



Education Foundation 2024 grant recipients



The Braidwood and District Education Foundation (BDEF) began celebrations of its milestone 20th year championing local students and trainees at its annual presentation evening last Friday night. Front L-R; Maxyne Prothero, Francine Magsino, Georgie Long, Johanna Blinco, Scarlett Bunn, Alice Tooth, Louise Story, Mia Corey, Laynee Saunders, Imogen Dixon. Back L-R: Fergus Tooth, Dylan Peters, Joshua Clark, Samuel Watson, Hugh Lyons, Nathan Hindmarsh, Albert Hazell, Jack Tetley. Absent: Annabel Flack, James Flack, Darcy Lyons, Augustus Munnings. Story Page 2

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Education Foundation 2024 grant recipients

The Braidwood and District Education Foundation (BDEF) began celebrations of its milestone 20th year championing local students and trainees at its annual presentation evening last Friday night. A total of 27 grants were offered this year to supporting young locals in their pursuit of post-school training and studies in various fields, including apprenticeships, TAFE, and universities across the nation, and 18 enthusiastic young individuals were in attendance at the Braidwood Servicemans Club to accept in person.

During the event, attendees, including recipients, families, donors, and special guests, were treated to inspiring speeches from diverse speakers. Alisa Stephens, the BDEF Chair, expressed the committee's gratitude for the unwavering support of the Braidwood community, citing a remarkable \$650,000 in grants distributed among more than 320 scholarships since the Foundation's inception in 2004. Renowned local historian and retired school teacher, Jill Clarke, delved into 175 years of educational history from Braidwood and its surrounding districts.

The event gained depth and resonance as three former grant recipients, Corben Hart, Georgia Garcia, and Lochie Ramm, shared heartfelt stories about the transformative impact the BDEF had on their academic journeys and lives. Attendees spoke afterwards that they were impressed by the passion and success of these young speakers.

In addition to the grants funded through local community donations, the BDEF also awarded four special grants last Friday. Snow Foundation scholarships were presented to Francine Magsino and Samuel Watson, while Maxyne Prothero received the Dargues Mine Award, specifically designed to support a student from Majors Creek. Laurie Ffrench and John Tuckwell presented Nathan Hindmarsh with the inaugural Lions Club Trades Scholarship.

The BDEF committee extends heartfelt congratulations to all grant recipients and expresses gratitude to the generous donors for their steadfast support. A special acknowledgement goes to Jarrah Parsons, herself a former BDEF grant recipient, for capturing the essence of the presentation event through photography.

Looking ahead, friends, donors, former recipients, and their families are encouraged to 'Save The Date' for a memorable gathering at Mona Farm on Saturday, August 17. The event, made possible by the generous support of Bill and Belinda Pulver, promises to be a night of celebration and reflection. Tickets will be available for purchase, offering a unique opportunity to contribute to the continued success of the BDEF and its invaluable mission.

BRAIDWOOD BUGLE

Braidwood Bugle

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Braidwood Weather

With Roger Hosking

The rain last night was the result of the low pressure remnants of tropical cyclone 'Kirrily'. Amazing that a storm could last long enough to reach here. February average maximum temp is 25.1 deg.

Day	Min	Max	Rain
Wed	15	18	0.6
Thurs	13	28	
Fri	14	27	
Sat	14	28	
Sun	14	30	
Mon	17	24	6.2
Tues	14	18	38.

Grassland SDI (soil moisture deficit) 6.0mm
Total rainfall so far:

- this month 45.0mm - this year 136.0mm

FREE CLIMATE INFO TEL 48 429 049

Letter to the Editor

Long weekend Book Fair

When I commented to a lady who had come back to the Fair for the third time, she said, 'This is my happy place this week.' And it was a happy place for helpers and patrons alike. Open for 5 glorious days and being topped up with new books all the time, there was always a great selection of books to browse and a lovely buzz in the theatre.

Many favourable comments were made about the categories & the way the books were displayed.

One woman found a cook book she'd donated and was delighted to find in it the pressed flowers she'd put there during her honeymoon 40yrs ago and she hoped the new owner would leave them there.

After one hot day the owner of Java Restaurant surprised us with glasses of fresh fruit juice.

Our volunteers were an amazing help with many local people calling in offering to volunteer fantastic community support.... people making food for helpers, giving their time to 'work' at the Fair. The Apex boys who move the packed boxes are an integral part of the organisation.

To all who came to browse or buy we thank you for supporting the Book Fair. Together we raised just over \$21,000 which, after expenses have been deducted, will be distributed amongst Braidwood & District community groups. An amazing community effort ... It was a happy place for us all!

Marjorie, Lois, Ros
Book Fair Committee

NSW SES - Braidwood Unit Walk

Some Members from NSW SES - Braidwood Unit have joined with Soldier On Australia this March to walk the distance of the Kokoda Track.

The Kokoda Track marks the course of one of the most important battles for Australians in the Second World War. The men who defended this rugged 96km track were the only line of defence protecting Australia from imminent invasion.

Our members will be walking 96km throughout March raising funds for Mental health programs and services so our ADF members can carry on.

If you would like to join the members and raise fund or donate, you can donate to the team or individual members by following this link.

<https://www.marchonchallenge.org.au/fundraisers/braidwoodses>



Photo of the week: Over the weekend BraidWoodStock was held at the Braidswood Hotel including the Hard Loves captured here by Jarrah Knowles. All proceeds from the event went to CanTeen.

Upgrade Works to Telstra Mobile Base Station at Mt Gillamatong

The Telstra project team advises that there has been a change within the overall schedule to the transmission upgrade work to the base station that provides mobile coverage to Braidswood and surrounds, including the Kings Highway.

As a result, the Monga site will now be disrupted for 8 hours per day on 7 & 8 February (previously advised 15 & 16 February).

There is also a contingency day on 12 February if required. An SMS will be sent from this site to notify customers. There are no changes to the overall scheduled dates previously advised for the work at Mt Gillamatong -

The first phase of disruptions will occur daily between 7am and 5pm from Monday 5 February to Friday 9 February 2024.

The second phase of disruptions will occur from Saturday 10 February to Wednesday 15 February 2024. The site is expected to be off the air for this entire period.

The Mt Gillamatong site will be in service on Saturday 10 February to ensure mobile reception is available for the Braidswood race meeting.

If all goes according to plan and weather permitting, residents should be noticing an improvement in Telstra mobile services by 16 February 2024.

Landline services, NBN internet services and mobile coverage from other providers will not be impacted. Any calls to Triple Zero from a Telstra mobile when the site is off air will automatically be diverted to any working mobile network for connection to emergency services. Regional General Manager for Telstra, Chris Taylor said while our crews need to work during daylight for safety, we'll only be switching off the site when we need to and have it back on as quickly as possible.

"There's never a good time to undertake this sort of work but once it is completed, it will mean better mobile services for local residents," Mr Taylor said. "As a company, we heavily invest in improving regional connectivity and this site is another example of our commitment. Over the past seven years to the end of FY23, Telstra invested \$11 billion in our mobile network nationally, with \$4 billion of this invested in our regional mobile network."



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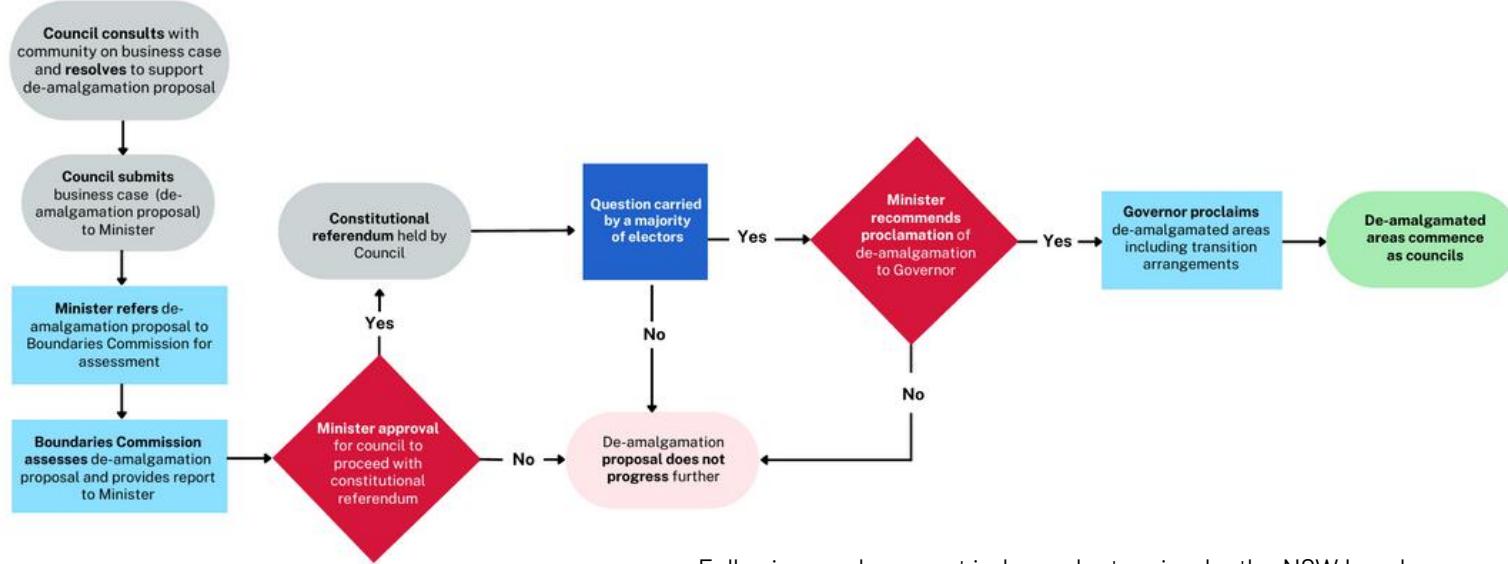




De-amalgamation bill delivers certainty for NSW councils



PROPOSED DE-AMALGAMATION PROCESS



The **NSW Government** has introduced new legislation that will remove a major roadblock to council de-amalgamations and ensure local democracy is enshrined in the decision-making process.

The amendments to the Local Government Act 1993, introduced to Parliament today (FEB 6), will provide a new legal pathway for NSW councils seeking to demerge, including those that already have de-amalgamation proposals under consideration.

The amendments repeal the legally flawed section 218CC of the Act and replaces it with a clear and democratic process. This follows years of failed policy making by the former government that left councils across NSW in limbo and failed to take into account the budgetary impacts for NSW taxpayers on proposed de-amalgamations.

Under the changes, councils wishing to de-amalgamate must develop a robust business case upfront. This must consider the financial impacts and council's ability to fund de-amalgamation, long-term strategic plans and the service delivery capacity of the new demerged councils.

Councils will also be required to undertake community consultation on the business case.

Upon receipt from a Council, the Minister must forward a business case to the NSW Local Government Boundaries Commission.

Following a subsequent independent review by the NSW Local Government Boundaries Commission, the Minister may then approve a constitutional referendum with a compulsory vote, which would require majority support from local electors to proceed with a de-amalgamation. In addition, the Government's Bill provides transition arrangements for councils which have already been approved for demerger by the Minister. Quotes attributable to Minister for Local Government Ron Hoenig:

"The forced amalgamation of NSW councils was a failed and expensive experiment."

"While the NSW Government strongly supports a clear process for councils and communities to exercise their democratic right to pursue de-amalgamation, we also have to be realistic about some of the challenges this brings."

"It's why one of my main priorities as Local Government Minister has been to find a way to remove the roadblocks posed by the existing demerger process, and give communities the opportunity to decide."

"These amendments the Government has introduced provide a clear path forward for councils wishing to de-amalgamate, providing much more clarity for current and future proposals."

"However, it's essential that local democracy is enshrined in the decision-making process so that councils and communities are fully informed of the financial and other implications of de-amalgamation."

"The amendments we have introduced are more pragmatic than other legislative proposals being put to Parliament and ensure de-mergers can be effectively managed by councils and that any new councils are financially sustainable."

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Quality Start Program for BCS Primary Students



Years 4/5/6 Sapphires Teacher Ms Adel Clark takes students through the Quality Start Program at BCS



BCS Year 5 student Everett Robertson-West.

By John Longhurst

Braidwood Central School (BCS) primary students are set for a year of learning with the Quality Start Program conducted on their first day back at school.

BCS Deputy Principal, Ms Kim Glenday, oversaw the program. Ms Glenday said "The interactive program is designed to encourage new friendships, promote positive learning, outline classroom expectations, develop problem solving strategies and help students create an awareness of social and emotional well-being. A range of teaching and learning strategies were used including ice breakers, collaborative learning, creative activities and role plays."

Acronyms were used throughout the day to crystallise key learnings.

Ms Glenday continued "A key acronym was CHIRPP which stands for 'care', 'harmony', 'integrity', 'positivity' and 'perseverance'. The students used 6 different coloured pages to brainstorm the meaning of each value. Students were then divided into 6 groups to provide examples of each of the values."

Well-being was also a key topic covered.

Ms Glenday said "The CHIRPP values led to activities on well-being with students identifying a range of emotions divided into zones ranging from 'feeling calm, happy and ready to learn' (green zone) all the way through to 'anger, yelling and aggression' (red zone). Considerable time was spent on the 'triggers' that push students into the various zones. It is important for students to recognise that we are in different zones at different times so we can learn to manage our emotions. It is what we do with these emotions that counts."

Year 5 student Everett Robertson-West enjoyed the program. Everett said "We have a clear understanding of expectations for this year. I enjoyed the rock painting and the teamwork activities. My key learning from the day was it is important to speak the truth but it is also important to be aware how others feel."

BCS Principal, Ms Nerida Mosely is confident the Quality Start Program has provided a solid foundation for learning, classroom behaviour and student well-being across the primary school. Ms Mosely said "The program has been developed by our staff, tailored to meet the needs of our primary school students and has ensured a very positive start to the school year."



Fairholme - 192 Boro Road, Boro

This spacious property boasts 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, providing ample space for a growing family or those who love to entertain guests. There is also a workers cottage separate from the house which provides more accommodation for guests. The property also has ample shedding with a 3 car garage plus 2 large sheds perfect for a car enthusiast or home business. If you are looking for a property with endless possibilities Fairholme is a must inspect whether it be used as a potential wedding venue, hobby farm, home business or just a family home.

Other features of the property: Suitable for livestock, Extensive supply rain water tanks, Bore with two holding tanks, 2 dams, Seasonal creek, Shearing shed, 2 large machinery sheds, Established gardens, Mains power.



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New staff at BCS



Braidwood Central School (BCS) has welcomed three new teachers specialising in Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) and Multi Categorical (MC).

Mrs Kelly Gosch has made the move to Braidwood from Batemans Bay where she was teaching at Saint Peters Anglican College, Broulee. Kelly has a degree in History from the University of Wollongong (UOW), a graduate certificate in Archaeology and Ancient History from Macquarie University and a masters in Teaching Secondary from the UOW. She will be mainly teaching History from Years 7 to 12 and some Geography.

Kelly enjoys music and has a love for animals.



Mr Jeremy Robinson brings a wealth of experience to BCS. He is a graduate of Latrobe University, Victoria and has been a teacher for over twenty years in Special Education and Outdoor Education.

Jeremy has moved from Wollongong where he was previously teaching in Campbeltown.

Jeremy also spent 8 years teaching Special Education in remote schools in Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory and will now teach MC as well as Pathways To Work with a focus on career opportunities for MC students. Jeremy is keen to pursue his passion for rock climbing in the Braidwood area.



Miss Jesika Thomas-Nygova has made the move from teaching in Goulburn to take up a position teaching MC at BCS. She has a Bachelor of Arts in History and Literature and a Masters in Teaching from the University of Sydney. Jesika has been teaching English and History as well as Special Education in Goulburn primary and secondary for over 20 years. She has a love for all animals, equestrian sports, good food, travel, music and gardening. Jesika plays the piano, is learning to play drums and looks forward to joining the Braidwood community.

BCS Principal, Ms Nerida Mosely welcomed the new staff. Ms Mosely said "Our new teachers bring a wealth of experience to our school and we look forward to complementing their skills into our teaching matrix."



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- **Saturday 10th Feb** after the races 3 piece band **Flock of Haircuts** from Batemans Bay
- **Race Night** - hot dogs, beef or chicken gravy rolls till midnight. Regular meals until 8.30pm



Our EV Charger is now up and running!



Senior Study Hub key to learning success at BCS



BCS Students in the Senior Study Hub

By John Longhurst

Braidwood Central School (BCS) Year 11 students received a full day of induction at the commencement of their school year last Thursday.

Following a Welcome to Country, students were taken through;

- 1. Senior School Expectations: respect, engagement and leadership
- 2. Senior School Support Team
- 3. Timetables and subject selection
- 4. Study hub: respect and role
- 5. Assessments
- 6. Higher School Certificate (HSC) eligibility
- 7. Captains' process
- 8. Driving cars to school
- 9. Stage 6 well-being

A session also focused on 'student learning' including NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) HSC rules and a focus on the all important BCS Assessment Booklet.

Following morning tea, students were introduced to the Technical Support Officer, allocated laptops as required, logins facilitated and introduced to the NSW Mandatory Course 'All My Own Work'.

BCS provided a barbecue lunch for the students and the afternoon was allocated to team building and sport.

BCS Deputy Principal, Ms Simone Walsh, organised the induction.

Ms Walsh said "BCS has a Senior School Support Team of a Deputy Principal, Stage 6 Head Teacher, Senior Hub academic coaches and mentors as well as student support officers and counselors to guide our students through their senior studies." The day also focused on the role of the Senior Study Hub.

Ms Walsh said "A senior teacher will be present for every lesson the students are timetabled for the Hub. The timetabled teachers are qualified across a range of subject areas including English, Economics, Mathematics, Design and Technology, and Music. BCS has made a major investment with the provision of our well resourced Senior Hub. BCS has ensured every senior student has been allocated with a laptop and they are encouraged to engage the timetabled teacher in the hub for advice and assistance from an academic as well as a well-being perspective."

Year 11 Student, Mark Radburn, found the day very helpful in transitioning to Stage 6.

Mark said "The teachers went out of their way to make us all feel comfortable and clearly outlined expectations. Key goals were covered and I am really pleased with the amount of support on offer. Clearly, the Senior Study Hub provides an opportunity to learn at our own place. It will be great to have access to 'one on one' learning from qualified teachers as well as the support from the Senior School Support Team."

BCS Principal, Ms Nerida Moseley thanked students and staff for the day.

Ms Moseley said "The feedback has been very positive. Our Senior School Support Team were able to cover a range of topics and address all students' concerns. BCS is in a position to offer professional support for all our senior students at every point in the school timetable."



BCS Mark Radburn in the SENIOR STUDY HUB at BCS



Community Representative Heritage Advisory Committee

QPRC are calling for expressions of interest for a member of the community to serve as a community representative on the QPRC Heritage Advisory Committee.

The role of the QPRC Heritage Advisory Committee is to:

- To provide a coordinated body representative of the community and Council to give advice on heritage issues pertaining to the local government area
- Monitor the implementation of council's heritage policy
- Raise community awareness of heritage issues
- Review funding submissions for access to Council's heritage fund.

Meetings are held on a six-weekly basis on a Thursday at 4.30pm, with the location rotating between Queanbeyan and Braidwood. Written expressions of interest outlining the skills applicants have that could assist the Committee achieve its role and the [Terms of Reference\(PDF, 86KB\)](#) are welcome and should be marked "Expression of Interest – QPRC Heritage Advisory Committee" and addressed to Land-Use Planning, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620 or emailed to landuseadmin@qprc.nsw.gov.au.

Nominations must be received by Council by 5.00pm on Monday 19 February 2024

Have your say on the Jerrabomberra Pump Track

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council is seeking ideas for the Jerrabomberra Pump Track.

'After listening to the community, we're going back to the drawing board on the Jerrabomberra Pump Track,' Mayor Kenrick Winchester said. 'We want to find the best location for a beginner to intermediate pump track for young people in Jerrabomberra.' 'We have had a lot of interest from the community in this project and Council has asked staff to do further investigation and speak with the community to explore all possible locations within Jerrabomberra.'

'We are inviting Jerrabomberra residents to join us at one of three workshops at the Jerrabomberra Community Centre. All the sessions will be the same and will give residents an opportunity to explore locations for the site, discuss what you think the site needs and any optional extras you would love to see included.'

Session details

- Wednesday 14 February – 3.30pm-5.00pm
- Thursday 15 February – 7.00pm-8.30pm
- Saturday 17 February – 2.30pm-3.30pm

Jerrabomberra Community Centre, 25-31 The Parkway, Jerrabomberra

After the in-person workshops, there will be an online feedback option for those unable to attend the sessions.

Find out more and register for the sessions at

<https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/jerrabomberra-pump-track>

Council launches Towards 2042 consultation

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council want to hear your ideas for the future of our region.

This year we are looking back at our plan from 2021 and asking you to tell us how things have changed, and what should stay the same, as we head Towards 2042.

We will be supporting community discussions where you can tell us your aspirations and priorities for our local government area into the future.

Each council in NSW must review its Community Strategic Plan every 4 years and the updated plan will guide the actions of council and other agencies.

After the September 2024 election Council will use the new Community Strategic Plan to develop a Delivery Program which responds to the community's feedback within a four-year work plan.

"This is a great opportunity to share your ideas and influence our future. It's your chance to think about what you, your friends, family, and the wider community will need to grow and thrive towards 2042," Mayor Kenrick Winchester said.

"When we spoke to the community about this in 2021, we received wide-spread feedback that showed the strengths of our local government area and highlighted where the community wanted to move into the future.

"I encourage everyone to get involved during February and March and to have their say. You can share your thoughts in different ways, including an online or hard copy survey, visiting a pop-up stall, completing a discussion guide with your local community group, and for our younger residents, creative drawing kits," Cr Winchester said.

"We all aspire for a better future. Towards 2042 allows us to consider what we love about where we live, what we'd like our future to look like, and how we will get there. Together, we can document a future vision that respects our unique local area and lifestyle."

Towards 2042 asks the local community some key questions so that we can review our Community Strategic Plan and makes sure it is an accurate representation of our future.

Council is helping get the word out and preparing the plan, but this is a community plan. This means that all kinds of organisations, community groups, and state agencies are responsible for making sure it happens.

The consultation period is open between 1 February and 15 March 2024.

For more information on how to get involved, visit the Council's Towards 2042 page at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

WHAT'S ON AT THE BRAIDWOOD SERVICEMEN'S CLUB



The Pine Garden Restaurant
is open 6 days a week
for Lunch & Dinner!

**Members draw & raffles this Friday night.
Members draw \$600.
Raffles on sale from 6.00pm draw starts at 7.30pm.**

- **Bridge** every Tuesday 1pm
- **Poker** 1st Sunday of every month
- **Trivia** - First Wednesday of the Month



BRAIDWOOD GARDEN CLUB



PLANT OF THE MONTH

Zantedeschia (Arum lily)

- Native to southern and eastern Africa
- Strong growing tuberous perennials
- Consisting of evergreen and deciduous types
- Grows to 60cm tall
- Leaves are glossy green, arrow shaped. Some are spotted
- Flowers come in many colours with a central yellow spadix
- Prefers sun or some shade
- Propagate from division in late winter

What to do in the garden for February

- Lift Tulips and Dutch Iris for storage in a cool dry place
- Tie Dahlias and tall Chrysanthemums
- Dead head Rhododendrons, Camellias and Azaleas, mulch and feed
- Sow seeds of annuals for planting out in April
- This humid weather promoted black spot - spray if necessary
- Remove weeds before they seed
- Obtain spring flowering bulbs
- Sow seeds of Asian Greens, Radish, Spinach and Turnips
- Remove vegetable plants as they finish cropping
- Apply liquid fertilizer fortnightly to vegetables
- Remove excess growth from Apples and Pears
- Trim Lavender and Rosemary
- Take semi hardwood cuttings and keep moist



Zantedeschia (Arum lily)

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Need help with the costs of study?

Applications are invited from eligible students who require assistance with tertiary education costs in 2024.

Applications open Tuesday 26 September

bendigobank.com.au/scholarships

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Community Bank Scholarships will be funded from management accounts of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund). The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. OUT_33416299, 30/11/2023

'EPA announces new protections for endangered Southern Greater Gliders'

NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Endangered Southern Greater Gliders across the east coast of NSW will be better protected under NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) amendments to forestry rules that will protect more hollow-bearing trees in operations where gliders are present.

From 9 February, changes to the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (CIFOA) protocols will come into effect, requiring Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW) to meet new protection requirements for southern greater gliders.

EPA Chief Executive Officer, Tony Chappel said the change was a significant step-forward in the long-term protection of gliders as well as other native animals reliant on hollow-bearing trees such as possums, owls and parrots.

"This change means that instead of depending on unreliable point in time surveys to find the habitat of the gliders, we will assume the species is present and conserve their habitat," Mr Chappel said.

"This ensures the critical habitats of some of our most endangered and much-loved native animals are protected.

"We have reviewed extensive research, sought expert views and believe this change strikes the right balance, resulting in significant ecological and regulatory improvement to the current arrangements.

"We have also consulted FCNSW to ensure any potential timber supply impacts are known and managed.

"If non-compliances with these new conditions are found, the EPA will not hesitate to take appropriate regulatory action to ensure greater gliders are being protected in forestry operations."

The changes can be found on the EPA website here. The new CIFOA requirements include:

A 50-metre exclusion zone around known recorded locations of greater glider dens.

Protection of extra greater glider trees in addition to existing hollow bearing and giant tree requirements:

Six trees per hectare greater than 80cm in diameter in high greater glider density areas, in addition to the eight hollow bearing trees currently required to be protected. Four trees per hectare greater than 50cm in diameter in lower density areas, in addition to the eight hollow bearing trees currently required to be protected.

The retention of additional hollows and future hollow-bearing trees in areas where greater gliders are less likely to occur.

Greater glider trees must prioritise hollows (especially ones with evidence of use) where they exist.

Undertaking of a monitoring program to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of these new rules for greater gliders.

A new map that shows where these different greater glider areas occur.



EPA's capitulation to Forestry Corporation puts Greater Gliders on a fast track to extinction

South East Forest Rescue

The NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has just amended the logging rules so that Forestry Corporation NSW (FCNSW) no longer has to look for the dens of the Endangered Greater glider before it logs an area. This despite for months saying they were working on amendments to improve the survey requirements for gliders after FCNSW admitted they looked for the nocturnal species during the day.

Conservation group South East Forest Rescue (SEFR) has over the last few months been finding Greater Glider den trees that FCNSW has failed to find. One of these surveys resulted in a 40 day Stop work Order being issued to FCNSW in Flat Rock State Forest in November and being extended in December for another 40 days.

On Monday SEFR sent a new report to the EPA after finding another 4 den trees with Greater Gliders and sighting a further 9. Rather than issue another Stop Work Order the EPA has instead said to Forestry don't bother looking for anymore.

"This is an outrageous outcome by the EPA who are meant to be looking after our Endangered species. They will now be complicit in the extinction of Greater Gliders" said Scott Daines from SEFR. "It's a complete regulatory failure and an abrogation of their duty to protect gliders."

"For months we have been showing FCNSW and the EPA that if you put the effort in you will find den trees. It is obvious now that FCNSW doesn't want to find den trees and now the EPA has capitulated to FCNSW" said Scott Daines "Leaving a few extra habitat trees per hectare will not protect gliders and claiming this is a good result is astonishing."

"Chris Minns and Penny Sharpe need to step in and fix this debacle that the EPA and Forestry have caused or be forever known as the Premier and Environment Minister that wiped out Greater Gliders." said Scott Daines



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NSW Government introduces integrity reforms

The **NSW Government** is set to introduce reforms to help restore public trust and improve public integrity, transparency, and accountability.

The reform package will include amendments to the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988 to make it a legislative requirement for the Government to respond to recommendations of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) directed to the Government.

The NSW Government is also moving to address recommendations made by the ICAC in Operation Witney and Operation Keppel.

Operation Witney was an investigation into the former Member for Drummoynes and allegations concerning improper influence and breach of public trust.

In response to the investigation's findings, a draft regulation will be tabled in Parliament proposing to:

- expand the interests required to be disclosed by Members of Parliament
- require Members to disclose new matters including conflicts of interest
- require all Members to make disclosures on an ongoing basis instead of periodically, for publication on the NSW Parliament website.

The draft regulation, if made, will implement recommendations 1 and 4 of the Operation Witney report and bring NSW into line with the disclosure obligations in other Australian jurisdictions, including the Commonwealth. The Government intends to introduce the proposed changes on 1 July 2024 after consultation with relevant Parliamentary Committees.

In response to Operation Keppel, which concerned the former Member for Wagga Wagga, the Government will amend the preamble to the NSW Ministerial Code of Conduct to include principles and guiding values recommended by the ICAC.

Further reforms include guidelines for the preparation and funding of business cases in respect of grant applications by non-government entities, and boosting education programs to ensure Ministers are aware of their integrity obligations.

The package of reforms reaffirms the Government's commitment to the highest standards of integrity. This builds upon recent announcements including a ban on political parties accepting donations from clubs which have gaming machines and the tightening of government grant regulations.

Premier Chris Minns said "Restoring trust in government is of the highest priority and we're pleased to build on our integrity reform agenda.

"It's critical that our expectations of every minister and every member is made clear.

"The people of NSW need to have faith that politicians and elected officials are acting in the public interest. That faith is central to a working and healthy democracy."

Special Minister of State John Graham said:

"There is no place for corrupt conduct in our Parliament and these reforms ensure every MP knows the rules and is held to the highest standard.

"We will continue to back in our independent integrity agencies and be unapologetic about responding decisively to their recommendations for the good of our state.

State of Australia's Regions Report Released

The Australian Government has released the 2024 State of Australia's Regions report.

This new report showcases data and insights on key issues and opportunities impacting Australia's regions – further building the evidence base that supports our commitment to targeted and coordinated regional investment that works better for people and regions.

In line with the Government's Regional Investment Framework, which emphasises the importance of listening and responding to the voices, knowledge and priorities of regional Australians, the 2024 report focuses on contemporary and pressing issues as identified at the local level, including:

- ensuring regional workforces are positioned to meet the needs of today and tomorrow
- promoting the economic aspirations, cultures and languages of First Nations people
- supporting places with amenity, services and economic opportunities
- collaboratively addressing issues like housing availability and affordability and access to quality early childhood education and care,
- preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters, and
- responding to challenges and opportunities as we transition to a net zero emissions future.

The report also provides a snapshot of Australian Government initiatives and investments that are strengthening the productivity, liveability and sustainability of regional Australia, such as the Growing Regions Program, regional Precincts and Partnership Program and Better Connectivity Plan for Regional and Rural Australia.

The report contributes to the Government's extensive suite of in-depth regional data tools and products, including the Regional Data Hub, the Progress in Australian Regions and Cities Dashboard, the new Measuring What Matters framework, and the broad variety of data available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

To read the full report, visit www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/regional-australia/state-australias-regions-report.



THE SERVICEMENS CLUB

Braidwood Servicemens Club

TRIVIA IS BACK IN 2024

First Wed of the month, 6.30pm
UP TO 8PPL PER TEAM
\$5 per person
Cash prize for the winning teams

NSW Government commitment to tackle skills shortage

The NSW Government is continuing to reskill the State with applications now open for the NSW Public Sector Apprentices and Trainees Program, delivering on the Government's commitment to employ 1000 extra apprentices.

The \$93.5 million investment, committed during the state election, will provide an opportunity for up to 1,000 apprentices and trainees to join more than 30 government agencies and state-owned corporations.

Under the former government the NSW skills sector was undervalued and neglected, which lead to a 33 per cent decline in apprenticeship and traineeship commencements since 2011.

But the NSW Labor Government understands how important a strong vocational education system is for skills and training in NSW.

With broad skills shortages across the State, apprentices and traineeships provide a unique mix of on-the-job training with formal study that makes them vital additions to the future NSW workforce.

Under this program specific industries which have significant skills shortages, including in transport, electricity, water, IT, and cyber security will be targeted.

Over three years of training, until June 2026, successful applicants will be able to:

- Earn and learn on the job;
- Have access to excellent career opportunities and industry experience;
- Gain support from highly experienced and skilled industry professionals;
- Build hands-on, practical experience; and
- Earn nationally recognised qualifications.

Minister for Skills, TAFE and Tertiary Education Steve Whan said "The NSW Labor Government is directly tackling the skills shortage by investing in and training the next generation of workers to build a highly skilled and resilience workforce.

"We're not just plugging gaps; we're launching careers. If you're a recent high school graduate or an adventurer seeking a new path, you should seize this opportunity and make the most of it.

"If you are a recent high school graduate, or if you're considering a new career, I strongly encourage you to you to apply and become an apprentice or trainee in the public service.

"Today's investment in apprentices and trainees is

tomorrow's investment in a thriving NSW economy.

Apprentices and trainees will gain on-the-job work experience and emerge with a nationally recognised qualification that will absolutely broaden their career opportunities.

The program will also position the NSW public sector as a leader in the employment of apprentices and trainees as we build capacity within our own agencies."

There are more than 50 qualifications available in the program with more than half of the roles based regionally.

To learn more about the initiative and register interest, visit [The 1,000 NSW Public Sector Apprentices and Trainees Program | NSW Government](#)

Safety first as NSW public schools trial new purpose-built AI tool for students

A new purpose-built generative artificial intelligence (AI) app designed by the NSW Department of Education will begin to be trialled this term in 16 NSW public schools.

The app, called NSW EduChat, is built for use in education and suitable for school-aged children, unlike many commercially available AI apps.

Designed to be safe and ethical for use in schools, NSW EduChat is also directly relevant and appropriate for NSW classrooms, in line with key principles outlined in the Australian Framework for Generative Artificial Intelligence in Schools, which all Education Ministers agreed to in October.

Staff and students from 16 NSW public schools – 10 high schools, four primary schools, one School for Specific Purposes and one Environmental Education Centre – will participate in the trial of NSW EduChat over the first two terms of 2024.

Teachers will decide how they use the tool in their classrooms and students will also have access to the app via the department's student portal.

Trial participants will receive assistance and support from subject matter experts, professional learning and technical resources and a virtual staffroom.

The trial will be monitored and reviewed with the results to help inform the future direction of AI in NSW public schools.



'Back to Basics', our most popular workshop facilitates your journey to achieving health and wellbeing through nutrition and lifestyle.

**Saturday 17th February 9.00am – 3.00pm
\$150 including a nutritious morning tea and two-course lunch**

'Mangiri' 444 Northanger Road, Mongarlowe NSW 2622



Valuable to people of all ages with an interest in wellness and vitality.

Expand your appreciation of:

- ❖ Fundamentals of human health and wellbeing
- ❖ Gut biology and disease prevention
- ❖ Probiotics and nutrient dense food
- ❖ Strategies for optimum health
- ❖ Simple ways to improve wellbeing
- ❖ MEA Water ® Devices that re-structure water

The workshop is designed and presented by Robert Gourlay RFD, B.App.Sc, M.App.Sc. Rob is an environmental scientist who draws on more than 40 years' experience in complimentary health measures.

Bookings: [online phion.com.au](#), call 02 4842 8182 (Mon-Thu) or email bookings@phion.com.au



Braidoobugle Concert Series



Edward Neeman (piano) and David Pereira (cello). Photo by Peter Hislop

By Anne Sanders

Braidoobugle Concert Series launches the 2024 Summer/Autumn program with the return of Chamber Philharmonia Cologne (after an absence of 4 years) this SATURDAY 10th February, 6pm at St Andrews Anglican Church, Braidwood. Tickets are \$45 adults, \$40 concessions and \$35 for students and children. These can be purchased online: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1153325>, or at the Braidoobugle Newsagency or at the door on Saturday from 5pm and CASH is definitely welcome.

There has been confusion with incorrect starting times, which has now been corrected and for which the Cologne organisation sincerely apologises. If anyone has purchased a ticket from the Braidoobugle Newsagency which states 7pm, please correct it to 6pm, or seek a refund if this is not convenient.

There are 5 performances from February to May, covering a variety of musical styles, and all of exceptional quality. All post boxes within the Braidoobugle and villages region will receive a Braidoobugle Concert Series flyer over the next week with full details of the forthcoming performances. And keep a look out for flyers and posters in a number of the Braidoobugle eateries.

The second February concert is a Grand Piano dedication performance on Sunday 18th February from 2pm. St Andrews Anglican Church has purchased a wonderful pre-owned $\frac{3}{4}$ grand piano from ANU School of Music professor of composition, Ken Lampl. To celebrate the handover, ANU School of Music colleagues; renowned cellist David Pereira and pianist Edward Neeman will be performing one of Ken Lampl's original works composed during the COVID lockdown, Mirrored from Far Away. They will be accompanied by the musical Lukin family: Brendon on organ, Cath as soprano and Dominic on tuba. The tickets are only \$25 and can be pre-purchased online:

<https://events.humanitix.com/grand-piano-dedication-concert> or on sale at the door at St Andrews Anglican Church from 1.30pm and again CASH is welcome.

The third concert is a major first for Braidwood. In partnership with Music in the Regions, who tour metropolitan classical ensembles to regional New South Wales, the virtuosic Ensemble Offspring will be performing their Australian composers' commissioned series 'Songbirds' at the Braidwood Uniting Church on Saturday 2 March, 2pm. Music in the Regions General Manager, Ian Whitney, said: "I'm excited to tour one of Australia's leading new music ensembles to towns I've gotten to know over the past two years. This is a beautiful concert that explores a fascinating question: is birdsong music?"

Tickets are \$35 adults, \$30 concessions and under 18s free and can be pre-purchased online: <https://events.humanitix.com/ensemble-offspring-songbirds-braidwood> or on sale at the door on the day from 1.30pm. Seating is limited so get in quick!!

Follow Braidoobugle Concert Series News facebook page for regular updates and if you're interested to know more or would like to be put on the mailing list, please contact the Concert Co-ordinator: artwork123@icloud.com. And a huge thank you to Braidoobugle for their fabulous support over the years.

BRAG NEWS

Basket weaving with foraged fibres

A one-day workshop with Kirrily Jordan Sunday 17th March, 10am - 3pm

Kirrily Jordan will be presenting a workshop for beginners and intermediate weavers, showing all the techniques you need to produce a beautiful tiny basket during the class.

Open mic night

Come along to Open Mic Night #3 on Friday 22nd March from 7pm! Past highlights include a diverse range of entertainments from comedy to chanson, poetry to piano music. If you'd like to join in, just put your name on the board, or you can sit back on the lounge with a drink and see what comes up. Restaurant pop-up for the evening TBA!

Regular Classes and Groups at the Arts Centre

Check the BRAG website or timetable on the noticeboard for details of various classes and groups, and contact the instructor with any queries. Life Drawing Group has resumed for the year. Everyone is welcome to join in and we'd love to see you. Next session is the last Saturday of March!

Check with us on our discounted hire fees for members if you're thinking of running a class or group

Saturday 10th February 2024 at 6 pm

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CHAMBER PHILHARMONIA COLOGNE
(Germany)

Sergey Didorenko * Violin Jaime Roda Segrelles * Baritone Thomas Grote * Violoncello

Tickets available at
Braidoobugle Newsagency, 122 Wallace Street, Tel. 02 / 4842 2410
Book online: www.trybooking.com/CNQCR
Doors open one hour prior to the concert

PICTURE FRAMING

Bek Hamilton



15 Monkittee St
Braidoobugle 2622

0410 506 451

Rebus Theatre and Project Alchemy Present

Alchemy

An exhibition which captures the 'golden' moments of the journey of 15 artist's as they heal hearts and weave magic through a network of arts-based projects in response to the Black Summer Fires.

Official opening: 6.00-8.00pm Friday 23 February

Exhibition dates: Sat 24 Feb - Sun 17 March

Opening times: Friday 5.30pm-8.00pm, Sat-Sun 10.00am-3.00pm

The Queanbeyan Hive Gallery, 274 Crawford Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

<https://rebustheatre.com/projectalchemy/alchemy-exhibition/>

'Alchemy' is the final coming together of the 15 Project Alchemy artists who have worked together for the last year on a series of cross disciplinary arts projects to build community connection across south-east Australia.

The project is facilitated by award winning Canberra based Rebus Theatre and has taken place in Bega Valley Shire, Eurobodalla Shire, East Gippsland, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, and the ACT with three artists selected from each region.

In November 2022 Rebus led its first of 2 residencies for the artists to heal their own trauma from the Black Summer Fires, and to develop skills and networks to further the possibility of trauma informed practice and arts-led economic recovery. Following on from the second residency in early 2023, artists have developed their organisational, artistic and leadership skills by working individually and in collaboration on projects. Their projects were creative and diverse with a focus on bringing about increased hopefulness and enhancing community spirit.

Projects have included community dances and movement jams, wonder walks through fire devastated properties, eco dying, printmaking, lantern, music and chromatogram workshops, cosplay tree planting, music and dance performances and visual art exhibitions. As well as running their own projects our artists have partnered with a range of festivals sharing their creative projects with audiences at The Daring Festival of Possibilities (Bega Valley Shire), River of Arts Festival (Bega Valley Shire) and Lakes Lights Festival (East Gippsland).

Project Alchemy artist Michele Grimston shares her experience. "This opportunity has been so powerful for me. I feel like it has allowed me to explore my practice in a new way, and to understand more deeply how supporting my own artistic practice and need to create can open up deeper spaces for me to support others in turn." A participant in one of Michele's workshops shared... "I've had such a beautiful day and such a restorative experience. Thank you so much for providing this space to come together and simultaneously be with ourselves. I'm so thrilled to have shared this space with everyone and with my new skill".

Examples of community works created during Michelles breathing space residency including a few small embroidered works and a larger collaborative piece will be on display in the exhibition.

For **Cecile Galiazzo**, her project **Wonder Walks** were an opportunity to bring together friends and others from across the QPRC region and ACT, to walk and talk and share and to see first hand the regeneration of the bush that was fire-affected. She reflects that this has given her a 're-appreciation' of the value of diversity of our community and landscapes and that they have been an inspiration that will continue to feed her arts practice.

A couple of concertina art books showcasing the drawing and painting taken during the walks will be on display during the exhibition along with a long string of prayer flags made from her eco-dying workshops.

After losing her studio and her lifes work Project Alchemy artist Sue Norman reflects... "At last, I'm living in the beautiful new home created from the ashes of my Kiah studio. For me, it is work to find my feet in the waves of grief coming at me from the wider knowledge of the government's intransigence despite even more dire warnings from the IPCC.... I'm avidly learning about trauma to understand how it works and how to teach our brains resilience; how we can buffer those overwhelming emotions to be as effective as possible in this time of need".



Cecile Galiazzo's Wonder Walks - Sue Cox plein air Worramunga

After seeking help from a bushfire counsellor, Sue started working with that counsellor on a public education project to present information about understanding trauma and the brain in an accessible way to volunteers and others working with people struggling with life's challenges since the fire. She has produced an illustrated handbook for understanding trauma and the brain with Colleen Weir called Nye on the River of Life which will available for free during the exhibition.

This rich, multimedia exhibition will showcase the artists personal journeys as well as their collaborative work and reach to their own communities. It will leave you touched with the profound difference that Project Alchemy has brought about for the artists as well as the hundreds of participants in the communities they have worked in.

Those who can make it to the official opening will get a chance to meet some of the artists who will be performing dance, music and poetry readings.

Project Alchemy is made possible thanks to funding from the Australian Government for the Black Summer Bushfire Grant Program. Rebus is also supported by Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres and the ACT Government.

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BRAIDWOOD



'A HOT BRICK UNDER MY COLD FEET' An Afternoon Poetry Reading with Wendy McMahon-Bell

Wendy McMahon-Bell has enriched various aspects of Braidwood life for over 20 years. She has performed in many successful stage productions and theatre restaurant shows in the Southern Highlands and Braidwood, participated in some highly entertaining concerts, as well as in two wonderful interpretations of Alan Bennett's monologues. Wendy has also been writing poems for over 30 years, most of them during her time in Braidwood.

Join us on Sunday February 25, to hear Wendy present a selection of her poems – they will bring tears to your eyes, tears of laughter and of emotion. Wendy's poems will take you through the whole gamut of feelings evoked by everyday experiences, great and small. We guarantee a most enjoyable and memorable afternoon.

In 2021 the Australian Government ended the offshore processing deal with PNG leaving the PNG Government with full responsibility for Manus Island refugees remaining in the country. Manus Island refugees in Port Moresby have been denied money, food, transport, and security. They don't really fit into society in Moresby because protection comes from the One Tok clan system to which they don't belong. They are less safe than anyone in one of the most dangerous cities in the world.

Hussain is a refugee who has spent 10 years in PNG having arrived on Christmas Island from Pakistan. He now has a partner, two young children and another on the way. Hussain and his family are desperately in need of help, and we are hoping that our generous Braidwood community will contribute by supporting this event.

Sponsored by St Bede's Ecumenical Social Justice Group



2:00pm, Sunday February 25th February

Old Sunday School Hall, 68 Wilson Street, Braidwood
Fundraiser for Hussain, one of 80 refugees still suffering in Port Moresby after the closing of Manus Island. Donations appreciated

A technical study of landscape by Robyn Campbell

Canberra based multi-disciplinary artist Robyn Campbell will open an exhibition of new works at Suki & Hugh Gallery, Bungendore on Saturday 10 February, 3-5pm.

The exhibition entitled Surface & Form showcases works in ceramic, glass and drawing in Robyn's trademark style – contemporary clean lines and bold forms. Using surface texture to represent topical features of the land, Robyn shows her tremendous technical abilities.

The ceramic wall pieces are reminiscent of large river pebbles in organic, rounded shapes. Blackening and carving into the surface adds another layer of landscape suggesting grassland and topography.

The hand-built table-based sculptures are confident and curvy forms that distinctly represent the hills and alpine areas of and around the ACT and Southeast corner of NSW. These works offer an escape for the mind and eye evoking a journey through nature with views and valleys. Initially trained in glass at the School of Art, ANU Robyn completed a residency at the Canberra Glassworks in 2023. Her return to glass following time exploring clay has shown that her visual language can translate across various mediums at a high level.

In Surface & Form the artist will also show a small number of framed charcoal drawings.

Robyn Campbell works in both glass and ceramics. She studied Glass at the Canberra School of Art, Australian National University, under the tuition of Klaus Moje, Stephen Proctor and Elizabeth McClure.



Untitled by Robyn Campbell, hand built ceramic, 2024

After graduating in 1993, Robyn established a studio in Canberra and exhibited widely, both nationally and internationally. She was commissioned to create public artworks, taught part-time at the Australian National University and contributed to the arts community in a variety of roles.

A three-month fellowship at the Creative Glass Centre of America in 1995 gave Robyn the opportunity to focus on casting sculptures on a larger scale direct from a glass furnace. This time was formative and underpinned the development of her work over the following years.

Opening drinks with the artist will be held on Saturday 10 February 2024, 3-5pm. All welcome. An online catalogue will be available.

For further information and inquiries please contact Susan at Suki and Hugh Gallery.

Steve Kilbey

THE CHURCH Singles

18 February 2024 7:00PM National Theatre Braidwood,
A\$39.79

Steve Kilbey Sings and Plays THE CHURCH Singles hits (and quite a few narrow misses). Aided only by his 12 string Guild jumbo, Steve Kilbey sings, plays and reimagines the first twenty years of THE CHURCH.

You are selecting tickets for Sunday 18 February 2024 at 7:00PM.

Steve Kilbey is finally looking back, not in anger, but in fondness, upon those early years of THE CHURCH as they stumbled around Australia, Europe and the USA, a hummin' and a strummin'. Stripped down to a single acoustic guitar, and the bare bones of the songs revealed, the words and music take on new unexpected meanings. Kilbey's ongoing patter and banter fleshes out the stories behind the songs we all know and love. Filled with avaricious managers, dissolute musicians and the roar of the greasepaint and the smell of the crowd, his tales are at once hilarious and yet regretful. Including 'Unguarded Moment', 'Almost With You', 'Under The Milky Way' etc. etc.

This show, that takes in all the big hits as well as many near misses, is the divine comedy and the divine tragedy wrapped up in an unforgettable evening.

TICKETS

<https://circlemusic.iwannaticket.com.au/event/steve-kilbey-the-church-singles-MzA2NjM>



Steve Kilbey

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book here: events.humanitix.com/ecology

 **VEOLIA**
Mulwaree Trust

2024 Veolia Creative Arts Scholarships

Since 2008 the Veolia Mulwaree Trust has proudly supported our local community by providing scholarships to assist local artists in their practice or study.

Scholarships valued at \$4,000 will be awarded in 2024 to support practicing and emerging artists within the local government areas of Goulburn Mulwaree, Upper Lachlan, Wingecarribee, Wollondilly, Shoalhaven, Oberon and former Palerang.

**APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM
22 JANUARY UNTIL 6 MARCH 2024**

Full details are available via
www.mulwareetrust.org.au or call 4822 2786



St Bede's Parish

Reflection on the Gospel of Mark 1:40-45 by GPBS 6/2/24

A Dwelling Apart

Here's something curious: the leper and Jesus trade places in this story. At first, it's the leper who's forced into the wild by communal dread of his disease. In the end, it's Jesus who must retreat to the desert to avoid the crush of crowds brought on by publicity.

Biblical desert is a land of many facets. Literally, it's a place where life is challenging and death is near. Theologically, it's the domain of the devil, where temptation roams free. Both physical and spiritual realities of the desert made it a place to avoid when possible. To be sentenced to live there, with lepers and other outlaws, was a lonely and dangerous existence.

Yet Jesus, we know, often chose the desert. The Spirit first drove him there to test himself against the devil. Later, Jesus often returned there to pray and gather strength. Because he tamed the desert at the start of his journey, it was no longer a land of danger for Jesus, but a refuge. In the same way, we can surrender the desert terrain of our lives to the Spirit's authority, and let it be transformed into a sacred place.

Where are the desert areas in your life? How can they be transformed?

Pray - To one who is ill Jesus said: I choose to make you well. To those who suffer in our world, God says: You are my beloved ones; I know that I am with you and your suffering will not last forever. To the place of pain in our lives, God says: You may weep now but joy will come in the morning. May God's healing touch cover us and comfort us in this time and always. Amen.

Ponder - Find a place apart where you can sit in stillness or walk in solitude. Bring nothing with you and don't "fill up" the time and space with an agenda. Wait for Jesus to come and join you.

Kids' Corner - Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." (Mark 1: 41)

In this week's Gospel, a man asks Jesus to heal him of his leprosy. Jesus sees his strong faith and responds. What a moment it must have been for the man to hear Jesus' words, feel Jesus' touch and see his own skin, clear and no longer covered with sores. Not everyone who comes to Jesus for healing has a disease like this man's. Some of us have hurts on the inside. We have worries. We have sins. But we have faith in Jesus. Like this man, we ask Jesus for healing. Try it today. Jesus, help me bring all my concerns to you. Amen.

Ash Wednesday: the school have set their Opening school liturgy and Ash Wednesday ceremony to be held at St Bede's Church at 10:30am on Wednesday February 14 so we no longer need to arrange our own service.

Parishioners, Parents, carers and grandparents are most welcome to join with the school to celebrate the liturgy and to receive the ashes.

The Braidwood Show Society needs volunteers to help on any days from Wednesday 28th to Sunday 3rd March. Many roles whereby you can help. Call Di on 4847 5095

Weekend Mass: Saturdays at 6pm.

Anglican Parish

Mystical experience

Transfiguration Sunday is a day when we read about a strange - perhaps frightening - thing that happened to Jesus before he went to Jerusalem to suffer and to die upon the cross.

Mystical experience is very much a part of our faith as it lies at the root of much that we believe. There are spiritual things, spiritual realities beyond our understanding. The Transfiguration of Jesus is definitely one of these.

Remember, this the crux of the matter: the test of faith is not our experience of, or our knowledge of, invisible spiritual realities, but in whether we bear fruit that is pleasing to God. Living the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control, for example.

There are angels. There is a resurrection. Miracles still occur and prayers still reach the ear of God. God still speaks - in dreams and in visions - and through his Word. Yet despite the evidence that there are real but invisible and untouchable forces all around us, many people refuse to believe in God because they cannot see him; and of those who do believe, there are many who refuse to believe that God can do anything out of the ordinary.

There are many things, my friends, that we can't see, many things that we can't touch, which are real and powerful.

However, Church teaching has placed too little emphasis on the heart for too many years. The result is confusion and the rise of charlatans and cheats who mislead those who suspect that there is more to the world than meets the eye. A friend wandering into Handel's room found the composer in tears. He was finishing the last notes of the "Hallelujah Chorus". "I did think, while writing this", Handel exclaimed to his friend, "That I saw heaven before me, and our great God Himself."

What do you make of an experience such as Handel reported? Did he really see heaven? Did the disciples really see Jesus in glory? What difference did this make to their lives?

Rev Des McGuire

Join us this coming SUNDAY 11th February, 10am at St Andrews Anglican Church, Elrington St, Braidwood for a service of Holy Communion, followed by a welcoming cuppa and chat. Check out our Facebook page: Anglican Parish of Braidwood for updates. Parish contacts: 0497 486 233 email: admin@braidwoodanglican.org.au

Braidwood Uniting Church

Correction

In my last piece, I invited you to explore the ancient text of Jonah with the folk at Uniting. Ancient times, ancient places, ancient wisdom that surprisingly can still pack a punch and is still interesting. However, I told you that this would be a focus for us in the month of June. It's one thing to have a "seniors' moment" on your own or with your immediate family, it's quite another when it becomes a matter of public record. I'm quite embarrassed and I only wish I could say that this was an uncharacteristic a slip. A friend recommended a movie recently. I rarely watch movies but thought I'd try for my friend. To my surprise while I was still waiting for the story line to become coherent, the end credits started rolling! What was it all about? Was it the movie or my head that lives in a fog? I saw my Mum suffer through many years of dementia and so the thought of death is only mildly concerning, the prospect of dementia for me is truly scary - not that I can do much about it I guess.

I should have said our excursion through the book of Jonah begins in February! We've already begun this adventure. You are warmly invited to Uniting for the remaining Sundays in February. I'm sharing this month's teaching with Stephen, our much-loved Radio Church man (every Sunday at 6 pm on Braidwood FM). Stephen is a water scientist but also a competent biblical scholar. He loves the old text of Jonah and he'll be teaching week 2 and week 4. A little girl looked to be entirely on her own and was found bewildered in the Gaza strip recently. Someone asked her, "Are you Muslim, Christian or Jewish". "I'm hungry" was her reply.

The ancient text of Jonah is about loving your enemy. It's about giving your enemy a fair deal. It's about how the love of God has no national boundaries. Timely eh? grahamlong@mac.com

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This light filled 2 bedroom townhome has a sunny northerly aspect. In a quiet complex of just eight the location could not be more convenient- a short walk to town and just metres from the local golf/bowls club. Recently carpeted and full brick construction makes it ideal for investment or owner occupier.

Manageable Acreage Close To Town

Located just 14 kilometres from Braidwood towards the coast, 10 hectares with 920 metre frontage to Warrambucca Creek a great location for a weekender or full time relaxation. The former home and pottery studio of a renowned local artist, it's easy to see where the inspiration comes from when surrounded by such beautiful natural surroundings of the Australian bush.

The live in shed has power from a small solar system, bathroom, kitchen and inside toilet. There are several tanks for drinking water and water can be taken from the creek as riparian rights allow. Two pottery kilns remain in place. Properties of this size with convenient location are a rarity an early inspection is suggested.



149 Northangera Rd \$675,000

Dirty Butter Ck Araluen- \$749,000



Just on 48 kilometres or 30 minutes south of Braidwood by mainly sealed road (with the exception of the last 2 kilometres) your choice of 2 rural lots both around 42 hectares (103 acres).

Each lot has a building entitlement with a house site levelled and brilliant northerly aspect with far reaching views across the Jerrabatgulla Valley ,there is new perimeter fencing. The subdivision is complete and is expected to be registered by mid 2023. The developer will allow access, after entering into a contract, prior to completion. Lot 1 -48.85 hectares, Lot 2 -42.05 hectares each \$575,000

QUALITY ARALUEN LISTING

Completed in 2015 this steel framed home is in new condition having just one owner and one occupant. The substantial home offers 3 good size bedrooms with ensuite and walk in robe to main. A huge open plan living area with high ceilings opens out to the wrap around veranda on three sides -north, east and southern sides, the western side is protected by 2 rainwater tanks with a capacity of approximately 50,000 litres. An attached garage has internal access through the laundry.

The 2203m² block is perfectly level and provides plenty of space to grow those vegetable and fruits the area is renowned for. Located in the beautiful Araluen Valley and accessed by sealed road 26 kilometres from Braidwood this is an opportunity to live a country life with all modern conveniences.



**Kain Cross Road "Bombalawa Hill"
\$575,000 Neg**

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Author, Journalist and Screenwriter Robert Macklin as a regular contributor to the Bugle. THE GADFLY PAPERS, are a delightful collection of columns he has been writing since 2012.

Gadfly

To me, it's a simple choice – the tram or the hospital?

Regular readers will recall those unhappy nine hours I reported in July when advised by my GP to attend the Canberra Hospital's Emergency Department for a possible clot in the heart. I suspect they'll know which hand I'll raise.

For the uninitiated, having arrived at 5pm, I waited the usual four hours among the chaos before admission to the ED ward. And there I languished among the plastic cubicles, half-dressed and half-gowned, while the machines that go "ping!" played their torturous chimes, and the neglected woman in the next cubicle gradually dissolved into heart-rending tears.

Time adopts a new identity in an ED ward, especially when the "pings" are out of tune. It staggers forward then stops, reverses, and tries again, this time slipping sideways and spinning till the "pings" unite, then starts the fandango all over again.

By 1am she had reached the end of her tether and escaped untreated. I followed an hour and fifteen minutes later when the 'bed manager' had still not found a cot for my admission to a treatment ward. And there, I hoped, I could put the experience behind me.

Alas, it has proved impossible. It turns out that while my heart was clot-free the ordeal to my then weakened state – physical and mental – produced a 'setback' in my underlying COPD condition. The term describes the progressive descent of the symptoms – breathlessness, exhaustion, depression – toward the almost inevitable heart attack that finally extinguishes our brief candle.

One of the indictors became immediately apparent – a swelling of the ankles that signals heart failure, for which the best treatment is exercise and the occasional diuretic. That's partly why we bought a Unit with its own pool; but it's not designed for the seemingly endless winter of 2023!

Almost as frustrating was the mental cloud that formed around what had previously been my concept of the caring sanctuary of a hospital. This – in a nicer location – was the source of our greatest joy: the birth of our two sons, Robbie and Ben. And like most Canberrans we mourned its tragic passing when Chief Minister Kate Carnell made her one great mistake.

But that terrible implosion is long passed. The Barr-Rattenbury Government's mismanagement of its horrible successor was now a clear and present danger in my mind, even though I knew deep down that its staffers were kindly and conscientious. The compulsory post-operative visits there loomed like advancing nightmares. The breathlessness, I suspect, was as much mental as physical. But that didn't make it easier to bear, especially for a loving wife-cum-carer with her own natural concerns in the aging process.

Happily, a lifetime's devotion to authorship stepped in as two major projects demanded my total dedication – the biography of Charles Weston, the unheralded creator of Canberra's magnificent horticultural mantle; and the final scenes of my play, *The View from Golgotha*, set in the time and place of a great expectation.

But even they could not still the anger that rose whenever I looked back at the hospital starved for funds that could at least have provided treatment for my weeping neighbour in the plastic ED ward, and a bed for myself in the extremis of despair.

The outdated technology of a wildly expensive tramway seems a very poor substitute. Instead, I have a persistent vision of Mr Barr as Clark Gable in his famous final line of *Gone with the Wind*: 'Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn.'

robert@robertmacklin.com

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**A Beer with Bazz # 145****With
John
Longhurst**

Mick rubbed his chin and slid the schooner across to Bazza.

"Now... Bazza, I think it is appropriate we have a drink for ScoMo. He is quitting the parliament and taking up a couple of jobs. One as vice chair of security firm American Global Strategies and another as a member of the United States venture capital investor, DYNE Maritime's, advisory board."

Bazza rotated his schooner.

"Just the two jobs, Mick?" Crikey... he will have a day's work finished by lunch time."

Mick sighed.

"Be a bit gracious, Bazza. In fact, he will be working with a former Trump advisor with American Global Strategies and with the United States presidential election this year, he could be a man of influence."

Bazza closed his eyes and rubbed his forehead.

"Well...I suppose he will end up throwing a bit of advice Donald Trump's way. It reminds me of a quote from former New Zealand Prime Minister, Piggy Muldoon, who said 'New Zealanders who leave for Australia raise the IQ of both countries.'"

A blank stare from Mick.

"You have completely lost me, Bazza. I am suggesting we just raise a glass to ScoMo and wish him the best, in these new roles."

Bazza paused for a long moment, before reaching for his schooner.

"In fact...I will raise a glass. Given ScoMo is leaving the Australian Parliament and will probably end up throwing a bit of advice Donald Trump's way. Well...I reckon he will single-handedly raise the honesty and integrity levels of both countries."

Mick scratched his head.

Have a beer with Bazza at john.longhurst59@gmail.com

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Adopt a pet this month at the Queanbeyan-Palerang Animal Management Facility

Have you been considering bringing a pet into your family? Until 6 March you can adopt a pet for a reduced price.

The Queanbeyan-Palerang Animal Management Facility is full of animals in need of a safe and caring home. We seek to rehome all animals at the facility that are not claimed by their owners. Come and see the team at the Animal Management Facility on Old Sydney Road in Queanbeyan.

The facility is open Monday-Friday 8.30-10.30am and 3-5pm and Saturday 1-5pm. If you are unable to visit during the above times, please call the team on 6285 6269 to make an appointment. Head to www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Animal-Adoption to see the animals currently available for adoption or to learn more. Be a responsible pet-parent and adopt don't shop this February!

The prices for undesexed animals include a voucher for vaccination and desexing at a local veterinary clinic.

Dogs

Undesexed: \$250 (normally \$445)

Desexed: \$135 (normally \$270)

Cats

Undesexed: \$220 (normally \$415)

Desexed: \$100 (normally \$185)

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Basic Passive Land Hydration

Another rain event blessed us this long, hot, dry summer. The garden hasn't needed my attention except to munch, and the growth from the Skywater is amazing. The land hydration offered was significant, if you had the systems in place. Otherwise, the water probably left your place quickly and took some of your topsoil with it.

If you are like me, you were out in the rain checking the waterflow. If you didn't get outside, the mulch and twigs riding in the solution will leave you some telltale signs, so check it out.

I touched on this in [Ed 184](#). Water is led by gravity and always falls downhill, even the slightest slope will create running water. Passive Land Hydration can only occur if the earth is permeable and contact lasts for an extended period.

The might of water

As heavy rain runs down your slope it picks up speed, and volume, creating an unstoppable force. If the land has no abatement systems like grass, reeds, fallen trees or hedge rows the water will remove topsoil, create erosion and deposit sediment along the way. All the time trying to find the fastest, simplest way downhill.

After the fires, our hills were devastated. Fallen burnt trees everywhere. Topsoil covered in ash. So, when the February rains belted down, most of the ash and topsoil ended up filling the dams at the bottom of the hills. But not everywhere on the property.

Fortunately, while we were extinguishing spot fires, we were turning fallen logs on contour. These simple ledges, starting at the top of the system, created places for sediment to get trapped and water to soak.

Where to start?

The top of the system is the best place to start, the water can't build up any speed or power. It is easily stopped and spread across the hill, before gently overflowing into the next log ledge. The sediment stayed behind and filled gaps creating a small earth bank for water to soak and nutrient to build.

The logs are now hard to spot as the grasses and groundcovers have capitalised and smothered the space. The areas of exposed rock are now becoming somewhat colonised by grasses covering the rocks in a living mulch, in turn creating more topsoil.

Strange things

I've been watching my neighbour remove all the fallen timber from his hillside. The effort is incredible. There are many large piles of timber along the front of his property. If only he had turned them on contour where they laid.

I'm sure he will burn all that nutrient when summer passes, just like men have done before him. If he just burnt the piles at the top of the hill, the land would receive some benefit.

The chances of grass growing on the now exposed rock is slim at best. If only he had approached his block with a mindset to protect his precious topsoil.

All his toiling has removed resistance to water flowing downhill. Landcare have a well-established program of creating forests on top of hills, so it's strange to see the opposite happening.

Keep the logs

Turning the logs, rather than removing them, creates sediment traps on the hill. Fallen logs and branches provide mulch, as described in [Ed 177](#). Eucalypts are masters at it. Wet logs create better habitat for microbes and fungi to decompose the carbon and create more topsoil.

Fallen logs break down over decades and create amazing building blocks for topsoil. Decaying logs have more life on them than a living tree does, so removing them is stealing habitat from your ecosystem, causing erosion problems and reducing biodiversity.

We have plenty of rocks on our hill, so we put them to good use too. Turning logs and rocks on contour is the simplest way you can start Passive Land Hydration at your place. As a remediation technique this is the first place to start. It's a simple cost-effective way to capture and store your Skywater, reduce erosion and improve productivity on your patch of earth.

Finding Contour

Over the years I have become a human laser level, reading landscapes with reasonable accuracy. But it wasn't always that way. I have used a few different types of tools to get there and plenty of saddle time. I first started with a trusty screed level. Simply accurate but only over short distances.

For larger distances I tried water levels. Two stakes with a clear hose in between. Good for medium garden areas limited only by the length of hose. Difficult to use over multiple days as the water evaporates and requires recalibrating. And don't let them fall over.

A traditional method is to use an A frame with a plumb bob. The frame can be walked across a landscape with ease. It takes a bit to get the hang of the swinging weight but can be constructed from found objects.

In the 21st century laser levels are readily available, they are cheap, very accurate and can be used over large distances. They are my preference.

Slow it, spread it, soak it

My mission with water is to slow the flow, starting at the top of the system. By the time a powerful rushing flow gets to the bottom of the system there is no way to stop it. Anything in the way at the bottom of the system will get washed away, just like happened on the Cooma Road project over the holidays. And many roads in the region before.

If we have the foresight to slow the flow, we will need to spread it on contour so that the land is hydrated evenly. If only a small amount falls, it will be shared across the landscape.

Spreading water on contour reduces the power of the flow, as there is no fall. The overflow can occur in a space that is advantageous. Perhaps through reeds, grasses or hedgerows. This watershed will flow across the land and get caught downhill, to slow it and spread it again.

Continuing this technique all the way downhill will accommodate small events, holding the water on your property a short while longer. The result is less erosion, more topsoil, and the plants nearby will benefit greatly from the nutrient and water load and your damp timber is less likely to burn in a fire.

This Basic Passive Hydration System is the simplest and easiest way to get started. The systems can become far more complex and hold much more water as we move toward the ultimate example. Each system will work for you, in the backyard or the paddock, even if you are not at home.

Next week:

The evolution of this Basic Passive Hydration System is to bring on the machines, but to disturb the soil in the smallest way possible.

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New telco safeguards to protect Australians doing it tough

The Albanese Government has directed the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) to make it mandatory for telcos to provide financial hardship assistance to all customers experiencing difficulties paying their bills, including prioritising keeping customers connected.

The new Industry Standard on Financial Hardship will help protect telco consumers struggling to pay their phone and internet bills, and also ensure staff are appropriately trained and systems are in place to proactively identify consumers who may be experiencing financial hardship.

The new rules will ensure telcos do all they can to avoid disconnecting Australians struggling with cost-of-living pressures, given how essential telecommunications are in everyday life. These safeguards will cover mobile services as well as internet and voice services used by individuals and small business.

The Standard replaces the rules on financial hardship that are currently in the Telecommunications Consumer Protections (TCP) Code, and provide the ACMA with greater flexibility and oversight to ensure that telcos are assisting their customers struggling with their bills.

The Government announced it would direct the ACMA to make the mandatory industry standard in July last year.

The new rules will come into effect on 29 March 2024.

The Government acknowledges the constructive engagement of industry through this process. The consultation sought stakeholder views on the adequacy of the draft, various implementation considerations and transitional arrangements for the Standard's replacement of the current financial hardship rules within the TCP Code.

Fels' review confirms corporate practices as key drivers of inflation

The Australia Institute | Centre for Future Work

The Australia Institute welcomes the report of the Inquiry Into Price Gouging and Unfair Pricing Practices, chaired by Prof Allan Fels, and delivered today to the Australian Council of Trade Unions.

Key points:

- The Australia Institute and its Centre for Future Work, which were among the first to identify the role of record-high corporate profits in driving the acceleration of inflation after the COVID lockdowns, made a major submission to the Fels inquiry and appeared before its public hearing in Melbourne in September 2023
- A 2023 Centre for Future Work report showed that over two-thirds of excess economy-wide inflation (above the RBA's 2.5% target) from end-2019 through the September quarter of 2022 was attributable to higher unit corporate profits.
- Australia Institute reports documented that the rise in profits was strongest in industries with concentrated or strategic power in the broader economy: including mining and energy, manufacturing, construction and wholesale trade.

"Prof Fels' careful review confirms that price-setting strategies by corporations, including many obviously unfair and exploitative practices, have contributed significantly to the cost-of-living crisis afflicting Australian households," said Greg Jericho, Chief Economist for the Australia Institute.

"Since the current inflationary cycle began after COVID lockdowns, there has been too much attention on wages, labour costs, and consumer spending as the supposed drivers of higher prices. The RBA and other policy-makers have been too slow to acknowledge the role of profit and greed in pushing up prices.

"This inquiry marshals abundant evidence from official statistical agencies, international economic organisations, think tanks and academic research to show that corporations have taken advantage of the pandemic and its aftermath to exploit consumers and drive up inflation.

"Prof Fels' report contributes to a more accurate understanding of what is causing the cost-of-living crisis, and a more balanced and fair strategy for solving it.

"Australian corporate profits have moderated in the last year, as supply chains were repaired and energy prices retreated. This has been crucial to the partial slowdown in inflation experienced in the same time.

"But further reductions in prices for many essential goods and services are required to fully repair living standards, and Prof Fels' recommendations for more exposure of excess prices and stronger competition measures to reduce them would help a lot."



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Supermarket prices impacting public health

The **NFF Horticulture Council** has echoed concerns raised by the Australian Greens with the results of their recent consumer survey revealing more than half (56%) of all Australians are buying less fruits and vegetables as a result of higher prices.

Council Chair Jolyon Burnett said the survey results point towards the wider impacts of higher prices for fresh food, including on public health.

"As a nation we already struggle to meet our daily recommended intake of at least two serves of fresh fruits, five serves of vegetables and 30 grams of nuts," said My Burnett.

"Latest numbers from the Australian Bureau of Statistics show just over 6% are consuming enough vegetables and almost twice the proportion of adults reported that they do not usually eat fruit daily in 2022 when compared to over a decade ago. "Consumer perceptions of high prices are unfortunately feeding into this issue with direct consequences for the wellbeing of individuals and the future of our health system.

"Studies show our unhealthy diets, against other causes, account for the greatest number of preventable deaths each year in Australia at 27,500, greater than tobacco by more than 10,000 deaths annually. "Without an intervention, the burden of lifestyle disease on our health system is only going to grow.

"When it comes to considering how it might make domestic markets for fresh fruits, vegetables and nuts work better, there are other factors the government might consider in addition to ensuring they are more efficient, transparent and fair.

"For now, we are calling on the Federal Government to make a significant investment in a public health campaign targeted at arresting and turning around the downward trends in fresh fruit, vegetable and nut consumption in this country.

"Given the downstream returns for the health system, we can hardly think of a better investment."

Hold Fast
Distillery

Community outrage as renewable plans fall short

Energy developers need to work better with landholders and community members with a report finding major opposition to renewables.

Far from isolated cases of 'NIMBYism', the final report from the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner's Community Engagement Review found 92 per cent of landholders and community members were unhappy with consultation on renewable energy projects planned for rural and regional NSW.

Commissioned by Energy Minister Chris Bowen, the report also found a national transition to renewable energy would not succeed without effective community participation in infrastructure developments.

NSW Farmers Energy Transition Working Group chair Reg Kidd said farmers had not been fairly consulted by energy developers and bore the brunt of the nation's switch to more renewable sources of power.

"This tells us what we've known for a long time, there is a shocking lack of consultation we've seen in farming regions to date around these renewable projects," Mr Kidd said.

"The sheer number of recommendations demonstrates the extent of this failure to properly engage rural Australia in decisions that will directly affect their livelihoods and ability to produce enough food to sustain our growing population."

While Mr Kidd welcomed the report's efforts to suggest ways forward in improving community consultation on renewable energy projects, he warned serious action must be taken to prevent further damage to rural communities.

"We need to see real action taken by the government to properly plan how we can achieve this transition to renewable energy, without destroying food producing land or paving over our iconic landscapes," Mr Kidd said.

"Farmers are on the front line of a fight to protect not only our most productive farmland, but our rural communities, from the effects of this poor planning for our state's energy supply – and we're seeing little concrete action from governments to stop the damage.

"Tangible actions such as implementing a mandatory code of conduct for transmission and large-scale renewable projects, and creating an integrated development plan for renewable energy, are what we really need to see progress on before it's too late."

AI sparks concerns among journalists despite low usage, survey finds

Seventy-nine percent of Australian journalists were concerned about the impact that generative AI could have on the overall integrity or quality of journalism in 2023, Medianet's latest Media Landscape Report finds.

Based on a survey of more than 800 Australian journalists, the report revealed that while most journalists (74%) had not yet personally used generative AI in their work and 19% were not aware of how AI is being used in their newsrooms, 67% of respondents believed that generative AI could potentially replace aspects of their jobs. Further, twelve percent of respondents claimed to know someone who has lost work or lost work themselves due to the uptake of generative AI in 2023.

Medianet Managing Director, Amrita Sidhu, said that the heightened fear from journalists could stem from the lack of awareness about how AI is being used in newsrooms and its potential impact on journalistic integrity.

"The introduction of generative AI has sparked concerns among journalists, but it's essential to bridge the gap between concerns and real-world impact," Sidhu said.

The report also shows findings on journalists' average salaries, once again highlighting gender pay gaps in the media industry.

From the findings, journalists have not been immune to cost-of-living challenges. 'Money' was identified as the greatest challenge of 43% of respondents in 2023, while 67% felt they were underpaid. Conversely, female journalists earning over \$100,000 increased by 7% from the previous year.

In a year where the platform formerly known as Twitter received significant publicity following the company's acquisition by Elon Musk and subsequent rebrand to X, there was a significant drop in professional Twitter/X usage in 2023.

The platform dropped from being the second most used social media platform for journalists in 2022 to being the fourth most-used platform, after Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. Fifty-eight percent of respondents said they used Twitter/X in 2023 down from 69% in 2022. Ten percent identified having either recently deleted their account or stopped using it in 2023. A quarter of respondents (26%) said they still had an account but rarely used Twitter/X for professional purposes in 2023.

Journalists disclosed their main motivations to report on stories, with 80% stating their primary motivation is to inform the public accurately and fairly.

Read the full report [here](#).

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Towards 2042!

Help us update our Community Strategic Plan!

We are looking back at our plan from 2021 and asking you to tell us how things have changed, and what should stay the same, as we head Towards 2042.

Get involved by:

- Completing the online survey
- Completing a hard copy survey
- Responding as a group using the Discussion Guide
- ▶ Read the old plan and fill out the survey until 15 March 2024 at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

Have Your Say

Projects & initiatives open for community comment	Closing Date
Proposed name for Wright Park amenities building	15 February
Bungendore Place Plan	19 February
Draft Licence Agreement - Queanbeyan Lions Club	22 February
Rates Structure Review Panel	26 February
Update - Towards 2024 - Community Strategic Plan	15 March

- ▶ 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

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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 February
- 28 February

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.

Rates Structure Review Panel

Council has committed to reviewing the rate structure and looking at how fair the rate structure is in our local government area.

To help us with the review, we are forming a Community Reference Panel with ratepayers from across the region.

The panel is proposed to meet in two workshops in March, on weekday evenings in Bungendore. Council will listen to the panel and then the updated rates structure will go on exhibition as part of our draft Revenue Policy.

- ▶ Learn more and join the panel at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/rates-review

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- **Braidwood Farmers Market** 17 Feb
- **Ryrie Park Markets** every 4th Saturday 9am to 2pm
- **Garage Sales Braidwood Uniting Church** Wed's 9-3
- **Bungendore: The Southern Harvest Farmers Market** - 9am (9.30am start time for the winter months) to 12noon Saturdays
- **Captains Flat regional Market** 10 - 2pm
- every 2nd Sat

The Braidwood Waste Transfer Station hours

10am-4:30pm Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BRAIDWOOD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 25th February 2024 11:45 a.m.

In St Andrews Church

All Parishioners are welcome to attend

NOTE: Reports please by 14th Feb. Copies available on 18th Feb 2024 Nominations and Notices of Motion (in writing) by 5pm 22nd Feb 2024. Nomination forms will be available in St Andrews foyer after 4th Feb 2024 or phone Mervyn 0418 663 648

Braidwood Old Sunday School Hall Assoc Inc

Notice of AGM

Saturday 24th February 2024 at 10.30am

Sunday School Hall

All welcome - Memberships will be due.

Following the AGM, everyone is invited to stay around for a general chat about the Hall and its operations.

Braidwood Men's Shed

Braidwood Men's Shed Meet every Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 AM till Lunchtime. New members are always welcome. Drop in for a chat and/or Morning Tea. Do you need something done but don't have the right tools? Why not pop in to the Mens Shed just off Cowper Street next to the SES and have a chat to "Shep" and the lads. You will be warmly welcomed.



- **Braidwood Races** Saturday 10th February
- **Braidwood Show 2024** Saturday 2nd March
- **Enlighten Festival Canberra** 1 to 11 March |
- **Braidwood Campdraft** 15 - 17 March
- **The Machine Show** 5-6 April
- **2024 Heritage Festival**

18 April to 19 May. Queanbeyan-Palerang will participate with a program of activities being developed. Council will be holding our annual Heritage Awards.

Braidwood Show Society Inc. asks?

We need volunteers! Can you help on any of the days between Wednesday 28th February and Sunday 3rd March? Rolls include set up, pack up, accepting entries, or stewarding for any of the events you are interested in on the Friday and/or Saturday, and more! If so, give Di a call on 4847 5095.

Campdrafting more your style? Get in contact by emailing braidwoodentries@gmail.com to assist with the first Braidwood Show Campdraft 16-17th March 2024

Service NSW is coming to our community



Braidwood
Wednesday 21 February
from 9am - 3pm



RUSSELL HOWARD TEMPLE

Passed 23rd January 2024 at

Braidwood MPS.

Formerly of Nerriga.

Friend to many.

Aged 84 years.

'Rest In Peace'

Russell's family and friends are invited to attend

His graveside funeral service commencing at

11am, Tuesday 6th February 2024 at

Goulburn General Cemetery .

Gorman Road, Goulburn.



RJ SIDNEY CRAIG
FUNERAL DIRECTORS





Delivering Australians more choice of cars to save on fuel

The **Federal Government** is delivering more cars that are cheaper to run, giving motorists choice by introducing a New Vehicle Efficiency Standard for Australia.

The United States has had a similar policy in place for fifty years. But because of a decade of delay and denial, Australia still stands alongside Russia as one of the only advanced economies without the Standard. This is costing families and businesses thousands of dollars at the petrol pump.

The Albanese Government's New Vehicle Efficiency Standard will push car makers to give Australian motorists more choices of new cars, utes and vans that use less fuel and that have until now only been available to buyers in overseas markets.

The preferred model for the New Vehicle Efficiency Standard, made available today on cleanercars.gov.au, has been under development since the Government committed to the Standard last year - to ensure it strikes the right balance in giving Australians more choice while using less petrol.

If Australia catches up with the Standard in the U.S. by around 2028, Australians stand to save about \$1000 per vehicle per year.

The Standard will only apply to new passenger and light commercial vehicles, not used or existing vehicles. They work by providing car companies with targets for average emissions per kilometre from new vehicles sold.

The New Vehicle Efficiency Standard will deliver more vehicles to Australia with the latest engine and design technologies to ensure lower fuel bills, meaning bigger savings at the petrol pump.

The Albanese Government will consult on the preferred model for a month and introduce the legislation as soon as possible, with the new cost saving rules to come into effect by 1 January 2025.

Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Chris Bowen said "Because of a lack of action on an Efficiency Standard, Australian families are paying around \$1000 a year more than they need to be for their annual fuel bill - the Albanese Government is delivering long-term cost-of-living relief to fix that for new vehicles and put money back in people's pockets."

"We're giving Australians more choice to spend less on petrol, by catching up with the U.S- this will save Australian motorists \$100bn in fuel costs to 2050."

"This is about ensuring Australian families and businesses can choose the latest and most efficient cars and utes, whether they're petrol and diesel engines, or hybrid, or electric."

The Impact Analysis and ways to have your say are available at www.cleanercars.gov.au.

Auto industry scores government's Fuel Efficiency Standard 7 out of 10

The Motor Trades Association of Australia (MTAA) - the largest representative of the automotive sector in Australia - welcomes the Federal Government's release of its Fuel Efficiency Standard impact assessment.

"The government has had to balance two extremes - the car companies and the single focused EV lobby. I cannot underestimate the difficulty in developing this standard. It has taken three governments and 12 years to reach this point. Nobody disagrees Australia needs to join the rest of the developed world with a standard to ensure we get our fair share of new technology and choice of electric vehicles," said MTAA CEO Matt Hobbs.

"The whole industry knows putting in place a fuel efficiency standard is the right way to go. The argument is just about the fine details. We score the government a seven out of 10, so far. Some adjustments are needed in the early years, especially in the treatment of utes. I am confident we can work with the government to ensure they get a perfect mark."

MTAA's members are the largest providers of talent to the automotive industry. It's vital, as the government implements a fuel efficiency standard, that it partners with industry to get the workforce in place to support the EV transition.

"As stakeholders resolve EV supply and range issues in Australia, the next challenge is to implement the required workforce. EVs are cutting-edge technology and as such need a highly trained Australian workforce. A good first step is to make more apprentices eligible for the New Energy Apprentices Program," said Mr Hobbs

MTAA is concerned not all car companies will make the transition. The huge technology shift brings opportunities but also risks for Australian small businesses and automotive workers who can lose their investment and livelihoods at the whim of international car companies in offshore headquarters.

Australian automotive workers and small businesses need the Albanese government to have their back in this period of change with an Automotive Industry Code of Conduct to protect workers who are at the mercy of multinational companies.

"The future of the global auto industry is the industrial version of the Hunger Games - played in boardrooms far from Australia. It is imperative the government develops an Automotive Industry Code to give Australian workers and businesses a fair go," said Mr Hobbs.

MTAA will shortly provide a detailed submission to the Federal Government on the impact of its preferred option.



You can support your local news source by sponsoring a page!
Contact mail@braidwoodbugle.com.au for details





Corang Estate Cheese & Wine Night

Fri 23 February 2024
5-7pm

Join us at Corang Estate Cellar Door & Pantry in Tarago for a fun evening of cheese and wine! Includes a glass of bubbly on arrival, four cheese & wine pairings, plus flatbreads, dips and olives.

For more info & to book:

www.corangestate.com.au/cellar-door/events



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- Silver
- gold, brass
- copper
- chrome
- stainless steel
- pewter



The Braidwood Bugle is your local news and every 'coffee' ensures we stay FREE



Buy me a coffee

If you love the Bugle, you might consider supporting our work - for just the price of a cup of coffee. Every little bit helps the Bugle to continue sounding. You can even become a Braidwood Bugle Member





Braidwood Golf Club News

RESULTS-Saturday February 3- Men's & Women's Stroke & Monthly Medals

Men's Results

Winner: Andrew Clark 66 nett

Runner Up: Billy Lang 67 nett

Men's NTP 8/17: Andrew Clark

Jackpot(1m) \$20: Not Won

Ball Comp: Leigh Curtis 68, Chris Witt 70, Roger Hovey 71, John Harb 71, Ted Emmett 74, Terry Hughes 75.

Handicap Changes: Andrew Clark down 1 to 22, Roger Hovey down 1 to 26, Billy Lang down 1 to 12, Michael Tillman Ryan out 1 to 36

Birdies: 4

Women's Results

Winner: Virginia Groot Obbink 71 nett

Runner Up: Robin Tennant Wood 76 nett

Putting: Barb Stuart 27.

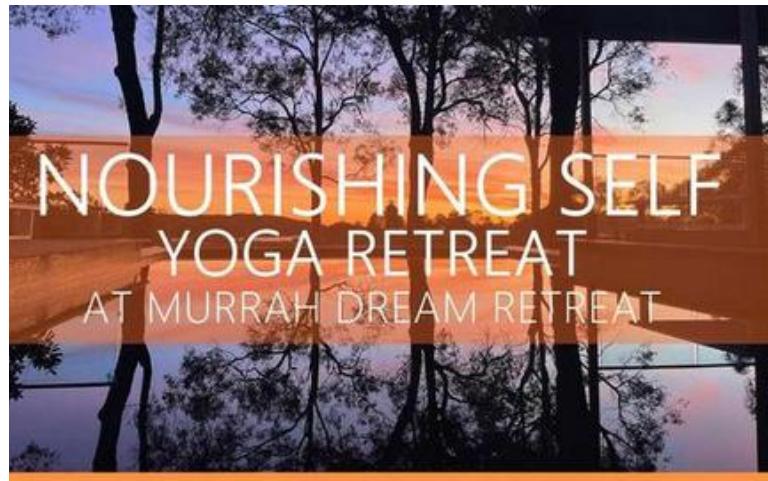
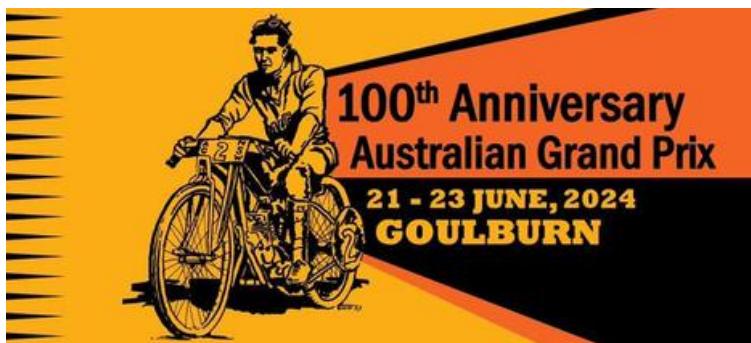
Handicap Changes: Virginia Groot Obbink down 1 to 26, Fran McGrath out 1 to 33, Robin

Tennant Wood out 1 to 36

Birdies: 2 Pars: 3

Coming Events

- **February 10 Saturday:** Men's Single Stableford, Braidwood Chemist Trophy
Women's Single Stableford, Braidwood Butcher Trophy
- **February 17 Saturday:** Committee Meeting 10.30am
Men's Single Stableford, Michael Tillman-Ryan Trophy
Women's Single Stableford, Amanda Hall Trophy & The Isobel Mutton Trophy 1st Round.
- **February 22 Thursday:** Men's Pennants at Braidwood
- **February 24 Saturday:** Medley 2BBB Stableford – Ted Emmett Trophy
- **March 2 Saturday:** Men's & Women's Stroke & Monthly Medal
- **March 9 Saturday:** Canberra Day Weekend
Men's Single Stableford – Jim Lindwall Trophy
Women's 2BBB Stableford – Durran Durra Truffles Trophy
- **March 16 Saturday:** Committee Meeting 10.30am
Men's Single Stableford – Nutrien Ag Trophy
Women's Single Stableford – Isobel Mutton Trophy 2nd Round
- **March 23 Saturday:** Medley Irish Stableford - P.B.L. (Bruce) Hovey Trophy
- **March 30 Saturday:** Easter Weekend 3-4 Person Ambrose -Mona Cup
- **April 6 Saturday:** Men's & Women's Stroke & Monthly Medal
Daylight Saving Ends



22nd - 24th March 2024

weekend of yoga, healing practices, nutritious food and heartfelt connections.

It's time to give back to YOU!

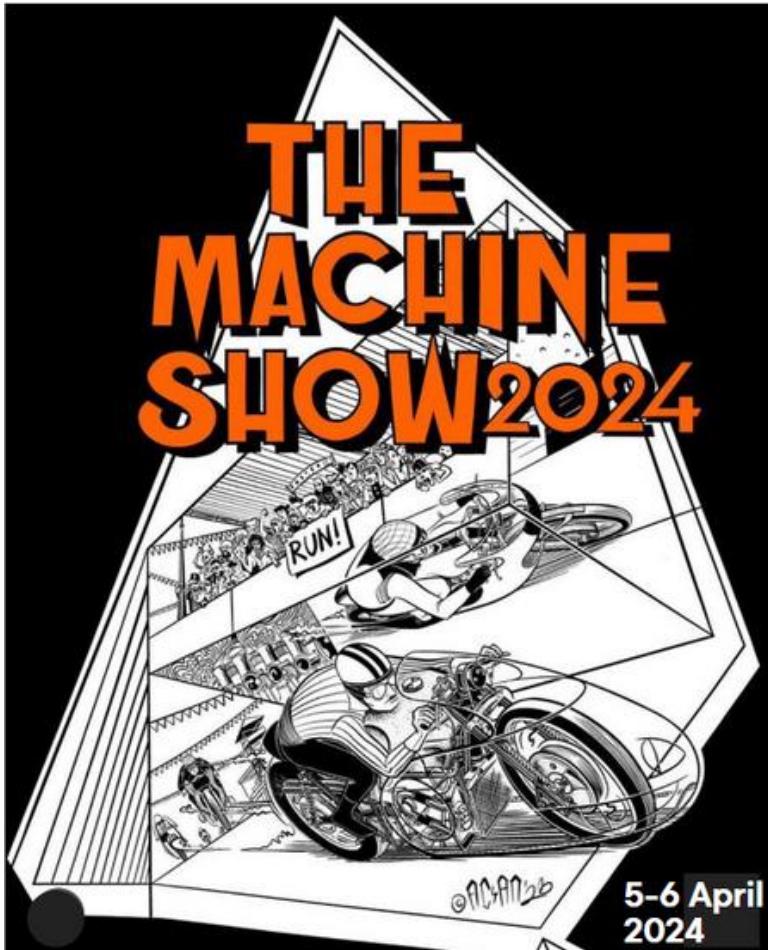
fill up your cup, feed your soul and nourish your whole being

\$845 early-bird \$895 full price

All inclusive



For info call Christina 0414385051



5-6 April 2024



Yoga pose of the week

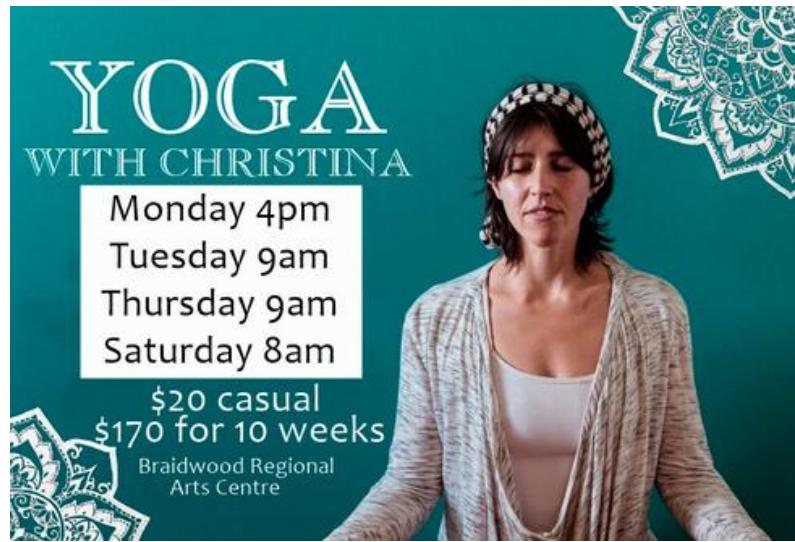
with Christina Carroll



Spinal Column Pose - Merudandasana

A pose to improve the sense of balance. It helps to elongates the spine, stimulating the abdominal organs and develops concentration and focus, which in turn calms and balances the mind.

To practice - Sit on the buttock with the knees bent and soles of the feet on the floor. Find a point in front of the body to fix the gaze. Take the arms inside the knees and grasp hold of the big toes, if not available the lower legs. Keep the spine straight and lean the body weight backwards slightly. Raise the feet off the floor and balance on the buttocks. Gradually straighten the legs and arms upwards. Separate the legs out to the sides and gaze softly at the steady point. Hold for as long as comfortable. To release, bring the legs together at the centre, bend the knees and lower the feet to the floor.



YOGA
WITH CHRISTINA

Monday 4pm
Tuesday 9am
Thursday 9am
Saturday 8am

\$20 casual
\$170 for 10 weeks

Braidwood Regional Arts Centre

Barefoot Bowls kicks off

Braidwood Bowling Club

Rd 1 of Barefoot 2024 was enjoyed by 96 players this evening. We were treated to an absolute cracker of an afternoon. 2 full greens of families and friends enjoying a nice game of bowls. Team NUTRIEN AG, took out best performed team by a singular shot from THE GRASS CUTTERS. Team 3 OF CLUBS picked up the lucky team draw, with both teams collecting \$150. See the full table in pictures. The raffles were won by Michelle Griggs, Peter Nicholson, Jeff Horn and Toby Moller. A big thanks to those who donated gifts and vouchers (more details in weeks to come), and to Kerri Backhouse for organising the prizes. How good are the greens rolling?? WOW! Huge thanks to green keeper Dylan and his dedicated team of volunteers, producing a quality surface for us all to enjoy. Thanks to bowls club President Damian Campbell Davys for preparing everyone's dinner and to Jeanette and Kerri for buttering all the rolls. Big thanks also to Ross McKerchar, Martin Gilby, Sanders Watson, Greame Spencer and Nigel McGrath for their help in making the night run smoothly. The great pictures are courtesy of Kathy Toirkens, and we can't thank her enough for capturing the happiness and great times had. Thanks must go to our two event sponsors, Braidwood Servicemens Club and Community Bank Braidwood and Crookwell Agency, for without their help, I'm sure the event wouldn't be the success it is. The biggest thanks though, goes to our awesome community for coming along and getting behind the best community event on the calendar, where all facets of our diverse community enjoy themselves and have a great time together. Check out the draw for next week with some cracking line ups and bragging rights on the line.



Got an event coming up? Has it got lost on the socials?

Let the Bugle know mail@braidwoodbugle.com.au



BRAIDWOOD
BUGLE



BRAIDSWOOD RACES



Saturday 10 Feb 2024

Gates Open 12pm

ADULTS \$30

KIDS \$15

Kids 12 & under free

CONCESSION \$15

Fashions on the field, Kids activities, Kiosk, Bar, Sky Channel, ATM, Photo Finish, Totalizer on Course.

Free bus picking up and dropping off from the Servicemen's Club & the Royal Mail Hotel starting at 1130.

Marquees available

6 x 3m (18ppl) - \$500

4.5 x 3m - \$400

3 x 3m (9ppl) - \$270

Contact Koco to book - 0422 044 112

Contact Nick for any enquires - 0418 571 711 or
braidswoodjockeyclub@gmail.com

BRAIDSWOOD RACES

**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY
10TH**

BEST DRESSED

**BOY UNDER 10
GIRL UNDER 10
BOY 10-17
GIRL 10-17**

**LOCAL GENTLEMEN OVER 18
LOCAL LADY OVER 18**

**LADY 18-35
LADY 36-49
LADY 50 & OVER**

**CONTEMPORARY LADY OVER 18
MILLINERY OVER 18**

**GENTLEMEN OVER 18
COUPLE OVER 18**

**GRANDCHAMPION
OF THE DAY**



BRAIDSWOOD JOCKEY CLUB CALCUTTA



Braidswood Servicemen's Club

Friday 09 Feb 2024

Commencing at 6:00pm

**Tickets available for purchase on the night
or at the bar now!**

**The Braidswood
Races Major
Sponsor**

THE SERVICEMENS CLUB

kick on at the Club after the BRAIDSWOOD RACES

Saturday the 10th of February 2024

**Buses dropping off from the
Races to the Club at the end of
the day!**



LIVE MUSIC

**Lost Corz one of Canberra's
best Cover Bands!**



**Capri Z's Italian cooking Pizza out the
back from 5pm!**

**Courtesy Bus Available All Night (up to
10km out of town)**