



Bulletin

COUNTRY LIVING in Queanbeyan and Palerang

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Red heart of NSW

WARATAHS were the star event at the Burra Open Gardens day in late October – the Burra event being a fundraiser for the Lion's Club. At Glenbog Nursery and gardens a bank of Waratahs on a north facing slope drew visitors like a magnet.

Waratah (*Telopea speciosissima*) is the NSW state emblem and as early as 1793 was described by an English botanist, Sir James

Smith as: "the most magnificent plant which the prolific soil of New Holland affords".

Unfortunately it is tricky to domesticate and propagate, hence not many have this magnificent plant in the garden, particularly not in frost-prone areas. Glenbog says they will give propagation a more concerted try next year.

> Local Open Gardens p2

'Watch and Wait' Mongarlowe fire

While all eyes were on the Blue Mountains fires, the Bulletin's Braidwood correspondent **Jill McLeod** and her neighbours spent an anxious two weeks from mid-October in 'watch and wait' mode east of Braidwood. Fire was coming closer, flames could be seen at night and the area was cloaked in smoke. The fires, started by lightning, continue to burn in remote country in the Budawangs and Morton National Park at press time. The iconic Corn Trail in Mongo National Park has been severely affected. Late reports say the amazing Remote Area Firefighting Teams are being winched in by helicopter to parts of the firefronts.

ON THURSDAY 17 October, a friend handed me a map that showed the position of a fire on the eastern side of the Budawang ranges. The fire was about 35kms west of Ulladulla and named the Wirritin fire.

Properties owned by my neighbours and I on Charleys Forest Road, Mongarlowe, were not far away. We hoped that the prevailing wind, a westerly, would keep the flames from jumping over to the western slopes. But on Sunday 20 October embers found their way over to the west.

As I drove towards Braidwood on Monday morning, 21 October, I saw spot fires which were burning in the wild, inaccessible reaches of the Budawang National Park. I counted ten fire trucks and support vehicles as they drove past me to the north.

By Wednesday 23 October, another blaze, the Mt Budawang fire, started by a lightning strike had broken out 6kms southwest of the Wirritin fire, as well as a third fire in the Corn Trail area on the southern side of the Kings Highway.

NPWS personal estimated that by Thursday the Wirritin fire, which had breached containment lines in the northeast and had been slowly creeping down the western side, covered 4,000 hectares and the Mt Budawang fire had covered at least 35 hectares.

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CLEANSEEDS - WHERE BUNGENDORE'S FARMERS SHOP

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Open gardens, Braidwood, Major's Creek
 Garden lovers can check out two just-announced properties in Braidwood and Major's Creek on 23 and 24 November, part of the national Open Garden scheme.
Shadowlands on Bombay Road was originally part of a larger rural holding, and is now a five-acre country garden in the European tradition in the process of being lovingly restored to reflect its settler past.
Old Police Station at Major's Creek witnessed fascinating and terrible tales from its past 120 years but is now a charming property with a beautiful, park-like garden complete with majestic Oaks and rose garden.
 Both gardens are open 10am–4.30pm both days.
 For more about these and other gardens in November contact Open Gardens Australia: 03 5424 8061 or check www.opengarden.org.au.


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New energy reserves in a tough political climate

Farz Edraki interviews Windlab's Luke Osborne

WITH CALLS from the Abbott government to again review Australia's 2020 renewable energy target (RET) next year, there's growing uncertainty surrounding the future of the renewables sector.

With good reason. As expected, there's no indication the newly-elected Coalition government will rate climate change high on its agenda. Far from it – within weeks, we've seen the axing of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation and Climate Commission.

Little wonder, then, that wind energy technology firm Windlab's Luke Osborne (seen here) is concerned the RET could also be cut. *The District Bulletin* sat down with Bungendore-born and -raised Osborne, for an insight into new models of alternative energy in the current political climate.

"There's a cloud over the renewable energy target given the government has committed to reviewing it again, it's stalled the market," Osborne told *the Bulletin*. "The government has repeatedly stated that they support the RET but the mere fact that there will be a review has taken investors out of the market... everybody has a 'wait-and-see' attitude."

Community participation approach to wind farms

Osborne is the project director of a wind farm that's recently received approval for Coonooer Bridge in Victoria, unique for an ownership model which incorporates community participation.

Windlab offered 30 landholders, who live near the proposed wind farm site, shares in the project. Osborne says this model of ownership helps local landholders and helps to foster acceptance for the project overall.

"The scheme aims to deliver increased financial benefits on a fair basis," he said. "Not only does it result in a better project but it helps regional areas which really need a stronger and more diversified economy."

Yet Osborne is the first to admit that not everybody in the Coonooer Bridge region is happy about the incoming wind farm. While it's near-impossible to win everybody over, he thinks a community-focused model can be persuasive.

"It's better for the local area, improves communication between the project and the neighbours and increases trust," Osborne said. "Sometimes people feel like the developer is taking a 'tick-the-box' kind of approach – and there's not real dialogue and real response to their concerns."

"We tried to take a radically different approach at Coonooer – we took a proportion of the project and asked the community how to divide it on a fair basis."

"I'm a big proponent of the work of the CSIRO's Dr. Nina Hall, who studies the concept of a 'social license' to operate for wind energy. She says that there are two parts to this; firstly ensuring benefits to the local region are sufficient and then secondly establishing trust."

If you're talking about a fair way of distributing benefits...

Osborne says engendering trust with the community involves robust, genuine dialogue.

"It's obviously very important to explain to the community why you're doing it. With renewables, if you're simply explaining to people what the impact on their lives will be, it's very difficult in that context to win their trust. If instead you are talking about a

fair way of distributing their benefits... that allows you to have real dialogue."

When asked whether a similar community-based model of wind farm ownership could work in other regions, Osborne said he can't speak on behalf of other developers. "Every project is different. What we aim for in renewable projects is a social license to operate and it's up to the developer to decide."

The *Bulletin* has previously looked at concerns around the health-effects of wind turbines. Osborne, who has experienced living with wind turbines first-hand at his family's property outside Bungendore, says he's never experienced any adverse side-effects.

Osborne said his background shaped his approach to his current work in wind farm

technology. "I come from a farming family and have personal experience with how wind energy in particular can be a really great thing and there are a lot of flow-on benefits."

"But [my background] also makes me sensitive to concerns. I know a lot of people who have a different perspective on wind turbines."

He'll no-doubt be hoping somebody with a favourable view of wind turbines will buy the power from the Coonooer wind farm, which needs to sell the clean electricity it will generate before it can be constructed. ■

> Palerang's community-run renewable energy project about to take off, see p13



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> See details of the Run with the Wind fun run on 17 November, p6

Where are we up to with the LEP and why by Palerang Mayor Pete Harrison

THE STAFF report attached to the 17 October meeting business papers (available from council's website) provides comments on the themes presented in all 465 submissions received in response to the exhibition of the draft PLEP.

The exhibition process was not a referendum, so amendments were not made because of the level of interest or objection to any particular part of the draft PLEP. An LEP is a piece of legislation that has been prepared under strict guidelines provided by the NSW State government and the Department of Planning & Infrastructure. Any amendments need to be made within those guidelines.

Objections or suggestions are considered on their individual merit as is the case in the application of planning legislation. A sound suggestion in a single submission may lead to an amendment, but an objection based on false assumptions, supported by hundreds of submissions, may not. Either way, the reasoning behind all staff recommendations is provided in their report.

The issue that drew most attention at the recent LEP review meeting relates to the proposed zoning of the rural residential areas of the former Yarrawall Shire. The problem here appears to have been concern that the proposed E4 (Environmental Living) zone has been described as an environmental protection zone.

While data provided by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage quite clearly show areas of ecological significance throughout the areas in question, as illustrated in the PLEP Biodiversity Map, these were not actually the primary reason for the proposed zoning.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure suggests several reasons why an area might be zoned E4, one of which, quite simply, is that the area is an existing rural residential area, implicitly underpinned by an existing rural settlement strategy. In this case, there is no need for studies to justify a proposed settlement pattern, because the settlement pattern already exists.

Queanbeyan City Council used the same reasoning for E3 and E4 in preparing its LEP

This is the case we are dealing with here, in zoning the former Yarrawall Shire areas under the new PLEP. This is the same justification used by Queanbeyan City

Council in preparing its LEP—the rural residential areas of the former Yarrawall Shire transferred to the Queanbeyan LGA in 2004 were zoned E3 or E4.

With both Palerang and Queanbeyan, the department has approved the zoning, with the Queanbeyan LEP having been gazetted in 2012. Objections to the manner in which the E4 zone has been applied thus have no substance.

Objective is to protect the existing amenity. That's it

It is important to appreciate the purpose of land use zoning. In the present context, it is simply used to control residential development. In spite of the fact that the E4 (Environmental Living) zone has been described as an environmental protection zone, its objective is to "ensure that residential development does not have an adverse effect on [the character of an area]". That's it. The objective is to protect the existing character of the area.

By comparison, a fixed objective of the R5 (Large Lot Residential) zone – suggested by some as an alternative to E4 – is "to ensure that large residential lots do not hinder the proper and orderly development of urban areas in the future".

So while around 80 submissions opposed the proposed E4 zoning, and many people spoke to these submissions at the LEP meeting, the conclusion was that none of them opposed the zoning for sound reasons – for example, identifying any current land use that would be restricted by the zoning (because there are none).

No one objected to the one thing that the E4 zoning does do, and that is protect the existing character of, and land use practices in our rural residential areas from inappropriate development. On that basis, it should be no surprise that Council endorsed the staff recommendation to retain the proposed E4 zoning and rejected the proposal to defer this decision.

Nonetheless, due to the extent of the changes that have been made to the original draft, the revised draft will go on a second, 28 day period of exhibition. The intention then is to prepare a final draft for gazettal early in the new year.

> **More on this matter, see letters p12**



Spring

Shy Red Neck Wallaby visiting at dusk.

Blink and you've missed it: state electoral boundaries changed

WHILE most people's attention was focused on the Federal election, the NSW State electoral boundaries changed.

All Palerang residents are now in the Monaro electorate – for most that isn't a change, but for a small number near Lake George there has been a change from Goulburn to Monaro. The Monaro electorate boundary now follows Palerang shires' boundary to the north near Lake George.

Residents west of the Federal Highway near Sutton who are now in the Monaro electorate, join the rest of the Yass Shire in being moved to the Goulburn electorate.

Monaro has shrunk slightly because of population growth in the Queanbeyan region, the Burrinjuck electorate has been abolished altogether and this means both Pru Goward and Katrina Hodgkinson live in the new electorate of Goulburn.

The changes only take effect from the next election in 2015 so until then people should continue to make representations to the current local members.

Regional development: where to NBN?

Overall country New South Wales has lost one seat to the city. It's a reflection of stable or declining population in many parts of inland New South Wales and it highlights again the need for a properly considered and

coherent regional development policy rather than the grab bag slogans that we have at the moment.

One of the biggest potential regional development initiatives we've seen in recent years was

Labor's NBN. If the NBN had been allowed to take its course regional towns would become world competitive when it came to internet speeds – making them great places for businesses to set-up with workers who could telecommute from their homes.

The new Coalition government has put all that on hold then while doing a review of the NBN with a view to implementing their own plan, a cheaper and less satisfactory option. In our area that means Bungendore, Braidwood, parts of Queanbeyan and Jerrabomberra which were due to get NBN over the next 12 months now have to wait and see what the Coalition decides to do. The Coalition's fibre to the node option is a much slower option than Labor's fibre to the premises broadband.

A problem is that parts of communities like Queanbeyan are already receiving Labor's NBN. This creates the very real potential of 'haves' and 'have nots' in the provision of broadband services

NSW Capital Watch



with Steve Whan

Bungendore and Braidwood could be in the second category, under the Coalition's scheme while East Queanbeyan, the Ridgeway and the new suburb Googong will be enjoying 100 Mb per second internet speed through the full NBN. [Ed note: rural residential may see no change with wireless internet being the option under one political party or the other].

New Zealand rolls out fibre to the home

The federal government says it is too expensive to roll out fibre to the home, but if we don't, we put ourselves behind most of our international competitors. People may not be surprised to learn that Singapore already has a fibre network but how many know that New Zealand is rolling out fibre to the home?

NBN is to regional development this century what the railway was in the 19th century and electricity in the 20th, we really can't afford the second rate option. If the NSW Liberals and Nationals have any interest in regional development they should be loudly demanding that all NSW communities get the access to the internet they deserve.

Don't fall for scare campaign

On a different issue, the Nationals representative in Monaro John Barilaro has written to a number of clubs and community groups running a scare campaign suggesting that Labor is putting their leases on crown land in doubt by refusing to agree with legislation being put forward by the government.

It is a bit of desperate and misinformed propaganda from Mr Barilaro, which even Clubs NSW believes is totally unjustified. The legislation in question is meant to fix a problem resulting from a court decision with commercial secondary uses of crown land. Labor supports fixing the problem, but believes the government's legislation is trying to sneak in extra power to extinguish native title (among other things).

Mr Barilaro clearly hasn't read the bill or the court case otherwise he would know that not for profit bodies like clubs, RFS sheds, community halls etc are not affected at all. It's pretty pathetic seeing the Nationals resorting to falsely alarming community groups. ■

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Drugs, weapons seized in Queanbeyan

QUEANBEYAN police have arrested two people and seized weapons and drugs following a house raid in October. Police searched the Carrington Street house after obtaining warrants following tip-offs from members of the public.

During the raid, they found drug paraphernalia, a gun, other prohibited weapons including a stun device like a TASER, cash and two diamond pythons. They also seized drugs, including a reported \$3,000 worth of methylamphetamine and oxycontin.

A 53-year-old man and 32-year-old woman were charged with several drug and gun offences. They were refused bail and appeared in a Queanbeyan local court on 28th of October.

Police say the pair have been remanded in custody until the 2 December, when they'll reappear in court. It's unlikely they will receive bail anytime before then.

A *Queanbeyan Age* report noted a further raid on premises at Wilgabar Way in the same week that netted 19 marijuana plants. The street value of one mature cannabis plant was listed at \$3,000 and \$2,000 for an immature plant.

Police encourage anyone with knowledge of illegal drugs in the community to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

— Farz Edraki

The Raiders: did they learn? Will Stuart be the saviour?

Our correspondent 'Eye on Sports' doubts it



rleague.com

IT WOULD seem the Canberra Raiders management decided to take the advice of this column and have a changing of the guard after all. Well, sort of.

Long-time chairman John McIntyre, whose father Les was the driving force behind the Queanbeyan Leagues Club and instrumental in the entry

of the Raiders to the national rugby league competition, stood aside after the unprecedented recent sacking of David Furner.

Furner is, of course, the son of the first coach of the team – Don – and the brother of the CEO since 2008, Don Furner Jr. Nepotism? Whatever do you mean?

For reasons one can only poke around at, the 'strategic' replacement of McIntyre, who remains patron and chairman of the highly influential Queanbeyan Leagues Club, now sees the show being run by another long-serving board member, the former public servant and diplomat, Allan Hawke.

And hot on the heels of this filling of the shoes came the next controversial call – the appointment of Ricky Stuart to finish

Ricky Stuart, a former Queanbeyan boy and a Raiders' 'favourite son', courted and divided public opinion in his roller-coaster tenure as coach of the NSW State of Origin team, the Blues.

what Furner had started back in 2009.

Stuart, a former Queanbeyan boy and a Raiders' 'favourite son', courted and divided public opinion in his roller-coaster tenure as coach of the NSW State of Origin team, the Blues, who then gained little traction after agreeing to attempt to repair a thoroughly damaged Parramatta from 2012. Leaving the Eels for the Raiders not even half way through his well-padded three year contract, the condemnation was swift and loud.

McIntyre has publicly stated that Stuart was his preference for the Raiders' top job, declaring there was "no secret of my feelings over the time since Ricky left the club to play elsewhere. I always saw that one day he would come back".

The shake-up has also extended to the removal of problem players Blake Ferguson and Josh Dugan (again called for in this column). The two are alleged to have caused the most disquiet due to ill-discipline and confidence issues.

So, will all the turmoil and angst be worth it in the end? Will the Raiders again prove to be the Lazarus of Australian league and reach the heights of their glory days during the 1980s? Will Stuart be the man with the miracle touch?

If the final three games of the season and the catcalls across social media are anything to go on, it's a resounding 'no'. The good news though is that soccer is certainly on the up-and-up ... ■

Queanbeyan Council wastes no time starting new garbage plan

QUEANBEYAN Council reports a proactive start to waste management, following community consultation. This will include an optional rural recycling service, sale of composted green waste from the Waste Minimisation Centre and the option of upsizing recycling bins from 240 litres to 360 litres (which would cost the ratepayer an extra \$20 per year).

A key priority is assessing the amount of food waste being sent to landfill. Food waste currently represents 42 percent of the city's garbage waste collection. Council will promote a range of home composting options and investigate an organic

collection service to encourage food waste separation. Subsidised compost bins may soon be available from council.

The WAMI (Waste Minimisation Centre) is also in for an overhaul and may be relocated to a larger site in the future to incorporate expanded drop-off facilities such as permanent e-waste and mattress collection.

The message is 'Waste Less – Recycle More', aimed at reducing the amount of garbage to landfill. Council says it will include a strong educational commitment to promote ways to avoid waste and introduce new services in the future. ■

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Energy hogs – did you know this?

DOES YOUR smartphone use more energy than a refrigerator? A recent report by the Digital Power Group claimed that an average iPhone uses more juice for battery charging, data use, and wireless connectivity than a medium-sized, Energy Star refrigerator.

But an iPhone's power requirements vary dramatically depending on how it's used for video, gaming, and other apps. And estimates for just how much data the average owner uses a month also vary widely, so the controversial study has drawn critics who claim that the comparison is greatly overstated.

Here are a few surprisingly power-hungry devices that may really be feeding your electric bill.

Set-top boxes

These familiar electronic arrays sit on or near many televisions. But it's not just their clocks that run when no one is watching. These devices function much like mini-computers that communicate with remote content sources or record favorite shows while you're out. That means they require a lot of energy.

If you have a DVR on your main TV, and a regular set-top box on a second TV, that could equal the energy use of a new refrigerator.

A 2010 study found that the 160 million set-top boxes in the US consumed the annual output of nine average coal-fired plants, some 27 billion kilowatt hours in all.

Battery chargers

Many of the devices we use every day, from mobile phones to power tools, run on rechargeable battery power. The US Department of Energy estimates that some 800 million such devices are sold in the US each year, and the ultimate source of their power is the electric grid.

Microwave ovens

You'd expect your microwave to eat up electricity when it's popping popcorn or heating up last night's leftovers. But the truth is, these appliances consume most of their electricity when they're simply sitting in your kitchen doing nothing. When it's not in use it's consuming standby power because it's always sitting there ready to go.

An Appliance Standards Awareness Project study found that the typical microwave is only used about 70 hours a year. During the other 99 percent of the time, or 8,690 hours, it burns as much as 35 kilowatt hours in 'vampire power' to illuminate the clock and keep electronic push button controls in standby mode.

New standards (in the US) coming into effect in 2016 will cut that wasteful consumption by 75 percent for most microwaves by upgrading efficiencies in power supplies, control boards, and cooking sensors.

Sara Mullen-Trento of the Electric Power Research Institute said smaller, cheaper electronics mean that more appliances will likely boast electronic features like those on

microwaves. "You'll probably see this kind of technology incorporated to enhance their feature sets," she said.

Pool pumps

Americans love to stay cool in their swimming pools and dig more than 150,000 in-ground units each year, adding to a total that's already more than five million. While some bemoan the heating costs for some pools, another, larger expense often goes unnoticed: the pool pump accounts for 70 percent of a typical pool's energy use and seven times that of a refrigerator.

The pump keeps pool water circulating and passes it through filters. Single-speed pumps always run at the same maximum speed, burning extra energy. But multi-speed pumps can be scaled up or down as needed for tasks like filtration and cleaning.

Using an Energy Star-certified pump with multiple or variable speeds can cut energy use by over 80 percent and save hundreds of dollars a year.

Quiet, efficient, energy saving, planet saving!

WHAT'S not to like about energy-efficient pool pumps? One Australian manufacturer claims new designs can save consumers "more than \$800 per year" on electricity compared to a standard 1.5hp pump running eight hours a day at 2013 prices (and if you have solar panels, you free up power for something else).

The *Bulletin* is not in a position to do a consumer analysis of eco pool pumps, but we recommend taking a look at the considerable information now available online about these products and learn how to avoid the biggest submerged cost related to pools.

According to Energy Star stats, these pumps will pay for themselves in five years and save owners more than \$1,000 over the pump's lifetime. Some utilities are offering cash incentives to purchase them and, in California, sales of new standard single-speed pumps have been banned outright.

An excerpt from an original article by Brian Handwerk for National Geographic, published 26 August 2013. It's an American report but Australians live the same way.

Run with the wind on a beautiful, tough course at Tarago

Following last year's successful fun run event that drew 450 competitors Infigen Energy will be again hosting Run with the Wind on **Sunday 17 November 2013**.

The course is at Infigen Energy's Woodlawn wind farm near Tarago. The five and eight kilometre courses start in the valley, make the ascent onto the Woodlawn range and follow along the ridgeline amongst the wind turbines, before descending back down the range to the finish line. The eight kilometre race will commence at 11am and the five kilometre race at 11.45am, with presentations to follow.

Kids (under 12) run free and a \$25-\$35 entry fee applies to adults with all net proceeds going to support local community organisations. There will multiple event categories and prizes for each category winner.

Winners can look forward to a dozen bottles of local wine in adult male and female categories and a nano iPod in the under 18s category.

Local businesses can host a stall to showcase and sell local products. For more information about registering, **contact: office@eliteenergy.com.au or call 4422 9000**.

The inaugural event included Canberra Olympic marathon runner Martin Dent, who won the men's eight-kilometre race in 26 minutes and 11 seconds.

"It's a beautiful course. It's great being so close to the turbines. It's a really tough, hilly course, one of the hilliest races I've done for a long time," he said.

To enter, volunteer or find more information, please go to **www.runwiththewind.com.au** or search for #runwiththewind2013.

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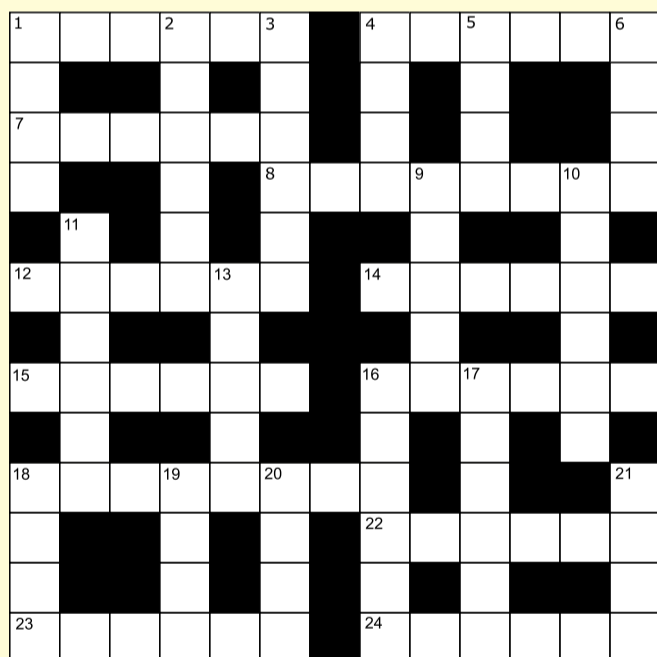


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Crossword

Solution p14

Across

- 1 Form a queue (4, 2)
- 4 Country, capital Belgrade (6)
- 7 Voucher that can be redeemed as needed (6)
- 8 Open disrespect (8)
- 12 Rubbish (6)
- 14 America's largest state (6)
- 15 Educational institution (6)
- 16 Constituent of concrete (6)
- 18 Strong black coffee (8)
- 22 Having spokes (6)
- 23 Unless (6)
- 24 Stitching (6)

Down

- 1 Fasten with a key (4)
- 2 Showing knowledge, skill and aptitude (6)
- 3 Nipper at the end of a claw (6)
- 4 Pelt or hide (4)
- 5 All-night party (4)
- 6 Border (4)
- 9 Mark (~) placed over the letter n in Spanish (5)
- 10 Beijing's former name (6)
- 11 Travelling show (6)
- 13 Become ground down (5)
- 16 Group of people assembled to sing (6)
- 17 Grassland (6)
- 18 Boundary, rim (4)
- 19 Level to the ground (4)
- 20 Set of garments (usually of a jacket and trousers) (4)
- 21 Stopper (4)

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State mines fire started by Defence practices army ranges fail bushfire preparedness

THE WORST NSW bushfire emergency in a decade, that destroyed bushland and houses from Lithgow through the Blue Mountains, was started by Defence forces. An army training exercise involving explosive devices was to blame, according to RFS investigators.

WATCH AND WAIT

Cont'd from p1

While smoke belched during the day, I could clearly see the red glow of the fire from the road by night. It was coming closer to the foothills but we were comforted by the fact that the prevailing wind remained from the west.

30kph winds on Tuesday and Wednesday, 22–23 October, did not allow planes to carry out the planned retardant drop. Plans then were to allow the fire to burn down to half a km from the edge of cleared pasture and then to backburn.

A community meeting was called for 4pm on Thursday 24 October, at the Mongarlowe fire shed to report on the status of the fires. Some 40 residents attended the well-run meeting and the Mongarlowe RFS was assisted by the Lake George Zone and members of the NPWS staff.

The meeting was told that the western perimeter of the Wirritin fire was backing slowly towards control lines and farmland and was being monitored by RFS crews from the Lake George Zone which included Braidwood and other regional RFS brigades.

The northwest edge was actively burning in remote country. More containment lines needed to be enforced to box in the fire. The fuel load was estimated at 50 tonnes per hectare, but fortunately temperatures and humidity were low. Names, addresses, contact phone numbers and email addresses were recorded. The 'telephone tree' would be activated when necessary.

Over the weekend 26–27 October, from my verandah I saw many small spotter planes flying overhead. The wind had changed direction and I could now see the red glow of the fires, which seemed to have joined up in a 6km long chain visible at night. Smoke shrouded my hills and gullies.

The next day the loud and welcome chop-chop sound of water bombing helicopters filled the sky and I saw them flying low as if they were just above my own land. So far my neighbours and I were still safe.

Following water-bombing for about 10 hours on Sunday 27 October, crews remained vigilant. On Thursday 31 October, water-bombing re-commenced to control a flare-up at the northern end. The fire status on the 31st was 'Being Controlled'. [At press time news reports said water bombing and deployment of Remote Area Firefighting Teams is continuing and will continue for some weeks, barring good rain.]

I feel forever grateful to the wonderful volunteers from many brigades – including from Burra, Bungendore, Queanbeyan, Wamboin, Yass as well as local brigades – and Remote Area Firefighting Team personnel who worked tirelessly while the rest of us watched and waited. ■

The fire, which burned out over 50,000 hectares, started at the Marrangaroo training area north of Lithgow, reported Fairfax Media. The *Sydney Morning Herald* also revealed that "army ranges across Australia are failing to develop bushfire plans in accordance with Defence rules".

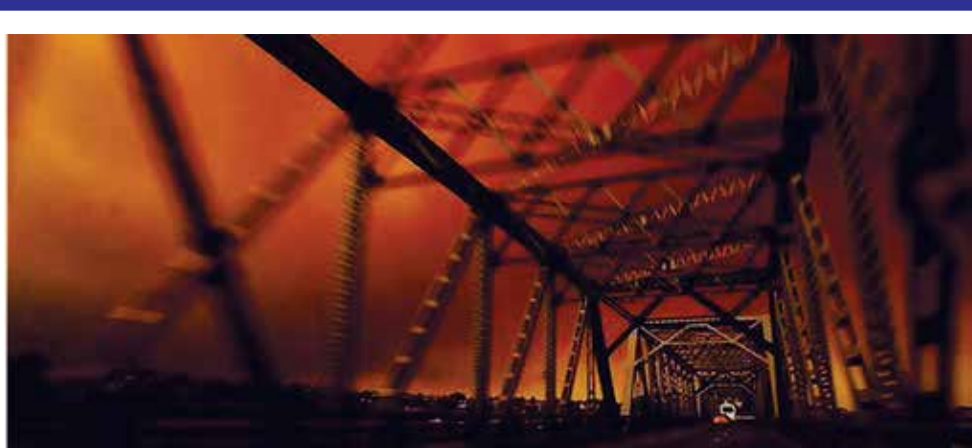
(In this area there is the army's Majura training area, between Palerang and the ACT).

"A source with close knowledge of army training area management said Defence brass knew of the shortcomings but had not acted because of a lack of resources. "There is just an amazingly casual approach to the whole thing with no mitigation plans in place at all," said the anonymous source.

"Army personnel who expressed concern about the lack of fire management plans had been told, don't worry we will get to it", the source said. The report goes on to say that internal Defence correspondence sighted by Fairfax indicates the training area management knew that ranges across the country had failed to put in place bushfire plans.

It also reported another fire was recently started in South Australia near Port Augusta thanks to an explosives exercise. A later news report said another fire in Queensland at Wide Bay was also the army's doing. The rules of when live ammunition exercises are OK in high bushfire danger weather are unclear.

A NSW RFS spokesperson said in a separate report during the same period that RFS crews would not be sent in when live explosives are on the range. NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell has since been reported talking about Commonwealth compensation. ■



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

October 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.2013.175	Dwelling and Shed	01/10/2013	Lot 32 DP 848849 64 Doust Road BYWONG
DA.2013.198	Garage	01/10/2013	Lot 713 DP 1068066 6 Larmer Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.207	Swimming Pool	08/10/2013	Lot 31 DP 1056600 37 Brooks Road BYWONG
DA.2013.170	Tree Removal	08/10/2013	Lot 102 DP 261056 58 Bingley Way WAMBOIN
DA.2013.229	Shed	10/10/2013	Lot 2 DP 1185469 1698 Bungendore Road BYWONG
DA.2013.209	Garage	10/10/2013	Lot 24 DP 285984 222 MacDiarmid Road BURRA
DA.2013.216	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling	10/10/2013	Lot 529 DP 1059913 25 Hyland Drive BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.220	Garage	10/10/2013	Lot 19 DP 285984 192 MacDiarmid Road BURRA
DA.2013.218	Dwelling and Shed	10/10/2013	Lot 35 DP 1141290 199 Birchmans Grove WAMBOIN
DA.2013.032	Dwelling	10/10/2013	Lot 10 DP 1093301 85 Wallace Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2013.139	Dwelling	11/10/2013	Lot 121 DP 1167357 Elrington Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2013.190	Garage	14/10/2013	Lot 4 DP 1090529 31 Del Ponte Lane ARALUEN
DA.2013.189	Dwelling	14/10/2013	Lot 157 DP 754893 325 Neils Creek Road BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.208	Tree Removal	15/10/2013	Lot F DP 22695 45 Coronation Avenue BRAIDWOOD
DA.2013.191	Manufactured Home	15/10/2013	Lot 3 DP 1089987 105 Foxs Elbow Road WARRI
DA.2012.319	Twelve (12) Lot Subdivision	16/10/2013	Lot 159 DP 755911 Wyanbene Road WYANBENE
DA.2013.231	Dwelling	16/10/2013	Lot 5 DP 1167608 17 King Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.221	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling, Carport and Shed	16/10/2013	Lot 14 Sec 6 DP 758183 35 Osborne St BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.224	Tree Removal	17/10/2013	Lot 14 DP 855517 2 Ashby Drive BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.201	Continued Use of Alterations and Additions to Lower Floor	17/10/2013	Lot 7 Sec 7 DP 758183 36 Duralla Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2012.273	Three (3) Lot Subdivision	21/10/2013	Lot 1 DP 860239 Northanger Road MONGARLOWE
DA.2013.214	Shed	24/10/2013	Lot 1 DP 261590 37 Merino Vale Drive WAMBOIN
DA.2013.202	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling	29/10/2013	Lot 2 DP 872895 10578 Nerriga Road BRAIDWOOD
DA.2013.205	Dwelling (Dual Occupancy) and 2 Sheds	29/10/2013	Lot 942 DP 564613 218 Grove Road LAKE GEORGE
DA.2013.230	Shed	29/10/2013	Lot 6 DP 817665 1416 Norton Road WAMBOIN
DA.2013.223	Pergola and Shed	29/10/2013	Lot 10 DP 1080347 1426 Federal Hwy Service Rd SUTTON
DA.2013.061	Continued Use of Fence	30/10/2013	Lot 7 Sec 22 DP 758183 56 Butmaroo St BUNGENDORE

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Hotter, dryer conditions this summer but NSW axes its climate change staff as reports languish in the system

THE OUSTED but privately resurrected Climate Commission will be reporting next month that hotter weather and less humidity due to climate change conditions have set bushfire risks up a notch or two for some time. More of the same conditions will dictate much of NSW weather this summer.

But the NSW Coalition government has meanwhile axed most of the state's staff and funding for in-house advice on climate change impacts and ways for communities to adapt.

Fairfax Media reported on 21 October that a senior scientist who led the state's

climate change science group until March said his group of 10 has been slashed to three. A similar group of 10 looking at adaptation was similarly affected he said.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported that Peter Smith said the "Office of Environment and Heritage was being downgraded anyway from a super department under the previous government to being an office attached to the premier's department... while the reduction in climate change was even more significant than the general reduction.

"Dr Smith ... was a contributor to peer-reviewed research reports that found Australia was already facing an increase in bushfire dangers. The shift was particularly clear in spring with national mean temperatures rising 0.9 degrees since 1960."

This knowledge means more days of the year with potential high fire danger risk. "Across south-eastern Australia the number of days a year at the 'uppermost' forest fire danger index levels would triple (by 2050) according to two of the papers that Dr Smith worked on."

The NSW government has said in response it is putting more money into university research and projection modelling, which Dr Smith said was initiated by the previous Labor government.

He said the loss of in-house staff would make it even harder to share all this knowledge with state agencies and policy-makers or even the departmental website and thus the public. Communication approvals often took longer than the original research.

He said with these methods the O'Farrell government has been failing to publicise the knowledge already gained on how communities should adapt. ■

Electricity wires responsible for Australia's worst bushfires

An ABC 4 Corners report on 28 October pulled together the evidence from Ash Wednesday in South Australia, Black Saturday in Victoria and the recent Springwood fire in the Blue Mountains that destroyed some 200 homes, showing that each had been caused by breaking overhead electricity wires.

The report directly attributed the loss of the 163 lives in Victoria to the electrical failure (wires on the ground or on fences) that sparked fires which swept through Marysville, King Lake and other communities on a 40 degree day with high winds.

It took a long time for this to be discovered, as authorities chased the theory of an arsonist and the media and some outraged citizens blamed greenies for supposedly stymieing backburning.

The report then turned to the question of authorities turning off the electricity in vulnerable areas on high fire danger days marked

by high temperatures and high winds. Knowledgeable professionals interviewed for this report recommend doing just that, saying the ageing electricity infrastructure cannot be made safe for intense fire risk days. But authorities in Victoria and NSW have so far resisted.

Some with influence over the issue, including a top medical officer in NSW, have claimed that it is too dangerous to leave communities without airconditioning or other electricity-driven appliances even on the most risky fire days.

South Australia has done it infrequently in high risk areas since Ash Wednesday in 1983 and has experienced neither another Ash Wednesday or anything approaching, nor have there been reported lives lost or medical emergencies as a result of electricity being off for a day, said 4 Corners.

It's a good report. Catch it on ABC iView if you can.

Zebra progress, or is it snail?



A CONTENTIOUS issue and continuing source frustration and interest in Braidwood is the lack of progress with the approval and installation of a second zebra crossing over Wallace Street.

After four years of unsatisfactory dialogue with the RMS (Roads and Maritime Services), the Braidwood Region Seniors Association (BRSA) found it necessary to write once again to Duncan Gay, NSW Minister for Roads and Ports. This month Judy Marston, Secretary, wrote that BRSA was anxious that stonewalling tactics, such as statements relating to the non-availability of relevant staff, would not continue into yet another year.

Palerang Council had also made a written request for prompt action. The most recent BRSA letter, published in the *Braidwood Times*, had followed an earlier letter written

on 12 July 2013 which, up to 16 October, had received no response.

Of particular concern is the fact that the holiday season is coming fast upon us and traffic through Braidwood increases somewhat alarmingly during Christmas, New Year and school holidays.

Like all Australians, Braidwoodians are always ready to resort to humour to lighten frustration and stress. One bright spark has suggested two possible solutions to the main street dilemma. The purchase of a live zebra to accompany pedestrians across Wallace Street was suggestion No 1, while another was the use of a white bed sheet painted with black stripes which could be thrown out across the street when and where necessary.

The BRSA committee decided to 'wait and see' at its 25 October meeting. Minister Duncan Gay is being given more time to

respond to the Secretary's letter from early October.

Airing of quilts and film fest – what is showing?

On another light note,

November is a month when several pleasant annual occasions are held that are bound to sooth a troubled brow. The iconic Braidwood Quilt Event will be held over the weekend of November 22–24. The official opening will take place on Friday evening, 22 November, at 6pm, and the 'Airing of the Quilts' will grace the length of Wallace Street on Saturday 23 November.

Over the full weekend including Sunday 24 November, the National Theatre will be open with the major quilt exhibition and – as has become the norm – the entire town will provide 14 venues of exhibitions together with the largest outdoor market for the year.



Once again, the historic National Theatre will house the Braidwood Film Club's mini film festival on Friday and Saturday, 29–30 November. Guests and visitors are most

Braidwood PROFILE



with
Jill
McLeod

welcome and there is no entry fee.

Four films will be shown. The screening on Friday, 29 November at 8pm, is the 2001 French film *Le Placard* (*The Closet*) about a man who pretends to be a

homosexual to keep his job with absurd and unexpected consequences.

The Saturday 30 November program starts at 1pm with *Nowhere Boy*, a British biopic about John Lennon's adolescence, his relationships with his guardian aunt and his mother, the creation of his first band and its evolution into The Beatles.

North is a Norwegian film made in 2009. It was nominated for the 2009 Nordic Council Film Prize. A ski athlete recovering from a nervous breakdown sets out on a strange and poetic journey through Norway to find a child who may be his son. The film will screen at 3pm.

The final film will screen at 8pm on Saturday evening, 30 November. *Monsieur Lazhar* is a 2011 Canadian French-language film nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Film at the 84th Academy Awards. A Refugee Algerian immigrant assumes the guise of a school teacher even though he has no teaching experience. However, he manages to gain the respect of his pupils.

The Braidwood Film Club members also invite guests to join them for their pot-luck dinner which starts at 6.30pm. Just bring a contribution to the buffet. ■

Local author's plea:

Let the Land Speak
HarperCollins, RRP: \$45.00

Reviewed by Sarah Newsome

WHAT would you choose to write about when you've published over 140 books, ranging from kids books to gardening to historical accounts, across both fiction and non-fiction?

In the case of Jackie French, it's a book about how the landscape itself has shaped the major events which have shaped modern Australia, perhaps more than social or political forces.



She reinterprets the history we think we all know – from the indigenous women who tended the land, from Terra Incognita

— BOOK REVIEWS —

to Eureka, from Federation to Gallipoli and beyond. Jackie French shows us that to understand our history, we need to understand our land.

"Our nation was created and shaped by the land," says Jackie, "it is time we paid more attention to its voice."

From her home near Braidwood, she reflects on what she has learned from listening to the land. For nearly 40 years she has studied the species in the bush where she lives.

Jackie has published her reflections in different outlets. This ranges from scientific articles on wombat ecology, to groundbreaking books on pest and weed ecology, to popular books on backyard self-sufficiency.

"I think it needs more than one lifetime to know the land. I think you need at least ten thousand years. I have been extraordinarily lucky that there have been people in the region who have learned from the Indigenous people there and passed on the lore to me."

Let the Land Speak provides insights into ways we can read the land, predict the future – and survive it. ■

> **More reviews next page**

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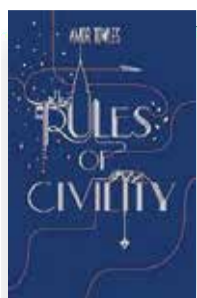
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Unconventional choices in the decadent 1930s

Reviewed by Sarah Newsome

Rules of Civility

by Amor Towles
RRP: \$29.99



READING Amor Towles' *Rules of Civility* is a bit like drinking dry martinis in a basement jazz club: it's delicious, decadent and difficult to tear yourself away from.

There's are chance encounters with moody musicians, shy blue-bloods, enigmatic multi-millionaires, irresistible playboys, freedom fighters and artists and women who take life on their own terms.

Before you know it, it is 3am. You have to be at your desk by nine. Reason says you will live to regret this.

But somehow that's the whole point: the safe choices often turn out to be ugly compromises. It is the bold, risky move that is the most exhilarating, the refusal to do the expected that keeps one true to oneself.

Rules of Civility is told from the perspective of Katy Kontent, a wealthy middle-aged New York matron. A visit at a photography exhibition catapults her back to New Years Eve, 1937.

That night, Katy and her room-mate Eve sat in a smoky bar avoiding male company. Tinker Grey, a banker with a shy smile, a monogrammed hip flask and a beautiful cashmere coat sits at the neighbouring table. Eve strikes up a conversation and proceeds to lead the trio through a series of madcap adventures.

The same freak accident which traps Tinker and Eve propels Katy into an upward spiral from the stultifying atmosphere of a staid Wall Street firm to the world of cutting edge publishing.

Along the way, Katy falls in with a series of colourful characters who alternatively beguile, amuse, befriend and challenge her. As 1938 draws to a close, they are scattered by war, misfortune, death and disappointed hopes.

You would be forgiven for concluding the moral to the story is to play it safe.

But not so. It's the unconventional choices which make us feel truly alive. ■



Treasure antiques and collectables, they are fading out in towns across Australia

DAVID and I have just returned from a 10,000km trip to Western Australia. Our main motivation was to visit the National Trust-listed home of David's great grandfather, John Michael Finnerty, the first Mining Warden and Resident Magistrate on the goldfields in 1894 in Coolgardie.

Finnerty's residence was built in Coolgardie in 1895 for Warden Finnerty, his wife Bertha and their two-year-old daughter Elizabeth (David's paternal grandmother) by Robert Bunning the timber magnate. The house was built with local stone and brick (18" outer walls and 12" inner) and still stands proudly looking over the town.

Some of the contents are original with Bertha's nursing chair taking pride of place in the formal sitting room. A number of items which have been donated by the family add to the history. Other items displayed in the house belong to the same era. I would have sold my soul to be able to purchase some of them, in particular a

stunning William Moorcroft jam jar.

Three fantastic museums in Coolgardie were well worth the visit including a bottle museum, a pharmacy museum and a museum with hundreds of old signs, tins and packets of everyday products from the

past. It is sad to say the town is slowly dying as young people leave to find work and older people pass away.

Of course no trip is considered without taking the opportunity to buy treasures for Annie's. So it was with

great anticipation that we set out with my mind travelling ahead of us dreaming of gems of antiques and collectables in every town we were to pass through.

Not an antique found (other than the human sort)

After leaving Coolgardie we followed a route through Perth, Busselton, Margaret River, Augusta, Walpole, Albany, and Esperance. Unfortunately my purchases for Annie's in the south western corner of WA were few because we just couldn't find any antiques and collectables shops, and we had to console ourselves with the thought that we would visit

the Clare Valley region in SA after tackling the long trek back across the Nullabor.

We have been to the Clare before and were surprised and saddened to see some shops boarded up with the only evidence that they ever existed the fading Antique sign on the side of the buildings. Others had notes taped to the door simply saying "Closed" or "Open Sometimes".

The same thing happened in the majority of towns we passed through across SA and Victoria before heading north on our way home. With the highway now bypassing most of the small towns, remaining shops struggle to survive.

Which made me wonder – are antiques and beautiful collectables fading and disappearing from our lives and our memories? Do we no longer want to treasure things that remind us of our past, our heritage, or our family members?

I know I do.

— Till next time, Annie



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with Judy Thompson

Be careful what you bring home!

TV series, binge watching and Jane Campion's *Top of the Lake*

SOME people are arguing that TV series such as *The Killing*, *Downton Abbey* and *Mad Men* are part of a trend of people staying home to watch a TV mini series rather than go to the movies.

In an article titled, "Why TV is Better than Movies", Gavin Polone at www.vulture.com/2012/09/why-tv-is-better-than-movies-gavin-polone.html argues for the small screen. He says that movies are suffering from a financial model and consensus decision-making process that is "dulling their creative edge". TV series cannot access the big funds for marketing movies; they have no choice but to make series that "stand out on distinctiveness and quality".

On the other hand, Ben Lawrence in an article for *The Telegraph* in the UK asks, "Why is there so much miserable drama on TV?" He says that budgets for TV dramas are now bigger than budgets for films in the UK.

Lawrence attributes the grimness of recent TV series in the UK to Britain's "appetite for gloom". In the UK at least, apparently when times are tough, gloom is popular.

There is also a new market in binge-watching for those who can't wait for next week's exciting instalment of their favourite mini series. Downloads of advance instalments or DVDs of the entire series can be purchased.

The latest offering is *Top of the Lake*: produced, written and directed for television by Jane Campion, amongst others.

Stunning scenery, horrible people
Top of the Lake is set in New Zealand and features some stunning scenery. The series has won an Emmy award for cinematography.

The plot, however, is grim. Gerard O'Donovan from *The Telegraph* describes the series as an "explosive melange of incest, patricide and paedophilia" – and he is not wrong.

this puts a bad day at the office in perspective

Elisabeth Moss plays a young woman detective Robin Griffith, who is visiting the lake to be with her dying mother. During her stay Robin becomes involved in a case of a missing 12-year-old pregnant girl.



High on the suspect list is the girl's family, a charming group of heavily tattooed Neanderthals who are running a crystal meth factory. An Australian equivalent would be to imagine a motorcycle gang family living in a compound in the Belangelo State Forest, led by someone like Milat.

There are also some strange women camping out in shipping containers on the lakeshore, on a farm called Paradise. All seem to be seeking answers from their straight talking but enigmatic guru played by Holly Hunter. Add to the mix a dodgy real estate agent, a bent leading detective, and a small town determined to keep its secrets.

Meanwhile, Detective Robin Griffith is meeting up with some of the locals still hanging around after a gang rape incident that occurred many years ago, as well as dealing with her mother's illness and a few ancestral nightmares. I guess this puts a bad day at the office in perspective.

I suspect that there is something funny in the water in that lake. *Top of the Lake* is described on the DVD jacket as "no ordinary place". What a relief! Ordinary is looking really special after this film.

If you liked the recent *Broadchurch* series which dealt with the death of an

11-year-old boy and the aftermath on a small community and *The Killing* (No 3), about Danish detective Sarah Lund driven to solve the murder of a young girl, you might give this a go.

However, for me, *Top of the Lake* lacked the suspense and character development of either of those series and can be summed up as 'over the top'. I loved Jane Campion's film *The Piano* and probably came to this film with high expectations. The scenery, however, is gorgeous. ■

We're not so different after all, overseas films open the door

Farz Edraki reviews

The Snow on the Pines

IRAN seems to only appear in the headlines for all the wrong reasons principally its suspected nuclear weapons program or some of the aggressive remarks of former leaders. It's refreshing, then, to see a different side of Iran presented to Australian audiences, through the Iranian Film Festival.

In its third year, the festival screened movies across capital cities in Australia during October. *The Snow on the Pines* opened the festival's Canberra leg.

The film centres on Mahnaz, a piano teacher, who inadvertently discovers her husband's been hiding an affair after he goes

on an extended business trip. She hides her troubled relationship from her mother and neighbours, instead seeking solace from her best friend, who's recently divorced.

At first glance a drama with a classic love-triangle trope, *The Snow on the Pines* also touches on the role of women in modern Iranian society.

The film's female leads are all stuck in some way: in unhappy marriages, uncertain divorces or static trysts. Mahnaz's neighbours are concerned when she's home alone (by implication: without a husband, or another man). She's physically stuck when she needs to – and can't – drive somewhere. Her friend even suggests it was her lack of desire to have a child that forced her husband away.

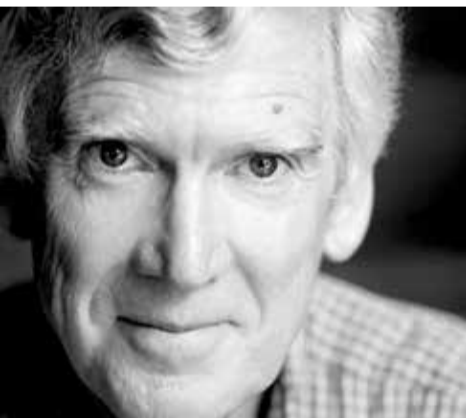
The film certainly doesn't shy away from heavy issues, but it's punctuated with lighter, comedic moments (in "the Iranian happy/sad style", as an Irish friend jokingly refers to it).

In one scene, Mahnaz attends a neighborhood meeting to discuss recent burglaries in the area. It's not unlike an

Continued p12

— Theatre —

David Williamson in fine form shows us **Hell hath no Fury... like a beneficiary scorned (and a lot more besides)** by Sarah Newsome



WHEN TWO brothers return for their father's 75th birthday celebrations, they are in for three big surprises.

First: The old man is worth \$100 million.

Second: He's gone and married Fury, an American beauty queen half his age.

Third: There's no pre-nup.

So begins David Williamson's *When Dad Married Fury*, which shows at The Q theatre 19–23 November.

Things are further complicated for one of the brothers by the in-laws, who lost everything in one of the Old Man's property deals during the GFC.

"In Australia, we were pretty lucky to escape, but a lot of people, particularly older people, lost their superannuation through property investments," comments director Denis Moore.

"Williamson can take a vast story like that, and personalise it, making it easier to grasp, making it real."

Williamson also adds a new theme to his familiar repertoire of money, families and the battle of the sexes. He asks: "As people grow older, do they get a second chance?"

And will their families allow them to take it? As the Old Man says, "I had a difficult marriage, and I deserve another go".

Williamson's plays are slices of Australian life that are so clear and fresh, they sting. He's always been subversive, examining police brutality in the 1970s, (*The Removalists*), ambition in the 1980s (*Emerald City*) and political correctness in the early 1990s (*Dead White Males*).

"I don't apologise for the fact that I want my plays to connect with an audience," Williamson said. "I always hope that they are accessible and entertaining. I also hope that they are saying something about the human comedy, or human tragedy underneath."

He's covered almost every vexed social issue – from what happens when friends borrow money to sexual harassment in the workplace – with humour, insight and compassion.

It's always good to see a Williamson play just when you've decided what to think. It keeps you from becoming smug. ■

A production by Christine Harris & HIT Productions
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WHEN DAD MARRIED FURY

HIT

40 YEARS

NOVEMBER 19 - 23

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Letters ...

Letters to *The Bulletin* should be no more than 350 words. We reserve the right to ask letter writers to cut back, or to decline to publish.

Palerang Council sticks with an ‘e’ zone

and why that may be a pretty good idea

On 17 October, Palerang Council took a step towards finalising the divisive issue of the proposed ‘E4 environmental living zone’.

Much of what has been said about E4 zoning can only be characterised as scaremongering. One common objection is to say that a zone with ‘environment’ in its title in the ‘local environmental plan’ (LEP) creates the opportunity for Palerang or other levels of government to target those zones in the future for stricter environmental controls.

There is no evidence for that claim. However, it is always hard to prove or disprove a prediction about the future. With the current flavour of the New South Wales and Commonwealth governments, the likelihood of this happening must be very slim. So objectors should not be concerned for the life of those current governments.

But I want to go further here – with right-wing, anti-environmental governments in NSW and federally, perhaps Palerang has a responsibility to man the barricades on

environmental protection. If you want to avoid having your next-door neighbour engaging in unwanted activities like mining, industry, intensive farming or inappropriate subdivision, whether you are in a RU (rural/farming) or R (residential) zone perhaps you should be asking for an E zone.

Zoning is not about your own land as much as about area amenity

Zoning isn’t mainly about what you can do on your own land. It is all very well to say that your environmental credentials are strong, but your neighbours’ may not be. Even if they are, you cannot be sure what the future owners of your neighbours’ properties will do. The

protections within an LEP are about providing that ongoing certainty.

I also have to note that in the 2013 federal election, the Greens vote increased slightly in the Wamboin and Sutton polling places. This substantially bucked the national trend, and the local trends in Hume and Eden-Monaro. It took place in the middle of a concerted anti-environmentalist campaign in the Bywong and Wamboin areas.

— (Councillor) Peter Marshall, Captains Flat

[Ed note: At its October meeting Council decided 6–3 not to defer the change of zoning name to E4 environmental living for rural residential areas of Palerang.]

To Wamboin, Bywong, Carwoola, Burra, Royalla and all rural residential

THOSE OF US who started the community petition agreeing with Council on E4 as the zoning name for rural residential areas of Palerang, want to inform everyone who participated and anyone who still wants to that:

Councillors have accepted the staff analysis and heard the reasons from the community in support of using E4 (environmental living) zoning in the revised LEP. They have moved on with this document and a second exhibition stage will happen shortly (watch your local newspapers we are told).

E4 essentially mimics the objectives of the former rural residential 1(d) zone just under a different name as required by NSW planning regulations. The old 1(d) objectives we all happily lived with in fact had stronger environmental safeguards than the current E4 draft.

The ‘support E4 community petition’ with comment opportunity will remain open for additional participation until early December as the LEP is re-exhibited and then be formally submitted to Council with people’s comments. So far comments clearly describe why people don’t mind a zone called environmental that protects exactly the lifestyle and amenity we have now. If you haven’t already, have your say for the record by letter or sign at: www.communityrun.org/petitions/rural-residential-zoning-under-threat-talk-to-palerang-council-now

— Bill Taylor, Bywong

Avoid Cootamundra Wattle

IN YOUR recent edition there was a nice piece about wattles. They are wonderful it is true, however, the Cootamundra Wattle is a declared weed in our area. It is suggested in the article that is a good tree to plant as they grow well. In fact, the opposite advice ought to be given.

It is a serious weed and I would truly appreciate the error to be rectified in the next edition. If you would like to seek further information you can look up Molonglo Catchment weeds list or simply google ‘Cootamundra Wattle-weed’ and you’ll find a lead.

— Annabel Schweiger, Palerang

[Ed note: the Molonglo Catchment involves a southern portion of Palerang from Captains Flat to the ACT border near the Molonglo Gorge. ACT concerns, including its weed list, are important elements of Catchment Group management.]

Cootamundra Wattle weed debate

A warmer, dryer region coming up, what are we focusing on?

I enjoyed Jo Walker’s wattle article in the September *Bulletin* and while I appreciate the validity of her advice regarding the invasiveness of wattles, such as Cootamundra Wattle (*Acacia baileyana*), I have much greater objection to weed species from overseas.

I know *Acacia baileyana* is a declared



Suzette Searle

pest plant species in the ACT (*Pest Plants and Animals Act 2005*). It is not a weed species, however, just across the border in NSW, where it originated in the Temora-Cootamundra district.

I get a real lift from seeing Cootamundra Wattle in full bloom around the roads, parks and gardens in Canberra at winter’s end, and I think it is one of Australia’s most ornamental wattles. Others have thought the same, as *Acacia baileyana* has been planted all over the country for well over a hundred years.

The fact that the type specimen was collected from a cultivated tree in Bowen Park in Brisbane

Queensland in August 1876 by Frederick Manson Bailey (after whom the species was named) indicates how early it had been deliberately planted away from its original home.

Now in the ACT, we are advised to pull Cootamundra Wattle seedlings out by their roots, or to cut larger plants down. I happily do this to the privet, pyracantha and cotoneaster seedlings that keep popping up in my garden but two years ago, I welcomed the one and only Cootamundra Wattle that began growing in my garden after 20 years.

If I was wrong, show me the scientific evidence that Cootamundra Wattle has eliminated native species from any area over the long-term.

If, as stated in *ACT Weeds strategy 2009–2019*, “the ACT is likely to become warmer, drier, face increased frequency of extreme weather events and increased risk of bushfire”, then “species that can tolerate warmer and drier conditions and/or larger variations in climate will be at a greater advantage than those species that are sensitive to change”.

The ACT authorities may change their minds and look differently upon Australian acacias such as Cootamundra Wattle because they are just the adaptable, fast growing, nitrogen-fixing woody pioneers we will need.

— (Dr) Suzette Searle, O’Connor ACT

BAGHALI POLO

Chicken and rice with broad bean

To match the Iranian film review, we thought we’d have an Iranian recipe by Sousan Fallahi (who, incidentally, is our Associate Editor, Farz Edraki’s, mum!) This dish is traditionally made during spring in Iran when fresh broad beans are available in the market.

Ingredients:

- Basmati rice: 3 cups rinsed and soaked
- Chicken (whole or pieces)
- Fresh broad beans: 1 cup green fresh broad beans (peeled frozen can be used as well when it is not in the season)
- Dried dill: 2 tablespoons
- Salt as needed
- Saffron: 1/4 teaspoon
- Oil or butter: 2 tablespoons for frying onion and 2 tablespoons for the rice
- Onion (1 medium chopped)
- Turmeric: 2 teaspoons
- Pepper: as needed
- Flat bread/Indian naan (which can be found in most supermarkets with breads).



Method:

Preparing the chicken

1. Fry chopped onion in 2 tablespoons oil until golden brown
2. Add chicken pieces to fried onion and sauté for a while
3. Add salt, pepper and turmeric
4. Then add 1 cup warm water
5. Cover pan and cook for around 30–45 minutes

Preparing the rice

6. Boil 5–6 cups of water in a pot
7. Add the broad beans to the boiling water
8. After a couple of minutes add rice to boiling broad beans
9. Add salt and turmeric
10. When the rice is soft (in 5 minutes or so), add the chopped dill or dried dill

What’s ‘livestock’? More rural res blocks to pay, maybe

IN THE October issue of *The Bulletin* (p4), there was an article headed ‘Small rural residential blocks may pay for livestock health’. It discusses the state government proposal to bring any small rural residential block over two hectares into the rating purview of the Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA).

At present blocks of less than 10 hectares are exempt from this.

I want to know what animals currently on my block are likely to suddenly become ‘rateable’. I am currently host to three wallabies, a pair of echidnas, sundry wombats, two hares, some visiting feral cats, the odd fox, sundry blue tongue lizards and snakes, field mice etc. I also have a domestic cat.

So I am just wondering what all these excellent creatures will say if they are now being referred to as ‘livestock’? I first considered the cat. She is a bog-standard farm tabby, with great dignity and a definite sense of her own position in society. Her response was the feline equivalent of “not on your nelly” quickly followed by “who do these people thing they are?”

The wallabies asked me if I was proposing to breed them up for pet meat, because if so they would be moving on. So, state government, how do you define ‘livestock’?

— A Shepherd, Braidwood

Plants that resist and retard FIRE ... guess which?

With thoughts turning urgently to bushfire preparedness, few of us think strategically about the plants around the homestead. But maybe we should.

Among Australian native plants, many of the Acacia family, ie wattles, including the much-debated Cootamundra Wattle, head the list of fire-retardant plants, according to the Australian Plants Society of Victoria. They define as fire retardant plants that will not burn in the first wave of a bushfire, but may burn once dried out.

Other fire retardant plants listed interestingly include the Moreton Bay Fig, Spotted Gum, Kurrajong, various ferns, Emu Bush, Lilly-Pilly and more. But the Acacias dominate the list.

Fire resistant plants are even tougher and are defined as ones that will not burn in the face of continued flame. They include many saltbush and bluebush varieties.

The list was compiled by plant society members many of whom live in fire prone areas of Victoria that have been affected by bushfire. They recommend a simple test to gauge the fire resistance or otherwise of foliage around your house. You’ve guessed it. When burning is permitted or perhaps in your fireplace, throw a handful of each foliage on the fire and see what happens. You’ll find this list at www.apsvic.org.au/plant_fire_resistant.html

11. Pour 2 tablespoons of oil into a separate pot, and cover the bottom of pot with the bread. Note: as the bread cooks, it will make a nice, crispy crust – we call it “tah dig” in Farsi.
12. Pour the rice mixture and cooked chicken on top of the bread
13. Lower the temp down at this point and place a lid over the pot
14. After about 15 minutes add butter over the rice (optional)
15. Pour one tablespoon hot water over 1 teaspoon ground saffron, and wait until it dissolves
16. Add the saffron solution to 1 cup of cooked rice; mix it well, and use it as garnish later.

To serve, pour the rice mixture into a flat platter, garnish it with saffron rice mixture. This dish can be served with yoghurt, herb salad (parsley, leek leaves, mints, basil, cress, radish) and some pickles, and a yoghurt drink called “doogh”.
Enjoy!

THE SNOW ON PINES

Cont’d from p11

apartment body corporate meeting in Frasier: an overzealous, bald neighbour in a neckbrace, proselytizing about security guards; a couple clucking in agreement; a man unable to stifle his giggles at a funny text message on his mobile phone.

Without stating what seems like the Absolute Obvious, it’s a small reminder to Western audiences that day-to-day life in Iran isn’t all that different.

See www.iffa.net.au/schedule for more information.
This review was originally published in Lip Magazine.

Join in on community-run renewable energy, 22 and 23 Nov

FuturePLANS will be holding two public forums on renewable energy options for households and businesses to launch their CORE (community owned renewable energy) survey findings and their new website which will provide local renewable energy information.

The forums will be on Friday 22 November at the Bungendore Palerang Council Chambers (6pm food for 7pm start) and Saturday 23 November 2013 at the Braidwood Palerang Council Meeting Room (5.30pm food for 6.30pm start).

“Every day I meet people wanting to access renewable energy but they face obstacles due to roof orientation, being in a rental property, not being sure where to start, or simply the up-front cost,” said Future PLANS project officer Mel Hillery.

“Some households with installed rooftop solar also need information to prepare them for the end of the solar bonus scheme in NSW in 2016 and potential changes in government regulation.”

“The forums will feature keynote speaker Luke Osborne on the role of communities in renewable energy, and a panel discussion with representatives from finance, leasing, installation and investment sectors of renewable energy.” (See interview with Luke Osborne p3).

“FuturePLANS is also asking people to tell us how we can help you better access renewable energy information or services. To do our five minute survey go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CORE_PLANS and please pass the link on to friends.”

FuturePLANS’ Community Owned Renewable Energy (CORE) project has been funded by the NSW Office of Environment and

Thinking about Renewable Energy?

Invite to business and community:

What – Forum on RE Options – finance, technology, outlook, rental and community options

**When – Friday November 22nd
6pm Food for 7pm start**

**Where – Bungendore
Palerang Council
Chambers Majara St**



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Heritage, and was initiated in partnership with Palerang Council’s Climate Change Advisory Committee.

Swimming pool certification and inspection program

QUEANBEYAN City Council has adopted a new swimming pool inspection program. Owners must register their pools on an online database coordinated by the Division of Local Government as soon as possible.

Swimming pool owners are also required to provide a valid swimming pool compliance certificate before being able to sell or lease a property with a pool. The certificate remains valid for three years. This will start in April 2014. Council will be required to implement a swimming pool barrier inspection program and inspect and issue compliance certificates when required and inspect public pools once a year.

While this notice came from Queanbeyan, the regulation is NSW-wide and would also apply to Palerang.

Draft Crime Prevention Plan on public exhibition now

QUEANBEYAN’S draft Crime Prevention Plan 2013–15 is on public exhibition in November. The focus is on motor vehicle theft and shop theft, two areas of crime identified by the Attorney General’s Department as priorities for funding.

The plan has been developed in consultation with the Monaro Local Area Command and the NSW Attorney General’s Department. When the public exhibition period is completed and the final report adopted by Council, it will resubmit the plan to NSW and seek funding for implementation.

Check council offices or website for the exhibition document.

Queanbeyan Council community meetings

QUEANBEYAN City Council holds community meetings every six months. In November community meetings are on: Wednesday 6 November at the Council Chambers. Too soon for this *Bulletin*, but you can catch up on Wednesday 20 November at the Fernleigh Park Community Hall, Swan Drive starting at 6pm.

Agenda items include:

- Update on major projects (Old Cooma Rd, Ellerton Drive extension etc)
- CBD Upgrade project
- Googong and Tralee developments
- Tips on recycling
- Queanbeyan’s Waste Management Strategy
- How to contact council.

for your host. Taylor’s of Bywong. Exclusive to Pendon Produce 413 Norton Road Wamboin. Special orders taken on request. Christmas is coming!

Pauline’s **fresh home grown herbs** – bay, chives, coriander, mint, oregano, parsley, (all varieties). Spring onions and silverbeet. Picked freshly for you. delicious preserves! Try her white chocolate & raspberry! Perfect potted plants. 1289 Norton Rd Wamboin. 6238 1996.

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Food Lovers Market Bungendore will be hosting a **Thermomix demonstration** on Thursday 21 November from 10am. All welcome.



Two wildlife calendars for your Christmas stockings

Wildcare Calendar – best yet! Help your local wildlife group. Buy a Wildcare 2014 calendar. Only \$10. Money raised directly helps our injured and orphaned wildlife. Buy one for friends, relatives and yourself. Contact: Lorraine Bell 6238 2882 or 0439 599 032; ljb100@bigpond.com.



Wombat calendar. The ever popular NARG wombat calendar is back bigger and better than ever with photos of both bare-nosed and Northern hairy-nosed wombats featured this year. They are still only \$10 each plus postage and make wonderful Christmas presents. To order, please call 4846 1900 or website www.narg.asn.au.

November stars as summer sights return

NOVEMBER brings with it the first hints of summer, with warm evenings and longer days. Clear evening skies this month allow us to see Venus, the winter Milky Way moving away towards the west and the bright stars of summer starting to appear in the east.

Low in the south is yellow Alpha Centauri, with the Southern Cross constellation, also known as ‘Crux’, nearby directly towards the south. The Southern Cross is ‘circumpolar’ from Australia, in that it never sets throughout the year.

Can you see it very low near the horizon? It is at its lowest for the year in November, and will start to rise again next month. Alpha Centauri is the closest star system to us, at approximately 39,900,000,000,000km away, or 271,000 times the distance from the Earth to the sun. It is actually a triple star system, with not one – but three – local suns.

Summer stars: Fomalhaut, Achernar, Canopus and Rigel

Straddling the overhead point at around 9pm in November are two blueish-white stars, Fomalhaut and Achernar. Both stars are relatively nearby, but still 6 times and 35 times the distance to Alpha Centauri respectively. Fomalhaut has a dusty disk surrounding it which will almost certainly one day form a planetary system.

Achernar holds the record for the star with the largest speed of rotation, spinning around at 250km/s, so rapidly that it has a strongly flattened shape. All stars rotate, as does the sun, which takes 25 days to spin once.

Continuing a line from Fomalhaut, through Achernar towards the south east is white Canopus. Canopus is the second brightest star in the whole sky and is a major summer feature, and it will be overhead in a couple of months time.

Rigel’s reappearance means that hot weather is not far away.

Rising low in the east at around 9pm is the bright blue star Rigel. Rigel is the brightest star in the constellation Orion, which is another major feature of our summer skies. Rigel is an extremely luminous star, shining with the brightness of 117,000 suns. It is very distant, around nine times the distance to Achernar, mentioned before. Hence, despite its vast brightness, it looks relatively faint from Earth. Rigel’s

Star Search with Dr David Weldrake

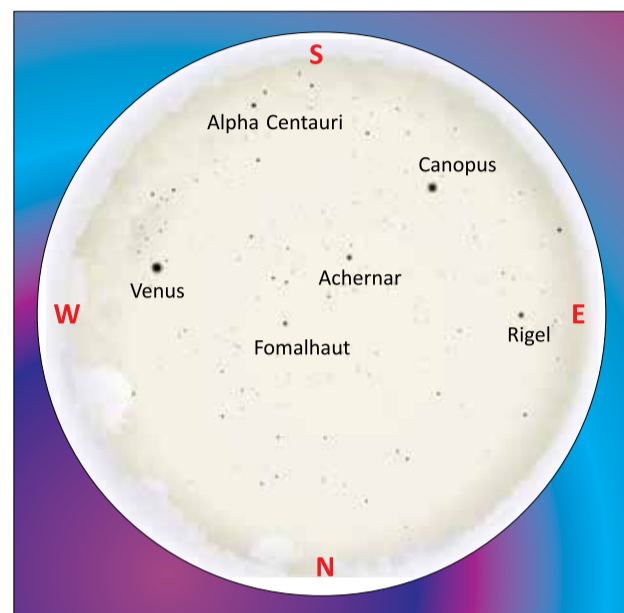


Chart (9pm on the 15 November) produced using the Stellarium software package

reappearance means that hot weather is not far away.

The Planets in November; Crescent Venus shines; Jupiter, low golden star

Last month Mercury graced our evening skies as a fairly bright whitish ‘star’ low in the west after sunset. On 2 November, Mercury passed too close to the sun to be seen, and will reappear in the early morning sky from later in the month. Mercury is always interesting to see through a telescope, although it rarely shows anything more than a tiny disk, and as it is closer to the sun in its orbit than the Earth, has phases like the moon.

The main highlight for the planets in November is brilliant Venus, shining in the evening sky. Venus is unmistakable, and is the third brightest object in the entire sky after the sun and moon. Venus also has phases, like Mercury, and through a telescope in November Venus will look like a crescent, the shape of which can even be seen in a pair of binoculars if held very steadily.

Venus will continue to be visible until January, when it will also pass too close to the sun to be seen, reappearing in the morning sky after that. Do you have some binoculars? If so, can you see that Venus is a crescent this month?

The giant planet Jupiter will be at its best for 2014 in January, visible as a steady golden ‘star’ low in the north east, and will start to be seen in our late evening skies next month. Jupiter will be near the moon on the 22nd November.

The moon was new on 4 November, and is ‘first quarter’ (half) phase on the 11th and full on the 18th. Interestingly, the moon was at its closest to the Earth for the month on the 6 November, at a distance of 365,362km, and furthest away for the month on the 22nd at a distance of 405,446km. ■

'Twill soon be the season

Keep your dog safe

by Heike Hahner

SPRING MEANS the return of snakes to our home and general environment. Like every other caring dog owner in Australia, I spend the warmer months making sure that my dogs are not going near snakes.

Within reason and with some common-sense, we can certainly reduce some of the risk factors involved in dogs getting bitten by snakes.

Let's look at what we can do:

Control your dog near potential snake shelters and hang-outs. These can be rocks, logs, hollow trees, long grass, rabbit and wombat hollows, culverts, rubbish piles, etc. Be extra cautious anywhere near waterways. If you take your dog for a swim seek out areas with flat and open ground that do not offer any hiding spots for snakes.

Walk your dog in the morning. Snakes still need to warm up after the cooler night, so they are more sluggish. However, stepping on or confronting them even at this time is not advisable and once we get the hotter nights, care must be taken at all times.

Walk your dog on paths or roads or in mowed or grazed paddocks where you have a good view of the ground ahead. An added bonus is that you will prevent grass seeds getting in your dog's ears and coat.

If you have a house or garden fence, protect it from snakes by covering the



Dog sees snake ...

lower part with a fine mesh, such as bird netting (this is not advised or sensible for a fence around the whole block). Make sure mesh is securely fixed to the ground as snakes will try and push under obstacles. You can do the same thing for your dog run.

Avoid providing shelter and food for snakes. Keep the area surrounding your house clean and clutter free to discourage snakes from taking up residence. Snakes love chicken runs and out-buildings on farms. Chicken food and scraps attract rats and mice, providing snakes with some tempting meals. Avoid having scraps lying around to keep your mouse and rat population under strict control.

If you live in their environment,



... owner expresses fear ...

you may be able to encourage less aggressive snakes to stay, to help keep more aggressive snakes away. The same avoidance value is said of some lizards including the shingleback. The red-belly black snake is calm and reluctant to bite and reputed to eat other snakes.

Dogs get bitten because they attack a snake and learn that behaviour from attacking other reptiles. Do not allow dogs to chase and kill lizards, skinks and turtles. If your dog is allowed to kill lizards and skinks, he may also try to kill a snake.

When meeting snakes take your dog away as quickly as possible. You want him to learn that snakes are something that should be avoided at all costs.

What can you do if you have a snake near the house or garden? Killing snakes, apart from being illegal, is

"Do not allow dogs to chase and kill lizards, skinks and turtles. If your dog is allowed to kill lizards and skinks, he may also try to kill a snake."



... dog is reassured.

not a good option. Should your dog see you kill a snake, you will increase the chances that he will take on snakes by himself, as dogs can learn through observation.

Your better and safer option to remove the snake is to contact in the Braidwood area the Native Animal Rescue Group (NARG) on 4846 1900 and in the Bungendore area Wildcare on 6299 1966.

Both groups have experienced snake handlers and will safely relocate snakes. They are also happy to provide advice on how to keep you and your animals safe from snakes and help with other native wildlife questions or rescues.

Heike Hahner is a local dog trainer and a dog behaviour consultant. If you have any inquiries about dog training sessions call 4842 7143.

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— Trisha Wren, CR instructor

Places available for spectators:
Fri \$10, Sat or Sun \$25 ea or \$60 the entire clinic.



Across: 1 Line up, 4 Serbia, 7 Coupon, 8 Contempt, 12 Litter, 14 Alaska, 15 School, 16 Cement, 18 Expresso, 22 Radial, 23 Except, 24 Sewing, Down: 1 Lock, 2 Expert, 3 Pincer, 4 Skin, 5 Rave, 6 About, 9 Tilda, 10 Peking, 11 Circus, 13 Erode, 16 Chorus, 17 Meadow, 18 Edge, 19 Rase, 20 Suit, 21 Plug.

Family Day Care

Places available:

Before and After School Care
Braidwood, Captains Flat

Long Day Care
Bungendore, Captains Flat, Jerrabomberra, Queanbeyan

Enquire now

Call Julia
6236 8305
www.ccel.com.au



What's On – November 2013

Send your announcements to whatson@districtbulletin.com.au

During November

Exhibition – Pastoral View by Sally Wilson
Bungendore Fine Art, Ellendore St, Bungendore.
Ph 6238 1640 or see www.bungendorefineart.com.au.

Until Saturday 16

Annie Get Your Gun

The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Based on the real-life love story of sharpshooters Annie Oakley and Frank Butler. For more www.theq.net.au.

Until Thursday 21

Exhibition – Di Tesseræ 2013

X Gallery, Bungendore. Ph 6238 0550 or email xgallery@msn.com.

Until Monday 25

Exhibition Still Standing – Not Standing Still

FORM Studio & Gallery, Aurora Ave, Queanbeyan. Works by Gay Emmerson and Mike Partridge. For details 0430 359 776 or email claire@formstudioandgallery.com.au.

Saturday 9 and Sunday 10

Queanbeyan Show

Queanbeyan Showground, gates open 8.30am. Featuring side-show alley, animal farm yard, pavilion exhibitions, reptile awareness demonstrations, equestrian events, bull ride and a fireworks display. For more see www.queanbeyanshow.com.au/.

Landscape for Life

Bungendore. Learn how to design and adapt gardens for sustainability and resilience no matter where you live. For more see www.freshlandscape.com.au.

Saturday 9

Exhibition Wild Visions – Calm Reflections

Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. See two of the Gallery's most popular and prolific artists from the Canberra region. Opening and Meet the Artists Nov 9 at 2pm. Exhibition until Dec 11. For more www.bwoodworks.com.au.

Sunday 10

National Capital Orchestra Concert

Queanbeyan Bicentennial Hall, 3pm. Presenting a concert featuring a new work by renowned cellist David Pereira under the direction of Max McBride. For more www.theq.net.au.

Monday 11

Remembrance Day

For details of the National ceremony www.awm.gov.au/commemoration/remembrance/.

Tuesday 12

Come try Lawn Bowls

@ Queanbeyan Women's Bowling Club, Farrer Pl, Queanbeyan from 5pm. Lots of fun for all ages.

GIG GUIDE: November

First Friday of the month:

Music and Poetry

Royal Hotel, Bungendore, 7.30pm.

Friday 8

MLC – Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Richard Ave, 8pm–12am.

The Jukes – Queanbeyan Tigers Club, Southbar Rd, 8.30–11.30pm.

Sunday 10

Konrad Lenz and Suz – Ironbar, 202 Goolabri Drive Sutton, from 2pm (see ad p14).

Friday 15

The Jukes – Queanbeyan Bowling Club, Capmbell St, 8pm–12am.

Karaoke – Queanbeyan Tigers Club, Southbar Rd, 8.30–11.30pm.

Rhymes with Orange – Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Richard Ave, 8pm–12am.

Sunday 17

Lerida Estate Winery – Live Music. Lunch with David Green playing Broadway musicals, movie themes, other contemporary music and jazz on piano, 12.30–3pm.

Friday 22

Arcadia – Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Richard Ave, 8pm–12am.

Hit & Run – Queanbeyan Tigers Club, Southbar Rd, 8.30–11.30pm.

Sunday 29

Lerida Estate Winery – Live Music. Lunch while Dirk Zeylmans and Lachlan Coventry play jazz and latin music, 12.30–3pm.

Friday 29

Hit & Run – Queanbeyan Kangaroos Club, Richard Ave, 8pm–12am.

Karaoke – Queanbeyan Tigers Club, Southbar Rd, 8.30–11.30pm.

Friday 15

Mysterious Queanbeyan by Moonlight Tour

Join author Nichole Overall for a tour through Queanbeyan's heart as she shares with you some of the fascinating tales of mystery and mayhem, tragedy and inspiration that have unfolded over the course of the 175 years since it was first proclaimed a township. This walking tour takes approx. 2 hours, beginning at 7.30pm. Costs \$55 including refreshments. Bookings essential; email qbn@qbn-cityofchampions.com.au.

Friday 15 to Sunday 17

Canberra Country Blues & Roots Festival

@ Hall, ACT. For more see www.canberracountry.com/.

Now it's November
the market @ bungendore

Sunday November 17th 9am–3pm
at the War Memorial Hall

Looking for Xmas presents?
All your favourite stalls
with gifts galore!

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

Monday 18

M.A.D.D. Night – Queanbeyan High School

The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. A one night only celebration for the talented students of the school in Music, Art, Dance and Drama. For more see www.theq.net.au.

Tuesday 19 to Saturday 23

When Dad Married Fury

The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Australian leading playwright, David Williamson, delivers another gripping play and his most memorable characters to date. For more see www.theq.net.au.

Wednesday 20

Queanbeyan Council Community Meeting

Fernleigh Park Community Hall, Swan Drive starting at 6pm. An opportunity to ask questions of Council reps at the meetings. To submit items for the agenda email communications@qcc.nsw.gov.au.

Saturday 23

Bungendore B&S and Ute Muster

Bungendore Showground. Food, live entertainment, brekkie and BBQ lunch the next day. Gates open 12 noon, bar opens 7pm, ball 8pm–2am. Strictly black tie. Tickets available online (\$95). For more see www.bungendorebns.com.

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24

Queanbeyan Gift

The richest footrace for women in Australia while the men's event is the third richest. Heats on Sat with finals on Sunday. Some of Australia's best athletes, including Olympians Lauren Boden and Melissa Breen, will be racing for a share of \$16,000 in prizemoney in the women's gift final. For details www.qcc.nsw.gov.au/.

Bungendore Quilt Exhibition

War Memorial Hall, Molonglo Street, Bungendore. Featuring handmade quilts, patchwork and textiles by members of Bungendore Quilters. Sat 9am–7pm, Sun 10am–4pm. For more see www.bungendorequilters.com.au.

Braidwood Quilt Event – Airing of the Quilts

Wallace Street, Braidwood on Sat with an Indoor Exhibition on Sat and Sun. For more see www.braidwoodquiltevent.org.au.

American Car Nationals, Ford Day & GM Day and Queanbeyan Swap Meet

Queanbeyan Showground, 10am–3pm. Car entry: \$5 per vehicle.

Sunday 24

Family Fun Day

Queanbeyan Park, 10am–5pm. Free event open to the public and features a fantastic range of free activities suitable for everyone.

Plan ahead for DECEMBER

Friday 6 & Saturday 7

Charity Bookfair & Book Signing

R.B. Smith Room, Crawford St, Queanbeyan, Fri 5–8pm, Sat 10–2pm. Thousands of fiction and non-fiction books. From 5.30–7.30pm on Fri, author Nichole Overall conducts a signing of her book *Queanbeyan – City of Champions* (\$49). For more contact Peter on 6299 9590.

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 January)

The Captains Flat Country Markets

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

2nd Sunday of the month

(except January)

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

Saturday 7

Bywong Community Christmas Drinks

Bywong Hall, 6–9pm. All local residents welcome. For more see www.bywongcommunity.org.au/.

Carols in the Park

Queanbeyan Park, from 5pm. The annual Carols in the Park brings the community together to celebrate the end of year and the festive season.

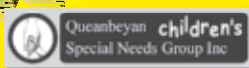
Come along to the region's only twilight markets!



**1st & 3rd
Fridays
5–8pm**

A welcoming village atmosphere is created right in the centre of Queanbeyan with live music, great food and a range of market stalls selling products by local artists and crafts people, gourmet foods and much more!

In the courtyard at **253 Crawford Street**
adjacent to
Council Chambers



For more information:
cultural.services@qcc.nsw.gov.au
or phone 6285 6170

The focus is on
high quality local handmade arts
and crafts, local produce and food suppliers as
well as local entertainment to enjoy as the sun goes down.

HUSQVARNA PRODUCTS NOW COME WITH A 5 YEAR WARRANTY!

Husqvarna® LTH2142DR

RRP \$3799
\$3399

FREE Delivery within 35km
from either of our two stores.

Optional Swingback Blade Kit
for those lawns with rough
and rocky areas.

5 YEAR WARRANTY!

- 21hp Husqvarna Endurance engine
- 42" pressed steel cutting deck
- Automatic transmission
- Electronic blade engagement

LTH2142DR Model Shown

Step-through Design

For comfortable mounting and
dismounting.

Easy To Drive

Easy speed and direction control
with foot-pedal operated hydrostatic
transmission. Separate pedals for
forward and reverse. Featured on models
LTH19530, LTH2038R, LTH2142DR.

Adjustable Sliding Seat

Easy adjustment from a seated
position, sliding forward and back for
operator comfort.

Cutting Height Adjustment

Fender mounted for easy access and
improved ergonomics.

Ergonomic Control Layout

All controls are within easy access from
the drivers seat for ease of use.

Engine

Powerful Husqvarna Endurance Series™
engine delivers high performance.

Headlights

For improved visibility.

Electric Blade Engagement

Minimise belt wear.



Large Rear Tyres

Large, turf saver tyres improve traction
and reduce the risk of lawn damage.
Excludes model LTH19530

Automatic Diff Lock

- Automatic differential lock improves traction
and performance in a wider range of mowing
applications.
- Featured on model LTH2142DR only.

Air Induction

Draws clean air from top and bottom of
the deck, enhancing air flow which results in
greater grass lift and superior cut.

U-Cut™ Steering System

- Extremely tight turning circle of only 20cm.
- Reduce the uncut area of grass by up to 50%
- Featured on models LT19538R, LTH2038R, LTH2142DR.

Pivoting Front Axle

Provides superior balance, stability and
excellent driving comfort.

Compact lawn tractors designed for comfort & performance

Masport Lawn Marshal

\$299

- 148cc Briggs
- 18" cut
- Steel chassis
- 4 Blade disc



Masport 250ST

\$399

- 140cc Briggs OHV
- 18" cut
- Steel chassis
- Mulch & Catch



Husqvarna® LC18

\$499

- Briggs 5hp
- 18" cut
- Steel chassis
- Mulch & Catch



Husqvarna® LC19

\$599

- Briggs 5hp
- 19" cut
- Steel chassis
- Mulch & Catch



Husqvarna® 125BVX

\$249

- 28cc
- 0.8kW
- 4.4kg
- 274 km/h



Starter Kit - 2 stroke oil, fuel can, 5 year warranty **\$19**

**FREE
VAC KIT**



Husqvarna® 236

\$249

- 38cc
- 1.4kW / 1.9hp
- 14" bar
- 4.6kg



Starter Kit - 2 stroke oil, bar oil, fuel can, spare chain, HQ carry case, 5 year warranty **\$89**



CANBERRA MOWER CENTRE

26 Barrier Street, Fyshwick. Ph 02 6280 6751

3/48 Sandford Street, Mitchell. Ph 02 6241 0500

Offers valid until the 30th November 2013 or while stocks last. Images are for illustration purposes only.