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Hoskinstown Chestnut
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Pet
of the
Week



Regional Independent

Free

An independent, community newspaper distributed throughout the
Queanbeyan - Palerang region

No. 457

Wednesday 8 April, 2026

Bridge works flood community with concern

Debbie Evans

Residents living in and close to Hoskinstown and Captains Flat are bracing themselves for major disruption to their lives and negative impacts on business with the closure for replacement of the Briars Sharrow Bridge.

The road closure will come into effect from Wednesday, April 15 and it is not expected to reopen until January 2027.

The imminent closure of the bridge is expected to significantly affect

daily routines, with locals facing lengthy diversions and increased travel times. Businesses, particularly those involved in farming, are anticipating substantial rises in operating costs, as the new routes will result in higher fuel bills and added time spent on the road.

Families are also concerned about the impact on school travel. With altered routes and bus schedules, some children may need to change buses or be driven by parents,

further increasing the burden on households.

The NSW Government awarded \$9 million to Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council for the bridge replacement project. The council has stated that the final claim for these funds must be submitted by February 2027.

The bridge replacement has been a Council priority for several years and became part of an election commitment by Member for Monaro, Steve Whan, as part

of the Minn's Government's first budget delivered in 2023. The new bridge is over 90m and built 4m higher than the existing crossing. The project also includes 718m of roadworks, increasing the road width from single lane to two lanes.

However, Council's view that the new bridge is a sign of progress isn't shared by all residents. Many locals have voiced strong criticism regarding the way council has handled community consultation around the project.

Residents are frustrated with the timing of the bridge replacement, which coincides with other external pressures such as increasing fuel prices. They fear this combination will lead to significant disruption and hardship for many, as they navigate the added inconvenience and costs associated with the closure during an already challenging period.

continued page 2

Below: Briar Sharrow Crossing



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Community News

IGA Bungendore receive two awards from the State IGA Awards of Excellence

NSW/ACT's best independent supermarkets have been recognised at the 2026 NSW/ACT State IGA Awards of Excellence.

The awards were held on Friday 27th March 2026, at Waterview, Bicentennial Park. IGA Bungendore won the 2026 NSW/ACT Large Dairy & Freezer Department of the Year Award, and Shauna Berry was recognised with the Rising Star Award.

The Dairy & Freezer department at IGA Bungendore combines exceptional range, strong presentation, and outstanding consistency. It showcases a wide variety of chilled and frozen favourites, all immaculately stocked and clearly merchandised, making it a seamless shopping experience for the local community.

Shauna Berry has achieved

remarkable success in just two years. She completed Certificates II and III, led a full store refurbishment and strengthened the performance of the delicatessen. Known as the face of IGA Bungendore, she delivers outstanding customer service and champions fresh food, community partnerships, and brand visibility. Even while preparing for motherhood, she raised over \$14,800 for local causes. Shauna's leadership, resilience, and passion for retail excellence make her a standout future leader for IGA.

A total of 22 awards were presented during the evening which celebrate the incredible work that many IGA stores across the region do every single day. These awards are judged on a range of criteria which include customer service, community pride,



department excellence, brand values, merchandising, and the stores' overall performance. IGA Bungendore and Shauna

will go on to represent NSW/ACT at the National IGA Awards of Excellence in July, where they will be up against their interstate

counterparts across Australia in the respective categories. Photo supplied of the Bungendore IGA team at the awards

Bridge works flood community with concern

Continued from page 1

Millie McInnes told the Regional Independent, "I hate the bridge."

"Our family operates three farms in the Hoskinstown area and the diversions we now face through Bungendore will easily add \$1,000 per week to the fuel bill for our farming operations. We've calculated this considering business trips, staff and our commutes for business and school.

"I've heard some people are even considering moving their children to different schools as school travel times blow out with children expected to change buses along routes just to get to school. Not to mention the added time they'll have to spend travelling. Some kids won't even be able to access bus services and parents will have to drive them, another cost.

"For us the bridge is just insanity."

"As a mother with small children and expecting another, I also worry about what will happen if something goes wrong and there's an emergency. How will emergency services get to us in a timely way?"

"We will choose to travel the Bungendore diversion as it will be safer. Using alternative routes are not realistic for us. Foxlow Bridge

needs major repair and Council will be working on Reschs crossing at the same time the bridge is being replaced.

"The average joe simply can't afford all the added fuel costs at this time. The whole thing is just crazy and a real slap in the face for people living in the area.

"Another thing that hasn't been considered is the fact in a flood many of the causeways along Briar Sharrow Road are impassable. What use is a new bridge then?"

Council confirmed that a mirror bridge was not possible. "The land to the east is flat, and the flooding area is more widespread. There is a significant stream running parallel to the road that would need to be avoided, pushing the bridge or temporary sidetrack location further east. This would mean a temporary route would require culverts or crossings and would need to be longer. There would also be greater impacts on Aboriginal artefacts and biodiversity which would require further approvals resulting in a time delay that puts our funding at risk.

"Putting the new bridge or temporary track to the west is restricted by the location of private dwellings and would likely require

excavating through rock in the hills and more service relocation. There would also be greater impacts on Aboriginal artefacts which would require further approvals resulting in a time delay that puts our funding at risk.

"There are safety risks with having a temporary side track too close to the construction site, which will need a large working area for piling rigs, cranes, heavy vehicles, and other large plant."

Forbes Creek resident, Rowan Simpkin, said the timing of the works has created the "perfect storm" for locals. Coming at the same time as the war on Iran pushing up fuel costs and now the longer than normal commute times to work, school and travel generally out of the Captain's Flat area, will add to cost-of-living pressures.

"It's going to be inconvenient for everyone living in this area, but I agree the bridge is necessary and when the work is done people will forget about it, and I think generally agree it's been worthwhile.

"But people who are commuting will have an extra 30 minutes added to their trips having to go via Bungendore. And school children who already have one-way trips to school of an hour and a half

will now be travelling two hours morning and afternoon.

One of the most disappointing aspects of the project for Ms Simpkin has been the level of communication from Council on the project.

"There was a drop-in session at the Hoskinstown Hall on March 10, which turned into a disaster because of the sheer number of people who attended looking for answers.

"Council's communication on the Bridge has been minimal at best, and people have become very frustrated.

"The replacement of the one-lane bridge is necessary, but the whole process has not been handled well." She said.

Resident Ashley Meyer-Dilley said she was very dissatisfied with the way Council has handled the whole project and public consultation.

"The bridge is far beyond what the community needs and it's not at the right time.

"The whole project has been presented to the community without a well thought out plan.

"I would have liked to see money first spent on upgrading the Foxlow bridge which currently has

a five-tonne limit. This at least that would have provided access for emergency services such as ambulance while the bridge is closed.

She added that she is so concerned about the public consultation for the bridge she's arranged a meeting with Council's General Manager, Rebecca Ryan, "There are just so many lessons Council needs to learn from this, so this type of situation doesn't happen to other residents.

In an email to Council Ms Meyer-Dilley said she was most concerned by; "The lack of engagement with our community on what is best for our community and the blatant disregard for fixing roads and bridges that actually need it, is reflective of the attitude some parts of council currently has towards its outer regional communities. I hope you can take this feedback on board for future projects to better support communities like ours."

Further information on the project and changes to school bus services can be found on the Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council website at <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Major-Works-Projects/Briars-Sharrow-Bridge-upgrade>

Regional Independent

- The Regional Independent is the only free, printed, independent, community newspaper within the Queanbeyan-Palerang local government area.
- Distribution is **6,000** copies every fortnight, with stands in Queanbeyan, Karabar, Jerrabomberra, Bungendore, Braidwood and Wamboin.
- We welcome local stories. For editorial and advertising enquiries, please email Sharon: info@regionalindependent.com.au or phone 0419 025 533

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Community News

Step into the spotlight at this year's Queanbeyan Show

Since its inception in 1893 the Queanbeyan Show has cemented itself as the cornerstone of the yearly social calendar. A true showcase of the very best parts of regional NSW and our strong agricultural background tied together with arts and crafts, good food, gut churning rides and good old fashioned family fun.

Queanbeyan Show Society Vice President Brent Hunter said "ensuring The Show is value for money is at the forefront of every decision we make as a committee. At our core, we are Queanbeyan and we want to do what is right by our neighbours and friends".

The Queanbeyan Show is set to return November 7 and 8 at the showgrounds and already this year is shaping up to be the biggest

yet with planning is already well underway. The Queanbeyan Show Society is currently busy trying to ensure that the show remains accessible to our whole community and this is done through the generosity of local sponsors. Without the support of community minded businesses and organisations, the show would struggle to be competitive for the average family.

Queanbeyan Show Society President Josh Williams said, "we are always on the lookout to partner with strong local brands that resonate with our event."

"We are so grateful to work with such amazing people that continue to exceed expectations with their support and generosity, such as Langes Auto Centre, Lennox

Ram and Walpett Engineering" continued Mr Williams.

Sponsoring the Queanbeyan Show is more than brand exposure, it's a powerful opportunity to connect directly with thousands of locals and visitors who care deeply about supporting the businesses that support their community. From families and farmers to young professionals and retirees, the Show brings together a diverse audience united by a love of the region and its people, last year alone over 13,000 people filled the showground.

"As a sponsor, your business will enjoy strong visibility across event signage, programs, digital promotion, and on-ground activations, positioning your brand at the centre of a trusted and



growing event." Said Mr Williams
Businesses looking to get involved can contact the Queanbeyan Show Society directly via their

website <https://queanbeyanshow.com.au/sponsorship/>
Photo supplied

QPRC Community Meetings continue

This year the community meetings, which are usually held in May have been brought forward to April to engage the community earlier in the budget development process. A council spokesperson said the intent being to hear from the community while the budget is still being drafted rather than hear from them after a draft has been released for comment.

Holding the Community Meetings in April also complements the Operational Plan Development and

Community Engagement Plan, so it is important that residents attend.

The Mayor, councillors, General Manager and other staff will be at the meetings so you can ask your questions of the right people. Learn more about major projects in your area and ask questions about issues that matter to you.

Council is encouraging all community organisations and committees to present their ideas, projects and aspirations as part of the planning process.

The Operational Plan determines where your rates are spent and what projects move forward – from roads and infrastructure to community facilities and services.

Bungendore - Thursday 9 April, 6pm-8pm
Norah Starrs Bungendore Community Centre, Marjara Street, Bungendore

Queanbeyan - Tuesday 14 April, 6pm-8pm
WB Freebody Council Chambers, 257 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan

Braidwood - Thursday 16 April, 6pm-8pm
Braidwood Servicemens Club, 15 Victory Street, Braidwood, 2622

Nerriga - Saturday 18 April, 10am-12noon
Nerriga Hall, 6088 Nerriga Road, Nerriga, 2622

Wamboin - Tuesday, 21 April 2026, 7.30pm to 8.30pm
Wamboin Community Hall, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin, 2620,



Community Information Drop-in Sessions

Wind Farm Feasibility Investigations

Iberdrola Australia is inviting the community to attend our upcoming Community Information Drop-in Sessions for early-stage wind farm feasibility investigations commencing in the local area. These investigations are being undertaken under the project name Pylara Wind Farm. The investigation area is located around 6 kilometres west of Tarago in New South Wales.

The information drop-in sessions are an opportunity for the community and neighbours to meet the project team, ask questions, and learn more about the feasibility investigations. We're also keen to hear from locals and community groups about how we can contribute to positive social, environmental and community outcomes in the local area.

Session 1: Monday, 20 April between 4pm and 7pm
Session 2: Tuesday, 21 April between 11am and 1pm

Tarago Town Hall
18 Wallace St, Tarago NSW 2580

No RSVP is required, just drop-in!



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2026 ANZAC Day Bungendore: 60th Anniversary Long Tan

Part Two – The Fight for Survival: D Company Holds the Line

The situation deteriorated rapidly. 11 Platoon was in the most desperate position – isolated, under heavy fire, and taking casualties at an alarming rate. Within the first 20 minutes, more than half of its 28 men were wounded. Lieutenant Sharp was killed early in the fighting, leaving the platoon leaderless and struggling to hold its ground.

Attempts to Reach 11 Platoon

Major Smith ordered 10 Platoon, led by Lieutenant Geoff Kendall, to move to 11 Platoon's aid. But as they advanced, they too came under intense fire and were forced to halt. Their radios were damaged, cutting them off from Company Headquarters.

Smith then turned to 12 Platoon, led by Lieutenant David Sabben, ordering two of its sections to attempt a flanking movement to reach 11 Platoon from the south. But they also ran into heavy resistance and were unable to break through.

D Company was now split into three isolated groups, each fighting its own battle against overwhelming odds.

Artillery: The Lifeline

Back at Nui Dat, the Australian artillery batteries – three batteries of 1 Field Regiment, supported by an American medium artillery battery and 161 Battery Royal New Zealand Artillery – began

firing in support of D Company. Kiwi Forward Observer Major 'Morrie' Morris embedded with D Company called in fire missions with extraordinary precision, often bringing shells down within 50 metres of friendly positions.

Over the course of the battle, the guns fired nearly 3,500 rounds. Many veterans later said that without artillery, D Company would not have survived.

The Storm, the Mud, and the Chaos

The monsoon storm continued to rage. The rain reduced visibility for both sides, but it also made movement difficult. The VC struggled to coordinate their attacks, while the Australians fought to keep their weapons functioning in the mud.

Despite the conditions, the VC launched repeated wave attacks. They advanced in large numbers, often getting within 50 metres of the Australian positions before being driven back by rifle fire, machine guns, and artillery.

The Australians were running dangerously low on ammunition. Recognising the crisis, two RAAF pilots from 9 Squadron flew Iroquois helicopters through the storm, braving enemy fire to drop boxes of ammunition from treetop height. Their daring resupply mission was one of the most critical moments of the battle.

The Relief Force Moves Out

As the scale of the battle became

clear, a relief force was assembled. B Company, which had been returning to Nui Dat, was ordered to turn around and head toward Long Tan. At the same time, permission was granted for 3 APC Troop to deploy. Ten armoured personnel carriers, carrying A Company, 6 RAR, left Nui Dat and began moving toward the battle.

On the way, they encountered a group of VC attempting to flank D Company. After a brief skirmish, the APCs pushed on.

Regrouping Under Fire

Back in the plantation, 11 Platoon

was still fighting for survival. Eventually, during a brief lull in the fighting, the remnants of 11 Platoon were able to withdraw and link up with 12 Platoon. For the first time since the battle began, D Company was able to consolidate its position.

But the VC were not finished. As the light began to fade, they launched their most determined attacks of the day. Wave after wave of enemy soldiers advanced through the rubber trees, firing as they came. The Australians held their ground, using every weapon they had left.

The Arrival of the APCs

At around 7:00 pm, as darkness fell, the relief force finally arrived. The APCs burst through the rubber plantation, their .50 calibre machine guns cutting through the VC ranks. The sudden appearance of armoured vehicles shattered the momentum of the VC assault. The enemy broke and scattered into the darkness.

After nearly four hours of continuous fighting, the Battle of Long Tan was over.

Sources various. To be continued...

ANZAC Day - 25 April - is probably Australia's most important national occasion. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) during the Great War.

Bungendore Commemorative Services

ANZAC Day Dawn Service 0600

ANZAC Day March commencing at 1040

ANZAC Day Commemorative Service at the Memorial 1100

ANZAC Day Social Activities - Various on completion of the Commemorative Service

ANZAC Address and Dinner 1st May (See page 6 for more information)



Veolia Ordered to Take Action on Odours at Woodlawn Landfill

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has issued Veolia Environmental Services with a prevention notice requiring it to carry out actions to address operating and pollution control issues causing odours at its Woodlawn Landfill in Tarago.

The notice follows an EPA investigation into offensive odours that identified significant problems with Veolia's landfill gas capture and leachate (landfill liquid) management systems.

NSW EPA Executive Director of Operations Stephen Beaman said

these issues are contributing to the persistent offsite odours reported by the community and must be addressed.

"Since mid-March, the Tarago community has been experiencing unacceptable and ongoing odours linked to Veolia's operation of the landfill, including poor management of systems designed to reduce environmental and community impacts," Mr Beaman said.

"Landfill operators have an obligation to the community to ensure their operations are run

to the highest environmental standards, which is why we're requiring Veolia to act as a matter of urgency.

"This prevention notice prioritises actions designed to limit odour impacts on the community and lift the overall environmental performance of the landfill."

Under the terms of the prevention notice, Veolia is required to submit an independently prepared, short-term action plan to the EPA within eight weeks outlining measures to reduce leachate levels and improve landfill gas capture. All

measures must be commenced within four months.

To limit further odour impacts on the community, Veolia must also:

- Increase the frequency of landfill leachate level monitoring
- engage an independent expert to conduct regular landfill gas monitoring
- engage an independent qualified consultant to carry out regular inspections of the landfill site, along with odour surveys on and around the premises
- submit weekly reports to

the EPA outlining progress against all required actions, including monitoring results and photographic evidence of works undertaken.

Community members impacted by odours are encouraged to report them to the EPA's Environment Line by emailing info@epa.nsw.gov.au.

More information about our regulation of Veolia's Woodlawn Eco Precinct can be found on the EPA website here: <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/Working-together/Community-engagement/updates-on-issues/Woodlawn-Eco-Precinct-Tarago>

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Community News

Rotary Community Service Awards

Recognising special people in our community who do great things for our community.

On Sunday 22 March members from the Rotary Club of Bungendore joined with other clubs from Canberra and the Canberra Multicultural Community Forum to present these awards.

Our club recognised Rob Allard for his 20+ years volunteering to the Rural Fire Service, currently in his 3rd year as Captain, and many years to the Bungendore War Memorial Committee. President Sue, in presenting the award said Rob was a Friend of Rotary helping out and socialising within the club. She said his leadership and dedication to the RFS have been crucial during challenging times, including the Black Summer bushfires of 2019-2020—one of the most devastating fire seasons in Australia's history. Rob's passion for honouring local history and service is reflected in his long-standing involvement with the Bungendore War Memorial Committee. Having served as President and Secretary, Rob has played a pivotal role in preserving this important community asset. She finished in saying that Rob embodies the spirit of community service, leaving a lasting legacy of commitment, leadership, and respect in Bungendore and beyond.

In accepting the award Rob said he was truly honoured and that being recognised by such a respected group of community leaders was both humbling and incredibly meaningful. Rob was clear however that he was accepting the award on behalf of the incredible teams and individuals he has had the privilege to work alongside over the years and dedicated it to everyone who steps up to make Bungendore and the wider community a stronger, safer and more connected community.

Other recipients on the day were:

- Jennifer from John James Hospital for her post-natal physio classes (and baby cuddles session);
- Nate from Little Luxton Cafe who donates \$1 from every coffee sold (\$145k over the past 3 years) to local community programs;
- from the Demetria Demolition Squad committed to fundraising to rid the world of dementia;
- Julia, Shay and Talitha who run the Gungahlin Jets Netball Shooting Stars all-inclusion netball program;
- Gabby who is a volunteer who manages the adjudicators for the MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly) program;
- Malcolm from the Canberra Multicultural Community Forum who has been the Treasurer and



a member for over 10 years;

- Elizabeth and Robert from Fearless Women who help girls and young women thrive, not just survive;
- Erin from the wonderful Nursing team at Clare Holland House who give the best care in some of the hardest times in life;
- Mary from the Rotary Club of Belconnen, an enthusiastic and

relatively new member for what she does in the club and in her other voluntary endeavours.

Congratulations and thanks go to all recipients on the day and to everyone who support our communities.

Photo supplied of Rotary Club of Bungendore President Sue Glover with award recipient Rob Allard.

People's Choice Voting for the Queanbeyan-Palerang Business Awards - Area 2 Now Open!

QPRC

People's Choice Voting for the Queanbeyan-Palerang Business Awards - Area 2 Now Open!

Do you have a favourite local business that always goes above and beyond? Show your support by voting in this year's People's Choice Award.

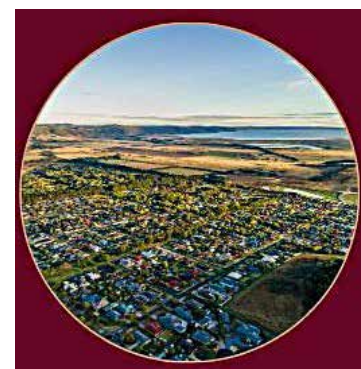
This week's voting area includes:

Bungendore, Wamboin, Bywong, Hoskinstown, Captains Flat and Carwoola

Voting dates: 6 April - 12 April

Vote here: <https://form.jotform.com/260778162776874>

Everyone can vote once per week for each area. Your vote helps recognise the businesses delivering great service across our region.



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\$10.75 ea
SAVE \$10.75



Australian Marinated Boneless Pork Loin Roast

\$14 kg



Bega Peanut Butter 470g Selected Varieties

\$3.45 ea
SAVE \$3.45



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\$9.50



Sorbent 3 Ply Silky White Toilet Tissue 32 Pack

\$15 ea
HOT BUY



No one is immune, no one is untouched

Research is the answer and research is slow and costs lots of money. This is why our Rotary Club of Bungendore High Tea is about more than just a great time with family and friends and some fantastic food worthy of winning a cooking competition, but it is also about raising money for Cancer Research.

There is likely no one on this planet that has not been touched in some way by cancer. A family member, a friend, a colleague or just someone you know who knows someone; we have all

been there. "It won't happen to me" is often the statement but from experience we know cancer doesn't differentiate, it does happen to us, every day ordinary people.

So make the decision, commit to helping us help others, come along and join in the fun, treat yourself to the tastiest savoury and sweet, delicious offerings whilst enjoying the company of other members of our community. Let's make this an annual event that helps each year to raise awareness and funds to

research the "why did he/she get cancer" and hopefully lead to better treatment and cure, and perhaps even prevention!

When: Saturday 9 May at 11am to 1pm or 2.30pm to 4.40pm

Where: The Bungendore Community Centre (Norah Starrs) Majara Street

Bookings: Scan the QR code to book for yourself or your group

Email: admin@rotaryclubofbungendore.org

Come one, come all. See you there.

With thanks to our Community Bank of Bungendore who has provided some support to our start up costs and IGA Bungendore for their generous support



Tesla and Polestar Sales Surge as EV Demand Grows Amidst International Fuel Crisis

EV sales are up 40% in the first quarter of 2026, compared with the same period last year for two leading brands, according to new data released today by the Electric Vehicle Council.

Tesla and Polestar sold a combined 7,725 vehicles in the first quarter of 2026, up from 5,549 in the same period in 2025.

In March 2026 alone, Polestar and Tesla sold a combined 3,645 new vehicles with March sales growing 21.1% year-on-year and up 6.6% from the previous month, February 2026.

EVC CEO Julie Delvecchio said interest in EVs was growing rapidly, as people look to save up to \$3,000 per year in running costs.

Second-hand EV sales in March for Pickles were up 60% on February and EV searches on the Pickles website jumped 163% month-on-month.

New data from Pickles shows 82% of used EVs are selling under \$50,000 - with 43% under \$30,000. Commonwealth Bank reported their lending data saw a 161% lift in demand for EV finance since the start of March.

EVC CEO Julie Delvecchio said the numbers reflected a fundamental shift in how Australians think about EVs.

"With fuel prices rising, every EV on the road is doing something simple but powerful - taking pressure off fuel supply for the people who need it most."

"EV drivers are driving the country's fuel resilience while cutting costs on their household budget. This has never been more important than now, given the PM's address urging people to use petrol and diesel responsibly and 'save fuel for people who have no choice but to drive'."

"Volatile global oil markets are changing the conversation. Australians aren't asking whether EVs are the future anymore. They're asking which one they can get their hands on, and when."

Scott Maynard, Polestar Australia Managing Director said the market is changing.

"There is a clear sense of urgency from customers, which is driving strong

order volumes. Interest in Polestar's electric cars is surging in Australia. Test drive bookings have tripled in the last fortnight, and traffic to our showrooms is what we'd expect to see during a sale event. The vulnerable state of our nation's fuel security has been exposed, and won't magically improve when the current crisis ends."

Hyundai's Chief Operating Officer Gavin Donaldson said market conditions are driving uptake.

"Hyundai is seeing a clear increase in consumer interest in electric vehicles as Australians respond to rising petrol prices and heightened global fuel market uncertainty. These conditions are accelerating the shift toward EVs, which

offer lower running costs, greater energy security and reduced exposure to international supply shocks."

Audi Australia's Brand Director Jeff Mannering, said knowledge of EVs is improving.

"What we're seeing now is a maturing BEV and PHEV market where customers arrive with a better understanding of the technology, charging and real-world range. That shift in confidence is accelerating demand for our electric and plug-in hybrid models, and we are experiencing momentum for these models online and in showrooms."

Julie Delvecchio said now was not the time to change policy settings to make EVs more expensive.

"The Electric Car Discount, currently under review, is making EVs more available than ever before. Removing or scaling it back risks depriving Australians of \$3,000 a year in savings on fuel and maintenance costs. With the cost-of-living front of mind for every Australian family, those savings couldn't be more timely."

"What we're seeing is a tipping point. The fuel crisis hasn't created interest in EVs - it's accelerated a shift that was already underway. Our website saw almost 100,000 page views in the past month, up 71%, with 97% of visitors new to our site. The most visited page? 'EVs available in Australia.' Australians are ready - the industry needs to meet them there."

Queanbeyan VIEW Club: next meeting Thursday April 16

Queanbeyan VIEW Club

The next meeting will be held on April 16th at the Tourist Hotel, Monaro St, Queanbeyan 12 for 12:30pm. The April guest speaker is from the SES, and he will be speaking on resuscitation techniques. We also enjoy lunch, accompanied by a lucky door prize and a raffle.

New ladies are always welcome to come and join us in fun and

friendship. Cost is \$10 plus the price of your chosen lunch. RSVP by Sunday 12th April, to Irene on 0438231003 or queanbeyanview@gmail.com.

Photo supplied of club's members gathering to celebrate International Women's Day on Saturday 7th March and listening to Elizabeth who arrived in Australia as a young child after World War II.




Surveying Planning

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

ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE DINNER 2026



The Bungendore War Memorial Committee is pleased to be hosting the annual Bungendore ANZAC Day Commemorative Address and Dinner at 'The George' (Lake George Hotel) on Friday 01st May 2026.

The Dinner is open to all members of the community. There will be two guest speakers to provide entertainment during the evening. Door prize and Raffles to be conducted.

Date: Friday 01st May, 2026
 Venue: 'The George' @ Lake George Hotel, Gibraltar Street, Bungendore
 Time: 7:00pm pre-dinner drinks for a 7:30pm dinner
 Dress: After 5 (coat and tie) / Mess Dress (with miniatures)
 Cost: \$95 per head – includes 3 course dinner and first drink (full bar service then available)

Bookings via Trybooking for tickets, Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.trybooking.com/DJMEN>



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Community News

Council Meeting Summary - Wednesday 25 March 2026

QPRC

Here is the summary of the resolutions made at the Ordinary Council meeting of 25 March 2026. The archived recording of the meeting and the Public Forum are both available at: <https://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/archive.php>

- Council heard from 2 members of the public who made presentations about items on the agenda, including the Respite Care for QBN, and names for South Jerrabomberra Town Park, Speargrass Community Park (dog park) and South Jerrabomberra Community Centre
- Council heard a presentation from staff about the Queanbeyan General (Lawn) Cemetery Upgrade and Expansion
- Council will write to both Federal and State Government members to establish a professional and perpetual plan for the operation of the Respite Care for QBN Incorporated
- Council received submissions report on the updated draft Braidwood Structure Plan, accepted changes as recommended, endorsed the Braidwood Structure Plan and will forward to DPHI
- Council endorsed financial contributions for s355 Committees totalling \$25,000 - \$15,000 for minor projects, \$5,000 for Carwoola Hall Committee removal

of pony club tyre hazard, \$5,000 to Captains Flat Area Committee for painting of campground toilets

- Council approved a Cultural Grant of \$500 to First Nation's artist Kartika Medcraft-Smith for promotion expenses for the launch of her Wearable Art Collection
- Council endorsed the draft Community Grant Guidelines and proposed 2026-27 donation allocations totalling \$245,000 for public exhibition at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au>, noting the allocation for the Heritage grants program, category E, be \$35,000
- Council endorsed and formalised the names of South Jerrabomberra Town Park, Speargrass Community Park (dog park) and South Jerrabomberra Community Centre
- Council adopted the Annual Fire Safety Statement Policy, Compliance and Enforcement Policy, Fireworks (Pyrotechnic) Display Policy, Public Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy, and deferred the Roadside Vegetation Management Policy
- Council adopted the updated Playground Upgrade Priority Ratings and the four-year schedule for Playground capital renewals for consideration with the adoption of the 2026-27 draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program
- Council discontinued

consideration of a Mobile Food Van Hub for 58-62 Morisset Street, Queanbeyan and will receive a report back on appropriate landuse options that would meet planning approval for Council to use or dispose of the site

- Council endorsed the revised Terms of Reference for the Local Transport Forum
- Council received Investment Report for February 2026, noting return of \$1,213,668
- Council endorsed the proposed works and upgrades identified at the Queanbeyan General (Lawn) Cemetery in zones 2 and 3, endorsed preparation of technical and feasibility studies to permit expansion of other zones, endorsed starting stakeholder engagement on changes to zone 4
- Council received information report with the Quarterly Rates and Charges Outstanding Report
- Council received information report about mapping dwelling entitlements for existing holdings
- Council received information report about the 5-Year Review of the Bungendore Structure Plan 2048
- Council received information report about the NSW Government's planning reforms
- Council received information report with update on advocacy for wheelchair accessible taxi services



- Council received information report about the NSW Public Library Objectives and Standards
- Council received information report with answers to additional questions from councillors for the 25 February 2026 Council meeting
- Council noted the recommendations contained in the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 16 February 2026
- Council noted the minutes of the Local Transport Forum held on 3 March 2026
- Council received a report with answers to questions about a register of public roads
- Council received supplementary report with responses to questions from Councillors on business listed on the agenda
- In closed session, Council resolved to enter into a four-year contract with JJ Richards and Sons for the provision of bulky waste collection services, to acquire data on bulky waste with a waste audit to explore additional resource

recovery. Council will consider future service delivery models in a subsequent report allowing sufficient time before conclusion of proposed contract

- In closed session, Council rescinded resolution 1161/25 made at the 12 November 2025 meeting, authorised General Manager to negotiate final sale terms and sign contract for 19-21 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore for \$1,460,000 to Development Holdings Pty Ltd. At settlement, Council will transfer \$1,300,000 of sale proceeds to the DoE Compensation Internal Reserve for returning to NSW Government, allocate the remaining net proceeds to Internal Reserve named Bungendore Community Infrastructure Project

- In closed session, Council receives supplementary report with responses to questions from Councillors on confidential agenda items

If you'd like more information about these matters, you can find the business papers and minutes on our website at: <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Council-meetings>

A LITTLE SCRAP GOES A LONG WAY

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The food scraps you put into your green lid bin are professionally treated to make high quality compost which improves soil health, grows better food, and makes our land more drought and disease resilient!

Make sure you always put all of your food scraps in the green lid bin, your local farmers will thank you.

For more information visit [QPRC.NSW.GOV.AU](https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au)

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- Employment Law

Principal Lawyers:

Tanya Nadin

Lorraine White

Richard Baker

Please phone for an appointment

Queanbeyan
6299 3999

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6230 1999

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Programs to support affected Monaro Street businesses

Debbie Evans

Businesses along Monaro Street are open and ready to serve customers as usual.

This is the key message to the community amid the upheaval of the Monaro Street Refresh Project currently underway by contractors Dale and Hitchcock Civil Pty Ltd.

Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council Mayor, Kendrick Winchester, said it is particularly important for people to keep supporting local business through this period of disruption.

In an interview last Thursday, Mayor Kendrick, took the opportunity to clarify decision making around the closure of the street for six months as opposed to the previously advised 18 months staged redevelopment.

Monaro Street is classified as a State road, functioning as part of the Kings Highway and under the management of Transport for NSW.

Mayor Kendrick said the decision to fully close Monaro Street to through traffic, reducing the time from 18 months to 6 months for the refresh project was one taken late in the process, and agreed on by Transport for NSW and the contractors, Dale and Hitchcock.

"They took the view it was better to rip the band-aid off and shorten the timeframe, Council wasn't involved in the decision," he said.

With traffic volumes estimated at 18,000 - 25,000 daily the full closure to through traffic has allowed the contractors more freedom to get on with the work especially as they have come across unexpected ground conditions.

Understanding there has been significant disruption to "business as usual" along the street, Council is implementing a range of measures aimed at supporting businesses affected including directional signage on construction fences guiding pedestrians to individual businesses, and a special hospitality vouchers program targeted to support

the smaller hospitality-focused businesses along the construction zone only.

The hospitality voucher program will be in place from 14 April for 4 weeks.

In a statement provided to the Independent Council stated, "We are working with the radio station FM104.7, and the Hit Squad will be visiting Queanbeyan car parks adjacent to Monaro Street with the 'Monaro Street Lunch Reward' voucher giveaway.

"The vouchers are to the value of \$15 and redeemable at any of the 9 hospitality businesses along Monaro Street. 20 vouchers will be given away each week. Listeners are encouraged to tune in to 104.7 from 14 April for the days and which car park they'll be visiting," the statement concluded.

This program is in recognition of the more significant impact on hospitality businesses that rely heavily on foot traffic along the street. Other destination businesses, where clients generally make appointments, are reporting lesser impacts on turnover.

In addition, Council will consider a two-pronged recommendation at it's meeting tonight (Wednesday) to implement the "Monaro Street - Façade Improvement Program."

The recommendation asks Council to; "1. Endorse the development and implementation of the Monaro Street Façade Improvement Program. 2. Allocate funding of \$100,000 in the 2026/2027 Operational Plan for the Monaro Street Façade Improvement Program."

According to the report accompanying the recommendation, "The proposed Monaro Street Façade improvement program will complement existing improvements to the streetscape including the road surface, footpaths, street furniture and shopfronts with 'above the awning' improvements to support property owners to deliver projects to enhance the visual impact of the



Monaro Street Refresh and add value for businesses impacted by the project."

"The proposed Façade Improvement Program aims to support property owners with funding of up to \$10,000 per property, to undertake projects on their buildings that face Monaro Street, such as: external façade painting, awning works, fixed signage, external lighting, accessibility improvements.

"This program excludes: improvements to street-level window displays, as these have been supported in the Shopfront Improvement Project, projects/improvements that are temporary or relocatable, to ensure that the investment provides an enduring improvement to Monaro Street.

"The proposed maximum funding per property is \$10,000, with preference given to projects that include co-contributions from property owners. There are 39 buildings eligible for inclusion in this program, of which 9 are currently vacant at street level."

Participation in the program if passed by Council is to be restricted to the owners of

buildings facing Monaro Street, between Lowe Street and Collett Street, applications to the program will open on May 1 and close on May 29.

Works being undertaken as part of the Monaro Street Refresh are, stormwater - additional pits and mains to connect to existing trunk main, kerb and gutter - replacement of all kerb and gutter on both sides of the road, road pavement - replacement of all road pavement including parking bays, concrete road replaced with deep lift hot mix asphalt, footpaths - adjustment of heights and cross fall, replacement of pavers with decorative concrete, median - replacement of median garden beds, including plants and irrigation, power - adjustment of levels of existing pillars and conduits, Telstra - adjustment of pit lid heights to match new footpath levels, streetlights - no major change; adjustment of footings for two poles (Essential Energy taking the opportunity to replace three other poles), traffic signals - Transport for NSW taking the opportunity to change arrangement of Monaro Street / Crawford Street signals.

Mayor Kendrick confirmed on Thursday that General Manager, Rebecca Ryan, "said water and sewerage pipes are all good" and not part of the services to be replaced.

According to Council some of the unexpected ground conditions encountered by the contractors have included "The original fill material was of poor quality which had been masked by the concrete pavement but needs to be dealt with according to current standards. Additionally, an old conduit which was no longer in use was able to be removed, and stormwater infrastructure has been encountered at a higher level than expected. The full closure has also allowed the demolition of existing pavement and median to be completed in a more efficient and safe manner. The full road closure has meant that the contractors could move to a different area of the project site to continue work while making plans to deal with the different conditions," the statement concluded.

Above: Monaro Street Refresh - artist impression

2026 Exhibition of Quilts: this weekend at the Bicentennial Hall

Join us for the 2026 exhibition of quilts made by members of the Queanbeyan Quilters community!

Over our 40 years, Queanbeyan Quilters Inc. have presented an exhibition of quilts almost every 2nd year to showcase and share our love of patchwork and quilting. The exhibition is not judged by experts but by visitors to the exhibition who can vote for their favourites.

In addition to a beautiful range of quilts to enjoy, the weekend also offers demonstrations, a sales table, a Quilters market, refreshments and our much anticipated raffle with 3 prizes including 2 beautiful quilts and a \$300 Bunnings voucher.

Entry is \$5 with tickets available

at the door, children under 12 are free. Cash and EFTPOS available.

What: 2026 Exhibition of Quilts

Where: Queanbeyan Bicentennial Hall, Crawford Street Queanbeyan

When: Saturday 11th April 10:00AM-5:00PM and Sunday 12th April 10:00AM to 3:00P

Image: The 2024 Exhibition.
Photo Sharon Baxter-Judge



Community News

2026 Hoskinstown Chestnut Roast: Sunday May 10

This popular fundraiser for the Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall will be held on Sunday 10th May 10am - 2pm, Mothers Day

Come along for a fun day - roasted chestnuts, quality stalls, Devonshire teas, BBQ, chestnut soups, music and more...

All funds go towards maintaining the Hall

The Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall was built on land donated by the Hyles

family in 1928. It was built by the community for the community. Of course, the Hall has been modernised and brought up to the standards that we expect nowadays. It is available for local residents to hire at a very reasonable cost. The Hall Committee look after the Hall, the hiring, and fundraising events such as the Chestnut Roast and the Kids Christmas Party & Community BBQ. For the Hall to remain a valued community facility it needs

community input such as assistance with the Chestnut Roast.

All welcome so come along and enjoy a unique and friendly event that celebrates our community.

* A reminder that with the closure of Briar Shallows Crossing people coming to the event will need to drive via Bungendore (there will be signs up) instead of Captains Flat Road. This fabulous community event is well worth the drive!



Bungendore Seniors 55+

The Bungendore Seniors Association Incorporated welcomes anyone over the age of 55 to come along and join in.

Get Togethers

Our get togethers are weekly and we alternate between

Thursdays and Fridays, so mark your calendar and join us on a Thursday or a Friday or come along to both. Enjoy great conversation, a few laughs, some games and morning tea.

We meet at 10am at the Bungendore Sports Hub

amentities building. Cost is \$5.00 per person, which includes morning tea.

See right for dates.

Everyone over the age of 55 is welcome!

Seniors Chair Yoga (resumes Term 2 - Tues 21 April)

Chair Yoga: Tuesdays at the Bungendore Scout Hall - 2.30pm

Chair Yoga is held during school terms only. Cost: \$13 per session for members, \$18 for non-members. All welcome to attend



Boot Scooting

We are happy to announce that are trialling Boot Scooting for term 2. Our first lesson will be on Wednesday 22 April. Bookings are essential. See page 21 for more information.

Membership

Yearly membership is only \$10.00 per person. We welcome everyone over the age of 55.

2026 membership is now due.

THURSDAYS	
Thursday 16 April	
Thursday 30 April	
Thursday 14 May	
Thursday 28 May	
Thursday 11 June	
FRIDAYS	
Friday 10 April	
Friday 24 April	
Friday 8 May	
Friday 22 May	
Friday 5 June	

For more information contact Sharon on 0419 025 533 or email bungendoreseniors@gmail.com



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- Crown Lands
- Family and Community Services
- Justice of the Peace Services & Applications
- Birthday & Wedding Anniversary Messages
- Local Land Services

Feel free to contact my office if you need any assistance

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Community News

2026 Bungendore Harvest Festival: Friday April 15 to Sunday April 19

Celebrate the flavours of the region at Bungendore Harvest Festival.

Over one delicious weekend - 17 to 19 April - visitors and locals alike can explore where our produce comes from, meet passionate growers and makers, and experience the flavours of the region through tastings, farm visits, shared meals and hands-on experiences.

2026 has been declared the UN international year of the woman farmer, and the festival launch dinner will celebrate local women in food and farming. The evening will feature a family-style dinner featuring produce grown by local female farmers and cooked by Ruth Gaha Morris of Scrumpers' Kitchen. Over dinner, local food writer Lucy Ridge will be in

conversation with HerCanberra's Emma MacDonald, discussing Lucy's recently published book 'Fed Up - a chef's adventures in food, farming & feminism'.

Saturday will see the streets of Bungendore come alive with the popular Harvest Market. Stallholders from around the region will showcase seasonal produce, arts and crafts, spirits, wine, olive oil, and more. Live music, family activities, and plenty of delicious local food make it a great day out.

On Saturday afternoon, book into a craft and gin tasting event. In this guided session, participants will create a harvest-inspired etching and print, as well as taste their way through the gins of Everyday Legacy Distillery. A unique experience combining art, local produce and artisan spirits.

On Sunday the festival heads out into the region, with farm tours, workshops and a seasonal long lunch. An Autumn long lunch will take place on Sunday at Branch



& Burrow farm, just outside of Braidwood.

Southern Harvest General Manager Ruth Gaha Morris says: "Harvest Festival gives us the opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate the great local produce in our region. People are interested in knowing where their food comes from, and this is an opportunity to actually talk to the people who grew it and

create meaningful connections."

Bungendore Harvest Festival is supported by Bendigo Bank. Bungendore Harvest Festival will run from Friday 17 to Sunday 19 April, with different programmed activities on each day. Some events are ticketed.

To get involved in the festival, to find out more about the program and to purchase tickets to events visit www.southernharvest.org.au



Continued action critical to combat fraud as annual scam losses exceed \$2 billion

The National Anti-Scam Centre's latest Targeting Scams Report highlights the complex, adaptive, and "wicked" nature of scams, and the critical role of collaboration in disrupting criminal networks, as Australians reported more than \$2 billion in financial losses.

The report combines data from Scamwatch, ReportCyber, the Australian Financial Crimes Exchange (AFCX), IDCARE and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC).

In 2025, Australians made a combined total of 481,523 scam reports across these institutions. Of these, 274,577 reports involved financial losses totalling \$2.18 billion.

While reports have stabilised, losses have increased by 7.8 per cent, compared with 2024. Overall, Australia has seen a reduction in reported scam losses of 29.7 per cent since the peak of \$3.1 billion in 2022.

The top five scam types by loss were investment scams (\$837.7m), payment re-direction scams (\$166.8m), romance scams (\$139.9m), phishing scams (\$97.6m) and remote access scams (\$69.9m).

The financial losses from these five scam types accounted for 60 per cent of total losses in 2025.

"Scams are often described as a 'wicked problem' because they are complex, fast-evolving, and resistant to simple solutions. The Targeting Scams Report provides an overview of the scam landscape and highlights the collaboration and shared accountability needed to tackle the harm caused by scams both here in Australia and globally," ACCC Deputy Chair Catriona Lowe said.

Earlier this month, Australia joined other G7 countries to endorse a Call to Action to Combat Fraud at the United Nations and Interpol Global Fraud Summit. In addition,

more than 100 organisations endorsed a Public Private Partnership Framework to enhance global cooperation in the fight against scams.

"As Australia and indeed the world faces increasing sophistication in scam activity through Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the industrialisation of criminal syndicates through scam compounds, it is clear more needs to be done, quickly and at scale," Ms Lowe said.

"It's also important to note that the actions demonstrated in the report are made possible because Australians took the time to share their experiences. Without people speaking up, we simply wouldn't have the insights needed to track and disrupt scam activity. We encourage people to report suspicious activity so we can continue improving our understanding and response to scams."

Scamwatch trends

The National Anti-Scam Centre runs the Scamwatch reporting service. In 2025, the most reported scam to Scamwatch was phishing scams, with 65,361 reports.

Betting and sports investment scams saw an increase in both reports and losses. A scam type, sometimes referred to as 'scambling' accounts for the vast majority of this increase. Scamwatch received reports of \$2.4 million in losses to betting and sports investment scams; almost triple the amount lost in the previous year. There was also a 19.6 per cent increase in reports on betting and sports investment scams between 2024 and 2025. These losses were reported mostly among the 25-34 and 35-44 age groups. There was a 91.5 per cent increase in reports about betting scams from First Nations people and a 93.5 per cent increase in reports from people with disability.

Australians aged 65 and over, who according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics comprise approximately 17.1 per cent of the population, accounted for 26.5 per cent of total losses reported to Scamwatch.

Scammers were more likely to steal money and personal information through online contact methods, such as websites and social media platforms. In 2025, reports of online-based scams with a loss increased by 31.8 per cent, and financial losses increased by 21 per cent.

The largest decrease in reported scam contact methods was for text message scams, which was down from 77,365 in 2024 to 29,058 in 2025.

Scam disruptions

In 2025, the National Anti-Scam Centre:

- sent over 8,400 websites for assessment, resulting in the removal of over 7,500 scam URLs - an increase of at least 30 per cent compared to 2024
- referred over 7,000 suspected Facebook scam URLs to Meta for further investigation
- referred 844 Gmail addresses, 14 organic YouTube URLs and 2,098 advertisements to Google for further investigation
- referred 19 Telegram channels for further investigation
- referred 4,246 unique phone numbers and 921 unique sender IDs to telecommunications partners for disruption, over 4 times as many as in 2024.
- referred hundreds of high-risk scam call back numbers to Optus, expanding its call blocking disruption activity to include tech-support and payment impersonation scams
- referred intelligence to our third-party takedown service, as well as Google and Meta, for removal,

resulting in the removal of over 600 betting scam websites and over 600 social media profiles and forums

- referred 8,536 Scamwatch reporters to IDCARE for tailored and timely scam recovery support

"The Targeting Scams Report reinforces that scam prevention requires a coordinated, whole-of-ecosystem approach. The National Anti-Scam Centre continues to work with partners to detect threats, share intelligence, and disrupt scams, quicker and at scale," Ms Lowe said.

"We know losses remain high, but coordinated interventions are key to combating scams, and we will continue working together to strengthen efforts, including through the Scams Prevention Framework."

The National Anti-Scam Centre released its latest and third fusion cell report this month; focusing on romance scams and highlighting the value of coordinated action and intelligence sharing to strengthen disruption efforts.

Learn how to Stop. Check. Protect. to stay safe from scams:

STOP. Always take a moment before giving your money or personal information to anyone. Scammers will create a sense of urgency to pressure you into acting quickly. Don't rush to make decisions about money or sharing personal details.

What to do:

- Say no, hang up, or delete suspicious messages
- Take time to think before responding to unexpected requests
- Don't let anyone pressure you into immediate action
- Trust your instincts if something feels wrong

CHECK. Make sure the person or organisation you're dealing with is real. Scammers pretend to be from organisations you know and trust. Always verify who you're really dealing with before taking any action.

What to do:

- Contact the person or organisation directly using phone numbers or email addresses you find on their official website or app
- Research investment opportunities or offers through official sources like ASIC
- Get a second opinion from family, friends, or professionals

PROTECT. Act quickly if something feels wrong. The sooner you act, the better you can protect yourself and others from scammers.

What to do:

- Contact your bank immediately if you think you've lost money or shared financial details
- Contact IDCARE (www.idcare.org or call 1800 595 160) if you want support to recover - they can help you create a plan to the limit damage of scams
- Report to Scamwatch (www.scamwatch.gov.au) to help protect others
- Report to police (www.cyber.gov.au)
- Change passwords and security details if you think they've been compromised
- Monitor your bank statements and credit reports for unusual activity
- Report the scam to the impersonated organisation and platform where the scam is happening
- Being scammed can feel overwhelming. Support is available at Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636

Community News

Council Meeting Agenda - Wednesday 8 April 2026

Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 8 April 2026, commencing following the Public Forum, no later than 6.30pm. The Public Forum commences at 5.30pm. Presentations for items listed on the Agenda can be made in writing, via Zoom or in person. WB Freebody Chambers Nellie Hamilton Centre, 257 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan

A live stream of the meeting can be viewed at: <http://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/>

Reports To Council - Items for Determination

- 8.1 DA.2025.0545 - Construction of Multi-dwelling Housing Comprising Eight Building

Containing 68 Units, Earthworks, Landscaping and Associated Site Infrastructure - 60 Wellsvale Drive, Googong

- 8.2 Mongarlowe Area Community Association Request for Refund of Development Related Fees
- 8.3 Monaro Street - Facade Improvement Program
- 8.4 Araluen and Majors Creek Bin Compound Use
- 8.5 Community Feedback on South Tralee WIKA Exhibition
- 8.6 Queanbeyan Aquatics Centre Capital Works Project Change Request
- 8.7 Application for a Council Cultural Grant

• 8.8 Licence Agreement - Braidwood and Villages Tourism Inc. - 2026 to 2031

- 8.9 Women's Changerooms at Freebody Oval - Additional Funding
- 8.10 Place Naming Policy

Reports To Council - Items for Information

- 9.1 Further Deed of Variation of MOU - Googong Sports and Recreation Club, and Googong Township P/L
- 9.2 Resolution Action Sheet
- 9.3 Extreme Weather and Emergency Preparedness

Reports Of Committees

- 10.1 QPRC Sports Council

Minutes - 9 February 2026

- 10.2 Heritage Advisory Committee Minutes - 19 March 2026
- 10.3 Sustainability and Climate Change Committee Minutes - 26 March 2026

Reports To Council - Delegates Reports

- 12.1 Delegates Report - CRJO Board Meeting - 6 March 2026
- Councillor Questions
- 13.1 Councillor Questions - Memorandum of Understanding - QPRC, Homes NSW, TAFE NSW

Supplementary Report

- 13.2 Councillor's Questions on Agenda Items for 8 April 2026

Meeting

Reports For Closed Session

- 15.1 GM Performance Review Six-month Check-in

Item 15.1 is confidential in accordance with s10(A) (a) of the Local Government Act 1993 because it contains personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) and discussion of the matter in an open meeting would be, on balance, contrary to the public interest.

To read the business papers head to <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Business/Council-meetings>. The meeting can be viewed at A live stream of the meeting can be viewed at: <http://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/>

Paws around the Ponds 2026



Exercise with your best mate for 2 laps around the ponds and

consider a gold coin donation to Lions National Assistance Dogs

When: Sunday 19 April, 10.30 am start

Where: Bungendore Common - just up from the skate park. Off street parking on McMahon Drive and walk to the start

What to bring: Water, your furry friend, your best foot forward, and your appetite for refreshments

What to know:

- The course is 5km and you can just go at your own pace
- Keep your dog by your side, within reach at all times, on a short, handheld, non-extendable lead.
- Remember to keep a safe distance away from other dogs.
- There will be hydration stations for those on 2 or 4 legs
- Tea/coffee and refreshments for sale by Bean Corner
- This is a weather permitting event so if it's raining, it's not on!

Presentations: Hear from local Bungendorians about dog safety

Prizes: Be in it to win it!

- Most vocal dog
- Best dressed dog
- Best howl by a human

Get ready to lace up your sneakers, gather the family and your pooch and join in the fun on Sunday 19 April, See you there!

Special thanks to:

IGA, Mitre10, Bendigo Community Bank, Claddagh Lodge, Bliss Fur Dogs, Bungendore Veterinary



Surgery, and members of the Lions Club of Bungendore and Districts Inc.

Image courtesy of Lions Assistance Dogs

Here to help

As your federal Member of Parliament I can assist with a range of issues, including:

- Centrelink and Medicare
- Australian Taxation Office
- Child Support Agency
- Immigration and citizenship
- National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Customs, passports
- Pensions and My Aged Care
- Veterans' Affairs, including Certificates of Appreciation
- Letters of support for grant applications
- JP Service



KRISTY MCBAIN MP

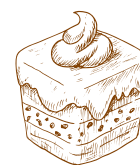
Member for Eden-Monaro



6284 2442

KristyMcBain.com.au

Authorised by Kristy McBain, ALP, 21-25 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan



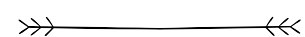
ROTARY CLUB OF BUNGENDORE PRESENTS

HIGH TEA

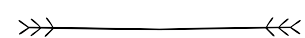
SATURDAY | 9 MAY 2026

11:00AM - 1:00PM OR 2:30PM - 4:30 PM

BUNGENDORE COMMUNITY CENTRE



a selection of homemade savoury and sweet treats, selection of teas available, one glass of sparkling included



FUNDS RAISED GOES TO CANCER RESEARCH

\$50 BOOKINGS REQUIRED USE QR CODE



Community News

Once It's Here, It's Here for Generations

Across Tarago, Lake Bathurst, Bungendore, Collector and the surrounding region, one message keeps coming through: people are worried about what Veolia's proposed long-term industrial waste incinerator means for our air, our water, our farms, our food and our future. And they're right to be.

In February, Veolia used its Woodlawn Advanced Energy Recovery Centre newsletter to downplay concerns about dioxins and other persistent organic pollutants (POPs) linked to Energy-from-Waste incinerators. They pointed to investigations near the Ivry-sur-Seine incinerator in France, noting that authorities hadn't definitively proven the facility caused elevated dioxins in backyard eggs.

But here's what they didn't emphasise.

French regional health authorities did confirm the presence of dioxins, furans and other POPs

in soils and backyard eggs across the region surrounding the incinerator. Public health warnings were issued. People were told to limit consumption of backyard eggs. That alone should give any rural community pause.

Dioxins are not ordinary pollutants. The World Health Organization classifies them as persistent, bioaccumulative compounds that build up in fatty tissue over time. The European Food Safety Authority sets extremely low tolerable intake levels because long-term exposure is a serious concern. These chemicals linger and accumulate. They move through soil, livestock and food chains.

And in complex environments, pinpointing a single source of contamination is scientifically difficult. But difficulty in proving a single cause does not mean a facility contributes nothing.

Modern waste incinerators may operate under stricter limits than

older facilities, but their emissions are not zero. Over 25-30 years of continuous operation, even small releases of persistent pollutants add up.

This matters profoundly for rural communities like ours. Soil quality, livestock health, local food production and land value are the backbone of our economy and our way of life. Once persistent pollutants enter a farming landscape, they stay for decades. And once they enter the food chain, they move quietly and invisibly.

In NSW, the Government has set emissions limits for energy-from-waste incinerators, requiring continuous monitoring of some pollutants and periodic testing for dioxins and furans. But meeting minimum standards on a spreadsheet is not the same as proving that a 24-hour-a-day, 365-day-a-year industrial incinerator operating for 30 years won't pollute the surrounding

environment for generations.

What happens when their modelling turns out to be wrong? Or the testing and reporting shows our environment has been polluted?

If these pollutants persist for decades, why should we accept a new source of them in a food-producing region?

Dioxins released from combustion attach to airborne particles, settle onto soil and vegetation, and are ingested by grazing animals. Because they bind strongly to fat, they accumulate in meat, milk and eggs. They degrade extremely slowly. This pathway is well-established in environmental toxicology.

This proposal must be judged not just on whether it can meet technical limits, but on whether it aligns with the precautionary principle, protects agricultural land and respects the long-term health of rural communities.

Because once persistent pollutants are here, they are here for generations.

If we want clean air, clean soil, safe food, healthy livestock and a landscape our children can rely on, we cannot sit back and hope someone else will act. Talk to your neighbours. Share accurate information. Attend local meetings. Write to your elected representatives. Make your voice impossible to ignore.

When governments make decisions like these, they take community silence as consent. Don't let silence speak for you.

Get involved and follow us the web and Facebook:

www.notaragoincinerator.com
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/491803828839813>

James Innes
President, Communities Against The Tarago Incinerator (CATTI) Inc

Queanbeyan Seniors 50+ activities

Mondays
Chair Yoga - 9.30am
Mat Yoga - 11.00am.
Contact Sue on <https://www.agewell.yoga>

Tuesdays
Zumba Gold 9.30am
Zumba Normal Impact 11.00am
Monday Yoga & Tuesday Zumba at AXIS Centre, 22 Campbell Street



(building next to Lions Bookshop in Queanbeyan Town Park).
NORMAL IMPACT ZUMBA & MAT YOGA OPEN TO EVERYONE (not just seniors)! Monday & Tuesday Classes during school terms.

THESE TWO ACTIVITIES WILL RESUME ON 20TH & 21ST APRIL RESPECTIVELY

Tuesdays & Thursday
Exercise Classes

Times - 9.30-10.30am (1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan)

Wednesdays - Tai Chi Qigong - 11.45-12.45pm Bookings essential - Please call or text 0407 902 989. 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan

Thursdays - Zumba GOLD - 11.00am to 12.00pm @ Veterans Hub - Upstairs 251 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan

Fridays - Mat Yoga - 9.30am Chair Yoga - 11.00am. Contact Louise... <https://sunlightyoga.com>.

au/no booking required (NOW AT AXIS CENTRE in the Park near the Lions Book Club.

BYO Mat for yoga if you have one, some will be supplied.

Cost for abovementioned activities \$10.00 per session for members & \$18.00 for non-members.

Mondays
500 - 1.00pm-3.00pm
Cost \$2.00

Craft & Chat - weekly on Mondays - 11.00am till 2.00pm. Cost \$2.00. Bring your own lunch and your own project or work on a project for the Seniors.

Wednesdays
Canasta - 10.00am-12.00 noon
Cost \$2.00

Euchre - 1.00pm - Cost \$3.00

Mahjong - 1.00pm-3.00pm
Cost \$2.00

Thursdays
Rummikins - 1.00pm



Cost \$2.00

Fridays
Carpet Bowls - 1.00pm
Cost \$2.00

Delicious afternoon tea follows these activities.

Monthly meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 12.30pm, Rear 1 Farrer Place. Next meeting is on 21 April 2026.

Riverside Plaza Stall - monthly
We will be in Riverside Plaza on Saturday 18 April 2026.

Membership for new members only \$20.00 per annum. New members very welcome.

For further information, please contact Brenda at 0407 201 392 or Kim at 0407 902 989.

Alternatively, you may email qbnseniors@gmail.com.

Visitors are welcome during activity hours at the rear of 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan Contact - Brenda (0407 201 392),

Photos supplied

Autumn Open Day at the Queanbeyan Community Garden: this Sat 11 April

Join us at the Queanbeyan Community Garden for our Autumn Open Day. After a warm and productive summer we are gathering produce and seeds from the garden and inviting you to share in the abundance.

Date: Saturday 11 April
Time: From 0930 - 1100 am

Location: Railway Park Organic Community Garden, Henderson Rd, Queanbeyan.

The Queanbeyan Sustainability Group (QSG) is a community not-for-profit organisation that manages the Queanbeyan Community Garden. We have 25 plots that members rent as well as common beds with fruit trees, herbs, veggies and berry canes that we share.

Whether you're an experienced

gardener or just curious about growing your own food, our Open Day is the perfect opportunity to get inspired and connect with the community. Bring your family and friends for a fun-filled morning in the garden.

Garden Tours: Discover the beauty and diversity of our garden plots. Maybe you might like to become a member of the Queanbeyan Sustainability Group (residents of the QPRC area are eligible for membership) or apply to rent a plot. We currently have vacant plots available!

Hear from an expert: Our guest speaker, Arian McVeigh from Canberra Seed Savers, will be joining us at 10.30am to talk to us about seed saving practices. Canberra Seed Savers is a

network of urban food growers and local farmers working cooperatively to protect our abundant, common heritage of open-pollinated food seeds. They swap and share seeds, learn and teach about seed growing and saving, and together build a resilient community seed sharing network - a 'living seed bank'.

Fresh Produce: We will have some produce and seedlings available (gold coin donations would be appreciated to fund our garden improvements).

Ask us a question: Learn about organic gardening, composting and healthy soil.

Refreshments: Enjoy a cuppa with gardening enthusiasts.

For your safety, please wear closed shoes when visiting the



garden.

Parking is available at the Henderson Road Railway Park. The garden has a scooter/wheelchair accessible track and toilet facilities are in the park.

We look forward to welcoming you at our Autumn Open Day!

Follow us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/QBNSustainabilityGroup/>

Find out more on the QSG website at <https://qbnsustainabilitygroup.wordpress.com/>

Photo supplied

Community News

Bungendore High School Buzz

Bungendore High School students from years 9, 10 and 11 Visual Arts recently enjoyed a day trip to Sydney, travelling by train to visit the Art Gallery of NSW. Throughout the

day, students worked with gallery educators to analyse Aboriginal artworks, deepening their understanding of Dreaming and connections to Country. Inspired by the artworks and their surroundings,



students created their own relief prints, exploring ideas and techniques introduced during the visit. They also viewed the ArtExpress exhibition, showcasing outstanding HSC Visual Arts works, and experienced the powerful Ron Mueck sculpture display.

Students demonstrated excellent engagement and proudly represented Bungendore High School

throughout the excursion. Meanwhile, Year 8 has been studying 'Water in the World' and learning about water distribution and sustainable water management practices. As part of this topic, Year 8 students conducted fieldwork at Turallo Creek. They created field sketches, undertook water testing, and completed soil and vegetation assessments.

We had the expertise of Environment Education Officers from Queanbeyan-Palerang Council who were once again able to join us and share their knowledge with our students.

It was a great morning and a wonderful opportunity to highlight the real-world applications of Geography and geographical knowledge.

Photos supplied

P Plater Defensive Driving Course - Full



Thanks for the support of our community for this very important course for our new drivers and to everyone who has registered for this course - yes we are full. We can now only take applications for WAITLISTING! Please contact us at drivertraining@rotaryclubofbungendore.org if you wish to be placed on the waitlist.

Special thanks to our sponsors who help make this course possible every year:

- Community Bank of Bungendore
- PHL Surveyors
- IGA Bungendore
- Royal Hotel
- Lake George Hotel
- Taylors Auto-Electrics
- Shoemark Real Estate

The Rotary Club of Bungendore looks forward to welcoming everyone to this course on 19 July 2026.



BUNGENDORE CRAFTERS CO-OPERATIVE

Craft Evenings
 Thursday 16th April
 Thursday 30th April
 55 Gibraltar Street
 6-8pm
 \$5+BYO craft project
 Contact Thalia: 0412 884 120

Queanbeyan Veteran and Family Hub

Here for veterans and their families, every day

What's on at the Hub

MON:	XBOX Gaming	- 3:00pm to 5:00pm
TUES:	Invictus Yoga	- 10:00am to 11:00am
	Veterans Guitar Group	- 10:00am to 12:00pm
WED:	RSL Sub Branch Catchup	- 9:00am to 11:00pm
	Fortnightly - Create & Caffeinate	- 10:00am to 12:00pm
	Heart-Muscle-Balance	- 12:00pm to 12:45pm
THURS:	Fortnightly - Open Arms Coffee Catchup	- 10:00am
	Zumba - Registration required	- 11:00am to 12:00pm
FRI:	Mind Body Balance Tai Chi	- 9:30am to 10:30am

Visit the Hub today
 251 Crawford St, Queanbeyan
 Open Monday to Friday
 9am to 5pm

In partnership with

Community News

Record Entries in the CWA of NSW Southern Tablelands Group Handicraft and Land Cookery Day

On Tuesday 24th March the Southern Tablelands Group of CWA of NSW held its Annual Handicraft and Land Cookery Competition. The event was held at the Goulburn Workers Club commencing at 10.00am. The Land Cookery section this year received 133 entries compared to 82 last year. Handicraft section also had an

increase in entries by 13. This is an amazing result. In the Handicraft section 12 Branches out of 14 entered and total number of entries was 161, an increase of 13 from last year. There were several trophies awarded and the winners were - 1st - The Archer Trophy to Crookwell Day Branch. 2nd The Alison O'Brien Trophy was a tie

between Bungendore and Yass Branches and 3rd - The Lilly's Trophy to Crookwell Evening. The Marulan Trophy for the Branch Challenge went to Taralga, with Queanbeyan Evening in 2nd place and Collector Branch in 3rd place. The Branch Challenge consisted of a handcrafted plate and four handcrafted pieces of food. Taralga's winning entry will now proceed to State in May. The McClung Trophy for the best article, a quilted and appliqued ladies' jacket, went to Janelle B. from Crookwell Day Branch and the Eileen Keith Trophy for the best crochet item went to Jean M. from Goulburn Branch. The highest scoring items will now go on to State competition to be held in Forster in May.

The Land Cookery Section received an incredible 133 entries which was a huge increase over the 82 received last year. These entries were mainly cakes in the different categories, but jams, chutneys and relishes were also entered. All First-Place awardees also now proceed to compete in the State competition in May in Forster.



Both judges, for the Handicraft and Land Cookery, were very forthcoming with their comments and praise on each item they were judging and provided tips and tricks to help entrants with next year's competition.

Well done everyone. Congratulations and Good Luck at State level in Forster. Maria Porreca President Southern Tablelands Group Photos supplied

New date for Queanbeyan Multicultural Festival

In consultation with Queanbeyan Multicultural Centre, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council are thrilled to announce a new date for this year's Queanbeyan Multicultural Festival after it was cancelled in March due to poor weather. The event will now take place on World Refugee Day Saturday 20 June 2026. 'Unfortunately, we had to postpone the event on Saturday 28 March, but I'm really looking forward to the festival and hopefully we get a beautiful June day for this family-friendly event,' Mayor Kenrick Winchester said.

'This vibrant celebration of diversity and cultural heritage is a cornerstone of our multicultural community, and we are excited to bring everyone together for a day of music, food, performances, and connection in Queanbeyan's award-winning park.' Executive Director, Multicultural Hub Canberra & Queanbeyan, Zakia Patel said that the Queanbeyan Multicultural Festival is a wonderful opportunity to showcase and share the rich and diverse communities that Queanbeyan is full of.

'We are proud to continue this wonderful partnership with Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council and looking forward to 20 June!' 'The festival will highlight the incredible vibrancy, food, culture and celebrations and we look forward to seeing everyone come along!' said Zakia. Council and the Queanbeyan Multicultural Centre will be in contact with stallholders and performers with further details and guidance on the next steps.



Bungendore Quilters: Dreaming Quilts for Canberra Hospital



Recently we had a informative talk by Joyce Graham who founded and is the Co-ordinator of the volunteer program Dreaming Quilts at Canberra Hospital. Dreaming Quilts organises and provides cultural comfort to First Nations people who are close to end of life. These patients are unable to return to country at this time and so quilts are made to give them some comfort. The Canberra Hospital Foundation currently funds the fabric and quilting and they have a long-arm quilter who undertakes this task for them. Through our member Sandra, Joyce was invited to talk to our group as many of our members were keen to become involved in making

these quilts for donation to the program. Joyce brought with her a number of quilt tops to show the types of patterns and fabric used. Most fabric is of Aboriginal design but some plains and batiks are used to enhance the feature fabrics. There are different patterns for men, women and children's quilts and fabric colour is often determined by whether the quilt is for an adult or child. Joyce brought with her packs of fabrics ready to be made into quilts and these were taken up enthusiastically. Photos supplied of Joyce and Sandra at the meeting and one of the quilts made for a man.



Community News

Stitching Kindness: Bungendore Crafters' Co-Op Sew Support for Breast Cancer Patients

A group of dedicated local crafters from Bungendore Crafters' Co-Operative came together over the weekend for a heartwarming sewing working bee in support of the charity, The Simple Gift of a Bag, creating handmade bags for post-operative breast cancer patients across Australia.

Volunteers worked side by side at cutting, pinning, ironing and sewing stations, each contributing their time, skills and kindness to the shared cause. The collaborative effort resulted in an

impressive 65 bags completed on the day, with more still in progress as enthusiasm continues beyond the event.

The bags, which are distributed to hospitals nationwide, provide comfort and practicality for patients recovering from surgery. Each one is unique, made from a wide variety of donated fabrics in bright colours and patterns and all sewn with the greatest care and love.

The group extended their gratitude to local community members who generously donated materials,

helping make the day both productive and joyful. Special thanks were also given to Phil's Op Shop Emporium for their contribution of fabric and sewing resources.

Beyond the meaningful impact, the day was filled with laughter and connection, highlighting the power of community spirit. Organisers are already looking ahead, with plans to host more charity working bees in support of other Australian organisations in need.

Photo supplied



Carwoola community launches HeartHelp to save lives in cardiac emergencies

A new community-led initiative is giving Carwoola residents the tools to respond faster in cardiac emergencies. HeartHelp installs lifesaving AEDs across the region and raises CPR skills and awareness about rapid response, showing what a motivated community can achieve.

The Carwoola community has officially launched HeartHelp, an initiative aimed at improving survival rates from sudden cardiac arrest. The project will install eight publicly accessible Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) at key locations and run awareness programs to ensure residents and visitors know how to act in an emergency.

In rural areas, where ambulance response times can be longer, early defibrillation can mean the difference between life and death. HeartHelp also integrates with the NSW Ambulance GoodSAM network, which alerts trained nearby responders in real time, strengthening the local emergency response chain.

This initiative was made possible by local volunteers, the generous support from Community Bank Bungendore, Bendigo Bank, with additional support from St John Ambulance, local businesses

(Trivia Fundraiser), and the Carwoola Community Association.

President of the Carwoola Community Association, Di Sanders, said "HeartHelp is a powerful example of our community taking action to save lives. By installing AEDs and building CPR skills and awareness, we are giving everyone the best chance to respond quickly in an emergency."

The official launch event will be held at the Carwoola Community Hall on 29 May 2026 at 6 pm bringing together community members, emergency responders, sponsors, and representatives from local, state, and federal government.

The event will include a welcome from the Mayor, a keynote address, acknowledgements of supporters, and a formal unveiling of the HeartHelp initiative.

Image: Shutterstock



KARABAR HIGH SCHOOL
presents
MAMMA MIA!
Music and Lyrics by BENNY ANDERSSON & BJÖRN ULVAEUS
And some songs with STIG ANDERSON
Book by CATHERINE JOHNSON
Originally Conceived by JUDY CRAYMER



30 April & 1 May 7:00pm @ The Q

Sponsorship opportunity 

Tickets 

These performances of MAMMA MIA! are licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia)

RSL LifeCare

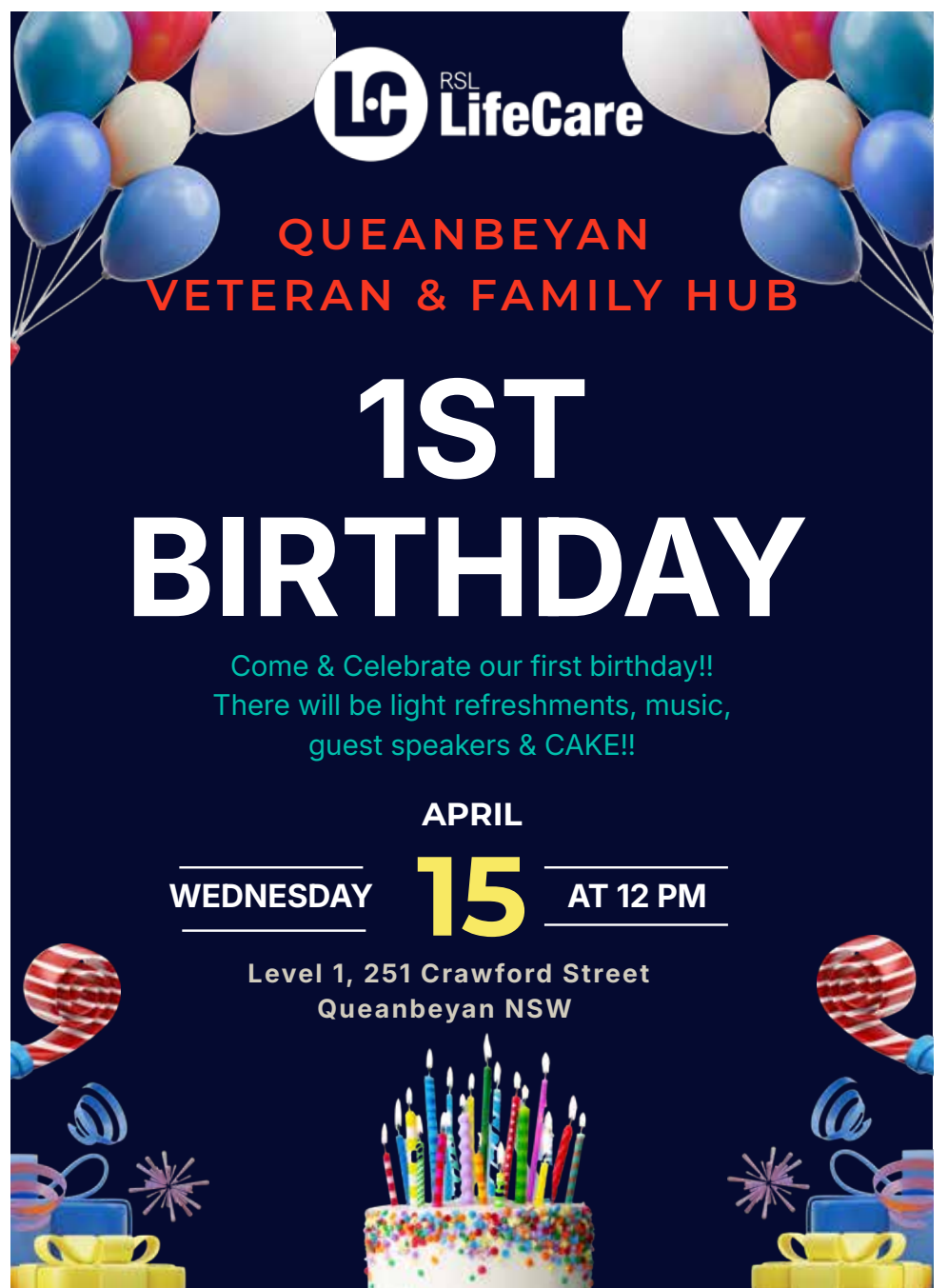
QUEANBEYAN VETERAN & FAMILY HUB

1ST BIRTHDAY

Come & Celebrate our first birthday!!
There will be light refreshments, music, guest speakers & CAKE!!

APRIL WEDNESDAY 15 AT 12 PM

Level 1, 251 Crawford Street
Queanbeyan NSW



Community News

Maria's Community Corner



Maria Porreca

Time seems to fly so very fast. Once again, I helped at the Queanbeyan Seniors stall in Riverside

Plaza on Saturday 21st March. They had so much on offer from handmade baby articles to book buddies to tea towels to aprons and a lot more in between. There was also an amazing array of homemade cakes, slices, biscuits, jams and relishes. Hope some of you purchased a ticket in their fabulous Easter Raffle which was drawn on 1st April.

Every year the Country Women's Association (CWA) has a Handicraft and Land Cookery Competition. Some categories in these competitions are open to the public. The First and Second place winners at Branch level then proceed to Southern Tablelands Group. The Group Handicraft and Land Cookery Competition was held on Tuesday 24th March at the Goulburn Workers Club. Sadly, Queanbeyan does not have a suitable facility to hold this event here. On the day 133 entries were received for Land



Cookery compared to 82 last year and Handicraft also increased their entries by 13 this year. The Handicraft Branch Challenge this year was a handcrafted plate of food, plate handcrafted also. This was won by the Taralga Branch and closely followed by Queanbeyan Evening Branch. All First-Place winners (and highest point scoring items) in the competition will now compete with the other NSW Branches at State Conference in May. Congratulations everyone and Good Luck at State level.

On Tuesday 31st we held our ST Group Council Meeting where we sang the Australian Anthem and recited the CWA Motto. For discussion on the agenda were such things as the upcoming State Conference in Forster in May, Branch Delegates and Observers to Conference and Motions to be discussed and voted on at Conference. We also discussed some fun things like the Twinning and Gala Dinners during Conference. All Branches within the Group (and that is 14

of them) presented their report on what great things their Branch is doing within their community. It is always so exciting to hear about their activities and interactions within their respective communities.

Preparations for Pramathon 2026 are well and truly on the way. This is an initiative by First Steps Pregnancy Support and supported by QPRC and Bendigo Bank Braidwood, Bungendore & Crookwell. The date for this event is Saturday 9th May and will be held in Queanbeyan Town Park from 9.30am. There will be a Mega raffle, food stalls, community organisation stalls, Cutest Baby competition, games and much much more. If you are a business and would like to offer your support to this worthy cause, please contact pramathon@fsps.org.au.

Hope you all had a happy and safe Easter.

Till next time take care everyone.

Photos supplied



The Social Dance Studio "Move It or Lose It."



Carolyn Mueller started teaching social dancing in Braidwood two years ago and has recently re-branded to become The Social Dance Studio. As well as social dancing, from May this year she will offer Zumba® for Seniors, and Callanetics® - a deep muscle exercise programme.

"Social dancing is easy", says Carolyn. "It's a great way to stay active and meet new friends. We have a lot of fun and there's a lot of laughter too."

The Social Dance Studio teaches a wide variety of Ballroom, Latin and Swing dances, as well as Wedding and Special Occasion dances.

"I wanted to offer something extra for my students, so I recently obtained my Callanetics® licence", says Carolyn. "Callanetics® has been around since the '80s and is enjoying a resurgence. The secret is in the Pulse - tiny, precise movements that tone and

strengthen from deep within the body. Callanetics® is suitable for almost everybody at any age. It's no impact and helps with core stability, balance and proprioception."

Carolyn says she became a licensed Zumba® instructor because she wanted to offer a solo dance-based class to the senior age group.

"Zumba® is such a fun way to move to fantastic Latin music and pick up some really cool solo dance moves. As a senior myself (although I don't feel it!), I am naturally focused on the senior age group. You've got to move it or lose it", she says.

Find out more information about social dancing, Callanetics® or Zumba® for Seniors, including class times and costs, at www.thesocialdancestudio.au or call Carolyn on 0438 223 247.

Photo supplied

Wildcare news

Wildcare Queanbeyan

Throughout March, Wildcare received a number of calls to our helpline as we usually would - but one theme stood out this month. "Entanglement - wire", the culprit, fishing line and lures, hooks and tackle.

For many, a day at the water's edge is a peaceful escape. But beneath the surface and along the embankment a threat lingers long after the anglers have gone home. Discarded fishing line is a near



permanent pollutant, taking up to 600 years to decompose.

As animals move about these thin lines can wrap around limbs, necks, or wings. Because the material doesn't stretch, it becomes a garrotte, cutting through skin, muscle, veins and bone. This leads to infections, loss of limbs, or a total inability to move leading to starvation - this is a slow, painful death for our endemic, unique wildlife.

Fishing line isn't the only offender, with fishers leaving by entire hooks that pierce through the animal's skin leading to serious pain and infection. One of the rescues this month was a Boobook Owl who was spotted overhanging Lake Jerrabomberra, about 10ft above the water. The hook and tackle was entangled and piercing through the owl's wing, there was no way for the Boobook to escape.

Chrissy is a climbing arborist and knows these rescues well. It was only with her expertise that the Boobook was able to be retrieved from the tree. "The owl had a fishing hook in its wing and was trailing about 2-3 metres of fishing line. The owl perched in a tree and the line it was dragging

around with it became tangled around the tree, dangerously trapping the owl. These kinds of entanglements break and dislocate wings and legs, and if not spotted by someone, they hang there until they die or are eaten alive by predatory species. It's an awful way to go." Chrissy said.

That same day, a call came through about a water dragon along the Queanbeyan River with a hook pierced through their snout. Affectionately named 'El Capitan', it took over three weeks of strategy, teamwork and patience to be able to locate and rescue El. Her rescuer, Diane, said that she woke up in the morning and thought 'today is the day'. After spending a few days simply being with Captain, she had earned the trust of the water dragon, and this day she knew she would be able to safely rescue her. After several hours spent on the rocks, on the grass, looking at the sky, looking at the water, Captain was finally settled and trusting enough for Diane to catch him and transport her to the vet for assessment.

Our wildlife already struggle to navigate the modern day environment, urban sprawl, roads



and wire fences to name a few - fishing line is one that fishers can easily avoid causing distress and even death for native animals. If your line gets snagged, please do all you can to retrieve as much of the line and tackle as possible from the environment. Someone's life depends on it.

Volunteer from the comfort of your home and make a difference!

Every day, people call our 24/7 Wildcare Helpline for urgent wildlife rescues and advice. Our Helpline volunteers guide them, send rescuers, and ensure animals get the care they need. By joining the Wildcare Helpline team, you'll be the calm, reassuring voice on the

other end of the line. Training and support is included, and flexible shifts are available.

You don't need to live in our service area to be a Helpline volunteer. Head to our website to join Wildcare and help give our native animals a fighting chance

Above: Injured Water Dragon - The elusive water dragon named 'El Capitan' took over three weeks to catch for rehabilitation.

Right: Injured Boobook - This Boobook owl was spotted 10ft up a tree overhanging Lake Jerrabomberra.

Photos supplied

Time to worm test

Lou Baskind District Vet Braidwood

Even though much of our region, and NSW, is drought affected, the recent rainfall has been enough to kick-start the lifecycle of the parasitic worms that affect all grazing livestock such as sheep, goats, cattle and camelids. Unfortunately, warm and moist conditions allow worm numbers to build up quickly, even after only a small break in the dry. Many of us welcomed rain in February and early March, but those falls were more than enough to set the worm cycle in motion again. Don't wait for stock to look unwell or for sudden, unexplained losses. A simple worm test can identify a problem early and help you stay ahead of trouble.

When to WormTest

At this time of year, you should WormTest 4-6 weeks after significant rain. Around 50 mm of rainfall provides optimal moisture for worm eggs and larvae, but even falls of 15 mm spread over

a few days can sustain the worm lifecycle, and back-to-back rainfall events a few days apart are ideal for keeping conditions moist enough for larvae to develop on pasture.

Worm egg count testing is especially useful for sheep, goats and South American camelids, and it also provides valuable information for young cattle.

Early detection lets you enact an integrated parasite management plan promptly with drenching, pasture management, and other tools like BioWorma before major production losses occur. Once an animal has been significantly depleted by worms, recovery can be slow—and, sadly, sometimes impossible if treatment is delayed. Barbers pole worm is especially dangerous after summer rainfall, so early testing is essential to prevent a sudden crisis.

How to collect samples

Collecting samples for a worm test is very simple, and you can follow one of two approaches depending

on your group of animals.

1. For uniform mobs, a group of similar age, breed and production stage take 10 random fresh dung samples to represent the whole group.

2. For small, mixed mobs where animals differ in age, sex or production stage, collect an individual, identified fresh sample from each animal. These samples can be collected by:

- gently retrieving a small amount from the rectum while wearing a disposable glove and restraining the animal in a race, or
- yarding the animals, watching for fresh dung and picking it up immediately

Kits, providers and sample submission

Worm test kits are available from your local Local Land Services office, can be purchased online from the NSW State Veterinary Laboratory, or at many rural retailers. Some rural retail stores can perform in-house counts. If you need to collect samples and



do not have a kit on hand, snack size ziplock bags are fine. Use one bag per sample, collect at least five pellets or the equivalent volume of dung, squeeze out the air and seal the bag.

Submission forms and postage details are available from your chosen provider. Both state and private laboratories offer worm egg count services, and we strongly

recommend using a Quality Assured WEC provider. You can find a list on the ParaBoss Find an Advisor website by selecting Show WEC providers. For the State Laboratory, search online for Submitting Samples NSW Diagnostic Laboratories or call their customer service team on 1800 675 623.

Photo supplied

Box elder: an emerging threat to our waterways

Alicia Kaylock, Senior NRM Advisor

Box elder (*Acer negundo*) is a fast-growing deciduous member of the maple family which was introduced to Australia as an ornamental shade tree. Because of its aggressive reproductive strategies, including prolific seed production, suckering, and the ability to coppice, it has become a highly invasive environmental weed across much of south-eastern Australia, particularly along waterways.

How to identify box elder

- small to medium multi-stemmed

tree, usually around 8 m tall but can get up to 20m.

- smooth grey to grey-brown bark that becomes fissured or flaky with age
- lime green leaves divided into 3-7 leaflets that turn yellow and drop off the plant in autumn.
- male and female flowers occur on separate trees
- female trees produce V-shaped winged seeds

Why is box elder a problem?

Box elder produces large amounts of wind and water-dispersed seed allowing it to spread rapidly,

especially in riparian areas. It thrives in moist environments and rapidly outcompetes native plants through fast growth, heavy leaf fall, and an extensive root system that limits the establishment of other species. Unlike some weeds which require bare soil and light to establish, box elder can get going amongst thick vegetation and in areas of heavy shade.

Healthy riparian ecosystems rely on native shrubs, reeds, rushes, sedges and trees to support food webs, filter water, hold the soil together, and provide shade. Once established box elder disrupts these systems by forming dense

stands that diminish understory diversity, reduce habitat quality, and expose waterways to increased erosion and declining water quality. Heavy leaf fall in autumn degrades water quality and reduces oxygen levels which can lead to algal blooms and cause the death of fish and other aquatic organisms.

Box elder thrives in moist environments and rapidly out-competes native plants through fast growth, heavy leaf fall, and an extensive root system that limits the establishment of other species. Its autumn leaf drop can also deplete oxygen levels in waterways, and the resulting decomposing material can create anoxic conditions that promote algal blooms.

Box elder spreads efficiently through large quantities of wind- and water-dispersed seed, allowing it to invade even shaded, densely vegetated areas. Once established, it forms thick stands that diminish understory diversity, degrade habitats for native fauna, and increase soil vulnerability during flooding. The substantial leaf fall further reduces water quality and can contribute to fish and other aquatic organism deaths.

Box elder produces large amounts of wind and water-dispersed seed allowing it to spread rapidly, especially in riparian areas. Unlike some weeds which require bare soil and light to establish, box elder can get going amongst thick vegetation and in areas of heavy shade.

It forms dense stands that shade out native understory species, reducing habitat quality for native fauna and leaving soils more vulnerable to erosion during floods.

Box elder drops large volumes of leaves in autumn which degrades water quality and reduce oxygen

levels potentially causing the death of fish and other aquatic organisms.

What can you do about it

Avoid planting box elder - prevention is always better than cure when it comes to weeds.

Prioritise the control of female trees especially near waterways. Stopping seeding events is essential to have any chance of getting on top of this weed.

Typically box elder will have a mass germination event in spring as the seeds that have been hanging on the parent plant over winter fall to the ground. Hand pull small seedlings in spring and summer to prevent establishment. When hand pulling it is important to remove the entire root system to prevent regeneration.

For seedlings that are too large to hand pull (over about 3cm in diameter), saplings and established trees, chemical control is essential to prevent regrowth. Plants that are cut down but not poisoned will reshoot. Suitable methods include cut-and-paint, scrape and paint, frill and paint and stem injection. As always when using herbicide, it is important to follow label instructions or use as per an approved permit. When working in riparian areas it is critical to ensure you are using an aquatic safe herbicide that is registered for use in waterways. Using the wrong herbicide in these areas can have a devastating impact on aquatic life.

If you would like more information on identifying and controlling box elder, please contact the Braidwood Local Land Services office. By controlling box elder on your property, you are playing a vital part in protecting the health of our waterways.

Photo of Box Elder supplied



Local Land Services hits the road: roadshow to support Queanbeyan-Palerang landholders

Louise MacDonald, Senior Biosecurity Officer

Landholders across the Queanbeyan-Palerang region will have the chance to meet face-to-face with Local Land Services staff through a multi-town roadshow delivering practical advice, biosecurity guidance, and access to subsidised grain through the 2025-2026 Feral Pig & Pest Program.

The drop-in sessions provide property owners direct access to their local Local Land Services veterinary and biosecurity teams. Staff will be available to discuss livestock health, pest management, seasonal conditions, and tailored strategies to improve on-farm resilience.

The roadshow has been designed to make support more accessible, particularly for landholders who may not always have the time to travel long distances for advice.

In addition to expert advice, grain will be available at each location for those eligible for the free supply under the Feral Pig & Pest Program. The initiative supports coordinated pest control efforts across the region, helping landholders manage feral pig populations and reduce the impact of pest species on agricultural production and the environment.

Upcoming Roadshow dates and times

- Majors Creek: Tuesday

14 April, 1 - 4 pm, Majors Creek Recreation Hall

- Bungendore: Thursday 23 April, 10 am - 1 pm, Bungendore Scout Hall
- Royalla: Tuesday 28 April, 3 pm - 6 pm, Royalla Common
- Nerriga: Friday 15 May, 3 pm - 6 pm, Nerriga Hall

Landholders are encouraged to drop in at any time during the session hours though registration is encouraged.



We're looking forward to meeting community members, answering questions, and supporting landholders to tackle the

challenges in the year ahead.

For more information, or to contact Local Land Services biosecurity officers or a

district veterinarian prior to the roadshow, phone 1300 795 299.

Photo supplied

Autumn weeds to watch

Bella Hart, Land Services Officer

Autumn can be a critical time for weed control as it can be the last chance before winter for chemical control to be effective for some weeds. The best ways to successfully control weeds when using chemical control methods are:

- Compliment your chemical control efforts with good management choices and physical removal weed control methods (as part of an integrated weed management plan).
- Choose the right chemical and apply it with the right tools at the correct rate.
- Correctly time your chemical application.

Unless you are using a pre-emergent herbicide in an agricultural cropping context, weeds are only susceptible to herbicides when they are actively growing. The target weed should have green leaves, look healthy and not be stressed or dormant (like tropical species in winter).

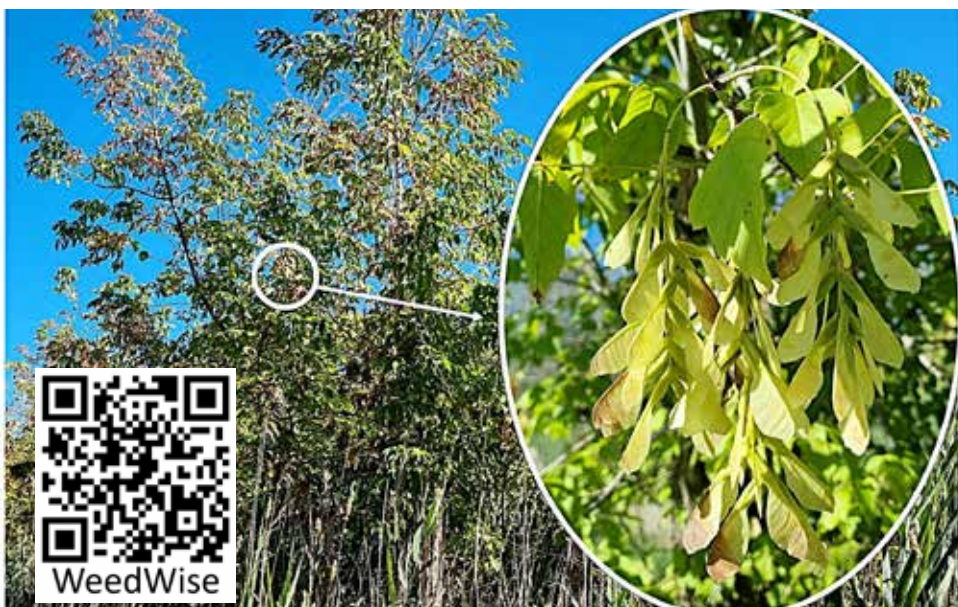
If weeds are sprayed when they are not actively growing, there will be a reduced uptake of chemical, and you will be wasting your money and your time. Even if leaves on a weed turn brown, if it was sprayed at the wrong time it may bounce back.

Our top weeds to watch in the Southern Tablelands area this autumn are:

- Cape broom (*Genista monspessulana*) - an evergreen shrub with long-lived seeds that forms thickets that harbour pest species like pigs and foxes. This is susceptible for chemical control in autumn or early winter before flowering.
- Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate) - a prickly scrambling shrub that forms impenetrable thickets. This is susceptible for herbicide control so long as it is still actively growing and not under moisture stress or insect attack.

- African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*) - an invasive, hardy, drought tolerant grass that grows quickly after rain during warm temperatures and will produce seed rapidly. This is susceptible for chemical control or seed suppression via intensive grazing while it is actively growing, which it is currently doing after recent weather events.
- Serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) - a temperate, drought tolerant grass that is a prolific seeder, can fully take over a new area within 4 years, and has many lookalike species. This has already set seed for the year but will be susceptible to chemical control during autumn.

For more information or help with weed identification or management, contact the Braidwood Local Land Services office on 1300 795 299, or visit the WeedWise website using the QR code. Photo of Cape Broom supplied



Do you farm sheep or goats, or just have a few "lawnmowers" or "fridge fillers"?

Kate Mitchell, Senior Biosecurity Officer - Sheep & Goat eID

The rules are changing in NSW and apply to ALL sheep and goats owned by producers, hobby farmers and pet owners.

Under the Biosecurity (NLIS) Regulation 2017 all sheep and goats born from the 1st January 2025 must have an individual electronic identifier (eID) tag when they leave their property of origin. The property must have a Property Identification Code (PIC), and a movement document must accompany the animals when they are moved or sold to a new property. This may be for the purpose of sale, slaughter or even on loan to the neighbour or local Ag Show. Even if it is just one sheep or goat, the tag information needs to be recorded and the movement must be uploaded to the NLIS database.

From the 1st January 2027 it will be mandatory for ALL sheep and goats, regardless of their age, to have an individual electronic tag (eID) when they leave their property of origin. An eID tag has an internal microchip and is printed with a unique serial number (NLIS ID) and the NLIS

logo. Tags can be ordered from your local rural store or online. While the rules are the same for sheep and goats, the tag is NOT the same. The serial number on the eID tag will define whether the species is a sheep or a goat, so make sure when you are ordering tags that they are specific to sheep or goats.

The key reason for introducing eID for sheep and goats is to improve traceability of individual animals in the event of an emergency disease outbreak or residue incident. Individual tracing using eID will be faster, improving the ability of authorities to respond quickly to disease outbreaks or food safety concerns. This will also reduce the number of animals and producers impacted (including animals destroyed). Enhancing traceability allows Australia to stay competitive in export markets and would reduce the amount of time export markets are affected following an outbreak or incident.

Added benefits of eID for producers include the ability to collect individual animal data in relation to health, fertility, genetics, weight gain and wool and meat traits. This information can

help producers make more informed management decisions to increase on-farm productivity and profitability. The scale of your operation and the data you want to collect will determine the eID equipment you will require.

The NSW Government currently has an eID Equipment Rebate Program where eligible producers and agents can get 50% of the cost back, up to \$1,500 when they buy a handheld eID reader.

There are two exceptions to the rules

If a sheep or goat never leaves the property of origin, it does not need an eID tag.

If a wild goat meets the definitions of a Harvested Rangeland Goat (HRG) a tag-free pathway may be used with HRG LPA accreditation, if it is transported directly from the capture property to an abattoir or registered goat depot.

For further information scan the QR Code or contact Local Land Services 1300 795 299 or Integrity Systems 1800 683 111.



Sheep and goat electronic identification

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Bin baskets introduced

We have installed 50 Return and Earn bin baskets on public bins to improve public place recycling and keep eligible bottles and cans out of the litter stream and landfill.

The bin baskets are attached to bins in high-traffic areas and allow people to leave their drink containers for someone else to collect.

Residents or community groups can then easily collect the containers from the bin baskets to recycle at a Return and Earn location for the 10c refund.



Local Heritage Awards nominations open

Celebrate 10 years of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Local Heritage Awards by nominating a heritage property or historical research!

There are three award categories:

- Best maintained heritage property
- Best restoration/development or reuse of a heritage property
- Historical research, publication or promotion of local heritage
- ▶ Nominate yourself or someone you know by 12 April 2026 at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/heritage

Review of Environmental Factors Braidwood Landfill remediation

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the capping and closure of the former Braidwood Landfill has been prepared and is open for public comment.

The report presents the assessment of potential impacts that may result from the proposed capping and closure of the former unlicensed landfill located at 372 Bombay Road, Braidwood.

Submissions are open Thursday 16 April 2026.

- ▶ Find out more and have your say at bit.ly/REF-BWD-landfill-remediation

Work with Council

Current vacancies include:

- Procurement Officer
- Ranger
- Senior Ranger
- Urban Roads Inspector
- ▶ For more information and roles see bit.ly/QPRC-Careers

Council Meetings and Times

Council holds Ordinary Meetings twice a month on a Wednesday, excluding December and January. Meetings start at 5.30pm. Agendas and business papers for the meetings are available on the Friday prior to the meeting from bit.ly/MinutesAgendas. Meetings are live streamed via bit.ly/QPRCwebcast.

Members of the public can watch the meetings via bit.ly/QPRCwebcast and make a presentation during the public forum via Zoom, by submitting a written presentation, or in person.

Members of the public can make a:

- Written presentation - submit by midday on Tuesday
- Zoom presentation - register by midday on Wednesday
- ▶ Register to make a presentation at bit.ly/QPRCinvolved

Next meeting dates are:

- 8 April 2026 (Queanbeyan)
- 22 April 2026 (Queanbeyan)

Written Questions on Notice

Questions on notice from the community must be submitted in writing or via email to public.forum@qprc.nsw.gov.au by 12pm on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. All questions and responses will be tabled at each Public Forum, provided to the person who asked the questions and published on our website.

Horse Warning Signs

In NSW, horse riders are legally allowed to use public roads and share them with other road users. Drivers are encouraged to slow down and take extra care, especially on narrow roads, near bends and crests, and where horse warning signs are present.

Council is seeking community feedback on commonly used horse riding routes and road crossings to help improve horse warning signage across the region.

Visit yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/horse-warning-signage to provide feedback online or email us directly council@qprc.nsw.gov.au by Monday 20 April 2026.

Community Meetings

We are holding a series of meetings with the community as part of preparing Council's 2026-27 budget documents.

The meetings that we usually hold in May have been moved forward so we can consider the community's feedback earlier and reflect local priorities in the draft budget. Come along and provide your input.

Meetings are scheduled:

- Thursday 9 April, 6-8pm – Norah Starrs Bungendore Community Centre
- Tuesday 14 April, 6-8pm – Nellie Hamilton Centre, Queanbeyan
- Thursday 16 April, 6-8pm – Braidwood Servicemens Club
- Saturday 18 April, 10am-12pm – Nerriga Hall
- Tuesday 21 April, 7:30-8:30pm – Wamboin Community Hall

Advertising of Notices and Documents under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Regulations

Notices and documents required to be advertised under NSW planning legislation can be viewed at bit.ly/DPnotices

Follow us on social media

- @QbnPalrangRC
- @QbnPalrang
- @QbnPalrang

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620
1300 735 025
council@qprc.nsw.gov.au

www.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Sign up for our weekly eNewsletter

eepurl.com/codv-v

Puzzles

BRAIN TRAINING

Welcome to a puzzle fitness workout aimed at improving your brain power. Boost your mental agility with a session every day in the Mental Gym. Record the time you take to complete each puzzle and you can keep track of your ever increasing mental strength.

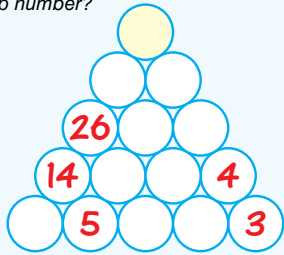
Step Riddle

My first is in OPAL but is not found in JADE,
My second's never in HELPER but is found in AIDE.
My third's not in SMILE but is found in GRIN,
My fourth's found in NOSE but never in CHIN.
My fifth's not in PUNGENT but is found in SHARP,
My sixth's in MANDOLINE but isn't found in HARP.
My last is in BARTER and also in TRADE,
My whole is a colourful parade!

TIME

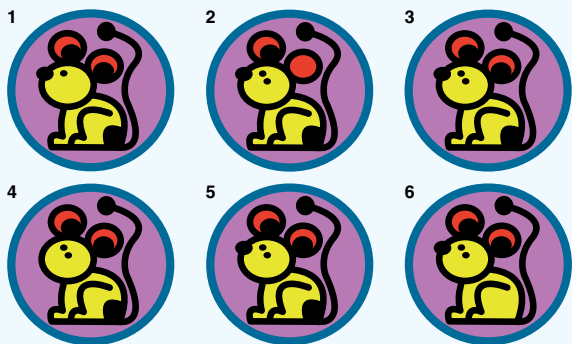
Add Up

If the number in each circle is the sum of the two below it, what is the top number?



Picture Pair

How quickly can you spot the identical pictures?



TIME

Quick Time Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8						
9					10	11
			12			
13	14					
			15		16	17
18		19				
20					21	22
			23			
24					25	

- Across
- 1 Put away (4)
 - 5 Receptacles for flowers (5)
 - 8 Former Spanish monetary unit (6)
 - 9 Speed contest (4)
 - 10 Deed (3)
 - 12 City in Texas (6)
 - 13 Goal (6)
 - 15 One's right wits (6)
 - 18 Zodiac sign (6)
 - 20 Cereal grass (3)
 - 21 Painter (4)
 - 23 Jewelled head-ornaments (6)
 - 24 Tears (5)
 - 25 Tidings (4)
- Down
- 1 Small fish (5)
 - 2 Beverage (3)
 - 3 Academy Award (5)
 - 4 Tiny (3)
 - 5 Causes to be empty (7)
 - 6 Close up (4)
 - 7 Uses a chair (4)
 - 11 Sleeveless garment (4)
 - 12 Barren places (7)
 - 14 Continent (4)
 - 16 Fixed gaze (5)
 - 17 Citizens of Switzerland (5)
 - 18 Cause to flow (4)
 - 19 Stupefy (4)
 - 21 Japanese sports grade (3)
 - 22 Jurisprudence (3)

Sudoku

Sudoku, it's a game of deduction rather than maths. Fill each row, column and 3x3 square with the numbers 1 - 9, without repeating. Each number can only appear once in each row, column, and frame.

5	9	8	3					
4							5	
				1				
6				8	1			5
		9						
	3	2	6					7
9					3			
				6	9	1	7	
				7		6	4	

Crossword

1		2		3		4	5		6		7		8		9		10
					11												
12							13			14							
						15			16								
17											18						
					19		20		21		22						
23		24							25							26	
					27												
28					29						30						
																	31
	32			33			34							35			
36														37			
38							39					40					
						41			42			43					
44		45										46				47	
						48		49	50								
51									52								
53							54							55			

Target Time

Target: Average - 12, Good - 16, Excellent - 22+
Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you make? The centre letter must be included and be used only once. Find at least one nine letter word.

D	N	T
D	U	I
N	E	A

- Across
- 1 Creative person
 - 4 Fearful
 - 8 Without milk
 - 12 Fairly correct
 - 14 Revise completely
 - 15 Elevated
 - 17 White wine
 - 18 High on drugs (coll)
 - 19 Grand
 - 23 Thin plate
 - 25 German composer
 - 28 Situation
 - 29 Hebrew prophet
 - 30 Ski chalets
 - 32 Wicked
 - 34 Marriages
 - 35 Dossier
 - 38 Scientist
 - 40 Lengthen, make _____
 - 41 The sun (poetic)
 - 44 Apart from
 - 46 Guest
 - 48 Lists of options
 - 51 South Pacific region
 - 52 Stubborn
 - 53 Moth-eaten
 - 54 Milliner
 - 55 Pedalled
 - 16 Yarn
 - 20 Double meaning
 - 21 Buoyant
 - 22 Hollering
 - 24 Puzzle
 - 26 Changing direction
 - 27 Ambushed
 - 31 Welcomed
 - 33 Facetiousness
 - 36 Chose not to participate (5,3)
 - 37 Ability to pay all debts
 - 39 Deliver
 - 42 Broth
 - 43 Inflexible
 - 45 Wedge
 - 47 Aggregate
 - 48 Soft, pulpy mass
 - 49 Nothing (Scot)
 - 50 Bigness
- Down
- 1 Bedside waker (5,5)
 - 2 Light snacks
 - 3 Going off
 - 5 A hot ember
 - 6 Gold-bearing vein
 - 7 Fish, John _____
 - 8 Charmed
 - 9 Of birds
 - 10 Working (dough)
 - 11 Cubes
 - 13 Honk

Community News

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Last of the spring colour

Boot Scooting Bungendore

Bungendore Seniors Association

Looking for something a little different? Boot Scootin' is a fun, easy way to get moving while enjoying great company. With simple steps and a relaxed, no-pressure atmosphere, it's perfect for beginners and those just keen to give it a go. It's not about getting it right – it's about having a laugh, staying active and meeting others. Along the way you'll build balance, coordination and confidence, all while enjoying the music. Come along, bring a friend and join in the fun!

We are trialling Boot Scooting for one school term. The wonderful Shikarlea from Bom Funk Dance Studio will be running the classes. We begin in Term 2 - Wednesday 22nd April 2026 to Wednesday 1st July 2026.

Wednesday's 10am to 11am

Bungendore Sports Hub Amenities Building

What to bring: a water bottle & sense of fun

What to wear: BOOTS! Please note: flooring at the Sports Hub is carpet tiles, so make sure you have your boots on.

Boot Scooting is not just for seniors, all adults are welcome.

Bookings are essential - NO walk ins will be accepted.

Scan the QR code or book at <https://www.trybooking.com/DLDMI>

Or search Try Booking - Boot Scooting Bungendore

Cost \$15 per person / per lesson for



members. \$20 per person per lesson for non-members (+ a \$0.50 booking fee)

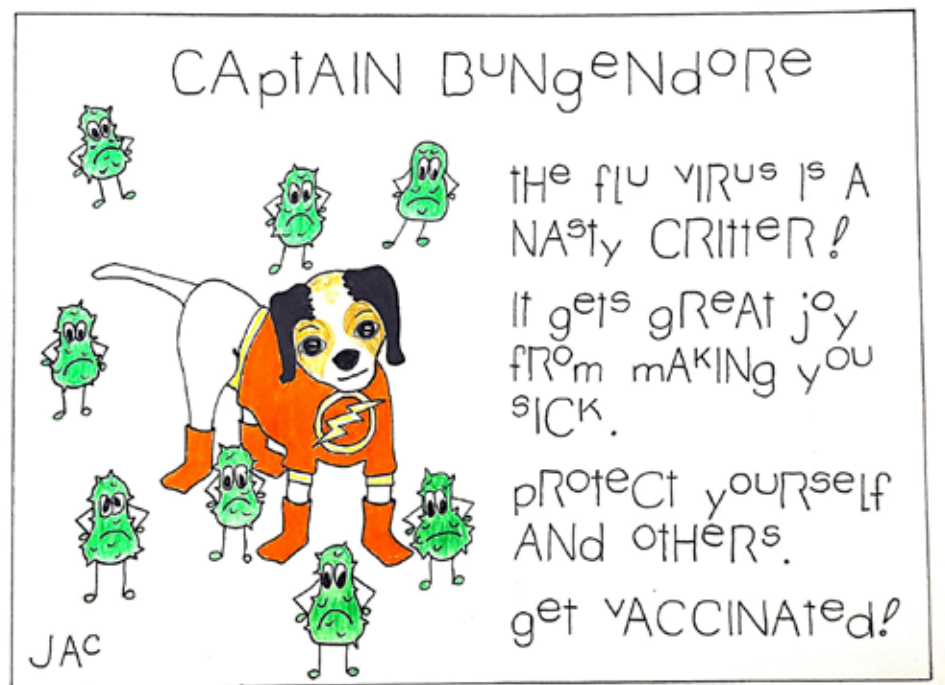
Not a member? Annual membership is just \$10. Under 55's who wish to do Boot Scooting can become a Community Member. For more info on how to become a member please email bungendoreseniors@gmail.com for more information.

Don't forget your water bottle!

PET OF THE WEEK



Name: Vera	bouncy balls and playing with towels	skates and being picked up
Age: 11 years	Dislikes: Scooters, roller	Claim to fame: Stealing all the attention!
Likes: Boxes, chasing		



Bungendore Food Hub

A HELP UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTED BY OUR COMMUNITY

FOOD, TOILETRIES, WARM CLOTHING, ADDITIONAL SUPPORT, COMMUNITY RESOURCES ARE ALL AVAILABLE HERE!

OPEN WEDNESDAYS 10AM-12PM

LOCATED IN THE OLD GP SHOP BEHIND BUNGENDORE ANGLICAN CHURCH, DIBBALTAR STREET BUNGENDORE

CONTACT 6228 1261 OR 0422606088

Do you have a Photo of the Week? Or, if you would like to see your beloved pet featured as Pet of the Week, please email your photos to info@regionalindependent.com.au

The Regional Independent - letters to the editor need to be no more than 230 words. Please email your letters complete with your full name, address and phone number to info@regionalindependent.com.au Only your name and suburb will be printed.

LIONS COMMUNITY BOOK SHOP

A non-for-profit group with all funds donated to local charitable organisations

LOCATED IN THE QUEANBEYAN PARK

OPEN: Tuesday to Saturday 10am-4pm

SECONDHAND BOOKS, MAGAZINES, GAMES, JIGSAWS, CRAFT

For more information: Phone 0461 365 831 Email: queanbeyan.nsw@lions.org.au Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lionsofqueanbeyan/>

Public Notices

Y Base Bungendore: volunteers needed

The Y Base Bungendore will operate as a community-led youth hub, providing a safe and welcoming space where young people can gather after school, participate in activities, and contribute to shaping the program themselves.

The program will operate weekly from the Norah Stars Community Centre and will provide opportunities for young people to:

- connect with peers
- participate in recreational and creative activities
- build confidence and leadership skills
- contribute ideas and help shape the program

Unlike traditional structured programs, the Base model is intentionally flexible and youth-led. Participants will co-create

activities and contribute to the culture of the space, ensuring it reflects the interests and needs of local young people.

Activities may include sport, games, creative workshops, mentoring opportunities and community projects.

The goal is to create a welcoming environment that strengthens young people's connection to their community while providing a positive space to spend time after school.

We are looking for community members with skills or passions who might be keen to come by and help run an activity or volunteer for the program.

For those keen to volunteer email Patrick.knight@ymca.org.au for more info, links for participants to sign up.

Bungendore Basketball - Join the Fun!

Looking for a fun, active way to build skills and confidence? Come join Bungendore Basketball for an exciting season! No experience or skill required—just bring your enthusiasm.

Our program focuses on fitness, fun, and basic basketball skills in a supportive environment.

When: Terms 2 & 3

Tuesdays

• 3:30pm - 4:15pm | Years K-1 | \$70

• 4:15pm - 5:00pm | Years 2-4 | \$70

(Experienced Year 4 players may also join older group on Wednesdays)

Wednesdays

• 4:00pm - 5:00pm | Years 4-6 | \$70

• 5:00pm - 6:00pm | Teens & Adults | Cost TBC

Got questions?

Contact:

RJ - 0409 446 018

Keith - 0419 693 484

Kirsten - 0401 230 714

Come along, make new friends, and enjoy the game!

Mayor's Column

Dale and Hitchcock have been making great progress on the Monaro Street Refresh. The project has now moved from demolition to construction, with the foundations of Monaro Street being improved for future work. I am also looking forward to Shop & Win returning from 20 April. Shop & Win helps support our local businesses and gives you a chance to win vouchers from our prize pool of \$8000. Shop & Win is easy to enter, and you will simply need to spend \$20 or more at participating businesses to receive a ticket. Find out more about Monaro Street at qprc.nsw.gov.au/Monaro-Street



In consultation with the Queanbeyan Multicultural Centre, I am thrilled to announce a new date for this year's Queanbeyan Multicultural Festival, after it was cancelled in March due to poor weather. The event will now take place on World Refugee Day Saturday 20 June 2026. Let's make this year's event a truly memorable occasion and I can't wait to celebrate with you on 20 June!

The Queanbeyan Heritage Festival launches 9 April. The theme for this year is 'Change' - how has history changed us and how we are changing history. The festival provides an opportunity for the community to enjoy events and exhibitions, gather and tell stories, walks and tours, and bring heritage to life in a fun and meaningful way. For the full list of events, visit qprc.nsw.gov.au/Events/Heritage-Festival

We are holding a series of community meetings as part of preparing Council's 2026-27 budget documents. The meetings that we usually would hold in May have been moved forward so that we can consider your feedback earlier. Meetings are scheduled Thursday 9 April, 6-8pm at Norah Starrs Bungendore Community Centre, Tuesday 14 April, 6-8pm at the Nellie Hamilton Centre in Queanbeyan, Thursday 16 April, 6-8pm at the Braidwood Servicemens Club, Saturday 18 April, 10am-12pm at Nerriga Hall, and Tuesday 21 April, 7:30-8:30pm at Wamboin Community Hall. We'd really appreciate you coming along and providing your input.

Voting for the Queanbeyan-Palerang Business Awards continues. The People's Choice Award gives the community a chance to recognise and celebrate the best customer service at the business they love across Queanbeyan-Palerang. Voting in Area 2 is open until 12 April and is for businesses in Bungendore, Wamboin, Bywong, Hoskinstown, Captains Flat, and Carwoola. You can cast your vote at queanbeyanpalerang.com.au/industry/queanbeyan-palerang-business-awards Cr Kenrick Winchester, Mayor

Can you benefit from Brain Training?

Bungendore Dementia Alliance

Brain training sessions to boost memory and cognitive function are being held at the Bungendore Library on the fourth Wednesday of the month for the next four months. The next one will be on Wednesday 22nd of April from 10.00 to 11.00.

Members of the Bungendore Dementia Alliance have been attending these sessions. They have found them challenging and very stimulating and have enjoyed the opportunity to connect with others in a friendly and supportive environment.

Studies indicate that certain forms of brain training may enhance cognitive abilities, such as memory and recall, reasoning, and concentration.

These benefits are not achieved by common activities such as puzzles, crosswords and commercial apps. While these may improve the aptitude to perform specific tasks, they do not improve thinking in general nor enhance a person's ability to process complex information.

A study undertaken by the British Alzheimer's Society reported that

participants in their brain training research had improved reasoning and memory of words and that "they could get on with their daily activities better... including managing money, meals, shopping and navigating public transport".

It is thought that regular brain training strengthens neural networks thus building up a cognitive reserve that keeps the brain healthy when it experiences illness or the normal effects of ageing.

Although such studies show brain training improves cognitive function in older adults, its effectiveness in delaying or preventing dementia remains uncertain. Research shows that the best way to reduce the risk of developing dementia is to maintain a healthy lifestyle, particularly between the ages of 40 to 65 years.

To participate in the free brain training sessions at the Bungendore Library phone 6285 6255 or visit the QPRC library website at library.qprc.nsw.gov.au

If you would like to know more about the activities of the Bungendore Dementia or the Dementia Morning Teas that it holds on the third Monday of the Month phone Kathleen on 0411 746 293.

Bungendore Bridge Club

Bungendore School of Arts, Gibraltar Street, Bungendore
Wednesdays: 7.00-10.00pm
Saturdays: 10.00am-1.00pm



Contact: Angela McGill, President
0408 409 989 or Bobbie Gosper, Secretary on 0408 788 213

Bungendore CWA

Bulb Fundraiser

Our annual Bulb fundraiser is back! Get those gardens ready for bountiful spring blooms and help our branch at the same time. head to the below to order.



<https://www.bulbfundraiser.com.au/bungendorecwa/cutoff.html>

<https://www.bungendorecwa.org/>

Queanbeyan Community Choir

Everyone is welcome to come along and join this friendly group who sing a variety of songs. No experience required.



Where: Queanbeyan Leagues Club Upstairs Meeting Room (Membership of QLC not required) 2:30-4:pm Saturdays

\$5:00 weekly attendance and \$5:00 yearly membership

Afternoon tea supplied. New members welcomed. For further enquiries emailayrows@bigpond.com

Dementia Morning Teas in Bungendore

Monday April 20, from 10am to 12.00



The Dementia Morning Teas are held at the Bungendore School of Arts, 57 Gibraltar St Bungendore from 10.00 to 12.00. Those with dementia and their carer are invited to come along for a friendly cuppa and chat on the 3rd Monday of the month. The first Dementia Morning Tea will be on Monday the 17th of February from 10.00 to 12.00.

For more information on the Dementia Morning Teas or the Bungendore Dementia Alliance phone Kathleen on 0411 746 293.

Target Time

Target: Average - 12, Good - 16, Excellent - 22+
adieu, audient, audit, audited, aunt, auntie, datu, daunt, daunted, duad, duenna, duet, dune, dunitie, dunned, ennui, etui, indued, inundate, INUNDATED, nude, tuan, tuna, tune, tuned, unaided, undead, undid, undine, unit, unite, united, untie, untied.

Brain Training

RIDDLE: The word is: PAGEANT

ADD UP: 78

PICTURE PAIR: Pictures 3 and 5

Sudoku

5	9	8	3	7	6	4	1	2
4	1	3	2	9	8	7	5	6
7	2	6	4	1	5	3	8	9
6	7	4	9	8	1	2	3	5
8	5	9	7	3	2	6	4	1
1	3	2	6	5	4	8	9	7
9	6	7	1	4	3	5	2	8
2	4	5	8	6	9	1	7	3
3	8	1	5	2	7	9	6	4

Puzzle Solutions

Quick Time Crossword

S	T	O	W	V	A	S	E	S	
P	E	S	E	T	A	E	I		
R	A	C	E	C	A	C	T		
A	A	D	A	L	L	A	S		
T	A	R	G	E	T	P			
S				S	E	N	S	E	S
P	I	S	C	E	S	T	W		
O	A	T	R		D	A	L	I	
U		U		T	I	A	R	A	S
R	E	N	D	S		N	E	W	S

Crossword

A	R	T	I	S	T	S	C	A	R	E	D	B	L	A	C	K	
L	A	P	D	O	E	O	E	V	L	V	E						
A	P	P	R	O	X	I	M	A	T	E	R	E	W	R	I	T	E
R	A	I	C	L	O	F	T	Y	I	A	A						
M	O	S	E	L	L	E	O	A	S	T	O	N	E	D			
C				I	S	T	A	T	E	L	E	C					
L	A	M	I	N	A	M	B	E	E	T	H	O	V	E	N		
O	Y	G	W	B	U	L	L	E	E	G							
C	A	S	E	D	A	N	I	E	L	L	O	D	G	E	S		
K	T			Y	G	L	I										
S	I	N	F	U	L	U	N	I	O	N	S	F	I	L	E		
O	F	F	L	A	I	E	G	S	N	F							
P	H	Y	S	I	C	I	S	T	N	L	O	N	G	E	R		
T				P	D	A	Y	S	T	A	R	L					
E	X	C	E	P	T	V	O										
D	L	A	M	E	N	U	S	G	E	O	N						
O	C	E	A	N	I	A	O	P	I	N	I	O	N	A	T	E	D
U	A	C	S	W	Z	D	C	A	E								
T	A	T	T	Y	H	A	T	T	E	R	C	Y	C	L	E	D	

Classifieds

Local Markets

Wamboin Home Produce and Craft Market
Third Sat of each month (except July & August) 9am to 12.
Community Hall and grounds, Bingley Way, Wamboin. Contact Meriel Schultz 0422 614 304

Captains Flat Country Markets
1st Sat of the month, 10am to 2pm, in the Community Hall, Foxlow Street, Captains Flat. Enquiries to C.F.C.A.Markets@captainsflat.org.au

the market @ bungendore
10am-3pm, Bungendore Memorial Hall. Note: Every 2nd SUNDAY of every EVEN month. www.themarketatbungendore.com

Braidwood Ryrie Park Markets
Fourth Saturday of every month, at the park in Braidwood. Contact Cathy: 0418 262 011 Sarah: 0417 468 686

Southern Harvest Farmers Markets - Weekly on Saturday
from 9 am - 12 pm, 23 Malbon St, Bungendore (Village Square) Contact: markets.southernharvest.org.au

Queanbeyan MarketsQbn Showground,
Third Sunday of every month. 9am to 1pm. For more info call 0419 848 786 or thequeanbeyanmarket@gmail.com

Sutton Village Country Markets
Second Sunday of the Month, 9am until 1:30pm, Sutton Oval (Cnr Victoria & Camp Streets) Contact@SuttonVillageCountryMarkets.com.au

BUNGENDORE WAR MEMORIAL HALL

If you are looking for a venue for a party or another event then check out the Hall. We have plenty of tables and chairs, a well equipped kitchen and our rates are very reasonable. Please contact Jill on 6238 1470 for bookings.

BUNGENDORE SENIORS

Next get together will be Friday 10 April, at the Bungendore Sports Hub amenities building \$5.00 per person. ALL OVER 55's WELCOME

OPENING TIMES WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS

Bungendore waste transfer station:

Friday 12.30pm-4.30pm
Saturday and Sunday 8am-4.30pm. Monday 7am-12noon
Bungendore buy back centre: Saturday 10am-4pm

Bywong waste transfer station:

Friday 2pm-4.30pm
Saturday and Sunday 8am-4.30pm
Monday 7am-11am

Captains Flat waste transfer station:

Saturday and Sunday 9am-3pm
Monday 9am-2pm

Braidwood waste transfer station

Fri, Sat Sun & Mon - 10am to 4.30pm
Braidwood buy back centre: Sunday 10am-4pm

CB BOBCATS

Bobcat & excavator, with attachments & truck for hire. Residential & rural. Landscaping, topsoil & roadbase. Rural animal graves. Phone Cameron on 0423 513 238



FREEZER FOR SALE

One Hisence chest freezer for sale good condition. 145 litre asking price \$150. Phone 0413 876 672

Bungendore CWA

Bulb Fundraiser

Our annual Bulb fundraiser is back! Get those gardens ready for bountiful spring blooms and help our branch at the same time. head to the below to order.

<https://www.bulbfundraiser.com.au/bungendorecwa/cutoff.html>

Book Club: 1st Wednesday of the month

Garden Club : 3rd Saturday of the month

Craft and Chat : 4th Monday of the month

Mahjong : 4th Tuesday of the month.

CWA Room - Gibraltar Str, Bungendore
<https://www.bungendorecwa.org/>

VINTAGE & RETRO

Vintage and retro secondhand shop open Friday, Saturday and Sunday - 10.00 am to 4.30 pm
Closed Fri morning 24th to attend the memorial service for Warwick Arthur Smith Will open at lunchtime
Closed Sat 25th Anzac Day till lunchtime. ART BY ANDERS
144 Uriarra Rd Crestwood Queanbeyan.

LIONS COMMUNITY BOOKSHOP

A non-for-profit group with all funds donated to local charitable organisations. LOCATED IN THE QUEANBEYAN PARK
Tuesday to Saturday 10am-4pm.



Personalised care for your dog

Personalised care for your dog. We care for a maximum of five dogs at a time, ensuring plenty of attention, playtime, and one-on-one care. Flexible drop-off and pick-up options available, with 24-hour supervision for peace of mind. Find us on Facebook at MJ Kennels or call 0404 844 161.

Business Classifieds

HAROLD BRADLEY TRANSPORT

Livestock transport available. Mobile loading ramp, 2 x 1 stock crates, competitive rates. Servicing all areas, located Bungendore. Contact Harold on: 0424 452 821



CHOOKS FOR SALE



Layer pullets, 22 weeks, Isa W, B, R, LS, BTR, SLW. Order today for delivery to Bungendore

Friday 17 April.
Phone Jim on 0428 194 105

Gavin Pillidge Courier

Braidwood - Canberra - Braidwood
Monday - Wednesday - Friday

Mob: 0428 968 162

Find your new Best Friend at DAS. These are the faces of 19 pooches ready & waiting to begin the next chapter of their lives. (2 April 2026)

 Ceasar Kelpie x (M) Approx 2 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/ceasar More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1340404891456907&set=pcb.1340407741456622	 Cody Crossbreed (M) Approx 2 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/cody More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1340401458123917&set=pcb.1340407741456622	 Nala Staffy (F) Approx 5 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/nala More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1340403341457062&set=pcb.1340407741456622	 Harley Neopolitan Mastiff x (F) Approx 7 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/harley More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1340404098123653&set=pcb.1340407741456622
 Butch Kelpie x (M) Approx 6 mths www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/butch More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1340405578123505&set=pcb.1340407741456622	 Tigger American Staffy x (M) Approx 7 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/tigger More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1357207856443277&set=pb.10006462263802.-2207520000	 Jett Kelpie/Staffy x (M) Approx 1 yr www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/jett More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1340402508123812&set=pcb.1340407741456622	 Seven Staffy (M) Approx 1 yr www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/seven More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1294423809388349&set=pcb.129442670271393
 Xena Staffy x (F) Approx 2 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/xena	 Apricot Crossbreed (M) Approx 3 mths www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/apricot	 Remi Mastiff x (F) Approx 9 mths www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/remi	 Doug Siberian Husky (M) Approx 12 years www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/doug

 Tyson Kelpie x (M) Approx 13 years www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/tyson More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=135720750643312&set=pb.10006462263802.-2207520000	 Kodos Kelpie x Staffy (M) Approx 1 year www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/kodos More photos www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1357213669776029&set=pb.10006462263802.-2207520000&type=3	 Kobe American Staffy (M) Approx 1 year www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/kobe More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1357210389776357&set=pb.10006462263802.-2207520000	 Jazz Cattle Dog x Staffy (F) Approx 9 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/jazz More photos www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1357212856442777&set=pb.10006462263802.-2207520000
 Kobe German Spepherd x Siberian Husky (M) Approx 1 year www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/kobe2	 Zeus Kelpie x American Bulldog (M) Approx 9 mths www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/zeus	 Opie Mastiff x (M) Approx 11 yrs www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/opie	 Every dog deserves a loving safe forever home

All dogs available for Adoption: www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/adopt
 INFORMATION ON ADOPTING A DOG FROM DAS:
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/adopt-a-dog

Goulburn Mulwaree Animal Shelter has 10 lovely pooches & 2 kitties looking for a 2nd chance at a long & happy life (2 Apr). Here are some of them.

If you are interested in an animal, please apply via the Shelter's Pet Rescue link www.petrescue.com.au/groups/11042/Goulburn-Mulwaree-Council Rehoming No.: R251000140

Sport

Queanbeyan Bears win Grand Final

Debbie Evans

The Queanbeyan Bears Softball team are basking in the glory of a C Grade Grand Final victory in the Softball ACT competition on March 28.

From small beginnings in 1985 the tight knit Bears outfit have consistently

performed well against their ACT counterparts.

In the Grand Final the Bears outplayed their Canberra Classics rivals with a final score of 11-4 at the Hawker International Softball Diamonds.

In 2026 the Bears are also celebrating 40 years since

their inception and Founding President, Fran Sweeney, along with her sister and niece are still stalwarts of the team.

Underpinning the success of the team is sponsorship by the Queanbeyan Hotel.

Fran says the success of the bears lies in the work life

balance of team members.

"We put family, work/school and softball in that order," it's a formula that has worked well for the Club ensuring its longevity.

And passion for the sport in Fran's family has seen her husband, sister and niece all become coaches giving back to the sport.

Queanbeyan has consistently proven itself as a breeding ground for Softball success with Men's, Women's and Junior teams all winning Grand Finals in 2003.

Fran says it is unfortunate now that external influences have put pressure on sporting participation such as cost and time to dedicate to training. This has seen the number of players dwindling recently with only one team competing now.

If you think you might have an interest in Softball contact Fran Sweeney on 0414 475 446.

Photo supplied



Pickleball comes to Bungendore!

Bungendore Park Tennis Club now has one Pickleball court and another two to follow shortly. If you have always fancied trying this popular game then head over to the Tennis courts on a Tuesday morning between 9-11am to join our clubs Social Pickleball group, where you can join in the fun. All levels of experience are welcome so even if you have never played before you can have a go, all equipment provided. You can pay a casual rate of \$6 per session or if you decide

it's your game then Club membership is only \$95 per year giving you free access to all courts during daytime, 7 days a week.

If you can't make a weekday but would like to play on a weekend then please email us. If there is enough interest then we have the option of running another group on a Saturday morning.

Email: bptc.pickleball@google.com

Photo supplied



Education Foundation Welcomes Golfers Support

The Braidwood & District Education Foundation has welcomed their nomination as the Charity for the Braidwood golf team in the forthcoming Bungendore v Braidwood Cup. When told, a spokesperson for the foundation said: "That's Great, Thanks".

The inaugural Bungendore v Braidwood Cup Golf Event will

be held on Sunday, 12 April at the Braidwood Golf Course - Braidwood Servicemen's Club. The Bungendore team has chosen First Steps Pregnancy Support as their Charity.

Mr Barry McDonald, President of the Braidwood Golf Club, said: "I know the very valuable contribution these organisations make to their local communities.

We are delighted to be able to support such worthy causes.

The competition between the teams should be exciting and we aim to put on a fun day for spectators centred on our 'Party hole.'

Event Details

On from 9am to approx. 4pm on Sunday 12th April.

The Golf will be a 'Ryder Cup' style Match Play event. The towns' teams will compete in Singles, Foursomes and Fourball Matches over 9 holes across a morning and afternoon session. Spectators are welcome to follow the matches on the course or take in all the action from the viewing area at the 'Party' hole.

There'll be music and a live scoreboard so you can follow the fortunes of your town's team. We'll be cooking breakfast and lunch and have baked goods for sale by donation with all proceeds going to our charities.

The trophy, generously donated by Braidwood Golf Club member and Bungendore resident Craig Lynch will be presented to the

winning team captain at the conclusion of play.

More information

Bungendore team: Craig073_99@yahoo.com

Braidwood team and general queries: braidwoodgolfclub@gmail.com

That's a wrap! Braidwood Swimming Club celebrates another fantastic season

By Susanne Pluess

The Braidwood Swimming Club has wrapped up another successful season, bringing together local families for a summer of fun, fitness and community spirit.

With 76 members this season, including club swimmers, interclub competitors, kickboard swimmers and dry supporters, the club continues to grow as an inclusive and welcoming space for swimmers of all ages and abilities.

Monday night Club Nights were once again the highlight of the week, filled with friendly competition, laughter and plenty of encouragement from poolside. Beyond racing, swimmers also had opportunities to build confidence in the water through Mini Squad sessions and coaching, developing skills that go far beyond the pool.

The season concluded with a lively Presentation Night at the Servicemen's Club, celebrating the achievements, improvement

and dedication of all swimmers. From first-time kickboard swimmers to experienced racers, every participant played a part in making the season so special.

Among the major award winners were:

- Junior Boys Champion - Orson
- Junior Girls Champion - Pippa
- Senior Boys Champion - Elliot
- Senior Girls Champion - Poppy
- Open Boys Champion - Jake
- Open Girls Champion - Betty
- Special club awards recognised the spirit of the club, including:
 - Team Player Award - Lewis
 - Sportsmanship Award - Abigail
 - Encouragement Award - Kyra
 - Love of the Game Award - Shanley

• Optimist Award - Rupert
A standout moment of the evening was seeing all swimmers from the 2025-26 season come together for a group photo - a great reminder of the strong sense of community that defines the club.

The club extends its sincere thanks to its dedicated committee for the 2025-26 season: Emily (President), Cliff (Vice President), Kristie (Registrar),

Patrick (Treasurer), Susi (Secretary), Kirsten (Public Officer), Emma, Kahla, Alannah and Ellie.

Behind the scenes, the club relies on the incredible efforts of volunteers, parents and supporters who step up each week as timekeepers, marshals, BBQ helpers and organisers to keep Club Nights running smoothly.

A special thank you also goes to coach Ellie, whose encouragement

and commitment helped swimmers build confidence and improve their skills throughout the season.

The club is incredibly grateful for the generous support of its sponsors, including Community Bank Braidwood, Intersport Fyshwick, Braidwood Apex Club, Braidwood Lions Club, Hon Kristy McBain MP, Oscar's Donuts, Mona Farm, and local supporters who continue to back the club

year after year.

As the season comes to a close, the Braidwood Swimming Club looks forward to returning next summer for more fun at the pool.

New members and families are always welcome.

For more information, email braidwoodswimclub@gmail.com

Photo supplied

