BRAIDWOOD'S
# Changing Times

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Issue #4 — $2.00

**COMING WEATHER**

| Temp | Min | Max | Chance rain |
|---|---|---|---|
| We: | 1° | 15° | 0% |
| Th: | 1° | 15° | 0% |
| Fr: | 1° | 14° | 20% |
| Sat: | 3° | 15° | 40% |
| Sun: | 6° | 14° | 80% |
| Mon | 2° | 12° | 20% |


# THEY'RE BACK!

## Yay, and we're back in business and here's what we can do

Robin Tennant-Wood is looking for a parking spot

The easing of COVID-19 restrictions in New South Wales and the ACT has seen the return of a familiar sight in Braidwood: weekend traffic.

It was a welcome sight for local businesses on Saturday morning as the long weekend coast-bound traffic arrived. By mid-morning Wallace Street looked like it did pre-bushfires, with parking at a premium and cafés and shops bustling with locals and visitors.

The Visitors' Information Centre was open for the first time since the COVID lockdown with a reorganisation of the shopfront to accommodate social distancing. President of the Braidwood Tourism Association, Sandra Hand, was in the centre preparing to welcome visitors back to town.

The perfect winter weather meant that café patrons were happy to congregate in the sun rather than put pressure on indoor seating.

### *What the new rules mean for you*

The current restrictions enable:

- Holiday travel throughout the state;
- Visits to museums, galleries and libraries but under the one person per four square metre rule;
- Pubs, clubs, cafes and restaurants can have up to 50 customers under the one person per four square metre rule;
- Beauty and nail salon operators can reopen;
- Up to 20 people can attend weddings, 50 at funerals and 50 at places of worship;
- No limit to the number of people in campgrounds, national parks or caravan parks, but people are advised to observe social distancing at all times;
- Fitness, gyms, pilates, yoga and dance studios can reopen with up to 10 people per class and 100 people in an indoor venue;
- Real estate inspections and auctions can recommence with some restrictions on numbers;
- Working from home, where possible, is still advisable.

While these more relaxed regulations are a great relief for business, people are still advised to maintain a physical distance of 1.5 metres and be vigilant about hand hygiene, as well as consider the more vulnerable people in our communities.

Meanwhile, the convergence of the long weekend and the easing of restrictions has certainly brought smiles to the faces of Braidwood businesspeople as they start the long road to recovery from what has been, so far, a very challenging year.

For more information on the June 1 COVID-19 regulations and how to ensure your own safety and that of others around you, please visit https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

## EDITORIAL Robin Tennant-Wood

# When things unravel

The most intricate hand-knitted jumper is made from a single strand of yarn. The knitter stitches the yarn, changing colours or pattern, to create a garment that is both functional and beautiful. But if the wearer catches a thread on a barbed wire fence and then pulls at the loose thread, the jumper will unravel to a chaotic pile of yarn with no form or structure.

Society is much like that hand-knitted jumper. It is comprised of different colours, patterns and textures, but is a single thread, that, when woven together, is both functional and beautiful. A loose thread, however, when pulled, can cause the entire structure to unravel into chaos.

For the past fortnight, the world has watched agape at the unfolding events in the USA. The catalyst was the murder of George Floyd at the hands of police, but the problem goes much deeper. What we are witnessing, and the reason it is so alarming, is the unravelling of the social contract.

The concept of the social contract goes back to ancient Greece, but it gained traction in political theory during the 17th and 18th Centuries through political philosophers such as Hobbes, Locke and Rousseau. Essentially, the social contract means that citizens cede some rights to the government in return for protection and social order.

This has been evident here over the past three months as we have ceded our rights to freedom of movement as a means of protecting the health of society as a whole. In return, the government has provided some compensatory measures to protect those whose livelihoods have been impacted. The social contract works. It works through mutual agreement.

The American social contract is failing. The thread has been pulled. The government is no longer providing protection for its citizens and they, in turn, are demanding social change. The president has threatened to call in the military. If this happens, soldiers will be required to fire on, and kill, their fellow citizens. If the military refuses to turn on its own people, the government will fall and the result will be anarchy: a chaotic pile of yarn with no structure or form.

Maintaining the social contract is a delicate balancing act, much like a knitter maintaining an even tension in the yarn. Where a government becomes more authoritarian, it must provide more in the way of compensations and protections. Tightening laws without any trade-off simply increases social tensions and ultimately, something will break. This is what we have witnessed in the USA and it is a cautionary tale for all governments and leaders.

If our social contract is to remain strong, our government must distance itself from the chaos and focus on maintaining an even social tension; or risk the whole garment unravelling.



*Karen Porter with organiser Sue Doran.*

# Politics in the Park

EDEN-MONARO BY-ELECTION 2020

Robin Tennant-Wood

It's the new, COVID-safe version of the political candidates' meeting and it's set to be a regular occurrence here in Braidwood in the lead-up to the Eden-Monaro by-election.

Last Wednesday, around 15 locals braved icy winds to gather in Ryrie Park for the first Politics in the Park, featuring Independent candidate, Karen Porter.

Event organiser, Sue Doran, checked the COVID guidelines carefully, and said that while there is no explicit mention of outdoor political meetings, the government regulations do cover sport and auctions, and, she joked, "I suppose politics could come under either of those." At any rate, the gathering was conducted under the 1.5 metre rule and the High Court's ruling that under the Constitution we have an implied right to political communication.

Karen Porter is a member of the New Liberals, an as yet registered party formed out of frustration with the increasingly narrow and politicised focus of the Liberal government. The party espouses what she describes as "the original values" of the Liberal party: economic responsibility and social progress. Because the party's registration has not yet been approved by the AEC, Porter is standing for this election as an independent.

Each candidate for the Eden-Monaro by-election – and there are now 12 – has been or will be invited to attend a Politics in the Park meeting and will be given the same list of questions on notice to which they should respond. The meeting is then opened to questions from the floor (or the grass, in this case).

The questions on notice cover the issues of bushfire recovery and fire prevention and management; climate change; unemployment; trust in government and democracy; social equity; First Nations voice; and community infrastructure.

Ms Porter's responses reflected a broad progressive approach to each of these issues. She is an advocate of renewable energy and favours community-based energy self-sufficiency. This is one issue that has been raised and discussed in Braidwood, particularly in the wake of the bushfires as local resilience and sustainability have emerged as key community concerns.

While conceding that as an independent, she would not be in a position of government, Ms Porter said, "there are a number of progressive independent members in parliament now and I would look forward to joining with them to put pressure on government on the issues important to this region."

A general disillusionment with party politics has seen independent candidates wrest electorates from political parties in recent elections, with Cathy McGowan winning the formerly safe Liberal seat of Indi in 2013 and it remaining independent with Helen Haines in 2019. Also in 2019, independent Zali Steggall unseated former PM Tony Abbott from his safe seat of Warringah.

Politics in the Park was live-streamed to Twitter and has been viewed almost 400 times. The next confirmed park session is 17 June with the Greens' Cathy Griff. Labor candidate, Kristy McBain, is still to be confirmed for 10 June.

# Kristy McBain

EDEN-MONARO BY-ELECTION 2020

## Nick Fuller interviews the Labor candidate for Eden-Monaro

Kristy McBain

Ms McBain promises to champion a streamlined (bushfire) recovery process for local businesses and farmers that will cut through red tape, help people to quickly navigate government agencies, and is led by locals.

As the Eden-Monaro electorate reels from drought, the summer bushfires, and the coronavirus shutdown, Labor candidate Kristy McBain is determined to make sure the federal government does not forget the region, and to bring the experience of local people to Canberra.

"My sole aim is to be the Eden-Monaro's community advocate," Ms McBain said.

The former mayor of Bega Valley Shire (2016–20) made national headlines over summer. The bushfires burnt through more than half her shire, destroying nearly 500 homes and more than a thousand sheds and outbuildings – "days of red and orange skies, ash and debris everywhere, the air so thick you could touch it". Ms McBain put off her holidays to champion her community. She urged the government to provide more resources and assistance. She held dozens of community meetings; attended roundtable meetings with state and federal governments; and met ministers to secure small business and emergency support, and make sure everybody was accommodated. Months later, she feels more needs to be done.

"Part of the frustration for me, and part of the reason I decided to run as candidate," Ms McBain said, "is because I just don't believe that we had a government listening to people on the ground: those locals who had the knowledge, and were telling them exactly what was needed, and when. We haven't seen much of that implemented, and not a lot of federal government dollars flowed to the people who really need it most."

Instead, Ms McBain believes that regional communities are being forgotten. "The fourth of July is a chance to send a message to the government that we aren't prepared to be left behind… This by-election is the perfect opportunity to send a message to government that they need to get on board and listen to what we're actually asking for; as regional communities, we're best placed to advise them on what will work in our areas. That's the message we need to send: that we know what we want."

Despite social distancing restrictions, the candidate has spent the last five weeks speaking to residents, businesses, and local community groups.

Ms McBain is already well acquainted with Braidwood and its needs; as deputy chair of the Canberra Region Joint Organisation, she met with QPRC mayor Tim Overall and general manager Peter Tegart about better car parking, drainage, roads, and bridges in Braidwood.

> "I think most importantly people in Braidwood just want to know they're being listened to," Ms McBain said.

Across the electorate, Ms McBain said, people are still afflicted by the triple disaster; one of her priorities is to make sure the government understands how dire the situation is in some regional towns.

"It's been a pretty harrowing experience for many people, and I don't think there's one single person or one single industry that hasn't been affected by the bush fires," Ms McBain said. "People are rightly still very traumatized."

Spending hours on the telephone telling their stories to gain assistance from different agencies only adds to the trauma.

"Many in our areas do not have access to good full-time local jobs," Ms McBain said. "So many people are working casual or seasonal jobs; so many people commute for work, especially in [the Braidwood area]. But we shouldn't leave regional areas behind on the job prospect."

Many casual workers are ineligible for JobKeeper support, and are unsure whether they can pay their bills, she said. Over the last five weeks, Ms McBain said she had also met with businesses that were struggling on the back of the economic downturns: "Some are unable to spend or grow because they're unsure about the economic climate that they're going into." The region, Ms McBain said, needs targeted infrastructure spend to give businesses to confidence to grow.

Eden-Monaro, Ms McBain states, also needs a more resilient telecommunications network; at the moment, it has some of the worst mobile and internet reception in the country. It's an inconvenience (as she drives around the electorate, she has seen her phone connection drop bar by bar), but it also increases the risk from fire.

"We've seen many of our infrastructure telecommunications towers burn down or lose mains electricity power and therefore drop out of battery power within two to three hours," Ms McBain said. "Many people rely on those telecommunications to get their warnings or understand where the fire was and the potential it might have to impact them." Carwoola, for instance, is still waiting for a tower to be built two years after it was destroyed in a bushfire.

Climate change is also a major issue for many residents; according to a recent GetUp poll, more than six in ten voters in the electorate believe the Coalition government is not doing enough to tackle climate change. Ms McBain firmly agrees.

"I have complete confidence and faith in the science and in the expert opinions around climate change," she said. "I'm driving through Eden, and all I can see is burnt landscape around me. We cannot let this happen again. Therefore, we need to make sure there are plans for resilience, adaptation and mitigation measures. At the moment, the government has no plan in place to deal with climate change; to make sure that our communities are resilient; or to mitigate or adapt against any of the effects of climate change. Until we see them pay real attention, I fear that we might see this again."

If she were elected, this would be Ms McBain's first experience of federal politics, but she's confident her council and mayoral experience, and her time as deputy chair of the Canberra Region Joint Organisation will stand her in good stead.

"Everything is going to be new to me – but the thing that's not new to me are the needs and wants of my community," Ms McBain said. "I'm attempting to go into federal parliament not for my own gain, but to make sure that these regional communities aren't left behind."

Ms McBain is an Eden-Monaro local. Her family ran a sporting store in Merimbula; she was educated in Eden, where she met her husband; together, the couple, who live in Tura Beach, run a plumbing business.

"I'm a member of a community; I've been on a range of local committees; I've been involved in local sports; I've lived in this local community for years… I bring a different demographic to the region … based on my age, the age of my family, my experience growing up in this region.

"We don't need to see cookie-cutter politicians. We need people from diverse backgrounds, not people who have been in politics their entire life, not people who have been a member of a party their entire life, not people who share the same ideology as everybody else. What we need is people who truly represent the community. That's what my experience is, and I think that's what people like."

Is Ms McBain confident of winning? "It's going to be an uphill battle … a really tough fight.

But I'm up for the challenge."

# Wage freeze reprieve

Robin Tennant-Wood

Braidwood nurses joined colleagues around the state on Tuesday to protect a planned freeze on wages by the New South Wales government.

The proposed public sector wage freeze was subsequently blocked by the Upper House.

Nurses in rural and regional areas turned out in force with legitimate concerns that if it goes ahead, it will be to the detriment of health services in the regions.

The nurses' union has not ruled out industrial action if they don't get a scheduled 2.5 per cent pay rise.

Photo: Karuna Bajracharya

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Local Press,

**By-Election for the federal Seat of Eden-Monaro**
**Saturday 4th July 2020**

It seems that we shall have at least nine candidates contesting Mike Kelly's old seat. There may be more.

I once had a tea-towel with a picture of a tin of Campbell's Soup on it. The label showed the Federal Parliament building captioned:

*CANBERRA'S CONDENSED*
*Too many politicians spoil the SOUP*

The task of sorting out who stands for what is immense. With luck, we will be helped by Speakers' Corner in the Rotunda at Ryrie Park every Wednesday lunchtime, if we are prepared to stand around in an Antarctic winter. I therefore looked around to see what else in the past has occurred in Australia's political history on 4th July.

Of course! It's 'Alice's Day'. In 1862 the first edition of *'Alice in Wonderland'* was published, and the reading world first met the topsy-turvy world of the Red Queen, the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter, and the little bottle labelled 'Drink Me'. Which candidate represents which character? Who will dominate? Who will fade away like the Cheshire Cat?

Politically, I myself am a remnant of an older political era. I had many years membership of the White Wine and Cheese and Biccies Party, i.e. Don Chipp's Australian Democrats. He got a long way with his 'Keep the Bastards Honest' slogan. Where is Chipp Mark 2?

In my time as a university student I heard many embryo politicians address student gatherings. They included three people who later became Prime Minister of the U.K. I have found that the old Oxbridge tutorial system produced 27 prime ministers of that country. So, what did they study that is so effective?

It was of course called PPE – Philosophy, Politics and Economics. Perhaps our currently underemployed academics could spend their time – before all those Chinese students return – in preparing a revised form of PPE for our candidates?

It would have to be modernised, of course. As conventional politics seem to have failed us, how about Philosophy, Economics and Environment?

Or, in short, PEE.

Anthony Shepherd
Braidwood

# Cash for splash welcomed

Robin Tennant-Wood

Last Friday the $1m NSW Govt grant for Stage 1 of the Braidwood pool upgrades was confirmed with work commencing in March 2021.

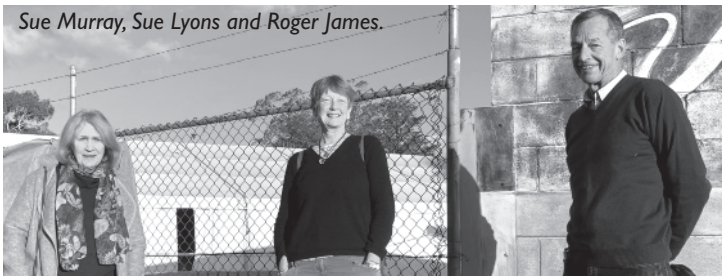
President of the BCA, Sue Murray, said that congratulations were certainly owed to Sue Lyons, the principal driver of this project and Roger James, the architect who created the plans, for their incredible persistence in reaching this point.

"This is another great example of the way working with QPRC staff and Councillors can bring results for the community", said Sue.

Ms Lyons and Mr James explained that the initial grant will cover the upgrade to the change rooms, solar panels for heating and the expansion of the facility to include a café.

A second stage is planned but there is no funding for that as yet.

Meanwhile urgent repairs to solve the water leakage issue and to re-tile the pools is happening now and is not part of the $1 million grant. This work will be completed in time for the coming summer's swimming season.


Sue Murray, Sue Lyons and Roger James.


Anita's impression of the Braidwood Central School upgrade

# Upgrades for Braidwood Central School

Jody Blinco, Business Manager

A project has recently begun to upgrade the facilities at Braidwood Central School.

The upgrade will include two new buildings with innovative general and specialist learning areas, refurbishment of existing buildings, new covered walkways, refurbished outdoor spaces and play areas along with a new staff building and facilities.

The project has been through a detailed approval and planning process to ensure that there is the right balance between maintaining the heritage of the school but also providing modern learning facilities for students.

Site establishment including the installation of hoarding and project signage, commenced on 27 May 2020 and the main works are now underway.

The upgrade is being staged with stage one due to be completed late 2020.

# DID YOU DO THAT?

Some things just turn up in the editor's inbox

Ella was supposed to stay in bed.

Ella was sick.

Ella was totally bored.

Ella went to her toy cupboard and pulled out the Solar System Game.

She loved this game. There were marbles of various sizes rotating a hot little ball, in an ever cautious manner to avoid being burnt.

She was mesmerised with the balls. Some were the deepest blues, others a fiery red and even one with gas rings around it.

She held up the game in her left hand and took a closer look.

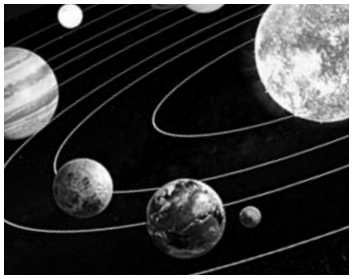
There was one ball that caught her eye.

She used a magnifying glass.

She could see the tiniest of what looked like mosquitoes zipping around the ball. There were fat ones, skinny ones, white ones, black ones, long haired ones, mosquitoes living in mountains, mosquitoes living in the tiniest of Lego like structures. They all seemed very busy.

It was amazing.

In some of these colonies there was lots of food and water and the mosquitoes were fat and happy.



But all the mosquitoes had one common purpose. They would form little colonies and guard their borders to keep the other mosquitoes out. They would go to any lengths. They would build walls, they would fire little weapons at each other. They would have rules and tiny little documents they would pull out to cross the borders.

It was very strict.

Anyone crossing the borders without the little documents would be locked up in the harshest of areas, deserts or lonely off shore islands.

It was amazing.

Ella could not help herself. She picked up the ball and moved it closer to the fireball.

The mosquitoes went into a frenzy. They buzzed incessantly. Their little tentacles pointed at one another. They built stronger borders and even better weapons.

It was funny to watch.

Ella really could not help herself.

She picked up this ball and held it between her thumb and forefinger. With her other hand she used the corner of her tiny pinky finger to dig a hole in the middle of the country with all the skinny mosquitoes. She then picked up the country with the fattest mosquitoes and placed it in the hole.

She could now hear the hysterical buzzing. There was so much scurrying about.

The borders no longer worked.

It was so much fun at first, then it made her dizzy and after awhile she sighed.

Ella cleared her throat.

"Ella are you in bed? You can't go out to play until that virus is gone. Three more days of isolation.

No toys. Put them away."

Ella coughed over the little ball, put it back in its rightful place in the Solar System Game, put it back in the box labelled Milky Way and locked it away in the cupboard called the Universe.

She would play with that game tomorrow.

**john.longhurst59@gmail.com**



## MUSIC REVIEW

# Mellow, cool and classy

David McClymont

I have to admit that I prefer the company of women, especially women who can sing and particularly women who can sing well. My poor long-suffering wife knows full well that it's useless talking to me whilst an Ella Fitzgerald album is playing. She knows I am not listening to her, I am listening to Ella. Ella will always take precedence.

**But I am always on the lookout for other women singers whose voices take my breath away.**

I will endeavour to introduce readers of this esteemed publication to a few of my recent 'discoveries'.

This week I want to talk about an American singer by the name of Kandace Springs. Who could I compare her to? Hard to say, but if pressed I would compare her style and voice to people like Roberta Flack and Sade. However, comparison is hardly fair since Kandace has a style all her own.

Her career has really taken off since her debut jazz album in 2016. Her album *Indigo* was nominated in the 'Beyond' category in U.S. jazz magazine Downbeat's Critics Poll of 2019. Blue Note Records, which is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year, launched a U.S. tour in the northern autumn 2019 which included Kandace. Monterey Jazz Festival's Diamond Jubilee 2017 featured her. She has appeared at numerous prestigious European and U.S. jazz festivals over the last few years.

Kandace accompanies herself on piano. For piano aficionados, she often plays a Fender Rhodes, which gives her a very mellow, cool sound. Her piano playing is classy

without being overdone. She released her debut album Soul Eyes on the BlueNote label in 2016. This album is a mix of genres with elements of classic jazz, soul and pop. She seems to have a penchant for trumpeters because on Soul Eyes she includes Terence Blanchard and on her 2018 release Indigo she used Roy Hargrove, both masters of the instrument.

She also favours acoustic arrangements that allow her expressive voice to come to the fore. Jazz is obviously her passion and has a large influence on her sound.

**As to her influences, she claims Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday and Nina Simone as significant figures in her musical journey.**

She has a musical pedigree in her father and grandfather being significant performers in 60's and 70's R&B circles in their hometown of Nashville.

On her fourth BlueNote album *The Women Who Raised Me* Kandace pays homage to the vocalists who inspired her. She covers numerous styles on this album, for example the laid-back phrasing of Carmen McRae with Duke Ellington's *Solitude* to the emotional rawness of Billie Holiday's *Strange Fruit*. One of the highlights of this album is a duet Kandace does with Norah Jones on Matt Dennis' *Angel Eyes*.

So, have a listen to Kandace Springs ladies and gentlemen. I wasn't disappointed with her company and I'm sure you won't be either.

# A great opportunity for Braidwood young writers

by Julian Davies

Writing doesn't come as easily as speech for most of us. Organising those little black characters that represent words and create sentences is a step that fazes many people. The fear of mistakes is one problem — spelling, grammar, punctuation, it all puts us off.

Fortunately, young people usually seem less worried about this even though they're still learning how to write. They're often not as self-conscious as the adults they'll become, and they frequently have something they'd like to say.

That's why it's great the Braidwood Young Writers Festival is happening again this year, and why everyone involved in the Festival is looking forward to seeing all the writing our school-age kids send in. All kinds of writing are welcomed, whether it's stories, poems, essays or opinion pieces. This is the chance to share your writing with the community and possibly have it chosen for the book that will be made of the best pieces from the young people of the Braidwood region.

As well as being a judge for the writing of one of the older age groups, it's my job to organise the writing pieces and make them all ready for printing. Two years ago, I enjoyed seeing everyone's writing come together in a real book. It was exciting having the finished object for family, friends and the wider community to read. I can't wait to see what everyone writes this year — how you all put together those little black characters in interesting and unique ways. And maybe your work will end up in print, too!

— * — * — * —

Entries for the Braidwood Lions Festival of Young Writers close on 26 June!

Pieces can be written on any subject, be in any genre (eg. narrative, persuasive, poetry, etc.).

Below is an example of a published persuasive piece from the 2018 competition:

***Julian Davies** is a writer, potter, sculptor, painter, front-man for the Braidwood non-profit art gallery, The Left Hand, and joint publisher at the non-profit, independent press Finlay Lloyd. The author of seven novels, he has also written various stories, and essays. His work has been shortlisted for many prizes and one novel The Boy has been translated into French, Dutch and Turkish. Julian is a passionate advocate for public education, and volunteers at Braidwood Central School, and other NSW public schools, teaching and tutoring critical thinking skills.*

# Response to *Me Me Me Generation*

Ryan Slater, Aged 16

In the article *Me Me Me Generation* by Joel Stein, the millennial generation is accused of being the laziest and most self-obsessed generation ever. The subtitle of the article on the front cover of *Time* magazine says, "Millennials are lazy, entitled narcissists who still live with their parents."

As a member of the generation spoken about, I disagree with this article and believe that it uses statistics and language to misrepresent our entire generation. I believe that every generation has had members who do not contribute and who are narcissistic, but that social media means that our generation is easily exaggerated as being more narcissistic and selfish that others.

Joel Stein begins his article by arguing that millennials are more obsessed with themselves than any other generation. As evidence for this he uses the number of photographs displayed in homes.

"Whereas in the 1950s families displayed a wedding photo, a school photo and maybe a military photo in their homes, the average middle-class American family today walks amid 85 pictures of themselves and their pets."

This bit of evidence does not demonstrate millennials are self-obsessed. It can be easily explained by photographs and cameras being a bigger part of everyday life, cheaper, and easier to access. He also blames the internet for millennials behaviour being like the stereotype of rich spoilt kids.

"In fact, a lot of what counts as typical millennial behaviour is how rich kids have always behaved. The Internet has democratised opportunity for many young people, giving them access and information that once belonged mostly to the wealthy."

I do not believe that using technology makes you selfish. What technology does do is show, through media and social media, that most entertaining and stereotyped version of young people. Stories and videos that go 'viral' do not show the every-day good things young people do.

As a member of the millennial generation I see the good things we do all the time. We use technology and social media to stay connected with our friends and to be informed about the world.

Joel Stein uses Kim Kardashian as an example of all the problems with millennials and everything wrong with them.

Many people who like and follow this celebrity are not millennials. Many millennials do not even like her. You cannot use one person as an example of the values of an entire group of people. The media does not show the caring nature of today's millennials. Young people invest time and effort into their relationships both in person and online. This is the opposite of being selfish.

I believe that there have always been selfish, lazy, entitled people in every generation. But Stein uses statistics related to young people's living at home, and their not helping in charity, to prove we are worse than before. Their development is stunted: more people aged 18 to 29 live with their parents than with a spouse, according to the 2012 Clark University Poll of Emerging Adults. And they are lazy.

In 1992, the non-profit Families and Work Institute reported that 80% of people under 23 wanted to one day have a job with greater responsibility; 10 years later, only 60% did. Different interests, or wanting less stress at work, does not make a generation lazy. And living at home rather than having to marry to move out is a change with social values and economics that gives millennials an option that other generation didn't have or didn't need to take

Every generation is made up of people who are good and bad, and every generation has differences from the last. Millennials are no worse than any other group, media has just made millennials extra easy to criticise.


Join the Braidwood Community Bank staff

# Let's tackle brain cancer

## THURSDAY June 18 2020 to SUNDAY June 21 2020

Wear a beanie,

buy a beanie

and donate!

www.markhughesfoundation.com.au

Get your beanies from IGA, Len Mutton & Co, Braidwood Outdoors and other shops.

# Fiona Kotvojs

EDEN-MONARO BY-ELECTION 2020

## The Liberal candidate for Eden-Monaro

*Fiona Kotvojs with locally-grown truffles.*

Liberal candidate, Fiona Kotvojs, was not available for an interview with the *Changing Times*, but provided written responses to a list of questions. Here is Dr Kotvojs' campaign platform for Braidwood and the electorate as a whole.

***Changing Times:*** *Why do you think you're the best candidate for the region?*

***Fiona Kotvojs:*** My community has shaped who I am – and I believe in giving back – that's why I'm running at this election - I have the wide breadth of experience needed to help it recover, rebuild and embrace a bright future.

When I was young, and finished High School in Bega, I had to leave the region to build my career.

I want to make sure that we create opportunities here, so that young people have the option of staying, and others can move here, find employment and stay.

***CT:*** *You're running on a platform of helping communities to rebuild after the recent drought and bushfires, and to bring more jobs into the region. How do you propose to achieve this? What else do you think the region needs? What are your plans to develop the region?*

**FK:** We have such a diverse local economy, from tourism and timber on the south coast, to primary industry in the mountains – I want to see us seize new opportunities as we move out of COVID-19, such as increased domestic tourism, new export opportunities and new innovation in the way in which we do business.

There are a number of ways that we can help to build and retain jobs here - for example, the Innovation Hub. It's a great idea that helps small businesses and entrepreneurs, because it lets them get help with having their business idea succeed. It also helps to diversify businesses that we have throughout this area.

***CT:*** *More than 60 percent of Eden-Monaro voters believe the Coalition is not doing enough to tackle climate change, according to a GetUp poll. How would you respond? What is your position on climate change?*

**FK:** I believe that our climate is changing, and that humans are contributing to the change. We need to focus on reducing emissions, improving adaptation and building resilience of communities.

You need to have more than plans – you need to be able to deliver them.

I am particularly proud to be part of a Liberal team that is investing Snowy 2.0 – the largest pumped hydro energy storage project in the southern hemisphere. Snowy 2.0 will provide enough clean energy to power 500,000 homes, while creating thousands of local jobs. If elected, I will be a strong voice for practical solutions.

***CT:*** *Any plans for Braidwood?*

**FK:** If elected, I would like to look at how we can bring more tourists here. Braidwood has a lot to offer visitors, for example the museum is a wonderful attraction, and more people should have the opportunity to enjoy it.

Getting more visitors would also be a wonderful boon for the local shops and cafes — particularly as our economy recovers from COVID.

I also think that we need to continue improving the communication infrastructure in this area. There are still black spots here, and if elected I will be advocating for more focus on this area from the Mobile Black Spot Program.

***CT:*** *You are an RFS volunteer, sit on the board of Oxfam Australia, and have more than 30 years' experience in international development, including disaster recovery in developing nations. How will your political / administrative experience help with this position, particularly with fire recovery?*

**FK:** My professional expertise is in assessing government programs and helping to improve them – I think that this experience will be particularly valuable in helping this community to recover and rebuild.

One of the biggest issues we're currently experiencing is the disconnect between the various levels of service delivery, so I will be able to help connect all of these disparate agencies to ensure that people are not falling through the cracks.

My experience as an RFS volunteer will also come in handy when we are looking at the recovery, adaption and preparation for the future – helping to advise from the point of personal experience of someone who fought these fires.

***CT:*** *You had to fight to save your home from fires in January. Since then, you have advocated for bushfire-affected farmers and small businesses. Can you tell me about your own experience, and how you have advocated for fire victims? How would you prepare for the next fire season?*

**FK:** One thing that you learn from fighting bushfires, is how well we can all work together. I have seen this in people across the electorate.

Through the fires I've seen our community bonded like never before – we have more respect for each other.

However, one thing that I've found to be an issue is the disconnect between the support programmes being administered by different levels of government.

While there are some great programmes from the federal government, from the state government - we need to get the state government, the federal government and local government better at talking to each other. This is an area where my experience and expertise can really help.

***CT:*** *If you win, this will be the first time in more than a century since a government candidate won an opposition-held seat at a by-election. This is also your second stab at taking Eden-Monaro; last year, you were narrowly defeated by Dr. Kelly. Are you confident of winning this time?*

**FK:** This is going to be a very difficult election. As you mentioned, a Government has not won a seat from the Opposition [in a by-election] for a hundred years.

But here is a very important choice for voters at this election – who is best to get the job done – to help us rebuild after fire, flood, the ongoing drought and COVID-19 – as part of the government – I know that I'd be that person.

***CT:*** *What has your campaign involved? What has the response been from the electorate?*

**FK:** Ahead of the last election I spent eight months travelling the electorate – and I haven't stopped – from Cobargo to Tumut, from Queanbeyan to Yass, from Bega to Bombala – listening to people across our community.

While COVID has meant that I can't knock on people's doors or have a physical town hall meeting, I've been able to do it virtually instead. So I've been able to respond when people call in or post questions on my Facebook page, and of course we're getting e-mails and calls.

People are asking me about a lot of very different things, and as you can imagine there are diverse views and issues across this electorate. However, the biggest issue that I've been hearing about is post-COVID recovery. People are thinking about their jobs, their family members and friends, and how the community as a whole can emerge from this unprecedented challenge.

If I'm elected as the Member for Eden-Monaro, this will be my top priority.

# On the trail to business recovery

Suzanne Gearing, Chair, Braidwood and V's Business Chamber

You may have noticed recent advertising of Braidwood as part of a Treasure Trail, which is a marketing concept created by QPRC, utilising funds provided by federal government to support the region after the fires. They also have a website (https://visitqueanbeyan-palerang.com.au/) that features this marketing and other region related tourism-based information.

So, as a business, how do you get included? The website and QPRC rely on your business being listed with Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW), which is a single national platform for tourism data. This site pushes the data out to the relevant region websites such as Tourism NSW, and to organisations such as QPRC.

Whilst getting listed on the site can be a relatively simple activity, we highly recommend you pay close attention to their photo requirements – the slightest variation outside of their criteria can create hours of frustration!

QPRC will be calling in to businesses to offer more information about the Treasure Trail itself, but it is very important that you list your business on the ATDW site in the interim so that your business is considered for inclusion in their promotions.

If you need help, the Chamber is running an online course for members to help walk you through it. Membership is free to June 30.

Further details are available via secretary@bavbc.com.au and we welcome your thoughts on the campaign.

# Restoring the system

Report from the Mulloon Institute newsletter

As well as the scientific monitoring work being done for the Mulloon Rehydration Initiative, work has continued on Controlled Activity Applications for the northern end of the catchment. Unfortunately, due to a shortage of logs following bushfires earlier this year we're still looking forward to finalising creek interventions on the 'Duralla' property at Mulloon Creek Natural Farms. Thankfully we've recently heard that forests are being reopened and have placed an order for more logs.

As it turns out we haven't actually been delayed that much as the creek has been flowing at a level that would have prevented in-stream works anyway.

The flowing creek has also given us an opportunity to study more recent works completed at Palerang and at the southern end of Duralla.

All of these structures have settled in very well, vegetation growth has been very good and the whole system is functioning just as designed.

The slowing of the creek flow is having a positive affect and at peak flows substantial parts of the floodplain have been rehydrated. Each intervention gets us another step closer towards fixing the whole catchment.



# A test of intelligence

Part 3 of story that might go on a bit by Paul Cockram

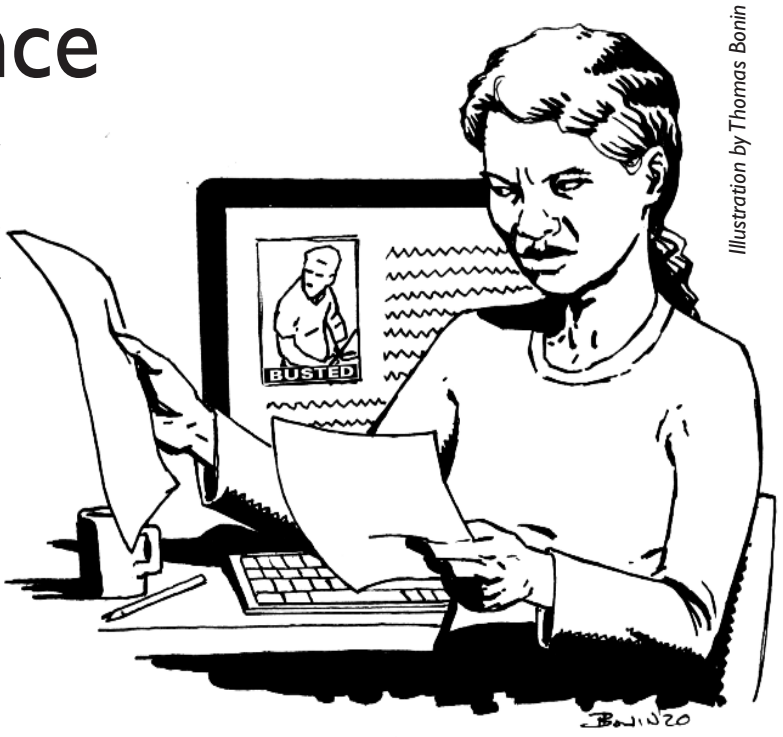



Illustration by Thomas Bonin

***Previously:*** *The powers-that-be are worried about Simon Saviour and his campaign against the fossil fuel industry and its supporters in government. His online activities are being investigated by the security services. Topics of concern are found in Simon's browser history and he has been brought in for questioning.*

So many of the search terms were obviously personal and related to his public life. But he saw how suspicious the highlighted entries, 'bombs' and 'undetectable pistols' seemed in the light of day. Had he searched for that? Maybe, in a moment of boredom or curiosity. Had someone else in his house typed the requests, one of his kids maybe, but then he realised what a nightmare it would be to drag them into it.

Simon Saviour's heart skipped a beat when he saw the search request for 'how to derail a train'. There was even an email exchange with a shadowy-sounding group and an arrangement to pay for and take delivery of plastic explosives.

That's not right, he cried. Inspector Forequarter remained impassive. So you admit this is your browser history and you admit to all the other entries, just not this one, is that it? We've expert analysis that shows everything checks out. Search dates, times and file modification dates all agree with the data found buried deep on your hard drive.

It came to Simon in a flash of understanding. It didn't matter if it was real or planted, it was going to be on the news that night and his political future was doomed. With only a few days to go to the election there was no way he could clear his name from the stain of such an accusation.

* * *

Kylie Integra was worried. Something was not right. She'd seen the sensational reports of Simon Saviour's spectacular fall from grace for possession of terrorist material. She'd read with concern about the released browser history linking him to the arms dealers. Kylie called up Simon Saviour's history on the screen and sure enough, there was the link to a site that promised to supply all the needs of the violent revolutionary. How had she missed that?

Wait a minute. When she printed the history for Tom Tremble the printer had run out of paper and when she refilled it, it had started from the beginning again. Where were those sheets? They should have been securely shredded but even spooks were green enough these days to keep scrap paper.

Yes, she'd kept them in the bottom drawer.

**Nervously wondering if she was doing the right thing Kylie Integra printed out the history page with the damning search request.**

She looked through her scrap collection and found the same page. Somehow a request to 'define anthropomorphic' had been replaced with, 'will 400 grams of Semtex blow rail tracks apart'. She sat in shock.

* * *

Harry Crutch answered the phone. We've got a problem said Tom Tremble.

So what are we going to do? Harry looked at Tremble. Well, he replied, Ms Integra has come to me to report discrepancies in our suspect Saviour's browser history. Integra is one of our brightest analysts and I would hate to lose her. This is a job for personnel. I'll give Felicity Filofax a call.

Kylie Integra sat at her desk in a nervous funk. Nothing in her induction training had prepared her the situation she now faced. Perhaps sending her concerns up the line had been a terrible mistake but of course her job precluded the option of talking things through with friends, even trusted ones.

The phone rang. Hi Kylie, it's Felicity here in personnel. Five minutes later the two women faced each other across the desk. Thanks for coming in Kylie. They tell me that you've been following less-than-optimum work practices.

Wait, cautioned Felicity holding up her hand. Before you say anything be aware that there is no such think as a small issue here — it's nothing or it's a doozy, you need to think carefully about where you want to be. And I don't mean in ten year's time, I mean tomorrow.

Kylie searched for warmth or camaraderie in the other woman's face and found none. What should I do? she asked. You are one of our best analysts, said Felicity. I advise you to return to your work and put this episode out of your mind.

But an injustice was done here, protested Kylie. Stop right there, demanded Felicity. This is not a conversation we are going to have here in my office. If you want to pursue that line it will not be with me but with other people, and I warn you Ms Integra, there will be no going back from where you'll find yourself then.

Look, she said, softening a tad, go back to your desk and get on with your work. Just think of life as swings and roundabouts. Right and wrong can sometimes swing and there are roundabout ways of dealing with it.

Kylie Integra went home that day profoundly unhappy. What's a girl to do? she asked herself.

*continued next BCT edition ...*

# What to do in the garden for June

Kate Chinnick and Jennie Marston

- Camelias are blooming so buy new plants now;
- Prune older Hydrangeas; remove older grey wood and reduce younger canes to a good pair of buds.
- Plant new deciduous trees, shrubs, roses and vines;
- Lift Dahlia tubers, divide and store in sawdust in dark dry area;
- Move houseplants away from heaters;
- Do not allow vegetable plants to dry out;
- Prune Pome fruits (Apple, Pear, Quinces etc.);
- Clean up fruit trees with a winter spray of pest oil or copper spray;
- Shred prunings and add to compost or mulch;
- Remove any broken or crossed branches from trees or shrubs, and
- Rake fallen leaves onto beds or compost — don't burn.

***For those missing their holidays and garden visits:***

- John and Margaret Tuckwell's visit to the Patio Festival in Córdoba, Spain.

If you are in Europe in mid-May, the Córdoba Patio Festival (La Fiesta de los Patios Cordobeses) must be on your bucket list. This festival celebrates the art of elaborately decorating courtyards with hundreds of colourful flowers and plants.

Due to a hot, dry climate, homes in Córdoba have been built with a central patio or courtyard since Roman days using plants and water features as a way to keep the homes cool. During the festival more than 50 private patios are open arranged in 6 or 7 main 'patio zones' each with a slightly different look and feel.

Since 1921 the patio competition has been run and in 2012 the festival became one of UNESCO's World Intangible Cultural Heritage Sites.

The patios are a floral paradise with the white walls of the homes filled with pots of brown, blue or green overflowing with a riotous feast of colourful flowers.

More details at:
http://www.andalucia.com/cities/cordoba/patios.htm.

EDEN-MONARO BY-ELECTION 2020

# Cathy Griff

## Press release for Greens candidate for Eden-Monaro

The Greens are proud to announce Cathy Griff, long-term resident of the rural hamlet of Tanja on the NSW Far South Coast, as our candidate for the upcoming Eden-Monaro by-election.

As a Bega Shire Councillor, Cathy has been at the forefront of progressive issues including the climate emergency declaration and affordable housing.

Tablelands, foothills and coastal communities in Eden-Monaro are still reeling from the combined impacts of the bushfires, sustained drought and the pandemic. Now a growing chorus of people are demanding immediate action on climate change and the creation of a fairer society.

"By voting 1 Greens, voters can send a strong message to Canberra, urging our politicians to find long-term solutions for the critical problems facing communities in urban, regional and rural areas. Solutions that The Greens have developed over many years and which culminate in the global Green New Deal recently launched in Australia by Adam Bandt," said Cathy.

"Labor and Liberal candidates are finally acknowledging the role of humans in changing the climate. Sadly, their connections with and donations from the fossil fuel industry mean that neither party is willing to do what science has stressed is essential for a safe future.

**At this critical juncture, we need leaders to map a new approach, while building upon the successful social service programs of the pandemic response.**

"The community requires a modern political party to confront the challenges we are experiencing at the individual, local, regional and federal levels. The Greens have plans to transition communities into new technology production and manufacturing. We must end extractive industries such as the wood-chipping of our native forests and instead, create secure employment opportunities in forest management and renewable energy for regional areas," Cathy concluded.

***Quotes from Adam Bandt MP:***

"I'm thrilled to announce Cathy Griff as our Greens candidate. Cathy has long been a passionate advocate for social justice, environment and the arts in the region, and has been influential since being elected to Bega Shire Council in 2016.

"Voters in Eden-Monaro are incredibly powerful in this by-election. By voting for Cathy Griff, people can send the government a message about urgent climate action and securing decent jobs.

"Eden-Monaro has suffered turmoil, with pandemic job losses hitting a community already devastated by the summer of bushfires. We need to make sure that our pandemic response doesn't just help the regions recover, but builds new industries that offer work to people across Eden-Monaro."

***Quotes from Greens Senator for NSW, Dr Mehreen Faruqi:***

"This by-election is an opportunity to challenge the Morrison government on its pathetic climate policies and its inadequate response to the bushfires.

*Cathy Griff*

"Let's insist the government 'retain the rate' by continuing elevated support for vulnerable Australians.

"I look forward to working with Cathy and the strong Greens campaigners in Eden-Monaro on a positive platform of equity, and action on the climate crisis," she said.

# Rural Births podcast

## By Elisa James

I gave birth to my son Shanley in April, 2019. While pregnant, I listened to lots of prenatal and postpartum podcast interviews, watched birth documentaries, films and televisions series, and read many pregnancy books.

However, although I was actively seeking and absorbing information, it mostly felt out of context. I would read something and think "that's not possible" or "we don't have that here". I needed to hear rural women's birth stories and while I'd found some, they weren't immediately visible. You had to dig.

It felt like rural birthing stories were inaccessible and I was mostly too nervous to ask other local women to tell me their stories. As yet it felt like we were predominantly strangers to one another.

We hadn't yet broken down the barriers, through smiles across playgrounds or whilst trolleying your baby from pillar to post to get the daily run done. They also looked so phenomenal as they strode through town, slung baby or with many kids in tow.

**I didn't know, being pregnant with my first, how I could dare to break that 'barrier' and strike up a conversation about the unknown, with people who were 'unknown'.**

And – that's ridiculous! We live in a rural community, it's almost like having this huge extended family, no one was going to say no – I could have asked, but I felt like I couldn't. It was me.

So, I created 'The Rural Births Podcast'. This podcast exists to provide a platform for sharing birth stories from rural Australian women.

I'm seeking to interview a range of rural women, locally and from other remote areas, to gather knowledge and understanding and discover how we can find the potential to overcome the inherent obstacles in distance maternity care.

The past closure of small hospital maternity units has changed the localised nature of rural birthing over time and led to women exploring alternatives, via distance or at home, for birthing their children. No one experience is the same and I'm discovering every rural centre has different hurdles, complications and benefits.

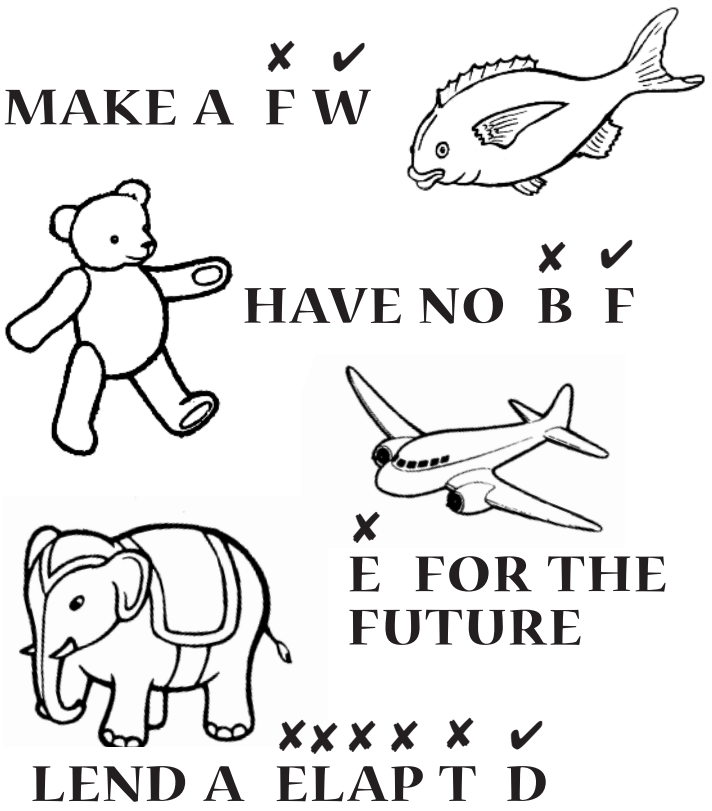
This library of rural birthing stories is growing. I currently have completed eight interviews (and the response has been great). Women are keen to share their stories, as they've experienced both these limitations and possibilities in their own rural births, and others are keen to listen and feel this sense of solidarity. So far, these interviews are predominantly from the Braidwood area but also include women from Mudgee, rural Queensland and Western Australia.

These are the stories I wished to hear. Rural women can be isolated from pre-pregnancy, pregnancy, birthing and postpartum care models available to women living in urban environments and city centres.

I hope rural women who are pregnant, planning to get pregnant or entering their postpartum period can feel supported and know that, although care may be via distance or different, there are options.

The Rural Births Podcast can be accessed via anchor.fm/rural-births and a variety of podcast listening platforms (including Apple podcasts and Spotify). You can keep up to date with new episodes and upcoming interviews via Instagram @rural_births If you would like to share your rural birthing story please contact Elisa James: ruralbirths@gmail.com

# Playtime Puzzles




**PUZZLE No. 1:**

USE the pictures above to make common phrases by taking out the letters marked with a cross and adding the letters ticked. Colour them in if you like.

**PUZZLE No. 2:**

REARRANGE the letters at right to reveal the name of a street in Braidwood that runs parallel to Wallace Street.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| E | T | G |
| I | R | N |
| N | O | L |

**PUZZLE No. 3: A spelling challenge. Fill in the blanks.**

_ H _ _ _ G H _ _ _ (a place to go)

_ _ R _ _ _ G _ _ N (a locality)

W _ R _ _ _ R _ D _ _ (camp spot)

B _ _ L _ L _ _ A (a locality)

**ANSWERS** to *'CHANGING TIMES'* #3 Playtime Puzzles.

PUZZLE No. 1: 1A TOWER, 2D WINDMILL, 3D REEL, 4A EASEL, 5D SUNSHADE, 6A CANOE, 7A LINKS, 8D SNEEZE, 9A TAILS, 10D SONG, 11A IMAGE, 12A MELON, 13A GEESE.

PUZZLE No. 2: The famous environmentalist is **GTHUNBERG**.

PUZZLE No. 3: KRISTY MCBAIN, **LASCELLES** STREET, **MONKITTEE** CREEK, **CURROCKBILLY** MOUNTAIN.

**MEA CULPA**, which is Latin for 'sorry I stuffed-up'. In the last paper the answer for GLADYS **BEREJIKLIAN** in Playtime Puzzle #3 from the previous *Changing Times* was wrong.

# Thanks, Jim!

## Well-deserved recognition for long community service

It's the end of an era for Jim Warman. Jim has been a member of NSW SES – Braidwood Unit for 20-plus years, joining in 1996. He has held many important positions in the unit throughout his time including Regional Chaplain, admin officer, planning officer and training officer.

Jim has been awarded the National medal, ACT Emergency Medal and the NSW SES Long Service Medal with clasp (20 Years). The SES and the entire Braidwood community wish him the best in his future endeavours and hope he enjoys his retirement from SES service.

# If you want a better deal, change your vote

EDEN-MONARO BY-ELECTION 2020

Geoff Davies wants us to get away from the same old tick

If you vote the same you'll get the same. Don't expect much to change if the old parties stay in power. The Coalition is good at promising but not so good at delivering. That's because they don't really believe in government services, they think you should fend for yourself. Labor, with its usual daring, is being Liberal Lite.

So don't expect much help with bushfire recovery. Don't expect much to be done to avert more catastrophes. Don't even expect much help if the virus killed your livelihood, if you vote for the same-old.

In this by-election there are some real choices, choices that can move us towards a better, fairer Australia – more like we used to be, actually. So now I'm going to suggest you step away from your old tribe and have a look at some new talent. Do you really have much to lose?

You need to know that the revolving door between the Coalition and the mining industry spins so fast the Coalition is the mining industry: MPs, ministers, senior staffers, according to independent journalist Michael West. That is why the Prime Minister appointed his gas industry mates to the National COVID-19 Coordination Commission, who promptly recommended gifting their industry billions of dollars of public money.

I'm sorry, but the Coalition is beyond corrupt: it has been captured by miners, the banks, military industries, gamblers and other special, rich, interests. Bob Menzies would be horrified by how his Liberal Party has been hijacked. Labor may not be quite captured, but it is corrupt, taking money from the wealthy and doing their bidding.

So don't expect them to make the landscape more fire-resistant, to make our towns more disaster-resilient, to phase out fossil fuels and bring on a clean, safe, prosperous new world. They are there to prolong the old destructive industries for as long as they can. Is that what you want?

If not then look at Karen Porter. She is associated with the New Liberals, not yet registered. Also look at the and The Greens, whose policies are constructive. If your response right now is, "Oh but I could never vote for ____", then look at the others.

But really, what do you know about any of them? Certainly don't believe anything you see in the right-wing media, who grossly distort the 'news' to suit their own selfish interests. And look for those who will bring us together, not those who will divide us.

So, the New Liberals are nothing like the present Liberals, but a bit more like the original Liberals. The Greens' policies, you may be astounded to learn, are also not that far from Menzies' policies, which included government investment, strong regulation of the banks, spending through recessions and a lot of other things that are supposed to be wicked.

It's a funny thing though, the economy did a lot better back in the fifties and sixties than it has lately. The truth is 'neoliberal' policies, featuring markets and selfishness, have never worked well, and they have given us high unemployment, huge debts, financial crises, serious inequality and social division.

**If you think a vote for an alternative would be wasted because they will never form government, think again. You can put one or more of the alternatives at the top, and still preference your usual tribe. That's what preferential voting is for.**

If the newbies scored, say, twenty five percent or more of the primary vote between them it would be a very clear signal to the old parties to clean up their act. Better would be to put one of the newbies in, because that would help to revitalise a very debased and corrupt Parliament, the heart of our democracy.

You do have power. If we change our vote the world will change.

Dr. Geoff Davies is a retired scientist living in Braidwood and the author of Desperately Seeking the Fair Go and The Little Green Economics Book; http://beternaturebooks.net.au

***INFORMATION SESSION FOR YOUNG JOB SEEKERS***

# Conservation Land Management and Horticulture Introduction Program

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Spark Ginninderry Training + Employment Initiative will be holding a virtual information session.

Spark in partnership with the Canberra Institute of Technology and the Ginninderry Conservation Trust are delivering an innovative training program focused on giving individuals accredited training within the Horticulture and Conservation Land Management sector.

This program will introduce participants to career options and the range of associated vocational pathways.

The information session will provide individuals with advice on eligibility criteria, program content and the commitment required to be selected as a participant on this program.

Specifically targeting people 17 years of age and over, this program will provide participants with eight accredited units of competency from the Conservation Land Management/Horticulture qualification.

These include:

- Operate specialised machinery and equipment
- Identify Plant Specimens
- Control Weeds
- Erect Timber Structures & Features
- Collect Native Seeds
- Maintain natural areas
- Implement revegetation works
- Undertake sampling and testing of water
- General Construction Induction Card (White Card)
- Asbestos Awareness Card.

This program is made possible through Skilled Capital. Skilled Capital is an ACT Government training initiative, funded by the ACT and Australian Governments. Program eligibility and subsidy criteria apply. If these are met there will be limited costs to participants.

Commencing 27th July 2020, this 17 week program will run four days per week (Mon–Thursday, 24 hours per week) and be a combination of practical hands on learning, theory and potential industry work experience placements. Please note the program will be delivered at 2 locations – CIT Bruce (Tues–Thur) and Ginninderry (Mon).

If you are interested in applying for a place on this program, please complete the online SPARK registration form on the link below:

www.ginninderry.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/GIN_52741_SPARK_Fillable_Registration_Form_03-1.pdf

For any further enquiries about this program, please contact Ashleigh at Ginninderry on 1800 316 900 or ashleigh@ginninderry.com

# NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### St Bede's Catholic Parish News

As announced last Friday 29th May the easing of restrictions on social gatherings has meant that St Bede's Parish will be able to resume Masses. We have decided to commence on 13 June at 6.00pm, the Feast of Corpus Christi – an appropriate day as we have been unable to celebrate the Eucharist for so long.

Social distancing, hygiene requirements and recording attendance procedures will have to be observed. We are limited to 50 attendees, which is our usual attendance. We will need to observe the social distancing regulation, but remember that families may still sit together.

### Reflection on the Trinity

In last week's Gospel reading, we heard the story of Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit to the early disciples and how they formed a loving, caring and forgiving community. This week we celebrate the Trinity; the three Divine Persons in union as one. Let's us not get confused. It is not mathematics but theology, a theology of love.

God's love is without limit; love without prejudice; love without return. Love is something that gives of itself. A man's and woman's love for each other is a nurturing life giving gift. The nature of love is mutual sharing. There is more to love than mutuality. There is creativity. When a man and a woman love each other, one expression of that love is the creation of new life.

So too there is mutuality in the relationship in the Trinity between the Father and the Son. They share their mutual infinite love with each other and it finds its completion with sharing with another who loves them in return, the Holy Spirit. So all three are one.

The book of Genesis reminds us that we are created in God's image. Therefore there must be something about us that parallels the mystery of the Trinity. As God's love overflows by God's presence within us, our love must also flow out to others. We must live as a fully committed human being reflecting the loving Trinity within us.

I came that you may have life and have it to the full. John 10:10.

### Uniting Church

The Church has just marked Trinity Sunday, when it celebrates the Christian doctrine of the three persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Our one God is made up of three persons: the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This Christian doctrine of three-in-one is a divine mystery that can really mess with our finite thinking. I found one clever description: The Father is God above all. Jesus is God come to us in human flesh. Holy Spirit is God in us, in Spirit. However, three persons being one is still a puzzling concept. I wonder if Apostle Paul was thinking about the Trinity when he said, "Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely." (1 Corinthians 13:12) Well that is a relief: Mystery is ok. I don't have to understand it all, but it is delightful that God understands me and I am fully known by the God of love. So with Paul I say to you this week, "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." (2 Corinthians 13:14) Amen. Blessings from Dr Julie Fletcher and the congregation of Braidwood Uniting Church. Thank you for your generous support of our Op Shop in the past. At present we cannot take any donations as we have no storage. Please hold your donations until we can reopen the doors.

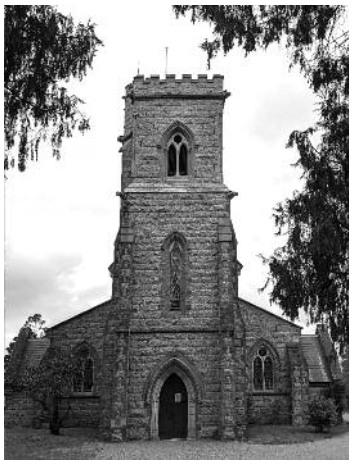
**drjuliefletcher@gmail.com**
**48422568**

### Anglican Parish of Braidwood

THE MANY ROADS OF LIFE

***Great Truths that Little Children have learned:***

1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
2) When your Mum is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.



8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

One of the most prominent themes of scripture is to trust in God, especially in times when it becomes difficult to do so.

Jesus told us that we are to try to maintain the childlike trust and faith that children have but sadly grow out of.

While we will experience unexpected hardships in our lives, it is crucial for our spiritual health that we continue trusting God.

Trust in God and his purposes is what makes life interesting and bearable. Although not an easy feat, to trust in God could save you from an irredeemable decision you may make in anger or sadness that could ruin your life.

Knowing that God is with us through all that is happening in us, to us and around us is the basis of our faith and the core of the message of Easter. Jesus has risen and is with us always.

Remain calm! Wash your hands!

If you're reading this the world has NOT ended, Alleluia.

**Parish Scribbler**

*[Above] Donna Kuhn, Di Freeman and Robin Tennant-Wood finishing their round in the championships.; [At right] Michael Toirkens and Debbie Ferguson. Photos by Kathy Toirkens.*

# Golf championships conclude

Robin Tennant-Wood

The Braidwood Golf Club Championships concluded after three rounds on May 30 with Michael Toirkens and Deb Ferguson taking out the Men's and Women's championships.

Toirkens led for all three three rounds, while in the women's championship Jackie Clark held a good lead after two rounds but unfortunately had to withdraw from the final round due to injury, allowing Ferguson to capitalise with a good final round.

Rodney Royds took out the Men's B Grade championship.

The Nett champions were: Mark Newman (Men's A Grade), Don Burke (Men's B Grade) and Robin Tennant Wood (Women's).

*Nelson Sargent lines up.*

***Championship scores at the cend of the competition***

**A Grade Gross Order**
Michael Toirkens - 238
Mark Newman - 251
Brendan Sly - 252
Nick Fry - 266
John Stahel - 268
Nelson Sargent - 274
Rod Coady - 289
Steve Cansell - 291
Keith Ferguson - 292
Simon Briggs - DNF

**A Grade Nett Order**
Mark Newman - 212
Nelson Sargent - 220
John Stahel - 223
Nick Fry - 227
Michael Toirkens - 229
Brendan Sly - 237
Keith Ferguson - 238
Steve Cansell - 240
Rod Coady - 244
Simon Briggs – DNF

**B Grade Gross Order**
Rod Royds - 284
Ted Emmett - 286
David Jones - 296
Don Burke - 296
Leigh Curtis - 305
Roger Hovey - 307
Michael Fitzgerald - 308
Tom Duffy - 329

**B Grade Nett Order**
Don Burke - 218
Rod Royds - 227
Ted Emmett - 229
Michael Fitzgerald - 230
David Jones - 233
Leigh Curtis - 242
Roger Hovey - 244
Tom Duffy – 254

**Women's Gross Order**
Deb Ferguson 286
Virginia Groot Obbink 301
Robin Tennant Wood 313
Donna Kuhn 314
Margy Gardner 321
Di Freeman 329

**Women's Nett Order**
Robin Tennant Wood 217
Deb Ferguson 226
Di Freeman 230
Virginia Groot Obbink 232
Donna Kuhn 239
Margy Gardner 240

Send news, views, tips, letters to the editor and any local stories to: **times@bwdmag.com.au**

## HORRORSCOPE

**Thesaurus**
You might need to retrain or even restrain your circadian rhythm this month. That is of course any biological process that displays an endogenous, entrainable oscillation of about 24 hours. The time of going to work in pee-jays is drawing to a close.

**Gimme**
Not that long ago you knew that if a press release or other blurb contained the term 'robust', it was bound to be bulldust. The new term of obfuscation is 'reaching out' which means simply giving out basic information but in a new-age touchy-feely way.

**Canker**
Do you hanker for the good old days when Donald was a duck and quackpot ideas were the stuff of fun and games rather than western civilisation taking the world out as we now predict?

**Lost**
And with elections and stuff in the air it's time to trot out the high-speed train again. It's a miracle how it could get from Sydney to Melbourne in three hours and do much for the regions except to bisect them. You might 'dwell' on how often the train could stop at places along the way and still be fast.

**Virtue**
And of course as a cosmic wag once said, "I support the Very Fast Train but I'd settle for a Fairly Fast Train if the bloody thing turned up in my lifetime".

**Liberal**
Remember the day you opened that innocuous-looking letter from Centrelink and fell back clutching your heart? Silly you. It was all just a misunderstanding. Perfidious is a better definition of those letters but don't hold your breath for anyone to apologise.

**Pieces**
If you can't sleep these days it might be from too much formication during the night. Assonance comes into play to make it less like the earth moved under you and more like your skin moved with something under it.

**Scorporation**
You might be suffering from gas this week. Chevron certainly is at its Gorgon LNG gas field in the Pilbara. In fact half of our increased $CO^2$ emissions, as much as our domestic jets spew out in a year, comes from the Gorgon gas factory.

**Sagginpuss**
But don't you worry says Chevron. Some day or other we're going to inject all this poisonous gas into the seabed as soon as our boffins can assure us with a straight face that it is actually possible.

**Aquatic**
Then of course sometime in the future some pimply entrepreneur will surely work out how to bottle sparkling seawater once the fish have no further use for it.

**Hairy**
Ha, ha and all that, but really it's not at all funny how much environmental damage is occurring on our watch.

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