BRAIDWOOD'S
Changing Times

Issue #79 — $2.00

Wednesday May 31, 2023

COMING WEATHER

	Min	Max	Chance rain
Wed	6°	15°	5%
Thur:	7°	18°	10%
Fri:	2°	16°	60%
Sat:	5°	18°	40%
Sun:	5°	15°	40%
Mon:	5°	12°	70%
Tue:	5°	12°	50%

John Stahel and Erika Mordek leaning on the dray in its new home at the Braidwood Community Garden.

Museum collection moves out

Robin Tennant Wood

The builders are moving in so the collection has to move out!

The first stage of the Braidwood Museum's upgrade to a Heritage Centre is set to commence, but has left the Historical Society with an interesting conundrum: what to do with the stuff while the work is being done?

Given that some of the pieces are quite large, it's not a simple matter of putting everything in a cupboard or stashing it in someone's garage. John Stahel told the *Changing Times* that QPRC gave the museum some space near the council's truck wash on Sandholes Lane, but that still left some large pieces of equipment that needed a home.

The museum, in conjunction with QPRC, is keen to put some of the larger pieces of historical equipment on permanent display in town. The gold crusher in Ryrie Park is one such piece and has proved to be a popular drawcard as well as a fitting display honouring Braidwood's origins as a gold town.

One piece of the museum's display that needed to be housed is a dray. John Stahel said that while it has no specific historical significance other than being an original piece, it nonetheless needed to be put somewhere.

"It doesn't need to be under cover," he said, "and it's in good condition for display."

Enter the Braidwood Community Garden.

The garden, which occupies a tract of land on Bombay Road on the outskirts of town has good access and is an ideal location for the display of a large piece of local history.

Garden co-ordinator, Erika Mordek, said that the Judith Wright Garden at the end of Garvey Street had been considered as a home for the dray, but the slope was problematic for access and long-term stability.

The museum and the community garden quickly came up with a solution that looks good and enables

permanent display for this piece of the district's history.

Erika Mordek said that she and the garden sub-committee were happy to make the decision in co-operation with the museum, and that the dray will be a permanent feature of the garden.

"It's an attractive feature," she said. "It shows how farming used to be."

Erika is encouraging anyone who wished to be involved with the Community Garden to come along on the first Sunday morning of every month for a working bee and get-together. With the onset of the cold weather, the focus has turned to brassicas and other kitchen garden crops that do will over winter as well as preparing the beds in advance of spring.

"The garden needs constant maintenance," Erika said, while outlining the plans for future planting and ideas for greater community inclusion.

Meanwhile, the project to upgrade the museum to the Braidwood Heritage Centre is finally commencing following the receipt of a Bushfire Recovery Grant late in 2020. The project will include tourist accommodation, commercial opportunities and an artisans' precinct.

Lascelles Street nearing completion

After a series of setbacks, the Lascelles Street work is finally nearing completion with sealing work scheduled to be undertaken this week.

The total upgrade of the street commenced last October and was meant to be finished by early this year, however, after a series of delays, ranging from inundation during the summer rain events, through to problems with the original contractors, QPRC stepped in to complete the work.

While the sealing of the road is taking place, parking will not be available directly in front of the IGA.

On Tuesday, parking will still be available on Wallace Street. On Wednesday and Thursday, parking will be available on Lascelles Street but access will be from Ryrie Street, not Wallace Street.

QPRC requests that while the work is being completed, we all follow any traffic guidance and remain patient. The end is in sight.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

EDITORIAL Robin Tennant Wood

The intangible tangibility of cultural heritage

The French baguette has recently been added to the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The *what* list?

According to UNESCO – the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – the term "intangible cultural heritage" refers to the "practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage."

To be included on the list, UNESCO says intangible cultural heritage should be inclusive, representative and community-based.

Adopted by UNESCO in 2003 and coming into effect in 2006, the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage list is essentially recognition of those things that represent our human qualities, and which are culture-specific.

Included among the 678 cultural items representing 140 different countries are the Congolese rumba; Turkish traditional Ahlat stonework; Holy Week in Guatemala; Belarusian straw weaving; the knowledge of the light rum masters in Cuba; and Chinese tea processing techniques and associated social practices.

As there are currently no Australian items on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, perhaps it's time to consider what uniquely Australian cultural items or practices might be appropriate for listing as cultural heritage.

We humbly submit the following:

The Anzac biscuit: While there is always some argument about ingredients (coconut, yes/no?) and consistency (chewy/crisp) the history of the beloved biscuit is undeniable. They date to the First World War when they were made and sent by women's groups to troops at the front line fighting in Europe. The recipe was developed using ingredients that would keep over a long period producing a biscuit that is sweet, enduring as well as ideally bulletproof.

The Akubra hat: quintessentially Australian, the Akubra is traditionally made using felted rabbit fur, creating a product that is weatherproof, long-wearing, attractive and addressed the problem of rabbit plagues. During the Depression years men and boys were able to make money catching rabbits for hat-making.

Acknowledgement of Country ceremonies: a relatively new addition to our cultural practice, but an important part of our forward movement towards reconciliation. A formal acknowledgement is now stated at the beginning of all governmental and official gatherings and meetings and many private ones. It recognises and celebrates the fact that Australia has the longest surviving culture in the world.

> The Democracy Sausage: because voting in Australia is compulsory, election day is always an opportunity for fund-raising with the entire country hanging around outside school halls and other public buildings.

And what could be better than mixing civic duty and fund-raising with the consumption of the humble sausage sanger? While in other countries elections may be marred by violence and controversy, election days in Australia involve the tang of barbeque smoke in the air, mountains of fried onions, and the fair suck of the sauce bottle.

Oh, and the French baguette? To qualify it must be between 55 and 65 centimetres long, weigh between 250 and 300 grams, contain only four ingredients (wheat flour, yeast, water and salt) and the proportion of salt to wheat must be precisely 18 grams of salt to one kilo of flour.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It's good to see that the 2023 Braidwood Community and Business Directory includes an article titled *Braidwood: A brief history*.

For me, the focus is too much on the Clarke bothers and bushranging with the result that the story of Braidwood's growth and development is too partial and negative. In this context, it is worthwhile to refer to historian Meg Foster's recent book *Boundary Crossers* in which she declares that: *bushranging has been seen as the preserve of white men and associated with a unique brand of settler masculinity. ... these criminal men came to represent Australians' egalitarianism, anti-authoritarianism and pioneering spirit.*

I just don't think bushrangers deserve the paragraphs they occupy in *Braidwood: A brief history.*

I see far more value in a story that features the role that the Chinese miners and merchants played in the town's development. For example, the Nomchongs have been a fixture in the town for about the last 150 years. In the 1880's, they helped finance a long water race for the hydraulic sluicing for gold that was constructed alongside the Corang River. You can still find evidence of it today. In more recent times they introduced the first motor vehicles to Braidwood for transporting goods to Braidwood and on 22nd October 1948 Mr L. R. Nomchong was listed as director of the company that established a new sawmill at Monga.

> Braidwood in the latter half of the nineteenth century was tolerant of newcomers and this needs to be acknowledged. It avoided the friction and conflict between miners that occurred in 1857 in Buckland, Victoria, and in 1861 in Lambing Flat, NSW.

Quong Tart (1850-1903) thrived as a young Chinese man growing up in Bells Creek and eventually prospered in Sydney. Chinese temples were built at Mongarlowe and at Jembaicumbene and Chinese cemeteries can be found at Mongarlowe and Jembaicumbene. Chinese made their mark in the local region not just as miners and merchants but also as market gardeners.

Their positive input to Braidwood deserves recognition in the district's history. For example, Kate Bagnall's article about life at Jembaicumbene suggests a certain level of racial harmony when she writes about a Chinese woman giving birth with the help of an English midwife and an Irish family calling in the Chinese doctor to treat their dying son.

Barrie McGowan (1945-2018) has also written on this topic – see his 2004 article *'Reconsidering Race: The Chinese Experience on the Goldfields of Southern New South Wales'.* So too has Kate Bagnall and Sophie Couchman.

Braidwood's acceptance of people from diverse nationalities and culture in the final decades of the 19th century needs acknowledgment for it was in direct contrast to the national sentiments of the time.

It was a period when the ideology of eugenics and the superiority of the white races was the dominant theme for political discourse, that came to be expressed so brazenly by the passage of the Immigration Restriction Act, 1901. For readers wishing to explore this topic further, I would recommend Marilyn Lake and Henry Reynolds' 2008 book *Drawing The Global Colour Line. White Men's Countries and the Question of Racial Equality.*

Michael Merrony
Braidwood

Braidwood Social Justice Group members campaigning for the "YES" vote.

The road from Uluru to a better future

Roderic Pitty

The *Uluru Statement from the Heart* turned six last Friday.

The Statement was born 50 years after the successful 1967 referendum on rights for Aborigines.

The Statement reflects the hopes of 250 First Nations delegates who gathered in May 2017 for an Indigenous Constitutional Convention at Uluru. They invited Australians to walk with them to a better future by changing the Constitution.

Now a potentially historic turning point is imminent. A referendum will be held in spring on recognising First Peoples in Australia's Constitution, by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to the national Parliament and Government.

To appreciate the historic choice involved in this referendum, we should take note of several points made in a recent webinar on 23 May by the two First Nations women who led the Convention at Uluru. They are Pat Anderson and Megan Davis. For background on their roles see: https://ulurustatement.org/

First, Pat Anderson stressed that the referendum is a very serious business for Australia. It will help to define what we stand for as a country, and where we are going in the world. She said all electors should seek to understand the core issues, and to help others sort out the proposed reform from crude distortions.

Second, Megan Davis said the proposed Voice is designed as a specific change that will directly affect only Indigenous people. It will not affect the rights of non-Indigenous people in Australia, though it will affect how Australia and Australians are seen by the rest of the world.

Third, part of the background to the Voice proposal is what occurred under the Abbott government. It cut hundreds of local programs for Indigenous people by centralising the administration of government spending on Indigenous affairs. Davis said that was a disaster, and First Nations people want a way of preventing any reversion to such paternalism in future.

Fourth, the longer background to the Voice proposal is what happened to all previous national Indigenous representative bodies. Anderson pointed out that the government of the day ruthlessly used its power to abolish those bodies, without seeking advice from First Nations communities about how to make them operate more effectively.

This is the reason why the Uluru Statement calls for "a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution". If the proposed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice is placed in the Constitution, no government will be able to abolish it. So the Voice is designed as a way of ensuring that advice from First Peoples communities in future will be respected, and not ignored.

Fifth, Anderson stressed that, if the referendum succeeds, the process of creating the Voice as a new national representative body for First Peoples will be open and democratic. One key design principle of the Voice is that it will be chosen by Indigenous people "based on the wishes of local communities". For more see: https://ulurustatement.org/education/design-principles/

Finally, Anderson said the proposed Voice will give these First Peoples' representatives a seat at the table when decisions are being made by the Government and Parliament that affect First Peoples directly. Davis pointed out that the proposed Voice would help Australia fulfil its obligation under article 18 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This says First Peoples "have the right to participate in decision-making" in matters that affect them. Australia endorsed that Declaration in 2009. Nearly 15 years later we now have a chance to put it into practice.

The referendum on recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in our Constitution is a historic choice facing Australia and Australians.

The Uluru Statement calls on Australians to help create a better future "based on justice and self-determination".

We can contribute to such historic change by helping others appreciate the Uluru Statement in full. If the referendum succeeds, it could lead to a positive process of agreement-making and truth-telling about Australian history, which would begin to end what the Statement calls "the torment" of the current powerlessness of First Peoples in Australian society.

Mind over money matters

Anthony Hoy

More than 50 local investors and property owners attended the Braidwood dinner launch of local author Jacqui Clarke's acclaimed new book, *Stop Worrying About Money*.

The launch was held in the auditorium of the building now known as Free Trade Co 1858, formerly the Bernardoff Building in Wallace Street, now owned by Jacqui and her husband Michael.

Since its launch-proper earlier in May, *Stop Worrying About Money* has garnered national media attention for its sure-fire money advice to help all comers properly prepare for life's financial ups and downs.

For decades the Clarkes have worked, through Deloittes and more recently through their own firm Maxima Private, with some of Australia's wealthiest families to help them preserve, protect and grow their wealth, and navigate the challenges that money brings.


Jacqui and Michael Clarke.

Jacqui is a former non-executive director of the Humpty Dumpty Foundation — the biggest provider of medical equipment for infants outside of NSW Health.

Each year a percentage of revenue from bull sales at the local cattle enterprise Jacqui ran for 10 years with her husband Michael — 'Koolewong', 8km from Braidwood on Araluen Road — was donated to the Foundation.

Jacqui also introduced Braidwood Hospital to the Foundation, which now regularly conducts due diligence on equipment requests for the hospital.

Michael Clarke's family, the Dempseys, have been running merino fine wool sheep and cattle at Emu Flat on and around what is known as The Big Hole on Cooma Road for seven generations, since 1838.

The Clarkes' cattle interests are now centred on a property closer to town, on Nerriga Road, overlooking Braidwood.

"My hope, through this book, is to see that money allows readers of the book to enjoy life. With careful planning and effort, you can manage your money so it doesn't manage you," Jacqui said.

Stop Worrying About Money is available at Deadwood for $29.99.

BOOK REVIEW *Julia Green*

Other voices

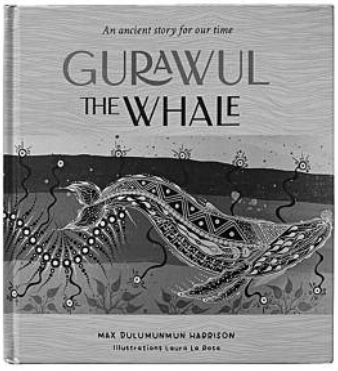
As we move towards making a collective decision about granting an Indigenous Voice to Parliament, there are many ways we can individually hear Indigenous voices, and thereby learn about their rich culture and law/lore, and consider their long-held knowledge and wisdom.

Indigenous authors have proliferated over recent years and their intelligent and creative writings are available for us all to hear their stories and truths about the early history of this land.

Recently published by Magabala Books, *'GURAWAL the WHALE'* is a very beautiful illustrated story by the late Uncle Max Dulumunmun Harrison. Uncle Max is known to many of us in the Braidwood region as the traditional Elder of the Two Fires Festivals, from 2005 until his sad passing in December 2021. Over the years he shared with great generosity his deep knowledge of culture and ceremony, and gained our respect as an exceptional leader and teacher.

As a young person Uncle Max was initiated by his grandfather and uncles into the traditional ways. He developed the great gift of being able to straddle two cultures, communicating his wisdom with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

His life purpose was to pass on the teachings of his Elders, and those of us who knew him are familiar with his statement that "to keep it you have to give it away".



His first book, *'MY PEOPLE'S DREAMING'*, was published in 2009, and remains a treasured source of Yuin creation stories (including references to Braidwood).

In *'GURAWUL the WHALE, An ancient story for our time'*, Uncle Max tells of his journey over some 70 years to fulfil a promise to his Elders in relation to the ancient legend of Gurawul the whale. The journey ultimately took him to "the southern land", Tasmania, where through pivotal meetings he was taken to sacred places connecting the stories he had been taught many decades before.

In his words:

"...as a traditional custodian, my responsibility has been to keep Gurawul"s story alive so that we can continue caring for this ancient sacred being who has taught us so much about harmony, respect, sharing and caring."

Some years ago now I was privileged to share with Uncle Max and his Family a sacred Whale Ceremony on a south coast beach. It was a deeply moving experience, and I understand these Yuin ceremonies are now regularly held to ensure safe passage for the whales migrating up and down the east coast of NSW.

'Gurawul the Whale' is a richly meaningful book for us all. The story told by Uncle Max can touch our hearts and minds in profound ways, and gently challenge our thinking and understanding. Uncle Max's words are accompanied by very beautiful illustrations by Laura La Rosa, a proud Dharug and Calabrian woman. The stunning cover is by Emilia Toia.

This book is a special gift to us all, and part of the huge legacy of a very special Elder.

Off the grid

John Longhurst

"Oi! ... Dad, Angus beef cattle prices are going through the roof on the market report. If we sell those fifty in the back paddock we are ahead fifty percent over the three months. Do you want me to press sell."

The old beef farmer spun around and eyeballed his son hanging out the kitchen window.

"Get off that bloody computer. How many times have I got to tell you we can't have the computer going at the same time as the washing machine with our solar energy system. That's exactly how we lose money. You're drawing power from the grid whilst Mum is following the power roster."

Overhearing the reprimand, Mother paused her phone conversation to her best customer and rushed to fill the washing machine with clothes before the Electricity General came in for morning tea.

The old beef farmer gazed up at the cloudy sky and shook his head.

"Hey love…….I reckon you have got half an hour to finish that washing load. The sun is out but not for long. I hope you got it on the economy cycle."

She fumbled around with the dials and rushed back to a now silent phone. "Damn" she cursed. She had been working on that sale for the last two weeks and it was her income that was keeping the farm afloat.

The old beef farmer strolled in for morning tea.

He seated himself at the head of the table and flicked open his iPad and tapped the energy consumption app. There was the odd groan and the odd "ha-ha" as he scrolled through the data.

"Ah not a bad morning ... love ... not too bad. It's telling me you were late putting the washing on and we had to buy some kilowatts when that cloud cover came over. I did warn you. There's no point in me standing in the backyard telling you how much sun there is if you are not going to listen — I'm better off spending my time farming."

'Well yeah —' She shook her head. She pined for the days when no one cared when you used electricity. It was now all peak, shoulder, off peak, inverters, solar and the terms went on and on. He even monitored the home electricity usage on his iPad during a recent holiday to Indonesia.

"Hang on, what's going on here. Someone's been using a heap of power before sunrise. Bloody kids. Look at this graph love. See that spike. Let's look at that usage compared to yesterday and compare the whole month to last year. Now if we compare that to the weather patterns for the same time last year — there you go — pretty good eh! We have saved a bit there. You beauty!"

He wrote down some figures and pulled out the household diary. He made a number of adjustments to the power roster and rubbed his chin repeatedly. Heavy white goods running in the middle of the day, air conditioner used to cool the house and then turn it off when the sun goes down and laptops and computers in the late afternoon. He was trying to get everyone to play cards at night rather than watch television to avoid the early evening peak time spike and pretty much a free for all post 10.00pm off peak rates.

Pleased with his adjustments, he closed the diary and finished his morning cup of tea.

"I hope you're going to look at those heifers calving this afternoon. A lot of the money I've been earning is mixed up in that." She was standing with her hands firmly on her hips.

He scratched his chin "Ah — best I adjust those solar panels on the eastern side of the roof. I reckon there is a five percent boost in power we can generate with a minor twig here and there."

She was about to ramp up the exchange when the son burst in.

"Crikey, Dad Angus up by three hundred percent. We must sell. At that price all the debt will be sorted and then some but we have to move now."

The old beef farmer's eyes widened.

"Son, get off that bloody computer. Computer time is 4.30pm. Follow the bloody roster and we save a lot of money. I want to get off the grid."

Books actually!

It's one of Braidwood's most popular events. From its humble beginnings as Betty's (Jones) Book Fair around 30 years ago to the multi-day extravaganza, the Braidwood Book Fair has become a major calendar drawcard for locals and visitors alike.

The bi-annual Book Fair is again set to open its doors at the National Theatre over the King's Birthday weekend.

When the event started it was held in Wisbey's shop (now Braidwood Outdoor Shop) which was unoccupied at the time. They then moved to the Old Anglican Hall (now the Old Sunday School Hall) before the event found its current home at the National Theatre.

Typically the event raises around $25,000, all of which goes back into the Braidwood community supporting local projects and community groups.

Donations of books can be left at the parish centre behind the Anglican Church. Boxes can be left under cover in the carport or on the verandah.

SOUTHPAWS AND MOLLYDOOKERS

Being left-handed in a right-handed world

Julia Ermert

My health worker's daughter is left-handed and wants to join her local soccer team.

But they're all trained to place the practice ball by the right foot.

Will the trainer accept her?

My neighbour teaches violin.

A prospective pupil is left-handed. Is there any future for him?

My friend's nephew was forced to use his right hand.

Now he stutters. Is there a connection?

My left-handed grandson is starting school.

Will he be punished or stigmatised? Will his teacher tell him he's letting the Devil into his life?

This prejudice against left-handers goes way back. There are taboos associated with that side of the body. Words for 'left' also mean 'awkward,' 'wrong,' 'ill-omened,' 'worthless' or 'diseased.' I'm quoting languages as far apart as Greek, Latin, Frieisan, German, Hindi. A 'left-handed compliment' is an insult. 'Getting off on the wrong foot' refers to the left foot.

Statistics show 10% of the population as left-handed. I don't believe it. I've been talking around this subject for quite a time now, and everybody has a story. I suspect that quoted statistic is the tip of the iceberg. Left-handedness can be concealed, switched, or simply not recorded.

Since this is fairly constant throughout history, we have to wonder why it has survived in our gene pool at all. There has to be an evolutionary advantage. Lefties were certainly not sought in marriage; the women could be divorced or even burnt as witches.

How far back might this discrimination go? I suspect it might be what my son calls 'a cave thing.' Prehistoric civilisations were constantly under threat.

There was safety in numbers, and in conformity. The whole tribe had to be able to deal with a threat, to fight, to take flight, to find food and shelter. Any form of disability could impinge on this — a missing limb, old age, deafness or blindness, too many babies. So cripples were left behind, the elderly set adrift on ice floes, twin babies exposed. They were 'bad luck' — that is, they threatened the cohesiveness of the group. Other noticeable differences became taboo: blue eyes, red hair, and—perhaps— left-handedness. There did not necessarily have to be any observable or provable reason, although probably lefties threw a spear differently. You were 'other,' set apart, displeasing to the gods, so you were a threat.

I think this has become ingrained. We still find ways of 'othering' people, of forming bonds with 'people like us.' Now we can't physically attack, but we still have ridicule and mockery, snubs and exclusion. We use terms like southpaws, mollydookers, cuddy wifters, cack(y)-handers, kate-handed, goofy-footed.

The doctor may call you *sinistromanual* as against *dextral*.

Religion is responsible for a lot of this. Once upon a time, religion pervaded our whole lives, but it's surprising that it still keeps such a hold over our handedness. Children at catholic schools in particular suffered what surely must be seen as child abuse. Hand tied behind the back, severe canings, lectures where left handedness was equated with homosexuality … one boy was so severely beaten, his left hand was broken. Sure, he now writes with his right hand, but not very successfully, and his left hand is crippled with arthritis. The attitude was that the child was deliberately perverse and must be punished. As late as the 1950s, when I began teaching, UK and US educators spoke of the value of children learning to 'conform.' If you tried hard enough, you would succeed. Those of us who didn't favour humiliation as a teaching tool took positive action: I deliberately mixed the ink powder and water to a lighter hue so the blots weren't so obvious. That was still the nib pen days. Later, neat writers might be promoted to using a fountain pen. Or a biro— they were supposed to ruin handwriting. Some coached their lefties after school, although whether that was viewed positively or not might come under the heading of 'you'll thank me some day.'

A couple of decades later, lower levels of achievement were reported, with lower levels of spelling and nonverbal intelligence. More recently, investigators are factoring in the number of siblings in the family or whether the mother has a University degree. DNA researchers studied 38 000 lefty sequences and found some interesting hot-spots.

This keeps a lot of people busy … and using government money.

"The right hand of God" is where everyone hopes to sit. The left hand is the judgement side. The Archangel Gabriel perches there, sorting the sheep from the goats (Matthew 25:32), not an easy task in those days because they did look very similar. Sheep fleece was more valuable for clothing, but goat hair was tough and durable, and good for mats and carpets, so there was no reason for giving them a bad name. But how these things stick —- if we never question them.

Who then is most disadvantaged in a right-handed world? Certainly children, as they're naturally defenceless; if you want to be a Big Man, you can always pick on a child. There are plenty of bullies in schoolrooms, on both sides of the desks.

Then — tool users. Since the first Stone-ager knapped a flint, society has depended on tools. It is now possible (I'm not saying easy) to buy left-handed kitchen hardware, surgeons' knives, rulers, scissors, artists' palettes, cricket bats and teaspoons.

Yes, it does make a difference to spoons! The handle is slightly twisted to get the bowl scooping in the direction you lefties are stirring.

There is a whole market out there waiting for buyers and entrepreneurs.

As for computers, Bill Gates and his Microsoft cohorts are predominately lefties. It's easy now to get what you need, mouse, keyboard, accessories, at any good outlet.

Musicians are another targeted group. John Lennon was famously left handed and used a left handed guitar. Elvis Presley sometimes played one as well. Sir Paul McCartney is a virtuoso on most instruments and plays them with his left hand — except the drums. He uses a right handed drum kit — and if you didn't know there was a difference, you do now! Left handed violinists have special problems. In orchestras string players sit in a group. Any single player will be at the same disadvantage as a hand writer at a school desk: your elbow will be in the way.

Learning to play right handed can be the way to go, but then your non-dominant hand is the one doing all the hard work, the bowing. Your whole body will have to learn new positions. You may struggle to find a teacher. But it can be done. Charlie Chaplin played left handed as he composed the scores for his films.

Wind instruments present fewer challenges. Woodwinds are played with the left hand uppermost anyway; trombones, trumpets and tubas don't present significant problems and the French horn and bassoon favour the left hand. Luthiers (makers of stringed instruments) can craft violins and guitars to suit left handed customers. The hard work for pianists is on the right.

Even conducting with the left hand is tricky because of sightlines and what one is used to. It's a highly competitive field. Seemingly they are as unpopular as women conductors.

Perhaps it all depends on how famous you hope to be!

Left handers do seem to be more at risk of associated problems such as stuttering, dyslexia and ADHD. Whether this is because of enforced changes or just part of the syndrome is debatable. More to the point is what help is available. All these conditions can be modified and there are trained professionals around. But how accessible is this help? Is the government investing adequately in our children, the cit-

izens of the future? I think not. There are long waits for assistance, long waits to be assessed for any assistance, and meanwhile the children are denied their rights to the best education. It should not depend on how much a parent can afford. See your local member, parents. Speak to your council. You deserve answers. Your children deserve the best.

In the classroom, it doesn't matter very much at all, in theory, which hand a child favours. What matters is how others react to it. Someone who is not treated as abnormal won't feel abnormal. As with all the other artificial distinctions, handedness is another example of adult bullying, of power plays exerted by people who need to feel superior to other people. The defects are in themselves. Unfortunately, this goes from the dinner table to the schoolyard and the whole story is replicated.

You're entitled to find out what your school's policy is on handedness. My latest research suggests it's no longer of such great importance because children use keyboards. I'm not sure what I think of this.

When I worked in the sub-literacy field, as a volunteer, I was told there was no government money because no one needed to read any more. Computers would tell them what they needed to know. Ah, but who was programming the computers? This was the eighties and I'm still asking. Knowledge is power.

The Royal Family makes an interesting and easy study, since they're always under observation. Queen Victoria was left-handed but taught to write with her right hand. King Charles signs with his right hand but could have a problem; remember the trouble with that fountain pen? Not even the King of England is safe from ridicule! The Prince of Wales signs with his left hand. The Queen Mother was a lefty. George VI was punished for it and became a stutterer. They're keeping a close eye on Princess Charlotte. She has been observed holding toys with her left hand! No one is secure; they do it for us, their subjects. That is part of their magic, like it or not.

Magic — perhaps that's the answer. Perhaps that's why lefties endure in the gene pool, despite so much suspicion and dislike. They bring magic to our lives. Traditionally, looking at life from their differing perspectives, they are the inventors, the transformers, the artists— some 40% are lefties, they say — the visionaries, the lateral thinkers. They are risk-takers, strategists, statesmen, conquerors whether on the field of war or the field of sport. No one expects to be attacked with a lance, or served a tennis ball, from that angle.

Statistics are tricky, but some show 25% or even 40% of astronauts are lefties. It depends how far back you go. Dick Gordon (d. 2017), boasted, "I can control the stick and take notes at the same time."

We even have lefty cartoon characters; Bart Simpson and Kermit the Frog are two I recognise. There's magic!

Since WW 2 the US has had 14 presidents. Six have been at least predominantly left-handed: Harry S Truman, Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, George HW Bush, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

Donald J Trump is right-handed. Doesn't that say something?

BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY RADIO 88.9

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

Stamp duty exemptions for Monaro home buyers

Steve Whan Member for Monaro media release

First home buyers in Monaro will be winners from the Minns' government stamp duty exemptions, with savings on all homes purchased for under $1 million.

Member for Monaro, Steve Whan, says "under the Liberals and Nationals scheme more than 80% of the Government funds went to Sydney. Regional first home buyers largely missed out on any benefit.

"Our proposed scheme is simpler and fairer. Labor's legislation will lift the thresholds for stamp duty for first home buyers from $650,000 to $800,000 and stamp duty concessions from $800,000 to $1 million.

"We can see the real benefit for some of our communities. In Queanbeyan where the median price for a home is $875,000, Labor's proposed concession will save a buyer $19,400.

"In Cooma the median price is $560,000 that means savings of $20,300, and in Braidwood the median price is $795,000 meaning savings of $30,900 for a first home buyer.

"Even in communities where the median price is over $1 million, first home buyers buying cheaper properties will get that direct benefit.

"According to Revenue NSW data collected over the 2020-21 and 2021-22 financial years, more than half of transactions for NSW properties under $1 million occurred in regional NSW.

"However, more than 80 per cent of the take up for the former government's land tax scheme came from the Sydney metropolitan area.

"First home buyers will be able to immediately make significant savings in their purchase prices, from July 1.

"It is estimated five out of every six first home buyers will be eligible for support under the reform."

OBITUARY *Irvin Stanley Smith*

29 December 1932 - 8 May 2023

A much loved member of the Gundillion community, Irvin Smith passed away on Monday 8 May at Braidwood Hospital after a short illness. He was ninety years of age and healthy all his life.

Irvin grew up in Ashfield in Sydney, trained as a carpenter and during his world travels, met his Swiss wife Claire on a beach in Mallorca. They built their first home in Epping, spent a couple of years working in Singapore, and then settled in Canberra. They raised three kids and Irvin operated his own successful construction company.

Irvin and Claire retired to the Krawarree district in 2000 to build a home on 100 acres overlooking the Shoalhaven river.

Irvin was a big supporter of the community and volunteered his time and expertise to restore and upgrade the Gundillion Hall. This involved building a new kitchen and completely relining the hall.

He was also an active member of the Krawarree RFS.

Irvin was kindness personified. Everyone who met him loved him because he was always smiling that big smile. He would do anything to help anyone and always had time for a chat.

Irvin leaves behind his wife Claire, daughter Heidi and son Stuart, son-in-law Brad, granddaughter Sally, and sister Gwen Jagger. His late daughter Jill passed away in 2013, Irvin's only heartache in a long and happy life.

The Canberra Strings in action.

Brahms and Mendelssohn come to Braidwood

Canberra Strings media release

On Sunday 18th June at 2.30pm, Canberra Strings will bring their program of Brahms and Mendelssohn string quintets to Braidwood.

Following on from well attended performances in 2021 and '22, the ensemble will present this mid-winter concert at the Club.

The ensemble's leader, Braidwood violinist, Barbara Jane Gilby, says: "we understand that audiences (not to mention players) want to be comfortably warm and have the opportunity to to obtain refreshments. The large hall at the club has a timber floor so the acoustics should be ideal for our group." As in previous concerts, the players will be Barbara Gilby, Pip Thompson, Lucy Carrigy-Ryan, Jack Chenoweth and Samuel Payne.

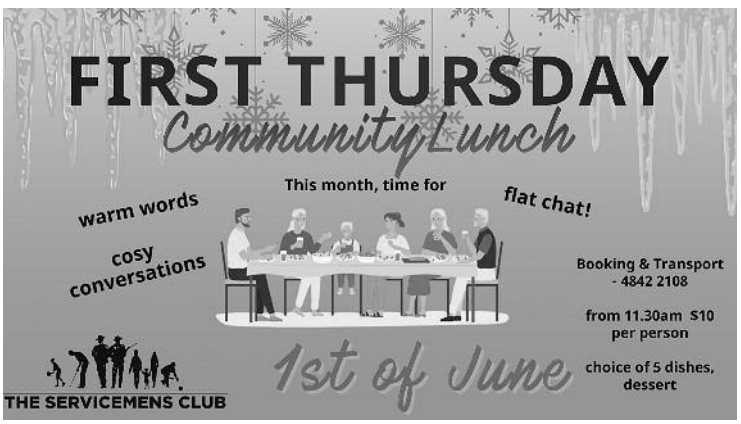
The concert will present two of the most beautiful works of the Romantic string quintet (two violins, two violas and 'cello) genre. After Mozart popularised the form, Mendelssohn and Brahms were the two major exponents of the "viola" quintet.

Mendelssohn's Quintet No. 2 in B flat was composed in 1845 when the composer was 36, so it was one of his last chamber works.The prominent attribute of this piece is energy, particularly in the first and fourth movements.

Brahms intended his second Quintet in G major to be his final piece. The message accompanying the score on delivery to the publisher read "With this note you can take leave of my music, because it is high time to stop." He did come out of retirement to compose a series of *'Indian Summer'* works, but the quintet stands as a monumental "bookend". The final movement has been described as "the ultimate party music"; we think our audience will agree.

Each of the four movement works lasts about 30 minutes and there will will be a short interval to enable the audience to stretch their legs and top up their glasses.The performers will be available after the concert if patrons would like to talk to them.

For further information, visit the Canberra Strings web site or 'phone 0439 030 972.



ABOUT THE PLACE

Nick Kemp Braidwood and Villages Business Chamber, Sue Murray Braidwood Community Association, Margaret Tuckwell Visitor Information Centre, Jamie Raynolds BAVBC, and interested local Roger James meet at the Club.

Managing our heritage

A group of Braidwood organisations are working collectively with the aim of securing a meeting with the NSW Heritage Minister, Ms Penny Sharpe.

While the action is being initiated by the Braidwood and the Villages Business Chamber (BATVBC), it includes the Braidwood Community Association, the Braidwood and Villages Tourism Association and the Braidwood and District Historical Society. QPRC is also being kept informed via Cr Willis, CEO Rebecca Ryan and urban planners Lorba Drewry and Ruth Ormella.

In requesting a meeting with the minister through the office of the Member for Monaro, Steve Whan, BATVBC Secretary, Nick Kemp, said that the group is "seeking to request pragmatic changes that are actionable by the Minister and will set the management of Braidwood's Heritage Listing on a successful path for both the state, QPRC and our community."

Representatives of the groups involved met last week at the Servicemen's Club to ensure that they are all 'on the same page' regarding the intent and context of the proposed meeting with Minister Sharpe.

BCS NEWS John Longhurst

Mick Wall with Scarlett Bunn.

Senior mentoring program

A comprehensive mentoring program is enabling senior students at Braidwood Central School (BCS) to achieve their goals.

The program is conducted with Mr Mick Wall, BCS Head Teacher Careers.

At the beginning of Year 11 all students identify goals and are interviewed by Mr Wall.

Mr Wall said, "I spend up to an hour with each student several times a year to discuss pathways to achieve identified goals. Appropriate subject selection in the senior school is covered in detail to ensure consistency with these goals. Time is also spent identifying the entrance requirements of appropriate tertiary institutions and the all important ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank). At the end of the interview students have a clear idea of expectations and study requirements to achieve stated goals."

In some cases the first interview is a reality check for students.

Mr Wall explained, "It is vital to start the mentoring process as early as possible in Year 11. In some cases students change their goals when the requirements are made plain. It is obviously less stressful for such decisions to be made as early as possible."

All the way to the Higher School Certificate (HSC) students are interviewed at length after each assessment task to monitor progress and comprehend upcoming requirements to stay on track to meet identified goals.

Mr Wall added, "In these interviews I enter assessment marks into an online ATAR mark estimator with the student to assess and monitor student progress. Areas of weakness are identified and strategies to lift results in targeted upcoming assessments tasks are discussed. The students can then tailor their learning habits to remain faithful to their identified goals."

Year 12 Student, Scarlett Bunn has found the mentoring program most helpful with her studies.

Scarlett said, "From a young age, I have always aspired to be a vet. I made my ambition very clear in my first interview in Year 11. The mentoring program guided me in the appropriate subjects to choose and the marks required to meet the ATAR. The follow up interviews after each assessment task have been essential in keeping me on track. It has reduced my stress levels enormously."

With many tertiary institutions now using alternate entrance criteria, other than just the ATAR mark, students can become lost in a maze of information.

Scarlett Bunn added, "The program has made me aware of other ways of reaching my goal if I fall short of reaching my required ATAR mark to study Veterinary Science at Charles Stuart University in Wagga Wagga. I have also successfully applied for early entry at the same University in Veterinary Technology. It will then be possible to transfer to Veterinary Science if my university marks are good enough. Mr Wall and I have been in a number of telephone link ups with the University to explore these options. I feel very positive about reaching my stated goals."

BCS Principal, Ms Nerida Mosely has fostered the development of the senior students' mentoring program.

Ms Mosely said, "The program is all about accessing appropriate choices post the HSC and a guided path to achieve identified goals. The mentoring program is designed to reduce senior students' stress levels during their last two years of secondary school."

BCS wins first round of Premier's Debating Challenge

Braidwood Central School has defeated Monaro High School in the first round of the 2023 Premier's Debating Challenge for Stage 5 (Years 9 and 10).

BCS was represented by the Stage 5 Debating Team of Grace Tybell, Layla Stuart, Chelsea Pharoah and Kaiya Royds.

Teams from across NSW are organised into six zones to compete in three debates. The best team in each zone proceeds to knockout finals culminating in a State Final to be held on Friday 10th November, 2023. The winning school takes home the Teasdale Cup.

Under the rules of the Challenge, teams have 60 minutes to prepare their case. Teams are not allowed to take mobile devices, notes or research into the preparation rooms.

The speaking time for each debater is 8 minutes.

In the zoom debate against Monaro High School, BCS had to argue against the proposal *'All new kindergartens should be built next to aged care centres'.*

BCS Teacher, Ms Alisa Stephens, Stage 5 Debating Coordinator, was impressed by the teamwork and preparation.

Ms Stephens said, "The Team used the preparation time very productively. They highlighted the opportunities for positive intergenerational interactions outside of a school setting and stressed building all kindergartens in proximity to aged care centres was not necessary."

The debate was adjudicated by Ms Alexandra Pitt, a former Sydney Girls' High School Student, from Gungahlin.

Ms Stephens said, "Ms Pitt praised both teams for their delivery in a close run debate. Our Braidwood Students opted to hear personal feedback and are now planning to put her suggestions into action."

Stage Five Debater, Layla Stuart is looking forward to the next round.

Layla said, "It was a high pressure preparation but winning the first round is a huge confidence boost. As our teamwork and speaking skills build, I am confident we can improve even more in the next debate".

BCS will debate Bombala High School before the end of Term 2 and will host Karabar High School early next Term.

BCS Principal Ms Nerida Mosely congratulated the students.

Ms Mosely said, "This competition began in 1950 and has now expanded to a statewide Challenge. A special thanks to Ms Pitt as well as our Stage 4 Debating Team members, Natalie Clifton and Alfie Warner, who acted as Chairperson and Timekeeper. Congratulations also to Ms Stephens in recording a win in her first debate as our Stage 5 Debating Coordinator".

Alfie Warner, Chelsea Pharoah, Layla Stuart, Kaiya Royds, Grace Tybell.

THE LAW Angela Backhouse

The dangers of parents giving personal guarantees to their children's mortgages

Amidst the property boom in Australia, many new homeowners are capitalising on ways to maximise their borrowing power, and subsequent ability to purchase a house or property.

One common way to maximise this borrowing power is through a guarantee on the mortgage. A guarantee is a contractual agreement whereby the guarantor agrees to fulfill the repayment and other necessary obligations of a borrower if the borrower fails to do so.

It is very common for parents to provide a guarantee for home loans obtained by their children to assist their children purchase property. It also serves to avoid paying additional home loan insurance where they fail to meet the threshold of a 20% deposit. However, parents must proceed with caution when guaranteeing home loans, particularly where they fail to protect their own assets including their property.

The general way that a guarantee operates is that if a borrower defaults on their mortgage obligations, the lender can pursue the guarantor for payment. So, if you act as a guarantor on your child's mortgage, and they fail to pay the required repayments, you may be held responsible for the debt. Moreover, to add to this element of risk, often where a borrower defaults on their repayment obligations, the entire amount of debt becomes immediately repayable (or within a much shorter timeframe than originally agreed). Therefore, if the borrower defaults, the guarantor can be exposed to a plethora of significant liability.

Where a borrower defaults, the first port of call is for the guarantor to repay the remainder of the loan. Where they are unable to do so, the assets of the guarantor may be used by the lender to settle the loan. This will be easily achieved by a lender where the guarantor has put their own property as security for the loan. So, if the borrower fails to make their repayments, there is a risk that your assets will be seized in order to repay the loan.

In addition to these risks against your assets, there may be additional risks that affect your capacity to borrow money. A guarantor is under an obligation to inform a credit provider of any loans in which they act as guarantor. Therefore, this may impact the guarantor's capacity to borrow money. Moreover, the failure of the borrower to repay the loan could reflect badly on the guarantor's credit rating, further impeding on their future ability to borrow.

It is strongly recommended that you seek legal advice when acting as a guarantor, so that you can appropriately protect your assets and liabilities.

Additionally, you must be mindful that you will be liable to fulfil the obligations of another party if that party fails to do so, and consider their ability to satisfy the requirements of the mortgage.

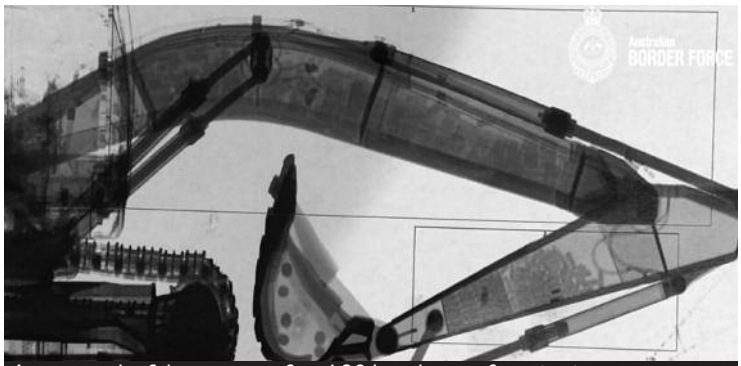
Chamberlains Law Firm specialise in asset protection and guarantees. If you are considering providing a guarantee for your children's mortgage, we encourage to contact us on 02 6188 3000.

News trivia

How well have you been paying attention?

1. Tina Turner died last week at the age of 83. What was her original name?
2. Ms Turner fronted a promotional campaign for which Australian sporting body in 1993? (Bonus point: what was the song used for the campaign?)
3. A statue of which former AFL great was unveiled in Sydney last week?
4. What was the original use of the Sydney CBD building that was destroyed by fire last week?
5. The PM of which country was hosted in Australia last week?
6. The federal government has announced tighter regulations around what financial sector?
7. What state government announced last week that native forest logging will end next year?
8. Former Greens, now independent, Senator Lidia Thorpe is set to lodge a racism complaint against which political party?
9. A Japanese backpacker has just completed a 3,000km trek from Melbourne to Cairns using what mode of transportation?
10. An earthquake on Sunday night was centred outside which Australian capital city?

Answers: 1. Anna Mae Bullock; 2. NRL (Bonus: *Simply the Best*); 3. Adam Goodes; 4. Hat factory; 5. India; 6. The 'buy now pay later' industry; 7. Victoria; 8. The Greens; 9. A kick scooter; 10. Melbourne



A screengrab of the x-ray test found 384 packages of cocaine in an excavator. Photo: Australian Border Force.

Bungendore man jailed for attempted possession of cocaine in excavator

Travis Radford, Riotact Online

A judge who handed a "respected" member of the Bungendore community a jail sentence for 276 kilograms of cocaine found in an excavator said he played a "lesser role", but no other sentence was appropriate.

Judge Gina O'Rouke stressed Timothy John Engstrom was being sentenced for attempted possession of the drug rather than for its importation, for which his long-time friend and business partner Adam Phillip Hunter was previously convicted and imprisoned. But Judge O'Rouke noted that Engstrom's role was "substantially serious", and both men's offences carried a maximum sentence of lifetime imprisonment.

The 38-year-old Engstrom appeared at NSW District Court via an audiovisual link on Friday (26 May) and was convicted and sentenced to 11 years and six months' prison.

The court heard Engstrom's involvement began in 2019 when he was granted a loan of $30,000 and transferred the same amount to the parent company of his and Hunter's business, Bungendore Landscape Supplies. The parent company transferred $50,000 to a South African organisation for the delivery of a "refurbished" excavator that was later determined to be inoperational and in a "very poor condition".

Judge O'Rouke said the father-of-two was aware the excavator had been purchased and knew by the latest three days before the digger arrived that what was hidden inside was illegal and a criminal offence.

The court heard Engstrom had organised items to cut into the digger's boom arm where the cocaine was stored and discussed ways to avoid police with Hunter, including using gloves to avoid leaving DNA evidence, avoiding security cameras on the business premises and burning materials. The court heard the pair had also discussed a plan to escape from the business in separate cars "if it all turns to shit".

After the digger arrived at the Bungendore business on 14 July 2019, Engstrom spent two-and-a-half hours cutting into its boom arm with an angle grinder and unpacked the cocaine into tubs with Hunter.

However, unbeknown to Engstrom and Hunter, police had intercepted the digger when it arrived in Australia in June and discovered and replaced the 384 packages of cocaine with an "inert substance".

The court heard Engstrom attempted to run from police, who had been surveilling the business when they raided the shed containing the digger on the same day it arrived in Bungendore.

Judge O'Rouke said Engstrom had witnessed anti-social behaviour as a child and tried drugs in adulthood, including cocaine in his mid-20s, but had no substance abuse issues. She found Engstrom was motivated by financial difficulties with his business and a sense of "misguided loyalty" to Hunter, who the court heard Engstrom had since referred to as an associate with whom he did not want any further contact.

The court heard Engstrom believed at the time that if he did not ask questions of Hunter, he would not be breaking the law and did not view his behaviour as hurting people.

Judge O'Rouke said that since being remanded in custody in March (2023), Engstrom had continued working and participated in various courses and workshops.

In the reasons for her sentence, she said while Engstrom's rehabilitation prospects were good, "there is simply no evidence of remorse or contrition".

It was "very concerning", she said, that after a period of apparent understanding, Engstrom had reverted to claiming he was wrongfully convicted.

She said the "serious criminality of [Engstrom's] offending" required a sentence that would deter others from what she described as a "nefarious trade".

"I do not consider any other sentence [besides imprisonment] appropriate," she said of Engstrom's "planning, organisation and determined effort to gain access [to the cocaine]".

Judge O'Rouke said that although his trial was efficient, Engstrom did not cooperate with police and had not pleaded guilty like Hunter, who, for pleading guilty, received a 20 per cent discount to his prison sentence in September 2021. He was sentenced to 12 years and nine months' jail, ending in 2032, with a non-parole period of eight years and three months, which means he is eligible to be released in October 2027.

Engstrom was convicted and handed a non-parole period of seven years and six months' jail in May (2023). He will be eligible for release in January 2030.

Jurors in the NSW District Court previously found Engstrom guilty of one charge of attempting to possess a commercial quantity of a border-controlled drug in 2022.

— * —

WHAT'S HAPPENING ABOUT THE PLACE

Laura Moriarty

Social correspondent Laura Moriarty

It's the start of winter as this article is being written and will be officially winter by the time this issue hits the street.

We've had some gorgeous late autumn days and a few truly horrible ones, but this time of year is always beautiful—the skies at night and at morning have been eerie and even lovely. But enough meteorological musings, and we'll get right into what's on in Braidwood for this fortnight!

Concerts and Gigs

Jay Potger is on at the Royal Mail on 10th June from 7pm onwards.

— * —* —* —

The Braidwood Hotel has music on Saturday, 4th June and Sunday, 5th June. Matt Dent is playing Saturday night from 6pm and Fi Howell is playing on Sunday from 5pm.

— * —* —* —

King's Birthday Sunday Session at the Smokey Horse 11th June with The King Hits!

Time to dust off your ghee-tars and jazz hands for the first, and long overdue, Sunday Session of the year! This time, ole surfy western rock faves The King Hits will be headlining to round out an afternoon of live jamming and local talent.

Markets

The Farmers Markets are on this Saturday 3rd June at the National Theatre from 8:30 am onwards.

Gallery Openings

At the Altenburg from 8th June - 1st July

■ Kate Carruthers - Where the wildflowers grow / Gallery One

Artist statement June 2023

"This new body of work focuses on wildflowers in the landscape. Inspired to use a new colour palette, I pushed myself to explore a botanical theme in these paintings. These works also continue my observation of cloudscapes, the colour and depth of clouds and the way light filters through them".

Kate Carruthers is a Braidwood artist working across the mediums of paint and ceramics.

■ Allison Barnes - Lost / Gallery Two

Artist statement

"Interesting urban streetscapes that give us a sense of place depend on valuing buildings of diverse age and style. These works celebrate disappearing and disregarded mid twentieth century structures and spaces in Canberra.

Biography

Allison Barnes is an emerging Canberra based visual artist. Her practice is mainly in print, mixed media and spatial work. She is interested in the built environment; broader environmental issues and the institutions people use to manage human activities. Her work often incorporates the use of waste and found materials.

Meet the artists and have celebratory drinks on Saturday June 10th @ 3pm

Community Events

■ BYPAA Broadcast Workshop is on Mondays from 5pm to 6:30pm till the end of Term 2. This will be at the Old Library across the road from the new library. It will cost $20 to attend and membership is necessary for insurance purposes.

At The Club

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

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

■ 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.

■ 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.

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

■ 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.

■ 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

■ 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.

■ 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 Community Organisations

■ The Royal Mail's weekly chocolate wheel is on as always, as is their Happy Hours on Thursday and Friday nights!

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

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

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

■ Braidwood Health Walking Group meets every Wednesday morning at 8:30 am at Ryrie Park. Suitable for all ages and abilities, and you can bring a walking buddy with you if you wish to have company. For further information, please contact Trish Sargeson on 0438 768 539.

■ Braidwood Scouts are on every Thursday throughout the school terms. Joeys (ages 5-7 years) from 6 to 7pm, Cubs (ages 8-11 years) from 6.15 to 7.30pm, Scouts (ages 12-14 years) from 6.30 to 8pm Venturers (ages 15-17 years) from 6.30 to 8pm. Please contact Chris or Malcolm Campbell.

■ Braidwood Guides are on every Wednesday afternoon throughout the school terms. It starts at 4pm and finishes at 5:30pm. Please contact Kim Stewart on kim@riffsandrants.com.au for further information.

■ Enjoy German Christmas Baking Workshops this June at the Old Sunday School Hall in Braidwood with Lisi from my Heimat: Christmas Stollen (June 4th) and Nuremberg Gingerbread (June 25th). The next Simply Sourdough is taught on June 18th. Bookings via www.myheimat.com.au/courses/ or contact Lisi on 0492 826 239.

At BRAG

■ Snuggle n Sing is on Mondays 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

■ Aikido is on Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30 pm. Please phone Matthew Hulse to organise attendance on 0438 648 468.

■ Sue Lyons runs pilates and yoga on Thursdays at 10:30-11:30 and Fridays at 10:30-12:30. Please get in contact with Sue if you wish to attend.

■ Christina Jagusiak runs yoga classes on Monday afternoons from 4pm to 5:15pm, and on Saturday mornings from 8am to 9 am. Please get in contact with Christina if you wish to attend.

■ Songlarks is 9:30-11:10 on Mondays. It is a short music class for pre-school age children, including infants from about six months old. It's about discovering the joy of music together. We sing nursery songs, play hand games and quality percussion instruments, and dance to beautiful music from around the world. The focus is on rhythm, rhyme and the changing of the seasons. These experiences nurture the developing senses of the young child fostering their imagination, imitation and play.

Each class is about 40 minutes. We meet at the Braidwood Regional Arts Group (BRAG) Building on Wallace Street in Braidwood, New South Wales.

■ Vera Active Pilates runs on Mondays between 6pm and 7pm, Tuesdays from 9:30am to 10:30am, and an evening class on Tuesdays from 6:30 and 7:30pm, and finally on Wednesdays 9:30 am to 11:30 am, and an evening class running from 6:30 to 7:30pm.

■ Life Drawing runs on the last Saturday of every month

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

QPRC

Have your say - Draft **Aquatics Strategic Plan**

Share your thoughts on our Draft Aquatics Strategic Plan. This document will shape the future of our public pools and we want to hear from you.

▶ Read the strategy and have your say at **yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au**

World Environment Day Events

We have a fantastic series of FREE events this week to celebrate World Environment Day!

In Bungendore on 3 June
Visit the Southern Harvest Farmers Market Education Stall or enjoy a Guided Nature Walk along Turallo Creek.

In Braidwood on 4 June
Clean Up Gillamatong Creek or enjoy a Family Movie Afternoon at the Braidwood National Theatre.

In Queanbeyan
Join a Guided Nature Walk around the Queanbeyan River on 4 June or attend the Environmental Education Expo at The Hive on 5 June.

▶ Learn more at **qprc.nsw.gov.au/events**

Road Name Notification

Council, in pursuance of Section 163 of the *Roads Act 1993* and Part 2 of the *Roads Regulation 2008* proposes to use the following names for roads.

In Elm Grove - Bungendore: Charlotte Place, Ellen Street, Marjason Court Talbot Street, Wardell Street, Winyu Rise.
In the Newington Road subdivision – Bywong: Yellow Box Close, Quince Paddock Place.

▶ Comments are invited up to 22 June. Learn more at **bit.ly/RdNotice**

Have Your Say

Projects & initiatives open for community comment	**Closing Date**
Draft Fireworks Display Policy	8 June
Draft Donations Policy 2023	12 June
2023 Draft Integrated Plans	12 June
Amendment Queanbeyan Development Control Plan 2012 (Jumping Creek)	22 June
Draft Aquatics Strategic Plan	6 July

▶ 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

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:
- 14 June
- 28 June

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**

- Gardener
- Learn to Swim Instructor
- Trainee Gardener
- Water and Sewer Operator
- Management Accountant
- Animal Management Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Community Programs Officer
- Senior Strategic Planner
- Senior Pool Attendant

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

Advertising of Notices and Documents under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Regulations Documents are published at **bit.ly/DPnotices**

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NEWS FROM THE PEWS

St Bede's Parish

Reflection on the Gospel of John 3:16-18 by Greg Sunter

Rather than focusing on the mystery of the Trinitarian God, today is an opportunity to marvel at the single-mindedness of God who is so determined to reveal the length and breadth of God's love to us.

That revelation has been made manifest in different ways throughout time but remains constant and unchanging.

At no point in the New Testament is the term 'Trinity' used. That understanding of the nature of God came much later. However, there are a number of scriptural references that led to this theological understanding. The Annunciation, the baptism of Jesus and the great commissioning of the disciples to baptise in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all examples of the three persons of God being recognised or active in the gospels. Today's second reading shows St Paul using the three experiences of God as a blessing of the people of Corinth.

Every time we bless ourselves or begin prayer with the sign of the cross, we reaffirm our belief in the Trinity. That seemingly simple prayer, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,' is, in fact, a confirmation of our belief in a triune God – three in one. The earliest use of the sign of the cross only involved tracing a small cross with the thumb or finger on the forehead as it is still done in baptisms or blessings today. Later, describing the shape of the cross on forehead, abdomen and shoulders became the common practice.

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Vinnies Winter Appeal: the theme of this year's appeal is 'What if your mum, grandma or sister became homeless?' spotlighting women over 55. Here in Braidwood we do, unfortunately, have some homeless people (and some in that age bracket) - those who couch surf, live in informal dwellings (read sheds or garages) or camp at Warri in tents or caravans. Imagine living in a tent during a Braidwood winter!! If you are able to make a contribution to the Vinnies Winter Appeal, please do so by using an envelope from the church or Vinnies shop and posting it in, donating online at www.vinnies.org.au or by calling 13 18 12. Donations of $2 or more are tax deductible.

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Vinnies Braidwood is looking for donations of blankets.

Your donation of blankets will be sold in-store here at Braidwood to assist with providing Emergency relief to members of our community needing assistance with their electricity, food, petrol, living expenses, medical expenses and clothes. If you are in need of assistance, please call 13 18 12 and the Vinnies Relief team can arrange help.

Braidwood and district thank you in advance of you support with donations.

Anglican Parish of Braidwood

Through Christ, you can do it.

Paul believed he could handle whatever life threw at him. Do you believe that too?

What are the things that trigger your fear and cause you to say "I could never do that'? …. Suddenly losing a loved one? Facing unexpected illness? Having an adult child with two toddlers move into your house after you have had an empty nest for years? Putting yourself on a strict budget to make ends meet? Suddenly having to take care of a disabled, elderly friend or parent?

Most people have some sort of situation that truly seems impossible to them, something they are unsure they can handle.

The truth is, while some situations may be extremely undesirable or challenging for you, God says you can do whatever you need to do in life.

He doesn't promise you will enjoy every little thing you do, but that you can enjoy life in the middle of doing them. How?

Through the power of the one 'Who infuses inner strength into you' .

When you need money, you make a withdrawal from your bank account. When your car is empty, you make a withdrawal from the petrol pump.

So when life gets overwhelming, pray and make a withdrawal on God's grace, love, strength, power and guidance.

'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me' Philippians 4:13.— * —* —* —

An extract from 'The Word for Today' A Christian Vision Publication.

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Sunday 4th June will be Trinity Sunday when we will celebrate the Christian doctrine of the Trinity – the three Persons of God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

You are invited to come to our service at 10am in St Andrew's Anglican Church, Elrington St, Braidwood and enjoy a cuppa & chat afterwards.

Parish contacts: 4842 2423 Email: angbraidwood@bigpond.com

Braidwood Uniting Church

Happy Birthday

This week all three churches in Braidwood met together on Sunday.

We celebrated the birthday of the church; an occasion the church calls Pentecost. The church began in wild days really. If you visit any of our churches, generally you'll find an occasion that is orderly. You'd be surprised probably to know that we have tears and laughter regularly in our meetings but generally, these moments happen inside an ordered form of service consistent with the various old traditions of each congregation. There was no such order at the beginning. The records show that onlookers judged that those who participated in the day of Pentecost were drunk. No one has recently accused our Sunday meetings of being a drunken rabble.

— * —* —* —

Every organisation, every occupation, every relationship begins with high hopes.It begins in an intoxicating joy that comes from being captured by a big idea that seems to light the way not to a predictable future but to joyful one as we seek make the big idea live in the real world. Doctors and nurses begin with the mighty vision of making people well. What could be more inspiring? Yet in the real world of bedpans, rosters, in-house power struggles, HR departments and government compliance requirements, the awesome vision can be dull, or entirely disappear. It's true also in relationships. Young people in love know nothing of time when they are intoxicated with one another and their hopes for a future together. Have you ever asked a young person in love to be home by a certain time? It means nothing to them. Yet in due course making money, making progress in a career, establishing a business and raising children can lose the wonder and joy that began the relationship. The church is no different.

— * —* —* —

It's a natural course that in time we all become smarter - not like the naive people we were when we were students and young lovers. We transition from the exciting and chaotic to the ordered and controlled. But the loss of wonder and awe kills the very project we hoped that held our hopes. The danger is in becoming, 'dead right'. It's the joyless state where we can detail all the failings of our partners. It's the joyless performance of duty that seems more empty over time. Gosh, there is a need for a birthday party. There is a need for us to be captured by the awesome thing that set our feet in motion. There is a need for a nurse to be caught up in the awesome vision of making people well. There is a need for me to be able to look at my wife as if for the first time. There is a need for the church to remember Pentecost.

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I'm pleased to tell you that there is nothing much that divides the churches in Braidwood. We work together on many things. We jointly broadcast a radio programme each Sunday evening on Braidwood FM. Generally we recognise that each of us is in need of the other. All of us work to honour the wisdom and insight of our traditions but often enough, we have the form of the wisdom but not the power. How we each need to be captured by the awesome that set it all in motion. It's the key to healthy relationships, healthy organisations and healthy churches.

Graham Long

Thanks ...

Margaret Jill Burke passed away 14/4/23 aged 91 years.

To Doctor Door Ahmed, Trish and the crew in 'aged care', your assistance to Jill over the years is greatly appreciated.

A sincere thanks to all who attended the service, sent sympathy cards and beautiful flowers; your thoughts and kindness is most welcomed.

Don Burke,
nieces and nephews.

0 200444 202002

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

GOLF NEWS

Members and visitors are reminded that the hit-off time for the Saturday golf competition is 12.00pm and you must be registered to play by 11.30am.

Until further notice, all members' bar service will require the 2023 Blue Members' Card to be shown. This is to provide verification of current membership. The 2023 cards can be collected from the office, when it is attended.

RESULTS-Saturday May 27

Medley American Foursomes - John Harb Trophy (with thanks to John for his sponsorship of this event)

Winners: Brendan Sly & Barry McDonald 67.1 nett

Runners Up: Rodney Royds & Allan Walcott 71.4 nett

NTP Men 8/17: John Harb

NTP Women 8/17: Michelle Henry

Ball Comp: Terry Hughes & Brian Holder 74.7, Barb Stuart & Chris Witt 76,

Margy Gardner & Ted Emmett 76.1, Andrew Clark & David Goddard 77.1

Coming Events

June 3 Saturday: Men's & Women's Stroke & Monthly Medals

June 10 Saturday: King's Birthday Weekend

Men's Single Stableford Brendan Sly Trophy

Women's Single Stableford – Bunyip Jungle Trophy

June 24 Saturday: Medley 2BBB Stableford Aggregate – Majors Creek Pub Trophy

July 1 Saturday: Men's & Women's Stroke & Monthly Medals

July 8 Saturday: Medley 2BBB Stableford – Daargun Aboriginal Corporation Trophy

July 15 Saturday: Committee Meeting 10.30am

Men's Single Stableford – Don Burke Trophy

Women's Single Stableford – Dojo Bread Trophy

Nutrien Ag Trade Day a big success

Photos: Laura Moriarty

Nutrien Ag hosted another successful annual Trade Day last week.

Despite cold and windy conditions, the sun was out and around 70 different companies were represented with between 300 and 400 local clients.

The Stihl stand was again very popular with the sales rep and mechanic both kept busy all day with clients, while many other customers were able to take advantage of Trade Day specials to stock up on bulk supplies.

New and upgraded products from the various companies were also on display with clients able to discuss their merits with the sales reps.

The Trade Day is a major event on the local ag calendar.

STOP PRESS

ANOTHER BLANKET IF YOU PLEASE

STAR TIMES

It'sarightHandcockup

Sing a song of West Oz,
A land full of ore,
No matter what we give them,
They're always wanting more.
The westies in their counting house counting out the money,
The GST is divvied in a way that's far from funny.

Justmorefactsavoidance

One of the world's biggest 'outcomes for h" that we have failed the high standards we set for ourselves"ire' creative accounting firms has been caught out playing on both sides of the (of)fence. FwC has admitted that, "we have failed the high standards we set for ourselves" when it was sprung charging the government for advice on tax avoidance and then warning its clients about possible new ATO measures to close the loopholes. FwC has announced that the perpetrators already feel remorse for getting caught and that to name them is taking accountability too far. The boss of the Australian outpost has taken full responsibility and will resign in September when the weather improves.

Spurningthechurning

The Australian Energy Regulator recently locked in this year's increases to default offers — that's the highest price retailers can charge customers who don't answer the phone while they're cooking dinner. It's now established best practice to charge a motzer for essential services to: the elderly, those who can't decipher a gen-X accent ... and anyone else who fails to spend their time shopping around. Bad luck you lot, your electricity is going up by, "between 20.8 per cent and 23.9 per cent from July 1, depending on the region."

Muskstricksitoeveryone

Jolly old Elon has sacked 80% of the Twitter workforce. "They just spent all day removing hate speech and outright lies from the platform," he fumed. "Free speech is much cheaper," said he with a wink.

Gaugingourintelligence

In 1883 the rail lines of New South Wales and Victoria met at Albury. One of the rails joined in complete harmony but the other shocked the nation by being 6½ inches out — wider on the Victorian side. It was worse when the NSW rails got to Queensland and were found to be 14½ inches too wide. Apart from a dedicated line from Brisbane to Melbourne to Adelaide to Perth and Darwin, each state has muddled along with its unique gauge. "Relax, we'll never make the silly mistakes of our forebears," said the boffins. So it might come as a shock to discover that Sydney now has three incompatible privatised rail systems — different rolling stock widths and incompatible power supply voltages. Oh well.

Braidwood's Changing Times is published by Artplan Graphics, 43 Wallace Street Braidwood 2622.
Editor: Robin Tennant-Wood
Layout/production: Paul Cockram
Contributions desperately welcome.