

2026 Pramathon:
Saturday May 9

Hoskinstown
Chestnut Roast,
Sunday 10th May

Pet
of the
Week



Regional Independent

Free

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

No. 459

Wednesday 6 May, 2026

Record crowds gather across the region to commemorate ANZAC Day



With glorious Autumn weather thousands gathered across the region to commemorate Anzac Day.

For more than a century, Anzac Day has seen our nation come together to honour those who have dedicated their lives to defending our country.

Marking the day that Australian troops landed at Gallipoli, 25 April sees Australians around the world pause to honour and commemorate those who serve

today, have served in the past, and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom, as well as the families who have supported them.

The 60th Anniversary of Long Tan, was the theme for the Bungendore Service. See page 8 the story of "The Long Tan Cross" by Peter Hugonnet.

As at 21 April 2026, approximately 1,250 Australian Defence Force personnel are deployed on operations across Australia, the Indo-Pacific and the globe, continuing the Anzac spirit while serving Australia's national interests at home and overseas.

Sharon Baxter-Judge

Support is always available through the following services:

- Defence All-hours Support Line (ASL) - 1800 628 036
- Defence Member and Family Helpline - 1800 624 608
- Defence Chaplaincy services (on-call 24/7) - 1300 333 362
- Defence Employee Assistance Program - 1300 687 327
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Residents urged to have their say on planning reform

Debbie Evans

Residents across the Queanbeyan-Palerang region are being urged to have their say as the NSW Government moves to overhaul the way communities are consulted on planning decisions.

The proposed changes form part of what the state government has described as landmark reforms aimed at making the planning system faster, fairer, and more focused on outcomes.

Central to the reforms is a move away from more than 100 different community participation plans currently in use across the state, which the government says has led to confusion about how and when communities can engage.

According to the State government "We're replacing these with a single statewide plan, ensuring consultation requirements are clear and consistent and everyone has an equal opportunity to shape the communities where they live and work."

The proposed statewide

Community Participation Plan aims to create clear and consistent consultation requirements for all residents, regardless of where they live.

The State government says "Importantly, the proposed approach does not limit councils from implementing tailored engagement strategies within their communities where they may be required. Rather, it sets a baseline of consultation requirements that must be met that gives everyone in the State an equal say, no matter where they live."

Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) has confirmed it will not be consulting the community to inform its response to the call for submissions.

Residents who wish to comment are advised to go directly to the NSW Government Planning portal <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/draftplans/exhibition/have-your-say-proposed-statewide-community-participation-plan>.

According to QPRC "Staff will be preparing a submission for Council's consideration at its 27 May Ordinary Meeting, so that we can meet the deadline (5pm 3 June 2026).

"The new Community Participation Plan will replace Council's Community Participation Plan 2025-2028, rather than the Community Engagement Strategy," for the same period.

"Our current exhibition periods are all outlined in our Community Participation Plan 2025-2028."

Council's current plan outlines four categories of notification - adjoining neighbours, advertised development, rural notification, and 'no notification required.'

"While many of the notification periods in the new state-wide Community Participation Plan are the same as our current plan, the new plan has more development types that are exempt from notification and public exhibition - such as residential flat buildings and shop top housing.

"Our Strategic Planning Proposals timeframe for exhibition are set through the DPHI (Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure) gateway conditions, and so the state government shapes that requirement. Our local strategic planning work generally is exhibited for a minimum of 28 days, with this often being extended to secure wider engagement and we often engage throughout the process in multiple ways," Council said.

According to QPRC the statewide Community Participation Plan outlines notification and consultation for development matters, so that across NSW there is consistency in timeframes.

"The way in which we engage our local community will remain a matter for the local authority."

The statewide Participation Plan calls for there to be, "Transparency and Accountability - Planning authorities must publish statements of reasons for decisions, showing how community input influenced outcomes."

According to QPRC Council "Already reports with statements for reasons for decisions."

The reforms would also introduce a Development Coordination Authority to manage NSW Government agency responses.

Council emphasised that this body would not be a decision-making authority. However, under the Planning System Reforms Act 2025, some developments would no longer be determined by elected councillors, instead being decided by local planning panels.

"Most development applications would continue to be assessed under delegation by qualified council planning staff," Council stated.

For QPRC residents, the most noticeable change may be faster assessment times for developments that comply with planning controls and do not seek variations from the LEP, as these could be exempt from public exhibition and notification.

The Rotary Club of Bungendore Primary School Public Speaking Competition

Rotary Club of Bungendore

They knocked it out of the park - again!!!

The Rotary Club of Bungendore Primary School Public Speaking Competition was held on Tuesday 28 April 2026 at the Bungendore Public School Hall.

This was the 18th year of the competition and was once again well represented by 6 local schools. A total of thirty students from Bungendore Public School, St Bede's Primary School Braidwood, Gundaroo Public School, Sutton Public School, Tarago Public School and Braidwood Central School attended the event.

The Junior section, Years 3 & 4, spoke for two minutes and on their choice of the following topics:

- What does being a hero mean to you? Who is your hero and why?
- If you could invent anything, what would it be and how would it help in your day-to-day activities?
- If you could meet anyone in history, who would it be and what

would you talk to them about?

Whilst the Seniors, Years 5 & 6, spoke for 4 minutes tackling their choices of:

- If you could time travel to any event in history, where would you go and what would you do?
- Should we ban plastic bottles and bags completely? Why? Why not? What would replace them and what if any would be the implications of this?
- Is space exploration important? Why? Why not?

How impressive were they, and they bravely delivered informative and entertaining speeches in front of an audience of 200+ supporters.

And the Winners are:

Juniors

- Winner: Isobel Kominek - Gundaroo Public School - What does being a hero mean to you? Who is your hero and why?
- Runner up: Emily Benson - Sutton Public School - What does being a hero mean to you? Who

is your hero and why?

- Encouragement Award: Luka Williams - Braidwood Central School - If you could invent anything, what would it be and how would it help in your day-to-day activities?

Seniors

- Winner: Amelia Grundy - Tarago Public School - Is space exploration important? Why? Why not?
- Runner up: Clancy Singers - Gundaroo Public School - If you could time travel to any event in history, where would you go and what would you do?
- Encouragement Award: Owen Easey - Sutton Public School - If you could time travel to any event in history, where would you go and what would you do?
- Special Mention: Atlanta Ball - Tarago Public School - Is space exploration important? Why? Why not?

Many thanks to our Judges Nicola Hinder, Martina Woodford



and Keith Wilson, we really appreciate your time and expertise, without you we could not run the competition.

Thank you to Sue for another amazing job as MC, Kerrie for time keeping and our photographer Peter. Thank you to all the club

members who cooked an amazing supper and to the BBQ cooks.

Most of all, thank you to all the wonderful competitors, teachers and parents. What a great night! After listening to the speeches, er know our future looks very bright.

Photo supplied

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.

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Community News

2026 Hoskinstown Chestnut Roast: this 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 Sharrows 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!



The Lions Club of Googong and Surrounds Inc



The Lions Clubs of Australia have proudly announced the official charter of the Lions Club of Googong and Surrounds Inc, marking a significant milestone for one of the fastest-growing communities in New South Wales.

The new club brings together a diverse group of local residents committed to serving Googong, and Surrounds. The charter recognises the club as an official member of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service organisation.

"Googong is a vibrant, rapidly expanding community, and the need for a local service provider has never been greater," said the inaugural Club President, Luke Pope "Our members are passionate about supporting families, strengthening community connections, and delivering practical projects that make everyday life better for people in our region."

The Googong and Surrounds Lions Club Inc has already identified several priority areas for its first year, including Supporting Youth, Community Literacy initiatives, such as a proposed Googong Book Exchange event and Environmental projects, including local clean-ups and sustainability programs.

Lion leaders welcomed the new club as a valuable addition to the Lions

network. Googong is growing quickly, and Lions will now have a strong, local presence to support that growth with hands-on service and meaningful projects.

The club is now inviting community-minded residents to get involved. Membership is open to anyone over 18 who wants to make a positive difference, meet new people, and contribute to the wellbeing of the region.

About Lions Clubs International
Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service organisation, with 1.4 million members across more than 200 countries. Lions in Australia have served their communities for more than 75 years, supporting humanitarian causes, disaster relief, youth programs, medical research, and local grassroots initiatives.

For more information on becoming a member contact Luke Pope, President on 0492 075 878

googong.nsw@lions.org.au

Save the Date:

Saturday, May 23, 11am to 3pm
Community Centre Gorman Drive

Book Exchange Event

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Community News

Bridge and crossing closures leave residents isolated

Debbie Evans

Residents in Hoskinstown and Captains Flat have been invited to a community meeting Wednesday night after the Foxlow Bridge and the Briar Sharrows crossing were closed for safety reasons and upgrade works, forcing a lengthy detour via Bungendore for those travelling to Queanbeyan and beyond.

Wednesday's public meeting called by Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC), will be held at 6.30pm at the Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall to consult on the closures.

However, some residents say they won't even be able to make the meeting because Briars Sharrow Bridge closed 3pm on Tuesday, limiting their access unless they undertake a two-hour round trip to attend.

Kristy Keft who lives on Sinclair Road, off Captain's Flat Road said she won't be able to attend the meeting due to Briar's Sharrows closure yesterday.

She said she was surprised at Council closing the bridge the day before the public meeting, making it even more difficult for residents to attend.

"The bridge closures are a real bugger for me as I am self-

employed as a domestic cleaner and I have two jobs on the opposite side of Briar Sharrow bridge that I rely on, that I won't be able to do.

"I will have no work, and I can't ask the clients to pay more for the additional fuel for the trip which is now an hour there and an hour back, as it isn't their fault."

Kristy's family continues to be impacted because her daughter is also being cut off from her two day a week job on a property on the other side of Foxlow Bridge.

"She is a uni student and relies on the work.

"Even going to see our Dr in Bungendore will be more than a two-hour trip.

"What they've done is crazy. I think they should have kept Briars Sharrow bridge open and asked the government to divert the funds into fixing up Foxlow Bridge first, that makes sense."

For Rossi resident, Meg Slattery, yesterday's closure of Briars Sharrow bridge doesn't provide Council with great optics around public consultation, limiting resident access to Wednesday's public meeting.

"It seems very suspicious to me to close the bridge the day before the public meeting, but I will be

attending.

"I'm staggered by what they have done and think they should have put money into Foxlow Bridge first, at least we would still have had a driveable roadway.

"The problems with Foxlow Bridge have been known for years. And it's been partially closed for years."

"Queanbeyan is our main town and Council's bridge closures, coupled with the upgrade of Monaro Street have had a massive impact on us. Our daughter goes to school in Queanbeyan now adding significant travel times and cost to our family.

"My husband must leave much earlier too, to get to his work in Fyshwick.

"And the timing of the works coming into winter means there is much greater risk of an accident because we are forced to travel in the dark when kangaroos are more likely to be out.

"Reches Creek has been suggested as an alternative for us, but the concrete pavement on that crossing is blowing out too, and there has been a lot of local talk about what will happen if it closes.

"Its certainly not in great shape and if it does close it will have a really big impact on us." She said.

Residents have heavily criticised QPRC in recent weeks for its lack of public consultation around the bridge works.

The sudden, indefinite closure of Foxlow bridge due to safety concerns was announced without warning after Council received a report from Engineers on 24 April recommending its closure.

In a statement QPRC said "For the safety of all road users, we decided to immediately close the bridge."

The bridge was proposed as an alternate route, while upgrade works are carried out on Briars Sharrow crossing which closed yesterday and is not expected to be reopen until January.

QPRC said the report received in April on Foxlow bridge, "provided evidence of new deterioration since the last general condition assessment in 2024.

QPRC said "no budget allocations were made" towards the bridge because of the 2024 report.

"Council made a commitment after the community meeting in March that a new independent engineer inspection and report on the structure of Foxlow bridge would be undertaken.

"This 2026 engineer's report was commissioned to assess the

bridge's structural integrity and give a clear recommendation about its safety for traffic.

"It is regrettable that this independent structural engineer's report was not commissioned earlier.

"Before the closure, Foxlow Bridge was limited to light vehicles, the main detour for the project was north via Briars Sharrow Road and Hoskinstown Road towards Bungendore. Now that Foxlow Bridge is closed, this will be the detour route."

QPRC added "The independent engineer's report on Foxlow Bridge will be finalised and reported to Council at an upcoming meeting. Council will need to decide about the future of Foxlow Bridge, including pursuing funding for the project.

"No timeline for works is yet available at this stage." Council concluded.

The next ordinary meeting of Council is scheduled for 5.30pm Wednesday 13 May 2026 in Braidwood.

**Community Meeting:
Wednesday 6th May,
6.30pm at the Hoskinstown
War Memorial Hall**

Power to the people: New virtual tool targets high-risk weeds

A new online tool developed by Botanic Gardens of Sydney and NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) is set to elevate the state's ability to detect and eradicate some of the world's worst invasive plants.

The Virtual Reference Collection of Priority Weeds for NSW was delivered under the NSW New Weed Incursion Plan 2024-2030 to support early detection, help prevent new weed incursions and minimise the impact of invasive weeds.

Botanic Gardens of Sydney Weed Botanist, Patricia Lu-Irving, said digitisation has transformed archival material into a practical modern tool.

"Plant records and scientific collections which have been held by the NSW Government for more than 100 years have been used to create a digital resource which helps protect NSW from today's weed threats," Dr Lu-Irving said.

"Having this information at their fingertips gives people the ability to act quickly, boosting the state's capacity to recognise a potential weed incursion early, when eradication is still possible."

The online collection contains images of 29 weeds listed as Prohibited Matter, weeds classed as having the highest biosecurity risk.

NSW DPIRD weed ecologist,

Stephen Johnson, said preventing new incursions is the most effective way to protect our landscapes, industries and communities.

"Many of these plants have never been seen before, or rarely seen, in NSW and now biosecurity and land managers can use this resource to identify them," Dr Johnson said.

"The virtual collection supports early detection, giving landholders, bush carers, farmers, horticulturists, councils and government agencies access to information they can use in the field, backyard, office or car from any digital device.

"Keeping NSW free from these priority weeds will deliver the

biggest wins from our weed management efforts, saving millions of dollars' worth of control costs and damage to primary industries, the environment and communities."

Each of the 29 specimens can be magnified online to reveal botanical features essential for accurate identification.

The weed images are from the National Herbarium of New South Wales collection, part of the Botanic Gardens of Sydney, which holds more than one million preserved plant specimens.

One specimen featured is pressed water pennywort, *Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*, originally collected in 1895 and now supporting 21st

century biosecurity efforts.

This new resource complements NSW WeedWise and adds another layer of support to people working on the ground.

DPIRD is training NSW weeds biosecurity officers from Local Control Authorities and other weed professionals across the state to use the new virtual tool as part of its Getting to Know Prohibited Matter Weeds courses.

It is an offence under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 to bring Prohibited Matter into NSW. These plants cannot be sold and any suspected sighting must be reported immediately to the NSW Biosecurity Helpline, 1800 680 244.

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Have your say on the review of the Bungendore Structure Plan



Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council is conducting a 5-year review of the Bungendore Structure Plan 2048.

“We are reviewing the Bungendore Structure Plan to make sure the plan continues to reflect current conditions, infrastructure constraints, and community needs,” Mayor Kenrick Winchester said.

“The Structure Plan gives us a long-term framework to guide how the town will grow and develop. It helps us and the community better plan for housing, jobs, infrastructure, public spaces, and environmental outcomes.”

“We heard from the community in 2024 through the Bungendore Place Plan, which gave us some

great feedback particularly about the town centre, and that community input will be incorporated into this review.”

“We also recently engaged a consultant to prepare an Economic Lands Needs Analysis, which identifies what sort of land Bungendore might need for employment and industry into the future.

“We want to hear from the community on six themes for Bungendore’s future: Visioning and Values, Housing and Development, Employment and Economic Development, Movement and Transport, Community Facilities and Services, and Environment.”

“Have your say by completing

the survey on our Your Voice webpage. You can also contribute an idea for Bungendore’s future on Your Voice by dropping a marker on the interactive map.”

Council will be holding drop-in sessions where a strategic planning officer will be available to answer questions from the public or assist members of the community with responding to the surveys. These sessions are from 1pm to 4pm every Wednesday from 6 May to 27 May at the Bungendore Customer Service Office on 13 Gibraltar Street.

Provide feedback and find more information on the Bungendore Structure Plan Review at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/bungendore-structure-plan-review-2026

Prams, Community and a Cause: Pramathon this Saturday

The Queanbeyan community is gearing up for the return of the Pramathon in 2026, a unique event that blends fun, fundraising and strong community spirit.

Set to take place in Queanbeyan Park, the Pramathon is more than just a walk—it is a charity fundraiser supporting First Steps Pregnancy Support, which provides practical and emotional assistance to pregnant women and new mums doing it tough.

Families, carers and supporters

will take to the course pushing prams of all shapes and sizes, with many expected to be decorated in bright and creative themes. The event is designed to be inclusive and relaxed, with organisers emphasising that it’s “not a race”, but a chance to come together, get active and enjoy the outdoors.

Alongside the walk itself, the day will have a festival feel, with competitions, games, stalls and activities for all ages. From best-dressed prams to family-friendly entertainment, the Pramathon

continues to grow as a celebration of local families and the wider community.

Importantly, every step taken helps raise funds and awareness for women and families in need across the region. The event highlights the importance of community support networks, particularly for those facing challenges such as housing insecurity, financial stress or isolation during pregnancy and early parenthood.

Saturday 9 May 2026

Please arrive at 9.30am for the Pramathon walk with festivities in the park continuing until 1.30pm.

Event Partner - Community Bank Braidwood/Bungendore, Event Sponsors Pavements Australia, Webb’s Mechanical Repairs, QPRC and Bambino’s Soft Play and Events.

Head to <https://pramathon.com.au/> for more information.

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Unknown soldier completes 300km walk in support of Red Shield Defence Services

On Wednesday 24th April, a lone veteran paid a visit to Bungendore as part of his 300-kilometre journey. The veteran commenced his trek in Holdsworthy on April 15 and finished in Canberra on April 24, in time to join ANZAC Day commemorations in the capital.

Dressed in the full kit of a World War One soldier and carrying a pack the veteran cut a lonely figure, with community members joining him on his walk, including Blake (pictured below with Mum) who joined the walk at Tarago and finished in Canberra.

The Enduring Spirit March by the lone veteran celebrated mateship, engagement and the "Enduring Spirit of the ANZACS" it also aims to support veterans carrying the weight of recent service.

On arrival at the Bungendore War Memorial, Kelliagh Marie Jackson, CEO of Advocates Online and Co-founder of Eyes Front Charity, said, "Thank you, Bungendore. We have walked a long way to stand with you today. From Holdsworthy, thirty kilometres a day, in the boots and kit of a First World War digger, carrying the memory of every unknown soldier who never came home. That is what this walk is. The enduring spirit of the ANZAC on the move. Mates carrying mates, all the way to Canberra.

"The Sallyman has been with us every step, as they have been for more than 125 years.

Quiet, steady, present. A cup of something warm, a conversation, a hand on the shoulder. That unbroken line of care that started at Gallipoli and has not stopped since. Veteran motorcycle clubs have ridden alongside us in solidarity, their presence a rolling reminder that mateship does not require a rank slide or a unit patch. It requires showing up.

"And show up they have. All the way down this road. In Picton, in Bundanoon, in Goulburn, and now here with you in Bungendore.

"When you bring people together, something shifts in a way it never can on your own. You sit down next to someone at a barbecue, or around a kitchen table, or in the shed out the back, and you realise you are not the only one carrying what you carry. That is where healing happens. In the ordinary rhythm of being known. Being expected. Being welcomed back. A familiar face on a Tuesday. A cup of tea poured without asking. Routine steadies what life has rattled. Safety is not the absence of hard things, it is the presence of people who stay. You are not alone. You belong here. Pull up a chair.

"That is the enduring spirit of the ANZAC. Not a memory pressed under glass. A living, breathing commitment to carry a mate. On a battlefield, on a bush exercise, on a thirty-kilometre stretch of road, or on the hard walk home when the



uniform comes off. You carry them. And when you cannot carry them on your own, you call in the people around you.

"Bungendore understands this as well as any town in the country. You sit at the doorstep of the national capital, a small community carrying a long and quiet history of service. Light Horsemen rode out from these paddocks to the Middle East, men who knew horses before they knew rifles, who took that country knowledge into the deserts of Palestine and Beersheba. Families from this district sent their sons to Gallipoli, to the Western Front, to Kokoda, to Korea, to Vietnam. Many never came home. Their names are etched into the memorials you walk past without thinking, but they were sons and brothers and husbands and fathers to people who lived on these streets.

"And today, Bungendore carries something new. The Australian Army Headquarters sits just up the road. Serving soldiers and their families live among you, shop in your stores, send their children to your schools, worship in your churches. You are a garrison town in the truest sense. Not because a barracks was built here, but because service is stitched into the everyday life of this community. The uniform walks your footpaths. The families of the uniform sit beside you at the footy.

"That matters. Because a veteran does not transition in a vacuum. They transition into a community. And the community that knows them, that greets them by name,

that pours the cup of tea without asking, is the community that carries them home.

"The Veterans' Covenant says: for what they have done, this we will do. Every time this community makes room for a serving family, shows up to a dawn service, checks in on the quiet bloke down the street, that is the Covenant in action. That is carrying a mate.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning We will remember them.

"We will remember them.

"Lest we forget."

On arrival in Canberra Kelliagh added "Thank you to everyone who followed along. Everyone who shared this story. Everyone who showed up along the route. Everyone who supported this cause.

"The Diggers Military Motorcycle

Club, the Military Vehicle Group of NSW, Khaki Vehicle Enthusiasts Inc., and every community member who joined us, you made this happen.

"All proceeds from this march go to Red Shield Defence Services.

"The march is complete. But the mission continues.

"Our veterans and their families deserve support that doesn't disappear when budgets shift. Let's make sure the Sallyman is still there for the next generation.

"Because if we believe in 'no mate left behind', then it has to mean something after service too.

"Lest we forget."

To find out more about Eyes Front visit their website <https://eyesfront.com.au/about/>.

To find out more about Advocates Online and to donate head to <https://www.advocatesonline.com.au/>

Sharon Baxter-Judge



Blind Creek
Solar Farm



Keep up to date
with the Blind Creek
Solar Farm project

octopus australia

Scan the QR code to find out more or visit: blindcreeksolarfarm.com.au



Community News

Rewards flowing in Queanbeyan as Shop & Win enters final month

Shoppers in Queanbeyan are already seeing the rewards of the Shop & Win campaign, with weekly winners taking home prizes and more locals choosing to shop and dine in the CBD.

With just one month left to enter, now is the time to get involved to be in with a chance to win one of the remaining weekly draws or the major prize draw. Shop and Win rewards everyday

spending across a wide range of participating businesses throughout Queanbeyan.

Delivered by Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, the campaign is designed to support local businesses during the Monaro Street refresh, while reinforcing that the CBD remains open, accessible and full of quality offerings.

For long-standing local

businesses like Hiscocks, the campaign has been a welcome way to give back to customers while maintaining strong community connections.

“Our family has welcomed customers through our doors for more than 100 years. We are grateful to give our loyal customers who shop for quality gear the chance to be rewarded through the Shop and Win competition. It’s also a great way to give something back to customers who keep the local business community strong through a period of change in the CBD” said manager Brett Hiscock.

As Shop and Win enters its final month, the promotion continues to highlight the strength of Queanbeyan’s business community and the important role customers play in supporting it.

With prizes still up for grabs and a vibrant mix of businesses ready to welcome customers, now is the time to get in, explore what’s on offer, and be part of Shop & Win while giving back to local businesses. Entries are open until 01 June.

Photo supplied of Neve and Kirsten from Hiscocks in Queanbeyan.



Bendigo Bank bridges digital and community divide: new ‘Community Link’ feature returning profits to communities

Bendigo Bank has launched a new in-app feature designed to give new-to-bank customers the best of both worlds: the ease of joining the bank digitally in minutes, with the personal connection of a local branch.

‘Community Link’ provides new-to-bank customers who sign up via the Bendigo Bank app to select any branch in the country as their ‘home branch,’ powerfully bridging the Bank’s digital future with its renowned community focus.

By nominating a home branch, new customers will have the power to support their local community through the Bank’s unique Community Bank model, which has reinvested over \$416 million into hundreds of local communities since inception.

Bendigo Bank’s Chief Customer Officer, Adam Rowse, said Community Link showed the Bank’s commitment to innovation while serving its core purpose to feed into the prosperity of the community.

“We want new customers to be able to contribute back into the communities they may have grown up in, or their parents still live in, or maybe a community where they may want to live in the future,” Mr Rowse said.

“Community Link is a key part of our strategy to make life easy with digital while strengthening our community connection. By allowing customers to choose their local branch, we are making our renowned societal impact tangible from their very first interaction.

“It provides a modern, trusted, and seamless experience that combines the convenience of quick digital onboarding with the immediate sense of belonging to a local branch,” Mr Rowse concluded.

The new feature will ensure a more streamlined onboarding process for customers as well as a reduction in manual effort, allowing the Bank to focus on building deeper, more meaningful customer relationships from day one.

Community Link is integrated with the Bank’s secure verification process, ensuring a safe and robust onboarding journey. This digital identity verification meets the highest security and compliance standards, protecting customers and the Bank from fraud.

To sign up as a new customer today in minutes via the app, visit: www.bendigobank.com.au/ways-to-bank/bendigo-bank-app/

Boost your budget with an energy rebate

Did you know the NSW Government offers energy rebates to help families pay their electricity and gas bills?

You could be eligible if you receive the Family Tax Benefit or hold a Health Care Card, Low Income Health Care Card or Veteran Gold Card.

Learn more and apply

Visit energy.nsw.gov.au/families

Call 13 77 88

Visit a Service NSW Centre



Community News

Draft Unsealed Road Policy bungled

Debbie Evans

The omission of some submissions from the revision process for Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council's Unsealed Road Policy has been acknowledged as human error.

The post-exhibition report on the Policy was presented at Council's 22 April Ordinary Meeting.

General Manager, Rebecca Ryan, said there was no need to investigate the omission of submissions on the policy, as it was known that the submissions were all provided to the Manager who reviewed them, and then responded to the submissions.

"It was just the emails that didn't come through the 'Your Voice' platform were inadvertently left off the attachments."

Therefore, she said there was no need for an investigation.

At its 17 December 2025 meeting, Council resolved to place the revised Unsealed Road Policy on public exhibition for an extended period over the Christmas/New Year break (Resolution 1209/25). The exhibition closed on 3 March 2026, and submissions were then reported to Council.

Staff recommended to the April

meeting "That Council: 1. Note the submissions received during the public exhibition of the Revised Unsealed Council Road Policy. 2. Adopt the Revised Unsealed Council Road Policy as exhibited and presented."

As a consequence of submissions being omitted—including submissions from Councillors Waterhouse and Grundy—Cr Waterhouse and Cr Grundy moved a recommendation that Council: (1) note the submissions received during the public exhibition of the revised Unsealed Road Policy; (2) delay endorsing the policy until after a workshop for staff and Councillors so we can collaborate on improving the policy more closely based on submissions; and (3) request the General Manager undertake a full investigation into the handling of submissions received during the consultation process, how some valid submissions were mishandled and, whether similar issues may have occurred in other QPRC consultations, and report the findings to Council."

However, after considerable debate and the General Manager's explanation, Council determined to remove the request for an

investigation on the handling of submissions.

Ultimately Council resolved to "1. Note the submissions received during the public exhibition of the revised Unsealed Road Policy. 2. Delay endorsing the policy until after a workshop for staff and Councillors so we can collaborate on improving the policy more closely based on the submissions received." The resolution was carried unanimously.

Cr Waterhouse in debating the Policy added the stated primary objective of the Policy was to allow Council to work on Category 10 roads. But he said this was not the case and was just one of many objectives "including a clarity of thought, a clarity of explanation, a clarity of definition, of things that made sense, that were easily explained to the public and easily managed by staff.

"Residents have requested clearer explanations of how roads would be classified and it hasn't been given to them.

"The policy defines two categories, scheduled and unscheduled roads, but doesn't say how they are defined."

Cr Waterhouse also questioned

definitions, standards and measurements and how they can inform the work of staff.

Cr Waterhouse said the initial report on the policy had been rejected by Council in December 2025 and had been put back out to the public to "make it better."

But he said the report presented in April was identical to the one in December.

"So, the last four months with some 28 or 29 submissions," "where people have spent countless hours putting together their submissions, myself included and Councillor Grundy included, and I think a couple of other Councillors, I'm unsure, and many members of the public," "has had no effect whatsoever."

"I find that very disappointing and I think the Councillors and the staff should sit down and have a really long hard think about, if we are going to have community consultation, well that has to have an effect."

"At our first consultation we said it (the policy) has to be rewritten and it hasn't been," also considering submissions received during the second exhibition and consultation phase.

"The Policy as it stands is inadequate and doesn't meet the requirements we need as a Council," or meet the requirements of many members of the public who made policy submissions.

"And in fact, some of those (submissions) were even dropped off apparently."

Cr Grundy said Council had "the opportunity to do this policy well but somehow we have missed that opportunity."

"I remind colleagues that this policy affects people's lives."

"They want clarity."

"There's a lot of 'maybe' in this document and I think we need to go back through this and establish how we can sure this up so there is no ambiguity."

She urged Council to put the policy back into a workshop to "get it right."

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

To view the council meeting head to <https://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/archive/video26-0422-2.php>

The Long Tan Cross

60th Anniversary of Long Tan Battle in Vietnam THE LONG TAN CROSS

Peter Hugonnet

On 17 August 1969, A and D Companies of the renamed 6RAR/NZ (ANZAC), which was on its second tour of Vietnam, landed by helicopter near the former Long Tan Battle site and secured the area.

On the next day, the third Anniversary of the Long Tan Battle of 18 August 1966, infantrymen and assault pioneers cleared the area around the location where 11 Platoon of D Company had conducted a last stand during the Battle of Long Tan.

A RAAF helicopter then delivered the white concrete Cross to the site. The remainder of the Battalion arrived during the morning.

The Battalion's Chaplain led a ceremony to dedicate the Memorial. Ten men from the Battalion who had fought in the 1966 Battle stood at the side of the Cross throughout the proceedings.

The inscription on the Cross read: "In Memory of those members of D Coy 6 RAR and 3 Tp 1 APC Sqn who gave their lives near this spot during the Battle of Long Tan on 18th August 1966. Erected by 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn 18 Aug 69." 18 Diggers died.

In the years after the Communist victory in 1975, the Cross was removed and "recycled" by local people as a memorial for a deceased Catholic parish priest, Nguyen Van Chinh.

In 1984, the Cross was recovered and acquired by the Dong Nai Museum in Bien Hoa city, where



it was displayed with other relics from the Vietnam War. In 1989

the Long Dat District People's Committee erected a replica Cross on the Memorial in the Long Tan rubber plantation.

In April 2002, the Australian Veterans Vietnam Reconstruction Group, assisted by the Australian Government and with the permission of Vietnamese authorities, completed restoring the replica Long Tan Cross and Memorial site.

The original Long Tan Cross was generously loaned to the AWM by the Dong Nai Museum from 17 August 2012 until April 2013, with the support and approval of the Ministry of Culture of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. In 2016 the AWM unsuccessfully sought for the Cross to be loaned to it to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Battle.

In November 2017 the Vietnamese Government gifted the original

Long Tan Cross to Australia. It was placed on permanent display at the AWM on 7 December 2017 as Accession Number: P09951.002 in the Captain Reg Saunders Gallery.

The Long Tan Memorial remains the only foreign war memorial permitted on Vietnamese soil, aside from the single French Military Memorial at Dien Bien Phu.

18 August is Vietnam Veterans' Day that commemorates the approximately 60,000 Australians who served in the Vietnam War, particularly recognizing the Battle of Long Tan. It is a time to honour all those who died, returned wounded, or carry physical and emotional scars.

Above: The Pipers' Lament For The Dead Of Long Tan. Australian War Memorial BEL/69/0556/VN

Left: Main Service at Bungendore



Community News

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 amenities 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

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 and it's great fun. See page 11 for more information.

Membership

Yearly membership is only \$10.00 per person. We

welcome everyone over the age of 55.

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

Goulburn Trip

Recently we had a great time travelling to Goulburn for the day. The weather was perfect, spirits were high and conversation lively.

We admired the cathedrals, shopped and scored a few bargains at the many Op Shops.

Lunch was at Australia's oldest mainland brewery - Old Goulburn Brewery, established in 1836.

In 2021 the brewery had new owners and breathed new life into the historic site and



THURSDAYS
 Thursday 14 May
 Thursday 28 May
 Thursday 11 June
 Thursday 25 June

FRIDAYS
 Friday 8 May
 Friday 22 May
 Friday 5 June
 Friday 19 June



returned it to its rightful place at the heart of Goulburn.

Great service, good food in a lovely setting. It's well worth a visit.

We are currently planning our next trip.

Below right: two members on a mission spotted in Goulburn



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*Rate valid from 15th April 2026 and subject to change, interest paid at maturity. Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. This information does not consider your financial objectives or needs. You should consider whether this product is appropriate for you. Terms and conditions and TMD available on our website. Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. (2318412) (04/26)



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Please phone for an appointment

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Community News

Creativity and Connection at Local Craft Night

A warm and welcoming atmosphere filled the room at Bungendore Crafters' Co-Operative's recent BYO Craft Project Night, where a small group of local women gathered to share creativity and conversation. The evening offered a relaxed space for participants to work on their individual projects while enjoying each other's company.

A wide variety of crafts were on display, including crochet, knitting, embroidery and cross-stitch. With Winter approaching, many attendees focused on seasonal pieces such as cosy jumpers and blankets. Notably, a large number of crafters were dedicating their

time and skill to creating handmade gifts for loved ones, adding an extra layer of meaning to their work.

Beyond the projects themselves, the evening was a chance to connect, unwind and build community through shared interests. Laughter and conversation flowed easily, making it clear that craft night is as much about friendship as it is about creativity.

The group will meet again in a fortnight on Thursday 14th May (venue TBA) and warmly welcomes new members. Women of all skill levels are invited to join and enjoy a comfortable, friendly and creative environment.

Photo supplied



Five things to do before the end of financial year

Phil Harvey

In less than two months this financial year will end. What you do between now and then could save you a surprising amount of money.

1. Get your tax deductions in order

A tax deduction is something you've spent money on that reduces the amount of income the government taxes you on. The lower your taxable income, the less tax you pay.

Common deductions include:

- Work-related expenses – things like uniforms, tools, or equipment you bought for your job
- Home office costs – if you worked from home, you can claim a portion of electricity, internet, and phone bills
- Self-education – courses or study directly related to your current job
- Donations – money given to registered charities

If you need to buy work related items or start a course, do it before 30 June and claim it as a tax deduction.

2. Consider topping up your super

You can add extra money into it yourself – called a concessional contribution – and it gets taxed at only 15%, which for most working adults is much lower than their normal income tax rate.

This year you can contribute up to \$30,000 in total concessional contributions (including what your employer already puts in). If you haven't hit that limit, you can make a personal contribution and potentially claim it as a tax deduction for it. Those lucky enough to be in the PSS defined benefit scheme should do this every year!

A big tip here is to login to your MyGov account and see if you have any unused contributions you can make.

3. Use Your Private Health Insurance Offset

If you earn over \$93,000 (or \$186,000 as a couple) and don't have private hospital cover, you pay a tax penalty called the Medicare Levy

Surcharge – up to 1.5% of your income. If you're over these thresholds, it might be cheaper to take out a basic hospital policy than to pay the surcharge.

4. Review any investment gains or losses

If you own shares or investment property, the EOFY matters a lot. Selling an asset you've owned for more than 12 months currently gives you a 50% discount on any capital gains tax you owe. This is likely to change next year.

If you have investments sitting at a gain that you are considering selling anyway, it might be worth doing this financial year.

This one gets complicated quickly, so it's worth speaking to a financial adviser or accountant before making any moves.

5. Lodge last year's tax return (if you haven't done it yet)

The ATO can charge interest on overdue returns. If you haven't lodged your return from last year yet, do it now. The sooner you lodge, the sooner you get any refund you're owed.

The Bottom Line

The end of financial year isn't just for accounting nerds – it's genuinely one of the best opportunities each year to keep more of your own money. The steps above don't require a finance degree. They just require a little bit of organisation.

If you're unsure where to start, give us a call.

We specialise in helping professionals and executives grow and protect their wealth so they can retire with confidence. If you would like to discuss how you could benefit from independent financial advice, call me on 02 6269 3339 or email me at team@constructwealth.com.au.

General Advice Warning
This advice contains general information and may not be suitable for you because it does not consider your personal circumstances. Phil Harvey is an authorised representative of Independent Financial Advisers Australia (AFSL 464629 - ABN 61 601 365 904)

Image: Shutterstock

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.

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

Hand and Foot - 10.00am
(NEW) 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 19 May 2026.

Riverside Plaza Stall - monthly We will be in Riverside Plaza on Saturday 16 May 2026.

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

Membership fees due by 30 June 2026 for the financial year 2026-2027.

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

Visitors are welcome during activity hours at the rear 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan.

Photos supplied



Community News

Bungendore Quilters: Gift Quilts

Bungendore Quilters supports a number of groups with gift quilts, knitted blankets and beanies to groups in our region. Not all the donations are made by members as many of the knitted articles are made by CWA members and other groups in our community.

Our gift quilts are quilted by Shennah from Foxlow Fabrics who does a fabulous job of putting the tops, wadding and backing fabrics together and Veolia Mulwaree Trust assist enormously with grants to purchase the wadding.

One of our members made a number of baby beanies and these were donated to Roundabout in



Canberra. Roundabout provides baby and children's essential items through donations by individuals, groups and larger community partnerships.

A few weeks ago we were given two, new small quilts suitable for babies by an anonymous donor. One was finished and the other only needed a small amount of stitching on the applique to be ready for donation. This has now been completed and they will be in the next group to go to Molongolo Support Services for families in need.

Photos supplied of Julie finishing off the applique on a donated gift quilt and some of the gift quilts, blankets and beanies given to families in need

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!



As your state member, I can help you with

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- Service NSW
- Fair Trading
- Education
- NSW Health & Hospitals
- State Roads
- Police, Ambulance and Fire + Rescue
- State Emergency Service
- Revenue NSW
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- Crown Lands
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- Birthday & Wedding Anniversary Messages
- Local Land Services

Feel free to contact my office if you need any assistance

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STEVE WHAN MP
STATE MEMBER FOR MONARO

Authorised by Steve Whan MP, 213 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620. #aid for using parliamentary email addresses.

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

CWA Bungendore Craft News

There are a few crafty-related events happening in May. If you would like to participate in any of them, please get in touch.

17th May - Paint and Sip - We'll be painting a glossy black cockatoo. This beautiful, bird is our CWA 'fauna of the year'. Details are here:

<https://www.eventbookings.com/b/event/private-event-cwa-paint-drink-event>

22nd May - there'll be a visit to Craft Alive at EPIC and then we can hop on a tram to go into Civic to the Canberra Museum and Gallery to see the Canberra Quilters 50 years exhibition before it closes (last day for this is 24th May.) plus lunch of course! We'll

aim to leave Bungendore by 10am (the event opens at 9.30am)

25th May - our monthly craft and chat will continue the Black cockatoo theme..... of course, everyone is welcome to come and bring their own craft to work on. And if there's a birthday around then, well, there may be cake as well!

31st May - chicken scratch embroidery returns for those who missed out on our first workshop or just want another get together to do this fun stitching. Everyone, especially junior members, are welcome. At the CWA rooms, time to be advised.

June - there's a chance we may be able to take a day trip by

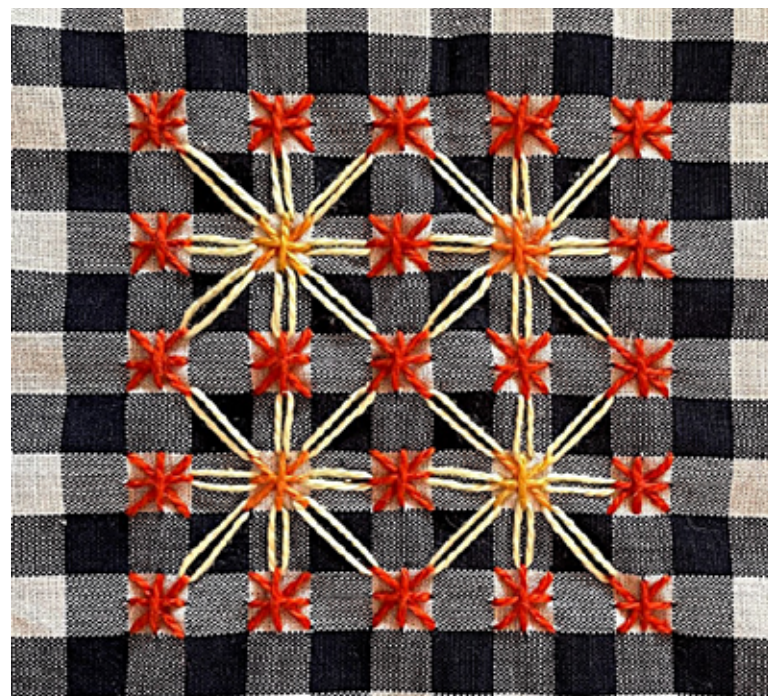
train to Sydney to meet with other CWA members and help with the packing of material aid items for PNG and the South Pacific. While we don't have a confirmed date yet, it is likely to be on a Monday, and we can combine this with a visit to a gallery/museum/shopping.....and of course lunch!

13th June is Worldwide Knit in Public Day, and plans are afoot to link up with Phil's Op Shop for their knitting event.

For more information, please contact bungendore.publicity@gmail.com

The CWA rooms are at 40 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore

Photo supplied of chicken scratch embroidery



Nominate An Eden-Monaro Volunteer for Recognition or Share Your Own Volunteering Story

Eden-Monaro is home to hundreds of volunteer groups and organisations that make an invaluable contribution to our community.

This National Volunteer Week (18-24 May) Member for Eden-Monaro, Kristy McBain MP, wants to recognise the volunteers in our community by providing certificates of appreciation, and through helping to share their volunteer stories.

"I am very proud of the community spirit in Eden-Monaro. Eden-Monaro has been through some tough times over the past few years, and many thousands of

volunteers have lent a hand," Ms McBain said.

If you know an Eden-Monaro volunteer who deserves recognition you can nominate them for a certificate of appreciation by emailing Kristy.mcBain.mp@aph.gov.au by 5pm of Sunday, 10 May 2026 with:

- Name and contact details of organisation
- Name of volunteer
- Reason(s) for nominating the volunteer (up to 200 words).
- Address for certificate to be sent to
- A photo with permission to use

on social media.

If you are a volunteer and would like to share a story about your own volunteering experience, or how volunteering has helped you, please email Kristy.mcBain.mp@aph.gov.au to share your story.

"I look forward to helping recognise the generous people in our community who volunteer their valuable time to make our community a better place.

"There are so many volunteering opportunities available - there's always something for everyone. Let this be Your Year to Volunteer and see how you can get involved and volunteer in 2026" Ms McBain added.

The National Volunteer Week theme for 2026 is 'Your Year to Volunteer' and there are many wonderful opportunities in our community to get involved, from emergency services to local environment groups.

For more information on National Volunteer Week you can visit the Volunteering Australia website.

Photo supplied



Carwoola community launches HeartHelp to save lives in cardiac emergencies

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.

The initiative has been made possible by local volunteers, the support of sponsors including Bendigo Bank Bungendore, and leadership from the Carwoola Community Association.

This initiative was made possible by 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.



Queanbeyan

SHOP & WIN



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Community News

Bungendore High School Buzz

Bungendore High School
With a dedicated focus on Harmony Week, Bungendore High School participated in several activities focused on raising awareness about diversity, inclusion, and the negative impacts of racial discrimination. Some of the activities included making 'Hello' boards in different languages, sharing stories about culture and heritage, and decorating Harmony tree hands.

There was also a special whole school assembly held on North Campus which celebrated the diversity we have amongst the staff at Bungendore

High School. Several staff members shared stories of their different backgrounds and their experiences of calling Australia home.

The week's celebrations culminated in an orange themed mufti day and a bake sale run by our wonderful SRC during breaks on both campuses. Through the efforts of our students, we were able to raise \$266 for Amnesty International who campaign on a wide range of issues to protect and defend human rights, both within Australia and across the globe.

Photos supplied



Bungendore High Tea: this Saturday



It could be your Mum, remember Mother's Day is the next day, or your bestie, your kids, your partner, your whomever, just spoil them.

Our Bungendore High Tea is on Saturday 9 May with two sessions - 11am to 1pm and 2.30 to 4.30pm. It promises to be a great experience with delicious savoury and sweet offerings along with tea and coffee and of course scones with jam and cream. All that and a glass of bubbles for just \$50 per person.

Funds raised will be donated to cancer research. Our Rotary Club of Bungendore wishes to thank the Community Bank of Bungendore and IGA for their generous support.

Book your seats now.

Email us at admin@rotaryclubofbungendore.org or book through our use the QR code below.

We look forward to welcoming you all to this event.

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.





HOSKINSTOWN CHESTNUT ROAST

Mother's Day
Sunday 10 May
10am - 2pm

Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall

Roasted chestnuts, hot and ready to enjoy
Fresh chestnuts to take home
Hearty chestnut soups
Classic Devonshire teas

RFS BBQ featuring chestnut sausages (a must-try!)
Live Music and Unique gifts from our many stalls

For more information - call 0429 979 161

How to get there:
As Briars Sharrow Crossing will be closed, please detour via Bungendore. NO access to Hoskinstown via Captains Flat Road.



Fundraiser for the Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall



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

Maria's Community Corner



Maria Porreca

I attended 'Fawly Towers' show and dinner at the Royal Hotel on Friday 17th April. It was hilarious, a real hoot. A really enjoyable evening and a great way to spend a Friday evening with friends. I recommend, that if the opportunity arises, you should go.

The Queanbeyan Seniors stall was on Saturday 18th April and there were so many handmade winter articles on offer. Given everything else that was on that day it was still a great day for Queanbeyan Seniors. The money raised at these stalls goes to subsidising activities and trips for the members. They also laid a wreath

on Anzac Day's main service.

That same evening, I attended the Calabrese Federation dinner dance which was held at the Hellenic Club. The entertainment that evening was by De Bellis Group (piano & guitar) and the vocalists were Cosima De Vito and Dean Canan who sang Italian songs from folk to modern. Very nostalgic and I sang along (well tried to) with some as I actually remembered the words. The food and service were also exceptional, and I met up with 'friends' I see only once or twice a year.

CWA Queanbeyan Evening Branch laid a wreath during the Anzac Day main service, a day of remembrance, respect and honour

for all the service personnel who have served and sacrificed for our country. This year marks the 111th anniversary of ANZAC Day commemorating the landing of soldiers on Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915. The service was held at the Memorial Gardens, Moore Street, Queanbeyan this year.

On Sunday 26th April I attended the gathering of the Calabrese women where we got to witness traditional ring shaped sweet 'taralli' being made. They were so delicious and golden (they had a bit of alcohol in them). We all got to have a taste (and take a couple home) and they were like a shortbread. These gatherings are wonderful as we talk about our roots, traditions, customs,



experiences and learn to make some of our traditional Italian regional foods.

I, and a few of the CWA QEB members, will be going to Forster to attend the CWA State Conference. We will be taking with us the Queanbeyan winning entries in the CWA Southern Tablelands Group Land Cookery competition held at the end of March. The handicraft winning entries have already gone to State. Good luck to all members who have an entry going to State.

On the subject of CWA, the Queanbeyan Evening Branch

meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm at the Queanbeyan Ladies Bowling Club, on the corner of Campbell Street opposite the showground. New members are very always welcome. Contact Shiloh at queanbeyaneveningbranchcwa@gmail.com.

Wishing all you wonderful mothers, grandmothers and mother figures a truly fabulous Mother's Day. Hope you get spoiled.

Till next time, take care everyone.

Maria

Photos supplied

NSA welcomes important aged care changes

National Seniors Australia

Advocates support moves to rectify deficiencies in the new aged care system. But there is still more to do to improve aged care.

National Seniors Australia (NSA) has welcomed the Federal Government's announcement of a \$3 billion investment in aged care, saying the changes reflect concerted advocacy for fairer, more affordable home care and a stronger aged care system.

The measures, which will be a key part of the 2026 Budget, include more aged care beds, more home care places, and a reform to the new Support at Home program to re-categorise personal care services so they do not attract co-contributions - changes that NSA has consistently called for.

Supporting older Australians at home

Of particular significance is the Government's \$1 billion commitment to remove user charges for personal care services under the new Support at Home program. This means essential services such as showering, dressing, and continence care will be treated like other clinical supports and provided at no cost to the user.

NSA has long argued that these services are not "extras", but basic and essential supports that allow older Australians to remain safe

and dignified in their own homes.

For many of our members, out-of-pocket costs pose a barrier to accessing care.

Making personal care services fully subsidised is a practical step toward a fairer and more accessible Support at Home program.

More places, less waiting

The Government has also committed to accelerating the release of additional Support at Home places, helping to reduce long waiting times that have left too many older Australians without the help they need.

NSA has repeatedly highlighted the human impact of long delays for home care - carers burning out, avoidable hospitalisations, and older Australians being forced into residential care earlier than they want or need.

Our Federal Budget Submission called for more Support at Home packages to be released with the aspirational goal of reducing the wait time to three months by 1 January 2027.

While the details of this are unclear, we hope this heads the system in the right direction.

Strengthening residential care

Alongside home care reform, the Budget responds to the Independent Review of Residential Aged Care Accommodation Pricing, with funding to deliver an additional

5,000 residential aged care beds per year.

This includes:

- New targeted capital subsidies for newly built or refurbished homes
- Increased accommodation supplements, with extra support for facilities caring for a high proportion of supported residents
- More specialist dementia care units and expanded dementia support programs.

NSA supports a balanced aged care system that gives older Australians genuine choice - whether that's ageing at home or accessing high-quality residential care when needed.

Increasing the number of residential care places available, and supporting people with conditions such as dementia, is critical to reducing the number of people stranded in hospitals.

While we don't expect this to happen overnight, the quicker that providers are encouraged to ramp up capacity, the quicker this issue will be resolved.

What is critical is that federal and state health and aged care authorities work together to ensure the location and type of services being built respond to the needs of the community, including the lack of aged care in regional areas.

These announcements are welcome, but we will continue to

scrutinise the Budget when full details are released to ensure reforms are delivered in a way that truly benefits older Australians.

More to do

NSA acknowledged in its submission to the Federal Government back in October 2024 that we won't get the new aged care system right the first time and that ongoing review and refinement of the Aged Care Act, and the rules that sit under the Act, needed to occur.

It is not a sign of weakness to make changes even though the Act is in its infancy. It is good policy to head off future harm.

The announcements show what can be achieved and the value of supporting organisations such as NSA as a voice of seniors.

NSA continues to push for the following as part of the ongoing reform of aged care:

- Fair pricing and affordability in home care, including pricing controls to protect consumers and ensure not a cent more is spent than required.
- An end to excessive waiting times and the rationing of access to ensure those who need care get access to care.
- Strengthened assessment integrity that ensures older people are getting the right services and are treated with compassion.



- An end to stranded patients in hospitals by building proper discharge pathways and services where they are needed and to meet their specific needs.
- Improved provider transparency and comparability to give older Australians the basic information they need to make informed choices.

- The retention (and reform) of the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) as a stand-alone entry-level service for older people in need of support.

These changes will only happen when policymakers hear directly from older Australians.

Add your voice to National Seniors Australia's aged care campaign and help us keep the pressure up for better home care, shorter waiting lists, and dignity in ageing.

www.nationalseniors.com.au

Community News

ANZAC Dinner

The Bungendore War Memorial Committee hosted the annual ANZAC Dinner at the George Restaurant on Friday 01st May.

The evening was to Commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan and the collaboration between the Australian and New Zealand Army Services.

The committee wish to thank the Restaurant Manager Aman and Chef Bigyan and their staff for making the evening a huge success.

We would also like to thank the many local businesses for their very generous donations, with all profits going towards the maintenance/upkeep of the Bungendore War Memorial.

Bungendore Community Bank, IGA, Mitre 10, Capital 2 Coast, Aranya Acres Winery, The Malbon, Bungendore Antiques, Bungendore Cellars and Bentspoke Brewing company.

The committee looks forward to hosting the



Dinner again next year.

Sue Smith

Bungendore War memorial Committee President

Photos supplied



BUNGENDORE CRAFTERS CO-OPERATIVE

Craft Evenings

Thursday 14th May
Thursday 28th May

Address: TBA (please check our FB page for updates)
6-8pm
\$5+BYO craft project
Contact Thalia: 0412 884 120

Council Meeting Summary - Wed 22 April 2026

QPRC

Here is the summary of the resolutions made at the Ordinary Council meeting of 22 April 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 five members of the public who made presentations about items on the agenda including: Revised Unsealed Council Road Policy; Cultural Grant for the Braidwood Lions Club; Queanbeyan & District Basketball Association Request for Refund of Development Application Related Fees; and Jerrabomberra Traffic Campaign

- Council heard two staff presentations - one about Draft Development Waste Guidelines, and one about the Jerrabomberra Traffic Campaign designs
- Council approved leave of absence application for Cr John Preston for the 13 and 27 May Council meetings
- Council approved a donation from the General Fund to the Queanbeyan & District Basketball Association for \$51,384.37
- Council will place the draft Development Waste Guideline on public exhibition for 28 days at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au> and receive a post-exhibition report following public consultation
- Council received the Nellie Hamilton Centre Options Review Report, endorsed Option 5 as preferred option, which is to remain council-owned and managed, and re-finance if interest rates become favourable
- Council noted submissions received during the public exhibition of the Revised Unsealed Road Policy and delayed endorsing until after a workshop
- Council endorsed revised Street Verge Maintenance Policy for public exhibition at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au> and will adopt the policy if no submissions received
- Council approved a Cultural Grant of \$1,500 to assist with costs for the Braidwood Young Writers Festival 2026
- Council endorsed the Management of Cultural Gifts and Donations Policy for public exhibition at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au> and will adopt the policy if no submissions received
- Council adopted the Roadside Vegetation Management Policy
- Council received investment report for March 2026, noting return was a loss of \$292,015
- Council received information report about road renewal and maintenance activities for the third quarter 2025-26
- Council received information report with the HSEQ Quarterly report 1 January to 31 March 2026
- Council noted the minutes of the Queanbeyan Showground Advisory Committee meeting for Monday 9 February 2026
- Council noted the minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting for 20 March 2026
- Council noted the minutes of the Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee meeting for 26 March 2026
- Council will provide funding of \$899 from the General Fund to the Jerrabomberra High School Parents and Citizens in

support of their Breakfast Club

- Council received a report with answer to question about Monaro Street
- Council received a report with answers to councillor questions about matters on
- In closed session, Council awarded contract for the purchase, supply and erection of modular buildings at Braidwood Depot to Modstruct Group Pty Ltd for \$1,026,387 ex GST, allocated the additional \$917,580 from identified savings in 2025-26 budget
- In closed session, Council received an update on the Queanbeyan Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade project
- In closed session, Council authorised amalgamation of the Queanbeyan and Palerang Water Funds into single QPRC Water Fund from the 2026-27 financial year, set 2026-27 standard residential water access charge at \$444 per assessment and the usage charge at \$4.58/kL. Council authorised amalgamation of the Queanbeyan and Palerang Sewerage Funds into single QPRC Sewerage Fund from the 2026-27 financial year and set the standard residential sewerage charge at \$1,035 per assessment. Council authorised finalisation of Palerang Communities IWCM Strategy after community engagement and public consultation, and preparation of Development Servicing Plans including required stakeholder engagement and independent audit
- In closed session, Council awarded contract for the Jerrabomberra Traffic Campaign construction to Cord Civil Pty Ltd for \$1,204,813 ex GST noting that Brudenell Drive treatments will be reassessed and other safety works considered
- In closed session, Council received an information report on NSW Land & Environment Court Action - QPRC vs Pearl Energy
- In closed session, Council received responses to Councillor Questions on Confidential Agenda Items at the 22 April 2026 meeting

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>



Veolia Fails Again - Time To Speak Up!

Last month, the French multinational corporation Veolia, was issued yet another formal regulatory action – a Prevention Notice – in response to ongoing failure to monitor, manage or respond to odour impacts from their Woodlawn landfill at Tarago. For many in our community, this came as no surprise. What is significant, however, is what the EPA found again, and what it means for the future we are being asked to accept with Veolia’s toxic proposal to build an incinerator at the same site to burn Sydney’s waste 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for at least 25 years.

While the Veolia PR team will no doubt roll out their usual defence that any issues are the fault of the previous mine from decades ago, ‘unseasonable weather’, or that they’re ‘working with the EPA’, a closer look at the EPA’s investigation demonstrates serious

failures in landfill gas capture and leachate management systems, described as an “interconnected system failure”.

Meanwhile, surrounding communities have been directly impacted through significant and consistent “chemical, rotten garbage and rotten egg” odour in breach of Veolia’s operating licence.

This is the same company asking us to trust it with managing a large scale waste incinerator - something far more complex than a landfill. The same company who has been issued 7 separate regulatory notices for breaching their licence in Tarago since 2022.

For years, Veolia has relied on consultants, technical reports, and ‘expert’ modelling to promise decision-makers and the public that their proposed incinerator will operate safely, cleanly, and without

harm. But here in Tarago and the surrounding region, we don’t need to rely on modelling or hypothetical scenarios. We have reality. We have evidence which shows that in the real world, Veolia does not deliver on their promises.

The truth is simple - this proposal to burn Sydney’s waste in our region will generate millions of tonnes of contaminated and toxic ash, while also producing air emissions containing dioxins, furans, PFAS, lead, mercury and arsenic. This will pollute our air, land and water for generations to come. All while generating millions of dollars in profits for Veolia and allowing Sydney to send its waste problem out of sight, and out of mind to regional NSW.

This is why community voices matter - now more than ever!

NSW Government Public Forum - 14-15 May in Goulburn

The NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Proposed Energy from Waste Facilities is continuing, and a public forum will be held in Goulburn on 14-15 May. This is an important opportunity for local residents, farmers, businesses and community groups to show decision-makers that this issue matters, that our concerns are real, grounded, and ongoing - and there is no place for a waste incinerator in the Southern Tablelands!

At the time of writing, exact locations and times for the Goulburn forum have not yet been confirmed. As soon as those details are available, CATTI will share them via our website and on Facebook (see links below).

Because this is what it comes down to. We need to show up. We need to speak up. And we need to stand together.



CATTI will continue to advocate, inform and represent our community. But we cannot do it alone.

Get involved and keep following us on Facebook and the web: www.notaragoincinerator.com <https://www.facebook.com/groups/491803828839813>

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

National Tree Day in Queanbeyan

Planet Ark’s National Tree Day, launched in 1996, is Australia’s largest event dedicated to tree planting and nature care. It encourages Australians to get involved and contribute to their communities and environment. This year, National Tree Day will be held on Sunday 26 July across the country.

In Queanbeyan, Bicentennial Park will host the 2026 National Tree Day planting. QPRC selected the site and will be coordinating the event. Queanbeyan Landcare will assist with site preparation, tree selection, and organizing volunteers to ensure successful plantings. More information about how to participate will be provided in the coming months by both QPRC and Queanbeyan Landcare, but now is a good time to reflect on past National Tree Day events in Queanbeyan and the changes they’ve brought to the city.

2022: Queanbeyan River, near the Old Riverside Cemetery

Queanbeyan Landcare, QPRC and over 100 volunteers worked to extend an earlier planting from 2019, which extended from

Morisset Street Bridge to the ACT border at the Historic Railway Bridge. Native plants, many grown by Landcare members, were chosen for their compatibility with local conditions, minimizing maintenance and maximizing survival. These plantings support food sources and habitats for native wildlife, stabilize the riverbanks, and improve the area’s beauty. A mix of species and growth forms was selected to build habitat complexity. By 2026, the area’s transformation is remarkable thanks to fertile alluvial soil. You can find before and after photos on the Queanbeyan Landcare website.

2023 and 2024: Barracks Creek (Fairlane Fauna and Flora Reserve)

Over 1000 native trees and shrubs were planted along Barracks Creek’s eastern edge during both 2023 and 2024, again with over 100 community volunteers. This location helps link important vegetation and habitat areas, aligns with the QPRC Urban Forest Cooling Strategy, stabilizes creek banks, and allows for



future plantings. Most plants have flourished, making the area a multi-layered, dense patch of native vegetation. Some Eucalypts planted in 2023 suffered damage from feral deer, but repurposed oyster cages shielded the 2024 plantings.

2025: The Scar off Southbar Road
National Tree Day 2025 took

place on Sunday 27 July at The Scar off Southbar Road, Karabar, between the BMX Track and Dog Park. Previously a quarry and landfill dump, this site had poor soil resulting in slow-growing earlier plantings. Two locations were identified—the main one at the base of Mount Jerrabomberra’s slopes, and another parallel to Southbar Road. Over 120

volunteers worked to turn this barren area into a diverse, native habitat for wildlife and urban cooling, using hardy trees such as Kurrajong and many local Eucalypts suited to drier climates.

Ongoing Maintenance

Landcare members often say that planting is just the beginning—the real work follows. Tasks include replacing dead plants, repairing guards, controlling weeds, and spreading mulch and watering. Queanbeyan Landcare meets regularly for these follow-up activities, averaging over 100 volunteer hours each month. Council assists by spraying, mowing and providing mulch and water.

For detailed information about each site—including site preparation, species selection, ongoing maintenance, and photos visit www.queanbeyanlandcare.org.au. Interested in joining us doing this work? Membership details are available on the website.

Photos supplied of the same site along Queanbeyan River, down from the Old Riverside Cemetery. Above in 2022, right in April 2026.



Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Have Your Say

Projects & initiatives open for community comment	Closing Date
Place Naming Policy	11 May
Car Parking Review - Queanbeyan CBD and Braidwood	12 May
Waste Transfer Station operating hours	18 May
Draft Development Waste Guidelines	21 May
Management of Cultural Gifts and Donations Policy	21 May
Street Verge Maintenance Policy 2026	21 May
Wilkins Park Captains Flat improvements	27 May
Gracelands Park Queanbeyan East improvements	27 May
Future use of 172 Foxlow Street Captains Flat	28 May
Bungendore Structure Plan Review 2026	29 May
Draft 2026-27 Fees and Charges	11 June

► Find all the details at www.yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Submissions can be made:

- By registering and commenting via yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au
- By email to council@qprc.nsw.gov.au (referencing the item in the subject line)
- By mail to PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620
- Delivered in person to our Customer Service Centres

Notice of Licence Agreement Shop Front Room - Braidwood National Theatre

The Shop Front Room in the Braidwood National Theatre, 100 Wallace Street Braidwood, is being licensed to Braidwood and Villages Tourism Inc. for a 5-year term at \$657.00 per year (plus GST). The venue is permitted to be used as a Visitor Information Centre for Braidwood and the local area.

- You can make a submission on the licence agreement until 4:30pm on Tuesday 12 May 2024 by email to council@qprc.nsw.gov.au
- Or by mail
Attention: Governance and Legal
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Work with Council

Current vacancies include:

- Leading Hand - Concrete
- Leading Hand - Footpaths
- Records Officer
- HSEQ Officer
- For more information and roles see bit.ly/QPRC-Careers



Expression of Interest 2 dorper wethers

We have 2 dorper wethers for sale via expression for interest. They are approximately 8 months old.

- Submit an EOI online at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/public-notice



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:

- 13 May 2026 (Braidwood)
- 27 May 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.

Briars Sharrow Community Meeting

We are holding a community meeting at the Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall to discuss the Briars Sharrow bridge upgrade project.

Staff will be available to answer questions.

- When: 6 May
- Time: 6:30pm
- Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall, 1697 Hoskinstown Road

LoopedIn Councils Waste app

We have a new waste app, called LoopedIn Councils. Use the app to receive reminders about bin night, notifications about changes for public holidays, waste news, access the A-Z of waste, find our waste transfer stations, and check what goes in each bin.

If you have waste vouchers that you still need to use for this financial year, these need to be used from the old app before 30 June. After 1 July, the new app will have waste vouchers for the 2026-27 financial year.

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

- @QbnPaleringRC
- @QbnPalering
- @QbnPalering

Sign up for our weekly eNewsletter
eepurl.com/codv-v

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620
1300 735 025
council@qprc.nsw.gov.au
www.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Community News

Queanbeyan VIEW Club

VIEW Club Meeting for May
V. Voice, I. Interest, E.
Education, of W. Women.

**Next meeting will be
Thursday 21st May**

Queanbeyan VIEW meets of
the third Thursday of each
month, 12 for 12.30 Luncheon,
at the Tourist Hotel, Monaro
Street, Queanbeyan.

The guest speaker for this
month will be Tori Fraser from

CommBank on Scams. All
ladies are welcome to join us
for lunch for a time of fun and
friendship. We support the
Smith Family and have two
learning for life Students.

RSVP to Irene on 0438231003
or queanbeyanview@gmail.
com, by Sunday the 17th May

Photo supplied of Tim from
the ACT SES on resuscitation
techniques



Sugar tax needed to tackle Australia's worsening obesity crisis

Australia must introduce a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages to curb the nation's escalating obesity crisis, which is driving preventable illness and placing growing pressure on the health system.

The Australian Medical Association's 2026-27 Pre-Budget Submission proposes practical, cost-effective health reforms, with a sugar-sweetened beverage tax identified as one of the most impactful preventative measures available to government.

Obesity has now overtaken tobacco as the leading risk factor for disease burden in Australia.

Frequent consumption of sugary drinks is associated with a range of health problems, including poor dental health and obesity – a major risk factor for chronic diseases such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and cancer.

AMA President Dr Danielle McMullen said a sugar-sweetened beverage tax is a common-sense measure backed by extensive international evidence.

"More than 130 jurisdictions around the world have introduced a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages and seen clear reductions in sugar consumption," Dr McMullen said.

"Australia is now an outlier, and we can't keep putting this off while preventable disease keeps climbing. A sugar-sweetened beverage tax is simple, effective and long overdue."

The AMA is calling for a tax on selected sugar-sweetened beverages at a rate of 50c per 100g of sugar, which would raise the price of an average 375ml can of soft drink by about 20c, encourage healthier choices and create a strong incentive for manufacturers to reduce sugar content.

Australians consume more than 2.4 billion litres of sugary drinks every year – enough to fill 960 Olympic-sized swimming pools. Modelling shows a sugar-sweetened beverage tax would reduce annual sugar consumption by about 2kg per person, raise about \$3.6 billion over four years, and drive product reformulation as manufacturers adjust their recipes to avoid the tax.

Dr McMullen said Australia cannot continue relying on an overstretched health system to absorb the consequences of preventable disease when simple, evidence-based measures exist that reduce harm and long-term demand.

"We can't keep pretending the health system can absorb all the consequences of preventable disease – it can't," Dr McMullen said. "This is a straightforward, evidence-based policy that improves health outcomes and delivers significant budget savings. If we're serious about a sustainable health system, we must take prevention seriously."

The AMA says the upcoming federal budget is an opportunity for the government to show leadership and adopt proven measures that reduce preventable disease and ease pressure on hospitals and primary care.

"It's hard to argue against a measure that improves health, saves money, and is already working overseas," Dr McMullen said. "We can't keep kicking this can down the road – especially when that can contains about 12 teaspoons of sugar."



**VACCINATION
IS THE BEST
PREPARATION**

Influenza and COVID-19 viruses are always changing, and the risk of serious illness goes up if you're over 65. By vaccinating regularly, you can protect yourself before a new strain goes around.

**Speak to your health professional
and book your vaccinations today
or visit health.gov.au/winter-vaccinations**



Australian Government

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.

Hidden Words

Hidden in each of these sentences is a form of transport. Can you pick them out?

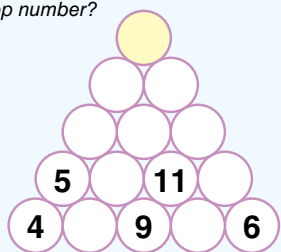
a
I'll always go the extra mile to get things right.

b
We'll need a crowbar George, to get this chest open.

TIME

Add Up

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



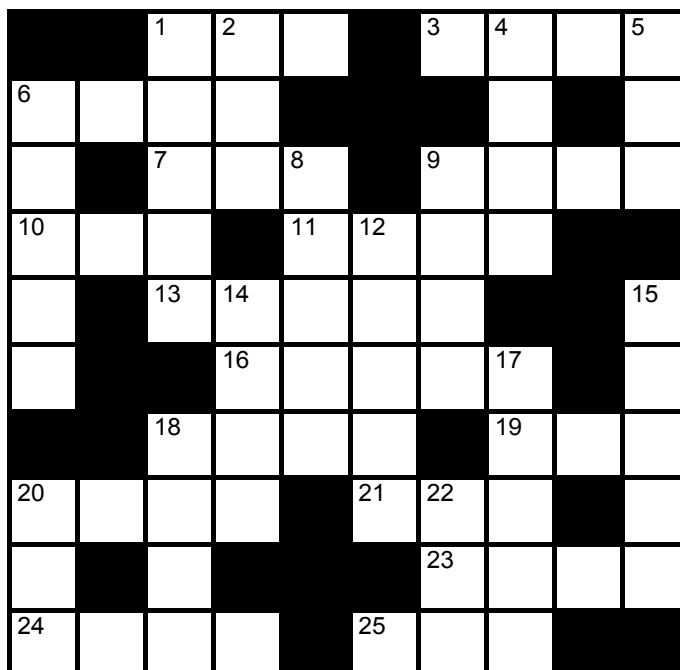
Six Mix

There are six six-letter anagrammable words in a grid. Diagonally in the shaded squares, a seventh word, FOREST is visible. Rearrange the six words into six new words, and place them in the grid in such a way that the word GALORE occupies the diagonal shaded squares.

F	I	D	G	E	T
L	O	N	G	E	D
H	O	R	N	E	T
L	A	M	E	N	T
P	R	A	I	S	E
A	N	O	I	N	T

TIME

Quick Time Crossword

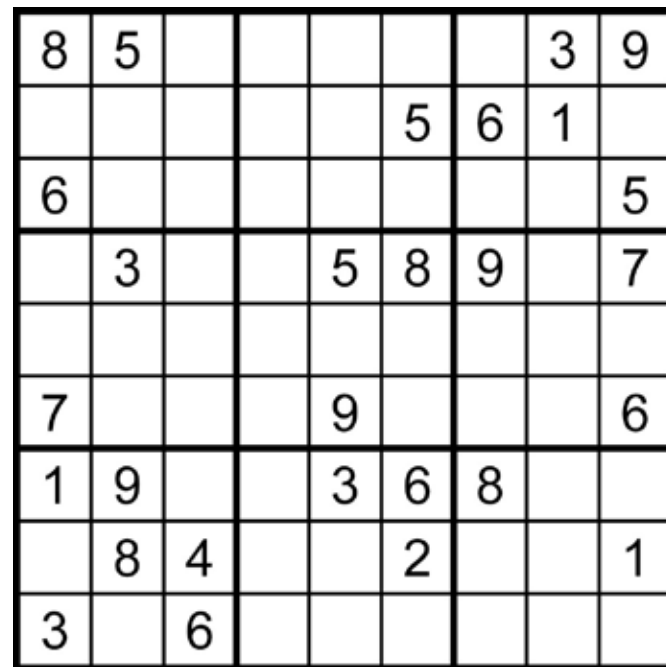


- Across
- 1 Solemn wonder (3)
 - 3 Wired enclosure (4)
 - 6 Church ornamental recess (4)
 - 7 Pronoun (3)
 - 9 Scottish hillside (4)
 - 10 Metal bearing rock (3)
 - 11 Completes successfully (coll) (4)
 - 13 Cleaning lady (coll) (5)
 - 16 Shabby (5)
 - 18 Make a hole (4)
 - 19 Be indebted (3)
 - 20 Thailand's former name (4)
 - 21 Father (3)

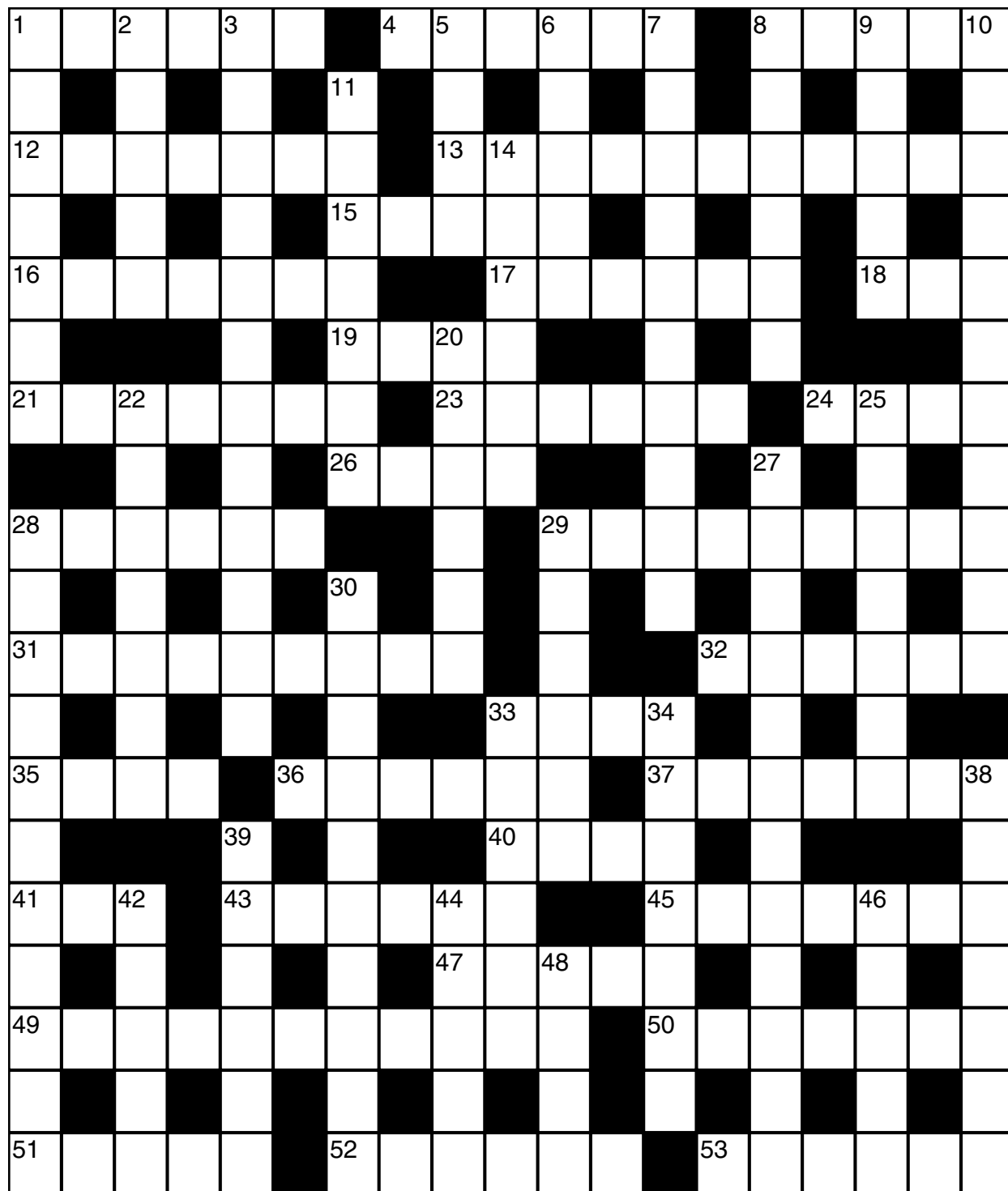
- Down
- 23 Lairs (4)
 - 24 Reduced sharply (4)
 - 25 Sun personified (3)
 - 1 Burnt remains (5)
 - 2 Tiny (3)
 - 4 Ventilates (4)
 - 5 Needle hole (3)
 - 6 By the length (5)
 - 8 Radiolocation (5)
 - 9 Sugar source (4)
 - 12 Quoted (5)
 - 14 Minute particle (4)
 - 15 Consecrate (5)
 - 17 Sing like the Swiss (5)
 - 18 Uncovered (4)
 - 20 Mineral spring (3)
 - 22 Fuss (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.



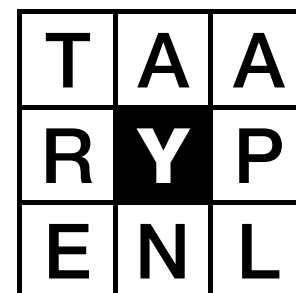
Crossword



Target Time

Target: Average - 16, Good - 22, Excellent - 34+

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.



- Across
- 1 Looked for
 - 4 Travels quickly
 - 8 Moulds, yeasts, etc
 - 12 Increase
 - 13 Artificial gems
 - 15 Songbird
 - 16 Objectives
 - 17 Purplish red
 - 18 Mineral spring
 - 19 Pig meat
 - 21 Reprint
 - 23 Frighteningly
 - 24 Hair-setting method
 - 26 Electromagnetic radiation (1-3)
 - 28 Exile
 - 29 Affirmation
 - 31 Lacking resolution (4-5)
 - 32 Pithy sayings
 - 33 Way of walking
 - 35 Sympathy
 - 36 Of teeth
 - 37 Highly-strung
 - 40 Uproar
 - 41 Potato-like tuber
 - 43 Ceremony
 - 45 Low seat or stool
 - 47 W Afr republic
 - 49 Burden
 - 50 Changed gradually
 - 51 Appetising
 - 52 Chauvinistic
 - 53 Bungle (4,2)
- Down
- 1 Be very hot
 - 2 Attendant
 - 3 Voluntary fast, as a protest (6,6)
 - 5 Check
 - 6 Propose
 - 7 Expert
 - 8 Mechanic, ___
 - 9 Smart: dressed to the ___
 - 10 Part payments
 - 11 Clear plastic
 - 14 Lovebite
 - 20 Harvested
 - 22 Embed
 - 25 Leaving
 - 27 Swimming style
 - 28 Deposit (4,7)
 - 29 Base
 - 30 Long-term bonds
 - 33 Pungent bulb
 - 34 Taught
 - 38 Prepared to play (5,2)
 - 39 Ill-tempered
 - 42 Derides
 - 44 Join to something larger
 - 46 Acts
 - 48 Acquires

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



ANZAC memorial on Briars Sharrow Road. Photo: Katie

PET OF THE WEEK



Name: FIFI
Age: 3

Likes: long walks & snuggles
Dislikes: cats

Claim to fame: being a spoilt only dog

Pickleball Come-and-try-it in Bungendore: open session this Saturday 8th May



Curious about this fast-growing sport? Bungendore Park Tennis Club now has two Pickleball courts and is running an open session on this Saturday 8th May between 9 and 11am.

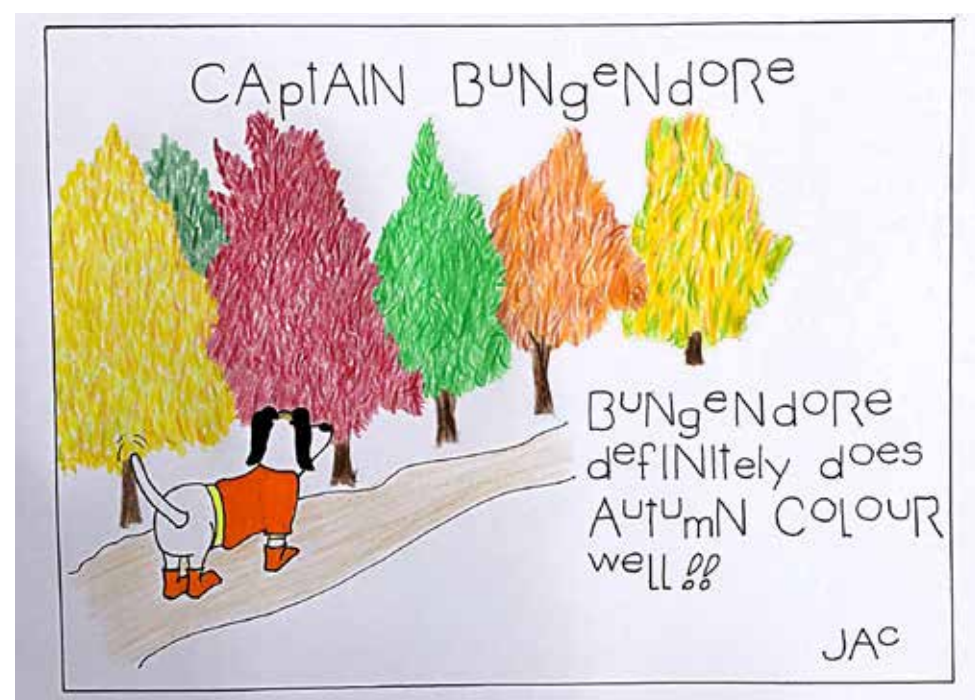
with no experience needed – just turn up, have a hit and enjoy the fun.

All equipment is provided, and friendly helpers will be on hand to guide you through the basics.

Pickleball is easy to learn, gentle on the body and a great way to stay active while meeting new people. Our “come and try” session is relaxed and welcoming,

Morning tea will be available for a small donation to the club. With enough interest the club will make this a regular weekly fixture.

Contact Lyn for more information at bptc.pickleball@google.com
Photos supplied



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.

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 OP SHOP BEHIND BUNGENDORE ANGLICAN CHURCH, BIRBALTA STREET BUNGENDORE

CONTACT 6228 1261 OR 0422606089


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

Musical Dementia Morning Tea Monday 18 May

The next Dementia Morning Tea on Monday the 18th May will have a musical theme.



Music can have many benefits for people with dementia. It can enhance mood, reduce stress, improve cognitive function and simulate memory and strengthen social connections.

Please come along to relax with music, friendly conversation and delicious eats. Stewart will delight us with tunes on the piano and Viviean will encourage us to join in with various musical instruments.

The morning tea is at the Bungendore School of Arts, 57 Gibraltar St Bungendore 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.

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 emailayrrows@bigpond.com

Bungendore CWA

Book Club : 1st Wed of the month

Garden Club : 3rd Sat of the month

Craft and Chat: 4th Mon of the month

Mahjong : 4th Tues of the month

CWA Rooms, Gibraltar Street, Bungendore

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



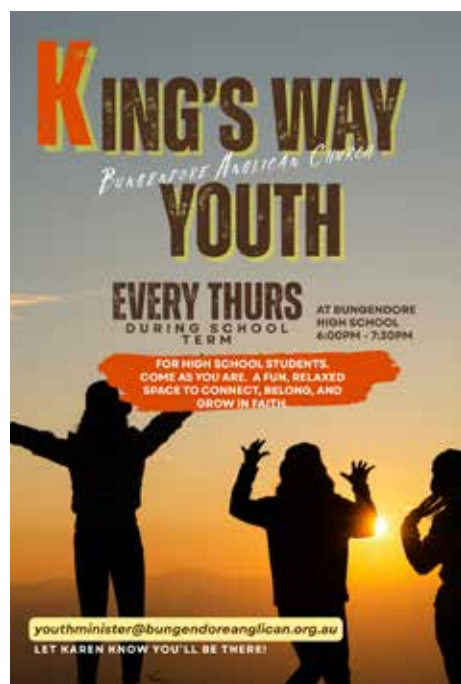
Queanbeyan Probus Club: next meeting Mon, 18 May

What are Probus Clubs? The word PROBUS is an amalgam of the words PRO-fessional and BUS-iness

Probus is an association of retired and semi-retired people, who join together in clubs. The purpose of which is to provide regular opportunities for them, to keep their minds active, expand their interests and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends.

There are men's clubs, ladies' clubs and combined clubs and is a community service of Rotary Clubs. They are not-for-profit making and non-denominational. The first club, established by Rotary, was in 1996 at Caterham, England. It is now worldwide with a global membership of over 2,000 clubs.

The Queanbeyan club is a combined men's and women's club, we have guest speakers, BBQ's, walks, outings, coach trips, morning teas and other entertainment. We meet between 10am and 12pm, every third Monday of each month at the Queanbeyan Bowling Club. We welcome new members, for more information please contact Dawn on 0419 114 832 or Lynne on 0409 195 454.



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

MOTEL HOUSEKEEPER REQUIRED

Motel Housekeeper required - (Queanbeyan)

Casual position

Start 8.50am - 2-4hrs

Some weekend work required

Suited to someone who is reliable, punctual, with a positive attitude

Experience preferred but not essential

Phone 6297 7366 8am - 6pm

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, Where: Bungendore Primary School Hall

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!



Tech Help is coming back to Queanbeyan Library! Starting Friday 1 May, drop in with your smart phone, tablet or computer and have your questions answered.

Mayor's Column

The second Jerrabomberra Reservoir hit a major construction milestone last week, with the reservoir's walls being lifted in. A massive crane was on site which had no problems lifting the 35-tonne wall panels into place around the base of the reservoir. The second reservoir will be able to hold 19.4 million litres of water. Roof construction will follow, and the project is expected to be completed in September. The original reservoir has been in continuous use for more than 40 years and needs refurbishment. We need a second reservoir so that we can refurbish the old reservoir. The new reservoir also addresses a lack of sufficient storage in the event of water supply interruption.



Recently we have been developing the 2026-27 Operational Plan and Budget. At the 29 April Extraordinary Council Meeting, we considered priorities and inclusions for the budget. We will receive a Draft Operational Plan at the 13 May Council Meeting and will be asked to endorse the plan for public exhibition. We invite the community to provide feedback on the draft plans while they are on public exhibition, and changes to the draft plans will be considered by Council after public feedback. After the 13 May meeting, the plan will be on our Your Voice website at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

It was my pleasure to be a small part in hosting another citizenship ceremony last week, where we welcomed 65 new citizens from 21 countries including, Afghanistan, Canada, Peoples Republic of China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, South Korea, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Philippines, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Congratulations to all the new citizens!

We are seeking feedback on the Draft 2026-27 Fees and Charges until 29 May. Each year our fees and charges are reviewed to ensure that they are appropriate for Council and the community, reflect our pricing strategy, and are benchmarked against similar services where they are available. You can provide your feedback at our Your Voice website at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

We are also seeking community feedback about the operating hours of our waste transfer stations. This will help us better understand your needs and preferences as we work to improve access by potentially adjusting operating hours. We would appreciate feedback so any improvements align with your needs. Fill out the survey at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/waste-transfer-station-operating-hours

Cr Kenrick Winchester, Mayor

Target Time

Target: Average - 16, Good - 22, Excellent - 34+ - aery, aptly, aryl, early, entry, eyra, layer, lyre, nary, nearly, neatly, paltry, pantry, party, partly, payer, penalty, pertly, PLANETARY, play, playa, player, plenty, pray, prey, pyre, realty, relay, rely, repay, replay, reply, teary, tray, trey, tyne, typal, type, tyre, yale, yarn, yate, year, yearn, yelp.

Brain Training

HIDDEN WORDS: a Tram b Barge

ADD UP: 76

SIX MIX: Across: Gifted, Nation, Golden, Throne, Aspire, Mantle

Puzzle Solutions

Sudoku

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

Quick Time Crossword

		A	W	E		C	A	G	E	
A	P	S	E			I			Y	
L	H	E	R			B	R	A	E	
O	R	E		A	C	E	S			
N		S	A	D	I	E			B	
G			T	A	T	T	Y		L	
		B	O	R	E		O	W	E	
S	I	A	M		D	A	D		S	
P		R			D	E	N	S		
A	X	E	D		S	O	L			

Crossword

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

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 CFCAMarkets@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 8 May, 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



Free legal advice appointments
A solicitor from South Coast and Country Community Law will be visiting your area for in person legal appointments.

When: Thur 14 May 2026, 10am to 1:30pm

Where: RSL Lifecare, Level 1, 251 Crawford Street Queanbeyan

Times: Between 9:30am to 1pm

Appointments are essential - please call 1800 229 529

What problems can South Coast and Country Community Law help with?

Family Law - Separation, parenting, property, divorce, child support, Employment, Tenancy, Victims Support, Credit and Debt, Centrelink Issues, Power of Attorney and Guardianship documents, Consumer Issues, Penalty Notices, Court Attendance Notices for speeding, licence, registration or alcohol/drug driving, Neighbourhood Disputes, Domestic and Family Violence Orders, Personal Violence

To book an appointment, call 1800 229 529. Staff will complete an intake, and a solicitor will see your call you back at your scheduled appointment time.

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.

VINTAGE & RETRO

Vintage and retro secondhand shop open Friday, Saturday and Sunday - 10.00 am to 4.30 pm
ART BY ANDERS 144 Uriarra Rd Crestwood Queanbeyan.
Happy Mother's Day

PROF. ROWING MACHINE FOR SALE



Concept 2 professional rowing machine as used in gyms
Excellent condition. \$980.00 ONO
Mobile 0491 131 099

CB BOBCATS

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



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.

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 **15 May**.
Phone Jim on 0428 194 105



Gavin Pillidge Courier

Braidwood - Canberra - Braidwood
Monday - Wednesday - Friday
Mob: 0428 968 162

RSPCA: All these very deserving animals are hoping to find their forever families really soon. Meet them at the RSPCA Shelter.

Website: rspca-act.org.au/adopt-pet

Contact: 6287 8100



Bindi, she's still here after nearly 300 days!

We're on a mission to find her perfect home.

Bindi Videos

www.facebook.com/reel/1277324940692649

www.facebook.com/reel/1207266790958852

BINDI (F) Staffy
Approx 20 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000879ZpIAI

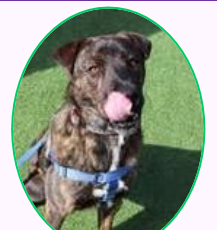


KUMA (F) Akita

rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000A5xsvIAB

Kuma Video

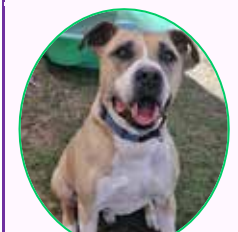
<https://youtu.be/LbAoXzrxpeg>



ARES (M) Shar Pei mix

Approx 9 mths

rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn000009eucblAA



GUS (M) Mastiff

Approx 10½ yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aJ3000004U0tIAM

Gus Videos

www.facebook.com/reel/913115941092078

www.facebook.com/reel/4260754637526704



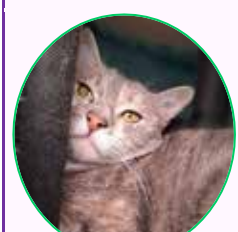
Chrissy (F) DSH

Approx 3 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petId=a3aMn0000082p9tIAA



Checkers (M) DSH

Approx 1 yr
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petId=a3aMn000009ull1IAM



MISS POPPY (F) DSH

Approx 1 yr
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000A7cKoiAJ



LINUS (M) DSH

Approx 2 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000AGe8bIAD



LILLIE (F) DSH

Approx 2½ yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aJ30000004REDIA2



MIFFY (M) DSH

rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn000009ull1IAM



PHOENIX (M) DSH

Approx 12 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000A7OPdIAN



WAFFLE (M) DSH

Approx 5 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000AC8TtIAL



FAIRY (F) DSH

Approx 12 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000AD57NIAT



STICKLEGS (F) DSH

Approx 2 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000AKhRFIA1



Kitties are also available for adoption at PET BARN MAJURA & PET BARN WODEN:



MORGAUSE (F) Isa Brown

Approx 5 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000AK3K9IAL



MORGAN LE FAY (F) Isa Brown

Approx 7 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000AK3KAIA1



BENNIE (M) Netherland Dwarf

Approx 5 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aJ300000049uiAA

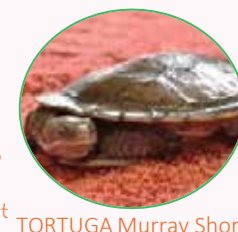


FRANK the PIG

Approx 9 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aMn00000A2MY9IAM

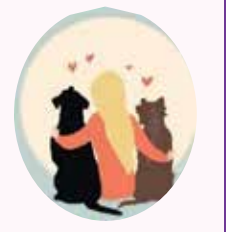
Frank is lonely. He would love some company!

Here's a very cute video of Frank spending time with his human friends at the Shelter.
www.facebook.com/reel/2211536182950071



TORTUGA Murray Short Necked Turtle

Approx 8 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet/a3aJ30000004h8cIAA



Every pet deserves a loving safe home.

The Shelter also has LOTS of birds looking for homes: doves, pigeons and also a cockatiel.



Don't forget the CANBERRA PAWS WALK SATURDAY 23 May & SUNDAY 24 May. The Canberra Paws Walk (formerly the Million Paws Walk) will run across TWO days. Two days focused on community and animal welfare.

Details: rspca-act.org.au/news/canberra-paws-walk-returns-community-event-supporting-animals-and-pet-owners

Sport

Two from Two for Mudchicks at Gala Day

Sat 2nd May: Gala Day
Bungendore Mudchicks

The Bungendore Mudchicks made the trip to Goulburn last Saturday for their first gala day of the season, taking on Hall and Easts in a strong showing of determination and teamwork. Vs Hall.

The Chicks came out firing, running hard and low just as they'd focused on in training all week. Early momentum was set by a massive effort from Karen Bollard, who broke the line and set up a well-earned try to Meredith Wells. The attacking pressure continued, with tries from Shannon

McAllister, Tia Baxter, and Taryn Robson giving the Mudchicks a solid 17-5 lead at halftime.

Despite being reduced to eight players due to injuries, the team showed incredible resilience. Digging deep, they continued to push through Hall's defensive line, extending their lead and finishing with an impressive 35-5 victory.

Vs Easts The second match proved a much tougher contest from the outset, with both sides battling hard for control. Standout performances came from Tess Atchinson, Hannah Croft, Meredith Wells, and

Kate Harris, who all played crucial roles throughout the game.

Fatigue set in during the second half, but the Mudchicks refused to back down. Showing grit and determination, they held on in a nail-biting finish to secure a 27-25 win.

A fantastic result for the Bungendore Mudchicks, finishing the day two from two and setting a strong foundation for the season ahead.

Points this week went to 3-Meredith Wells 2- Hannah Croft 1- Kate Harris

Coaches - Hannah Croft



Bungendore Budo Kenkyukai

On Thursday 23 April, Bungendore Budo Kenkyukai held their latest grading session, the first for this year.

19 students graded successfully to their next belt, with standouts receiving medals, or trophies in recognition of their performance.

The evening's testing included technical striking skill tests,

pre-determined drills, self-defence, contact sparring, and everyone's favourite; the breaking of boards as a demonstration of skill and strength.

Congratulations to all those who successfully 'levelled up' and attained their next belt.

Classes are now well and truly up and running for the year, with training held every Monday

and Thursday (1730-1830 for juniors, and 1830-2000 for seniors and higher belts).

If you would like to join in, or get some more information, the dojo can be contacted at bungendorebkk@gmail.com, or via their Facebook page (just search Facebook for Bungendore Budo Kenkyukai), and message them there.

Photos supplied



Sport

Queanbeyan Whites

Queanbeyan Whites

After a lacklustre performance against Wests, the Queanbeyan Whites have gone two for two defeating Royals (35-47) at Phillip on Anzac Day and Wests at Jamison oval (38-58) last weekend on day that saw Fourths and Reserves record their first wins.

This weekend third and fourth grade travel to Braidwood to take on Goulburn starting from 1:00pm. Firsts, Reserves and Colts will host Royals from 12:15 at Campese Field.

After coming close the last few weeks Reserves stayed

focused for the full seventy minutes to take the win 29-42. The match did not start well with the Whites dropping off tackles and allowing Wests to stroll right through for a 5-0 lead in the first minute.

It didn't take long for the Whites to hit back. As they worked their way closer to the line, half back Zane Glanville provided quick ball to his backs while the centre pairing of Maligi Finau and Dino Kahaulelio kept Wests on the back foot - resulting in a try to Kauaulelio. Five-Eight Riley Parrish converted to give the Whites a 5-7 lead.

The Whites dropped the restart and as Wests moved up the field, they swung it to the wing where big Wests hooker Peni Nifo was waiting just inside the 22. The Whites were unable to bring him down and Wests went ahead 10-7.

Queanbeyan dominated possession for the next ten minutes with great runs by Parrish, Junior Lilo and Finau keeping Wests on the back foot. As they kept moving the ball across the field the Whites showed much improved ball security and team work ultimately resulting in a try to flanker Harrison Felton to regain the lead 10-12.

The Whites next score came off a penalty inside their 22, the resulting lineout 10metres out was secured by flanker Dougal Perrers and as the pack moved forward, hooker Mitchell Bell peeled off on the blind side to extend the lead to 10-17.

As Wests began to gain more possession and field placement they scored the next two tries to go to the break ahead 22-17.

Wests came out of the break with a head full of steam and bombarded the Whites line however the Whites stood up and strong teamwork and scrambling defence by players such as Fionn Dunne, Abraham Tuli, Harry Velnaar, Lilo and Perrers kept them out.

It took a while, but the Whites eventually started to claw back some possession and reverse the pressure. Again, the Whites kept the ball in hand, moving through Bell, Lochlan Smith and replacements Finn Gibson, Sione Naufahu, before reconnecting with Bell on the far wing who with a no look pass linked with Lilo to



draw level at 22 all. No 8 Tuli was the next to score as the Whites scored off another lineout win but Wests again drew level just a few minutes later.

With the game at 29 all and 15 minutes to go this was the period where Queanbeyan has struggled and surrendered the game over the last couple of weeks. That was not to be this week, instead the team stood up and went on a small point scoring spree with a penalty goal to Parrish, and two tries to prop Lachlan Stanley to

round out the final score.

Results

Round 4:

First Grade def Wests: 38-58 - Tries: Joel Leiper (3), Hayden Patu (3), Andrew McFarlane, Koko Salim, Josh Townsend, Michael Rademaker. Conv: Archie Blayney-Brown (4)

Reserve Grade def Wests: 29-42 - Tries: Lachlan Stanley (2), Abraham Tuli, Lowame Lilo, Mitchell Bell, Harrison Felton, Dino Kahaulelio. Conv: Riley Parrish (2). Pen: Riley

Parrish (1)

Third Grade def Wests 24-41 - Tries: James Sweeny (2), Ryan McElroy, Chris Prail, Jack Negus, Rory Forbes, Hingano Helu. Conv: Ryan McElroy, Oscar Farfan

Fourth Grade def Wests 27-46 - Tries: BJ Fitzpatrick (2), Suni Bulu (2), Evan Nelson, Daragh Smith, Ryan McElroy, Arley Moore. Conv: Ryan McElroy (3)

Pictured are Maligi Finau and Sione Naufahu

Photos by **Jordan Mirchevski Photography**

Mudchooks On Top

Stewart Wilson

The Bungendore Mudchooks rugby team continued on its winning ways in the 2026 season with a comprehensive 62-3 victory over the Crookwell Dogs on Friday night 24 April and a 57-22 victory over the ADFA Lions on Saturday 2 May. Both games were played at home at the Bungendore Sports Hub on the Garry Cook oval.

The Crookwell match was the first night game played by the Mudchooks at their new home ground, moved from the usual Saturday to Friday night due to Anzac Day. It was a perfect evening for rugby - a beautiful crystal clear and still autumn night, the moon providing the backdrop and the oval's

lights helping generate plenty of atmosphere in front of a good crowd.

A moving Anzac Day ceremony preceded the game with a lone piper playing the Lament and the Ode recited by Mudchooks Life Member WO2 Peter Brown, a long-serving Army regular who still serves as a reservist.

The game itself was all Mudchooks. Crookwell scored first with a penalty goal after about seven minutes but from then on it was all Mudchooks, the team running in ten tries over the remaining 73 minutes with Tom Worman converting six of them.

It was 24-3 at half time with tries to Tino Lalofau, Brent Williams, Heperona Savelio

and Kyle Shand and two conversions.

The Mudchooks didn't back off in the second half, by now well in control and adding 38 more points through six tries and four conversions with Scott Geronimo, Maloni Tubekitu, Jye Russell, Brent Williams (his second), Kyle Shand and Jacob Cullen all crossing the line for five-pointers.

It was a big win for the Mudchooks on a special evening - three out of three so far.

Could they make it four out of four against ADFA? The opening stanzas were quite strange, the Mudchooks for some reason seeming to lack energy and intensity. A penalty goal from Tom Worman's ever-reliable

boot got them onto the scoreboard after nine minutes but it wasn't until a determined individual effort from veteran second rower Mark Norton that the Chooks finally got properly going.

From more than 20 metres out, 'Norto' scored, beating several attempted tackles on the way and dragging defenders with him across the line as he charged forward. Tom Worman converted and the Mudchooks were finally away.

Prop Brent Williams and flanker Cameron Faddy also scored in the first half - with both tries converted by Tom Worman - and the Mudchooks led 24-7 at half time.

Five more tries followed

in the second half by Navi Loatuicame, Zac Jerrim and Jye Russell (who only knows one way to run - hard and straight) with four of them converted by Tom Worman. The ADFA boys scored three tries in the second 40, the last one several minutes into extra time after a lengthy bombardment of the Mudchooks' line from close range.

The final score a reasonably comfortable 57-22.

Next for the Mudchooks is the Jindabyne Bushpigs at Jindabyne on Saturday, 9 May. This will be a real pointer as to how the team is going because both teams are undefeated so far and are on equal points at the top of the table, well clear of the others.

Player awards and their sponsors for the Crookwell game were:

Best and Fairest: Kyle Shand (3 points), Brent Williams (2 points), Jack Stanford (1 point).

Players' Player: Kyle Shand.

Coach's Award: Navi Loatuicame.

Chicks' Pick: Jack Stanford.

And for the ADF match:

Best and Fairest: Jye Russell (3 points), Mark Norton (2 points), Jack Stanford (1 point).

Players' Player: Jye Russell.

Coach's Award: Toby Campbell.

Chicks' Pick: Jye Russell.