

Birthday celebrations
for Community Bank
Bungendore

RSL Lifecare: *Dying
to Know Expo* -
Friday, July 31

Pet
of the
Week



Regional Independent

Free

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

No. 464

Wednesday 15 July, 2026

From Rudolph Rescues to Real-World Readiness: Christmas in July Strengthens Local RFS Crews



Christmas in July took on a whole new meaning last Saturday 11 July, when the Bungendore Rural Fire Brigade hosted Lake George Group 1's inaugural Christmas in July training day. Members from the Mulloon Rural Fire Brigade, Hoskingtown-Rossi Rural Fire

Brigade, Wamboin Rural Fire Brigade and Boro / Mount Fairy Rural Fire Brigade all joining in.

With over 40 volunteers the morning was a formalised group level training where crews were deliberately mixed into unfamiliar

teams.

Lake George RFS district Group 1 officer, Mick Fitzgerald said, "The main purpose of today is getting our fire brigades together from Group 1, practising inter brigade training - practicing with mixed

crews, because when we go to protracted incidents or we go away to deployments interstate you're working with unfamiliar people and on unfamiliar appliances, thrown into unpredictable and unfamiliar things. This is what we tried to replicate today and then we all

come together at the end and celebrate Christmas in July."

continued page 14

Above: RFS volunteers in Bungendore for the Lake George Group 1's inaugural Christmas in July training day



Save \$860

BUNGENDORE MITRE 10

Puretec Water Softener System

- Reduces hard water buildup
- Targets calcium and minerals in the water
- Protects home appliances and pipework



mitre10.com.au | 6238 1517 | sales@mitre10bungendore.com.au | Mon to Fri 6am to 6pm | Sat 7am to 5pm | Sun & P/hol 8am to 4pm

Community News

River Forum in Queanbeyan coincides with the release of the new Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Guide

The upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Network's (UMCN) biennial River Forum, Working Together for the River held in the Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council's Nellie Hamilton Centre in Queanbeyan on 24 June focused on community, culture and collaboration. UMCN Chair, Terry Korodaj explained that the Forum builds on the just released Walking Together for Country: A Collaborative Guide for the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment. "The Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment comprises the catchment of the Murrumbidgee and tributaries upstream of the Burrinjuck Dam.

"Following welcomes from myself and Wally Bell, Ngunnawal Elder, Ruth Ormella (QPRC) outlined the new guide and its application within the council. Dr Wendy Craik, Chair of the Independent Review Panel reviewing the Snowy Water Inquiry Outcomes Implementation Deed (SWIOID) delivered an topical presentation. For 25 years, the SWIOID has governed the release of environment water from the Snowy Scheme to the Snowy and Upper Murrumbidgee Rivers. There has long been deep concern about the consistent failure to release adequate flows to support the ecology and community values of these rivers. There

has been very extensive consultation on the review and now the Review Panel will soon release its draft findings for final public input on this important issue". Paul Knight, a Dharawal-Yuin descendent with extensive leadership experience in advancing Aboriginal outcomes and engagement, presented the First Nations Report of the SWIOID Review. Other presentations covered current local government water planning and water security, progress with the Restoring the Upper Murrumbidgee River Program and an update on the collaborative Urban Rivers and Catchment Restoration Project in the



ACT. University of Canberra Professor Jackie Schirmer presented findings from the Regional Wellbeing Survey which has detected a recent decline in wellbeing and an increase in community polarisation. This trend has implications for resilience in the face of climate change, water security and other natural resource challenges. Student Hannah Vardy advocated the Duty of Care draft Bill addressing the threats that climate change poses to health and the condition of 'climate anxiety'. An antidote may be found within nature and collective

action. Mr Korodaj described the UMCN as a cross jurisdictional network which has operated since the 1990's to enable community, government, landowners and land manager stakeholders to share, connect and support one another. Members and the public are welcome to attend the regular meetings and Catchment Conversation events. "We are very happy with the Forum attendance and the quality of presentations. Once again, video of all the presentations will be posted

on the UMCN's website at umcn.org.au. Inquiries may be directed to the UMCN Executive Officer, at contact@umcn.org.au". Left: Terry Korodaj, Chair of the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Network, Tom Baker(Queanbeyan Landcare) and Ruth Ormella, Director, Development and Environment, Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council. Above: Dr Wendy Craik, Chair of the Snowy Water Inquiry Outcomes Implementation Deed Review. Photos supplied



Bungendore Quilters: Save the Date - 8th August

Saturday, 8th August will be a busy and exciting day for Bungendore Quilters! At 11:00 am we will draw the two winners of our Bungendore War Memorial Hall Raffle during our Sew and Chat day at the Bungendore Community Centre. There is still time to purchase tickets through us or at the IGA Community BBQ on Saturday 1st August. Tickets are \$2.00 each and cash or card are

welcome. We are holding our Market Day that same day at the Bungendore Community Centre and everyone is welcome—not just Bungendore Quilters' members. There will be a selection of fabric for sale along with good quality craft items. A General Meeting and our Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 25 July

at the Community Centre and all are welcome. Come along and see if you would like to join our dynamic and vibrant group. We will be holding a Sew and Chat after both meetings have concluded. Photo supplied of one of our donation quilts for the Canberra Hospital Foundation's Dreaming Quilts for Love



Regional Independent

The Regional Independent is the only free, printed, independent, community newspaper within the Queanbeyan-Palerang local government area.

Distribution is **6,000** copies every fortnight, with stands in Queanbeyan, Karabar, Jerrabomberra, Bungendore, Braidwood and Wamboin.

We welcome local stories. For editorial and advertising enquiries, please email Sharon: info@regionalindependent.com.au or phone 0419 025 533

Bungendore Food Hub

A HELP UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTED BY OUR COMMUNITY

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

OPEN WEDNESDAYS 10AM-12PM

LOCATED IN THE OLD OP SHOP BEHIND BUNGENDORE ANGLICAN CHURCH, BISSALTA STREET BUNGENDORE

CONTACT 6238 1261 OR 0422605089

TAYLOR'S AUTOMOTIVE

BUNGENDORE

Car servicing & repairs
Truck servicing
Trailer servicing & repairs
All Rego Inspections (except Gas)
SafeTstop brake inspections
Auto Electrical work
Air conditioning work

(02) 6238 0305
autoelec@tob.net.au
40 KING STREET, BUNGENDORE

ON ELLENDON HAIR BEAUTY

Shop 3/30 Ellendon Street, Bungendore
6238 0512

New homes · Extensions
Pergolas and decks · Carports and farm sheds · Joinery shop
Office fitouts and renovations
Mark Osarek Licensed builder
NSW Lic: 149698C · ACT Lic: 19926069

0411 647 697
Email: mojoconstructions@bigpond.com

FOR ALL YOUR CONSTRUCTION NEEDS

Million-dollar announcement is a start for Captains Flat resurgence

Debbie Evans

Captains Flat could see an economic resurgence with the establishment of a \$1million community fund to help residents carry out voluntary legacy lead remediation works on their properties.

Captains Flat Community Association President, Ellanor Pavlovich, welcomed the announcement of the funding on 3 July which is targeted at privately owned land.

“Development in the village has been stifled for years because of the contamination. For example, no new shops could be built. But now there is an opportunity to remediate land which is affordable and ripe for development.

“Not since the 60’s has there been funds available to private landholders to remediate their land while some public land remediation has been funded.” She said.

The Minns government made the announcement of the funding on 3 July stating, 2026-27 NSW Budget will provide financial assistance to households with surface soil lead concentrations

above the national health investigation level, by supporting practical works such as applying clean topsoil and returfing affected areas to reduce exposure.

Eligible property owners will be encouraged to remove surface contaminated soil from affected areas and transport it to a designated disposal location at a nearby former mine site, where it can be safely managed.

This funding will assist with the purchase of clean topsoil and turf to reduce exposure risks and restore outdoor areas.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority is also extending its offer of free surface-soil testing for Captains Flat locals. This will help property owners better understand contamination levels on their land and determine whether remediation is required.

Welcoming the \$1million funding announcement, Pavlovich said it was unlikely to cover all affected landholders but hoped it would mark the start of an ongoing government commitment to the Captains Flat community.

“Realistically it’s probably

going to cost about \$80,000 per 500 metre square block to remediate the land properly but it’s certainly a start in the right direction.

“I’m hoping details on how the fund will be administered will be available soon so we can get works underway as soon as possible on private land.

“The Lead Taskforce, established by the government in 2021, focused only on public land and was disbanded in 2023 after completing remediation plans for those areas.

As the head of the Community Association, Pavlovich said she had plans to become the “polite squeaky wheel” to encourage the implementation of the funding as soon as possible.

She added Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council had given a great deal of advocacy support with Government for private landholders.

The Minns government indicated further information on eligibility, testing and how to apply for assistance through the community fund will be available in the coming months.

The former Captains Flat mine in the Southern Tablelands operated for many decades before closing in 1962. Historical mining activities left contamination in parts of the township and surrounding environment, with lead in surface soils remaining a key exposure pathway.

Minister for the Environment Penny Sharpe said: “Captains Flat residents have lived with historic lead contamination for decades.

This \$1 million investment will help them take practical steps to reduce exposure risks on their properties.

“We’re making it easier for households to identify contamination, access expert advice and undertake

remediation where it’s needed, in order to create safer outdoor spaces for families.”

Minister for Health Ryan Park said: “This funding builds on our ongoing commitment to addressing and reducing lead exposure risks.

“By supporting remediation works, we’re helping to reduce the risk of exposure, particularly for growing families in high-risk areas, before harm occurs.”

Member for Monaro Steve Whan said: “I’ve been fighting for the people of Captains Flat to get assistance with lead issues since I was re-elected in 2023. I was appalled that

property owners had been left in a situation where they could not build or alter their homes, or even grow veggies in the garden.

“This funding is a win for the community of Captains Flat and provides crucial financial assistance for families impacted by legacy soil contamination.

“I encourage residents of Captains Flat to take advantage of free surface-soil testing, and to access support for remediation work that will reduce the risk of exposure to historic contaminants for their families.”

Photo supplied of Member for Monaro, Steve Whan with Captains Flat residents.





Wide Span Sheds
No Compromise Steel Building Solutions

MOJO Constructions
0481 195 714
Your local authorised agent.

TAYLOR’S SELF STORAGE

NEW CONTAINERS - VERMIN AND WATER PROOF - SHORT OR LONG TERM - STORE ALMOST ANYTHING - SUIT HOME OFFICE OR BUSINESS - 24HRS 7 DAYS - SECURITY PIN CODE - ACCESS 7 DAYS

44 KING ST BUNGENDORE 6238 0305
TAYLOR’S OF BUNGENDORE taylors@tob.net.au



phl
surveyors
professional solutions

Surveying Planning

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



TODAYS BUYERS KNOW VAULE.
DOES YOUR ASKING PRICE?



SOLD
4 2 6
8 Jacobbs Street
BUNGENDORE
\$1,140,000



SOLD
4 2 2
141 Shepherd Road
BYWONG
\$1,655,000



SOLD
LAND | 19.40 Acres
1713 Bungendore Road
BYWONG
\$950,000



SOLD
3 1 1
30 Duralia Street
BUNGENDORE
\$771,000



SOLD
2 1 1
1/156 Carwoola Street
QUEANBEYAN EAST
\$569,000



SOLD
3 1 2
62 Duralia Street
BUNGENDORE
\$885,000

The Bungendore market remains strong, with active buyers ready to purchase. However, they’re more informed and selective than ever. **Correct pricing from day one is crucial**, as the first two weeks of a campaign generate the greatest interest and the best opportunity to create competition.

In May alone, **nine properties sold** through our Bungendore office, with **six going under offer after just their first open home**. Homes priced in line with today’s market are attracting strong buyer interest and achieving exceptional results, while overpriced properties often remain on the market longer, losing momentum and requiring price adjustments.

We price it right from the start, and give your property the best opportunity for success. Get in touch today to book an appraisal!



PRD. REAL ESTATE
PRD Real Estate Bungendore

Shop 2/33 Ellendon Street
Bungendore NSW 2621
(02) 6238 0999

Book a free appraisal





TREEWORKS
tree specialists

Improve the health, appearance and safety of your trees

Fully insured to work in NSW / ACT
Qualified arborists, tree surgeons and climbers
Tree assessments and diagnostic reports by a Level 5 arborist

Tree pruning and removals
Branches taken away or mulched
Full clean up
Free quotes

Visit our website www.treeworks.net.au or
call **1800 TREEHELP (1800 873 343)**

Dying to Know Expo: Starting the Conversations That Matter Most

We spend much of our lives planning for the future - our careers, finances, families and retirement - yet one of the most important conversations many of us avoid is about what matters most to us if we were ever unable to speak for ourselves. The upcoming Dying to Know Expo, presented by the Queanbeyan Veteran & Family Hub in partnership with COORDINARE - South Eastern NSW PHN, aims to help change that.

Held in recognition of National Dying to Know Day on 8 August, the Expo will bring together guest speakers, service providers and community organisations to encourage open conversations about life, values, wishes, advance care planning, grief and end-of-life planning. While these topics can seem confronting, the event is ultimately about living well, making informed choices, and ensuring our preferences are understood and respected.

A key message of the Expo is that advance care planning is for everyone - regardless of age, health status or life stage. Planning ahead isn't just about the end

of life; it's about thinking ahead, considering what matters most to you, and sharing your values, preferences and choices with the people who may one day support you. It is a gift to yourself and to those who care about you.

The campaign behind the Expo, "Nobody Knows: The Secret I'm Glad I Shared," highlights an important reality: if nobody knows what matters most to you, they may not have the information they need to honour your wishes. Sharing your values, preferences and choices ahead of time can provide clarity, reassurance and confidence for those closest to you, helping them support the decisions that are right for you.

Research shows that only 53 per cent of Australians feel comfortable discussing these important conversations with a family member, despite the fact they are relevant to every one of us. By creating safe and welcoming spaces for conversation, the Dying to Know movement encourages people of all ages to start talking, plan ahead, and make informed choices that reflect what matters most throughout life.

Since 2013, Dying to Know Day has grown into a national movement promoting awareness, education and open discussion about death, dying and grief. However, the organisers emphasise that these conversations shouldn't happen on just one day each year. Dying to Know Day is a reminder that planning ahead and talking openly about our values, wishes and preferences is something we can do at any stage of life, and something that benefits everyone.

The Dying to Know Expo provides a valuable opportunity for community members to learn about available resources, explore practical options, and gain the confidence to begin these important conversations. Attendees will hear from guest speakers and connect with organisations offering guidance on advance care planning, future health care decisions, funeral options, grief support and other services that empower people to make informed choices and live with confidence.

By starting the conversation today, we can help ensure our future



choices reflect what matters most to us, while providing clarity and reassurance for the people who care about us most.

Event Details

Where: Queanbeyan Veteran & Family Hub

When: Friday 31 July 2026
Time: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/dying-to-know-expo-tickets-1992096858329?aff=oddtcreator>
Or scan the QR code on page 15

New Sheds for Bungendore War Memorial Hall

The Bungendore War Memorial Hall has always been in need of storage and the container in the rear just wasn't up to it. Apart from

having to tramp across a bumpy paddock, the door latches had become harder to open and close. Storing our tables and 100+ chairs

in there was just not an option.

In 2024 we were given a grant from Bendigo Bank (PFS) to build a storage shed just behind the Hall

and I am pleased to announce that after 2 years, much discussion with all involved parties and a slight change of plan, we now have two 6x3m sheds with a concrete path leading to the side of the Hall. We can now clear much of the chair obstruction to the toilets and with the aid of a trolley, easily access the tables and chairs when needed.

The second shed will be used by the Bungendore Quilters to store all of their exhibition equipment. They currently rely on a member to offer them container space and each year in November they have to arrange transport from Bywong to the Hall and back.

We would like to thank Bendigo Bank for their support and also give a shout out to Lachlan and Nora from Regional Sheds, who not only were great to deal with and did the job with no fuss, but also gave us a hefty discount so that we could afford both sheds within our budget.

Lyn Randall
President

Photo supplied



Community Reminder

Monaro Police District

With the recent rise in E-bike use on our local roads, The Monaro Police District urge that all E-bike riders know the rules before you ride.

E-bike riders must follow the same road rules that apply to regular bicycles:

- You must wear an approved helmet securely fitted and fastened.
- You must not carry more people than the bike is designed for. If carrying a passenger, they must be wearing an approved, fitted and fastened helmet.
- If you're 16 years or older and not supervising a child under 16 years riding a bike, you can't ride on the footpath.

Penalties apply for dangerous and negligent riding as well as fines from \$818 for illegal E-bike use.

For further information visit Transport NSW <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/.../bicycle-riders/ebikes>

Blind Creek Solar Farm

octopus australia

Keep up to date with the Blind Creek Solar Farm project

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

Growing home battery uptake delivering lower electricity bills, but consumer protections needed

Home battery uptake continues to surge with more than 400,000 batteries installed across Australia in past 12 months, but energy-specific consumer protection reforms are needed to address a range of emerging issues, the ACCC's latest Electricity Market Inquiry report reveals.

The report found households with solar and battery systems had electricity bills that were between about \$329 and \$909 (20-52 per cent) lower over the course of a year compared to customers using electricity from the grid only.

Savings were even greater for the 24 per cent of solar and battery customers participating in virtual power plants, with bills typically \$762 to \$1,093 (57-63 per cent) lower.

A virtual power plant is an energy service where individual sources of generation from different locations, such as home batteries, are aggregated and controlled by a central operator.

"Households that have invested in batteries are achieving significant savings, particularly when their battery is connected to a virtual power plant," ACCC Commissioner Anna Brakey said.

"Virtual power plants can help households get more from their battery by shifting energy use away from peak periods and sending it back to the grid when it is most valuable. This can help customers lower bills and pay off their system faster."

The report, however, highlights that virtual power plants are complex and customers bear most of the risk for the operator's performance and whether benefits are achieved.

"When customers join a virtual power plant, they hand over control of their battery to an operator and are rewarded for its use to support the broader system. It is important customers understand this when signing up to participate in a virtual power plant," Ms Brakey said.

"Depending on their circumstances, some households may be better off with solar and a battery alone. Customers should make sure they understand the benefits and risks of any product that they sign up to."

Consumer reports to the ACCC about household batteries and new energy services have increased by 107 per cent over the past 12 months as the number of systems installed increases rapidly. Reports to other consumer bodies have also similarly increased.

These reports include consumers being sold systems that do not suit their needs, faulty installations, and poor battery performance, with many reporting difficulties when trying to get issues fixed or resolved.

The ACCC is also aware that some consumers are finding it difficult to compare offers and switch providers due to complex contracts and limited compatibility between batteries and virtual power plant products.

"As more Australians invest in batteries and participate in virtual power plants, it's critical that consumer protections keep pace," Ms Brakey said.

"The New Energy Tech Consumer Code addresses some of the issues identified in this report, but its benefits are limited by factors such as no independent dispute resolution or appeal process, reliance on self-reported audits for compliance, and lack of transparency around breaches," Ms Brakey said.

These supporting protections include requiring battery sellers and installers to sign up to a code of conduct to access the Cheaper Home Batteries Program, as well as expanding energy ombuds scheme coverage to resolve more residential and small business disputes.

"We will continue to actively monitor consumer complaints and where issues are able to be addressed under the Australian Consumer Law, we will hold solar and battery installers, retailers and suppliers accountable," Ms Brakey said.

Queanbeyan Uniting Church Jumble Sale: Sat July 25

The Queanbeyan Uniting Church Jumble Sale is as popular as ever. It is the go-to place to find a good bargain!

We pride ourselves on being one of the cheapest places around to buy things such as clothing, household goods, toys, craft items, blankets, cushions, jewellery, crocheted items, crockery, vases, frames, books, pictures and some furniture....the list goes on.

And we go on doing our best to serve the community during these difficult times, helping people to recycle and repurpose goods that would otherwise end up in landfill.

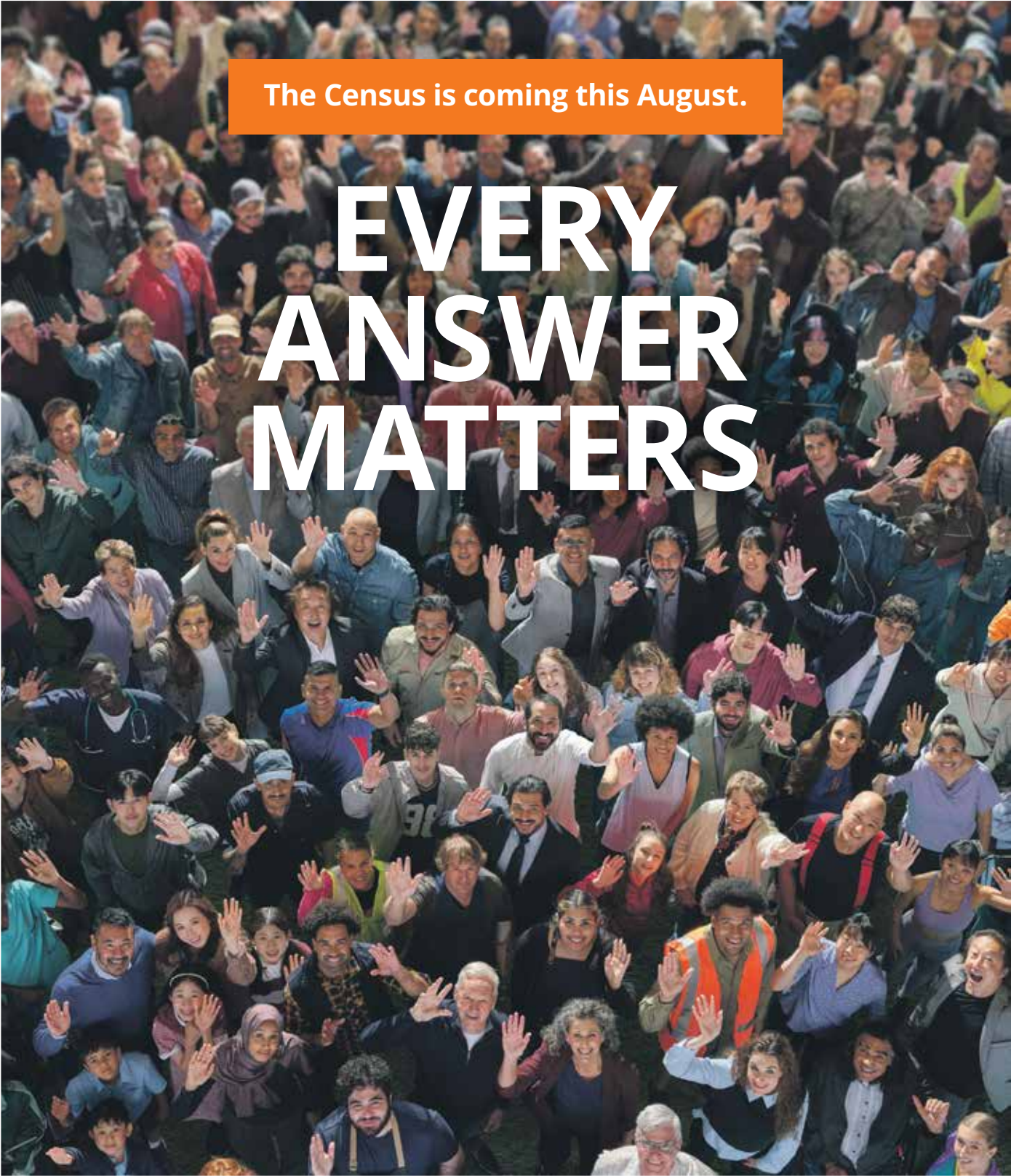
The Jumble Sale is good for the environment and good for you.

So come on down to the corner of Rutledge and Crawford Street.

We are open from 9am to 12pm.

And don't forget to call into 'The Shed' (located in foyer of the Church) for a cuppa, cake and chat!

Photo supplied



Help us understand what Australia needs now and into the future.
Census night - Tuesday 11 August

 census.abs.gov.au



Census

Rotary Club Queanbeyan Celebrates Another Year of Community Service

On Wednesday 1st July the Rotary Club of Queanbeyan held their annual 'Changeover' ceremony to celebrate their club's activities over the last 12 months and induct their new leaders for the next 12 months. It was a lovely evening at the Urban Bar and Grill on Monaro Street; with several guests, speeches, awards, presentations, lots of laughter and great food.

The Rotary Club of Queanbeyan had some amazing achievements

over 2025-26. The Club raised more than \$56,000 which was used to support a wide range of local community charities and services including:

local youth programs (local schools, PCYC Programs, Teen Clinic, Circus Quirkus),

local charities (Rise Above Capital Region Cancer Relief, Australian Rotary Health, OzHarvest),

the Queanbeyan Women's Refuge,

St Benedict Community Centre (aka 'Annie's Place'), and the new Ross Road Respite Centre.

In the last year, the team of members and volunteers contributed just under 2,900 hours of effort. For a small team of 15, the Club certainly made a difference!

During the course of the evening, recognition was provided to current Queanbeyan Club Rotarians who have taken on multiple Board roles in recent years. Keith Edmonds was recognised for his fantastic efforts over many roles and was presented with a second 'Blue Sapphire' to his 'Paul Harris Fellow' award. Rod See was also recognised for his excellent contributions in many roles over the years.

Congratulations to Doug Mitchell who was inducted as the new President for 2026-2027.

The Rotary Club of Queanbeyan are in their 75th year, since beginning in March 1951. The Club are always on the look-out for new potential volunteers and members to join them in 2026-2027 and beyond. If you are interested, check out their Facebook page (@QueanbeyanRotary), website at www.queanbeyanrotary.org.au or send an email to secqbntty@gmail.com

Top right: Past R.I. Director John Lawrence presents PP Doug Mitchell with the Chain of Office

Right: Keith Edmonds receives his Certificate of Service Award

Left: Rod See receives his Certificate of Service Award

Photos supplied



Missing Rotary Wheel

Appealing for help to find our property

On Wednesday 1 July, the Rotary Club of Queanbeyan held an event at the Urban Bar & Grill on Monaro Street, and unfortunately, our Rotary Wheel (partly pictured) was taken. The metal wheel, painted blue and gold, is approximately 45cm in diameter, and is fairly heavy, not something a child could easily lift. On the evening, the wheel was just outside the restaurant door and was taken between 6pm and 8pm.

We have checked with the restaurant, local Police and the road work contractors without success, and now we are appealing to the local community to assist with its return.



If someone has picked it up or come across it somewhere, we would greatly appreciate it being returned. It can be handed in to the Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club, the Queanbeyan Police Station, or contact the Club directly on secqbntty@gmail.com. Thank you.

Nominations now open for 2027 NSW Women of the Year Awards

The NSW Government is inviting communities to celebrate women and girls across the state with nominations opening today for the 2027 NSW Women of the Year Awards.

The awards honours women and girls who improve the lives of people in New South Wales, show leadership and courage, support their communities, and inspire future generations.

Women and girls can be nominated in 6 categories:

- NSW Premier's Woman of Excellence
- NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year
- NSW Community Hero
- NSW Regional Woman of the Year
- NSW Young Woman of the Year
- Ones to Watch.

In the Ones to Watch category, parents, carers and school

teachers can nominate girls and young women aged 7 to 15 for their courage, bravery, strength, determination or kindness to help and support those around them.

Recipients will be announced at the NSW Women of the Year Awards on Thursday 4 March 2027 in Sydney.

The awards ceremony is the flagship event during NSW Women's Week which will run from Tuesday 2 to Monday 8 March 2027, which marks International Women's Day. The week is a celebration of the incredible contributions women across make across our state, with people coming together to connect and honour them.

Get to know the 2026 award recipients on the NSW Women of the Year Awards 2026 website.

Minister for Women Jodie Harrison said, "Across New South Wales, we see women and girls showing leadership, supporting others and

creating change—whether that's in their workplaces, their local communities, or in the lives of people around them.

"The NSW Women of the Year Awards are an important opportunity to recognise and celebrate them - the ones who make a real difference in our communities every day.

"These awards shine a light on their achievements, and I urge people across the state to nominate someone who inspires them to help encourage the next generation of leaders and community heroes to step forward, lead and pursue their goals."

To learn more about the Awards and nominate an exceptional woman or girl in the community, visit the 2027 NSW Women of the Year Awards website.

Nominations close on Thursday 13 August 2026.

Community News

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 - 2 classes: 10.30am to 11.30am 11.45-12.45pm **Bookings essential** - you can book at TryBooking or come to the first class.

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, next market is Saturday 18th July

Membership is now due 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.

Table Tennis: would you be interested in playing table tennis? Please register your interest by phoning the below numbers.

Christmas in July: Our Christmas in July this year is at the Burns club on Thursday 23rd July. We are meeting at the bus interchange in Queanbeyan at 11.30am to travel over in buses .

Cost: \$20 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. RSVP: 20th July by calling Brenda or come to seniors before then. Our fundraising is paying for the buses so please support our stalls .

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



www.bdn.com.au

Let our expert team guide you through your legal matters

- Conveyancing
- Wills & Estates
- Criminal Law
- Workplace Injury
- Commercial Law
- Family Law
- Migration
- Employment Law

Principal Lawyers:



Tanya Nadin



Lorraine White



Richard Baker

Please phone for an appointment

Queanbeyan
6299 3999

Canberra
6230 1999

Accessible. Responsive. Innovative.

We downsized our home... not our lives or the children's inheritance.

Looking for a different way to live?

Many people over 50 are questioning the future – Are you concerned about:

- Rising costs?
- Isolation and at risk of requiring a care facility?
- Increasing pressure on retirement savings?
- Maintaining a large home alone?
- The hidden costs and traps of retirement villages?

What if you could have:

- On-hand facilities and meaningful connectedness
- Shared meals & meaningful work with all-ages
- 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? We're at the venue all day. For enquiries contact us, we'll get back to you:

Text 0428 268 935

Email: creatingaparallelsociety@proton.me

Community Bank Bungendore Turns 20 years!

The 1st of July 2026 marked a significant milestone anniversary for the Community Bank Bungendore, which proudly turned 20 years old. Since its inception, the Bungendore branch has been a cornerstone of support for the Bungendore community and surrounding districts.

Allan Donnelly, former director said “The steering committee lived and breathed this project for eighteen months without a break. Any pause in a project such as this is seen as the project failing. This never happened as with the full support from the Community Bank Braidwood Board and the shareholders; our steering committee and the community we passed every stage of the project. Community forums and engagements, pledge launches, prospectus



releases were nonstop from the day we started until we opened the doors eighteen months later on 1 July 2006.”

The Community Bank model is straightforward but very powerful. The more banking that takes place with us, the more profits are generated.

A significant portion of these profits is then reinvested back into the community through sponsorships, grants and donations. This symbiotic relationship not only fosters local economic growth but also enhances the quality of life of residents.

To date, the Bungendore branch has returned over \$5.6m to the community which includes funds set aside for future major projects. A recent significant Grant was to the Bungendore Preschool of \$1Million to assist with their relocation project. This Grant was the largest in the NSW/ACT Community Bank network and it assures

a future of the Preschool which is so vital for the community.

Recently the Community Bank branches of Bungendore and Braidwood were acknowledged at the 2026 QPRC Business Awards receiving the “Excellence in Professional Services” Award. On receiving the Award, Chair Mr Garry Cook said “I believe that “Service” to our customers by our wonderful staff members

is our superpower. People tell me how wonderful the service is that they receive at our branches, friendly, personalised, straightforward and professional”.

Mr Cook also said “As we move into the future, most banking is becoming digital and we see other banks closing their branches across Australia. Bungendore and Braidwood are committed to keeping our two branches, offering personalised face to face

service to our valued customers and contributing to our community”.

So, here’s Cheers to 20 years.

Nick Fry Community Engagement Manager Bungendore and Braidwood

Above: Birthday celebrations at the Branch

Photos supplied of original steering committee (below) and the official opening of the bank (left).



Next phase of firearms reforms now in effect

Phase two of the Minns Labor Government’s firearms reforms is now in effect with the changes intended to strengthen oversight, reduce risk and help keep the community safe.

Following the antisemitic terror attack at Bondi Beach in which 15 innocent people were killed, the NSW Government passed the Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025 - which include the toughest firearms reforms in a generation. Regulations are being

implemented in stages, allowing the NSW Firearms Registry to effectively operationalise the reform and licenced firearms owners the opportunity to become compliant with requirements.

From 1st July, changes that apply include:

Firearm licence terms

Licences can only be issued for a maximum of two years, a reduction from five years. A five-year licence term will no longer be available when submitting a firearms application, for both new

applications and renewals. Firearm licences issued prior to this date remain valid until expiry.

Strengthened identify proofing processes

Identity verification is mandatory before an application can proceed, formalising existing processes.

This applies to licence and permit applications, including renewals.

Amended permit to acquire provisions in place:

A Permit to Acquire

(PTA) firearms will not be issued until a person can demonstrate they meet safe storage requirements.

A PTA will not be issued unless the Commissioner is satisfied the applicant has never been investigated by a Commonwealth or State law enforcement or intelligence agency for terrorism-related offences and is not residing or associating with a person who has been investigated for terrorism-related offences.

Streamlining decision-making functions

An internal administrative change to delegate certain decisions involving criminal intelligence to an Assistant Commissioner or above.

The Government is investing \$42.8 million over ten years into the NSW Gun Registry, including additional staff and system upgrades to support the implementation of these reforms.

These changes build on a suite of reforms from the Minns Labor Government designed to protect the community, prevent intimidation and allow NSW Police to focus on keeping

people safe, including:

- Investing \$94.3 million for an Australian-first specialist armed response command, with 250 police officers, 28 civilian staff, rapid-response vehicles and a 24/7 operations centre.
- Investing \$26.9 million for 30 additional police multicultural liaison officers.
- Banning the display of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corp (IRGC) and Hizb ut-Tahrir symbols in NSW.

Community News

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>



Foreign Notes and Coin Collection: Partnership Between Rotary and Bendigo Bank

Nick Fry
Bendigo Bank - Community Engagement Manager (Braidwood/Bungendore/Crookwell)
A partnership has existed for several years between Rotary International and Bendigo Bank whereby collection boxes are placed in branches for donations of foreign notes and coins. Even 1c and 2c coins and the odd Penny were found in the boxes which are in the Community Bank branches of Braidwood and Bungendore.

It's extremely handy to have these boxes when people return from overseas with loose foreign currency. It's also used regularly for the bank staff when they come across foreign coins in their day-to-day operations. It is estimated that there is the equivalent of over AUD \$20M of foreign currency sitting in people's homes collecting dust.

So, what happens with all the notes and coins in the collection boxes? Rotary representatives collect these boxes then separate the notes and coins into their currencies and then arrange for them to be transferred into Australian currency.

Community Engagement Manager of Braidwood and Bungendore Community Bank branches, Nick Fry, said "The total weight of the notes and coins from the 2 branches recently handed to Rotary was 29 kg's. Once converted, the AUD figure was \$1,516.09.

Rotary International have advised that since the inception of this program in 1990 over \$1,000,000 has been collected from the 12,000 kgs of coin throughout the 150 locations in Australia.

For our local districts of Braidwood, Bungendore and for a few years, Crookwell, our contribution has been approximately 220 kgs of foreign currency (that's the same weight as a Bengal Tiger!) and raised over \$21,000. It's quite a remarkable figure.

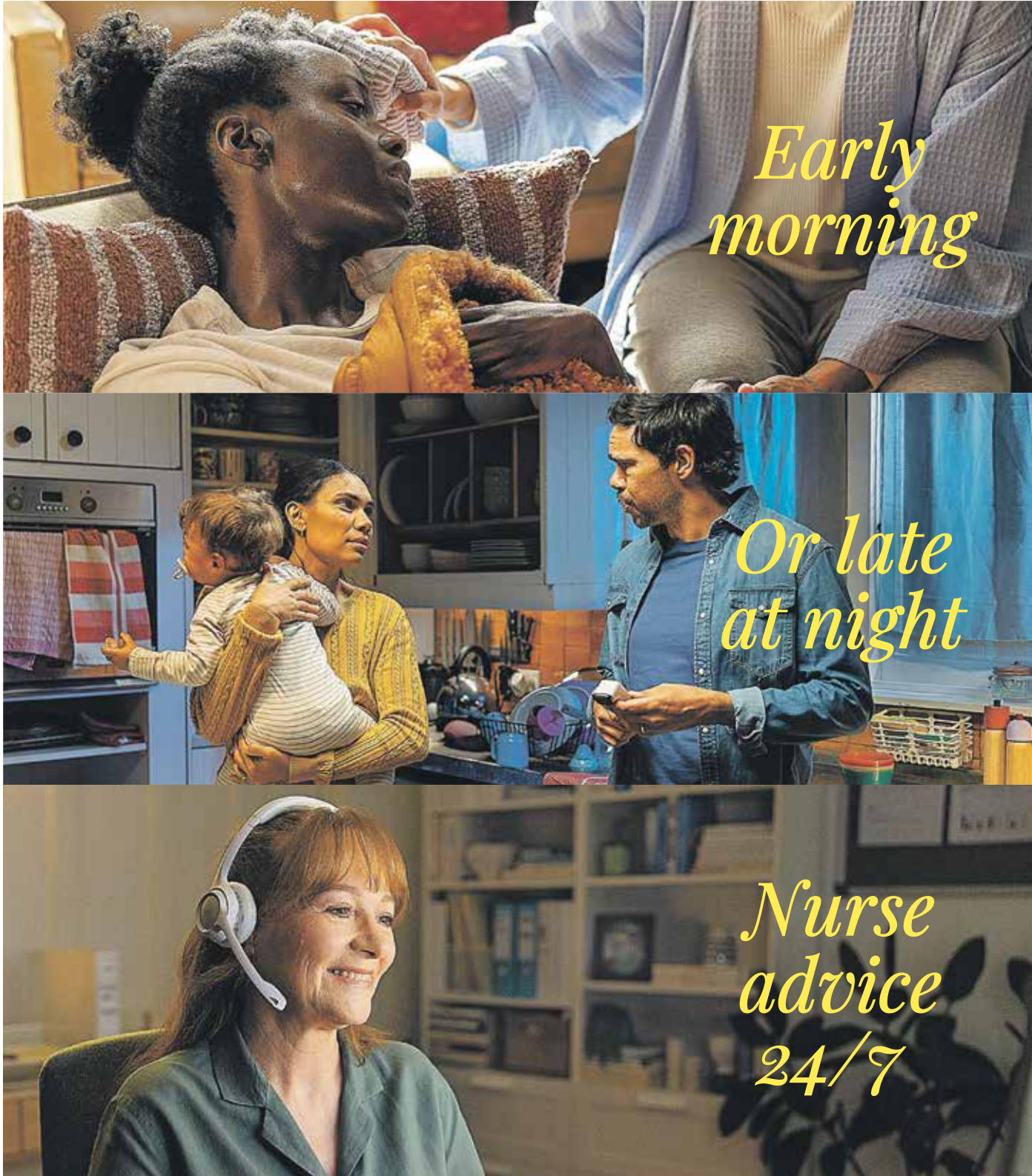
The Bank does not see the funds; the process is that the Community Bank staff and Directors choose a charity aligned to Rotary International which is then donated. This year, the decision was to split the funds 2 ways, \$758.05 to ARH (Australia Rotary Health) and \$758.04 to RAWCS (Rotary Australia World Community Services).

ARH is a charity that supports mental health and research and Indigenous health scholarships. RAWCS aid disadvantaged communities and individuals through humanitarian aid.

This is another project that highlights the partnerships which are created in our communities.

If you come across some foreign notes or coins or even 1c and 2c coins at home or in your loose change, please remember to bring them into one of our Community Bank branches. Every coin or note helps and it is yet another way that the Community Bank, together with your donations can assist those in need.

Photo supplied of Nick and Sally



Ask **1800 medicare**
1800 633 422
Or connect via the app

Speak to a registered nurse, 24/7, for free advice on any non-emergency health concern.



For more information visit www.medicare.gov.au/1800



Maria's Community Corner



This fortnight has been more about meetings rather than entertainment. However, I was able to squeeze a couple of lunch outings in.

The first was on Saturday 27th June where a group of CWA ladies from Bungendore Branch and Queanbeyan Evening Branch went to the Captains Flat Pub for a 'Friendship' lunch. We usually see each other at meetings where business is discussed or at fundraising events working. This was just a friendly get-together to have a chat, a meal and some fun time together. The Captains Flat Pub was great too. The room we were in had a wood fire, which was cosy and warm, and we did stoke the fire once or twice. The food was delicious and the service was also great. I recall going there in 1991 (now I'm showing my age) when my sister-in-law and nephew came out from Venezuela and we took them to the gold mine and then we had lunch at the pub. Yes, brought back some lovely memories.

The other was the Queanbeyan Health Walking Group's monthly birthday lunch at Victor's Restaurant at the RSL Bowling Club on Yass Road. Every month the walking group goes out to lunch to celebrate the birthdays in that month. Last month one of our walkers had a milestone birthday, a 90th birthday, and yes still walking with the group. The food at Victor's never disappoints - it was amazing. Every meal at our table was delicious. Even the lunch specials were amazing, I had 'food envy' when some of them were served at our table. Two of the birthday ladies were present at the lunch and they received a birthday card and we sang 'Happy Birthday' to them.

So if you're looking for something fun to do then join the walking group. We meet every Thursday morning, rain hail or sunshine, at 8.50am at the BBQ area at Queen Elizabeth Park (near the river). We break up into smaller groups and walk for 40-60 minutes, depending on your capabilities. After the walk we meet at Café Veloce in Riverside Plaza for a coffee and a



chat. No membership fees. You just pay for your coffee.

Are you an avid crocheter or knitter? Then why not enter the Granny Square Challenge organised by Bungendore CWA. There are no set guidelines on pattern or colour, the squares need to be 6-inch square or thereabouts, wool or acrylic.

Let your imagination "go wild", nothing is too crazy! From the colours of the Amazon, the depth of the seas, the beauty that is our coral reefs. The glorious orange hues of our sunsets, the savannah horizons, the greens and blues of the earth. The patterns of animals, the texture of their skins, anything where

your mind takes you. Competition ends 10th August. For further information please contact Jude on 0412932508 or email to bungendore.handicraft@gmail.com.

Till next time take care everyone.
Maria

Photo supplied

Bungendore Seniors 55+

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

Get Togethers - Our get togethers are weekly and we alternate between Thursdays and Fridays, so mark your calendar and join us on a Thursday or a Friday or come along to both. Enjoy great conversation, a few laughs, some games and morning tea.

We meet at 10am at the Bungendore Sports Hub amenities building. Cost is \$5.00 per person, which includes morning tea.

See right for dates.

Everyone over the age of 55 is welcome!

Seniors Chair Yoga -Chair Yoga: Tuesdays at the Bungendore Scout Hall - 2.30pm. Chair Yoga is **held during school terms only**. Cost: \$13 per session for members, \$18 for non-members. All welcome to attend

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

Christmas in July Luncheon

Our Christmas in July Luncheon this year is at the Lake George Bar & Dining restaurant, Bungendore

Thursday 30th July @ 12.30pm

Menu: Main - chicken with sage cream sauce + roast potatoes +

carrots + broccoli or beans

Dessert - sticky date pudding + LOTS of sauce

Drinks / tea & coffee are at own expense

Cost: \$30 per person for members or \$36 for non-members

Bookings are essential - Please let me know of any dietary requirements when booking.

Payment must be paid prior to the day, you can pay at one of our get-togethers, online or directly at the bank (details will be sent on request)

Lucky door prizes & Santa will be dropping off some little pressies for all!



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

Below left: recent birthday celebrations, happy birthday Rae

THURSDAYS

Thursday 23 July
Thursday 6 August
Thursday 20 August
Thursday 3 September
Thirsday 17 September

FRIDAYS

Friday 17 July
Friday 31 July
Friday 14 August
Friday 28 August
Friday 11 September
Friday 25 September



Community News

Council Meeting Summary: 8th July 2026

QPRC

Here is the summary of the resolutions made at the Ordinary Council meeting of 8 July 24. The archived recording of the meeting and the Public Forum are both available at: <https://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/archive.php>

- Council heard from five members of the public who made presentations about items on tonight's agenda including; elevated fuel prices; a Development Application at 24 Albert Street, Queanbeyan; an undetected water leak; and a petition regarding a proposed solar farm.
- Council heard a Staff Presentation about the Draft Section 7.12 Rural Contributions Plan for Exhibition
- Council granted conditional consent to a development application for alteration and additions to dwelling, demolition of existing laundry, shed and outhouse, and construction of

carports, garage at 24 Albert Street, Queanbeyan

- Council noted the development of Round 2 of the Shopfront Improvement Program, using the remaining \$40,000 from the Business Support Package of the Monaro Street Refresh Project. Council considered the costs and benefits of extending the Shopfront Improvement Program and will extend the program to businesses facing Monaro St that did not participate or were ineligible in Round 1 - capped at \$40,000
- Council approved the General Manager to sign the Deed of Variation that will allocate \$305,000 to construct the new Bungendore School Pedestrian Crossing on Malbon Street, replace the wombat crossing on Majara Street, and complete associated works as proposed. Council will provide supplementary vote for this project in the 2026-27 Operational Plan, funded from the Department of Education Compensation Reserve

- Council deferred consideration of installation of a memorial plaque on the Queanbeyan Age Fountain in Queanbeyan Town Park and noted that staff will develop a Plaques and Memorial Policy to guide future requests of this nature.
- Council noted the impact of elevated fuel prices on Council operations, capital works, and service delivery, endorsed steps being taken to ensure a consistent fuel cost adjustment approach across relevant contracts and projects. Council noted that staff will continue to monitor price trends and report material variations through budget reviews and quarterly reporting.
- Council noted the minutes of the Youth Advisory Committee meeting held on 19 June 2025, appointed Radenko Reljic, Aida Deryngowski, Aylah Cotterill and Cederic Johnson as members of the Youth Advisory Committee.
- Council endorsed the draft QPRC

Section 7.12 Rural Contributions Plan 2026 and will place on public exhibition for 28 days at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au>. Council will consider results of public exhibition in a future report prior to its adoption.

- Council deferred consideration of the draft Tree Management Strategic Policy
- Council adopted the Local Approvals Policy - Temporary Accommodation while Constructing a Dwelling
- Council agreed to extend the appointment of Ms Hamono for a further term of four years on the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
- Council endorsed the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and Internal Audit Annual Work Plans for 2026-27
- Council adopted the Internal Audit Charter as endorsed by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee at its meeting of 25

May 2026

- Council received information report with the annual review of the operation of the Hardship and Financial Assistance Policy
- Council received and noted the draft minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 25 May 2026
- Council received and noted the minutes of the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting held on 18 June 2026
- Council received information report with answers to councillor questions about matters on tonight's agenda
- In closed session, Council resolved to clear the amount of \$11,389.08 due to an undetectable water leak at the property listed in the report

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>

New drought insights added to My Climate View

A new enhancement to My Climate View is helping farmers and agricultural professionals better understand how drought is changing across Australia.

Developed in partnership with farmers and their advisors, the updated feature offers insights into different aspects of drought at a

local level, drawing on 60 years of historical data and future climate projections.

This added feature enables users to see how droughts have affected their locations over time and explore the impact of projected climate changes into the future.

By presenting historical data and future climate projections in one place, the tool helps users make better-informed decisions that enhance their drought and climate change resilience.

My Climate View is delivered by Australia's national science agency, CSIRO and the Bureau

of Meteorology under the Climate Services for Agriculture program through funding from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's Future Drought Fund.

The latest update is part of an ongoing commitment to ensure the My Climate View meets the real

needs of those who use it most.

If you would like to know more about how My Climate View defines drought, and the science behind it, visit the My Climate View drought information on the BOM web page. <https://www.bom.gov.au>

As your state member, I can help you with

• Social Housing

• Service NSW

• Fair Trading

• Education

• NSW Health & Hospitals

• State Roads

• Police, Ambulance and Fire + Rescue

• State Emergency Service

• Revenue NSW

• Public Transport

• National Parks

• Crown Lands

• Family and Community Services

• Justice of the Peace Services & Applications

• Birthday & Wedding Anniversary Messages

• Local Land Services

Feel free to contact my office if you need any assistance

(02) 6299 4899 •

monaro@parliament.nsw.gov.au •

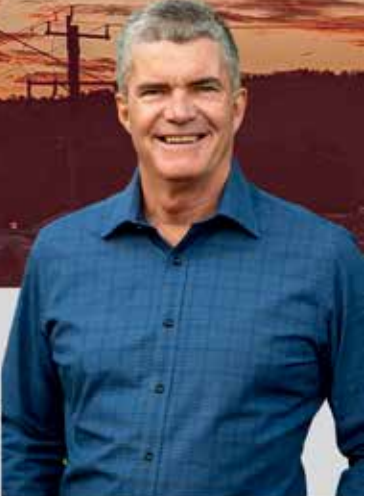
213 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

STEVE WHAN MP

STATE MEMBER FOR MONARO

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

Labor





Big on community

Bigger for sharing profits with you.

Banking with us means profits are invested back into the community.

Open an account in minutes via the app, or visit your local branch.

Community Bank

Bungendore

Bendigo Bank

The better big bank

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879

A successful year for Rotary Bungendore

Rotarians, guests, friends and family gathered on the 4th of July for the Rotary Club of Bungendore's Changeover dinner held at The Carrington.

Over 80 guests celebrated the clubs' wonderful commitment and achievements over the past year.

Outgoing President, Sue Glover said it had been privilege to be President and thanked all members for their commitment and dedication. "Rotary is about service above self, but it's also about showing up - consistently, generously, and with a willingness to help," Sue said. "This year, you have all shown up. Again, and again. With humour,

resilience, and a genuine desire to make a difference.

"As I hand over the role to our incoming president, I want to say thank you. Thank you for your support, your patience, your ideas, your energy, and your commitment. It has been an honour to serve alongside you.

"Our club is strong. Our community is stronger because of you. And the future of Rotary in Bungendore is bright."

Members were not idle, they delivered: 20 community garden working bees, 7 IGA BBQs, 10 social evenings, 15 guest speakers, 18 assorted BBQ events, Show and Rodeo parking, 2 joint

meetings with other clubs, hosting Youth Exchange students, welcoming the Peace Fellows, a Defensive Driving course, a Public Speaking evening, a High Tea Extravaganza, the Hooters presentation, Halloween festivities and many more behind the scenes activities.

The club was also honoured as the Community Service Club of the Year at the Bungendore Australia Day Awards. Christine was recognised as Citizen of the Year, and Karen received the Senior Citizen of the Year award. These accolades reflect the dedication and impact of our members in the community.

During the past year, Rotary donated generously to many causes:

- \$2000 to Love Your Sister for cancer research
- \$2000 to Cure Brain Cancer
- \$1500 toward the Peace Fellows visit
- \$2000 to Legacy
- \$2000 to Bungendore Pre-School
- Just under \$700 to Lift the Lid, Rotary's Mental Health initiative
- \$1500 to Skin Cancer Research
- \$450 to CWA Grants

Mel Carn (above right, with Sue) was awarded Rotarian of the Year. "Mel has only been a club member for a few years, but she has supported our club for many

more," Sue said.

"She works tirelessly—sometimes to her own detriment—to make sure the things we set out to achieve are delivered. While working full time and caring for family, she still finds the time, energy, and commitment to pour herself into this club and the work we do.

"Her dedication, reliability, and generosity of spirit make her a truly deserving recipient of this award, she truly embodies the Rotary motto of "service above self," Sue added.

Congratulations Mel, so well deserved!

Paul Harris Fellow awards went to Mel Carn and Alan Longhurst, Director / Surveyor of phI Surveyors (below) for their support and commitment to the community.



Incoming President, Darren Kaehne (left) said, "Every year brings new opportunities. This year, my vision for our club is anchored in Rotary's powerful global theme: to Create Lasting Impact."

"Let us step into this year with curiosity, a desire to

learn, and a commitment to longevity. Together, we will learn more, broaden our horizons, and create a lasting impact while having a fantastic time doing it," he added.

Congratulations to all!
Sharon Baxter-Judge



Community News

Winter brings woolly warmth for some, but others are still in need

The Bungendore CWA's Great Granny Square Challenge is underway, and we are looking forward to being overwhelmed with squares when the challenge finishes on 10th August. The squares, and other crocheted items, will be on display at Bungendore's War Memorial Hall on Saturday 15th August. That's when the winners will be announced and the prizes generously donated by Bungendore businesses, will be awarded.

The squares will then be donated to Roundabout Canberra who will make them

in to blankets of the sizes needed to keep families with children warm.

All the details are on our website bungendorecwa.org

If you are a knitter, crocheter or sewer, you might also like to make clothing that will be sent to help Ukrainian refugees through the Good Neighbour Project. People are asked to make items in wool, and to contribute to a set of clothing that includes a sweater, socks, mittens, hat, small toy and a card. Currently, they need mittens, and hats for all ages,



but as this is a huge project with people contributing from all over Australia, the specific items needed to complete a set change as new donations are received.

And of course, our regular Craft and Chat get together continue on the fourth Monday of every month at our cozy CWA rooms in Gibraltar Street, Bungendore. We often have a craft activity to try out, or you can bring your own project to work on. See you there!

Photos supplied

Queanbeyan VIEW Club

Queanbeyan VIEW Club - next meeting Thursday, July 16

V. Voice, I. Interest, and E. Education, of W. Women.

Our next meeting will be our 42nd birthday luncheon, which is on Thursday the 16th of July, 12 for 12.30 at the Tourist Hotel, Monaro Street Queanbeyan.

QPRC Councillor Ross Macdonald will be our guest and the theme will be "42 SHADES OF PURPLE". We support The Smith Family, and two Learning for Life students. All ladies are welcome to join us for fun and friendship. RSVP to Irene on 0438 231 003 or via email on queanbeyanview@gmail.com by Sunday the 12th July

Photo supplied Alida Bell, recently receiving her new membership badge from Secretary Karen Sharp





BUNGENDORE CRAFTERS CO-OPERATIVE

Craft Evenings

Thursday 23rd July

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

Here to help

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

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



KRISTY MCBAIN MP
Member for Eden-Monaro



6284 2442

KristyMcBain.com.au

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

Bungendore artist honoured at the 2026 Waverley Art Prize

Local artist Kate Bender has received national recognition after being awarded the Mayor’s Highly Commended Award at the 40th anniversary of the Waverley Art Prize.

Held annually since 1986, the Waverley Art Prize has become one of Australia’s respected painting and drawing awards, showcasing the work of emerging and mid-career artists from across the country. This year’s exhibition marks the prize’s 40th anniversary and is being held at Bondi Pavilion Gallery.

For Kate, the recognition came as a complete surprise. “I’ve had a break of a few years painting abstract work and entering art prizes, but I decided to go for it this year,” she said.

“I have never entered the Waverley Art Prize before. I was pretty surprised and overwhelmed to be selected as a finalist, but when I got the message that I’d received the Mayor’s Highly Commended

Award, Keith thought something terrible must have happened! I was so shocked. I’m still pinching myself - it hasn’t quite sunk in.”

Remarkably, Kate only began painting in 2011. “I’m a late bloomer,” she said. “I started painting the year before I went to art school.”

Her award-winning painting, Into the Night Garden, captures the essence, sensations, and atmosphere experienced by Kate in the garden at night, it’s a kind of magical and serene place.

“For my abstract work I like to create meditative paintings that aren’t visually representative of anything in particular, but rather invoke sensorial and immersive experiences for the viewer to get lost in. When people connect with my work they often have an emotional response to it, it’s an incredibly rewarding feeling for me”, she said.

“When people connect with my

work they often have an emotional response. That’s an incredibly rewarding feeling for me.”

She describes Into the Night Garden as capturing “the essence, sensations and atmosphere” she experiences while spending time in the garden after dark.

“It’s a kind of magical and serene place,” she said.

While best known for her abstract work, Kate says she has come to embrace both abstraction and botanical painting.

“I’ve struggled with whether to paint flora or abstract work for a while, but I’ve slowly come to realise it doesn’t have to be either-or,” she said. “I love both styles for different reasons and I’ll keep doing both.”

Her creative calendar remains busy, with a flora painting featuring in the upcoming Black & White exhibition at Lake Room Gallery at the Malbon, along with two works in the Les Fleurs exhibition at Q



Gallery in Canberra later in August. couple of weeks.

Into the Night Garden is for sale at <https://wwas.org.au/waverley-art-prize-2026>. Kate’s flora paintings will be available for sale at Gioia, gioia.com.au, in the next

Sharon Baxter-Judge

Photo supplied of Kate with Into the Night Garden

Christmas in July - RFS Training Day

continued from page 1

Bungendore RFS volunteers Emma and Shaun described the day perfectly in the Brigades social media post...

“The day kicked off with a snakebite rescue across rough terrain, dirt mounds and a goat track (plus some mysterious hollow barrels that appeared to have enrolled themselves in the training program as surprise guest stars). The dummy survived the snakebite... although the extraction may have finished the job.

“Next came an animal rescue starring Rudolph the Reindeer, who desperately needed water or Christmas was officially cancelled. With only enough hose to reach halfway, crews somehow managed to move water nearly 100 metres—proving once again that firefighters can make plumbing, physics and Christmas magic work together when Rudolph is depending on them. Christmas was saved.

“Property protection threw in a few curveballs—reluctant occupants, a missing Crew Leader and a fire that refused to wait—providing plenty of opportunities to practise decision-making under pressure. (For anyone wondering, all Crew Leaders were eventually located

safe and well.)

“Over at the Bungendore Learning Hub, crews carried out a smoke-filled building rescue featuring a particularly unique casualty who seemed to have wandered out of Woodstock (see page 18), found himself in a smoke scenario and decided the best survival strategy was to wait patiently for firefighters to sort everything out. The Hub’s smoke alarm also deserves special recognition—we can confirm it works exceptionally well.

“The day wrapped up with a series of teamwork challenges that tested skills no training manual has ever covered. The plank walk once again confirmed the scientific fact that every firefighter is somehow left-footed. Next came a Christmas logic puzzle where the elves always told the truth and the Grinches always lied. Teams had to untangle the clues and crack the code before earning the right to move on. Who knew Christmas required quite so much critical thinking? Hose bowling followed, and the official position remains that it is absolutely, definitely rigged—those hoses simply do not roll straight. Then came the grand finale: one-handed Christmas bunting, a deceptively brutal contest against a roll of sticky tape

that had clearly completed its own tactical training and refused to cooperate.

“It was a fantastic day of practical learning, problem-solving and plenty of laughs, with a few very questionable Santa hats thrown in for good measure. More importantly, it gave volunteers from across Lake George Group 1 another chance to train together, build relationships and strengthen the teamwork that makes a difference when the pagers go off.

“Thanks to everyone who came along. Until next time... congratulations on surviving another Bungendore training day! “

After training volunteers were treated to a fabulous BBQ lunch with fresh salads. Tables were set with Christmas hats and bon bons. The home-made Christmas cake and carrot cake were delicious and devoured.

Bungendore FRS would like to thank Bungendore IGA for donation of the tinsel. Emma and Shaun added “A huge thank you also goes to Braidwood Rural Fire Service, Captains Flat Rural Fire Brigade - New, and Jerrabomberra Creek Rural Fire Brigade, whose members travelled to Bungendore to help run the training activities. Their support meant more of our Lake George Group 1 volunteers could take part in the scenarios instead of being tied up in them. Quite simply, the day wouldn’t have been possible without their generosity, expertise and willingness to give up their time.”

Thank you to all our RFS volunteers.

Sharon Baxter-Judge

Left: Snake bite recsue photo courtesy of Bungendore RFS

Become a NSW RFS volunteer

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) is the world’s largest



volunteer fire service, made up of more than 70,000 dedicated volunteers right across NSW.

NSW RFS volunteers are ready to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all year round, attending a range of incidents from bush and grass fires to house and structure fires, road accidents and assisting at other events like floods, storms and searches.

Volunteering with the NSW RFS offers you the opportunity to learn

new and valuable skills that will not only assist you in your voluntary role but in day to day life and even your workplace. It is also an opportunity to meet people you wouldn’t normally meet. For many of our members, it’s also about being part of a wonderful tradition and an organisation with a very proud history.

For more info head to <https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/volunteer/join-the-nsw-rfs>



Pedestrian safety improvements for Bungendore

Debbie Evans

Safer pedestrian crossings in Bungendore will proceed using State Government compensation funds redirected by Queanbeyan-Palerang Council from a land settlement related to the new Bungendore High School.

The funding was compensation for Council-owned land on Majara Street that had been compulsorily acquired for the new Bungendore High School but later returned to Council after Birchfield Drive in Bungendore was chosen as the preferred school site.

At the 8 July Council meeting General Manager, Rebecca Ryan, said Council had suggested to School Infrastructure NSW and Transport for NSW that the remaining State Government funds, about \$627,000 after the land was returned to Council, be used as part of a NSW Government project (the crossings) rather than repaid to the State Government.

“We facilitated that process and we have the Deed of Variation to approve tonight upon your consideration”, for the State Government funds to be directed to pedestrian crossing works on Malbon Street, Bungendore.

The community has lobbied for many years for the crossing to improve pedestrian safety especially around school zones in

the immediate area.

The following resolution was carried unanimously by Council.

Deed of Variation - that Council:

1. Approve the General Manager to sign the Deed of Variation that will allocate \$305,000 to construct the new Bungendore School Pedestrian Crossing on Malbon Street, replace the wombat crossing on Majara Street, and complete associated works as proposed.

2. Provide the supplementary vote for this project in the 2026/27 Operational Plan, funded from the DoE Compensation Reserve.”

Member for Monaro, Steve Whan said “The crossing improvements include construction of a new Wombat Crossing on Majara Street and employment of a crossing supervisor on Malbon Street.

“I am pleased that after a significant wait we now have agreement, a design, and funding for this work.

“Getting to this point has been slow. I first spoke to Transport for NSW about the crossings in 2023.

“No traffic modelling had been done and no planning started.

“For good reason, Transport for NSW need to be cautious about changes to a highway, and in this case the location of the crossing point was complicated by its

proximity to the railway crossing.

“As a result, after consulting with Bungendore Public School, the Department has determined that the safest most appropriate option is for a crossing supervisor on the Malbon Street crossing point. This provides adult supervision for children crossing the road.

“Crossing supervisors are used on many highways near schools, including locally on the busy Monaro Highway at Bredbo.

“I take the opportunity to acknowledge and thank our many ‘lollipop’ people supervising crossings all around the Monaro - they do a great job keeping our kids safe and are very much appreciated.

“The Wombat Crossing (a raised pedestrian crossing) is the appropriate and safe treatment for Majara Street.

“I also want to acknowledge the community members who have campaigned for some years for safer crossings near the school and thank them for their advocacy.

I also want to thank the Public School and Council for working through this with the Department.

“Bungendore residents might remember that in their Kings Highway planning Transport for NSW has also flagged future improvements to pedestrian safety in other parts of Bungendore



including the Ellendon Street intersection and the Railway Crossing.

“Like many other things, what looks simple from the outside, often takes concerted effort and time. These crossing

improvements are no exception. I am pleased they will be delivered. We are aiming to do all we can to keep our children safe as they walk to school - as always though, I urge people, including parents, to exercise caution while driving near schools.”

Queanbeyan
Veteran and Family Hub



Here for veterans and their families, every day



What's on at the Hub



MON: Invictus Yoga (Back Monday 20th) - 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: Zumba (Back Thursday 23rd) - 11:00am to 12:00pm
Fortnightly - Open Arms Coffee Catchup - 10:00am

FRI: Mind Body Balance Tai Chi - 9:30am to 10:30am

Visit the Hub today

Level 1
251 Crawford St, Queanbeyan
Open Monday to Friday
9am to 5pm

In partnership with





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.

Craft, Conversation and a Special Celebration

Despite the chilly winter weather, the Bungendore School of Arts was filled with warmth, laughter and creativity at Bungendore Crafters' Co-Op's fortnightly BYO Craft Project Night on Thursday evening.

This gathering was made even more special as members celebrated one of our crafters, who is eagerly awaiting the arrival of her baby. Over delicious nibbles, we presented the expectant mum with a beautiful handmade quilt, lovingly created by our craft group. Co-op members contributed unique quilt squares that they had embroidered, hand-stitched, patchworked and bedazzled, which were expertly pieced together by

our talented quilters and beautifully embroidered by other crafters in the group—a truly collaborative gift made with love.

As always, there was an inspiring variety of works-in-progress to admire and discuss. Projects included knitted garments, crocheted blankets, sewn winter pants (along with a matching dog coat and pants!), op shop finds transformed into stylish bags, nature drawings, and even a stunning handmade kiln-formed glass bowl created during a Canberra Glassworks workshop.

The evening was a wonderful reminder that our craft nights are about much more than making—they're about sharing skills,

encouraging one another, and building friendships within our community.

We look forward to welcoming new and returning crafters to our next BYO Craft Project Night on Thursday 23 July, from 6.30-8.30pm at the Bungendore School of Arts.

Please note that during August our Thursday gatherings may not follow the usual fortnightly schedule. Keep an eye on the community pages on Facebook, follow the Bungendore Crafters' Co-Operative on Facebook, and watch for upcoming dates in future Regional Independent articles.

Photo supplied



Good news in pension changes

National Seniors Australia Adjustments to income, assets, and deeming thresholds could improve Age Pension eligibility for some retirees.

From 1 July 2026, the Federal Government has increased a range of Age Pension means-testing thresholds, allowing some retirees to earn more income, hold more assets, or have more financial investments before their pension entitlement is reduced.

These changes form part of the regular July indexation process. While the Age Pension payment rate itself is not increasing this month, the updated thresholds may result in higher pension entitlements for some existing part-pensioners and may allow others who were previously ineligible to qualify for a pension.

The biggest pension changes typically occur in March and September, when pension payment rates and deeming rates are reviewed. However, the July indexation adjustments remain important because they affect the tests used to determine Age Pension eligibility.

Higher income thresholds

Under the income test, single pensioners can now earn up to \$226 per fortnight before their pension begins to reduce, up from \$218. For couples, the combined income-free area has increased from \$380 to \$396 per fortnight.

While the increases may appear modest, they effectively allow pensioners to retain more income before their pension is affected. This is particularly relevant for retirees undertaking part-time work alongside initiatives such as the Government's Work Bonus arrangements designed to encourage older Australians to remain in the workforce. The fortnightly Work Bonus amount remains at \$300.

The upper income-test limits have also increased. A single pensioner may still qualify for a pension with assessable income of up to \$2,628 per fortnight, while couples may remain eligible with combined income of up to \$4,017 per fortnight.

Assets test limits increase

The asset-test thresholds have also increased.

Single homeowners can now hold up to \$333,000 in assessable assets and retain

eligibility for the full Age Pension, while homeowner couples can hold up to \$499,000. For non-homeowners, the equivalent thresholds have increased to \$600,000 for singles and \$766,000 for couples.

The family home remains exempt from the assets test.

Importantly, higher asset limits do not automatically determine pension eligibility. Centrelink applies both the income test and the assets test, with the test producing the lower pension entitlement determining the final payment rate.

The cut-off asset limits for pension eligibility have also increased. For example, a single homeowner may now remain eligible for a part Age Pension with assets up to \$733,500, while homeowner couples may qualify with assets up to \$1,102,500.

These changes may particularly benefit retirees whose assets sit just above previous thresholds. In some cases, retaining even a small part-pension entitlement can unlock access to valuable concessions and planning opportunities.

Deeming thresholds rise

The Government has also increased deeming thresholds, which are used by Centrelink to estimate income from financial assets such as bank accounts, term deposits, and managed investments.

From 1 July, the lower deeming threshold rises from \$64,200 to \$66,800 for singles and from \$106,200 to \$110,600 for couples.

Assets below these thresholds are deemed to earn 1.25%, with balances above the thresholds

deemed to earn 3.25%. Though these rates may change in September, with the Government set to announce the new rates by 20 August.

The increase is particularly relevant in a higher interest-rate environment and may provide some relief for retirees whose financial assets are assessed under the deeming rules. Further changes to deeming arrangements may occur in future indexation rounds.

Retirement villages and granny flats

The additional allowable asset amount for retirement village and granny flat residents has increased from \$258,000 to \$267,000, helping ensure these arrangements continue to be assessed fairly under the pension assets test.

Aged care changes

Several aged care thresholds have also increased.

The Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD) threshold above which aged care providers must obtain approval to charge a higher accommodation deposit has increased from \$758,627 to \$789,686.

In addition, the Maximum Permissible Interest Rate (MPIR) used to calculate Daily Accommodation Payments (DAPs) has increased from 7.96% to 8.43%.

For new residents paying accommodation costs through a DAP rather than a lump-sum RAD, the increase in the MPIR means a higher DAP for the same room price. For example, a room with a \$760,000 RAD paid

Indexation	Couple (each)	Single
September 2026 (preliminary)	\$9.80	\$13.00
March 2026	\$16.70	\$22.20
September 2025	\$22.40	\$29.70
March 2025	\$3.50	\$4.60

via a DAP under the old MPIR would be \$165.74 a day, but with the new rate of 8.43% that rises to \$175.52. New aged care residents would also likely have the new twice-yearly indexation apply to their DAP.

Looking ahead

While the July changes primarily affect eligibility thresholds rather than pension payment rates, they may improve outcomes for retirees receiving a part pension, approaching Age Pension age, or those who narrowly missed out on eligibility in the past.

The next major areas to watch are the September indexation adjustments, including the annual update to the Commonwealth Seniors Health Card income limits and any future changes to deeming arrangements.

Early indications are that the next pension indexation is likely to be the lowest since March 2025. The indexation of the Age Pension on 20 September is based on

inflation for the six months from January 2026 to June 2026.

The ABS will be releasing these figures in late July and early August. But so far inflation has been heading down (prices are still going up, but not as fast), meaning a lower increase in maximum pension rates. Based on the data available, the next indexation could be less than \$20 a fortnight for a couple: see above table

For retirees sitting close to the current income or asset thresholds, a review of their position could be worthwhile, particularly where even a small Age Pension entitlement may provide access to valuable concessions and benefits.

Related reading: Services Australia.

For more information, including table of means testing, asset testing, and income limits, head to nationseniors.com.au

Photo: Shutterstock



Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



New Waste Transfer Station hours

New days and hours will be in place for our Waste Transfer Stations. We recently heard feedback from the community about hours of the transfer stations and we're currently recruiting some new staff members so that we can be open longer and for more days at the busier transfer stations.

The changes also make the hours more consistent across the transfer stations. All QPRC waste facilities will now be closed on NSW public holidays.

From Friday 24 July:

- **Macs Reef Road Waste Transfer Station:** open 7am-11:30am on Monday, 12pm-4:30pm on Friday, 8am-4:30pm on Saturday and Sunday
- **Captains Flat Waste Transfer Station:** open 8am-4:30pm on Friday and Saturday
- **Nerriga Waste Transfer Station:** open 8am-4:30pm on Monday and Sunday

Coming soon, following recruitment and staff training:

- **Bungendore Resource Recovery Facility:** open 8am-4:30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- **Bungendore Buy-Back Centre:** open 8am-4:30pm on Friday and Saturday
- **Braidwood Waste Transfer Station:** open 8am-4:30pm on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday
- **Braidwood Buy-Back Centre:** open 8am-4:30pm on Monday and Sunday
- ▶ Find out more about the transfer stations including what can be taken to each facility at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/waste

Download our new waste app!



Never miss bin night again!

Download LoopedIn Councils, our new and improved waste and recycling app





Have Your Say

Projects & initiatives open for community comment	Closing Date
Private Burial Policy	23 July
Apex Park Improvements	24 July
Draft Rural Contributions Plan	9 August

- ▶ 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:

- 22 July 2026 (Queanbeyan)
- 12 August 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:

- Team Leader Construction East
- Customer Service Officers
- ▶ For more information and roles see bit.ly/QPRC-Careers



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

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

- @QbnPalerangRC 
- @QbnPalerang 
- @QbnPalerang 

Sign up for our weekly eNewsletter

eepurl.com/codv-v 

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

1300 735 025

council@qprc.nsw.gov.au

www.qprc.nsw.gov.au

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.

Initials

If MDB (Oscar-winning film) is MILLION DOLLAR BABY, what do these initials represent?

1 PM (Fruity dessert)

2 SC (Part of the Vatican)

3 VVG (Dutch artist)

4 TFC (Gene Hackman film)

5 CBAH (Proverb)

Spot the Sum

In this box, one of the number is the sum of two others. Can you spot the sum?

25

15

41

3

32

6

8

23

39

Think Twice

The first five clues are answered across the grid in order. The second five colour-coded clues are answered by arranging the letters that appear in the squares of that colour in your finished grid – Think twice!

1 Honeydew fruit

2 Chinese bear-like animal

3 Judicial enquiry

4 Fashion, manner

5 Peace agreement

This 24 hours

Measuring stick

Rested (against)

Had a nap

Wild, frenetic

Quick Time Crossword

1		2	3		4	5	6		7
		8							
9	10				11				
	12			13					
14				15	16		17	18	
19			20				21		
					22	23			
24		25		26		27			28
		29							
30						31			

- Across

1 Mail (4)

4 Domesticates (5)

8 Japanese martial art (6)

9 Island (4)

11 Hit hard (5)

12 Kiln for drying hops (4)

14 Be incorrect (3)

15 Landed property (6)

19 Fashions (6)

21 Male child (3)

22 Catch sight of (4)

24 Make amends (5)

27 Speech impediment (4)

29 Superficial show (6)

30 Earthenware fragment (5)

31 Openly challenge (4)
- Down

1 Greek letter (3)

2 Periodical payment (6)

3 Neckwear (4)

4 Contraction of it is (3)

5 Let in (5)

6 Cow's call (3)

7 Country (6)

10 Classify (4)

13 Golfing aid (3)

14 Compositions (6)

16 Compass point (init) (3)

17 Be eager (6)

18 Playthings (4)

20 Passenger ship (5)

23 Snow vehicle (4)

25 Eggs (3)

26 Conclude (3)

28 Snoop (3)

Sudoku

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

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

Crossword

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10
11						12	13							14				
				15														
		16				17										18		
19				20		21												
22						23		24						25	26			
												27						
28						29					30	31						32
				33														
34		35						36							37	38		
														39				
40							41	42			43			44				
						45					46							
47						48					49			50				
						51					52		53					54
55							56							57				
58											59							

Target Time

Target: Average - 8, Good - 12, Excellent - 15+

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.

A	I	A
R	W	E
V	B	N

- Across

1 Books

6 Shelved

11 Level, true

12 Fall in drops

14 Blazes

15 Roasted

16 Dried fodder

17 Poisonous salt

18 Backless shoe

20 Select

22 Capital of Vietnam

23 Papers

25 Elevation

28 Deposit of metallic ore

29 Guides

31 Breaks a promise

34 Lay

36 Thin paste

37 Young cow

40 Administer

41 Old Palestinian
- leader

44 Smallest

46 Ground

47 Death, the ____ reaper

48 Judgement

50 Healthy

52 Imperial

55 Harden

56 Hermit

57 Spanish friend

58 Disbelieving

59 Uttered
- 13 Kisses

19 Large sea snails

21 Reprimand

24 Top players in a tournament

26 Twinge

27 Proportional (3,4)

30 Burnt candlewick

32 Protection

33 Whip

35 Set up a computer

38 Butcheries

39 Ex (3,5)

40 Fool, referring to self

42 Militant

43 Female voices

45 Quantitative

49 Raw

51 Whack

53 Squeal

54 Promise
- Down

1 Confidence

2 Chapped

3 Hairgrip (5,3)

4 Container of alcohol

5 Dubious

6 Strength

7 Tatters

8 Short, quick blast

9 Fostering

10 Objection

Community News

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Recent RFS Training at the Old Post Office, Bungendore

PET OF THE WEEK



Name: Daisy
Age: 16
Likes: Anything edible, napping
Dislikes: Needless exercise past a light walk

Claim to fame: When she was younger, she once broke into and decimated an entire 1kg bag of dark chocolate left in a travel bag. This would not be the last time she scared us over

chocolate. Insanely food motivated. Grows 10 years younger when it's time for breakfast or dinner.

A Wonderful Collaboration

Black Marlin and fly fishing, who would have thought it possible! Two local businesses have come together to make it happen. Rainbow Springs Fly Fishing School and Jepperz Creaturez have worked together, culminating in the creation and installation of two leaping Black Marlin sculptures at Rainbow Springs.

Peter from Rainbow Springs said “What an amazing artist bringing metal art to life”. We are so pleased with the sculptures as they depict the pinnacle of saltwater fly fishing, catching Marlin on Fly.

While we always practice catch and release for future generations to enjoy, these two Marlin are not going back.

Photo supplied of the marlin being installed.



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 GP SHOP BEHIND BUNGENDORE AMERICAN CHURCH, BIRRAHAR STREET BUNGENDORE

CONTACT 6228 1261 OR 0422605089

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

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.

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

KING'S WAY YOUTH

BUNGENDORE ANGLICAN CHURCH

EVERY THURS DURING SCHOOL TERM

AT BUNGENDORE HIGH SCHOOL 6:00PM - 7:30PM

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, COME AS YOU ARE. A FUN, RELAXED SPACE TO CONNECT, BELONG, AND GROW IN FAITH.

youthminister@bungendoreanglican.org.au

LET NAREN KNOW YOU'LL BE THERE!

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

NOTICE OF AGM

Bungendore War Memorial Committee will be holding their AGM at 9.00am on Thursday 06th August 2026.

Venue - Bungendore RFS, King Street

Enquires - bwmcommittee@gmail.com

QPRC

Every Friday 10am to 12pm

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.

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

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.

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: ayrrrows@bigpond.com

2026 Granny Square Challenge

Have you got a flair for Crochet? Or are you just starting out? Why not enter the Bungendore CWA Granny Square Competition

Theme : Colours of our World

Rules: Keep squares to 6 inch square. Keep a "tail" on your square. Open to everyone: Male or Female; Young or Old. No limit on number of squares. Entries close 10th August 2026. Winners Announced on World Granny Square Day: 15th August

For more information check out: <https://www.bungendorecwa.org/> or check out our Facebook Page: Bungendore CWA or contact our handcraft Officer on: bungendore.handcraft@gmail.com

Thanks to our Sponsors: The Royal Hotel (Bungendore), Curran-Dou Cakes and Pies, Maribella Gaiters, NQCY Security

BUNGENDORE CWA

Mayor's Column

The Monaro Street Refresh is continuing to make progress, with construction of the first section of new footpath now underway. As part of the refresh, we have run a Shopfront Improvement Program to support businesses. Eligible building owners on Monaro Street could apply to have assistance with improving and modernising the appearance of their shopfronts. The funding and designs for Round 1 have been finalised, and \$104,000 was allocated to deliver improvements across twenty shopfronts on Monaro Street. Council has agreed to a Round 2 of the program, with \$40,000 to target those businesses that were not eligible or did not participate in Round 1.

Longer days and hours will soon be in place for our Waste Transfer Stations following community feedback. We are finalising some recruitment and training but once complete the Bungendore Resource Recovery Facility will be open 8am - 4:30pm every day except Wednesday. From 24 July, the Macs Reef Waste Transfer Station will be open 7am-11:30am on Monday, 12pm - 4:30pm on Friday, and 8am - 4:30pm on Saturday and Sunday and the Captains Flat Waste Transfer Station will be open 8am - 4:30pm on Friday and Saturday. Find out more about the transfer stations at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/waste

Council has adopted the Local Approvals Policy - Temporary Accommodation While Constructing a Dwelling. This new policy allows people to live on site on larger land holdings during the construction of a dwelling, potentially removing the need for property owners to find short-term accommodation in an already tight housing market.

We are seeking feedback on a draft Rural Contributions Plan 2026. This is a new plan that outlines how new development in rural areas will pay for the share of the demand it creates towards the cost of local infrastructure such as roads, parks, drainage, and community facilities. The new plan aims to address historical inconsistencies, simplify administration, and enable a more efficient allocation of funds to critical community infrastructure projects. You can have your say at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Last week, we were delighted to host a Citizenship Ceremony and welcome 69 new citizens from 18 countries including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, China, India, Ireland, Nepal, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Tonga, United Kingdom, and the United States of America. Congratulations and welcome!

Cr Kenrick Winchester, Mayor

Queanbeyan Probus Club: next meeting Mon, 20 July

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

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

There are men's clubs, ladies' clubs and combined clubs and is a community service of Rotary Clubs. They are not-for-profit making and non-denominational. The first club, established by Rotary, was in 1996

at Caterham, England. It is now worldwide with a global membership of over 2,000 clubs.

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

Target Time

Target: Average - 8, Good - 12, Excellent - 15+

anew, aware, BRAINWAVE, brawn, brew, view, waive, waiver, wane, ware, warn, wave, waver, wavier, wean, wear, weir, wine, wire, wren.

Brain Training

INITIALS: 1 Peach Melba, 2 Sistine Chapel, 3 Vincent Van Gogh, 4 The French Connection, 5 Charity begins at home

SPOT THE SUM: 23 (8 + 15)

THINK TWICE: Reading across grid:

MELON, PANDA, TRIAL, STYLE, TRUCE

Orange - Today, Yellow - Ruler, Mauve - Leant, Green - Slept, Blue - Manic

Puzzle Solutions

Sudoku

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

Quick Time Crossword

P	O	S	T		T	A	M	E	S
S		A	I	K	I	D	O		W
I	S	L	E		S	M	O	T	E
	O	A	S	T		I			D
E	R	R		E	S	T	A	T	E
S	T	Y	L	E	S		S	O	N
S			I		E	S	P	Y	
A	T	O	N	E		L	I	S	P
Y		V	E	N	E	E	R		R
S	H	A	R	D		D	E	F	Y

Crossword

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

AUSSIE SKIP BAGS

Aussie Skip Bags Rubbish Removal
Pick up for Queanbeyan Area & Surrounds
Prices range from \$160 - \$270
Bags From \$55 Delivered
No Time Limits on Pickups
Phone John 0499 033 433

Gavin Pillidge Courier

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

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. Need a present for your Christmas in July celebrations? We have what you need
ART BY ANDERS 144 Uriarra Rd Crestwood Queanbeyan.

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.

WANTED: HOUSE

Queanbeyan House wanted to buy in any condition. Looking for Large Block for Truck Parking
Phone John 0499 033 433

CB BOBCATS

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



CLAIRVOYANT

CLAIRVOYANT: Intuitive Tarot readings at The Sage Hut in Bungendore. Over 30 years experience.
E:wizardwisdom22@use.startmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/sagehutwizard.com.au



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

When: Thursday 23rd July 2026 10:00am to 1:30pm

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

Appointments are essential - please call 1800 229 529

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

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

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

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



FIREWOOD

COBAR GREY BOX, WELL SEASONED, CLEAN, HIGH HEAT, LONG BURNING. STORED ON CONCRETE. ALL WOOD SIEVED PRIOR TO DELIVERY. 2 TN \$1000 DELIVERED

C.O.D Bungendore Area Only

Ph 0403 229 576



ARF has 15 dogs/pups available for adoption (12 July)

To read about each dog and see more photos of them:
fosterdogs.org/adopt/available-dogs/



Claire (F)
Crossbreed
Approx 11 wks



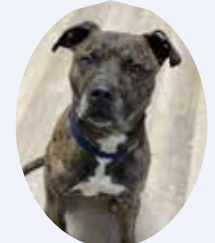
Camie (F)
Crossbreed
Approx 11 wks



Pepsi (M)
Crossbreed
Approx 10 wks



Cookie (F)
Crossbreed
Approx 10 wks



Thor (M)
Staffy x
Approx 10 yrs



Wolfie (M)
Cattle Dog x
Approx 2 yrs



Jasper (M)
Staffy x
Approx 4 yrs



Simba (M)
Staffy x Bulldog
Approx 13 yrs



Dinah (F)
Crossbreed
Approx 6 yrs



Polly (F)
Boerboel
Approx 2 yrs



Izzy (F)
German Shepherd
Apo 15 mths

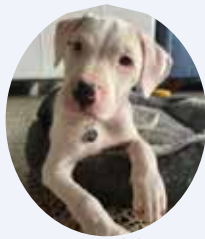


Cleo (F)
Bull Arab x
Approx 17 mths

Simba videos: www.facebook.com/reel/1275401017646701
www.facebook.com/reel/878542207847174

Wolfie video: https://www.facebook.com/reel/1905884906786146

Dinah videos: www.facebook.com/reel/787686580723034
www.facebook.com/reel/1610713706904114
www.facebook.com/reel/896014302963279



Nala (F)
Crossbreed
Approx 10 wks



Olive (F)
Crossbreed
Approx 10 wks



Zena (F)
Crossbreed
Approx 3 yrs

They all want a 2nd chance at a long & happy life



Foster Carers are gold to us.
We can always do with more of them!

INFO HERE:

fosterdogs.org/foster/information-about-fostering-2/

ARF's Rehoming No.: R251000000



Is there a dog shaped hole in your heart?



Looking for our owners or new homes at the QPRC Animal Management Facility (11 July).



Imp 217 Taco (M)
DSH Apo 2 yrs
Available to adopt



Imp 266 Sparky (M)
Kelpie x Apo 2½ yrs
Available to adopt



Imp 267 Kip (M)
Kelpie x Apo 2½ yrs
Available to adopt



Imp 261 Barry (M)
Cattle Dog x Apo 2 yrs
Available to adopt



Imp 8 Kelpie x
Male Apo 9 mths
Looking for owners
Found 6 July
Carwoola/Captains Flat



Imp 4 Arnold (M)
Boxer x GSD Apo 3 yrs
Looking for owners
Found 2 July in
Braidwood

QPRC AMF website

https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Services/Animals/Find-Animals-For-Sale-Adoption-and-Lost-Pets

Ph: 6285 6269

E: animalinfo@qprc.nsw.gov.au

More info and photos:

www.petrescue.com.au/groups/12313/Queanbeyan-Animal-Management-Facility

Rehoming No. R251000189

Sport

Mudchicks Stay On Top

Stewart Wilson

The Bungendore Mudchicks rugby team has notched another win and a loss as the end of the regular season approaches, defeating the Crookwell Dogs 52-17 on 4 July and losing to the Jindabyne Bushpigs 31-24 the following weekend.

Both were away games and the Mudchicks remain narrowly on top of the Southern Tablelands Monaro Cup table ahead of Jindabyne with one more game to play before the

finals.

It was only a fortnight earlier that the Chicks had previously travelled to the seemingly permanently muddy and soggy Crookwell ground and once more they prevailed with a big win, scoring more than 50 points both times.

Apart from a patch in the second half when the Mudchicks' intensity dropped and the Dogs started to make a bit of a comeback - albeit it too little and too late - the Bungendore boys

dominated. After enduring early sustained pressure, the team clicked into gear and scored five tries in the first half, all of which were converted by halfback and captain Tom Worman.

Scorers In the first 40 were props Brent Williams and Kalib Maksimovic, flyhalf Kyle Shand, Tom Worman and centre Aiden Shand. Crookwell scored one converted try and the half ended with the Mudchicks comfortably ahead 35-7.

The Chicks scored first in the second half with a try to flanker Geeps Pretorius to make it 40-7 but then that drop in intensity followed and the Dogs scored two unconverted tries in this period to bring up their final points tally.

The Mudchicks rallied, adding two more tries, another for Brent Williams and a beauty to winger Jy Clarke, who demonstrated what can happen when a good tactical kick downfield is chased hard and fast. He caught the Crookwell player who tried to collect the ball near his own line, gained possession and added another five-pointer.

Next it was south to Jindabyne on 11 July to take on the Bushpigs again but this time the result was in their favour, handing the Mudchicks their second defeat of the season.

Most of the game was close



with the lead changing several times.

Jindabyne opened the scoring with a converted try after 12 minutes but the Chicks responded soon after with a try by number eight Jye Russell which was converted by halfback Tom Worman.

That made it 7-all and a further seven points were added by the Chicks through a converted try by flanker Geeps Pretorius before Jindabyne crossed again for another try, this one not converted. That made it 14-12 in favour of the Mudchicks at half time and it seemed a close one was on the cards.

And so it proved to be. Tom Worman opened the second half's scoring with a penalty goal to make it 17-12 but then the Bushpigs scored a converted try and it was 19-

17 in their favour.

The final ten minutes kept the scorers busy. The Mudchicks went ahead 24-19 thanks to a try by fullback Toby Campbell, then with four minutes remaining Jindabyne also scored. Neither try was converted.

It was 24-all with seconds remaining and a draw looked likely, but Jindabyne scored in the last play of the game. The conversion was successful and that left the final score at 31-24 in favour of the Bushpigs. A good battle between two good teams.

Next up for the Mudchicks is the last regular season game on 18 July when they take on the Cooma Red Devils at home at the Bungendore Sports Hub, starting at 2.30pm. Then it's into the business end of the season!

Player awards and their sponsors for the Crookwell game were:

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

Players' Player: Brent Williams.

Coach's Award: Will Smith.

Chicks' Pick: Tom Worman.

And for the Jindabyne match:

Best and Fairest: Jy Clarke (3 points), Tom Worman (2 points), Kyle Shand (1 point).

Players' Player: Jy Clarke.

Coach's Award: James 'Butters' Pryde.

Chicks' Pick: Geeps Pretorius.

Photos
Rose Sports Media

Mudchicks Show True Grit at Griffith Gala Day

Bungendore Mudchicks

The Bungendore Mudchicks made the trip to Griffith this weekend for a gala day hosted by Easts Rugby, and we'd like to extend a massive thank you to Easts for a fantastic day. It was a privilege to be part of your Ladies Day celebrations, and the hospitality shown throughout the day was second to none.

Our opening match against the Vikings was always

going to be a tough contest. It was a brutal, physical game, with a number of missed calls making the challenge even greater for our girls. Despite the odds, the Mudchicks refused to back down. They dug deep, backed each other, and fought until the final whistle, only to have the game slip away in the last two minutes.

Meredith Wells, Caitlin O'Connor and Taryn Robson embodied everything this

team stands for. Their determination never wavered as they ran fearless lines, threw themselves into massive tackles, and refused to take a backwards step even after copping multiple hits to the face.

Our second game against Batemans Bay looked a little different, with the Bay forced to forfeit due to a lack of numbers. In the true spirit of rugby, the Mudchicks happily lent them players so



both teams could still enjoy a competitive hit-out. We'd like to thank Batemans Bay for their sportsmanship—it was a fantastic game played in the spirit our sport is built on.

Taryn Robson and Tia Baxter were electric with ball in hand, repeatedly slicing through the defence and finding space where others couldn't. Tess Atchinson produced one of the moments of the day, bursting through for a spectacular 60-metre run before being

brought down just five metres short of the line. As always Shannon McAlister was incredible throughout the day, making huge try saving tackles and leading the team with passion.

It wasn't the easiest day for the Chicks, but if there's one thing this team continues to prove, it's that heart can't be measured on a scoreboard. The girls showed courage, resilience and unwavering support for one another from the first whistle to the last.

We're now looking ahead with optimism, hoping to face Yass in a catch-up match this week. As always, thank you to everyone who continues to support the Mudchicks—we'll be back, ready to rip in again.

Points this weekend went to -

3 - Meredith Wells

2 - Taryn Robson

1 - Shannon McAlister

Coaches - Caitlin O'Connor

Photos
Rose Sports Media



Sport

Wamboin Golf - July 2026

Sunday, 5 July. Not raining but wet underfoot, like Venice. It was the day of the Ted Evans Memorial GST Trophy. The competition was a Mexican Ambrose with teams adding the 10% GST to their scores. Play was sponsored by Keith and Kathy France with Andy Morehouse on KP. We thank them for the prizes and refreshments. Carrying gumboots and SCUBA gear, players boarded their gondolas and took to the damp course (not to be confused with the damp course).

Back in the Doge's Palace, as the acting captain (Robert Gorham, a wonderful chap, you should get to know him) worked the algorithm developed by Nev Schroder (another wonderful chap, Wamboin's full of them), locals were agog at the ferocity of the Great Gunning Truck Inferno. Police are to be congratulated for foiling the dastardly gunpowder plot to rid Victorians of the Allan Government by sending six explosive-filled trucks to blow up the state parliament. Less impressive was the news that the chocolate soldiers running the ADF were \$29Bn in the hole for certain defence equipment even before contracts were signed! Who's minding the store? A couple of Teals are now masquerading as a new political outfit called Community Strong Australia. Your correspondent finds that news less exciting than bird flu (H5) which has reached our shores. Alternative egg sources include monotremes, fish and reptiles. Be careful.

We were all confused by Pauline's 'Fire the Lyre' campaign. Why pick on an inoffensive stringed instrument? Just as perplexing the US, home of Donald the Peacemonger, was celebrating a semiquincentennial, whatever that is. I think it means the 25 years he's been President, including the four years Joe Biden stole from him then add six. Meanwhile in Moscow the devil reads

Pravda. The World Cup is over and Australia came second to Egypt. Anguish isn't kicking many goals. He doesn't know what a monoculture is. Or a multiculture. Maybe a horticulture. Before thinking of a new striker the party might consider the usual option of sacking the coach - in this case Tony Abbott - who represents the past, like Eddie Jones. At least Eddie, who has coached in Japan, could describe a monoculture. It's a bit like the difference between black-and-white and colour TV.

Q: what does a boss do? A= make sure everyone else is doing their job. Q: what does a Chief Justice do? A= make sure the other judges are doing their job. So why did the Chief Justice (boss) of the Federal Court excoriate Justice Ian Jackman (brother of Hugh) for drawing attention to six other judges dragging their legs on reserved judgments for more than two years? Who knows - possibly to hide her embarrassment behind a barrage of earnest drivel. The Wokeism Faculty is doing well at James Cook University. They're considering spending \$12M on changing the name of the institution in view of Cook's supposed 'complex' associations.

The acting captain (did I mention what a wonderful chap he is?) attracted our attention in his usual gentlemanly fashion by welcoming our guest, Phil Snare, who had a good day (see below). Ted's Joke involved an extraordinary coincidence on the course. The googly ball was claimed by Vicki Still for another of her now-famous rock-induced reverse drives. The dummy spit first went to Lisa Whitney who didn't begin the day well by complaining about her handicap at the starter's table. It was retained in the family by John Whitney, a close relative by marriage, who insisted that the score given his team was incorrect. It was not: they had failed to add the GST to the team handicap. The meat tray was won by Col



Prest. Winner of the nine hole comp was the team of Phil Snare, Steve Harrison and Pete Harrison with a score of 30.43. Runners-up were Lisa and John Whitney, 30.03. The winning team of the 18 hole comp was made up of Tim Barter, David Bailey and Vicki Still 60.23 from the team of Paul Griffin and Scott Mason 63.0 followed by Glenn Crafter and Col Urquhart 67.03 in 3rd place. Well done all golfers!

Next month, for the inattentive, will be August. Join us at the Hall at 12.15pm on Sunday, 2 August for the 12.30pm start of the competition for the Tradies' Spirit Level, Stilson and Tension Wrench. A day sponsored by clever people who make things work. Meanwhile, watch for the new reality TV show: I'm An ISIS Bride, Get Me out of Here

Larry King, golfer
Photos: Pete Harrison



Sport

Queanbeyan Whites

Queanbeyan Whites

The Queanbeyan Whites top grades continued their winning streak when firsts and reserve grade defeated Wests under lights last Tuesday night at Campese Field.

It took a little while to settle but the Whites were the first to score in the second grade match, opening their account around the six minute mark. The Whites forward pack were working hard ensuring Wests were on the back foot early and eventually strong scrum work gained them a penalty right in front of the goal posts, a couple of metres out. No 8 Dino Kahaulelio took the tap, taking the ball to within centimetres of the line before putting prop Neville Amputch over next to the posts.

The next ten minutes the Whites had a number of opportunities but dropped balls and loose passes resulted in a number of turnovers that eventually Wests were able to capitalise on and reduce the lead

to 7-5

Queanbeyan responded immediately forcing a Wests turnover in the middle of field. Halfback Finn Gibson moved the ball out to inside centre Hayden Patu who with a burst of speed worked his way through the gaps before connecting with winger Harry Velnaar around the 22. With the defence scrambling to catch up, Velnaar was able to cross the last few metres and extend the lead to 14-5.

The next 15 minutes was a scrappy affair with both teams having their chances before right on half time five eighth Steven Prail sold a couple of dummies before barging his way up over the halfway line. As the ball moved across field the Whites gained a penalty and from the ensuing line out drove their way towards the line with hooker, Mitch Bell holding the ball at the back before dropping over the line for a 19-5 lead at halftime.



The Whites increased their offensive pressure and bombarded Wests line but for the first ten minutes of the half they were able to absorb the pressure until eventually a Whites 5 metre scrum decimated the West pack with Hingano Helu, playing at no 8, grabbed the ball from the back of the scrum and jumped over the bodies, only to be pulled down just short of the line. Halfback, Gibson cleared the ball to Prail to Patu who only needed two steps to score next to the posts.

Queanbeyan were unable to gather the restart, handing Wests possession. The Whites defence held strong for an extended period with Matt Taylor, Jack Preston, Lochlan Smith, Fionan Dunne, Steve Prail all tackling strongly but eventually Wests broke through to reduce the lead to 26-12.

The Whites immediately responded with Junior Lilo chasing the restart and taking the ball in the

air. While there were a couple of fumbles the ball stayed deep within Wests 22 and the Whites soon found themselves with another 5 metre scrum. Again Gibson linked up with Prail who passed onto Patu cutting back on the inside, catching Wests wrong footed and taking three players across the line with him. McGuinness' conversion attempt unfortunately hit the post and dropped back into the field of play - but the Whites were ahead 31-12.

Queanbeyan secured the restart this time but shortly after Helu was sinbinned for leading with the forearm. The Whites absorbed the Wests attack for the majority of the ten minutes and indeed found themselves on the attack deep in Wests 22. Unfortunately, Wests pounced, intercepted a pass and raced away for a length of the field try and the final scoreline of 31-19.

Unfortunately, third and fourth grade came home winless from

their trip to Goulburn.

This weekend the Whites host Royals at Campese field.

First grade defeated Wests 43-26. Tries: Michael Rademaker, Nick Frost, David Feliuai Iene, Nathan Carroll, Joel Leiper, Angus Tagicakibau, Waisea Tudulu. Conv: Nathan Carroll (4)

Reserve grade defeated Wests 31-19. Tries: Hayden Patu (2), Mitchell Bell, Harry Velnaar, Neville Amputch. Conv Thomas McGuinness (3)

3rd grade lost to Goulburn 19-14. Tries: Mitch Morrison, Evan Nelson. Conv: Jack Negus (2)

4th grade lost to Goulburn 39-21. Tries: Jack Negus, Braden Reid, Marquis Mack. Conv: Ryan McElroy (2)

Right: Steven Prail, above: Dino Kahaulelio, below: 1st Grade vs Goulburn.

Photos by **Jordan Mirchevski**

