BRAIDWOOD'S
Changing Times

Issue #67 — $2.00

Wednesday, November 30 2022

COMING WEATHER

Temp	Min	Max	Chance rain
We:	8°	22°	10%
Th:	8°	19°	25%
Fr:	9°	18°	50%
Sat:	8°	24°	5%
Sun:	10°	27°	0%
Mon	11°	25°	25%
Tue:	11°	23°	35%

QPRC General Manager Rebecca Ryan and Mayor Kenrick Winchester with Sarah Leheny, Sue Murray and David Anthony, Braidwood Community Association.

Rate rise headlines BCA meeting

Robin Tennant Wood

QPRC mayor, Kenrick Winchester and General Manager, Rebecca Ryan, attended the Braidwood Community Association meeting on Tuesday night to answer questions of residents regarding the proposed rate rise.

Ms Ryan explained that council's revenue over the past several years has been limited by the New South Wales government's rate pegging. This has not enabled council's revenue to keep pace with increased expenditure.

"The merger between Queanbeyan and Palerang councils brought benefits, but also limitations," Ms Ryan said. This has resulted in an ongoing operations deficit.

Ms Ryan fielded questions from the floor on subjects ranging from footpaths (they will need to be grant-funded) to potential revenue from renting council buildings (this is an option council is considering) and no topic was off limits.

The bottom line for QPRC residents, however, is that in order for council to maintain its current level of service, including improvement to facilities, there will need to be a rate hike.

QPRC has informed the Independent Pricing and Revenue Tribunal (IPART) that it intends to lodge an application for a standard rates variation in 2023. The option that Ms Ryan will be putting to council for approval is a three-year variation of 28% in year one, 25% in year two and 23% in year three. This will put QPRC's financial position back where it needs to be in order to maintain the services expected of a regional council without it off-loading assets or cutting services.

Ms Ryan and Mayor Winchester were thanked for their time and for coming to Braidwood to speak with residents.

See page 15 for details about how to make a submission in support of your preferred option.

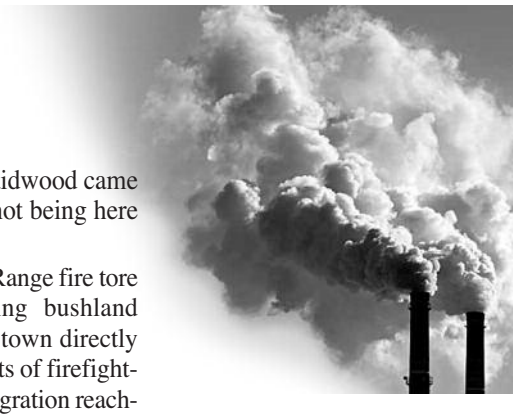
ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Last call for babies born this year ...

... don't let your parents or carers forget to send a photo of you, your name and birthday and their names to *Braidwood's Changing Times* to be included in the "New Faces of 2022" feature in December. [times@bwdmag.com.au]

EDITORIAL Robin Tennant-Wood

Up in smoke



Three years ago Braidwood came perilously close to not being here anymore.

The North Black Range fire tore eastwards consuming bushland and farms with this town directly in its path. The efforts of firefighters to stop the conflagration reaching town that night have entered the annals of not just local history, but the history of that summer.

Three years later and we now find ourselves threatened by another fire, this time one with more far-reaching implications for our long-term health and that of our region's future.

A bit of background: in the late 1990s, when the Woodlawn open-cut mine at Tarago ceased operation, waste management giant, Collex, applied to the state government to buy the site and turn it into a landfill. It was proposed that 400,000 tonnes per annum of waste from Sydney's north would be transported by train to the railhead at Tarago, transferred to trucks and then taken to the pit and dumped. What, after all, does one do with a big hole in the ground but fill it with garbage?

Numerous objections to the plan were upheld by the Land and Environment Court until the state government, via a bill introduced by then Member for Monaro, Steve Whan, rushed through law literally overnight and without consultation, passing the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001, giving Collex the green light to proceed.

Collex (later Veolia who bought out Collex), trumpeted their environmental credentials, using the prefix 'eco' wherever possible and talking up their windfarm, aquaculture and mine rehabilitation projects. Their promotional material fairly hummed with words like sustainability, environment, corporate social responsibility and waste minimisation*.

The bottom line, however, has always been that Woodlawn is a giant landfill and landfills are not sustainable.

> One of the fundamental truths of waste is that the rich dump on the poor.

Landfills are never built in affluent areas. Low socio-economic or rural areas are prime targets for the disposal of waste from the areas of prime real estate and high salaries.

When Collex first proposed the Woodlawn project they essentially bought off the Tarago community by throwing money into local projects and to this day the Veolia Mulwarree Trust funds community projects around the region. But money can't buy our long-term health, and the Tarago community and the entire region, are now looking down the barrel of the next phase of disposal of Sydney's waste: a giant incinerator.

The project, veiled as always in the language of sustainability, is called 'waste-to-energy'. In reality it is simply burning all the stuff that will no longer fit into the big hole.

We survived 74 days of smoke over the summer of 2019-20. But the skies cleared once the fires went out. If allowed to proceed, this new fire will not be going out. It is proposed to burn 24/7 for 25 years, emitting toxic plumes that will, on the prevailing north-westerly wind, reach Braidwood.

The current Member for Monaro will be facing an election in four months. It is hoped that she will do what neither of her two predecessors have done and put the health and safety of her electorate before the profits of Big Waste and the political clout of Sydney councils and oppose this threat to our region's future.

*any waste company that claims it is minimising waste is lying – there's no profit to be made in minimising their key product.

AIRING OF THE QUILTS 2022

Aisles and aisles of quilts at the National Theatre.

Braidwood's Big Weekend

Robin Tennant Wood

After a three-year hiatus Braidwood's Airing of the Quilts and associated festival was back last weekend.

The Quilt exhibition was officially opened on Friday night at the National Theatre by Braidwood Community Association President, Sue Murray. Organiser of the event, Margaret Tuckwell, believes that the exhibition this year featured the largest number of quilts in the history of the event.

In opening the event Ms Murray said that there is an indication "that life might be getting back to normal as a community, doing and talking about things other than just responding to disaster."

Ms Tuckwell gave credit to local resident and quilter, Ann Robinson, without whose organisational skills the indoor exhibition wouldn't have happened.

Quilts came from near and far, Braidwood, Majors Creek, Bombay, Araluen, Bungendore, Queanbeyan, Royalla, Canberra,

Wombat Bill played of course.

Gundaroo, Charlestown, Oberon, South Coast, Narrawallee, Bulli and Glen Iris in Victoria.

There was a wide range of quilt categories from Traditional, Applique, Modern, Art, Hand Stitched, Machine Stitched, Machine Quilted with every colour imaginable.

The highlight of the weekend for Ms Tuckwell was seeing so many quilts on display in the National Theatre with so many visitors enjoying the exhibition. She would have liked to have seen, perhaps, a few more quilts in the outdoor display, but with the cost of making a quilt and the work involved, she said that people are reluctant to hang these beautiful works out in the sun.

Thanks are extended to the Braidwood Community Bank, Dargues Mine, the NSW Government's Reconnecting Regional NSW Community Events Program and QPRC for their sponsorship, as well as Bronwyn Hill from the Braidwood Quilt Store, Braidwood Apex, Redbacks Rugby Team, Lions Club, National Theatre Committee, Braidwood and Villages Business Chamber, all the Quilters within our community and their families, the businesses and homes on Wallace Street who hung quilts and QPRC staff who hung quilts from the Literary Institute both days.

The winners were:

Youth 12-16 –

❑ No 61 'Over the Rainbow' - Claudia Gardiner aged 12 (Queanbeyan) $150

Best Hand Quilted

❑ No 14 – 'Lockdown Lucy' - Jenny Cook (Canberra) $500

Best Machine Quilted

❑ No 67 – 'Disorder' Michelle Law (Canberra) $500

Best Use of Colour

❑ No 7 Karen Gibbs 'My Covid Village' (Royalla) $250 Donation by Dargues Mine

Miners Choice

❑ No 11 Clementine O'Sullivan 'Mad Hatters Tea Party' (Canberra) $250 Donation by Dargues Mine

Best Quilt in Show

❑ No 66 – Jennifer Gibson 'Kokeshi' (Narrawallee) $750

Community Bank Choice Award

❑ No 68 – Judith Crispin 'My Hexi Flowers' (Queanbeyan) $300

Viewers Choice In-Doors –

❑ Jennifer Gibson 'Kokeshi' (Narrawallee) $150

Viewers Choice Out-Doors –

❑ Ann Robinson 'Rose Garden' (Braidwood) $150

The In-door Raffle was won by Kaye Jamieson from Bonnet Bay, Southern Sydney

Not just quilts

While the focus of the weekend was the Airing of the Quilts, there was much more on offer for visitors and locals alike.

The Ryrie Park markets started early and by 9.00am were in full swing. The Braidwood Garlic Growers were selling new season locally grown garlic on the corner outside Concept Café while on the opposite corner the Gundillion Hall ladies were selling their traditional Christmas puddings.

Businesses reported increased trade with visitors from Canberra in large numbers. Bronwyn from the Quilt Shop had organised a car club and a motorcycle club to come out as well.

Bronwyn Hill and Margaret Tuckwell with reps from Dargues Mine.

Mobile coverage across Eden-Monaro to improve

From the Office of Kristy McBainn

The Federal Government is seeking local feedback on new guidelines that will drive investment to address poor mobile coverage in Carwoola, Talbingo, Wee Jasper, Dalmeny, Mystery Bay, Majors Creek, and along the Kings Highway, Monaro Highway, Snowy Mountains Highway and the Princes Highway between Batemans Bay and Eden.

Feedback from industry and the community will help inform the Grant Opportunity Guidelines for the $40 million Improving Mobile Coverage Round (IMCR) of the Mobile Black Spot Program (MBSP).

Member for Eden-Monaro and Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Kristy McBain, said "I'm pleased to see the Government is getting on with the job of improving mobile coverage across Eden-Monaro.

"We all know how important it is to have reliable mobile phone coverage along our key transport routes, particularly during emergencies or natural disasters.

"Local feedback on this program will make sure our community's views are heard and we get the best possible outcome for families and small businesses.

"I strongly encourage locals to participate in the public consultation process, and look forward to working closely with residents to deliver the reliable mobile coverage they rightly deserve.

This initiative, announced in the 2022-23 Federal Budget, will help deliver on the Government's 2022 Federal Election commitment to improve mobile connectivity across regional Australia.

The IMCR will provide grant funding to Mobile Network Operators and Infrastructure Providers to address identified mobile coverage and quality of service issues in 54 target locations.

In addition to regional communities, this dedicated round of the MBSP is targeting mobile coverage issues along a number of regional roads and highways to ensure travellers have access to essential mobile services in the event of an emergency.

Communications Minister, Michelle Rowland confirmed that the government's Better Connectivity Plan for Regional and Rural Australia delivers on commitments to improve the digital quality-of-life and bridge the digital divide for Australians. The Budget also contains $400m to expand mobile coverage and boost communications resilience, and the Department expects to begin consultations on these next year.

"This new funding address known mobile communications issues at 54 target locations, including several across Eden-Monaro. I strongly encourage industry and local residents in Eden-Monaro to contribute their feedback on the guidelines for this important program."

The IMCR complements the Government's $2.2 billion investment in regional telecommunications over the next five years through the Better Connectivity Plan for Regional and Rural Australia. The Plan commits a further $1.1 billion to regional communication, including $656 million in new measures which will deliver on pre-election commitments. Other measures include:

$400 million to improve coverage along regional highways, roads and in underserved communities.

$200 million for additional rounds of the Regional Connectivity Program to fund a broad range of place-based communications solutions;

$30 million to expand on-farm connectivity and drive productivity through machine to machine networks;

$20 million to complete an independent audit of mobile coverage to identify black spots, and;

$6 million to extend the Regional Tech Hub which provides expert advice to regional customers on how to connect and stay connected.

Seasonal fire outlook:

Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council

The Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC) has released their Fire Outlook for the coming season.

Much of Australia has experienced above average winter rainfall and this is expected to persist for many regions throughout spring, contributing to varied levels of fire potential across the country.

Parts of Central Australia and northern WA show above normal fire potential due to higher than average vegetation fuel loads following significant rainfalls. These fuel loads are either fully cured or expected to cure with predicted warmer and drier seasonal conditions.

Areas across Victoria, NSW and the ACT show below normal fire potential due to recent and persisting rainfall expected through spring, as well as low fuel loads in regions recovering from the 2019-20 bushfire season.

While most of Australia shows normal fire potential during the spring outlook period, anyone living and working in these areas needs to be vigilant. Destructive

and deadly fires can still occur during normal bushfire seasons across Australia.

For the first time, the Seasonal Bushfire Outlook is utilising model guidance using the new Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS).

Launched on 1 September 2022, The AFDRS improves the science that sits behind fire danger rating modelling. A better understanding of how different fuel types burn and improvements in technology means we can more accurately predict the risk faced by communities on any given day.

Seasonal fire conditions depend on many factors such as the amount and type of fuel (vegetation) and how dry that fuel is. These factors are in turn influenced by recent rainfall, temperatures and soil moisture.

It has been wet over much of the north and east of Australia, with above average rainfall between May and July this year. Some areas in eastern Queensland have received record rainfall totals that were unusual for the northern dry season. During the same period, central Australia received close to average rainfall while much of southern Australia and the far Top End of the NT saw below average rainfall. January to July rainfall saw below average rainfall in northern parts of the NT, southern WA, western Tasmania and southeast SA into western Victoria.

Australia's recent climate has been influenced by the 2021-2022 La Niña, and warm waters to the north of Australia, which have contributed to increased rainfall over parts of northern and eastern Australia. A negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event became established in late July 2022, contributing to the above average rainfall seen in northwest WA. The Southern Annular Mode (SAM) index was neutral to positive during July, which, while positive, has influenced the drier conditions in the far southwest and parts of the southeast of the country.

Community shows its heart

Braidwood FM is proud to be launching an original six part podcast series titled *HEART OF THE STORM,* documenting our community's experience of the Black Summer.

Told entirely by local voices, the stories in the series illuminate the true grit and community spirit of those in our region. *HEART OF THE STORM* will be launched at a community event at the Braidwood National Theatre on Saturday 3rd of December, at which Braidwood FM will broadcast Episode 1 with a live introduction.

This first episode, 'THE MARCH TO TOWN', tells the story of the night of the 29th of November 2019 when Braidwood township was threatened by the Black Range Fire for the first time. Danny King, Braidwood RFS Senior Deputy Captain, and contributor to the project, says: "It is important it is recorded to show how a community can come together to stand and fight for a common cause and to support each other under extremely challenging circumstances. It certainly demonstrated the resilience of the local and broader community."

150 members of our community have been interviewed for the project, and these voices have been woven into six half-hour audio documentaries, which will be broadcast on Braidwood FM over summer.

"It has been an honour to sit with so many locals and listen to their memories," says Clare Young, creator of the series. "What shines through is the power in community — when disaster strikes humanity rises up — I find that very moving".

"Braidwood FM became a lifeline for our community through the Black Summer" says Rose Ricketson, producer and Braidwood resident. "Working alongside Gordon and the team at Braidwood FM to produce this project has been a joy, and gives me immense respect for the volunteer efforts that keep rural communities thriving."

Roger Hoskins, a contributor to the project and local weather expert, has tracked a 3-degree increase in average temperature over the past 35 years in Braidwood. If this trend continues, this will have significant impact on our local environment and increase fire risk.

As summed up in the final episode of the series, 'BRAIDWOOD 2040', local young Braidwood resident says: "I hope we remember as a community what we went through, and that we grow from it and learn from it, and nothing like this ever happens again."

HEART OF THE STORM was proudly supported by Braidwood FM, Braidwood Community Bank, Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council, and the Braidwood Help Fund.

For episode trailers and updates, you can follow *HEART OF THE STORM* on Facebook.

If you would like to attend the podcast launch event, to reserve tickets please email:

heartofthestorm@braidwoodradio.com.au

The Kings — Laura, Catherine and Danny.

BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY RADIO

SMS Line 0419 722 578

Program Guide

Monday
5:00am – Good Morning Country
7:00am – Martin's Morning Mix
11:00am - Space Nuts (Space News)
1:00pm – Flashback Featured Artist with Rob
4:00pm – Book Reading with Rod
5:00pm – The Andy Show
7:00pm - Hot Topics with Bill Waterhouse
9:00pm – Aussie Music Weekly

Tuesday
5:00am – Good Morning Country
7:00am - The Andy Breakfast Show
10:00am - 1st Tue of Month - Our Farm with Frank
11:00am - Tuesday Eclectic Music Mix with Gavin
2:00pm - A Breath Of Fresh Air
3:00pm – Bunkum, Faves & Raves with Rod,Bill & Vera
6.30pm – Real World Gardener
7:00pm – Crap from the past
9:30pm - Hot Sweet & Jazzy

Wednesday
5:00am – Good Morning Country
7:00am – Martin's Morning Mix
1:00pm - Flashback With Rob
3.00pm - The Conga Line with Billy Bob
6:00pm – Woodsongs Old Time Radio
7:00pm – Magic Carpet Ride with Cool Bill
9:00pm - An Audience with the Pope

Thursday
5:00am – Good Morning Country
7:00am - Billy Bob at Breakfast
10:00am – From the Archives with Gavin
3:00pm – The Hot 30
8:00pm – 80's Pop Playlist with Rob

Friday
5:00am – Good Morning Country
7:00am - Martin's Morning Mix
11:00am - The Chill (90's to now)
1:00pm - Step Back in Time (Pop Culture)
3:00pm – The Greenhouse with Violet
5:00pm - The Atomic Countdown

Saturday
9:00am – Mornings with Gavin & Roger
12:00 – Paul's Powerzone
1:00pm – A bit of this and that with Gavin
4:00pm – Blues in the Afternoon with Gavin
6:00pm – Saturday Night Gold

Sunday
8:00am - Exploring the Classics with Barbara
10:00am - Jazz on Sunday with Gavin
3:00pm – Birds on a Wireless with Julie & Vera
6:00pm - Combined Church Service of Braidwood
7:00pm - The Mechie Show (Prog Rock)
9:00pm - Bluesbeat

For a full listing go to braidwoodradio.com.au

FROM THE QPRC MAYOR'S DESK


Kenrick Winchester QPRC mayor.

At last week's meeting, Council endorsed the draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2022-2032 and three proposed Special Rate Variation scenarios for community consultation.

There are many factors that have led us to the point of needing to apply for a rate rise and although we don't want to reduce staff, cut services, close pools or reduce our maintenance budgets, these are real options we will have to consider unless we do something about the income we receive now.

We know that this issue will affect everyone in our community and we want to hear your thoughts on the three proposed rate rise scenarios. Following community consultation, Council will determine an application about a rate variation in February. To have your say on the proposed scenarios until 31 January 2023, visit qprc.nsw.gov.au/srv

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Council has agreed to establish a s355 committee to manage the Braidwood Common. Establishing this committee will help with access and sustainable use of the land by the Braidwood community and visitors to the region. We are excited to work with the Braidwood Common s355 committee once it is set up to bring their ideas for the future of the land to life.

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We have prepared a draft Affordable Housing Strategy that will be open for comment until the end of February 2023. The draft Affordable Housing Strategy offers 17 potential strategies that range from 'interventionalist' to more 'market led' options that can help us address the community's housing affordability concerns. This strategy has been developed to help us start the conversation around housing affordability with the community and I look forward to hearing your feedback. To read the strategy and have your say, visit yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

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The General Manager Rebecca Ryan and I met with the ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr in September and agreed on our revised ACT-QPRC Statement of Intent. The revised Statement of Intent and Work Plan have been updated to reflect current priority areas, projects and cross border services that require collaboration between local government and ACT jurisdictions. We have a strong history of working with the ACT to develop and deliver policies, projects and infrastructure that benefit our communities and we look forward to continuing to do so. I will be forwarding my approval of the revised statement to the ACT Cabinet in December, with any minor changes to be endorsed by the Chief Minister.

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Our community Christmas parties are coming up in December. Get your friends and family together and come and celebrate the silly season with us in Braidwood at Ryrie Park on Friday 2 December at 5pm, Bungendore at Mick Sherd Oval on Saturday 3 December from 4pm, and Queanbeyan on Crawford Street on Saturday 10 December from 5pm. Each event will have delicious food and drinks, free family activities and live entertainment.

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The Treasure Trail's Shop & Win promotion is on! Spend $20 at any participating business in Braidwood or Bungendore for your chance to win from each town's $10,000 prize pool. You can enter as many times as you like to go in the draw to win one of the weekly $500 draws or the major prize of $5000. To learn more, head to visitqueanbeyan-palerang.com.au/win/

And for Braidwood ...

Lascelles Street Upgrades – work is underway and despite wet weather delays the project is expected to be complete by February 2023.

Skatepark Construction – construction has begun and is expected to be complete early 2023

Renewal of 88 Wallace Street, the D&S Motors site – an artist's sketch has been prepared and consultation on the required functions of the site will begin soon.

LETTERS

Help needed for the January Book Fair

A plea from a helper of the Braidwood Book Fair to all booklovers out there:-

I have been helping with the book fair for a few years now. I love sorting books which we are doing now for the fair in January. There is such a lot of work that goes into this fundraising event.

The work goes on nearly all year, as boxes/bags of books are donated all year round, so every year an amazing amount of work goes on behind the scene before the doors open in January and June long weekends. January being a long haul for all who put this event together.

This event raises an extraordinary amount of funds which is shared between community groups. The Pre-School and Braidwood Life Centre are just 2 of them. People come from all over the district including many passing through. It is said to be the second largest after Canberra's Book Fair.

But – there is a large but. We need volunteers to help with the pre-sorting, the setting up and with the running of the event over the 10 days and especially the cleaning up at the end. For some community groups this could be the only fundraising needed for the year, just to be dedicated for the two Book-Fairs. We need people over all the days we are open to sort books, keep the tables tidy, and take the money (mostly card/some cash).

Please think about this – The Anglican Church People have made this event so well known it would be a shame to have to shorten the length of time the event is open due to people wearing out. Fresh faces are most welcome especially if you love books. During the event there is a roster organised, lunches are provided, some take a rest and chat to friends new and old.

Please contact by email: braidwoodbookfair@gmail.com

Sandra Hand
Majors Creek

THE FUTURE OF SNACK FOOD:

Good for waist, good for waste

CSIRO Media

A new healthy vegetable snack, drawing on innovation from Australia's national science agency CSIRO together with start-up Nutri V, will see food waste reduced and support farmers to be more sustainable.

The product, Nutri V Goodie snacks, which will hit Coles supermarket shelves nationally this month, contains broccoli, pumpkin and cauliflower, which can't be sold and would otherwise have gone to waste, often as landfill or animal feed.

Raquel Said, CEO of Nutri V, explained that the company was born from a farming business with a passion for innovation and sustainability.

"Part of growing veggies can involve ending up with tonnes that don't meet specification or there's an oversupply and there's stalks and leaves, yet it's all still perfectly nutritious," Ms Said explained.

"We wanted to create a business to upcycle that waste into a sustainable yet delicious solution, which is what we've done with the Nutri V vegetable powders, a star ingredient in Nutri V Goodie snacks," she said.

"We see this as vegetables reimagined, no fork required, and we think it's the future of helping Australians top up their veggie consumption while supporting farmers reduce waste."

The Nutri V Goodies have two serves of vegetables in every pack and are a convenient option for people to increase their intake.

They have a higher vegetable content and health star rating than many other snack foods on the market.

CSIRO's director of Agriculture and Food Dr Michael Robertson said vegetable-rich food innovation such as Nutri V helps farmers add real value to their businesses, while supporting sustainability in the agrifood sector.

"With CSIRO's unique expertise and our world-class food research facilities, we can support the creation of healthy concept products and in the case of Nutri V, developing an innovative scaled process to take it to market," Dr Robertson said.

"This partnership with a business at the forefront of agricultural production is a terrific example of how research can work with industry for the benefit of Australia."

Coles Chief Executive of Commercial and Express Leah Weckert said they were proud to work alongside partners to develop an innovative product that supports Coles' sustainability ambitions and makes it easier for Australians to increase their vegetable consumption.

Nutri V's first processing module is located on the farm of their parent company, Fresh Select, one of Australia's biggest brassica growers. The veggies are picked and sorted in the mornings, then washed, dried into powders and turned into the snacks by the afternoon.

It's a system Nutri V hopes to take to other vegetable growing areas in Australia to help them tackle their food waste as well.

CSIRO and Nutri V are also working together on a suite of veggie-based innovations using other CSIRO technologies.

CSIRO's Kick-Start program, Aussie vegetable growers through Hort Innovation, and Sustainability Victoria all supported earlier stages of this work.

Fast facts

- Less than 10 per cent of Australian adults eat their recommended 5 serves of veg a day
- On average, 2-3 in every 10 vegetable plants planted on-farm are wasted. The amount of food that's lost, or what is left behind in the field such as leaves and stalks, hasn't been measured.
- Nutri V's mission is to see 100% crop yield used and all non-retail produce converted into nutritious ingredients and foods.
- According to the Australian Dietary Guidelines, the standard Australian serve of vegetables is around ½ cup of cooked vegetables, which is equivalent to 7.5g of Nutri V vegetable powder.

Rural Aid's Mates Day supporting flooded farmers

Rural Aid Media

Australia's most trusted rural charity is hoping to raise $2.4 million dollars today, to help even more primary producers as they battle extreme natural disasters.

Australians are being urged to 'Give our mates a hand' on November 23 as part of Rural Aid's annual giving day, Mates Day.

Rural Aid CEO John Warlters said there's no better time to help our farmers, as thousands of primary producers grapple with relentless, life-changing floods.

> "It doesn't get any tougher than what our farmers are experiencing with these devastating, widespread floods in large parts of New South Wales and Victoria," Mr Warlters said.

"Right now, half the farmers registered with Rural Aid are in these flood-impacted communities. South Australian communities are bracing for the worst, as gigalitres of water move down the Murray River."

"Money raised on Mates Day will allow Rural Aid to help even more farmers with critical financial, counselling, and fodder support."

The demand for Rural Aid's assistance has increased markedly over recent weeks, particularly from farmers seeking free counselling from Rural Aid's team of qualified mental health professionals.

"Rural Aid has witnessed a three-fold increase in the number of farmers seeking counselling sessions over the past three weeks," Mr Warlters said.

"Understandably, many of our farmers are at their limits after watching their livelihoods getting swept away," Mr Warlters said.

A number of generous corporate partners have joined forces with Rural Aid to match the public's donations on Mates Day (until funds are exhausted).

Award-winning singer Jem Cassar-Daley, daughter of country music legend Troy Cassar-Daley, has also lent her voice to Mates Day, recording a cracking new version of show-stopping ballad 'You've Got a Friend' for the Rural Aid event.

Mr Warlters said Mates Day was an opportunity for all Aussies to throw their support behind our primary producers and help Rural Aid reach its $2.4 million fundraising target.

"Farmers are the people we all need three times a day. We need the professionals who grow our food every breakfast, lunch and dinner. That's our farmers and they are some of the best in the world," Mr Warlters said.

"Please donate if you can by visiting our website or calling 1300 327 624."

Rural Aid's annual Mates Day takes place on Wednesday 23 November and donations can be made at www.ruralaid.org.au/donate

BRAIDWOOD COMMON Ben Gleeson

Happy workers out in the fresh air helping to make Braidwood more resilient and safer from the next fires.

Planting an edible firebreak

Last Sunday, Commonwood Farm managed the first of two planting days for Braidwood's 'green wedge' living fire break.

A small band of volunteers planted around 100 fruit and nut trees, including: chestnuts, quinces, figs, mulberries, medlars, persimmons, cherries, pomegranates, elderberries, and feijoas.

Work was complete by 2:30, with several breaks! These trees will all be protected behind two rows of poplars and the site will be mown and well-watered. There'll be a 65mm Stortz coupling to a 32,000 litre tank, with access from Bombay Rd for fire vehicles if ever needed in future.

If you weren't able to make it, we'll be planting another edible firebreak, further to the West, next Sunday (4th December). There'll be a similar range of trees, with holes pre-dug, snacks and drinks, and great company.

This Commonwood Farm project is being managed entirely by local volunteers, with funding provided by the NSW community recovery and resilience fund. It's a great local initiative augmenting the existing fire protection provided by Braidwood's green willow corridors, and strengthening the western fire defence for our town. Plus, we're planting edible trees, so even if we never see another bad fire threat from our west (touch wood), at least we're building local food resilience on Braidwood Common.

If you'd like to help, come down next Sunday at 10am, or any time after. There's some parking on site, via the entrance off Bombay Road, or you can park on the tar shoulder across from the transfer station and walk down. It should be a very satisfying day.

OLD BRAIDWOOD Compiled by Margaret Royds

The following extract is taken from *My Ninety Years as an Anglican*, an address at the Church of St John the Baptist, Canberra by Canon Geoffrey Dean Silby.

Braidwood 1972 - 77

The Parish had been vacant for six months, as Bishop Warren would not send a Rector until the Parish was viable.

A magnificent Church, three times the size of St John's, with four outcentres.

The Bishop accepted my offer to conduct a Sunday service for the Parish, to decide whether to invite me to be their Rector.

I preached on Acts 2: 42 "They continued steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in the breaking of bread and prayers." This sums up what Christians do each Sunday. Over 100 were in Church.

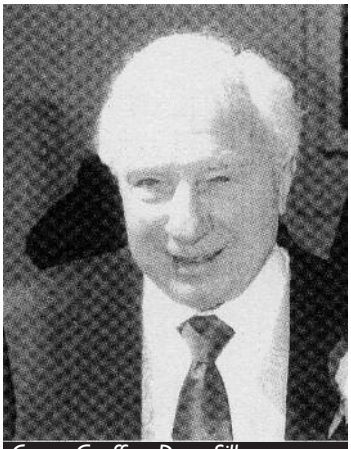
We met afterwards with the 18 members of the Parish Council. They accepted us, provided Anne would "do the flowers on the fifth Sunday". The Bishop was impressed but would only licence me if Anne resigned from the Public Service and lived full-time in Braidwood.

In 1972 I became a RAAF Reserve Chaplain at Fairbairn (ACT) one day per week. Later, in 1980, I transferred to the Permanent Air Force.

The Parish flourished, with finances improving. Robert Maddrell of Bedervale gave $5,000 towards the $7,500 needed to restore the dilapidated pipe organ. Roger and Margaret Royds purchased Bedervale from Robert in 1972.

The exciting pastoral visit by the Archbishop of Sydney (Marcus Loane) enthused us all. This involved assembling at the grave of the first Rector, James Allan, processing through the town to the Church full of people, and concluding with a dinner at the RSL Club.

I experienced many extraordinary spiritual events. We joined in



Canon Geoffrey Dean Silby.

Civic activities including the school P&F, Anne as Secretary. She also became the Shire Librarian and we both joined the Committee of Braidwood Historical Society (I was President for 3 years).

From the Whitlam Government Anne received $15,000 for the Shire Library while I obtained $7,500 to complete the purchase of the Historical Society's building from Frank Raynolds.

Anne with Wendy Campbell-Davies undertook Pastoral visits to lonely parishioners.

In 1977 the Uniting Church of Australia was formed.

One sad and difficult case involved a murder scene, by a parishioner. We took in her two children to the Rectory and I attended her court case in Sydney. Her murder charge was finally reduced to manslaughter. On my visit to her in Silverwater Prison, she claimed her prison life was the best she'd ever had. My task had been to inform her father, living at the Braidwood Hospital, of the situation. He was so relieved that it was not his daughter who was murdered.

Parishioners included Geoffrey and Sally White, whom I met again at St John's when he was Chairman of the Friends, and Robert and Helen Campbell from Krawaree.

Liz attended the Braidwood Public School, and Michael was a boarder at Canberra Grammar.

I taught music and founded St Andrew's Music Society, with concerts.

John Stahel takes the Wiggles for a burn.

Vintage car buffs needed

John Stahel

There's a new project underway in Braidwood that will excite vintage motor vehicle enthusiasts — rebuilding a 1930 Dodge.

The National Museum of Australia has donated the truck, currently in pieces in a number of boxes, to the Braidwood Museum. The vehicle was found in 2003 and purchased by NMA to use as a 'training' vehicle. A group of volunteers worked on it, to learn skills relating to the restoration of old machinery, skills that are rapidly being lost.

They worked on the vehicle for a number of years, but eventually the scheme ran out of steam and the car has been sitting in pieces ready for reassembly for some years.

The NMA, looking for a way to get the project completed, hit on Braidwood Museum as an institution with the organisational skills and community support likely to achieve that result.

The museum has taken on the role of co-ordinating the considerable expertise that still exists in Braidwood and when the project is completed, the working vehicle will become a promotional tool for the new museum precinct. An historic vehicle to be owned, maintained and run by our community.

A convoy of trucks went into Canberra last Wednesday week to collect the Dodge and deliver the parts to the garage at D & S Motors, which has been made available to the museum to use as a workshop in the short term. The museum is extremely grateful to QPRC for their help in providing this perfect location for the restoration work.

If you would like to be involved please contact John Stahel, Braidwood Museum, 0411 155 213. Volunteers only have to have an interest, they don't have to be mechanics. There will be all sorts of jobs and skills needed.

LANDCARE

Upper Shoalhaven Climate-Ready Revegetation Project

Planning for the effects of climate change

Mary Appleby, Melita Milner and Erin Brinkley

A sign of what's to come? Trees unable to tolerate recent extreme climate events. Photo: M Milner and M Appleby.

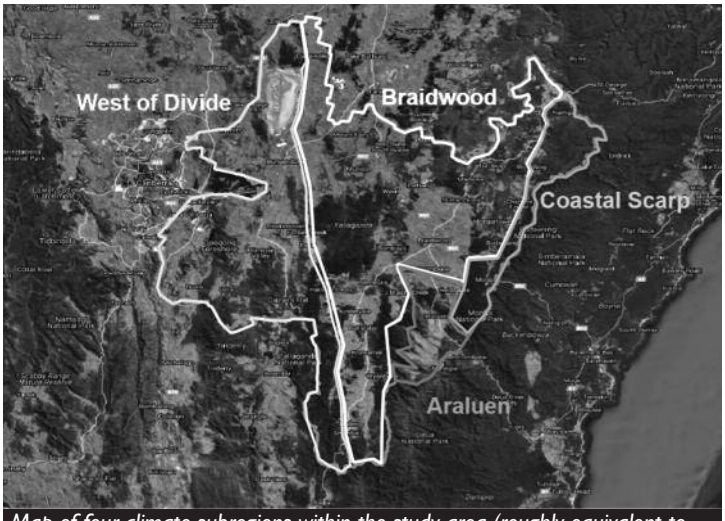
The ravages of drought, fire and flood have made their presence felt over the past few years, with significant impact on life, landscape and native vegetation.

Dieback and loss of tree cover are becoming more apparent. From the widespread death of Eucalyptus viminalis on the Monaro, to severe dieback of Eucalyptus blakelyi in the ACT, and a nationwide citizen science project from 'Dead Tree Detectives' mapping tree death and determining causes, the trend is increasingly clear.

One factor implicated in the rise of tree deaths across the country is climate change. Scientists are looking at ways to increase the resilience of trees and other vegetation in the face of a rapidly changing climate.

To build local understanding, the Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Council (USLC) commissioned a study to investigate the likely resilience of our local native trees and shrubs to projected climate change across our region. The project assessed how the species were likely to fare in the predicted far-future (2070) climate and examined strategies to increase resilience going forward.

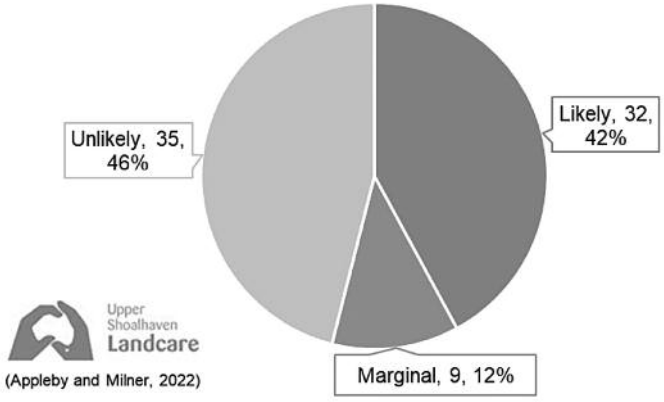
The current climate snapshot for our region in 2070 is predicted to be 2˚C hotter on average. There will be more hot days and less cold nights. We can expect an average of 18 days above 35˚C, and 35 fewer nights below 2˚C. While rainfall is predicted to increase by 1.4%, seasonal changes mean there are likely to be deficits in winter and spring, with a marked increase in summer rainfall, alongside an increased probability of extreme events (flood, storms, drought).



Map of four climate subregions within the study area (roughly equivalent to the area of QPRC). Image Credit: M Milner and M Appleby

The authors of the USLC study, Dr Melita Milner and Mary Appleby, assessed likely long term climate survival of 76 local tree and shrub species against this climate snapshot. Using data derived from NSW and ACT Regional Climate Modelling (NARCliM), they compared the current climate 'envelope' of each species (the range of temperature and rainfall across the current geographic distribution) with the predicted 2070 climate envelope.

The authors assessed species' viability across four subregions - the Araluen Valley, Coastal Scarp, and areas west and east of the Divide - areas already displaying subtle differences in climate, geography and vegetation communities. The predicted climate change was assessed against species' climate envelopes for each subregion, resulting in a list of suitable trees and shrubs, as well as recommendations for locations to source potential climate-ready seed.



Results seem sobering at first glance. Only 32 species (42%) were assessed as likely to tolerate the predicted 2070 climate, another 9 species (12%) were considered marginally tolerant, and 36 species (46%) were assessed as unlikely to tolerate these conditions, including many of our common eucalypts (64%).

While concerning, it is important to recognise that there are many other factors which influence species' survival, including physiological tolerances of each species, landscape position, soil factors, and ecological interactions. For example, many plants, such as Cootamundra Wattle and Wollemi Pine have very limited distributions, and appear to have a narrow climatic range, but grow well in a wide range of conditions.

While ongoing revegetation projects should consider species more likely to tolerate future climate, the authors suggest it's important to monitor tree health and keep planting the range of native species that occur and do well here now to support local biodiversity.

As we head into an uncertain climate future, "*the best bet is to source seed and other plant material from areas already experiencing conditions similar to the predicted climate for the district*", says Mary Appleby. The study found many species were already located in compatible climate envelopes scattered across north-northwest NSW. "*By incorporating seed from these areas, we can increase the genetic diversity of local species, and their adaptive capacity to survive a changing climate"* adds Melita.

Going forward, USLC plans to use the findings to source the necessary seed and begin propagating suitable climate-ready native tubestock for the district. Following in the footsteps of Yass Area Landcare Network, which already propagates a range of climate-ready seed in community nurseries, USLC's goal is to build a volunteer-run nursery and grow plants to supply to local revegetation projects.

There are also things individuals can do. When purchasing native tubestock, ask where the seed

has come from. Is it local provenance or from an area where the present climate is potentially similar or dissimilar to what's expected for our region in 2070?

Ultimately, what's clear from the work is that a landscape-level revegetation plan is needed, targeting long term species survival. Small changes in temperature, rainfall and the frequency of extreme climatic events could have big knock-on effects for a range of local trees and shrubs. Adopting climate-ready revegetation strategies now could equip our local plant communities with the ability to be more resilient decades down the track.

If you're interested in a copy of the full research report to find out what species are suitable for the future predicted climate in your area, or would like more information, please contact: upper.shoalhaven@gmail.com. USLC is in the process of publishing a handy guide to climate-ready revegetation in the district which it hopes to release by the end of the year.

Reference: Appleby, M and Milner, M, 2022, Climate – Ready Revegetation In The Upper Shoalhaven Landcare District, Upper Shoalhaven Landcare Council, Braidwood NSW and references therein.

SEEN ABOUT THE PLACE

Santa dropped in at the Mongarlowe Fire Brigade Christmas party to find that all the children said they'd been good.

THIRD LIONS YOUNG WRITERS' FESTIVAL – 2022

The Wolf and the Fox

Paige Gallagher, Year K-2 winner

Slick was very hungry.
He had been looking all day for something to eat.
He went to the farm close to his home in the forest and saw a big fat juicy chicken.
Slick licked his lips and grabbed it.
He ran quickly but the farmer saw him.
The farmer took out his gun and shot at Slick but Slick was too fast and disappeared into the forest.
Slick was tired of everyone hating him. He was just hungry !
He decided to move away to somewhere where everyone didn't hate him.
He travelled for ten days before he finally reached a beautiful forest where there was lots of food and no people.
Slick was eating some berries when he saw a wolf.
Slick was scared. He had heard that wolves were mean. He ran quickly behind a tree.
The wolf came up to him and said "Hello, my name's Winston. What's your name?" He was friendly after all.
Slick said "My name is Slick"
Winston took Slick to find some bunnies for dinner.
Slick was very happy. He had lots of food, had made a new friend, and no one was trying to get rid of him.

Write On!

Robin Tennant Wood

The third biennial Young Writers' Festival for 2022 had its culmination on Friday 18 Nov in the presentation event in the National Theatre.

The event was attended Nichole Overall MP, QPRC Mayor Kenrick Winchester, Festival Patron Jackie French, Lions District Governor, Norm Fountain, the judges for each category and a packed theatre of parents, friends, teachers, representatives of the Braidwood Lions and the event sponsors.

Jackie French told the young writers that it is the job of a writer "to see the world clearly and communicate that to other people." She thanked the Lions for their initiative in making the Young Writers' Festival happen, saying that they are "a gift to our community."

Ms Overall, herself a writer, in launching the book of the collected writings, encouraged the young writers to "continue to hone the craft of writing." She also thanked the Lions and made particular mention of NSW Arts Minister, Ben Franklin, whose department provided funding at Ms Overall's urging.

Ms French and Ms Overall presented the prizes to all the winners in each age category.

As well as the major sponsors for the event, Braidwood Community Bank, Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council, the New South Wales Government (through the office of Nichole Overall, Member for Monaro), Nova Systems and Aurelia Metals Dargues Mine, over 90 local businesses provided sponsorship.

Organiser of the event, Lion Laurie Ffrench, said he was deliOUNG WRITERSghted with the success of this third festival and felt that the whole community has embraced it.

The previous Young Writers' Festival, in 2020, went ahead but the presentation was a much scaled-down version due to the ongoing COVID lockdowns.

Congratulations to the all the winners, whose work is published in the Young Writers' Festival Book for 2022.

Young Writers' Festival winners

K – Yr 2

First prize:	Paige Gallagher
Second prize:	Phoebe McGrath
Encouragement awards:	Kitty Bernadoff
	Aurelia Buzby
	Maya Carroll
	Delilah Kain
	Bonnie Milner
	Frey Blake

Yrs 3 – 4

First prize:	Everett Robertson-West
Second prize:	Maddie Jacobs
Encouragement awards:	Peony Perdrau
	Mishai Paul
	Abbie Brown
	Charlotte Taylor

Yrs 5 – 6

First prize:	Miranda Waters
Second prize:	Emma Lyons
Encouragement awards:	Charlie Sheridan
	Rose Perdrau
	Prisha Patel
	Zoe Ridley

Years 7 – 8

First prize:	Josie Hudson
Second prize:	Layla Stuart
Encouragement awards:	Seth Fitzgerald
	Kara Moore
	Santa Ernst

Years 9 – 10

First prize:	Anusha Bajracharya
Second prize:	Nicholas Allen
Encouragement award:	Romany Gleeson

Years 11 – 12

First prize:	Kiri Krauth
Second prize:	Blake Wynne
Encouragement awards:	Jacob McKendry
	Louise Story
	Sam Watson

Bendigo Piggy and the Lions' Lion added some antics to the awards ceremony.

FICTION

Disney World

Leo Alder gets animated

Disneyland will never be completed, said Walt, sipping his scotch, smiling at the Mickeys gathered around him.
It will continue to grow as long as there is imagination in the world.
His words settled slowly into their sponge-cake brains. Their heads wobbled up and down. Yes sir, they said. Yes sir.

Then they froze him like a film cell and sealed him in the vault. They got to work at once. If Disneyland, they said, needs imagination to grow, then let us throw imagination like coal to the fire. Get the backroom boys on it; buy it up and hoard it; churn it into slurry to spread like concrete.

We watched as Disneyland rapidly expanded. It stretched across forest and field. Across towns and cities. They found it easier to build atop the old world, to pave it over with perfect bricks. They worked tirelessly. They hummed musicals that echoed through the streets. Ants, unaware of the mound they built; they entombed *the real* as bones into the earth. Replaced it with Storyliving, an endless plastic carnival where we all had our parts to play.

Imagineering squads prowled for cracks and sealed them with surgical prejudice. They liquidated all reference points. No castle but Disney castle. No animals that couldn't sing. All deviance to be rinsed and rebranded, swapped with simulacra dripping with Disney sheen. It wasn't long before Mickey took the years. Year of the Donald. Year of the Goofy.

They thawed Walt out in Pluto12. He stood atop the battlements of a vast white castle and surveyed a kingdom that could never end. It was a world he no longer recognised. He was like a caveman from the icecaps. He was, they realised, not Disney. Like blood cells strip mining disease for eradication they consumed him too. Repackaged him. Remade him in *their* image.

Then, as the last aching drips of imagination were wrung from us, they fell to self-cannibalism. They made copies of copies of copies; ideas inbred and dead on delivery. We walked through decay and wondered what went wrong. Around us stretched a city made of mirror shards with nothing left to reflect. We lay against the pavement and peered through the cracks. And we tried to imagine the world that was.

Retrospective: A gathering for sharing ideas after Come-Together Braidwood

The organisers of Come Together Braidwood, held in October, are holding a gathering to discuss some of the ideas and share thoughts about the event.

When: 12.30pm, **Saturday 10 December**

Where: **Casanova's, Braidwood**

Tea/coffee/pastries provided

If you are unable to attend, and wish to give feedback, stay in touch, or have enquiries, please contact:

Roger James: 0403 025 877
rogerfjames@yahoo.com.au

Julia Green: 0402 605 945
sun.ursaminor@gmail.com

Sheelagh Noonan: 0419 609 942
sheelnoonan@gmail.com

All Musicians Invited:

Instrumental Music Session

3-4pm Sunday 11th December

Braidwood Folk Music Club's next event is a session where we will learn some traditional instrumental dance tunes.

All instrument types and players welcome, beginner or pro.

Music notes, chords and guidance provided.
Venue: **Braidwood Life Centre** building, Rec Ground, Keder St, Braidwood (adjacent to basketball courts).
Cost: Optional gold coin donation.

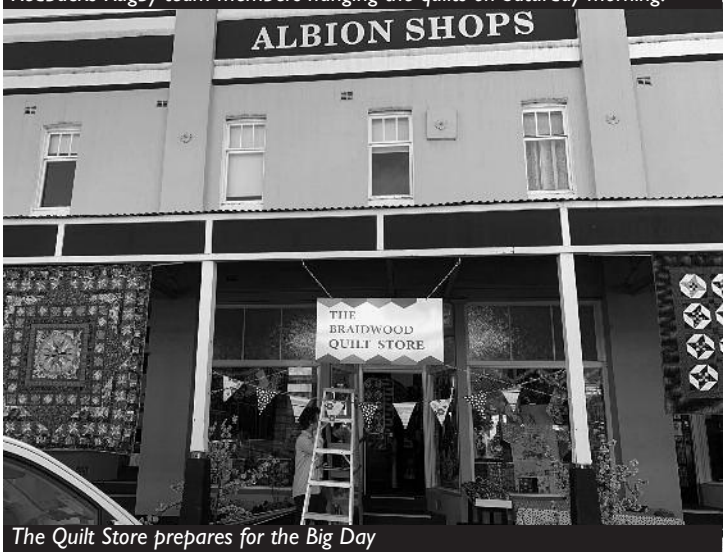
We hope start a program of regular sessions of this type.

Come along on Sunday 11th December
or contact:
braidwoodfolkclub@gmail.com
to express interest or for further details.

HANGING OF THE QUILT PICS

Mandy O'Brien and Di Izzard at the Gundillion Hall stall.

Redbacks Rugby team members hanging the quilts on Saturday morning.



The Quilt Store prepares for the Big Day

Have your say on rate rise scenarios

Nathaniel de Hoog, QPRC Communications and Engagement

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council is inviting community input into three scenarios to address Council's financial sustainability.

Two weeks ago, Mayor Kenrick Winchester issued a statement about Council's financial sustainability and how QPRC had reached this point.

Mayor Winchester noted that both the former Palerang Council and Queanbeyan City Council were considering options to raise their revenue before the merger.

He said, 'While we were able to make infrastructure improvements and build new infrastructure with the funding we received after the merger and other grants, the merged Council was not permitted to raise rates for four years.'

'The rate increases set by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal through the rate peg don't come close to meeting the costs of doing everything the community expects from us.'

The Mayor added 'It's now really important that we have this conversation with the community about Council services and how they will be funded into the future.'

'We are asking you to be involved in the conversation about the services we provide and the potential rate rise scenarios.'

QPRC General Manager Rebecca Ryan said 'We have explored three rate rise scenarios which affect the general rate. This proposal does not include waste, sewerage, stormwater, or water access charges.'

'Each scenario shows what type of services Council would be able to provide under a specific rate rise. All three rate rise scenarios include enough funds that ensures Council's assets like roads, stormwater and buildings are maintained appropriately, however two scenarios involve significant service cuts.'

The three scenarios are:

Significantly Reduce Services: Rates increase by 12% a year for 3 years. This is a cumulative increase of 41%. This scenario does not fully fund current Council operations and will require a strategy to find immediate savings of $12 million each year. This kind of saving may include privatising or selling The Q, stopping funding to all community halls, facilities and activities, cutting heritage grants, closing pools and stopping development of new sports and aquatic facilities, increasing fees, closing libraries, customer service centres and depots at Bungendore and Braidwood, significantly reducing urban amenities (street sweeping, mowing, maintenance and cleaning), reducing the number of Councillors, removing the additional pensioner rebate, and introducing paid parking.

Reduce Services: Rates increase by 18% a year for 3 years. This is a cumulative increase of 64%. This scenario involves a reduction of non-core services and.5.5 million worth of savings must be found each year. Savings could include significantly increasing fees at The Q, reducing community funding by 50%, cutting heritage grants, only keeping one pool and stopping development of new sports and aquatics facilities, increasing fees, reducing urban amenities (street sweeping, mowing, maintenance, and cleaning), reducing number of Councillors, removing additional pensioner rebate, and introducing paid parking.

Maintain Services: Rates increase by 28% in year one, 25% in year two and 23% in year 3. This is a cumulative increase of 97%. This scenario fully funds the current levels of service. It provides $400,000 per year towards expanded infrastructure and taking advantage of grants that require 1:1 funding, along with $1.9m per year to renew infrastructure like community facilities, footpaths and pools. This scenario provides for an additional pensioner rebate of $100 for eligible pensioners across the local government area. It also allows for $1.3 million towards new environmental programs.

Rebecca concluded 'We are one of the largest employers in the region and it's our job to provide excellent services and high-quality facilities.'

'Council makes a real difference in the lives of people in Queanbeyan-Palerang and it is important that you give us feedback about what matters to you.'

Have your say on the proposed options at:

www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/srv

until 31 January 2023.

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

QPRC

Australia Day Awards - NOMINATE
Make sure to nominate a Citizen, Young Citizen and Community Event of the year in either Captains Flat, Braidwood, Bungendore, or Queanbeyan.

This is a great way to acknowledge people of all ages who make your community a better place. Whether they help out with organisations like the RFS and CWA, or act as an individual to make positive change in your community - take 15 minutes to nominate!

▶ Read more about eligibility and nominate before 2 December at **bit.ly/AUS-DAY-NOM**

Advertising of Notices and Documents under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Regulations

▶ Documents are published at **bit.ly/DPnotices**

Have Your Say

Projects & initiatives open for community comment	Closing Date
Compliance Obligations Policy	8 December
Garden Organics Majors Creek and Araluen	23 December
Draft Amendment to Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional LEP 2022 – Proposed Reclassification of Land	27 January
Queanbeyan Showground Cultural and Heritage Interpretation Plan	31 January
Draft Bin Inspection and Contamination Policy	31 January
Draft Affordable Housing Strategy	28 February
Long Term Financial Plan and Special Rate Variation	31 January

▶ Find all the details on Council's engagement hub at **yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au**

Submissions can be made:
- By registering and commenting via **yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au**
- By email to **council@qprc.nsw.gov.au**
- By mail to PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620
- Delivered in person to Queanbeyan, Bungendore or Braidwood offices

Enter our Upcycled Christmas Competition
Decorate your front window, gate, yard or driveway with at least one upcycled or repurposed item and go in the running to win some great prizes.

Competition entries can be added until Friday 16 December. To vote, go to our website and click on entries in our resident and business categories and 'Vote Now' for your favourite.

▶ Learn more at **treasuretrail.com.au/xmas**

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.

For those wanting to make a presentation on an Agenda item, you 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:
- 21 December
- 18 January

Written Questions on Notice
Questions on notice from the community must be submitted in writing or via email to **public.forum@qprc.nsw.gov.au** by 12pm on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. All questions and responses will be tabled at each Public Forum, provided to the person who asked the questions and published on our website.

Work with **Council**
- Town Planner
- Admin Officer
- Cadet Engineer
- GEO- Queanbeyan
- Team Leader - Customer Experience Librarian
- Team Leader - Transport Maintenance

▶ For more information and roles see **bit.ly/QPRC-jobs**

Shop and WIN!
Spend $20 at any participating business in Braidwood or Bungendore for your chance to win! Enter as many times as you like on our website.

▶ Learn more at **treasuretrail.com.au/win**

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eepurl.com/codv-v

BOOKWORM *Julia Ermert*

Should you give your man a book for Christmas?

It's that time of the year again. I've done most of my gift-shopping.

I wish I could give everyone a book, because then I could read it first. I'm an expert in reading without cracking the spine. But few of my family are readers, and when they complain I'm hard to buy for, and I suggest a voucher from Dymock's, the bookshops at the NLA, the NGA or the Portrait Gallery, they say, but that's so boring.

Gift-giving is fraught enough at the best of times, but with books it's worse.

Nick Hornby, million-dollar best-selling author (b.1957) of *About a Boy, An Education, Dickens and Prince,* among others, calls it 'oppressive,' and warns it can make people feel guilty. Novels, especially, ' may stare at you balefully.' He thinks non-fiction is a better choice, especially cookbooks. There is something for everyone, they look good on the kitchen shelves, and needn't be read cover-to-cover.

I think cookbooks may have another advantage: it's acceptable for them to be written by women. There are famous male chefs who write books, but offhand I can think of only two: Gordon Ramsay, who is more famous for his —well — language, and Jamie Oliver, who is perhaps as famous for the weird names he gives his children.

The women are better known. Think of our own Stephanie Alexander, Maggie Beer and Kylie Kwong, and of course Margaret Fulton. Mrs Beeton (d.1865) started it all, and there was a time I would buy anything by Nigella Lawson.

Yet only some 30% of famous chefs are women. 'They' say it's because women don't have the physical strength and staying power, and their metabolism makes them unstable.

Perhaps they're just better writers.

This brings us to the other issue of choosing books: do men/boys avoid reading books by women writers?

For the top ten bestselling female authors, who include Jane Austen, Margaret Atwood, Danielle Steel and Agatha Christie, only 19% of readers are men. Comparable male authors, including Charles Dickens, JRR Tolkien, Lee Child and Stephen King, command a male readership of 55%, women following close behind because they're not prejudiced. There are twice as many male Booker Prize winners though all of the top five best-selling literary novels in 2017 were by women.

I first noticed this pattern when I was reviewing a book at a Jane Austen festival. It was called *Mr Darcy the Dancing Duck*, aimed at a readership of maybe three years old. The author, Alex Field, turned out to be Sophia Whitfield. She said she had to use a gender-neutral name as otherwise publishers and booksellers would not give her time. I said, But this is for toddlers! She assured me that, even so, books by women were not taken seriously. Over the years, *Mr Darcy* has had many more adventures, but she's still 'Alex Field.'

JK Rowling is another example. Her publishers warned her, Joanna, that boys would not read a book written by 'a girl.'

Other well-known examples are the thriller writers PD James and LJ Ross, as well as, earlier, George Sand and George Eliot, the Brontë sisters, and Jane Austen.

There's also the consideration here of its being improper for a woman to earn her living by writing … or in fact, to earn her living at all. It brought shame on her family. Jane Austen wrote as 'A Lady' and her name wasn't revealed till after her death. Her memorial tablet in Winchester Cathedral doesn't mention books —only her domestic virtues.

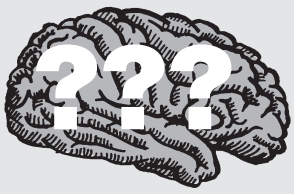
With *Shetland* starting a new TV series, I've been looking at author Ann Cleeves. She began to

write to help the family finances, having tried other part time jobs. Her husband was a conservation officer with Britain's RSPB and they lived in the Northumbrian hills. Because she grew up in the war years when women worked, and ran things, but were expected to back off and go home after the war, she was opposed to that sort of thing herself, and to having her characters do it. She says Vera, 'looking like a bag-lady,' burst fully-formed into her stalled book, in the middle of a funeral scene. Her model, Raymond Chandler, had advised that if you were stuck with your book, 'have a guy burst through the door with a gun.' Cleeves thought Vera would do just as well.

I found most of my background in a review of *The Authority Gap*, by MA Sieghart … Mary Ann, but she masked her gender because she wanted men to read it as well! Sieghart writes for *The Times* and *The Independent* and is visiting professor at King's College London. The subtitle for her book is *Why Women are Taken Less Seriously than Men and What We Can Do About It*.

I notice her next article, for *The Irish Times*, warns us that men's paintings sell for ten times as much as women's paintings. As if that's not enough, a man's work will rise in value if he signs it. A woman's won't. It can't be much good if it's by a woman. Even if you thought it was before the gender reveal.

Test some of this out for yourself. Give the man in your life, whatever his age, a book for Christmas, and choose an obviously female writer!



News trivia

How well have you been paying attention?

1 Which team did Australia beat in their World Cup pool game?

2 Which team do they meet next (on Dec 1)?

3 Who is the Victorian premier after their state election last weekend?

4 Which former TV celebrity chef is set to make a comeback?

5 The first cricket test for the summer starts this week. Against which team?

6 And speaking of cricket, a new novel by Moruya author Inga Simpson is all about cricket. What's it called?

7 The last few weeks have seen ongoing protests by (mainly) young people in China. What are they protesting?

8 Former Prime Minister Scott Morrison is likely to be censured by parliament. Why?

9 Who is the inner Sydney eccentric character who was hospitalised after an assault by police last week?

10 Which independent senator has been instrumental in passing the government's new industrial relations bill?

Answers: 1. Tunisia; 2. Denmark; 3. Daniel Andrews; 4. George Columbaris; 5. West Indies; 6. Willow Man; 7. Strict zero-COVID lockdown laws; 8. The Bell Report regarding his multiple secret ministries; 9. Danny Lim; 10. David Pocock

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Social correspondent Laura Moriarty

Wow, what absolutely wild weather we've had in the past two weeks, with a hailstorm that ended up blanketing parts of our village in white.

We've had the Airing of the Quilts which concluded on Sunday, 27th November, as well as the annual Pre-School annual trivia night at the club. Your correspondent had two quilts in the Quilt Event, one which was a part of the Braidwood Quilt Store's challenge, and another that hung in the National Theatre as part of the indoor exhibition. Neither of them won, but your correspondent already knew she wouldn't win anything. I am constantly blown away by the sheer amount of talent in Braidwood and its surrounding villages.

With that, let's get into what's happening around town!

GIGS AND EVENTS

Mick Fernandez will be playing at the Royal Mail on Saturday night from 7pm.

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Friday 2nd December at 7:30pm in the National Theatre is this amazing concert: CELEBRATING THE SEEKERS - 60 Years Dec 1962 to Dec 2022

This will be Keith Potger's solo concert paying respect to the Australian group he helped to found, that has had international recording and concert success for sixty years (and counting). There'll be lots of audio-visual treats that will fill in the background to this beloved band, with a special tribute to Judith Durham AO.

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Saturday 10th December: UNDER THE INFLUENCE - Shortis and Simpson continue their hit formula of featuring outstanding musical performers who tell their story in words and music. This time it's acclaimed Canberra musician and singer Dorothy Jane (D.J.) Gosper who will be recounting her life in and out of the music industry. DJ Gosper is no stranger to Braidwood, having performed here over the years. However, this concert will shed light on her experiences that have never been told on stage before. UNDER THE INFLUENCE already has created a wonderful reputation for bringing out the hidden stories behind the lives of Shane Howard, Keith Potger and Karen Middleton. This concert will keep the ball rolling, with satire, compelling anecdotes and memorable music.

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The Farmers Market is this Saturday, 3rd December from 8:30am to 12:30pm in the National Theatre, and is well worth supporting, as it is one of the longest-running farmer's markets in this region. With its usual fare of fresh fruit and vegetables as well as cider, garlic, plants, and of course, whiskey, it is worth coming down for it!

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BRAG are having a Christmas market on 11th December from 9am to 2pm down at BRAG.

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Tree Planting and Family Day is on down at the Braidwood Commonwood Farm, 4th December from 10am to 2pm— near Boppin's Crossing turnoff.

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The Lion's Club Chocolate Wheel Raffles are on every Thursday at the Royal Mail Hotel, with the chance to win trays of meat and schooners.

AT THE CLUB

Singing For Fun is on Tuesday evenings and is $5 to join. For further information, please contact Peter on 0419 431 517.

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Line Dancing is on 7pm to 9pm on Friday nights.

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Folk Dancing is on from 9:30am on Monday mornings, and is free to attend.

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The Bridge Club meet weekly on Tuesday afternoons from 1pm to 4pm and is free to attend. Contact Mrs Olive Royds on 4842 1732. New members without any experience playing Bridge are welcome to attend, and there is no cost for playing.

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Wednesdays also see the Ladies Exercise Group meet from 10am to 11am, and is an informal way to get fit and have fun. Free to attend.

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Social bowls is on every Wednesday at 12:45pm for a 1pm start.

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Tai Chi is on Tuesdays from 10-11 am. Irene Wolford will guide you through it, and you can pay a donation to attend. It is also on Fridays at the same time.

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Erika's Movement Classes are on Wednesdays from 1pm, and it is perfect for those of you who sit behind a desk. Please text Erika on 0432 687 255

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Tango Dancing is on every Saturday morning for continuing students, and class is from 10:30am to 12pm, with Chris Watkins and Erika Mordek. $10 for classes, and please contact Erika on 0432 687 255 for further information.

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Also on Tuesdays is a Squash Competition during the evenings, and bingo on every fortnight with alternating times of 1pm and 6:30 pm.

OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS

Snuggle n Sing is on Thursdays from 9:30 - 10:30 am at BRAG. This is a fun and relaxed time to bond with your baby, to sing songs and learn rhymes that can soothe your child. For further information, please contact Alison Coster on 0411 205 638 or email her at alisoncoster@bigpond.com

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The St Vincent dePaul Society meet every Friday at St Bede's presbytery from 11am to 1pm.

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Crafty or Not Crafty group meet every Thursday morning at the Anglican Parish Centre behind the Anglican Church on Elrington St from 11am to 12pm. All are welcome.

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Braidwood Quilters and Textiles meet every Wednesday down at the Scout Hall from 10am onwards.

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Parkrun is on at the Braidwood Showground every Saturday from 7:45 am for an 8 am start.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Braidwood Uniting Church

The art of old.

What's better than a coffee while you watch the Clyde river flow past?

Yesterday, while on the new pontoon jetty, like a little boy, I put a dry leaf on the surface of the Clyde and walked with it, watching its progress. I was a bit shocked at the speed of the current as my brave little leaf stayed on top of the choppy water and moved at walking pace to the ocean. By the time I ran out of jetty, I felt proud of my little leaf for riding over all the bumps as it continued its journey out of my sight. When I walked back to where my journey began, the river looked just the same even though I now knew that this was new, different water than that which was carrying my leaf out to sea. There were others around, looking at the river as if it was a static thing, part of their view. I was tempted to go around telling by standers that this water was moving fast and that all the water they looked at just minutes ago was gone.

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It's life isn't it? The world we lived in and the battles we fought and the achievements we made, took place in a swiftly flowing current. The world we knew is gone. People look at the world as if it has always been the way it currently is and they know nothing of our world, now gone. I have conversations with young social workers and with young ministers who think they're making a better fist of current issues than we old folks ever did. They don't realise that this world is brand new and the world we negotiated and fought was not much like this world at all.

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Resisting change is as silly as wishing my leaf would swim against the tide, returning to my position so that we could do it all over again. For those of us who've run a long race, we either "go with the flow" to some extent, accepting we were always part of something that was swift moving, whether we knew it or not. Wisdom is accepting a world, where the only constant, is change. From one perspective, we are powerless against the tide but from the point of view of the leaf, the future is the ocean and it's one hell of a ride toward a vast, scary, unknown, marvellous ocean.

Rev Graham Long

Anglican Parish of Braidwood

Ahhh ADVENT… what is it?

The Advent season is a four week period before Christmas that celebrates the anticipation and coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

The origin of "advent" is from the Latin word adventus which simply translates "coming" or "arrival". Not only is it the Christian meaning for preparation and celebration of the coming of Jesus Christ, his birth at Christmas, but also to celebrate the new life when someone accepts Jesus Christ as their Saviour, and lastly, the anticipation of Jesus returning again.

There are beautiful and rich traditions behind the celebration of Advent.

One lovely tradition is the Advent Wreath.

The four Sundays of Advent each have a specific theme or focus. The purpose of each theme is to spend time reflecting on the true meaning of the season - the life of Jesus Christ.

Advent candles shine brightly in the midst of darkness, symbolizing and reminding us that Jesus came as light into our dark world. The candles are often set in a circular Advent wreath.

The advent candles correspond to the themes of each week of advent. Families and church congregations begin lighting a candle on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, and they light another candle each subsequent Sunday.

The first candle symbolizes hope and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival.

The second candle represents faith and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, which is also the birthplace of King David.

The third candle symbolizes joy and is called the "Shepherd's Candle." To the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for humble, unimportant people like them, too.

The fourth candle represents peace and is called the "Angel's Candle." The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace— He came to bring people close to God and to each other again.

The fifth candle represents light and purity and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day.

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Join us next Sunday 4th December for a service of Holy Communion during which we will light the candle for Faith on our Advent Wreath.

10am: St Stephen's Anglican Church, Hill St, Majors Creek, followed by a cuppa and a chat.

There will be no services in St Andrew's Anglican Church, Braidwood that Sunday.

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Parish contact: angbraidwood@bigpond.com 4842 2423.

St Bede's Parish

Reflection on the gospel of Matthew 3:1-12 by Greg Sunter

When John the Baptist performed baptism it was for the forgiveness of sin.

The baptism he gave was a mark of the desire to enter into a new life of right action. It was not a baptism of initiation into community that is the case today. John had two key words that he is recorded as preaching: repent and prepare. His call for repentance was a call to turn away from sin; a call to have a change of heart; a call to turn one's life around and make a fresh start. His call for preparation is in the long line of prophets that includes the great prophet Isaiah from whom we take today's first reading. All of the prophets urged the people towards hope in the future. Isaiah and others spoke specifically of a person – a Messiah – who would bring that hope to reality. But the tradition demanded a readiness for the Messiah and that was the call to preparation that John the Baptist echoed at the beginning of the public life of Jesus.

John's taunting of the Pharisees and Sadducees is an indication of this need for preparation and readiness. He accuses them of being too confident of their own rightness. He demands proof from them of their honest repentance: 'but if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit'. Rather, he suspects that they think that salvation is assured for them by virtue of being a Jew; a son of Abraham. He warns them that an axe hangs poised to cut down any part of the Jewish tradition that is failing to produce good fruit. This is a theme that is picked up later by Jesus himself; you can't be complacent about your own position, you have to welcome the new truth revealed by Jesus and give yourself wholeheartedly to God.

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Living the Gospel – Prepare Ye!

John the Baptist's call to 'Prepare the way of the Lord' is a summary of the purpose of the season of Advent. Every year, as we celebrate the Nativity, we celebrate once again the presence of God in our world. God became incarnate in the world through Jesus but also always was and continues to be incarnate in the world through each person. If we are to accept this reality and live it out, we need to remind ourselves this Advent to prepare the way for the Lord to be present in and through us every day of our lives.

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St Bede's warmly invites all women to an Advent prayer Breakfast on Saturday 3 December,

8-10am in St Bede's school hall. Cost: $10 in a marked envelope with your name to James' coffee window. RSVP with money for catering purposes, by the 28th Nov (no refunds possible due to purchasing costs)

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Christmas Mass: 5.30pm on 24th December in St Bede's Catholic Church

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The Ukraine raffle run by the Goulburn Surgery raised almost $20,000, with Braidwood contributing $901. Local prize winners were: Felix (locally made quilt); Ann Tracey ($100 voucher to Goulburn RSL); Irene Wolford ($100 value basket of goodies); Guy Lewis ($150 voucher to Goulburn RSL). Monies raised go towards medicines needed in Ukraine.

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Weekend Mass time: Saturday at 6.00pm (Vigil)

Weekday Mass: Tuesdays at 10am.

0 200444 202002

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

GOLF NEWS

Giving you thanks you can't refuse

Many thanks to the Mafia Members, Barb Stuart, Fran McGrath, Lorinda Stuart and Maree Uren for the sponsorship of their trophy yesterday.

The 3-Ball Stabrose was a fun event, despite some initial misgivings, and Barb produced her bountiful sandwiches after the game so many thanks again Barb.

Thank you to the generous members who gave up their time to help with the tree disposal last week. David Jones, Spiro Agnew, John Stahel and thanks to Rod Royds for organising the working bee.

We are needing final numbers for the Presentation Night catering so please put your name on the list on the golf noticeboard if you plan on coming on Saturday 10 December. Partners and spouses are welcome to attend after golf, for the presentation.

The 2023 Fixture book is being finalised so if anyone has any corrections or additions they would like to make, please let Michelle Henry or Michael Toirkens know.

Results:

Saturday November 26 – Mafia Trophy

Winners: Judy Scott, Gordon Scott & Spiro Agnew 55pts

Runners Up: Sarah Heine, Carmen Byrne & Barry McDonald

3rd Place: Di Freeman, Brendan Sly & Alan Walcott 53 pts

4th Place: Fran McGrath, Terry Hughes & Don Burke 52 pts c/b

Men's NTP 3/12: Brendan Sly

Women's NTP 8/17: Not Won

Ball Comp: Donna Kuhn, Michael Toirkens, Michael Tillman Ryan & John Harb, Michelle Henry, Margy Gardner & Chris Witt, Lorinda Stuart, Barb Stuart & Mike Fitzgerald

Coming Events

December 3 Saturday: Men's & Women's Stroke & Monthly Medals,

December 10 Saturday: Medley Stabrose 3 Ball (Shotgun Start) – Bev Kain Memorial Day and Golf Presentation

December 17 Saturday: Committee Meeting 10.30am. Christmas Hamper (Bring a gift) Medley 2BBB Par Event

December 24 Saturday: Medley Irish Stableford 3 Ball

December 31 Saturday: Medley 2BBB Stableford Multiplier.

Bride (determined to share her husband's troubles): "DEAREST, GO ON TELLING ME ABOUT THE WORM-CASTS ON THE SEVENTEENTH."

PUNCH CARTOON 1908

STAR TIMES

Ferryferryinteresting

"A new Manly ferry has suffered another steering failure near the entrance to Sydney Harbour less than two months after a similar incident forced the operator to urgently pull the catamaran and two sister vessels from service," reports the *SMH*. Transdev's Captain Queeg went to pains to reassure the nautical public that: "At this stage, there is no evidence that this problem is related to previous steering issues which occurred in late September". The company announced that it would be all plain sailing from now on. "All our recently acquired 'Celeste' class vessels have been put back into service for what we call 'Harbour Adventure Tours' where the destination is quite flexible.

Rattlingourrotorsagain

From the *SMH*: "The Australian Army's helicopter fleet is being closely examined for cuts alongside planned purchases of tanks and infantry fighting vehicles in a sweeping federal government review aimed at preparing Australia for a potential war with China within 10 years." Boeing was angling to sell the previous government 29 new Apache attack helicopters for $5.5 billion with delivery expected in 2025.

Parcelnowdroppedoff

The world's largest online retailer has pledged to deliver 500 million packages by drone each year from 2030. The Australian executive in charge of Amazon's air division says it is one of the only ways to get parcels to customers "in under an hour". Amazon Prime Air vice president David Carbon, an Australian expatriate and former Boeing executive, said many pundits had dismissed drone deliveries as "science fiction". However, the company was advanced in its plans to deploy a fleet of delivery drones and drop parcels weighing up to 2.2 kilograms outside homes in crowded areas. I guess gone will be the days when a pair of gym trainers hanging on the powerline caused a stir.

Cryptomaniacs

"Three weeks ago, a single article from a US trade publication set off one of the largest crypto exchange collapses since the notorious fall of Mt Gox in 2014. FTX and its founder Sam Bankman-Fried — revered by traders, investors, and politicians alike — went from being worth nearly $50 billion to $0 in a matter of days." Wiser punters might have supposed that with no visible means of support he might always have been worth closer to $0 than $50 billion.

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