



The Braidwood Races were held on Saturday. Local trainer Aaron Clarke picked up a popular win in Race 3 with Red Redemption, pictured here with connections. More pages 29 - 31

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- Planning for the future of Braidwood and District
- Tourism Product Development Workshop at Mona Farm
- Energy Efficiency Grant applications opening soon in Eden-Monaro
- Farmers can be part of the solution for housing crisis



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Planning for the future of Braidwood and District

2042 seems a long way into the future, but time passes very quickly. What do we want our future to look like? What do we love about where we live, and what do we want to change? What is our shared vision for the future?

QPRC are asking these questions to guide them in updating the Towards 2042 Community Strategic Plan. So why should you care? Our answer is that you actually can influence Council decisions. We know that complaints often seem to go nowhere, but having an input into planning and community consultation can make a difference.

Since our formation in 2018, the Braidwood Community Association has worked with our Council to achieve some great outcomes for our community. We know there is a lot of cynicism about Council, but we also know that we can influence their decisions about our region. We are a small part of a large LGA, so we rely on being the “squeaky wheel”. Submissions to the strategic plans that guide QPRC’s decisions can help when a grant opportunity is available. Ideas from our community can guide councillors when they have to make important decisions. Conversations with QPRC Councillors and staff can make a real difference. The BCA is always on alert for these opportunities.

The QPRC Towards 2042 Community Strategic Plan is currently open to community consultation. There will be a drop-in session at the Braidwood IGA on Friday 16 February from 10am-12pm. There is a survey online, a discussion guide for groups and a Drawing Sheet – I’m not sure what that is, so have a look at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/update-towards-2024-csp>

The BCA will discuss the key questions at our next General Meeting at 5.30pm on Feb 20th, at the Servicemen’s Club. This discussion will build on the ideas that have been suggested while developing the draft Braidwood Community Plan. We’d like to hear your vision for Braidwood. How can we guide the way our town and villages develop? What does our community need that we don’t have? What problems do you foresee?

If you can’t attend our meeting, please reply by completing the online survey, or by emailing the BCA at info@braidwoodcommunity.org.au. Or call by the drop-in session at the IGA on Friday between 10am and 12pm.

The BCA will make a detailed submission on this consultation, so constructive and creative ideas from the community will help us to do this.

Sue Murray,
BCA President

Energy Efficiency Grant applications opening soon in Eden-Monaro

The Albanese Labor Government is delivering a further \$41 million in Energy Efficiency Grants (EEG) to support small and medium businesses across Australia, including in Eden-Monaro, save on energy bills and lower emissions. Round Two of the EEG will provide between \$10,000 and \$25,000 in funding to businesses to support upgrades to more efficient equipment – including replacing air conditioners with high efficiency units or gas heating boilers with heat pumps.

The \$41.2 million investment from the \$62 million program will help businesses use less energy and improve competitiveness, while reducing their carbon footprint. Applications for the grants will open in Eden-Monaro on Monday 26 February 2024.

Member for Eden-Monaro, Kristy McBain MP said “We know that energy usage is one of the biggest expenses for small and medium-sized businesses in Eden-Monaro, which is why we want to help them put downward pressure on bills with more efficient lighting and equipment. “This funding will support businesses in Eden-Monaro invest in new appliances and energy efficient technology – which will improve their energy efficiency practices and reduce their overheads.

“The next round will build on the \$264,000 delivered in Eden-Monaro under Round One – which supported Pete’s Swim School in Queanbeyan upgrade a heat pump, Adaminaby Bowling Club upgrade lights, and Tumut Building Supplies reduce their power usage.

“I encourage local businesses across Eden-Monaro to take a look at the grant guidelines, and to start putting their applications together ahead of February 26.”

For more information about the Energy Efficiency Grants for SMEs program and how to apply, visit: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/energy-efficiency-grants-for-small-and-medium-enterprises-round-2>.



Braidwood Bugle

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Week ending 13th February 2024

Braidwood Weather

With Roger Hosking

As I write this, heat and afternoon thunderstorms appear likely. Rain from thunderstorms can be intense but very patchy with distinct edges. We average three thunderstorms in February.

Day	Min	Max	Rain
Wed	8	18	
Thurs	11	19	
Fri	7	23	
Sat	12	18	0.4
Sun	11	23	1.4
Mon	12	28	
Tues	15	29	38.

Grassland SDI (soil moisture deficit) 22.4mm
Total rainfall so far:
- this month 46.8mm - this year 137.8mm

 **FREE CLIMATE INFO TEL 48 429 049**



Tourism Product Development Workshop at Mona Farm



Walbunja Ranger welcoming for participants to the Tourism Forum at Mona last week.

Braidwood and Villages Business Chamber (BAVBC) supported by Australian Business Volunteers (ABV) and Enterprise Plus recently held a Tourism Product Development Workshop in Braidwood, where experts and entrepreneurs joined forces to develop some exciting new tourism products for the region.

The community were invited to submit their tourism ideas, with four projects selected to attend the workshop. Participants gave a short presentation on their concepts which was then followed by some intensive group work with our panel of experts.

The four tourism product ideas presented included an extension to the offerings at the Holdfast Gin School, a heritage machinery trail, the creation of a Braidwood events coordinator position, and the Walbunja Rangers cultural tours. Each product was discussed and developed in depth with all participants leaving with a draft comprehensive project concept to work towards a compelling funding proposal. BAVBC will continue to look at how they can garner stakeholder support to initiate and incubate individual projects.

One participant said, "I really appreciated being involved in the process and feel privileged to being around such knowledgeable people who are, humbly, willing to share their knowledge".

An unexpected highlight was the idea of blending two projects – the Walbunja Rangers cultural tours and the Holdfast Gin School. Providing a holistic experience for customers by combining a cultural bush tour to harvest botanicals, with the Gin School to create their own unique blend. The outcome of the workshop, especially the cross-cultural developments, sparked great enthusiasm among the stakeholder working group and participants, signalling a new chapter for cross-cultural relationships in Braidwood.

This event was another step in realising the huge tourism potential of the district, and a progression of the Braidwood and Villages Destination Management Plan. The BAVBC will continue to engage with the local community to source and develop great tourism experiences.

This project is being facilitated by Australian Business Volunteers and is funded by the Disaster Risk Reduction Fund (DRRF) which is jointly funded by the Australian and New South Wales governments.

By Kari Edie



'The Longhouse'

9 Clyde Street Braidwood \$820,000 - \$850,000

Everyone loves a story and this property certainly has that. The building started its life as singlemen's quarters in Jindabyne on the Snowy Hyro scheme and made its way to Braidwood to form part of the original National Parks depot. Since then it has been repurposed, renovated and transformed into this very comfortable 3 bedroom home in a very quiet part of Braidwood with the sports ground, new skate park, tennis courts nearby and within easy walking distance to the local supermarket and main street. The flexible floor plan could easily accommodate a 4th bedroom with an ensuite (STA). The Northfacing verandah is the perfect spot to sit, read and unwind and the established yard offers absolute privacy from the street. Block is 1328 sq mtrs and has a double garage with carport and a separate tin shed which would make a perfect bar / hangout.

Ray White Braidwood
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Braidwood, NSW 2622

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Braidwood Evening VIEW Club News



Francis, National Chairlady, Lois, Charmain, Ros, Lyn, Vicki, Lou, Kerri, Gai and Judy.

By Vicki Walcott

Well 2024 has kicked off for the Braidwood Evening VIEW Club at the Braidwood Services Club.

The newly elected National chair Francis, attended our meeting to officiate the AGM proceedings and share some updates on the work currently being done across the AA area which includes Canberra and surrounding areas.

We here in the Braidwood club also make up part of the 17 clubs in this AA area.

To our surprise within this AA area, 2500 children are supported in the Learning for Life program.

Thank you this year to Ros, Lois, Charmian, Gai, Vicki, Lyn, Kerri and welcome back on board to Lou and Judy who all agreed to join the Evening VIEW Committee.

We are all looking forward to an exciting year ahead in this beautiful part of southern NSW.

VIEW has 300 clubs around Australia involving some 16,000 women from all walks of life. Through their networks in local communities, VIEW members help to spread the message about disadvantage in Australia and the importance of long-term education support in helping a child break the cycle of disadvantage.

So ladies of Braidwood and district if you're looking for a supportive, social and fun group to join please give our Evening VIEW club some consideration and help us to assist those children in need of educational support,

Braidwood Evening VIEW meets at 6.00 pm on the first Thursday of the month at the Braidwood Services Club.

Until next month, Look out for each other.



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- **17th March Elegant Associates**



Our EV Charger is now up and running!





New student faces in the school playgrounds



BCS welcomed 17 new students to kindergarten last week. Year 6 buddies escorted them to class and helped them to settle in for their first day at school.



New Kindergarten students at St Bede's Primary School.

ClubGRANTS applications are open for 2024

The 2024 Queanbeyan-Palerang ClubGRANTS Category 1 funding round is open.

ClubGRANTS is one of Australia's largest grant programs, providing more than \$100 million each year to a variety of worthy causes across NSW.

Each year, registered clubs across NSW provide support to tens of thousands of local community organisations, sporting groups, and charities that make a difference in their local area through ClubGRANTS.

The Queanbeyan-Palerang ClubGRANTS Committee is made up of four local clubs: Campbell & George, Queanbeyan Kangaroos Rugby League Football Club, Queanbeyan Leagues Club and Queanbeyan Tigers Australian Football Club.

Last year the Committee selected 33 projects worth a total of \$280,198 to receive either full or partial funding under the annual Category 1 funding round. Category 1 funding applies to projects that support community welfare and social services, community development, health services, employment assistance activities, and other projects that aim to improve the living standards of low income and disadvantaged people. Projects and organisations involved in community or professional sport are also eligible for Category 1 funding.

To learn more about eligibility and submit an application online by 5:15pm 31 May 2024, visit www.clubgrants.com.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 \$800.
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

NEW Restaurant Telephone: 4876 7809 Club Telephone :4842 2108 www.BraidwoodServicemensClub.com.au



Decisions from the 14 February Ordinary Council Meeting

The livestream will be available at <http://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/archive.php>.

- QPRC Council is now hearing from two members of the public who are making presentations about an item on tonight's agenda concerning NSW Planning and Environment Diverse and Well-Located Housing Reforms.
- Council receives and notes the findings of the LGNSW Cost Shifting report for the 2021-22 financial year and will write to the Premier, the NSW Treasurer and the NSW Minister for Local Government to address cost shifting. 1/2
- 2/2 Council will write in support of the review into Local Government Financial Sustainability. Council will also make a submission to the Draft Terms of Reference to IPART. A copy of the cost shifting report will be placed on Council's website.
- Council will lodge a submission on the Diverse and Well-located Housing reforms proposed by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.
- Council endorses the replacement road name Dyara Walk as one of the three proposed names for DA.2021.1537 and will advertise the proposed road name for public comment for 28 days.
- Council endorses the principle that the naming of the QCCP building is an opportunity to acknowledge and pay respect to our First Nations history, in Ngambri and/or Ngunnawal Language. 1/2
- 2/2 Council will refer the suggestions provided by the Ngambri Local Aboriginal Lands Council and Winanggaay Ngunnawal Language Group to the QPRC First Nations Advisory Committee and receive a further report.
- Council will place the revisions to the draft Investment Policy on public exhibition for 28 days at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au>
- and adopt the Investment Policy if there are no objections.
- Council endorses 12-mth licence agreement with Bungendore Park Tennis Club and will seek Ministerial approval to enter a 5-year period. Agreement will be on public exhibition at <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au> Pending feedback, agreement will be signed and executed.
- Council receives information report about the Department of Planning, Housing and Industry's draft review of Local Infrastructure Contributions Practice Notes.
- Council receives report on shared path designs along Queanbeyan River, connecting Glenrock Drian, Thorpe Avenue and Woodger Parade. Design will be placed on public exhibition.
- Council receives half-yearly progress report on the trial of special fee conditions for pool and aquatic centres, including free entry for primary school aged children, making student, senior and concession entry the same, and cost recovery KPI of 50%.
- Council receives report on trial of a new category of funding where Council-owned community spaces are made available for free in certain conditions.
- Council receives report on the process for the upcoming recruitment of a Director Infrastructure Services.
- Council receives report of staff responses to Councillor questions on notice about the Captains Flat Station Masters Cottage.
- Council receives report about Councillor Workshops between 24 Jan – 13 Feb including the Captains Flat Station Master's Cottage, Reconciliation Action Plan, QCCP and Public Spaces Naming Project. 1/2
- 2/2 Sponsorship Council Facilities/Events, Proposed changes to R2 zone land controls, Enforcement Action on Development Sites, Regional Sports Complex, Dunns Creek Road/VBC Planning Proposal.
- Council notes minutes and endorses recommendations of the First Nations Advisory Committee meetings of 17 October 2022 and 15 November 2023.
- Council notes value of Greenways in QPRC and their importance to people and conserving local biodiversity, notes threats to Greenways posed by residential development and inadequate allocation of resources for repair and maintenance. 1/2
- 2/2 Council will hold a workshop to discuss the current pressures on Greenways, including approval for motorised vehicles, options for Council to address these pressures and opportunities to extend the Greenways network.
- In closed session, Council noted minutes of Queanbeyan Sporting Gallery meeting of 22 January 2024, endorsed Matthew Harrow and Monique Suraci for induction into the gallery. 1/2
- 2/2 Council will consider \$25,000 in operational funding to be allocated in 2024-25 for signage, cleaning and induction.
- In closed session, Council received a report on legal matters between July-December 2023.
- That concludes tonight's meeting. If you'd like more background on the decisions, you can find the business papers on our website. An archive of the live stream will be available in the coming days at <http://webcast.qprc.nsw.gov.au/archive.php>



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



Compete, colour and cheer at BCS Swimming Carnival



Senior students Telara-Ann Edwards, Elanor Hart, Jade Andreato, Mahlee Long and Romany Gleeson.

By John Longhurst

Braidwood Memorial Swimming Pool was awash with Braidwood Central School (BCS) sport house colours of red, yellow and green at the school's annual swimming carnival last Friday. A spectacular summer day matched the excitement of the students as they walked from the school to the pool following roll call.

Primary school students from 8 years old all the way through to Year 12 students participated in the all day event.

BCS teachers supervised a range of activities in the smaller pool including noodle and kick-board races. Regular applications of sunscreen and reminders to stay hydrated ensured a safe and fun day for all.

It was a case of competition and fun in the large pool as the three school sport houses; Red, Yellow and Green battled it out for honours.

15 years champion Amelia Blinco contributed a massive 33 points to Green House which won the carnival with 614 points.

Benson Sisia and Blake Hudson were not far behind with each contributing 30 points to Yellow House's 608 tally.

Red House finished with 475 points.

Parents and carers were also actively involved in the day as time keepers and BCS Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) provided a barbecue lunch.

This year the Student vs Staff and Parents relay proved to be a real nail biter, coming down to the final lap. An amazing effort from Blake Hudson sealed the win for the students and was met with a roar of support from the crowd. Staff and Parents now looking towards the relay at the athletics carnival to claim one back.

There was also an opportunity to acknowledge the last swimming carnival for Year 12 students and they were invited to the starting blocks for a group photograph.

School Captains, Romany Gleeson and Mahlee Long reflected on the day.

Romany said "It was a fun day, lots of colour, cheering and cool music. It is always good to hang out with friends and a great reminder that school is not all about study and academic achievement. A big thank you to staff for organising a great day."

Mahlee said "I guess it is our last hurrah as far as BCS swimming carnivals so it is also bit sad. It has given us time to reflect on the friendships we have forged in our time at BCS."

BCS Principal thanked parents, carers, staff and students for ensuring the success of the carnival.

Ms Mosely said "Once again our parents and carers as well as our P&C have greatly assisted our staff in providing a day of competition and fun for both our primary and secondary students. A big thank you to our teachers Mr Stephen Wall and Mr Will Bennett who worked closely with Deputy Principal, Mr Joe Stephens for all of the organisation. Congratulations to all our students who embraced the spirit of day with such enthusiasm."



BCS senior students add to the colour at the swimming carnival



Parents Ainslie Ernst, Joey Lyons and Katie Lyons helped out with time keeping at BCS Swimming Carnival



BCS staff record results at the swimming carnival



NSW Planning wants AI product solutions to make faster development applications

The NSW Government is investing \$5.6 million in artificial intelligence (AI) to help reduce development application (DA) timeframes and deliver more housing.

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) is calling on industry to submit innovative existing and mature AI technology solutions to help reduce manual workloads for councils and to streamline the pre-lodgement phase.

Industry is invited to submit proposals from today until 6 March 2024.

Applications will be evaluated on how they address one or more priority focus areas, demonstrate low impact implementation, and align with the NSW AI Assurance Framework and AI Ethics Policy.

Successful suppliers will be asked to showcase products and share ideas with councils following the evaluation of applications.

DPHI will then confirm a list of suitable AI products and provide guidance for councils on how to engage with suppliers and select the best AI tools for the task.

Applicants have four weeks to prepare their responses, focusing on four priority areas to assist councils during the pre-lodgement DA phase.

These include:

- A pathways and requirements finder: To help prospective applicants identify site-specific development requirements to speed up their development process.
- Document self-assessment health check: To help applicants self-assess before lodging their DA. This aims to address any potential barriers or gaps in their documentation before they lodge.
- Risk-based triage: To help council staff quickly identify non-compliant elements within a submission so that the triage process is efficient and improves council's productivity.
- Document assurance: To help council staff verify an applicant's documentation to provide increased confidence in the quality of the material submitted.

The project is guided by six overarching principles including trust, transparency, customer benefit, fairness, privacy, and accountability.

DPHI has already worked with NSW councils to define the key challenges experienced during the pre-DA lodgement process.

More than 30 metro and regional councils have participated in workshops to date, with a focus on identifying existing AI products that can be easily implemented and used in the NSW planning system to reduce DA timeframes and deliver on the government's priority of more housing faster.

Councils noted applicants need a simple and streamlined application process to access important information and what documentation is required for their site-specific DA. Port Stephens Council and Wagga Wagga City Council are among the first group of enthusiastic councils to investigate how AI technologies could help enhance council DA processes.

Wagga Wagga Council Manager for Development Assessment & Building Certification Paul O'Brien said the introduction of AI will help get applications in the correct format so council isn't going back and forth trying to clarify critical project information.

"For most of the regular clients they understand what needs to happen, however for occasional developers who might do it once or twice in their lifetime it's very confusing and having an AI presence can help step them through it," Mr O'Brien said.

Port Stephens Council Manager for Development and Compliance Evert Grobbelaar echoed the AI optimism, saying Council sees potential benefits to using AI in the pre-DA lodgement process, for improved application quality, reduced DA processing timeframes, and education opportunities for the community and landowners on the lodgement process.

For more information visit, the [NSW Planning](#) website.

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'The Latecomers' take out monthly trivia at The Club



Braidwood Servicemen's Club reports: After a relaxing break during January, the new Trivia year kicked-off in early February with a titanic struggle between 11 teams (there is always room for more). Along with our familiar faces we had a few new masterminds as well as the return of some friends from Wollongong.

As always, the "Music & Musicals" round started us off and smart play by "Ex-Communicado" (playing a Bonus Points round) saw them jump to an early lead. However, by the half-time break three teams were sharing the top spot – "The Latecomers", "Stumped" and the Wollongong table "No Eye Deer". The coastal visitors slipped ahead over the next two rounds, with the other front runners just behind.

"The Latecomers" and "Stumped" hit back over the last two rounds, "TV & Movies" and the "Theme" round, which this month was Abba songs, ensuring that Braidwood pride was maintained.

Having not stood on the podium for over 6 months, "The Latecomers" snuck ahead to take the victory laurels with 83 points.

At the end they were just 2 points ahead of the ever consistent "Stumped".

In the last 8 months "Stumped" have only missed the Top 3 once – outstanding play!

Congratulations to the "The Latecomers" and thank you to all of our teams and players. We look forward to seeing everyone again on Wednesday 6 March. If you think you have what it takes to stand on the podium (or just want to have a bit of mid-week fun) we will see you at 6:30pm for a 7pm start

EXPLORE



NATIONAL TRUST

Seminar Bedervale – 200 years of history

Tours of the house with presentation by Roslyn Russell, of Roslyn Russell Museum Services, and other speakers on why Bedervale should be preserved.

BEDERVALE HOMESTEAD
Monkitee Street, Braidwood

5 MARCH TUESDAY 10 AM-3 PM



For further information or to register for this event please email advocacy@nationaltrust.com.au

There is no cost for this event.

This seminar is a part of Collection Conservation Project running in Bedervale from 5 March to 10 April 2024.

EXPLORE



NATIONAL TRUST

Collection Conservation Project

Collection Care – theory and practical workshop program

BEDERVALE HOMESTEAD
Monkitee Street, Braidwood

Bedervale is a working grazing property with scenic views of the town of Braidwood, Mount Jillamatong and the coastal range. The house was designed by the colonial architect, John Verge, and completed in 1842. Today it is privately owned and operated by the Royds-Horan families, and houses a rare historic collection of art, books and manuscripts, fine furniture, ceramics, and household objects, dating from the 18th to the 20th century. Built by Captain John Coghill for his family as a country cottage, it was continuously occupied by his descendants until 1973. The collection illustrates the changing tastes

and social habits of a specific family from the Victorian to the Edwardian period. The intactness and calibre of the collection is exceptional and of national significance. The furniture and numerous articles of furnishing superbly complement the elegant interiors of the homestead and showcase the lifestyle of established settlers in the latter part of the nineteenth century. For nearly half a century the Royds-Horan families and the National Trust of NSW have been partnering to protect this unique and highly significant collection.

PROGRAM

MARCH 5, TUE, 10 AM-3 PM

SEMINAR: Bedervale – 200 years of history

Tours of the house with presentation by Roslyn Russell, of Roslyn Russell Museum Services, and other speakers on why Bedervale should be preserved.

MARCH 20-21, WED – THU, 10 AM-3 PM

WORKSHOP 1: Collection Care – The Theory and the Practice

Limited onsite accommodation is available

DAY 1 Workshop presentation by Tegan Anthes, Conservator, on the principles of preventative conservation, the ten agents of deterioration, and strategies to reduce damage to objects and collections. The workshop will cover the theory and practical activities with the use of monitoring equipment and case study scenarios.

DAY 2 Bedervale Drawing room – practical session handling and cleaning the furniture and decorative objects, rugs and artworks in the Drawing Room. The workshop will provide practical skills with a range of object types, handling, and cleaning procedures.

APRIL 8-10, MON – WED, 10 AM-3 PM

WORKSHOP 2: Collection Care – Cleaning the Bedervale Library

Limited onsite accommodation is available

This three-day workshop will focus on cleaning the historic Bedervale library. The Bedervale library and manuscript collection dates from the early eighteenth-century, with the oldest published volume dating from 1701. The oldest manuscript dates from 1809. The library was established by John Coghill, the first owner, and added to subsequently for five generations until Robert Arthur Coghill Maddrell sold Bedervale in 1973 (to presentowners, the Royds). Processes for mould remediation of book collections, and safe working practices will be utilised.

For further information or to register for this event please email advocacy@nationaltrust.com.au

FREE
EVENTS



Summer Whiplash Explained: Climate Change Fuelling NSW Summer Of Extremes

CLIMATE COUNCIL

CLIMATE chaos has caught NSW residents off guard this summer, as increasingly volatile weather has flung communities between dangerous fire conditions, extreme heat, fatal floods, and unprecedented humidity.

The Climate Council's report 'Climate whiplash: wild swings between weather extremes' concludes that Australia's summer of dangerous downpours and scorching heat is consistent with six symptoms of a warming planet.

New South Wales' climate whiplash has already seen:

- Australia's driest three months on record, then intense rainfall across much of New South Wales.

- December temperatures well above average across northern New South Wales, despite wet conditions.

- Weeks of high humidity, with Sydney hitting its highest dew point on record.

2023's announcement of an El Niño and an early start to fire seasons in New South Wales boded for a hot, dry summer.

What NSW experienced instead was wild swings between extreme heat, dangerous rainfall and sweltering humidity.

The report reiterates that climate change, driven by the burning of coal, oil, and gas, is supercharging Australia's weather systems, making them more unpredictable and dangerous than ever before.

It also warns that the weather of the past may no longer be a reliable guide for the future. Hot on the heels of El Niño come concerns that La Niña, a climate driver associated with floods and storms, may return as early as mid this year. Dr Simon Bradshaw, Director of Research at the Climate Council said:

"For too many communities, the great Australian summer is now something to be feared. Climate change, driven by the burning of coal, oil and gas, means our weather is more extreme, dangerous and unpredictable.

"From intense heat and fierce fire conditions to flooding rains and back again, Australians are experiencing climate whiplash: hurtled from one extreme to another with little time to recover.

"The stifling humidity, intense storms, soaring temperatures and other extremes of recent months are all key signs of a fast-warming planet.

"We know what we need to do to better protect Australian communities. It starts with cutting Australia's climate pollution. We must urgently reform our national environment law so that we stop adding fuel to the fire by approving new coal and gas projects, and we must lock in the proposed fuel efficiency standard as soon as possible. At the same time, we must work much harder to prepare communities for the climate impacts of today and tomorrow."

Professor Lesley Hughes, Climate Councillor said "Wild swings from fires to floods are threatening the people we love and the places we call home. Climate change, driven by the burning of coal, oil, and gas, has worsened Australia's weather from coast to coast, with almost every state breaking extreme weather records this summer.

"This report makes it clear that we can no longer rely on the past to predict the future when it comes to our weather. Climate change is causing erratic swings from sweltering heat to devastating downpours, and it is increasingly hard to predict what each season will bring.

"But we are not without hope or guidance - what we can rely on is the science. The same science that has been warning us for decades that days like these would come, also spells out the solutions we so desperately need. The science tells us that the only way out of this is to leave coal, oil and gas in the ground for good - not tomorrow or the next day, but now."

Greg Mullins AOFSM, Founder of Emergency Leaders for Climate Action said "The start of the fire season was ferocious, and it came too soon. Climate change closed the window we once used to conduct critical hazard reduction burns; suddenly swinging from too wet, to too dry and dangerous. Catastrophic fire warnings were recorded around the country, and homes and lives were lost to deadly blazes all before December.

"Off the back of the driest three months ever recorded in our history came a deluge of floods and storms, once again pushing emergency services to capacity and forcing communities to fend for themselves. Communities must be given what they need to prepare for and respond to disasters.

"It is unfathomable to me that, while we face fires and floods, we continue contributing to the problem. Australia must leave coal, oil and gas behind for the sake of our future. The alternative is simply not an option."



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Enter QPRC's Wildlife Photo Competition

Enter your photos in the 2024 World Wildlife Day Photo Competition!

We want local young people to show off their camera skills and the animals, fungi, plants and bugs that are native to our area.

March 3 is World Wildlife Day and we're celebrating our local wildlife with a photography competition.

'I'm really excited to see all your brilliant photos come in,' says Mayor, Kenrick Winchester.

'This competition is a great way to get out and learn more about some of the unique critters that call our region home.'

'There are some great prizes for Best Entry in each of the four age categories and an overall prize. The best photos in each category will also be on display in our library.'

Get the best picture you can – but be careful not to touch or hurt any plants or animals while you're there!

The competition is open to people 18 years and under who live in our local government area.

All the photos will be displayed from 6pm on Friday 8 March during the Awards Ceremony in Bicentennial Hall.

Head to <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Events/2024-World-Wildlife-Day-Photo-Competition> for more details and to enter.

Entries close at 11:59pm on Sunday 3 March.

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!

Braidwood Film Club

Our next screening is Saturday 17 February at the usual (Daylight Saving) time of 6:30pm for 7:00pm shared meal and 8:00pm film screening.

The film is *Still Life* a 2013 meditative drama by Italian director Uberto Pasolini (note he is not related to Pier Paolo Pasolini, a famous and controversial Italian director who died in 1975).

John May (Eddie Marsan) has worked for a local council for 22 years. His job is to find any next of kin for people who have died alone and in the event of no-one being found, to organise their funeral. John is painstakingly thorough, and when efficiency measures are implemented, he is made redundant. Only one last case is left to be tackled – that of William Stokes, a man with a colourful past and a daughter, Kelly (Joanne Froggatt). As John uncovers Billy's past, it seems to have an influence on his own life – perhaps there are other ways of living that he has never imagined.

Braidwood Film Club AGM was held on January 20 and went well. Thank you to all who attended. We welcome Angela Knock to the committee.

Artist's Talk in Goulburn

Join [Goulburn Regional Art Gallery](#) this Friday for an exclusive artist talk with the winner of the Archibald Prize 2023, Julia Gutman.

Gutman's practice is full of intricate detail – both in its physicality and its conceptual storytelling. Hear all about Julia's approach to making her impressive large-scale figurative work, and what it takes to win Australia's most prestigious art prize.

For the cost of a general entry ticket to the Archibald Prize 2023, an Art Gallery of NSW touring exhibition, spend unlimited time with the work of all 57 finalists, and meet the winner in person. There's no better deal than that on a Friday afternoon in Goulburn.

Book here to secure your tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/.../20-questions-with-julia...>

Sculpture For Clyde 2024 returns to the Batemans Bay Foreshore May 25-June 2.

Applications close Feb 29.

Calling sculptors near and far! Apply at

<https://sculptureforclyde.com.au/exhibitor-info/>

'A HOT BRICK UNDER MY COLD FEET'

An Afternoon Poetry Reading with Wendy McMahon-Bell

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



PICTURE FRAMING

Bek Hamilton



15 Monkittie St
Braidwood 2622

0410 506 451



Master Printer shares exquisite collection in exhibition at Tuggeranong Arts Centre

Three decades on, master printer (and former Braidwood resident) **Basil Hall** looks back fondly on his ten-year stint as studio manager of Canberra's Studio One in an exhibition now showing at Tuggeranong Arts Centre.

Prints from Studio One, 1987 – 1996: From the Collection of Basil Hall showcases more than 111 works created during Hall's time managing the iconic print workshop.

The exhibition of printers proofs and memorabilia is a wonderful survey of the work of artists who were associated with Studio One during that time. A time, Hall says, that was incredibly exciting for the Canberra arts community.

"During that period, numerous Canberra printmakers were developing their practice following degrees at Canberra School of Art, with many more learning etching, lithography, and relief printing for the first time at Studio One," Hall says.

Included in the exhibition are prints by Garry Shead, Kevin Gilbert, George Gittoes, Pamela Challis, GW Bot, Mandy Martin, Jorg Schmeisser, and many more artists and printmakers who honed their craft in the old building in Kingston.

"So many of the artists have since passed away, and I have this wonderful collection of printers proofs and memorabilia, so I thought it was time to celebrate with those who still remember the wonderful community facility that Studio One was," Hall said.

The exhibition opened on Friday 2 February, alongside the Seeing the Forest and the Trees ceramic exhibition by Josephine Townsend and Jeremy Barrett's Recent Paintings and Monoprints.



Ben Taylor Untitled (Rolling Horse) etching 1988

"The response on opening night was wonderful. We had former staff, printers, teachers, resident artists and even one artist who had been in our children's classes," Hall said. Now recognised as one of Australia's most respected printmakers, Hall says his time at Studio One also played a significant role in the development of his own practise and remarkable career.

"It was the place where I learned my trade after Art School in Canberra and where I first applied myself to running a small business," Hall said.

After Studio One, Hall went on to be Printmaking Lecturer at Charles Darwin University, and Editioning Manager of Northern Editions, before starting Basil Hall Editions in 2002. He is renowned for his work with local Indigenous artists from more than 50 Art Centres across Australia and has taught in Europe and USA. He continues to practise and teach after returning to Canberra in 2012.

In a free artist talk at 2pm on Saturday 24 February, Hall will move around the room, reminiscing and sharing stories about the artists who visited the studio over the years he was there. "I'll look at several selected prints and discuss the making process and the collaboration between artist and printer," He added.

Piano Dedication Concert

Celebrate the arrival of a fabulous Grand Piano in Braidwood!

Featuring the following outstanding musicians:

David Pereira, cello

Edward Neeman, piano

Brendon Lukin, organ

Catherine Lukin, soprano and organ

Dominic Lukin, tuba



Edward Neeman and David Pereira. Photo: Peter Hislop

SUNDAY 18 February from 2pm

St Andrews Anglican Church, 47 Elrington St, Braidwood

Tickets: \$25 online (QR code) or on sale at the door, from 1.30pm



'Connection' with Lanny Mackenzie

An exhibition of weaving by Lanny Mackenzie's opens this weekend at **Bungendore's Water Through Reeds gallery**.

Lanny Mackenzie says "My weaving is always intuitive, exploring the relationship between memories and living experience with the limitation of time, efforts and physical and the imagined.

As I get older the influences of traditional techniques and my eagerness to experiment with contemporary materials sometime resulted in successful collaboration but these are few and far between.

Majority of times are spent dreaming and perfecting sections of the objects over and over, leaving only a sense of what could have been and the prospect of new and never before.

As intermittent forms emerge and reworked, the viewer are invited into the ephemeral nature of moments.

To weave is a joy, to follow where the whimsy take me but to be able to share this passion with everyone is truly a privilege.

I use foraged and recycled materials to ensure sustainability and using locally available vines, leaves, sticks, rope and cables."

The exhibition opens 17th February at 11am and run until the 17th of March

The gallery opens Friday to Sunday, 10am to 4pm

Come visit us at: 11 Gibraltar St, Bungendore NSW 2621

Farmers can be part of the solution for housing crisis

At last week's National Regional Housing Summit, the **National Farmers' Federation** is calling on policymakers to shine a light on how farmers can be part of the solution to Australia's deepening housing crisis.

The Regional Australia Institute (RAI) today released regional figures showing the median house price has jumped 54.2% and the rental vacancy rate has dropped to 1.2%.

NFF President David Jochinke said: "It's no secret agriculture is struggling with workforce shortages, and one of the biggest barriers to getting employees on farm is a lack of regional housing.

"What adds complexity to agriculture's housing requirements is not only do farmers want to attract permanent workers, but they also rely on a seasonal workforce for planting and harvest time." Mr Jochinke said the RAI's push to develop bespoke housing options was a step in the right direction.

"Let's get all ideas on the table so we find smart solutions and get the balance right between meeting housing demand and, to quote Darryl Kerrigan, maintain regional Australia's charm."

The NFF wants to see a boost in the regional housing mix of on-farm accommodation and traditional housing.

"Farmers can be part of the solution to the regional housing crisis."

Mr Jochinke said on-farm solutions provided a double win by eliminating the need for seasonal workers to find accommodation in nearby towns and travelling long distances each day, while also freeing up housing in regional communities.

"An accelerated depreciation or instant asset write-off scheme could incentivise farmers to invest in housing and accommodation.

"As it stands, the Fringe Benefits Tax discourages farmers from providing housing and accommodation for employees."

Solutions also include reducing red tape through simplifying planning rules and making sure the Government's \$10 billion Housing Australia Future Fund focuses on the regions.

Residents urged to be aware of amoebic meningitis as water temperatures rise

With warmer air and water temperatures, residents in Southern NSW Local Health District (SNSWLHD) are being urged to take simple precautions around untreated or poorly treated water to protect themselves and their loved ones from a very rare but serious infection.

Amoebic meningoencephalitis is an extremely rare brain infection caused by an amoeba which lives in warm, fresh water and soil. While many people can have contact with the amoebas, only a small number develop serious illness. SNSWLHD Public Health Director Ms Alison Nikitis said people shouldn't be alarmed by primary amoebic meningoencephalitis, but in summer months it did present a risk that can be avoided with some easy precautions.

"Every summer we remind communities that warm conditions that increase water temperatures mean any unchlorinated water supply that seasonally exceeds 30°C or continually exceeds 25°C may be a risk," Alison said.

"Amoebic meningitis can occur if untreated water goes up someone's nose, so people should be careful when they are around unchlorinated water. Children and young people appear to be more susceptible than adults to this rare infection.

"The amoebas that cause primary amoebic meningoencephalitis live in warm, fresh water and soil, but the amoebas cannot survive in water that is clean, cool and adequately chlorinated.

"At particular risk are people in rural areas who have their own tank, dam or bore water supply, such as those living on farms, and people with poorly maintained swimming pools.

"For instance, shallow wading pools are particularly at risk if they have been left in the sun for a long time. Other places that can create an environment for the amoebas include lakes, rivers, dams, bores, tanks, garden hoses, natural hot springs, and spa and swimming pools that are poorly maintained," Alison said.

The best way to avoid infection is:

- Avoid jumping or diving into bodies of warm fresh water or thermal pools
- Keep your head above water in spas, thermal pools and warm fresh water bodies
- Ensure swimming pools and spas are adequately chlorinated and well maintained
- Empty and clean small collapsible wading pools and let them dry in the sun after each use
- Flush warm water from hoses before allowing children to play with hoses or sprinklers.

If you are using unchlorinated water:

- Don't allow water to go up your nose when bathing, showering or washing your face
- Supervise children playing with hoses or sprinklers and teach them not to squirt water up their nose

Initial symptoms of primary amoebic meningoencephalitis start one to nine days after infection. These may include headache, fever, nausea, or vomiting. Later symptoms can include stiff neck, confusion, lack of attention to people and surroundings, loss of balance, seizures, and hallucinations. Anyone who is experiencing these symptoms should seek immediate medical attention.

More information about amoebic meningitis can be found at:

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/environment/water/Pages/naegleria.aspx>

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/Naegleria-fowleri.aspx>



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Sunday 18 February 2024

Dolly's Dream



New \$1 million partnership brings Tender Funerals to Canberra

In a significant development for the Canberra community, **Tender Funerals** are set to open a new facility in Fairbairn, thanks to a collaborative partnership with The Snow Foundation and Capital Airport Group.

This initiative marks a pivotal moment in providing compassionate, affordable and personalised funeral services to the people of the Canberra region.

Tender Funerals, a respected not-for-profit organisation, is renowned for its commitment to offering affordable, and meaningful funeral services. The new site in Canberra will feature comprehensive facilities, including two arrangement rooms, viewing or vigil rooms, wash and dress rooms, a mortuary, and a community space for workshops and ceremonies, all designed to empower families to understand their end-of-life and funeral options.

"At Tender, our goal is to ensure that families feel supported and empowered to make choices that reflect their values and needs when someone dies. We believe in active participation and transparency, offering services that truly cater to the wishes of the families and individuals we serve. This approach not only honours the deceased but also fosters a healthy grieving process."

Catherine Prosser, General Manager of Tender Funerals Canberra Region said. "We are very proud of and grateful for our relationship with The Snow Foundation and the Capital Airport Group who have been actively supporting us, far beyond simply providing a grant."

The Snow Foundation and Capital Airport Group have played instrumental roles in bringing Tender Funerals to the region. There from the beginning, three years ago, The Snow Foundation provided the initial seed funding to do a feasibility study and help find the right site and have since committed funding of \$1m inclusive of a \$750k grant and a \$250k loan and together formed a significant partnership with Capital Airport Group who are providing pro bono resourcing. The collaboration has ensured that Tender Funerals can establish a home here in Canberra.

"In our support for Tender Funerals, we see an opportunity to address the needs of grieving Canberrans in innovative and caring ways. This partnership reflects our commitment to making a real difference in the lives of those experiencing loss in our region, ensuring they have access to services that respect their needs and circumstances."

The Snow Foundation's Georgina Byron said "The involvement of Capital Airport Group, particularly in identifying and supplying the new site at Fairbairn, and project managing the fit out for specific requirements, highlights our family's collective effort to support community initiatives that make a meaningful impact."

This new facility not only represents a significant advancement in funeral care options for the Canberra region but also embodies the spirit of community and compassion that Tender Funerals, The Snow Foundation, and Capital Airport Group stand for.

Together, they are setting a new standard for supportive, inclusive, and personalised funeral services. Tender Funerals Canberra Region is one of the nominated charities for Hands Across Canberra's annual Canberra Day Appeal.

Canberrans can show their support for not-for profit, affordable, meaningful funerals by donating at

<https://giving.handsacrosscanberra.org.au/event/tender-funerals>

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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

There is a gaping hole at the centre of our democracy that is distorting – if not corrupting – our elections. It sucks in the big money to political parties which repay in kind, whatever the cost to those of us who vote on the issues at play.

It makes a mockery of the true test of governance – one vote, one value. The parties use Socratic arguments to muddy the waters, but it is not only a blot on our system, it is fixable. And here's the rub – it would be greatly to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese's advantage to fix it...and I suspect he will. The ideal of course, is public financing of elections with a fair distribution of funds to candidates.

The most obvious example of the problem has been the big consulting firms – Deloitte, EY, KPMG and PwC – who collectively raked in more that \$4 billion in Federal Government contracts over the past decade after an outlay of a mere fraction of their investment to the major parties.

This revealed a conflict of interest which resulted in a PwC partner being booted off the Tax Practitioners Board. And they quickly broke off the tentacle of their operation that dealt directly with government and expected us to believe that gaping hole was closed, for them at least. Truth is, the damage was done;

according to the Centre for Public Integrity,

'A peculiar feature of the Big Four's donations is that they are largely party indiscriminate. Between 2012-13 and 2020-22, some 47.8 per cent were to the Labour Party, whereas 52.19 per cent were to the Coalition. [This] shows that their donations are unrelated to any ideological goal or end sought but are rather focused on currying favour with whoever may be in power. 'This trend in bipartisan donations has been observed among other large industries in Australia and characterised as a form of "state capture".'

The Albanese government, through Katy Gallagher as Finance Minister, is embarked on the long, tedious task of returning some of the expensive expertise provided by the big four to the APS. Such is the speed of IT research, there will always be a gap between the multiple private frontiers and the public application. But at least that gaping hole can be minimised.

Traditionally, business big and small has backed the Coalition while the Trade Unions have been the mainstay of Labor. While private funding by certain businesses and connected individuals (such as developers) may be simply banned outright, Labor has claimed – correctly, if historically – that its members are simply the parliamentary expression of the unions' ambitions.

That is no longer true, as the Big Four funding illustrated. More importantly, selective funding is now employed piecemeal by affiliated unions to particular factions of Labor, thereby giving them extra power within the party, often to the detriment of good policy, and always to the cost of unity within Labor leadership.

Albanese, on the Left of the Party suffers from the threat of the well-funded right wing, the bailiwick of his long-term opponent Bill Shorten whose eager leadership ambitions are still unrequited. This provides Albanese with the chance to adopt a statesmanlike position that cuts those Union ties as a quid pro quo while cracking down on the chief coalition source to distorting – not to say corrupting – our electoral system.

Does he have the courage and the political finesse to pull it off? Well, If the neat way he dealt with Peter Dutton on the Stage 3 tax issue is any guide, I suspect that gaping hole at the centre of our democracy has an appointment with a political 'shrink'.

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A Beer with Bazz # 146

With
John
Longhurst

Bazza rubbed his chin as he flicked through news on his iPad. He paused for a chuckle and looked up as Mick approached with two schooners.

"There you go, Bazza. What's amusing?"

"Thanks Mick. Well.... the French farmers' unions don't muck around when they protest. They block traffic and dump manure and rotting produce in front of government buildings. They are fighting for a better deal. They certainly make the French government take notice and bring about some action*."

Mick furrowed his brow.

"All a bit militant, Bazza...no wonder you support those tactics."

Bazza grinned and took a long sip.

"Ahh Mick...what I like is the farmers are fighting for something in France. In Australia the organisations representing farmers seem to spend all their effort opposing something."

Bazza paused.

"Now, Mick compare the French farmers to the Rally Against Reckless Renewables in Canberra last week where your mate Barnaby Joyce was leading the charge**. The French farmers are for something, whereas the National Party, who claim to represent farmers in Australia, run negative campaigns... from anti vaccinations to opposing climate change policies."

Mick rubbed his chin and took a sip.

"They are standing up for their membership, Bazza."

Bazza rubbed his forehead.

"I wonder to what extent they reflect farmers' views. In fact, I reckon a lot of farmers would not support some of these 'causes'. I get the impression Barnaby trawls through the internet to find something to oppose and then goes after it... in Trump like fashion."

Mick leaned in.

"That's a bit harsh, Bazza. What do you expect them to do?"

Bazza took another sip.

"Campaign for something that farmers care about, like the unfair bargaining position they are in when it comes to supermarkets. Coles and Woolworths dominate the setting farm of gate prices. They have too much bargaining power. It is little wonder their profit margins are considerably higher than countries with greater supermarket competition**. I just wonder what the French farmers would do in light of this unfairness."

Mick bit his bottom lip.

"I actually agree with you for once, Bazza. What's your suggestion?"

Bazza chuckled.

"Make more noise for a start, identify all the impediments to increasing competition amongst supermarkets and maybe think about ways farmers can bargain collectively or set some minimums."

Mick's eyes widened.

"Ahh come on, Mick.... The government has just passed legislation to improve the livelihood of workers in the 'gig' economy...you know Uber drivers and the like... I reckon farmers could benefit from something similar."

Mick shook his head.

"The National Party opposed that change, Bazza. They are against it."

Bazza laughed out loud.

*<https://www.vox.com/2024/2/3/24059767/french-farmers-protests-eu-brussels>

**<https://www.aap.com.au/news/demo-against-reckless-renewables-as-parliament-begins/>

***<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/jul/27/australian-supermarket-profits-rise-woolworths-coles>

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

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FUTURE FARMER

Growing tucker where they told him he couldn't, since the turn of the century

Passive Land Hydration Pt 2. Keyline Ploughing

Australians are famous for some pretty special inventions. Over the past century we have collectively invented humble items that changed lives. The Hills Hoist, the Victa lawnmower, the Ute to name but a few. When it comes to passive land hydration, Australia provided the world with the Yeoman Keyline Plough.

Dry Times

Contours, or keylines as we will refer to them this week, are positions that run level across your landscape. PA Yeoman developed his keyline plough to beat the compaction that had occurred as a result of misguided farming methods. In response to the significant drought and drought breaking events of the early 1900s, where it is estimated 1m of topsoil was lost through poor land management.

The land surface, and management techniques of the time, could not slow the flow. As we have discussed in previous articles, water will find the fastest way downhill and take your topsoil with it.

Share the water

His theory would prevent erosion and hydrate the whole paddock. To do this he would take the water from wetter spots on his property, like gullies, springs, and dams. He ploughed a deep narrow furrow across the landscape, on contour. This keyline rip would evenly distribute the water across the paddock. Designed to release excess water onto the ridges. The release point reduces erosion, as the water works its way downhill, across less fragile areas.

A rip in the land is the smallest amount of disruption possible for the greatest effect. As it is still a form of ploughing, I'm guessing it was better received than modern no till methods. When farming with Hammers (industrial machines) everything looks like a Nail.

Just like a freshly mown lawn, there is plenty of satisfaction looking back at a well ploughed paddock, but as we have learned, the microbes and mycelium network don't like it at all. Yeoman offers a great step forward for soil health, microbe husbandry and earthworms.

What's good

The main benefit of keyline ploughing is water infiltration. The deep rip on the keyline allows water running downhill to be captured, to soak into the subsoil. Rips can be placed 1-2m apart to capture water before it builds up speed.

Reducing the speed of the water starting at the top of the system is key. Erosion is reduced in the gullies, and some extra sediment is pushed out to the ridge for redistribution. Storing water made easy.

The practice of keyline ploughing has been used with mixed success for 70 years. There is plenty of anecdotal evidence, amazing claims about topsoil building and carbon sequestering but a significant lack of empirical data.

How strange

PA Yeoman caught the attention of CSIRO in the late 1950s when Sir Ian Clunes Ross commenced a study to investigate the benefits of keyline ploughing on farming landscapes. The study had just started before Clunes Ross passed away. The new boss took over and the study was forgotten.

Americans have also been using this practice for 50 years with great faith. A team of farmers approached their governing body (SARE) for a grant around 2005. They wanted to test the efficacy of keyline ploughing and its longterm benefits. The grant was dismissed on the grounds that the same research had already been completed. The research referred to has never surfaced.

If there is no research, no proof, then why are so many people using the system? Yeomans system provides hope for degraded farmland. It makes logical sense, and it's a lot less work in the tractor than regular ploughing.

An interesting technique to investigate if you are done with disk ploughing. The rewards are greatest on compacted, arid land, but there are other ways to work it.

Ideal use

If you've ever attended a tree planting event with Local Land Services, you will know the tell tale signs of subsoil ripping. Narrow furrows in the paddock to plant trees. Easier than digging holes with shovels, and after several rips in preparation the taproots can grow deep, quickly.

The rips tend to run along fence lines, uphill and over dale, with no consideration to the contour of the land. There is zero optimization of keylines and the pioneering work of this great Australian.

Ripping off contour

It seems pertinent that Land Service Organisations in NSW, the home of PA Yeoman, adhere to his ground breaking concept. I mean why do 'halfajob' when the beneficial work could be completed with a simple adjustment.

Many hours of back breaking work go into planting, protecting and watering with varied results. The Scarlett Robin project didn't perform as well as hoped using the halfa Yeoman technique. A lot of resources were mustered with little success. If only the trees were planted in contour rips, instead of in ripped drains, more trees would have survived with less input.

Where does the water go?

Any water applied to the tree will fall to the bottom of the rip, remember gravity, and find its way downhill via the bottom of the rip. The easiest, fastest path. Trees in gullies and hollows perform better using the halfa Yeoman technique. It therefore stands to reason that trees planted in keyline rips would survive better, grow faster and need less tending.

The Yeoman keyline system breaks up compacted land to allow water infiltration as it passes. Growth is increased by improved root penetration. Earthworms will inhabit the looser earth assisting microbes to bloom. Best of all productivity in the soil will increase, just like nature intended and you will reap the rewards by improving your land.

What's not great

There are a few parts of the keyline system that I'm not as excited about living with in my paddock.

1. It requires (bi) annual ploughing to keep the keyline open, ripping a bit deeper every time.
2. The keyline rips make for bumpy trips across the paddock in a vehicle.
3. Walking in long grass across the rips can be quite the adventure too.

This week

I'm eating my second patch of corn. 25 plants in a square. I've eaten several cobs tasting them to find the right time to pick, maybe 4. Today I ate 5 during harvest. The chickens got anything that was subpar. Maybe 8 and 24 corn cobs made it to the kitchen.

That's 40ish cobs off 25 plants! Sure, they weren't all the same size, but they are tasty and juicy straight out of the husk. Too good to ruin with boiling water.

A new discovery, the unfertilised 2nd ear. Usually, I chuck the unfertilised cobs to the chickens. To my surprise it was very corny and so sweet. I looked for more, but I only found one.

Now that space is starting to free up in the garden, it's time to start planning winter beds. If your tomatoes have been slow to ripen you are not alone, it's been an unusual, tease of a summer.

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St Bede's Parish

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

In the gospel passage, we have a picture of Jesus preparing himself for his public ministry. He takes himself out into the wilderness, away from all that he has known until this time, to reflect on his life so far and this next vital stage that he is about to enter. In the wilderness, Jesus is tempted. He has to face his own doubts and demons before he sets off on the road of his public ministry. When he leaves the desert wilderness and enters back into Galilee he immediately begins to preach and, in the first words accredited to him in this gospel, Jesus announces that the kingdom of God is at hand and it's time to repent and believe. It's a call to open your eyes and get with the program!

Living the Gospel – Change of heart
Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom of God is a call to live out God's transformative dream of right relationship with one another and with our world. To accept this call requires a change of heart and mind (a metanoia) and the adoption of a new orientation, a new worldview based on living the kingdom of God. This is a challenge to be counter-cultural – to go 'against the flow' of the majority attitudes at times. It is certainly not an 'easy option' that we are called to live. Jesus' call to 'repent and believe' is a very appropriate call to begin the Lenten season.

A Lenten mini series on the theme of "Unwrapping the gift of Forgiveness" incorporating prayer, reflection and sharing the faith journey hosted by Call to Connect Women's Ministry will be held in St. Bede's Church on Mondays 19th and 26th February 7pm-8pm. This event is open to all parishioners, men and women and invited friends of other faiths.

'A HOT BRICK UNDER MY COLD FEET'
An Afternoon Poetry Reading with Wendy McMahon-Bell at 2:00pm, Sunday February 25th in the Old Sunday School Hall, 68 Wilson Street Braidwood

Fundraiser for Hussain, one of more than 50 refugees still suffering in Port Moresby after the closing of Manus Island. Donations appreciated. Sponsored by St Bede's Ecumenical Social Justice Group
Further information: Pauline Coady 0478 608 041 randpcoady@gmail.com

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

Dear Friends

I work part-time as the Braidwood Anglican minister and also as a social worker. In these roles I meet many people as they are nearing the end of their life journey. Some know the end is coming – maybe due to a medical diagnosis. They have time to digest the news, prepare their important things with succession plans, and say their farewells. Others are given little or no time at all. These conversations bring us to some common themes. Expressions of love, gratitude and thanks for fulfilling relationships. Regrets of missing their dear companion. The need to adapt. Requests for forgiveness of past wrongs and rifts in relationships. Warm farewells. When someone near us is reaching the end of their lives, we can learn a lot about them – and about us. Jesus knew of his imminent death. He had time to prepare. He foreshadowed it in his teachings. He prepared others to continue the important things – his works and his message. He lovingly embraced those who doubted, denied and wanted to avoid the inevitable. Jesus' followers behaved like we do when initially faced with grim news about someone we love. Over the next six weeks Christians reflect on the relationships and emotions of the final days Jesus had on earth before his death and rising to new life. We reflect on what it means to continue our lives after encountering a special person, and how this shapes us moving forward. We gain a deeper understanding of the journey experienced by those around Jesus – before and after his crucifixion. I invite you to join the Christian journey towards Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Reflect on how different characters accepted mortality, coped with the death of their close friend, and moved on in their lives better for having met and truly bonded with and known their beloved. I invite you to journey with us to Easter. Come and understand Jesus' end of life journey – and the new life that follows beyond his grave for those who came to dearly love him. 'Alleluia, Christ is risen indeed'.

Rev'd Kenneth

Join us on SUNDAY 18th February for a thanksgiving service led by Bishop Mark Short, 10am St Andrews Anglican Church, 47 Elrington St, Braidwood. This will be followed by morning tea and light lunch at the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome. Then, the Grand Piano Dedication Concert from 2pm at St Andrews. Tickets \$25 on sale at the door from 1.30pm. Come and join the celebrations! Follow us on facebook – Anglican Parish of Braidwood – for updates.

Parish contacts: 0497 486 233 email: admin@braidwoodanglican.com.au

Braidwood Uniting Church

Smartphones

Homeless people usually have a mobile phone. It may not be the latest model but for most a phone is literally more important than food. Is anyone surprised? I sat with a couple last week who are going through a rough patch. The conversation covered some sensitive issues and yet both people held the mobile phones, glancing regularly to the screen in case perhaps the prime minister or Taylor Swift might urgently require their attention. These were not kids; they were in their mid-forties.

It's only old people like me that can remember life before the mobile phone. It was a thing. We once left home and only had to worry where our keys were. But there are good reasons why we've become captive to these things. The connectivity is astonishing. No matter what I say to my daughter, she fact checks me in real time. Recently we were talking about our Irish ancestors. It's a subject I hadn't thought about for years and guessed that they'd come from county Cork. Before I'd finished my sentence, my girl glanced at her phone and told me that I'd meant to say, "County Claire". She was correct and I was old, foggy and trying to look dignified.

A couple of years ago, I used to send a note each week to about 20,000 supporters of Wayside. I'd send the note to a colleague who would check it, edit and send it to 20,000 people while she was on the train! She is young, bright and at home with technology. I was "wowed" then and I'm still "wowed" today.

To some degree I feel left behind. I feel like I've had a lifelong education in matters for which no one has the slightest interest. I could speak at length and without preparation about the first 20 Roman Emperors but who cares? In the unlikely event that it was of some interest to anyone, all the information is just a click away on the phone. Yet I too am addicted to the phone. I never step out of the house without it.

Instead of longing for a past age, how do we find wisdom in this world? I can't kiss Robyn and check my phone at the same time. I can't sing Holy Holy Holy and check my screen at the same time. How can I possess a phone and not have it possess me? How can we find moments so sacred that we dare not check the phone? These blooming clever things make us clever but often unable to investigate the face of a person we're with. All real living is meeting. What a challenge.

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Bat warning - leave rescue to the experts

Residents in the Southern NSW regions are being reminded to avoid handling or touching an injured or distressed bat as they may carry the fatal disease, lyssavirus.

This summer in Southern NSW Local Health District a greater number of people than usual have required vaccination and post-exposure treatment for lyssavirus, after exposure to bats.

Director of Public Health, Southern NSW Local Health District, Ms Alison Nikitas says if you find an injured bat, do not attempt to handle it yourself.

"Lyssavirus can be transmitted from bats to humans through infected saliva from a bite or scratch and can easily be contracted through breaks in the skin," says Ms Nikitas.

A close relative to the rabies virus, lyssavirus has been found in species of flying foxes/fruit bats and insect-eating microbats. It is assumed that any bat in Australia could potentially carry lyssavirus. Ms Nikitas warns that a bat can be infectious without showing visible signs of sickness.

"The best way to protect yourself from infection is to leave the handling of the animal to the trained experts. Call your local wildlife rescue group or local veterinarian who can help care for the animal," says Ms Nikitas.

Bats are more active in the summer period and large numbers of bats sometimes die following prolonged exposure to heat, or when they are unable to find enough food.

If you or someone you know has been bitten or scratched by a bat immediately wash the wound with soap and water for at least fifteen minutes.

An antiseptic solution with anti-virus action should be applied after washing, and a doctor consulted for further treatment and advice as soon as possible.

NSW Public Health Units will work with your doctor to assess your risk and where indicated, will arrange for rabies post-exposure treatment to be delivered to your GP or hospital. The post exposure treatment is crucial for people bitten or scratched by bats because there is no effective treatment once the symptoms of Australian bat lyssavirus commence.

You should never attempt to assist or handle bats unless vaccinated against rabies, trained, and wearing protective equipment. In the event of an extreme heat stress or starvation event affecting bat populations, people should follow the directions given by wildlife rescue coordinators.

Contact details for local wildlife care groups can be found at the NSW Department of Planning and Environment's wildlife rehabilitation website (search for "Licensed wildlife rehabilitation provider in NSW") or download the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) wildlife rescue app.

For more information about lyssavirus refer to the Rabies and Australian bat lyssavirus infection fact sheet.

For more information on protecting yourself around wildlife, visit: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/be-careful-around-wildlife.aspx>

Working with ag industry to reduce emissions

Premier and Environment Minister that wiped out sliders." said Scott Daines

Australia's agriculture industry has had its first say on issues to be considered in the Albanese Government's plan to reduce its emissions and lift its sustainability.

The Agriculture and Land Sectoral Plan is one of six sectoral decarbonisation plans under the Government's Net Zero 2050 Plan announced by Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Chris Bowen.

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister Murray Watt said the public consultation process is the first step in developing the sector plan, which will map out the role for the agricultural sector in Australia's transition to net zero emissions.

"A wide range of stakeholders have participated in the consultation process, including farmers, peak industry bodies, private organisations, environment groups, the finance sector, universities and researchers," Minister Watt said.

"We received over 230 submissions and this strong level of interest showed just how important issues of sustainability, productivity and profitability are for the agriculture industry.

"Climate change is clearly having an impact on the profitability of producers across the country, with ABARES data showing that changes in seasonal conditions have already reduced farm profits by an \$29,000 over the past 20 years.

"And as a proud exporting nation, it's also becoming more and more important from trade perspective that our industry becomes more sustainable.

"Stakeholders have raised several options for the government to consider around issues like investment in research and development, incentives to adopt new technologies and land management practices, building landholder capacity, and establishing standardised approaches to calculating and reporting emissions."

Minister Watt said Australian agriculture has made great strides in lifting its sustainability, despite a past lack of government leadership. "Now after a decade of delay, the government is stepping up to work with industry and to match its ambition," Minister Watt said.

"Since coming to office in May 2022, we have made progress on several important activities, such as the National Statement on Climate Change, the Natural Heritage Trust rollout including Climate-Smart Agriculture programs, and our ongoing work on the Future Drought Fund.

"This consultation process was just one part of a significant and ongoing conversation with the sector building on already established climate and sustainability goals and activities.

"We will meet this challenge head-on, which will help secure the future of Australian agriculture, which is good for farmers, good for Australia and good for our economy."

For more information on the Plan, visit:

<https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-and-land-sectoral-plan>

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No transparency on biosecurity levy

Farmers have renewed calls to stop the proposed biosecurity protection levy from being imposed on Australia's primary producers, with agriculture already paying its fair share towards biosecurity funding.

Last year, Federal Agriculture Minister Murray Watt announced a 'Biosecurity Levy', which would impose additional charges on farmers in the name of biosecurity protection. But there was widespread opposition to the proposal, which many saw as a double tax on farmers, given a substantial amount of funding for biosecurity efforts already came from farmers.

NSW Farmers Policy Director Ash Cooper said while the industry awaited clear details around a series of proposed changes to the levy bill, the peak farming body remained firm in its view that farmers should not pay an additional tax to fund the nation's biosecurity system. "Collecting an extra \$50 million a year from Australian farmers to cover biosecurity costs is just simply double-dipping," Mr Cooper said. "Farmers are not only already contributing a significant amount of levy dollars towards biosecurity but are also personally bearing billions of dollars in costs each year in the fight against weeds, pests and other biosecurity risks on-farm. "Biosecurity is everyone's responsibility, so we shouldn't sit back and let farmers cop these costs when they're already doing so much to manage these risks."

Mr Cooper said farming groups continued to seek more detail on how the recent amendments would properly address concerns around the tax that had been identified by the agricultural industry as early as May last year.

"From what we can see so far, there is no detail on how some of the key issues NSW Farmers raised – such as only collecting the levy once on a product during its lifecycle – will be implemented if the levy comes into force," Mr Cooper said. "The change in shifting the levy rate to be based upon gross value of production may cause inequitable contributions across commodities forced to pay the levy.

"Worse still, farmers are being forced to incur significant extra costs to ensure biosecurity while there continues to be no container levy imposed on risk creators such as importers.

"If a biosecurity tax is to be introduced, it should be collected from passengers and products entering Australia, and not just farmers who are already contributing to the biosecurity cause."

With the levy set to be implemented on July 1 this year, Mr Cooper warned now was the time for the Federal Government to take the advice of the agricultural sector on board before it was too late.

Mr Cooper said. "A recent Senate committee report on agricultural levies heard our concerns around the levy, but now we need to see these concerns addressed and clarified in further changes to the biosecurity levy bill if it is going to proceed."

Government finally listens on changes to Biosecurity Protection Levy

Cattle Australia (CA) is pleased the government has listened and sees the changes to the Biosecurity Protection Levy (BPL) announced in Senate Estimates on Tuesday morning as a step in the right direction, but has reiterated its call for an equitable and systemic biosecurity outcome to be delivered.

CA Chief Executive Officer, Dr Chris Parker, said industry is pleased Agriculture Minister Murray Watt has listened to grass-fed cattle producers, and the broader agriculture sector, and appreciates his willingness to take on board some of industry's serious concerns surrounding the BPL.

"While our preference is that the Government capture all sectors in any levy arrangements, the grass-fed cattle industry appreciates now having a seat at the table in discussions surrounding the development and implementation of the levy, and the opportunity to work with Government to further understand the details of the amended BPL design," Dr Parker said.

"We believe the BPL in its current form does not share the cost of biosecurity with all sectors of the economy, and maintain our position that a detailed analysis of who the beneficiaries and risk creators are will be required to achieve a truly equitable policy.

"As part of forthcoming discussions, we will seek more details about the design, implementation and oversight of the BPL. "Without appropriate implementation, co-design planning, stakeholder oversight and adequate safeguards, the BPL will be just another tax that reduces the competitiveness of the grass-fed cattle industry – an industry that is essential to the Australian economy."

Dr Parker said the grass-fed cattle industry fundamentally supports increased investment in biosecurity and was committed to working with Government to ensure such funding delivers maximum value and produces the essential outcomes needed by industry and the broader Australian community.

"The imposition of this levy must result in improved biosecurity outcomes as a result of enhanced funding and resourcing of measures for the next decade of biosecurity," Dr Parker said.

Dr Parker said it is imperative that Government take existing expenses into due consideration when quantifying a biosecurity levy rate, to ensure the collection of funds is equitable across all industries prior to applying an additional proposed biosecurity protection levy.

"CA propose that these investments be specifically accounted for to encapsulate total investments by commodities," Dr Parker said. "It is critical that the collection of funds is transparent and used appropriately to leverage a stronger biosecurity system."



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NSW welcomes new national Varroa Mite management plan and funding to kick start industry implementation

The NSW Government has welcomed the decision of the Varroa Mite National Management Group to approve the National Transition to Management Plan. The group, comprised of State and Federal governments, as well as beekeeping and pollination industry representatives have unanimously agreed to usher in a new phase for biosecurity management of Varroa mite.

The priority of the NSW Government moving forward will be to work with industry to ensure beekeepers understand how to best manage the pest in this new phase. The aim of the Transition to Management Plan is to increase resilience and minimise ongoing impacts of Varroa mite for the bee industry and pollination reliant industries. This outcome will be achieved by slowing the spread, building industry resilience, providing management options and support for pollination security.

The Australian Government, state and territory governments and 16 industries have committed to share up to \$100 million of the costs of the response to date and transition to management activities.

As a category 2 emergency plant pest the contributions are 40% (up to \$40 million) from the Australian Government, 40% (up to \$40 million) from state and territory governments and 20% (up to \$20 million) shared across 16 industry groups.

The \$100 million national program to date has helped minimise and mitigate financial impacts on Australia's honey and pollination-dependent industries and protected thousands of jobs.

The NSW Government has prepared for this transition and can start immediately to upskill industry, with training modules already completed and ready to go. The next step now is organising industry events, workshops, and placing materials online.

The recruitment process for new roles under the plan is currently underway and the NSW Government will immediately recruit Varroa Development Officers (VDOs) who work directly with beekeepers to increase their ability to manage Varroa.

Another critical role of the VDOs will be to develop, train and maintain a network of volunteer beekeepers who will monitor hives for the presence of Varroa and provide information on the spread of the mite.

Additionally, the response will employ a Pollination Industry Coordinator (PIC) to assist the pollination dependent industries to better understand and manage their needs. This will be critical for smaller industries who have relied on wild bees for pollination and never engaged with pollination service providers.

The NMG made the decision in late 2023 that Varroa mite was no longer eradicable from Australia after commencing the national program for eradication in July 2022.

Record funding to support Landcare and deliver on-ground Landcare projects

The NSW Government has reached a major milestone on an election commitment, allocating funding for 83 full-time equivalent local and regional Landcare coordinators and support staff through its \$59 million NSW Landcare Enabling Program 2023-2027.

Following a competitive grant and assessment process, 16 Landcare groups based across NSW were successful in receiving funding for coordinators and support staff.

The aim of the regional and local Landcare coordinators is to deliver and support on-ground projects specific to the needs of the local natural environmental and agricultural systems.

In addition to the delivery of on-ground projects, the local and regional coordinators will deliver on a number of other priorities, including:

- strengthening the capacity of Landcarers which will result in effective, efficient support to landcarer volunteers, farmers and the community
- ensuring effective collaboration and partnerships between Landcare groups, Local Land Services, other government agencies and Landcare NSW
- leveraging funding opportunities to maximise socio-economic and environmental outcomes.

As part of the funding, each local and regional coordinator can also access up to \$5,000 to undertake professional development over the course of the four year program.

For more information about the current funding opportunity and the NSW Landcare Enabling Program, visit www.lls.nsw.gov.au/landcare-program



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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 22rd 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.

'A HOT BRICK UNDER MY COLD FEET'

An Afternoon Poetry Reading with Wendy McMahon-Bell

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

Notice of AGM Braidwood Sub-Branch

Sunday 3 March 2024
11:30hrs

Terry Roach the President of the **Braidwood RSL Subbranch extends an invitation** to any current serving members, or ex members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF), including Army Reserves, War widows, and/or their families. The full range of Wellbeing and Compensation advocacy services are available at no cost. If you wish to find out if you qualify for assistance, contact the secretary Peter Van Rijswijk on 0419431517 or braidwoodsb@rslnsw.org.au

Braidwood Show 2024 Saturday 2nd March
Enlighten Festival Canberra 1 to 11 March I
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

Tree Planting on Flood Creek - Braidwood

SATURDAY, 9 MARCH 2024 FROM 09:00-11:00

Judith Wright Gardens, End of Garvey Street, Braidwood.

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council ask: Join us at Judith Wright Gardens to plant a few trees and get back into nature! The Judith Wright Gardens are located at the end of Garvey Street in Braidwood, and we'll be planting trees to provide habitat for native animals and restore Flood Creek. Come along and get your hands dirty!

Please wear long pants, enclosed shoes, and sun protection. This project received funding from the Australian Government's Planting Trees for The Queen's Jubilee program.

Join the QPRC Heritage Advisory Committee

The Heritage Advisory Committee provides advice to Council and the community on heritage issues in our region and we are accepting expressions of interest for a new member until 19 February.

[Learn more about the committee and express your interest.](#)



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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Towards 2042, Community Strategic Plan consultation

Council are holding pop-ups.

Drop in and share your ideas with us at:

Braidwood: IGA on Friday 16 February, 10am-12pm

Bungendore: Bungendore Post Office on Thursday 22 February 12.30-2.30pm

Read the old plan, fill out the survey, and get involved until 15 March 2024.

New grant opportunity

Support Plantation Establishment 2024-25 (Round 2)

The Support Plantation Establishment 2024-25 (Round 2) grant is being provided by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The Australian Government is inviting organisations via a demand driven (eligibility-based) process to apply to deliver services under the Support Plantation Establishment 2024-25 Program (Round 2). This grant supports the establishment of new long-rotation plantation forests and assists the sector in responding to the projected growth in demand for local timber resources, increasing domestic timber supply and helping to reduce Australia's carbon emissions by storing the carbon in timber.

Applications will be assessed in 2 batches. Cut off dates for both batches are:

- Batch 1 closes 9:00 pm AEST on 15 April 2024
- Batch 2 closes 9:00 pm AEST on 27 June 2024.

Find out more on [GrantConnect](#).

Have you been considering bringing a pet into your family?

Council's Animal Management Facility is full of animals in need of a safe and caring home. Until 6 March you can adopt a pet for \$100 - \$250 which includes up-to-date vaccinations and desexing. Come and see us at the Animal Management Facility on Old Sydney Road in Queanbeyan or head to <https://www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Animal-Adoption> to learn more. Be a responsible pet-parent and adopt don't shop this February!

Riding Lessons are Back at Saddle Camp!



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For more details and to book,
see www.saddlecamp.com.au/riding-lessons or
email thesaddlecamp@gmail.com or
call Helen on 0417 456 093.

Goulburn Vibesfest 2024

Vibesfest will take place in Belmore Park, Goulburn on Saturday 17 February 2024 from 12pm - 9pm, featuring an array of activities and entertainment for the whole family.

This year's event will see a range of Kids Activities, Music from Local Bands and Food Trucks Galore, making for the perfect way to round out Goulburn's summer season of events.

This year's main stage line-up of exclusively local youth musicians and bands will feature Wretched Arms, The Young Colts, Ladies Night, Midnight Mojo and Slightly Deranged Monkeys. Bands from Trinity Catholic College, Goulburn High School, Mulwaree High School, and Crookwell High School will also take to the stage! There will be plenty of activities to keep the kids busy. From 12pm - 5pm join in the fun with Laser Warriors Laser Tag, Base Zero Rock Climbing, Rainbow Faces Face Painting, Games 2 U Virtual Reality and Castle Kingdom Jumping Castle.

Be sure to bring a chair or picnic blanket to settle in and soak up the atmosphere in the picturesque Belmore Park.

A number of food options will be available throughout the day and into the night, serving up a delicious range of cuisines including, Turkish Gozleme, Mexican Food, Burgers, Souvlaki, Fish and Chips, Sweet Treats, Hot Coffee, Cold Drinks and more! For more information on the event, check out the event page on Facebook. For more information on the Goulburn region and other upcoming events, visit: www.goulburnaustralia.com.au

When: Saturday 17 February 2024, 12pm - 9pm.

Where: Belmore Park, Goulburn, NSW, 2580.

Admission: Free. Kids activities require \$5 wristband.



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4CYTETM Dressage by the Sea CDI 2024 Returns to Willinga Park

In its 8th year, the highly anticipated 4CYTETM Dressage by the Sea CDI 2024 event returns, offering four days of competitive competition from February 22nd to 25th amid the breathtaking scenery of Willinga Park. With a record-breaking 753 entries, this year's event promises to be the largest yet, highlighting the abilities of over 290 horses and 190 riders.

Dressage, often referred to "the highest expression of horse training" will showcase a variety of movements, and spectators can anticipate a show of harmony, precision and athleticism of both horse and rider.

Official competitions across various skill levels, as defined by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), will take place in the world-class arenas from 8.00am to 6.00pm each day.

The program will showcase a comprehensive list of competitions. From the prestigious CDI 3* and CDI 1* events to categories specifically tailored for young riders, including CDI Children, CDI-Junior, and CDI Young Rider, there's something for everyone. Additionally, the CDI Under 25 competition provides a platform for emerging talent to shine. The event will also feature Official Novice to National Grand Prix competitions, allowing riders to progress and compete at various levels as well as freestyle to music, ranging from Advanced to Grand Prix, offer a captivating display of skill and creativity.

As the excitement builds for the Paris 2024 Olympics, the stakes are high for a group of talented Australian dressage riders competing at this year's 4CYTETM Dressage by the Sea CDI 2024 event. Over the course of four days, riders including Jessica Dertell, Charlotte Phillips, Suzanne Hearn, David McKinnon, Caroline Wagner, and Mary Hanna will showcase their skills, vying for a coveted spot on the Australian Dressage team at the upcoming Olympics.

To qualify to be considered for Paris 2024 and be recognized by the FEI, riders must achieve a Minimum Eligibility Score of 67% or above on two separate occasions in the Grand Prix at a CDI3* competition or above. With their eyes set on Olympic glory, these riders are prepared to deliver stellar performances and demonstrate their potential to represent Australia on the world stage. Australian Selectors will be looking at competitors who score an average of 69% or more under the eye of a Level 4 international foreign judge.

Visitors to the event are invited to explore the enchanting gardens and sculptures that adorn Willinga Park's sprawling landscape.



Whether you're a dedicated rider or an enthusiastic spectator, our trade stands offer a unique opportunity to explore leading brands and engage with knowledgeable vendors. From essential supplements to fine equestrian jewellery, top-quality saddlery, stylish apparel, and everything in between, there's something for everyone at the Trade Village.

Amidst the excitement of the event, the Bunker Cafe offers a tranquil retreat for visitors to recharge. As well as the Bunker Café, spectators can indulge in the culinary delights from food trucks starting at 8.00am. The Bunker Cafe will be open throughout the event from 11.00am, serving lunch and dinner, along with a selection of beverages from the bar. Willinga Park Vet Hospital invites riders and spectators to explore their state-of-the-art facility, from advanced medical treatments to expert care, the hospital sets a new standard in equine health excellence. Tours of the facility will be offered on Saturday, February 24th at 11.00am and 2.00pm, as well as on Sunday, February 25th at 11.00am. Bookings not required for these tours. Whether you're a rider seeking top-tier veterinary services or a spectator curious about the latest advancements in equine healthcare, this is your chance to witness the future of equine medicine firsthand.

For those unable to attend in person, 4CYTETM Dressage by the Sea 2024 will be livestreamed on Willinga Park TV, ensuring that equestrian enthusiasts worldwide can be part of this extraordinary celebration.

National Sheep Dog Trial Championships
11-17 MARCH 2024
Fun for all the family! Dogs on lead welcome!

Join us for the 81st National Sheep Dog Trial Championships in picturesque Hall.

Sheep dog trials are a unique, heritage sport where three species - sheep, dog and person - endeavour to work together to complete a course of three obstacles in fifteen minutes.

Competition begins Canberra Day with finals being held the following Sunday. Spectators can enjoy tea and scones in the pavilion!

8am to 5pm each day
Tickets on sale December 2023
Hall Showground, Canberra
nationalsheepdogtrials.org.au

The Council of ACT Motor Clubs Inc. presents
Shannons Wheels 2024
An Autumn Show & Shine for all marques
Celebrating the Hot Hatch
in aid of: **Respite Care for QBN**

Queanbeyan Showgrounds
Sunday 18th February
Exhibitor entry from 8:00am to 9:30am
Public entry from 10:00am to 1:30pm
Sponsored by Shannons Insurance
& held in conjunction with the **Queanbeyan Markets**
enquiries: info@cactmc.org.au
web: www.cactmc.org.au

Canberra and District Historic Engine Club
Presents
The 14th Heritage Rally
Vintage Engines
And Machinery
And Tractors
9-10 March 2024
Set up Fri 8th March
At the Bungendore
Showground
71 Mathews lane Bungendore
Camping on site for exhibitors
Contact Brock
0423637800
brock679@gmail.com



Braidwood Golf Club News

Men's Pennants

Our men's pennant team commenced their season with 2 losses by the narrowest of margins, both 3.5 matches to 2.5 matches.

Round 1 was against Yass and our winners were Chris Witt and Michael Toirkens, while John Harb staged a great comeback to square his match.

Round 2 was against Fairbairn and our winners were John Stahel and Michael Toirkens, while Chris Witt squared his match.

The team has suffered a few long term injuries, but hopefully those fit enough to play can return to the winner's list this week against Gold Creek at Federal.

MATCH COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Please keep carts away from the greens. Golf carts can be damaging to the course so keep away from green surrounds and teeing grounds. Do not drive through damaged or wet areas.

2. Mobile phones can only be used as distance measuring devices or for oncourse, golf emergencies.

There are three important principles to remember when playing golf:

1. Play the course as you find it
2. Play the ball as it lies
3. And if you can't do either, do what's fair

RESULTS-Saturday February 10-Men's Single Stableford, Braidwood Chemist Trophy

We sincerely thank the Chemist for joining our generous Braidwood donors.

Men's Results

Winner: Terry Hughes 38 pts

Runner Up: Craig Sloane 35 pts

Men's NTP 3/12: Billy Lang

Jackpot(1m) 8th \$30: Not Won

Ball Comp: Keith Morgan 34, Keith Ferguson 33, Chris Witt 32, John Stahel 32, Tom Duffy 31, Billy Lang 31

Handicap Changes: Terry Hughes down 1 to 30, Keith Morgan down 1 to 18,

Birdies: 4

Women's Results Women's Single Stableford, Braidwood Butcher Trophy.

Many thanks to the Braidwood Butcher for their very welcome donation.

Winner: Carmen Byrne 35 pts

Runner Up: Robin Tennant Wood 33 pts

NTP: Sarah Heine

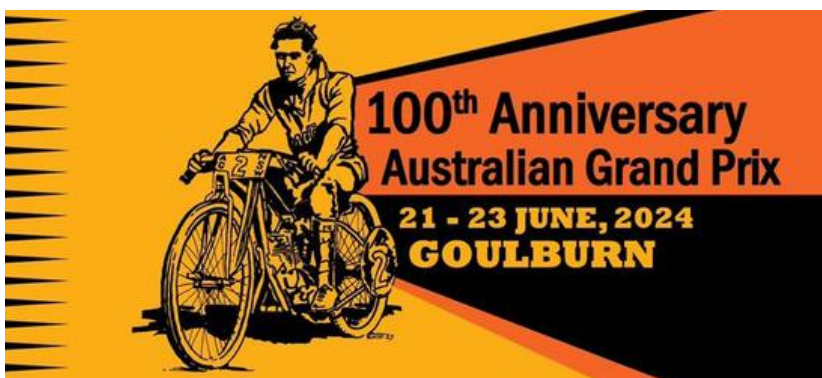
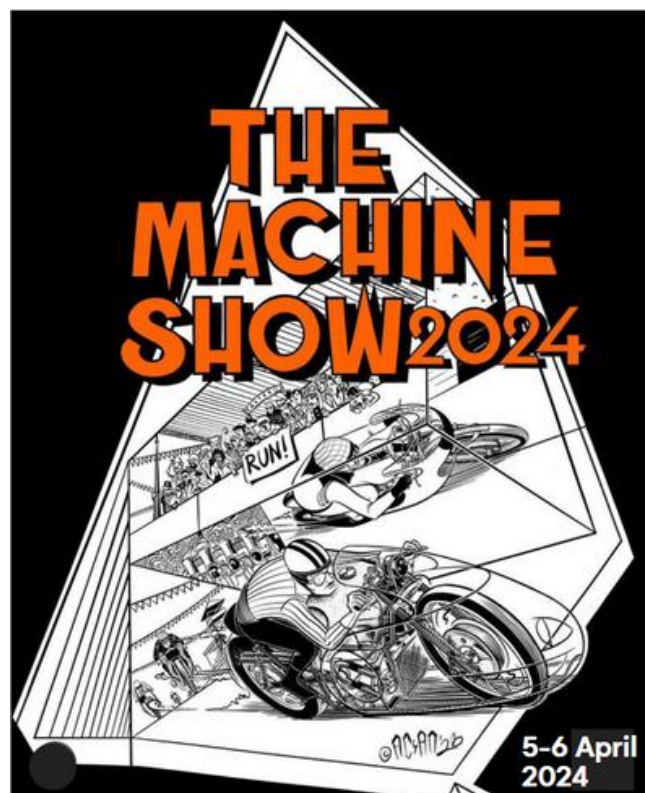
Ball Comp: Barb Stuart 30, Sarah Heine 27, Debby Ferguson 27

Handicap Changes: Carmen Byrne down 1 to 35, Debby Ferguson out 1 to 20, Fran McGrath out 1 to 34

Birdies: 1 Pars: 8

Coming Events

- **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
- **April 13 Saturday** Men's Single Stableford – David Goddard Trophy
New Hit Off Times Apply Women's Single Stableford – Dojo Bread Trophy
- **April 20 Saturday** Committee Meeting 10.30am
Men's 2BBB Stableford – Rodney Royds Trophy
Women's 2BBB Stableford – Hyland Trophy
- **April 27 Saturday** Medley American Foursomes – John Harb Trophy
- **May 4 Saturday** Men's & Women's Stroke & Monthly Medal
- **May 11 Saturday** Men's Single Stableford – Rod Coady Memorial Trophy
Women's Single Stableford – Helen Goddard Memorial Trophy
- **May 12 Sunday** Mother's Day
- **May 18 Saturday** Committee Meeting 10.30am
Men's Single Stableford – Michael Toirkens Trophy
Women's Single Stableford – Vanilla Café Trophy
- **May 25 Saturday** Medley 2BBB Drawn after play
Concept Café Trophy





Yoga pose of the week

with Christina Carroll



Pendulum Pose - Dolasana

A great yoga pose to strengthen the thigh and back muscles. Renown for toning the spinal nerves and stimulating circulation. It gives the great benefits of an inversion too, turning everything upside-down helps to balance the circulatory, respiratory, digestive, reproductive, nervous and endocrine systems.

To practice - Stand with the feet more than shoulder width apart and the legs straight. Raise the arms and interlock the fingers of both hands behind the neck with the elbows pointing out to the sides. keep the feet firmly on the ground, turn to the right and bend forward. Bring the head as close as comfortable to the right knee. Swing the upper torso from the right to the left knee and back to the right knee three times. Return to the centre and stand upright. Repeat with the swing starting from the left knee.



Barefoot Bowls kicks off

Braidwood Bowling Club

Rd 2 of Barefoot had been put to bed. Again, a huge thank you to the 32 teams for arriving and registering on time, which in turn sets up for a great night. A very big thanks to Jeanette McCullough, Damo Cambell Davys, Nigel McGrath, Sanders Watson and Ross McKerchar for making the night run smoothly. Big thanks to the green staff and volunteers for their efforts once again and to Anjali and her bar staff, Erin and Toby for keeping everyone hydrated. Tonight's photos are again courtesy of Kathy Toirkens and what a treat, capturing some team photos along the way, thanks Kathy, your shots really do bring out everyone's happiness!! The night's winners - The Tee Birds picked up the lucky \$150, and Team "Bowled Over" picked up best team on night (sorry JG, your number 1 overall). Yes, I made a mistake and I really do apologise to JG, but team 30 dirty toes paid me extra for the laugh!

On top of the leaderboard is JG Earthworx, with The Grasscutter holding down second place still and the Chick With Attitude still holding onto third.



YOGA

WITH CHRISTINA

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Tuesday 9am
Thursday 9am
Saturday 8am

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\$170 for 10 weeks

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Braidwood Swim Club Makes a Splash at Mini Squad Training- Thanks to Apex

The Braidwood Swim Club made a splash this Tuesday, launching its first mini squad training session on a warm summer's day. A group of 15 eager swimmers, aged 6 to 14, gathered to refine their skills in a session focused on freestyle swimming, complete with stroke correction, and drills on starts, turns, and endurance. Local swim coach, Sharon Blinco, was at the helm, thanks to generous funding from the Braidwood Apex Club.

This free training offers a boost to swimmers for the upcoming school representative swimming carnivals, offering club members a valuable opportunity to sharpen their skills. "We are immensely grateful for the Apex Club's support. It allows us to offer this enriching experience to our members, ensuring they're well-prepared and confident," said Beth Ross, President of the Braidwood Swimming Club. "This sponsorship is not just financial support; it's an investment in our children's future. It's a great opportunity for families, and helps our club improve the value of our membership."

This year's swimming season has been met with an enthusiastic response from the community, evidenced by a second year of strong membership with 48 swimmers aged 4 to 14. The support from Braidwood Apex Club has been instrumental in the creation of Mini Squad, allowing the swim club to cover essential costs such as coaching fees and lane hire for these sessions.

In addition to this program, the club enjoys broad community backing, including significant contributions from the Braidwood Lions Club, which has helped reduce membership fees for larger families. This gesture, as well as local support from the Bakery, Butchers, Nutrien Ag, Oscars Donuts, Intersport Fyshwick, Kristy McBain MP and the Community Bank Braidwood, underscores the community's united front in supporting local youth and promoting healthy, active lifestyles.

Due to the strong turn out this week, the swimming club plans to host two mini squad sessions next Tuesday to allow for more personalised coaching. Regular Club Night races will continue every Monday evening at 5pm for the rest of the season, offering members regular competitive practice and camaraderie.

Alisa Stephens

Secretary

Braidwood Swimming Club

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2024 Braidwood Races Fashions on the Field



Under 12 Fashions on the Field.



Nelson Sargeant, Judge Kate Lynch and Sam Watson.



Judges Kate Lynch, Katherine Hannaford, Cody-Leigh McGlone,



Poppy and Annabelle



Brooke Strahan (Goulburn) and Amanda Anderson (Canberra)





2024 Braidwood Races Fashions on the Field



Best Dressed Louise Thomas & Ana de la Vega



Louise Thomas with Kerry McGlone and the Millinery Prize.



Melinda O'Dea and Sarah Lefevre with Katherine Hannaford.



Group of winners and judges.



Amanda Anderson and Katherine Braddock



Best dressed couple : Ana and Rob and Charles and Emma



Ellie Wilman and Darren Trunks



RACING NEWS WITH THE JEMBAICUMBENE PUNTER

Great to see Aaron Clarke and team win Race 3 at Braidwood last Saturday with Red Redemption.

Red Redemption has been knocking on the door for a win for a while now and it was great that he could get a win in front of the local home crowd. Richard Bensley was the jockey.

It was very unlucky that he didn't get a second winner in Race 2. Don't Think About It took off too late, he was absolutely flying to the line and ended up running fourth. Richard Bensley was the pilot.

Luke and Richard Bensley didn't have any luck with Face The Day in the last race.

Winners for the day were -Race 1 - Mandalong Princess trained by Gary Nicolson trained at Warwick Farm and ridden by Ellen Hennessy.

Race 2 - Dollywood trained by Joe Cleary Queanbeyan ridden by Michael Heagney.

Race 3 - Our local horse Red Redemption.

Race 4 - Sycamore trained by Joe Cleary and ridden by Robyn Scott.

Race 5 - The Braidwood Cup was won by Off Shaw trained by John Rolfe and ridden by P. Boudvillian.

Race 6- Genjiro trained by Rob Potter from Canberra and ridden D. Bubler.

The committee of the Braidwood Jockey Club are to be congratulated on running such a successful meeting. It was very pleasing to the large number of well-dressed young people.

Well known Goulburn man Billy Fife scored a third with Flying Flossy at Canberra on Friday 9th. Flying Flossy was returning from a 26 week spell following a paddock injury. She is trained in Goulburn by Tash Burleigh.

Fangelo will be going to Canterbury this Friday night. He has been training well and should be up with them where it counts. Mr Brightside and Craig Williams scored yet another win at weekend.

Punters Street Boss gelding, Chicago King has presented with swelling in his right fore fetlock. When x-rayed it was found that he has a small chip and will be operated on and is out for eight weeks.

Happy Casino played up during track work and has to be taken back to square one. It will be a while before they straighten him unfortunately.

Infatuation is going well and being trained to race the other way around. She will have her next outing in Melbourne on Saturday February 17.

Until next time.

Happy Punting.



THE SERVICEMENS CLUB

www.braidwoodservicemensclub.com.au

PH: 4842 2108 Find us on Facebook & Instagram

What's On at the Club

TUE

Canasta, Every Tuesday, 11am - 1pm, new players welcome

WED

Social Bowls, 12.45pm, bowls available to borrow. No experience required. Every Wednesday.

**1st WED
of the
MONTH**

Trivia is the 1st Wednesday of every month. Arrive at 6.30pm to begin at 7pm. Teams of up to 8ppl or come alone.

**1st THUR
of the
MONTH**

First Thursday Community Lunch is the 1st Thursday of every month. \$10 for a choice from 5 meals, dessert, tea & coffee. Everyone is welcome

FRI

Friday Night Raffles every Friday. Tickets on sale 6pm, raffle drawn at 7.30pm. Members Draw every Friday. Jackpots to \$5,000 drawn between 7 - 9 pm. Members Happy Hour from 6 - 7pm

SUN

Social Darts Comp Every Sunday. 5pm. Meat Tray for the Winner. New Players Welcome! Members Happy Hour 6 - 7pm

**1st SUN
of the
MONTH**

Poker first Sunday of every month. Sign up from 2.30pm, start playing at 3pm. New Players Welcome.

Friday 15th
March

**LIVE MUSIC
JAMIE AGIUS**



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PROPERTIES FOR SALE



RURAL LAND FOR SALE

- ARALUEN-24 hectares - (60 ACRES) No building entitlement ,ideal weekender -\$279,000
- ARALUEN NORTH -8 hectares - (20 ACRES) No building entitlement, alluvial soil-\$300,000
- ARALUEN SOUTH-126 hectares - (311 ACRES) 3b/r house, sheds, river frontage - \$750,000
- CHARLEYS FOREST- 40 hectares - (100 ACRES) Bush block, weekender, sheds - \$640,000
- SNOWBALL - 53 Hectares - (130 ACRES) Bush block, cabin adjoins Nat. Park - \$550,000
- SNOWBALL - 60 Hectares - (150 ACRES) Bush block, building entitlement - \$350,000

A great opportunity for the tradie or handy person- A solid 3 bedroom home in need of much repair on 508m2 and an adjoining vacant block of 907m2 on a separate title.

Offered for sale for the first time in 35 years and originally 2 storey this home is screaming potential. Rendered brick or stone with walls around 300mm thick- it won't fall down anytime soon. Each block has the ideal orientation running east-west and perfectly level for lower building costs and both street and rear lane access. Located at the end of Braidwood's main street just a short 300 metres from the local supermarket and thriving coffee precinct this is an opportunity not to be missed. There are so many options- renovate and build on the vacant block, renovate and sell the block.....



21 Wallace St - \$750,000 -UNDER OFFER

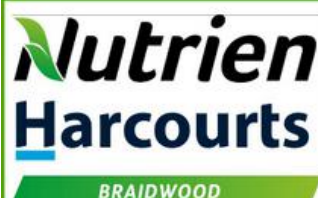


Yately House c1883 - 35 Coghill St - By negotiation

Sitting proudly in a commanding position overlooking the township and surrounding countryside what you see of Yately is only a glimpse of what lies behind that impressive façade. As you open the double entrance doors the feeling of grandeur is immediately apparent, with 10 metre by 2.5 metre formal hallway with 3.5 metre ceilings. There are 8 open fireplaces (3 of them marble), formal dining and lounge rooms and billiard room that easily accommodates a full size table. Yately offers 4 bedrooms in its current configuration, the grand size allows for more depending on owners requirements. Wandering through the glorious gardens is a pleasurable experience with many mature plantings including thousands of century old bulbs - irrigated by the water bore that provides a plentiful supply to the 3200m2 block, town water is also connected. Yately presents a perfect opportunity for a distinctive private residence, exclusive B and B or function centre. Land area 3263 m2, Residence 391m2, Verandah 220m2, Outbuildings 89m2. Inspections are strictly by appointment and with principals only.

6 Hassall Cct - By negotiation - Contemporary Luxury

The award winning home completed in 2019 by Green Homes is state of the art in design and practicality. Clean contemporary lines combine with light open spaces to create a home that exudes luxury. Square set cornicing throughout and 3.7 metre raked ceilings to the open plan living expanse give a sense of space to what is already a large area, this also opens out to the alfresco area. The three bedroom , study home has ensuite and walk through robe to the main bedroom at the front of the home. Two other spacious bedrooms have built in robes. Double glazing is a feature throughout. There are two reverse cycle air-conditioners keeping the home comfortable year round. Electricity costs are supplemented by the 5.5 kilowatt back to the grid panels. This is a home that lends itself to entertaining either inside or out and would be perfect for the executive couple or family who appreciate the finer things in life.



Nutrien Harcourts Real Estate Braidwood
Contact Reg O'Connell Mob 0402 833 344
reg@braidwoodproperty.com.au
www.braidwoodproperty.com.au

