When Annette Smith was growing up in Sydney, in the 1950s and 60s, Christmas was the most magical time of the year. She fondly remembers the year her parents gave her a special copy of 'The Night Before Christmas' and that book has been read by her, and then her children and grandchildren, every year since that day. In fact it was the inspiration for Annette to one day realise her dream to open a special Christmas shop in

Anthony, moved to Araluen and then purchased a shop in Braidwood. Over the months, with much hard work, this shop, situated next to Nersons, has been turned into a Christmas wonderland. 'A

dedication to her parents.

Very Braidwood Christmas' is opening its doors on 9th December, to reveal a magical place where you can step back in time and recall the magic of Christmas that you felt as a child.

CHRISTMAS ADVERTORIAL

Come in and meet Annette, Anthony and Santa's helpers, and be amazed by all the wonderful items in store. Annette has ensured that there are gifts and decorations to suit everyone's budget, from only \$1 to \$1,000. The guys will love the fun art eskys and planters, made by Aaron Jackson, which will become family heirlooms.

This year Annette and her partner, For children from babies upwards, there are Christmas themed jigsaw puzzles, blocks, nesting dolls, snow domes, and 3D Puzzles. There is a great range of Teddy Bears and Dolls, for children as well as adults, and musical elves. For

the Entertainer, Christmas linen, plum pudding basins, corkscrews, platters, table runners, napkins and aprons. Upstairs there is a selection of Christmas trees to suit all tastes, as well as tree skirts. For decorating your home, you can choose from products by 42nd Street including door hangers, wreaths, stockings, Angels, berry sprays, candle holders and more. Christmas quilts, ducks, bags and buckets, they're all here at the Very Braidwood Christmas Shop. You can post a letter to Santa here and be sure of a reply. Whilst you're shopping the young ones will enjoy riding on the rocking horse. Upstairs, Annette has created a room of 'Collectables' from makers such as 'Whitehill' and 'Jim Shore', as well as the Gibson 'Adoring

Gift wrapping is available for a gold coin donation for charity. If you don't have a chimney for Santa, there are Christmas Keys specially for Santa to leave some presents. The Very Braidwood Christmas Shop will open on Saturday 9th December and will be open 7 days a week, from 9.30am to 5.30pm. So for a welcome that comes from the heart, call in and meet Annette, Anthony and the helpers and share in their Christmas dream.





ON A RECENT OVERSEAS TRIP JOHN BARILARO VISITED THE HINKLEY NUCLEAR POWER STATION IN THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND.

## Barilaro the brave

Paul Cockram sat down with the Member for Monaro and put some energy questions to him

Thy are you flirting with nuclear energy? It seems like you'll just get a hiding to nothing because nobody supports it. Not the community, not the gas industry, not the oil industry, not the coal industry, and not the renewable industry. So it's just you.

JB: Well I don't really care what the coal guys, the gas guys, or even the renewable guys say, because they always back the horse called self-interest. Why shouldn't we talk nuclear? I mean, if you look all over the world there are nations investing in nuclear. Look at Canada. When I think of Canada, I think of green and environmentally friendly. They're a progressive nation with a very progressive prime minister and government, and yet nuclear is at the heart of their energy mix. Why? Because they actually have debunked the myths with regard to what the technology around nuclear energy offers. But at the same time you're talking about zero emissions. We're talking about reliable energy, zero emissions. And we as a nation are a stable continent, so we don't have some of the issues that we saw in Fukushima.

We've got the uranium, thirty-eight percent of the world's stock. We already export uranium, we already bring back waste and we already have a nuclear reactor, for nuclear medicine, out at Lucas Heights.

Why wouldn't we at least have a conversation about, 'is nuclear a part of the mix, if you can debunk the myths?' To do that, though, you've got to look at the new technology.

I'm not talking about building a nuclear power station like the one Homer Simpson runs.

It's not that any more. If you look at the Generation IV technology, we're talking about small modular reactors, built in a factory, delivered to a site in the back of a truck or in a container, in module sizes of 50 megawatts.

## UP AND ATOM

today it would be 10 years before we even built one. The technology will change so much. It won't have to be water cooled, it can be air cooled. It can actually be cooled by sand.

BWD: Where have you seen one of these?

IB: Well, I haven't seen one of these. They're in the final thrust. America will be the first to build the first one of those. It's probably eighteen months away before we'll see the first one.

## BWD: Is that like saying you haven't seen a teleport machine?

No, no, no. But the technology is there, they're around. There are seven different prototypes and the beauty for Australia is that we get the opportunity, over this next decade, to have a greenfield site and take the best technology that meets our needs.

It was explained to me by the energy agency of the UK. They look at Australia and say, "You've got the best position. You're a greenfield site, no nuclear but you've got the opportunity to look across the world, pick the one that meets your needs. If you don't want it on the beachfront, you don't want to use water cooling — there's a design for you." All I'm saying is have the conversation. I'm not saying build one — just have the conversation.

## BWD: But you'd like to build one.

IB: Of course I'd love to see it. Because I actually believe that the technology is there. Our mobile phones, think about what they looked like 20 or 30 years ago. Do you remember [the concerns about] microwave ovens? Everyone thought, "oh radiation, don't go near them." Look at us today.

BWD: Do you believe in anthropogenic global warming? Do you believe that burning coal is contributing to a change in the weather?

JB: Absolutely. We know that coal, we know that the industrialisation of the world has an impact on the climate and on weather. I think everyone accepts that. Where I think the disagreement comes in this debate is, how do you function as a society by making decisions around how you manage that impact. That's where I think the friction is.

If you talk about electricity prices today, I think people are saying, "Do we want energy renewables? Do we want to go back to coal? Do we want to have a look at other energy options?" I think everything's driven by the hip Even if we approved a nuclear site pocket, isn't it, at the end of the day?