THE DISTRICT
Bulletin
October 2016
COUNTRY LIVING Queanbeyan, Palerang and region

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FULL FRONTAL ASSAULT: Baird government proposes open season on native vegetation and animals

TIME TO STAND AND BE COUNTED

Bulletin comment by Maria Taylor

THE *BULLETIN* has reported in previous months that a new development assault on Australia's flora and fauna is as critical an environmental issue as the destruction of the Great Barrier Reef.

In NSW, a government legislative proposal is coming up this month that guts the Native Vegetation Act of 2003 that has stopped broadscale land clearing for the past 15 years. It also proposes to unravel the minimal existing safeguards for native animals under a new so-called Conservation and Biodiversity Act, while scrapping the Threatened Species Conservation Act of 1995. They call it doing away with "red tape" and with the need to protect "abundant" species.

What? Can the same government that took a stance on the greyhound industry on compassionate grounds care less about the fate of koalas, or kookaburras, wombats and kangaroos, parrots and lizards and others that are called "abundant"? The Australian wildlife the world loves, that has survived historical bounties and killing campaigns, could in 2016 face a heightened assault with guns and poison?

What it looks like is a return to the colonial mentality of self-styled clearing, habitat destruction and animal destruction. A boost for the old culture of blame against the native residents. Add to that a 2016 context – destruction of greenhouse gas-soaking mature trees and regrowth.

Look at Queensland since 2014 to see where that has led. Hundreds of thousands of hectares have been cleared in just three years, as many native animals have lost their habitat or otherwise been killed. National greenhouse gas abatement from the federal Direct Action taxpayer-funded campaign (paying farmers not to destroy trees) has been wiped out. And, given Queensland Labor's recent failed attempt, it's hard to rescind this legislation.

In NSW the government claims it's all OK, good people will be planting more trees, and wildlife habitat will be "offset" somewhere away from the farmer/developers' path, while the killing >> p8

Vandalism: Braidwood hit, 60-year-old cemetery trees felled and burned

***Robin Tennant-Wood** asks: What's the legal situation?*

IN LATE SEPTEMBER the Braidwood district has been hit by a spate of vandalism. A number of letterboxes in Ryrie St were destroyed in one night, followed shortly by the exterior of the BCS gym being splashed with paint.

Both these incidents incur, if the culprit is caught, legal penalties. The destruction of private property, in the case of the letterboxes, and the destruction of public (government) property in the case of the school gym, both fall under the 'malicious damage' law, which includes graffiti, vandalism and property damage and which can incur a maximum penalty of up to six years imprisonment.

A third incident of public property damage, which occurred over the weekend of 23–24 September, places a question mark over what we regard as 'property' and what we regard as 'damage'.

On Saturday 23 September, several of the large and old pine trees in the

cemetery at Gundillion were felled, then bulldozed into piles and burnt. The burning took place over the entire weekend, with bulldozers periodically moving around over the cemetery itself.

The rings on one of the stumps that was not burnt reveals the tree to have been between 50- and 60-years-old *Pinus elliottii* (slash pines). Several metres of surrounding eucalypt and tea tree bush was also burnt and the fence at the front cut away to allow access for the bulldozers.

The destruction is believed to have been a self-appointed mission by a small number of men from the region to remove tree roots from some headstones. >> p6

:: The Marketplace – shop locally ::

Post from the storm front in South Australia by the people who restore the power:

ETU – the Electrical Trades Union

September 29 at 6:15pm

This is what caused South Australia to black out.

Those are transmission towers. When they blow over like this they can no longer transmit electricity.

They don't care whether the electricity they can no longer transmit was generated by wind, coal, sunlight or rubbing sticks together.

South Australia's commitment to renewables had *nothing* to do with last night's outage.

Usually we wouldn't point this out so forcefully, but the *Prime Minister* today came out and blamed renewable energy for this.

He's wrong.

Stay safe, SA, and spare a thought for the people working hard in atrocious conditions to get the power back on. ■

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Left: *Moya Simpson leads the WORLDLY GOODS choir in performance. The choir starts again on Monday 10 October at Gorman House. Enquiries 6238 1827.*

Below: *The Vivace daytime choir is part of Music for Canberra's program and meets in Braddon. There are many choirs, practise times and styles (eg with or without reading music) to choose from.*

Enjoying endorphins in communal harmony

by Maria Taylor

AS I SETTLE down to write about communal singing, aka choirs, and the benefits to your health and wellness, what should come on the radio but a spontaneous mass singalong in an opera house somewhere to the strains of *Those were the days my friend, we thought they'd never end…* Impulsively, I raised my voice and joined in.

Even though half the population swears they can't sing and haven't sung since primary school, in fact everyone can sing, says Moya Simpson, one half of Bungendore's acclaimed cabaret and satire duo Shortis and Simpson.

Moya, often accompanied by John, has led choirs over the years, particularly a'Capella, world music and folk music variants where people are likely to be singing in a foreign language and need to memorise the words while creating fabulous harmonies.

"I get a real buzz out of performance that doesn't require me to stand out. It provides an opportunity for joy, laughter, challenge and commitment."

As we learn from research, memorising music is wonderful therapy for aging brains or for distracted unhappy brains. The singing in group exercise is therapeutic on a number of levels we'll get to in a minute. Whether it's a church choir, a popular music choir like Sing Australia, Music for Canberra choirs, or an a'Capella folk music group, there is likely a choir for you. And Canberra's public service has produced more office choirs than any other city in the country.

One of Moya's choir members put it this way, "When I sing, it gives me energy and makes me stand tall. I feel as if oxygen is travelling right through my body to my brain. I feel an emotional rush from the sheer beauty of the sound generated by all those eager voice. I get a real buzz out of performance that doesn't require me to stand out. It provides an opportunity for joy, laughter, challenge and commitment".

Said another, "It costs so little to make music. No oil or batteries or computers needed. It's a doing thing not a talking thing and it's like gold. I treasure it".

In fact there is a body of research and networks of practitioners who note the primal cultural origins of group singing in different societies across the world and from ancient times. Ceremonial singing, wedding songs, funeral dirges, lullabies, war chants, they all stem from the same urge to vocalise together in community. Singing and playing music in family or group were still the main source of entertainment not so long ago before the advent of the gramophone and the television.

Similarly older cultures, including most European cultures, used to think of dancing as a normal part of life, while now it induces terror in half the population (wonder which half?).

Modern western culture, perhaps particularly Anglo-Saxon culture, somewhere along the line developed a stern view about such frivolity.

Moya, from Britain, remembers singing happily as a child in a musical family that knew how to harmonise. That all stopped for her in high school when at age 13 she unconsciously sang a harmony in a class singing exercise. The teacher said: "What do you think you are doing?" and sent her out.

She didn't sing for 20 years after that, she said, starting again at age 35. "A lot of people tell me similar stories. 'Can't sing', 'flat', 'embarrassed', but I firmly believe there is a universal voice."

Research and anecdotal evidence is claiming an amazing range of benefits derived from communal singing – from the enjoyment of being part of a community, to helping overcome a physical condition like asthma or a psychological trauma like post-traumatic stress, anxiety or depression, while building confidence. It's been called the musical equivalent of yoga or meditation.

There are parallels with sport, along the lines of: it's not the sport you watch but the sport you do that's good for you.

Physically, music, whether singing or playing, has been credited with improving breathing, lowering blood pressure, improving cardiac output and relaxing or exercising muscles, like the abdominal muscles. What's not to like!

British researchers have reported that there is an anatomical response from the ear to the brain that registers pleasure when you sing. A University of Melbourne study detected the release of endorphins, which, as sporting people know, makes people feel happy.

And a study at the University of California reportedly measured a remarkable boost to the immune system in members of a choir. They found the production of Immunogloblin A (IgA) – a vital part of the immune response system – increased markedly during choral singing.

The wellness benefits of choirs are thus many and varied. One interviewee who was coming out of a depressing life experience told a reporter: "For two hours a week I did not think about the crap in my life. I was completely focused on breathing lyrics and music," adding, "we also sounded really good and you can't help feeling pleased with yourself when you rock the room." ■

Want to sing?

Residents of Bungendore and nearby communities: Moya Simpson would like to offer a singing workshop for people who would love to sing. If you haven't sung for years, or you've always wanted to, come and discover the joy of making noise in a group of people. Who knows? It could even lead to a Bungendore choir!

If you are interested, please contact Moya: 6238 1827 or 0409 711 706 or moyajohn@shortisandsimpson.com

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Council Watch *with Peter Marshall*

Local environment plan to get review, more suburbia for Bungendore

RESIDENTS of the former Palerang Council area will be intrigued to know that the Palerang Local Environmental Plan (LEP) is about to be reviewed, just two years after being implemented. Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council papers indicate this is required by the NSW Government.

The timetable for the review assumes the new LEP will be presenting as a near-finished product to the newly elected Council in late 2017. That's what was expected in late 2012 too, but it took a little longer than that in Palerang as the new councillors flip-flopped on their commitment to various issues over some time.

The business papers for the "Council Meeting" of 28 September highlights what it calls topics of concern in the community – E4 and E3 zoning, lot size averaging and minimum lot size for the RU1 rural zone.

[The E zones in Palerang raised considerable pushback from some quarters that did not like the word 'environmental' which the state had attached to these zones. In common terms they are rural residential (E4) and a zone of higher environmental sensitivity but still allowing development (E3) – both of which zones Queanbeyan designated in its own LEP without controversy.]

The RU1 basic rural zone is virtually the whole of the former Palerang area, other than E4, as Palerang councillors abandoned the RU2 zone and eviscerated the E3 Zone.

No doubt heritage will be up for review again too. One can only hope that the Administrator has the sense to abandon the voluntary heritage listing that Palerang mainly adopted. In doing so, that council left significant items unprotected. But in the absence of a comprehensive heritage study (what chance some of the amalgamation $15 million merger grant might be spent on such a study?) hope of change has to be fairly faint.

Suburbanisation of Bungendore

It's not entirely clear what is planned for further satellite suburbanisation of Bungendore with Elmslea North 300 houses and Bungendore East 800 houses – ie 1000+ extra houses on the drawing board for Bungendore in the style of Elmslea or Gunghalin.

Elmslea North has received the state's 'gateway' assessment tick of approval to rezone from farmland and may be ready for sale within two years. However, Bungendore East may have hit a speed bump. In both cases the key issue is water availability. Possibly it is considered that Elmslea North can tap into the Bungendore aquifer sustainably, but the jury remains out on this key determinant for Bungendore East, according to a knowledgeable source.

Elmslea North is timetabled to be approved by the Administrator before May 2017. I quote from the 28 September business paper – "it is intended that the rezoning process be completed prior to this date if possible" – there's not much ambiguity there.

Looking back at how these two developments progressed in Palerang, it would seem that developers led the way in planning Bungendore, by buying land and re-zoning, instead of council deciding if and where it wants or can sustain new development.

Re the LEP revision, it's disappointing and surprising that QPRC plans to put so much effort into developing a draft combined LEP, knowing that the newly elected Council in September 2017 is likely to want to shape it. Though I might wish for a benevolent dictatorship to reinstate the E3 Zone in the former Palerang area, and toughen up Palerang's weak heritage protections, benevolent dictatorship is not democracy.

In my opinion, the Administrator should be seeking to do as little as possible in strategic planning or infrastructure building (fixing roads and facilities is fine) between now and September 2017. It could be a waste of money and effort, and the community's energy for consultation. ■

Peter Marshall is a former Palerang Councillor and a resident of Captain's Flat

Safer for horse and rider

Horsemanship methods *by Heike Hahner*

Two mothers introduce children to another species.

THE RECENT deaths of three young girls in horse sports, has again highlighted the dangers involved in working and riding horses. NSW Government SafeWork since then has published a Horse Riding Code of Practice draft, guidelines on safety measures and requirements especially for new and inexperienced people interacting with horses.

The statistics of horse related accidents are grim. According to SafeWork, one worker is hospitalised each day in Australia due to a horse related injury and for every worker injured another 10 non-workers are injured, often at workplaces like farms, riding schools and trail riding businesses. Falls from a horse are the most common cause of horse-related fatal injuries.

These statistics indicate a need to revise training and handling methods of horses, as well as the training and education of workers in horse industries.

There are numerous horse training and education methods. Classical horse training and the 'breaking' of horses rely substantially on use of various equipment aides, restraints and focus on the control of the horse from the horses back. The goal of these methods is the animal's obedience to the rider. Ground exercises are frequently limited to lunging or routine maintenance training.

This is markedly different from Horsemanship methods, which apply knowledge of the horse's natural behaviour as an individual and in a herd setting, to gain the animals trust and respect. The goal is to engage with the animal through numerous ground and desensitisation exercises first before attempting control and engagement from its back.

Horsemanship methods started a couple of decades ago mainly through the American horseman Pat Parelli. Parelli devised a system of exercises for horse and rider that gradually increased in degree of difficulty and expertise. Many variants have followed.

The focus is on engaging with the horse at a level that the horse can understand and follow. Horsemanship methods build on the horse's natural drive to be a follower to a stronger leader and apply forms of engagements that the horse uses when it engages with members of the herd.

Another emerging technique called clicker training, which has its origins in Behaviourist methods and dolphin training using food rewards, remains debatable for the general training of horses.

Long term, it appears that merging classical horse training and Horsemanship methods may be the safest solution to a reduction in accidents. Accepting that horses are physically much stronger than humans, will always require a certain amount of restraint on the horse and the need for the horse to accept such restraints.

Horsemanship methods will be demonstrated in the region this month. They provide exercises that many traditional training methods lack – both for the horse to respect the handler and to desensitise the horse. A seriously upset or frightened animal is potentially lethal, not only to the handler or rider, but also to itself and anyone near it. ■

Braidwood will host internationally-renowned Foundation Horsemanship instructor David Stuart on 22 and 23 October. If you would like to come along and see what it is all about contact Heike Hahner 4842 7143 or hhahner@bigpond.com

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Popular **SMALL FARMS NETWORK** reports successful year

THE SMALL Farms Network – Capital Region, began in November last year as a grassroots information service for people who own or live on small- to medium-sized rural properties. The network aims to share local knowledge and tap into professional advice about all things farming through field days, workshops, paddock walks and other events.

The network is volunteer-based and supported by a Regional Steering Committee of local farmers, South East Local Land Services, the ACT Regional Landcare Facilitator and the Palerang Action Network for Sustainability (FuturePLANS).

The 'Feathers and Fowl' Field Day in September was fully booked and provided a great opportunity for local small farmers to gain professional and practical information about managing poultry. Local farmers Penny Kothe (Caroola Farm) and Penny Evans (Pendon Farm) shared their expertise about meat and egg production for small farms. Other experts, including Dr Jayne Weller from Exotic Animal Services, delivered fascinating presentations about bird anatomy, health and husbandry systems.

According to participant Margy Gardener there was a good mix of hands-on and technical advice. "The anatomy and technical advice from the vets was great, it's not often you get to speak to a vet for free and get such great value information," she said.

Information from this field day is available on the Small Farms website at **www.smallfarmscapital.org** and handouts are also available at the Bungendore Library.

'Working with weeds' and 'horses on the farm' are recent seminars that were fulling booked. For future events, interested landholders can add their name to the wait list on the website events page. The network is currently planning the 2017 agenda. For latest news and events sign up to the newsletter on the website and join the network on Facebook.

The network is made possible by grant funding from South East Local Land Services and the Australian Government. Network coordinator Alex James is funded on a casual basis to help with administration and organising events.

— press release

www.smallfarmscapital.org https://www.facebook.com/smallfarmscapital/
Enquiries alex@smallfarmscapital.org or 0406 338 850

NSW and renewable energy – best or worst of times?

***Graham Franklin-Browne** drills into the conflicting reports of where NSW stands on renewable energy and related jobs*

FOR SOME time now the NSW government has been labelled as the most backward administration in Australia regarding the promotion of renewable energy.

Therefore, I was surprised to learn that the Australian Bureau of Statistics had rated NSW as a sector leader because of the number of workers it employs in renewable energy related activities.

The ABS Employment in Renewable Energy Activities 2014–15 Report, stated that NSW employed 28 percent of the entire Australian workforce directly engaged in renewable activities – or about 3,990 workers.

WTF?! In the same year, didn't the Clean Energy Council rate NSW last among the states for new per capital investment in renewable energy?

So it appears that we employ more people in renewable energy projects, but we invest the least. We are the biggest state to be sure, but surely that alone doesn't explain the paradox.

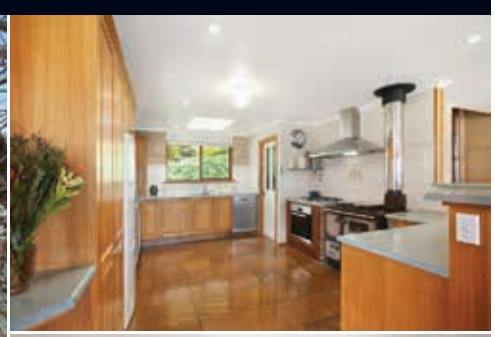
Well, the NSW Government did have a number of action plans between 2014 and 2015, and it was actively supporting a renewables advocacy. In fact, in 2014 it proudly touted itself as "Australia's answer to California".

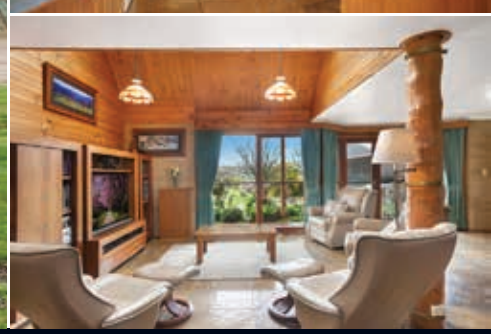
The government had three goals, each contributing to the rather pathetic and unambitious federal target of 20 percent renewables by 2020.

The NSW government was to: attract renewable energy investment; build community support, and attract and grow renewable energy expertise.

In mid-2015, the Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy reported that NSW plans were on track, and the government was excited and >> p7

McGrath





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CEMETERY VANDALISM *from p1*

This event has left many others with connection to the cemetery very upset.

Council not informed, question about trees as public property

QPRC confirmed that they knew nothing of the tree removal and that approval was neither sought nor given for the destruction to be carried out. While the cemetery has been previously listed on the Heritage List for (the former) Palerang Council, it is not listed under the current LEP. [A tree preservation ordinance, as previously existed in Yarrowlumla Shire for example and related to the age and height of trees in general, was dropped by the former Palerang council.]

According to the New South Wales Department of Environment and Heritage, the cemetery is still listed as a local heritage site at state level.

The vandalism raises the very grey area of 'malicious damage'. Letterboxes and school gyms are clearly property. There is a definite claim of ownership and damage to them is a violation of that claim. While the cemetery is officially council property, however, there is a lack of clarity over the status of trees.

For example, for a tree to be protected under heritage legislation, it must be included in the description of the listing, for example, "Cottage and pine tree".

A spokesperson for QPRC said that while council was investigating the matter of the tree felling, the only offence that was committed was the removal of trees on council property without consent. 'Malicious damage'? Apparently not.

What about environmental damage?

It is bird nesting season. The trees in question were habitat to yellow-tail black cockatoos, kookaburras, magpies and crimson rosellas. Unfortunately they have no legal standing.

Is there a penalty for vandalism against natural environment features on public land? In her investigation Robin Tennant-Wood posed the hypothetical: what would local government authorities say "if I drove my car into Queanbeyan's Ryrie Park and mowed down all the gardens because I didn't like the flowers, would I be subject to any penalty?" An appropriate consequence to the Gundillion tree removal is still pending.

They are subject to moral, rather than legal, decisions and their nests and this year's generation of young are apparently just 'collateral damage'.

This also raises the point that if a member of the public wished to remove pines from any of the parks, gardens or recreation areas in the shire, they would be guilty only of removing trees without consent. Not of vandalism.

Letterboxes can be replaced. Paint can be removed from walls. It took over 60 years for those pines to grow and less than a day to reduce them to smouldering piles. ■

OPEN GARDEN SEASON 2016 *for good causes*

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8, 9 October

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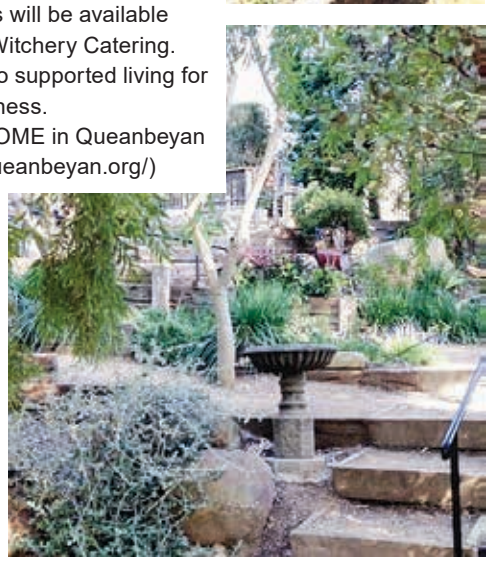

First Spring gardens for Open Gardens Canberra

15, 16 October

'Gollion', 93 Westmead Lane, Sutton

The farm's extensive garden is over 30 years old.

Deciduous trees, including a large desert ash shade the passive solar house in summer, Flower beds, with roses and herbaceous perennials and a tennis court with climbing roses are among the features.

The vegetable garden consists of a series of raised beds plus four wicking beds made from recycled tanks. Vegetables are also grown in a rotating yard system with the chooks. A feature of the garden is the three orchards, two of which are netted. Tours of the orchards will be held over the open weekend.

This is a Pink Ribbon Event so the sale of plants, and refreshments will all go to Breast Cancer Research.

Directions. From Sutton take direction Gundaroo and turn left up East Tallagandra Lane. At the end of this road turn left, on Mulligans Flat Road, then after 500m, turn right up Tallagandra Lane. After 4.5 km turn left up Westmead Lane. 'Gollion' is 0.93km along there.

Queanbeyan Open Garden, 21 Downey St, Karabar

Featuring Japanese gardening principles to guide the work including:

- Separating the deciduous canopy from the evergreen understory
- Using rocks and pruning to create the effect of miniature landscapes
- Contrasting very formal shapes with more natural features.

Say the owners: "We were attracted to the romance of Japanese garden tradition and have experimented applying it to a suburban garden. We love how Australian plants can fit with these themes and work together or in contrast with exotic plants. Supporting the valuable work Body Electric Australia does".

Both the above gardens are open the weekend of 15–16 October. 10am to 4pm. Entry is $8/garden or $25 to join Open Gardens Canberra for one year (starting 1 September 2016). Children under 18 are free when accompanying an adult. There will be plants for sale and a variety of tempting sweet treats, tea and coffee along with remnant landscaping products for sale. See **www.opengardenscanberra.org.au**

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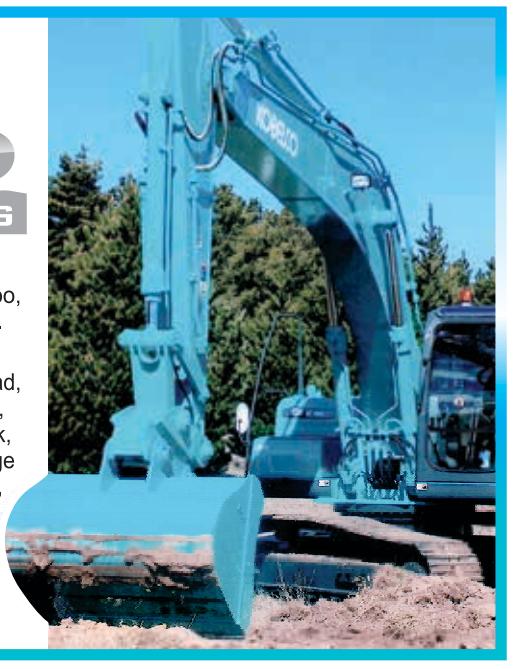


Queanbeyan Art Trail

– from Wamboin to Uriarra Rd Queanbeyan, and many more on the day

Christine M Knight** visits with artists **Sally Simpson** and **Harriet Schwarzrock** and **Matthew Curtis

IN SEPTEMBER, I had the unique pleasure of visiting two of the varied list of artists featured in this year's Queanbeyan Art Trail. My first stop was at the rural studio of sculptor, Sally Simpson, situated in Wamboin. Her most recent accolades are the 2016 Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council Art Awards and finalist in the 2016 Blake Prize Award.

It was an easy drive from Queanbeyan through a vibrant, gently undulating landscape where wildlife abound. As I drove up the driveway to Sally's studio, I passed mobs of unperturbed kangaroos, many of them with joeys boldly leaning out of their mother's pouches to graze, indifferent to my passing car.

Sally met me at her large rectangular studio, south of her house, which is where she will meet visitors who follow the Queanbeyan Art Trail on 30 October. The council's program for that day lists open times and other relevant details for all artists on show. (See website end of article.)

Born and bred in Glenelg, South Australia, Sally studied at the South Australian Art School before moving to Sydney where she furthered her study at UNSW College of Fine Arts (COFA). Later, she travelled extensively overseas where she immersed herself in museums and evolving forms of art.

Sally Simpson with her work Cattle Cross.

Currently, her sculptures *Objects for an Unknown Future Museum* are on exhibition at Stanley Street Gallery Sydney and The *Lake Mokoan Series* is on display at Benalla Regional Gallery.

Sally's projects capture moments in time past and present. Her intention is to represent the present for an unknown future museum. She works in natural materials of varied and subtle hues found during her walking explorations of landscape: pieces of coral, marine rope, skeletal remains, and so on. She has an amazing collection of materials that will interest visitors as will her account of her sources of inspiration and varied sculptural techniques.

An overarching theme in Sally's work is the marking of time and the passing of value systems related to specific times and places. For instance, her sculpture *Berry Palms* symbolically represents the demise of the vast rainforests that once stretched over southern coastal NSW, south of Wollongong and north of Nowra, as human settlement populated the landscape.

Her sculpture *Cattle Cross* functions as a requiem for the demise of a later landscape in that region, the dairy industry, as primary producers gave way to the modern age of tourism and urban life on the south coast.

I found Sally's studio exhibition fascinating and thought provoking. Readers can learn more by going to **www.sallysimpson.com.au**

Glass art at Curtis Studio

At Curtis glass studio with Harriet Schwarzrock.

From Wamboin, I drove to the Curtis Studio, Queanbeyan, situated in a visually appealing warehouse in the Curtis' backyard. **www.curtisglassart.com**

As I walked up the driveway past the adjacent pet shop, I felt like I travelled through a portal into another realm. I met glass artists and sculptors Harriet Schwarzrock and Matthew Curtis at the rear of the house. Schwarzrock is Harriet's professional name.

Matthew and one of their sons were busy readying for an installation at the Canberra Glassworks. The family were also busy packing glass art for the critically acclaimed Sculpture Objects & Functional Art Fair (SOFA) in Chicago this November.

A variety of galleries from around the world attend SOFA and invite artists to come along. Kirra Gallery based in Melbourne invited Harriet. Habatat Gallery based in Detroit represent Matthew. Their work is widely collected and prized.

The couple use glass as an artistic medium to produce internationally prized three-dimensional artworks. Their exquisite glass objects make sculptural and decorative statements.

Matthew creates organic, architecturally sympathetic symmetrical glass structures whereas Harriet creates organic asymmetrical artwork inspired by nature, balance, stillness in movement, and fluidity.

Harriet and Matthew use a variety of techniques: cold work, hot work, glass blowing, glass casting, glass fusing, moulding, grinding, and so on. Visitors to the Curtis Studio learn a lot about this art form from demonstrations as well as informative and engaging talks.

Harriet grew up in Northbridge Sydney and trained at Sydney College of the Arts at the Rozelle Campus of Sydney University. Born in England, Matthew and his family moved to Australia when he was a teenager. He did an apprenticeship with Robert Wynne at Denizen Studios in Sydney.

>> p11

Focus on Energy and Innovation

Sponsored by Infigen

NSW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY *from p5*

'open for business' in renewable energy (hmm, where did that phrase come from?).

Newly-appointed renewable energy advocate Amy Kean also chipped in, announcing that her office had provided support to 17 large-scale renewable energy projects, totalling 4,500 megawatts of capacity and $6 billion of investment.

NSW government says its efforts in the renewables sector has supported 14,800 jobs

The NSW government also claimed to be a long standing supporter of national Renewable Energy Targets, but at the same time, it was busy phasing out domestic solar subsidies, and effectively deconstructing the solar PV industry.

Still, the government insisted that its efforts in the renewables sector had supported 14,800 NSW jobs, and enabled 35 percent of Australia's renewable energy business to be based in NSW, mostly Sydney.

A clear policy would help, plus clearing the stalled backlog

So, by now NSW should be a leader in the renewables sector, shouldn't it?

Well, a major barrier to investment is still the persistent lack of clear long-term government policy, which means that we are left with a massive surplus of ageing and highly emission-intensive (smelly) infrastructure remaining in the system for far too long.

There is no doubt that NSW has a big chunk of the nation's wind power, either constructed, under construction, approved, or under approval. That is good news, isn't it?

It would be, were it not for a Bloomberg New Energy Finance report stating that of the 2,000 MW of NSW renewable energy projects issued with planning permits, in the past two years only 175 MW had been financed or committed to construction.

Significantly, the NSW Government has also removed the specific position within the ministry responsible for promoting renewable energy – that of the parliamentary secretary for renewable energy.

Despite a confusing and sometimes hostile policy environment, renewable energy still remains a rapidly developing sector in NSW, but it is difficult to test government claims that the sector is developing fast enough to meet the federal government's whimpy target of 20 percent by 2020.

In our region

What can we see in our region (excluding the ACT) that might give us hope that real change is taking place?

We have Infigen's highly visible $374m Capital Wind Farm Stage 1, with Stage II in the wings.

There is also the $155m Woodlawn Wind Farm, and the Capital East Solar PV Demo/Energy Storage Facility.

There are the Gullen Range, and the Cullerin Range Wind Farm – the Cullerin Wind farm has changed hands, but reputably is still amongst the best performing wind farms in NSW.

For some observers, NSW administrations often seem to use the approvals process as a means of prolonging or delaying the implementation of large scale renewable energy projects, rather than promoting the sector.

Earlier this year we saw the approval of another wind farm project near Yass, but incredibly the approval process for the Yass project began over 7 years ago! Approval was finally granted after the project had been changed from 150 turbines to 124.

Our own Queanbeyan/Palerang Council (or what is left of it) has already installed 90 KW of PV systems on three of its buildings, and sponsored a number of community forums on renewable and sustainable alternatives.

Other than that, there is not a lot happening in our part of NSW.

So, are we on track to become "Australia's answer to California"?

I am off to the US in October. I'll let you know. ■

Innovative wave, solar and energy storage to power island Australian technology, read online ...
www.districtbulletin.com.au

Science by observation on the farm

how do kangaroos and other wildlife contribute to soil health, biodiversity, native grasses?

"We deal with numerous complexities, many of our own making. We have come to believe in our 'managements', but some turn out to be mismanagements.

— Carol Lynn, regional landholder, naturalist and photographer, provided this report

WE HAVE COME to believe that 'management' of the environment is our right without question. However, lessons are sometimes learned too late until observation in retrospect. The devastation of Earth's flora and fauna is fast becoming one of those 'mismanagements' that signal present and future problems.

On ground observations of nature working together

Soils, either by water or wind erosion, make their way downhill. Various factors determine the erosive or beneficial containment of water passage. Whilst we conduct our lives with our focus, the natural order continues, long established with native residents, as described here.

To our detriment we remove, by 'management' and killing, factors that have worked long before we entered the country. The environment needs to be understood far better than the concreting of whatever we can manage, and that includes our thinking processes and expedient judgements. Seemingly simple factors can make a marked difference on the environment. Consider soil structure.

After heavy rains, earthworms (the ones who survive – some drown) and other soil dwellers forge upwards, seeking both passage to nutrition and ground cover above. They favour ground-hugging growth, and grasses and fibrous cover. Their upsurging tunnels aerate the soil and are so often seen next to kangaroo pellets (droppings), which provide both soil nutrition and fibre.

Kangaroo pellets provide steady-release nutrition and their residue of fibre both holds available moisture close to the earth and assists in ground cover. (Faeces from introduced stock such as cattle or horses tend to blanket cover where they drop and suppress immediate areas.)

Earthworms seek the surface near kangaroo pellets (seen image above, left) — seeking not only nutrition but also the fibre that remains on the gradual dissolution of kangaroo pellets, which happens over time, thus, with their tunnelling upwards, the earthworms and other micro-organisms aerate and loosen the soil structure, keeping it healthy.

Following droughts and after rains, ground cover plants require nutritive elements to restore and to grow. Both nutrition and fibre are available from kangaroo pellets, so often in the areas where it is most needed, including areas fenced off from introduced stock.

Where washings/watersheds occur, there is often a cover of fallen eucalypt leaves, which are suppressive to growth [on a small block can be raked away]. As kangaroo droppings so often wash to the same areas, they assist plants' renewal. Some native plants cannot tolerate artificial or foreign fertilisers. Kangaroo pellets consist of the very substances processed through their systems which benefit their surroundings.

An on-farm experiment

On 22 July 2016 I placed 12 kangaroo pellets into each of four containers, covering with rainwater to simulate the effect of rain upon the pellets. They immediately began to release the nutrients and this continued until I strained them on 2 September 2016. The fibre that remained still beneficially held moisture after being drained. When observed in their natural environment, the pellets provide the surface fibre that contributes to soil structure and moisture retention, particularly at the base of plants in areas that most need it.

Photos: Carol Lynn

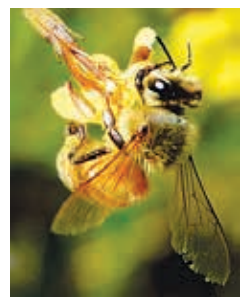
In thick frost, the time of greatest hunger, kangaroos graze the dried fronds of 'nuisance' (to farmers) clumps, whilst sheep graze already low pasture.

In pasture areas, cockatoos and galahs gather to dig up the small bulbs that proliferate in season. As they dig, often on the kangaroo pellets, they provide entry for fertilising; for assisting the grasses in aeration; and seeding potential. We see natural systems at work.

Birds, including cockatoos, galahs and corellas, gather to dig small bulbs (thus aerating the soil) that have been fertilised by kangaroo pellets (droppings).

Native grasses have been recognized for their benefits – including survival in adverse conditions. While the prior emphasis has been on 'pasture', kangaroos access the areas often excluded and fertilise not only the native grasses, but all the plants which help to prevent erosion. They also fertilise the wildflowers and trees. Apiarists move their hives to take advantage of the flowering season. Honey production also provides a healthy bee population, essential to pollination and our food production.

A few of the native grasses benefiting from kangaroo pellet distribution.



In the areas frequented for shelter by kangaroos, their pelleted droppings fertilise a wealth of wildflowers and provision for bees.

https://contemplatingobservations.wordpress.com/2016/09/13/seeing-the-trees-forest-and-the-occupants-natural-synergies-at-work/

FULL FRONTAL ASSAULT

from p1

will only target "abundant" wildlife. If you believe these solutions, we have a bridge to sell you.

In fact, according to Josh Gilbert, former chair of NSW Young Farmers, it's all about politics. Who knew? At the last state election the NSW Farmers association (a more traditional and small minority of the state's 40,000 farmers) and the National Party signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Liberals. In return for election support, the Coalition would take these backward steps on land management. So here we are.

Gilbert, from a cattle-farming family, resigned his post earlier this year in protest about the proposed clearing laws and NSW Farmers' role therein. He said at the time: "Australia has become number three for the worst land clearing rates amongst developed nations. And still, some industries continue to lobby for self-regulation in order to have the opportunity to destroy our native landscapes."

He now belongs to a coalition of farmers and scientists, conservation groups and others who oppose the changes, saying existing legislation works adequately to satisfy the majority of farmers.

Killing data

Even under existing legislation, the statistics on wildlife killed in the state are horrifying. Now they propose to ease landholders' reporting burdens by removing even the minimal requirements to explain why and how many you want to kill to obtain a license from the National Parks and Wildlife Service/Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH).

The service issued permits to kill 145,550 mammals and birds in 2015–16 using a 's121' non-commercial license. That included permits for 100,000 eastern grey kangaroos (in addition to the large commercial killing), near 9,000 corellas, 6,500 sulphur-crested cockatoos, 550 galahs, 655 emus, 175 swamp wallabies 113 wombats and 83 magpies, according to OEH data obtained by Fairfax media. Those licenses and related data collection would stop with the new legislation.

Instead there would be a so-called "risk-assessment" scale with common species losing all protection. Cut-to-the-bone National Parks staff won't need to safeguard common wildlife anymore.

Every wildlife rescue organisation can tell horror stories of mis-shot or arrow-shot animals due to private landholders, as happened in Palerang recently. And that is under a regulated system. Imagine then open season.

The NSW Opposition told the media that wombats, kangaroos, emus, possums, wallabies, kookaburras and parrots such as sulphur-crested cockatoos and galahs, magpies, ravens and crows, (among others) would be fair game under the new proposals.

Labor environment spokeswoman Penny Sharpe is clear: "Those who seek to kill native wildlife will be able to do so with no oversight and little consequences."

Animals sliding into endangered status such as koalas, large gliders or owls, will suffer equally if their habitat is cleared, as has happened in Queensland with koalas.

Commercial killing of kangaroos, now in south-eastern NSW, will face some kind of self-assessed code of conduct. Not too different from the present unmonitored and cruel reality.

Genius too, backers of this legislation would be able to claim ignorance as a defence if they harm animals during land clearing. Imagine if people who don't wear seatbelts or people who hit others while texting and driving had the same option.

Gilbert told the *Bulletin* that the main industry voices urging these changes are some grains, canola and cotton farmers wanting to clear more land without restraint. (Anyone who has recently seen the laser-levelled, treeless kilometres of the inland agricultural north, and the weed infestation currently, would be asking, how much more can the landscape bear?)

The government has received 7,000 submissions of which almost all are reportedly against this legislation.

Submissions are closed, but it's not too late to be counted. Let your state representative, the premier, or your favourite parliamentarian know what you, as a voter, think about this proposed assault on our natural heritage. Ask them to stop. ■

This report and links online
www.districtbulletin.com.au

BOOK REVIEWS ***by Nick Goldie***

The Braidwood saga of poor Junie

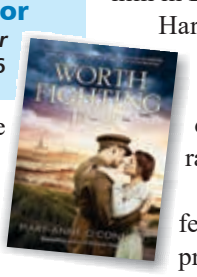
JUST LIKE the girl in the song, she was poor but she was honest, victim of a rich man's game.

Sagas, especially historical family sagas, are not my first choice of reading matter, but I did find myself wanting to know what happens next to Junie Wallace of Braidwood. [Spoiler alert.]

Junie is improbably beautiful, and is forced to marry a man she doesn't begin to love, in order to save her family from financial ruin. Secretly she yearns for Michael Ryan, an Irish-Australian drover lad with a twinkle in his eye.

Junie's new husband Ernest Farthington is the son of Braidwood landed gentry, and is setting forth on a career of political and financial success.

Worth Fighting For
Mary-Anne O'Connor
Harlequin Mira, 2016



Author Mary-Anne O'Connor is certainly ambitious. The story moves from Braidwood to Sydney society, to Pearl Harbour in time for the Japanese raid, back to Sydney Harbour in time for the Japanese submarine attack, to Darwin (Japanese bombs, again), to the Kokoda Trail with ragged Diggers, and, after the war, to the impenetrable jungles of New Guinea.

Young Michael and his mates leave the farming life and enlist in the Army. The fact that they are all under-age is soon discovered, but because they are country lads, and can shoot, ride, drink and swear, the Army doesn't want to lose them, and so creates a special unit to train them in commando warfare until they are old enough for the real thing.

Meanwhile, there's a night of romantic bliss on a beach, and Junie duly falls pregnant. Ernest believes the child is his, while Michael – a natural leader – is commanding a small force on a jungle ridge far from home, and is unaware that Junie is the mother of his daughter.

An American pilot, who survived Pearl Harbour, becomes involved in the story when he meets Junie, dancing at Sydney's Trocadero, and manages to prevent a confrontation between Michael and Junie's husband Ernest.

Marlon is smitten, but we next meet him in Darwin, reprising his Pearl Harbour role. He starts a relationship with Marri, a young indigenous woman, but she dies in one of the bombing raids.

Ms O'Connor has a good feel for history, enough to prompt me to do some homework about what actually happened in northern Australia. There were no less than 97 bombing raids, and, it seems, there were more bombs dropped on Darwin than on Pearl Harbour. One of the results was widespread panic, including among service personnel, as an invasion was expected any day. In fact, it now seems that actual invasion was secondary to knocking out potential military bases.

Meanwhile, out there in the jungle, Michael and his little troop fight and die, and the saga of Junie, Marlon, and the rest of the big caste rumbles on.

I finally got to the end. I liked Digger, the big black dog, whom we first met as a puppy. Everyone gets what they deserve, and they fly off into the Braidwood sunset.

Behind the Springbok tour of 1971

Sport reflecting values and politics

Pitched Battle
Larry Writer
Scribe, 2016

SO MUCH has changed. And so much remains chillingly the same, as described in Larry Writer's new book *Pitched Battle*.

"We were a scared and reactionary society," says activist Meredith Burgmann, referring to Australia in the 1970s. In 1971, South Africa was at the height – or depth – of its apartheid period. The policy of apartheid ("Separate Development") was maintained and reached bizarre lengths. It is pronounced, correctly and appropriately, as "apart – hate".

In 1971, says Burgmann, the Australian media was "largely reactionary".

In South Africa, police brutality was routine, black economic development was vestigial, and white South Africans lived a life of blinkered comfort. An important part of this comfortable lifestyle revolved around sport, particularly rugby. Even New Zealanders don't quite share the Afrikaners passion for the Game they play in Heaven.

When seven young Australians, mainly from Sydney University, declined to be part of the Wallaby team chosen to play against the Springboks in 1971, it went far beyond a merely sporting boycott.

We are first introduced to Jim Boyce, who toured South Africa with the Wallabies in 1963. It was the turning point in his life, and not just because of the tries he scored. Today we would say he had become radicalised. From being a comfortable Sydney sportsman, he had become a campaigner for human rights.

Being different thought eccentric and unpatriotic

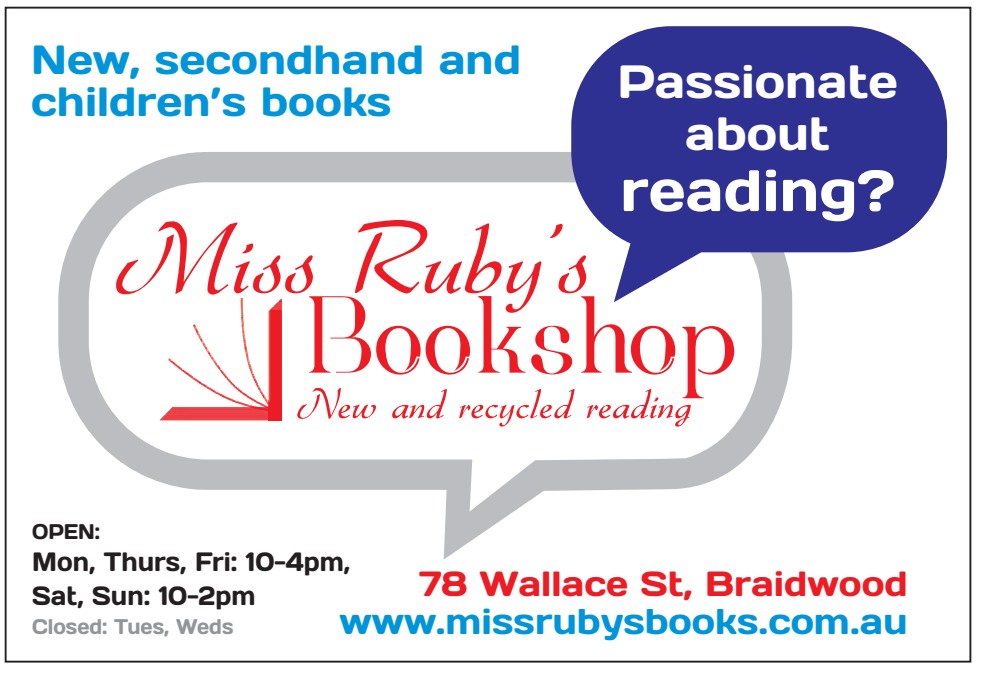
By the time the Springboks were due to tour Australia in 1971, the world had moved on, and South Africa was no longer regarded so kindly. Sporting boycotts had been recognised as an effective weapon against the apartheid regime, though the seven Wallabies who opted out were still regarded by most people as eccentric, even unpatriotic.

> **"We arrived in California in grey trousers and blazers, and came home in bell-bottom jeans, moccasins, beads, and had long hair."**
> **— 1971 Wallabies player**

The Vietnam Moratorium had politicised a generation of Australians. A leader of the protesting Wallabies, Anthony Abrahams, recalls a Sydney University rugby tour: "We arrived in California in grey trousers and blazers, and came home in bell-bottom jeans, moccasins, beads, and had long hair. It was a big change of life for us, and this was just before we went to South Africa."

The book is called *Pitched Battle*, and that's no exaggeration. Members of Australia's militant Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) threw missiles, scaled fences, damaged football pitches, while members of the Campaign Against Racism in Sport (CARIS) handed out leaflets, wrote articles, and politely argued their case. CARIS included Wallaby players, which gave it a certain clout, and although there was rivalry between the two organisations, they formed a potent two-pronged attack on the establishment, notably premiers Sir Henry Bolte, Joh Bjelke Petersen, and Prime Minister William McMahon.

The sporting authorities maintained their conservative line, while on the ground the protesters faced a very violent opposition from right-wing groups such as the Fourth Reich Motorcycle Club and the Australian National Socialist Party. On the side of the angels were Bob Hawke of the ACTU, young Peter Beattie, youthful Gareth Evans, boyish Jack Waterford [later *Canberra Times* editor], and many thousands more. A fascinating account of important Australian sporting and political history. ■



Enviro Expo coming to schools and community

28, 29 October along with Riverfest

THOUSANDS of school students and community members are expected to attend the Queanbeyan Schools and Community Enviro Expo in late October. Schools from across the Local Government Area, including Braidwood, Bungendore and Captains Flat have been invited to the fourth Schools Enviro Expo on Friday 28 October.

School students will be treated to a theatre production from Eaton Gorge Theatre Group who are bringing *Madame Mulch* and *The Great Fertilizo* to the students.

After the production, students will participate in activities presented by Bournda Environmental Education Centre, Icon Water, Wildcare, Capital Fishing and Office of Environment and Heritage.

Students will learn about recycling, water quality, native wildlife, sustainable fishing practices and about local threatened species. Schools will also have an opportunity to showcase their environmental achievements.

For the second year running, the Community Enviro Expo will be run in conjunction with the Queanbeyan River Festival on Saturday 29 October. The Community Enviro Expo will have a number of stall holders including Council's Environment Section, Molonglo Catchment Group, Googong's Sustainable Housing Project, Wildcare Queanbeyan, Greening Australia and Australian River Restoration Centre and the Southern Harvest Association.

Waterwatch will be bringing back their popular 'waterbug search' activity, and Danny Spelic from Capital Fishing will be conducting fly fishing demonstrations throughout the day. Malunggang the Platypus will also be making appearances along with NSW Transport, who will be on hand with their Old4New Lifejacket Exchange Program.

Schools Enviro Expo: 28 October 2016. Queanbeyan Park – Parking off Campbell St across from Park St. 9am–3pm
Community Enviro Expo: 29 October 2016. Queanbeyan River – at the end of Trinculo Place. 11am–4pm

Queanbeyan Evening Branch Meeting CWA – AGM

New members welcome

THE QUEANBEYAN Evening Branch of the Country Women's Association (CWA) of NSW is holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 11 October commencing at 6.30 pm at the Queanbeyan Ladies Bowls clubhouse, next to the tennis courts, Campbell Street Queanbeyan.

The AGM will be followed by our general meeting. New members are welcome.

The CWA aims to improve conditions for country women and children. We reach that aim in various ways including lobbying for change, helping the local community, creating a network of support and meeting together.

For further information or inquiries about us, please contact the Branch Secretary Nicole Lyons on 0409 323 569 or email cwaqebsecretary@gmail.com

Molonglo Catchment Group · NSW Local Land Services South East · Greening Australia

BANKS. BUSH. BIRDS.

A one stop shop information day for landholders to learn about priority environmental issues relevant to the farm and lifestyle block, and some practical options and incentives for management.
Attend individual workshop sessions or all three.

BANKS · 10:15 – 11:30
Soil erosion control workshop. Got erosion on your place? Then this workshop is for you.

BUSH · 11:45 – 1:00
Saving our Scarlet Robin – Biodiversity workshop. Learn about the importance of remnant vegetation on your place and practical ways in which you can improve and enhance this for our wildlife.

BIRDS · 1:45 – 3:00
All about Birds – habitat, identification, and monitoring – focussing on the Glossy Black-Cockatoo and other woodland species.

WHEN
Two Date Options:
Thursday 3rd November and Saturday 5th November
10am – 3pm
Lunch & Morning Tea Provided

WHERE
Burra Community Hall

RSVP ESSENTIAL BY NOVEMBER
Email: programs@molonglocatchment.org.au
Phone 6299 2119 or 0439 030 058

Queanbeyan River Festival

Register your boat today!

QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG Council has again partnered with The Eden -Monaro Cancer Support Group to host the popular boat races at the River Festival. There are opportunities to enter boats in three categories including the 'Build your own boat', 'The Inflatables' and the kayak races.

Chief Executive Officer of The Cancer Support Group Ms Melissa Gardiner said, "there is still time to enter your worthy vessel via **http://thecancersupportgroup.org.au**".

The sixth River Festival will feature a range of free activities for all members of the family, including 'come and try' stand-up paddle boards, fly fishing demonstrations, tie-dying, water balls, safe archery, recycling workshops, lantern making and much more.

Council's Event Coordinator Mrs Cheryl Rule said "we have been mindful to select activities which complement and celebrate our river while still having fun. This year new activities have been included such as a giant bouncer, water tug-of-war, model ship display and an Aboriginal activity where the children can get ochre painted and learn more about local traditions and history of the river and its people. These new activities go alongside popular favourites such as airbrush tattoos and Chinese lantern making workshops".

The public is encouraged to bring two S's – your swimmers and a smile.

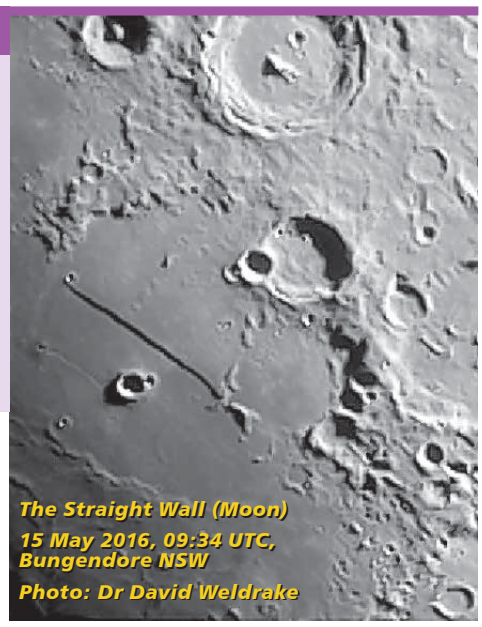
Entries for the boat races must be in by 5pm Friday 28 October (day before the festival). Entry is done via the cancer support group website, above.

River Festival: 29 October 2016. Queanbeyan River – Ray Morton Park via Wanniassa Street. 11am–4pm

:: Star Search ::

STAR SEARCH's Dr David Weldrake is on leave and will return later in the year ... check out his website at **https://sites.google.com/site/weldrakeplanetary**.

For an update on what's happening in our skies during October, have a look at *October sky guide: Tarantula nebula, Southern Taurids meteor shower, Venus, Saturn and Mars*. This article, with images can be found at **http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-10-03/october-sky-guide/7882694**



The Straight Wall (Moon)
15 May 2016, 09:34 UTC, Bungendore NSW
Photo: Dr David Weldrake

QPRC Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

Queanbeyan RIVER FESTIVAL
Saturday 29 October 2016 - 11am -4pm

CELEBRATE OUR RIVER
A FREE family day out with activities for everyone.
Craft Workshops · Water tug-a-war · Fly fishing demonstrations · Water balls · Stand up paddle boards · Archery

GREENHALGH BENEFIT
SHOPPING EXTRAVAGANZA
Sutton School Hall
30th October 12pm to 5pm
Amazing variety of retail therapy opportunities for you to start your Christmas Shopping
Entry ticket $5 includes voucher for drink and afternoon tea
Oooo la laa ... enjoy retail therapy from
So Jealous ... Arbonne ... Intimo ... Partylite Candles ... Le Reve Perfume ... Elle Heart
Popping Candy Shoes ... See a Thermomix Creating ... Tupperware ... Yayme
Jamberry Nail Wraps ... Lily Anne Designs ... Miche Handbags ... Chefs Tool Box
Lorraine Lea Linen... Norwex ... plus more
Help our local, Greenhalgh Family get back on their feet after they lost everything in their devastating house fire on Sutton Road, in July.
On the day purchase your entry ticket near the Sutton School Bell
For further details email: theresekershaw@gmail.com

BECOME DOG WISE

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Qualified Obedience Instructor
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4842 7143
hhahner@bigpond.com
heike.braidwoodnsw.com

Clearwater Sculpture Prize Exhibition

Art lovers can also take advantage of visiting and viewing the entries in the Clearwater Sculpture Prize being held on the banks of the **Queanbeyan River from 28–30 October**.

Sleeping it Off **by Flur Brett**

Almost unheard of rain for one season = a lake comes back!

The lake: 25km long, 10km wide, avg depth 1m, deepest on eastern side at 7.5m
PHOTO: Robbie Wallace

... What's On?

Check out the *Bulletin's* monthly calendar of events on our website

www.districtbulletin.com.au

in addition to our expanded print issue event listings, thanks to sponsorship from The Q (see next page).

We are happy to give you a free listing.

If YOU or your organisation have an event you want to publicise, please send a couple of lines with when, where and what to

whatson@districtbulletin.com.au

QUEANBEYAN ART TRAIL

from p7

Through that studio, Matthew worked with a seminal and internationally influential artist, Dale Chihuly, in the 1990s. Matthew worked on Dale's team for a big glass installation at the Sydney Botanical Gardens and at another time an installation for the National Gallery.

Queanbeyan-Palerang is blessed with a wide range of talented artists who produce exciting and vibrant works. I know that visitors following the Queanbeyan Art Trail on 30th October will find it a literal adventure and an adventure of the mind. I did. ■

The Art Trail program can be found at
http://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/events

Bush Baroque present

'A Taste of Italiana'

Jo Johnstone

Richard, Joan Milner

Emma Griffiths

Owen Bingham

Rachel Walker

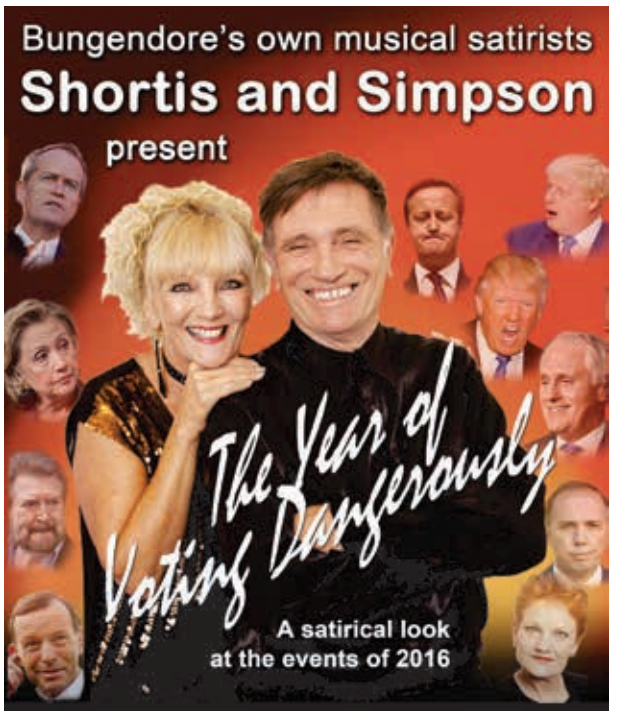
Three glorious sopranos with Canberra District's only viol consort will give a delightful afternoon of music by the Italian Monteverdi and English composers influenced by the Italian taste – Purcell, Handel, Dowland, Jenkins and Coprario. Including celebrated laments by Monteverdi, 'Lament d'Arianna' and Purcell 'Dido's lament' as well as madrigals from Monteverdi's third book and songs by Dowland and Purcell.

Saturday 29 October 2016, 2pm *and* Sunday 30 October 2016, 2pm
At Milners Music Room, Bywong, with drinks and nibbles afterwards.

Proceeds to Hartley Lifecare for helping people with physical and complex disabilities.

$20 – Bookings essential
Richard Milner – 6236 9212 and email; randj366@gmail.com

See us on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/violsaustralia/videos



Bungendore Bowling Club, Turallo Terrace, Bungendore
Sat Nov 5, 8pm – bar open from 7pm
$30 / $25 concession (plus booking fees)
Bring your own picnic – No BYO alcohol, full bar service

Bookings: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-year-of-voting-dangerously-a-satirical-look-at-2016-tickets-28026347560

For more info please call 6238 1827

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Majors Creek FESTIVAL

NOV 11–13

www.majorscreekfestival.org

NEIL MURRAY / RAISED BY EAGLES / LUCIE THORNE / HARRY HOOKEY / ANDREA KIRWIN

What's On THE Q

Proudly brought to you by Q One Performing Arts

QPRC Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council | Q one Aquatics Performing Arts Indoor Sports Community Facilities

October 2016

Until Sun 9 Oct

Exhibition: *From the Red Heart* features paintings, drawings and ceramics based on the flora of the Red Centre Gardens. Australian National Botanic Gardens, Clunies Ross St, Action. **www.parksaustralia.gov.au/botanic-gardens/**

Until Sun 16 Oct

Tulip Top Gardens. 20 Old Federal Hwy, Sutton NSW. Ph 6230 3077 or tuliptopgardens@bigpond.com.au

Until end Oct

Exhibition: *Claybodies*. Wood Works Gallery, 22 Malbon St, Bungendore.

Mon 10 Oct to Sat 22 Oct

***Learn and Grow* art exhibition.** The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. The aim of the exhibition is to raise awareness within the community and celebrate the uniqueness and creativity of people whose lives have been impacted by mental illness. **www.theq.net.au**

Tue 11 Oct to Sun 30 Oct

Exhibition: Finding the Essence. Form Studio and Gallery, Aurora St, Queanbeyan. The insights gained from moments of stillness and close observation become apparent in this latest solo exhibition of print and three-dimensional works from Sydney-based artist Trish Yates.

:: LOCAL MARKETS ::

1st and 3rd Saturday of every month

Braidwood Farmers Markets — National Theatre, main street of Braidwood, from 8am–12.30pm. **www.braidwoodfarmersmarket.org.au**

Every Saturday

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

Southern Harvest Farmers Market — Anglican Church Hall, Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 9am–Noon. **www.southernharvest.org.au**

1st Saturday of every month (ex-January)

Captains Flat Country Markets — Community Hall, Foxlow St, Captains Flat, 9.30–1.30pm. Enquiries to Maggie on 0473 113 398.

3rd Saturday of every month (ex-July, August)

Wamboin Home Produce & Craft Market — Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin, 9–12 noon. Fresh locally-grown produce, home baked cakes and pies, native plants, jewellery and craft. Excellent cafe. Kids playground. Contact Lance and Meriel Schultz 6238 3309.

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 + more. Bob Shaw 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.

5th Saturday (30 July & 29 October)

CAPS Market In Tarago — (Craft, Art, Produce Seasonal = CAPS) Town Hall, Tarago. 9–2pm. Contact: 0429 200 456 or CAPSmarketInTarago@gmail.com.

More on regional / local events; and tourism visit

www.bungendore.com.au
www.visitqueanbeyan.com.au
www.visitbraidwood.com.au

Thu 13 Oct to Sat 15 Oct

***Boys in the Band*.** The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. International hit show Boys in the Band celebrates the world's greatest hits from the most iconic bands of the 20th century! Ph 6285 6290 or see **www.theq.net.au**

Sat 15 Oct

Captain's Flat Community Garage Sale. Community Hall, 8–1pm. Free. More info http://captainsflat.org/Garage%20Sale.htm

Fair Food Dinner. Celebrate Fair Food Week with a dinner menu full of seasonal, local and chemical-free produce sourced regionally. Bungendore Bowlings and Sports Club, Turallo Pl, Bungendore. 6–9pm. $60/$80 pp. Bookings essential via **www.southernharvest.org.au**

Bungendore Spring Ball at Multi-purpose Hall, Gibralter St. Starts at 6.30pm. Theme 'Fantasy', community fundraiser. $90pp. **bungendorespringball@gmail.com**

Sat 15 to 16 Oct

First Spring Gardens. See p6 for details.

Oh! it's October

the market @ bungendore

Sunday October 16th 9am–2pm
at the War Memorial Hall

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

jewellery		mosaics
giftware		homewares
collectables		greeting cards
local art & craft		beads & findings
garden products	textiles	pottery & ceramics
toys & models	preserves	local grown plants
cakes & pastries	hand knits	prints & paintings
tea & fresh coffee	candles	hats and fascinators
soaps & lotions	cookies	clothing & footwear

Sun 16 Oct

Run With the Wind. A community fun run located amongst the wind turbines at the Woodlawn wind farm near Tarago, NSW. 9am–2pm. Cash prizes, children under 12's run free. 5km and 10km race courses. Guest MC Bondi Rescue's Andrew Reid. To find out more and register for the event visit **www.runwiththewind.com.au**

Made by Hand Market. Bungendore War Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore. 9–2pm on the 3rd Sunday of each month. info@themarketatbungendore.com

Wed 19 Oct

QPRC community meeting at **Captains Flat** Community Hall commencing at 6pm.

Sat 22 Oct

***Working with Weeds* field day.** Run by Small Farms Network, information sessions suitable for land managers. Numbers limited, bookings essential. Free, lunch/morning tea provided. Property located in Majura ACT (address provided on booking) contact **http://smallfarmscapital.org/**

CWA Trash and Treasure. Gibraltar St, Bungendore, 9–1pm. For details contact 6238 1679.

Sat 22 and Sun 23 Oct

Foundation horsemanship clinic. Internationally-renowned instructor David Stuart at the Saddle Camp, Braidwood. Places limited, bookings essential. Heike 4842 7143 or hhahner@bigpond.com

Sun 23 Oct

Tinderry 4WD trip hosted by Burra Landcare ($5 to join/cover insurance). Guided tour by park rangers along otherwise inaccessible fire trails with superb forest views. Bring water, picnic lunch and camera. All-weather clothing a must. Ph Don Fraser on 6236 3402.

Wed 26 Oct

QPRC community meeting at Bungendore Council Chambers commencing at 6.30pm (following scheduled Council meeting).

Fri 28 Oct

QPRC Schools Enviro Expo at Queanbeyan Park 9–3pm (parking off Campbell St across from Park St).

Sat 29 Oct

QPRC Community Enviro Expo Queanbeyan River, end of Trinculo Place. 11–4pm.

River Festival Queanbeyan River, Ray Morton Park via Wanniassa Street. 11am–4pm.

> Details p10, 11

Sat 29 and Sun 30 Oct

Bush Baroque presents *A Taste of Italiano*. 2pm at Milners Music Room, Bywong. $20 for Hartley Lifecare. Bookings essential, Richard 6236 9212 or randj366@gmail.com.

Sun 30 Oct

Sutton Landcare Birdwalk in the Mulligans Flat Woodlands Sanctuary, home and feeding place for more than 160 native bird species. Led by renowned Greening Australia bird expert Amy Ackman. Meet at sanctuary carpark by 7.30am. Wear sturdy shoes; BYO binoculars. Finishes 9am with a healthy breakfast at the old woolshed. For catering rsvp to secretary Marchien on 6273 6295 or email Sutton.landcare@gmail.com.

QPRC Art Trail. More details **www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/events**

Go to www.districtbulletin.com.au for our weekly / monthly calendar of events

COMING UP in November

Each weekend of Nov

Lerida Estate Jazz and Shiraz. Federal Hwy, Lake George. Free bottle of Shiraz with every purchase of 6 bottles. More details in ad p3. **www.leridaestate.com.au**

Wed 9 Nov

QPRC community meeting at **Queanbeyan** Council Chambers commencing at 6.30pm (following scheduled Council meeting).

Wed 16 Nov

QPRC community meeting at **Braidwood** Council Meeting Room commencing at 6pm.