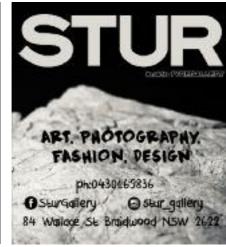
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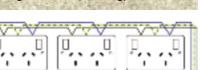
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Community Directory — 2

ALL THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES PLUS OUR OTHER ADVERTISERS SUPPORT BWD

The best of luck to You — 4

LIVING LIFE IN THE SLOW CORRIDOR

Travel Logged — 5

A LOCAL WANDERER REPORTS IN FROM THE DESERT

Who are these Men — 6

LEARN THEIR NAMES AND ELECTION ORDER AND SHOW OFF AT PARTIES

A japanese Story — 8

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A WOOFER

Tom's Leg — 11

FROM BIPEDAL TO TECHNO-PEDAL AND HELPING OTHERS ADJUST

What is it about a bush Track? — 13

WALKING UP HILL AND DOWN DALE ABOUT THE REGION

Yately House — 16

ONE OF OUR ICONIC OLD HOUSES HAS A NEW OWNER

Be very, very Unafraid — 18

PEEP OUT FROM UNDER THAT PILLOW

Poke it 'til it Punches — 19

WORDS OF ADVICE FOR THOSE WHO MUST LEAVE

A bunch of Musicians — 21

BCS BAND, A VIOLINIST, A FRENCH HORN PLAYER AND A SINGER

Kim Pacheco — 26

FROM BROOKLYN TO BRAIDWOOD

Can you say that Again — 28

DID YOU HEAR THE ONE ABOUT ... NEITHER DID HE

Allergy Season — 29

IT'S NOT A SAD STORY BUT YOU MIGHT NEED A HANKY

Mongarlowe Goldfields — 30

THE QUIET VILLAGE WAS ONCE A BUSTLING MINI-CITY

Marque my Words — 33

A PHOTO ESSAY OF BADGES AND BARK

Horrorscope and Crossword — 34

Is it an advantageous day to follow clues?

Time & Energy — 35

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING COULD GET US ALL A BETTER DEAL

ere you are — sorry it's late. Ha, that's how I started the last Leditorial so nothing new there. In fact I've managed to increase my lateness two-fold and hence, I'm ashamed to admit, this issue is Spring too, just like BWD Number 9.

A year zipped by but what a year it was. In the last issue I was but a servant of the people in my day job, but now with the deckchairs having been re-stencilled with OPRC on the back, I've lost my epaulettes.

Of the nine Palerang and ten Queanbeyan councillors, eight of us have been appointed by the Office of Local Government to a Local Representation Committee — and the ex-mayor of Queanbeyan Tim Overall, has been appointed Administrator until the elections in September 2017.

Although the LRC has no executive influence in the running of QPRC we can, and do, represent our areas and provide advice to council.

I don't have to get into what will be best for our region in this issue of BWD because I've made a commitment to not fall below the frequency of a quarterly so I'll wait until Summer.

I'll be assisted and reminded of this by Lyn Cram who has fortuitously come on board to sell advertisements. It's not something I excel at but of course it provides the revenue to make the whole venture affordable.

Eagle-eyed or picky readers might well notice that nepotism has crept into this issue. There are two articles by family members and too many written by me. It's always a bit of a lottery which stories materialise in time for publication but I can promise you this: if you submit a good story, I'll publish

I hope nobody finds the inclusion of the 'Householders Handbook' to be in poor taste. It is, after all, an official government publication but it comes from a time of different values. I also hope that it hasn't been removed to hang on a nail in the bunker; for then all the stuff I've written on page 18 will be sitting out there like a shag on a post-apocalypse rock.

What more can I say? Thanks for buying the magazine, or at least reading it. I hope you like what's here.

Paul Cockram

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2 **BWD** SPRING 2016 2016 SPRING **BWD** 3