

Captains Flat
Christmas in July
Markets : this Sat

RSL Lifecare: *Dying to
Know Expo* - Friday,
July 31 (see page 11)

Pet
of the
Week



Regional Independent

Free

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

No. 463

Wednesday 1 July, 2026

A Colourful Celebration of Culture Fills Queanbeyan Park



Despite the grey clouds and cooler weather on June 20th, Queanbeyan Park was alive with colour for this year's Multicultural Festival. The event usually held in March was moved to June due to bad weather. This year's date

corresponded with World Refugee Day.

Twenty different performers took to the stage throughout the event, celebrating their culture, music and dance.

The Prosperous Mountain Dragon and Lion Dance (above) captivated the crowd with their high energy and vibrant performance. When the troupe joined the crowd at the end of their performance children and adults alike were mesmerized

by their fabulous costumes.

Delicious food was a plenty with the variety of food, something for everyone.

Congratulations to organisers, all the multicultural communities

and the talented dancers for making the festival such a vibrant celebration of diversity, culture, and unity.

Shaaron Baxter-Judge. See page 15 for a festival snapshot



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Community News

Splish-splashing circus set to drown audiences in tears of laughter at The Q



Fresh from international waters, the award-winning circus troupe behind the critically acclaimed Trash Test Dummies are returning to The Q - Queanbeyan Performing Arts Centre this July to make a bigger splash than ever with their sell-out highly commended production **Splash Test Dummies!**

Armed with pool noodles, a giant beach ball and a huge bubble machine, expect to see synchronised swimming on unicycles as the Dummies turn the theatre into beach volleyball, bathtub shenanigans and an underwater paradise. There are bubbles, water pistols and epic immersive action!

The success that this Australian circus trio has seen - at home and abroad - is remarkable. Performer & Creator **Jamie Bretman** says a lot of it comes down to the approach the performers take with their audience.

"We blur the lines between the impossible and possible. If we can get even some of our audience members to run with the idea that anything is possible, we have achieved what we set out to do," he says.

Full of laughs and plenty of surprises, this world-class troupe will display a brilliant array of catchyour- breath stunt work,

acrobatics, juggling and the side splitting, slapstick comedy for which the dummies are famous. New to this production is the inclusion of unicycles, incredible magic tricks and inspiring puppetry.

Jamie, who also has a background as a youth worker, is passionate about using circus to improve the lives of young people across the country. He believes in encouraging imagination expansion through play, audience engagement and just being silly.

"We don't talk down to kids, I'm a firm believer in this - It's important to us to make the work excellent. We are constantly improving the show and giving kids permission to be involved (or not), but to trust us. It's a really safe space and it's really interactive."

The performance runs for 60 minutes and is for audiences of all ages. Be prepared to have your funny bone well and truly tickled and your mind blown by what the human body is capable of.

Tickets are available at **theq.net.au**

Photo supplied

Council looks for solutions to change room issues

Debbie Evans

Three patrons have been injured while using the upgraded change rooms at the Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre, prompting their temporary closure while Queanbeyan-Palerang Council seeks a solution.

The Independent was recently contacted by a concerned resident who disclosed the incidents which have since been confirmed by Council.

A spokesman for Council last week said; "that three incidents involving slips in the change rooms have occurred. In each case, first aid was provided to the individuals by our trained staff.

"With one incident where there was a delay with an ambulance, staff rang multiple times to check on the timeframes.

"The safety of our patrons is our top priority, and we work hard to ensure our facilities meet all relevant safety standards. The pool flooring is compliant with these standards, and signage is in place to alert visitors to the risk of slippery surfaces in wet areas

"While the flooring is compliant, the change rooms have been temporarily closed while we reassess options for another non-slip coating."

Council didn't confirm the nature of injuries sustained, but the Independent's anonymous source said they understood they included a broken toe, broken shoulder and a knee wound exposing bone.

Council said it was not aware of any other injuries linked to the changerooms.

Council stated, "A floor finish was specified in the design that is commonly used in hospitals, change rooms and toilet areas. These floors are compliant however, we have had at least three slips, and we are considering our options for replacement.

"We looked at a temporary solution of fake turf, but this was not approved. No members of the public used the facilities while the fake turf was in place on the floor, and at a couple of options, including mats and a glue-like treatment on the floors. Neither of these options were suitable. A more permanent solution is expected to have an additional cost."

Councillor Ross Macdonald raised the issue of the ongoing closure of the

changerooms and necessary steps to remediate the situation at Council's June 24 meeting.

In relation to the additional costs involved he questioned whether the money needed should be identified through Council's budget process.

Council General Manager, Rebecca Ryan, said staff have now been tasked to come back to Council with a scope and price for the work.

She said funds could come from Council's General Fund from which all budget items are funded, unless from water and sewer.

"This is why it's important for Council to have unrestricted cash to manage these issues as that come up during the year that Council deals with on a periodic basis.

"I would rather not have a figure (for the works) and then come back to Council that we don't have enough or have a figure that we only have a miniscule amount and that money could have remained in unrestricted cash, please."

The Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre change rooms upgrade was completed for the 2024/25 season at a cost of \$606.000 and opened in October 2024.

The works included four new changerooms, baby changing tables and shower facilities to allow parents to shower and dress children in a private space before and after using the pool facilities. The new changerooms joined the existing accessible family change room, bringing the total number from one to five.

The additional change rooms were intended to encourage more parents to bring children to the pool and provide enough changing space for school carnivals, swimming lessons and other programs.

Crown Lands, part of the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, helped fund the project through a \$244,305 Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF) grant with QPRC funding the rest of the project. The total cost was \$606,000.

At the meeting, Council removed \$208,000 for heating and ventilation upgrades to the Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre change rooms from the 2026/27 budget.

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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Monaro Street Business's unite to tackle CBD challenges

Debbie Evans

Drug deals, assaults and other anti-social behaviour in the CBD are just some of the issues the Queanbeyan Regional Chamber of Commerce is tackling head on.

The newly formed Chamber has yet to be formally named but the executive has hit the ground running following a Friends of the CBD meeting they hosted at the Royal Hotel on Monday, 22 June.

The meeting was convened to evaluate the impacts of business disruption from the current Monaro Street Refresh project and help where possible. And even though there has been a downturn in business many attendees agreed the refresh project alone couldn't be solely blamed.

Other factors such as increases in interest rates, cost of living and the hike in fuel prices all cited as having an impact prior to and now alongside the Monaro Street upgrade.

But these sentiments aren't shared by all businesses along the street.

Businesses approached by the Regional Independent on Friday afternoon directly attribute a significant downturn in trade to the Refresh works.

One business owner described her trade as "very bad" since the works in the street started in March.

"Our business is easily down 30

percent through the day and as much as 60 - 70 percent at night."

"I want to keep my business open, but it is a very uncertain future. I have even taken out a personal loan to make sure I can pay my rent."

Another said they will find it hard to survive with the closure of their business for a whole week while the footpath out front is upgraded.

"We already have a really low income and are struggling financially."

Another commented, "We are definitely not as busy even though we appreciate the locals continuing to show their love and support."

"The greatest impact has been on our elderly customers whom we would have seen once a week, but now they are only coming once every two to three weeks. This is because they must park so far away and walk to us and there is no parking close by." She said.

Businesses are urging residents to continue visiting the CBD, shopping locally and supporting cafés, restaurants and retailers wherever possible, reminding the community that every dollar spent locally helps keep doors open and jobs in Queanbeyan.

However, the Monaro Street project is part of a bigger picture of concern which includes a lack of a visible police presence to control and discourage undesirable



behaviour.

The Friends of the CBD meeting heard of assaults in broad daylight, harassment of staff, a noticeable uptick in theft from business, needles left in public spaces and squatters in vacant premises in Rutledge Street harassing people and causing public safety concerns.

The lack of light penetration into alleyways due to the Monaro Street works was highlighted as an issue favouring criminal

activity such as drug dealing, while general visibility across the CBD due to the street works is considered a security risk

But the lack of police presence was highlighted.

One business person commented, "we don't see a police presence, we never see them walking the CBD. Police really need to step it up."

"They need to be doing foot patrols, maybe even horses," another said.

The Chamber has now written to Police, Council and local member, Steve Whan, seeking a meeting to explore options for more police in the CBD and strategies to improve public safety.

The next meeting of the Chamber will be 5.30pm, upstairs at the Royal Hotel on July 6. Member for Eden-Monaro, Kirsty McBain, will be the guest at the meeting for a question and answer session.

Above: Monaro Street refresh progress. Photo Debbie Evans



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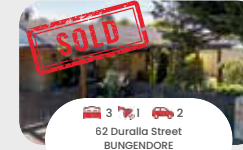
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Lake George members recognised for outstanding service

The commitment of more than 70 NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers who have dedicated years of service to the Lake George District were recognised at a ceremony in Bungendore last Saturday

Superintendent Paul Jones AFSM will be joined by special guests to present seven National Medals and 64 Long Service Medals,

representing more than 1,400 years of collective service.

“With years ranging from 10 to 50 years, many of these volunteers have devoted a significant portion of their lives to protecting others,” Superintendent Jones said.

Among those being honoured is Danny King, whose five decades of service exemplify the selflessness and strength of the RFS spirit.

“Since joining the RFS in 1975, Danny has remained an active and valuable member, fulfilling numerous roles within the Braidwood Brigade,” Superintendent Jones said.

“His service has also extended to the wider district as a Group Captain for several years.”

Superintendent Jones said it’s

members like Danny who go above and beyond for their brigades and local community that have made the RFS what it is today.

“This is a fitting time to recognise the dedication they all show and share in protecting our local community,” he said.

“Their professionalism does not go unnoticed and while they don’t do the work for praise, their bravery

and commitment should be acknowledged.

“I also acknowledge those who support volunteers in what they do - the family, friends, employers and colleagues. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and protect property.”

Photo supplied



The changing faces of need

Debbie Evans

Young families and working people are the new cohort accessing support services in Queanbeyan as cost-of-living pressures really begin to bite forcing more people to seek help to survive.

And asking for help is a new experience and something that isn’t coming easily for many.

Elaine from St Benedict’s Community Centre described a “quiet desperation” amongst the working people now coming to the service for help.

“We are seeing a rise in the demand from people we would never normally see.”

“We don’t always have time to count numbers as we’re too busy helping people, but there has definitely been an increase in demand across all sectors, including young single mothers with small children.”

Terry a spokesman for The Terry Campese Foundation confirmed

there has been an increase in demand for the Queanbeyan Night Podz including from young families with small children.

To address the growing needs of the community the Foundation is currently working on the design of container pods that will sit on the back of truck trailers providing more suitable accommodation for people generally and especially for those with disabilities, who find it hard to access the sleep bus.

The Vinnies Night Van works with the Foundation to make sure people accommodated in the sleep podz also have access to food and drink.

Elaine said her service is currently stretched beyond capacity with increasing demand coming from outlying areas such as Braidwood, Bungendore and Cooma.

“When you add these people to those we are already assisting, then our services are even more stretched.

St Benedict’s currently has 3 full-

time employees and 20 volunteers all working to support the 155 people they have on their books, nine of whom are rough sleepers.

“There’s certainly been an increase in the number of people sleeping rough, we work to get people into housing, but this is a process that can take a long time, it’s not a simple. For example, we had some people recently suffering from cancer and it took us two years to get them into housing.

“There are ways to ease the situation, but it requires a collective effort. We need more houses, landlords who are prepared to give people a go, even those without a rental history or young people.

“Sometimes people just need an opportunity to prove themselves.”

Elaine’s wish list for the future is simple, “I’d be just so happy with a block of land, a house, a block of flats, anything to ease the housing crisis for our people.”

Nationally the Salvation Army reports that over a third of children

living in single-parent households are living in poverty. And last year, 80,000 single parents accessed homelessness services.

They say the ongoing cost-of-living crisis has deepened homelessness and housing stress across Australia.

According to 2021 Census figures 121 people across the Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council area were homeless. The Census will be held again in August this year and the figures on homelessness are expected to have increased considerably over the past five years.

The following services are available to support in Queanbeyan; Vinnies (St Vincent de Paul Society): Call the Emergency Helpline at 131812 (Mon-Fri) 9am - 3.30pm for assistance with food, clothing and essential bills.

Anglicare Food Fair: located at 114 -120 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan. They operate a community pantry

offering groceries, fruit, vegetables and meat. A small sign-up fee may apply.

St Benedict’s Community Day Care Centre: located at 21 Brigalow Street, Karabar. They offer emergency food, showers, and laundry services from 10am - 1pm (Mon-Fri).

Communities at Work; while based in the wider ACT/Queanbeyan region, they provide emergency groceries and clothing assistance program (for things like job interviews) Call 0262936500 to arrange an appointment.

Communities Pantries: the Queanbeyan Presbyterian Church (1 Morisset Street) maintains an outdoor 24/7 free community pantry where you can take what you need.

You can also use the Ask Issy or the Food Finder search tools to locate additional emergency relief and clothing hubs operating within the Queanbeyan and border Capital Region.

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Council Meeting Summary - 24 June 2026

QPRC

Here is the summary of the resolutions made at the Ordinary Council meeting of 24 June 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 three members of the public who made presentations about items on the agenda, including: Draft 2026-27 Integrated Planning and Reporting Documents Post Exhibition Reports for Adoption
- Council heard a Staff Presentation about the Draft 2026-27 Integrated Planning and Reporting Documents Post Exhibition Reports for Adoption
- Council acknowledged the extraordinary contribution of Queanbeyan-Palerang residents who were recognised in The King's Birthday 2026 Honours List, congratulated all honourees and thanked them for their years of dedication
- Council considered submissions to draft Integrated Plans, adopted final amendments for the Operational Plan and Delivery Program 2026 to 2030, inclusive of the Fees and Charges, Statement of Revenue Policy and Donations Program, adopts the Long-Term Financial Plan

- Council considered submissions to the Proposed Rates Structure, thanked community for feedback, confirmed Option 2 as continue Rate Structure, will provide a voluntary pensioner rebate of \$60 to all pensioners, in addition to legislated rebates. Council makes and levies the rates and annual charges as detailed in Statement of Revenue Policy for the 2026-27 financial year
- Council approved acceleration of construction of earthworks for the Briars Sharrow Bridge Upgrade, funded by the allocation of \$300,000 from the Rural Development Contributions Plan
- Council deferred the remediation of Braidwood landfill site and will receive a report following detailed financial modelling of QPRC Waste Service Operations and Waste Management Strategy to ensure sustainable approach prior to the 2027-28 budget
- Council endorsed the \$370,000 funding agreement under the Federal Government's Major and Local Community Infrastructure Program for the David Campese Oval Fencing and Netting Infrastructure Upgrade and inclusion of project in 2026-27 Operational Plan
- Council approved affixing of Common Seal to execute the

funding deed contract with Department of Climate Change, Energy Efficiency, and Water for the Urban Rivers and Catchment Program

- Council endorsed the draft Private Burial Policy for public exhibition for 28 days at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au>. If no submissions are received the policy will be adopted
- Council adopted the Acceptance and Management of Cultural Gifts Policy
- Council received Investment Report for May 2026, noting return of \$1,981,680
- Council received information report about the Infill Housing Strategy and technical studies that have been prepared
- Council received information report about the transition of Red Fleet Firefighting Fleet from Local Councils to RFS
- Council received information report about offsetting an environmental offset in relation to the Dunns Creek Road project
- Council received information report with the Quarterly Rates and Charges Outstanding
- Council received information report about responses to LGNSW Annual Conference Resolutions from November 2025

- Council noted the minutes of the Heritage Advisory Committee on 4 June 2026, received submissions for three Development Applications
- Council noted the minutes of the Small Business Advisory Committee held on 10 June 2026
- Council will work collaboratively with the major supermarkets to address the problem of shopping trolley abandonment in Queanbeyan public areas and earnestly apply compliance provisions should shopping trolley abandonment continue unchanged
- Council received a report with answers to councillor questions about Cost Savings and Efficiencies for the Operational Plan 2026-27
- Council received a report with answers to councillor questions about Queanbeyan to Bungendore pipeline capital works carried forward to 2026-27
- Council received information report with answers to councillor questions about March quarter 2025-26 growth projections
- Council received information report with answers to councillor questions about access to new ACT recycling centre
- Council received information

report with answers to councillor questions about matters on the agenda

- In closed session, Council declined any tender for Fire Services Upgrades - The Q, Bicentennial Hall and Heritage Library, cancels the proposal for the contract, and will receive a report outlining required budgets for proposed packages of work to upgrade fire services to The Q, Bicentennial Hall and Heritage Library

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>

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Authorised by Kristy McBain, ALP,
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- Maintaining a large home alone?
- The hidden costs and traps of retirement villages?

What if you could have:

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- Food gardens & shared infrastructure lower living costs
- Guest accommodation that grows friendships
- Interdependence without dependency – Independence without isolation

We invite you to explore a new approach to a more resilient and connected future that allows us to age well and with dignity.

DATE: Saturday 1st August 2026
TIME: Sessions at 11am; 3pm; 7pm.
PLACE: Kangaroo Club, 33 Stuart St, Queanbeyan

Come and talk to us about your situation. What are you seeking?
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BYO Craft Project Evening Brings Creativity and Connection

Despite the winter chill outside, a warm and welcoming atmosphere filled the Bungendore School of Arts on Thursday evening as local women gathered for the latest Bungendore Crafters' Co-Op BYO Craft Project night.

The room buzzed with conversation, laughter and creativity as participants worked on a wonderful variety of projects. From knitted and crocheted blankets, baby clothes and vests to sparkling hand-stitched mandala designs, watercolour painting, hand-sewn scrap-fabric patches, embroidered birds and upcycled bags crafted from a stunning op-shop jacket, there was no shortage of inspiration on display.

The evening was about much more than crafting. It was a chance to share knowledge, exchange craft tips, learn new skills and encourage one another's creative pursuits. Whether experienced makers or complete beginners trying something new, everyone enjoyed the relaxed and supportive environment.



Most of all, it was a pleasure to spend time among friends in such a creative and welcoming space, where conversation flowed as easily as the projects taking shape around the room.

Bungendore Crafters' Co-Operative will meet again in a fortnight on Thursday 9th July, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at the Bungendore

School of Arts. Women who would like to craft alongside like-minded, kind people are warmly invited to come along. There are no memberships, fees, skill requirements or expectations—just bring along a project, enjoy a cuppa, and join in the creativity and connection.

Photo supplied

Captains Flat Christmas in July Markets this Saturday

The annual Captains Flat Christmas in July Markets feature a visit from Santa, Mrs. Claus, and a Grinch.

Held at the Captains Flat Community Hall, they are a beloved community event showcasing local

handmade goods, arts, crafts, and festive winter foods.

Saturday 4th July
10am to 2pm at the Captains Flat Community Hall



Maria's Community Corner



Maria Porreca

This fortnight I have attended a few meetings.

The first one was the CWA of NSW Southern Tablelands Group Council meeting on Saturday 13th. It was held in the Crookwell CWA Rooms. The rooms are beautifully decorated with many books on the history of the Crookwell Branch (it was the first CWA Branch established in 1922), trophies and many dolls dressed in national costume of the countries studied over the years. If only the dolls could speak there'd be so many stories to tell.

The following Monday 15th I travelled to Goulburn for another CWA meeting, and this was also held in the Goulburn CWA Rooms. This is a much older building and does need some TLC and 'livening' up.

On the Wednesday I attended an event called 'Canberra on Show' at the Canberra Rex Hotel on Northbourne Avenue. It was put on by the Canberra Convention Bureau and is an annual showcase of business events suppliers. Canberra on Show is an opportunity to discover more about Canberra and immerse oneself in everything the region has to offer for a business event. You get to connect one-on-one with a range of business events suppliers including hotels, venues, event services, styling and experience providers. This will be a great help in organising next year's CWA of NSW State Conference.

But the fortnight was not all 'work'. My sister celebrated her birthday, so we had a celebratory lunch for her at 'Asteri' Greek restaurant in Mawson. The food was superb and the service was also great.



Really well worth a visit.

And today I had a catch-up lunch with a group of friends at Walsh's Hotel. This is the first time I have been here since the renovations and looks really nice. The food and service were great. However, I was also spotted by a former neighbour of mine. He informed me that it has been 20 years since he and his family moved to the Gold Coast, but they have now come back to be closer to family. It was so good to see him and his wife. I am telling you about this because, since they returned in March this year, he apparently reads my column, so I'm sending out a big shout out to him and his family.

The next monthly meeting of CWA Queanbeyan Evening Branch is on Tuesday 14th July at Campbell and George at 7.00pm. You can join members for dinner prior to the meeting if you wish as the kitchen is open from 5.30pm.

Till next time take care everyone.

Maria

Photos supplied



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Community News

Tax changes - Why your exit strategy is just as important as your investment choices



Phil Harvey

For the last 20 years, building wealth was done by buying and holding assets that appreciated in value. If you could, borrow to invest and time would just take care of the rest. The exit strategy didn't really matter as much as you got to defer any capital gains tax and when you did sell you still got to keep at least 75% of the gains.

The recent tax changes have now made the exit strategy the centrepiece.

While growth assets still benefit from tax deferral, the replacement of the CGT discount with an indexed cost base means the tax

outcome is no longer as one-sided as it once was. The pendulum has swung around the other way now. Consider three investors who earn \$175,000 each contribute \$20,000 a year and get the same total return of 10% per annum over fifteen years.

Ian Income - he earns 8% in dividends and 2% capital growth.

Barry Balanced - he earns 5% dividends and 5% capital growth.

Grace Growth - she earns 2% dividends and 8% capital growth.

All three have reinvested their after-tax dividends.

At the end of 15 years, Grace has \$652k but Ian only has \$572k. Barry is in the middle with \$630k.

Not unexpected. The unrealised (and untaxed) gains have been left to compound for Grace and Barry. Ian has paid tax on all earnings each year.

However, if all three investors sell their portfolios after fifteen years, the picture changes.

Depending on the final tax rate, Grace would potentially need to pay more than \$100,000 in Capital Gains Tax, moving her to the bottom of the pack.

Barry moves to out on top and Ian jumps into second place.

Now the question about whether the assets will be held for life or sold at some point is much more important than it used to be.



With the help of my mate Claude, this calculator helps explain it graphically.

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ASIC calls platform trustees to account over persistent failures to safeguard super savings

ASIC is warning superannuation trustees to address stark and persistent failures to protect retirement savings, including gaps in the monitoring of harmful advice fee deductions, unusual fees and investment patterns, and high-risk superannuation switching activity.

ASIC Report 833 Safeguarding super: How well are platform trustees monitoring risks to retirement savings? details findings from a review of six platform trustees entrusted with over \$300 billion in retirement savings – about three quarters of total funds managed by platform trustees.

ASIC Commissioner Simone Constant said there was no excuse for the troubling lack of protections put in place by some trustees.

'It's clear some trustees are not doing enough to protect their members, despite repeated warnings from ASIC and APRA about the dangers of poor oversight. Nor have they learned lessons from the collapses of the Shield Master Fund and First Guardian Master Fund, which cost more than 11,000 Australians around \$1 billion in retirement savings.

'In one disturbing case, a trustee failed to take further action for 13 months after becoming

aware of suspicious activity from a representative of an advice licensee. During that time, another representative of that licensee submitted applications to rollover superannuation balances containing the falsified signatures of a deceased adviser.

'Many of the clear gaps in oversight are deeply concerning and difficult to justify. Trustees should not expose their members' retirement savings to unacceptable risks in the pursuit of volume growth.

'In this age of rapidly evolving technology and data-driven intelligence, it is extraordinary to see some trustees not carrying out any checks in a month despite a 75% adverse finding rate, and others being comfortable with limited, almost entirely manual indicators to monitor potential harm,' Commissioner Constant said.

ASIC's review identified the following areas requiring immediate attention from trustees:

- Persistent gaps in advice fee controls, which in some cases have regressed over the past two years. One trustee proposed a fee cap of \$30,000 – well beyond caps identified in ASIC Report 781 Review of superannuation

trustee practices: Protecting members from harmful advice charges

- Limited checks of advice documents with half of the trustees reporting they did not conduct any checks for at least one of the months in ASIC's review period.
- Insufficient focus on understanding the advice licensees' business models, including whether they use lead generators or other third-party referral sources.
- Inadequate monitoring of key risk indicators, such as member churn, patterns in fees, holding limits and unusual fund flows.

Amid continued growth in demand for platform funds, Commissioner Constant said it had never been more important for platform trustees to take the necessary steps to uphold confidence.

'In the 10 years to June 2025, superannuation platforms have experienced extraordinary growth, with a more than three-fold increase in member benefits, from \$123 billion to \$396 billion, compared to the sector which more than doubled. Over the same period, advice fees charged from superannuation platforms have increased four-fold to \$2.3 billion.

'We acknowledge that much of this growth has been driven by the segment's innovative retirement options, and by Australians looking for more control over their superannuation investments. But this only underscores the importance of prudent trustee oversight that monitors for harmful risks to retirement savings. Trustees are accountable to their members for this and their members deserve to have confidence in their stewardship.

'Despite being well aware of the dangers of poor oversight – from the Royal Commission's exposure of fees for no service to the egregious conduct exposed in the Shield and First Guardian failings – some trustees failed to establish basic protections, like looking into an advice licensee's business model before they are onboarded. This is a clear breach of trust,' Commissioner Constant said.

ASIC includes a list of calls to action across key focus areas for all trustees to consider.

'All superannuation trustees should immediately review and consider areas for improvement before risks translate to serious harms for Australians and their hard-earned retirement savings,' Commissioner Constant added.

'Scrutinising fees that appear designed to bypass controls, and other processes to identify unusual activity such as high-risk superannuation switching from lead generators, are among actions trustee can take to protect their members.

'Where trustees have concerns about potential misconduct, they should immediately report it to ASIC for further investigation.'

ASIC has shared information about features associated with some lead generation services in financial advice and superannuation that may expose consumers to a risk of significant losses.

Commissioner Constant added that where appropriate, ASIC would consider enforcement action, noting ASIC's separate actions against Equity Trustees Superannuation Limited concerning the Shield Master Fund and the First Guardian Master Fund, as well as actions against Diversa Trustees Limited, Macquarie Investment Management Limited, and Netwealth.

'Where we identify significant non-compliance, we will not hesitate to exercise our regulatory powers, including enforcement action,' she said.

We opened a bank to grow a community

Bendigo Bank



Community News

Wildcare Queanbeyan

Wildcare Queanbeyan
We share our homes with some of Australia's most incredible wildlife, and it's a frequent occurrence that

we come across native animals. For Wildcare, road safety is a serious concern, and it's this time of year which we find the number

of orphaned joeys spikes exponentially. It's important for motorists to understand the risks and take steps to reduce them for their own safety, and that of our wildlife.

Kangaroos are most active during dawn and dusk, their unpredictable behaviour and speed mean they can suddenly leap across roads, giving drivers little time to react. In rural areas, especially where vegetation is close to the roadside, kangaroos may be hidden until the last moment. If you travel, particularly along rural roads, there are some precautions you can take to avoid having a collision.

Drive with caution at dawn and dusk. Avoid driving during these times and if you must drive reduce your speed and stay alert.

Take note of wildlife signs, they are placed where wildlife crossings are common. If you see a sign, slow down and increase your awareness especially around corners and along verges.

Stay alert, kangaroos often travel in mobs (groups), so

if you spot one there is likely to be more.

Don't swerve if a kangaroo jumps out in front of you, at high speeds you risk loss of control or rolling your vehicle. Instead, brake steadily and firmly in a straight line.

Each year, we respond to hundreds of accidents involving native animals, with kangaroos making up a vast majority of these. Accidents happen, but it's important to know what to do after that is key.

Pull over safely and turn on your hazard lights.

Check for injuries - to yourself, passengers, and from a safe distance, the animal.

Do not approach an injured kangaroo directly. They can be dangerous when scared or hurt.

If the kangaroo is alive and injured, or is deceased and a female, contact the 24/7 Wildcare Helpline on (02) 6299 1966 for assistance assessing the kangaroo or advice with checking the pouch.

Sharing the road with



wildlife is a reality of life in Australia, and it comes with responsibility. By driving with extra caution, especially during high-risk times, you can greatly reduce the chance of a collision and keeping our kangaroos thriving. Stay alert, know what to do, and

always put safety first - for yourself and the wildlife that makes Australia so unique.

If you're interested in becoming a rehabilitator for native wildlife head to wildcare.com.au to find out more.

Photos supplied

Celebrate Connection, Collaboration and Creative Expression at Rusten House this July

Rusten House Art Centre will launch two compelling new exhibitions on Saturday 4 July, bringing together a diverse range of artistic practices that explore family, identity, culture, connection and self-expression. Running from 4 - 25 July, the exhibitions include a group show Mother and Child: See, Listen, Share, Reflect featuring artists Lia Kemmis, Ezekiel Kemmis, Jodie Munday and Samuel Jones, alongside the solo photographic exhibition Who Am I Really by Frank Lindner.

The exhibition Mother and Child: See, Listen, Share,

Reflect celebrates creative practice between mother and child, and considers ways of seeing, listening, sharing and reflecting across generations. Proud Wiradyuri artists Jodie Munday and son Samuel Jones draw deeply on culture and Country in their work, often incorporating natural materials such as raffia and wood alongside a variety of mixed media. In this exhibition, they explore matriarchal relationships through the lens of family, Country, and place.

Lia Kemmis and her son Ezekiel Kemmis explore the process of collaboration

and connection through a shared lifelong commitment to artmaking. Their painterly works frame and build upon one another's ideas, highlighting the unique visual language that develops through making art together.

This group exhibition brings together two mother and son collaborations through an engaging amalgamation of painting, sculpture and mixed media. Together, the four artists present a thoughtful and heartfelt display that celebrates the richness across generations and the way in which creativity can strengthen

connection. "Once upon a time we were two souls inhabiting the same body. Now we are separate fully formed creatures roaming the earth" reflects Jodie Munday, capturing the evolving relationship between mother and child that sits at the heart of the exhibition.

In Rusten House Gallery 2, Braidwood photographer Frank Lindner presents Who Am I Really. This exhibition brings together Frank's striking collection of photographic portraits exploring how masks can work to conceal and transform identity. This body

of work was created during the three-day Major's Creek folk music festival, where participants were invited to mark or decorate paper bags and wear them for a portrait sitting.

Frank explains that the masks "...reveal and conceal, creating a performative identity shift into a liminal state in which the masked performer is neither fully themselves nor completely the character portrayed."

The resulting documentary-style images explore the complex relationship between concealment

and self-expression, inviting viewers to consider questions around the roles we perform in everyday life.

We warmly invite art lovers and curious folk to attend the combined exhibition opening of Mother and Child: See, Listen, Share, Reflect and Who Am I Really on Saturday 4 July from 2-4pm at Rusten House Art Centre. Come along to meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments.

For more information head to www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Community/Culture-and-Arts/Rusten-House

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Community News

Bungendore High School Buzz

Bungendore High School June has been a super busy month in the school year with all the winter sport competitions and lots of extra-curricular events which hone skills and create lifetime memories for our students.

Our vocal ensemble recently participated in the Queanbeyan Choral Festival, performing *You've Got the Love* by Florence and the Machine and *Hallelujah* by Oh Wonder.

Our dance ensemble and Stage 5 Dance students headed to the Goulburn

Performing Arts Centre for the regional Dance Festival, sharing two very different but equally impressive works: *Hanging Tree* from The Hunger Games and *Wings* by Little Mix.

This term also saw the launch of our public speaking and debating programs. Students in year 7 are studiously preparing for the Junior Secondary Speaking Award and students in year 10 have participated in the Plain English Speaking Award. Our Year 10 debating team competed against Crookwell High School in their first debate

for the Premier's Debating Challenge.

Meanwhile, year 10 students headed off to Lake Burley Griffin for their Geography Human Wellbeing topic. They explored different cultural and historical features around the central basin and shared their findings through presentations to their peers.

These activities highlight the many opportunities our students have to develop their talents, build confidence and engage with the wider community.

Photos supplied



BUNGENDORE CRAFTERS CO-OPERATIVE

Craft Evenings

Thursday 9th July
Thursday 23rd July

Bungendore School of Arts:
57 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore
6.30-8.30pm
BYO craft project
Contact Thalia: 0412 884 120

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Feel free to contact my office if you need any assistance

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213 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

STEVE WHAN MP
STATE MEMBER FOR MONARO

Authorised by Steve Whan MP, 213 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620. Paid for using parliamentary entitlements.

Council allocates additional \$300K to speed up bridge construction

Debbie Evans

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council has allocated an additional \$300,000 to accelerate delivery of the Briars Sharrow bridge project by one month.

Wodens Contractors, building the new bridge, will use the funding to bring in extra crews and equipment, allowing critical earthworks for the new bridge to be completed sooner.

It is hoped this will deliver the bridge one month earlier, allowing public access by December 2026-January 27 as opposed to January-February 2027.

In moving the additional expenditure Councillor Ross Macdonald said the \$300,000 does shave a month off the delivery timeline of the bridge.

He said Council had told the community it would go down every avenue looking for solutions to deliver the

project earlier, and that the additional funding allocation shows that “at least there is an understanding we are cognisant of the impacts.”

Macdonald added it’s not great but one month’s gain is worthwhile.

He described the additional funding as an investment Council needed to make, saying earlier completion could provide affected communities with access before the heightened risks of bushfire season.

The decision on the additional allocation was made at the June 24 Council meeting with the following resolution carried; “that Council approve acceleration of the construction of earthworks for the Briars Sharrow Bridge Upgrade funded by the allocation of \$300,000 from the Rural Development Contributions Plan.”

In the accompanying report staff explained that “While acceleration would reduce

detour inconvenience by one month, it does not fully address community dissatisfaction caused by the prolonged detour. The opportunity for program acceleration is only effective during the earthworks stage. The bridge components and installation is a methodical process and cannot be installed any quicker.”

Councillors who voted in favour of the recommendation were; Crs Grundy, Livermore, Macdonald, Preston, Schweikert, Taskovski, Waterhouse, Wilson and Winchester.

Councillors Crs Broadbent and Willis both voted against allocating the funds.

Willis said she was unable to give it her support for an additional month, “that is not good use of our money.”

The accompanying report stated “The Briars Sharrow Bridge Upgrade Project has a total budget of \$9M (all NSW Government grant),

of which approximately \$534,565 has been previously reported to Council as contingency.

“This contingency has been reduced to \$65,239 following expenditure to cover Council’s internal project management costs, charges for changes to school bus services and land matter costs.

“Construction of a sidetrack represents an unsatisfactory impact on Councils unrestricted cash balances. This option would represent a significant departure from Councils current year end cash forecasts as reported in the March Quarterly Review.

“The position of the Responsible Accounting Officer is not supported from a use of funds position.

“The Section 94 Rural Development Contributions Plan of the former Yarrowlumla Shire for noted upgrades along rural roads, has an allocation of \$600,000 for Briars Sharrow



Road (excluding bridge).

“The costs to expedite earthworks on the road can be released from the Rural Contributions Plan once it is brought to Council for endorsement. This funding option would eliminate the use of Councils unrestricted cash reserves and is recommended.”

In supporting the additional funding Cr Mareeta Grundy said the centrepiece of concern is the community

has been significantly disadvantaged through no fault of their own.”

Mayor Kenrick Winchester said he was giving his support to the acceleration of works as it provides a “good outcome” for the community.

Editor’s note: Weather and other variables may still affect the project’s earlier delivery.

Photo: QPRC - Briars Sharrow - earthworks - 22 June 2026

Message from Member for Eden-Monaro

Kristy McBain
Member for Eden-Monaro

As we move into the second half of the year, I remain focused on delivering for Eden-Monaro, including through key cost-of-living relief.

Last week Parliament passed tax cuts for workers and help for first home buyers.

With our five tax cuts, a worker in Eden-Monaro on an average income will be up to \$2,800 better off every year.

And by changing tax breaks that give investors an edge over first home buyers,

we’ve levelled the playing field.

It’s the start of the new financial year and that means more cost-of-living support is kicking in thanks to the Australian Government’s reforms.

From today, key changes that kick in include:

- A 15 per cent pay rise for early educators - delivering well-deserved support for those who educate and care for our children.
- The launch of the Solar Sharer program, providing households with three hours of free electricity

during the middle of the day when solar generation is at its peak - even if you don’t have solar panels.

- A 4.75 per cent increase to minimum wages under modern awards, lifting the base rate to at least \$1,004.90 per week, or \$26.44 per hour.
- The permanent extension of the \$20,000 instant asset write-off for small businesses with turnover up to \$10 million.
- An increase to Government-funded Paid Parental Leave to 26 weeks, giving families more precious time at home with their newborns.

- Further action to combat scams, with the introduction of an SMS Sender ID register to stop scammers impersonating trusted organisations like the ATO.
- Banning supermarket price gouging.

These changes are about supporting households, but we also know there’s nothing more important than looking after our health.

As Men’s Health Week and Bowel Cancer Awareness Month end, it’s an important reminder not to put off a check-up. Talk to your GP, complete your screening, and encourage your loved



ones to do the same - it could save a life.

For those taking a break during the school holidays, I hope you enjoy a mid-winter rest and have the chance to get out and explore the

mighty Eden-Monaro while supporting a local business.

As always, if I can assist you with a federal issue, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

Photo supplied

Heartwarming cabaret rolls into Queanbeyan this July

The Q is thrilled to present **The Strangeways Cabaret** by Merrigong Theatre Company’s permanent ensemble of neurodiverse actors and musicians, The Strangeways Ensemble, this July.

Original songs about online dating, loneliness and broken promises, are told by a motley crew of characters accompanied by a live band to create a joyful celebration of life and love in all its forms.

Since 2021, the Cabaret has been an annual event on the Merrigong calendar but this year, **The Strangeways Ensemble** are spreading the love and taking their Cabaret on the road to regional venues, including local

artists as special guests in the lineup.

With a live cabaret band and a whole lot of heart, The Strangeways Cabaret promises unique takes on one of the most explored human emotions - love.

Director **Anne-Louise Rentell** said, “The Strangeways Cabaret is a beautiful deep dive into the Ensemble’s own experiences and imaginations, and a chance for us to connect with other artists and new audiences on tour - we can’t wait to share it with you!”

For more than a decade, members of The Strangeways Ensemble have created genre-bending theatre, including The

Seven, Trash Talk and Something That Happened, infused with trademark humour, gravity and insight.

Performer **Ethan Green** said, “Come and see the Cabaret as it will get you hyped up, we have some characters that will make you sad and happy. We’re excited to get our voice out and to be taking it on tour and to meet new people - let’s go!”

Featuring ensemble members, The Strangeways Cabaret takes audiences on an antics-fuelled ride that packs a surprising emotional punch.

Tickets are available at theq.net.au

Photo supplied



Community News

Abandoned shopping trolleys back in the spotlight

At last Wednesday’s councils meeting, abandoned shopping trolleys was back on the agenda with a Notice of Motion put forward by Councillor Grundy.

Found littering nearly every street corner, large apartment complexes and unfortunately even the river, these items of convenience are quickly becoming a major point of contention. Locals are seemingly fed up with the lack of ‘pride’ shown in our town with residents dumping trolleys when they reach their destination. No matter which direction you walk from the Queanbeyan CBD you will soon enough find a trolley, be them Aldi, Kmart, Dan Murphy, Coles or Woolies you will visually collect the lot. If you even look long enough you may even find a rare Big W trolley which is more concerning as the closest Big W is at Majura Park.

Queanbeyan local Brent Hunter was so fed up with the trolleys that had been

dumped in the Queanbeyan River that he pulled on his wetsuit, grabbed a rope and along with his wife, daughter and a friend went down to act. Brent waded into the icy cold river to retrieve what he had initially thought was two trolleys, when nearly 40 minutes later he had pulled six from the river.

“The water was absolutely freezing, even with the wetsuit but I couldn’t keep driving past the park and seeing the unmistakable bright red Coles handle sitting just above the surface,” Mr Hunter said.

“Trolleys have quickly become my pet peeve in Queanbeyan; they are literally everywhere at the moment and it’s getting worse. This really detracts from how great our city is,” Mr Hunter continued.

Locals have also expressed their dismay at the slow collection times from

the large supermarket chains, this is despite reporting trolleys via apps such as ‘Snap, Send, Solve’ and ‘Trolley Tracker’. Queanbeyan-Palerang Mayor Kenrick Winchester seeing the posts himself even collected a few trolleys and acknowledged the apparent increase in trolley dumping.

NSW legislation does allow for councils to undertake compliance activities regarding dumped trolleys with fines for both the individual who dumps the item and the owner. Large companies like Coles and Woolworths have in other parts of the country, trolleys that can’t be removed from the shopping precinct with their wheels locking up once they reach the virtual fence.

Councils around Australia have called out trolley dumping through targeted social media campaigns like Liverpool City Council used the hashtag #trolleytrouble encouraging residents to name and shame supermarkets by showing their trolleys dumped across the LGA.

While council continue to talk to major shopping outlets, it was resolved at the meeting: that Council:

1. Work collaboratively with the major supermarkets to address the problem of shopping trolley abandonment in Queanbeyan public areas.
2. Earnestly apply compliance provisions should shopping trolley abandonment continue unchanged.

Sharon Baxter-Judge

Photo supplied of Brent Hunter and abandoned shopping trolleys



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 below 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

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

THURSDAYS
Thursday 9 July
Thursday 23 July
Thur 6 August

FRIDAYS
Friday 3 July
Friday 17 July
Friday 31 July

Queanbeyan
Veteran and Family Hub



Here for veterans and their families, every day



What’s on at the Hub



MON: Invictus Yoga - 10:00am to 11:00am

TUES: Veterans Guitar Group - 10:00am to 12:00pm
Heart-Muscle-Balance - 12:30pm to 1:15pm

WED: RSL Sub Branch Catchup - 9:00am to 11:00pm
Fortnightly - Create & Caffeinate - 10:00am to 12:00pm

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

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Open Monday to Friday
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Queanbeyan Veteran & Family Hub





When: Friday 31st July, 2026

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00pm

Where: Level 1, 251 Crawford Street
Queanbeyan NSW

Register Here



Come & join us to learn about options & resources around death, dying and grief. We are encouraging everyone to learn about, discuss, and plan for their own end-of-life, and to support others in doing the same.

Jerrabomberra Combined Probus Club June Update

The Jerra Probus club's June general meeting welcomed with their new member certificates

On June 17 Lucy Steen, Founder of Serenity Organising, accompanied by colleague Jo, spoke on the subject of "Downsizing and Decluttering". She emphasised that now is the time to start so there is no rush. There are many potential traps and leaving things until later is one. Keeping things "just in case" is another. If children want things, let them take

them now. They may not want them or do not have a suitable home. Your treasures may not be theirs.

Decluttering has many benefits, practical, emotional and safety. Too much stuff can be a hazard as we get older; it may be fire risk, a trip hazard and could impede access by carers, cleaners and emergency services in the case if fire or fall or the need for a mobility device.

Start early, well before a crisis, unless a sudden move of house is required. Even

then, try not to hire a storage unit to keep stuff to sort later unless for a very short time. The cost can add up to several time the cost of help from Lucy's team. Start early in small steps like 15 to 30 minutes at a time. Do not try to do everything at once, do one category or shelf at a time and do the easiest room first. You can spend valuable time trying to sell items on-line. Even something you value is only worth what someone will pay for it and if it bulky, do they live close.

Ask yourself: "Do I love it?"

"Do I use it?" "Would I buy this now and is it serving me?". Remember the term "Sunk Cost". Once you bought it, the purchase cost is gone! Consider keeping photographs of favourite unused item rather than the item itself. Remember to carefully keep: Legal Documents, wills, property records and current financial and tax records (for 5 years in the case of the latter). If it all seems too much, give Lucy a call on 0411 405 108 for calm, respectful and non-judgemental advice and practical help if needed. Do not let a well-meaning friend of relative make you feel bullied or guilty. It will not help you. Lucy knows local community organisations who can repurpose items too good to throw away but for which you cannot find a ready purchaser.

After a vote of thanks and small presentation, Lucy drew the lucky door prize.

General meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Jerra Community Centre from 10.30 to Noon.

In addition to our regular monthly General Meetings,



we have sub-groups to cater for any who have relevant interests: Walking Group meets twice weekly (Tues & Thurs) subject to weather, coffee mornings are held once a month (4th Wed), Margaret Stone is running a Mah Jong group. The Gardening group usually meets at different private homes close by to minimise fuel use (2nd Wed). We have a library of books on a range of topics which members are welcome to borrow. Some by past speakers, are subject to signing out.

If you would like to visit one of our meetings to see how we work, please contact our Secretary Eleanor Robertson so you can receive a suitable welcome and introduction.

Email: eleanor.vqa@gmail.com Phone: 0400 194 340

Peter Haddon
Jerra Probus Club

Photos supplied of Patty Tanzer, Colin Brown and Veronica Drake receive their New Member packs from President Roz Townsend and Lucy drawing the lucky door prize



Online scams are an ongoing threat

National Seniors Australia

Many seniors have been scammed online, but banks often helped, NSA research suggests.

Between 30% and 35% of older Australians may have been scammed online, according to new research by NSA.

The figure comes from the 2025 National Seniors Social Survey, in which 4,766 people answered the question, "Have you ever been the victim of online fraud or a scam where you lost money or had your identity used fraudulently?"

A total of 30.4% of respondents answered "yes" and a further 4.4% were unsure.

These high numbers are high but may not be surprising given over \$1.59 billion was scammed from Australians aged 55 or over in 2024 alone. And that only includes scams reported to the National Anti-Scam Centre - the real number may be much higher.

But also bear in mind no time limit was put on the survey question, so answers included scams that occurred years ago.

Groups who got scammed the most

When we looked at the social and personal characteristics of the survey

participants, we found that not every group is equally likely to have been scammed.

The proportions were higher among people who described their level of financial comfort as "tight" rather than "comfortable". Almost half the people experiencing a "very tight" financial situation at the time of the survey had been scammed (47%).

People who described their health as "poor" or "very poor" had also experienced scams in high numbers (43%), and those in "fair" health were scammed more than the average too (37%).

Greater proportions of people with less than \$200,000 in savings and investments and people with a religion that is important to them were more often scammed than their counterparts too.

Notably, age was not a significant factor.

Common scam types

Scam victims were invited to write a comment about the scam and most (around 1,080 people) did so.

Their comments touched on various topics, but a common one was a description of what happened to them. From these comments we gleaned the most common scam

types they experienced.

In almost half the cases the victims did nothing to make themselves vulnerable other than engaging in ordinary online transactions.

Around 450 of these had funds taken from their credit card or bank account, often without their knowledge.

Others were scammed by buying items from dodgy online sellers that seemed legitimate. The scammers took their money but never sent the item or sent a poor-quality item instead.

But respondents also reported numerous scam types in which the victims were enticed to take actions that ultimately made them vulnerable.

Some were duped when the scammer emailed or called them pretending to be a known business such as a telco or energy company or intercepted an invoice and changed the payment details. The victims then unlocked their online bank access for the scammers or paid bills that weren't real.

The "Hey mum, I dropped my phone in the toilet" scam - or other similar scams in which scammers pretended to be someone they knew and asked for cash - also caught a few respondents out.

Fake security warnings

on a computer screen and investments too good to be true were other relatively common scam types reported in the survey.

Some commenters had their identities stolen instead of money. Scammers then used their identities for nefarious purposes, including to take out loans, to post child pornography on Facebook, or to scam people in the victim's network.

Banks helped many of the scam victims

What was somewhat surprising but wonderful to read was the level of help people received when scammed.

Around a third of commenters mentioned how the relevant authority - most often their bank - responded to the scam.

Among the 388 commenters who mentioned the outcome of an authority's actions after losing money to a scammer, 70.4% recouped all their money.

Another 19.3% recouped some of it or were assisted to prevent further losses.

One person wrote:

"I was targeted at night (as seniors often are - just when you are tired) by a bogus Telstra scam - early next morning I contacted my bank - [bank name] - the female manager [name]

was amazing and sorted it all out (& cleared me with online E-First Aid) promptly without judgement about my 'stupidity'. Consequently I lost 'face' but no money etc. I wish there were more [manager name]!!"

Only 10.3% of this group did not receive help from authorities to recoup their funds. In some cases, the authority's response was extremely poor, as in this person's example:

"I had one of my bank accounts cleaned out when I was going through treatment for cancer and I wasn't thinking straight. The worst thing was the bank told me I was a silly old woman."

What you can do

The government website Scamwatch outlines some basic steps we can all take to minimise the risk of being scammed. They have a three-part slogan to help us all remember:

- **STOP.** Don't give money or your information to anyone if unsure.
- **CHECK.** Ask yourself if the message or call is fake.
- **PROTECT.** Act quickly if something feels wrong.

There is more information about scams in Scamwatch's Little Book of Scams.

If you do happen to get scammed, don't be

embarrassed. There's no cause for shame and you're not alone.

If someone scams you it's not you being stupid - it's them being smart. Successful scammers are very clever, and they do this because they're good at it.

Commenters often noted how persuasive the scammers were, or that they caught them out while they were feeling distracted or sick or tired.

But their experiences also show it is definitely worth reporting a scam and insisting the relevant authority do what they can to help you.

Contact your bank (or other authority) as soon as you become aware of the scam to maximise your chance of getting back what you lost.

Also please report your experience through Scamwatch's report-a-scam interface because it can help warn others of new scams and can help authorities take action to catch or stop scammers.

And join NSA's Keep Scam SAFE campaign that aims to protect older Australians so they are more aware, confident and resilient online.

Read the full report: Older Australians' Experiences of Online Scams at www.nationalseniors.com.au

Community Effort Removes 937 Tyres from Carwoola

A long-standing environmental issue at the Carwoola Community Hall precinct has been addressed, with 937 tyres removed from the former Primrose Valley Pony Club arena built in 1991.

The project was made possible through funding from Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC), coordinated by the Carwoola 355 Committee, and delivered through the hard work of volunteers from the Carwoola Community Association (CCA).

Over a series of working bees,

CCA volunteers dug up, recovered and stacked the tyres, which had been in place for over 30 years. Phis Environmental then collected and removed the tyres for appropriate recycling and disposal.

The arena is an important part of Carwoola's history, having been established by the Primrose Valley Pony Club at a similar time to the construction of the Carwoola Community Hall in 1991.

CCA President Di Sanders said the project was a great example of community volunteers, Council and local organisations working together to achieve a positive outcome.

"We are extremely grateful to QPRC for providing the funding that made this project possible and to the Carwoola 355 Committee for coordinating the project. Most importantly, we thank the volunteers who put in the hard work to recover, stack and load all 937 tyres."

The Carwoola Community Association also thanked Phis Environmental for its assistance



with the removal of the tyres. The project has improved the appearance, safety and environmental value of this important community site for future generations. Photos supplied



One charged following alleged break and enter and pursuit - Tarago

A man will face court after an alleged break and enter and a pursuit in Tarago.

Just after 8.15am on Wednesday 24 June 2026, emergency services were called to a licensed premises on Wallace Street, Tarago, following reports of a break and enter.

Officers attached to The Hume Police District were told two unknown men arrived in a white hatchback and wrapped straps around an ATM.

They allegedly attached the straps to their vehicle attempted to remove the ATM from the premises without success, before they drove away from the scene.

About 9.40am the same day, police were called to a home on Braidwood Road, Tirrannaville, following reports of a second break and enter.

When police arrived, officers located the white hatchback leaving the scene and a pursuit was initiated.

The pursuit continued along the southbound of Braidwood Road however, it was terminated due to safety concern.

A short time later, police located the vehicle had rolled on Foxs Elbow Road, Warri, where the two occupants - men aged 42 and 38 - were arrested.

They were both treated by NSW Ambulance paramedics before being taken to Canberra Hospital for further treatment under police guard.

On Thursday 25 June 2026, the 38-year-old man was released from the hospital and extradited to NSW.

He was taken to Queanbeyan Police Station where he was charged with two counts of specially aggravated enter dwelling with intention.

He refused bail to appear at Bail Division Court 3 on Friday 26 June 2026.

Inquiries continue.

THE Q

QUEANBEYAN
PERFORMING
ARTS
CENTRE

SPLASH TEST
DUMMIES

GET SET TO
DROWN IN TEARS
OF LAUGHTER.

2—5
JULY

G

theq.net.au

← Booking details

ADVENTURE OF OCEANIC PROPORTIONS!

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 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.

Riverside Plaza Stall - monthly

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.

Photo supplied



National Tree Day

QPRC

National Tree Day

Sunday, 26 July 2026,
9am to 12 noon

Join QPRC and Queanbeyan Landcare to revegetate Bicentennial Park in Queanbeyan. We will be planting almost 1,000 native trees and shrubs in the park, creating a pocket of native bush for everyone to enjoy. We'll also be creating habitat corridors and reducing erosion on the site. Light refreshments will be available.

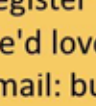
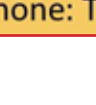
Meet at the carpark at 57a Crest Park Parade, Queanbeyan West. Parking is available at the planting site, and staff will be there to direct you. Planting sites can be accessed on a paved track, but the planting sites are uneven terrain. Please wear enclosed shoes and sun protection.

Please register your attendance at the National Tree Day website here: <https://nationaltreeday.org.au/site/10031954>



HAVE YOU GOT 2 HOURS A WEEK ONCE A MONTH?

Can you fix:

-  Small electrical appliance repairs such as lamps, irons and kitchen items
-  Knife and tool sharpening
-  Jewellery repairs
-  Woodworking repairs
-  Toys and Bicycle repairs
-  Basic phone or computer troubleshooting
-  Small furniture and practical fixes

Register your interest to volunteer or learn more, we'd love to hear from you.
Email: bungendorerepaircafe@gmail.com,
Phone: Thalia - 0412 884 120 or find us on Facebook.

RAISING FUNDS FOR

M1 mens link
supporting young men in the Canberra Region

Mentoring | Counselling | Education

CHARITY DARTS TOURNAMENT
Blind Draw Doubles

\$30 ENTRY

SATURDAY 4TH JULY 2026

WAMBOIN COMMUNITY HALL
112 BINGLEY WAY, WAMBOIN

REGISTRATIONS OPEN AT 4PM.
GAME ON AT 4.30PM!

GREAT CASH PRIZES!

1 ST PLACE \$200 CASH PRIZE	2 ND PLACE \$100 CASH PRIZE
---	---

RAFFLE PRIZES - JERRY CANS OF FUEL & CASES OF BEER!

BBQ STEAK SANDWICHES & SOFT DRINKS

BYO ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

SUPER SATURDAY NRL ON PROJECTOR

SUITABLE FOR AGES 15+

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IN COLLABORATION WITH

DARTS ACT

JOIN THE FUN!

2026 Multicultural Festival Snapshot



More Fines, More Veolia Failures!

For years, local residents have been told that Veolia’s Tarago landfill operations are safe, well managed and subject to strict regulation. Yet once again, the evidence tells a different story.

In May 2026, the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) issued Veolia with a Clean Up Notice after landfill leachate was identified in groundwater within the nearby Tarago underground mine operated by Develop. Testing detected ammonia and other pollutants consistent with landfill leachate, with the likely source identified as Veolia’s landfill. Veolia has been directed to undertake extensive investigations and remediation actions by February 2027.

Then in June, the EPA issued Veolia four penalty notices worth \$48,000 for further licence breaches for failing to meet basic landfill management practices and reporting requirements.

This follows an EPA Prevention Notice issued in April after investigations identified significant

failures in landfill gas capture and leachate management systems that contributed to persistent odours affecting surrounding communities. In fact, Veolia has now received at least 15 EPA Prevention, Clean Up and Penalty Notices since 2022 relating to management of the Woodlawn facility.

Taken together, these events paint a troubling picture.

For years, local communities have raised concerns about odours, contamination risks and the cumulative impacts of industrial development at Woodlawn. Again and again, those concerns have been dismissed or downplayed. Yet the regulator itself continues to identify serious environmental management failures requiring formal intervention.

The significance of the latest Clean Up Notice and fines should not be underestimated.

It highlights a reality many residents have long understood: the Tarago region has already borne the environmental burden of

decades of mining activity followed by one of Australia’s largest landfill operations.

Communities across Tarago, Lake Bathurst, Windellama, Bungendore, Goulburn, Collector and Braidwood rely on groundwater, tank water, agriculture and healthy natural environments. The proposal to add yet another major pollution source in the form of a waste incinerator should concern every resident of the region.

This is why Veolia’s proposal to build a massive waste incinerator to burn Sydney’s rubbish in Tarago remains fundamentally flawed.

At the recent Goulburn hearing of the NSW Parliamentary Inquiry into Proposed Energy from Waste Facilities, witnesses from a broad range of backgrounds raised concerns about industry performance, regulatory oversight, community impacts and the suitability of proposed locations. One theme emerged repeatedly: trust matters.

Any Energy from Waste operator

must demonstrate exceptional environmental performance, transparency and community confidence. Yet Veolia continues to accumulate fines, enforcement notices, investigations and regulatory scrutiny at its existing facility.

Equally important is the question of location. Woodlawn sits within a productive agricultural region surrounded by rural communities, farms and important water resources. Families live here. Food is produced here. People depend upon clean air and water.

The latest EPA fines and enforcement notices are another reminder that promises and glossy brochures are no substitute for real-world performance. Existing environmental problems and cumulative impacts must be addressed before any new pollution source is approved.

Tarago and surrounding communities have already carried more than their fair share of industrial impacts. We should not be asked to accept even greater



risks to our health, environment and agricultural future.

The lesson from the latest EPA action is simple: when existing facilities continue to generate environmental concerns and fail to meet community expectations, there is no justification for approving a toxic waste incinerator on top of them.

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

Bungendore Fine Art Gallery: “Waterworks and Country Life”

July - August Exhibition “Waterworks and Country Life” featuring Marion Schmacher and Geoff Naylor.
Opening Saturday 27 August 2026

Marion Schmacher
Marion’s latest exhibition captures the colour and atmosphere of Australia painted with oils. This has been a constant obsession of hers to produce artwork that passes a personal approval. Marion has worked in almost every medium, taught adult leisure classes, illustrated children’s books, painted theatre backdrops, murals and has held solo and

group exhibitions on a regular basis.

Marion has won numerous awards and has paintings hanging both here in Australia and overseas.

Geoff Naylor
Geoff has worked with oils for many years but still draws as he feels this is the basis of his work. He has tried other mediums but prefers oils as he believes it gives him more versatility.

Geoff’s particularly enjoys painting Australian landscapes by painting the natural scenes in front of him, including a record of the High Country Huts which were destroyed in

the bushfires. He has held successful exhibitions in the local Riverina towns and the ACT and has received multiple awards for his quality tonal paintings across the region. His teaching skills allows him to help beginners with workshops and also those who want to refresh their skills.

Meet the artist Saturday 27 August 1.30 - 3 pm

Open: Frid - Monday 10 am - 4.30pm

Where: 42b Ellendon Street Bungendore

Tel: 02 6238 1640

Mob: 0450 893 943

Photo supplied



Dementia Australia’s Hold the Moment podcast returns with season three, tackling the realities of life after a dementia diagnosis

Dementia Australia’s award-winning podcast Hold the Moment has returned for a third season, continuing to share powerful, real-life stories of people living with dementia and those who care for them.

Across 10 episodes, the new season explores some of the more complex and often unspoken aspects of life after a diagnosis, including managing finances, intimacy and planning for the future.

Hold the Moment co-host, Jim Rogers, who lives with young onset dementia, said season three is essential listening for anyone impacted by dementia.

“There are so many conversations around dementia people don’t like to have or avoid altogether,” Jim said.

“Season three is all about saying ‘let’s have these conversations, let’s get into the hard stuff’, whether that be transiting to aged care, money, intimacy or even planning for end-of-life care.

“I am proud that, alongside my co-host Dementia Australia Ambassador and journalist Hamish Macdonald, we are shining a light on topics that are often too easily ignored.”

The award-winning podcast has attracted more than 260,000 listens and received recognition in Australia and internationally. Most recently, it was awarded both a Silver and Bronze Tower at the prestigious New York Festivals Radio Awards in May 2026.

Alongside the main episodes in season three, Ask us Anything bonus episodes give

listeners the opportunity to hear answers to questions on topics ranging from consent and relationships to navigating care and daily routines.

The season features a diverse range of voices, including people living with dementia, carers, researchers and community leaders.

Among them are Betsy Kuo whose husband, Peter, was diagnosed with young onset Alzheimer’s disease at age 63 and for three and a half years, Betsy was by his side as his carer and advocate.

In episode nine Betsy speaks about the importance of palliative care towards the end of Peter’s life.

“When Peter moved into palliative care everything changed,” Ms Kuo said.

“The constant noise and uncertainty of hospital gave way to something I hadn’t expected - stillness. Palliative care felt like a safe space. I remember how peaceful it was and how precious it felt that we (me and our two girls) could just be with Peter without distraction. And that my fear went away, making more room for love.

“It was important to me to use the podcast as a way of letting others know about this, especially for a topic often avoided like end-of-life and palliative care.”

Dementia Australia CEO Professor Tanya Buchanan said Hold the Moment is an important avenue for people to learn about dementia and to not feel as alone.

“Dementia is the leading cause of death in Australia, yet many of the most important conversations

about living with dementia can feel the hardest to have,” Professor Buchanan said.

“This season of Hold the Moment brings those conversations into the open, sharing honest and personal experiences that help people feel better informed, supported and less isolated.

Hold the Moment is produced by Deadset Studios and is available on podcast platforms, the Dementia Australia website and Dementia Australia’s YouTube channel.

New episodes will be released weekly from 24 June 2026.

If this story has prompted any questions or concerns, please call the National Dementia Helpline 1800 100 500 (24 hours, 7 days a week) or visit dementia.org.au.

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Good for the Hood sustainability education events

We have partnered with Good for the Hood to host sustainability education webinars.

- Eating Well and Saving Money - Tuesday 7 July 12pm-1pm
- Ask the Expert: Looking Good and Saving Money with Jo Gamble - Tuesday 21 July 12pm-1pm

If you are unable to attend you can still register and be sent the link to an online recording.

- Learn more about these webinars and register to join them at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/events

Annual QPRC Community Grants applications open

Applications for Category A and B Community Grants are open now!

These grants support local community groups and not-for-profits to provide a wide range of activities that build community capacity, contribute to the welfare and the broader social fabric of the Queanbeyan-Palerang community.

Category A funding can be spent on charitable purposes like relief of poverty, advancement of education or other community purposes, while Category B provides donations towards venue hire of Council facilities. Up to \$3,000 is available per eligible application.

- Learn more and submit an application by 5pm Thursday 30 July at bit.ly/QPRC-community-grants



National Tree Day planting event

Join QPRC and Queanbeyan Landcare to revegetate Bicentennial Park in Queanbeyan on Sunday 26 July from 9am-12pm.

We will be planting almost 1,000 native trees and shrubs in the park, creating a pocket of native bush for everyone to enjoy. We'll also be creating habitat corridors and reducing erosion on the site. Light refreshments will be available.

Meet at the carpark at 57a Crest Park Parade, Queanbeyan West. Parking is available at the planting site, and staff will be there to direct you. Planting sites can be accessed on a paved track, but the planting sites are uneven terrain. Please wear enclosed shoes and sun protection.

- Find all the details and register your attendance at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/events/national-tree-day

Have Your Say

Projects & initiatives open for community comment	Closing Date
Review of Environmental Factors Determination Policy 2026	8 July
Directional Signage Policy 2026	9 July
Crown Road Management Policy 2026	9 July
Complaint Management Policy 2026	9 July
Data Breach Policy 2026	9 July
Options for honouring Alma	9 July
Private Burial Policy	23 July
Apex Park Improvements	24 July

- 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

Council Meetings and Times

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

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

Members of the public can make a:

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

Next meeting dates are:

- 8 July 2026 (Queanbeyan)
- 22 July 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.

Work with Council

Current vacancies include:

- Online Communications Officer
- Customer Service Officers
- For more information and roles see bit.ly/QPRC-Careers



Request for Tender: Minor Works and Trade Services Panel

Local Government Procurement Pty Ltd (LGP), on behalf of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) is seeking suitably qualified and experienced contractors to submit a tender for the establishment of a Minor Works & Trade Services Panel.

The panel will support the delivery of maintenance, repair, and minor project works across Council facilities, infrastructure, and public assets. Contractors will be engaged on an "as required" basis over the contract term.

Council encourages participation from a broad range of suppliers, including local and regional businesses.

- RFT documents can be downloaded for free after registering at <https://eprocure.com.au/lgp/> (allow half a day)
- For help, contact the eProcure Helpdesk on **1800 377 628**
- All enquiries must be submitted via the eProcure Forum or emailed to Ananda Sharma at asharma@lgp.org.au
- Council advises that the Request for Tender (QPRC 2026-12 – Minor Works and Trade Services Panel) remains open and will now close at **2:30 pm, Thursday 9 July 2026**.
- Submissions must be lodged electronically via LGP's eProcure portal. Late submissions will not be accepted

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

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eepurl.com/codv-v

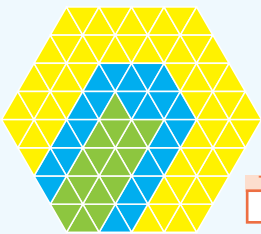
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620
1300 735 025
council@qprc.nsw.gov.au
www.qprc.nsw.gov.au

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.

Fractions

Can you determine what fraction of the triangles in this design is green and what percentage of them are blue?



TIME

Number Square

Complete the square so that the numbers 1 to 25 are all in the grid, and all rows and columns add up to the totals indicated to the right and below.

TIME	10	4	21		62
	11		14	13	60
	25	15			88
	16	8	17	7	51
		19	6	12	64
	80	51	71	65	58

TIME

Logical

Three couples each went for a meal in the same restaurant. From the information given, work out which bill belonged to which table, what time each couple left the restaurant and what mode of transport they used to get home.

The couple that sat at table one left the restaurant at 9:30pm; they weren't the couple that spent £62 on their meal and who left in their own car. The couple that booked a cab to take them home left the restaurant at 10:15pm; this was 2 hrs, 15 mins later than the couple who were sat at table three. The bill totalled £74 for the couple at table number two. The couple who paid £50 for their meal walked home.

Quick Time Crossword

1	2		3		4		5		6
7									
					8	9		10	
11									
					12				
13		14		15					
				16					
17						18			

- Across
- 1 Egyptian goddess (4)
- 4 Ointment (5)
- 7 Former Spanish monetary unit (6)
- 8 Kind of turnip (5)
- 11 Subtle emanations (5)
- 12 Plaintive cries (5)
- 13 Domesticates (5)
- 16 Wards off (6)
- 17 Type of ray (5)
- 18 Tolerable (2-2)
- Down
- 2 Bright patches on wings (7)
- 3 That which leaks out (7)
- 4 Mineral springs (4)
- 5 Wash (poet) (4)
- 6 Absence of difficulty (4)
- 9 Makers of fabric (7)
- 10 Widens (7)
- 13 Digits (4)
- 14 Mother (coll) (4)
- 15 Rescue (4)

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.

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

Crossword

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

Target Time

Target: Average - 18, Good - 24, Excellent - 32+

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.

I	A	D
N	V	T
E	C	I

- Across
- 1 Dog (coll)
- 4 Climbing iron
- 8 Proclaimer
- 11 Artificial
- 12 Puritans
- 13 Civil injury
- 14 Perfect
- 15 Promising success
- 17 Tear
- 20 Tributary streams
- 21 Bills
- 22 Seat for a rider
- 25 Stimulate
- 26 Studios
- 30 Fastener
- 31 Employees, generally
- 34 Court official
- 36 Mixes up
- 38 Sander
- 40 Number
- 41 Puts on
- 44 Frets from harm
- 46 Pans
- 47 Thump
- 49 Prone
- 50 Biscuit (6,3)
- 51 Linked together
- 52 Colour assortment
- 53 Soft sweet
- Down
- 1 Opinion (5,2,4)
- 2 Without smell
- 3 Lofty
- 4 Gourmet
- 5 Curved
- 6 Asian citrus fruit
- 7 Bearing
- 8 W Indian ballad
- 9 Thereby (Latin) (4,5)
- 10 Steals cattle
- 16 Removal of a burden
- 18 Staff
- 19 Baked dishes
- 23 Bemused
- 24 Extended collar
- 27 Livelihood
- 28 Delicate
- 29 Lady vote-seeker
- 32 Primary source
- 33 Program of events
- 35 Deep-rooted
- 37 Commotion
- 38 Disjointed
- 39 Teased
- 42 Severe test
- 43 Tap
- 45 Tart
- 48 Medieval servant

Community News

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



The unusually warm winter weather is producing some amazing fungi at present. Spotted spotted in the paddock. Photo Laurene

PET OF THE WEEK



Name: Butterscotch
Age: 4-year-old orange gentleman
Likes: sunbathing, tuna cream snacks, and being served breakfast and dinner

on time
Dislikes: late meals and Mum's painfully slow automatic feeder
Claim to Fame: CEO of Household Operations,

professional sunbather, outfit model, and mealtime supervisor. Doesn't allow uninvited guests into his kingdom and he's obviously handsome enough to be featured in the newspaper!

Bright, Shiny & New

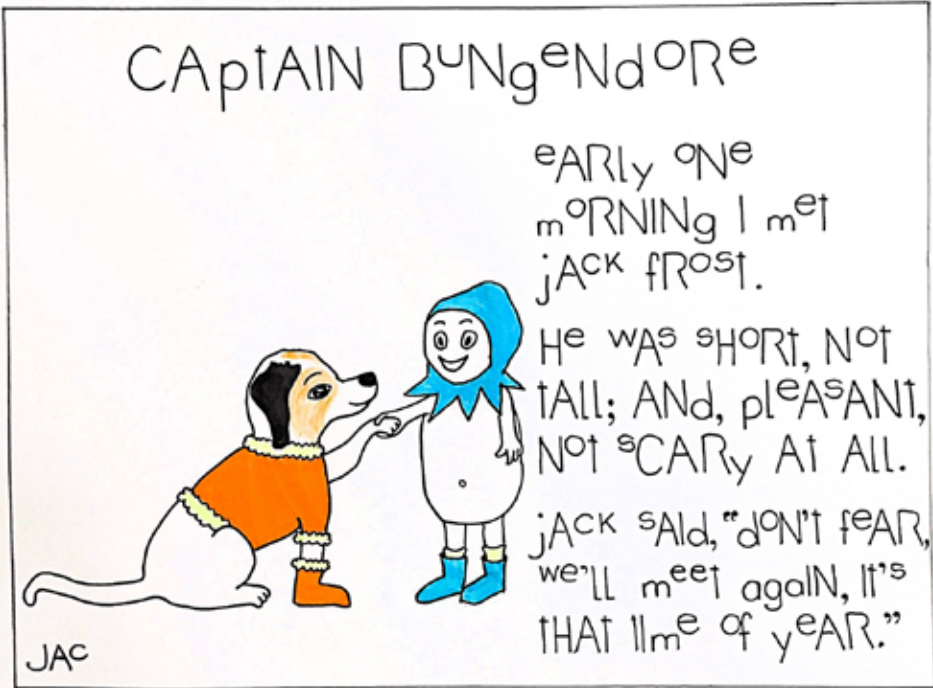
The now well-established weekly BBQs at the Bungendore IGA welcome a new member to the team - our new BBQ. Aside from a good cook, a BBQ is essential to cook up a sausage and onion storm to tempt even the most strong-willed visitors to the Bungendore IGA.

Generously donated by Bungendore IGA and Bunegndore Mitre 10, and thanks for assembling it too, our new BBQ debuted on Saturday 20 June and was a hit with the Bungendore Scout Group being the first to use it.

It is timely to thank Bungendore IGA once again for their support of our community through providing the sausages, bread and sauces for these BBQs. Over the period of a year this equates to conservatively around \$18,900 in sales + the cost of goods. All monies raised go to not-for-profit groups in our community and therefore the funds go to support them or the community directly.

Thanks heaps IGA and Mitre 10 - this community support is both fantastic and appreciated.

Photo supplied of Christine, Shauna, Darren and Aiden.



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 AMERICAN CHURCH, BIRRAHAR 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

Bungendore Evening VIEW Club

Next meeting - Monday July 6
BEVC welcomed Luke Watson - the Community Co-ordinator of the Terry Campese Foundation as guest speaker at our June meeting.

Terry spoke about helping to get grants for the Sleep Bus in Queanbeyan, taking kids out of their comfort zone by taking them to Kokoda (PNG), to Tonga where they built a library from scratch and donated their t-shirts boots, tents, sleeping bags to the Tongan locals. The importance of teaching values and respect, which is something that must be done and building a brighter future for young people .

President Debbie and members thanked Luke for his informative speech.

Our next meeting will be held this Monday - July 6th where our guest speaker will be Andrew Gersbach talking about Tour de Cure Connect.

Where: The George Bar & Dining Time; 6pm-6-30pm meeting followed by dinner (at own expense).

For more information contact: dhudson2@vtown.com.au or 0418 622 369

QPRC

Every Friday
10am to 12pm
Starting
Friday 1 May

Tech Help
Drop-In
Queanbeyan Library

Tech Help at the Queanbeyan Library! drop in with your smart phone, tablet or computer and have your questions answered.

NOTICE OF AGM
Notice is hereby given that the Queanbeyan Hospital Auxiliary's Annual General Meeting will be held at 5.30pm on Wednesday 12 August 2026 at the Queanbeyan Uniting Church, 13 Rutledge Street, Queanbeyan.

The Queanbeyan Hospital Auxiliary is a community organisation that raises funds to assist in providing the best possible service and care to patients, staff and visitors to the Queanbeyan Hospital. New members are always very welcome. For more information call in at the hospital kiosk or contact our Branch President, Colin Murray by email to: qbnhospaux@gmail.com.

Target Time
Target: Average - 18, Good - 24, Excellent - 32+ - active, advent, advice, avid, avidine, cave, caved, civet, dative, davit, deviant, diva, divan, dive, divine, evict, inactive, invade, invite, invited, ivied, naevi, naive, native, nave, vain, vane, vatic, vein, vena, vend, vent, viand, vice, viced, vide, vied, vina, VINDICATE, vine, vita, vitae.
Brain Training
FRACTIONS: There are 96 triangles in the design, 16 of them (one-sixth) are green and 24 of them (25%) are blue
NUMBER SQUARE:Reading across:
10, 4, 22, 21, 5
11, 2, 20, 14, 13
25, 23, 15, 1, 24
16, 3, 8, 17, 7
18, 19, 6, 12, 9
LOGICAL: Table one, £50, 9.30pm, Walked, Table two, £74, 10.15pm, Cab, Table three, £62, 8.00pm, Own car

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
Tarago Area Women's Shed Inc (TAWS) will be holding their AGM on Sunday 19 July 2026 at 2pm.
Venue Tarago District Men's Shed.
Please RSVP.
Taragoarea.womensshed@gmail.com

Dementia Morning Tea
Monday 20 July

Dementia Morning Teas. Those with dementia and their carer are invited to come along for a friendly cuppa and chat on the 3rd Monday of the month.

Whilst sharing a cuppa and delicious eats, those attending can share their experiences, discuss difficulties and learn about supports and services that are available to help them deal with the challenges of dementia.

The Dementia Morning Teas are held 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.

ALL VETERANS WELCOME

BRAIDWOOD RSL SUB BRANCH

Ordinary General Meeting

will be held at the

BUNGENDORE Bowling Club

SUNDAY 5th July 2026 11:30am

Lunch to follow at the Restaurant (self funded)

To cater for all our members in the district

BRAIDWOOD RSL SUB-BRANCH

www.braidwoodrsl.com.au

Email: braidwood@rslnsw.org.au

Pickleball in Bungendore: Saturday mornings
Bungendore Park Tennis Club is now running an open social session on every Saturday between 9 and 11am at the courts (weather permitting). All abilities are welcome and we have several good paddles (bats) available for those that don't have their own. Contact Lyn for more information at bptc.pickleball@gmail.com

Proposed Road Disposal Section 152D Roads Act 1993

In accordance with section 152D of the Roads Act 1993, notice is hereby given of the proposed sale of the Crown public roads listed in Schedule 1. If a sale proceeds, the road(s) will cease to be a public road upon transfer of the road to freehold land in accordance with section 152H of the Act.

Schedule 1:

- Crown roads at Bungendore, adjoining property at 104 The Mountain Road. (File ref: 26/07328, Cluster: 684314)

All interested persons are hereby invited to make submissions concerning the proposal via the email address below or to Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure-Crown Lands, PO Box 2215, DANGAR NSW 2309 within twenty-eight (28) days of the date of this advertisement.

Any person is entitled to make submissions with respect to the sale or disposal of the road. Please note that submissions may be referred to third parties (such as council or the applicant) for consideration in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

For the Manager, Divestment

For further enquiries visit the website https://roads.crownland.nsw.gov.au/ or contact Tracey Ward by email at tracey.ward@crownland.nsw.gov.au or on T:02 4904 2576 quoting file references above.

NOTICE OF ANNUTAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
Bungendore Quilters Inc will be holding their AGM on Saturday 25 July 2026 at 11:30am. Venue: Bungendore Community Centre Enquiries: bungendorequilters@gmail.com

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 email: ayrows@bigpond.com

Mayor's Column

Council adopted the 2026-27 Integrated Plans at the 24 June Council Meeting. The Integrated Plans are the key planning documents that highlight Council's priorities over the next four years. Thank you to all those who provided feedback, several amendments were made to the plans based on feedback from the public exhibition period. The final version of the plans and all its documents will be available on the QPRC website in the coming weeks.

We have installed virtual fencing over a 1.2km section of Macs Reef Road between Bungendore Road and Denley Drive. This is part of a 12-month trial to assess the effectiveness of virtual fencing at reducing the number of vehicle collisions with animals. Macs Reef Road was identified using wildlife collision data provided by Wildcare. Virtual fencing devices are activated by vehicle headlights and emit a combination of sound and flashing blue and yellow LED lights to alert nearby animals, reducing the likelihood of animals being startled onto the road. You can find more information on the trial at qprc.nsw.gov.au/wildlife-virtual-fencing

Apex Park in Queanbeyan is a very popular park in the centre of Queanbeyan and is due for upgrades as part of Council's Playground Renewal Program. We are asking for feedback and input from park users about the kind of equipment and improvements they would like to see at the park. We would like to make sure that Apex Park is suitable for a wide range of age groups and abilities. You can have your say at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

On Sunday 26 July, join us and Queanbeyan Landcare to revegetate Bicentennial Park in Queanbeyan. We will be planting almost 1,000 native trees and shrubs in the park, creating a pocket of native bush for everyone to enjoy. We'll also be creating habitat corridors and reducing erosion on the site. Please ensure that on the day you wear enclosed shoes and sun protection. Register your attendance and find more details at qprc.nsw.gov.au/Events/National-Tree-Day

Cr Kenrick Winchester, Mayor

Bungendore Community CHRISTMAS IN JULY Market
Saturday, 18th of July
9am - 1pm
Butmaroo Street, Anglican Church, Bungendore
Handmade Crafts, Local Goods & Festive Fun!

Puzzle Solutions

Sudoku

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

Quick Time Crossword

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

Crossword

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

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 CFCA.Markets@captainsflat.org.au

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

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

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

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

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

BUNGENDORE WAR MEMORIAL HALL

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

BUNGENDORE SENIORS
Next get together will be Friday 3 July, 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

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.

Lions Community Bookshop needs your donations

The Lions Community Bookshop raises funds from the sale of pre-loved books, magazines, comics, jigsaw puzzles, board games, CDs and DVDs, with all funds raised returned to the community. The Bookshop is in the Cottage in Queanbeyan Park, open 10am-4pm Tuesday to Saturday. The Bookshop please needs your donations of pre-loved books in good condition, and donations of magazines, comics, jigsaw puzzles, board games, CDs and DVDs in good condition. The Bookshop is unable to accept LP records, cassettes, VHS tapes, Readers Digest condensed books, Encyclopaedias or magazines more than 5 years old. Please call the Bookshop on 0461 365 831 if you want to check what are acceptable donations or if you need help to bring in your donations. There's ample parking in the carpark off Campbell Street, near the tennis courts. For more information, visit: https://www.facebook.com/lionsofqueanbeyan

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.

SAGE HUT WIZARD

Need answers? Just bring your questions! Empowering intuitive readings at The Sage Hut in Bungendore. Over 30 years experience. E:wizardwisdom22@use.startmail.com https://www.facebook.com/sagehut-wizard.com.au

CB BOBCATS

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



Bungendore CWA

Book Club, Garden Club, Craft and Chat: Mahjong More info https://www.bungendorecwa.org

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 24 July. 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 (As of 27 June 2026)

Contact: 6287 8100



KUMA (F) Akita
Approx 3½ yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn00000A5xsvIAB
Kuma Video
<https://youtu.be/lbAoX2rxpeg>



LADY (F) Mixed Breed
Approx 2 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aJ30000004pQ
9IAI



VIOLET (F) Mixed Breed
Approx 14 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000007TKA
KIAO



BENNY (M) Staffy x Puppy
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000ANA
HxIAL



ZARA (F) Amer Staffy
Approx 2 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000APB
SLIAS



CLARA (F) DMH
Approx 9 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000A
NvSRIAL



ZANE (M) DSH
Approx 12 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000A
Nb4LIAT



MOCHI (F) DSH
Approx 7 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000A
NajPIAT



JAX (M) DSH
Approx 18 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn00000040fx
0IAA



HAZELNUT SPREAD (F)
DSH Approx 2 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn0000009wO
3ZIAU



SMOKEY (M) DMH
Approx 2½ yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aJ300000004i8ll
AA



LUPA (F) DSH
Approx 18 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000AII8
SIAH



RIA (F) DMH
Approx 18 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000AKA
OfIAH



BOBBY (F) DSH
Approx 6½ yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000ALZj
NIAx



INDIGO (F) DSH
Approx 12 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000AN6
N7IAL



BASIL (M) DSH
Approx 5 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000ANY
o1IAH



PARSLEY (M) DSH
Approx 5 mths
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000ANY
o2IAH



BISCUIT (M) DMH
Approx 7 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000AP
6m1IAD



SPOON (M) DSH
Approx 3 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000APIQ
bIAP



GINGEE (F) DSH
Approx 13 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000AQ1
vZIAT



LOLA (F) Rabbit
Approx 3 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000ANv
fIAD



LOUIE (M) Rabbit
Approx 5 yrs
rspca-act.org.au/adoption-list/pet?petid=a3aMn000000ANvf
mIAD

Animal Viewing Hours:
Mon-Sat 10-3

Address:
12 Kirkpatrick St,
Weston Creek, ACT



Every pet deserves a loving safe home

THE SHELTER ALSO HAS:

- LOTS of Doves and Pigeons
- 6 Guinea Pigs
- 2 Muscovy Ducks
- 2 Mice, and a
- Sussex Rooster

All looking for a place to call their forever home....

Sport

Mudhooks In The Mud and Under Lights

Stewart Wilson

Two more big wins for the Bungendore Mudhooks rugby team have kept the local boys on top of the Southern Tablelands Monaro Cup table - 51-7 in the slush of Crookwell on Saturday, 20 June and 54-12 against the ADFA Lions under lights on the night of Friday, 26 June.

The Mudhooks were certainly appropriately named for the encounter with the Crookwell Dogs at their very soggy and muddy ground, the conditions making handling, kicking and scrummaging difficult. At least it wasn't raining during the game.

Despite this, both teams handled the conditions pretty well, although the Crookwell boys should be used to what seems to be a permanently wet playing field.

The game itself was dominated by the Mudhooks as the 51-7 final score indicates. Crookwell threatened the line from close range from time to time but the Chooks' defence held until the last play of the day when the Dogs finally got on the scoreboard with a converted try.

The Mudhooks scored four tries in the first half (two by Kyle Shand and one each by Zac Jerrim and Mark Norton) of which two were converted by Tom Worman. That made the score 24-0 at the break but the Mudhooks didn't back off in the second 40, adding five tries to the tally, two of which were converted.

Try scorers in the second half were Harrison Corke (two) plus Hamish Baird, Aiden Shand and Luke Gorman. It was a good performance by the

Mudhooks in difficult conditions against an admittedly not spectacularly strong opposition. But adapting to whatever conditions exist should be part of any team's skillset, and the Chooks did.

Some more serious opposition would follow under lights at the Bungendore Sports Hub on the following Friday night. The game was originally scheduled for the usual Saturday afternoon, but a scheduling issue for the ADFA team saw it transferred to the Sports Hub and a day earlier.

It was the ADFA team which had handed the Mudhooks their only defeat of the season and it was time for revenge. And revenge they got.

In one of their best performances of recent



times, the Chooks were on it from the start, backing themselves and producing some very good to watch rugby. The ADFA boys were never really in it.

It took just two minutes to get the ball rolling, second rower Jack Stanford storming over for the first try and by 20 minutes into the first half the Mudhooks were leading 19-0 thanks to tries by prop Kalib Maksimovic and number eight Geeps Pretorius plus two conversions by Tom Worman.

Things settled down a little for the remainder of the half with no additional scores, although the Mudhooks threatened the ADFA line several times and were perhaps unlucky not to add to their tally.

The second half saw the Mudhooks start to run away with it, scoring five tries, all of which were converted by Tom Worman's ever-reliable boot. Try scorers were prop Callum Ceglinski (twice), Jack Stanford again, centre Aiden Shand and flanker Scott Geronomi.

A couple of late tries and a conversion gave the ADFA scoreline a bit of respectability, but the 54-12 final score shows they were simply outclassed by the Mudhooks on the night in just about all areas.

Next up for the Mudhooks is a trip to Cooma on 4 July where they take on the Red Devils for the second time this season.

Player awards and their sponsors for the Crookwell game were:

Best and Fairest: Aiden Shand (3 points), Harrison Corke (2 points), Geeps Pretorius (1 point).

Players' Player: Aiden Shand.

Coach's Award: Geeps Pretorius.

Chicks' Pick: Kalib Maksimovic.

And for the ADFA game: Best and Fairest: Geeps Pretorius (3 points), Brent Williams (2 points), Tom Worman and Jack Stanford (1 point each).

Players' Player: Geeps Pretorius.

Coach's Award: James 'Butters' Pryde.

Chicks' Pick: Callum 'Thunderballs' Ceglinski.

Photos
Rose Sports Media



Bungendore Mudchicks Match Report - Jindabyne & Braidwood Gala Day

Bungendore Mudchicks

Last week, Jindabyne travelled to Bungendore for what was always expected to be a tough contest. Jindy are consistently a strong side, and this game was no different, but our girls dug deep and fought hard right until the final whistle.

A special milestone for the day was Kristyn Crebbin's 50th game for the Mudchicks. Kristyn has been part of this team since day one, and reaching this milestone is a huge achievement.

Her commitment, loyalty, and passion for the club over the years have been incredible, and we're so proud of everything she has contributed to the Mudchicks.

Points:
3 - Bridgett O'Connor
2 - Tia Baxter
1 - Kate Clarke

Coaches Pick: Candice Stratis
Blokies Pick: Tia Baxter

This weekend, the Chicks headed to Braidwood for gala day, and what a successful day it was.

Firstly, we'd like to thank Braidwood for hosting such a fantastic day and putting on a great event for all teams involved.

The Mudchicks opened the day against Uni North Owls and immediately showed how well they can work together as a team. Their communication, support play, and intensity proved just how competitive this side can be.

Tia Baxter and Taryn Robson led from the front, showing their experience and excellent knowledge



of the game. Karen Bollard was outstanding in the ruck, using her strength to dominate, while Charlie Callendar made strong carries and consistently bent the line.

The Mudchicks put together a dominant performance, finishing with an impressive 60-5 win.

The second game saw the Chicks take on Goulburn in another tough matchup.

Defensively, Shannon McAlister was outstanding,

putting in an incredible effort and shutting down numerous attacking opportunities. Tia Baxter had an exceptional day, crossing for a total of 8 tries across both games.

The Mudchicks had not beaten Goulburn since our inaugural season, making this result even more special. The team rose to the challenge and delivered a huge performance, coming away with a brilliant 41-14 victory.

It was a hugely successful

day all around for the Mudchicks, with strong performances across the board and plenty to be proud of.

Points:
3 - Tia Baxter
2 - Karen Bollard
1 - Taryn Robson

Both Coaches Pick and Blokies Pick went to Tia Baxter after an outstanding day.

Photos
Rose Sports Media



Queanbeyan Whites retain the Bob Hitchcock Shield

Queanbeyan Whites

The Queanbeyan Whites first grade side have moved into second place on the ladder with a 58-38 win over Gungahlin at Campese Field last week - retaining the Bob Hitchcock Shield.

After a disappointing loss to Tuggeranong Vikings (41-31) the week before the Whites were determined to redeem themselves. Queanbeyan were the first to score, around the eight minute mark, off the back of a penalty mid field for tackling a player without the ball. The penalty kick took play to 10 metres out from Gungahlin's line. Jack Gordon brought the ball down from the ensuing lineout and was driven to within a couple of metres from the line before Joel Leiper peeled off to the blind side and scored the first of four tries.

Queanbeyan kept the pressure up scoring again just 5 minutes later as they kept the ball in hand, moving through Andy McFarlane, Nate Carroll and Michael Rademaker before finding flanker Sione Naufahu who was able to stroll over to score

The Whites lost Naufahu shortly after with a yellow card but the team's strong defensive pressure and communication in covering the gaps caused Gungahlin to turnover the ball numerous times before they were able to find a way through and reduce the scoreline to 10-7.

As Naufahu made his way back on, the Whites again started to dominate possession. Josh Townsend, Joel Leiper and Alatini Vaihu kept the ball in close as they made their way up the field before half back Blayney-Brown spread the ball out wide to Carroll on the wing. Carroll's light chip kick back in field was pounced on by Blayney-Brown just as it bounced over the try line to extend the lead to 15-7

Joel Leiper scored his second try shortly after off the back of a lineout 10 metres out from the Gungahlin line and a 22-7 lead.

However, with four minutes to half time the Whites lost focus allowing Gungahlin to run in two tries and reduce the scoreline to 22-19 at the break.

After the break Leiper scored his third and fourth tries in what is becoming a clear strength for Queanbeyan - the 10 metre lineout wins and drive forward.

Gungahlin were not giving up and were finding ways to score despite the strong defence of players such as Josh Townsend, Waisea Tudulu, Luke Tudulu, and JP Tominiko who were instrumental in repelling the Eagles. With twenty minutes to go the game was still in the balance with the Whites ahead 36-31.

Nathan Carroll extended the lead to 39-31 with a penalty kick resulting from a yellow card against the Eagles and the Whites proceeded to run in two more tries through Michael Rademaker in the ensuing ten minutes. Koko Salim rounded out the score with a try with just minutes remaining.

However, the Eagles were still not done with as they continued to pepper the Whites line before eventually their prop put on a burst of speed to get through a surprising gap and passing to former Whites player, Brendan



Jimenz who rounded out the final scoreline of 58-38.

Reserve grade moved into 4th spot with a hard fought 26-21 win over the Eagles. Coach Craig Sweeny was impressed with the teams effort and their continued build across the season. Last minute changes across the morning, including in the warm up were unsettling but the players "showed tremendous character that will stand us in good stead at the back end of the year".

Match results (Round 11)

First Grade won 58-38: Tries: Joel Leiper (4), Michael Rademaker (2), Sione Naufahu, Archie Blayney-Brown, Koko Salim. Conv: Nathan Carroll (5). Pen: Nathan Carroll (1)

Reserve Grade won 26-21. Tries: Lachlan Stanley, Romeo Ashbock, Hingano Helu, Ryan McElroy. Conv: Thomas McGuinness (3)

Colts lost 33-55. Tries: Mackai Reedy, Rory Forbes, William Cave, Finn Gibson, Romeo Asbock. Conv: Lachlan Stanley (4)

Third grade won 55-40. Tries: Harry Buckley (4), Lachlan Usher, Jack Morrison, Isaiah Fairless, Luke Cochrane, Duncan Kilmister. Conv: Harry Buckley (3), Joshua Callan, John Sutcliffe

Above - Harry Buckley, right - Colt game, 27 June, below - Koko Salim.

Photos by Jordan Mirchevski



Queanbeyan Leagues Swimming Club Celebrates Season Success

The Queanbeyan Leagues Swimming Club wrapped up its 2025-2026 summer season with their annual presentation awards afternoon on Sunday 28th June. After a successful rebuild of the Club over the last 12 months, and commencement of QLSC squad training with coach Igor Demin, the Club saw a rapid uptake in members finishing with just over 100.

As a community focussed swim club, the Committee enjoyed celebrating the achievements of our swimming members presenting awards for our youngest Little Dolphins, to our Golden Flipper (fastest 50m swimmer), point score winners as well as recognising our parents who jump in for some racing, too.

With 2,210 races across 15 meets, swimmers clocked up an

impressive 106.8km in the pool, and 537 personal best times. Points are earned based on improvement over the season, many a friendship forged, and future champions took their first dive.

Among the many highlights was the awarding of season medals and certificates. Gold medallists included Maddie Fitch, who also took home the "Little Dolphin" trophy for most improved young swimmer, Shubhan Shrestha, Louis Fitch and Archer Priddis. The club's Point Score Champions were Cameron Paddick and Tessa Katsidis, recognised for consistent improvement throughout the season.

Encouragement awards went to Jackson Paddick (25m races), Max Demin (boys), and Emily Peterie (girls). The club also celebrated several swimmers who represented beyond school level, with appearances at ACT Championships and NSW PSSA, Diocese and CHS District, Regionals & State championships.

All ages are welcome to participate at QLSC, including the grown-ups. Matt Howard set the pace,

with several competitors only a fingernail behind, and claimed the 2025-26 fastest parent in the 50m freestyle event. Katy Ballard, Lauren Fitch and Georgie Priddis rounded out the inaugural Parent Pointscore, proving the kids aren't the only ones who know how make a splash.

Behind the scenes, volunteers were a big help and appreciated. Mandy Chen was recognised for her tireless work in volunteering at both Club Nights and Development Meets. And a big thank you to everyone who helped make the season run smoothly from committee members to those who offered a hand timing, cooking a BBQ, or marshalling each week.

A big thank you to our major sponsor, the Queanbeyan Leagues Club; plus the Queanbeyan Palarang Regional Council and QPRC Aquatics for their ongoing support - it helps keep our club accessible, affordable, and community focussed. Their backing enables us to run our meets, recognise our swimmers, and maintain a family-friendly and competitive environment. Thanks also to Dominos Queanbeyan who backs (and feeds!) our swimmers

at some meets throughout the year, too.

The club is now into winter mode, with once-a-month meets continuing to offer swimmers of all ages a fun, friendly chance to stay active and connected. Our next Winter Club Night is this Wednesday 22 July at 6:00 PM at Queanbeyan Pool - swimmers and families of all ages welcome.

Looking ahead, the 2026-27 summer season will kick off after Term 3 school holidays. With medals, certificates, encouragement awards, and more adult races on offer, it's the perfect time to dive in and be part of a local club that celebrates fun, fitness, competition and community.

For updates, and registration info, or for more information about our squad sessions and school holiday clinics, check out our Facebook page: Queanbeyan Leagues Swimming Club, send an email to qlsc.committee@gmail.com Or just come down to Queanbeyan Pool on Wednesday night and say hello.

Photos supplied

