

Bungendore
Bites: Saturday
August 30

Bungendore
Show: Sunday
26 October

Pet
of the
Week



Regional Independent

Free

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

No. 441

Wednesday 13 August, 2025

Bungendore named the Top Tourism Town in the Canberra Region

Bungendore has officially been named the Top Tourism Town in the Canberra Region by the Tourism Industry Council and VisitCanberra, in recognition of the town's blend of a vibrant arts culture, exceptional hospitality and its diverse and authentic visitor experience.

Tilly Jones and Martina Woodford, from the Bungendore Chamber of Commerce & Industry, received the award with Mayor Kenrick Winchester, who noted that "the local community is the heart and soul of the visitor experience here, and the people of Bungendore are deserving recipients of this recognition."

The award was presented by the Canberra Region Tourism Industry Council and VisitCanberra and acknowledges the significant contribution that the sector makes to the region's economy, generating \$370 million and offering over 1,000 jobs locally.

Bungendore is a popular destination for both day-

trippers and short break travellers, with nearby wineries and truffle hunts complementing the in-town arts, retail and hospitality offering.

To build on the momentum of the award, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) is launching a new marketing campaign this week titled 'Meet You in Bungendore'.

"Bungendore's win is an outstanding opportunity for us to leverage, we've already had coverage on TV, radio and digital news channels," said Ryan Deebank, QPRC's Coordinator, Economic Development & Marketing. "Our key message is not at all about a hard sell; it is a gentle invitation to our target markets to find 'connection, good food and the kind of quiet that stays with you' right here in Bungendore."

"We have a two-pronged approach to this award win. Not only will we activate a tactical marketing campaign, but we've also recently appointed an Economic Development Officer to work with local businesses to ensure that we're providing



the right support," said Ryan. The next business event is a free marketing workshop in Bungendore on 25th August. Details are available at

treasuretrail.com.au/industry. Following its success at the Canberra Region level, Bungendore will now go on National Finals, with the

winner to be announced at Parliament House on 3rd September.

Photo supplied of Bungendore Chamber of

Commerce and Industry President, Alan Longhurst, Bungendore business owner Martina Woodford and Tilly Jones.

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Community News

Bungendore Seniors

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 ammentities building (parking near the netball courts).

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

See right for dates.

Everyone's welcome!

Seniors Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga: Tuesdays at the Bungendore Scout Hall. Chair Yoga is held during school terms only. One class during the winter months at 2.30pm

Cost: \$13 per session for members, \$18 for non-members.

All welcome to attend

2025 Membership

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

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



THURSDAYS

Thursday 14 August
Thursday 28 August
Thursday 11 September
Thursday 25 September
Thursday 9 October
Thursday 23 October
Thursday 6 November

FRIDAYS

Friday 22 August
Friday 5 September
Friday 19 September
Friday 3 October
Friday 3 October
Friday 17 October
Friday 31 October
Friday 14 November

The Annual Wamboin Bonfire and Fireworks Night

It's on again! Saturday the 30th of August at the Wamboin Community Centre, 112 Bingley Way, Wamboin. The annual WCA bonfire and fireworks display provides that unique opportunity to engage in conversation with other community members and partake of the many culinary delights prepared by local community groups, while enjoying the always spectacular display of fireworks.

Support local community groups, including the

Wamboin Community Association, Church, Fire Brigade, Pony Club, Play Group, Sutton School, Golf Club (yes Wamboin has a golf club) with their traditional stalls of Hot Dogs, Gluhwein, Soups, Chips, Steak Sangers, Bacon Egg Sangers, Pies, Baked Spuds, Curry Platters, Glo Sticks, Soft Drinks, Tea, Coffee and other Beverages.

Food and drinks available from 5.30pm, bonfire lit at 6.36pm, followed by fireworks at 7.06pm precisely!

Family \$10.

This is a major fundraising effort for many of our community groups, so please mark the event in your diary now, and plan to come along and enjoy this social event with your friends and neighbours.

Please note that by law the only fireworks allowed will be the display by FIREWORKS AUSTRALIA and no drones are permitted in the area on the evening other than the one operated by Fireworks Australia.



Social scroll turns to gold: Queanbeyan man discovers \$1.4 million Saturday Lotto prize from Facebook

Social scroll turns to gold: Queanbeyan man discovers \$1.4 million Saturday Lotto prize from Facebook

What started as a casual scroll through Facebook ended in a life-changing revelation for a Queanbeyan man, who discovered he was holding a Saturday Lotto ticket worth more than \$1.4 million.

The Southern Tablelands region player held one of the seven division one winning entries nationally in Saturday Lotto draw 4595, drawn Saturday 2 August 2025. Each division one winning entry pocketed \$1,428,571.43.

As the winning entry wasn't registered to The Lott Members Club, officials from The Lott had no way of contacting the ticketholder and had to wait for him to check his ticket and come forward.

When speaking to an official from The Lott days after the winning numbers were drawn, the stunned winner confessed he'd barely slept a wink since checking his winning ticket.

"I've been blown away ever since I checked my ticket,"

he said.

"I was scrolling through Facebook when I saw a post about a mystery Saturday Lotto winner in the area.

"I had a check of the winning numbers, and they all seemed to match my ticket.

"I couldn't believe it. I had to double-check the results and my ticket a few times.

"I had a pretty sleepless night after that.

"I was tossing and turning, not sure whether it was real or not."

With \$1.4 million soon to boost his bank account, the winning man shared there were plenty of things he'd like to do with his prize.

"First things first, I'm wiping out my mortgage," he shared.

"I'm also getting closer to retirement age, so it'll help make things easy.

"There's too many different things I could do. I'll let the dust settle for now."

His winning entry was purchased at Karabar Newsagency, Karabar Shopping Mall, Shop 6, 6-8 Southbar Road & Cooma

Road, Queanbeyan.

Karabar Newsagency manager Mara shared she was over the moon to have sold a division one winning ticket and had no doubt the winning news would spark excitement and hope in the local community.

"That's amazing! Just great news to start our week," she cheered.

"I'm just over the moon to hear we've sold a division one winning ticket, and I really hope it's a local who has won.

"It's an absolute privilege to be of service to our local community and I can't contain my excitement.

"Selling a division one winning ticket makes the experience real for us and our customers. It's going to spark excitement and hope in our town.

"We wish our winner happiness and enjoyment with their prize!"

The winning numbers in Saturday Lotto draw 4595 on 2 August 2025 were 24, 40, 42, 21, 45 and 1 while the supplementary numbers were 16 and 9.

Regional Independent

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

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

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

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QPRC recieves LGNSW Planning Award

Councils from across NSW have been recognised for their outstanding contributions to their communities at the 2025 Local Government Week Awards.

Held in Sydney on 7 August, the awards celebrate excellence across strategic planning, arts and culture, community events and communications.

Established in 1981, the Local Government Week Awards aim to foster greater community awareness and recognition of the vital role councils play across NSW.

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) President Mayor Phyllis Miller OAM said the awards provided an opportunity for councils to showcase the inspiring work they do to support, engage and strengthen their communities.

“As the peak body for local government across the state, LGNSW is incredibly proud to celebrate the valuable work being done every day by councils,” Mayor Miller said.

The City of Parramatta won two awards - a Leo Kelly OAM Arts and Culture Award and an LGNSW Planning Award.

Gilgandra Shire Council also won two awards - an LGNSW Planning Award and an RH Dougherty Award for Innovation in Special Events.

Queanbeyan Palerang Regional



Council, Canterbury Bankstown Council and Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils Ltd (WSROC) all received LGNSW Planning Awards.

Other winners included Narrabri Shire Council, Waverley Council, Camden Council and Rous County Council, which all received RH Dougherty Events and Communications Awards, as did Burwood Council and Central Coast Council.

Leo Kelly OAM Arts and Culture Awards were also presented to Central Darling Shire Council and Wagga Wagga City Council.

QPRC Category Winner - Division B

Project Name: Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council Planning Performance Improvement Plan

Project Summary: Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council transformed its development assessment function from reactive to high-performing through a people-first, data-informed reform program. In just 12 months, council halved DA lodgement and assessment times, resolved over 200 legacy cases, and built a confident, empowered workforce.

Now ranked among the top 50 planning performers in NSW, QPRC’s journey is a model for structural, cultural, and operational renewal in local government.

Key Learnings/Results: Council’s planning function has shifted from reactive to responsive, data-driven, and customer-focused. Specialist teams and digital tools improve DA assessment, transparency, and efficiency. Delegated decision-

making and the Duty Planner role enhance application quality. Staff are supported and trusted, driving innovation and cultural change across the organisation.

As of 31 March 2025;

- Lodgement times reduced from 30 to 6 days
- Average assessment time dropped from 189 to 115 days
- Undetermined DAs fell from 340 to 94
- Over 200 legacy DAs were cleared

QPRC has exceeded Ministerial expectations, rebuilt trust with the community and created a model for sustainable planning performance.

Photo of the QPRC Planning team courtesy of Local Government NSW

Blooming with Flavour: Spring Cake Picnic & Op Shop Specials

After the sweet success of our Autumn Cake Picnic, Phil’s Emporium Op Shop is excited to invite the Bungendore community back for another round—this time to welcome the season of sunshine and blooms!

Join us on **Saturday 6th September from 10am-12pm** for a Spring Cake Picnic on the grounds of Phil’s, outside the Anglican Church Hall on Butmaroo Street. The concept is simple and delightful: bring a cake, list the ingredients, and add it to the communal picnic table—then grab a plate, a fork, and enjoy a delicious morning of cake-sharing with neighbours and friends. The event is free and open to all. We’ll have picnic blankets and tables set up, as well as a plant sale, barista coffee, and plenty of Spring specials inside the op shop—just in time for Father’s Day. Let’s celebrate community, connection, and the love of cake.

For more information, contact Chloe at chloe@bungendoreanglican.org.au or phone 0422 605 009. See you at Phil’s!



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Community News

Jerra Probus Club

Jerrabomberra Probus Club
July was a busy month for Jerrabomberra Probus Club. Apart from our regular lunch, walking group, Mah Jong, informal coffee morning, and the formal monthly meeting on the third Wednesday at the Community Centre, this month we added the annual “Christmas in July” lunch. We repeated last

year’s successful formula by going to the Campbell and George club where 39 members and guests enjoyed a great time.
Our general meeting was entertained by Linda Peek who gave us the background to her recent book “Malta - A Childhood Under Siege”. The book tells of her mother, Margaret Staples, who



went there, at the age of Nine, with her parents and four siblings, in early 1939 when her father was posted to the British Colony with the Royal Engineers. With the blue skies and balmy weather, the children thought it was paradise - until September when war broke out! Linda has written her mother’s story of survival. The book her mother intended to write but never

did.
Jerra Probus Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 10.30 to Noon at the Jerra community Centre.
If you would like to visit one of our meetings to see how we work, please contact Secretary Eleanor Robertson so you can receive a suitable welcome and introduction.

Email: Eleanor.vqa@gmail.com
Phone: 0400 194 340
Photos supplied: Linda (Centre) drawing lucky door prize with meeting chair Roz Townsend (L) and “Speaker Seeker” Clare Hobbs (R). Two shots of the Christmas in July gathering.

Launch of “My First Speech” Competition for Eden-Monaro High School Students

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Milton Dick MP and Member for Eden-Monaro Kristy McBain MP have launched the “My First Speech” Competition for schools in Eden-Monaro.
This national competition challenges students in years 10, 11 and 12 to picture themselves as newly elected Members of the House of Representatives and to write a 90-second speech, focussing on a topic of their choosing.
The winner from each year group will be accompanied by a parent or guardian and brought to Canberra to deliver their speech live at Parliament House.
They will also have the opportunity to participate in an engaging program tailored to deepen their understanding of the legislative process.
The submission deadline for this competition is 11:59pm Monday,

15 September 2025.
Kristy McBain said this was a great way for students to speak about something they are passionate about.
“I remember my first speech - it was such an honour to stand in the House of Representatives and talk about what motivates me and how I wanted to help make a difference to the lives of the people living in Eden-Monaro.
“If all of Parliament was listening to you, what would you say?
To learn more about the competition and submit their entries, students can visit the dedicated competition website: mfs.houseofrepresentatives.gov.au
For further information and inquiries regarding the “My First Speech” competition, please contact my office at Kristy.mcBain.mp@aph.gov.au

Have your say on the QPRC Waste Strategy 2025-2045
Sumbissions close 15 September 2025

QPRC
Waste Strategy 2025-2045
This Strategy has been prepared to guide waste and resource management over the next 20 years.
The Waste Strategy 2025-2045 has been prepared to guide Council’s waste and resource management over the next 20 years. The strategy aims to maximise landfill diversion and resource recovery.
The Waste Strategy aims to:
• provide an overview of the existing waste management practices and services offered
• gauge community views on current and potential waste management options
• identify options for waste management and resource recovery across the whole LGA, while considering population growth, adequacy and longevity of existing waste infrastructure,

urban encroachment and recognition of rural/remote service considerations
• develop key actions to help Council implement the Waste Strategy over a 20-year timeframe
• provide consistency with and the ability to meet the objective and ambitions of the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 and the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO) Regional Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy and Action Plan 2022-27 (CRJO Strategy), and Roadmap
• meet the objective of a sustainable, “clean green” community outlined in the QPRC 2017 Strategic Directions paper

Have your say
The draft Waste Strategy is open for community comment from Monday 4 August to Monday 15 September 2025. The draft strategy may be viewed:

• In the electronic Document Library on the Your Voice website page
• At Council’s Customer Service Centres, between 9am and 4pm Monday to Friday
Feedback can be provided on the draft strategy by:
• Completing an online submission form on the YourVoice website page
• Emailing it directly to council@qprc.nsw.gov.au with the subject title Waste Strategy
• Hand-writing your submission and delivering it to Council’s Customer Service Centres
• Posting your submission to PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620
Only written submissions will be considered and these must be received by Council before Monday 15 September 2025. Please note that any submissions received may be included in the final report to Council.

Meet you in

BUNGENDORE

Top Tourism Town

TREASURETRAIL.COM.AU

THE TREASURE TRAIL

Community News

Agenda: council meeting
Wed August 13

The Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 13 August 2025, commencing at 5.30pm, Bungendore Community Centre, 2 Majara Street, Bungendore

Presentations for items listed on the Agenda can be made in writing, via Zoom or in person. A live stream of the meeting can be viewed at: <http://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au>

Reports to Council - Items for Determination

9.1 Naming of the Bungendore Community Centre

9.2 2025-40 Construction Women's Rugby Change Rooms - Freebody Oval

9.3 Donation Request - Braidwood Heritage Centre DA Fees and S64

Contributions

9.4 Community Members - Bungendore Flood Risk Management Committee

9.5 Naming of Parks - Googong Neighbourhoods 3, 4 and 5

9.6 Use of Regional Sports Complex

9.7 Licence Agreement - Queanbeyan FM

9.8 Licence Agreement

Renewal - Jerrabomberra Tennis Club

9.9 2024-79 Plant Hire Panel Contract

Reports to Council - Items for Information

10.1 Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates

10.2 Councillor Workshops

12 Notices of Motions

12.1 Motion for LGNSW Annual Conference - Sale of Land Unpaid Rates

12.2 Motion for LGNSW Annual Conference - Regulatory Reform Tobacconist and Vape Stores

12.3 Motion for LGNSW Annual Conference - Election Signage

2.4 Notice of Motion - Naming of Ballalaba Bridge, Alma Bridge

12.5 Notice of Motion - Robbie Sanderson - Acknowledgment of World Youth Championship

To read the business papers head to <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Business/Council-meetings>. To view the meeting head to <http://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au>

Bungendore Top Tourism Town, Snap & Win Competition

Bungendore has proudly claimed the title of Top Tourism Town - Small Town Category for the Canberra Region in 2025, and now it's time to make the most of it. This win isn't just a certificate to hang on the wall - it's a chance for our whole community to shine, attract more visitors, and give them a warm Bungendore welcome.

To celebrate, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council has launched a Snap & Win campaign designed to draw visitors into town. The concept is simple: visitors and locals take a photo with the new 'Top Tourism Town' sign located at The Malbon, post it on Instagram (must be a public profile) with the hashtag #BungendoreTopTown2025, the most creative and 'Bungendore-inspired' pictures will go in the running to win \$1500 in local vouchers to spend right here in our businesses.

The competition runs until 11.59 pm on 31 August, giving plenty of time for visitors to make a day of it - enjoying a coffee at our cafes, lunch at our restaurants, browsing our boutique store, and exploring our galleries. The more we share and promote this campaign, the more reason people will have to come and spend in Bungendore.

For business owners in

Bungendore, there is a part to be played in encouraging customers to take their photo with the sign, reminding them to post it with the hashtag, and sharing the campaign through your channels. Every snap is not only an entry but also a promotion for Bungendore.

This is the moment to leverage

the win, showcase Bungendore's charm, and keep the momentum going well beyond August. Together, we can ensure Bungendore's title as Top Tourism Town translates into more visitors, more spending, and more growth for local businesses.

Photo supplied of Hannah and Jodi



BUNGENDORE

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Bungendore Bites - A Taste of Spring

Bungendore Bites & Kites - 10am to 2pm

**Saturday 30 August,
Mick Sherd Oval**

The days are getting longer, the nights are getting warmer, and even a few daffodils are blooming. That can only mean one thing – spring is on its way!

Bungendore is gearing up for a full day of flavour and fun with the inaugural, free community event Bungendore Bites on Saturday 30 August at Mick Sherd Oval. The event promises something for everyone, with two exciting programs running across the day and evening.

So, what is Bungendore Bites and Kites?

It's not a market – it's all about a long lunch with family and friends. Our huge marquee will be set up with tables and chairs so you can sit back, relax and enjoy the day. Bring a picnic rug if you prefer.

From 10am to 2pm, Bungendore Bites & Kites will take flight with a line-up of family-friendly entertainment, hands-on activities, and kite-flying fun.

Who's coming along?

Warehouse Circus Workshops

Have you ever wanted to learn to juggle, try your hand at plate spinning, or master some cool new tricks with a hula hoop or diabolo? The team from Warehouse Circus can't wait to teach you a range of skills at our drop-in workshop! With circus skills such as juggling, trick sticks,

poi, hula hoops, diabolo, spinning plates and more, there's fun for all ages and abilities.

Raio De Sol Community Samba Band

Live music from the vibrant Raio De Sol Community Samba Band. Raio de Sol means "sunbeam" in Portuguese, and this community band is bringing the Brazilian rhythms of samba to Bungendore with two performances. Ever wanted to learn the drums? Join their fun drumming workshop and feel the beat.

FREE face painting - Ali will be there to transform faces with colourful, creative designs.

Creative Bites - a nature-themed craft space for kids and adults alike, with fun competitions and \$50 IGA gift cards as prizes. Our friends from the Bungendore Crafters Co-op will be on hand to help get your creative juices flowing – make your own stick wands or yarn stars.

Thanks to **Bungendore Mitre 10 Make**, you can also build your own native Bee Hotel to take home, ready for spring.

Kite fun

Thanks to the financial support of **Community Bank Bungendore**, we have kite-flying workshops and demos. Members of the Australian Kiteflyers Society will be on hand to offer tips and tricks on how to make your kite soar – plus, check out their large, amazing kites. Kite Magic will also join in for some creative kite fun.

The Bank's Community Engagement Manager, Nick Fry, said, "The Community Bank Bungendore is both excited and privileged to support Bungendore Bites. It's a terrific opportunity for people of all ages to relax and enjoy all the events organised on the day. It will be a great kite-playing day."

IGA gift cards are up for grabs in our kite competitions.

If you want to practise before the event, call into the Community Bank in Bungendore and pick up your free diamond kite (numbers are limited). Chat to the friendly staff and enter the Bites Kite Competition for a chance to win a \$50 bank voucher. To win, you must be at the event with your kite.

Kite flying competitions with free diamond kites (thanks to Community Bank Bungendore - numbers limited, weather permitting).

Bungendore Show Society

The best one-day show in NSW – the Bendigo Bank Bungendore Show – is on Sunday 26 October. Members will have a stall on the day.

President Ashley Meyer-Dilley said, "At Bungendore Bites we're bringing the pavilion to you, hosting a colouring-in competition for kids to win a family pass to the show. It's an event not to be missed. It's also a chance for the community to meet our committee and learn more about what it takes to run an agricultural show."

Bom Funk's Australian Dance Creative will wow audiences for the very first time! This debut performance is a sneak peek of the high-energy show they'll take to Japan, lighting up stages in Tokyo and the Osaka World Expo.

The Long Lunch

There's something for everyone on offer: the famous Rotary BBQ, Caprizs Pizzas, Neat Street Coffee & Cakes, Tacontento - Mexican Crispy Tacos, Mellabella Gelato, Bean Corner, Pop Up Poffertjes - Dutch Pancakes, and Zomas Fusion - Bhutanese Best Dumpling.

Left, top: De Sol Community Samba Band. Photo supplied
Left: Warehouse Circus. Photo: Aris Pixels

Right: Hitparade, Grill & Grind Gourmet, Bom Funk. Photos supplied



Bungendore Bites @ Night - 5pm to 9pm

As the sun goes down, the fun continues! The marquee will transform with lighting and cosy fire pits.

Get there early to secure your table – bring a tablecloth and set your table up. IGA gift cards are up for grabs in our Best Table Centrepiece Competition. Get creative – we can't wait to see what you come up with!

Live band **Hitparade** will light up the marquee with their party vibes. This popular band brings rich harmonies, lush arrangements, stylish presentation, and a constantly evolving set list of hits and classics – from Neil Diamond to Lady Gaga – all delivered in four-part harmony with professionally produced backing tracks.

We'll have Norton Road Wines, Corang Estate, Hold Fast Distillery and Clark and Kealy Distilling - so you can taste and enjoy local craftsmanship.

Our food vendors will be serving meals for \$20 or less, and the bar will be open thanks to the Bungendore Rugby Union Football Club.

Dinner menu: Small Bites, Caprizs Pizzas, Tacontento - Mexican Crispy Tacos, Mellabella Gelato, Bean Corner, Pop Up Poffertjes - Dutch Pancakes, Zomas Fusion - Bhutanese Best Dumpling, Grill and Grind Gourmet and Chef Christophe and Josephine, with some fabulous French Crepes.

Whether you're coming on your own, with a partner, friends, family, your community group, or sporting club, or have a workmates - grab a seat, join a table, and be part of the fun! With IGA gift cards up for grabs in the **Best Table Centrepiece Competition**, it's the perfect excuse to get creative,

show off your style, and enjoy a great night out together.

Bungendore Bites is proudly supported by QPRC, Community Bank Bungendore, and Barlens. The event aims to become a signature feature on the town's calendar – celebrating community, connection, and the tastes of spring.

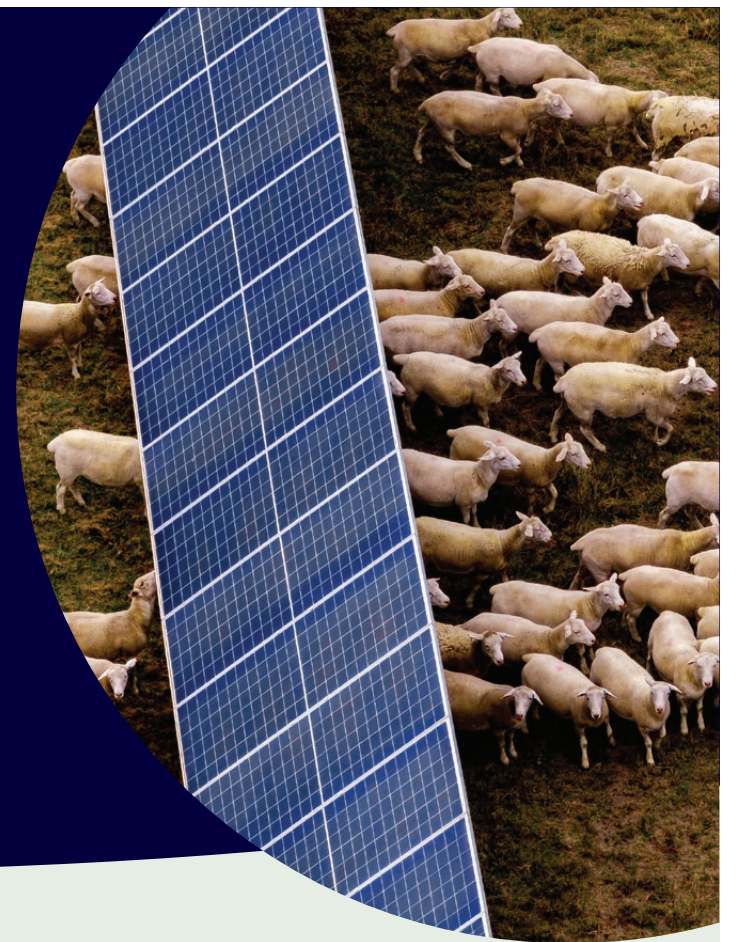
QPRC Mayor, Cr Kenrick Winchester, said, "If you've never visited Bungendore, this is your perfect excuse. With family-friendly entertainment and performances during the day, and great food, drinks, and live music in the evening, Bungendore Bites has something for everyone. Bungendore just won the Top Small Tourism Town in the Canberra Region's Top Tourism Town Awards, and Bungendore Bites is the ideal opportunity to visit and see what all the fuss is about."





Blind Creek Solar Farm

Blind Creek Solar Farm and Battery is a renewable energy development by Octopus Investments Australia, founded by local farmers. The project comprises 300MW solar farm and a 243MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) that will contribute to Australia's clean energy transition.



The project aims to have renewable energy production co-exist with organic grass-fed lambs, regenerative agriculture, a soil carbon sequestration project and restoration of biodiversity.

Work Packages Register your Interest

Local businesses, contractors, and trades encouraged to register their interest in a range of Work Packages currently available for the Blind Creek Solar Farm project. This is a great opportunity for the local community to get involved and benefit directly from the project's investment.

Expressions of interest are sought for:

- civil works
- electrical works
- fencing
- mechanical works
- cleaning
- grass slashing
- plant hire
- accommodation, and more.

For full details, follow the links on our website to the ICN gateway: www.blindcreeksolarfarm.com.au/procurement

Important Upgrades Tarago Road, Lake George

To ensure safe access to the Blind Creek Solar Farm site during construction, the existing entrance will be upgraded with new left and right turn lanes, along with shoulder widening.

Short-term delays:

Mid-July to September 2025

Work hours:

Mon - Fri 7am - 6pm

Sat 7am - 1pm

Location:

Tarago Road, Lake George

Thanks for your patience as we complete these works.

Find out more



For more information please email:
blindcreeksolarfarm@octopusinvestments.com
blindcreeksolarfarm.com.au

octopusinvestments

Electricity industry on notice as more households invest in subsidised batteries and solar

The ACCC is warning battery and solar suppliers and electricity retailers their sales practices must meet scrutiny as demand for home batteries and solar systems jumps due to subsidy schemes and the large savings that households on solar and battery plans are experiencing.

The ACCC’s latest Electricity Inquiry Report examines emerging markets for new electricity services, particularly those supported by solar and battery systems, and compares the electricity bills of solar and battery customers with the bills of regular customers who draw only from the grid.

The report found that the Australian Government’s Cheaper Home Batteries Program is making batteries more affordable and providing more households an opportunity to lower their electricity bills. To ensure that consumers receive the full benefit of the Program, the ACCC is warning that

retailers and installers must act in the consumer’s interest.

“As more Australian households switch to battery and solar plans, it’s important that the deals on offer are fair, accurate and easy to understand,” ACCC Commissioner Anna Brakey said.

“The ACCC will be watching carefully and actively monitoring consumer complaints. We will hold solar and battery installers, retailers and suppliers accountable to ensure they comply with Australia’s consumer laws.”

“Consumers looking to take advantage of the new subsidies for solar home batteries to lower their energy bills, should take their time and not feel pressured to rush in straight away,” Ms Brakey said.

The report emphasises the complexity of investing in a solar and home battery system and the need for consumers to understand whether the benefits they receive outweigh the costs, particularly

when choosing system sizes.

The report supports calls for additional consumer protections to safeguard consumers purchasing systems and signing up to new energy services like virtual power plants. It also supports calls for an overarching consumer duty that requires energy companies to act in the interests of consumers.

“We believe additional consumer protections are needed as more Australians participate in markets for new and emerging energy services,” Ms Brakey said.

“We advise consumers to read the Australian Government’s Solar Consumer Guide

, compare a number of quotes from different providers, and ask for personalised information from solar and battery sellers about the appropriate size for their system and the projected cost savings.”

Solar and battery customers see biggest bill savings

Australian households with rooftop solar and a home battery have electricity bills that are on average 40 per cent less than customers whose electricity comes entirely from the grid (regular users), the report found.

The report presents new analysis of the 2023 to 2024 billing outcomes of customers that have adopted different renewable energy solutions and compares them to regular users.

The median annual residential electricity bill for regular users, without rebates, in the National Electricity Market in 2023 to 2024 was \$1,565. The median household with rooftop solar paid about 18 per cent less (\$1,279 per year), while a household with solar and a home battery paid about 40 per cent less (\$936).

Residential customers who are connected to a virtual power plant, which is an energy sharing network of solar and batteries, paid about

63 per cent less (\$580) than the median household.

“Home solar and batteries continue to be a compelling option for Australians who can afford the upfront cost, with those who are connected to a virtual power plant saving up to almost \$1000 off their annual bill,” ACCC Commissioner Anna Brakey said.

Government rebates bring down power bills by 21 per cent

The report also shows that government rebates resulted in the median quarterly household power bill dropping by 21 per cent between the third quarter 2023 and third quarter 2024.

Without rebates, the median quarterly bill would have instead risen by 4 per cent.

“The sharpest decline across the National Electricity Market was in South East Queensland, where rebates exceeded the median bill amount,” Ms Brakey said.

Bungendore High School Buzz

Bungendore High School

Our Stage 4 students visited our partner primary schools for Middle School Day. The focus was on creative arts and it gave our students the opportunity to use the skills they have developed in visual art to co-create a range of artworks representing place.



The artworks included paintings, sculptures and 3D models.

Our students had the opportunity to use their leadership skills and through their participation in the day, help ease the transition to high school for students in Years 5 and 6. As always, it was great to work with the staff at our partner primary schools, Bungendore, Gundaroo and Sutton Public Schools.

As part of the Rights and Freedoms unit Year 10 are studying this term, we headed off to the National Museum and National Library to immerse ourselves in some Indigenous Australian history. Our excellent guide, Deb, took us through the First Australians exhibition at the Museum, setting us research tasks and telling powerful stories from her life and the life of her people.

Then we headed off to the



largest library in the southern hemisphere to learn how to maximise the library website for research purposes. Then we set off on a guided exploration of the Treasures Gallery, the Reading Room and the underground stacks. A big thanks to everyone who helped make this happen and congratulations to our students who conducted themselves respectfully in these important public spaces.

Photos supplied



Four charged after alleged break in - Queanbeyan

Four people will face court charged after an alleged break and enter in the state’s south overnight.

Just before 11pm, on Friday 8 August 2025, police were called to a home on Longden Way, Queanbeyan West, following reports of a break and enter.

Officers attached to Monaro Police District - with the assistance from State Crime Command’s Raptor Squad - attended and found two men in the backyard of the unoccupied property, who allegedly jumped the fence and re-entered the home from the front after sighting police.

A perimeter was established, and officers gained entry into the home.

Upon a search of the property, officers located and arrested two teenage boys - aged 16 and 17, and two men - aged 19 and 27 - inside one of the rooms.

A subsequent search was conducted with police allegedly seizing cannabis on the 17-year-old boy.

They were all taken to Queanbeyan Police Station where they were all charged with aggravated break and enter dwelling in company intend steal less than \$60K and the 17-year-old with an additional offence of possess prohibited drug.

The two men were refused bail to appear before Parramatta Local Court today (Saturday 9 August 2025), where they were granted conditional bail to appear before Queanbeyan Local Court on Monday 25 August 2025.

The 16-year-old boy was granted conditional bail to appear before Children’s Court on Monday 25 August 2025.

The 17-year-old boy was granted conditional bail to appear before Children’s Court on Friday 12 September 2025.

Community News

NSW Nationals secure incinerator inquiry

The NSW Nationals has secured a Parliamentary inquiry into waste to energy incinerators, following concerns almost a million tonnes of extra waste could be sent to the regions each year to help deal with an overflow in Sydney.

The motion was moved in the Upper House by NSW Nationals MP Scott Barrett with fellow Nationals MP Nichole Overall appointed as Chair of the Select Committee.

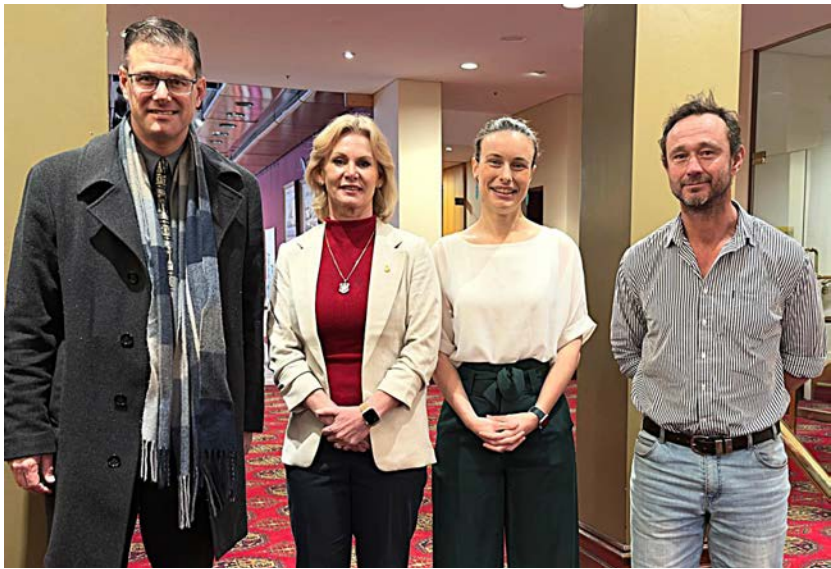
The inquiry, which originally intended to explore current plans for two large energy recovery facilities in Tarago and Parkes, has now also been expanded to cover other potential areas in regional NSW.

Mrs Overall said she was appreciative of the support across the Chamber to see the inquiry get up and for the opportunity to chair it.

“This provides the chance for community members to raise the many questions they have around potentially millions of tonnes of waste being dumped in their backyards,” Mrs Overall said.

“The objective is to fully explore the issues and look at options and alternatives to the ever-growing Sydney waste problem that doesn’t leave some areas worse off than others.”

“People have genuine concerns around the plan and they are coming from a place of wanting answers and information that they feel they just haven’t received.”



The inquiry will look at matters including the risk of potentially toxic emissions, the health implications of the projects and the impact they will have on agriculture.

Mr Barrett is encouraging people to come forward and have their say.

“Initially this was a tough issue for me, I want to see our communities thrive and grow, but we don’t want projects that will put them at risk,” Mr Barrett said.

“The proposed Parkes incinerator would divert 600,000 tonnes of waste from Sydney, so it’s common sense for that community to have their voices heard, which is something that was sorely missing from the consultation phase of this project.

“I recently took part in an information night hosted by the Parkes Clean Future Alliance, which was attended by nearly 600 people, and it was clear the community feels there are too many unanswered questions here.”

“I look forward to working with the Member for Goulburn, Wendy Tuckerman MP, and the Inquiry’s Deputy Chair Dr Amanda Cohn on this matter, and the community members in Parkes who initially reached out to me,” Mrs Overall said.

Photo supplied of Chair of the Inquiry Nichole Overall MLC with Deputy Chair Dr Amanda Cohn MLC, with Reverend Paul Davey, Cross Party Working Group Against the Waste Incinerator, and Tom Martin, Longwater Agricultural Association

Phil’s Op Shop: Sit and Knit

Saturday
23rd August
10am-12pm

Come along and join us for a fun morning of crafting!

BYO project or help create blankets for

Wrap With Love

Morning tea provided or bring a plate to share

Barista coffee by donation

Toilets & off-street parking available



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Work begins on the new playground at St Bede’s Primary School

With thanks to the generosity of our school families & community donating time and funds towards our fundraisers, we have reached our ambitious goal of building a new Infants Playground at St Bede’s Primary School. On Friday 25th July 2025, our students, staff, parents and community sponsors gathered to celebrate the “Breaking of the Grounds”. Due to flooding in Term 2, the event was held off for Term 3. The sun came out matching the beaming students’ smiles as we marked the commencement of our building works. Nick Fry from Community Bank Braidwood and Jayne Barden from Veolia Mulwaree spoke about their commitment to community projects and their excitement to be part of this milestone event.

Both Community Bank Braidwood and Veolia Mulwaree Trust provided \$45,000 of funding through successful applications to their Community Grant program in 2024 and 2025, respectively. Kristi Morrison from the St Bede’s Community Council joined Nick and Jayne on the shovels, suitably donning St Bede’s safety attire, to break the grounds as the students commenced a spirited countdown to the long anticipated moment! Both staff and students joyfully entertained the school taking turns on the shovels, a feat not as easy as the trio made it out to be!

Acting Principal Amy Doszpot held the audience captivated and paid thanks to the leadership and

guidance of Principal Marylou Gorham who is on leave in Term 3, 2025. It was Marylou’s passion to ensure all students had safe and suitable opportunities to play at St Bede’s that led to the development of this project. Parent Representatives, Kristi Morrison and Rachel Farley worked closely with Marylou and Amy to accomplish the fundraising and grants required to fund the project.

The team is eager to share the design of the playground with students. The design has been kept as a surprise for students and will surely be enjoyed by all in our broader community once revealed upon completion

Our new Infants Playground is now closer than ever and would not have been possible without the support of our generous sponsors:

Community Bank Braidwood - \$45,000 Community Grant

Veolia Mulwaree Trust - \$45,000 Community Grant

Anonymous Community Donation - \$7,000

Anonymous Past School Staff Donation - \$5,000

APEX Braidwood - \$2,500

Lions Club Braidwood - \$500

Len Mutton & Co - \$500

Braidwood Ground Spraying - \$500

AND the many, many more local businesses and families who supported our raffles and



fundraising events!

Our students are brimming with excitement which was evident from their cheers on Friday.

Some of our children had the following to say: “I’m excited about the new playground because the big playground is quite old and my Mummy used to play on it!” - Kinder student

“I’m excited because everyone will have so much fun!” - Kinder student

“It will mean friends can play

together.” - Kinder student

“We will play new games with our friends on the small monkey bars.” - Yr 1 student

“I’m excited to see the new equipment and play on it!” - Yr 1 student

“Thank you for building the playground. It must have been lots of hard work.” - Yr 2 student

“I love how you put all your work into building this playground for us!” - Yr 2 student

“Thank you for the new

playground. I’m so excited!” - Yr 2 student

Our children cannot wait to play on our new Infants Playground and will likely be joined on the equipment by the equally thrilled fundraising team behind the project!

Thank you for making this possible for our school and community.

We look forward to celebrating our Grand Opening with you in Term 4, 2025!

Photo supplied

Queanbeyan Seniors 50+

Fun... fun...fun... come and join us: new activity just added

Mondays

Chair Yoga - 9.30am Mat Yoga - 11.00am. For more info contact Sue on <https://www.agewell.yoga>

Tuesdays

Zumba - 11am-12pm - Zumba with Ellie - AXIS Centre - \$10

Monday Yoga & Tuesday Zumba at AXIS Centre, 22 Campbell Street (building next to the Lions Community Bookshop in Queanbeyan Town Park). ZUMBA & YOGA OPEN TO EVERYONE (not just seniors)! Monday and Tuesday Yoga and Zumba classes during school terms.

TUESDAY and THURSDAY EXERCISE CLASSES (falls prevention, balance, strengthening) Times - 9.30-10.30am at 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan -\$10 for members

Wednesdays

Mat Yoga - 9.30am

Chair Yoga - 11.00am With Louise... no bookings required at 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan

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.

Monday

NEW Five Hundred (500) - card game - 1.00pm-3.00pm. Cost \$2.00

Craft weekly on Mondays Join our weekly Craft & chat every Monday from 11.am till 2.00pm. Cost \$2. Bring your own lunch and project, or help with a project for seniors. Interested in knitting or crocheting? Stop by for tips and conversation.

Wednesdays

- Canasta - 10.00am -12.00noon Cost \$2.00
- Euchre - 1.00pm Cost \$3.00
- Mahjong - 1.00pm - 3.00pm Cost \$2.00

Thursdays

Thursdays - Rummikin - 1.00pm Cost \$2.00

Fridays

- Carpet Bowls - 1.00pm Cost \$2.00

Delicious afternoon tea follows these activities.

Monthly meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1.00pm, Rear 1 Farrer Place. on 19th August 2025 - AGM commencing at 1.30pm.

Riverside Plaza Stall monthly - we will be in Riverside Plaza on Saturday 23rd August. There is also an amazing raffle on offer which will be drawn on 13th



September. Eight Prizes including an amazing handmade quilt, Gift vouchers from Coles, Bunnings, Harris Scarfe a Junee Liquorice & chocolate hamper, ice cream maker, electric knife and a gaming headset.

Membership only \$10.00 per annum.

New members very welcome.

Contact - Brenda on 0407 201 392 or Kim on 0407 902 989 or email - queanbeyanseniors@gmail.com or just drop in during opening times - Rear of 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON AT ONE OF THESE ACTIVITIES

Photos supplied

Bungendore CWA GRANNY SQUARE CHALLENGE!

Have a flair for crochet? Or just want to give it a go? Help us create a community masterpiece of colourful granny squares!

BASIC RULES: Any size square | Any colour | Must be made from 8 ply acrylic yarn

Submit as many squares as you like!

Each entry must include your name, age (if relevant), and contact details

CATEGORIES & PRIZES

FREE to enter !

- Best by an Adult
- Best by a Primary School Child
- Best by a High School Student
- Most Squares Contributed

Judged on September 20, at the CWA Trash & Treasure Day, 40 Gibraltar St Bungendore come on down and see all the fantastic Designs!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

15 August: Launch! Follow us on Facebook or secretariat emails for updates

17 August: Drop by the Rooms pick up free yarn, a basic pattern, and links to more!

Submit your squares the week or two before 20 September. Make sure to include your name, age and a contact number.

See page 17 for more info.

Community News

Supporting men’s health awareness in Queanbeyan and Goulburn

Special Envoy for Men’s Health Dan Repacholi MP and Member for Eden-Monaro Kristy McBain have visited Queanbeyan and Goulburn to help raise awareness of the unique health challenges facing men and boys in regional Australia.

Dan is committed to using his advocacy role to shine a national spotlight on the unique health challenges facing Australian men and boys, from mental health and suicide prevention to chronic illness and access to healthcare services.

He is passionate about working closely with experts, advocates, and the community to ensure a health system that works for everyone.

Over 7 and 8 August Dan spent time in Eden-Monaro listening and talking to men, local organisations, veterans and their families and students about the importance of looking after your health.

Dan has faced his own health challenges and happy to share his personal experience on the road to good health.

“I want to see fewer blokes falling through the cracks. That means earlier intervention, better access to services, especially in rural and regional



areas, and making it okay for men to speak up when they’re struggling.

“I’ve had my own health challenges and if I can help even one bloke reach out instead of suffering in silence, then this role is worth it.” Dan Repacholi said.

Member for Eden-Monaro Kristy McBain said it was great to have Dan in the electorate raising

awareness for a whole range of issues.

“Dan is a strong voice in government for men’s health, and it has been great to visit Queanbeyan and Goulburn to have really open discussions about the health issues facing men and boys.

“It’s so important to raise awareness, break down stigma and make sure support is

accessible where it’s needed.

“It is also important that relationships between federal, state and local governments are open, strong and constructive - because when those relationships are robust, we get the best results.” Kristy McBain

Pictured is Dan Repacholi MP and Member for Eden-Monaro Kristy McBain at the Queanbeyan Veterans Hub.

NSW launches ultimate biosecurity guide to weed control

NSW Chief Invasive Species Officer, Scott Charlton, recently launched the latest NSW Government weed management guide. “Whether you’re managing weeds in bushland, pastures, yards or aquatic situations, this Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) handbook is the ultimate guide to weed control for NSW,” Mr Charlton said.

“The guide supports the shared biosecurity responsibility we all have to protect NSW from invasive plant species by providing land managers with the most up-to-date weed control information.

Local council and weed management biosecurity officers, land managers, farmers, gardeners and environmentalists use the handy guide in the field, supported by DPIRD training and digital resources, to manage weeds across the state.

The 8th edition of the DPIRD New South Wales Weed Control Handbook highlights integrated weed management strategies and new control options, including herbicide capsules which are sealed in woody weeds for safer application and effervescent tablets to control water weeds.

Listing state priority weeds, including prohibited matter, there are now 336 weed species covered in the latest edition, 25 more than the last edition.

The weed control handbook is supported by NSW WeedWise, the complete digital guide to weed identification and management in NSW.

The weed control handbook is available from local council weeds officers and online at <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au>

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Steve Whan MP

STATE MEMBER FOR MONARO

Feel free to contact my office if you need any assistance

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Winning ethics volunteer presents his \$3000 prize money to local schools

The winner of the 2024 Kinghorn Award for ethics volunteers, Mr Jim Neely, has presented his \$3000 prize money to five local schools. The Kinghorn Award honours a Primary Ethics volunteer who has strongly contributed to the success of the ethics program. The winner has the privilege of directing \$3000 towards the library in the schools of their choosing. Mr Neely chose five local schools where he supports teams of volunteers to deliver ethics classes each week. The five - which each receive \$600 for their libraries - are Bungendore Public School, Queanbeyan Public School, Queanbeyan West Public School, Queanbeyan East Public School and Queanbeyan South Public School. In addition to the \$600, each school received a hardcover copy of Unstoppable Us, volume 2. Why the World isn't Fair by Yuval Noah Harari or The History of Information by Chris Haughton. Mr Neely presented the cheques and books at school assemblies in July and August.

Queanbeyan and district can be rightly proud of Jim and the volunteers who commit their time to keep the ethics program thriving.

Jim currently manages five ethics programs in the Queanbeyan region, which deliver lessons to thousands of students every week. He keeps 15 volunteer ethics teachers engaged and himself teaches four classes every week in three different schools.

Jim says he originally read stories in the Sydney media about the attempts to establish Primary Ethics in NSW public primary schools and thought, 'What a great idea!' 'It was obviously such an important program for children. When I heard that the program was in place at Queanbeyan Public School, I volunteered.'

"As time has gone by, I've come to appreciate more the broader benefits the children get, beyond the development of their critical thinking/ethical reasoning skills, such as increased self-confidence, empowerment... For example, I recall one girl who was initially very reluctant to contribute but became more confident as the year went on. When I asked in the end-of-year lesson, 'How did you feel when you were talking and everyone else was listening?', she



said 'Respect'.

One of Jim's nominators for this award said, "I believe Jim epitomises the qualities and ethos that are so necessary in an organisation that relies on volunteers in order to be effective and respected. Any organisation

would be lucky to have Jim. Primary Ethics is fortunate that we are where he chooses to commit his time and effort. I feel fortunate to volunteer in his area."

Ethics is also available at Jerrabomberra and Sutton Public Schools, though more volunteers

are needed to cover every class in those schools.

To learn more, visit primaryethics.com.au or contact Jim on jim.neeley@primaryethics.com.au

Photo supplied of Jim at Queanbeyan West Public School

Get ready for NSW Women's Week 2026

Each March, the NSW Government recognises and celebrates the outstanding contributions women make to our community with the NSW Women of the Year Awards, inspiring and empowering future generations to achieve great things.

The Awards are also a culmination of NSW Women's Week - when we encourage women to take part in a week of exciting activities and events across the state that aim to uplift, as well as advance gender equality.

Nominations open

Nominations for the 2026 NSW Women of the Year Awards are now open.

The awards program, now in its

14th year, aims to recognise and celebrate incredible women who improve the lives of people in New South Wales.

The Awards are seeking nomination of women and girls excelling in the following categories:

- NSW Premier's Woman of Excellence
- NSW Community Hero
- NSW Young Woman of the Year (aged 16-30)
- NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year
- NSW Regional Woman of the Year

Young girls aged 7-15 who show acts of courage, strength,

determination and kindness to help support those around them can also be nominated in the Ones-to-Watch award category by parents, carers and teachers.

The NSW Government's Women of the Year Awards will be held at the International Convention Centre in Sydney on Thursday 5 March 2026.

To nominate an exceptional woman in your life or community, visit nsw.gov.au/wotya26. Nominations close Tuesday 9 September.

Apply for Women's Week Grants now

Grant applications of up to \$50,000 for organisations to host NSW Women's Week events in March

2026 are now open.

NSW Women's Week is about recognising and celebrating the outstanding contributions women make to our community.

Events must be held within NSW Women's Week, which begins Monday 2 March and ends on International Women's Day, Sunday 8 March. They must also align with the objectives of the NSW Women's Strategy (2023-2026), including:

- Increasing opportunities and providing career pathways for women in the workplace
- Improving women's health and wellbeing, and safety in the community
- Challenging gendered

expectations and supporting women's participation in society.

- Organisations interested in hosting events that encourage women and girls to participate, uplift focus communities and challenge gendered norms are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI).

Successful EOIs will be invited to complete a full grant application.

To view the guidelines and submit an EOI, please visit <https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/2026-nsw-womens-week>.

EOI applications for the NSW Women Week grants close on Tuesday 19 August.

13 local projects win Community Building Partnerships Funding in QPRC

A top-quality turf cricket pitch for Googong, upgrades to Braidwood Old Sunday School Hall and a new trailer for St John Ambulance are just three vital community projects funded in Queanbeyan Palerang under this year's Community Building Partnerships Program.

Member for Monaro Steve Whan said he is delighted to see a wide range of projects supported, 13 local organisations receiving a total of \$286,000 in funding to improve vital infrastructure and facilities that benefit the whole community. "This funding recognises the incredible work being done by community groups and volunteers across QPRC," Steve Whan said.

"Projects have been funded

in Queanbeyan, Bungendore, Braidwood, and several of our smaller towns. "Some of the key projects funded in Queanbeyan include:

- \$10,000 for new indoor and outdoor seating at the Queanbeyan Bowls Club, providing more comfort for members and visitors at a key community hub.
- \$48,753 for the Queanbeyan St John Ambulance unit, to help provide a fully equipped trailer for rapid medical responses. This will support the important work of local volunteers who play a critical role in providing first aid at events and during emergencies.
- \$45,050 has also been awarded to the Queanbeyan District

Cricket Club for vital repair and restoration works at Rockley Oval in Googong. This project will improve the safety and usability of the playing surface ahead of the upcoming season, supporting the growth of local cricket teams while also benefiting schools and the broader community of recreational users." "Whether it's improving safety, supporting grassroots sport or providing shade and shelter for volunteers and families, this funding makes a real difference," Mr Whan said.

Other QPRC recipients of 2025 CBP funding include:

- \$11,000 for maintenance at the Araluen Recreation Ground
- \$28,289 for basketball

infrastructure at the Queanbeyan PCYC

- \$40,982 for a new water tank at Nerriga Catholic Church for use by RFS
- \$19,346 to upgrade the Braidwood Old Sunday School Hall
- \$15,262 for the Queanbeyan and District Preschool Association
- \$11,193 for firefighting equipment at the Charleyong RFS
- \$11,700 for new shelters at the Queanbeyan Dog Training Club
- \$25,700 for show jump arena repairs at the Bungendore Riding Club
- \$20,723 for window refurbishment at the Bungendore CWA

Steve Whan said "once again this year there were many more applications than there was funds available. For organisations who have missed out, it can be disappointing - but I would encourage community groups to talk to me about their projects and options that might be available."

The \$41 million Community Building Partnership program provides funding to councils and not-for-profit groups across NSW to support vibrant, inclusive, and resilient communities. Since 2009, more than 22,400 community projects have been funded under the CBP program.

To learn more about the program, visit: nsw.gov.au/cbp

A Creative Evening of Crafting and Connection

The Bungendore Crafters' Co-Operative held a heartwarming and inspiring "BYO Project" evening at their fortnightly craft night, bringing together crafters of all experience levels to share, create, and connect.

The BYO craft evening, as always, focused on the pleasures of the creative process rather than the pursuit of perfection. With no pressure to produce a finished piece, members were free to explore their favourite crafts, learn from others and simply enjoy the company of fellow makers.



The room buzzed with conversation and laughter and tips and techniques flowed freely between tables as we all shared in the joys (and less joyful "learning experiences") of our most recent crafting ventures. Projects included knitting, crochet, quilting, drawing, sewing and even a few much-needed mending jobs. Thalia had been putting off mending her daughter's school sport pants but knew just the place to take them for the right advice. With the support and guidance of a particularly skilled and knowledgeable (and patient) textiles artist, she was able to not only mend the tear in the pants but is now equipped

and confident enough to patch the pants when the next mend is needed, guaranteed to be in the near future!

The evening was a perfect reflection of what the group is all about: creativity, kindness, and community. For anyone curious about trying their hand at a new craft or just looking for a warm, supportive space to unwind, the group welcomes all women—no matter your skill level. Whether you're picking up a needle for the first time or have a project basket that's overflowing, you'll find friendship, encouragement, and inspiration at the Bungendore

Crafters' Co-Op.
The group meet every second Thursday for their BYO project evenings at 55 Gibraltar Street (the old post office). The next BYO Project evening will be held on the 21 August. The Co-op also hosts monthly craft workshops covering everything from kokodama balls to beaded embroidery.
Follow the Bungendore Crafters' Co-Operative to stay in the know about all things local art craft or come along to one of their fantastically fun and creative events!

Photos supplied



PHIL'S EMPORIUM SPRING CAKE PICNIC

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What's on at the Hub



- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| MON: | Catch up anytime for a cuppa | - 9am to 5pm |
| TUES: | Invictus Yoga | - 10am to 11am |
| | Veterans Guitar Group | - 10am to 12pm |
| WED: | Brave Buddies Playgroup | - 10am to 12pm |
| THURS: | Open Arms fortnightly Coffee Catchup | - 10am |
| FRI: | Mindful Movement Tai Chi | - 9.30am to 10.30am |

Visit the Hub today

251 Crawford St, Queanbeyan

Open Monday to Friday
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In partnership with



Community News

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Bungendore, 8 June 1943

David McDonald

This year is the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and 15 August is Victory in the Pacific Day—VP Day. We commemorate VP Day to recognise the end of the war in the Pacific, to honour the WW2 servicemen and women, and to remember both those who served and the broader impacts on society.

The civilian population of the Queanbeyan-Palerang region was significantly impacted upon by the war—many faced hardships, rationing, and the fear of conflict reaching home soil. So, it is a time to reflect on the resilience and sacrifices of all Australians—both those in uniform and civilians at home.

On 8 June 1943, in the depths of the war, the Canberra Times published articles documenting some of the experiences of the civilian population in our area. They focussed on the impacts of what was called 'War Organisation' on Bungendore that year.

The term 'War Organisation' referred to the Commonwealth Department of War Organisation of Industry (WOI). It was established to manage and coordinate the nation's personnel, industrial, and economic resources for wartime needs. Its main purpose was to centralise and oversee the allocation of materials, labour, and production to ensure that essential war industries were prioritised over civilian uses.

'War organisation' also referred to the results of implementing the government's austerity policies through the WOI. Here is the Canberra Times' description. Its source is 'Fruits of war organisation in small town: Bungendore as example near Canberra', *Canberra Times*, 8 June 1943, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2636279>.

FRUITS OF WAR ORGANISATION IN SMALL TOWN

Bungendore as Example Near Canberra

A picture of what war organisation has done in small rural centres is provided by the example of the town of Bungendore, about 25 miles from Canberra.

The town marks the junction of the branch railway to Captain's Flat and before the war the town served a population of 800. To-day, it is a centre of desolation, with empty houses and shops, stripped of business activity and denied elementary services.

A recent visit to the town established that for periods varying from a few days to almost a month, the residents had no supplies of lighting kerosene and had been compelled to sit in dark homes relieved only by candlelight.

But the days and nights are not spent in brooding over their lot. Although Bungendore has been denuded of eligible manpower, those at home have contributed as much to

the war in proportion as any of the more fortunate centres in Australia.

Twelve months ago, when evacuees were seeking homes inland to avoid coastal and air attacks, every house in Bungendore was occupied. This relieved the depressing effects of war for a month or two, but the lack of essential services drove the new arrivals away and now none remains.

War organisation has reduced Bungendore to dependence on one general store, one butcher, one baker and one bank. But the town has no doctor, dentist, chemist or hairdresser. No visitors come to the town to render these services, and families are compelled to go to Goulburn or Queanbeyan for health treatment. Because the town is within a certain radius of Queanbeyan, the general store, which is conducted by Mr W. Ryan, is unable to stock medicinal preparations and other lines in common demand, including toothpaste.

The inability to secure suitable supplies forced the local Comforts Fund to suspend sending parcels to the more than 140 men from Bungendore who are on service with the forces. In a corner of the general store stood a pathetic group of bottles and cans, each with a tag awaiting the arrival of kerosene supplies, and this tag as well as a list of some 60 names indicated a home that had no lamp fuel. Inquiry from residents showed that this had prevailed for an average of about a fortnight,

and the most distressing case was that of a young soldier's wife who, unable to secure medical attention, lost her infant while the careful attention of a local nurse working with only dim candlelight ministered to save the life of the mother.

Recent loss to the town was the removal of the State registry of vital statistics when the town blacksmith, who also conducted the air observation post, was removed from the town.

The town had at one stage a well-organised A.R.P. [Air Raid Precautions] service under Senior Warden E. Gardner, but the first-aid teacher has been transferred from the town and only two stretcher-bearers now remain to carry on with a depleted warden's service.

There is no picture show and since the war no visiting show has passed through the town. In the main street there is a row of seven empty shops, which by no means completes the list, bearing mute testimony to the blight that has come on the centre.

But an active Red Cross branch, a local Patriotic and Comforts Fund and a tireless branch of the Country Women's Association show by their records that Bungendore people are holding their chins up. Every call that has come to large cities and towns has been answered from Bungendore. Clothing was sent to the bomb victims of Britain, sheepskin vests to men overseas, funds subscribed for the Prisoner-



of-War Fund, and the camp libraries receive a quota of books and papers. Camouflage net making in this district received its start from Bungendore, for it was the secretary of the Bungendore C.W.A. (Miss M. M. Gallagher) who gave instruction to the first net workers at Queanbeyan and thus to Canberra.

Bungendore has contributed more than 250 nets from its own netters. More than ten tons of paper waste have been sent to the Salvage Collector. A baby health centre is maintained and is visited by the welfare sister from Queanbeyan. Attendances of mothers

for the last 12 months numbered 445.

The town's contribution to the Australian Comforts Fund for 12 months was £300, and to the Australian Red Cross £334. This came from little more than 200 homes.

For the future of the town, residents can see little prospect. "The war has killed Bungendore" is the common opinion, but Bungendore people are doing their part to see that the war shall not kill Australia.

Image supplied

<https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/C97736>

Maria's Community Corner



Maria Porreca

As you all know HOME in Queanbeyan celebrated its 15th

birthday about a fortnight ago. I had the privilege of attending and helping the CWA Queanbeyan Evening Branch members provide and serve the morning tea spread. The formalities were amazing. To hear how it all came about, a vision by one person, tremendous support by many others and all the community support made it possible. The MC was Adrienne Francis (from the ABC) and after she spoke about her connection with HOME she introduced speakers such as Georgina Byron AM, CEO of Snow Foundation, The Hon Steve Whan MP, The Hon Dr Mike Kelly AM and Father Peter

Day. It was very thrilling and informative to hear how they became or are currently involved with HOME. Of course the celebration would not be complete without a speech by HOME's Manager, Anne Pratt. Students from Daramalan College and former Queanbeyan Mayor Tim Overall were also familiar faces in the crowd.

The CWA Queanbeyan Evening Branch ladies provided an amazing, delicious spread which included homemade sausage rolls, superb chicken sandwiches, party pies and a variety of cakes and biscuits. A real feast for both the eyes and the palate. Ladies once again you outdid yourselves and many guests went home with a 'plate' of goodies. Well done everyone. So proud to know you all.



Here is a little bit of trivia - my nephew was the site foreman during the construction of HOME. Happy Birthday to HOME and wishing you many more.

I also attended a couple of events put on by QPRC Library. The first was the Senior Moments on 29th July which was a French themed event. We got to paint (and try to replicate)

one of Monet's famous water lily pictures using both acrylic and water paints. We were also treated to coffee and some French morsels of food. YUM!

The second was on Wednesday 6th August where we were taught different techniques of watercolour painting and we were able to go home with our Journal of what we

learnt during the session. A special mention to Jo and Emma for their instruction and for giving up their evening to show us how to use watercolours. You ladies are amazing - thank you!

I know I had a lot of fun, as did my friends I went with, in both of these QPRC activities.

Photos supplied



Bungendore Bites

A Taste of Spring

FREE community event

Saturday 30 August

Mick Sherd Oval, Bungendore

Bungendore Bites & Kites
10am to 2pm

Food, fun & entertainment for all ages

- Warehouse Circus workshops
- Performances by the Raio De Sol – Community Samba Band ▪ Free Face Painting
- Creative Bites – Craft fun for all ages - kids and grown-ups welcome! Enter competitions, get creative, and win great prizes!
- Fly high with kite demos & workshops - thanks to members of the Australian Kiteflyers Society
- Kite Flying Competitions: our FREE Diamond Kites supplied: thanks to Community Bank Bungendore (number of kites are limited and comps are subject to weather conditions)

*Program subject to change

Bungendore Bites @ Night
5pm to 9pm

Party time.....Hitparade

will be bringing the live music vibes under the huge marquee.

Great variety of food and drinks on offer - all meals \$20 or less! The bar will be open - thanks to the Bungendore Rugby Union Football Club.

We'll have the tables and chairs ready — just bring a tablecloth and a little creative flair & enter our Best Table Centrepiece comp (fun prizes up for grabs!).

barlens Since 1965
events | exhibitions | parties

Community Bank
Bungendore

Bendigo Bank

QPRC



warehouse circus



How an independent financial adviser approaches investing in shares

by Phil Harvey

There are two ways you can invest in the share market.

Direct shares

Buying individual companies gives you full control and no ongoing fund fees—just brokerage. The flip-side is concentration risk: one dud can hurt, while a few big winners can super-charge returns. Even professionals find consistent stock-picking hard; SPIVA’s mid-2024 snapshot showed about 75 % of global-equity funds available to Australian investors didn’t beat their benchmarks.

Exchange-traded funds (ETFs)

ETFs bundle dozens (sometimes hundreds) of securities into one ASX-listed unit that trades like an ordinary share. Australia’s first ETF—the SPDR S&P/ASX 200 fund (STW)—listed in August 2001. As at June 2025 there are more than 380 ETFs with assets of about A\$280 billion, roughly 10 % of the ASX’s A\$2.9 trillion market capitalisation.

Not all ETFs are alike

Roughly one-fifth of local ETFs provide cash or fixed-income exposure, another fifth track Australian shares, and the balance cover international equities, commodities or multi-asset blends—figures that have held broadly steady even as product numbers grow.

Which one(s) are right for you will depend on what you are trying to achieve. A word of caution though, this is not personal advice. What is

right for you may not be right for someone else.

How to build a high growth core-satellite portfolio

We start with a broadly diversified “core” (≈70-80 % of the portfolio) built from low-cost, market-cap-weighted index funds:

Role	Ticker(s)	Index tracked	Fee (p.a.)*
Australian core	VAS, A200, IOZ, STW	ASX 300 / 200	0.03 - 0.10 %
Global developed	VGS	MSCI World ex-Aus	0.18 %
Quality tilt	QUAL	MSCI World Quality	0.40 %
US large-cap	IVV	S&P 500	0.04 %
Global Diversified	VDAL, DHHF	70-90 % growth mix	0.25-0.27 %

*current management fee percentages (Aug 2025). VAS and VGS are the two largest index ETFs on the ASX by assets, giving deep liquidity for most investors.

DIY-ing a mix of the individual ETFs above keeps costs lowest and lets you fine-tune weights; opting for an all-in-one diversified ETF (like VDAL or DHHF) costs a little more but removes the need for rebalancing.

Once the core is set, you can add targeted positions you believe will outperform the general market. The list of available ETFs is significant, but some of the more common ones are:

- NDQ - Nasdaq-100 (large US tech)
- GOLD - physically backed bullion
- GDX - global gold-mining companies
- FANG - NYSE FANG+ mega-cap tech (10 stocks)
- HACK - global cybersecurity leaders
- IXJ - broad global

healthcare

- IAA - 50 largest Asian companies

These funds add sector or regional tilts but come with higher fees and greater volatility than broad-market ETFs, so size positions sensibly.

Bottom line

If you enjoy analysing businesses and can stomach single-stock volatility, direct shares may suit.

For most though, combining low-cost ETFs into a core-satellite structure delivers instant diversification and transparent costs. And history shows passive funds beat nearly 75% of active managers after fees.

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

General Advice Warning

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



Statement on demolition of 24 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore

QPRC: published on 30 July 2025

Council is aware that the building at 24 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore was demolished on 29 July 2025.

At the 2 July 2025 Extraordinary Meeting, Council resolved to defer a determination of the development application at 24 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore partly to allow Council to consider applying for an interim heritage order under the Heritage Act 1977. At the Council meeting, some of the discussion centred around the heritage status of the building and the fact that it was not currently heritage-listed. It was also noted that lawful demolition of the building could take place as

a complying development. If you are interested in the discussion at the Council meeting, the archived recording of the meeting is available.

The Heritage Act sets out the steps for applying for an interim heritage order and Council has commenced the process with the commissioning of a preliminary heritage assessment. However, a Private Certifier has issued a Complying Development Certificate (CDC) under the SEPP (Exempt and Complying Development Code) 2008 for the lawful demolition of the building.

The decision to proceed with the demolition under a CDC is a matter for the owner/applicant.

Key points

- The developer has not done anything unlawful in demolishing the building, because they received a valid complying development certificate.
- The complying development certificate was issued by a private certifier.
- There was no heritage listing on the building.
- All asbestos had previously been removed from the property and a report clearing the site was included with the documentation for the complying development certificate for demolition.
- The developer will still need to seek development approval to build the new building.

Registrations Now Open for The Great Spring Clean Up: Encouraging Healthier Cities, Healthier People and a Healthier Planet

The Great Spring Clean Up is back in 2025, with Clean Up Australia calling for registrations which have opened today.

This is another opportunity for the community to come together to take action for the environment after Clean Up Australia Day, which is Australia’s largest day of environmental action and takes place on the first Sunday in March annually.

As the weather warms up during September and October, The Great Spring Clean Up in partnership with, Bupa is a great way for all Australians to take on a Spring Clean Up and play a part in helping to tackle litter in our streets, parks and waterways, to encourage

healthier cities, healthier people and a healthier planet.

Pip Kiernan, Chair of Clean Up Australia said: “We are helping our volunteers, community allies, local councils and schools organise Clean Ups in every part of the country. Spring is synonymous with heading outdoors to enjoy the warmer weather, but it is also right before severe weather season kicks in around our country. This makes it a vital time to try and remove as much litter as we can from our waterways and environment.”

The Great Spring Clean Up is open to all, and the perfect opportunity

to come together with family, friends, schools, the local community or work colleagues and do your bit to help Clean Up the environment. Volunteers will receive a free Clean Up kit, containing gloves, bags and other resources, with packs for individuals, families and community groups available (businesses are asked to pay a small fee to cover costs).

If you are unable to participate, donations to Clean Up Australia are welcome, with 100% of funds raised going directly to empowering Australians to take positive action for the environment and providing free Clean Up kits.

Platypus month: wildlife monitoring begins right outside your door

Louise MacDonald, South East Local Land Services, Senior NRM Advisor

August marks Platypus Month, and it’s the perfect opportunity to head outdoors and look for these fascinating creatures—especially since they tend to be more active during daylight hours this time of year. We’re fortunate to have pristine waterways throughout our region that serve as prime platypus habitat, so let’s keep it that way.

But their future is uncertain. Platypuses rely on healthy, well-vegetated riverbanks to build burrows, and they need dense streambank foliage and steady water flow to stay protected from predators. After devastating

droughts, bushfires, and floods, the Australian Government’s threatened species team has raised concerns about their dwindling numbers.

Thankfully, landholders and communities can make a real difference. Here are some ways you can help:

- Keep livestock away from creek edges, where their trampling can collapse burrows and damage banks
- Revegetate riverbanks to stabilise soils and create shelter for native wildlife
- Manage predators like foxes, feral cats, and domestic dogs to boost platypus survival
- Modify recreational activities—avoid leaving

fishing lines in the water and never use illegal traps such as opera house nets, which can tragically drown aquatic mammals

Sadly, local extinctions are already happening. Platypuses have vanished from one-third of their NSW range, and without habitat protection and restoration, they won’t be coming back. The good news? Collective action works. By supporting conservation efforts, we also protect countless other native species in the area.

Local Land Services offers support to landholders, including pest control advice, farm planning workshops, and strategies that balance productivity with environmental care. Ready to get started? Call



1300 799 295 to speak with a Local Land Services representative.

Have you spotted a platypus recently? Let us know! Sharing sightings with Local

Land Services or your local environmental group helps guide vital conservation efforts.

Best times to spot them? Early morning or late

evening. So grab your binoculars and head out—nature is waiting.

Photo: Judy Knowles

Changing the game: new facilities give women’s rugby room to grow

The Queanbeyan Blues Football Club is celebrating a major milestone with the opening of its recently completed female changeroom at Seiffert Oval, marking a significant step forward for women’s sport in the region.

An official opening was held on Saturday 9 August to celebrate a refurbishment of an existing, unutilised facility that now provides changeroom facilities for Women in League.

The \$600,000 program of works included the internal demolition of an existing change room and constructing two new women’s

changerooms with showers and toilets in each.

The new changerooms remove a key barrier to participation, giving women and girls a safe place to get ready before games and training, rather than having to change before arriving.

This upgrade reflects the growing demand for inclusive infrastructure in community sport.

With more fans turning out and more women taking to the field, the demand for inclusive facilities like those at Seiffert Oval has never been greater.

Federal Member for Eden-Monaro Kristy McBain said, “The refurbished female changerooms are a great addition to Seiffert Oval and will support the women and girls using the oval by giving them a safe and comfortable environment to change.”

“These upgraded facilities provide a great opportunity to meet the needs of growing local sporting clubs, encourage female participation in sport and build community connections.”

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council Mayor Kenrick Winchester said, “Today’s opening of the refurbished women’s changerooms at Seiffert Oval is a huge step forward for inclusion and equality in our community. These modern facilities ensure that women and girls finally have the proper amenities they deserve to play, train, and excel in the sport they love.”

“This milestone was made possible thanks to the generous funding and partnership from the state government, and we are deeply grateful for their investment in the future of rugby league and rugby union in our region. Together, we’re building a stronger, fairer, and more inclusive community.”

Member for Monaro Steve Whan said, “It’s fantastic to see this refurbished space now supporting the incredible women and girls who are playing rugby league here in



Queanbeyan. These new change rooms are a clear sign that women in sport are being recognised and equitably supported.

“Seiffert Oval holds a special place in Queanbeyan’s sporting history, so seeing this same passion being matched with proper facilities for the women who are proudly wearing the Blues jersey is wonderful to see. These upgraded facilities will encourage even more women and girls to get involved in sport, knowing they have the infrastructure and support they deserve.”

“The NSW Labor Government is proud to have contributed \$600,000 towards this important

project – a practical investment in participation, equity, and the growing demand for women’s sport across the region.

“This project is a great example of what can be achieved through collaboration. QPRC, local contractors, and the Queanbeyan Blues Rugby League Club have all played a vital role in turning an underused space into a facility that will support our community for years to come.

“This is about more than just change rooms – it’s about changing the game for the next generation of female athletes in Monaro.”

Photos supplied





CWA BUNGENDORE GRANNY SQUARE CHALLENGE!

Launches 15 August
International Granny Square Day

Have a flair for crochet? Or just want to give it a go? Help the CWA create a community masterpiece of colourful granny squares!

COMPETITION RULES

- ✓ Any size square
- ✓ Any colour or colour combo
- ✓ Must be made from 8 ply acrylic yarn
- ✓ Submit as many squares as you like!
- ✓ Each entry must include your name, age (if relevant), and contact details
- ✓ Closing date is September 15, Winners announced September 20 at the CWA Trash & Treasure

Visit the CWA Bungendore Facebook page for more info
or email secretary@bungendorecwa.org

Cancer Council Daffodil Day

Thursday 21 August 2025

For all that cancer takes, give a bunch of daffodils

Purchase your beautiful bunches for a cancer free future at:

Location: Infront of Bungendore Country Butcher, Gibraltar Street

Time: 9AM - 4PM

Bunch of daffodils - \$12
Pins from \$5
Keychains \$8

Pre-orders very much appreciated
Eftpos available

Scan to donate!



daffodilday.com.au



Pauline Segeri (ID 13760)
Email: psegeri@bigpond.com
Phone: 62381996

Thanking you for your support in advance

The hollow housing crisis affecting our native Australian animals

Christine Rampling

Urban areas face a critical shortage of tree hollows, impacting the numerous birds and tree-dwelling species that rely on them. Hollows provide valuable roosting, shelter and breeding sites that are essential to many native birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals. In south-east Australia, 17% of bird species, 42% of mammals and 28% of reptiles use hollows. The primary threats to the existence of urban hollows are:

- Tree pruning and removal due to society's lack of understanding about tree assessment and tree risk; and
- The removal of trees to make way for urban sprawl and development.

Why is this a problem?

Many hollow-reliant urban species of animals proliferate in urban areas where there is an abundant food supply. With such a shortage of hollows in these densely inhabited areas, hollows close to suitable food sources become highly prized and hot property. Common hollow-reliant species readily observable in most south-east Australian towns include corellas, cockatoos, brushtail possums, ringtail possums, galahs, microbats, rosellas, kookaburras and gliders. Many other more discreet hollow-reliant species are also present in our built-up areas.

Native species frequently wind up living in amongst people through either being displaced by development or attracted into these urban areas due to our streetlights, mowed verges, sporting fields, diverse tree plantings and household food items all of which provide sources of food or foraging. There are, however, an insufficient number of suitable urban tree hollows to support their habitat and breeding requirements. Some introduced and feral species, such as Indian myna birds and feral bees also use hollows and outcompete our native species for the same sites. This further reduces the availability of

suitable hollows.

What are the required features of a hollow?

Not all hollows are useful to all species. Factors such as whether the tree is dead or alive, the entrance size and shape, its depth and wall thickness, the height from the ground and the aspect will affect which species can use the hollow, how often and during what season. Different animal species have varying requirements, and these can differ even amongst closely related species.

How long do natural hollows take to form?

Hollows take many decades to form. A small hollow with a narrow entrance suitable for smaller parrots and possum species will take about 100 years to form. Medium sized hollows suitable for larger parrots and larger possum species will take around 200 years to form. Larger and deeper hollows suitable for our largest parrot and owl species can take even longer than this to form.

Where are all the hollows?

Trees with hollows are disappearing from urban spaces. This is due to both tree removal for development and a low threshold of risk tolerance in humans. Our old and mature trees, including dead trees, capable of hollow formation are being removed by tree owners and managers due to perceived risk or to make way for built structures. Their replacements (if they are replaced at all) will not become hollow bearing for 100+ years.

Further, dead and living limbs containing hollows are also frequently pruned out, often unnecessarily, as a risk mitigation strategy to prevent limb failure. Fallen limbs and trees are frequently cleaned up despite providing excellent habitat for ground dwelling species.

Where are we going wrong?

Significant myth and misunderstanding surrounds

tree risk assessment. People mistakenly believe that trees are mysterious and unpredictable structures. For this reason, it is often the case that perceived risk is incorrectly applied to decision-making about trees. This error in assessment results in management decisions being made with worst-case scenarios in mind. Trees are, however, statistically low risk structures and it takes little creativity to develop retention strategies that mitigate risk and preserve the benefits trees provide us. Similarly, for development, it again takes little creativity to design infrastructure that supports the retention of mature trees on the site.

It is important though, not to overlook the value of young and maturing trees as they will eventually become our old hollow bearing trees. Succession planting and a varied age class in our urban forests ensures a continued resource of maturing trees.

What else can we do to help with habitat?

Due to the extensive time it takes for a hollow to form, tree retention is by far the best way to address the hollow housing crisis. Wild animals in urban spaces frequently shelter or nest within built structures, whether it is a brushtail possum in a roof or a rosella in a downpipe. They can be quite resourceful in finding suitable habitat to meet their needs in the absence of natural hollows. Aside from retaining trees, animals in urban spaces can be supported via the installation of artificial hollows in existing trees or on the walls of buildings. But much like natural hollows, artificial boxes are not all created equal and can sometimes do more harm than good. Artificial boxes come in a range of materials, sizes, shapes and designs, and installation methods vary. How high the box is placed and the direction it faces will determine which species can use the box.

What do I need to think about



before installing artificial habitat?

It is important to research and understand which species occur in your area when considering nest box installation. This knowledge will guide you in choosing a suitable design and installation location. The current minimum standard is a box in a sheltered position made from 15 mm exterior plywood. Ideally though, marine grade plywood upwards of 19mm thickness would be used as it provides better insulation from extreme temperatures. Pale coloured exterior grade paint should be used on the outside of the box to regulate temperature. The inside of the box should not be painted. Only hard-wearing brass, stainless steel or galvanised fittings should be used. Most species require an artificial box to be positioned on the south to south-east side for protection from direct sun and heat. For more detailed instructions and species specific

box designs visit the invaluable 'Nest Box Tales' website by Alice McGlashan.

continued on page 19

Above: A ladder set up for manual inspection and maintenance of a brushtail possum/wood duck design nest box on Queanbeyan Golf Course in NSW. Photo taken by Christine Rampling.

Left: A brushtail possum nervously peeking out of its box during an inspection of the Turallo Creek Nest Box Project at Bungendore NSW. Photo taken by Christine Rampling with an iphone during a ladder inspection.

Below: A family of Krefft Gliders taken up residence in an artificial nest box designed for rosellas at Queanbeyan Golf Course in NSW. Photo taken by Christine Rampling using a pole mounted nest box inspection camera.



Hollow housing crisis

Continued from page 18

What or who else should I think about it?

Some thought should also go towards the types of competitors and predators likely to prey on occupants of the box. For example, an eastern rosella requires an entrance way of 65-70mm in diameter. This is sufficient to exclude cats, kookaburras and possums, but not gliders (who will

predate on the young rosellas) or feral honeybees and myna birds who will compete for the box. In a residential urban setting, exclusion of possums and cats may be sufficient and monitoring for bee or myna bird invasion may be manageable. It is quite often an exercise of trial and error with ongoing monitoring and maintenance of the box being essential.

Why do I need to monitor the box?

Ongoing monitoring and maintenance of the box is a key part of artificial habitat installation. Monitoring can sometimes be done from the ground by the box owner by simply noting who is using the box and when. A lot can be ascertained from simply observing the comings and goings of animals inspecting or using the box. There are also pole mounted cameras that can be used to take a sneak peak inside the box to closely observe any occupants. Ladder access can also be used to take a closer look or to perform maintenance such as repositioning, replacement of weathered fittings, unblocking drainage holes, cleaning out built up material or removing the box for more serious repairs.

Why go to all this trouble?

Providing appropriate artificial habitat that leads to successful outcomes for urban natives is a rewarding experience. It is especially fulfilling to watch a family of crimson rosellas raise their young on the southern wall of your house or a brushtail possum curl up for a sleep in the nest box in your tree. Knowing that your considered thought and good intentions have provided a valuable resource to a wild animal feels good.

When it comes to managing urban trees, especially dead trees, aside



from preservation of the broad benefits provided by our urban forests, specific consideration should be made to the habitat value of the tree. Tree removal should always be the last option. As Australian cities face the challenges of climate change, population growth and urban heating, it is crucial to plant and retain trees and to keep in mind the native species we share these spaces with and the impact our decisions have on them.

Left: A pair of baby kookaburras almost old enough to leave their

nest box on the Queanbeyan Golf Course in NSW.

Above: Photo taken by arborist Christine Rampling with an iphone in November of 2022 during a climbing inspection. A young kookaburra in late October of 2024 with its unhatched unviable sibling. Photo taken by Christine Rampling with an iphone during a climbing inspection.

Christine Rampling is an AQF Level 5 arborist turned Bachelor of Laws student inspired by her work as an expert witness in the courts in tree-related in disputes.

Transform your health

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ON
WEIGHT LOSS SOLUTIONS

5 PM, 21ST AUGUST

Public Invitation

Dr Gary Yee Returns – Community Health Talk on Weight Loss Options

Join us for a free community information session exploring the current weight loss options available in Australia, including medications like Ozempic and bariatric surgery.

What You'll Learn:

The Science Behind Weight Loss Medications: Find out how medications like Ozempic work, who they're suitable for, and what side effects to be aware of.

Understanding Bariatric Surgery: Learn about procedures such as gastric bypass and sleeve gastrectomy, and how surgery can support long-term weight loss when combined with lifestyle changes.

Expert Insights from Dr Gary Yee: Dr Yee, a bariatric surgeon consulting in Bungendore, will share the latest evidence-based approaches to weight management and answer your questions.

Lived Experience: Hear from individuals who have personally navigated these weight loss options.

Practical Tips and Next Steps: Discover how to begin your own weight loss journey safely and effectively.

To help us plan, please:

Call: (02) 6238 1417 to RSVP Or register via Eventbrite using the QR code below:

Location: Bungendore Medical Centre, Ellendon Street

Date: 21st Aug 2025

Time: 5pm

Bungendore Medical Centre
COMMUNITY INFORMATION EVENTS



BUNGENDORE CRAFTERS CO-OPERATIVE

Craft Evenings

Thursday 21st August
Thursday 4th September

55 Gibraltar Street
6-8pm

\$5+BYO craft project
Contact Thalia: 0412 884 120

Foreign notes and coin collection partnership between Rotary and Bendigo Bank

Nick Fry
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 located in the Community Bank branches of Braidwood, Bungendore and Crookwell.

It's very handy to have these boxes when people return from overseas with loose foreign currency, it also is used regularly for the bank staff where they regularly 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, Bungendore and Crookwell, Nick Fry, said "The total weight of the notes and coins recently handed to Rotary was 13.5 kg's. once converted, the AUD figure was \$717.00. We also received an anonymous donation of \$2,928 in old paper \$1 and \$2 notes (it filled a briefcase) to be added to this amount giving a total of \$3,645.00."

The bank does not see the funds; the process is the bank staff in the three branches choose a charity aligned with Rotary International which is then donated. This year, the staff decided to split the funds 3 ways, \$1,215.00 to ShelterBox, \$1,215.00 to Team Vista and \$1,215.00 to ROMAC (Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children).

ShelterBox is a charity that provides tents which also contain items such as cooking sets, solar lights, blankets and activity sets for children. They are displaced to families around the world in areas affected by war and natural



disasters.

Team Vista is a humanitarian and aid project whose goal is to reduce poverty through relationships, education and understanding. Operating in Tanzania, their programs aim to give young people the best education possible and support their livelihoods to improve intergenerational poverty.

ROMAC provides surgical treatment for children from Oceania in the form of life saving and/or dignity restoring surgery which is not accessible to them in their home countries.

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

If you do 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

The Southern Tablelands Tree Start Growers Network Kicks Off for it's Second Year

Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Council and Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare Network are delighted to be partnering with Wagtail Natives Nursery for another growing season with the Southern Tablelands Tree Start Growers Network. This collaborative initiative supports a broad network of volunteer native plant growers across the Queanbeyan-Palerang and north-east Snowy Monaro

region, with the aim of producing the next generation of plants for the Southern Tablelands.

Last year, the Network supported almost 70 growers, with over 300 kits distributed and 15 thousand plants propagated in spring 2024. For the 2025-2026 season, the project is a little more ambitious, with increased sponsorship from the NSW Government Koala

Strategy and Mary MacKillop Today Highways and Byways grant programs.

"This year we hope to support over 100 growers and propagate some 20 thousands native tubestock" says Erin Brinkley, Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Coordinator. "As a volunteer grower in the Growers Network, you can raise native seedlings from seed in your own backyard. We're putting the call out for any volunteers who might be interested in taking home 200 seedlings to care for until autumn, with propagation kits rolling out in early September."

What do you need to be a Grower?

Time and Commitment: It will take up to 9 months to grow your seedlings. Growers will collect their kits and materials to take and set up at home. Over the growing period the seedlings will need to be checked and watered daily. Commitment to this task is vital for the success of your plants. Any tubestock ready for planting will be recalled toward the end of March 2026.

Space and Position: Seed raising boxes are 52 x 34cm in size and you will require a space that fits at least four boxes in a sunny position. It's essential that seedlings receive a minimum of six hours of sunlight a day. A waist high growing bench is recommended for your comfort and sufficient airflow to protect the plants from pests and disease. Each seed raising box will weigh over 10kg, so the bench must be sturdy.

Regular Watering: Access to water during the growing period is critical for seedling growth and survival. For the 200 seedlings that each grower will receive, we estimate



that 2.5 to 5 litres will be required daily, depending on the daily heat and exposure.

Transport: A vehicle that fits four boxes will be needed to collect the growing materials and deliver the seedlings at the end of the growing season. Landcare will organise convenient collection and drop off points across our region.

Plant growing skills: The growers network is open to growers of all skill levels. Landcare will provide support for the initial set up when you collect your kits, with experts on hand to help you through the first stages and answer any questions you may have. Growers will also be provided with a step-by-step instruction book and links to online resources, as well as ongoing support from project partner, Kelly Stubbs from Wagtail Natives Nursery and a shared community Facebook group.

If you're interested in growing plants and joining the Southern

Tablelands Tree Start Growers Network please scan the QR code or follow the link to send in your expression of interest <<https://forms.gle/C4rNr1QsSeswWLeX7>>. You can also contact the Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Coordinator Erin Brinkley at upper.shoalhaven@gmail.com or 0473 407 079 for more information.

This project is a collaboration between Upper Murrumbidgee Landcare, Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Council and Wagtail Natives Nursery and proudly co-funded by the NSW Government Environment Trust and Koala Strategy, as well as Mary MacKillop Today Highways and Byways and the Foundation of National Parks and Wildlife grant programs.

Pictured are volunteer growers with their native plant kits at the end of the 2024-2025 growing season.

Photo. G Story



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GROWING PLANTS?



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF THE

SOUTHERN TABLELANDS TREE START GROWERS NETWORK?

Upper Murrumbidgee and Upper Shoalhaven Landcare are partnering with and Wagtail Natives Nursery to support local volunteers across the district to grow native plants from home.

From Cooma to Queanbeyan, Bungendore to Braidwood, the aim is to support over 100 volunteers and propagate some 20 thousand plants for revegetation projects in the Southern Tablelands region. Landcare will provide the training and resources to grow the plants. Growers will be part of a supported network, led by a friendly local nursery manager, with the growing season kicking off from September 2025 to March 2026.

COULD YOU TAKE CARE OF 200 SEEDLINGS?

Send EOI by QR Code or Visit <https://forms.gle/gTEM3Yxs7trqy7Sz8> Contact upper.shoalhaven@gmail.com 0473 407 079





This project has been assisted by the NSW Government Environmental Trust and Koala Strategy Programs



MARY MACKILLOP today



Foundation of National Parks & Wildlife

www.regionalindependent.com.au

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



2025 Queanbeyan-Palerang Arts Trail registrations open!

Artist and gallery registrations for the 2025 Queanbeyan-Palerang Arts Trail are open!

The annual Arts Trail is an opportunity for local artists and craftspeople to share their work with the community.

The Arts Trail weekends are:

- Braidwood - 4 and 5 October
- Bungendore - 11 and 12 October
- Queanbeyan - 18 and 19 October

Artists and galleries from other localities in the region can choose which weekend they wish to align with.

- Learn more and register at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/arts-trail

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

Become a vendor at Council events!

Our 2025/26 events season is gearing up to be bigger than ever and we need your help!

We host all kinds of events throughout the year and food vendors and stallholders play an important role in making them memorable.

If you are interested in being a food vendor or stallholder at one of our events, apply now on our website.

- Apply to be a food vendor at qprc.snapforms.com.au/form/2025-26-food-vendor-application
- Apply to be a stallholder at qprc.snapforms.com.au/form/2025-26-stallholder-application



Upcoming driver courses and vehicle safety checks

Brush up on your skills and stay safe on the road with our free driving courses and safety checks.

Join our

- Over 65 Safe Driving Course on 4 September
- Free Child car seat safety check on 20 September
- Learner Drivers Course on 24 September

Bookings are essential.

- Find out more and register at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Events

Draft Waste Management Strategy 2025-2045

We have prepared the Draft Waste Management Strategy 2025-2045.

This strategy is about improving how we manage waste, reducing what goes to landfill, and ensuring our services are fair, efficient, and innovative.

The draft strategy focuses on practical solutions that address the unique waste needs of both rural and urban areas in Queanbeyan-Palerang.

- Have your say by Monday 15 September at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

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:

- 27 August (Queanbeyan)
- 10 September (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.



Waterways in Queanbeyan-Palerang Region survey

Share your thoughts on the health and management of waterways in the Queanbeyan-Palerang region. You don't have to be a resident — this survey is open to anyone who lives in, works in, or visits the region.

This initiative is led by the ACT and Region Catchment Management Group, with surveys in the ACT and surrounding Council areas. Responses will be shared with Council to shape future waterway management.

- Have your say at www.surveymonkey.com/r/qp-general

Work with Council

Current vacancies include:

- Library Assistant (Braidwood)
- Marketing and Communications Officer
- Senior Building Surveyor
- Senior Water Industry Operator (Network)
- CBD & Horticulture Coordinator
- Payroll Officer

- For more information and roles see bit.ly/QPRC-Careers



Policies on exhibition

There are a range of policies currently on exhibition on our Your Voice page:

- Volunteering Policy
- Directional Signage Policy
- Child Safe Policy
- Shopping Trolley Management Policy
- + more

- Have your say at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Follow us on social media

@QbnPalrangRC

@QbnPalrang

@QbnPalrang

Sign up for our weekly eNewsletter

eepurl.com/codv-v

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council

PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

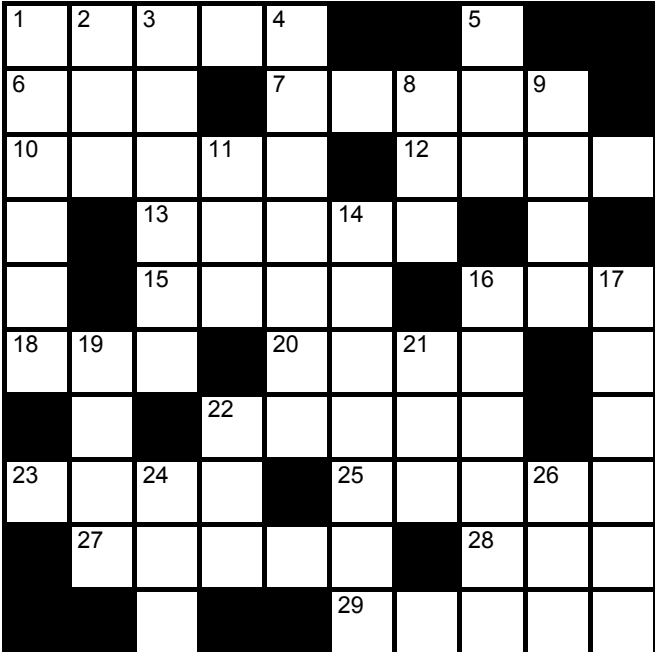
1300 735 025

council@qprc.nsw.gov.au

www.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Puzzles

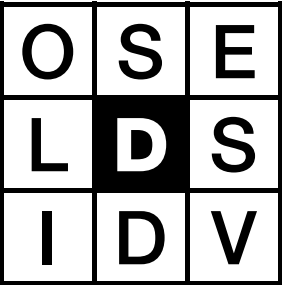
Quick Time Crossword



- Across
- 1 Academy Award (5)
 - 6 Regret (3)
 - 7 Strangely (5)
 - 10 Halt (5)
 - 12 Frank (4)
 - 13 Move sideways (5)

- 15 Fencing sword (4)
 - 16 Goal (3)
 - 18 Carried out (3)
 - 20 Incites (4)
 - 22 Attempts (5)
 - 23 Seize with the teeth (4)
 - 25 Harsh (5)
 - 27 Dulcet (5)
 - 28 Linear measure (3)
 - 29 Locations (5)
- Down
- 1 Showy plant (6)
 - 2 Prosecute (3)
 - 3 Stopped (6)
 - 4 Small, agile deer (7)
 - 5 High mountain (3)
 - 8 Female deer (3)
 - 9 Abominable snowman (4)
 - 11 Drink slowly (3)
 - 14 Those versed in law (7)
 - 16 State as true (6)
 - 17 Hillocks (6)
 - 19 Flower (4)
 - 21 Obtain (3)
 - 22 Golf mound (3)
 - 24 Couple (3)
 - 26 Fish eggs (3)

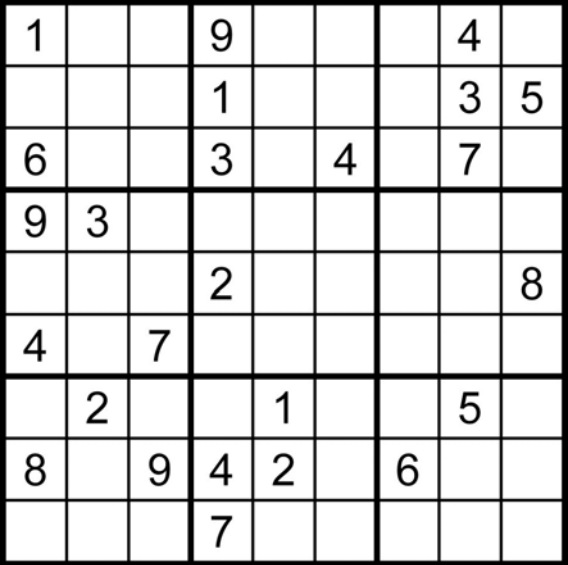
Target Time



Target: Average - 14, Good - 20, Excellent - 26+

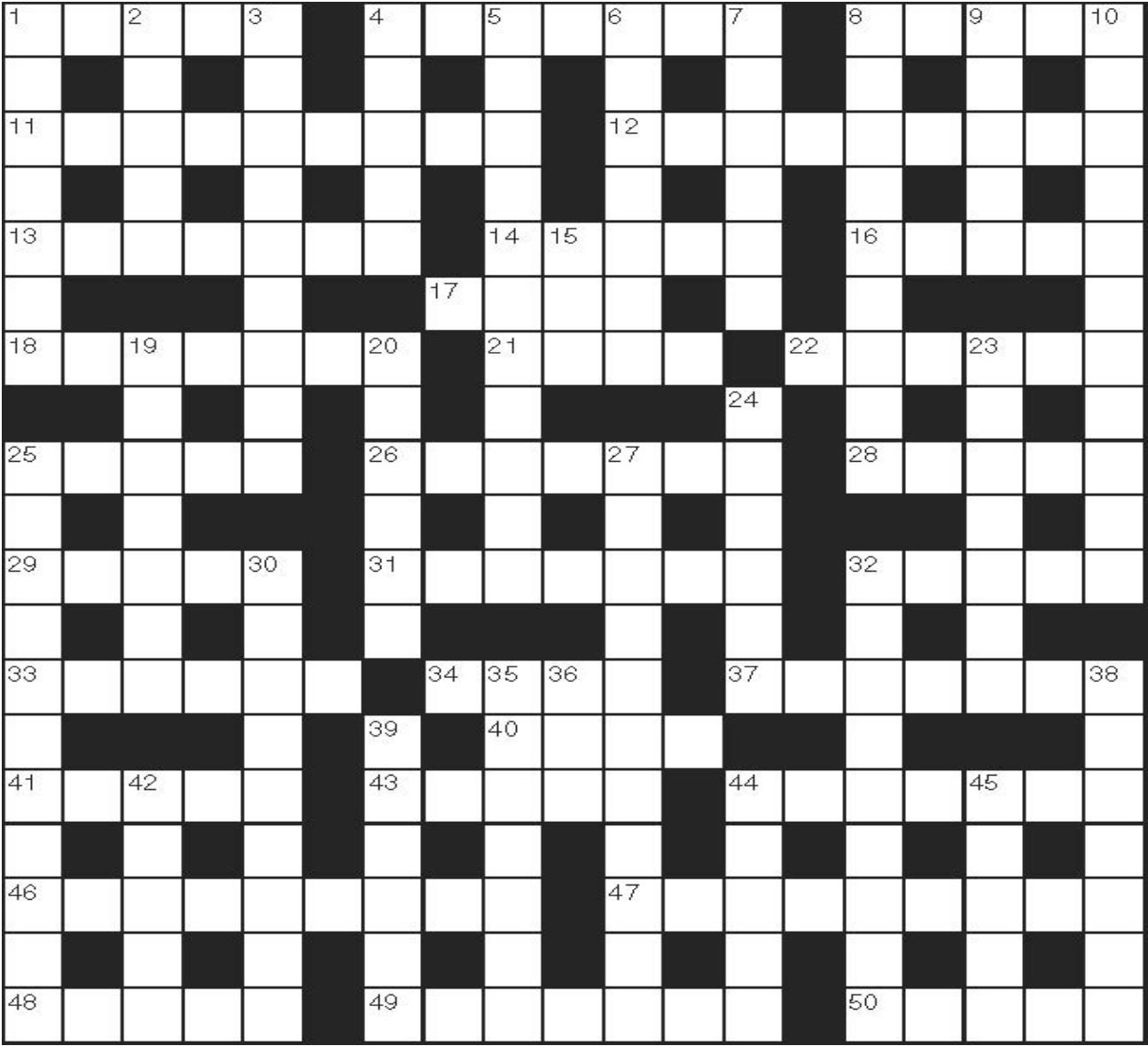
Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you make? The centre letter must be included and be used only once. Find at least one nine letter word.

Sudoku



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

Crossword



- Across
- 1 Harmless lizard
 - 4 Perceptible by ear
 - 8 Heroic tales
 - 11 Wood fragments
 - 12 Type of salami
 - 13 Risked (2,5)
 - 14 Controlling influence
 - 16 Precious stone
 - 17 Cherry stones
 - 18 Jittery
 - 21 Tub
 - 22 Crack shot
 - 25 Steadies
 - 26 Piece of writing
 - 28 Cuban dance style
 - 29 Linked group
 - 31 Pamper
 - 32 Inundation
 - 33 Enigma
 - 34 Dry stream bed
 - 37 Spray can
 - 40 Computer errors
 - 41 Visitor
 - 43 Wrongdoing
 - 44 Iota
 - 46 Bore witness
 - 47 Woman's underskirt
 - 48 Work out
 - 49 Biased (3-4)
 - 50 Delicious (coll)
- Down
- 1 Hold up
 - 2 Kills time
 - 3 Aussie mammals
 - 4 Ridge
 - 5 Doled out
 - 6 Churchgoer
 - 7 Uncover
 - 8 Sugar substitute
 - 9 Crowd
 - 10 European republic
 - 15 7th Greek letter
 - 19 At ease
 - 20 Motionless
 - 23 Self-important
 - 24 Wartime treaty; ____ Convention
 - 25 Gathers
 - 27 Penmanship
 - 30 Game for one
 - 32 Fruitfulness
 - 35 Condense
 - 36 Pair
 - 38 Drawn-out
 - 39 Breed of sheep
 - 42 Supporting frame
 - 44 Satisfied
 - 45 Partial darkness

Brain Alert

Boost your brain power! Complete each of these puzzles as fast as you can and record your time.

Word Find 141

Find the following words in the grid.

T	A	P	O	N	E
A	C	T	N	L	P
R	C	I	C	S	A
B	M	N	E	S	T
A	U	O	M	A	P
R	D	G	O	T	T

Act

Bar

Bug

Does

Eat

Got

Inn

Map

Mud

Nest

Once

One

Pat

Run

Sat

Tap

Tar

Tin

Uncle

Word Sudoku 142

Enter the word WORN in each row, column and 2x2 square, in each combination there should be only one of each letter.

			R
W			
			O
N			

Scrambled 142

Unscramble the following letters to reveal the names of Muscle Cars.

1. nooram

4. roamca

2. nagmsut

5. lehsyb

3. ticnopa

6. noarat

Word Find

Word Sudoku

O	N	W	R
W	R	O	N
R	W	N	O
N	O	R	W

Scrambled

- 1. Monaro
- 2. Mustang
- 3. Pontiac
- 4. Camaro
- 5. Shelby
- 6. Torana

Community News

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Air Bee and Bee. Photo: Christine Allard

PET OF THE WEEK



Name: Ziggy

Age: 15 years old!

Likes: Sleeping by the fire, lying in the sun, morning cuddles and food

Fun fact: Ziggy grew up in Switzerland, where he was once bitten by a badger. He loves Braidwood but hasn't lost his accent yet.Méow!

We love you Ziggy!

LETTER

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council rates.

In July 2023, the council raised rates 18 per cent a year for three years after recording a deficit of \$1.14 million in 2022-23, and an independent report found that without intervention, the average operating deficit over 10 years would be \$20.6 million a year.

Interesting indeed!, Which makes me wonder why as the owner of rateable land valued at \$ 473,000 residential in Queanbeyan. That I am been charged \$ 3,662 per year for land rates. Now I do find it very strange that for the same size block

in Nowra, that the owners are charged \$ 1583 per year. Why such a difference double in fact. And there are other examples which can be made.

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has signed off on the full rise proposed by Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council of 64.3 per cent over three years, or 18 per cent per year in 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26. Did the Regulatory ask the question why Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council was in so much deficit? In fact, has anyone in power asked that question?

J. Bowman.
Queanbeyan

Bungendore Seniors: Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga is a gentle and effective way to support your physical and mental wellbeing, especially for those wanting to maintain strength, flexibility, balance, and calmness in a safe and supported way. Practised while seated, Chair Yoga is ideal for older adults or anyone recovering from illness or injury, helping improve mobility, reduce stress, and even support better sleep.

Many participants report benefits such as improved hand grip, limb strength, reach, balance, mood, and overall agility. The low-impact exercises are also known to help manage conditions like osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, and arthritis by reducing joint pain and improving quality of life.

Classes are open to everyone who'd like to experience the benefits of Chair Yoga and enjoy the connection of exercising with others in a friendly environment.

Classes will resume next Tuesday and are held on Tuesdays at the Scout Hall, Turallo



Terrace, Bungendore.

During the winter months we have one class available: 1-hour session: at 2.30pm

\$13 for Bungendore Seniors members / \$18 for non-members

For more information or to book, contact Sue Scarlett at sue@agewell.yoga or call 0411 407 737.

Come join us - feel stronger, more balanced, and connected.

CAPTAIN BUNGENDORE

It is wonderful to share time with CERTAIN people. they BRING me CHEER AND delight.

definitely, TONIC for the soul.

JAC

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 full name, phone contact and address to: info@regionalindependent.com.au Only your name and suburb will be printed

Bungendore Food ub

A HELP UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTED BY OUR COMMUNITY

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

OPEN WEDNESDAYS 10AM-12PM

LOCATED IN THE OLD OP SHOP BEHIND BUNGENDORE AMERICAN CHURCH, GIBRALTAR STREET BUNGENDORE

CONTACT 6228 1261 OR 0422605009

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

Queanbeyan Probus Club:
next meeting Mon, 18 August

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.

Tech Help every Friday

Drop-In Queanbeyan Library
Every Friday 10am to 12 noon. Bring your phone, tablet or laptop, along with any questions you have.



Queanbeyan Library,
257 Crawford Street,
Queanbeyan .
Phone: (02) 6285 6255

NOTICE OF AGM

Notice is hereby given that the Queanbeyan Senior Citizen's Association is holding their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday 19th August 2025 at 1.00pm at 1 Farrer Place, Queanbeyan. Everyone welcome to attend.

Brenda Russell
President, Qbn Senior Citizen's Association



Bungendore Bridge Club

Bungendore School of Arts, Gibraltar Street, Bungendore

Wednesdays: 7.00-10.00pm
Saturdays: 10.00am-1.00pm

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

Bungendoe CWA next
meeting Sunday August 17

Our next meeting is on Sunday 17th August 9.30am for a 10am start. Join us at the branch rooms at 40 Gibraltar Street, Bungendore.

We welcome all women to come along. Did you know that if you join CWA of NSW in August, you can receive two months bonus membership so now is a great time to see what our branch does.

For more info contact bungendore.
secretary@gmail.com


Bungendore Dementia Alliance
INVITES PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND THEIR CARERS TO
Morning Tea
When: Monthly 3rd Monday of the month
Time: 10:00 to 12:00
Where: Bungendore School of Arts
Free Legal Consultations available with Saara Bowen from FEJ Law throughout the morning
Come for a Cuppa, Chat and sing along with Vivian
For More Information Phone: 0411 746 293
Sponsored by Bungendore and Districts Lions Club
Supported by Dementia Australia & Baptistcare

Queanbeyan Community Choir

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



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

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

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

Mayor's Column

Over the weekend I attended the official opening of the refurbished women's changerooms at Seiffert Oval. This is a huge step forward for inclusion and equality in our community. These modern facilities ensure that women and girls finally have the proper amenities they deserve to play, train, and excel in the sport they love. This milestone was made possible thanks to the generous funding and partnership from the state government, and we are deeply grateful for their investment in the future of rugby league and rugby union in our region.



Artist and gallery registrations for the 2025 Queanbeyan-Palerang Arts Trail are open! The annual Arts Trail is an opportunity for local artists and craftspeople to share their work with the community. The Arts Trail weekends are 4 and 5 October in Braidwood, 11 and 12 October in Bungendore, and 18 and 19 October in Queanbeyan. Artists and galleries from other localities in the region can choose which weekend they wish to align with. Arts Trail is always an exciting time in our region and I look forward to see what all the creatives in our region are working on. If you're interested in participating as an artist or gallery, learn more and register at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Arts-Trail

What would it mean for your household if your red bin was collected only once a fortnight? How would a weekly collection of food and garden organics (FOGO) change the way you manage your waste? These are the kinds of questions we need your help to answer as we shape our Waste Management Strategy for the next 20 years. The NSW Government has mandated that by 2030, all councils must provide weekly FOGO collection – and here in Queanbeyan-Palerang, that could mean changes to how often your red bin is collected. Your feedback will help us balance convenience, cost, and our community's environmental goals. We want to hear your thoughts, concerns, and ideas so we can design a system that works for everyone – in our towns, villages, and rural areas alike. This is your chance to have a real say in how we manage waste now and into the future. What do you think? Have your say by Monday 15 September at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/waste-strategy-2025-2045

Tonight's Council meeting is being held in Bungendore. Items on the agenda include women's rugby change rooms at Freebody Oval, several motions to be proposed for the LGNSW Annual Conference, and names for parks in Googong and naming the Bungendore Community Centre. Find the meeting agenda and livestream link at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Council/Council-Business/Council-meetings

Cr Kenrick Winchester, Mayor

Bosom Buddies is celebrating 30 years of supporting the community!!!

Bosom Buddies ACT Inc is the only support group for people experiencing breast cancer in the ACT and surrounding NSW region. They rely completely on donations.

Bosom Buddies will be holding a 30th anniversary cocktail evening on:

Thursday 18 September 2025
59 Cameron Avenue, Belconnen
6:00pm to 9:00pm
Tickets are \$66.00 each

All proceeds will be going to support Bosom Buddies.

An expert panel including an oncologist and breast care nurse will talk about breast cancer. The night will also be filled with fun, laughter and food and of course, a cocktail.



Tickets can be purchased using QR code


Supporting those diagnosed with breast cancer when they need it most
Bosom Buddies knows breasts

Sponsored by:



Target Time

Target: Average - 14, Good - 20, Excellent - 26+

devil, devoid, died, dildo, diode, dissolve, DISSOLVED, dive, dived, dole, doled, dose, dosed, dossel, dove, eddo, idle, idled, idol, lido, lied, lived, lode, loved, oiled, side, sided, sidle, sidled, sild, sled, slid, slide, soiled, sold, soled, solid, solved, veld, vide, video, vied, void, voided.

Sudoku

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

Puzzle Solutions

Quick Time Crossword

O	S	C	A	R			A	
R	U	E		O	D	D	L	Y
C	E	A	S	E		O	P	E
H		S	I	D	L	E		T
I		E	P	E	E		A	I
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	R		T	R	I	E	S	U
B	I	T	E		S	T	E	R
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	O				S	I	T	E

Crossword

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S	O	L	V	E		O	N	E	E	Y	E	D		Y	U	M	M	Y

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, 9.30am-1.30pm, in the Community Hall, Foxlow Street, Captains Flat. Enquiries to communityassociation@captainsflat.org

the market @ bungendore
9am-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

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

VINTAGE & RETRO

Vintage, retro, secondhand shop. 144 Uriarra Road Crestwood, Queanbeyan 6297 8636. Open Friday, Saturday, Sunday 10.00am to 4.30pm - Lots of new stock in.

Whilst the cat's away, the mice will play
Come in, to see what's going on
End of Winter clearance Sale
10% discount off everything in store

ART BY ANDERS

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 (gates close at 2.45pm)
Monday 9am-2pm

Braidwood waste transfer station
Fri, Sat Sun & Mon - 10am to 4.30pm

Monday - 1pm to 4pm
Braidwood buy back centre: Sunday 10am-4pm

CLEARANCE SALE



30 year old handyman business closing down clearance sale everything must go.
Tools, equipment, a lot of hardware, ride on mower, spray equipment, fire pump and hoses, household items and numerous items for tradespeople and farmers. Sale starts today until everything is sold:- 69 Tempe Crescent, Googong NSW



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.

NEED HELP LEARNING TO READ?

I have helped perople, of all ages, learn how to read within 12 weeks. Call Phillip at 0408 402 741 for more information.

CHOOKS FOR SALE

Layer pullets, 22 weeks, Isa W, B, R, LS, BTR, SLW. Order today for delivery to Bungendore Friday 22 August. Phone Jim on 0428 194 105



POSITIONS VACANT

Position Vacant
Want to make extra money this summer? A contract is available for a suitable candidate to mow lawns etc in Bungendore. ABN is essential. For more information contact patandbrian1421@gmail.com

CB BOBCATS

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



Business Classifieds

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ACT & Regional Areas

Pergolas - Decks - Fit outs
- Cladding Maintenance - Residential & Commercial
Shed Builds - Stables - Farm Yards

The Design Construct C/PL
NSW Lic - 217551c. ACT Lic - 2020948

Ph - 0410 698 734

FIREWOOD

Premium yellow box, well seasoned, thoroughly clean. All wood sieved prior to delivery. 2.5 tn load \$1050. C.O.D.

Ph 0403 229 576

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



GOULBURN MULWAREE ANIMAL SHELTER has 9 lovely pooches looking for people to give them a 2nd chance at a long & happy life (9 Aug)

Rehoming Organisation No.: R251000140



TESS, Female, Rottie/Staffy mix. Approx 4 yrs
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/947236



ANDY, Male, Dachshund Kelpie mix. Approx 1 year
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1115663



PATCH, Male, Bull Terrier. Approx 5½ yrs
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1130345



ROSIE, Female, Staffy. Approx 4 yrs
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1131378



MILLIE, Female, Kelpie/Catahoula x. Approx 10 mths
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1130125



JILL, Female, Staffy mix. Approx 6 mths
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1136980



OAKLEY, Male, Lab x Chihuahua. Approx 2 yrs
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1136977



LUCY, Female, Pug. Approx 2 yrs
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1137002



BAILEY, Male, Pug. Approx 2 yrs
www.petrescue.com.au/listings/1136998



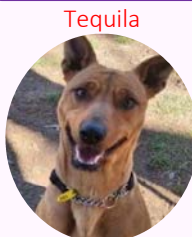
Every Animal Deserves a Happy Ever After

End Their Wait -- Begin Their Life

Go to Pet Rescue: www.petrescue.com.au/groups/11042/Goulburn-Mulwaree-Council to see more photos and details about these animals as well as info on how to adopt from the Shelter.



Find your new Best Friend at DAS -- 26 very deserving dogs are ready & waiting. Here are the new faces since the last poster.



Tequila
Kelpie x, Female, Approx 2 yrs
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/tequila



Dobson
Crossbreed, Male, Approx 4 yrs
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/dobson



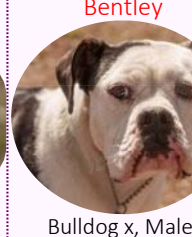
Connie
Crossbreed, Female, Approx 4 yrs
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/connie



Willow
Staffy, Female, Approx 2 yrs
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/willow



Boss
Staffy x, Male, Approx 3 yrs
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/boss



Bentley
Bulldog x, Male, Approx 3 yrs
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/bentley



Oden
Cattle Dog x, Male, Approx 12 mths
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/dogs-for-adoption/oden



To view all dogs available for adoption
www.cityservices.act.gov.au/pets-and-wildlife/dogs/adopt

Please consider us when looking for a new member to join your family

A senior kitty & 3 dogs are currently doing time at the QPRC AMF (9 Aug)
https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Services/Animals/Find-Animals-For-Sale-Adoption-and-Lost-Pets

Rehoming No. R251000189



Ref No S23 "Jet"
Poodle mix, Male, Approx 2 yrs.
AVAILABLE



Ref No S28 "Gunner"
(Pound name), Rhod. Ridgeback, Male, Approx 12 mths.
LOOKING FOR OWNER



Ref No S17 "Berry"
Kelpie, Female, Approx 3 yrs.
AVAILABLE



Ref No S06 "Will",
DSH, Male, Senior cat.
AVAILABLE

Queanbeyan Whites

Queanbeyan Whites

It came down to the final round but the Whites have 4 teams playing finals this weekend

Colts have gone from strength to strength all season and in defeating Vikings last weekend (48-28) claimed second spot. This means a rematch against Vikings at 11am this Saturday on Viking Park 1.

After losing to Vikings (7-35) a few weeks ago the team will not be taking things for granted and know that finals are a whole different ball game. Their strength over the back end of the season has been to play the whole game, to respond when challenged or pressured by the opposition. This will need to carry forward into the finals series

It is difficult to single out a couple of players but keep an eye out for the weaving and stepping of players such as Darcy de Voy who continually found the gaps against Vikings last weekend, the combination of half back Jakim Ngatoko and no 10, Zane Glanville who marshall the troops and keep the ball moving forward or the well drilled forwards -Nate Hepi, Will Cave, Niall Tallon just to name a

few.

Whites supporters will need to split themselves in half when, after a stop start season, third grade take on minor premiers Uni-Norths in the Qualification semi-final at 11:40am this Saturday on Viking Park 2. Due to the washed out round 6 game the teams have only met once this season with Uni Norths taking the spoils 19-22.

Coached by Andy Fahey and Michael Doyle the team is a mix of experience and youth which has made for some exciting football across the season. While the team has not been selected at the time of going to print the 'old' heads of Lewis Bozzato, Ivan Fifita, Dom Finau, Luke Cochrane, Gavin McMullan have been here before and aided by the exiting talent coming through such as Toby Goodyer, Ryan Morrison, James Sweeny expectations are high.

Reserve grade have worked hard all season - often feeling the impact of first grades injuries they have struggled to maintain intensity for an entire game. Needing four tries to ensure they were in charge of their own destiny



the Whites started the game against Vikings last weekend determined to be in charge running in three tries in the first half. Despite two yellow cards against Vikings the Whites struggled to find the fourth but thanks to Wests beating Gungahlin they have made it the elimination semi final against

Uni Norths, this Sunday at 1:10pm at Viking Park 1.

With a win and a loss against the Owls, the Whites are more than capable of winning and progressing to the preliminary final. Centre Maligi Finau is dominating the backline with the support of Michael Rademaker, Billy Taylor and Jordan Cotter. With the loss of Luke Tudulu and Lochlan Smith to first grade, Sam Eden, Will Bennett, Dwayne Finau all put in strong performances.

After 6 losses and a draw since the bye in June the Whites recorded a win last weekend (29-12) against Vikings. The last couple of months have been a challenge as the injuries took their toll. The return of players Zane Marolt and Eli Sagala provided a much needed boost and the Whites were much more focused and positive in their play.

This weekend they face Vikings again in the elimination semi final at 3:30pm Sunday on Viking Park 1. There is no doubt they can replicate last weekends result

when they effectively shut down Vikings speedsters giving them little room to move.

Last weekend's results:

Firsts: (won 29-12). Tries: Tuaina Taii Tualima (2), Cullin Cooper-Jones (1), Eli Sagala (1). Conv: Cullin Cooper-Jones (3). Pen: Cullin Cooper-Jones (1)

Reserves: (lost 19-29). Tries: Cedric lotua (1), Hugo Nobbs (1), Dwayne Finau (1). Conv: Maligi Finau (1), Archie Blaney-Brown (1)

Colts: (won 48-28). Tries: Darcy DeVoy (3), Zane Glanville (3) Harrison de Jongh (1), Romeo Asbock (1), Kalen Billiards (1), Penalty try. Conv: Zane Glanville (3)

Women: (lost 19-40). Tries: Rosina Tupua (2), Reese Vidler (1). Conv: Jade Lynn Burdeyny (2)

Photos: Jordon Mirchevski.
Left: Isaiah Kolopeaua, supported by Jack Preston (19), Judah Qoro Saumaisue and Ewald Kruger.
Above: Eli Sagala



Bungendore Tigers



Georgia Buckley Bungendore Tigers

ROUND FOURTEEN RESULTS

The Tigers came out of our last season game at the mighty Mick Sherd on top against Boorowa Rovers, winning 30-22. We are off to Harden next week for our last match of the season before finals.

Try scorers -

Peter Mortimer

Jack Bramley

Harry Buckley

Luke Colquhoun

Tries converted by Zach Smith

3 points - Harry Buckley

2 points - Zach Smith

1 point - Peter Mortimer

Photos - **Lauren Woodward Photography**



Sport

Wamboin Golf - August 2025

Sunday, 3 August. An odd month: Winter not yet over; Spring not yet started. But at the R & A Wamboin it's the spirited competition for the Tradies' Spirit Level. The day was sponsored by those gentlemen of the skilled trades, Trent Abell, Don Evans and Col Prest whom we thank for the prizes and the post-athletic sustenance. Play was to be judged by strokes adjusted for handicaps. It wasn't the nicest of days so there was a bit of grumbling as players took to the field.

Back in the dressing shed as the Captain scrutinized the scoreboard, we gazed in wonder at the crazy old world we inhabit. The vacuous Greens have again plumbed the depths of inanity by 'cancelling' Drew Hutton, one of the party's co-founders. His crime? Questioning the primacy of transgender rights in the hierarchy of Greens policy (such as it is). Lest we forget that it was Dr Bob Brown and Mr Hutton and who

saved the Franklin River in Tasmania. But that was long ago when greenies were interested in the environment. On the subject of cancelling, the ALP's Ms Pillbeserk wanted the party to disavow the unlovely Mark Latham as its former parliamentary leader. Elbow was not prepared to allow that absurdity to snap the restraining precepts of logic.

The Donald's 24 hour fix of the war in Ukraine is now about eight months old. My old buddy, Samuel Beckett, was always skeptical of Trump's efforts to shirtfront Vladimir, the Russian drone. He thought it'd be like watching Vladimir and Estragon - two tramps sitting around waiting for something to happen. Old George took me to task for heaping praise on Mr Trump for getting NATO countries to spend more on their own defence. He said even an idiot can have a good idea. He was talking about Trump . . . I hope. And while on that subject, if you don't like the

stats, sack the Statistician and get some new ones. As my old chum, Ted Evans, once said, if you torture a statistic long enough it'll confess to anything. BTW, I've discovered the cosmetic secret to the unique POTUS complexion: marmalade. Your correspondent, a devoted animal rights activist, was most disturbed to read the headline "US and EU Seal Trade Deal". To the barricades! We must protect those seals. The Federal Court of Appeal will shortly be considering whether 'sex (i.e. gender) is a binary biological reality'. For most people, including the Lesbian Action Group, it is. Equity Australia, a gay and trans rights advocacy group, says it isn't. I think they want trans to be admitted to the girls' dressing sheds. Astoundingly, a lower court has agreed with them. The Coalition teeters on the edge of irrelevancy. Troglodytic members including Senator Antique plus a man who can't spell 'caravan' and James Barnaby Joyce, the famous steam-of-conscious thinker (it comes steaming out without filtration), want them to repudiate the commitment to Net Zero by 2050. Should the Libs agree, we may never hear of them again, considering what we know of the science, the popularity of an emissions target, their lack of appeal to young and women voters and their need to win back lost city seats. Ms Ley seems to have caught the hospital pass. Our Wallabies may or may not have been robbed of the 2nd Test but a poor second half including four scrum penalties in a row didn't help. They did come good in the Sydney tempest. My tip: Chooks for the grand final.

The Captain restored order by use of the goad. He



welcomed our visitors, Jenny Williams and family, Jack and Roxanne Potts, Bok and Lau Choi and Les and Tres Miserables (they didn't look that happy). Ted's joke featured a, shall we say, passionate golfer. The googly ball went to Vicki Still who explained tearfully why she was not entitled to the dummy spit this month. Instead, in a dead heat, it was awarded to two non players: Col Urquhart who couldn't play because he had to chop wood; Rob Gorham who had to pick up

his partner, Mary Lou. Both weak excuses which were not accepted by members present. Encouragement award went to Emma Crafter and the Williams boys. NTP and LD ball winners were Tim Barter 2, Steve Miners, Vicki Still, Ken Gordon, Pete Harrison and Matt Williams. Winner of the nine hole comp was Chris Hansen 47/30 from Ken Gordon 35/31 and Matt Williams 40/32. Winner of the 18 hole comp was Vicki Still 81/61 (handicapper?) from Tim Barter 71/62 and Steve

Miners 83/63. Well played all! Next month, September, will in fact be Spring, when Nature's bounty leaps from the fecund earth to dazzle all creatures with the manifold hues of her raiment. Join us at the Hall at 12.15pm on Sunday 7 September for the 12.30pm start of the glorious Spring Trophy. And don your coats of many colours. Larry King, golfer
Photos: Pete Harrison



Braidwood Swimming Club Seeks Swim-Savvy Volunteers to Keep the Momentum Flowing

Braidwood Swimming Club After another hugely successful season, the Braidwood Swimming Club is calling out to the community, especially to those with a background in swimming, to dive in and help steer the club into its next chapter. With over 70 members and a thriving Monday night program, the Club has become a much-loved part of Braidwood's summer calendar. But to keep the momentum going and build on recent achievements, the Club is now seeking new committee members, particularly those with swimming knowledge who

can support coaching and mentoring at weekly Club Nights. "We have had a few great seasons," says Susi Pluess, Club Secretary, "but we are at a point where we really need fresh hands in the water, especially people who know their way around a tumble turn!" What We are Looking For:

- Swimmers, coaches, or anyone with strong swimming knowledge who can offer stroke correction, racing tips, or help lead training.
- General committee members who want to support a fun, family-

focused local club and are willing to take over responsibilities (like the treasurer role or timekeeping on club nights). With the support of our local community, the Club is hoping to run additional training sessions, but we need the people to help deliver them. The core commitment is Monday nights from 5pm, from mid-November to mid-March, plus optional training afternoons depending on availability. "If you are someone who grew up swimming competitively, used to coach, or simply loves the sport

and wants to give back to the community, we'd love to hear from you," says Emily Ryan, President. "It's an incredibly rewarding way to make a difference locally." The club is proudly volunteer-run and supported by generous sponsors and parents. With strong interest from local families and a growing awareness of the importance of swim safety, Braidwood Swimming Club is more relevant than ever. For more information or to express your interest, email braidwoodswimclub@gmail.com and help keep our community swimming strong.

JOIN THE COMMITTEE

SEEKING SWIM COACHES

To help us lead Club Nights and offer training advice and support.

✓

Mondays from 5pm
Seasonal from November - March

✓

Mid-week training optional
Funding available

CONTACT US

BRAIDWOODSWIMCLUB@GMAIL.COM

Sport

Mudhooks So Close

Stewart Wilson

The Bungendore Mudhooks rugby team's dream of winning the 2025 premiership as the perfect way to celebrate the club's 20th anniversary came tumbling down at the Sports Hub on 9 August when they were defeated by just three points - 32-29 - by the Cooma Alpine Hotel Seniors 1st XV in the grand final.

Undefeated all season until now, the Chooks were favourites but full credit must go to the Cooma boys who clearly wanted the win badly and did not drop their intensity for the whole eighty minutes.

Each team scored four tries and converted three of them but Cooma kicked two penalty goals to the Mudhooks' one, and that was the difference at the end. If an attempted penalty goal by the Mudhooks in the closing seconds had gone over the scores would have been tied and extra time played, but it was not to be.

The dominant feature of the game was the referee's whistle which was heard very often with penalties and yellow cards flying around all over the place. These were mostly 'team yellows' after a succession of infringements where the referee

sends someone off for ten minutes to punish the team.

They were applied to both teams but the Mudhooks were especially unfortunate at one stage when the two pivotal playmakers - half back and flyhalf - were off the field at the same time.

The game opened with an early Mudhooks try by flyhalf Toby Campbell which was converted by halfback Tom Worman. They scored two more tries in the first half by centres Maloni Tubekitu and Uraia ('Woody') Rabici while Tom Worman added two conversions and a penalty goal.

Cooma fought back to score two tries, a conversion and a penalty goal in the first half and the score was 22-15 in favour of the Mudhooks at the break.

So far so good for the local team but Cooma was still well in it and came back strongly in the second 40, scoring two more tries (both of them converted) and that crucial extra penalty goal.

The Mudhooks scored only one converted try by number eight 'Jeeps' Pretorius in the second half and found themselves playing catch up rugby as the game began



to wind down. There were a couple of very close calls for the needed tries but Cooma kept the pressure on and held fast.

Although the Mudhooks' loss was obviously very disappointing for all involved with the club and its supporters, to make the



grand final is in itself an excellent achievement and on that basis alone 2025 was another very successful season for the club.

Behind that success is strong management and the volunteers who make the million and one things needed to make training nights, game days and other activities happen. Also the club's many sponsors, big and small,

without whom there would not be a club. Special mention and 'thank you' to major sponsor the Royal Hotel for its ongoing support.

Congratulations to Cooma for their win but the Chooks players can hold their heads up high - they have done themselves and the club proud in 2025.

Photos: Sharon Baxter-Judge

