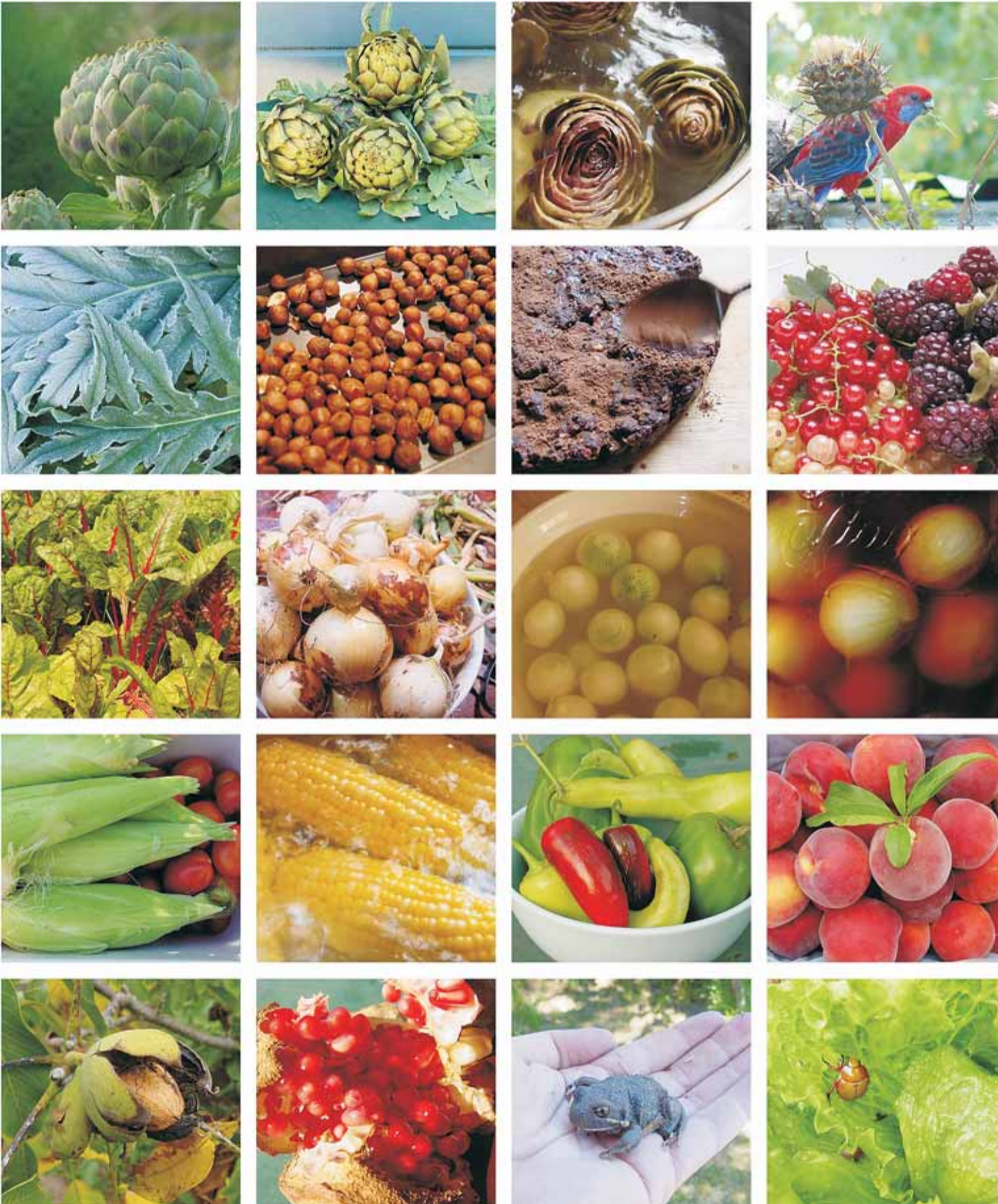


# Bulletin

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## MAYORAL TEAM PICKED

### No action on recording votes

THE NEW PALERANG Council stuck with experience and last week elected returning Councillors Ian Marjason as Mayor and Catherine Moore as Deputy Mayor for the coming year.

While the ballot was secret, the Bulletin's Council correspondent Richard Holding judged that the vote ultimately split along gender lines and perhaps, not coincidentally, along a divide of more conservative (status quo) versus a more progressive and community-minded block, with each side garnering one position. Perhaps this augurs well for working together. Time will tell.

Candidates for Mayor were Ian Marjason, Terry Bransdon and Catherine Moore. Candidates for Deputy Mayor were Catherine Moore, Richard Graham and Judith Miller.

Councillors decided at the last minute to hold monthly meetings alternating between Bungendore and Braidwood, with the location issue to be revisited at the next meeting. More controversially, along with perpetuating the east-west divide, Council meetings will start at 2pm, when most residents are at work.

Reflecting on campaign promises, Richard reports: "Recording council meetings was put forward as an idea but no formal motions were moved. Richard Graham talked about options of internet podcasting meetings, and taking residents questions via the internet, but no action occurred. Recording votes was not mentioned".

Residents and ratepayers are invited to contact Richard Holding on Council-related decisions and issues: [richard.holding@hotmail.com](mailto:richard.holding@hotmail.com) Ph 6236 9037 or 0412 489 988.

## INSIDE:

Water will determine our future – in Palerang and nationally > p3, 4

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A (Braidwood) country practice > p7

© Fred Harden, Regional Food Australia 2008

See p10 for Josephine Gregoire's interview with Fred Harden, whose luscious garden images adorn this page. Fred resides locally and is the creative force behind the national publication Regional Food Australia.

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Left to right: Linda Wheatland, Laura Wilson, Kevin Reardon, Steve Barraclough & Jill Hunter.

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# WATER SUPPLY TO DRIVE BUNGENDORE DEVELOPMENT

by Matt Gardiner

AS A NEW COUNCIL sits for the first time, and will soon consider long-term development plans and options for Bungendore, it is worth reflecting on the village water supply.

Water is a finite and essential resource. It is entirely fair and reasonable to demand there be no further development, unless there is adequate water available.

A long term Water Management Strategy was adopted by the former Council on 26 April 2007.

## A potted history

Bungendore's water is supplied from the Lake George Aquifer system. This system has been researched and monitored, with the rather vague outcome that we are 'drawing at or near the sustainable limit'. That means that our usage levels are not causing an overall reduction in the amount of water contained in the aquifer.

The State Government approves water entitlements. In 2006, the village's was 322ML (mega litres) per annum and we were using around 260ML. The aquifer's total annual yield was estimated to be 700ML, with other users irrigating pastures and similar uses.

With the known levels of development already planned or underway at Bungendore North (Elmslea) and infill of blocks in the old part of the village, the requirement for more water supply (and entitlement to use it) is quite apparent.

In 2007 it was estimated that with the expected growth we would need around 478ML per annum. That assumes a successful implementation of the State Government's mandatory water use reductions for new homes (aka BASIX).

New bores and treatment facilities at Currandooley will bring the supply up to around 500ML. Additional usage entitlement was approved by the Department of Natural Resources on 18 April 2007, subject to some conditions, coming to a village total of 478ML.



Barbara Zingler

*Suburban Bungendore – will water limit dreams of more widespread growth?*

## Is Bungendore running out of water?

No, but there cannot be further development unless there is more water. Also, we need to remain vigilant about our usage levels and ongoing water restrictions.

The successful development of the Currandooley bores is vital. The serious works are likely to commence in 2009.

## Water restrictions

Readers should already be aware that we are at 'Stage Two'. Details of what is allowed can be found at <http://www.palerang.nsw.gov.au/roads/3209/4037.html>

Interestingly there have been no prosecutions for non-compliance with the restrictions. That means either that Council is not enforcing it too closely, or nobody is breaking the rules. I suspect the former.

Maybe our new Council will consider promoting the restrictions through our upcoming rates notices? Maybe we could also convert some of those unlawful and ugly real estate signs on public land, into

information boards about our current restrictions?

It's reasonable to assume that some form of ongoing restrictions will be necessary even after the drought breaks.

## We're all in this together

New residents should be aware that unlike Canberra, we don't have the same massive dams. As individuals and as a community we need to carefully control our usage.

We certainly cannot afford to have lush English-style gardens and our homes cannot have expanses of green lawn. Practices such as the weekly hosing down of driveways, must stop.

Looking to the future we need to all be responsible and equitable in our usage. Wasteful use should be a cause of embarrassment.

Our thinking about private bores and

private swimming pools also needs to change. Not only are we still in this terrible drought, we're all drawing off the one supply.

## What next?

There are many positive things already happening.

- The free home water tune ups are available, and can be booked through the Council Offices.
- A greywater usage policy is being developed.
- Waterwise education and displays are in the Council Offices – and well worth a look.
- New groundwater monitoring in place.
- We have a requirement for new homes to have rainwater tanks (minimum 22,500L for a new three bedroom house).

These things are all funded through your annual water charge, so residents should feel very comfortable in accessing them.

The former Palerang subsidy for rainwater tanks for existing homes was poorly taken up. The NSW Government system is quite generous and can provide a rebate of up to \$1,500. Details are available from <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates/ccfrtw.htm>

## Some floating thoughts

None of our elected Councillors reside in Bungendore village, and rely on the village water supply.

Councillor Raynolds opposed the resolution adopting the Water Management Strategy.

## References and further reading

Go to <http://www.palerang.nsw.gov.au/council.html>

See the business papers for meetings on 15 March 2007 and 26 April 2007.

## 82 LOTS WHERE PREVIOUSLY 4 Counting on rainwater tanks?

COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS are being sought by Council until 17 October on a proposed 82 lot subdivision at Trucking Yard Lane on the outskirts of Bungendore, where there were formerly four dwelling lots. One question raised immediately is the water supply. The Council business paper for 15 March 2007 advised the following:

- "It is expected that demand will exceed the entitlement (322ML) within 2–5 years even if development is restricted to existing and already approved lots within the village boundaries."
- With a further small increase in demand for desirable developments like an industrial estate, highschool, retirement village, or extra playing fields or limited extension of the commercial zoning demand of 500ML per annum could be expected.
- "There is ...much interest in further subdivisions of larger lots... that would result in demand well above the current entitlement. Without amendment to the current planning instruments, involving specific restrictions of these developments, the village could be expected to grow to 4,500–5,000 people within 15–20 years."



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The office is managed by Alan Longhurst, senior partner, who has relocated with his family to the Bungendore area.

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Oh my God! virtual reality to a phone near you  
<http://technology.newscientist.com/channel/tech/dn14470-gps-cellphones-to-unleash-gamers-onto-the-streets.html>

One way to get computer-obsessed geeks outside into the ‘big blue room’ (the technical term for ‘outside’) is coming via GPS technology, according to *New Scientist*. Global positioning systems (GPS) are available in many mobile phones today, and this gave computer game manufacturers the idea to start making games for mobile phones that incorporate the real-life environment of the gamer into play.

The phone uses its GPS to create a game-world which includes features of the real-world, such as the distance between places. Most of these games are treasure hunt or investigation type games. For example, ‘Crash’ involves players investigating a car crash by visiting various real-world locations to get clues (see <http://boxed-pervasive-games.org/location.html>).

Opportunities for meeting (in real life) other gamers, and getting outside and doing some exercise are also available, which has to be healthier than sitting for hours in a darkened room by yourself.

Disadvantages have also been found: ‘sharing’ your location with

others on your mobile phone could leave you open to theft, and not paying attention to the traffic could get you virtually run over.

So does this mean if games become part of the real world we’ll soon all be part of *The Matrix*?

Love that smelly tee shirt  
<http://sciencenow.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/2008/813/4>

Attention ladies dating or married to men: do you have the right man for you? Research reported on *ScienceNOW* suggests that if you were taking the oral contraceptive pill when you first met, you may not have chosen the best evolutionary partner for you.

One factor contributing to your ‘evolutionary success’ is the survival rate of your offspring. A couple with different immune systems will have children resistant to a wider range of diseases, increasing their likelihood of survival.

To study the effect of the Pill on women’s ability to pick the ‘right’ partner, the researchers got women to do a ‘smell test’ of T-shirts worn by different men. Why do such a thing? The type of immune system a person has is reflected in their body odour.

The women started the study not taking the Pill, and showed no



What’s the big idea?

explained by Amanda Beasley

preference for immune systems in the smell test. Once the women started taking the Pill they preferred the smell of men with similar immune systems to theirs, meaning the women chose the ‘wrong’ evolutionary partner.

The researchers say they are not completely convinced the hormones in the Pill affect a woman’s sense of smell so perhaps there’s more serious business with smelly tee shirts in store. In the meantime, if we come off the Pill and you start to smell funny, it’s not you, it’s us.

Runaway living success  
<http://sciencenow.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/2008/812/3>

And now, since we’re all feeling very energetic after the Olympics, here’s some good news. *Science NOW* reports that researchers have found that running increases your lifespan.

Okay, so it’s not quite that simple. In an amazing study, Stanford University in California have monitored 500 people over the age

of 50 since 1984 to find out about their general health and their ability to live a normal life, free from disability.

The group was divided into runners and non-runners. The researchers found that 34 percent of the non-running group have died since the study began, compared to 15 percent of the running group.

The runners were selected on the basis of the question: “Have you ever run for exercise for a period of greater than 1 month?”. And it wasn’t that generally healthier people are more likely to take up running – this was accounted for by the study.

The study specifically looked at runners, so there’s no word on whether cycling or soccer or jumping to conclusions would have the same benefit.

It just goes to show, it’s never too late to get your running shoes on, and dream about that Olympic gold medal.

The State RTA thinks ‘slow down for animals’ signs are ineffective because the carnage is inflicted by locals who should know better (based on the evidence lying dead on the roads) but don’t want to know. What do you think? Write to us and we’ll pass it on to Council and to the RTA.

### What do you think?

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It’s the water, stupid!

IN THE LEAD up to the July 3 meeting of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), our greatest fear was that there would be no recognition of the urgency of the desperate situation facing the Murray Darling Basin. There’s been a litany of reports. The recently released Sustainable Rivers Audit points out that all but one are in either poor, very poor, or extremely poor condition. It’s an old problem that’s been with us for a long time. In 2002, before the drought, we put a dredge in the mouth of the River Murray because it had stopped flowing. We knew then, as a nation, that the river was in serious strife. More recent reports warn us to expect serious ecosystem losses in a matter of months. Parts are already lost and other areas already beyond saving.

On 3 July, our national leaders chose more plans above rapid action, politics above division. At a time when they should have empowered someone to solve this problem and solve it quickly, they have choked. Perhaps if our leaders had visited enough ecosystems on the point of collapse, inhaled the smell of acid sulfate soils and talked to local irrigators, they may have acted differently.

To be fair, COAG did agree to appoint an independent authority and this is important. However, the authority has not been empowered to act quickly. It hasn’t been made responsible for delivering results – to maintain the river at a minimum level, and set up the water that’s necessary to do that and to deliver the environment in all states a share of inflows. The River Murray needs an authority that can make decisions as quickly as rivers and rainfall change.

COAG also confirmed significant investments in infrastructure and pipes, but it will take a long time before this delivers any water to the River Murray’s water dependent ecosystems. There is a real risk that we could

Mean rainfall shift		10% reduction in mean rainfall	20% reduction in mean rainfall
Mean inflow	10,000	7,000	4,000
Mean evaporation	2,000	2,000	2,000
Mean flow to the sea	2,000	2,000	...
Net volume available for discretionary use	6,000	3,000	...
Environmental entitlement	1,500	1,500	...
Consumptive user entitlement	4,500	1,500	...
Unallocated water	0	0	0
Reduction in mean volume available to consumptive users		67%	...%

An illustrative overview of the consequences of a shift to a drier regime for a 10,000GL system similar to the River Murray’s\*. (Readers are encouraged to enter their own assessment of how best to configure such a system if, as Perth has experienced, there is 20% decline in mean rainfall).

\* Murray-Darling Basin historical records indicate that mean annual inflows into the southern River Murray system including the Lower Darling is 11,229GL per annum and the median inflow is 9,033GL per annum.

end up gold plating parts of the system that should have been closed down.

One can only guess that with such a lack of urgency evident, COAG must have instead decided to pray for rain. The problem is that rain won’t fix our chaotic water management systems or a failed water sharing regime. The Prime Minister and Premiers know that big decisions need to be made. All know that the real need was to replace the existing sharing regime and cap on the maximum amount of water that can be pumped out of the river with a system that gives all states and the environment a share of inflows.

Australia is learning the hard way that long dry periods are common. We had a long dry that started in 1938 and lasted for twelve years. During the wetter second half of last century, we almost forgot what a long dry was. Nature has reminded us. Could we cope if the current dry period lasted for twelve years, until 2014? Australians need to ask whether or not we are managing the river in

a state that would enable us to last for another four or five years in the climatic regime we’re in now. Are we ready for it?

Australia, as a nation, needs to understand that small losses in rainfall mean very, very large reductions in the amount of water that’s available for consumptive use, and for the environment. In a standardised river model (see table above) a small 10% reduction in rainfall can mean a whopping 2/3 reduction in the amount of water available for use – unless we are prepared to abandon agreed plans. A reduction in rainfall of 10% typically means around 30% less run-off, but the amount of water that evaporates still has to be found. The fixed costs of running a river remain!

The sad thing is, we already know the solution. It isn’t rocket science. As the late Peter Cullen said, it is really pretty simple housekeeping – how much water do we have to allocate? Cullen also said “We don’t have all the answers – nobody does – but before

we start laying bricks and mortar, we have got to get the foundations right, otherwise the cathedral will tumble with the smallest of tremors.”

Scientists have said time and time again that we need to know how water flows into the system, to manage that, to manage forestry, farm dams and ground water. It should be obvious to anyone that if we don’t start balancing the books for the system as a whole, then we go further into the red.

Many Australians would be shocked to learn that advice being given to Ministers is they should expect a decline in inflows into the system of 2,570GL by 2023. A predicted result of this long list of unaccounted processes. But the largest number anyone has ever proposed to recover for the river is 1,500GL! The reality is that net effect of all the plans currently on the table is to reduce not increase river flow. What’s critical is that we move quickly. We must move quickly for the sake of the communities and quickly for the sake of the river, but more importantly, quickly for the sake of Australia.

One of the immediate measures that needs to be taken is to require offset of the impacts of all new forests, farm dams and other forms of interception high up in the catchment where water comes from.

Whether as a nation we opt to use a rapid Coles-Myer like share buyback and go in and pay well above market price for water, or whether we pay compensation payments to irrigators, the one thing we can and must do right now is give the environment some water.

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How to arrange a mountain garden



The whole area gleamed white... with other plants vying for a bit of space. Derwentia perfoliata (foreground) at Mt Ginini.

IT'S ALWAYS SATISFYING when a group of plants we've put into the ground and carefully tended turn into an attractive garden. Sometimes, however, nature appears to be so much better at arranging an aesthetically stunning landscape than we are. Such was the case as the mountain vegetation began a slow recovery after the 2003 fires.

Early in the summer of 2004, our plant group ventured to Mount Ginini to see what had survived the fire. On the way, we noticed the high country we were headed for seemed swathed in white. It definitely wasn't snow as we were having a warm spell, and our guess was that the heavy rainfall a few months after the fires (causing lots of erosion and moving tonnes of loose soil and ash) had left sheets of granite sand exposed and what we were seeing was light reflected off it.

Then we began to notice small patches of Prickly Starwort (*Stellaria pungens*) along the roadsides. As we travelled on, the Starwort grew more thickly until, near the top of Mount Ginini, the neat mounds of vegetation were growing so closely together that the whole area gleamed white.

**No human hand could have designed a better garden**

Dotted amongst the sea of white, were masses of other plants vying for a bit of space: tall yellow Bulbine Lilies (*Bulbine bulbosa*), bright pink Trigger Plants (*Stylidium graminifolium*), carpets of Bluebells (*Wahlenbergia stricta*), yellow or orange-tan Paper Daisies (*Xerochrysum* sp.), and clumps of blue-flowered *Derwentia perfoliata*. And, amongst all this profusion of colour, silky grass flowerheads nodded in the breeze.

No human hand could have designed a better garden. It was, however, transient – a brief episode in the succession of landscapes that would slowly take the mountain top back to its original vegetation. All of these plants are still present, just not in the sheets of colour produced by the vegetation reacting to the effects of fire, which released nutrients into the soil and removed shading trees.

But it would be possible to re-create this picture in our own gardens. All of the plants mentioned grow not only in mountain areas but quite widely in the Shire.

**... But you could copy**

The white-flowered Prickly Starwort suckers and can cover a wide area. It can get straggly and die back over winter, but a trim and the addition of a little native plant fertilizer could remedy this. The white flowers are somewhat daisy-like, but this species is in fact in the same family as carnations (*Caryophyllaceae*). It is propagated by division. The yellow flowers of the Bulbine Lily and some of the daisies can be used to create a splash of colour and the Trigger Plant, with its bright pink flowers on long stems, provides some contrasting colour. All of these are easily grown from seed.

One of my favourite plants, plentiful in the Mount Ginini 'garden', is *Derwentia perfoliata*. A low-growing perennial (to about 40 cm), it has bluish-green, stem-clasping leaves and nodding stems of small, bright blue flowers. This is a species that varies from place

"HOW DID THAT HAPPEN...?" by Pete Harrison

YOU WILL, no doubt, have read the actual results of our Council election elsewhere in this issue. Some have already asked: "How did that happen...?" If you're interested in one possible answer, please read on.

Prior to this election, I looked over the 2004 election results and noticed that the nine candidates with the highest number of primary votes were in fact the nine who prevailed after preferences had been counted. Only the first preference vote seemed to be important – the subsequent preferences didn't appear to make any difference.

**The primary vote**

As unlikely as this might sound, it almost happened again this time around. The first eight candidates after the primary vote count – allowing for the distribution of over-quota preferences – were the first eight councillors elected when all preferences had been counted. Four candidates (Catherine Moore, Ian Marjason, Richard Graham and Judith Miller) exceeded quota (731 votes) on their primary vote, another two (Howard Crozier and Terry Bransdon) gained a quota through preferences, and two more (Judith Turley and Paul Cockram) stayed in position by having the next highest number of votes, although neither ultimately made quota.

There was, however, a sting in the tail. The candidates lying in positions 9–13 after the primary count were, respectively, Kev Fiebig (309), Anne Goonan (303), Walter Raynolds (256), John van der Straaten (206) and Mark Horan (201). Fast forward to Count 28 in the preference distribution process (see <http://vtr.elections.nsw.gov.au/rsult.aspx?areaname=palerang> for all the details), noting that the candidate with the least number of votes is excluded at each count.

**Running out of preferences by Count 28**

Although the order has changed, the same five candidates still fill positions 9–13. Anne (377) is slightly ahead of Walter (371), followed by Kev (339), Mark (324) and John (306). Now the drama begins. *Continued p8*

NEW COUNCILLORS AND VOTES RECEIVED	
Catherine Moore	1,342
Ian Marjason	1,284
Richard Graham	919
Judith Miller	880
Howard Crozier	761
Terry Bransdon	731
Judith Turley	726
Paul Cockram	564
Walter Raynolds	559



Paper Daisy (*Xerochrysum* sp.).



Trigger Plant (*Stylidium graminifolium*).

to place – some plants are robust and thick-leaved while others have thinner or smaller leaves and longer stems. Most will sucker to some degree.

They are fast-growing and tough and easily propagated from cuttings. Another eye-



Blue Bell (*Wahlenbergia stricta*).

catching blue-flowered plant is *Wahlenbergia stricta* (one of the Bluebells) which can also sucker and provide colour for a long period in the garden.

**Native Plant Society sale in October**

Re-creating a natural garden is not always easy, but is very satisfying to try. Some native plants are sometimes difficult to find in nurseries, but the Australian Native Plants Society has two sales a year at the Australian National Botanic Gardens with a wide range of plants for sale and knowledgeable people available to give advice (the next sale is on Saturday 11 October 8.30am–2pm).

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Ian Marjason is available for casual appointments on Friday afternoons.

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Address: 27 Malbon Street, Bungendore  
Bungendore: 6238 1340 Queanbeyan: 6299 3999

# From the Editor...

**Council will (hopefully) never be the same**



*A first for Palerang and its constituent previous Councils – three women Catherine Moore, Judith Turley (left to right) and Judith Miller (inset) elected – and a fourth, Anne Goonan, defeated by the voting system – see p5, ‘How did that happen?’.*

PALERANG HAS a new Council with a historic first of three women on board and a much better balance across localities and approaches. All Councillors have promised to listen and be responsive, so let’s hold them to it.

At the forefront now are mind re-focusing drivers such as ratepayer anger at losing amenity while footing the bill for new infrastructure, not to mention diminishing water supplies and NSW government restrictions that will dictate the possible regarding ‘growth’.

New councillors Miller, Turley, Cockram and Graham promise a welcome balance to a knee-jerk pro-development incumbency, with an emphasis on sustainable planning and new ideas for going forward at the village, rural residential and agricultural levels. Along with returning Councillor Catherine Moore, whose Community First team (including Turley) received a resounding vote of confidence, they have a mandate to lead on environmental and lifestyle protection and transparent, accountable government.

Meanwhile the full bench of the new Council has said it will take a fresh look at the finances and the rate burdens.

**Oh, well, it’s just the Great Barrier Reef**

We recently re-visited the splendours of the Great Barrier Reef, ‘before it disappears’. There’s nothing like a visit to Queensland to focus the mind on the schizophrenia of Australian climate change policy. While it’s full steam ahead with the polluting coal industry on the hope that China’s unsustainable development will save us economically, we wring our hands over the greenhouse threat to that world-scale marvel of nature, the Barrier Reef. Well some of us do.

Taking a more mature approach, apparently, was the Rudd government’s economic adviser

Ross Garnaut who regretfully concluded that his economic modelling predicts (for reasons not apparent via ABC radio) that we won’t reduce our carbon emissions more than a paltry 10% either nationally or internationally. Therefore, we should look forward to carbon dioxide in the atmosphere climbing above 500 ppm (parts per million) and probably kiss the Barrier Reef goodbye, an extraordinary aside that barely raised a ripple in the Australian media.

Thank goodness atmospheric scientists finally stepped up to the plate in the last week of September to re-infuse a little bracing reality on what it means to allow carbon dioxide to escalate about 450 ppm, always previously benchmarked as the red alarm zone for runaway consequences. Hopefully the Rudd government actually hears what they are saying.

**New Council: look, listen and learn from Townsville**

And while on the subject of Queensland, new Council please note what is possible: Big headlines in the September 18 Townsville Bulletin: “Council sinks cruise ship terminal”. The Townsville Council advised the State that it did not support a multi-million dollar new integrated development that included an ocean terminal project on the grounds that it was incompatible with nearby facilities, it had poor environmental design and perhaps most telling, the potential financial and social costs of infrastructure upgrades. So, Palerang, you too can ‘just say no!’

– Maria Taylor

Dear Editor...

**MILLER: Thanks Palerang**

On behalf of Group D, the Progressive Palerang Group, I would like to thank the people of Palerang for their great support on Saturday in electing me to Council for the next four years.

I intend to represent all Palerang residents, regardless of their geographical location. I will try to ensure that the concerns of all people are heard and addressed by Council in a balanced and courteous manner. It is important that there be a better communication network between Council, Councillors and Palerang residents.

My main aim initially will be the completion of the Local Environmental Plan. Finally, my Group would like to thank the people who voted at all the polling booths for their courtesy and good humour on Saturday.

– Judith Miller, Bywong

(Judith provided contacts details for Palerang residents to get in touch: **Phone:** 6236 9321; **Mobile:** 0408 150 616 **Email:** winjeel1@cyberone.com.au)

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# Now shout after me:

**Founder’s Corner**  
from Maurice Barnes



**LEP! LEP! LEP!**

FOR THE WHOLE of the previous term of Council many folk like me have found it difficult to understand why the completion of a Local Environment Plan has proven beyond the capacity of our local authority. For four years that body complained about scarcity of funds, while procrastinating about a document that could increase income from development projects and reduce expenditure on legal fees for disputes arising on such projects. I urge our new councillors to concentrate on the LEP as their top priority.

**Climate change solution: stacked like cordwood and sweet dreams**

I was in London in 1959 when I heard the following idea for cheap and easy air travel. On a BBC radio programme a comedian bemoaned the boredom and fear of international flight and told a story to illustrate a solution. It seems that during a visit to China he had observed a peasant farmer driving a dozen pigs along a country road on the way to market. The pigs stayed happily together until the road met a river that had to be crossed by a boat that was moored handily nearby.

The farmer then slipped a plug of opium under the tongue of each pig and they all fell asleep one by one. He then stacked them like

firewood in the boat and poled boat and pigs over the river. Lifted out onto the bank, the pigs recovered and all trotted off to market. With that story in mind we were asked to envision new logistics for international air travel.

Passengers would arrive at the terminal and check in just as happens now. Going on to the departure lounge each passenger would lie down on a comfortable bed and be given an injection that would induce dreamless sleep. The beds with their passengers would then be stacked on racks in the aircraft. On arrival at destination passengers and their beds would be mechanically transferred to a recovery lounge where, the injection effect having been timed for long enough to cover the whole process, each passenger would awake and be served a soothing drink.

This method would allow at least the tripling of passengers carried in each aircraft and would eliminate the need for in-flight meals, thus reducing cabin staff and other costs per passenger mile. Now that greenhouse gases are of such concern, government and airlines alike would welcome the idea of one trip replacing three. A half-century old idea could now be used to help save our planet.

**MOORE: Thanks and a few ideas**

On behalf of Community First I would like to thank all those people who voted for and supported our team during the campaign. It was very encouraging to work with such a committed and energetic group and I can only assume that the support we received on September 13 means that there is significant support for the principles that formed our platform.

By the time this edition reaches the reader, the annual lobbying for mayoral support will be over and the position decided, and we can get on with the real business of Council. At this stage I am not sure if there will be majority support for Safe Meeting Procedure, which might allow us to avoid some of the problems of the last Council, but whatever happens, both Judith Turley and I will make sure that we continue to advocate for non-adversarial decision-making and (amongst other things) greater community involvement in decision-making, increased recognition of water and climate change issues, more open-

ness and accountability, and erring on the side of caution when it comes to issues of conflict of interest, and hope that all other councillors will do the same. It will be a welcome change to have some more female councillors and the dynamic promises to be quite different.

**Why not amend LEPs now?**

There was agreement amongst a number of candidates pre-election that the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) was a priority; perhaps we can go some way to addressing some of the deficiencies in the current plans and some of the issues that have arisen as a result of having to deal with five different LEPs, by adopting some of the recommendations in the Social Plan: for example those concerning Section 94 contributions.

One of these recommendations is a levy on all developments which would fund a position for someone to work fulltime on Section 94 Plan development for the provision of community facilities for the small villages and rural residential areas.

Continued p7

**COCKRAM: That was the day that was**

Thanks to all the workers who handed out my leaflets on election day. Thank you to the people who voted. I hope you all got someone in your first few picks who’ll represent you on the new Council.

There would appear to be enough diversity in the councillors to adequately represent all sections of the Palerang community. I’m looking forward to working with all of my eight colleagues as well as with the General Manager and the staff.

It sure is a diverse electorate. I travelled around to the polling booths on election day; from the turbine-free quiet of Burra to the hustle and bustle of Bungendore; from the purr of the BMWs in the car park at Wamboin to the post-industrial tranquillity of Captains

Flat and Major’s Creek; and best of all for me, the cheeriness of my home town, Braidwood.

The odd one out was Queanbeyan which was a shambles. With several entrances and two different elections running in the same venue, there were people going every which way. My overworked but intrepid worker on the scene told us later of her efforts to give a how-to-vote to a couple of likely lads. She offered the leaflet with the required precautionary question, “Queanbeyan or Palerang?”. They brushed her aside with a curt, “Haven’t decided yet!”

Ah well, let’s just take it four years at a time and see what happens.

– Paul Cockram, Mongarlowe

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Following his surgery to remove an intestinal obstruction on little Toby the wombat (last issue) we asked Braidwood medical practitioner and veterinarian Howard Ralph to share with our readers some of his thoughts and experiences of surgically aiding native wildlife.

Dr Ralph has many years of experience treating both humans and non-humans in Australia, Africa and Indonesia. In Jakarta he acted as a consultant to the government to set up a wildlife hospital and advise on animal welfare, surely a fascinating story in itself. In Australia he also worked and researched at Taronga Park Zoo in Sydney. Now he works frequently with Native Animal Rescue Group (NARG) and Wildcare as well as with other wildlife care groups.

Not content with all the challenges of this plus teaching, Dr Ralph also gains much pleasure from his wildlife paintings and sculpture, with an example on this page. Over to you, Howard.

Wildlife trauma similar to human trauma, with unique challenges

by Dr Howard Ralph

ALL SPECIES OF mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians are susceptible to trauma (injury). Often the injuries are fatal either immediately or after a period of time, and include head, chest, abdominal and spinal injuries and major orthopaedic problems. When female marsupials are killed there is often an orphaned joey left behind.

Trauma can be caused by accidental or intentional motor vehicle collision, shooting and other cruelty or, rarely, as a result of falls, predation and other causes.

As a wildlife veterinarian I am frequently involved in treating marsupials, lizards, birds and tortoises injured in road accidents and such treatment may be difficult for technical reasons, and because wildlife

treatment has its own set of unique difficulties, including post-operative cooperation by the patient. The best alternative to treatment is prevention.

**Prevention: Best solution**

Prevention includes being aware that wildlife is about, particularly at dawn and dusk, that they may not have 'road sense' and may be startled or 'paralysed' by vehicle headlights. There are certain areas near roads where wildlife is often seen because the road may pass through their traditional path from one feeding area to another.

If there is a recently killed mother on the road there may be a pouch joey or a joey at foot nearby. During springtime, young wildlife (for example juvenile magpies), with limited road and traffic experience, are fre-



Dr Howard Ralph completes pinning the jaw of a lace monitor with a fractured mandible. As the monitor will not eat, tube feeding may be necessary for up to a year thereafter, and is one of the unique challenges of wildlife practice.

quently encountered on or near roads. Reptiles, with even major injuries, are often still alive but cannot move away from the road.

If cruelty is suspected, then, because there are laws that apply to the welfare of wildlife, as they do to domestic species, the relevant authority should be notified so that action may be taken to modify the aberrant behaviour of those involved.

**Fixing the tortoise when the motorist didn't avoid collision**

Tortoises are frequent victims of motor vehicle trauma, suffering com-

pound fractures of the carapace (upper shell, which is living tissue) and/or limbs and head. Many of such injuries can be successfully treated. For a fractured carapace, the tortoise is given a general anaesthetic so that the fracture may be meticulously cleaned, the fragments aligned and then wired into correct position using surgical wire.

Because reptiles heal slowly it takes several months for the injuries to heal at which time the wires are removed. The tortoise then undertakes further rehabilitation until well enough to be released into a safe area.



Dr Ralph's wildlife paintings are a pleasurable aspect of a dedicated life.

**Joey limbs can be healed**

Contrary to popular belief, orthopaedic injuries to marsupial joeys can also be treated. Early treatment is often simpler than delayed treatment and a veterinarian should examine any joey with a suspected injury. Many limb fractures can be treated with minor interference (for example, manipulation under general anaesthetic) and then splinting or application of a cast.

Healing progresses very quickly because of the rapid growth taking place. This is an advantage but may become a problem if the injury is not detected early and treated, to avoid incorrect healing. More complex fractures may require surgical correction. With appropriate treatment and care most injured joeys can recover fully. Major orthopaedic injuries in adults present different problems.

**DEAR EDITOR (Moore)** *Cont'd from p6*

**...and now for some really good news!**

Talking of community facilities and small villages, I have just attended the AGM of Friends of the Mongarlowe River. The Mongarlowe community is still celebrating the recent sale of "The (S)cent", previously under threat from a 98 lot sub-division. The new owners are not interested in turning the land into small lots but are keen, as is the vast majority of the existing community, to keep it as it is, for the purposes of enjoying the river environment, the native vegetation and the dark Mongarlowe skies.

— Catherine Moore

**SEEKING INFO**

My name is Michael Halley and I live in Melbourne.

My mate's uncle was a RAAF member assigned to the RAF and the Navigator of 153 Lancaster Bomber squadron operating out of Scampton during WW2. Unfortunately he was one of casualties and no trace has ever been found of Lancaster PB 636. It was on the night of 22 January 1945 that the plane was lost.

The reason for this note to you:

The wireless operator was an Australian named John Edwin Bateup who was born at Gunning on 16 November 1922 and his next of kin was shown as A Short.

I thought that you may be willing to run a story in your paper in the hope that someone who has information on the families involved or is a relative may be a reader. (I found 19 Bateup listings in White Pages.)

Any information can be sent to Colin Rees at PO Box 584 Belgrave Vic 3160 or by email to [col.rees@bigpond.net.au](mailto:col.rees@bigpond.net.au) or phone 03 9754 1395.

Any assistance will be gratefully received.

**From RICHARD GRAHAM**

It may have taken 10 days to determine, but the makeup of the new council is in. There is a good balance of diverse community representation, gender, work and life experience, continuing councillors and new councillors.

It seems to me there are clear majority messages from the voters to: a) end special rate rises; b) increase council governance transparency; and c) improve councils service deliverables, especially DA processing.

As clear, but not in any clear majority that is discernable, are numerous minority views about aspects of our next LEP and DCP which we need to consider and bring together.

We are living in anxious times, and I believe the new board of councillors' best initial service to the community will be to:

- Firstly, provide positive economic certainty for the LGA Council and hence positive

certainty for ratepayers' future budget planning;

- Secondly, provide a tailored local environment plan which provides reasonable outcomes for each locality, by overlaying onto the contemporary issues (such as climate change), the historical norms and expectations of ratepayers in those localities (such as preserving agricultural usage); and
- Thirdly, provide either the action or leadership (as is appropriate) for tangible community infrastructure improvement and economic progress.

I think you'd agree the new councillors have a lot ahead of themselves and a lot of expectations from the ratepayers to make it possible to improve their lot. I'm looking forward to the new board doing that with rigour and cordiality throughout our elected term.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the 26 people who stood up to serve our community

as councillors but who will not be on the new board. It takes a lot of character and commitment to the future of our community to run for council. And even though they are not elected, it doesn't take away from that character and commitment.

I sense that in the new council, we will gain added strength through community volunteerism and hands-on involvement for initiatives that will build our community spirit and infrastructure. I hope these good people will once again step forward with others to advance our progress in this way. It is front-line participation rather than sideline commenting that really makes local government work!

Whether you voted for me or another councillor, I consider myself to be a councillor for all of Palerang. So please always feel welcome to communicate or put things forward to me; I'd be pleased to hear from you.

— Richard Graham, Mulloon Creek

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## CLEANING CHEMICALS CAN TOXIC

CLEANING CHEMICALS can be nasty stuff both to us and to the environment generally. The following information will help you to make greener decisions when it comes to household cleaning.

Commercial mould killers, laundry and household cleaning products usually comprise of:

- surfactants which are chemicals to remove soil and emulsify fats/oils,
- builders which are chemicals that inactivate water hardness,
- bleaches which help remove soils and stains through oxidation.
- optical brighteners.

Many of these chemicals can be toxic to aquatic organisms, remain persistent in the environment and biodegrade into toxic by-products.

When selecting non-toxic laundry and dishwashing products, look for products which **do not** contain the following ingredients: glycol ether, acids, caustics, chlorine, ammonia, petroleum solvents, butyl, phosphate, sodium hypochlorite, MEA, EDTA, sodium lauryl or laureth sulfate, artificial fragrance, colours or preservatives.

**Some key benefits of natural and less toxic household products can be:**

**Super Concentrated** – Products provide more uses per size than conventional products. This allows economical use, reduces packaging and reduces the impact on the environment of manufacturing and transportation of the product.

**Environmentally Safe** – Products are readily biodegradable, will not harm beneficial bacteria in septic systems. Containers are recyclable and/or have recycled plastic content to minimize solid waste generation.

**Resource Efficient** – Works in low temperatures and requires less rinsing cycles saving on water and energy use.

**Non-Toxic** – Products contain no hazardous ingredients or fumes. Use of the products are safe for workers, aquatic life, animals and families. More compatible with people that have chemical sensitivities and allergies.

**Natural Ingredients** – naturally derived ingredients that do not deplete our non-renewable resources.

**No Animal Testing.**

**Performance Tested** – Contain no high alkaline ingredients to reduce fabric life or challenge septic systems. Products work as well or better than conventional hazardous products.

### NATURAL MOULD REMOVERS

**Eucalyptus oil** – one tablespoon of eucalyptus oil, one tablespoon of methylated spirits and two cups of water mixed together and placed in a spray bottle; apply and leave to dry.

**Grapefruit (or citrus) seed extract** – mix 20 drops of grapefruit seed extract with 2 cups of water; place in a spray bottle and apply. Leave to dry.

**Vinegar** – 1 part vinegar to 4 parts mix, again sprayed on and left to dry.

**Baking soda** – pour 1 part vinegar and 1 part warm water into a bowl, then add 2 parts baking soda to make a thick paste. Apply and leave to dry, then scrub off. Repeat if the mould is particularly stubborn.

**Tea tree oil** – 1 teaspoon of tea tree oil mixed with 2 cups of water. Place in spray bottle and mix well. Again, don't rinse.


Most of the above are safe to use on bathroom tiles and ground; exercise caution with other materials. Regardless, spot test first.

## HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

*Cont'd from p5*

John (from Group D) is the next candidate excluded, but only 94 of 306 possible preferences can be allocated, the other 212 ballot papers have exhausted – voters have not listed enough preferences to include any of the remaining candidates.

Anne's (400) and Kev's (348) votes increase only slightly. Mark (an ungrouped candidate) is excluded next. Of the 337 votes he has accumulated, 294 are passed on to their next preference, most of them to Walter (558). Only 43 of Mark's votes have exhausted.

 Across the radar screen...  
**SIGNS OF THE TIMES:**  
**On a Plumber's truck:**  
*We Repair What Your Husband Fixed*  
**On another Plumber's truck:**  
*Don't sleep with a drip; Call your plumber!*  
**On a Church's Billboard:**  
*7 days without God makes one weak*  
**At a Tyre Shop:**  
*Invite us to your next blowout*  
**At a Towing company:**  
*We don't charge an arm and a leg: We want tows*  
**On an Electrician's truck:**  
*Let Us Remove Your Shorts*  
**In a Nonsmoking Area:**  
*If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action*  
**On a Maternity Room door:**  
*Push! Push! Push!*

Kev (from Group E) is next in line. His exclusion follows a similar pattern to John's – only 52 of his 353 possible preferences can be allocated. In just three counts, 556 votes have simply disappeared (they have not been passed as preferences) and Anne's fate is sealed. She is excluded and Walter is elected as the last 'man' standing, without having made quota.

### Voting for five below line, fatal for some

To understand what happened to those 556 ballots that exhausted, remember that we are only required to vote for five candidates. In

**At an Optometrist's Office:**  
*If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place*  
**On a Fence:**  
*Salesmen Welcome! Dog Food Is Expensive!*  
**At a Car Dealership:**  
*The best way to get back on your feet: miss a car payment*  
**Outside a Muffler Shop:**  
*No appointment necessary; We hear you coming*  
**In a Veterinarian's waiting room:**  
*Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!*  
**In a Restaurant window:**  
*Don't stand there and be hungry; come on in and get fed up*  
**In the front yard of a Funeral Home:**  
*Drive carefully! We'll wait...*  
**Sign on the back of a Septic Tank Truck:**  
*CAUTION – This Truck is Full of Political Promises*

an election with 35 candidates, that provides plenty of opportunity to run out of preferences. This is especially so for votes/preferences directed towards less popular candidates, those who are excluded early.

The Palerang electorate is also a little unusual. Most LGAs have either fully embraced, or fully rejected the Group voting model (rejection is by gentlemen's agreement only – candidates can agree amongst themselves not to form Groups). In the case of the Palerang electorate, however, there were both grouped and ungrouped candidates appealing to one particular demographic, with the result that the vote from that demographic was split unusually between above-the-line and below-the-line votes.

The practical reality is that preferences do not flow readily between grouped and ungrouped candidates – they tend to either flow down Groups (when people vote above-the-line), or between ungrouped candidates (the primary recipients of below-the-line votes). Most of the time this is neither here nor there, but in the present case, we ended up at the end of the count with like-minded candidates on either side of a void, unable to help each other when they most needed it.

According to the NSWEC Counting Sheets, 1,065 ballot papers in the Palerang election exhausted ie they ran out of preferences. These ballot papers need not have exhausted, and may have had a real impact on the result, if the respective voters had simply nominated as few as one or two more preferences. It is remarkable that only eight preference votes (yes, that's '8') from above-the-line votes,

## WHAT A GOOD IDEA! LOCAL CANCER AWARENESS

The NSW Cancer Council is inviting local community groups to apply for grants to educate, promote and support cancer-control programs in their area.

Cancer Council NSW's Cancer Control Local Grant Program offers funding from \$500 for groups to meet local needs.

Applications will be considered for the following categories of local projects:

- research,
- patient support & information,
- cancer prevention & screening,
- advocacy,
- working in the community.

Merewyn Partland, Regional Manager of Cancer Council's Southern Regional office, said local community groups and organisations can identify their own needs for cancer control which are not generally identified and met from a statewide perspective.

Applications will be assessed by the Southern Regional Advisory Committee made up of Cancer Council volunteers and health professionals, comprising representatives from various areas of cancer control.

**Applications close 31 October 2008.**

Contact for enquiries or for an application form: Merewyn Partland 4225 3660 or 0419 438 974.

passed between the various groups – they were all from Howard Crozier (Group A) to Kev Fiebig (Group E), at Count 23 when Howard achieved quota.

### 4th woman candidate almost elected

John van der Straaten had 136 above-the-line preference votes that could have been transferred to Kev Fiebig had the respective voters placed a '3' (or any preference actually) in the Group voting box for Group E, and this may have changed the complexion of things a little. However, in the end it was the simple fact that none of John's or Kev's above-the-line votes could pass to an ungrouped candidate that probably made the difference between Anne's making quota – being the seventh candidate elected – and being excluded (as the tenth candidate).

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## PALERANG COUNCIL ELECTION HELD SATURDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2008

### Result of Election

An election was held to elect 9 Councillors. I declare

Catherine Moore	Judith Miller	Judith Turley
Ian Marjason	Howard Crozier	Paul Cockram
Richard Graham	Terry Bransdon	Walter Raynolds

elected as Councillors until the next ordinary election of the Council in 2012.

Detailed results are available from the NSW Electoral Commission website and are available for inspection at the Council.

**Michael Murphy**  
 Returning Officer  
 for Palerang Council  
 Date: 23 September 2008

Information: [www.elections.nsw.gov.au](http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au) or  
 1300 135 736; (TTY) 9247 3568 (text telephone)  
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HELLO FIRE SEASON

by Doug Palmer

IT'S NOW OCTOBER, so let me bid you a formal welcome to the 08/09 fire season. The word of the day for the current weather predictions is "average". The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting average rainfall, an average chance of hot days and a slightly higher chance than normal of no cold days and an unlikely El Niño. As I write, the fire danger rating is an average "moderate."

All of this can change, of course\* , so I'll put on my frowny face below, and average still means fires and bad fire weather. However, after the last few years it's nice to be able to start the fire season without dire warnings of impending doom.

Don't ask, we won't tell

But first, an observation about road accidents. We won't give information out about accidents while we're dealing with it. We won't tell you if anybody has been hurt – although, given it involves a vehicle coming to a sudden and unplanned stop, I know which way I would be betting. We certainly won't tell you if anybody has died. If anybody has been seriously injured, it's a crime scene and the police have some investigating to do.

This is true even if your friends have gone on ahead of you and you are worried. You'll just have to contact them via the magic talking-type telephone.

Oh, and going around the block and asking again just doesn't fool anybody. I blame the end of the cold war. Without a steady diet of spy films, people just don't learn basic tradecraft any more.

About fire bans

Now, on to the more basic bits about fire season. As the season wears on, I'll start talking about preparing your property for bushfire protection, but right now I'll just mention total fire bans.

Total fire bans are generally declared when the fire danger index reaches "extreme" and fires are likely to get out of control. In Palerang, this is

usually caused by hot dry days and north to north-west winds bringing low humidity and high temperatures.

Total fire bans are announced on the fire danger meters beside the road. You can also find out whether there is a total fire ban by looking at the map on the RFS web site at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au. Or you can call the Lake George Zone Fire Control Centre on 6297 1840 or you can call 1800 NSW RFS (1800 679 737).

On days of Total Fire Bans, it is prohibited to light any fires, including cooking fires using incinerators and barbecues which burn solid fuel, such as wood or charcoal.

You may use a gas or electric barbecue, but only if:

- It is on residential property within 20m of the house or dwelling.
• It is under the direct control of a responsible adult.
• The ground around the barbecue is cleared for 2m of all material which could burn.
• You have a supply of continuous running water.

In the meantime, I hope that everybody has a safe fire season and I'm reduced to looking under the cushions for something to write about.

(I'd like to thank the Community Safety Officer, Inspector Vlad Bohdan for allowing me to shamelessly steal from his fire season guidelines.)

\* For example, between writing this article and sending it off to our esteemed editor, three fires, fanned by the weekend winds, broke out in the South-East of the fire zone. I think I need a new crystal ball; every time I get it set up, something comes along and knocks the contrast control out of whack.

Fiction for young adult to much younger

Toad Away

Morris Gleitzman

ISBN 9780143300472 RRP \$ 16.95

Penguin Australia Young Adult

This book has won several awards and is part of a great series in the author's usual funny, quirky style. Aimed at the young adult reader, its really for 9+ years old. It covers the heroic tale of one slightly squashed cane toad's travels across oceans, continents and some really busy roads.

\*\*\*\*\*

Paddington Bear

Michael Bond

ISBN 9780007236336 RRP \$ 14.99

Harper Collins 3+ years

This is a remake of the original Paddington Bear story, an absolute classic that all young children will enjoy. It covers Paddington's first meeting with the Brown family at Paddington Station, hence the name, having travelled all the way from deepest darkest Peru with only a jar of marmalade and a label which states "Please look after this bear". The Browns soon discover that Paddington is a most unusual bear.

\*\*\*\*\*

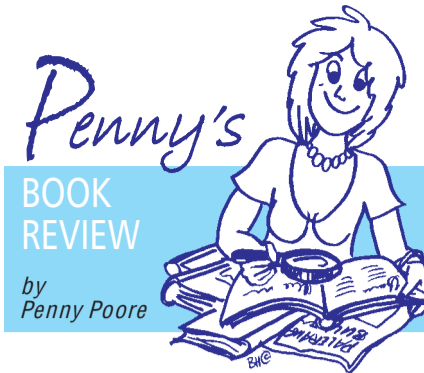
By Royal Command: Young Bond V5

Charlie Higson

ISBN 9780141384511 RRP \$ 35.00

Penguin Australia 9+ years

Being a James Bond fan, I felt that I should influence my daughter's reading somewhat and this proved to be a really exciting, fun read. This is due out in paperback very shortly.



The young James Bond is due to return back to school in England after an impressive rescue mission high in the Alps. He doesn't realise that he is under surveillance, and that he also holds the clue to a very sinister plot that is about to unleash serious carnage upon his school and the UK. He is forced to flee the UK but ends up in Austria, and of course he has a beautiful female sidekick! He is reunited with a deadly enemy and a serious struggle ensues, but I won't spoil the ending for you!

\*\*\*\*\*

Charlie & Lola: I'm Really Ever So Not Well

Lauren Child

ISBN: 9780141500812 RRP \$ 14.95

Penguin Australia 2+ years

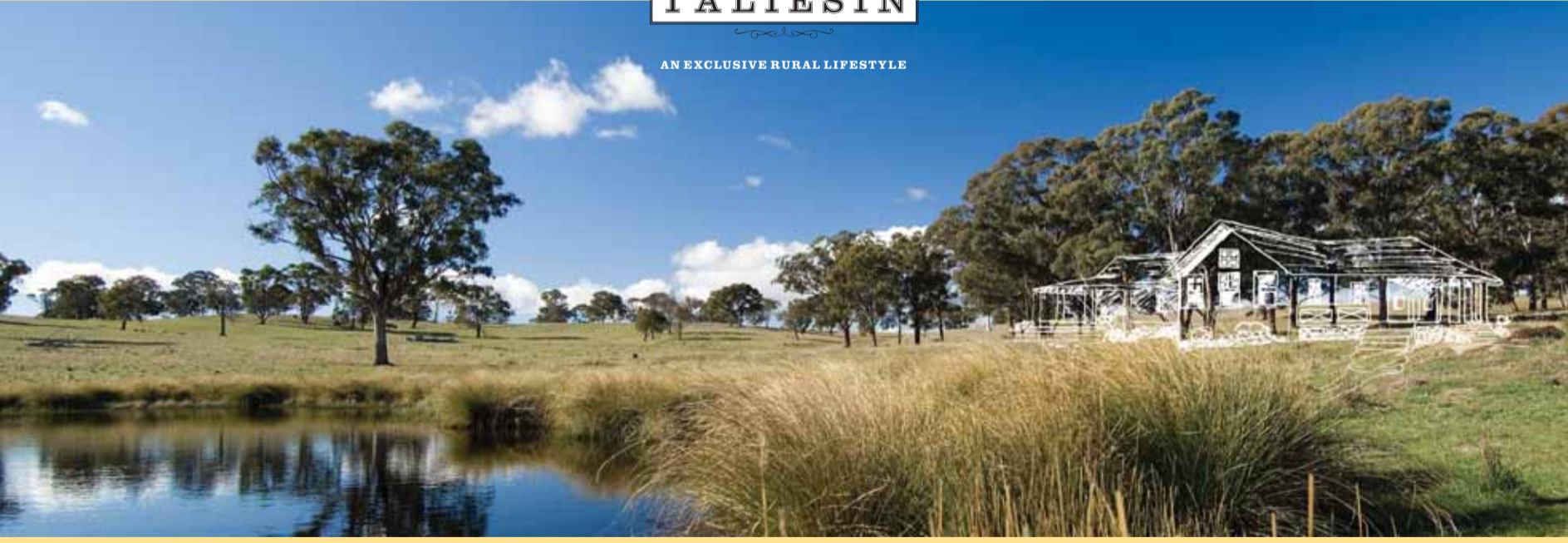
This series of books, along with the TV cartoons and the website, make for great entertainment value for young children. In this book, Lola has a cold and is feeling really ever so not well. Her big brother Charlie is quite imaginative in thinking up ways to try to cheer her up. He sings special songs to her, brings her pink milk & biscuits and helps her with the favorite smiley jigsaw puzzle. After all this TLC Lola is soon feeling much, much, better!

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# COUNTRY LIFE AND LOCAL FOOD

THE FIRST ISSUE of *Regional Food Australia*, published in 2005, opened with the statement "You are where you eat." Fred Harden, local resident, editor and publisher of the magazine advocates and lives this philosophy. Fred's passion for good food, his love of photography and his understanding of the politics of food has ensured the glossy magazine's resurrection. In the latest edition he writes "If you haven't worked out that we are serious about what's in our name by the time you get to the back cover, can I suggest that you have a look at our next issue, the Regional Food 100. And the one after. You'll get the idea. We're back."

The philosophy behind Fred's food stories comes together when he starts chatting about his childhood – raised in the small country town of Walwa. "I am a country boy. There was the assumption that people grew their own vegetables. We knew exactly where our food came from. Dad was an engineer in the local butter factory. Dad was also the projectionist for the Saturday night pictures."

Fred was assistant projectionist at a young age, a job he obviously loved. Fred's memoir is full of gleeful typical community stories "in the middle of a movie one Saturday night the local butcher shop was on fire, so we stopped the movie, the whole town ran out to help put out the fire, then at 11pm everyone came back to watch the rest of the movie".

## From advertising to a life in Palerang country

Fred trained as photographer and worked in advertising. His love for food was born out of photographic work and "stills" for the food industry. He says that "digital photography has brought back the fun in photography". He shared his recent photos of produce which is growing in his own garden. "I enjoy garden-



Fred in the kitchen considering a batch of sourcherries.

ing, it gets me away from my computer, we all spend too much time in front of computers."

"What's your favourite food Fred?" "I could easily be a vegetarian, I love fresh salads."

Fred moved to Bungendore on April Fools day 13 years ago. For his own amusement he started up *Another Country Diary Blog* – a day-to-day account of his family life in Bungendore. In retrospect the blog is a *Harden* historical account of some of the changes, good and bad, that Bungendore has endured. Yes, he thinks that the diary would one day make a good book. Sounds like a gripping Aussie mini-series to me.

## In defence of (local) food

"Who's your hero Fred?" A stalwart reply came flying "Michael Pollan!" Get to know Pollan – contributing writer to the NY Times Magazine, a Knight Professor of Journalism at UC Berkeley, world renowned author/writer,

teacher and speaker – and you get to know Fred's thinking about food and eating.

Fred recommends *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, a natural history of four meals (2006) or Pollan's most recent book *In Defence of Food: An Eater's Manifesto*.

Faithful to his hero and statement 'you are where you eat', "I think we should eat local. We need to establish weekly Bungendore farmers markets. People need to know that the person selling bread for example will be there every week", says Fred.

He emphasised the importance of shoppers for food establishing and maintaining relationships directly with food producers, and how such a relationship would inevitably help us better understand our produce.

His mission is to keep working on the publication *Regional Food Australia*, with a TV series planned for the next year. Fred's gone into local politics because "he wants to give it all a good shake, to promote innovation". (Fred ran for Council on the Community First ticket.)

He ends the conversation with "I am no political animal". However, I think he is most definitely a food animal.

**"We need to establish weekly Bungendore farmers markets. People need to know that the person selling bread, for example, will be there every week"**

– FRED HARDEN

## Staying with us for a bit

We have invited Fred Harden to contribute the next few editions of *Food & Wine*. I will be in France with Christophe, my husband and chef, and our three girls. We have organised a 10-day Food and Wine tour to two regions: Les Vosges and Alsace. Twenty- four people from our region will be joining us on the tour... lots of delicious stories to tell when we get back! Bon appétit!

— Josephine

## Corned beef braised with juniper berries & red wine vinegar

**Recipe: From *Good Taste* magazine July 1999 presented by Fred Harden**

One of the real pleasures of this is the smell in the kitchen as it cooks. The vinegar stings your eyes and the juniper is such an unfamiliar scent that the whole effect is very exotic.

The better the corned beef (usually corned silverside) the more this melts as you eat it but I'm sure it improves any cut of corned meat. If you forget to soak your corned beef overnight just put it through a few changes of water to draw out the salt. There are low salt packs available nowadays if you're worried about that.

(The original recipe for this emphasised the 'cooked in red wine' but it's the vinegar that does the transformation.) It takes about 15 minutes to prepare (not including the soaking) and cooks slowly. A 2kg piece of meat takes about 4 hours. You'll need a heavy based oven-proof 4 litre casserole dish with a lid.

**Serves: 6 (then great served cold with mustard if you don't eat it all)**

- 2kg piece of corned silverside
- 500ml (2 cups) of red wine vinegar (don't even think of swapping with ordinary vinegar)
- 320g (2 cups) of lightly packed brown sugar
- 250mls (1 cup) dry red wine
- 250mls (1 cup) of water
- 1 small peeled and halved brown onion
- 1 bunch of fresh dill leaves if you've got them (2 tbsps of dried if not)
- 2 tbsps dried juniper berries, crushed

Pre heat the oven to 130°C

Trim the excess fat from the beef.

Put all the other ingredients in the casserole and bring it to the boil.

Put the beef in and cover and place it in the oven and cook until it is very tender.

Remove from the liquid and slice. Serve with mashed potatoes. We return the piece to some liquid in a container in the fridge to keep it from drying out.

# Linda's

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## PALERANG COUNCIL

### CASUAL POOL SUPERVISORS (\$19.20 per hour plus a 25% casual loading)

Council is seeking expressions of interest from persons wishing to work as pool supervisors over the coming summer season. Successful applicants may be required to work at any of Council's pools located at Braidwood, Bungendore and Captains Flat. The positions involve pool supervision, grounds and plant maintenance (training and assistance will be provided) and responsibility for water quality and public safety.

#### Essential Requirements:

- Royal Life Saving Society of Australia Pool Lifeguard accreditation (or willingness to undertake accreditation during September/October/November).
- Ability to work unsupervised.
- Ability to communicate with user groups and maintain a safe and caring environment, including effective and efficient supervision and control of members of the general public.
- Cash handling and reconciliation experience.

#### Desirable Requirements:

- Senior First Aid Certification (or willingness to undertake accreditation).
- Bronze Medallion (or willingness to undertake accreditation).
- Previous experience in swimming pool supervision.

It is an offence under the *NSW Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998* for a person convicted of a serious sex offence to apply for this position. Chosen applicants will need to consent to a Working with Children Background Check.

A satisfactory pre employment medical is a prerequisite of employment to the pool supervisor's position.

Enquiries regarding the positions should be directed to Mr Barry Osmond, Assistant Engineer – Operations on 6238 8111.

Information packages – may be obtained from Council's offices at 10 Majara Street, Bungendore, or 144 Wallace Street Braidwood, or on Council's website, [www.palerang.nsw.gov.au](http://www.palerang.nsw.gov.au) under 'Your Council/Positions Vacant'. Applications should address the essential and desirable selection criteria and include details of qualifications, experience and the names and phone numbers of work related referees.

General Manager PO Box 348  
Palerang Council BUNGENDORE NSW 2621

## SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been received by Council from 22–26 September 2008

**Application No:** DEV.2008.0357  
**Description:** 2 Lot Subdivision  
**Received:** 23/09/2008  
**Address:** 606 Lucky Pass Road, CURRAWANG

**Application No:** DEV.2008.0362  
**Description:** 33 Lot Subdivision  
**Received:** 25/09/2008  
**Address:** Lot 3 DP1054301 Mount Fairy Road MOUNT FAIRY

### Development Application DEV.2008.0325

#### Demolish the Existing Buildings, Removal of a Number of Trees and Subdivision of the Existing Four Allotments into 82 Residential Allotments

##### Advertised Local Development

#### Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The following information is provided for public interest and consultation:

**Application Number:** DEV.2008.0325  
**Applicant name:** Danny Jones – Planning Direction Pty Ltd  
**Proposal:** Demolish the Existing Buildings, Removal of a Number of Trees and Subdivision of the Existing Four Allotments into 82 Residential Allotments.

**Land Description:** Lot 19, 20, 21 and 22 DP1062506

**Property Address:** 70–74 Trucking Yard Lane (Hoskinstown Road)

**Consent Authority:** Palerang Council  
**Consultation Period:** From 17 September 2008 to 17 October 2008

**Application information:** The application and supporting documentation may be inspected at Council's Bungendore office during normal business hours.

#### Lodging a Submission:

Any person, during the period specified above, may make a written submission in relation to the Development Application to the General Manager, Palerang Council, PO Box 348, Bungendore NSW 2621.

#### Further Information:

Please contact Michael Glenn on 1300 735 025 or 6238 8111.

### Development Application DEV.2008.0199

#### Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Integrated Development Application

The following Development Application and supporting information may be inspected during normal business hours at the Administration Offices of Palerang Council, 10 Majara Street, Bungendore, commencing 24 September 2008 and ending 24 October 2008. The development is Integrated Development.

**Application Number:** DEV.2008.0199  
**Applicant name:** Michael Costello – ACTEW Corporation  
**Proposal:** Remediation of the Googong Dam Spillway  
**Land Description:** Lot 7 DP592796  
**Property Address:** 1103 Googong Road, Yarrow  
**Consent Authority:** Palerang Council  
**Relevant Approval Bodies:** Department of Primary Industries; Department of Environment and Climate Change; Department of Water and Energy.

**Approvals Required:** *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (Section 201 and 219); *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*; *Water Management Act 2000* (Sections 89, 90 and 91).

#### Lodging a Submission:

Any person, during the period specified above, may make a written submission in relation to the Development Application to the General Manager, Palerang Council, PO Box 348, Bungendore NSW 2621.

#### Further Information:

Please contact Belinda McManus on 1300 735 025 or 6238 8111.

### Development Application DEV.2008.0319

#### 2 Lot Subdivision

#### Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Integrated Development Application

The following Development Application and supporting information may be inspected during normal business hours at the Administration Offices of Palerang Council, 10 Majara Street, Bungendore, commencing 8 October 2008 and ending 7 November 2008. The development is Integrated Development.

**Application Number:** DEV.2008.0319  
**Applicant name:** Mr James Watt  
**Proposal:** 2 Lot Subdivision  
**Land Description:** Lot 2, DP635179, Parish of Urialla  
**Property Address:** 41 Lagoon Road, Burra Creek NSW 2620  
**Consent Authority:** Palerang Council  
**Relevant Approval Bodies:** Department of Water and Energy  
**Approvals Required:** Section 10 and/or Section 116 – *Water Management Act 2000*

#### Lodging a Submission:

Any person, during the period specified above, may make a written submission in relation to the Development Application to the General Manager, Palerang Council, PO Box 348, Bungendore NSW 2621.

#### Further Information:

Please contact Michael Glenn on 1300 735 025 or 6238 8111.

### Development Application DEV.2008.0328

#### 7 Villa Houses & Strata Subdivision

##### Advertised Local Development

#### Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The following information is provided for public interest and consultation:

**Application Number:** DEV.2008.0328  
**Applicant name:** Mr Arthur George  
**Proposal:** 7 Villa Houses & Strata Subdivision  
**Land Description:** Lot 1, DP1071666, Parish of Wamboin  
**Property Address:** 106 Gibraltar Street  
**Consent Authority:** Palerang Council  
**Consultation Period:** From 24 September 2008 to 24 October 2008

**Application information:** The application and supporting documentation may be inspected at Council's Bungendore office during normal business hours.

#### Lodging a Submission:

Any person, during the period specified above, may make a written submission in relation to the Development Application to the General Manager, Palerang Council, PO Box 348, Bungendore NSW 2621.

#### Further Information:

Please contact Michael Glenn on 1300 735 025 or 6238 8111.

PETER BASCOMB, General Manager Palerang Council



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# WHAT'S ON: October

## Tuliptop Gardens

Federal Hwy, Sutton (north of the Macs Reef Rd turnoff) 9am–5pm daily. Visit the 10 acre garden of tulips, daffodils, and other spring flowers. Special events include Elvis on the green on Saturday 11 and DJ & the Karismakatz will perform on Sunday 12. The gardens will close for the year following the 12 October. For a map or more information visit [www.tuliptopgardens.com.au](http://www.tuliptopgardens.com.au)

## Signatures 1983–2008:

## 25th Anniversary Exhibition

Bungendore Wood Works Gallery, Malbon St, 9am–5pm daily. This exhibition hosts works by 11 artists displaying the development of fine woodworking in Australia over the past 25 years. Exhibition runs until 19 November.



### Collector Gallery

Ross Andrews

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## Saturday 4

### Captains Flat Market

Captains Flat Community Hall, Fowlox St, 10am–2pm. Assortment of crafts, general stalls and trash and treasure.

## Saturday 11

### Native Plant Society sale

Australian National Botanic Gardens, 8.30am–2pm. “Re-creating a natural garden is not always easy, but is very satisfying to try. Native plants are sometimes difficult to find in nurseries, but at this sale there will be a wide range of plants and knowledgeable people available to give advice.” *See p5 for Jo Walker's suggestions for a mountain garden.*

## Saturday 18

### Wamboin Market

Wamboin Community Centre, Bingley Way, 9am–12pm. Locally grown produce including fresh vegetables, eggs, seeds and selected plants.

### Bungendore Music and Poetry

Heritage on the Square, 2.30–4pm. The stage will be open to a variety of performers and anyone who wants to have a go. Food and drinks will also be available. For more details call Lorraine on 6238 1903 or 0404 188 524.

## Sunday 19

### Bungendore Market

War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, 9am–3pm. A variety of stalls with arts and crafts, local produce as well as trash and treasure.

## Tuesday 21

### Storytime

Bungendore library, Gibraltar St, 10.45am start. Aimed at children aged

2–5 years, stories are followed by a craft activity. Children are encouraged to borrow picture books or DVD's after the session. Storytime is held on the first and third Tuesday of the month. (except school holidays). To register contact Susan on 6238 0784.

## Friday 24

### Bungendore Carers Group Annual Outing

CWA Rooms Gibraltar St, bus leaves at 10am returns by 2pm. The Bungendore Carers' Group has arranged a lake cruise and luncheon. Any carers of disabled adults and children, or frail and elderly persons, are welcome to join our friendly group. This outing has been made possible through generous donations from community groups. Contact Sally Phillips on 4849 4580 before 17 October.

## Sunday 26

### Bungendore Rodeo

Bungendore Rodeo Equestrian Sports and Recreation Reserve, Kings Highway (about 5km east towards Batemans Bay). The Bungendore Rodeo attracts top competitors from all over Australia and overseas. There will be food and drink outlets, bars and entertainment rides. There are basic on-site camping facilities and car parking. \$15 for adults and \$5 for kids aged 11–15. [www.bungendorerodeo.com.au](http://www.bungendorerodeo.com.au)

## Tuesday 28

### Bywong Community Association AGM

Community Hall, Birriwa Rd, Bywong, 7.30pm start. Discussion will centre on the future of the community association.

\*\*\*\*\*

## What's On in Braidwood

## Tuesday 7

### Community Quilt Workshop

Braidwood Servicemen's Club, 9am–4pm. Nine quilts have been completed and another eight have gone off to be commercially quilted thanks to the generous sponsorship of many Braidwood businesses and organizations. A further eight quilts need to be made to complete the project which will provide quilts for every bed in the Braidwood Hospital Nursing Home and Narbethong frail-aged hostel. All quilters and seamstresses who would like to assist this project will be very welcome to participate. Contact June on 4842 2355, Jill on 4842 2626 or Jan on 4842 2887.

## Friday 10 – Sunday 12

### Poetry Alive/Poetry Wild

Starts Fri Evening. Nicola Bowery and Harry Laing are offering another weekend workshop at Geebung. For more information visit [www.poetryalive.com.au](http://www.poetryalive.com.au), phone 4846 1065 or email [geemonga@bigpond.com](mailto:geemonga@bigpond.com).

## Saturday 11

### Plumwood Mountain Warratah Festival

10am–2pm, 18.5kms beyond Braidwood on the Kings Highway towards Bateman's Bay. Bring: a plate, a mug, an instrument, your knowledge of Waratahs and join us in a day of Waratah admiration and music. Please RSVP Anne Edwards on [anne.edwards@ag.gov.au](mailto:anne.edwards@ag.gov.au) or call and leave a message on 4846 1173.

## Friday 10 – Saturday 11

### Are You Being Served

The Braidwood Servicemen's Club, 8pm start. Tickets \$15 from the Braidwood Pharmacy.

## Saturday 18

### Redback Presentation Night

Royal Mail Hotel. The special night of the year for Braidwood's Rugby Union Team. Contact team or hotel for time and further details.

## Saturday 25

### Braidwood Market

Ryrie Park, Braidwood, 8am start. Local plants, natural products, crafts and cooking.

## Friday 31

### Trick or Treating in Death Carriage

Trick or Treat around Braidwood, 4pm start. A fantastic lolly-collecting adventure for all. Contact Helen Roberts for bookings on 0417 456 093.

## PLAN AHEAD:

## November 8 & 9

### BURRA OPEN GARDENS

Garden lovers put this in your diaries now. The Lions Club of Queanbeyan, supported by the Burra Community Association, is presenting 5 beautiful country gardens for your enjoyment. As a new feature this year, garden-themed activities will also be on offer at the historic St Paul's Church. Contact Margaret Dorsch on 0409 141 595 for details. Brochures for the event can be obtained from Palerang & Queanbeyan Council offices, most regional garden centres, or online at [www.burra.org.au/open-gardens](http://www.burra.org.au/open-gardens)

Send 'What's On' info and community notices to... [Chrissy@palerangbulletin.com.au](mailto:Chrissy@palerangbulletin.com.au)



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