The Palerang and District

MARCH 2010

Bulletin

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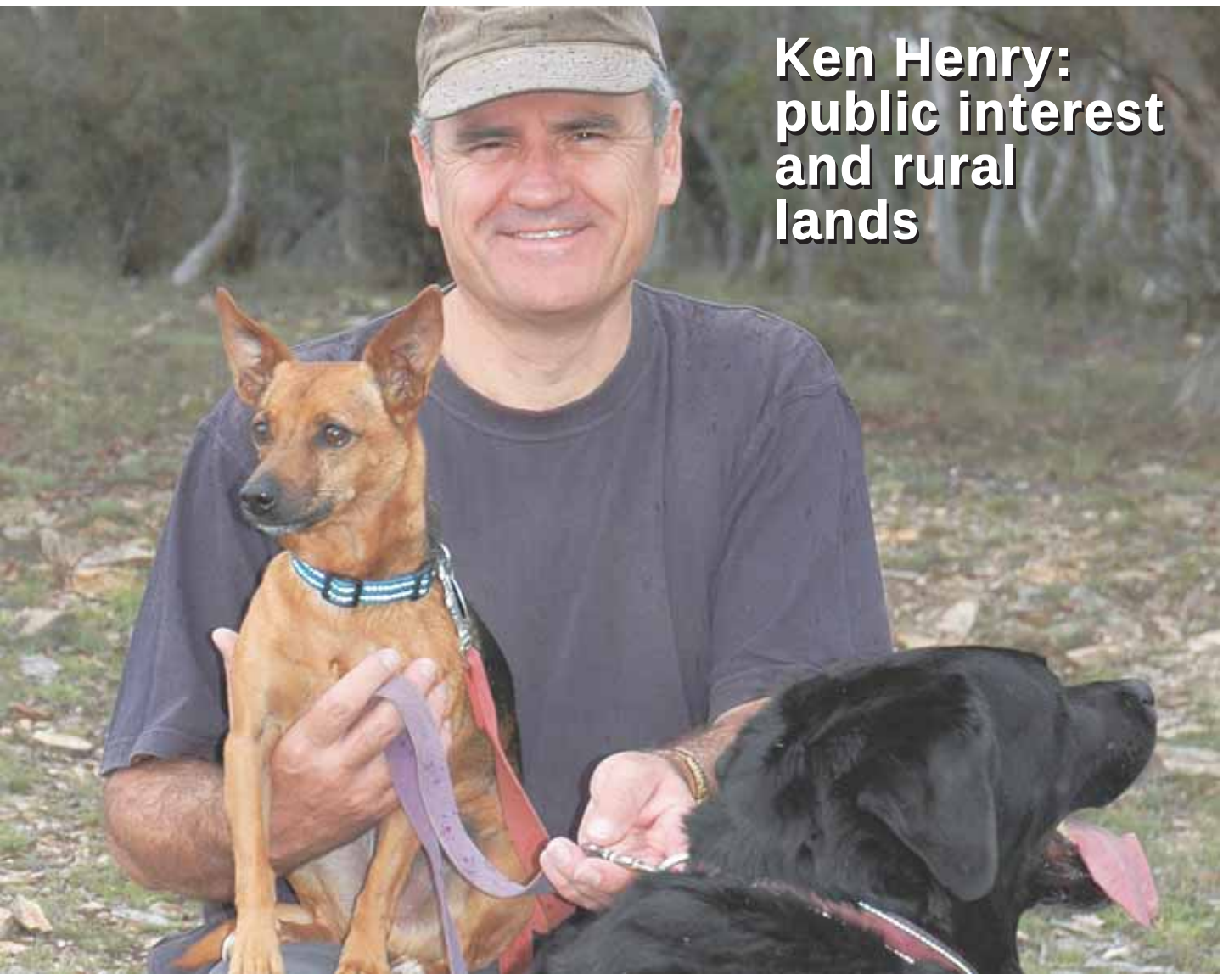

Ken Henry: public interest and rural lands

Federal Treasury Secretary and Palerang resident Ken Henry tells ***Mark Thornton*** *why he is concerned about the future of Australia's unique fauna and flora, and shares some thoughts about public interest and public policy. Close to home, as the 2010 patron of the Weereewa festival, he applauds events that are linking local culture, the arts and 'the bush' (in this case the always mysterious Lake George/Weereewa) in joyous and novel ways.*

WEEREEWA FESTIVAL Patron Ken Henry became interested in public policy and caring for nature while still in primary school.

He didn't realise it at the time, but an experience with his timber cutter father in the rainforest above Taree left a legacy that has become part of his life.

While he and his two brothers were well aware of their father's work, their dad had never seemed so excited about it as the day he came home and told them he had something special to show them. It was a huge hardwood log, one of the biggest he had cut, which on its own took up the entire capacity of a logging truck.

"We were full of questions about the age of the tree and what it was worth", Dr Henry said. "Dad said it was up to 500 years old but when he spoke of the breakdown of its value we were shocked. Dad received a pittance as a timber cutter, the NSW Government got a few dollars, but the timber mill and merchant got the rest.

"It was at that point I realised something was wrong. This immense tree, the property of the people of NSW, could be taken out of their forest and they received only a few dollars. I am still troubled by this because the situation has not changed much today.

"It has had a strongly motivating influence on me; it was my first exposure to a public policy issue I disagreed with."

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Councillors say 'no' to enviro clause

by Maria Taylor

THE SECOND 'extraordinary' meeting of Council to consider the Palerang Local Environment Plan (PLEP) made it clear that the plan's environmental protection language is being removed by a group of Councillors, some of whom have told the *Bulletin* they agree with the conservative 'property rights' movement for larger landholders.

A majority at the 25 February meeting – comprised of Councillors Crozier, Graham, Marjason and Raynolds, with Raynolds as the Mayor getting a fifth tie-breaking vote – removed the environmental protection objective from the rural (primary production) RU1 zone, arguing it is not needed. The same objective is attached to each subsequent land-use zone the Councillors will consider, including rural residential, village and so on.

A political agenda against government regulation seen to interfere with 'property rights' and for compensation for claimed income loss when natural features (like native vegetation) are protected, has been widely promoted by the NSW Farmers Association. The above-mentioned Palerang Councillors have large landholdings and past and present affiliations with NSWFA.

Asked about this, Councillor Crozier said he supported 'restoration of farmers' rights' and Councillor Graham said, "In my view NSWFA is coming late to a campaign that I committed to independently two years ago".

Private rights and the public interest: what's a Local Environment Plan (LEP) about?

Council's Director of Planning and Environmental Services, Louise Menday, explained that an LEP is a policy guide for development in the Shire for the next five years. Along with a more detailed development control plan (DCP) it "will decide the future of our towns and rural lands by deciding what land can be used for, and the scale and intensity of that use – matters that have direct impact on people's lives. It is important that the public gets involved in the formative stages of the PLEP".

'Local' environmental protection clauses are generally added by Council planning staffs

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Front cover: *Ken Henry at the family property between Bungendore and Braidwood with faithful companions Stanley (on lap) and Stella.*
Photo: Mark Thornton

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Green means business

by Marcele Martins

BECOMING GREEN is a hard process that involves leaving behind lots of the practicalities and technological advances that our modern world has given us, right? Not for Peter Zimmermann, a Bungendore resident, who believes that being green is easier than a lot of people think.

While for most businessmen profit is the main driving force behind every single decision, for Peter, who owns Café D'lish in Deakin, our choices should be based on our responsibility to keep our planet sustainable for the generations to come.

His green 'pedigree' comes from a long way back. "During the '40s and '50s we were much greener than today. At that time we didn't even know what recycling was but we couldn't afford to waste food, clothes, anything."

His sense of community and environment started to develop while listening to stories from his mother, a dairy farmer in the Swiss countryside. "I remember that once a man came with his wedding ring to exchange it for a chicken and two cabbages to feed his children."

This kind of heartbreaking story made him ponder about what people really need and what people want. And it is in the balance between the two, and also being willing to relinquish some of the things we want, to benefit the community, that the key to any successful ecological enterprise lies.

The Swiss national, who once wanted to be a missionary and travel around the world, became a chef. It was in his profession that he found a way to put his ideas into practice.

Food recycled to beauty; oil, to run the car

With more than 2,000 people per week visiting his cafe, it is amazing to see only toilette or absorbent paper in his bins. From the 250kg of organic waste produced, around 200kg goes to the compost bin. I ask about the remaining 50kg.

"This is scrap food that I take to my chooks and they give me that beauty", Peter tells me, pointing to a box filled with fresh eggs. Crusts of breads are frozen during the week to feed his cows on the weekend.

Milk and soft drink bottles are collected and taken every three days to the recycling centre in Mitchell. Carton boxes are pressed and then taken to another recycling centre. Cooking oil is stored in 50 litre barrels to be recycled and later used to lubricate the engine of his car.

Recycling is obviously important, but even more crucial is to be involved in producing less waste, or waste that can be easily recycled, and also to think about the whole environmental cost of the products you consume.

Continued p6

Photo: Marcele Martins

KEN HENRY

Cont'd from p1

> ***" People only appreciate the true value of things when it's too late."***

Economics and the public interest

His attempts subsequently to analyse his concerns led him to study economics and law, though he dropped law, preferring economics because of its analytical content. He completed a degree with first class honours at the University of NSW before moving to the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, where he lectured in economics for four years before completing a PhD in the same discipline in 1982.

At the time in Australia, "there was a lot of interesting public policy work going on", so he came home and joined Treasury in 1984, wanting to increase the role of economics in policy.

Politicians are an interesting body of people but their interests tend to focus on those matters that are popular, he said. So they meet the needs of most people, but that leaves many issues unattended. Into these gaps move community organisations – because someone has to.

Dr Henry and his wife Naomi joined Wild Care, a group that cares for native wildlife, many years ago. "It is supposedly the responsibility of state governments but these don't seem to devote much time or money to this task, except to licence volunteers. In Wild Care perhaps 10 percent of the 250 members in our region are active, and they have to cover 20,000 square kilometres.

"All the resources come from the volunteers. I have bought several hundred hectares of land and on it built facilities to rehabilitate injured or orphaned wildlife. Several other members of the organisation have done the same thing.

"Is the lack of funding a government failure? You could argue that. But we should all take responsibility, especially the person who hits a kangaroo and just drives on."

Remember the buffalo

"Most people think the numbers of the Eastern Grey Kangaroo are limitless. Yet in the past 10 years governments have issued licences for shooters to kill 50 million of them. I am pretty sure, in looking at the history of our destruction of wildlife, that we will soon wipe them out. People only appreciate the true value of things when it's too late."

Even that comes down to economics, he said. Yet, while we seem to care little for our kangaroos and other wildlife, and governments pay others to shoot them, we should remind governments that they ignore the environment at their peril. We cannot take our environment or wildlife for granted.

Dr Henry has experienced winds of change. It seemed natural to ask him to become the Patron of the Weereewa Festival.

"When I returned to Australia a quarter century ago it was to a 'bush capital' down the road from Lake George", he said. "Over the years, the bush has retreated from the capital. Today, the vision that grounded generations of political and public service leaders is at risk.

"And in the last decade the water has retreated from the lake. Yet Weereewa persists. And the mystery that shrouds it continues to ground us. But it also calls us to celebration – to complement its majesty with our art, our songs and our dance. And it obliges us to reflect on the quality of our relationship with the extraordinary environment in which we live."

BUNGENDORE BOOKSHOP and NEARBY BUSINESSES HIT BY FEBRUARY FLOODING

The owners of 'A Suitable Book', Dianne Dibley and Mark Thornton were at work on Friday 5th February when they received a distraught call that the water was rising in their shop. Mark takes up the story: "By the time we arrived at 4.45pm the water was six inches deep in the shop. We madly shifted what we could above the waterline but soon realised that the humidity was such that even books on the top shelves were warping. And the bookshelves themselves, made of chipboard, were also ruined as the water capillaried up through their unsealed feet."

Dianne and Mark have been left with a huge mess, and the bookshop is closed until further notice. Pictured Dianna Stutterd and Dianne Dibley at the shop door.

Matt Gardiner looks for solutions > April Issue

Hello, we're back – only to find the 'tail wagging the dog' again

– FROM THE EDITOR –

WE'RE BACK, and happy to be so despite the late summer weather being so great it's hard to sit and put this issue together rather than lounging outside! This month, the festival of Lake George Weereewa takes a fresh look at the link between culture, sustainable living and the unique natural environment of the lake – right up our alley.

There is much good news around – business and individuals want to try innovations for sustainable living and want to look after what remains of our natural environment – amongst the best assets of the region. They just need to know what the community ground rules are and they don't mind a bit of government assistance.

So it's disturbing that the men who currently have the numbers on Palerang Council, (*Council story p1*), seem bent on steering the local planning guidelines for the next five years back to some post-colonial ideal of 'trust the developer' property rights over flora, fauna, water and soil particularly on large acreage. Development in that sense is not just subdivision but any larger re-arrangement of the landscape and its natural elements.

Who is representing us?

Sidelining Councillor Turley (*also in Council story*) means that those who voted for her because of her strong environmental record are being disenfranchised. With Councillor Turley on board, the vote of 25th Feb would have retained the language to safeguard biodiversity in rural Palerang.

Those who held the numbers on 25 February, Councillors Graham, Crozier, Raynolds and Marjason have protested in the past that they represent everyone in the Shire and not just rural landholders, contractors and developers – all of whom might stand to gain by weak environmental planning and some of whom tend to share a philosophy against regulation. Now they say they have a mandate not to weigh the planning document down with 'unnecessary' 'emotive' local safeguards. This is a misunderstanding of the relative State/local role to protect the natural environment.

So these four Councillors don't represent me when they remove objectives and language to protect our Shire's particular ecosystems, flora and fauna from degradation caused by badly-planned development. What about you?

If you care...

If you care about the public interest objectives of the Palerang LEP now is the time to write or email the Council General Manager your support for the planning staff's professional judgement on the necessary language in this legal document. The LEP will be considered at two-weekly intervals through March (and beyond?) on Thursdays (next one 11 March, 4–7 pm). The meetings are open to the public. If the language is removed during these meetings, it will be much harder to replace in the public submission phase that follows.

The LEP can be viewed/downloaded from the Council website. Either use 'Search' *Draft LEP* or go directly to the business paper of 11 February which is the document you want.

Councillor Turley may be contacted at **judith.turley @palerang.nsw.gov.au**.

– Maria Taylor

Lets regulate the small blocks but not us

READERS MIGHT appreciate a flavour of how Councillors are thinking about the Local Environment Plan currently before them. Here they are on a clause to regulate earthworks in the rural primary production zone.

Council Director of Planning and Environmental Services Louise Menday explaining why some Council oversight and controls are desirable: "we have an example where a road was put in without a development application and in recent rain it washed away and caused damage to two other properties". She also spoke about the considerable problem in the Shire of unregulated imported fill containing weeds, toxic chemicals and other contaminants.

Councillor Crozier: "sure that's OK for small rural residential blocks but farming community should be exempt."

Councillor Raynolds: "ordinary agricultural activity should be exempt. It's just assuming everyone is bad".

Councillor Graham agrees that farming activity should not attract regulation: "as if they haven't been doing this for 100 years".

Councillor Moore: "I feel uncomfortable to say 'we'll apply this to everyone else but not to farmers.' Having this in is not unreasonable. It gives everyone a clear idea of what is required, and that is what the whole plan is about".

Ms Menday then reminded Councillors to look again at the definitions in the LEP on what would attract controls. "It isn't trying to affect everything you do on your property", just large developments with potentially bigger impacts.

Councillor Crozier: "I think staff should bring in recommendations for more exemptions". Councillors decided to decide later on this clause after staff had another look.

COUNCILLORS SAY 'NO' *Cont'd from p1*

to a NSW template that describes what land-use zones should cover (eg sustainable primary production, low density housing, village living, etc). This is not peculiar to Palerang but accepted practice.

Council staff say the local environmental clauses are needed to make the Palerang plan consistent with State planning directives like those in the Sydney–Canberra Corridor Strategy (which talks about maintaining wildlife corridors, for instance). In addition, the *Local Government Act 1993* requires that all development decisions proceed within the limits of 'ecologically sustainable development' – ie keeping the conservation, physical limits and enhancement of the natural environment in the foreground.

The related environmental objective, removed by Councillors on 25 February, stated: "to ensure that the development and management of the land has proper regard for the environmental constraints of the land and has a neutral or beneficial impact on environmental assets including waterways, riparian land, wetlands and other surface and groundwater resources, soil fertility, remnant native vegetation and existing and potential fauna movement corridors".

Aim for transparency and better developments?

Spelling out these objectives and related clauses in the planning document makes for transparency and "allows local government to plan positively", said strategic planner John Wright. "When people come in to lodge a development application they look at the LEP and the DCP, they're not looking at a suite of background State law and directives. Our role is to talk to people before they embark on a development so it doesn't get down to saying 'no' or sending them a fine notice when they do something wrong, and hopefully it makes a better development."

Some observers note that removing such objectives will considerably weaken Council's hand in requiring a 'best practice' approach when developments of any kind are proposed. Councillor Bransdon, who voted to keep the 'local' language, agreed with Mr Wright about the importance of having all the assessment criteria for development applications in plain sight in the LEP.

However, it is this language that the current majority of Councillors want to delete. Councillor Crozier gave the prevailing argument saying that the State's mandatory objectives "covered every consideration". In fact, those objectives for the rural zone (as the first example), encourage sustainable and diverse primary production and not fragmenting 'resource lands'. They say nothing about environmental conservation in those landscapes.

Councillor Graham agrees with Councillor Crozier, saying if it's not in the one-size-fits-all template it's not needed – and he goes further. "The State is aware of all this", he said. "That is why I believe the items in black (the mandatory objectives) do not get too emotive or overreaching as the optionally created (local) clauses do. The State … didn't need the flowery (local) text and I don't think we do either.

"The non-staff alarmist sector that most strongly promotes the (local wording) approach has a view that in effect boils down to 'you can't trust man, just look how he's mucked everything up'. I'm not of that camp."

Getting the numbers and sidelining Councillor Turley

The 'lets not spell out what we need to do for the environment' viewpoint is currently the majority voice of Council thanks to the coincidental sidelining of Councillor Judith Turley, the only farmer with a seat on the Council who regularly argues on behalf of the natural environment and for curbs on rural development.

She is caught in a misunderstanding involving State conflict of interest legislation. The other landholding Councillors asked for and received an 'exemption' in October allowing them to consider the PLEP on the narrow grounds of making up a quorum.

Councillor Turley is still in the process of receiving an exemption, which means she must decide whether she has a 'conflict of interest' issue by issue. But according to the view of at least one other Councillor who has serious concerns about way the PLEP review is being handled, so should the other large landholders, quorum exemption notwithstanding.

While the Local Government Act clearly states 'conflict of interest' involves the prospect for monetary gain or loss from a decision, Councillor Turley was persuaded to absent herself from the 25 February discussion of rural zone objectives, although four were mandatory, which only left the environmental discussion. Following that meeting, Palerang General Manager Peter Bascomb said it could be argued there was no pecuniary conflict in that discussion for any of the Councillors.

Earlier, Councillor Moore proposed that the PLEP as drafted by the staff be accepted in total and this was seconded by Councillor Turley. Three separate observers later told the *Bulletin* that they thought she was then 'bullied' to leave the room by Mayor Raynolds before that vote. At another point, when regulating earthworks was under discussion, Councillor Marjason suggested that she leave the room.

"It is not about conflict of interest, it is about politics pure and simple and taking advantage of a situation to get the numbers", said Councillor Turley.

'Landholder property rights' was fired up by the tree-sitting protest of Monaro farmer Peter Spencer in January. While Mr Spencer's own brother told *The Australian* that his problems were much related to failure of farming ventures and debt and only tangentially related to State regulation of native vegetation, this did not stop an anti-regulation movement spearheaded by the conservative NSW Farmers Association.

The 21 January issue of *The Land* (which had a field day with this story, unencumbered by known contrary facts like the brother's statement or that Mr Spencer was on very marginal farming country, or that the State had offered compensation, although it is not legally obliged to do so) spelled it out. The Vice President of NSW Farmers, Graham Morphett, editorialised that the community needed to understand "the importance of property rights across a range of areas including native vegetation, water and mining, as well as 'just terms' compensation is needed".

Coming up: ***a 'local' tree preservation ordinance (item 5.9). Knocking that out would leave village and non-native trees with no legal protection.***

The Palerang and District Bulletin
incorporating The Bungendore Bulletin

Enquiries and letters:
Managing Editor: **Maria Taylor**
Admin: Christina Taylor
0418 731 691
Editorial: media@palerangbulletin.com.au
Contacts advertising:
Lydia Teo 0400 991 871
Maria 0418 731 691
adverts@palerangbulletin.com.au
PO Box 302, Bungendore 2621

Associate Editor:
Sonja Chandler
Cartoons:
Brigitte Heyer, heyerart@gmail.com
Contributing photographer:
Marcele Martins
Design, advertising and production:
Sue Van Homrigh
sue@graphicgesture.com.au
Deadline for contributions and advertising commitment:
20 March 2010
Website: **www.palerangbulletin.com.au**

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

FUTURE SHOCK:

Haiti challenges 21st century aid

*Bungendore nurse **Kay Brien** with interdenominational Christian aid agency RescueNet was recently in Haiti and returned with shocking reports of the dire medical conditions that have persisted following the 12 January earthquake, dozens of following aftershocks and heavy rains. The following excerpts come from a fascinating RescueNet report that sheds light on the increasing challenges of responding to 21st century extreme weather events.*

AN ESTIMATED three million people have been affected by the earthquake and Haitian President Rene Preval stated on 27 January, that "nearly 170,000" bodies have been counted. Reports claim that 20,000 commercial buildings and 225,000 residences have collapsed or are severely damaged.

Among those killed were the Archbishop of Port-au-Prince Monsignor Joseph Serge Miot, opposition leader Micha Gaillard, the UN Mission's Chief Hédi Annabi and many UN staff (*leaving the remaining staff devastated, according to Kay*).

RescueNet International responded with an international team of nurses, paramedics and trauma counsellor, plus crisis and logistics experts, including three Australians.

(Then) from Miami we finally snagged a chartered flight which we later found was one of the very first civil flights allowed entry into Haiti. We immediately registered with what remained of the UN and were invited to set up operations inside the UN compound.

'Battlefield' scenes of need

At the Haiti Community Hospital: what we were confronted with was almost overwhelming. Hundreds of badly wounded casualties lay everywhere, in the courtyards, hallways, verandahs … anywhere one could lay.

Very little or no anesthesias were available, meaning that body parts were needing to be amputated using only nerve blocks, maybe some morphine and/or local anesthetics. As one doctor told me, "You give 'em a bandage and tell 'em to bite down hard. If you are dead lucky, they'll pass out and then you can go for your life".

Daily redressings of these amputations and other painful injuries were often completed without anesthetics and often patients were forcibly held down while bandages were removed. Our team decided to soak off the bandaging – often using their drinking water, as saline was also in short supply, as were antibotics, tetanus injections, etc.

As time went on, these much needed supplies slowly trickled in, as did more professional workers – anesthesiologists; paediatricians; orthopaedists; surgeons; etc. Many times however, these specialists left, sighting the poor conditions or the overwhelming nature of the event.

For several days, RescueNet joined forces with Mercy Works (a sister department of our parent organisation), and together we worked at a street clinic based in a police compound exactly opposite the Presidential Palace that had collapsed.

On one occasion, ten days after the initial shock, a person rushed into the clinic claiming that they had heard a voice buried in the rubble. We dispatched a team of four which included a doctor, and together with the assistance of an Israeli Search and Rescue team, they managed to extract the person and have him taken to a local hospital, where three days later he was released!

During our time at the UN compound, we helped 'shoehorn' a team into Haiti who we understood to be doctors and paramedics that wanted to join our small team.

Continued p15

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Why freezing weather in time of 'global warming'?

WHILE THE *Bulletin* was in summer recess, there was a lot of talk on the street and over dinner tables that, 'look here', if it's global warming, what are we to make of these extreme winter storms in the Northern Hemisphere and some relatively cooler weather around here? The campaigns to create confusion ramped up by 'populist' Barnaby Joyce, the truly unbelievable Lord Monckton, the News Limited press (*The Australian* leading the charge), and assorted sceptic websites and blogs did not help us understand anything.

There is a good case for using the term 'climate change' rather than 'global warming' to describe what is happening to the planet. Or maybe just to understand that 'global warming' refers to the overall climate trend, but that this can have variable and unpredictable outcomes on the *weather* we experience.

They 'get it' in Honduras

'*What's On*' editor Christina Taylor recently spent 8 months in Central America and brought back this front page item from the main Honduras daily after temperatures there fell to less than 10°C, unusual for this country, even in winter.

'CLIMATE CHANGE'

If we don't believe in climate change, the cold snap enveloping Central America is a clear example of Mother Nature doing her own thing. And it's not only in this region, there are dozens of deaths in Asia and in Europe – the snow has engulfed entire cities, causing the closure of airports, factories, schools and universities. We have to understand these messages and act together.

– ***El Heraldo***, Tegucigalpa 12 January 2010, page 1

We asked Australian National University earth and paleoclimate scientist **Andrew Glikson** to explain a bit further. Dr Glikson's research has focused on the causes of previous mass extinctions over the course of earth's history and how they were linked to periods of climate shift. This work eventually led him to examine elements of prehistoric, historic and recent climate changes.

He says when humans acquired fire they gained the capacity to change the atmospheric balance by burning billions of tonnes of carbon previously buried in the earth or in vegetation. In recent years he has written prolifically about all aspects of climate change for lay audiences, and warned (along with 1,000s of other scientists) against the big risks inherent in the current 'business as usual' attitude to the emission of greenhouse gases.

Q. How do we interpret the unexpected cold in the Northern Hemisphere?

A. Snowstorms in the North Atlantic are happening when large masses of warmer, moisture-rich air collide with cold dry Artic air. This has to do with the warming of the oceans and increased evaporation expected with global warming. (Water vapour is in fact the largest component of greenhouse gases but is very short-lived in the atmosphere).

As forecast by climate scientists almost 30 years ago, the increase in mean global temperature, and thereby the level of energy of the atmosphere-ocean system, results in more intense 'extreme weather events'. This is due to increased turbulence, hurricanes and collisions between warm humid air masses and cold dry air masses

Q. So scientists are not saying that what Europe and the Americas are experiencing so far is related to a slowing down of the (continent-warming) north Atlantic Gulf Stream due to ice melt flowing into the oceans?

Continued p13

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Birds of Carwoola

by Martin Butterfield

THE CARWOOLA area is full of birds. Over the last three years, I and several other observers have recorded a total of 145 species in the Carwoola area. In 2009, 138 species were seen – a pretty good result for such a dry year.

Approximately one-sixth of the 145 species are recorded every month. Many of these 'regulars' (recorded in all months) will be familiar to most folk in the area.

They are: Australian Wood Duck, Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Crimson Rosella, Eastern Rosella, Laughing Kookaburra, Noisy Miner, Grey Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, Willie Wagtail, Australian Raven, Little Raven, Magpie-lark, Welcome Swallow, Common Starling, and House Sparrow.

Photo: John Wilkes

Other species are seen every month but are mainly 'small brown(ish) birds' and may not be so familiar to some people: White-throated Treecreeper, Weebill, Striated Thornbill, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Buff-rumped Thornbill, Spotted Pardalote, and White-eared Honeyeater.

We have also recorded 44 species as breeding – defined rather broadly – in the area (33 breeding species in 2009). Whether birds are breeding in the area or not is particularly important since if they cannot find a place to build their nests the species will not survive.

Many of the breeding observations in the area are of dependent young. For most species, this is when the adults are seen feeding the young birds, but in the case of ducks and species like coots it is recorded when the young cannot fly.

The incessant calls of begging juvenile Australian Magpies and Pied Currawongs will again be familiar to most people in the area (as will the swooping of the parents when one approaches too close to the nest site).

Not all birds are quite so secretive about their nest sites. I have greatly enjoyed watching Tawny Frogmouths (right) raise two chicks per year in a nest visible from my study and a Grey Shrike-thrush has raised two chicks in an opportunistic site in a garage in Radcliffe Estate (*below*) after nesting in a pot on the verandah the previous year.

Photo: Martin Butterfield

Photo: Martin Butterfield

Waterbirds in this area have been hard hit by the very dry conditions of the past 12 months, with many dams and lagoons at very low levels.

Pacific Black Ducks and Australian Wood Ducks are still common, and many small dams are still occupied by Australasian Grebes (often breeding). This emphasises the importance of these dams as refuges of last resort for some birds as well as the stock they were installed to serve.

Photo: Kim Mackenzie

Birds of prey are well represented in the area with 11 species recorded in the three years. The Nankeen Kestrel is a common site hovering beside the roads (recorded in 90 percent of months) and the majestic Wedge-tailed Eagles have been recorded in over 80 percent of months, often in family groups.

Parrots and Cockatoos are amongst the most common (and colourful) species resident in the area. As well as those seen every month, the area has been recently graced with the presence of Superb Parrots (*above*) which appear to be extending their range from a stronghold in the Boorowa area to the north-west of Canberra.

Carwoola is well supplied with cuckoos and six species were recorded in 2007 and 2008. In 2009 an additional two species have been recorded, appearing to reflect an increase observed across the Monaro region.

In addition to the species of honeyeaters referred to above, the area also records some larger birds in this family, particularly where rich food resources are available. The Red Wattlebird (*right*) may migrate or may remain all year while the Noisy Friarbird (or 'Leather-head'), on right, departs with the cooler weather.

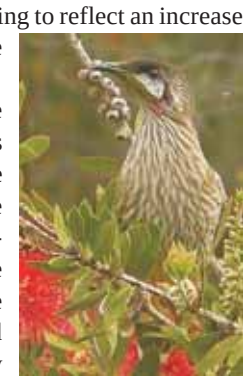

Photo: Martin Butterfield

Photo: Martin Butterfield

There are many good birding spots in Carwoola (and more in the rest of the distribution area of *The Bulletin*). If you wish to learn more about the birds of the area most good bookshops sell a range of field guides and the Canberra Ornithologists Group website (**http://canberrabirds.org.au/index.htm**) includes a very comprehensive range of photographs and recordings of the calls of many of the species found in the area.

GREEN MEANS BUSINESS

Cont'd from p3

If you happen to be at one of the many functions catered for by Peter, you might be surprised that the food is served on plates made from palm leaves. Different to porcelain plates, they don't need do be washed and are much lighter; the cost trades off against less dishwashing and less fuel required in the transport. Most importantly, they go straight to the compost bin!

The foam cups used to serve coffee were also carefully chosen. They are made in Sydney, reducing the impact on emissions due to transport as compared to imported ones. But the most remarkable fact about those cups is what is written (in green, of course) on them: "Return for disposal to Café D'lish. Collect 10c refund".

Yes! You get back 10 cents if you bring back the cup to join many others and be sent to a recycling station. Did you know that with 3.6 recycled cups you can make a ruler?

According to Peter, the most important outcome of this initiative is education: "Ten cents is not much for many people and they simply don't bother to come back. However, one day a little girl came in with 97 collected cups and left with $9.70. She was learning about the environment and that was totally worth it!"

What would sound like a loss for most businessmen, for Peter, is a rewarding experience, and for all of us, certainly, a net gain!

Here is a chef's food recycling tip:

Do you remember the carcass from your Sunday roast chicken that you threw away? Don't do it anymore! Save it, put it in a container in the freezer, and use it later together with vegetables to make a wonderful stock! You can use the stock in a risotto, soup or wherever your imagination takes you.

– RURAL FIRE SERVICE LAKE GEORGE –

***Doug Palmer** examines the risky business of country living and tells us how all this good rain also keeps the 'firies' busy.*

IMAGINE: Flaming trees while shivering near small lake

STUDENTS OF the Palerang condition will have noticed an odd thing this year. Everything is the wrong colour.

The recent rains have, oddly, kept everybody busy. As the rain came over so did the thunder and so did the lightning.

On one evening, you could trace the progress of the storm by the reports of burning trees that followed it down towards the coast. For some reason, burning trees at night often get reported as grass fires. So I now think of trees as grass with delusions of grandeur.

Lightning-struck trees also have the odd property of being bushfires in the rain. I've gotten used to standing around on the road in the cold and wet as yet another driver exceeds their competency levels, but I still remember vividly a burning tree with a small lake rapidly forming around it. It would be very symbolic, if I could ever work out what it was very symbolic of (*err, how about Camelot? – Ed*).

RFS helps SES

The RFS has also been helping out in the little matter of poorly placed water. As you might imagine, the SES has been a little busy over the last month, with all kinds of things going on. The RFS has been providing support in the form of pumps and hoses. We like to think of it as a relocation service for distressed water.

It's been nice having a month at the tail-end of summer where the fire danger has been consistently in the low-moderate-high range. However, it's now necessary to point out that, despite appearances, the fire season isn't over yet.

The weather outlook for the next few months isn't promising more rain or lower temperatures than normal. In the absence of further rain in the right quantities at the right time, the grass will start drying out again.

So it's still essential that you keep the area around your property neat and tidy. If you remove the fuel, then you remove the fire.

All of this means more mowing, of course. More litter removal. More gutter cleaning. And I'm sure that, like me, you thought that you had seen the end of that in spring. But, at the very least, you will end up with a nice-looking garden.

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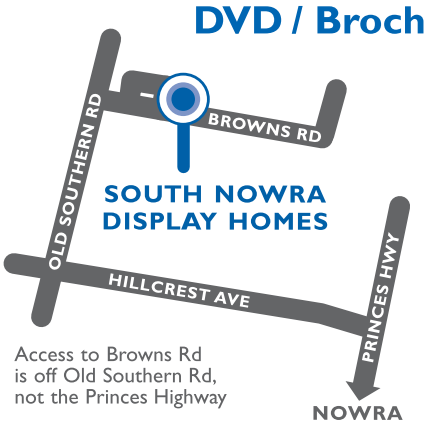

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Weereewa: A Festival of Lake George program

'Winds of Change' 18–28 March 2010

*Those events marked with an * require pre-booking or at least pre-registration. For further details please see website:* ***www.weereewafestival.org*** *or email:* ***weereewafestival@ozemail.com.au*** *Tel: 0428 183 620.*

Sunday 7 March

4.00pm
Sirocco Trio Fundraiser*
Internationally renowned strings, wind and percussion group, Sirocco Trio, will perform in the beautiful outdoor setting of The former Lynwood Café at 1 Murray Street, Collector – book online or tickets at door.

Thursday 18 March

6.00 to 8.00pm
Award of Photography Prize and Exhibition
Based on theme of 'Winds of Change'. To be opened at X Gallery, Gibraltar Street, Bungendore.

8.00pm
Colin Offord in Concert*
St Philip's Church, Gibraltar Street, Bungendore.

Friday 19 March

5.00 to 6.00pm
Announcement of the Weereewa Festival Short Story Awards
Awards presented to winners at the Village Square, Malbon Street, Bungendore.

7.00pm
An Evening with Miles Franklin Award Winning Author, Alex Miller*
A literary dinner at Bungendore Wood Works Cafe.

Saturday 20 March

9.00am to 2.00pm
Farmer's Market at X Gallery and Garden
X Gallery, 32 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore.

10.30am to 1.00pm
Children's kite-making workshop
Bungendore Village Square, Malbon Street, Bungendore.

10.30am to 4.00pm
'En Plein Air' Painting Weekend*
With artists working from designated lake view properties. This will include invited major artists from around Australia together with local artists.

4.30 to 6.00pm
Weereewa Works on Paper Prize and Exhibition Opening
Kiku ARTs, Gibraltar Street, Bungendore.

7.00pm
En Plein Air Dinner at Lark Hill Vineyard*
Lark Hill Vineyard, Cnr Bungendore Road and Joe Rocks Road, Bungendore.

Sunday 21 March

9.00 to 11.00am
Lake Walk led by Rainer Rehwinkel from Silver Wattle and back *

10.30am to 4.00pm
En Plein Air Weekend: Continues

11.00am to 12 noon
Windwash Opening with Megalo Print Workshop
At Silver Wattle gate, Lake Road, Bungendore.

12 noon
Prizegiving and Opening of Weereewa Sculpture Prize
At Silver Wattle gate, Lake Road, Bungendore.

4.30 to 7.00pm
Late afternoon Gathering of Artists from En Plein Air Weekend
Collector Gallery, Collector.

6.30 to 9.00pm
Latin American Dance Night with Pisco Sour
The Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore.

Tuesday 23 March

6.30 to 9.30pm
Open Mike Concert at The Royal Hotel *
Royal Hotel, 34 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore

Friday 26 March

7.30pm Doors open; Show starts at 8.30pm
Shortis and Simpson Live at the BBC*
Cabaret at the Bungendore Bowling Club, Turallo Terrace, Bungendore.

7.00pm
Flavour of France: Music and Food*
Bush Baroque play French Baroque Music at Le Tres Bon Restaurant, 40 Malbon Street, Bungendore.;

Saturday 27 March

8.00 to 12 noon
Tour de Turbines*
An off road bike ride beneath the wind turbines, with great views across the lake. Two events 5km and 20km. Access details provided on registration.

8.30 to 11.30am
Property visit 1: Mulloon Creek Restoration Field Trip*
Mulloon Creek, King's Highway between Bungendore and Braidwood.

12noon to 3.30pm
Property Visit 2: 30 Years of Permaculture with David Watson and Judith Turley at Millpost*
Millpost, Kings Highway before Bungendore.

4.00 to 6.00pm
Moon – Lake – Walking
Dance and Music Event on the Lake at Mirramu Creative Arts Centre, Lake Road Bungendore: Gate sales.

7.30pm doors open; show starts at 8.30pm
Shortis and Simpson Live at the BBC*
Cabaret at the Bungendore Bowling Club, Turallo Terrace, Bungendore.

Sunday 28 March

9.00am to 5.00pm
'Winds of Change' Forum*
A full day forum at Silver Wattle, Lake Road, Bungendore.

5.00 to 8.00pm
'Breeze In' Concert beside Bardy's
School bands, teenage and local bands in a laid back concert to bring the festival to a friendly and festive close.

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Saluting the March full moon

Moon – Lake – Walking
A Weereewa Festival event on the lake at Mirramu Creative Arts Centre
Saturday 27 March
4.00 to 6.00pm

THE OPPORTUNITY to watch an arts performance whilst actually sitting on a lake bed is surely a rare-enough event to attract attention. Lake George (Weereewa) watchers have become used to its waterless expanse and deem it a no less fascinating and powerful place.

A music and dance performance on the dry lake bed of Weereewa – recent rains notwithstanding – has been created by the Mirramu Creative Arts Centre featuring the combined talents of Mirramu's Creative Director, Elizabeth Cameron Dalman, the professional dancers in the Mirramu Company and the Lake Dancers along with musicians Colin Offord and Yilan Yeh.

The dancers' performances are deeply connected to the spirit of lake. Ms Dalman says the dance works will call on and welcome the March full moon – which appears on the 30th of the month.

Mr Offord (above) is a singer, composer, multi-instrumentalist and inventor of instruments. His music traverses folk, experimental jazz, western avant-garde, East Asian, Aboriginal Australian and Pacific Island art forms. He's described in a Belgian publication as a 'modern troubadour'. In the *Moon – Lake – Walking* performance he plays a fascinating variety of instruments and sings. Yilan Yeh plays the moon bells, one of Mr Offord's inventions.

Tickets at the gate –
Adults: $15, children under 12: $5
Park cars in front of Mirramu Creative Arts Centre, 849 Lake Road, Bungendore.
Bring rug and cushion. Mirramu enquiries 0418 698 196 or www.mirramu.com
Further Festival Info:
www.weereewafestival.org

MUSIC AT THE FESTIVAL

There are altogether six concerts and one cabaret in this year's festival: the fantastic pre-festival fundraiser with Sirocco at the once Lynwood Cafe in Collector, Colin Offord in Concert at St Philip's Church in Bungendore, Latin American dance night with Pisco Sour (*above*) at the Lake George Hotel, an Open Mike night at the Royal Hotel, Bungendore, Bush Baroque playing French baroque music attuned to wonderful French food at Le Tres Bon Bungendore, the wicked cabaret Shortis and Simpson Live at the BBC (*aka Bungendore Bowling club*) and the finale 'Breeze In' Beside Bardy's starring local youth talent and a bunch of the best local bands. (*see program on left for details*).

More about 'En Plein Air' at Weereewa

That means get out yer paints, charcoals, pencils, cameras and get on out there!

by James McKay (Collector)

SINCE THE EARLY white settler discovery and settlement of Lake George and surrounds, the lake in its varied and changing atmospheres has served as a muse for artists of many persuasions. That period of settlement also parallels the growth of the French-coined manner of painting outdoors 'en plein air', or 'in the open air'.

For this year's festival, the lake's power of inspiration will again be tested over a two day period by inviting artists, both professional and amateur, to descend with their box easels and paint sets, charcoal stubs and lead pencils – and cameras.

This is a unique opportunity to spend a couple of days outdoors mixing with some of Australia's leading artists who will be working across various sites in and around the Lake. All are welcome to participate.

So if you want to get involved in this unique event, or if you have wondered about access to some of the parts of the Lake you dream about as you scoot past on the highway, come and join with artists such as Theo Tremblay, Christine James, Jenny Bell, McLean Edwards, Lucy Culliton, Mandy Martin, Luke Sciberras, Ruth Waller and Paul Ogier.

There is no fee but please send us an email registering your interest, and we will get back in touch: **weereewafestival@ozemail.com.au**

Three contingent events are: a dinner, conceived as an opportunity for artists to meet up, but open to all, at Lark Hill Vineyard on Saturday night; and a closing gathering and discussion of work at Collector Gallery, 22 Church Street, Collector, on Sunday afternoon, kindly opened by Frank Ross for the event.

The Goulburn Regional Gallery plans that out of this weekend an exhibition can be created for the following festival.

REGARDLESS OF CULTURE, PEOPLE CONNECT WITH 'PLACE'

Di Dibley introduces Alex Miller

I AM LOOKING forward to meeting Alex Miller in person. I have been involved with him on and off for many years, through the medium of his books. And I am a great admirer.

When I thought about who we would like to host as our literary guest for the Weereewa Festival this time, my mind immediately flew to Alex Miller. *Journey to the Stone Country* and *Landscape of Farewell* are strictly to point – novels about the relationship of people and place; journeys of personal discovery through reconnection with the land; and in both stories the relationship of Indigenous Australians and white fellas with the Australian landscape.

In *Journey to the Stone Country*, Annabelle Beck accompanies Bo Rennie, one of the Jangga tribe, on his journey to the stone labyrinths that were the playgrounds of the old people when they come across Ranna Station. Deserted for decades, the homestead resonates for Annabelle with childhood memories of Haddon Hill, the cattle property out in the Suttor Country worked by her father and his father before.

While there is no mistake about the significance of Bo's return to the ancient stone country, we are surprised by Annabelle's strong reaction to Ranna Homestead – the dining room with its dusty balloon-backed chairs and ornate Victorian hearth, the library with the leather bound shells of books (the pages long eaten out by termites). "What an incredible vision it must have seemed to them", she remarks. When he dismisses her interest she adds carefully, "In these cultural surveys I believe the Burra Charter rates the early European remains as just as significant as Indigenous remains".

This is dangerous territory for a writer, but Miller manages it with sensitivity and establishes the common purpose, the universal need to belong that is within us all.

In *Landscape of Farewell*, the damaged German Professor, Max Otto is reconciled with his own and his country's past when he

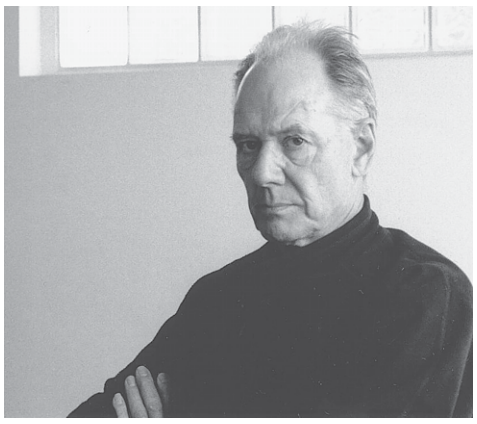

Photo: Kate Miller

returns with Aboriginal elder Dougald Gnapun, to the country of Dougald's ancestors on the escarpment of the Expedition Range. Max describes Dougald's attachment to country as "an ancestral knowing grappled into the roots of his being so deeply that even he knew its influence only as uncanny intuition".

In sharing Dougald's journey, Max reconnects with his German uncle. "He too loved his land and lived and died alone for the sake of it." Even as a boy, Max knew that his uncle spoke of something sacred to him, an indissoluble aspect of his innermost sense of who he was; that source whence he had his origins. "It is the soil of our fathers… this soil is us!" he shouted… "We are this soil!"

I am glad that Alex Miller has given universal legitimacy to the connection between people and place, despite history or circumstance. Annabelle and Bo; Dougald and Max represent the common journey and hold out hope for mutual respect, understanding and joy in the celebration of place.

He is the perfect literary companion to Weereewa, with its Indigenous and white settler history.

People are invited to join in for champagne with Alex Miller at the Woodworks Cafe at 6.30pm on Friday March 19, followed by dinner (Cost $45 + BYO). A collection of Alex Miller's work will be on sale. Booking details at Weereewa Festival website ***www.weereewafestival.org***.

'Winds of change' **for sustainable living**

THERE HAS BEEN much excitement of late when large areas of water over Lake George began to appear after recent heavy rainfalls. It is a welcome change after a 10-year dry spell but as things go, evaporation of this vast and shallow lake will soon return it to its more familiar drier state.

Wet or dry this year's Weereewa 'Winds of Change' Festival has an extensive program of activities focusing on the Lake and its surrounds, including the Capital Wind Farm, which brought some community debate about impacts but also sustainable energy.

With this in mind the Festival's one day Arts and Science Forum, Sunday, 28 March, will have as its theme, sustainable living and land use. Forum convenor, Rainer Rehwinkel (*pictured above*), says the theme this year is inspired by Weereewa's new and potent landmarks, the imposing wind turbines of the Capital Wind Farm.

"Like them or loathe them, they are here to stay and are in essence symbols of the winds of change sweeping over our region."

Lake themes and renewable energy

The renewable energy theme has been extended to take in more aspects of sustainable living and land care with a selection of speakers whose areas of interest range from gardening in a changing climate to Palerang Council's role in sustainable urban design.

Among the speakers are Mark Carmody, ABC weatherman and a local gardening identity, and keynote speaker and Festival patron, Dr Ken Henry, who is known for his passionate interest in the local wildlife and concern for the increasing destruction of wildlife habitat.

Along with speakers on sustainable agriculture, native seed harvesting, planning and managing the local natural landmarks, including Collector Common, will be addresses by local artists – from visual arts to music – in a show-and-tell presentation of their artwork and inspiration drawn from the Lake and local environment, including native birds and plants. Artists include Jenny Wassenberg, Mike McGregor, Helen Fitzgerald and singer song writer, Danny Velnaar.

Rainer Rehwinkel, a policy officer with the NSW Department of Environment specialising in conservation of grasslands and grassy woodlands, says that, since its inception in 1999, the aim of the Festival forum has been to disseminate information to a wider audience, to raise awareness and understanding of the unique environment of Weereewa and its region and… to generate vigorous debate.

As a naturalist and a keen student of the region's biodiversity for much of his life, he is passionate about the need to retain this biodiversity, to claw back declines in plant and wildlife diversity through a range of conservation initiatives.

possibly the largest remaining area of unmodified native grassland in the Southern Tablelands

In a forum paper at the 2006 Weereewa Festival, Mr Rehwinkel pointed out the unique grassland of the ephemeral lake bed of Weereewa when it is dry, which has been a permanent feature over the past 10 years. He added that it is possibly the largest remaining single area of unmodified native grassland in the entire Southern Tablelands.

Despite the wet patches, some of these grasses and other native plants will be noted during the two hour lake walk led by Mr Rehwinkel on Sunday 21 March from 9am. Mr Rehwinkel jokes that, depending on the state of the lake bed, the looped walk may need to do a little weaving in and out leading out from Silver Wattle at the end of Lake Road, Bungendore.

On their return the walkers will be met with the breathtaking sight of the 'Windwash' exhibition, a Megalo Print Studio initiated project of screen printed tea towels strung out on lines across the lake bed with entry from Silver Wattle Gate.

Bookings are essential for the Forum which will be held at Silver Wattle Centre. Registration fee is $70 and $50 concession. The Forum starts at 9.30am and finishes at 5pm. Registration includes lunch and light refreshments. For booking information contact **www.weereewafestival.org**.

– Helen Stephens
Festival coordinator

Public access to Weereewa

– whether to study the native grasslands, paint the clouds, marvel at the wide horizons or to enjoy some of the festival events: access points on the western side are at the end of Lake Road, including by the gate to Silver Wattle. Another point of access is across from nearby Mirramu, (location for the *Moon – Lake – Walking* performance). The Off Road Bike Ride beneath the turbines will give a dramatic perspective on the lake from the eastern side.

WIND POWERED events for Weereewa Festival

by Philippa Kelly, Artistic Director

THIS IS THE FIFTH festival to celebrate the arts, the environment and the community in and around Lake George (Weereewa). And thanks to generous sponsorship from Infigen Energy, owner of the Capital Wind Farm, two events planned for the festival which would not have gone ahead without their funding, are now on the program. They are the Weereewa Festival Sculpture Prize *and the* En Plein Air Weekend for artists.

People have observed that apart from the Sydney to Canberra highway, the lake is really inaccessible. In fact, more than ninety percent of the lake surround is private property with the lakebed itself leased for grazing in dry times.

One of the aims of the festival is to encourage access to this extraordinary, inspirational landscape and in this we have often been aided by the generosity of individual property owners who have opened their properties for walks, for visits, for events.

'Curly Sedge' sculpture from the 2008 festival's Shoreline Sculpture Trail.

Sculpture Prize

Concepts in by March 12

Following last festival's popular Shoreline Sculpture Trail, Infigen Energy this year is sponsoring the Weereewa Festival Sculpture Prize.

We are inviting sculptors to create a work, in any material, that can be sited on the lake's edge at the end of Lake Road, Bungendore, and so it needs to be grand in scale and guided by the festival theme, 'Winds of Change'. The prizes for this are: first prize, $3,000; second prize, $2,000; and third prize, $1,000.

Photographs or drawings and details of entries need to be received by 12 March, addressed to Mike Macgregor, 306 Widgiewa Road, Carwoola NSW 2620. Work to be delivered to site by 10 am Friday 19 March.

For full details of entry requirements, please check the website **www.weereewa festival.org** or ring Mike Macgregor on 6238 2414.

'En Plein Air' weekend

For this outdoor visual arts weekend, the festival has invited well established artists interested in the landscape and the environment from around the country to join local artists in a weekend of painting in the outdoors on a number of properties around the lake.

These properties give various vantage points. Some have spectacular views; others are rich in remnant and regenerating flora such as spectacular stands of *Xanthorrhea* (grass tree). Some provide an insight into the history of the lake, such as a fine aspect of Governors' Hill, where Governor Macquarie is said to have named the lake.

People might consider scientific history, the spot where Gurdip Singh's inter-nationally famous research was done from a platform in the lake.

Yet another, from the eastern shore, might enquire of the set-off point for the American funded research into wave patterns. There are Major Mitchell's original trig point sites and baseline for the initial survey of the country.

On other properties artists will be able to consider current farming practice as it relates to climate change. Moreover, there are now the 67 new wind turbines which have dramatically changed the eastern shore and skyline.

The lakebed has seen constant change over millennia – from grassy woodland to open grassy plain, with geological upheaval from open to closed lake system and from wet to dry lake – and the new emblems of climate change are definitely worth contemplating.

Local artists are invited to join in this great opportunity.

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LOWDEN FOREST PARK

story and photos by Jo Walker

Cool trees and forestry relics

A DRIVE through Tallaganda State Forest to Lowden Forest Park is a pleasant experience on a summer's day. Tall trees of the wet forest provide shade, and, because of the elevation (between 800 and 1,400 metres), the temperatures in this northern section of the forest are lower than on the surrounding lower country.

Lowden Forest Park was once the site of logging camps back in the 1930s. It was some time later, in 1952, when the water wheel, centrepiece of the picnic area, was built in Queanbeyan and transported to the forest to generate electricity for the forestry camps. The wheel is still in working order, turned by water travelling down a narrow channel and falling into containers set into the broad wheel.

Donohue and Hopkins accessed some of their timber from this area – I remember their large timber-yard in East Queanbeyan back in the fifties.

There are two walking trails leading from the Park, one just a stroll along the waterway supplying the wheel, the other a longer circular walk starting in the lower picnic area. The latter is an easy walk through tall forest trees and an interesting variety of vegetation with just one scramble up a rocky piece of path near the creek.

Although the area was once logged, some of the trees are extremely tall and have attained a hefty girth. There are aromatic-leaved Narrow-leaved Peppermints (*Eucalyptus radiata*), Ribbon Gums (*E. viminalis*) with tangles of loose bark hanging from their limbs, and the rough-barked Brown Barrels (*E. fastigata*) and Messmate Stringybarks (*E. obliqua*).

Tall shrubs make up the understorey – Tree Hakeas (*Hakea eriantha*), Victorian Christmas Bushes (*Prostanthera lasianthos*), Forest Geebungs (*Persoonia sylvatica*) and the flaky-barked Narrow-leaved Geebungs (*P. linearis*), Blackthorns (*Bursaria spinosa*) and the white-flowered (*Lomatia myricoides*) are just a few of them found there.

Lower-growing shrubs include both of the Currant Bushes (*Coprosma hirtella* and *C. quadrifida*), which often bear copious amounts of fleshy red or orange berries of variable palatability, and several spiny heath plants – two of the more noticeable species being Beard Heaths (*Leucopogon lanceolatus*) and the dark-leaved, neatly rounded *Acrotriche divaricata*.

Both of the local Clematis species (*Clematis aristata* and *C. microphylla*) tangle their way through and over surrounding shrubs and produce clouds of cream flowers early in the year followed by fluffy, silver seed clusters.

There are orchids and ferns there too. *Dipodium roseum*, the pink-flowered Hyacinth Orchid is a common sight in Tallaganda Forest and is occasionally found in large groups. At one point, the circular path dips down towards a small creek lined with Soft Tree-ferns (*Dicksonia antarctica*), a beautiful sight in the sunlight.

These are just a few of the plants that make Lowden Forest Park well worth a visit. Plenty of birds are there, too, along with other fauna. There is just one drawback. This is leech country, so be prepared to take precautions against these over-friendly little creatures.

Lowden Forest Park is accessed through Hoskinstown – from the Queanbeyan side, take the Captains Flat Road, turn left onto Briars Sharrow Road, then right onto Plains Road, and, at the T-junction, turn right into Hoskinstown. Pass Forbes Creek Road on the left and continue straight on through open country. At the next T-junction, turn left towards Rossi. From this junction, the Lowden Forest turnoff (on the right) is about 18km.

'Facts about 'roo ecology' go astray

by Maria Taylor

READERS OF these pages may have noticed that we like the Eastern Grey Kangaroo and defend this remarkable animal against outdated values and inaccurate or misleading information. We've just had another case where science has been misreported. Why does this matter? We give scientists the status of societal experts because we expect that they have done exhaustive, peer-reviewed investigations and ruled out all alternate explanations for a phenomenon.

(*Peer-reviewed means that a scientist's methods and conclusions are critiqued by a panel of scientists who are established in that particular field before they are published and accepted as working 'fact'.*)

In February, the Sutton Landcare Group promoted a talk on 'facts about kangaroo ecology' which drew a good crowd, most of which seemed concerned about what humans were doing to kangaroos. The convenor said the talk would in fact offer 'absolute scientific expertise' about 'population explosions' of Eastern Grey Kangaroos. The ensuing talk was relayed further to the public in an article by the same group (author un-named) in the Bungendore weekly paper, without further fact-checking.

Here are several examples from that talk by ACT government researcher Dr Don Fletcher, contradicted by other evidence. The article read:

"Don began by setting a regional context including findings by Dr Dan Ramp from the University of NSW that over many years NSW Police have attended far more motor vehicle collisions involving kangaroos in the Yass–Goulburn–Queabeyan area than anywhere else, including other NSW towns comparable to these… Dr Ramp's finding is compatible with the exceptionally high kangaroo densities measured by NSW and ACT governments in the same region".

The *Bulletin* contacted Dr Ramp about what his study could, and could not show, and he responded that his findings of reported collisions over a 10-year period could not be used to support Dr Fletcher's hypothesis that the ACT has a unique problem with over-populating kangaroos.

"It would be remiss to use these data to infer population densities," he said. The data only refer to reported collisions and those can vary according to road features (eg traffic volume, road type) and landscape features (eg habitat characteristics, proximity to urban areas). Plus there are more reliable methods of determining population density like aerial surveys.

Dr Ramp also said his study did not show that the ACT urban/rural fringe has a unique level of collisions in NSW; it actually showed there are other 'hotspots' as well, and that possibly there was just more reporting around the ACT.

Road-kill: what's it mean?

Another marsupial researcher, Dror Ben Ami, said: "unless you actually quantify what road-kill means, it could be anything. It could be extra stress and the need to traverse fragmented habitat for example."

This may well be the case in the ACT. Dr Ramp offered a quote from an ACT nature reserve ranger who told the ABC last year: "There seems to be a trend, an increasing trend as it relates to kangaroo collisions with vehicles. We seem to be getting more and more of them. And as you stop and think about that, you realise that Canberra is expanding, there are more roads, there are more suburbs, there are more people on the road, and kangaroos are moving around.

Couple that with drier than average conditions where these animals have to move further to find the same amount of food, and you can start to understand why it might be that we're getting more collisions."

ACT data for 2003 show that calls regarding dead or injured kangaroos doubled between 1999 and 2002, to 1,522 but attributed this increase to drought and bushfires resulting in more kangaroos grazing by the roadside.

The *Bulletin* asked Dr Ramp what evidence there is for population impacts on kangaroos themselves, with car collisions.

Continued p13

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*(*Refer to Gig Guide for line up*)

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Market intelligence – paddock to plate

by Peter Davies

WE THINK the society around us is solid, but there is an old political truism: the difference between social order and disorder is 36 hours without food. Food security is the basis of everything we call civilised. This is the perfect time of year to consider the subject, because at this time of abundance, I contend that Australia's food security is actually declining.

The Great Depression in 1929 came with a chicken boom. The humble, productive backyard chook helped Australia get through the greatest financial crisis and highest unemployment of the last hundred years.

Even the White House has been caught up in acknowledging the long and damaging decline of home-grown food. In March 2009, the first lady, Michelle Obama, became the first occupant of the White House since the Depression to have a working vegetable garden, the last being Eleanor Roosevelt.

The hidden costs of our food system are high. There is the obvious cost in our health, as our diets have an abundance of bulk and taste but an increasing paucity of nutritional value. The energy cost is extremely high, with a mass-distribution system built on transportation over long distances, 'look good' packaging, refrigeration, storage (sometimes for months) and chemical preservation. The moral cost is also high as food animals, especially chickens and pigs, live out their lives in a state of abject confinement.

The solution is partly within our grasp. One of Australia's sustainability visionaries, Michael Mobbs, has developed the embryo of a system of urban street gardens – communal food production in the spare land on our footpaths or urban spaces. His scheme has had no problems from the City of Sydney Council, quite the contrary.

Produce from local gardens.

Photos: Marcele Martins

"The Council has taken what we've done in Myrtle Street and made it draft policy for the whole Council area", he says. "That's a real win." The Council is even considering setting up an urban farm on one of its green spaces to grow vegetables and produce eggs. I wonder what our Paler-ang Council thinks of that one?

A more advanced variation on this grassroots theme is the Landshare program in the UK. The TV chef and organic food producer, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, has not wasted his celebrity on mere fame, but championed self-sufficiency, organic food, and the consumption of local, seasonal produce.

Landshare uses the internet to match people who have spare land with those who want to grow vegetables. It has become nationwide, with 3,500 gardeners across Britain.

Australia, in contrast, seems to be going in the opposite direction. Much of the farmland surrounding Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra has been replaced by urban spread.

Our lax food-labelling laws are being exploited by the giant retail chains to import cheap food from abroad, mix it with Australian product and, if more than 50 percent of the value of the mix is Australian, to label it 'Made in Australia'. The consumer is being duped and the practice is sending some local farmers broke.

When TV runs a weekly commercial called '*Market Report*' courtesy of a major food retailer, I take heart. It's a sign that the Australian farmers' market movement has had an impact on the dynamics of the Australian food chain. The advertising pitch is a reflection of the prevailing consumer demand for fresh food with a face.

Increasingly, we are making trips to the nearest farmers' market. By eating fresh and local we are supporting farmers and helping the environment.

Some call this elitist, typical of metrosexuals or cuddly-toy collectors rather than ethical eating, but when you discover a true farmers' market, chances are you will find the emphasis is on grassroots quality rather than gourmet looks – the food is piled high by 8am, sold before midday and on the table that night.

Check out farmers' markets at **www.farmersmarkets.org.au**, or visit one at Wamboin, Queanbeyan or EPIC in Canberra.

CODGERS

Wed 24 – Sat 27 March

Codgers is a comedy about ageing, friendship and being a codger. A story about six senior Aussie men, some of them mates since war service, as they sweat it out together each week at the gym. When secrets, differences and loss of trust threaten the long established friendships, they learn that 'difference' is more a matter of point of view and that, no matter what, you gotta laugh. Codgers won the 2006 prestigious Rodney Seaborn Playwright's Award and stars Shane Porteus (ex *Country Practise*), Ronald Falk (ex *Neighbours* and *Flying Doctors*), Ron Haddrick (ex Royal Shakespeare Company), Edwin Hodgeman (ex SA State Theatre Company), Jon Lam and Russell Newman (ex Queensland Theatre Company).

ERTH'S DINOSAUR PETTING ZOO

Tuesday 13 – Thursday 15 April

It's a petting zoo, but not as you know it – a fun, educational and unique performance event that will delight children of all ages. Get up close and personal with an amazing array of creatures from bygone eras. Meet a menagerie of insects, mammals and dinosaurs that once roamed free around the southern hemisphere, and are now in residence at the petting zoo daily. You can pet, feed and interact with them in a once in a lifetime imaginative experience. Some of the dinosaurs you will meet are:
– The Dwarf Allosaur, a Victorian Theropod who will have you shaking in your boots!
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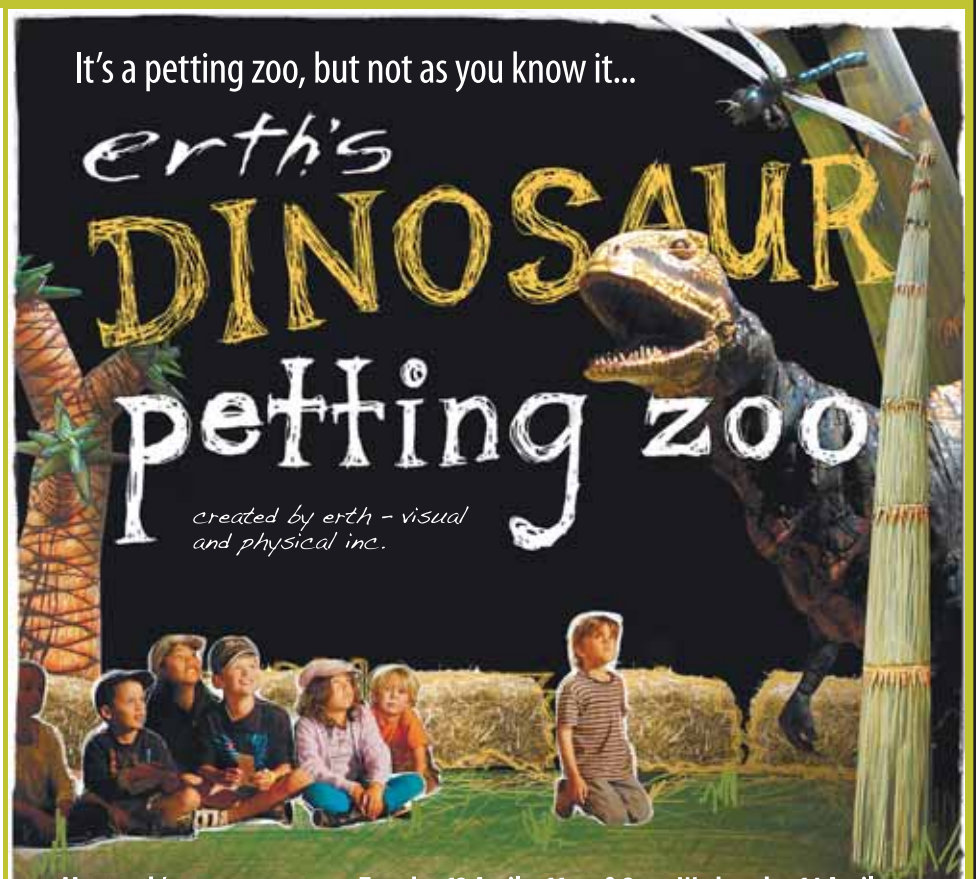
Bookings: Ph: 6298 0290 or www.theq.net.au

It's a petting zoo, but not as you know it...

erth's DINOSAUR petting zoo

created by erth - visual and physical inc.



Meet erth's awesome prehistoric creatures, from cute baby dinos to teeth-gnashing giants. Ancient life-like dinosaurs are alive and mostly friendly (!) in this fun, educational and unique performance event that will delight children of all ages.

Tuesday 13 April – 11am & 2pm. Wednesday 14 April – 11am & 2pm. Thursday 15 April – 11am & 2pm. Recommended for children 5+ and families. All tickets $18.00. Running time approx 55mins.

This production will be performed in the round at the Queanbeyan Conference Centre.

THE Q Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre · Queanbeyan City Council

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

NSW Government Communities arts nsw · ARTS ON TOUR NSW · Erth Visual & Physical Inc. www.erth.com.au

– HERBAL HINTS –

by herbalist Catherine Bird

Making the perfect herbal brew

WITH THE convenience of teabags, the art of making a cup of tea using herbs has been lost in some households.

A herbal tea can be an infusion or a decoction. An infusion is made by pouring boiling water over dried or fresh herbs whilst a decoction is made by boiling harder plant substances such as bark and roots in water.

The traditional proportion for an infusion is 30gm of dried herb to 500ml of water. You infuse this amount of herb for 15 minutes before drinking. There is no benefit in stewing your herbs; you will have obtained the healing properties in this infusion time.

With a decoction, use 600ml of water to 30gm of dried root or bark. This is brought to the boil and simmered for 15 to 20 minutes.

Herbalists have found chronic conditions require less strong brews. In most texts one dose is a wineglassful. Ideally if you are taking your herbs to help with a health issue, the body responds well to three doses a day.

If you have made too much tea for the day, you can keep the reserve in the fridge and warm as you need, though it is best to discard this fluid after 24 hours.

The timing for having your cup of tea will vary. If your digestion is weak, enjoy your herbal tea after a meal. If you are taking herbs as a tonic and general wellbeing, enjoy your tea before meals.

Herbs to treat bones or marrow are believed to be best taken before bed, whilst female reproductive or liver herbs are better on rising in the morning.

For the management of fevers hot infusions help to bring about therapeutic sweating. A favourite cold and flu brew in my household is peppermint and lemon balm. In between sleeping off the symptoms, a regular cup of tea assists with recovery.

Mixing flavours of herbs into herbal tea mixtures can be creative. Mix equal parts of the blander chamomile with a tastier herb such as rosehips or, for our older readers, hawthorn berry to nurture the heart.

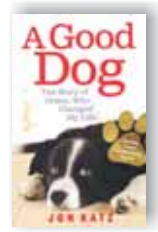
The rosehips can be pretty in their shell cut form. To enhance the appeal to others, use a clear glass plunger to make an infusion.

Infusions and decoctions are not as strong as the fluid extracts used by herbal practitioners but with most herbs available loose, cut and dried a good cup of tea is a safe way to relax with friends. Infusions are also portable and easy to make at work.

The most important thing to remember is to have fun with making your tea mixes. Mix flavours and colours; some blends can have up to six herbs in your mix. Then sit back and savour the moment while you do something that is good for you.

For advice or further information visit:
www.happyhorses.com.au and blog www.naturalanimals.net

BOOK REVIEW : BOOK REVIEW : BOOK REVIEW : BOOK REVIEW



A Good Dog:
The Story of Orson, Who Changed My Life
by Jon Katz
Ebury Press
RRP $24.95

Problem author rather than dog?

by Di Johnstone

THERE IS a plethora of dog books on the market, feeding a growing interest in stories about dogs. But sometimes we should question why the author wrote a book and whether we should buy it. One such book is *A Good Dog*, by Jon Katz.

The story begins with Katz, a writer and broadcaster, living in suburban New Jersey in a neighbourhood he finds confining and stultifying. He has a nice family, two friendly Labradors and is failing to find his way in life.

Into his life comes a young border collie – that arrives as Devon and, for reasons related to the dog's past, become Orson. There are amusing anecdotes about a dog with more than the usual behavioural problems and other less troublesome animals.

When he takes on Orson, Katz knows Orson is a difficult dog and he makes a 'contract' with Orson, to change Orson's behavior. But it is Orson that changes Katz and his life, including providing rich source material for Katz's popular and lucrative books and a media career advising on dog behaviour.

Katz describes Orson as a 'lifetime' dog – one that comes along once in a lifetime and "we love in especially powerful, sometimes inexplicable ways". Katz gives a highly emotional and somewhat rambling account of this intense relationship.

Katz's efforts to help his beautiful but willful and unpredictable dog involve sheepherding training, calming herbs, moving to a farm, numerous tests, big veterinary bills, seeking help from a 'dog communicator' and even a shaman.

Katz speculates that part of Orson is 'broken', 'damaged' and not able to be reached, the result of Orson's treatment in an earlier life as an obedience dog. This becomes an excuse for what Katz will decide.

When Orson attacks three people, Katz struggles with what is a moral response. Ignoring the advice and misgivings of others he decides to euthanise Orson. His decision is shocking and appears driven by Katz's concern about the rising cost of Orson's treatment and his peculiar moral universe.

Katz's report of the shaman's view that Orson was then 'happy' and 'released' is self-serving. His 'communion' with a dead Orson is, in the circumstances, distasteful and his decision to take on, and write about, another difficult border collie is at the very least questionable.

When *A Good Dog* was first published, US readers were outraged by Katz's decision and questioned his motives for writing the book. Critics also argued that better management of Orson's behaviour would have prevented the aggression.

One suggested Katz didn't get specialised training help because a 'bad dog' was a better storyline and might have reflected on his self-styled career as a dog behaviour expert. Katz responded to his critics in a post-publication chapter.

Katz's impulsive decision to take on a difficult dog brought him financial benefit and literary success, but Katz failed Orson. The book is a long-winded justification for a decision he knew would be controversial. It's a book that didn't need to be written and buying it allows the author to continue to exploit Orson's life. This distressing book is not one for anyone who loves dogs.

– TOWN & COUNTRY DOGS –

by Heike Hahner

Backyard woofers can be tamed

ONE OF THE most irritating things about living in suburbia surely must be a barking dog next door or nearby.

The incessant 'woof – woof – woof' of a lonely dog calling for some company can bring many shift workers to boiling point. The sudden explosion of an hysterical 'wooo woooowoooooo' of the fear-barking dog whittles down the nerves of a mother trying to get her little-ones to settle for a nap.

In recent times a range of [anti-]barking collars has hit the market; from those spraying citronella oil into the dog's face when it barks, to air puffers. These are kinder than but often just as ineffective as the old electric shock collar that zaps the dog when it makes a noise.

None of these collars are 100 percent effective as they have a tendency to respond to any noise and in the long run may have the effect of de-sensitising the dog to the collar, or causing paranoia towards it. So what can be done about a barking dog? A lot of dogs bark either from boredom or anger.

The bored dog will chase and yap at anything that moves, just because there is nothing better to do. The anxious dog barks because it has been left by the owner, and will 'guard' the home and the garden, barking ferociously at anything and anyone who goes by.

Contributing to the barking problem is often a lack of frequent exercise for the dog. Owners leave their dogs in the garden or property in the hope that the dog exercises itself, not realising that an important part of dog ownership is to walk with their dog.

Dogs thrive on routine and sleep

Dogs need a strict routine of walking and resting and are far less likely to bark when they are tired out after a proper walk. Leaving the dog in the garden is also problematic as it puts the dog into the position of needing to guard the property.

So, be fair to your dog and your neighbours. Dogs enjoy sleeping large parts of the day, under cover, safe from the outside world.

Your dog should be confined during the day so it is not constantly challenged and stimulated by external influences. If your dog gets good exercise with you, confining him for a few hours, while you are at work or shopping, is just what he needs to be calm and rested.

Other ways of preventing barking are to leave the radio or TV on to distract from external noises and make the dog feel like you have not gone away for long. A dog-sitter or walker will provide important stimulation and company for your dog.

Alternatively, there are always people around who are willing to help. A lot of people who love dogs but can't afford or don't want to own a dog, are happy to look after one for the day.

Some dogs just need something to do to keep them quiet, a few toys or chew toys may distract them for long periods of time. Sometimes companion animals, such as a calm older dog that does not bark, a cat or even chickens, ducks, rabbits or guinea pigs can be excellent distractions for certain dogs.

Talk to your neighbours about the problem and be open to suggestions. Barking dogs are annoying; but the problem can be stopped or solved if we are willing to understand the dog's motivation to bark, and are willing to make changes to suit his needs.

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Your local Legals

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For advice in matters including
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Bungendore 2621
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Comrie St ACT 2903
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South East Resource Recovery SERRROC Regional Organisation of Councils

SERRROC tackles recycling e-waste

with Geoff Pryor

Collected e-waste from Young deposited at the ACT Recycling plant of Renewable Process for recycling.

E-WASTE – electronic waste! It is the stuff we often hoard rather than chuck out at the local landfill. E-waste includes old computers, printers, TV monitors, stereo and video players, mobile phones and the like.

The issue of what to do with e-waste becomes greater as time goes by. The advent of digital radio, or the new Commonwealth broadband infrastructure, tempts many to replace older pieces of electronic gadgetry with new. This potentially leaves a lot of stuff to be thrown out.

Many local councils across the nation have been grappling with the challenge of how to effectively dispose of an ever-mounting store of e-waste without sending it to landfill. Sending e-waste to landfill fills up ever more expensive landfill trenches and is a complete loss of resources, with the additional prospect of environmental contamination.

SERRROC has been looking into what to do with this material. It has recently run a series of pilot projects in our region such as in Queanbeyan, Young, Yass and the Eurobodalla shire.

The pilot projects were organised for residents to drop off their e-waste. The material collected was then sent to companies which recycle these pieces of equipment. That is, they take the old electronic equipment apart and separate out the constituent elements, such as glass, metals and plastics. These elements are then recycled.

Around 75 tonnes of electronic items were collected over the past seven months, mostly from SERRROC pilot projects. An analysis is now being carried out as to what these trials tell us about costs and benefits.

This work is being done in preparation for the introduction of the Commonwealth Government's e-waste Product Stewardship regulation, to begin in 2011.

Product Stewardship is where manufacturers or importers have to take responsibility for what happens to their products at the end of the products' useful lives. We might all pay a little more when buying new equipment but there are significant overall benefits in not burying it in landfills.

Palerang residents wanting to know more about local e-waste deposits should contact the Council offices.

FREEZING WEATHER *Cont'd from p5*

A. There is a concern about the Gulf Stream because temperatures have risen relatively faster in the polar regions, 3–4°C in the last 30–40 years, compared with 0.8°C closer to the equator. Melting of the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets would put so much fresh water in the oceans that it would sharply though temporarily affect that warming current. We are closer than you might think to the tipping point.

When you look at the combined release of carbon dioxide and methane emissions, 500 parts per million (ppm) in the atmosphere is the point at which the entire Antarctic ice sheet becomes unstable – which means melting. We are now at combined 460ppm CO_2 including methane. The economists informing politicians through the Garnaut Report and elsewhere who talk about stopping emissions at 450 or 550ppm or even higher do not appear to understand that an ice-free earth is not fit for human habitation.

Q. Why do you suppose people have a hard time differentiating between climate and weather?

A. People live in the weather and not in the climate. They react to the immediate. I think whether people trust what the science and the scientists are saying about the climate (which they cannot experience immediately), is a bit like the relationship between people and their medical doctors whom they have to trust too. People like good news, but reject bad news, at least at first. They also expect climate and weather trends to be 'smooth'.

Stop press: THE FIRST CASUALTY?
CYBER-BULLYING TAKES DEBATE INTO GUTTER

POLITICAL SCIENTIST Clive Hamilton has completed an investigation showing a sharp rise in extreme cyber-bullying of scientists and journalists who write and speak about human-induced global warming and climate change. The flood of anonymous, vicious and threatening hate mail arriving in people's inboxes appears orchestrated to intimidate since it is much the same in tone. While not making direct links, Hamilton charges that such attacks are encouraged by websites and blogs belonging to right-wing commentators who regularly shower climate scientists and green political activists with ridicule and invective. He writes:

"In Australia, a handful of denialist websites stand out. They include the blog of *Herald-Sun* commentator Andrew Bolt, Bolt's stable mate Tim Blair at the *Daily Telegraph*, the website operated by sceptic Joanne Nova (a pseudonym for Joanne Codling), and the community forum site operated by the Queensland farmers' organisation Agmates. Denialists also flock to the e-journal *Online Opinion*.

On these sites discussion of the 'global warming conspiracy' seamlessly segues into a hodge-podge of right-wing populist grievances and causes, including defending rural property rights, the martyrdom of farming hunger-striker Peter Spencer, the errors of the Club of Rome, blood on the hands of Rachel Carson for causing DDT to be banned, the evils of Al Gore, the plan by the United Nations to dominate the world, and the need to defend freedom and democracy from these threats. Sceptics are explicitly or implicitly portrayed as freedom fighters battling attempts by scheming elites to shore up their power or impose a world government."

Read more of what Dr Hamilton has to say on the ABC site *The Drum Unleashed* **www.abc.net.au/unleashed/stories/s2826189.htm**

FACTS ABOUT 'ROO ECOLOGY'
Cont'd from p10

Turns out there are no studies other than one conducted by himself and Dr Ben Ami on Swamp Wallabies in Royal National Park in Sydney. "We showed that at current rates of collisions, combined with competition and predation (foxes/dogs taking juveniles) you would see a slow decline over time, and that this was best reversed by reducing road kill and not fox eradication."

The Landcare talk also repeated the claim that historical records show "unequivocally" that kangaroo densities have grown enormously in the region in recent times and that this is an unnatural phenomenon. However, the ACT's own kangaroo management plans cite research that "… late last century kangaroos and wallabies were in high numbers in the district" but became rare due to human hunting and culling, ironically in the first instance because they were interfering with fences put up to control rabbits and were stigmatised as 'pests' and 'vermin' during the last century.

Victorian study shows kangaroos regulate themselves in similar terrain

It is ironic that Dr Ramp's work was used to support the arguments of the ACT research effort. Dr Ramp (a young researcher with almost two dozen peer-reviewed papers in international journals) spent a day waiting to testify before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal hearing on the Majura cull last year.

Critiquing Dr Fletcher's focus on biomass measurement to draw conclusions about 'over-grazing' by kangaroos, Dr Ramp cited a 50-year population study in a temperate eco-system of 2,250 hectares, not unlike the ACT's, at Yan Yean in Victoria. Kangaroos have been the sole grazers there for over 100 years after farming activities had greatly altered the original landscape.

That study showed "that even in grasslands where forage quantity was extremely low, floristic diversity of these areas was similar to areas with far less grazing pressure (albeit with less biomass). Threatened and rare species germinated in exclusion plots in areas that been heavily grazed for over 100 years. Hence, there was no perceptible impact of kangaroo grazing on plant diversity and ecosystem health.

"In my opinion, research that attempts to show grazing impacts by measuring the reduction in plant biomass does not reflect a valid scientific approach."

Dr Ramp's research underscores that, whether at Majura, in the ACT, or the Palerang farmlands, kangaroo populations are mobile, at times they congregate, and foraging pressure is seasonal. The Yan Yean study showed that even when nominally fenced as they were there, the Eastern Grey Kangaroos remained self-regulating and stable at 1–2 kangaroos per hectare over 50 plus years with no human management of numbers. He said this had obvious implication for sustainable numbers of kangaroos in the temperate grassy woodlands of eastern Australia.

In response to questions, Dr Fletcher provided a couple of interesting ecological facts about the Eastern Grey Kangaroo – including the high mortality rate of juveniles around the age of two, and that this species does not carry a 'spare' foetus, unlike its arid zone cousins.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED

FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE PALERANG CULTURAL TOURISM s.355 COMMITTEE

Council recently established a new Palerang Cultural Tourism Section 355 Committee to give advice and make recommendations to Council on local cultural and natural assets and to oversee cultural celebrations in Palerang Council.

Committee membership comprises:

- the Mayor (ex officio)
- two Councillors
- the General Manager or their nominee
- six community representatives (at least one each from the Bungendore, Braidwood and Captains Flat areas).

Expressions of interest, closing **5.00pm on Friday 19 March 2010**, are now invited from members of the community wishing to serve on this committee for a two-year term commencing April 2010.

Expressions of interest should include supporting information as to the persons' suitability and any relevant previous experience. They should be addressed to the General Manager, Palerang Council, PO Box 348, Bungendore 2621, clearly marked "Confidential – Expression of interest – Palerang Cultural Tourism s.355 Committee".

Full details about the committee, including its purpose and delegated authorities, are available from Council's offices in 10 Majara Street, Bungendore and 144 Wallace Street, Braidwood, during normal business hours. They may also be downloaded from Council's website at **www.palerang.nsw.gov.au** under "Community Services" on the home page, then "Section 355 Committees".

For further information, please contact Debby Ferguson on 1300 735 025 during business hours.

PALERANG COUNCIL

Brassy
Sunday 11 April 2.30pm
Tales of pioneering women of our region & the life of Miles Franklin to the fabulous sounds of brass
Mirramu Dance Company & The Lake Dancers
The Hall Village Brass Band
Phone Poachers Pantry 6230 2487 for picnic hamper orders with show tickets
Yass Valley Council 6226 1477 tickets only $10 full, $8 conc., $25 family

Bungendore Physiotherapy & Sports Care
Louise Steinman
Sports Physiotherapist
Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy for:
* Sports injuries
* Surgery & Exercise Rehab
* Back & Neck Pain
* Work Injuries
* Equestrian Sports – both horse & rider!
MEMBER APA AUSTRALIAN PHYSIOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION
6238 1417
Bungendore Medical Centre
36 Ellendon Street, Bungendore
www.bungendorephysio.com.au

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST INVITED

FOR HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Council is calling for nominations from people in the Palerang community interested in serving on the s.355 Palerang Heritage Advisory Committee.

The Committee was created by Council to:

- provide advice and recommendations, where appropriate, to Council on heritage conservation and management and development control plans pertaining to the whole Council area;
- assist in the review of Council's current heritage conservation management initiatives; and
- deal with heritage issues at a strategic level.

The Committee does not provide advice to Council on development applications.

There are six community positions on the Committee and Council aims to have at least one member each from the Braidwood, Bungendore and Captains Flat areas. The membership also comprises the Mayor, two councillors, the Manager of Strategic Planning and Council's Heritage Advisor. There is no remuneration for members serving on the Committee.

The appointment will be for a two-year term. Council would welcome applications from Indigenous people.

Written nominations indicating the skills applicants have that could assist the Committee, should be marked "Confidential – Palerang Heritage Advisory Committee" and addressed to the General Manager.

Nominations must be received by Council by **5.00pm on Wednesday 17 March 2010**.

To obtain a copy of the Terms of Reference and Position Profile, please contact John Wright on 1300 735 025.

Peter Bascomb
GENERAL MANAGER

PO Box 348
Bungendore 2621

PALERANG COUNCIL

PALERANG COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

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

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0028	Manufactured Dwelling	1/02/2010	764 Taylors Creek Road TARAGO
DEV.2010.0029	Dwelling	3/02/2010	254 Macdiarmid Road BURRA
DEV.2010.0030	Water Tank	3/02/2010	16 Keder Street BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2010.0031	Tree Removal	4/02/2010	53 Malbon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0032	Garage	4/02/2010	120 Dolomite Drive MOUNT FAIRY
DEV.2010.0033	Garage	4/02/2010	54 Ellendon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0034	Dwelling, Alterations and Additions to Shed & Cattery	4/02/2010	Lot 6 DP1128949 Charleys Forest Road CHARLEYS FOREST
DEV.2010.0035	Tree Removal	4/02/2010	5251 Captains Flat Road HAROLDS CROSS

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

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0036	Motorcycle Club Event	8/02/2010	Off Oallen Road OALLEN
DEV.2010.0037	Dwelling	9/02/2010	2 Hill Street MAJORS CREEK
DEV.2010.0038	Dual Occupancy	9/02/2010	114 Gibraltar Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0039	Dwelling	9/02/2010	29 Bidges Road SUTTON
DEV.2010.0040	Dwelling	9/02/2010	33 McCusker Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0041	Shed	11/02/2010	7 Falconer Place BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0042	Shed	11/02/2010	Kings Highway NORTHANGERA
DEV.2010.0043	Signage	12/02/2010	69 Macdiarmid Road BURRA

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

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0044	Dwelling	16/02/2010	6 Rutledge Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0045	Tree removal	16/02/2010	RFS COMMUNITY HALL & PARK Burra Road BURRA
DEV.2010.0046	Deck & Pergola	16/02/2010	43 Knox Close CARWOOLA
DEV.2010.0047	Change of Use to Business – Hours of Operation	17/02/2010	33 Ellendon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0048	Alterations and Additions to Dwelling	17/02/2010	96 Duncan Street BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2010.0049	Tree pruning	17/02/2010	163 Naylor Road URILA
DEV.2010.0050	Manufactured Cabins x 8	18/02/2010	Nerriga Road NERRIGA
DEV.2010.0051	Monopole	18/02/2010	Lot 7003 DP96167 Trig Reserve off Denley Drive WAMBOIN
DEV.2010.0052	Alterations and Additions to Dwelling	18/02/2010	34 Clare Valley Place WAMBOIN
DEV.2010.0053	Manufactured Dwelling	19/02/2010	Off Wallaces Gap Road BALLALABA

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

Application No	Description	Received*	Address
DEV.2010.0054	Dwelling and Garage Studio & Workshop	22/02/2010	129 Taliesin Road CARWOOLA
DEV.2010.0055	Manufactured Dwelling	22/02/2010	25 Kurrajong Street CAPTAINS FLAT
DEV.2010.0056	Dwelling and Shed	26/02/2010	516 Rossi Road ROSSI

Queanbeyan Council gets green tick for solar energy proposal

THE QUEANBEYAN-Monaro Greens have given in-principle support to Queanbeyan City Council investigating a solar energy system to power its administration centre.

Greens spokesperson Katrina Willis, who addressed council about the proposal at its end-of-February meeting, said funding for the system would come from a payment due to council from Country Energy and seemed unlikely to require a call on the budget, although detailed financial information is yet to be made public. Ms Willis said if the project proves to be financially viable it would be a major step forward for the city.

She said Queanbeyan has been lagging behind some other NSW councils when it comes to meeting the challenge of climate change "but this proposal is the kind of bold action we need to take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for higher energy prices.

"The solar photovoltaic (PV) system could even generate income for the city by feeding energy into the grid after meeting council's energy needs. If so, we have suggested that council earmark that revenue to invest in other measures to address climate change.

"It may even generate interest in developing a community-owned solar farm. Such projects are springing up around the country and Queanbeyan can be part of this exciting movement."

PALERANG COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT DETERMINATIONS

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

February 2010

Application No	Description	Stage/Decision	Determined	Address
DEV.2008.0009	Dwelling	Approved	2/02/2010	Solus Street BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2009.0136	Dwelling & Shed	Approved	12/02/2010	Off Butmaroo Fire Trail BOMBAY
DEV.2009.0170	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	Refused	2/02/2010	37 Molonglo Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0212	Alterations & Additions to Dwelling	Approved	2/02/2010	42 Glenmore Road BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2009.0258	Dual Occupancy	Approved	3/02/2010	230 Old Gold Mines Rd SUTTON
DEV.2009.0299	Storage Shed & Shed with Toilet	Approved	12/02/2010	37 King Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0315	Dwelling	Approved	24/02/2010	1 Wilga Street CAPTAINS FLAT
DEV.2009.0323	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	Approved	4/02/2010	Willow Forest Road NERRIGA
DEV.2009.0326	Tree Removal	Refused	8/02/2010	60 Molonglo Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0333	Boundary Adjustment	Approved	9/02/2010	36 Turallo Terrace BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0334	Manufactured Dwelling	Approved	12/02/2010	272 Foxlow Street CAPTAINS FLAT
DEV.2009.0338	Dwelling	Approved	11/02/2010	Half Moon Road MONGARLOWE
DEV.2009.0339	Alterations & Additions to Dwelling	Refused	17/02/2010	26 Osborne Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0341	Shed	Approved	3/02/2010	367 Mathews Lane BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0348	Garage	Approved	4/02/2010	20 Hyland Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0350	Two (2) Lot Subdivision	Approved	8/02/2010	Lucky Pass Road CURRAWANG
DEV.2009.0365	Dwelling	Approved	11/02/2010	399 Norton Road WAMBOIN
DEV.2009.0366	Alterations & Additions to Dwelling	Approved	17/02/2010	105 Donnelly Road BYWONG
DEV.2009.0367	Shed, Swimming Pool & Water Tank	Approved	18/02/2010	384 Barnet Drive MOUNT FAIRY
DEV.2009.0369	Swimming Pool & Shed	Approved	17/02/2010	1 Forbes Creek Road HOSKINSTOWN
DEV.2009.0371	Alterations & Additions to Dwelling	Approved	2/02/2010	5976 Araluen Road ARALUEN
DEV.2009.0372	Dwelling	Approved	10/02/2010	85 Ellendon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0377	Shed & Toilet	Approved	3/02/2010	303 Valley Drive ROYALLA
DEV.2009.0381	Alterations & Additions to Dwelling	Approved	15/02/2010	Sawyers Ridge Road REIDSDALE
DEV.2009.0382	Tree Removal	Refused	18/02/2010	64 Forster Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2009.0383	Dwelling	Approved	17/02/2010	21 Wild Terrace BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0002	Shed	Approved	3/02/2010	22 Fosters Lane BURRA
DEV.2010.0003	Alterations & Additions to Dwelling	Approved	22/02/2010	Red Hill Road MAJORS CREEK
DEV.2010.0006	Carport	Approved	2/02/2010	758 Rossi Road ROSSI NSW
DEV.2010.0010	Tree removal	Refused	18/02/2010	94 Malbon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0011	Manufactured Dwelling	Approved	3/02/2010	493 Denley Drive WAMBOIN
DEV.2010.0013	Garage	Approved	18/02/2010	15 Ashby Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0015	Tree Removal	Approved	18/02/2010	68 Bohmers Lane BYWONG
DEV.2010.0019	Shed & Carport	Approved	17/02/2010	41 Harrowfield Drive BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0020	"A" Frame Sign	Approved	11/02/2010	145 Park Lane BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2010.0022	Pergola	Approved	3/02/2010	52 Day Circuit BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0024	Shed with Toilet	Approved	19/02/2010	5 Llewellyn Drive BRAIDWOOD
DEV.2010.0031	Tree Removal	Approved	19/02/2010	53 Malbon Street BUNGENDORE
DEV.2010.0032	Garage	Approved	19/02/2010	120 Dolomite Drive MOUNT FAIRY
DEV.2010.0035	Tree Removal	Approved	24/02/2010	5251 Captains Flat Rd HAROLDS CROSS
DEV.2010.0043	Signage	Approved	19/02/2010	69 Macdiarmid Road BURRA

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

PO BOX 348, BUNGENDORE NSW 2621

Thanks to local community for Haiti fundraiser

A TOTAL of $3,811.25 was raised by a dinner event in Bungendore with the proceeds sent directly to the aid organisation Médecins Sans Frontières Australia – Doctors without Borders Australia.

The evening, organised by Josephine and Christophe Gregoire at Le Tres Bon restaurant with a generous donation of their own and staff labour, was supported by a number of local wineries. Pauline and Stephan Segeri donated the vegetables needed to prepare the evening meal. Jennifer, David, Margaret, Tracey (not wishing their surnames to be published), Bidvest and Alpha Farm also donated ingredients. Zanil Design donated beautiful hand made jewellery – helping to boost the total collected.

Fifty-six diners helped raise the money and the Bungendore Bridge Club kindly raised and donated $160.15 as well.

CANS FOR CAIRNS
Donations could win you 'the trip of a lifetime'

BAKED BEANS, spaghetti, tuna, corn or? Queanbeyan region and Canberra residents are being urged to buy extra tins of food in their weekly groceries to help replace the significant amount of food destroyed in floods at the Queanbeyan Salvation Army store last week.

In a bid to help the Salvos replace the lost food, Riverside Plaza is running *Cans for Cairns*, a promotion where the donated tins of spaghetti could be your ticket to sunny far north Queensland!

It's really as simple as it sounds: pop into Riverside Plaza and donate cans of food to receive your entry into the draw for a trip for two to Cairns. The trip includes flights and accommodation for two thanks to Queanbeyan City Travel & Cruise.

Donation booths are located at the newly-refurbished Queanbeyan City Travel and Cruise, upstairs at Riverside Plaza centre management or opposite Coles at a booth manned by the Salvation Army.

As part of the *Cans for Cairns* promotion, Riverside Plaza is hoping to donate 1,500 cans of food to the Salvos by 22 March. The winner of the trip to Cairns will be drawn on 22 March.

– Sarah Gallagher, Riverside Plaza

2010 Rotary's Lake George Harvest Festival

Art Competition

15–16 May 2010

$2,000 in prize money

Registration Closes 16 April 2010
Entry Form with Terms and Conditions is available upon enquiry to
harvest.festival@y7mail.com
or from the Bungendore Post Office

Fundraising View Club opens doors for 2010

March highlight: property protection tips from RSF

A NEW committee was sworn in at the February meeting of the Lake George Day VIEW Club as follows: President, Lydia; Secretary, June; Treasurer, Brenda; Delegate, Helen; Program Officer, Lina. We are running with a committee that is half of what it should be but the ladies involved are most talented and can multitask!

We would like to welcome Anne and Judy who signed up on the day to become our first new club members for 2010.

I encourage ladies who have not been to a VIEW Club meeting to attend, bring a friend and join in 2010. We are a club that caters for all ages of women who would like to meet other women in the area, strike up new friendships, enjoy a meal cooked by somebody else and support the Smith Family. These are four great reasons to join the LGDVC.

In March, we will have a speaker from the Rural Fire Brigade to speak to us about how to protect our rural properties from fires in the coming fire season so we have time to do this in the cooler winter months when snakes are less active and we are more active.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 16 March, 11.30am for a 12 noon start; RSVP by Friday, 12 March, to June on 6236 9136. Lunch is $17 for a delightful smorgasbord of salads, kebabs and delicious dessert prepared by our chef Diane at Logan's Cafe. As usual we will have a raffle and door prize.

– Lydia

SUNDAY 28 MARCH 9AM-1PM

BYWONG COMMUNITY CAR BOOT SALE

*Sausage sizzle	*Treasures
*Monster raffle	*100's of stalls
*Books	*Refreshments
*Entertainment	*Cakes
*Plants	*Collectables

Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Road.
(off Macs Reef Road)

Follow signs from Sutton Road or Federal Highway

FREE Entry for Buyers
gates open for sellers at 7.30am
Car or Ute $15, Larger $25, Trailer $5 extra.

Call Bernie 6230 3165

Across the radar screen

The Darwin Awards...

An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, the lad told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.

A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.

HAITI CHALLENGES *Cont'd from p5*

(In the event) they were a team of mercenaries, hiring themselves out to larger groups as security. Due to former contact and positive input from our parent organisation, these mercenaries took our team wholeheartedly 'under their wing' and provided us with all the food, water, medicines, etc., that was needed.

US money and university help

The University of Miami set up a clinic at one end of the international airport runway – four huge circus-like tents – one for doctor and nursing accommodation; one for an operating theatre and recovery unit; one for general injuries and ongoing wound care; and one for stores.

We were invited to come in with them and assist with the ongoing wound and patient care. We soon earned great respect from the other medical staff, to the point that each of us was strongly sought after.

We were even invited to 'man' their only specialist wound care re-dressing table, where finally we not only had all the medical supplies we wanted, but we also had our very own anesthesiologist – such a blessing!! Our team dealt with every injury imaginable from amputations to rectal cancer, from breakages to crushes, from savage avulsions to deep lacerations, to massive infections to, to, to…

And then, the insurgency!

Sadly however, our time in Haiti was to be cut about a week short. Several members had to return to work, and the head of the mercenary group received very high-up intelligence that 6,000 prisoners loyal to the former Aristide regime had escaped from the collapsed gaol.

It was also reported that a further 35,000 people who were also loyal to this regime had gathered with the 6,000 and together they were mounting an insurgency in the mountains surrounding Port au Prince.

The mercenary group leader had regular meetings with us toward the end and he strongly advised that we should leave Haiti as the intelligence reports he was receiving indicated that the insurgency group would be mounting an attack 'any day'.

My very sincere thanks go to the very best team I've ever worked with. Every day, this team faced grievous wounds, conditions and screams head on, and each person performed brilliantly. I am likewise very grateful for the financial, prayerful and logistical support from so many, without which the many people we helped would have certainly suffered longer or even died.

– Mark Cockburn, Australian National Coordinator, RescueNet

What's On – March

Compiled by Christina Taylor

Send your announcements to whatson@palerangbulletin.com.au

March

Life Energy Art

At 'The Q' gallery & Summer Sunset Markets, every Friday in March 5–8pm between library and conference centre, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Art show official opening Sat 6th from 7pm. All welcome. Summer markets offer fresh produce, crafts and live music.

Bungendore Fine Art March Exhibition

Bungendore Fine Art, 42 Ellendon St, Bungendore. This month's exhibiting artists are Margaret Bice, Lyn Cottingham and Janet Hicks. Call 6238 1640 for details.

Saturday 6

Braidwood Show

Braidwood Showground, Kings Highway, Braidwood, from 9am. Theres something for all ages including a wide range of classes to enter in the pavilion including school works, horse, sheep, cattle (both commercial and led), poultry and dogs sections as well as junior pets. As well as sideshows, there is sheep shearing, a wide range of industrial displays and entertainment events. For more information visit **www.braidwoodshow.com.au**.

Sunday 7

Tarago Annual Show

Tarago Showground and Entertainment Area, Braidwood Road, 9–5pm. A great country show featuring a championship dog show, reptile display, shearing competition, vintage cars and engines plus competitions for children of all ages. Entry $8 adults, $4 concession, children under 16 free. For more info call 4849 4222.

Clean Up Australia Day – Wamboin and Bywong

Wamboin: To be covered by insurance, register at the Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin from 9am. Finishing time will be around midday. Focus on roadways, with Norton Road a priority. Good footwear and sun hats are recommended and Council will loan some high visibility jackets. Contact Helen Montesin 6238 3208 or Lofty Mason on 6238 3258.

Bywong: Clean up Macs Reef Road, Bungendore Road and surrounds. There will be a thank you BBQ for all volunteers at the Community Hall on Birriwa Road at midday. There will also be a competition for the most unusual item found during the clean-up!

Carriage Driving – The Munro Cup

Witwood, Kings Highway, Braidwood, 9.30am. Special awards will be presented for the winners of this exciting event. There will be a mini marathon of approx 8km with the 5 marathon obstacles followed by a cones course. For details visit **www.carriagedrivingnsw.org.au** or contact Dot Wilcoxson on 4842 7164 or **witwood2@bigpond.com**.

Monday 8

International Women's Day Lunch

Gundillion Hall from 11.30am. For the women of Braidwood and beyond. There will be a guest speaker and entertainment with a cost of $15.
Bookings essential, RSVP to 4847 1171.

Friday 12

Spirituality In The Pub

Royal Mail Hotel, 145 Wallace St, Braidwood, 7.30pm. Speakers Bishop George Browning and Tony Kevin present 'Climate Change: A stewardship issue – The future we want for our grandchildren'. All are welcome to attend.

Saturday 13

Braidwood Film Club Inc – *The Battle of the Sexes*

National Theatre, Wallace St, Braidwood, 7pm screening. The Braidwood Film Club will screen this classic starring Peter Sellers on 16mm film. Annual membership $40 can be paid at the door. Contact Jill on 4842 2626.

Queanbeyan Regatta

Queanbeyan River, Ray Morton Park, 2–8pm. The Regatta is an exciting event that involves human powered boat races (including the popular Build Your Own Craft race) and a family festival in Ray Morton Park featuring live music and entertainment, wine tasting, food stalls, art and craft stalls and family activities. For more info call 6298 0170 or email **georgina.perri@qcc.nsw.gov.au**.

Sunday 14

Shrub and Tree Seed Collecting Workshop

Scottsdale Reserve, Bredbo, 9am–12.30pm. BBQ lunch provided. Wear hat, sturdy shoes/bring coat and water bottle. Prior registration essential to Heidi Fisher (03) 8610 9102 or **volunteer@bushheritage.org.au**.

Tuesday 16

Lake George Day View Club Meeting

Logans Café, 2/12 Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 11.30am arrival for 12pm start. Guest speaker from the Rural Fire Brigade plus the usual raffle and door prize. Lunch is $17 Proceeds will be donated to The Smith Family. RSVP to June on 6236 9136 (*more details see p15*).

Saturday 20

A Harvest of Shamrocks & Dragons

Queanbeyan & District Historical Museum, 10 Farrer Pl, Queanbeyan, 11.15am. A presentation by historian Marilyn Dooley who will be exploring a family's legacy of women's harvest history and considering the landscape that greeted the first immigrant and first Australian born generations. Bring a plate or drinks for a group lunch. Inquiries to Kerrie Ruth on 6297 2730.

Saturday 20 – Sunday 21

Queanbeyan Wellbeing & Spiritual Festival

Queanbeyan Showground, Glebe Avenue, 10am–6pm. Offering products and services in health and wellbeing, fitness, eco-living, complimentary medicine, holistic therapies, spirituality and personal growth. Enjoy live music, belly dancers, entertainers, speakers, and healthy food! General entry $10, seniors $5 and free entry for children under 12.

Wednesday 24 – Saturday 27

Codgers

'The Q' Queanbeyan Arts Centre, 253 Crawford St, Queanbeyan. A new Australian comedy about ageing, friendship and being a 'codger'. Details p11. Call 'The Q' box office 6298 0290 or visit **www.theq.net.au**.

Friday 26

Bridge: *SAGA goes down under* – East Coast USA meets East Coast Australia

Fyre Gallery, 84 Wallace St, Braidwood. Sixty-five new works on paper by invitation from the Society of American Graphic Artists (SAGA) for the first time in Australia! The president of SAGA, Linda Adato, will be attending. Contact Cheryl on 4842 1142 or email **cheryl.hannah@netspeed.com.au** for details.

Saturday 27

Sutton Country Fair

Sutton Public School, Bywong Street, Sutton, 10am–2pm. A free fantastic family event! Savour homemade delights, pat baby animals, stock up on books and plants and visit the market stalls. Check out the Ute Muster with great prizes for each category. For those interested in entering their utes contact Cathy for details and entry forms on 0427 771 732 or email **fuller_clan@yahoo.com**.

Landcare Field Day – Integrated Management of Riparian Weeds

This informative and interactive field day will take place just south of Braidwood with talks by Martin Royds, Jean-Louis Sagliocco and Matt Dickinson. To register Call Matthew on 0248 422 594 Or email **matthew.dickinson@cma.nsw.gov.au**

Earth Hour 2010

8.30–9.30pm. Desperately seeking student volunteers to help with various administration and communication tasks! This is a great opportunity for those in search of some genuine experience in the latest means of online communications. Volunteers needed during the month of March as well as April to donate up to a few weeks full time. If you're keen call Bec Short 8202 1284 or email **rshort@wwf.org.au**. See **www.earthhour.org.au** for event details.

Sunday 28

Bywong Car Boot Sale

Bywong Community Hall, Birriwa Road (off Macs Reef Road – follow signs from Sutton Road or Federal Highway), 9am–1pm. Dig out your unwanted goodies, make some quick cash and help your community at the same time! Grab a bargain and enjoy the food, the fun and the displays by our local community organis-ations and clubs. For details call Bernie Greethead 6230 3165 email **greethead@hotmail.com** or visit **www.bywong community.org.au**

Bungendore Dressage, Showjumping & Sporting Competition

Bungendore Showgrounds, Mathews Lane, off Bungenore Rd, Bungendore, from 9am. Grand Opening of the new BRC/BPC Sand Arena, see poster p15. For more info call Rebecca Morsink 0402 095 777 or email **rebecca@sysfig.com.au**.

Plan Ahead: APRIL

Thursday 1 – Monday 5

7th Annual Members Exhibition

Presented by the Braidwood Regional Arts Group. Official opening, Thursday 1 April 6pm. Viewing hours are Friday to Monday open 10am–4 pm. For more info call 4842 2579 or see **www.bragart.com.au**.

National Folk Festival

(Easter Break) **www.folkfestival.asn.au**.

Saturday 10

Braidwood Rodeo

Braidwood Showground, Kings Hwy, gates open at 9am. Adults $15, Children/Concession $5 and under 6 free. For details call the rodeo club secretary on 4842 2454 or email **braidwoodrodeoclub@yahoo.com.au**

Sunday 18

The Beez

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

– GIG GUIDE: LIVE MUSIC –

MARCH:

The Jukes, 7.30pm raffle, 8pm music. Queanbeyan Bowling Club, 97 Campbell St, Queanbeyan. **Friday 12.**

Swizz. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 7.30pm. **Friday 12.**

Colin Offord in Concert. St Philip's Church, Cnr Gibraltar & Butmaroo St, Bungendore. 8pm. Tickets $20 at door. **Thursday 18.**

Peter Blessendon. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 7.30pm. **Friday 12.**

Annie & The Armadillos, 7.30pm raffle, 8pm music. Queanbeyan Bowling Club, 97 Campbell St, Queanbeyan. **Friday 19.**

Latin American Band: Weereewa Festival. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 6.30–9.30pm. **Sunday 21.**

Music at The Royal. Royal Hotel, 34 Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 7.30–9.30pm. Musicians register for blackboard listings, call Leonie-Ruth 6238 0032. **Tuesday 23.**

Shortis and Simpson Live at The BBC. Bungendore Bowling Club, Turallo Terrace. 8.30pm. Doors open 7.30pm. $30 per person (includes light supper). Table bookings accepted (tables of 4, 6 and 10). **Friday 26.**

Swizz. Lake George Hotel, 20 Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 7.30pm. **Friday 26.**

Rigby, 7.30pm raffle, 8pm music. Queanbeyan Bowling Club, 97 Campbell St, Queanbeyan. **Friday 26.**

Ferret Races plus **Andy Daniels** playing live, Loaded Dog Hotel, Tarago, 3pm. **Sunday 28.**

EVERY MONTH:

Every Saturday

Capital Region Farmers Market

8–11am, EPIC grounds, Mitchell, **www.epic.act.gov.au**.

1st Saturday of every month

Captains Flat Country Market

Captains Flat Community Hall, Captains Flat, 10am–2pm. Old fashioned country market undercover in the Community Hall, bric-a-brac, trash and treasure and local produce. Call 6236 6094 or visit **www.captainsflat.org**

2nd Sunday of the month (bar January)

Queanbeyan Cottage Markets

Queanbeyan River, short distance from Queanbeyan Town Centre on the corner of Morrisett and Collett Streets. 9am–2pm. Over 100 stalls with High Quality Craft, Timber Products, Pottery, Leatherwork, Handknits, Pewter and Silver Jewellery, Children's Toys, Honey, Jam Chutney, Cakes, Plants, Food and Refreshments. Come spend the day, stay for lunch and enjoy the atmosphere while the children enjoy the rides and jumping castle! Call Kristen Ballard 6299 0219.

3rd Saturday of every month (bar July, August)

Wamboin Produce Market

Wamboin Community Centre, Bingley Way, 9am–2pm. Fresh produce including cheese, eggs, honey, vegetables, nuts, seeds and plants.

3rd Sunday every month

Bungendore Markets

War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9am–2pm. Crafts, trash and treasure and general stalls.

Gundaroo Market

Gundaroo Park, Gundaroo.

Windellama Country Market

Windellama Hall, Cnr Windellama & Oallen Ford Roads, 10am–2pm.

4th Saturday of every month

Braidwood Markets

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

1st and 2nd weekend of every month

Captains Axe Woodworks

55 Foxlow St (old Post Office) Captains Flat, 10am–4pm. Bush furniture, antiques, collectables, model cars and old tools. Something for everyone! Wanted – old tools, farm machinery and collectable items. Call 6236 5799.

More on regional and local events and local tourist attractions:

www.kingshwytodiscovery.com.au
www.bungendore.com.au
www.visitqueanbeyan.com

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WINTER VEGETABLE PLANTS
$2.50ea or (5 for $10)
Silver Birch TREES $10 ea (5 for $40),
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COURTYARD Café
BREAKFASTS
Bacon & Egg Rolls
Bacon & Eggs on Toast
Raisin Toast, Fruit Salad & Yoghurt
LUNCHES
Steak & Salad
Sandwiches, Quiche & Salad
VEGETARIAN LUNCHES

6238 0018 Kings Highway, Bungendore Village OPEN 7 DAYS