



Bulletin

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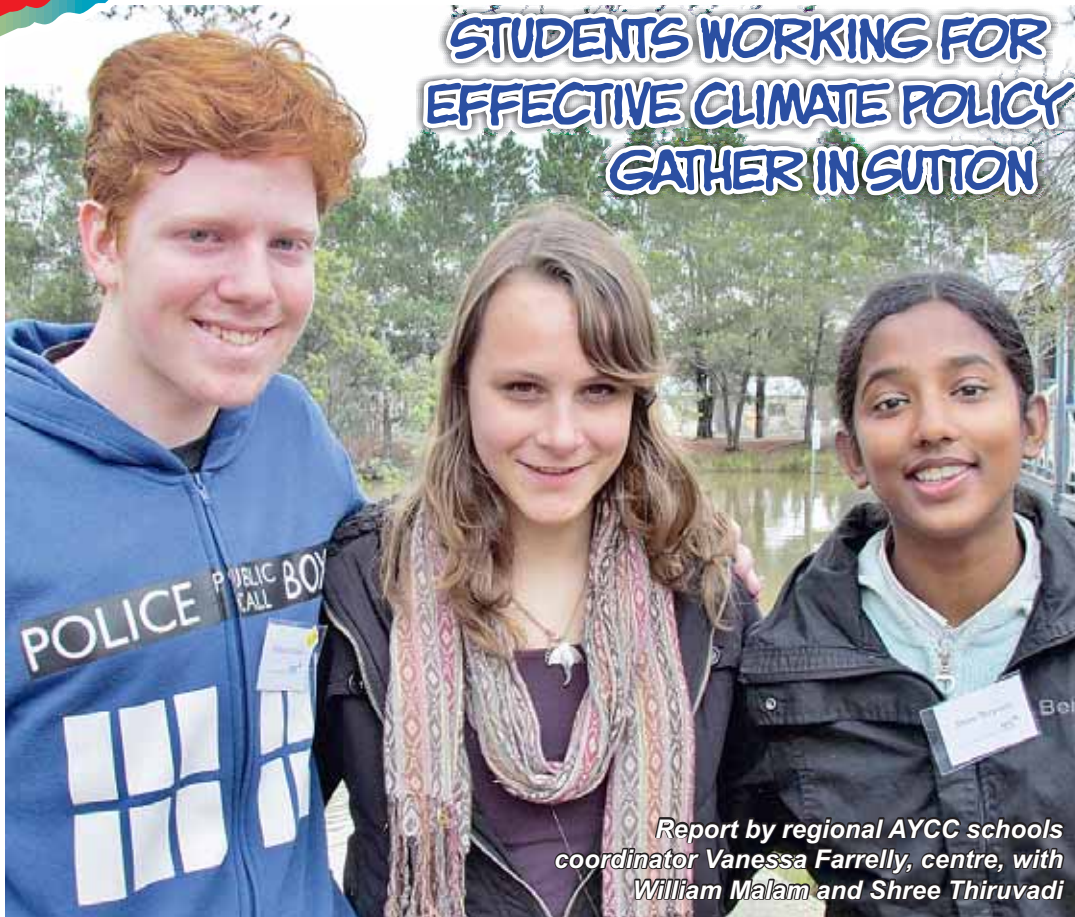
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STUDENTS WORKING FOR EFFECTIVE CLIMATE POLICY GATHER IN SUTTON



Report by regional AYCC schools coordinator Vanessa Farrelly, centre, with William Malam and Shree Thiruvadi



IN EARLY August, 30 regional students attending 10 different high schools and colleges in the ACT came together in Sutton for a 'transformative sustainability leadership retreat'. This two-day camp brought together students from both public and independent schools to learn the skills they need to take action on climate change.

They are members of the Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC) Schools Mentoring Program.

AYCC's schools program seeks to educate, inspire, empower and mobilise high school students to fight for the sustainable and just future they deserve. Young people will be most affected by climate change, as it is our future that is at stake. Yet high school-aged young people cannot vote, and often our voices are left out of the debate.

As Australia and governments all over the world prepare to make climate policies for 2050 at the Paris Climate Conference starting late November this year, it is more crucial than ever that young people's voices are heard.

William Malam, year 10 student from Belconnen High School attending the retreat said: "Climate change is so relevant to people of my age that it's hard to ignore. If we don't do anything now then it's going to be too late.

"I have already started to organise a climate group for Belconnen High School. We didn't have an eco-group in our school but I have taken action to start one so that the students have a chance to try and make a difference."

Shree Thiruvadi, a Queanbeyan local and student at Narrabundah College said: "I have gained a whole host of things from the AYCC leadership retreat; I learned how to be confident, and also had the chance to build up the courage to fight for what I believe in.

"Currently, my school is planning to get more solar panels; educate students on how to get rid of waste sustainably; and we are also encouraging students to use other means of transportation such as cycling, walking or catching a bus to school." ■

The climate crisis also a moral crisis: Muslims

Jenny Goldie continues our series of interviews with religious leaders on their faith's views regarding man-made climate change.

An extraordinarily radical document was issued on 18 August: the *Islamic Declaration on Global Climate Change*. While very similar in content and spirit to the Pope's encyclical, it differed in one respect – it was a mere eight pages.

Convenor of the drafting committee, Fazlun Khalid, speaking to *The Bulletin* from London, explained its length: "We wanted it to be read!" Indeed, he wants an even more abbreviated version to be framed and hung in every mosque.

Khalid is recognised as one of 15 leading eco-theologians in the world. Sri Lankan born, he has lived most of his life in the UK where he founded the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences

www.ifees.org.uk, the world's leading Islamic environmental NGO.

"We have been the leader in Islamic thinking. I reached out for academics and environmentalists and built a team," he said.

The statement was signed off by 60 leading Muslim clerics and religious scholars at the *International Islamic Climate Change Symposium* in Istanbul.

calls on world's 1.6 billion Muslims to support strong Paris agreement on climate change at end of the year

When asked who it had gone to, he laughs. "Oh, the fun starts now. Not least, we want to give it to every Muslim delegate going to Paris."

What the Declaration says

The Declaration pulls no punches. It says ecosystems and human cultures are already

at risk from climate change; that heatwaves, extreme precipitation and coastal flooding are on the rise; that the risks are greater for the poor and disadvantaged; that the foreseeable impacts will adversely affect the world's biodiversity and our overall economy; and that Earth's core physical systems are at risk of abrupt and irreversible changes.

And just as US President Obama is about to give final approval to Shell to drill for oil in the Chukchi Sea in the Arctic, it noted "with alarm the multi-national scramble now taking place for more fossil fuel deposits under the dissolving icecaps in the arctic regions".

Interestingly, while the international community aims for global warming to be limited to 2°C, the Declaration acknowledges that "other climate scientists consider 1.5°C to be a more likely tipping point." >> p9

No easy path to Queanbeyan cinema?

by Maria Taylor

A MOVIE theatre for Queanbeyan is moving up the council agenda but is bumping into a row between Mayor Tim Overall and Councillor Jamie Cregan and a council committee. The backdrop is about revitalising the city's downtown and whose money pays for the upgrades.

At the end of August, Cregan publicly accused the mayor of 'backflipping' on previous advocacy for a cinema and playing 'us and them' politics against the council's Cinema Advisory Committee and himself.

He cited the mayor's vote against supporting the advisory committee's feasibility study on proceeding with a cinema located in the Morriset Street car park.

>> p7

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Just an ordinary house' with a difference for Bungendore

A local community effort has been quietly laying the groundwork to open an Abbeyfield residence in Bungendore for senior citizens. What's it all about? Judith Turley explains.

AN ordinary house in an ordinary street: that's a great way to describe an Abbeyfield House.

Many of the senior citizens in our community have an understandable fear of being institutionalised when they are starting to find it difficult to manage a household on their own.

And if for some reason they are also encountering difficulties in making ends meet, then locating an affordable accommodation option can also be a challenge. These are the people who need to know that the Abbeyfield model of sustainable community-based housing is available to them.

Abbeyfield provides two types of affordable housing for those who choose to live independently within a supportive environment – houses for older people and, more recently, houses for people with a mild intellectual disability.

The Abbeyfield concept has proven itself over 60 years, beginning in the UK and

spreading to 18 countries, housing more than 9,000 people in 850 houses. It offers affordable, supportive accommodation much like the 'group house' familiar to many of us from our student years, but a lot better organised!

An Abbeyfield House provides residents with a choice of private and public space. They have a bedroom, ensuite bathroom and a small patio which allows them their own private entrance. They share a comfortable lounge room, dining room, garden and laundry. They can have a private phone and their own TV or share those resources with other residents.

During week days, all meals (except breakfast) are prepared by a full-time, live-in housekeeper. On weekends it is traditional for a volunteer to help with preparing dinner, while residents make their own lunches.

Apart from the housekeeper there are no care services in an Abbeyfield House, but if a resident is eligible for community support such as nursing care or transport services,

they can access that support just the same way as at home.

Perhaps the most important function of an Abbeyfield House is creating a community for people who would otherwise find

themselves marginalised for reasons such as poor mobility or low income. Addressing loneliness in aged people can vastly improve health and extend lifespan, not to mention keeping those brain neurons firing.

A group of committed volunteers has been striving to establish an Abbeyfield House in Bungendore for some years. In the next edition of the *Bulletin* you can read about their progress so far, and the particular issues they face related to finding a suitable site, navigating the planning approval maze, attracting prospective residents and sourcing funding for this much-needed asset for our town. ■



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PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT GEARYS GAP

Telstra plans to upgrade a telecommunications facility at 117 Grove Road Lake George NSW 2581 (LOT 5 DP101681)

1. The proposed facility consists of the installation of three new antennas and the installation of ancillary equipment, including three (3) remote radio units, to support the proposal.
2. Telstra regards the proposed installation as a Low-impact Facility under the Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 1997 ("The Determination") based on the description above.
3. Further information can be obtained from Emily Wardlaw on behalf of Telstra, 0422 685 472, consultation@acquirecomm.com.au and at <http://www.rfnsa.com.au/2581011>
4. Written submissions should be sent to:
EIS, 2/25 Kilpa Rd, Moorabbin, VIC, 3189 by 24 September 2015.

About women in agriculture then and now

IN THE 1940s and '50s my family owned a 3,000 acre property 30 kilometres north-east of Tamworth NSW. We grew wheat and ran sheep. Before I reached the tender age of five I had a very important job to do. I fed the poddy lambs.

At that stage in Australia's employment history I don't think we had to worry too much about criticism of child labour. Many young boys and girls were called on to help out on farms, especially during the war years.

My elegant and intelligent mother ran the homestead, looked after my wonderful father and cooked up a storm at shearing time. I didn't ever hear her discussing property plans or business. I believe she sought no exotic career and had not studied beyond her boarding school years in Sydney.

Australian women on the land are gradually changing their status when it

with Jill McLeod

comes to recognition of their worth as intelligent and innovative contributors to Australia's agricultural life but there remains a long, long way to go.

"the face of Australian agriculture is still that of a middle aged white man"

Information published on 27 January 2015 by the organisation Future Directions International, chaired by Major General the Hon. Michael Jeffery, states "Women make up approximately half of the international (agricultural) workforce but exercise significantly less power in the sector than men."

In the same document the section *Empowering Women in Agriculture* continues "Progress on women's empowerment (in Australia) was made in the 1990s via the 'women in agriculture' movement ... however, momentum has declined and

little progress has been made in the last decade."

Further research unearthed some interesting figures recorded by the NSW Farmers Association. Of the 57 committee and board members appointed in the thirteen NSW regions only 13, less than 25%, are women. Of the eleven Farmer of the Year Awards from 2004, only the last three years acknowledged married couples as winners. A couple from Bourke won the Young FOTY in 2007.

The Future Directions organisation reinforces the premise that "the face of Australian agriculture is still that of a middle aged white man".

While the numbers of women in agriculture are still on the wrong side of the ledger, there is some light on the horizon. The Department of Primary Industries has a great list of Rural Women's Network Links. The CWA, initiated in 1922 to help women combat the isolation of living in rural Australia, is still going strong. The NSW Women in Agriculture have a great

website at www.nswwia.org.au and registration details for the NSW Rural Women's Network Gathering is also available on the web.

The Australian Women in Agriculture (AWIA) conference was successfully held in Alice Springs in August this year.



Women in family agricultural businesses: Braidwood's Kate and Peter Marshall and truffle dog 'Sal'.

Truffle force for modern agriculture

At home in Braidwood farming couples and individual women have gained recognition for producing truffles at \$2,500 a kilo and gaining restaurant orders from China, France, Singapore and Japan, training truffle seeking dogs, planting paddocks of garlic, nurturing fat lambs and sleek weighty beef cattle, all reinforcing the success of the local 60 strong 'Women in Farming Event' held on 20 March 2012.

To finish – a reminder. If any Braidwood farmers are interested, the entry closing date for the 2015 FOTY Awards is September 11. ■

Young Nationals ask senior partners to get with the times

THE NSW Young Nationals have voted in favour of marriage equality at their Annual Conference in Corowa, becoming the first youth division of a conservative political party to do so in Australia.

With this motion, the NSW Young Nationals have acknowledged the importance of marriage equality to young people in regional Australia.

A young homosexual man living in regional NSW has been six times more likely to commit suicide than members of the community as a whole.*

This motion says that a same sex relationship is equally as important and valid as a heterosexual relationship.

In the early 1970s, the Young Australian Country Party, [previous name for Young Nationals] passed a motion to legalise homosexual acts between consenting adults in private, 10 years ahead of the ultimate passing of legislation on that matter.

This outcome continues a proud NSW Young Nats tradition of working within The Nationals to push the envelope in terms of policy, challenging our senior counterparts and leading the debate on important issues to young people in regional NSW.

* Suicide statistic from Rural suicide and same-sex attracted youth: issues, interventions and implications for rural counsellors, *The International Electronic Journal of Rural and Remote Health Research, Education, Practice and Policy*, K. Quinn, Deakin University 2003.

— press release

Welfare campaign urges NSW lawmakers to tackle drug use in wool industry Ice not just a city hazard

PEOPLE for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) has released a stark new ad calling for lawmakers to take heed of the risks to animal welfare and human health when drug use by wool industry workers goes unchecked.

The ad features the gaunt face of a man beside the words "Dave has been up on ice for three days. Shearing and drugs don't mix". The New South Wales Minister for Primary Industries is being asked to introduce legislation to make drug testing mandatory for New South Wales shearers.

"Human health is at risk, and animals can be injured or even die when workers shear them under the influence of drugs", says PETA Australia Director of Campaigns Jason Baker.

Liberal Party member and wool producer Robert Lawrence was quoted as saying that one shearer "[broke] 14 legs (of sheep) during two days' shearing" and that drug use is one of the "top three issues facing the wool industry".

— From press release. More information, visit PETA.org.au.

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Claire Primrose claims second Queanbeyan City Council Regional Art Award



QUEANBEYAN artist Claire Primrose has won her second Queanbeyan City Council Regional Art Award. Primrose, who also won the award in 2009, was presented with the 2015 award by Queanbeyan Mayor Tim Overall in August. Primrose's mixed media painting *Not quite ready for snow* was judged the best of the 38 entries by guest judge and experienced artist Adelin Chin. Fellow Queanbeyan artist and first-time Art Award entrant, Bradley Santos claimed the Highly Commended Award for his mixed media artist book *Erritmo Zaborraren*.

Book Review

Surviving the bomb with compassion and commitment provided

One Unknown
by Gill Hicks
Rodale 2007

Reviewed by Pauline Richards

GILL Hicks arrived in London from Australia in 1992. She worked for the Design Council in a job she loved and excelled at. On 7 July 2005 her wedding plans were on her mind as she prepared for work. Seconds after leaving Kings Cross station in a commuter packed train, a nearby passenger detonated a bomb. Within fifty seconds bombs were also detonated in two other trains in the Underground. Later that day a bus was blown up in Central London. In the four bombings 52 people were killed and 700 were injured. Inside the first train wreck, emergency workers attached a tag, 'ESTIMATED FEMALE ONE UNKNOWN', to Gill Hicks's wrist before transporting her to hospital. Her injuries were profound and required the amputation of both her legs below the knees. Her book, *One Unknown* is her account of the train wreck, her rescue and her rehabilitation. Hicks's account of the bomb blast is chilling. She vividly describes the blacked out carriage, her nightmarish wait in increasing quiet as her fellow passengers succumb to their injuries. Realising >> p5



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5:30pm	Chasing Giants
6:30pm	Blue Zoo Groove
7:30pm	Angry Anderson & James Southwell
8:30 – 8:45pm 8:45pm	Fireworks Mental as Anything

Celebrated artist returns to painting and to wilderness



Clinkers Rest, oil on canvas, 65 x 95cm.

<< the urgency of slowing her own blood loss she strives to calm herself to lower her heart beat, binds her wounded legs with her scarf and elevates them onto a seat.

In her five months in St Thomas's Hospital, Hicks relishes the compassion, skill and commitment of hospital staff. Reciprocal humour helps sustain her spirits and forge her determination to recover and thrive in 'Life Two' as she refers to her future. Bonds are strengthened with family and friends whose love, constancy and practical support nurture her recovery.

Hicks's account of her rehabilitation conveys considerable insight into the scale of challenges in adjusting to bodily trauma. No longer able to feel the ground beneath

her feet, adjusting to prosthetic legs is a major and testing experience. Climbing and descending stairs is initially terrifying with the loss of balance and bodily orientation that must be regained.

The book is illuminating, inspirational and often funny, its heart is Hicks's account of her rehabilitation at St Thomas's, where her determination and the dedication and skill of medical staff almost defy belief at times.

If the book falters anywhere, it is in Hicks's accounts of her reunions with the many people involved in her rescue. While these reunions and expressions of her profound gratitude are moving, their protracted recollection lacks the relevance to readers inherent in the rest of her account.

NEW exhibition of paintings by Wynne and Blake Prize Winning artist David Voigt opens at Bungendore Wood Works Gallery Saturday 12 September at 2pm.

David Voigt has been painting his personal brand of Australian wilderness for 50 years. His earliest works revealed a straightforward representation of the landscape, but soon evolved into his trademark non-representational style.

In his formative art-student years he developed an early passion for the work of Pablo Picasso, and even further back to the works of Turner. He perceived both artists as being one hundred percent true to their beliefs:

"Turner was free well before the French Impressionists.

"I'm now trying to get involved in packing as much visual information into a small part of the natural world."

An unfortunate recent turn of events led to three years of not being able to paint and his physical restrictions now almost forbid a return to his love for extra large format and

complicated geometrically based abstract paintings – a big part of a long, commercially successful and major prizewinning career.

"To be honest I have found it difficult to get into smaller paintings. I really have to discipline myself. Now that I'm finally able to get back to work I'd like to make a new statement."

A favoured subject, the Clyde River, is one of the few south or north Coast rivers still bounded by high, timbered and rugged hills: not predominantly by rural flood plains. A true wilderness: perhaps not as dramatic as other places in the world, but a visual wilderness just the same.

Return to Wilderness heralds a very welcome return by one of Australia's most respected artists to his art and to Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. ■

Travel Episode 7:
Grey nomads go to Lourdes
ONLINE at www.districtbulletin.com.au

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Electrifying conversion

OVER the past few months, I have had a revelation of sorts and got religion. Oh yes, brothers and sisters, hallelujah, I have bought an electric vehicle. I am an EV-angelist, on a mission – a tree hugging, pain-in-the-butt, promoter of electric vehicle technology.

With a 60km return commute, and a reduced need for interstate trips, my partner Fin and I recently looked at our real transport needs, and decided to replace our diesel commuter with a Nissan Leaf.

Weirdly, with the purchase of this vehicle, came the obligation to be an ambassador for sustainable motoring. Friends, family, and innocent strangers, are regularly thrust, wide-eyed with fear, into the new car to savour the EV experience. Trapped behind the wheel, they are forced to listen to my sermons.

So what's it really like, living with an electric vehicle, I hear you not ask? Well in

a word, it is FUN.

Heaps of self-satisfaction and it runs well too!

The car has heaps of commuting range, instant acceleration, and will easily run for 140km at legal speeds, on about four dollars of grid-fed electricity. Perfect for our commute.

It is spookily quiet, and there are the usual tricky screens and widgets to keep



AROUND QTown



with
Graham Franklin-Browne

driver and passengers amused, including a disembodied female voice that tells you how much carbon you have removed from the atmosphere compared to say, an ageing hippie in Elk Snout, Carolina, or perhaps a Buddhist monk in the mountains of Japan.

Also, when the car is charged directly off our domestic solar panels, I put on my smug EV grin and drive to work for free. It's an irritating type of grin – the same sort of thing that causes motorists to have murderous thoughts towards cyclists and other energy freeloaders like myself.

None of this impresses my partner. Fin just drives the thing. To her, it is just a car, a commuter, and it does its job very well.

Charge station networks

Around the country, the roll out of EV infrastructure is slowly gaining momentum as communities of EV drivers and infrastructure providers work with councils and state governments to set up networks of public charging stations.

electric vehicle charge points happening around the country

In West Australia for example, the RAC has partnered with local business, infrastructure providers, and councils, to build Australia's first 'electric highway' with fast public charging stations between Perth and Dunsborough.

There are also large EV projects just starting in Queensland to install networks of charging stations between Townsville and Brisbane, and Brisbane and Byron Bay.

Closer to home, the Goulburn City Council has completed negotiations with Tesla to provide fast chargers for Tesla EVs travelling on the Hume highway. Hopefully

the council will consider the needs of non-Tesla EV owners as well.

Over the border, the ACT government has purchased a dozen Nissan Leafs (Leaves?) for its fleet, and with their commitment to total energy sustainability, it is likely that they will soon be looking for ways to roll out more charging infrastructure.

What's that? I can hear mutterings. Yes, our filthy coal power companies are still pumping juice into the grid, and will continue to do so for several years. But guess what? The renewable sector is also powering up the grid, and in rapidly increasing volumes.

While we may not be able to control where our grid power comes from, we can choose who we pay for it. If enough of us pay clean energy companies for the power we take out of the system, the sustainable energy sector will ultimately thrive, in spite of hostile federal governments.

It is happening already, with surprising outcomes. A number of times this year, as the renewables sector poured increasing amounts of power into the grid, and consumers generally became smarter about conserving energy, the price of wholesale electricity in Australia actually dropped to negative values.

This is an energy demand phenomenon that is already becoming familiar in European countries such as Germany, and of course it terrifies our fossil fuel industry.

Think about that, the next time somebody tells you that we have to subsidise the coal industry to keep the price of power down.

Meanwhile, the Leaf has become our first car, and our old gasser waits in a corner of the garage, still ready for that odd emergency. ■

Friendly bacteria help keep septic functioning and the kitchen clean

YOUR septic system is the digestive system in your back yard. Bad smells coming from there are a good indicator that something is not right and things could get worse.

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Finding your way around a 'free' trade deal

NEITHER the general public nor I have a clue about what is in the 'China Free Trade Agreement' (it is a preferential trade deal – no trade is 'free').

It is the detail which is vitally important and this is why it should be examined and debated by the Government, Opposition and other political parties in the Parliament in full knowledge of the texts. That is what the parliament is there for, not to be a bully's pulpit. Every issue does not have to be used as a 'wedge'.

Having been involved in the [trade

negotiation] Cairns Group (poo-pooed by many conservative forces, such as the NSW Farmers Association at the time) and the Uruguay Multilateral Trade Round, (criticised by the then Opposition because it was fixated on bi-lateral trade deals), I do know something of trade negotiations.

What is in and out of the square brackets and what phrases are left in and out are crucial. The negotiations over two years on the International Sugar Agreement in the 1980s were an education on why a multilateral approach (even if not immediately achievable)

is preferable to commodity deals or a series of bi-lateral or preferential trade agreements – they eventually stack up and get you nowhere.

Negotiating on freer access for our agricultural products with the EU, Japan, the US, among many other nations, reinforced the then government's view (but, of course, regional, bilateral and multilateral approaches are not either or).

Ministers Dawkins, Duffy, Blewett and Senator Cook all prosecuted Australia's trade interests with zeal and intelligence during the Hawke Keating years. The ALP's record on trade stands strong and still does. Freer, internationally rules-based trade, is

Political TRAPS



with
John
Kerin

the only option for us.

I am appalled to recently watch parliamentary broadcasts and witness the extreme, immature confessions of red-necked anger and low rent politics, such as cries of 'racism' if anything is questioned,

if any information is requested, if any amendment is possible or if any outside interest takes a case (legitimate or not).

Infantile politics and the idea that the battle is all is one thing but what we are dealing with is POLICY and Australia's interests, not headlines in the tabloids.

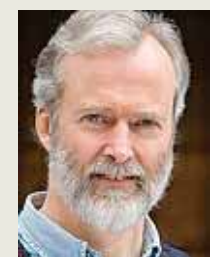
Please remember, it is not the trade deal *per se* that is being disputed but the enabling legislation where the detail is so important.

I cannot work out if China is perceived as a saviour or our enemy by the current government – perhaps it depends on the time of day?

If only he would stay in the Torres Strait? Perhaps it was all that boxing at Oxford? ■

PALERANG UPDATE WITH PETE HARRISON

Editor's note: Councillor Pete Harrison is the Mayor of Palerang. However with mayoral elections mid-month that may or may not continue. Regardless Pete will be filing a monthly column on Palerang council matters as we go forward.



Local government reform and how it affects rates

IPART is now in full swing considering councils' Fit For the Future (FFtF) submissions prior to making their report to the state government in October.

The Independent Local Government Review Panel had recommended that Palerang and Queanbeyan Councils consider merging and to this end the two councils engaged an independent consulting firm to assess the viability of a merged entity.

In the event, the merged council did not satisfy any more of the state's financial benchmarks than the two individual councils and on that basis both councils proceeded to submit proposals to remain independent.

The financial metrics are the state's

primary measure of a council's viability. As a result, the FFtF program required any council that did not satisfy these benchmarks to either merge with one or more other councils or submit an Improvement Plan that demonstrated how it could meet the benchmarks within the next five years.

Rate rises not yet set, note the process

Palerang's Improvement Plan includes two essential elements. The first is a restructuring of the Council organisation to improve internal efficiencies. The second is a strengthening of Council's revenue stream, which boils down to a rate increase.

The simple fact is that the rate cap in place in NSW does not allow normal increases to keep up with the real cost of running a council, and

periodic 'special variations' are not unusual.

It has been claimed that Palerang's residential rates are higher than some metropolitan councils'. This is true, but it should also be noted that business rates in those LGAs are up to 15 times higher than those in Palerang and comprise a significant proportion of the rates yield in those areas. Of the 152 councils in NSW, in the last (2013) industry comparison, Palerang was rated at 61 for residential rates, 130 for business rates, and 75 for farm rates.

There is a process that must be followed for a rate variation, including identifying programs that would be funded by any increase, and presenting these plans to the community. An application must then be assessed favourably by IPART.

Council will decide whether or not to pursue a special variation at its December General Meeting.

Rural Land study

The other significant activity at the moment is Council's Rural Lands Study.

At a recent committee meeting, Council considered community submissions on the consultant's study report. Comments covered

a broad range of issues relating to both the character of and demand for rural, rural residential and environmental lands. The issues raised in the study, and the ideas presented in the submissions will now feed into the development of a Rural Lands Strategy for Palerang.

This strategy will guide the way that rural lands within Palerang are managed over the next 20 years. Many factors come into play—local geography and biodiversity, infrastructure demands, as well as more general economic and demographic drivers.

Based on the collected information, the strategy will seek to identify those areas that should be reserved for primary agriculture, areas that should be available for town expansion or rural residential development, and areas where environmentally-sympathetic land uses need to be encouraged.

The aim is to have the draft strategy ready for public comment by the end of the year, then finalised in the months that follow. ■

QUEANBEYAN CINEMA

From p1

Readers may remember there is history here, following the rejection by half the Queanbeyan councillors including Cregan, on grounds of faulty procedure, of an earlier proposal by Mayor Overall and staff for a cinema multiplex at the old nursery site further along Morriset street.

The council's Cinema Advisory Committee was established to chart a different path to a movie theatre that preferably did not involve council borrowing money.

Overall dismissed Cregan's remarks as wrong and "potentially actionable" and said that he continues to be a strong advocate for

a cinema. He said there is a problem with a stand-alone cinema at the Morriset St site which led him not to support the committee.

"A stand-alone cinema will simply not be financially viable for council on this particular site given the need to replace and expand car parking and also acquisition costs re purchase of private property for the necessary street frontage. An integrated major private sector development including a cinema is the only way forward for a cinema on that site. That could be years or a decade away."

However he has also charged the advisory committee with having "probity issues". "Council has agreed with a motion I put forward in August for an external and

independent probity review."

Councillor Sue Whelan, is a member of the advisory committee along with Councillors Cregan, Kendrick Winchester and Brian Brown, plus community members who were recruited by council through expressions of interest.

Re probity she says "there is nothing hidden or untoward about the committee. It was set-up by council to get a movie theatre in Queanbeyan after the previous process was considered not adequate in terms of gaining expressions of interest and the executive proposal that Council borrow money and build the theatre and lease it to a multiplex company."

The cinema, she says, has become part of the bigger question of what council should borrow money for. That includes \$5 million for upgrading Queen Elizabeth Park, which is contentious to some.

"There are other big borrowings on the horizon like the EDE and the sewerage treatment works. If we continue to borrow money and load ratepayers up with debt, it will place any new council in the position where they can't do anything."

The committee is finalising marketing plans that will seek expressions of interest from a private developer to build the cinema, possibly as an integrated development. ■

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Dear Editor ...

NSW Mr Fluffy offers still have home-owners in a bind

TRYING hard not to seem ungrateful, the Mr Fluffy saga for NSW residents continues. The announcement by Minister Perrotet [Minister for Finance, Services and Property] some six weeks ago that home owners of NSW will be offered similar buy-back and demolition as that for affected residents of the ACT seemed great, particularly as NSW was offering NSW home owners such as myself the option to retain and build again on our land.

As you know this was a moot point for ACT residents who were offered to buy back their own land at current market rates. This offer by the Minister seemed fantastic at the time but, as they say, the devil's in the detail!

Even though, at this point, there has been very minimal interaction between government and affected home owners we do know that we have been handed over from Work Cover NSW (task-force) to Fair Trading to coordinate the buyback/demolition scheme. We are told they are recruiting new staff to handle the expected increased work load so some delays should be expected. We are waiting patiently!

From what little has been told to us it is

my understanding a similar valuation system as conducted in the ACT along with the same valuers have been contracted to start but no-one has been seen at this point.

We'd like to stay but ... no offer for replacement value

Regarding the 'stay on land' option, I feel it will prove impossible from a cost point of view to do so.

I make some simple observations. Once a valuation is offered I assume the cost of land is subtracted from the final monies paid. From these monies we are expected to move out, find rental accommodation for up to two years, pay storage fees for what may need to be stored and then figure out how, with remaining monies, one can build a home again to the standard

that was demolished.

This doesn't even consider those that may have to reapply for a mortgage or those that may have their existing home tied into some security arrangements with their banks. There is no offer for 'replacement value'.

My concerns extend to affected farm owners who don't get the choice to move on as obviously their land won't be purchased leaving no choice but to build a new home somehow.

As commented earlier I don't wish to seem ungrateful but I do feel hard done by. Through no fault of my own a legal building product was installed to my home. I spent \$50K 10 years ago to remove it as was done free in the ACT. I thought it was all over ... alas, not so.

— Mike Bresnik, Queanbeyan



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Greens: stop privatising TAFEs

Minister: student fees are better

GREENS NSW MP John Kaye visited Queanbeyan last month to highlight what he called Skills Minister John Barilaro's training privatisation on TAFE colleges in his own electorate.

Dr Kaye has been travelling around NSW learning firsthand from TAFE students, teachers and administrative staff about how the NSW Nationals and Liberals' contestable market for public funding for skills training is devastating TAFE. He said it prevented students from accessing affordable educational opportunities.

The Greens are calling on the minister to abandon the so-called 'Smart and Skilled' market. Kaye said: "Minister Barilaro may be relatively new in the job but it is his government that has pushed the privatisation agenda that is now destroying TAFE colleges across the state.

"The loss of opportunity and the impacts on the Monaro are just the beginning if Minister Barilaro does not act now to stop TAFE's budget being drained off to private providers."

He said a competitive funding model robs TAFE of certainty about its future budget and

drives management to cut courses, reduce contact times and push students into inappropriate online learning.

"Outreach and free Access and any course that does not turn a profit are at risk, despite the role they play in making the Monaro a fairer place.

"The staggering decline in enrolments in Tertiary Preparation Certificate courses at Queanbeyan TAFE means that fewer students will be able to make the breakthrough to further studies and better employment."

In response, while not addressing the privatisation issue, a press release from the Minister for Skills, Regional Development, Small Business and Member for Monaro, John Barilaro was sent to us.

It stated in part: "The investment in TAFE NSW represents an increase of \$122 million compared to last year's budget, and includes a \$101 million capital works program to create more modern facilities.

"Fees are now allocated per qualification and students no longer pay an annual fee. This is a fairer system where standard students will have the same fee for a qualification regardless of the time taken to complete the course.

"Apprentice fees are capped at \$2,000 for the whole qualification ... and there are generous concessions and exemptions for disadvantaged students." ■

Biggest losers: pool pumps and ducted air systems

Green property website *The Fifth Estate* www.thefifthestate.com.au reports on UNSW research that shows culprits for high energy bills. Reporter Willow Aliento writes:

The two biggest culprits for high residential energy use were pool pumps and ducted airconditioning systems. The findings also highlighted the extent to which poor building design and standards are contributing to the carbon footprint of the residential sector, according to co-author Dr Alistair Sproul.

— find out more at www.districtbulletin.com.au or go to the *thefifthestate* website.

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California urged to keep ban on kangaroo skins and meat

AUSTRALIAN researchers, specialist macropod scientists and other citizens have lined up with United States animal welfare organisations and US citizens to convince the California state legislature not to scrap a ban on the import of kangaroo products. They have presented scientific, cruelty and meat contamination evidence against the trade.

California lawmakers will decide in the middle of September. The evidence against the industry can be found at www.kangaroosatrisk.org.

The federal government through the Barnaby Joyce-led Department of Agriculture is said to have paid the kangaroo industry association \$143,000 to engage a professional lobbying firm in California. Australian diplomats and visiting government officials have also applied pressure, according to parliamentary information

CLIMATE CRISIS *From p1*

These warnings, of course, include those by leading climate scientist James Hansen.

The Islamic community believes that the climate crisis is also a moral crisis. The Declaration recognises “the moral obligation to reduce consumption so that the poor may benefit from what is left of the earth’s non-renewable resources”. It calls on the well-off nations to re-focus their concerns from “unethical profit from the environment, to that of preserving it and elevating the condition of the world’s poor”.

As well as calling on the people of all nations to aim to phase out greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, the Declaration calls on the finance and business sector to shoulder “the consequences of their profit-making activities, and take a visibly more active role in reducing their carbon footprint and other forms of impact upon the natural environment”.

You had a strong message for business? Khalid was asked. He laughed. “We’re awaiting their response. The *Guardian*, *Washington Post* and *New York Times* reported on us. There has been no response from the business community. Maybe they agree with us?” More laughter.

In the end, there was a strong warning for the Conference of Parties (COP) that will draw up a resolution in Paris, calling on them to bear in mind the scientific consensus on climate change; the need to set clear targets; the consequences of not doing so; and the enormous responsibility that the COP shoulders on behalf of the rest of humanity. ■

ONLINE at www.districtbulletin.com.au
for the ‘Us and them’ campaign to divide Australians: it’s gone on since the 1990s, trumping science

Spectator POLITICA

Palerang Council, residents oppose new version Dargue’s Reef Mine

At an extraordinary general meeting held in the National Theatre in Braidwood on Thursday 20 August, Palerang Council voted to oppose Unity Mining’s proposal for modifications to the Dargue’s Reef mine that would allow cyanide-based processing on site.

Read Robin Tennant Wood’s full report at www.districtbulletin.com.au

ALSO Wildcare advice about living with snakes in Spring

supplied to Greens Senator Lee Rhiannon earlier this year.

The Department of Environment, and Foreign Affairs and Trade have also been lobbying foreign governments to buy into the kangaroo killing industry. Malcolm Turnbull and the Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment Simon Birmingham were named as two recent lobbyists on their visits to the US.

On 1 September, the *Sacramento Bee* [in the city where the California legislators ponder] wrote an editorial lambasting a first-term Assemblyman who has taken up the kangaroo industry’s cause since its previous California state legislative champion was indicted for corruption.

Assemblyman Mike Gipson from Los Angeles gave new meaning to the term ‘gutted’ said the paper when he amended a bill related to gambling with a provision to re-introduce kangaroo body parts to the state.

“We don’t cast judgment on the stalking, slaughter, gutting, skinning and sale of kangaroos, although joeys are awfully cute, as Gipson saw when he petted one in the Capitol earlier this year. [Brought in by the Humane Society of the US]. We no longer

hold it against the Aussies that they assaulted our ears with “Tie Me Kangaroo Down, Sport,” said the editorial.

But it continued, if Gipson believed the narrative about the economic necessity of

the kangaroo trade for making sports shoes he should bring it up as a regular bill “not gut the process like some hapless marsupial with a marketable hide”. ■

Industry ‘bi-catch’: cruel death of joeys

“a blight on all that we hold to be decent and fair”

FORMER commercial kangaroo shooter David Nicholls, in a powerful indictment of the commercial kangaroo industry’s myths about overpopulation and damage and its on-ground practices, wrote of the fate of dependent joeys who perish as collateral damage when their mothers are killed (some 800,000 to 855,000 annually now).

“This cruelty is straight out of the annals of our brutish past and is a blight on all that we hold to be decent and fair ... young joeys are dragged out of their previously secure world (the pouch) by the hind legs and swung against a hard object. One swing may be followed by another and then another if the prior does not complete a death.

“Otherwise healthy young animals are killed for no reason than there are no other choices. Even hardened kangaroo shooters are often sickened by this never-ending process. If this were filmed and televised to a public made aware that killing kangaroos was not even necessary, then the industry would fold overnight.

He goes on to talk about even worse cruelty. “A very large proportion of adult female kangaroos also have a joey-at-foot ... when the mother is killed, the joey is left to fend for itself and any zoologist with knowledge of kangaroo habits would have to admit that its chances of survival are at best minimal.

“Panic, fear, starvation or being preyed on by foxes that keep tabs on the kangaroo shooting, will end its life in a state of terror. This is not acceptable to reasonable thinking people.” (From *The kangaroo falsely maligned by tradition*, in *Kangaroos Myths and Realities*, Australian Wildlife Protection Council.) ■



Power and hypocrisy

ON 1 July this year the ACT government arrested and charged Chris Klootwijk, a retired geologist and grandfather living in the Wanniasa Hills area of Canberra. His alleged crime: blowing a whistle, thus said to be interfering with a Territory public official, in this case a kangaroo shooter.

Klootwijk will come to court early next year facing a draconian penalty of two years in jail or \$30,000 fine or both for this criminal charge. The arrest stems from his nightly activity of bearing witness at the killing of kangaroo families on his neighbourhood reserve at Wanniasa Hills during the controversial 2015 killing season of what is nominally a protected native species.

Likely his presence did save lives, although he never trespassed onto the reserve as it is prohibited. He also witnessed evidence of what appeared to be illegal shooting during the same cull on the next door horse paddocks.

A large irony emerged at a recently screening of a documentary about the founding of the environmental group Greenpeace, which made its international reputation by bearing witness and getting between whale killers or baby seal



killers and their prey.

Present and speaking after the showing was ACT Greens Minister Shane Rattenbury who worked with Greenpeace at one time and is now the chief public apologist for the kangaroo killing,

The *Bulletin* has learned that the geological exploration around the Woodlawn mine is searching for copper, lead and zinc deposits. >

since its blueprint and execution is under his department, Territory and Municipal Services.

Bearing witness, saving lives, is now a criminal offence with a draconian penalty presumably not contested by this Minister or the rest of the ACT politicians. Something indeed to reflect upon.

— Maria Taylor

NOTICE

Aerial Geophysical Survey

Notice is given that Thomson Aviation Pty Ltd will be conducting aerial geophysical survey operations for Heron Resources Ltd, approximately 35km SW of Goulburn NSW.

The survey area is displayed in the below map within the blue markings.

Operations are planned to commence around the 20th September 2015 for approximately one week’s duration.

The survey aircraft (Fletcher FU24) will be operating at approximately 50m above ground level.

Information regarding this operation can be obtained from

Alexandra Bonner, Heron Resources Limited,
Phone 02 9119 8111

Paul Rogerson, Thomson Aviation,
Airborne Geophysical Surveys,
Phone 02 6960 3800

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THE editor asked me if I would write about ‘life after Roger’, but as it’s still only four weeks since my partner of 20 years slipped away to begin his next mission, I’m still not sure what a post-Roger life will look like.

What I can write about is time and space, and how the death of a life-partner will alter these concepts: sometimes warping them together into a single Mobius strip; other times shattering them like glass. I can write about how the familiar becomes unrecognisable as the new conditions of life change the lens through which one views the world. I can reflect on what is important in a life suddenly turned on its head.

In the first week of January, Roger and I entered a long, black tunnel together. Five weeks later I emerged from it alone, blinking in the sunlight as I walked away from Braidwood Hospital on a thoroughly unremarkable late summer Sunday afternoon. Someone once wrote that tragedies play out against very ordinary backgrounds.

Even though my life had been ripped and shaken to its core, the regular sounds and sights of small-town Sunday were present in the drone of a lawnmower, the shouts of kids on bikes, a magpie on the telephone wires, a dog barking. The black tunnel closed behind me. All that was left was for me to move forward into a world that was so different, yet looked and sounded so familiar.

In the weeks since Roger’s death I’ve noticed that things once important are suddenly not so.

“ ‘Things’, in fact, are not important at all. People are important. Life is important. ”

The connections that join us to one another, connections so fragile that they can vanish in an instant, yet somehow still survive, are important. The rest is just ‘stuff’. Where I was once almost umbilically connected to my mobile phone, I now find myself forgetting it and leaving it at home or in the car. Once-valued possessions are just so much clutter.

There’s a wonderful term I recently read about regarding bereavement: *holding space*. Holding space for someone means allowing them the time and space they need to find their own way while still remaining present for them. In a practical sense it involves knowing when to stand back and when to come close, giving information or guidance only as needed, respecting that each person’s experience will be different, and importantly, remaining non-judgemental.

This allows the bereaved person to find their feet, make mistakes and learn from them, and also to feel safe in asking for help. I’ve found that some people are natural space holders: people who seem to instinctively

know when to call or to drop by the shop; people who know whether what is needed are words or silence. The gentlest people are sometimes the strongest; the most innocent can be the wisest.

My fridge at home contains one jar of homemade sauerkraut, half a tub of margarine, some cheese and a small, thriving, furry ecosystem that I think used to be an avocado. My freezer, which once held the excess of the vegie garden’s bounty, now contains only a bottle of vodka and a piece of Christmas cake that may or may not have arrived on the First Fleet.



I probably shouldn’t be admitting this in the public domain, and no, I don’t need an intervention (no, really – the vodka’s been there for ages!). Food and cooking, once enjoyable pastimes, now mechanical actions, will, I’m sure, regain their appeal over time.

Time contracts and expands irregularly and unpredictably. A moment spent staring into space can be an hour. An hour spent on a task may only be a moment. The changing colour of the leaves of the Chinese pistachio outside the kitchen window can hold my attention for an eon but dealing with emails and internet business occupies me for a nanosecond. Sometimes it feels like I’m a small round stone lying perfectly still at the bottom of a deep vortex, with my life spinning chaotically around me.

Yet even in this chaotic world I find continuity. There is a business to run, pets to care for, a house to maintain, a garden to tend. The wallabies have eaten the roses – again – but one of them now has a joey. Can I deny this little family a nibble of my roses? They’re only plants, after all.

I can’t return to ‘normal’ life because there’s no such thing as normal any more, but there is refuge in the ordinary. ■

The author: Robin Tennant-Wood is the owner of Miss Ruby’s Bookshop. Her husband, Roger Pye, died on 15th February, five weeks after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Reprinted with permission from BWD Magazine Autumn 2015, Braidwood

Queanbeyan and region have enjoyed a year of senior citizen day social club

GOODWIN Aged Care Services’ Queanbeyan Day Club marked a year of service to the Queanbeyan and surrounding communities in late August with a social gathering on the Monaro Street premises.

The Queanbeyan Social Club now assists 91 people from in and around the region and works with a number of other organisations in the community to enhance the lives of local seniors.

Goodwin acknowledged the partnership of community groups in caring for local seniors, including Probus. Senior Citz, Koomari, The Men’s Shed and others.

Operating from a purpose-designed premise in the main street, the services include transportation to and from home, morning tea and a hot lunch. The Club also organises a range of activities throughout the local community.

Contact Goodwin or Queanbeyan Council for further information on the services. ■

Queanbeyan Council encourages people to report platypus sightings online

HAVE you seen a platypus or water rat while walking along the banks of the Queanbeyan River? If you have, Queanbeyan City Council

: Community Notices :

wants to know, and now you can report your sighting via a new online reporting tool.

Council and the Australian Platypus Conservancy will use the data collected to enhance conversation efforts within the Queanbeyan River catchment.

“Queanbeyan is a well-known hot spot for platypus and water rat activity and they can be found along the length of the Queanbeyan River and within close proximity of the CBD,” Queanbeyan City Council’s Manager Environment and Health Natasha Abbott said.

“Platypus and water rats are challenging animals to study in the wild, however the best time for spotting them is dawn and dusk.

“If you come across a platypus or water rat in the wild (either alive or dead), we encourage you to report it as the information is vital to our understanding of the status, distribution, and conservation needs of the species”.

Residents can report sightings of platypus or water rats via Council’s website at <http://bit.ly/1LEN63S>. The website is mobile-device friendly. ■

Spring Open Day public invited to Railway Park Community Garden 26 September

COMMUNITY members are invited to visit the Railway Park Organic Community Garden for the garden’s fourth spring Open Day.

The garden, managed by the Queanbeyan Sustainability Group (QSG), is undergoing an upgrade, made possible with the financial support of Queanbeyan City Council and the work of volunteers.

Council provided \$1,217 through its General Donations Scheme in July towards the work, which involves building two more large garden beds, replacing edging on four old garden beds and laying gravel pathways.

QSG convener Katrina Willis said “After investing in new facilities in recent years we have found more people are attracted to the community garden where they can grow their own food in a cooperative environment, learning

from others.

“We currently have a waiting list and the additional plots funded through the Council grant will help to meet this demand. “Spring Open Day makes the garden accessible to the entire community to share knowledge and skills.

“People will have the chance to meet the gardeners and find out how the garden operates, learn about different composting systems we use, see what people are growing and check out the worm farm.

“There will be seasonal planting guides and seedlings to give away. Inquiries about renting a plot are always welcome.” ■

PALERANG COUNCIL

Development Approvals

Notification in accordance with Section 101 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Council approved the following development applications in July 2015

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

Application No	Development Description	Date	Property Description
DA.2015.042	Change of use to Restaurant	01/07/2015	6 Gibraltar Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2013.275	Signage	06/07/2015	202 Wallace Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.054	Dwelling and Shed	07/07/2015	49 Foxlow Street CAPTAINS FLAT
DA.2015.019	2 Lot Subdivision and associated demolitions	07/07/2015	27 Mecca Lane BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.110	Horse Arena	07/07/2015	152 Bowen Street CARWOOLA
DA.2015.097	Continued use of shed	08/07/2015	2 Hill Street MAJORS CREEK
DA.2015.048	Boundary Adjustment	08/07/2015	222 Doust Road LAKE GEORGE
DA.2015.071	Alterations and Additions	14/07/2015	21 Forster Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.104	Alterations and Additions	14/07/2015	839 Burra Road BURRA
DA.2015.102	Swimming Pool	14/07/2015	357 Royalla Drive ROYALLA
DA.2015.105	Alterations and Additions	14/07/2015	225 MacDiarmid Road BURRA
DA.2015.087	Stables and Dam	14/07/2015	123 Brindabella Place CARWOOLA
DA.2015.115	Shed	16/07/2015	33 McCusker Drive BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.121	Shed	21/07/2015	263 Cartwright Avenue SUTTON
DA.2015.123	Patio	21/07/2015	4 Llewellyn Drive BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.132	Garage	21/07/2015	113 Radcliffe Circuit CARWOOLA
DA.2015.117	Continued use of shed and carport	21/07/2015	34 Modbury Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.078	Patio and Garden Room	21/07/2015	41 Foxlow Street CAPTAINS FLAT
DA.2015.069	4 Lot Subdivision	22/07/2015	29 Butmaroo Street BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.077	Shed	23/07/2015	103 Yuranga Drive WAMBOIN
DA.2015.067	Alterations and Additions and continued use of Shed	23/07/2015	19 Rowley Road SUTTON
DA.2014.283	2 Lot Subdivision	27/07/2015	205 Wallace Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.114	Dwelling	27/07/2015	176 Bombay Road BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.119	Shed	28/07/2015	175 Bombay Road BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.109	Dwelling	29/07/2015	5 Dog Rock Close MULLOON

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Good chance to see Mercury this month

THE weather starts to improve in September, the nights get shorter, the days get longer and the frosts become less common. This change in the seasons can be seen in the skies too, with the first of the bright stars of summer reappearing low in the east. We have a little while to go yet though before the winter is truly behind us.

Bright stars in September include blue white Spica, low in the west; white Vega, low in the north; blue-white Altair nearby; red Antares high overhead; yellow Alpha Centauri towards the south west; white Fomalhaut in the east; and, blue-white Achernar low in the south east.

The planets in September: Saturn and Mercury

September provides us with the opportunity to see two bright planets; Saturn and tiny, elusive Mercury.

Saturn has been with us for a few months now, shining as a fairly bright yellowish 'star' towards the north west. It lies close to the red star Antares in the constellation Scorpius. A pair of binoculars will show the colour difference between the two.

Antares is red because of its surface temperature, 3,000 degrees compared to the Sun's 6,000 degrees. The cooler the star, the redder it looks. Saturn is yellow because of the various chemicals that make it up.

Telescopes reveal Saturn's famous ring system, and several of it's moons. They can be tracked from night to night as they slowly orbit around the ringed planet. The shadow that the planet casts onto its rings can also be seen, giving a three dimensional appearance.

Saturn will continue to be visible in our evening skies until the end of November, when it will pass behind the Sun as seen from Earth and reappear in the early morning sky.

The planetary highlight for the month is not Saturn however but the tiny planet Mercury, shining fairly brightly low in the west after sunset. Have a look for it close to the blue-white star Spica, both objects are marked on the map for the month. If you compare the two, you will see that Spica twinkles whereas Mercury does not. This is a sure way to tell planets and stars apart.

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun, taking only 88 days to go around the Sun

— Star Search — with Dr David Weldrake

once, defining the length of Mercury's 'year'. As such it never strays far away from the Sun in our skies and seeing it easily does not happen very often. This month provides a perfect opportunity to do just that.

Interestingly the length of a single day on Mercury (how long it takes to spin on its axis) is 116 Earth days long, which makes Mercury's day actually longer than it's year!

Mercury has been visited by two spaceprobes, the most recent one, 'Messenger', fully mapped the planet and even discovered water ice on it's north pole. Amazing for a planet so close to the Sun. Mercury looks very similar to our Moon but is very different in terms of chemistry and geology.

Mercury is small, only 4,800km in diameter, about a third the size of Earth, and lies

at a distance of 77 million kms from us. As such it appears very small indeed when seen through a telescope.

As Mercury is closer to the Sun than Earth, it displays phases like the Moon. This month it would look like a tiny half moon, thinning to a crescent shape towards the end of September. Big telescopes may be able to make out some very vague surface markings, but only when conditions are perfect.

Mercury will move too close to the Sun to be seen at the end of September so don't delay and take this opportunity to see it. Chances like this do not come along often.

The Moon in September was at last quarter (half) phase on the 6th, new on the 14th, at first quarter phase on the 22nd and full on the 28th. Have a look through binoculars when the Moon is full. Can you see the rays streaking out from the big impact craters? They have been there for 50 million years. ■

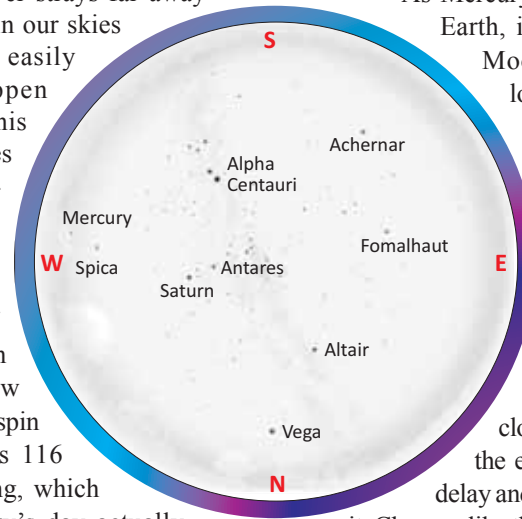


CHART (9PM ON 15 SEPTEMBER) PRODUCED USING THE STELLARIUM SOFTWARE PACKAGE

— Your say —

World Cup coming up:

Why is there never a rugby jersey fans like?

by Zach Mackey

I LOVE my rugby. I love buying rugby jerseys to the point that family and friends have labelled some of my casual sartorial choice 'rugby chic.' But it seems in recent years, that many a rugby side cannot wear a jersey removed from criticism.

With the jerseys that will clothe teams at this year's World Cup now being released, what better time to ask, "why is there never a rugby jersey that fans like?"

When the Wallabies' jersey was released earlier this year, I saw the internet adorned with comments akin to petty student politics. There was mud and filth thrown around as everyone from the ARU to Asics to the poor journalist who broke the story was embroiled in the public dislike for the jersey.

Personally, I don't mind the design. Sure it paled in comparison to the proud gold with green sleeves worn when we won in the 1999 edition, and in my eyes that is the ultimate Wallabies jersey.

The Wallabies players to their credit came out in defence of the new jersey, ultimately saying that they didn't mind what they wore on the pitch, as the honour to represent your country was enough. Mere mortals such as myself though, who need to pay \$160 to don the gold, may voice their displeasure.

Nick McArdle, host of FoxSports rugby program *Rugby HQ*, hit the nail on the head in my opinion. He reminded viewers that jersey manufacturers such as Asics pay huge sums of money to be the official supplier for national teams. And of course they want to see a return on this investment. Each nation has a set number of supporters, and no one is going to purchase the same jersey twice.

This is why we are treated new jerseys every one or two years. But there is something to be said for continuity. Argentina has one of the nicest team kits, and the nuanced

changes to the traditional blue and white hoops continue to hit the mark. Their away kit as well, a dark blue fading into Puma pelt, in homage to the team's nickname, is beautiful.

I think that a lot of the displeasure stems from the price of the jersey. Considering a majority of the purchases are for children, to ask a family to dish out hundreds of dollars on merchandise every other year is unfair. This market needs to be considered, and I reckon when manufacturers acknowledge this, there will be a lot less hate.

If people have such a problem with this year's jersey, just wait until next year. I'm sure they'll have something to say about that one too. But mark my words – if the Wallabies do well in England in September (cross my fingers, toes and every other body part, touch wood, say a prayer and grasp my rabbit's foot) the jerseys will be selling like hotcakes. ■



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PALERANG COUNCIL

Development Approvals

Notification in accordance with Section 101 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. Council approved the following development applications in August 2015

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

Application No	Development Description	Date	Property Description
DA.2014.216	Continued Use of Retaining Walls and 2 Pergolas	19/08/2015	Lot 14 DP1037260 276 Valley Drive ROYALLA
DA.2015.028	Gate and Driveway	25/08/2015	Lot 103 DP 1133978 Woolshed Lane WAMBOIN
DA.2015.039	10 Lot Subdivision	6/08/2015	Lot 19 Sec 12 DP 976608 89 Trucking Yard Lane BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.060	3 Lot Subdivision	10/08/2015	Lot 10 DP 805058 144 Doust Road LAKE GEORGE
DA.2015.068	Shed and Awning	19/08/2015	Lot 13 DP 270600 70 Brindabella Place CARWOOLA
DA.2015.076	Dwelling	4/08/2015	Lot 2 DP 1075345 523 Hereford Hall Rd HEREFORD HALL
DA.2015.079	2 Lot Subdivision	3/08/2015	Lot 60 DP 717595 200 Doust Road LAKE GEORGE
DA.2015.080	2 Lot Subdivision	7/08/2015	Lot 22 DP 255605 13 Whiskers Creek Rd CARWOOLA
DA.2015.083	Portable Building for Radio Station	6/08/2015	Lot 66 DP 755911 15 Victory Street BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.085	Telecommunications Facility – Monopole	7/08/2015	Lot 1 DP 222274 WATER RESERVOIR 66 Old Mines Road CAPTAINS FLAT
DA.2015.088	Manufactured Home	19/08/2015	Lot 3 Sec 17 DP 758636 6 Araluen Street MAJORS CREEK
DA.2015.092	Signage	18/08/2015	Lot 105 DP878557 1222 Federal Highway Service Rd SUTTON
DA.2015.096	Dwelling	19/08/2015	Lot 102 754887 169 Little Bombay Road BOMBAY
DA.2015.098	2 Lot Subdivision	13/08/2015	Lot 14 DP 246156 210 Bidges Road SUTTON
DA.2015.100	Dwelling	7/08/2015	Lot 14 DP 1046170 5 Hassall Circuit BRAIDWOOD
DA.2015.112	Dwelling and Shed	11/08/2015	Lot 1 DP 1112412 7 Hill Street MAJORS CREEK
DA.2015.113	Continued Use of House	4/08/2015	Lot 2 DP 1004265 5 The Forest Road BYWONG
DA.2015.120	Residential Alterations and Additions	6/08/2015	Lot 19 DP 251090 735 Burra Road BURRA
DA.2015.122	Shed and Carport	3/08/2015	Lot 4 DP 800095 7 Reardon Place BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.127	Deck, Pergola and Carport	13/08/2015	Lot 1 DP 1164266 1071 Bombay Road BOMBAY
DA.2015.128	Shed	13/08/2015	Lot 144 DP 808823 81 Knox Close CARWOOLA
DA.2015.130	Alterations and Additions to Existing Dwelling	13/08/2015	Lot 130 DP 238028 285 Woolcara Lane PRIMROSE VALLEY
DA.2015.133	Telecommunications Facility – 35m Monopole	27/08/2015	Lot 247 DP 755934 Red Hill Road MAJORS CREEK
DA.2015.134	Studio	13/08/2015	Lot 6 Sec 2 DP 758183 29 Turallo Tce BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.135	Shed	13/08/2015	Lot 7 Sec 16 DP 758183 60 Turallo Tce BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.147	Swimming Pool	25/8/2015	Lot 16 DP 1007296 139 Goolabri Drive SUTTON
DA.2015.149	Shed Extension and Home Gym	18/08/2015	Lot 31 DP 806126 30 Elmslea Drive BUNGENDORE
DA.2015.151	Continued Use of Pergola	19/08/2015	Lot 31 DP 1168479 28 Hereford Street BUNGENDORE



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During SEPTEMBER
The Creative Edge
 Bungendore Fine Art, Ellendon St, Bungendore.
 Works by Carmel Cox, Pam Edwards, Joyleen
 Kitto and Robyn Langley. Ph 6238 1640 or see
www.bungendorefineart.com.au.

Until Tuesday 15
History Week
Until Sunday 20
Accidental Beauty
 FORM Studio & Gallery, Aurora Pl, Queanbeyan.
 Paintings by Stephanie Haygarth. For more
www.formstudioandgallery.com.au.

Saturday 12 until 25 Oct
David Voigt – Return To Wilderness
 Bungendore Wood Works Gallery. New works by
 David Voigt. Opening by Pamela Griffith Artist-
 Printmaker. For more www.bungendorewoodworks.com.au. See story p5.

Tuesday 14 until Friday 25
50 Years – A Celebration
 The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. The Quean-
 beyan Players are celebrating 50 years of theatre
 in the Queanbeyan region. Ph 6285 6290 or see
www.theq.net.au.

Friday 10
Peace Knits Pop-Up
 Queanbeyan Library, 5.30–7pm. PeaceKnits work with
 existing community-based organisations and individ-
 uals across a range of skills from beginners to the very
 capable; embrace all things handmade, including quilt-
 ing, crochet/knitting, poetry and writing. Free event but
 bookings essential. Email library@qcc.nsw.gov.au or
 ph 6285 6255.

Saturday 12
Queanbeyan Historical Museum Open day:
Stories from a Country Town 1914–18
 Queanbeyan Historical Museum, Farrer Pl, 11–4pm.
 An exhibition of vignettes of Queanbeyan and
 District men and women at war and on the home
 front. Also entertainment, tea, coffee and eats. Free
 event, all welcome.

**Queanbeyan Printing Museum Open Day – Stop
 the Presses**

Queanbeyan Printing Museum, 20 Farrer Pl, 2–4pm.
 Come to the Queanbeyan Printing Museum, the home
 of some of the earliest working presses in Australia.
 Take home a beautiful example of machine printing
 and see the charm and elegance of these wonders of
 technology. Free event, all welcome.

Gunning Fireworks Festival
 Gunning Showground, 3–9pm. \$10 adult; \$5 under
 16s; \$25 family. See ad p4.

Sunday 13
Learn to Wet Felt Alpaca and Llama Fibre
 Alpaca Magic, Sutton Road, 10–1pm. Here is an op-
 portunity to learn the basics of felt making, see how

What’s On – September 2015

Send announcements to whatson@districtbulletin.com.au

felt can be used all in a peaceful rural setting with the
 alpacas & llamas watching you. For more see
www.alpacamagic.com.au.

Tuesday 15 until Sunday 27
Mother, Wife and Complicated Life
 The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. What if, instead of
 the Hollywood version of marriage and motherhood,
 we saw a depiction of how it really is – relentless, ex-
 hilarating, infuriating, hilarious, complicated? The new
 hit Australian musical that’s wowing audiences and
 critics alike. Ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.

Thursday 17
Palerang Council Meeting
 Council Chambers, 5pm. Ordinary Meeting to elect
 Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2015–16, and Council’s
 delegates to its committees and external organisations.
 For more www.palerang.nsw.gov.au.

Saturday 19
Night in the Caribbean Ball
 Bicentennial Hall, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. The
 Canberra School of Dancing is hosting a Night in the
 Caribbean Ball. A banquet dinner, non-stop music, live
 band (Hit Parade), prizes and much more. For more
www.canberraschoolofdancing1.com.au.

Tulip Time Express
 Queanbeyan Railway Station. Take a train ride aboard
 a locomotive to tiptoe amongst the tulips at Bowral.
 For more ph 6284 2790, email federalcity

Spring into September

the market @ bungendore

Sunday September 20th 9am–3pm
at the War Memorial Hall

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

jewellery
giftware
soaps & lotions
local art & craft
garden products
toys & models
cakes & pastries
tea & fresh coffee
guitars & amps

textiles
preserves
hand knits
candles
cookies

mosaics
homewares
greeting cards
beads & findings
pottery & ceramics
local grown plants
prints & paintings
fruit & vegetables
clothing & footwear

express@gmail.com or see www.arhsact.org.au.

Sunday 20
Holden Scramble Golf Day
 Queanbeyan Golf Course. This is an Open Event. For
 more see www.queanbeyangolf.com.au.

Wednesday 23
Queanbeyan City Council Meeting
 Council Chambers, Crawford St, 5pm. Ordinary Meet-
 ing – items include Rescission Motion for Stage 2 CBD
 Upgrade and election of Deputy Mayor for 2015–16.
 For more www.qcc.nsw.gov.au.

Saturday 26
Jumble Sale
 Queanbeyan Uniting Church, 9–12pm. Funds raised
 help in the mission to support those in need in the
 community.

Railway Park Community Garden Open Day
 See community notices p10.

Wednesday 30
The Very Hungry Caterpillar
 The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. One of the most-
 read and famous children’s books of all time emerges
 off the page in a masterful theatrical experience for
 the whole family. Ph 6285 6290 or see
www.theq.net.au.

COMING UP in October

Thursday 1
Business Management 101
 Southern Region BEC, Farrer Pl, Queanbeyan,
 9.30–12.30pm. Presented by Peter Gordon, this
 information packed workshop is just the ticket for
 those starting out as well as established busi-
 nesses. For more ph 6297 3121 or see <http://srbec.com.au>.

Friday 9 and Saturday 10
Carmen Sweet
 The Q, Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Spend the night
 with the definitive seductress of stage as she
 weaves her deliciously wicked wiles through one
 of Expressions Dance Company’s most loved pro-
 ductions. Ph 6285 6290 or see www.theq.net.au.

Saturday 10
Gundaroo Music Festival – see ad p4
Ghost Train of the Limestone Plains
 Heard of the legend of the Ghost Train of the Lime-
 stone Plains? Take a unique journey with the cre-
 ators of Mysterious Queanbeyan by Moonlight
 Tours, exploring this region’s darker side! Seats
 are limited and the evening includes supper, bev-
 erages and the most chilling ‘entertainment’. Cost
 \$98pp, over-18 only. For more contact the
 ‘Mistress of Mystery’ on 0413 671 123 or
nichole@qbcnityofchampions.com.au.

LOCAL MARKETS:

1st and 3rd Saturday of every month
Braidwood Farmer’s Markets
 National Theatre in the 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 farm-
 ers market offering a diverse range of fresh
 seasonal food straight from the producer to
 the consumer and an opportunity to discuss
 with growers. www.capitalregionfarmersmarket.com.au

1st Saturday of every month (except January)
The Captains Flat Country Markets
 Community Hall, Foxlow St, Captains Flat,
 10–2pm. Handmade items, craft, jams, pickles,
 gourmet doggy treats, preloved goods, cakes,
 biscuits, plants and much more! Stalls \$12. Call
 either 0438 600 447 or 0407 661 834 or email
markets@captainsflat.org.

2nd and 4th Saturday of every month
Southern Harvest Farmers Market
 Memorial Hall, Molonglo St, Bungendore, 9–1pm,
 (opposite Food Lovers Market).

2nd Sunday of the month (except Jan)
Queanbeyan Cottage Markets
 Queanbeyan River, on the corner of Morrisett and
 Collett Streets, 9–2pm. Craft, timber products, pot-
 tery, leatherwork, jewellery, toys, honey, jams,
 chutney, cakes, plants, food and refreshments.
 Call Kristen 6299 0219.

3rd Saturday of every month
(except July/August)
Wamboin Produce Market
 Wamboin Community Hall, Bingley Way, Wamboin,
 9–12 noon. Fresh produce including cheese, eggs,
 honey, vegetables, nuts, seeds and plants.

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

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

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

**More on regional and local events and
 local tourist attractions:**

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

Return To Wilderness

a new exhibition by David Voigt



wood works
gallery
BUNGENDORE

Exhibition Opening
2pm Saturday Sept 12
by Pamela Griffith

www.bwoodworks.com.au
 Phone 6238 1682
 Malbon St, Bungendore
gallery@bwoodworks.com.au

Queanbeyan RIVER FESTIVAL

Council's
biennial
enviro expo

- Australian Platypus Conservancy
- Tips on living more sustainably, renewable energy and local wildlife
- Bicycle-Powered Cinema
- Local Environmental and Community Groups

Saturday
17 October 2015
 on the banks of the
 Queanbeyan River
 – Trinculo Place
12 noon – 4pm

**Clearwater
SCULPTURE
PRIZE**

**BYO
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**Enjoy a wide range
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including:**

- “Platypus Dreaming” community-partnered Mosaic project
- Ride your bike to get a free check-up from a bike mechanic and go in the draw to win a prize!
- Food and beverage stalls
- Join us for the official naming ceremony of the Queanbeyan City Council platypus mascot!

**Entry forms,
rules and conditions
available online**
<http://thecancersupportgroup.org.au/events/queanbeyan-river-festival.php>

‘Build your own’ boat race!

It’s time to start building your boat or find your best inflatable for races organised by ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group!
 For further information on entering the “Build Your Own Boat” races, contact ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group on 6297 1261.

Registrations close Friday 9 October 2015.

The Cancer Support Group
 ACT Eden Monaro’s own

Queanbeyan City Council

For more information contact:
 Holly Catt on 6285 6552
 or holly.catt@qcc.nsw.gov.au

**Sustainable Events
IN QUEANBEYAN**