifestyle and agricultural diversification in the area north-east of Braidwood,

the population grew to a point where demand for more reliable access to the closest town and beyond became paramount. The solution was to construct a culvert to a height that would guarantee all weather access.

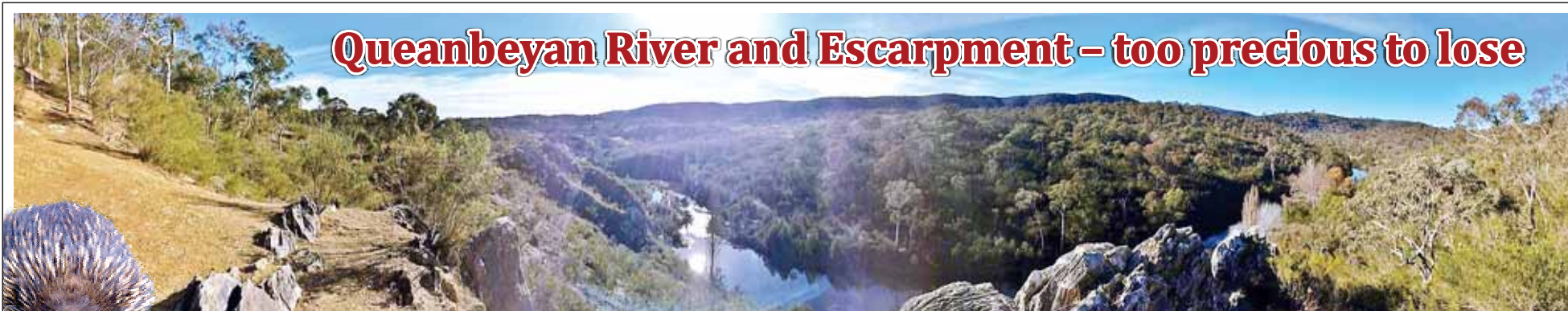
A culvert designed to raise the crossing to the height of approximately 3.5 metres above the creek was considered a satisfactory answer. Large corrugated iron round tunnels formed the basis and packed earth completed the construction of what was

>> next pg

Braidwood ROUNDS



with
**Jill
McLeod**



Queanbeyan River and Escarpment – too precious to lose

Established by European Settlers on 28 September 1838, Queanbeyan was settled between Mt Jerrabomberra, the Eastern Escarpment and Queanbeyan River. These are the area's most valuable natural assets ... acting as wildlife corridors accommodating many birds and native animals.'

— Queanbeyan City Council plaque, Mt Jerrabomberra lookout

These special areas are under threat from the proposed Ellerton Drive Extension (EDE).

This proposed road is *not* a bypass, *not* a good investment, and *not* the solution to our community's transport needs.

There are better options.

If you want these special natural areas protected and a sustainable transport plan for Queanbeyan, tell councillors:

'No' to the EDE.

'Yes' to better options.

Queanbeyan Conservation Alliance

Stop the Ellerton Drive Extension



Letters ...

We reserve the right to ask letter writers to cut back, or to decline to publish.

Kangaroo cull: what are they doing in the national (bush) capital?

I MUST comment on the articles about the kangaroo culling; it seems ludicrous that we choose to kill one of our national emblem symbols in our national capital. (Isn't that why they boast and promote about living in the bush capital?)

It's like when we lived in Sydney some people would complain bitterly about the possums eating their flowers and the noise etc (they ate mine too) but we didn't mind and were amongst those who used to feed them and we would all have a laugh at night listening to the noises they used to make – no worse than our cats fighting! Besides we were encroaching on their homes.

I know it must be pretty frightening to hit a kangaroo or to injure one would be horrible. It is a pity someone hasn't invented some sort of sound thing to scare them off at night.

— Deborah Keenan, Queanbeyan

These people know what they are doing

I WAS a bit taken aback by Steve's article in last month's *Bulletin*, claiming that the ACT Government had used propaganda to justify culling of kangaroos.

I would like to advise Steve that the people who are involved in the particular department that authorise these culls actually know what they are talking about. The shooters contracted are also competent people. Steve's profession as an economist is hardly an authority on types of animals becoming over-populated and the problems they cause.

I would also like to advise Steve that kangaroos in the ACT region have not declined but in fact increased, I have evidence of this through observation, which is a simple matter of looking around the landscape and taking mental and physical notes, something Steve is obviously not capable of. That makes me a 'wildlife behaviour researcher' as well.

If Steve is so staunch in saving the kangaroo population then why doesn't he lobby for daylight saving to be wound back to 3 months from 6 months, as, if he observed the increase of road kill in the first and last 6 weeks of daylight saving, he would see a lot less of our national symbols dead on the side of the road. I have noted this over the last 5 years.

CAUTIONARY TALE From p4

believed to be a worthy solution.

First signs of trouble

The first sign of trouble occurred in 2014 when part of the culvert fell away on the southern side. This led to a half road closure while repairs were carried out and warning bollards remained in place until further corrosion and heavy rainfall caused complete failure. The culvert was closed to traffic on the evening of Wednesday 22 April 2015.

The solution to enable traffic flow to resume was the temporary re-establishment of the old Bobs Creek causeway immediately downstream of the work site. At the time of writing, a narrow side road and the old Bobs Creek causeway is still in use.

In relation to environmental issues I was fortunate to be in the presence of a civil engineer working on the Kings Highway project at Warri and visiting Braidwood to attend a dinner meeting. I questioned the necessity to install tunnels as large as those used in the failed culvert construction. An interesting conversation resulted with my gaining information relating to culverts and fish passage.



The migration of fish species both upstream and downstream can be restricted by many factors including culvert length and grade, impediments at inlet and outlets, water levels, turbulence and water velocities. Culverts that are too restricted may reduce habitat connectivity to mainstreams, tributaries, ponds and wetlands.

The three corroded corrugated iron conduits are currently being replaced by reinforced concrete box culverts. The poor failed (and cheap?) original construction has given way to what now can only be described as a very serious attempt to ensure continuous traffic flow over Bobs Creek and fish under it into the future. ■

Your say...

Code of conduct in downtown Dibley

RECENT events here in downtown Dibley demonstrate how far vested interests will go to cripple public debate on the proposed Ellerton Drive Extension.

Sorry, did I say Dibley? Of course I meant Queanbeyan, but it is easy to imagine this town slipping further into farce as proponents of the EDE grasp at ever more illogical reasons to promote the road.

The recent community input forum on the EDE was advertised as an opportunity for both sides of the debate to air their views, and so it was – however by the end of the evening it was clear that the so-called vocal minority might have been vocal, but they were not a minority.

It is important to remember that Mayor Overall had originally badgered council to hold the community forum after the date which council had agreed on to make their

final funding decision.

Without the intervention of dissenting councillors many of the issues raised at this important event would never have been available in time to inform future decision-making.

Talking to the public against councillor code of conduct?

A number of councillors later found themselves facing threats of potentially breaching council's code of conduct if they went to a public discussion of the EDE with East Queanbeyan residents.

Councillors Brown, Cregan, Winchester and Burfoot, agreed in April to attend a public meeting in East Queanbeyan organised by the Queanbeyan Conservation Alliance.

Prior to the meeting they received an email from the City Manager in which they

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AROUND QTown



with
Graham Franklin-Browne

On a final note, no one likes to see any animal needlessly killed, but to compare kangaroos to whales is an absolute nonsense, common sense must play a part in these decisions and in this case it does.

— David Taylor, Bungendore

(Editor's note in reply: The problem is that the people who authorise and promote the annual ACT culls have been unable to present any evidence, to either citizens or government enquiry, as they are required to do by their own management policy that justifies this practice of wholesale destroying a protected native species, the eastern grey kangaroo, in nature reserves

at that. 'Trust us, we're scientists', is not good enough. The ecological benefits of nutrient cycling and seed dispersal are never talked about.

We encourage Mr Taylor and anyone else who agrees with the ACT spin about 'too many' kangaroos to go to any ACT reserve at all, grassland or woodland, and have a look around, dawn to dusk and see how many kangaroos they spy given the extent of the landscapes. Try the Pinnacle or Mt Painter where shooting is going into its fourth year. Try Mt Majura where they plan to shoot next year.)



Photo: Tony Wein

History shows once there were many kangaroos across the landscape

THERE are still people who believe there have never been so many kangaroos as now in the history of Australia (why not, when Europeans were able to graze squillions of sheep on the same native pastures?)

What does the historical record indicate? Here are just six examples out of nearly two dozen from the early settlers/explorers listed in the full article.

1788 NSW Port Jackson "Kangaroos are very numerous here".

1802 Barrallie "The hills were covered by kangaroos".

1815 Macquarie [Bathurst] "We saw a large Flock of Emus in Princess Charlotte's

Vale, and a great number of Kangaroos, Pigeons, Quails and a few Wild Geese."

1818 Oxley "flocks of kangaroos like sheep. I do not exaggerate when I say that some hundreds were seen in the vicinity of this hill."

1820 Macquarie "We saw a vast number of the large Forest Kangaroos in this mornings Excursion."

1828 Sturt "There were very many kangaroos, the intervening brush was full of kangaroos".

ONLINE: www.districtbulletin.com.au

Read the full article *Kangaroo mythology* under category 'kangaroo archive'

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Food – how you eat affects how you feel

AFTER you eat do you sometimes feel bloated, weighed down, have indigestion, low energy or feel tired? It might sound strange but the problem might be as simple as the order in which you eat your food. Sounds crazy right? Well let's look at how to eat food in an orderly fashion...

Something important we are not taught is that different foods digest at different rates and this affects the digestive system.

Eat your fruit salad first! About fruits and veggies

Many people will eat their meal and follow it up with some fruit (as dessert). Bad choice! Fruit digests the fastest in your system, around 20–30 minutes. Berries and liquids digest at a faster rate while fruits such as apples and pears a little slower.

When we eat other foods before fruit, it can't digest properly as foods that digest slower are still in the digestive system. As it sits waiting its turn, it starts to ferment causing bloating and gas. Fruit is best eaten on an empty stomach before any other food. This will allow your body to absorb and assimilate the nutrients quickly (and without discomfort) and give you a burst of energy.

There is a lot of fibre in vegetables, which your body has a hard time breaking down so chew them well. At the same time they include important enzymes which aid in the digestion process. The majority of vegetables are digested in 30–40 minutes.

To receive the full benefit for digestion it is typically best to eat vegetables raw.

Soak pulses and grains 24 hours

All grains, lentils and beans should be soaked before cooking. The recommended time for soaking is at least 24 hours. This aids in releasing enzymes that help digestion and that also helps avoid flatulence. It also neutralises the toxins that naturally occur in them. This group can take up to 90–120 minutes to digest, faster when cooked, slower when eaten raw.

Dairy, meat and eggs

Dairy is a big part of our culture's diet and most takes a lot longer to digest than the previously mentioned foods. Some dairy products only take 90–120 minutes to digest while others take hours. Cheese (we love our cheese – cheese burgers, cheese and crackers, grilled cheese etc) can take up to 4–5 hours to digest.

Digestion rates vary for fish, 30–60 minutes, to beef, lamb and pork, 4–5 hours with chicken and turkey digesting faster. Eggs only take 30 minutes to digest.

Fats and a workout tip

Fats have a long digestive rate. For example nuts take up to 2.5–3 hours. Fats take longer to digest because your body uses them for energy. If you are working out consider eating a small meal 2 hours beforehand consisting of carbohydrates, fat and protein. Doing this will give you enough energy and help minimise the possibility of digestive issues when exercising. ■

FOOD for thought



with
Tony
Booth

Passivhaus – architectural 'esbies' are revolutionary building idea for Australia

First in a 3 part series by Andreas Luzzi, LAROS Technologies

EVERYONE claims to build green buildings, advocating energy efficiency and 'sustainability'. However, Australia's buildings fall considerably short of actually achieving their energy star-rating, and have detrimental building defects that lead to significant structural and health implications, hence making a mockery of sustainability credentials. Australia, please wake up.

The challenges emanate from 'dew-point-shifting'. In response we present the four core elements of the European 'Passivhaus' standard, a voluntary building standard that effectively leads to super-performing 'architectural esky' buildings. In future articles I will discuss results from better insulating and air-sealing of buildings, and also the importance of high-performance windows, including triple-glazed windows. Windows remain the weakest point of the thermal building envelope by far, even with 'Passivhaus' buildings.

The local building codes of Australia demand that buildings are better insulated and more airtight. However, while still applying conventional building techniques and materials, we ignore the fact that the dew-point gets shifted into our building envelope and that moisture is trapped in walls and ceilings. This results in interstitial mould formation, which in turn leads to structures rotting

invisibly and ultimately generating respiratory health challenges for occupants.

Every residual building gap (eg around windows, doors or structural beams, and at skirting boards, light switches and power points, down-lights, kitchen cabinets) becomes a focus-thoroughfare for cold air ingress and/or moist warm air exit. Similarly, structural steel beams and concrete slabs as well as walls become significant thermal bridges between indoors and outdoors, all leading to moisture condensation within the building envelope.

In the last 30 years knowledge about building physics and truly effective solutions were developed in Europe and have passed on to the entire suite of building professionals. Europe now rolls out Passivhaus buildings as a standard matter and at no extra costs – poised to last and perform well over hundreds of years.

What does Passivhaus mean?

The German word 'Passivhaus' translates as 'passive house' in the context of the building's reaction to the weather. Passivhaus, however, is not to be mistaken for the better-known term 'passive solar', which relies heavily on the benefit of winter-sun exposure and lots of thermal mass for (potential) warmth. >>

Bungendore community garden

THE NEXT gathering at the Bungendore Community Garden will be for the Winter Solstice Event:

When: Saturday 20 June
from 10am to 2pm.

Where: Bungendore Community Garden,
Turallo Terrace, Bungendore.

There will be an update on where the Community Garden is in terms of design implementation (there are three phases to this), along with planning and possible pole-planting for a new natural shade structure – using wooden poles and wire to grow hops on.

Everyone is welcome, children, family and please bring a plate to share, any produce you have to swap. If you want to get stuck into the garden bring your own gloves.

RSVP's to penny@caroolafarm.com.au or 02 4842 1899 would be greatly appreciated as we'll arrange to have tea and coffee available for the day.



Sheila Singleton at the community garden.

Pumpkin soup season

Pumpkin and carrot soup with paprika and cumin

- **Mix in food processor:** Roughly cubed butternut (or blue pumpkin) and pumpkin cooking water, roughly 6 cups (modify these amounts for more people); 1 grated midsize carrot; 2–3 tablespoons of onions sautéed in butter; small bunch parsley.
- Put mash into a cooking pot, add more water as needed to make soup consistency; ¼ cup of sweet cream if you like; stir and bring to boil with 2 Massel vegetable stock cubes (to taste). 2 teaspoons -of sweet paprika; 1 teaspoon ground cumin and more salt if needed.
- Turn down heat and serve with crusty bread, melted cheese on rye – as you like.



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<< Passivhaus buildings in contrast work with any architecture. They can be light-weight, any shape or size, and even without solar exposure. These buildings behave just like eskies. They are perfectly insulated as well as air-tight (sealed) all around the building envelope. Unless windows or doors are opened, neither cold, heat, rain, wind nor noise are felt inside. The building therefore needs effectively (almost) no heating or cooling, all year round, almost irrespective of climate zone.

However, as Passivhaus buildings barely loose heat, solar heat gain control of windows is paramount. To keep unwanted sun out, this calls for external shading, preferably via active devices such as external blinds, screens or shutters. Solar-control glazing (tinted glazing) is omitted as invariably too costly and superfluous.

Fresh air and energy rating

Fresh air is supplied to the entire house by a comfort ventilation system during weather periods when windows and doors are better not opened for thermal or humidity reasons. The comfort ventilation package includes a high-efficiency energy recovery ventilation unit and an integrated miniaturised reverse-cycle air-conditioner/heat-pump system.

The specific heating and cooling design loads of Passivhaus dwellings are both limited to, and easily achieve, 10 W/m². For example, a 250m² five-bedroom family home runs on a single 2.5-kW_{th/R} reverse-cycle air-conditioner/heat-pump unit. Translated to the Canberra region, the real performance of a Passivhaus is around a true 9-star building. The energy consumption of such a building is around eight to ten times lower compared to a calculation-rated 6-star design.

Adopting the basic Passivhaus toolbox allows architects to be free of design constraints while achieving extraordinary building performance and health. It took Europe over two decades to wake up, to understand how to build healthy sustainable buildings. How long will Australia take?

For more information visit www.laros.com.au

Carwoola boy wins NSW Individual Mounted Games Championship

Wamboin and Sutton riders also winners

by Jacinta Durr



IN LATE May, horses and riders from around NSW competed at the NSW Individual Mounted Games Championships at Braidwood Showground. There were riders of all ages from 10- to 60-years-old, competing in different age groups.

In a hotly contested final, local boy 17-year-old Jack Durr of Carwoola took out the title of NSW Individual Champion in the open section. Jack was up against some tough competitors including Sean Thompson who is 20 years his senior and came second. Sean Thompson is representing Australia in the open team at the World Mounted Games Championships in Kentucky, USA, later this year. Lauren Slater of Wamboin came in a close third.

In another close final, 16-year-old Rhys Smith from Sutton took out the Under 18's title. Both Jack and Rhys have been selected to represent Australia in the under 17s category at the World Mounted Games Teams Championships, in Florida, USA in November. ■

City to Soil wins village residents and waste managers

PALERANG Council's waste-managing 'City to Soil' pilot program comes to a close at the end of this month with a basketful of data on how household organic waste can be turned into compost, what the economics are and what village residents think about it.

Most residents who use the service have been positive according to council surveys and want organic waste pickups to continue. About one quarter of all village residents responded.

However, in May, two councillors and a local media discussion disputed council's 6–2 vote to extend the trial service for another two years with the present composting facility without calling for expressions of interest first.

Council Engineer Bill Ellison told the *Bulletin* the logic was not to interrupt the organic waste collection service to Bungendore, Braidwood and Captain's Flat households. He said that alternatives were looked at. But once Cooma and Goulburn, which both have City to Soil programs, declined to take Palerang's organic waste, no other composting facilities were on the regional horizon.

Expressions of interest called

Building a new composting facility is an expensive multi-year project judging by the pilot experience of the present facility at Landtasia Organic Farm between Bungendore and Braidwood. This will

be tested now with a call for expressions of interest going out this month – see ad p11.

Some also criticised the recommendation for a \$130 gate fee (about \$30 per village household per year) to keep the project economically viable. A state grant offset the start-up stage collection costs until now. The rest was absorbed by the compost maker at a significant loss.

Deputy Mayor Paul Cockram said that a gate fee is normal in the sector, "the chance of finding anyone in the geographic area who will take our waste for less than \$130 per tonne is very remote."

Less waste to landfill

The upside (along with home composting and less food waste) is that less organic waste goes to landfill sites which have their own costs to ratepayers both environmentally and in dollar terms. New state hygiene rules also mean councils can't just chop up green waste and sell it, so more councils are adopting City to Soil type schemes.

The Palerang situation was complicated from the beginning in the minds of some by the fact that the Landtasia compost facility was built, with his own funds, by Councillor Richard Graham.

Graham has said he believed he was donating a community service by enabling the trial period with the composting infrastructure. The start-up was lengthy, seven years, involving a range of government environmental permits. There was also a



Councillor Richard Graham and dog Buster.

fight with neighbours who feared noise, smells and loss of amenity.

Graham says none of the fears were realised and that he always assumed council would call for expressions of interest at the end of the initial trial. He does not deny that he wants his facility and a composting business to continue now that the bugs are ironed out.

"We're very happy with the results of the 16-month trial which was a steep learning curve. We can shave off some of the costs and we hope to get a reputation for high quality, organic compost," he told the *Bulletin*.

So what has the trial shown?

Over a 6-month survey period, 246.5 tonnes of organic waste was diverted from landfill and delivered for composting. The fortnightly average was 19 tonnes. In all 500 tonnes were collected since February 2014.

The composting process is described as covered, static and fermentative with naturally occurring microbial inoculants applied. It takes between 16 and 24 weeks to produce stable compost – about 25% longer than originally projected.

Contamination with any substance that is not organic waste has to be removed by hand and re-collected by council. This is the greatest time and labour cost even though most village residents are doing the right thing.

To date, early users have applied the compost for tree planting, orchard establishment, nurseries garden beds and raised beds. (They're getting a tonne of active biology, says Graham.)

Landtasia reported to council that without gate fee and given the price for compost in the market, the trial was making a loss of \$368 for every tonne of waste delivered. The conclusion was that a gate fee, productivity gains, and increased sales were required to make the process viable.

The full report is in council's meeting business paper of 7 May 2015.

— Maria Taylor

Bungendore pharmacy new management, familiar faces



BUNGENDORE Priceline Pharmacy's new management has kept the same friendly, dedicated team. Felix Chan, who also owns the Ginninderra Medical Centre Pharmacy in Belconnen, is a young, energetic pharmacist who wants to create a better product range, and eventually specialist health clinics such as women's health, flu vaccination, bone density testing.

He professes a strong interest and wide knowledge base in natural living and supplements. He says that prevention is always better than cure. Felix is pictured with his dedicated team: (from left) Susie Oliver, Caitlin Blematl, Glenys Daniel, Michelle Brown, and Zara Bowd.

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Let's see: what else happened during the war?

with 'Annie' Joyce Nordsvan

A TREMENDOUS amount of attention is being paid to 'The Great War' this year, the 100th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli.

With that focus on Gallipoli and World War I, Dr Sarah Engledow, historian and curator at the National Portrait Gallery, titled the April Lecture at the Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS) Molonglo Plains 'Don't Mention the War'.

Sarah's lecture covered the 30-year period 1891–1921 and discussed what happened during the war, other than the war. An almost impossible task.

During that period there were three British Monarchs – Queen Victoria, Edward VII and George V; Australia had seven Prime Ministers – Edmund Barton (1901–03), Chris Watson (1904), George Reid (1904–05), Alfred Deakin (1909–10), Joseph Cook (1913–14), Andrew Fisher (1914–15) and Billy Hughes (1915–23); and the union movement was growing in strength.

Henry Lawson wrote "While the Billy Boils" and in 1901 Alfred Simpson pioneered the manufacture of enamelware including the famous 'Billy'. Mary Gilmore, who was greatly influenced by Lawson, published her first volume of poetry in 1910.

Mawson in a different 'war zone'
Sir Douglas Mawson led the wide ranging scientific and exploratory Australasian Antarctic Expedition of 1911–14 sailing on the *Aurora* to previously unknown and unvisited regions of the Antarctic continent. This expedition included a dramatic sledding journey that Mawson undertook with two companions, where he was to be the only survivor against the odds in appalling conditions.

Japan was a key trading partner with Australia, trading mainly in coal and Australian wool. 4,000 Japanese immigrants had taken up residence in Australia by the

start of the Australian Federation in 1901, based mainly around Townsville.

The War boosted Australian business including the wool industry (35 million pairs of socks were knitted during the war), and leather products (16,000 horses requiring saddles, bridles etc were shipped overseas).

Holden started with a saddle

With the outbreak of war in 1914 (ending in 1918) and the subsequent restriction of space on cargo ships the



Australian Government, in 1917, placed an embargo on the importation of motor car bodies. When the embargo became law in August 1917, Adelaide Dodge importer Mr S A Cheney approached the local firm of Holden & Frost, saddlers and leather merchants, with the idea of manufacturing bodies for Dodge and Buick chassis and the glimmer of an idea that became 'Holden' was born.

George Nicholas manufactured 'Aspro' in 1915 in SA. Louisa Lawson, the mother of Henry Lawson, started *The Dawn*, a fortnightly journal for women, that combined household hints, stories and fashion with political comment and was an immediate success continuing to be printed until 1905.



24 Sane.
15 Fighter, 17 Empire, 19 Crafty, 20 Guest, 22 None,
4 Scoring, 5 Asks, 6 Engage, 9 Medium, 14 Wealth,
cess, 27 Timely. Down: 1 Buster, 2 Tear, 3 Relax,
18 Magic, 21 Open, 23 Haunts, 25 Half, 26 Prin-
11 Siam, 12 Ratio, 13 Snowman, 16 Mermald,
Across: 1 Bother, 7 Excusing, 8 Swam, 10 Repair,

From 1891 Louisa was also a member of the Womanhood Suffrage League of NSW and actively campaigned for the enfranchisement of women. This campaign was successful and from 1902 women could vote in NSW. Rose Scott (8 October 1847 – 20 April 1925) was an Australian women's rights activist who advocated for women's suffrage and universal suffrage in New South Wales at the turn of the twentieth century. And of course artists such as Tom Roberts, Norman Lindsay, Thea Proctor, George Lambert, Frederick McCubbin and Nellie Melba's boyfriend Haddon Chambers came to prominence. A fascinating lecture with a wealth of information that I have barely touched on, covered in a very short time.

— Till next time, Annie



Skate park bins draw on kid creativity, desire to recycle

A NUMBER of Queanbeyan kids, through the Axis Youth Centre, have teamed up with council staff to design new rubbish and recycling bins at three skate parks around Queanbeyan.

The bins can be seen at the Moore Park Skate Park; Henderson Road Skate Park and Jerrabomberra Skate Park.

Mayor Tim Overall said the recycling is in line with Queanbeyan's goal to meet the NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy target which is to increase recycling rates to 70% by 2021–22.

The bin design and installation benefited from a \$10,000 Beverage Container Recycling Community Grant from Keep Australia Beautiful with the support of the Coca-Cola Foundation.

ONLINE at www.districtbulletin.com.au
Tralee subdivision green light

YOUR SAY, QTOWN From p5
were warned that if they attended the meeting they could be in breach of the code of conduct, and be excluded from voting on any future EDE matters.

This application of code of conduct regulations was dubious at best, but successful in preventing those councillors from talking directly to residents.

Ultimately of course, it was a blatant attempt to stifle public debate.

Design Review of the EDE

A recent design review of the original 2009 plan for the EDE has identified a number of areas where council was not transparent in its costing information.

According to a leaked report, commissioned by Googong Township Pty Ltd, the original costing for the EDE in today's dollars would have totalled \$78.8 million including GST and a massive contingency of 38% (compared to the present \$90 million and counting).

The report suggested a number of savings that might reduce the estimate, including lowering the bridge, removing off ramps into Fairlane Estate, and reducing the width of cycle lanes, and dropping the assumption that the whole thing will be built as dual carriageway rather than single lane as residents were told.

Of greater significance, was the suggestion in this report that development of the EDE be staged, with works starting on the north side of the Queanbeyan River, giving property developers and real estate agents early access to the proposed Jumping Creek estate subdivision.

The report argued strongly that early access be provided for marketing and land sale purposes from the end of Lonergan Drive in Greenleigh.

Once again, despite repeated Council assertions that proposed plans for the Jumping Creek estate are not part of the EDE project, appearances indicate that the two projects and their supporters are super-glued together.

I wonder if we have a fat lady vicar somewhere in town to get us out of this mess?

No, no, no, no, yes? ■

Made by Hand at Bungendore: mark Saturday 4 July

SATURDAY 4 July is the day to drop whatever you are doing and get down to the Bungendore War Memorial Hall! Between 9am and 3pm: the organisers of the usual monthly market are holding a completely separate market for items that are handmade by the stallholder.

The hall is fully booked with a range of stalls, some regulars and others never seen in Bungendore before. So far we have paintings, prints, bags, scarves, pots, cards, leatherwork, clothing for young and old, hats, dog beds, mosaics, opals, candles, sculpture, bath bombs, jewellery, wooden toys and other quality items too numerous to mention.

We also have Braidwood author Robyn Goodwin with her range of beautiful children's books, so you can meet the author and maybe get a signed copy! As usual, Joan will be in the kitchen serving her excellent cake, coffee and light snacks.

Entry is by gold coin donation to the restoration of the Hall. ■

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Maynard Waters – vibrant scenes of Australian life as it was

BUNGENDORE Wood Works Gallery is hosting the launch of a major new book on the life of Maynard Waters, one of Australia's most accomplished and prolific naïve artists.

Many of the paintings in the book will be available for purchase along with new works of 2015 during an exhibition in the Gallery's Octagon ArtSpace until the 1st August.

The book will be launched and the exhibition officially opened by the Gallery's Artistic Director David Mac Laren on Saturday 13 June.

The book has been proudly produced in Australia and printed by Elect Printing in Canberra using the offset lithography printing process. The section-sewn, case-bound limited edition with over 150 colour



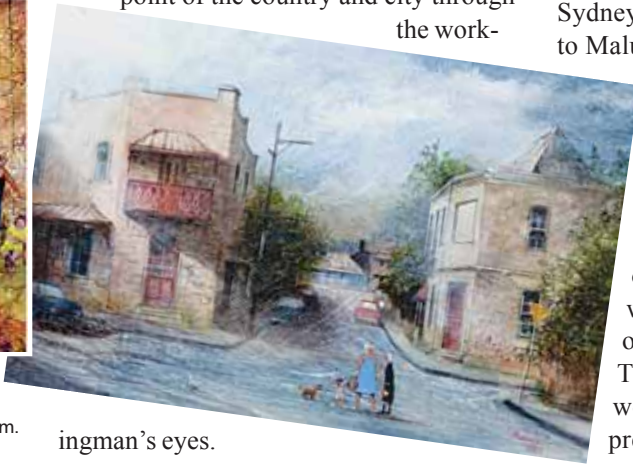
The Cricket Match, Bungendore 2006 Oil on American canvas 51 x 76cm. Right: Neighbours at Darlinghurst c.1990 Mixed media on board 40 x 60cm.

and black and white plates, biographical text and artist comments will be first available as signed, numbered copies and will be limited to 100 copies. This offers

collectors a valuable provenance asset to accompany each painting.

Collective memories

Maynard Waters captures the essence of an Australia that he chooses to view with an intentional selective blindness. In doing so he presents a nostalgic and romantic viewpoint of the country and city through the work-



ingman's eyes.

Maynard achieves with ease what all artists strive for – originality. His genuine, if at times incomplete, views of the city and country are devoid of mass modernity

– there are no office blocks or hi-rise apartment buildings – but there are contemporary items such as roadwork signs in brilliant basic colours, modern cars, communication towers and so on.

His paintings are of Australia, painted by a distinctively Australian artist, one who has travelled his country from Sydney to Fremantle, from the Gold Coast to Malua Bay, through the back yards and

narrow city alleys, along the wide, unpaved streets and laneways of country villages and properties.

The book traces Waters' artistic and family life – drawing on a range of historic and newly written material accompanied by over 150 images and photographs. The publication is a testament to a working life dedicated to an ideal of presenting what he saw and where he saw it.

— Stan d'Argeave

Proposed rail trail Bungendore to Captains Flat:

\$14,000 raised for feasibility study, now commencing by Jacinta Durr

THE possibility of converting the disused rail line from Bungendore to Captains Flat into a rail trail has successfully moved to a feasibility study under the guidance of the local Molonglo Rail Trail Committee.

A rail trail is a former rail line that has been resurfaced to accommodate walkers, cyclists and sometimes horse riders. Fencing and gates keep users on the trail and motor vehicles off it.

A fundraiser held at Mulloon Creek Natural Farms in early May raised about \$14,000 to go towards the cost of a feasibility study. The event sold out more than a week before, with about 190 people in attendance on the night from all areas of the community including walkers, cyclists and horse riders. A great time was had by all.

The NSW government has allocated \$50 million to develop and construct rails trails with the aim of promoting regional economic

development through tourism. To get access to the \$50 million, each group that is interested must have a feasibility study completed to show the projected benefits of the rail trail.

A key part of the local feasibility study, conducted by independent consultants, will involve talks with landowners to identify their issues and propose solutions.

A business case has been prepared by postgraduate students at Sydney University School of Business. It provides estimates of economic benefit to local businesses from trail users. Marketing plans show how funds can be raised for long term maintenance of the trail.

It is the vision and hope of the Molonglo Rail Trail Committee that the project will be completed within the next two to three years and will bring new business to both Bungendore and Captains Flat.

For more information go to the website www.molonglorailtrail.org.



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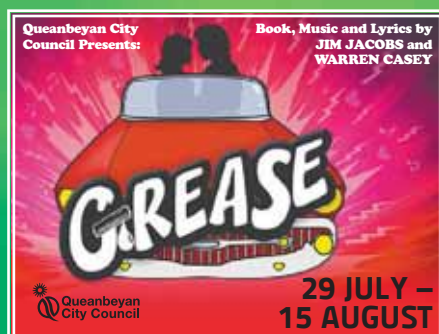


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KOALAS From p1



Jessie Au from ANU considering one of the trees where koalas have nibbled the bark, apparently previously unheard of.



James Fitzgerald with Little Jimmy at his recovery and rehabilitation centre. Jimmy will be released in the area.

Jessie noted the already known climate change effects on leaf chemistry. With increasing carbon, tannins are binding more to proteins, making trees less nutritious. In warmer climates the need for animals to de-toxify their leafy diet increases, she said.

James in an article (below) turns the equation around and asks: if we rebuilt a healthy koala population of a million or more what effect might that have on lessening bush fire danger through the removal of tons of (eaten) gum leaves? As with kangaroos and grassland nutrient cycling, is it worth thinking about the benefits provided by our wildlife?

— Maria Taylor

More about James Fitzgerald's Two Thumbs wildlife trust with some nice pictures at www.twothumbs.org.au/trust-objectives/

Check out James' article on the ongoing threats to koalas, as well as other native species, and how we ignore what they contribute to the bush ecology, as their habitat continues to decline and wildlife corridors are few and too far between

<https://candobetter.net/node/2864>

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Free speech and democracy collateral damage with review of environmental groups tax deductible funding

by Maria Taylor

COMMUNITY members who donate to any groups that come under the definition of 'environment' may lose their tax deductible gift option, at the hands of a secretive federal government committee. The committee will decide in the next months whether to strip environmental organisations of their charitable status if they speak up publicly for their cause.

In other words, if they lobby, advertise, or otherwise engage in political advocacy for the environment.

The Abbott government's objective, seemingly in response to complaints from the mining industry and state-based mineral councils, is to copy Canada's crackdown on the funding base for organisations critical of the status quo energy sector. However the net could snare a wide range of advocates for the natural environment from groups saving koala habitat to fish-ermen who lobby for marine sanctuaries.

A May report in *The Sydney Morning Herald* said that the Queensland Resources Council questioned in February how 'save the reef' groups had the money to buy advertising during last-year's State of Origin series and complained that their activities were aimed at making coal and gas exports from Queensland uneconomic.

The *Herald* noted Australia could join Russia, China and India which have passed laws to muzzle opposition to min-ing and energy development.

The House of Representatives committee chaired by Liberal backbencher Alex Hawke is reviewing whether environmental groups focus on on-ground activities or advocacy or what percentage of both and whether they should retain their 'Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.

FUEL SECURITY from p1

but also ensures that cities' water supply and sewerage systems function.

Australia is unique in that the government holds zero stocks of transport fuel and does not mandate that industry hold any. Governments of Sweden, Italy and the UK don't stockpile any fuel either, but they have 90/90/67 days of government-mandated industry stocks respectively. Other countries have both. France, for instance, has 73 days of government-owned stocks of oil/fuel and 98 days of industry stocks. The European Union has 61 mandated days minimum requirement for total stockholdings, both government and industry.

The number of oil refineries in Australia has dropped from seven to four since 2000 and may be none at all by 2030. Although we are still an oil exporter, our import oil dependency has leapt from 60 percent to over 90 percent in the same period. By 2030 we will be importing all our oil.

Blackburn, who wrote the 'Australia's Fuel Security' reports* for the NRMA, is most worried about the closure of the refineries. Even if we substituted crude oil with biofuels, for instance, we would still need refineries.

He recommends that Australia immediately works towards accessing a minimum of 30 percent of our fuel from within Australia. This would be a 'secure' source while the 70 percent from overseas would remain 'vulnerable'. So to supplement the not quite 10 percent of oil produced in Australia, we would develop additional fuel sources such as gas-to-liquids (GTL), biofuels (including algae), Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) as well

National and local Commonwealth bank protest action



COMMONWEALTH Bank is amongst the front runners that may invest in Indian coal company Adani's plans for the Galilee Basin in north Queensland despite banks around the world declining to come on board as a bad investment and with sustained environmental and Indigenous owner protests to date.

In May, multiple groups, called together by 350.org, combined forces and peacefully

demonstrated outside three branch locations around Canberra. This was part of a national action at over 50 Commbank branches, called 'Raise the heat' about this coal and port expansion. A number of individuals were set to go into the branch, take in their letters of complaint, and shut down their accounts.

"Divesting to a more ethical institution is one important tool to show banks that we are taking climate change seriously even if they are not", said a citizen outside the bank. Unfortunately customers were prevented from entering as branches locked their doors, proving again, said the protesters, that Commbank do not value the voices of the local community. ■

Lock the Gate, Greenpeace, The Wilderness Society and Friends of the Earth are receiving particular industry attention over direct action protests. (Direct action groups like 350.org and Get Up that target the fossil fuel industry do not have tax deductible status.)

One critic of the government's review told the *Bulletin*, "They just want everyone to plant trees and shut up."

Since the Howard years, environmental groups have had a tougher bar to climb over than other 'charities' for tax deductible status. To get on a register they must be signed off by the Environment Minister and the Assistant Treasurer, the *Bulletin* was

told. Environment groups believe that Environment Minister Greg Hunt is able to strike groups off the register without taking it to Parliament.

Against the current review, a 2010 High Court ruling said groups with tax-deductible status also have the right to engage in political debate and advocacy as a free speech issue.

According to Adelaide University lecturer Peter Burdon writing in *The Conversation*, Liberal and National Party MPs on the committee questioning the right of groups enjoying tax-deductible contributions, ie supported by taxpayers, from disagreeing with government policy. "National Party >>>

as promote the uptake of electric vehicles.

All this, however, requires government regulation and encouraging investment in infrastructure. Our government, however, is badly dragging its feet, especially on electric vehicles. Compare our mere handful of recharging stations with San Diego which has 700! Or compare our fuel standards with those of the EU. For approximately \$1,500

cars can be made more fuel efficient with an annual savings in petrol of over \$800. Yet, even this is not mandated in Australia. ■

Readers may want to pursue this subject further

* **Part 1 (2013)** www.mynrma.com.au/media/Fuel_Security_Report.pdf

Part 2 (2014) www.aie.org.au/AIE/Documents/NRMA_Fuel_Security_Report_Pt2.pdf

Crossword

Solution p8

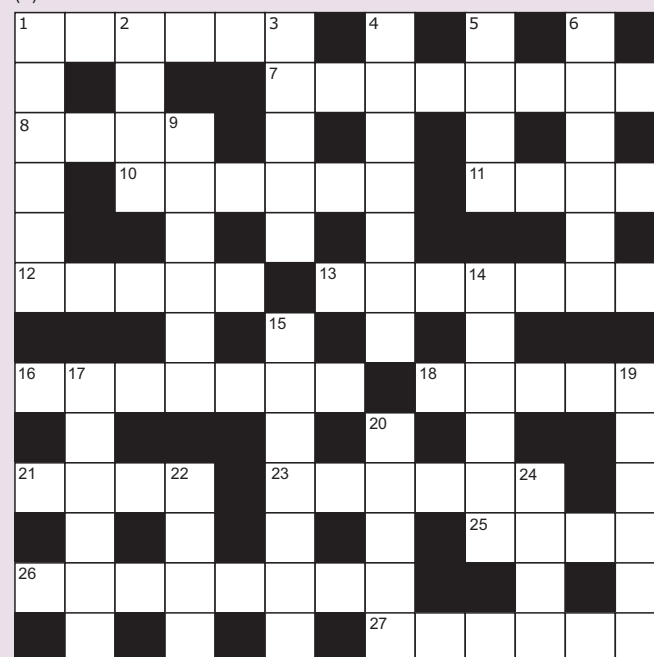
Across

- 1 Annoy (6)
- 7 Pardoning (8)
- 8 Travelled through water (4)
- 10 Mend (6)
- 11 Former name of Thailand (4)
- 12 Relative magnitudes of two quantities (5)
- 13 Figures of people, made in the winter (7)
- 16 Imaginary water nymph (7)
- 18 Sorcery (5)
- 21 Overt (4)
- 23 Pursues, like a ghost (6)
- 25 Either of two periods of a game separated by an interval (4)
- 26 Daughter of a sovereign (8)
- 27 At an opportune moment (6)

Down

- 1 More crowded (6)
- 2 Rupture (4)
- 3 Make less tight (5)
- 4 Making small marks into the surface (7)

- 5 Calls for (4)
- 6 Hires for service (6)
- 9 Spiritualist (6)
- 14 Opulence (6)
- 15 Pugilist (7)
- 17 Dominion (6)
- 19 Marked by skill in deception (6)
- 20 Formal visitor (5)
- 22 Not any (4)
- 24 Mentally healthy (4)



Venus in June

JUNE provides us with the opportunity to see the planet Venus in a dark sky as well as the continuing return of the winter Milky Way. The stars of summer disappear in the west and the Southern Cross is overhead.

The stars of June include orange Arcturus low in the north, blue-white Canopus low in the south west, blue-white Spica high overhead, red Antares close to the planet Saturn, and yellow Alpha Centauri also high overhead.

The Southern Cross (or 'Crux') is well known as the pattern of five stars featuring on the Australian flag. It is seen very well during June, being almost overhead and close to the bright star Alpha Centauri.

Crux is the smallest constellation in the whole sky, with the topmost star being orange, the colour compares well to the blue-white of the other three main brighter stars. The colour difference is well seen through binoculars.

The Planets in June: Venus shines, Saturn and Jupiter remain

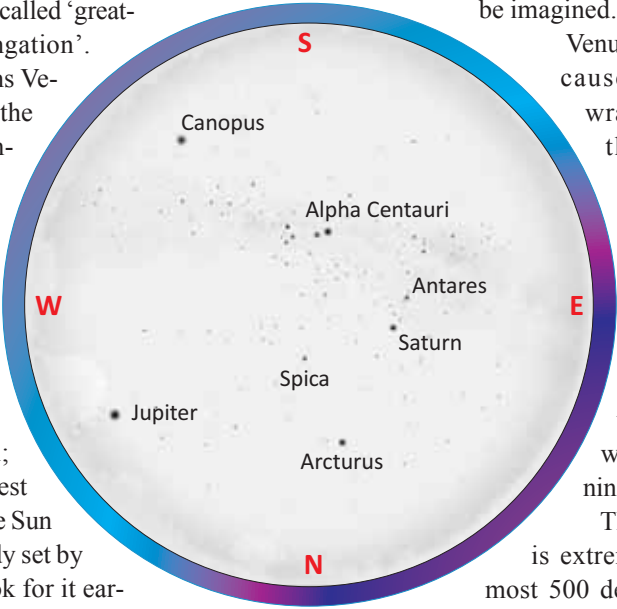
The planet Venus is very well seen in the evening skies during June, in fact it is the best chance to see Venus in a dark sky for the year. Venus is the second planet in order

of distance from the Sun (Earth is third). As such it never strays too far away from our star and is only ever seen in either the early evening or the early morning sky.

On the 6 June, the planet Venus reached its furthest point away from the Sun for this year, a point called 'greatest eastern elongation'. For us that means Venus is seen for the longest after sunset, and can be easily seen as a brilliant bright white 'star' towards the west after sunset.

The map for this month shows the sky at 9pm; even at its greatest distance from the Sun Venus has already set by then. Have a look for it earlier in the night.

Venus was named after the Roman Goddess of Love, as it shines brighter in our skies than anything other than the Sun and Moon. The Romans' assumption of Venus as a gentle benign object was very far from the



— Star Search —

with Dr David Weldrake

truth, as the conditions on Venus could not be more different to Earth and are the closest to the traditional view of hell as can be imagined.

Venus is so bright because it is totally wrapped in dense thick clouds, which reflect most of the light from the Sun. Continuous winds of 300 km/h push the clouds around the planet with widespread lightning.

The surface itself is extremely hot, at almost 500 degrees and very dark, as the thick clouds do not allow much light to reach it. The pressure on the surface is equivalent to that experienced a few km under the ocean, due to the weight of the dense atmosphere above. It even rains sulphuric acid.

If anyone was to walk on Venus they would not even last a second before being crushed by the pressure, roasted by the heat, melted by the rain and poisoned by the air.

Venus has no moons and rotates the other way to Earth, and if the Sun could be seen from its surface it would rise in the west and set in the east, with a day lasting 243 times longer than on Earth (actually longer than Venus' year).

Only two landers have ever reached the surface of Venus. They transmitted pictures of a barren rocky landscape for half an hour or so before being destroyed by the conditions. Today these probes would be nothing more than two patches of melted metal on the surface.

Other planets visible in June include Jupiter and Saturn, seen in the evening sky. Jupiter is the bright yellowish 'star' towards the north west after sunset and Saturn is seen as a fairly bright similarly coloured 'star' high in the east near the red star Antares. Both these planets will continue to be visible for some months to come.

In June the Moon was full on the 3rd, at last quarter (half) phase on the 10th, new on the 17th and at first quarter phase on the 25th. ■

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

<< [representative] George Christensen went even further, labelling certain groups as 'terrorists' and accusing them of treason.

"Their views are echoed by Gary Johns, a former Labor MP and now columnist for *The Australian* newspaper, who as criticised the entire rationale for tax-deductible status on the basis that it contradicts the "voluntary nature of charity", wrote Burdon.

The review comes on the tail of a series of funding cuts and attempts at gagging government critics, including attempts to legislate anti-boycott and anti-protest laws at state level. Most recently federal cuts

have targeted state and territory conservation organisations and particularly to the Environmental Defenders office.

Legally the issue is likely to be one of free speech. Legally too, stripping environmental organisations of tax deductible funding could reverberate on charitable organisations across the board that want to lobby government or the public. Legal academics have foreshadowed a High Court challenge. ■

So far 580 submissions can be viewed online from all sides of the issue at: http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Environment/REO/Submissions.

Bowen Heritage Management

Alister Bowen Archaeologist / Heritage Advisor

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

I specialise in Australian heritage and deliver legislatively compliant and cost-effective heritage management strategies. I have the qualifications, equipment and expertise to conduct a large range of heritage related projects, including:

- Heritage Assessments
- Heritage Impact Assessments
- Heritage based Conservation Management Plans
- Due Diligence Assessments
- Consultation with Aboriginal groups
- Archaeological survey and excavation work
- Mapping of landscapes and their associated archaeology.

I have been conducting Heritage Assessments in your area for several years. I understand the region's prehistory and history and the Legislative requirements for your application to pass smoothly through Council approval. I assign myself exclusively to each project, from the inception meeting until the final report is submitted.

I am experienced, reasonably priced and would be very happy for the opportunity to provide a competitive fee proposal for any heritage assessment that you may be required to conduct.

Tel: (02) 6251 7994 Mob: 0418 210 755 alister@bowenheritage.com.au
PO Box 793, Jamison Centre, ACT, 2614

PALERANG COUNCIL

Development Approvals

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

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

Application No	Development Description	Date	Property Description
DA.2015.035	Dual Occupancy	05/05/2015	Lot 15 DP 1089987 306 Foxs Elbow Road WARRI
DA.2014.217	Retail Premise and Dwelling	07/05/2015	Lot 10 DP 1164063 43 Wallace Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.031	Continued Use – Carport, Deck and Pergola	07/05/2015	Lot 4 DP 831064 198 Mulloon Road MULLOON
DA.2015.081	Pergola	13/05/2015	Lot 623 DP 1061647 15 Eyre Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.030	Cat Boarding Facility and Signage	13/05/2015	Lot 3 DP 843000 234 Fernloff Road WAMBOIN
DA.2014.252	Gazebo and Stone Wall	13/05/2015	Lot 701 DP1027107 Reserve 1000193 BUNGENDORE PARK 6–14 Butmaroo Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2014.253	5 Lot Subdivision	13/05/2015	Lot 267 DP 754893 64 Molonglo Place CARWOOLA
DA.2015.050	Boundary Adjustment	13/05/2015	Lot 1 DP 779054 & Lot 31 DP 802104 57 Elrlington Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.051	Shed	14/05/2015	Lot 8 DP 715389 438 Weeroona Drive WAMBOIN
DA.2014.279	Shed, Fencing and Earthworks/Roadworks	14/05/2015	Lot 15 DP 651236 508 Norton Road WAMBOIN
DA.2015.058	Shed	14/05/2015	Lot 58 DP 817687 3 Ryans Road WAMBOIN
DA.2015.057	Dual Occupancy	14/05/2015	Lot 6 DP 1039392 16 Avondale Road MONGARLOWE
DA.2014.301	Alterations and Additions to Dwelling	20/05/2015	Lot 2 DP 38747 49 Lascelles Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.061	Carport	20/05/2015	Lot 135 DP 808823 15 Knox Close CARWOOLA
DA.2015.020	2 Lot Subdivision	20/05/2015	Lot 17 DP 855517 8 Ashby Drive BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.040	Machinery Shed and Secondary Building Envelope	21/05/2015	Lot 30 DP 1141290 22 Sarah Reef Road WAMBOIN
DA.2015.072	Demolish Garage	25/05/2015	Lot 2 DP 236890 87 Malbon Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.064	Swimming Pool	26/05/2015	Lot 146 DP 808823 78 Knox Close CARWOOLA
DA.2015.075	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling	26/05/2015	Lot 8 DP 247460 22 Hilltop Road BURRA
DA.2015.065	Home Industry – Metal Machine workshop	26/05/2015	Lot 3 DP 914040 6168 Kings Highway BRAIDWOOD

PALERANG COUNCIL

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: FOR COMPOSTING SERVICES

Description of Opportunity – Council seeks Expressions of Interest (EOI) from parties wanting to be involved in providing suitable composting facilities that will be in keeping with state government regulations, local government planning requirements and industry standards for the processing of the contents of its City to Soil bins, containing greenwaste and food scraps.

Expressions of Interest are invited under three (3) different options:

Option A – For respondents who are able to immediately accept the C2S bin contents at their own approved and operating facility.

Option B – For respondents who will be able to accept the bin contents at a facility that will be approved and operating within a maximum 2-year timeframe.

Option C – For respondents who could provide a turnkey facility on Council's site within a maximum 2-years period.

Interested parties submitting EOIs must do so by completing the appropriate Expression of Interest Form relevant to the Option they are following.

Expression of Interest documents may be downloaded from Councils secure E-tender portal <https://www.tenderlink.com/palerang/>

Completed EOIs will be received through this electronic portal up to **4.00pm on Friday 3 July 2015**.

If further information is required, please phone Council on 1300 735 025 during office hours.

Palerang Council
10 Majara Street (PO Box 348)
BUNGENDORE NSW 2621
records@palerang.nsw.gov.au

Peter Bascomb
General Manager

During JUNE
Australian Journeys
Bungendore Fine Art, Ellendon St, Bungendore. Ph 6238 1640 or see www.bungendore.fineart.com.au.
Until Saturday 13
My Fair Lady
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. The story of Eliza Doolittle, a Cockney flower girl who takes speech lessons from Professor Henry Higgins, a phoneticist, so that she may pass as a lady and get a job in a flower shop. Ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.
Until Saturday 27
Standing Room Only for Heroes
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. The Gallipoli Series by Margaret Hadfield-Zorgdrager. This is a special gathering of the paintings for the Anzac Centenary year as many of the works are in private collections and two are on loan from the Gallipoli Club Sydney. Ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.
From Saturday 13
A Working Artist
Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. Paintings by Maynard Waters. For more see www.bungen.dorewoodworks.com.au and p9 of this issue.

Tuesday 9
Seminar – Finding Your Profit
Southern Region Business Enterprise Centre, Farrer Pl, Queanbeyan, 9.30–12.30pm. If you're tired of putting in all your time and effort without reaping any real gains this workshop is for you. Cost \$25. For more ph 6297 3121 or see <http://srbec.com.au>.
Saturday 13
Mysterious Queanbeyan by Moonlight Tour
Join author Nichole Overall for a tour through Queanbeyan's heart and hear fascinating tales of mystery, mayhem, tragedy and the other-worldly that have

GIG GUIDE: June

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

Friday 12
Wayne Rider Duo, 8pm–12am. Kangaroos Club, Queanbeyan.
Swizz, 8–11.30pm, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

Friday 19
Calum, 8pm–12am. Kangaroos Club, Queanbeyan.

Saturday 20
Darren Colston, 9pm, The Loaded Dog, Tarago.

Friday 26
Bill Olsen, 8pm–12am. Kangaroos Club, Queanbeyan.
Hit Parade, 8–11.30pm, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

Sunday 28
The Acoustic Sessions – Ben Chan, 1pm and **Rafe Morris**, 3pm, Iron Bar, Goolabri.

What’s On – June 2015

Send announcements to whatson@districtbulletin.com.au

unfolded over the course of 175 years. Bookings essential, for costs and details 0413 671 123 or <https://www.facebook.com/mysteriousqbn> bymoonlight.
Learn to Spin Alpaca Fleece
Alpaca Magic, Sutton Road, 10–1pm. Learn the spin fleece using the Roberta Spinner. For more see www.alpacamagic.com.au.
Le Tres Bon Cooking Class & Lunch
Le Tres Bon Restaurant, Bungendore. Learn how to cook traditional escargots (snails) and the famous beef dish enlivened with red wine, beef Burgundy (Bœuf Bourguignon). Cost \$110. For more see <https://letresbon.com.au>.
Saturday 20
Bungendore Community Garden Winter Solstice Event
Bungendore Community Garden, Turallo Terrace, Bungendore, 10–2pm. RSVP's to penny@caroola.farm.com.au or 02 4842 1899. For more details see p7.
Fifth ANZ Ladies Stableford Golf Day
Queanbeyan Golf Course. For more see www.queanbeyangolf.com.au.
Sunday 21
The Stockman – Bungendore Market Day Train
Queanbeyan Railway Station. Take a trip back in time, taking in the sights, sound and smells of one of the beautifully restored heritage steam locomotives. For more ph 6284 2790, email federalcityexpress@gmail.com or see www.arhsact.org.au.

Just for June

the market @ bungendore

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

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

jewellery

giftware

soaps & lotions

local art & craft

garden products

toys & models

cakes & pastries

tea & fresh coffee

guitars & amps



textiles

preserves

hand knits

candles

cookies

mosaics

homewares

greeting cards

beads & findings

pottery & ceramics

local grown plants

prints & paintings

fruit & vegetables

clothing & footwear

Truffle Festival Canberra Region
From **June 21 to early August** the 2015 Festival will put the focus on truffles from paddock to plate, with growers working with a variety of talented chefs and industry professionals to bring their tasty and aromatic truffles to the people. Events range from gourmet degustation dinners, truffle dishes at cafes, pastries, cooking classes and demonstrations, wine tastings and matchings, farmers markets, truffle hunts and more. More information available at www.trufflefestival.com.au.

Thursday 25
Palerang Extraordinary Council Meeting
Palerang Council Office. Considering submissions on the draft Operational Plan and Budget for 2015–16. For more see www.palerang.nsw.gov.au.
Saturday 27
Jumble Sale
Queanbeyan Uniting Church, 13 Rutledge St, 9–12pm. Funds raised help us in our mission to support those in need in our community.
Tuesday 30
Responsible Service of Alcohol Course
Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Stuart St, 9.30–4pm. Cost \$160. For details/bookings admin@ctcts.com.au.

What’s coming up in JULY

Wednesday 1
Exhibition Opening – CLAY 2620
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. An exhibition by ceramic artists who are current or former residents of Queanbeyan. Official opening by Nichole Overall, author of ‘Queanbeyan, City of Champions’. 6pm. Artists Floor talk and Q & A Thursday, July 16, 11am. Exhibition runs until July 22. For more ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.
Saturday 4
Lady Sings it Better
Cafe Wood Works, Bungendore, 6pm. Maeve Marsden, Anneliese Szota, Fiona Pearson and Libby Wood re-invent the world’s most famous male musicians as an hilarious high energy cabaret. For more see www.bungendorewoodworks.com.au.
Monday 6
BCCI Committee and General Meeting, and Business Showcase
Woodworks Gallery Cafe, 6.30–9pm. Includes a guest speaker. For more www.bungen.dore.com.au.
Wednesday 8
State of Origin Game 3 on the Big Screen
Iron Bar, Goolabri. Watch the big game on the big screen. \$2 beers from kick-off till first points scored. For more see www.iron-bar.com.au.



LOCAL MARKETS:
1st and 3rd Saturday of every month
Braidwood Farmer’s Markets
National Theatre in the main street of Braidwood, from 8am–12.30pm. www.braidwoodfarmersmarket.org.au.
Every Saturday
Capital Region Farmers Market
EPIC grounds, Mitchell, 8–11am. A genuine farmers market offering a diverse range of fresh seasonal food straight from the producer to the consumer and an opportunity to discuss with growers. www.capitalregionfarmersmarket.com.au
1st Saturday of every month (except January)
The Captains Flat Country Markets
Community Hall, Foxlow St, Captains Flat, 10–2pm. Handmade items, craft, jams, pickles, gourmet doggy treats, preloved goods, cakes, biscuits, plants and much more! Stalls \$12. Call either 0438 600 447 or 0407 661 834 or email markets@captainsflat.org.
2nd and 4th Saturday of every month
Southern Harvest Farmers Market
Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9–1pm, (opposite Food Lovers Market).
2nd Sunday of the month (except Jan)
Queanbeyan Cottage Markets
Queanbeyan River, on the corner of Morrisett and Collett Streets, 9–2pm. Craft, timber products, pottery, leatherwork, jewellery, toys, honey, jams, chutney, cakes, plants, food and refreshments. Call Kristen 6299 0219.

3rd Saturday of every month (except July/August)
Wamboin Produce Market
Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin, 9–12 noon. Fresh produce including cheese, eggs, honey, vegetables, nuts, seeds and plants.
3rd Sunday every month
Bungendore Markets
War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9–2pm. Art, craft and local produce.
Windy Hall Country Markets
Windellama Hall, 10–2pm, craft goods, Devonshire tea, deli delights and more. For more contact Bob Shaw on 4844 5001.
4th Saturday of every month
Braidwood Markets
Ryrie Park, Wallace St, Braidwood, 8am. Local crafts and cooking, plant and natural products. Call Geraldine 4847 5061.

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



202 Goolabri Drive, Sutton
0452 443 294

The Acoustic Sessions

Sunday 28th June
1pm - Ben Chan
3pm - Rafe Morris



Iron-Bar.com.au



A Night of Wicked Fun that may leave you listening to the radio a little differently – Adelaide Now

Lady Sings it Better

Saturday 4th July 6pm
Maeve Marsden, Libby Wood, Anneliese Szota, Fiona Pearson
Reinvent world-famous male musicians as high energy cabaret
3-Course Dinner and Show – Bookings at Cafe or 6238 1688

wood works

gallery

BUNGENDORE

MAYNARD WATERS

A working artist

Exhibition Opening and Book Launch
Saturday 13th June at 2pm

