



Bulletin

COUNTRY LIVING in Queanbeyan, Bungendore and Palerang

SALUTE TO
Mother's
Day...

and lilies
4,5

Inside:

- 6** Property
- 8, 9** On Gonski and Queanbeyan health services
- 11** Canberra quilt-maker: amazing art and life in Middle-east
- 12** Books: 'tell all' tales of former local's life in federal politics
- 13** Theatre
- 14** Star search, why privatised electricity no cheaper
- 16** Letters
- 19** What's on



FOR THE CALENDAR

The Independent Review Panel is swinging through NSW to do workshops and answer questions before the final amalgamation report is delivered in September.
Bungendore 4 June: Regional councils workshop and community hearing, council chambers. **1–4pm** participating councils workshop for Palerang, Goulburn, Mulwaree, Queanbeyan, Upper Lachlan, Wingecarribee, Yass Valley. **5–7pm** community hearing.

Commercial interest as Bungendore gets a facelift

Bungendore is growing and the streetscape is being upgraded. As well, new businesses are moving into the village, or preparing development applications. The Bulletin chatted with Palerang Mayor Pete Harrison for this report on improvements around the village centre.

PALERANG COUNCIL is considering expressions of interest for commercial development around the new central car park area at 12–14 Malbon Street and elsewhere in Bungendore. Enquiries show recognition of the commercial potential presented by recent population growth in and around Bungendore.

Two heritage residences at 12–14 Malbon Street are to be preserved in the development process.

Traffic works at the intersection of Gibraltar and Ellendon Streets are related to the installation of a roundabout at that

location. The project is on schedule, with all underground services work now complete and only a few elements of the drainage system to be completed.

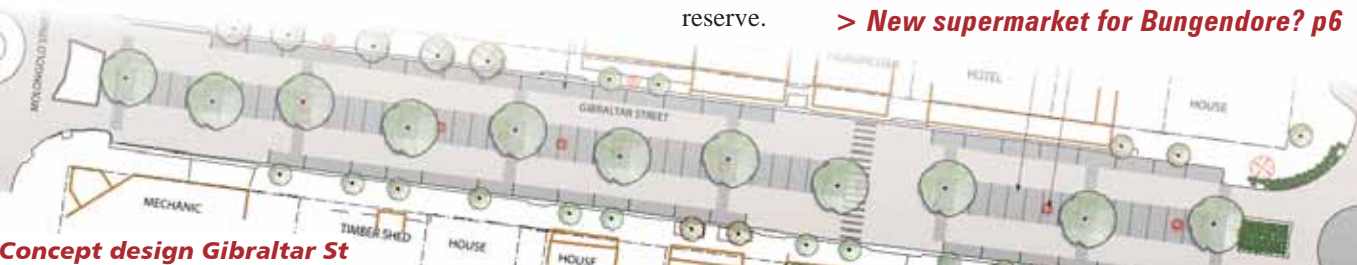
Kerbing and guttering and further associated road works are continuing in May. As part of the roundabout works, a new, sealed angle parking area will be created on the north western side of Ellendon Street. The roundabout is due for completion in July.

Other traffic management, parking and amenities are planned for Gibraltar Street in conjunction with the roundabout. Parking spaces, on both the roadside and in the central area of the carriageway, will be marked out between Ellendon and Molonglo Streets. More trees will be planted and footpaths refurbished along with the installation of new street furniture.

The future of pedestrian markings across the Kings Highway (Malbon Street) are still in the hands of the state RMS.

In response to community concerns, parking will be restricted on what is locally known as the Frog's Hollow Reserve adjacent to the roundabout at the intersection of Gibraltar and Malbon Streets. This will allow the restoration of the roadside verge, and further development of the area as a public recreation reserve.

> New supermarket for Bungendore? p6



Concept design Gibraltar St

Surprise: state panel proposes amalgamation

by Maria Taylor

QUEANBEYAN MAYOR Tim Overall said at a community forum in April that Council amalgamations have to happen. But while signalling a positive approach, he stopped short of endorsing amalgamating with Palerang as recommended by a state independent review panel last month. He said council as whole still had to consider the matter.

"My personal view is that modernisation of the local government sector in NSW is inevitable and [therefore] it needs to include boundary adjustments and/or amalgamations and also statutory provisions for certain shared services, internal functions and the like – for greater efficiencies into the future."

Palerang Mayor Pete Harrison said he can reflect a general Council sentiment that "it's hard to see how either Queanbeyan or Palerang would benefit from amalgamation. We comprise quite different population groups, essentially one urban and the other rural, providing little opportunity for economies of scale.

"Those services that might be shared are largely those that are being suggested as the ones to be provided by a regional centre of a County Council, which it is proposed that Queanbeyan would be, and so would be shared in any case."

Continued p3

CLEANSEEDS - WHERE BUNGENDORE'S FARMERS SHOP



CATTLEMAX 5 Ltr
Purchase a 5ltr Cattlemax Pour on drench
& receive a **FREE** 60ml drench gun.

Limited stock.



\$240 only



Cleanseeds 45 Molonglo Street, Bungendore NSW 2621
Phone **6238 0000** Fax 62381100

Open 8.30

– 5.30 Monday to Friday & 9-12 Sat

Email sales@cleanseeds.com.au

Need Answers?
Get your Groove back with an uplifting Clairvoyant Reading.
20 years experience
Half way Qbn/Bungendore
ph 62382141
www.canberra-psyhic.com.au
Email: ingoodspirits11@gmail.com

TP
LANGLEY PINO
eyecare
Patients bulk billed
Canberra City Opposite Canberra Centre
City Walk, Canberra City
6247 4748
Belconnen Upper Level Westfield Mall
(next to St George)
6251 4433
OPTOMETRISTS and CONTACT LENS PRACTITIONERS

TRANSPORT
Livestock and general
Servicing all local areas
Located Bungendore
Contact Harold
Ph: 0424 452 821

CUTS ON GIBRALTAR
18 Gibraltar Street
Bungendore
Hair extensions available
NEW SALON HOURS:
Monday closed
Tue & Fri 9am–5pm
Wed & Thu 9am–8pm
Sat 8am–1pm
Phone: 6238 0300

HEIKE HAHNER BA. VA.
DOG WHISPERER
Easy, fun and quick training methods to the perfect puppy and dog
22 years experience working with dogs
CDC Level 1&2
QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR
4842 7143
EMAIL: hhahner@bigpond.com
WEB: heike.braidwoodnsw.com
ABN 43 081 229 070

— Bungendore Best Quality Food Best Prices —
Now stocking... Highlands Organics
STRAIGHT FROM THE DAIRY
ALL HAND-MADE ON FARM
milk, cheeses, yoghurt and cultured hand-made butter
NEW SEASON APPLES & PEARS
HEALTHY FOR THE CHILDREN
Apples, Pears \$3.99 kilo
NOT WAXED – ALL FARM DIRECT
Fruit varieties: Fuji, Royal Gala, Jonathan, John Gold, Packham, Beurre Bosc, Red Sensation
FOOD LOVERS Café
Vegetarian Lunches, Hot Coffee
GLUTEN FREE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE
FOOD LOVERS MARKET
New season PANSIES \$2.00 for double punnet
WHOLE BUDGET SIRLOIN \$9.99 kilo
WHOLE BUDGET RUMP \$7.99 kilo
WHOLE BUDGET FILLET \$14.99 kilo
6238 0018 OPEN 7 DAYS
Kings Highway, Bungendore Village
Supporting our local community with EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Dickson Health Foods
We've moved to bigger premises!
Still at Dickson Square you'll find us just across the square from our old shop
Open until 5.45pm weekdays
Saturday till 3.30pm
02 6249 7356

Painting • Decorating
Tim Snowdon
Tel: 6238 0693
0405 180 980

THE FEED SHED
BUNGENDORE
★ LUCERNE, PASTURE & CEREAL HAY
★ LARGE RANGE OF HORSE FEEDS
★ PET FOOD, FISH FOOD & BIRDSEED
★ GOOD RANGE OF POULTRY GRAINS & PELLETS
★ FEEDERS, WATERERS, RODENT TRAPS & POISONS
★ ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS & SUPPLEMENTS
★ STRAW & SAWDUST
★ ORGANIC PRODUCTS & ANIMAL HERBS
★ STEEL CATTLE & HORSE YARDS
★ HORSE FLOAT HIRE
OPEN 7 DAYS – 6238 0900
32 KING ST BUNGENDORE, FAX 6238 0902

M.H.O'Rourke
Funeral Directors
Our Family cares for your Family
The history and future of funeral transportation
Please call 6297 1052
or visit www.orourkefunerals.com.au

QUEANBEYAN CHAINSAW & GARDEN EQUIPMENT
Authorised sales service for:
brush cutters, blower vacs, bars-chains-sprockets, vacuum cleaners, pressure washers, chain sharpening, repairs, spare parts, push mowers and ride-on mowers.
Authorised agents for: **HONDA**
Honda, Stihl, Toro, Kubota
STIHL
SPECIALIST DEALER NETWORK
Phone: (02) 6299 1324
Fax: (02) 6297 0348
24 Yass Road
Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Contact The Bulletin
Send letters and enquiries to:
Editor: Maria Taylor
0418 731 691
Editorial: media@districtbulletin.com.au
PO Box 302, Bungendore NSW 2621
Contacts advertising:
Robyn Hall 0458 018 835
Maria 0418 731 691
or email adverts@districtbulletin.com.au
Associate Editor:
Christina Taylor
Editorial Contributors:
Stephanie Anderson, Sonja Chandler, Heike Hahner, Rose-Marie Johnson, Di Johnstone, Karen Lovatt, Sarah Newsome, Doug Palmer, Nichole Smith, Jo Walker, David Weldrake
Design, advertising and production:
Sue Van Homrigh
sue@graphicgesture.com.au
Deadline for contributions and advertising booking
For June issue – 25 May 2013
Website: www.districtbulletin.com.au

In addition to mailbox delivery, this free monthly publication is available from:
Braidwood: various cafes. Bungendore: Feedshed, Foodlovers, Wood Works Gallery.
Palerang Council Chambers: Bungendore and Braidwood. Queanbeyan: Queanbeyan Library newspaper section; Riverside Plaza; and Karabar, Jerrabomberra Shopping Centres.
DISCLAIMER: This publication has been prepared in good faith by the publisher and editors of The Bungendore Bulletin Pty Ltd on the basis of information available at the time of publication, without any independent verification. The publisher, editors and contributors, while striving at all times for accuracy, do not accept any responsibility for errors and omissions in the content, however they may arise. Readers who act on information presented by The District Bulletin do so at their own risk.
The District Bulletin © 2013
Published monthly by: The Bungendore Bulletin Pty Ltd ISSN 1035-1299

He said all options nevertheless remain on the table as the community is consulted and talks continue with neighbouring councils as alternative options and with the review panel. Eastern Palerang may have distinctive views based on geographic distance from Queanbeyan and in general, community sentiment remains to be gauged in both jurisdictions.

Councillor Harrison believes that the proposed Queanbeyan-Palerang amalgamation is not a big NSW priority, "unless there was overwhelming support from within the respective communities".

Does size matter?

Councillor Overall said after the Queanbeyan forum that amalgamation should not be looked at in regard to area size but rather in terms of communities of interest. A similar argument prompted Queanbeyan to support a petition last year by a Burra community group to leave Palerang and join Queanbeyan. Many Burra residents use Queanbeyan schools, the medical and other facilities as do other nearby rural residential communities.

Queanbeyan General Manager Gary Chapman expanded on potential efficiencies offered by mergers. That might be removing duplication of some electronic systems such as human resources administration, internal audit systems or payroll. Heavy plant equipment is another area that could be shared.

The argument goes that such structural savings could then go into more services and road maintenance programs. Asked specifically, he said that Palerang's far-flung and unsealed road system might not be the financial sticking point it appears, when viewed in light of other savings.

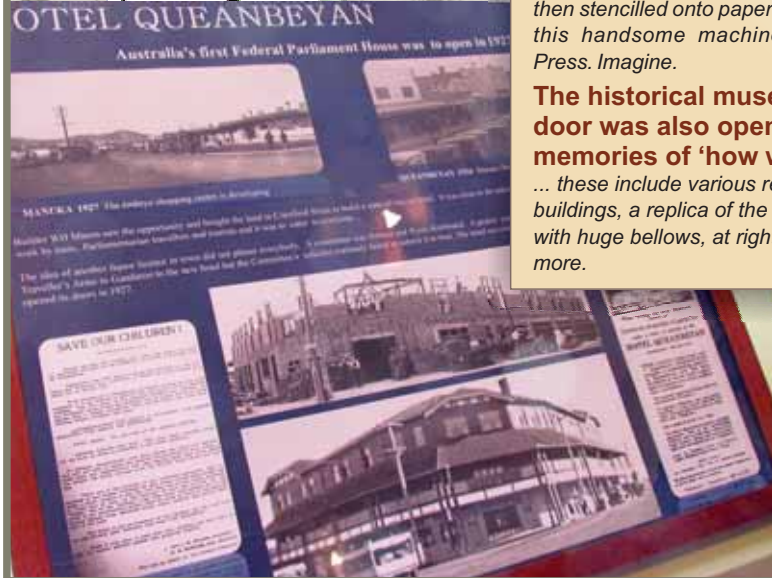
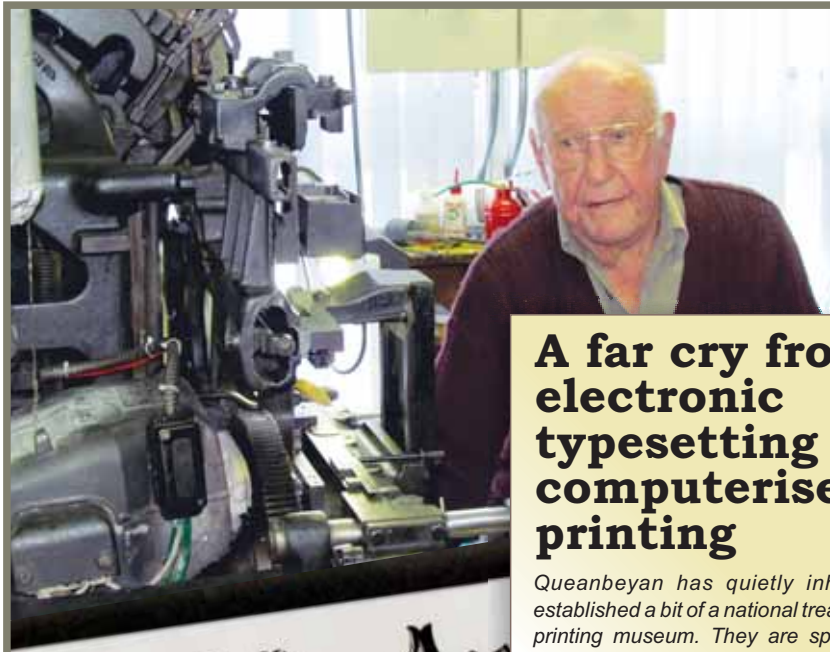
Vision of urban centre and rural hinterland

Amalgamating Palerang and Queanbeyan fits the review panel's preferred model of an urban centre with a rural hinterland. Palerang is a well-populated hinterland without a centre.

The review panel's *Future Directions* report said "Palerang's financial position remains questionable and projected substantial growth is essentially ACT and Queanbeyan overspill."

But the report also calls such mergers "amalgamating to strengthen regional centre". It is not lost on Palerang Council that its rate base from highly-valued properties would strengthen Queanbeyan's finances as it faces a growing urban population and demand for services and infrastructure.

The panel proposes that a council that



A far cry from electronic typesetting and computerised printing

Queanbeyan has quietly inherited and established a bit of a national treasure with its printing museum. They are sparse on the ground. The District Bulletin went to an open day at the end of April and learned just how far we in the press have come! (Just before we all become museum pieces?)

Former owner of the Queanbeyan Age Jim Wood, at top – now 99 (and a half) we were told – didn't miss a beat as he introduced Mergenthaler's Linotype to the enthralled visitors.

According to the exhibition notes, this truly belts and braces machine "completely revolutionised the printing trade. It was the first successful attempt to supersede the old hand set method and replace it with mechanically assembled hot metal type produced by the manipulation of a keyboard." This machine was introduced to The Age in the 1920s.

The old hand set machinery is on display too and on open day a demonstration showed how people painstakingly hand-picked type that had to be set in reverse and then stencilled onto paper page by page with this handsome machine, the Alexandra Press. Imagine.

The historical museum next door was also open with many memories of 'how we were'

... these include various records of early buildings, a replica of the blacksmith's shop with huge bellows, at right – and much more.



Globe Hotel

This hotel is now Walsh's Hotel in Monaro Street. It began as a millinery and after it was built in 1875 by John Keirman as his wife's "Edinburgh House". It was first licensed in 1885 with Thomas Connell as licensee. In 1890 it became Pusey in 1902 Harrison's Hotel. In 1908 it became Ryan's Hotel when Patrick J. Ryan took over. The old establishment became Walsh's Hotel in the 1920s.



ticks all the performance boxes might be relieved of rate capping up to a point to increase income.

The County Council idea as proposed in NSW would not be another serviced tier of government, but rather a joint delivery of strategic services like planning or water or waste services across several existing local government areas.

At the Queanbeyan forum a resident demanded to know why there would be a consultation on amalgamation in Bungendore and not in Queanbeyan and why almost no-one knew about it.

Council staff quickly dialled up mobile devices to look up date and place for the review panels' travelling consultation stop in Bungendore on June 4.

Interested residents and ratepayers can go to www.localgovernmentreview.nsw.gov.au to read the *Future Directions* report. The website is user-friendly and also asks for feedback from the public not just from councils. There are also biographies of the three panelists and local government specialists, Graham Sansom, Jude Munro and Glen Inglis. ■

WATER BORES

FOR STOCK, DOMESTIC, ORCHARDS & VINEYARDS

All workmanship and materials guaranteed Licenced Water Bore Drillers

WHY PAY MORE WHEN THE BEST WILL COST YOU LESS

SERVICING THE LOCAL AREA FOR 50 YEARS!



ABN 76 001 313 499

Ph 1800 047 702 Fax 6362 3164

www.watermindrillers.com.au

Member of Australian Drilling Industry Association

Local lilies – our landscape’s delicate beauties

with Jo Walker

OUR PART of the country has an abundance of delicate-flowered liliaceous plants.

Once, all of the species mentioned here were in the Liliaceae family, but have now been separated into five different families (Colchicaceae, Asphodeliaceae, Anthericaceae, Hypoxidaceae and Phormiaceae) due to differences in structure.

However, most of them (the Chocolate Lily and Fringe Lily are the exceptions) have similar flowers consisting of six often brightly coloured tepals (these being undifferentiated petals and sepals).

One of the most common plants in this group is the Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*),



photo A. It flowers early, at the end of winter and into spring, and, although it is only about 10 cm tall, it can appear in large numbers in a good year.

There are several white flowers along

each stem and these have a maroon or purplish ring in the centre. Male and female flowers are usually on different plants, but occasionally both can be found on a single plant. A similar but larger plant is *Burchardia umbellata* (Milkmaids). This one can grow

to 30 cm and has plain white flowers clustered in a terminal umbel.

The yellow Bulbine Lily (*Bulbine bulbosa*) prefers moist sites in grasslands and woodlands and often grows in sizeable

late day masses of little yellow flowers sparkling through the grasses

patches. The rather onion-like leaves surround stems carrying a dozen or more golden-yellow flowers.

A similar plant, but with more glaucous leaves, is the Rock Lily (*Bulbine glauca*). It inhabits rocky areas, often growing in crevices amongst boulders or on steep rock formations.

A much smaller plant (grows to about 10 cm tall) is *Hypoxis*

hygrometrica, **photo B** (Golden Stars) which, as its name suggests, has bright golden flowers. It often grows amongst Weeping Grass (*Microlaena stipoides*) in seepage areas.

Late to rise lily

Another yellow-flowering lily is *Tricoryne elatior* (Yellow Rush-lily). It grows in grasslands and open woodlands, but its leaves and stems are so slender that it is difficult to see unless in flower. This difficulty is increased by the plant’s habit of flowering only late in the day.

A group of us recently walked over a huge area of grassland near Gundaroo one morning, noticing only very few of these plants – only to be greeted by masses of little yellow flowers sparkling through the grasses on our way back a few hours later.



An interesting small lily that grows in a completely different habitat is *Thelionema caespitosum*, **photo C.** It is found in peaty



moist soils in the high country, often in shallow depressions on flat rocky areas and has narrow erect leaves and pale flowers carried on a delicately branched stem. There are populations of this species in the Tinderries.

We do have some mauve- and purple-flowered plants in this group growing locally. *Thysanotus tuberosus* (Fringe Lily), **photo D**, can be found in grasslands and woodlands, the narrow bluish green leaves usually dying back before the flowers appear in mid-spring.

The flowering stem is branched and generally carries several large mauve or purple flowers consisting of three round fringed petals interspersed with three narrow sepals. The paler and much smaller flowers of *Thysanotus patersonii* are scattered along delicate wiry stems twining through nearby vegetation.

De-lily-cious scents

The Chocolate Lily (*Dichopogon fimbriatum*) has pinkish-purple flowers with a distinctly chocolate scent. Another lily that gets its name from the perfume given off by the flowers is the Vanilla Lily (*Arthropodium milleflorum*), a plant found mostly in wooded areas.



A mother’s love never ends

Sandy Fisher of Braidwood, mother of five children, grandmother to 14 grand-children and with one great-grandchild, recently found this little honey-coloured Pomeranian-Shitzu Cross on her driveway, and instantly fell in love with her. Although Sandy (at top) has survived a number of tragic events throughout her life and recently underwent major bowel cancer surgery, she always has an open home and heart for those in need, either two- or four-legged.

She is always available for her family and friends and looks after two rescue dogs, Roxy and Tiny. Sandy is a great inspiration on how to stay positive, active and in good humour, no matter what comes your way in life.

This great shot was taken by her friend Jane Kendall while clowning around with the gorgeous little dog. The story ends well for little Pip the dog, because the owner was in contact with Sandy within a couple of days, and little Pip is now safely back home again.



— Heike Hahner

From antique to cool: wedding gowns through the decades

AT ANNIE’S, we refer to some wearing apparel as ‘vintage’ but we don’t often think of clothing as ‘antique’. I recently went to see the beautiful exhibition *The Way We Wore* at The Q in Queanbeyan.

I went with my best friend, Lynn, who I went to school with, and this made the event even more memorable. If you missed it, I’m sorry, it was wonderful.

It was an exhibition of wedding gowns worn by the ladies of the district of Queanbeyan from the 1880s to 2006, and was staged by the Queanbeyan Historical Society to celebrate Queanbeyan’s 175th birthday.

Twenty gowns were on display, surrounded by around 45 photographs, some of which were wedding parties including the gown on display. My mother was a seamstress, milliner and tailoress and, over 30 years, has made many a gown for ladies in the Canberra/Queanbeyan region.

She made gowns for weddings and formal events so we like to think we are ‘au fait’ with garment manufacture. Lynn and I consequently minutely examined each gown (with our eyes not hands) and discussed the intricacies of the style, fabric and needlework involved.

Something borrowed, not much new

Our conversation then led to wedding gowns within our families including our mother’s and our own. Lynn’s mother was a war bride and borrowed her complete outfit for her wedding day as almost everything was in such short supply or impossible to buy.

My mother-in-law married in a classic two piece suit, wearing a hat and carrying a small bouquet. My mother married just after the war and made a comparatively elaborate gown from silk with a high pleated neck and long sleeves.

I don’t know what happened to my mother’s dress, I guess it stayed in Holland when we emigrated and was eventually given away.

Lynn and I both married in the early 1970s.

Lynn’s gown was a classic empire line and mine a straight sheath of crepe to emphasise my Brussels lace train. We looked stunning, as all brides do.

An 1883 gown displayed in The Q exhibition was found “crammed into a too full wardrobe with a shopping bag hanging on the same hook.” Lynn’s gown, my gown, my daughter’s gown and my daughter-

Cont’d next page



Dickson Park Dental Surgery

Family Dental Care with a Gentle Touch

Cnr of Cowper & Antill Streets, Dickson, ACT

6257 2896 | www.dicksondentist.com.au



Dr Lucille Pereira
BDS (Lond) 1994



Dr Hilary Giason
BDS (N'Cle) 2008



Dr William Edmeades
BDS (Lond) 2005



Dr Sally Johnston
BDS MFDS (Glas) 2008



Dr Elise Beachley
BDS (Melb) 2004



Alanna Henderson
Dental Hygienist

For all your dental needs

including crowns, veneers, tooth whitening, implants and hygiene appointments

SATURDAY APPOINTMENTS NOW AVAILABLE!

Early life bonding, no eggz-ageration!

As humans celebrate Mother's Day this month, the Big Idea takes a look at recent research into other animal mothers. Findings highlight the intricate relationship between parents and offspring and draw attention to how we need to appreciate mothers – wherever they are!

Australian Fairy Wren mothers teach chicks the secret password

Flinders University researchers have found that mother Superb Fairy Wrens sing a distinctive 'incubation call' to their eggs late in incubation – a call that becomes a meal ticket. After they hatch, the nestlings make begging calls that contain 'signature elements' of this call which parents recognise and respond to.

Each female sings a unique song and her eggs learn it. Cuckoo hatchlings in a Fairy Wren nest don't learn the signature elements



SHUTTERSTOCK

and so when they beg for food the fairy wren parents ignore them, thus thwarting the intentions of cuckoo parents to get others to raise their offspring.

Amazonian turtles hang with hatchlings

Using microphones near captive and wild adults and hatchlings, biologists from Brazil's National Institute for Amazonian Research found that adult turtles made sounds. Baby turtles also started making noises around a day before they hatched. When hatchlings were released into the wild close to females, the females seemed to respond to the calls and came close to the hatchlings.

By attaching radio transmitters to female turtles, they found that females left the nesting area only after eggs had hatched and the hatchlings were in the water – and the hatchlings swam away with them! This suggests that river turtle hatchlings might not have to navigate their environment all alone.

Conservationists should also take note: although well-intentioned, removing eggs from a nesting spot to incubate and hatch in 'safe' places might not be the best thing to do. And, releasing hatchlings into water where there are no waiting females might be putting the little turtles at risk.

Turtle mothers wait for the best day to lay eggs

Also on turtles, it seems that egg-carrying females are able to stop their eggs from developing so they can wait until conditions are right to go onto land and lay them.

At the Healesville Sanctuary, Monash University researchers studying four different species of turtles found that females produce a mucus-like substance inside their reproductive tracts where the eggs are stored. The mucus causes oxygen levels to decrease and stops eggs from developing further.

Once eggs are laid, they are exposed to normal oxygen levels again, restarting egg development. Researchers say this capability allows the turtle mothers to select when and where to lay their eggs, taking into account food supplies and a secure environment.

Mother goats don't forget their kids

Researchers at Queen Mary, University of London, have found that mother goats can remember their kids' calls for up to 11–17 months. To find this, they recorded the bleating of five-week-old pygmy goats and then played back the sounds to the kids' mothers at later times.

Not only were the goat mothers able to recognise their own kid's bleating, they remembered them at least one year after weaning. The researchers say this behaviour suggests that animals remember socially important partners. It could help

mother goats and their daughters maintain social relationships and prevent mothers from mating with their sons, when those sons become sexually mature.

Sacrificing skin to feed her young

A new species of worm-like amphibian was discovered in French Guiana earlier this year by Harvard University researchers. The legless amphibian is a caecilian (pronounced 'siss-ee-lee-an') and is named *Microcaecilia dermatophaga* meaning 'little skin-eating caecilian' – literally, the hatchlings eat their mother's skin!

Caecilians live only in the moist tropics and most species live underground; nearly blind, their eyes are covered by bone and they only see in black and white. They have large mouths and sharp teeth for eating invertebrates like termites and worms.

The new species is one of only four known species with young that eat their mother's skin. The females grow an extra layer of fat-rich skin, and the young scrape it off with a set of specialised 'baby' teeth and eat it. As the young grow, adult teeth replace their earlier set and they move onto other food sources. ■

LOCAL LILIES

Cont'd from p4

The flowers are a pale lilac colour, carried on tall stems up to 50 cm tall, and the leaves are bluish green. The tiny *Arthropodium minus* has much darker flowers and grows in the open, often in damp areas amongst rocks.

Three locals with bright blue flowers are *Dianella revoluta*, *D. tasmanica* and *Stypantra glauca*. *D. revoluta* (Blue Flax Lily) is a common plant in woodlands often forming extensive patches of sword-shaped leaves. The blue flowers have bright yellow stamens and are carried above the foliage.

The seed are carried in a dark blue berry. In the moister areas of the shire, the more robust *D. tasmanica* grows often in sandy or silty soils. Its leaves are strap-shaped and its blue berries much larger than those of *D. revoluta*. *Stypantra glauca* (Nodding Blue Lily) has much different foliage, the stems being sheathed from tip to base with blue-green pointed leaves.

The bright blue flowers have prominent yellow stamens and the fruit is a narrow green capsule.

Our local lilies may not be as large as some of the exotics, but their brightly coloured flowers add a delicate beauty to the landscape. ■

in-law's gown are all in our respective wardrobes.

Do you have a special story about a wedding gown? I'd love you to share it with me at joyce@anniescollectables.com.au

Which makes you wonder, how many wedding gowns are stored in wardrobes across the town, state and country? And what eventually happens to them?

The majority will not be lucky enough to be preserved by an historical society and star in an exhibition. A gown, hat or veil which is central to such an important event surely deserves a more fitting existence.

I did a quick survey of people coming into Annie's over a weekend and found that the majority still had their wedding gowns. Some were specially cleaned and boxed in pale blue tissue, one had been treated with a special stiffening product which proceeded to disintegrate the gown into dust!

Some dresses had been and were still being used as dress ups for children – thereby perpetuating our memories and putting stars into little girls' eyes. On this Mother's Day, may you reminisce with a smile on your face and stars in your eyes.

– Till next time, Annie

... Mother's Day gift ideas ...

stickney CLOTHES

Village Square Malbon St Bungendore
Thurs to Mon ~ 10am to 5pm
6238 1288 or 0417 264 867
www.stickneyclothes.com.au

Learn the art of gift giving from Queanbeyan's new gift shop.

Beautiful Gifting

...unique quality gifts made in Australia (for example, beautiful St Albans Mohair throws in time for winter, and Mother's Day)

Free gift wrapping available

OPEN: Tuesday to Saturday
Phone Deborah on 0419 627 210 and ask her to help you pick the perfect gift.

Shop 14 Cassidy's Arcade
72 Monaro St, Queanbeyan

Give your mother the feeling of bliss for Mother's Day with a relaxation massage **Gift Certificate**

Only \$70, for one massage, or maybe a package of 10 for only \$500 (... save \$200) and really spoil your Mum for the whole year!

wellbeingcentre
bungendore
Ellendon St – ph: 6238 0033 or 0412 611 847



Annie's Collectables
...for that something extra special

Looking for something a little different for your Mother's Day gift?

39 Cooper Road, WAMBOIN
OPEN 10.30am - 4.30pm
Weekends and Public Holidays
Or by Appointment Ph: 6238 3284
www.anniescollectables.com.au

Learn the art of gift giving from Queanbeyan's new gift shop.

Beautiful Gifting

...unique quality gifts made in Australia (for example, beautiful St Albans Mohair throws in time for winter, and Mother's Day)

Free gift wrapping available

OPEN: Tuesday to Saturday
Phone Deborah on 0419 627 210 and ask her to help you pick the perfect gift.

Shop 14 Cassidy's Arcade
72 Monaro St, Queanbeyan

Priceline Pharmacy Bungendore

Looking for something for Mum?

Spend \$40 get \$5* off

Valid Until 31st May 2013 at Priceline Pharmacy Bungendore

40 Ellendon Street phone: 6238 1522

*Present this voucher to receive \$5 off. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. This voucher is not redeemable for cash. Excludes gift vouchers and prescriptions. Expiry date 31 May 2013.

priceline pharmacy

New supermarket for Bungendore?



WHILE PALERANG Council sources are being discreet about what 'commercial interests' are expressing interest in Bungendore, a clue came in a press release in May from a company eager to open a new full-range supermarket on Malbon Street.

The release stated: "The Retail Development Company, Krnc Bros Investments Pty Ltd, is extremely excited about potential development of a new 1,700m² supermarket in the Bungendore village area".

The magic formula apparently is population demographics with corporations noticing that Bungendore and its rural residential neighbours constitute a catchment of some 7,000 potential customers.

Thus, according to retail leasing agent Rodney Thompson, the Krnc brothers, who are the biggest IGA operators in Canberra, have followed previous interest by Woolies and Coles into the Bungendore basin. Thompson believes that the only reason Bungendore doesn't already have one of the two major supermarkets is because of siting difficulty with the size of Bungendore blocks.

The Krncs would be proposing a Super IGA which, according to Thompson, is a different enterprise than IGA (which the Bungendore supermarket has just rebranded to). How all this would work out between the two operations remains to be seen but there are corporate options.

Thompson said a DA is being prepared for lodgement within the next month or so. ■

STOKES CONTRACTORS

- Rural sub-divisions
- Rural roads construction and maintenance (earth, gravel & bitumen sealed surfaces)
- Excavations, dams & contours
- House & shed sites, horse arenas



FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTES
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

M 0418 624 329
W stokes-contractors.com.au

PALERANG COUNCIL

Development Approvals

Notification in accordance with Section 101 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Council approved the following development applications in April 2013.

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

Application No	Development Description	Date	Property Description
DA.2013.024	Shed	03/04/2013	Lot 11 DP 747432, 143 Harriott Rd BYWONG
DA.2013.028	Garage	04/04/2013	Lot 39 DP 1017324, 36 Shearer Dr ROYALLA
DA.2013.034	Additions to Existing Shed	04/04/2013	Lot 9 Sec 8 DP 758183, 70 Malbon St BUNGENDORE
DA.2012.331	Alterations and Additions to Shed	04/04/2013	Lot 10 DP 285984, 133 MacDiarmid Rd BURRA
DA.2013.033	Shed	04/04/2013	Lot 2 DP 839976, 157 Millynn Rd BYWONG
DA.2013.030	Dwelling and Hobby Farm	10/04/2013	Lot 1 DP 1179370, 8644 Kings Hwy MANAR
DA.2013.017	Dwelling	10/04/2013	Lot 1 DP 1171425, 458 Mulloon Rd MULLOON
DA.2013.023	Additions to Existing Shed	10/04/2013	Lot 1006 DP 1090521, 13 Westwood Cct BUNGENDORE
DA.2012.218	Motor Cycle Coaching and Education Facility and Continued Use of Existing Buildings	11/04/2013	Lot 137 DP755944, 122 Oallen Rd OALLEN
DA.2013.059	Alterations and Additions	12/04/2013	Lot 10 DP 247460, 1284 Burra Rd BURRA
DA.2012.296	Change of Use	12/04/2013	Lot 14 Sec 1 DP 758183, 10 Gibraltar St BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.074	Excavation Work	15/04/2013	Lot 7 DP 1076595, 106 Roseview Rd MOUNT FAIRY
DA.2013.045	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling	17/04/2013	Lot 21 DP 702640, 16 Modbury St BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.044	Tree Removal and Construction of Dam	18/04/2013	Lot 1 DP 238115, 163 Harolds Cross Rd CAPTAINS FLAT
DA.2013.062	Pergola	18/04/2013	Lot 911 DP 1070666, 19 Day Cct BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.060	Shed	18/04/2013	Lot 6 DP 1037260, 424 Royalla Dr ROYALLA
DA.2013.051	Shed	18/04/2013	Lot 26 DP 1015516, 34 Booth Rd ROYALLA
DA.2013.036	Advertising Sign	19/04/2013	Lot 1 DP 797181, 102-104 Wallace St BRAIDWOOD
DA.2013.026	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling, Shed and Garage	23/04/2013	Lot 2 DP 1114952, 106 Malbon St BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.077	Tree Removal	23/04/2013	Lot 15 DP 236890, 57 Duralla St BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.057	Shed	23/04/2013	Lot 1 DP 1055430, 362 Joe Rocks Rd BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.069	Tree Works	23/04/2013	Lot 1 DP 794724, 175 Tarago Rd BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.080	Tree Removals	23/04/2013	Lot 130 DP 754913 RFS COMMUNITY HALL & PARK 3 Burra Rd BURRA
DA.2013.048	Pergola and Shed/Studio	23/04/2013	Lot 17 DP 855517, 8 Ashby Dr BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.056	Sign	24/04/2013	Lot 2 DP 612438, 106 Wallace St BRAIDWOOD

The VILLAGE WOODWORKS

Granny Flats,
Studios,
Summerhouses,
Cubbies

Quality European made, well priced, great range
See us at the Murrumbateman Field Day
www.thevillagewoodworks.com.au
02 4885 1328

COMPLETE POWER

POWERLINES ELECTRICAL SOLAR

Solar Systems

- Subdivisions
- Powerlines
- Transformers
- Solar Grid Systems

Greg Hucker - Goulburn
Ph 02 4822 7477
Fax 02 4823 6382
Mobile 0418 442 141
Email greg@completepower.com.au
Showroom 264 Bourke St. Goulburn

www.completepower.com.au



BRAIDWOOD Lot 50 Wyanbene Road

Close to Braidwood is this beautiful 40 acre property. It is perfect for those wishing a weekend getaway, or even a life away from hustle and bustle. With a secluded and glorious stretch of the Shoalhaven River and plenty of open space inspection is a must. Don't miss out.
mcgrath.com.au/179171

For Sale \$189,000
Richard Manning 0408 616 840
Call 6262 5122



GUNDAROO 41 Morning Street

A gravel path and timber boardwalks are a charming prelude to this wonderfully private and character-filled mud brick home. An intriguing design maximizes on solar gain with a broad northerly orientation punctuated by a series of courtyards, living spaces and large covered deck.
mcgrath.com.au/181334

🏠 3 🚗 2 🚲 2

For Sale over \$595,000
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 5122



NARRANDERA Lot 10 - 886 Old Wagga Road

'Timah' is a 10 acre property with a breathtaking panorama of water and country views which envelop a truly stunning lifestyle opportunity. A fully renovated home offers resort style living, an exceptional quality of finish and indoor/outdoor living overlooking the Murrumbidgee water course.
mcgrath.com.au/181575

🏠 4 🚗 2 🚲 2

Guide over \$685,000
For Sale Expressions of Interest close Thursday 30th May 4.00pm
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 5122



WAMBOIN 27 Bingley Way

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

🏠 4 🚗 2 🚲 2

Guide over \$775,000
For Sale Expressions of Interest close Wednesday 8th May 4.30pm
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
Call 6175 0021



BORO 417 Duckfield Road

🏠 2 🚗 1 🚲 3

All offers considered. There is work to do on this 150 acre property but an inspection is a must as all of the machinery and the added extras are all yours.
For Sale \$360,000
View by appointment
Richard Manning 0408 616 840
Call 6262 5122
mcgrath.com.au/159463



GUNDAROO 668 Back Creek Road

🏠 4 🚗 1 🚲 2

This scenic property offers not just a lifestyle, but a way of life. Set on 135 acres with valley views, creek, four water tanks, bore, workshop and shearing shed.
For Sale
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 5122
mcgrath.com.au/170803



GUNDAROO Lot 102 Back Creek Road

A-grade farming land with river frontage and productive river flats. This 250 acre lifestyle property has a number of scenic building sites with Yass River valley views.
For Sale
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6175 0014
mcgrath.com.au/175053



GUNDAROO Lot 103 Back Creek Road

22.9 acre allotment with views over Yass Valley, several building sites, power poles run to the site for easy connection and a spring-fed creek traverses the block.
For Sale
View by appointment
Christopher Dixon 0414 819 377
Call 6262 5122
mcgrath.com.au/175941



GUNNING 5718 Gundaroo Road

🏠 4 🚗 2 🚲 4

Set on 230 acres with kms of bush trails this spacious residence features open family living areas with a gorgeous segregated lounge.
For Sale over \$685,000
View by appointment
Richard Manning 0408 616 840
Call 6262 5122
mcgrath.com.au/160110



GUNNING Lots 1 - 8 Biala Street

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

BRINDABELLA 356 Brindabella Road

🏠 2 🚗 1

Nestled in the heart of the historic Brindabella Valley, this two bedroom home provides an idyllic sanctuary on the banks of the Goodradigbee River.
For Sale over \$570,000
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
Call 6175 0021
mcgrath.com.au/172996

CLEAR RANGE 1760 Smiths Road

🏠 1 🚗 1 🚲 2

Picturesque and elevated 102ha (252ac) block with unspoiled native forest, abundant wildlife and river access. Approximately 30 minutes to Tuggeranong.
For Sale over \$525,000
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
Call 6175 0021
mcgrath.com.au/177501

DALTON Lot 2 Bushs Lane

Pristine 141ha (348ac) native bush block adjoining wildlife sanctuary. Perennial spring, dam and stunning panoramic views.
For Sale over \$350,000
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
Call 6175 0021
mcgrath.com.au/177985

WEE JASPER Doctors Flat Road

Choice of two 82ha bush blocks in the heart of the Brindabellas. Creeks, native birds and animals as well as absolute peace and privacy. Ideal weekend retreat.
For Sale over \$200,000
View by appointment
John Sneddon 0403 139 701
Call 6175 0021
mcgrath.com.au/167715

O'Farrell Government is 'failing the grade' on environmental protection and sustainability

THE STATE'S leading environmental organisations have released a mid-term report card on the O'Farrell Government's performance on environmental protection and sustainability.

The report card, which is based on a comprehensive review of the government's statewide environmental performance over the past two years, has found that the NSW Government is failing the grade on environmental protection and sustainability.

— Lake George Fire District —

Post catastrophic fire season: the numbers

by Doug Palmer

IT'S USUAL at the end of the fire season for me to give a few stats for the region. This year, I'd like to set my sights a little higher and give a few statistics for NSW in January.

Between 7–21 January this year there were 512 bush and grass fires; 650,000 hectares of fire; 1,300 emergency calls; 10,500 firefighters; 650 air responses; 88 remote area firefighting teams deployed; record temperatures in Sydney and Canberra and the first formal use of the *Catastrophic* fire danger rating. Not bad for two weeks. The down side was: 57 homes destroyed, 52 local government areas declared as natural disaster areas, thousands of sheep and hundreds of cattle killed or lost and 3,600 kilometres of fencing destroyed. *But no loss of human life or lasting injury.*

I'm (rather vicariously) proud of these results.

The rest of the fire season has been relatively benign, to the point where I can't find much to say about it.

To be continued in June with a serious discussion of burning off after the season. (Also serious and a warning was a short report from the Wamboin brigade that said there have been a number of late season fires in the area "including 3 last weekend, one of which was on Macs Reef Road. They have been caused by people welding, grinding and burning rubbish in the open and the resulting fires have got away from them". So be careful out there! – Ed)

> If you still think the catastrophic seasons emerging are not related to climate change, take a look at what a famous figure has to say about California, p17

The review assessed the government's performance across ten key policy areas, from climate change to urban sustainability. The government received a total score of 33% (E), with grades ranging from 10% (F) for marine conservation to 60% (C) for pollution and waste.

"The government's performance over the past two years had been characterised by inaction, broken promises and backward steps on important environmental issues", said Pepe Clarke, Chief Executive Officer of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW.

"The government's positive nature conservation achievements, such as declaration of Dharawal National Park, have been overshadowed by a succession of environmentally damaging policy decisions, from attacks on marine sanctuaries to hunting in national parks," he said.

"The government has comprehensively failed to deliver on its promise to protect critical agricultural and environmental assets, leaving productive farmland, water resources

and iconic natural areas at risk," said Bev Smiles, spokesperson for the Central West Environment Council.

Many conservationists are concerned that more damaging changes are on the way, with the government reviewing environmental

protections in the planning system, land clearing laws and forestry regulations.

"It's time for the Premier to step up to the challenge, for the benefit of the people of New South Wales, and the remarkable natural assets of our state," said Jeff Angel, Executive Director of the Total Environment Centre. ■

Youth unemployment reaches record high in NSW

Youth unemployment in New South Wales has reached a record high at 11.6 percent. That rate is more than twice the national rate of unemployment (at 5.2 percent).

This news comes in the wake of Premier O'Farrell's \$1.7 billion cuts to the education sector. \$80 million alone has been cut from the vocational education sector.

The NSW Opposition puts this in the context of economic uncertainty in Australia. According to a Labor spokesperson, young people in the workforce are particularly vulnerable in an unstable economic climate.

In remote and regional areas of NSW, the rates of unemployment can be substantially higher, with some reports suggesting up to 30 percent youth unemployment, according to the Opposition.

Vocational education programs and TAFEs have proven quite effective in assisting young people to gain/maintain employment. There are fresh fears that with substantial budget cuts, many young people will be left without a means to enter (or stay engaged in) the workforce.

In the wake of these figures, NSW Labor is lobbying the O'Farrell Government to overturn the cuts to TAFEs and vocational education.

Bouquets for bipartisan education reform, plus, amalgamation for Palerang and Queanbeyan?

I THOUGHT I'd start with a bouquet for the O'Farrell Government (yes I know it's unusual) for signing on to the Gillard Labor Government's Gonski Education package (I do that even though the funds they have to put in look suspiciously like the \$1.7 billion they cut last year).

The most critical investment we can make is in education. We have some choices to make about the path for Australia. We can chose to compete with the rest of the world on the basis of a smart and highly educated workforce or we can allow our education system to fall behind and attempt to compete with the world on the basis of lower wages.

It's not much of a choice and that's why the goal of getting our schools into the world's top five is so important. We have some great schools in our local area and my experience has been that our NSW schools produce good academic results and well-rounded kids.

We can improve on that with more support for children who need more specialised or personalised assistance, and we can keep the best teachers in class rooms by working to remove the financial incentive for good teachers to

move out of the class and into administration.

"On average the new school funding formula will mean an extra \$4,000 per student"

There is a base amount per student with loadings for various factors including low socio-economic status, disability, numbers of indigenous students, remoteness etc.

Both the government and non-government sector are getting increases with funds passed on through the state governments for state schools.

It's a great achievement for the Gillard Government and the work of our local member Mike Kelly. Mike has delivered new school facilities and has now increased recurrent funding.

Amalgamation: incentives may prove very attractive

The big news for Palerang and Queanbeyan residents on the local government front is the 20 point plan put forward to the O'Farrell Government by its Independent Local Government Review Panel. As part

of that plan it strongly recommends amalgamating Palerang and Queanbeyan.

'Sounds familiar' you might say – and yes, back in 2004 amalgamation with Queanbeyan was discussed in what was a fairly difficult debate. At the time the

compromised outcome was the creation of Palerang Council.

It was a compromise model many people advocated beforehand but not many people are willing to take ownership of now.

Palrang's councillors and staff have done a pretty good job since then considering they have had to work within a very tight budget.

I'm not going to express a view one way or the other about this latest proposal at this stage, except that, if amalgamation happens, it must be something the community asks for and gets behind – and critically it must embed jobs in Bungendore and Braidwood.

The debate needs to engage the community, not just the councillors in Queanbeyan and Palerang.

The government has promised that amalgamation will not be 'forced'. But, there is a big 'if' about that commitment.

The government's report suggests that very attractive incentives be offered to encourage "voluntary amalgamation", those incentives include a better financial deal for the new council through grants and potentially valuable exemptions from rate capping (something the ratepayers might not be so keen on!).

The question is would these incentives effectively 'force' the amalgamation. Could a responsible council afford to refuse them?

It's a difficult debate but we do need to remember that even with an amalgamated council there will still be hundreds of kilometres of unsealed roads in areas that produce only a small rates income. Amalgamating may give some advantages but it doesn't necessarily mean your road will suddenly be upgraded. ■

NSW Capital Watch



with
Steve
Whan

I.D.E.A.L
BUILDING SOLUTIONS PTY LTD

Local Building Specialists

Building New Homes, Extensions
& Renovations for Bungendore,
Bywong & Wamboin

ACN 109 414 780 Licensed Builders ACT 200427164 NSW 167005C

(02) 6236 9186 | 0407 295 192
info@idealbuildingsolutions.com.au

www.idealbuildingsolutions.com.au

Just LAW
Bungendore

**Need advice on
your legal matters?
Give Just Law a call.**

Contact us by
Ph: 02 6238 0192
or facsimile:
02 6238 1250
or email:
admin@justlaw.com.au

We also offer photocopy, fax,
scanning and laminating
services.

Unit 4, 33 Ellendon Street
Bungendore 2621

**We can take the
stress out of
Land Development !**

phl will guide your project
from concept to completion

6238 0144
13 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore 2621
www.phlsurveyors.com.au

'Dear John' –

straight answers

from John

Barilaro MP



Karabar health centre and community health update

Q Health. There have been rumours that the Karabar community health centre could be closed down. The number of days it is open have been cut. Can you give a commitment that the centre will continue to be fully staffed and funded and that it will not be closed and sold off?

— Chris Smith, Queanbeyan

A In November last year Southern NSW Local Health District advised clients of minor changes to the Karabar Community Health service.

The Health Centre which operated five days a week now runs from Tuesday to Thursday. Mondays and Fridays are traditionally the quietest days at Karabar Community Health and the changes were necessary due to the absence of a staff member on sick leave.

The important thing to remember is that no services have or will be lost as a result of these changes.

On Mondays, the Family Care Centre, Occupational Therapy and Immunisation services operate from Queanbeyan Hospital. The Monday morning and afternoon baby clinics are held on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons at Karabar Community Health and morning clinics still run every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

On Fridays, the breastfeeding support group is now held on Tuesday or Thursdays at Karabar Community Health, with Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy either held

on Thursday, or at Queanbeyan Hospital.

The Karabar Community Health service provides some wonderful programs to the community, focusing on young families and providing support to new parents.

Along with the Southern NSW Local Health District, I will continue to work with the Karabar community to ensure we keep providing the best support we can.

RTA now RMS services, will office stay where it is?

Q I understand that the RTA office in Queanbeyan (now in Aurora Place with ample parking) is to be moved to the state office building in Monaro Street, where there doesn't seem to be any parking. What is the reason for this and how would it work, including parking. For example will people still be getting their drivers licenses through this office?

— A Miller, Bywong

A Service NSW (SNSW) will be establishing a service centre in Queanbeyan. Service NSW is

a new and customer-focused government organisation that will become the main interaction point for customers of the NSW Government. Service NSW will make it easier to interact with the NSW Government by bringing services together in an integrated government model.

I am advised that RMS Services in Queanbeyan will not be relocating into the new service centre.

Discussions are currently underway as to the logistics of the RMS remaining where it is.

Service NSW is responsible for selecting sites and stakeholder engagement with the community.

NSW ACT integrated bus services, is it all too hard?

Q Has the state government looked at how to integrate the Queanbeyan and ACT bus services?

— Katrina Willis, Queanbeyan

A Transport for NSW and the ACT Government are aware of this issue and are currently investigating ways that it can be addressed. This issue will be considered during the development of the Southern Region, Regional Transport Plan.

> **Response letter to John Barilaro on rail options p16**

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

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



Advertisement



Australian Government

The Child Care Rebate is NOT income tested



The Australian Government offers two types of financial assistance for child care: the Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Rebate.

The Child Care Rebate is not income tested.

It pays up to 50% of your out-of-pocket costs. Up to \$7,500 per child, per year.

The Rebate helps to cover the costs of approved child care, including out of school hours care.

If you use approved child care for work, study or training, you may be eligible.

For more information on what you are entitled to and how to claim, visit australia.gov.au/mychild or call 13 24 68



Child Care Rebate
Helping families with the cost of child care

Authorised by the Australian Government, Capital Hill, Canberra

Queanbeyan wants to know what you think about garbage collection

THE QUEANBEYAN Council is seeking opinions on how to improve its waste management system. A survey has been sent to every household, business and rural property in and around the city.

The goal is to reduce waste going to landfill and increase recycling by 16 percent to comply with NSW Government targets.

Reducing waste going from Queanbeyan to ACT's landfills will not only save the environment, but the Council will save \$110 a tonne in charges. Mayor Tim Overall said this cost would continue to rise as space in landfills diminishes and operating costs increase.

The survey will canvass increasing the use of green-waste bins, to larger recycling bins. How to better deal with waste management in Queanbeyan's rural areas is a big part of the surveys.

In addition to the surveys, a waste audit will be conducted over the next month. This will be followed by focus groups to put together a draft strategy for the city.


Be quick or if you missed out:

Surveys are due in on the 10 May. For more information or to complete a survey online go to the council website, or call the waste strategy hotline on 6285 6250 or email wastestrategy@qcc.nsw.gov.au.

Mark the calendar E-waste collection

Queanbeyan council will be collecting e-waste Saturday and Sunday 1-2 June in the Collett Street car park. ■

Live in NSW?



**Want 10% off
BOTH electricity
& gas? PLUS \$100
credit on your
first electricity
bill?**

Choose to save 10% off your electricity or
combine it with gas and save 10% off both!

Sign up online at actewagl.com.au/10plus100
or call **13 12 93**.

13 12 93 | actewagl.com.au

ActewAGL 

for you

*Terms and conditions, early cancellation fees and a 24-month agreement apply. Offer available until withdrawn. For NSW customers in selected areas only. Discount applies to electricity and gas consumption charges only and is capped at a maximum total of \$500 per annum. All amounts are GST inclusive. Full terms and conditions available at actewagl.com.au
ActewAGL Retail ABN 46 221 314 841.

Jenny Bowker – quilt artist and people person

Jenny Bowker was the featured speaker at last year's Bungendore quilt exhibition and her skill and fascinating story are brought to you here by **Stephanie L Anderson**.

HAVING SPENT 15 years living in the Middle East, Canberran Jenny Bowker has experienced things many of us will never know. Her memories of Syria, Jerusalem, Egypt and Jordan are expressed through her artwork.

Originally trained as a painter at the ANU Bowker later turned to artistic quilting to express her work, a medium that is growing worldwide.

Bowker has created a series of quilts portraying everyday men in the Middle East. "They are all my close friends, they have to be," she said. Included in her quilt series are striking portraits of a Bedouin guide, a mosque caretaker and a junk stall owner. But the stories behind each of the faces are what really bring Bowker's quilts to life.

Faces of Egypt

Hashim Ahmed, one of Bowker's subjects,

is a guard at one of the ancient pyramids in Egypt. Hashim, illiterate and poor, dreamed that one day his son would go to university. Bowker recalled, "He said, 'life in Egypt is hard', but it was a statement and not a complaint."

When Bowker describes her subjects, sharing stories about each of them, you can't help but feel how much she cares about and misses them. Bowker is attracted to her subjects for who they are as people and this is reflected in her work.

She said that many Egyptian people who came to see her quilts couldn't understand why she was creating portraits of such poor and 'insignificant' people.

When asked why she only did portraits of men, Bowker laughed, "The women would be much too embarrassed to have portraits of them exhibited for everyone to see." She did mention that the men could get a little bashful too. One male subject told Bowker his wife would never give him a moment's peace if she found out a



Western woman had made his portrait.

Creating her quilts

Bowker starts the process of creating a new quilt by taking a photograph of her subject. From there she carefully plans and maps out the detail for each quilt. For some she

uses a machine, others she sews by hand, it all depends on the message behind the artwork. Due to the meticulous skill required, one piece can take as long as six

months to complete.

It may seem strange that a trained painter would turn to quilting as a preferred form of artistic expression, but Bowker favours the more tactile medium. She explained, "I like making quilts because they're warm and soft – there's just something about it. I think of women, sitting in front of a warm fire, sewing quilts, it's so natural."

Bowker has now produced around 160 stunning quilts. Today she exhibits her work, teaches quilting, lectures at universities (about her work and the Middle East) and

leads tours in locations around the world.

"It is a job that can travel with me no matter where I am or where I'm going," she enthused.

Finding oneself while abroad

This all started when Bowker's husband, an Australian diplomat, was posted to the Middle East. In a new country, with no support network, Bowker said she felt herself "disappearing" in many ways.

"I went from having my friends, my family and my job, to nothing." She had to adjust to an alien place with different customs and a new language.

"[Making these quilts] was something I could do that was fun and really felt important.

"I wanted to show that the Middle East isn't what people think it is. It's warm and rich, and the people are welcoming and loving."

Bowker's subjects appear in such detail, it is as if they are in a photograph or a painting, rather than the traditional idea of a quilt. Faces come alive and hearing their stories only enhances that feeling.

To see more of Bowker's work and read detailed stories behind her quilts, visit **www.jennybowker.com**.

Comment

Why does government duck its environmental wins?

WITH FEDERAL Labor speaking to an ever-narrower base of support if we believe the polls, an enduring mystery is why it doesn't engage the environmentally-concerned voter – either traditional Labor voters or disaffected middle-of-the-road Liberal. Instead of only appealing to economic self-interest, that would mean taking ownership of environmental initiatives that actually succeed. They could start with explaining plainly to the public the reason we now have a price on carbon.

Carbon pricing is not about cash grants to sweeten up voters, (which doesn't seem to have worked too well anyway). The Coalition has done an excellent job of convincing suspicious voters that every price rise on anything is due to the price on carbon – even if, like the electricity price hikes, costs went up long before the price on carbon was added (see a new report on this, p14).

We seldom hear it's about making a contribution to lowering greenhouse gas emissions, a matter of deeper self-interest, as the frightening impact of climate change makes itself felt with more severe fires and floods in Australia.

Australians once had a good understanding of climate change risk and showed a will to act. This federal government should show leadership and return to that understanding of risk management and show the way with alternatives to coal, oil and coal seam gas. They now have some encouraging stories to tell. Solar Cities is a good example, and it's even a bipartisan story, all the better. Here it is.

— Maria Taylor

Getting around barriers to change We can do it if we try

Solar Cities is a \$7 million Labor federal government demonstration project to trial and promote community-scale solar power, smart meters, energy conservation and new approaches to electricity pricing. Adelaide, Alice Springs, Blacktown, Central Victoria and Townsville have been the first Solar Cities with Perth and Coburg, Victoria, now also involved.

*The impressive results, demonstrating how a public private partnership can work, are visible in Townsville and Magnetic Island as **Stephanie L Anderson** found out.*

TOWNSVILLE'S Solar City Scheme is headed by a consortium of interested parties, including the Queensland Government, Townsville City Council, Delfin Lend Lease (developer of Rocky Springs residential suburb), Honeycombes Property Group (developer of Riverway Residential suburb), Chester Holdings (the company responsible for 'greening' a historical building in Townsville's CBD), and Cafalo Pty Ltd (green researcher). The consortium is headed by Ergon Energy, central Queensland's energy provider.

The developers are building new suburbs that are very green, as well as upgrading existing residential developments, business buildings and most impressively, the historical building Federation Place. The consortium holds regular events to encourage the community to invest in solar at home and



control their electricity usage. Homes, schools and businesses are the targets.

Lower emission water heaters, more efficient air conditioning, solar panels in homes and in public areas, painting roofs white, energy efficient lighting and window tinting are all on the agenda. The whole community is being urged to stop wasting power.

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY
NIGHT FROM 6PM

Great new
chef and
new day
and evening
menus

**CAFÉ
WOOD
WORKS**

Ph 02 6238 1688
18 Malbon St
Bungendore NSW 2621
cafewoodworks@gmail.com
bwoodworks.com/cafe


LAKE GEORGE
hotel
Est. 1838

A GREAT FAMILY-FRIENDLY
HOTEL WITH SOMETHING
FOR EVERYONE!

*Keno
*Austar
*Pool tables
*Full bottleshop
*9 motel rooms
*Giant sports TVs
*2 large beer gardens
*Courtesy bus for patrons
*Grassed childrens playground
*Gold class TAB with Sky 1 & 2
*Live weekend entertainment

Ph: 6238 1260
20 Gibraltar St
Bungendore

the **GEORGE**
bar & dining

THE BRAND NEW GEORGE BAR
AND RESTAURANT!

Come in & enjoy first class dining
in front of a huge open fire.
Enjoy our locally produced fresh
meats & veg.

Our Bar also stocks some of the
finest beers & ciders from around
the world.

Treat yourself to our selection
of locally produced wines as well
as some international flavours
as well.

Timely novel in serial form

A woman's life in the parliamentary trenches.

The true story of overcoming 'a snowflake's hope in hell' of achieving just about anything.



LIZ TRUMAN, formerly of Bungendore, wrote some sterling (and funny) travel pieces for the *Bulletin* a few years ago about setting up a residence and life in provincial France. Now she is back with a self-published novel about life as a federal parliamentarian.

She writes under her previous married name of Elizabeth Harvey, which was her name when she was the former Labor MP for the South Australia federal seat of Hawker. She is publishing her story, *Snowflake's Hope*, in serial form online, based on her experience as a parliamentarian from 1987 to 1990.

The novel is sub-titled *One woman's fight for political longevity* and relates the story of Alice Perry, a suburban wife, mother and teacher who, against the odds, gains pre-selection for a marginal Labor seat, wins it and spends the next three years battling to hold it and get a grasp on the peculiarities of Australian politics.

Reading it leaves a strong impression that state versus federal as well as internal politics have hardly changed in two decades nor have the voters: particularly interesting now with more women battling in politics and with a female Prime Minister at the receiving end of much special abuse.

Canberra setting, late 1980s

The story is set in Canberra during the third Hawke government and in the retirement belt of south-western Adelaide.

Says Harvey: "it reveals Alice's encounters with unbridled ambition, sexism, infidelity and hypocrisy in the Parliament, and injustice, prejudice, ignorance and greed in her electorate. There are also some nice people in it."

Harvey has striven for authenticity with all parliamentary speeches quoted as recorded in *Hansard*, and with all cited correspondence being the real thing.

"Many of the cast, including political figures, appear under their real names, while other names have been changed or omitted to protect the innocent or baffle the guilty."

Now again a resident of Adelaide, she wrote the novel while in France in 2012. Before leaving Australia she went through her old parliamentary files (which she had wisely deposited with the National Archives in Canberra when she left the parliament in 1990) and re-acquainted herself with her life as an MP, particularly with the interesting characters she encountered in her electorate office.

The novel's title reflects the fact that during her political career she kept getting told that she had 'a snowflake's hope in hell' of achieving various goals, like winning her seat in the first place.

She says she decided to write the work in fictional form (featuring her alter ego, Alice Perry MP) rather than as a memoir because she thought the latter would be rather dull. However, the novel is closely based on what actually happened.

Why a blog?

She took the route of publishing the novel immediately as a blog "rather than go through the long demoralising process of trying to attract the interest of a publisher and be published in the conventional way as a book". If successful that may still happen, as it is happening ever more frequently with online publishing.

So far she is pleased that her novel is attracting a faithful and growing number of readers.

Judge for yourself by going to **www.snowflakeshope.com**. There you will find the first 25 or so chapters with additional chapters appearing every Sunday over the next few months.

BOOKS,
AUTHORS, and
BOOK
REVIEWS



Burma history told through story of last king

Reviewer Di Johnstone

The Glass Palace
by Amitav Ghosh
HarperCollins Publishers
RRP: various on Amazon.com

BURMA (or Myanmar as the current government of that country prefers it to be called) is flavour of the month. With the lifting of sanctions, tourist agencies are heavily promoting travel. The US

President has visited Burma. The Burmese President has visited Australia.

Aung San Suu Kyi (or 'The Lady' as she is called in Burma) is free and a film about her has been a huge hit. Burma is newsworthy and much of what we read and hear is of its traumatic contemporary history and recent – still faltering – rehabilitation to the international community.

But Burma has had a long, glorious and sometimes torturous past and *The Glass Palace* explores some part of this. Indian writer, professor and social anthropologist Amitav Ghosh, has taken as a central theme a story still fresh in the cultural memory of the Burmese: the tragic tale of the last king of Burma. Around this he weaves a sweeping historical narrative.

The novel opens with the dramatic British conquest of the fabled city of Mandalay, capital of the Kingdom of Burma. It describes the rapid and humiliating defeat of an unprepared, ancient society in the face of modern military technology.

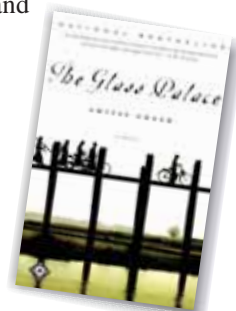
The arrival of British troops is greeted with astonishment and almost no resistance. To secure their victory the British quickly take the dazzling Glass Palace and capture the somewhat ineffectual King Thibaw, his queen, Supayalat, and their young daughters.

To prevent any uprising to reinstall the king, the British immediately ship the royal family to a remote area of India where they live uncomfortably under British control and where the last king of Burma dies.

There remain no other contenders in Burma, as the fearsome Queen Supayalat had previously and viciously wiped out all potential rivals to the throne.

The royal family is accompanied into exile by a few servants, including the oddly named Dolly, a beautiful Shan girl. During the royal family's public and ignominious exit from Mandalay, Dolly is followed by a teenage Indian ragamuffin, Rajkumar, who gives her sweets and is smitten with her.

Rajkumar later becomes a very successful teak merchant and follows Dolly to India to seek her hand. The book then transports the reader through their lives, those of their children and the drama of the Second World War, India's Independence and Partition, and later the military regime in Burma.



PET-FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION ON AUSTRALIA'S EAST COAST

by Carla Francis

Woodslane Pty Ltd publishers

Available online at www.dymocks.com.au

WITH AN increasing number of people opting to take their furry friends with them when they travel, *Pet-Friendly accommodation on Australia's East Coast* will have pet owners barking up the right tree when searching for pet-friendly accommodation.

Sydney-based author Carla Francis says that the inspiration for the book was bringing her cat from Japan to Australia, and of course the pet-loving Japanese themselves.

"While I was living in Japan I met many people who regularly took their pets with them on weekends away," Francis explains.

"When I started my research in Australia, there was limited information available. But this has increased significantly since I started my research back in 2008, as the travel industry becomes more aware of the demand for pet-friendly accommodation."

When Francis first started travelling with her pet in NSW, she would spend hours trawling various websites to find the right type of accommodation often to find that

places that claimed to be 'pet friendly' really weren't very welcoming to pets at all.

"It seemed there was a need for a well-researched guide to places people could take their pets."

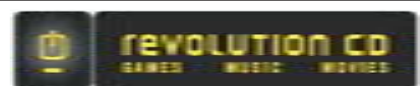
The book covers a wide variety of places to stay, including perhaps surprisingly Sydney, Canberra and other urban centres. There's a range of accommodation with many B and Bs and even cute cat cabins and cockatiel-friendly caravan parks.

It is independently researched and collated, and no advertising was accepted – only the author's choice of the best accommodation is included.

Every entry includes a brief opinion plus the main details of price range, contact details and information about the types of pets welcomed. All entries are placed on the accompanying maps and many are illustrated with full-colour photographs.

If you're travelling anywhere between Cooktown and the Great Ocean Road with an animal companion, this may be the book for you!

— Christina Taylor



Why pay full price for your games when you can get the same game for up to 70% off at Revolution CD



And quality? We give a 3 month warranty on every item sold

**Revolution CD
49 Monaro St Queanbeyan
6297 0067**



Alpaca for textile arts & crafts

Over 250 alpaca yarns (including cones), & batts & rovings, handmade clothing, gifts, and local products & produce

Farm Shop open 1st weekend each month 10 – 4 or by appointment

Online & mail orders welcome

t: 61 (0)2 4847 5139

e: jfrederick@galifrey.com.au

www.galifrey.com.au

**NO
SERVICE
CONTRACTS**



**Approved
Vic, NSW, ACT, SA
QLD & NT**

The Environmentally friendly way to process sewage, waste water and organic waste

Forget smelly septic or chemical treatments. Experience the benefits of a natural system using exciting technology.

- **Approx. \$20 per annum energy costs.** Typical 4BR dwelling (independently assessed), hilly sites nil energy.
- **No carbon dioxide or green house gases produced**
- **Low maintenance**
- **Excellent nutrient for the garden**
- **Average 90% less garbage to landfill**
- **Can be fitted into existing septic tanks or treatment plants**

A&A WORM FARM WASTE SYSTEMS PTY LTD

9653 3034

National Head Office: Unit 5/2135 Frankston-Flinders Road, Hastings 03 5979 1887

Email: enquiries@wormfarm.com.au Web: www.wormfarm.com.au

Coming to The Q

R&J: a young girl's dream comes true

by Sarah Newsome

WHEN LOCAL girl Elise May first saw Expressions Dance Company on tour at the tender age of 10, she couldn't have known one day she'd dance with them. As an award winning dancer. In an award winning show.

But when *R&J* opens at the Q next month, that's exactly what will happen.

"It's very exciting to be touring with the company which inspired me as a kid," says Elise. "I feel so lucky."

And if that wasn't enough, she will step on stage knowing the audience includes family and the childhood friends who shared her dance lessons.

"My mum has spread the word," laughs Elise, who plays Juliet in the third act and hails from Bateman's Bay. "Some of my family haven't seen me dance, and they're all coming."

"It's a little nerve-wracking," Elise confesses. "It's an emotionally challenging role."

R&J presents three spell-binding love stories based on Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, told in three different eras.

One story, set in modern day Brisbane, shows the instant attraction between two people who meet at a nightclub. It's confronting, fast paced and brutal.

The second story is more classical. Set in the 1890s, it captures the all-consuming nature of young love. In both, fate is a sinister, inevitable force that tears the lovers apart.

Elise won an award for her role as Juliet in the third act. In this story, we see Romeo

and Juliet as a contented couple, going about their everyday domestic routines in 1950s suburbia. Elise's Juliet is a devoted wife whose world is turned upside down.

"When her husband doesn't come home, Juliet goes through a whole journey. Denial. Grief. Loss. Even anger, before she finally comes to a quiet acceptance," Elise explains.

Each story is one we can relate to and perhaps that's why *R&J* has been so well received by audiences. It is critically acclaimed, winning awards for choreography at the 2012 Australian Dance Awards.

Just go with the flow

Cloud Atlas is an interesting film featuring six stories that are interrelated and set across six eras. Philip French in *The Observer* thinks the film's themes deal with "karma and the transmigration of souls" and "the ancient belief in life as a repetitive cycle" or "Nietzsche's concept of eternal recurrence". The film has a mystical quality but it is also funny.

The six interwoven stories start in the 1850s and revolve around a young American lawyer who becomes an abolitionist after a slave saves him. The second story is about a young man who helps an ageing composer.

The third story is about a publisher who publishes a book written by a thug and then has to escape the thug's associates who are hoping to take the profits. The fourth story is about a corporate



Three of the six dancers have won awards in the past two years, making it a stellar cast. Created by Naomi Weir, artistic director at Expressions Dance Company, *R&J* promises to be bold, powerful theatre.

R&J has been called "vulnerable, intense and passionate", and "the Romeo and Juliet of our times."

Combined with haunting music by John Babbage, it's likely to be an aesthetic treat. *R&J* is at The Q theatre for one night only Tuesday 14 May 2013 at 8pm.

(See ad below for ticketing details.)

— At the flicks — with Judy Thompson

conspiracy and an investigate journalist.

The next two stories are science fiction. One takes place in Seoul in the year 2144 and follows the plight of a cloned class of servants. The last story is after "the fall" and shows a barbaric world where a goat-herd has joined forces with an advanced human.

The film has an impressive cast including Halle Berry, Tom Hanks, Jim Broadbent, Hugh Grant and Hugo Weaving. Trying to spot which actor is playing who in what story is sometimes surprisingly challenging.

Tom Tykwer, Reinhold Heil and Johnny Klimek composed the soundtrack and the music has achieved critical acclaim as symphonic and exquisite.

Film critics have generally been positive. *Variety* describes it as "an intense three hour mental workout with a big emotional



payoff." Margaret from *At the Movies* found it confusing but worthy of four stars while David gave it only three and a half.

I'm not sure I understood it totally but I enjoyed it anyway.

Not up to Downton

If you liked *Downton Abbey* you may like *Cheerful Weather for the Wedding*. The film is based on a novel by Julia Strachey that follows a day in the life of Dolly's wedding with flashbacks.

Dolly's mother, played by Elizabeth McGovern (who also plays mother in *Downton Abbey*), is busy coping with the influx of lots of quirky relatives when Dolly's past lover Joseph turns up and the plot thickens a little, but not much.

Paul Byrnes of *The Sydney Morning Herald* calls the film an "Upstairs Downton One Wedding That Feels Like A Funeral Abbey." This pretty much sums it up.

There are some lovely sequences of English countryside but Dolly and Joseph seem somehow flaccid, pale and a bit precious. Not my cup of tea. ■

THE

Q

QUEANBEYAN
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE

NATALIE WEIR'S

R&J

Co-Produced by
Expressions Dance Company and
Queensland Performing Arts Centre

R&J celebrates contemporary performance at its most bold and powerful

Bookings and further information:
6285 6290 or www.theq.net.au

Suitable for patrons 12+ Smoke effects used in this production

Tuesday 14 May 8.00pm

TICKETS: Full price \$42; concession & groups \$37.

EDC

Qpac

Queensland Performing Arts Centre

Australian Government

Playing Australia

AROUR

THE

Q

QUEANBEYAN
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE

MOON

by The Australian Voices

Unlike any choir you have seen

Bookings and further information:
6285 6290 or www.theq.net.au

Suitable for patrons 12+ Smoke effects used in this production

Sunday 19 May 7.00pm Monday 20 May 2.00pm & 8.00pm

TICKETS: Full price \$43; concession & groups \$38.

THE AUSTRALIAN VOICES

Australian Government

Playing Australia

AROUR

Macs Reef Road police target



Despite warning and detour signs regarding the closure of Macs Reef Rd for roadworks until the middle of May, Palerang Council and police report that people have been forcing their way through the closed roadworks and have copped fines and cautions.

Early morning and late night offenders have been apprehended by regional traffic police. Canberra and Bungendore drivers have been the worst offenders according to a Queanbeyan officer with some locals also being observed making their way to the tip. Eighteen infringements were issued in the first days and an untallied number since.

Police presence continues with the worry on the one lane dirt access through that any accident in off hours would not be quickly discovered. School buses are escorted through the work site. About 10 families with driveways along the worksite can use the access legitimately. Meanwhile the work is progressing on schedule says council, with sealing not to far away.

Don't sell off the polls and wires

75 percent of people are opposed to the privatisation of New South Wales' electricity poles and wires according to a recent Nielson poll. The major concern stated was that many fear electricity prices will increase as a result.

According to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal, NSW electricity prices have more than doubled over the past five years.

This latest poll comes in the wake of news that electricity bills will again rise in 2013 to meet \$1.153 billion in NSW Government electricity dividends.

Premier Barry O'Farrell has so far left the possibly to further privatise the electricity sector open.

Price increases related to polls and wires capped

According to Member for Monaro John Barilaro, price increases related to polls and wires will be levelling off in response to a government cap on network costs.

"As part of the NSW Government's six-year reform program of the State-owned distribution businesses, power prices for regional customers have levelled with a proposed average price increase of just 0.5 percent for customers in the Essential Energy network, compared to a 19.7 percent increase last year."

"Network costs are responsible for approximately half of a total power bill so the Government's savings have had a real impact," Mr Barilaro said.

The cap was put in place after the NSW government uncovered what it calls "\$2.5 billion in unnecessary future capital expenditure and operating costs" under the former government. ■

Study shows privatised electricity more expensive, competition for sales one reason

POLITICS IS FULL of ideology and spin, particularly when it comes to the hip pocket and the price of energy. The current Coalition NSW and Queensland governments appear inclined to push further down the electricity industry privatisation path.

Reasons are short term general revenue gain and because they are true believers in the idea that private industry is always more efficient and does everything better than governments.

But is it all as rosy as our elected representatives would have us believe? A just-released report by the Australia Institute makes the case that electricity privatisation has failed to deliver cheaper power to consumers and has not improved the sector's efficiency.

Analysing Victoria since it privatised power in the 1990s, the study indicates that electricity prices have increased by 170 percent compared with an increase of 60 percent in the consumer price index.

Paying for managerial staff might be one reason. The Australia Institute's David Richardson reported: "the number of managers in the electricity sector has increased by a staggering 217 percent since 1997. Yet, at the same time there was a much smaller increase in front line staff, with the number of technicians and trades workers increasing by just 28 percent."

"In 1997 there was one manager for every 13 workers. By 2012 there was one manager for every nine workers. Over the same period, the number of sales workers increased from 1,000 to 6,000.

"It seems remarkable that a sales force of 6,000 people is necessary to sell a product which everyone needs," Mr Richardson said.

"During the privatisation of Victoria's network a lot of promises were made that it would deliver lower prices and a more efficient industry, and former Premier Jeff Kennett continues to sing the praise of privatisation.

"While Premier O'Farrell and Peter Costello might believe a power sell-off is the answer to New South Wales' and Queensland's budget problems, it's unlikely to ease cost of living pressures and might even slug consumers with higher bills and worse service," Mr Richardson concluded.

For the full report Electricity and Privatisation go to www.tai.org.au

May: Constellations and galaxies to brighten autumn nights

— Star Search —
with Dr David Weldrake

MAY BRINGS us the first frosts as the new winter season starts to appear once again, but it also allows us the chance to see many different sights in the night sky, both near and (very) far. The bright stars of summer start to give way to the star-clouds of our galaxy, the Milky Way.

Towards the north, constellations appear which, when armed with a small telescope, contain many thousands of other galaxies, far beyond our own. Indeed, autumn and early winter are the best time of the year to see them. If skies are dark and clear, many can be spotted with only a pair of binoculars.

Low in the west after sunset the bright white stars Sirius and Canopus slide into the streetlight glow of Canberra, stars which have been shining in our evening skies for the past few months. They will be visible for another month or so, reappearing in the east after sunset six months after that, heralding the start of another spring.

Almost overhead is the constellation Crux, the Southern Cross, with the bright yellow star Alpha Centauri nearby. High in the east is the white star Spica, helping identify the (apparently) nearby planet Saturn. Low in the north-east is the reddish star Arcturus. Can you see the colour difference between Arcturus and Spica?

Leo: a window to the space beyond

Towards the north lies the constellation Leo (the lion). Highlighted in the map for the month (which represents the night sky at 8pm on 15 May), Leo is one of the rare constellations that actually looks like the object it is meant to be.

Although upside down from Australia, it is possible to imagine the stars of Leo

outlining a sitting lion, with its head upright (to the bottom left) and front legs stretched forward. Have a look yourself. Can you make out an upside down lion?

Leo is also a well-known constellation because it lies away from the plane of our Milky Way Galaxy. As such it provides a clear window to the space beyond, and contains thousands of other more distant galaxies.

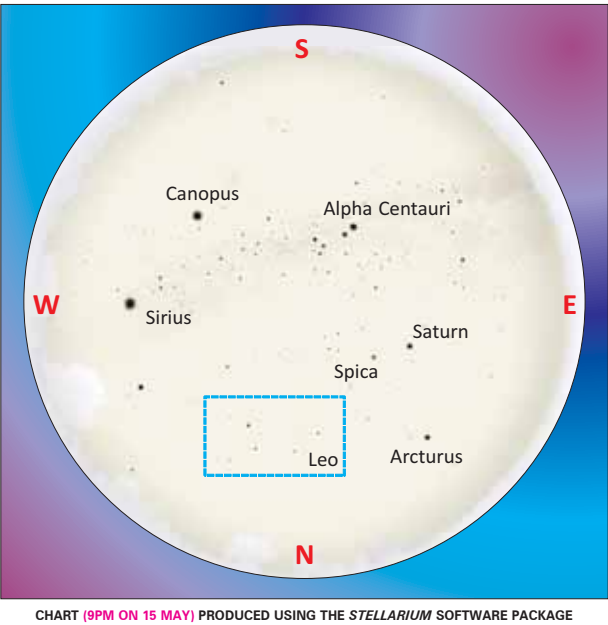
At vast distances away (typically 65 million light years away for Leo, where a light year is the distance a beam of light travels in one year), a telescope is needed to see them more clearly. Binoculars can reveal some of these 'Island Universes' as faint fuzzy spots. A large telescope can reveal magnificent structures.

An internet search for 'M51' will show exactly the kind of thing. The constellation Virgo (Spica is the brightest star) also contains many thousands more. The 'Virgo Cluster' being one of the largest and most populated clusters of galaxies known.

The planets in May – a wonderful month for a moon dance

May this time around is relatively light on planets in the evening skies. Saturn is the highlight, after being at its closest to the Earth for the year last month, it continues to shine in the constellation Libra near the bright star Spica.

Saturn is a spectacular sight through a small telescope, with its magnificent ring system easily seen, as well as some cloud bands straddling the planet's equator and several of Saturn's moons. The moons change



position from night to night as they orbit around our Solar System's second largest planet.

Around a year ago, a storm erupted in Saturn's atmosphere. Made of ammonia, it looked like a bright white oval on the otherwise mustard-yellow colour of Saturn's cloud tops. It was clearly visible through small telescopes until it was gradually dispersed by Saturnian high altitude winds.

Such events are important for understanding the weather patterns of Saturn, and dedicated observers continue to watch, waiting for the next outbreak to occur.

If you are up in the early morning hours, you will be able to see Mercury, low in the east just before sunrise. The other bright planets are too close to the Sun to be easily seen.

The Moon is new on 10 May and full on 25 May. Have a look at the Moon through binoculars around the 18 May, to see the mountains and craters to best effect. ■

BOOK REVIEW *Cont'd from p5*

Written before the end of that regime, there is a vivid account of the terrible hardships the Burmese people suffered at that time.

Over the canvass of Burma, India, Singapore and Malaya, the author conveys the devastating and lasting impact of colonial conquest, as well as the poignant stories of a number of individuals caught up in the great sweep of history. The swirl and plunge in the lives of Dolly and Rajkumar is, however, at the heart of the book.

The Glass Palace is well researched, beautifully written and historically believable. The cultural descriptions are very fine. It provides an intriguing insight into Burma's tangled political history and may inspire you to visit this fascinating country.



Retirement seminar series.

Book two get one FREE.

In celebration of Canberra's centenary, the city's superannuation leader Dixon Advisory is running a special series of retirement seminars.

Founded in Canberra and recognised as Australia's No. 1 SMSF Provider two years in a row, Dixon Advisory has provided retirement advice to public servants and private sector employees, for 27 years.

Who better to turn to for information about your retirement including self managed super funds, defined benefit schemes such as PSS, investing and preparing for a voluntary redundancy?

With seven seminars to choose from, there's bound to be several to suit you.

But hurry, book today. This exclusive series is running for just eight weeks and places are limited.

REGISTER TODAY

T 1300 305 199

W dixon.com.au/seminars

Read more about each seminar at the website.

If you book two seminars, you'll be able to attend a third seminar free.

All seminars are held at the Dixon Advisory office, Level 1, 73 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra. Cost \$20 per person, \$30 per couple.

TOPIC	DATE	TIME
Investing in property	Wed 8 May	12.30PM
Making your SMSF work harder	Wed 8 May	5.30PM
Maximising your PSS for retirement	Tues 14 May	12.30PM
Is an SMSF right for you?	Wed 15 May	12.30PM
Super strategies for over 50s	Thurs 16 May	12.30PM
Investment strategies for over 50s	Wed 22 May	12.30PM
Maximising your voluntary redundancy	Tues 28 May	5.30PM

IT'S TIME TO REVIEW YOUR SUPER CONTRIBUTIONS

By Nerida Cole*

As 30 June draws near, it's time to review your 2012/13 superannuation contributions to make effective use of your contribution limits.

The **concessional contributions** cap for 2012/13 is \$25,000 for everyone. If you go over the limit, you can expect to pay 46.5% tax. The excess concessional contributions will also be included in your non-concessional contributions limit.

Concessional contributions include the employer (9%) superannuation guarantee and salary sacrifice contributions, as well as self-employed contributions and contributions made by 'unsupported' people claiming a tax deduction.

When reviewing your concessional contributions, make sure you consider all super funds you hold and don't overlook extra payments including the super guarantee made on overtime and bonuses. Consider leaving a buffer to allow for any timing issues or extra payments.

Non-concessional contributions, which don't incur the 15% contributions tax, are commonly made with surplus funds, savings or inheritance proceeds. They include personal contributions, contributions made on your behalf by your spouse and excess concessional contribution amounts.

You can make a maximum of \$150,000 in non-concessional contributions per year. If you're under 65, you can bring these forward, making up to \$450,000 over a three-year period. Contributions exceeding this amount will be taxed at 46.5%.

If a member made a \$151,000 contribution in one financial year, this would trigger the three-year \$450,000 rule, leaving them a limit of \$299,000 over the next two financial years. If they made a contribution of \$450,000 in the next financial year, they would have exceeded their contribution limit by \$151,000 and face an excess tax liability of approximately \$70,000.

It can be wise to retain a buffer below the non-concessional contribution limit, particularly if you're close to the concessional contribution limit.

If you're unsure how to manage your super contributions for this financial year, contact a trusted financial advisor.

*Nerida Cole, Managing Director, Financial Advisory, Dixon Advisory, is a highly respected expert on superannuation, including self managed super funds, retirement planning and wealth-building strategies.

PICTURED: DARYL DIXON & MAX WALSH CHAIRMEN AFSL 231143



CANBERRA | SYDNEY | MELBOURNE | NEW YORK | QUALITY ADVICE THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

SUPER | INVESTMENT ADVICE | FINANCIAL ADVICE | PROPERTY | LAW | ESTATE PLANNING | INSURANCE ADVICE | MORTGAGE ADVICE

and Dear John

No public transport to Canberra, how about commuting by rail

IN RESPONSE to the Q and A [with John Barilaro] in the April edition of the *District Bulletin*, page 4, I would like to respond as follows.

For the past 18 months I have tried to get people and organisations enthused about this subject of rail travel commuting, to no avail.

I have spent months writing to the RTA, RailCorp, and also Countrylink, as I believe this can so easily be achieved by simply changing the timetables.

In frustration I gave up, (which I vowed I wouldn't do), but if you can re-ignite my enthusiasm perhaps we can progress this once more.

In the end I contributed in a small way towards starting a car pooling scheme which was very successful! I gave a lift to two Bungendore residents to work each day and back again.

My idea is to simply get the timetables rearranged so that Goulburn, Tarago, Bungendore and Queanbeyan commuters could get on the train in the mornings (weekdays) so that they could then get a bus from Kingston, ACT to take them to their place of work. This is a large bus interchange with many buses leaving frequently. And in reverse in the evenings.

The reasons I believe this would be a popular move is that (a) petrol is so costly; (b) it would get rid of many more cars off the roads; and also, (c) Bungendore is expanding rapidly. We have many more houses being built and it will only increase over time. And (d), there is no public transport into Canberra.

All too hard? Those trains currently leave Canberra at about 7am and head north, which doesn't help anyone. And another one comes into Canberra at about 10.45am – again useless for workers. How difficult is this to fix?

Am happy to discuss further!

—Vanessa Lauf, Bungendore

Why E4 zoning for rural residential land

WHAT IS the difference between the E4 and R5 zones as most appropriate for former 1(d) rural residential zone?

Let's start by recognising that neither the E4 nor R5 zone allows any form of agricultural activity, with or without consent in their standard form. Any such activities can, however, be permitted in either zone using local provisions. So, at this level, they are essentially identical.

The difference comes down to zone objectives

Mandatory objectives for E4 are:

- To provide for low-impact residential development in areas with special ecological, scientific or aesthetic values.
- To ensure that residential development does not have an adverse effect on those values.

Two key mandatory objectives for R5 for comparison are:

- To provide residential housing in a rural setting while preserving, and minimising impacts on, environmentally sensitive locations and scenic quality.
- To ensure that large residential lots do not hinder the proper and orderly development of urban areas in the future.

The E4 zone is intended for use where it is deemed appropriate to recognise the special character of an area, noting that the character of an area will not necessarily be defined by, or even be evident in, any

Case for R5 zoning for Palerang rural residential

MAY I MAKE some comments on your article, *Grazing rights, Chinese whispers and local planning*, in the April 2013 *Bulletin*.

I do not agree the flyer to which you refer implied council was on a stealth mission, nor was it written to suggest that.

There were in fact 180 people at the meeting on 6 March 2013. A head count confirmed that.

Notwithstanding the above, the real issue is that council proposes to replace the existing 1(d) Rural Residential Zone with the E4 Environmental Living Zone rather than the default zone* recommended by the NSW Government of R5 Large Lot Residential Zone. I and many others object to that proposal.

At the moment, having moved out here and developed our land to the standard it is today, we are able to live in quiet enjoyment of our property with very little threat of outside interference from anyone. In bringing the land up to its high standard we have been environmentally responsible. Similar

sentiments are being expressed by farmers in the Braidwood area.

Up until now, councils got on with their governing role so well that most of us never knew they were there. We understand we have to operate under the rules of the existing zone 1(d) Rural residential. Under this zone we have been happy with the directions as to what is permitted without consent, and are in full agreement with the activities that require council consent or are prohibited.

Therefore, if zone 1(d) has to go then we want it replaced with the R5 zone because it is closest to 1(d) in terms of its objectives and requirements. We believe that would give us the best chance to continue in the quiet enjoyment of what we hold dear. That wish is supported in the fact that the R5 zone is the NSW Government's default zone.

We assert therefore, that because R5 is the governments' default zone, it is not up to us to have to make out the case for its introduction.

Council's position, however is that 1(d) should be replaced with Zone E4. I have not yet seen justification made out by council that would warrant replacing 1(d) by a zone that is not the

default zone. The mandated objectives of Zone E4 are (1) "To provide for low-impact residential development in areas with special ecological, scientific or aesthetic values" and (2) "To ensure that residential development does not have an adverse effect on those values".

Further, the government's planning practice notes say that environment zones E2 through to E4 should be applied where the environmental significance of the land is the primary consideration. It also goes on to say the environmental values of the land should be determined from robust data sources and analysis.

There has not been any evidence brought to my attention that our land has special ecological scientific or aesthetic values that require the special protection of this zone evidenced by robust data sources and analysis. That is because there isn't any. So why impose this zone?

— Mike Cramsie, Bywong

[* Editor's note: Council chief planner told the *Bulletin* that the 'default' tag for R5 stems from the fact that in almost all cases in NSW except Palerang, 'rural residential' refers to large blocks around villages and towns with the emphasis on residential.]



single parcel of land in that area. This character might be associated with some ecological, scientific or aesthetic quality, supported by a strategy or study to establish the relevant quality.

In the present case, the aesthetic character of the former Yarrow-lumla rural residential areas is underpinned by the development strategy that has led to this unique area – there is no other such extensive rural residential population in NSW.

Of course, aesthetic qualities are very subjective, but they embrace the range of values displayed in the rural residential landscape from Urila, through Burra, Primrose Valley, Royalla, Carwoola, Wamboin, Bywong and Sutton, whether they be associated with a lifestyle choice including the many blocks with retained vegetation, hobby farming, or low intensity agriculture. Aesthetic also includes vistas, whether from one block to another or from the roadside.

That the state planning authorities have no problem with matching E4 to the unique rural residential landscape in Palerang, is evident in the approval that they gave the

draft PLEP and the fact that similar areas in the gazetted Queanbeyan LEP are also zoned E4.

R5 intended for urban/village fringe

A key aspect of the R5 zone objectives is that they are intended to ensure that "large residential lots do not hinder the proper and orderly development of urban areas". Lest there be any doubt over the intention of this particular objective, the Department of Planning [Department of Planning PN 07-001] advises that:

"This zone should be used where it is intended that the future use of the land will be principally for residential purposes, and the primary amenity expectation for the land is to be residential."

In direct contrast with the E4 zone objectives, which seeks to preserve and enhance the existing rural landscape values, the R5 zone objectives seek to

promote a primarily residential environment and ensure that other activities do not inhibit residential development.

So the draft PLEP uses the R5 zone adjacent to existing village areas, where it is considered more important to accommodate urban expansion.

Based on the way the R5 zone has been used in both Queanbeyan and Goulburn, being zoned R5 may ultimately be more restrictive and lead to a requirement for a DA for agricultural pursuits, given the department's position that "the land will be principally for residential purposes".

— Pete Harrison, Wamboin

Unhappy Mayor



CLAIRE Cooper's false assertions (Letters, *The District Bulletin*, April, 2013) require correcting. Statements that "Queanbeyan City Council is testing the waters to hit ratepayers with yet another rates increase via a Special Rate Variation" and that Council has had a "grab for cash over the last few years" appear to parrot the blatantly incorrect and ill-informed comments of a Councillor – who one would assume should know better – and published in another paper at which time they were also refuted.

The truth is that Queanbeyan Council has had no further discussion on a further Special Rate Variation nor is it on the agenda. It is of

much concern to me that local Letters to the Editor are increasingly becoming forums in which any information, regardless of veracity, are being published under the guise of 'opinion' and creating unnecessary confusion and concern within the community at large – unless of course this is the intention?

While everyone is entitled to an opinion, and their right to express it, my recommendation is that people attempt to inform themselves of the facts before offering unsubstantiated statements that contribute nothing worthy to public debate.

The Council surveys residents on a whole range of matters from time to time for the purposes of further engagement and consultation with its community and gathering general information on community views. Such surveys

should not be intentionally misinterpreted with skewed information being put back to the community.

— Cr Tim Overall
Mayor, Queanbeyan City Council

[Editor's note: Ms Cooper's letter was occasioned by some questions in a community survey that was put to her household and others and phrased as follows:

"To improve some services or develop facilities, it would require an increase in rates for at least a period of time..."

I'm going to read out nine possible improvements or new developments that would require an increase in rates. For each I would like you to tell me if you would be prepared to pay higher rates to contribute. Would you be prepared to pay on average an additional \$1-\$2 per week in additional rates to contribute."

Want to know how council will pay for new capital works?

Queanbeyan Council planning documents on exhibition

Queanbeyan Council's draft Integrated Planning documents are on public exhibition until the end of May and council invites comments.

The plans are based on the Community Vision exercise reviewed in 2012.

Residents and ratepayers who would like to know how council proposes to pay for \$55 million in new capital works and upgrades including to the CBD, sports complexes, new road planning including Ellerton Drive, new cycle paths, climate change response and roads, footpaths etc, should be able to find information in the Draft Delivery Program 2012 –2017 at pages 34–44.

View the draft plans at the following locations:

Council's Customer Service Centre at 257 Crawford St, Queanbeyan between 8.30am and 4.30pm weekdays (either hard copy or electronically on a USB device).

The Library in Rutledge St, or council's website at www.qcc.nsw.gov.au under Documents on Public Exhibition.

Residents who want to address council can do so at a workshop on 5 June, if they flag this with their submission.

Did Russian market closing affect falling roo numbers?



I REFER TO your article in the March edition of the *District Bulletin* regarding dropping kangaroo numbers, where you state, correctly, that "The information is drawn from 'take' data (ie numbers of animals shot) which is an acceptable method in commercial wildlife management for assessing actual populations". This of course assumes normal market demand for the product.

What you failed to mention is that the market for kangaroo meat has very substantially declined over the past 2–3 years. This is because over 70 percent was exported, with about 90 percent of that going to Russia for use as manufacturing meat.

Probably in an effort to stimulate its home meat production, Russia closed the kangaroo meat import trade, along with closing imports from multiple abattoirs around the world that supplied beef, lamb, poultry and pork. This devastated the kangaroo meat industry, with consequent significant economic impact on many country towns, because if you can't sell the cheaper cuts, it also becomes unprofitable to export the expensive cuts such as rump and fillet. The only really viable producer remaining is the one in South Australia that supplies the domestic market as its focus.



To have those field ecologists also suggest that "there are very few kangaroos on the ground" almost beggars belief; where do they spend their time looking and at what time of day? Take a drive in western NSW and see the numbers of road kill and mobs observed at dawn and dusk; any area I have been in where commercial harvesting was carried out has increased numbers following a couple of good seasons and that is also certainly the case on my property.

— Steven Roberts, Gundaroo

[Editors note: Fair question regarding the take data. Our sources tell us that despite the removal of the Russian market, the tonnage produced per annum did not change dramatically which means the South

Australian producer who sources animals nationally, must have found other markets, even if just for petfood, which we understand is a large part of the domestic market. Officially, the Russian's closed the market in 2009 because of hygiene and meat contamination issues. Regarding what people see in western NSW, personal observations indicate goats are mainly what people see: 10–20 or more goats for every kangaroo.]

— The Reader —

Some Australian politicians and pundits don't get it But ARNIE does!



fires? How could that be?

In the end, the state's brave firefighters, joined by contingents from out of state, won the battle. But not before 11 emergency declarations were issued and more than 400,000 acres burned. Countless lives and livelihoods were ruined.

Today, there's a new disaster looming, and although it's not as riveting or dramatic as walls of flames and billowing black smoke, it needs our immediate attention.

[The *National Climate Assessment*] team of top climate scientists has concluded that our region of the country is hotter than it has ever been and that it will get hotter – because

of humans. Already we are seeing the effects of a warmer climate: droughts and heat waves that threaten lives, and, yes, fires.

This shift could spell disaster for California, long the nation's agricultural powerhouse. Californians don't rely just on the food produced by the state's farms; they rely on the revenue and the jobs too.

This report spells out many negative effects that rising temperatures will cause in California. The state is facing a rise in sea level of 1 to 4 feet. A rise of just 16 inches would be enough to endanger roads, highways and airports in San Francisco and Oakland. It could contaminate crucial groundwater in Los Angeles.

The good news is we can do something to prevent these dire outcomes.

The first step for policymakers – and for ordinary citizens too – is to understand the situation we face.

— by Arnold Schwarzenegger,
former Governor of California

Excerpted from Schwarzenegger: California's silent disaster, Los Angeles Times, 8 April 2013.

PHOTO: NATE MANDOS – CREATIVE COMMONS



The Firewood King

Split Seasoned Mixed Coastal Hardwood

\$100 a 6x4 Trailer Load

Courtesy Trailers Available

Truck Loads Delivered
Braidwood <-> Bungendore <-> Goulburn
and all surrounding areas

You Pick Up or Will Deliver

Monkittee Street, Braidwood
Lauren Ph: 0427 421 778
Geoff Ph: 0417 422 544
Buy Direct And Save!

ALL UNDER THE ONE ROOF! ALL YEAR ROUND!

Corral your medical expenses with a safety net

OUT OF POCKET medical expenses can end up costing a fortune, but registering for the Medicare and Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme (PBS) Safety Nets can help you save money.

The Commonwealth Department of Human Services is alerting people that their non-hospital medical expenses can be eased by signing up. Expenses can include GP and specialist appointments and diagnostic tests. The PBS Safety Net assists with the cost of medication.

The safety nets work by keeping a tally of your out of pocket medical expenses. When you reach a threshold, the cost of doctor's appointments and tests may cost you less for the remainder of the calendar year.

Couples and families can register together and bundle medical expenses, making sure their thresholds are reached as soon as possible. Singles do not need to register for the scheme, just to keep their details up to date with the Department of Human Services. Keeping records is important.



Greenways planting for connectivity: Bywong and Wamboin residents joined local Landcare and greenways groups to plant a strip of trees and understorey on a Greenway off Weeroona Drive. This will make a habitat flora and fauna connection with big old trees on a neighbouring property.

Thresholds are updated yearly and differ from person to person. To check your eligibility, simply visit www.humanservices.gov.au or call 132 011.

Community Options Illawarra provides a case management program servicing the Palerang and Upper Lachlan Shires

We have a local office based in Bungendore and the program supports people of frail age, younger people with disabilities and their carers and people with complex care needs.

We focus on supporting you to strengthen your ability and capacity by completing a comprehensive assessment and providing individual goal setting, information, referral to services, service coordination and monitoring.

Case management can link you into sustainable local support services and assist you to build the relationships and connections that enable you to participate and contribute in your local and wider community.



Community Options Illawarra Inc
Community Options - Quality Options

Bungendore Office: Ph 6238 0053 Fx 6238 0589 Email maree.o'roure@coi.org.au
Bungendore Community Health Centre, 2 Majara St (PO Box 355, Bungendore NSW 2621)

Community Options Illawarra Inc believes in:

- The right of people to make choices in their own lives.
- The right of people to dignity, respect, privacy and confidentiality.
- The right of people to be valued as individuals.
- The right of people to access services on a non-discriminatory basis.
- The right of the community of accountable and responsive services.

Country Living Classifieds



Collectables

Meat mincers, several different models for sale. Sprong No.5, Husqvarna No.3, Enterprise No.5 and several Beatrice models.

Prices by negotiation. Ph David 0448 252 836.

Farm and Livestock

Wanted Poll Dorset or Suffolk ram. Though Dorper will be ok. Also looking for a mixture of ewes to refresh existing flock. Please call Joe on 0422 225 358.

For sale

Box trailer 3m long x 1.8 wide. Newly renovated. \$1,500 or make me an offer. Must go, ring Adam 6236 9155. Bywong.

Household

For sale. Lift Armchair, simple electric control to put one's feet up; lie flat; or help to stand up. Blue/black pattern. Very comfy and in very good condition. \$300 neg. Contact 6238 3717 (Weeroona Dr) or email: machin4@bigpond.com.

2 x office chairs on casters, grey fabric \$10 each or both for \$15. Ph 6238 1996.

Tagines, the oldest, traditional slow cooking pots. Handmade, from local Bywong Potter. Kiln-fired, some hand painted, some plain made from terracotta. Cook on the stove or oven. Joseph 6236 9155.

Authentic Italian Pizza Oven. Handmade by master craftsman. Whether you cook roasts, pizzas, bread, desserts! Better than a BBQ because it does so much more. Joe 0422 225 358.

— PLEASE USE THIS UPDATED AUSTRALIAN EMAIL ADDRESS FOR SUBMISSIONS —
thebulletinclassifieds@yahoo.com.au

Country Living Classifieds

To place a classified please use the following format and send it to thebulletinclassifieds@yahoo.com.au or mail to Box 302 Bungendore, 2621, marked Country Living Classifieds. We will not take information over the phone.

Your Name (not for publication)

Address (not for publication)

Phone / email contact

Items accepted tick one:

- ☐ Collectables
- ☐ Building supplies
- ☐ Gardening supplies (excepting masses of plastic pots)
- ☐ Household appliances or furniture in good working order
- ☐ Auto accessories
- ☐ Farm equipment and farm animals
- ☐ Clearing, estate or garage sales
- ☐ Designer clothes or quality childrens' clothes
- ☐ Wanted to buy or exchange

Description of item(s) with a contact name and phone number (in 25 words or less)

☐ I attach a SMALL photo

— COMMUNITY NOTICES —

Land for Wildlife field day

DON'T MISS this! Land for Wildlife has organised an enlightening field day for its' LfW members and any Palerang property owner interested in joining the LfW network. The field day will be held in Wamboin on Saturday 11 May from 1-4pm.

Want to learn more about our local flora and fauna? We will explore the vegetation types of our region with the help of Rainer Rehwinkel (NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and local plant expert); bird watching techniques and identification with Nikki Taws (Greening Australia); and identifying reptiles and their characteristics – including living with snakes with Ross Bennet (local herpetologist).

LfW is a voluntary property registration scheme for landowners who wish to manage part or all of their property in an environmentally friendly way and for the benefit of biodiversity and wildlife habitat. It is a low-level entry scheme, free to join and not legally binding. Being presented with a sign is the final step that acknowledges your commitment.

Land for Wildlife puts you in touch with a network of people and resources for helping to manage your property. Property owners receive a plant species survey and advice on different plantings on the property and how to overcome problems, such as weeds and erosion, as well as how to make worthwhile improvements.

Attendance is free! Contact Mel Hillery (0427 440 335 or melophorus@bigpond.com) to register for the field day (and to find out the location) as well as inquire about the LfW scheme. Numbers will be limited so please contact us early to avoid disappointment.

The Southern Rivers Catchment group advises the Landcare network that the **SCA Catchment Protection and Improvement Grant (CPIG) Program has reopened.**

The details are on the SCA website www.sca.nsw.gov.au/the-catchments/grants-and-sponsorships.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 17 May 2013**, and they will be assessed by the SCA's Grants Committee at their meeting on 4 June 2013.

For groups that are not incorporated, the USLC may be able to apply on your behalf.

— Kristy Moyle

Charity Bookfair

To raise funds for Queanbeyan Meals on Wheels.

Thousands of fiction and non-fiction books in top condition, including current releases. In particular a large non-fiction range including science, history, philosophy and religion (not text books). Many 'as new' quality. Major vinyl record collection – extensive...

Friday 7 June 5-8pm and Saturday 8 June 10am-2pm

Community Centre, Crawford Street. Opposite Council Chambers

Future 2013 Charity Bookfair Dates:
5-6 July; 2-3 August; 6-7 September; 4-5 October; 1-2 November; 6-7 December



ASTROLOGY with Nic

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

When it comes to money this month it may start looking bleak in the first week. Don't let this get you down because after the Eclipse things are going to look much brighter.



Taurus Apr 21 – May 21

The start of the month will see you at the centre of everyone's attention. Whether that is a good or bad thing will depend on how you have conducted yourself in the past.

Gemini May 22 – Jun 22

The main focus for the month of May will be on secrets, spirituality and appearance with a little relationship news sprinkled on top. The start of May could be rocky as the sun illuminates secrets

Cancer Jun 23 – Jul 23

Right now is your most social time of the year, with old friends making an appearance and new friendships being formed. You have excellent social stars.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

It's all about your career and working reputation this month, with massive changes that have the potential to change your entire future on the way. Things may start off rocky but will improve.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

This month will start off with the focus firmly on learning, teaching and long distance travel. If you are enrolled in university or further study this is the time to reach for new milestones.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 23

It's time to pay attention to money and property as well as any shares, stocks or other assets in your position. Most of you will find yourself at some kind of financial crossroad this month.

Scorpio Oct 24 – Nov 22

This month will be all about relationships for Scorpio. You can expect ex partners, current partners or future partners to be in the spotlight. Single? Expect to meet your match.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 21

It's a mixed bag focusing on health, work, and romance for you this month. The start of the month may be tricky. This will relate to either work or health depending on your individual chart.

Capricorn Dec 22 – Jan 20

The focus will be on a number of things such as children, romance, health and work. Around the 3rd expect to develop a new crush. This new romance may encounter some teething problems.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

You have a stack of planets residing in your house of home and parents at the start of the month. Expect to move house, take on a new flatmate, start renovating, or be approved for a mortgage.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

This month will be about siblings, neighbours, transport and the home. There is the potential for drama on the 3rd related to extended family members or neighbours. Best to avoid family reunions.

Your astrology forecast has been prepared by Nicole Coggan.
You can read more for May at www.astrologywithnic.com.

Throughout May
Pam Padovan – Exhibition
Bungendore Fine Art, Ellendon St, Bungendore.
For more 6238 1640 or see www.bungendorefineart.com.au.

Until June 9
Helen Fitzgerald: Colours of Australia
Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. An exhibition of landscape, flora and fauna watercolours by Canberra region artist Helen Fitzgerald. For more see www.bungendorewoodworks.com.au.

Until Saturday 18
Craft 2620 – A Showcase of Queanbeyan Craft & Design



FIND! (BOYDS DRAGON)BY NATALIE MARAS

The Q Exhibition Space, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. The showcase encompasses a conference, craft and design market, tours, talks, performances and much more as part of Canberra's centenary celebrations. For more call 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.

Tuesday 7 to Thursday 9
Oklahoma!

The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Karabar High School presents Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* Set just after the turn of the century, Curly, a handsome cowboy, and Laurey, a winsome farm girl, play out their love story. For bookings www.theq.net.au or 6285 6290.

EVERY MONTH:

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

1st Saturday of every month
(except April)

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

2nd Sunday of the month
(except Jan)

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

3rd Saturday of every month
(except July/August)

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

3rd Sunday every month
Bungendore Markets
War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9–2pm. Art, craft and local produce.

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

4th Saturday of every month
Braidwood Markets
Ryrie Park, Wallace St, Braidwood, 8am. Local crafts and cooking, plant and natural products. Call Geraldine 4847 5061.

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

What's On – May 2013

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



Wednesday 8
Food for Thought – Exhibition Opening
CSIRO Discovery Centre, North Science Rd, Acton, 6pm. An art exhibition featuring food security and environmental issues to be opened by Julian Cribb, science writer and author of *The Coming Famine*. For more call 6246 4620 or email Guy.Micklethwait@csiro.au.

Saturday 11
Gourmet Sausage Making Workshops
The Old Cheese Factory, Sawyers Ridge Rd, Reidsdale, 9.30am–12.30pm. Learn the tricks of the trade, whilst making fresh sausages using traditional methods and techniques. Cost is \$187pp. To register call 4846 1999 or email sausages@braidwoodmade.com.au.

Uniting Church Variety Concert
Uniting Church, Rutledge St, Queanbeyan, 2.30pm. A community concert presented by, Kaleidoscope community choral group in support of, 'Home in Queanbeyan'. Cost: Adults \$10, Concessions \$5, Children gold coin, Afternoon tea \$5.

Sunday 12
Hoskinstown Chestnut Roast
Hoskinstown Memorial Hall, Hoskinstown Rd, 10am–3pm. A fundraiser to help maintain the Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall. There will be chestnut cooking demonstrations, gourmet foods, home grown produce and more! For more phone Rowan on 6238 2890 (evenings).

Tuesday 14
R&J – Expressions Dance Company
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan A captivating interpretation of Shakespeare's most famous love story. For bookings www.theq.net.au or 6285 6290.

Wednesday 15 until Saturday 18
Word Play
CSIRO Discovery Centre, Black Mountain, 7.30pm. Innovative Canberra performance group *BoHo Interactive* are staging a season of the biosecurity-themed and audience-driven performance piece. Additional performances May 22–25 and May 29–June 1. For more call 6246 4620 email guy.micklethwait@csiro.au or see www.csiro.au/discovery.

Saturday 18
Bread Making Workshops
The Old Cheese Factory, Sawyers Ridge Rd, Reidsdale, 9.30am–12.30pm. Learn how to make bakery quality bread in a home kitchen. Cost is \$154pp. To register call 4846 1999 or email breadmaking@thefarmdojo.com.au.

Queanbeyan Fire Station Open Day
Queanbeyan Fire Station, Campbell St, Queanbeyan, 10am–2pm. A range of free activities will be on offer

Above: The Usual Suspects, by Catherine Lidden – see entry for Saturday 25.

including firefighting demonstrations, station tours and fire safety presentations. Children will be able to see fire engines and firefighting equipment up close.

Sunday 19
Pure breed poultry sale and information day
Queanbeyan Show Ground. All vendors wishing to sell pure breed poultry are welcome. For pen bookings contact the secretary@cpoultryclub.com or call Peter on 0401 832 395. For more see www.cpoultryclub.com.

Mad in May

the market @ bungendore

Sunday May 19th 9am–3pm
at the War Memorial Hall

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

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

Sunday 19 and Monday 20
Moon – The Australian Voices
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. A stunning acappella choral-theatre experience by the Australian Voices. For bookings www.theq.net.au or 6285 6290.

Tuesday 21
BEC Business Networking Breakfast
Airport International Motel, Yass Rd, Queanbeyan, 7–8.30am. Mike O'Hagan from MiniMovers will present *'Making more sales at a lower cost'*. Cost is \$30. For more see www.sebec.com.au.

Wednesday 22 until 8 June
Rapt in Felt – Canberra Region Feltmakers Annual Exhibition and Bazaar
The Q Exhibition Space, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Exhibition opening by Gabriella Heyges 5.30pm Tuesday 21. Fashion Parade 11am Saturday 25. Bazaar from opening night until 25 May.

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

Polly puts the kettle on again for 2013

Tea, coffee, cake, biscuits, and lots of finger food

\$1.00 to enter your own cup to impress and win a prize.

Lucky Door Prizes every 30 mins, ongoing raffles, silent and noisy auctions, major raffle, cake weight competition, stalls, trading tables and lots more.

Come and support your local highest individual fundraiser for the past 2 years and at the same time supporting the Cancer Council.

Name: Pauline Segeri (ID 13760), Thursday May 23rd

Open House 10.30am – 3.30pm

RSVP: 6238 1996 or email psegeri@bigpond.com

Donate on-line: ABMT – ACT – POLLYPUTSTHEKETTLEONAGAIN!

— GIG GUIDE: May —

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

Friday 10
Jimi Barnes, 8pm, Royal Hotel, Bungendore.
Leah Flanagan, 8pm, Braidwood Hotel.
Phat Kat City, rock/pop, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club.
Authorised Bootleg, cover band, 8–11.30pm, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

Saturday 11
Chris Webbe & Sweaty Palms, 8pm, Braidwood Hotel.
Rhymes with Orange, 7–11pm, Hotel Queanbeyan.

Friday 17
Rhymes with Orange, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club.
Hit & Run, rock/pop, 8–11.30pm, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.
Saturday 18
Christie Lamb, country, 9pm–12am. The Loaded Dog, Tarago.
Ride the Pony, country, 7–11pm, Hotel Queanbeyan.

Friday 24
Hit & Run, rock/pop, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club.
R&R, 8–11.30pm, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.
Saturday 25
Gary Sturgess, country, 7–11pm, Hotel Queanbeyan.
Friday 31
The Old '45s, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Bowling Club.
MLC, 8pm–12am, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club.
Karaoke, 8–11.30pm, Queanbeyan Tigers Club.

Thursday 23 until 1 June
Shortis & Simpson's Prime Time
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. An entertaining insight into our PMs at their best and worst. For bookings www.theq.net.au or 6285 6290.

Saturday 25
Wildlife in Pastel Pencil, with mini workshop
Australian National Botanic Gardens Theatre, 1–3pm. Guest artist Catherine Lidden presents a talk on her artistic journey with wildlife art, followed by a demonstration of pastel techniques for drawing animal eyes. Annette Wilson, Editor of the *Flora of Australia* series and WABA member, will also provide a display and discussion on a selection of line drawings produced for the flora and fauna series produced by the Australian Biological Resources Survey.

Tuesday 28
Reconciliation Walk
Commences under the Queens Bridge on Trinculo Pl (Ray Morton Park), 10.15am. Each year Council holds a Reconciliation Walk where students from local schools, Aboriginal elders, councillors and community members walk from the Queens Bridge at Trinculo Pl to the Reconciliation Garden in Queanbeyan Park.

Business Basics Workshop
Queanbeyan Visitor's Centre, Farrer Pl, 6–9pm. Workshop is for business intenders and those who are in the early stages of their first business venture. This workshop will give you the knowledge and confidence to take your important early steps in business. Cost is \$30, registrations essential. For more see www.sebec.com.au.

– Plan ahead for June –

Sunday 2
Molonglo Catchment group Exhibition/Competition
Queanbeyan Art Society, Trinculo Pl. 1.30 for 2pm start. Open to all artists. For more see www.qarts.com.au.

Tuesday 4
5–7 pm **community hearings re amalgamation** possibility between Bungendore and Queanbeyan, conducted by NSW Independent Review Panel, Bungendore Council chambers – see p1, this *Bulletin*.

Friday 7
Return to the Forbidden Planet
The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Presented by Queanbeyan Players. For bookings www.theq.net.au or 6285 6290.

Monday 10
Queen's Birthday Holiday

Bungendore Evening VIEW Club
The Royal Hotel, 34 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore, 6.30pm. New members and guests most welcome. Call 6238 0263 or email bungendoreview@gmail.com.

CAUTION

THESE DEALS ARE SO HOT, YOU MAY BURN YOUR FINGERS

Husqvarna Ride On Mowers



from only **\$2599**



+ **FREE**
CARRY CASE

PURCHASE THIS SAW TO GET THESE OFFERS!!*

LTD STOCK
\$249

38cc
2 stroke

14"
Bar

2 yr
Warranty



HUSQVARNA 236

\$45

CARRY CASE



EXTRA CHAIN

52 DL

\$20



2 STROKE OIL & BAR OIL COMBO



\$20

HEDGE TRIMMERS



FROM
\$269



RED HOT
\$249

28cc

2 stroke

2 yr

Warranty

4.4kg

+
FREE
VAC
KIT!!

Husqvarna
125BVX
BLOWER / VAC

HUSQVARNA CHAINSAW CHAPS



\$199
PRO CHAPS

+
FREE
HUSQVARNA
GLOVES
VALUED AT \$50



30 TON LOGSPLITTER



\$1599
IN CRATE

+ \$120
ASSEMBLED

9HP

4

STROKE

3 YR

ENGINE WARRANTY

BRING THIS AD
IN STORE
TO GET
10% OFF
ALL SERVICES!

HUSQVARNA
CHAINSAW HELMET

\$119
AUSSIE
MADE



Husqvarna

CANBERRA MOWER CENTRE

26 BARRIER ST FYSHWICK - (02) 6280 6751

3/48 SANDFORD ST MITCHELL - (02) 6241 0500

MON - FRI : 8:00 - 17:00

SAT: 8:00 - 13:00

*TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY, SEE IN STORE FOR DETAILS, MUST END 21/5/13 OR WHILE STOCKS LAST