Spotlight shines on globe

The Castrol globe was an iconic landmark at Mount Razorback for more than 30 years, when one day it was gone.

For Thirlmere resident and member of the Razorback and Crankhandle Association, Michael Fairfax, it has been a long-time vision to have the globe returned to its original place - but Wollondilly Council said it would be too much of an issue - so he has settled for the next best thing - a home at The Oaks Heritage Centre.

There is some suggestion that the decision to put down the dog was unauthorized; Tunka appeared on the front page of the first 2017 edition of The District Reporter on January 28. His shelter handler Luke had taken a picture of the dog and was doing everything to have him return - "I have gone into bat for him since day one," he told this paper in January.

Mr Fairfax had a replica of the globe commissioned 13 years ago and had been resigned to the fact it would always be in his care and its destruction). "I am disappointed," he said. Since 2012 there have been marked improvements and a significant decline in animals being put to sleep. She was pleased with the commitment to animal welfare.

The centre is at 43 Edward Street, The Oaks. Anyone who can shed some light on the Castrol globe can call Trish on 0432 689 034.

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Plea to rehome Tunka ends in dog’s death

Hopes that Tunka the one-year-old Bull Arab on her facebook page and when contact-
Adapting planning to suit the climate

With the world as it is - increased industrialisation, more people and dwellings - the climate isn’t as it was.

Western Sydney recently experienced some of the hottest days on record - reaching more than 44 to 46 degrees in some parts - this type of weather is expected to become the norm.

In The Conversation recently there was an article about how better planning of our cities can help to minimise heat stress - which not only impacts on humans and animals, but also the economy.

The article in the academic newsletter's online version - ‘When the heat is on, we need cities to cool down’ - advocated that trees provide shade, but also cool the air, because evaporating water from leaves takes energy, reducing peak temperatures by just over a degree.

If more housing is added to by the absence of trees, dark roofs and paved roads, these sorts of materials attract and retain the heat. With more housing on very small blocks being offered - it suggests it will only get worse - if something isn’t done to reduce and alleviate the heat being generated.

Some of the suggestions to enable cities to keep cool - range from air-conditioning, trees and parks, white roofs, green roofs and walls, paving, large scale rooftop solar, consideration of building density to shading structures.

While planting more trees and having light coloured roofs seems more of an immediate fix - there needs to be proper planning.

Camm and Wolli Creek are areas earmarked for growth and this is the opportunity to make sure that the type of dwellings built take in the climate of the area.

Letters to the editor ...

Deepfields Road neglected

Camden Council has many wonderful projects, however, Deepfields Road, Catherine Filed is not one of them.

This is a death road. A person would not be happy to take any Camden councillor or Camden Council engineer on a joy ride on this road on a wet day.

It is not a police problem; it is a Camden Council responsibility which has been shirked.

Ed Capitt, Catherine Field.

More deserving for mention

I refer to Thirlmere resident John List's letter (DR 6.02-017) regarding the library plaques erected to Benn Banask and Simon Landow following library refurbishments costing ratepayers $2.88 million.

The letter raises the issues that there was no council resolution or community consultation to immortalise these two men in stone, he justifies this abuse of power by claiming that their “grace and commitment” warranted the honour.

What gallupping stupidity.

There are a great many people living in our community past and present, far more deserving of being immortalised in stone and his statement that he has “no special regard for the Banaskis” proves the point.

Pictcon House court reheated last weekend after being ravaged by the floods in 2016. Renovations cost the State Government $660,000.

If the State Government didn’t see the necessity to immortalise the State Government they would lose the support of the community.

While this issue may not matter to John List, who clearly can’t address the point without being insulting, erecting plaques to individuals without community consultation, is pure self-favouredness and a kick in the teeth to democracy.

Lynette Styles, Tahmoor

The Monarchist & The Republican

The defection of former Liberal Senator Cory Bernardi to the cross benches has put an end to speculation that he would jump ship from the Liberal Party and form his own Australian Conservative Party. After setting up the Australian Conservatives on social media even those without an interest in politics would be able to see that Cory Bernardi was testing the water - contrary to his continued denials that there was no intention to form a breakaway conservative party.

He’s been ridiculed and described as a far-right conviction politician that has in opposition and in government, under two different prime ministers been kept on the side, possibly for some of his views such as opposing gay marriage and comments linking it to hostility. No party likes a defector when time, money and party resources have been committed to assist with a candidate’s successful re-election. It rubs the party the wrong way and does too little, too late. One Nation has got the jump, are redirected. Running away from your political party isn’t the solution, but it is Cory Bernardi not getting what he wanted that caused his exit.

The timing of Bernardi’s defection was intentional to create maximum damage and destabilisation as happens so often in politics and further damage to what is already a close vote in the community for much longer.

The heat island impact which it appears to be happening in the new developments areas is being blamed on the construction of multiple dwellings in concentrated areas added to by the absence of trees, dark roofs and paved roads - these sorts of materials attract and retain the heat. With more housing on very small blocks being offered - it suggests it will only get worse - if something isn’t done to reduce and alleviate the heat being generated.

Some of the suggestions to enable cities to keep cool - range from air-conditioning, trees and parks, white roofs, green roofs and walls, paving, large scale rooftop solar, consideration of building density to shading structures.

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Letters to the editor ...
**Businesses urged to have their say**

Macarthur businesses are being urged to be part of a survey looking at the big issues along with business conditions in the area.

The survey is done by IRIS Research for the Macarthur Regional Organisation of Councils. MACROC has commissioned the market research to complement the economic development activities of each council in a bid to better monitor and understand business conditions and issues.

The survey will focus on a range of questions relating to confidence measures such as sales, profitability, capital expenditure, staff levels and overtime. The survey includes specific questions relating to local industry, markets, suppliers, workforce, and growth impediments.

MACROC president, Cr Judith Hannan encourages Macarthur businesses to have their say. "The growth of our Macarthur region presents both opportunities and challenges for business in the region," Cr Hannan said. "My fellow Macarthur mayors Crs George Bricevic, Lara Symkowski and I understand the importance of strengthening our region and believe the results of the survey will assist MACROC and its member councils to understand how they can better support existing businesses and attract new businesses and jobs to the region."

IRIS research will be contacting a range of businesses in each Macarthur local government area online and by telephone. Those businesses that have not been contacted by IRIS Research and which would like to take part in the survey are encouraged to click on the following link: visit any of the following websites and complete the survey online.

- www.macroc.nsw.gov.au
- www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au
- www.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au
- www.camden.nsw.gov.au

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**Rotary funds aimed at memorial dedication**

A mix of different fundraising efforts, small donations here and there and finally a healthy looking cheque has secured the completion of the Memorial Park at Picton.

Picton ANZAC Day Committee chairman Ray Law paid tribute to Picton Rotary which handed over $7000 for the remaining plinths to be added. "I have always had a great respect for Rotary and its generous and often unheralded support and giving to the community," Mr Law said who is also a Wollondilly councillor.

Picton Rotary president Geoff Cannon said club members are very pleased to assist the ANZAC Day Committee "in its worthy efforts to commemorate the service of Defence Force personnel past and present". "Our town is very proud of its community-based ANZAC Day March and Service, and of the suburb Remembrance Park environment that forms such an appropriate backdrop for these events," Mr Cannon said. "As a retired serviceman myself, I am very proud to support this ongoing project and with Greg Cartwright, the next Picton Rotary president, I am confident Rotary’s involvement with Picton’s ANZAC Day Committee will go from strength to strength."

Mr Law said the next stage is the installation of a further six plinths to honour the service of those who were involved in theatres up to Afghanistan. He said they can now be completed before the 2017 ANZAC Day service. A dedication service will be held on April 1 at 2pm and all members of the community are invited and encouraged to attend. The completion of the Roll of Honour is also being planned. "We are currently seeking the names of anyone who was born in or enlisted from Wollondilly and served in Malaysia/Borneo, Gulf War, East Timor, Iraq, Afghanistan or Peacekeeping operations," Mr Law said.

If you know of someone who served in these operations call Mr Law on 0427 901 275 or write to the Secretary Picton ANZAC Day Committee at P.O. Box 248 Tahmoor.

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Avoid any confusion in the future. Many people should be updated and re-signed by the parties to any changes, then the employment contract the employee is engaged by the employer. If the parties which sets out the terms under which the contract is a legally binding agreement between your employer or employee. An employment relationship the award has to contracts. Modern relations are also governed by the National Employment Standards, but for most people it is difficult to understand the relationship between them and what they mean for you or your company.

If you find yourself in a situation where you are unsure about your rights or obligations, you should always first look to your contract with your employer or employee. An employment contract is a legally binding agreement between the parties which sets out the terms under which the employee is engaged by the employer. If anything changes, then the employment contract should be updated and re-signed by the parties to avoid any confusion in the future. Many people are unsure about award entitlements and what relationship the award has to contracts. Modern industrial awards have been created and given legal force by legislation to provide protection and regulation of certain occupations. Awards often cover remuneration, penalty rates, working conditions, leave entitlements and other employment-related issues. Although awards regulate certain occupations, most of them allow for flexibility in working arrangements.

In addition to awards and contracts, industrial relations are also governed by the National Employment Standards (NES). The NES contains 15 minimum employment entitlements which must be provided to all employees including maximum weekly hours, leave entitlements and termination rights and obligations. The impact of the entitlements are based on your status as an employee, and therefore employees and employers should always seek advice, as the above instruments can affect your circumstances differently. In the case of termination, employees generally have 21 days to make an application for Unfair Dismissal with the Fair Work Commission. If you work for a business that has more than 15 employees, then you have to be employed for at least six months before you can apply for an unfair dismissal. If you work for a small business (under 15 employees), then an employee must be employed for at least 12 months to be eligible to apply. There are other criteria which may affect your rights and therefore it is important that you seek advice early to ensure that you are able to take action in the requisite time period.

LAW MATTERS

Workplace rights for employers and employees

You may be familiar with, or have heard the terms ‘employment contract’, ‘award’, and ‘National Employment Standards’, but for most people it is difficult to understand the relationship between them and what they mean for you or your company.

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Bears hop onboard with RFS

The recent batch of bears complete with Group for the Southern Highl

When the going gets tough for young people, the ‘Bargo Rural Fire Service from the Southern Highlands will be able to hand out a comforting bear.

The ladies from the Bargo area have been making the bears to assist emergency services to put a smile on the face of a child and a sense of calm during what may be the worst moment of their young lives.

“The bears can take up to eight hours each to make and we all have our own touches we like to put on them,” Win, from the Bargo Crochet group, said.

Win and her team of crocheters Ruby, Robyn, Victoria and Jackie get together whenever there is a need to make the bears, “which we really enjoy doing” she said.

Recently the ladies presented a batch of bears complete with their own fire truck to Superintendent Martin Surrey and Inspector Greg Freeman from the NSW RFS Southern Highl

St Paul’s event kicks off at 5pm at the church hall; there will also be a milkshake stall thanks to Country Valley. Proceeds from the night go to Wollondilly SES and the RFS.

Cawdor Uniting Church is also holding a similar event also at 5pm on February 28 - also all you can eat for $7 for all you can eat. All proceeds go to support the Camden Hospital Rehab Unit. The church is located at Cawdor Road, Cawdor.
News

Plea to rehome Tunka ends in dog's death

... continued from page 1

Cr Hannan in January's article indicated the animal committees had been instrumental in rehoming "everything that came in". She reiterated animals were only put down if they had a behavioural problem. Tunka by all description was a "boisterous" but "friendly" dog who required a person with dog handling experience.

Concerned people who have spoken to this paper said the shelter's improvements had only been achieved through a very rigorous campaign focusing on improved animal care.

There's disbelief that Tunka could have been put down without any warning or an attempt to make contact with volunteers willing to offer him emergency fostering.

It's been described as a needless and "unauthorised" killing that could harm the shelter's image.

The council's Director of Planning, Chris Stewart said an investigation is underway.

"Council works closely with volunteer and rescue organisations to rehome companion animals and a concerted effort over the past three to four years have resulted in very low euthanasia rates," Mr Stewart said.

"At our animal shelter euthanasia procedures are performed by a qualified veterinarian in a humane manner. Considerable effort was made to rehabilitate and rehome Tunka over a six month period and due to concerns that have been raised, Tunka's euthanasia is now under investigation."

"The investigation results will help council determine if there are any improvements needed to the current companion animals' procedures."

2017 Camden Show

It's show time!!

The District Reporter and the Camden Show Society have a family pass to give away.

Download your picture now at www.camdenshow.com

(Look for the tab in the second row, 'Competition Schedule'. The colouring in competition is in the drop-down menu)

Age groups are: 0-4yrs; 5-7yrs; 8-10yrs & 11-13yrs.

The winners will receive a family pass to the show allowing entry to the show for the duration of the show. Entries close Friday 24th, March, 2017.

Finalists will receive a certificate and their work will be displayed in the information tent at the show.

Colour in, fill in entry form, and send back to:

The District Reporter, PO Box 116, CAMDEN, 2570

Get your colouring-in pencils out and start colouring.

SUMMER DOONA SPECIAL

All doonas, bedspreads or blankets of any size, cleaned and bagged for the low price of $25. All we ask, is that you pre-pay and be patient.

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Trading Hours: Mon-Fri: 6.30am-5.30pm
Sat: 7.30am-12.30pm

Offer only at this price with prepayment. Valid from Dec 1 to end of February. This special can not be used in conjunction with any other offer. Doonas to be cleaned once only unless by the drycleaners' discretion. Double sided doonas are priced as 2. Offer at Camden store only.

Mother Hubbard's moved into Elderslie

It seems an appropriate that a house built in 1946 - that had one owner - is now home to Mother Hubbard's Cupboard.

The house, which is much bigger than the charity's previous sites, was home to long-time resident, Ina Cameron, who died at age 105 is a step back to a former era - devoid of the modernism of today's dwellings. The items that fill the building from bric-a-brac to furnishings to rooms of clothes seem to fit well.

For people browsing it's a homely atmosphere and an appropriate setting for the charity organisation which has serviced so many in the community for the last nine years.

On Friday, federal MP for Hume, Angus Taylor cut the ribbon and acknowledged the work the volunteers provide in helping people especially those fleeing domestic violence situations.

He said Mother Hubbard's fills the void. His favourite part of being in government is helping community groups - via the Volunteers Grants Program.

Mr Taylor said it was volunteers who do the sort of work that the government is unable to do and it is these same people who offer the personal touch and empathy - because they care.

He congratulated Mother Hubbard's Cupboard's achievements in the community.

Val Stewart, one of the founders of the charity organisation said it now help more than 20 other charities as well as general members of the community. She acknowledged the people who donate goods, services and expertise to make the organisation function.

"We are all part of Mother Hubbard's Cupboard."

The new site is at 65 Harrington Street, Elderslie.

Plea to rehome Tunka ends in dog's death

... continued from page 1

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“The investigation results will help council determine if there are any improvements needed to the current companion animals' procedures.”
Wollondilly Women in Business Networking Breakfast

To Tuesday 21 February the Wollondilly Women in Business Network breakfast will be held at Council’s chambers. I am very excited about this event as the theme for this breakfast is close to my heart. This month our discussion will focus on “A Leadership Journey” and how as women we can strive to have it all. I am a big believer in supporting a woman’s leadership journey and throughout this breakfast Ality and I will talk about a woman’s journey towards leadership and some techniques for establishing yourself as a leader. I have learned through my own journey that ‘having it all’ does not mean we get everything we want all at once. It means we have to prioritise what comes first so that we can have it all, one achievement at a time.

Empowerment for women is something that we all have to support. It is the catalysts for our own personal empowerment but we also have to look towards supporting other women to achieve their goals. The leadership journey is much more enjoyable when you have a strong support network behind you. The Wollondilly Women in Business Network can be a way for you to find the support you need for your journey.

When: Tuesday 21 February
Time: 7.30am to 9am
Where: Wollondilly Shire Council Chambers
Contact: 4677 9790

Stonequarry Creek Update

Council has been continuing maintenance work along Stonequarry Creek, Picton and the work completed along the western stretch has included:

- Removal of litter, hard debris and vegetation debris within the creek and banks
- Removal of damaged or unstable trees and uplifting remaining trees to discourage snags in the future
- Stabilisation of damaged banks by NSW Soil Conservation Service
- Plantings of groundcover vegetation to prevent erosion and help bank stabilisation

Actions undertaken for the whole creek length include:

- Commissioning the “Stonequarry Creek Flood Rehabilitation Report” by NSW Soil Conservation Service

The eastern stretch of the creek is a combination of Private, Council and Crown land and Council cannot conduct maintenance work on private land without access approval from the land owner. So if you own property adjoining Stonequarry Creek please take some time to inspect along your creek bed and consider what actions you may be able to do to help protect your property and others for the future.

• COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2017-2020

Do you:

- Have knowledge and experience you are willing to share?
- Want to volunteer and give back to your community?
- Want to learn more about Council and contribute to decision-making that helps shape the future of Wollondilly?

If this sounds like you then we invite you to apply for membership of one of Council’s Community Advisory Committees (CACs).

Positions are available on the following CACs:

- Transport Advisory Committee
- Disability Access Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee
- Economic Development Advisory Committee
- Rural Industry Advisory Committee
- Tourism and Heritage Advisory Committee
- Minerals, Energy Resources, Environment and Waste Advisory Committee
- Companion Animals Advisory Committee
- Road Safety Advisory Committee
- Australia Day Awards Committee
- Cubbitch Barta Reserve Steering Committee – (Open to Camden Park residents only)

To learn more about what is involved please review the Community Advisory Committee Membership page: www.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/council/meetings/council-committees-and-advisory-groups/

Expressions of Interest close 4pm, Friday 17 February 2017. For further information call Toni Spence on 4677 9507 or CACcommittees@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

Thirlmere Festival of Steam - Sunday 5 March

Call for Stall Holders

For more information contact Lyn Davey at lndavey@ozemail.com.au

Create Wollondilly 2033

Want to have your say about the future of Wollondilly? Head to www.engage.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au to complete an online survey that will help to inform Council’s long term plans.

WOLLONDILLY SHIRE COUNCIL

62 - 64 Manangle St, Picton 2571 Phone (24 hours): 4677 1100
Email: council@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au Web: www.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au
Community Forum: 13 February 2017 Council Meeting: 20 February 2017

MEMBERSHIP 2017-2020

Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

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E-Waste can now be recycled for FREE

The $10 charge to recycle E-Waste has now been removed from the Bargo Waste Management Centre. Items included are: LCD TVs, Printers, Computers, Monitors, Printers, Harddrives, Batteries, Circuit Boards, Handheld Devices & Cables. Items included are: LCD TVs, Printers, Computers, Monitors, Printers, Harddrives, Batteries, Circuit Boards, Handheld Devices & Cables.

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- Experience a range of driving conditions
- Graduated Licensing Scheme’s Learner Log Book topics are covered
- Breath testing experience
- BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

Phone (02) 4677 9588
Email — roadsafety@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au

The eastern stretch of the creek is a combination of Private, Council and Crown land and Council cannot conduct maintenance work on private land without access approval from the land owner. So if you own property adjoining Stonequarry Creek please take some time to inspect along your creek bed and consider what actions you may be able to do to help protect your property and others for the future.
As the south west Sydney sweltered through record high conditions last week - people took relief wherever they could while others had to contend with rolling up their sleeves and getting to work.  

Local Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers were on standby - thankfully, they weren’t needed to respond to any nearby calls - but on Monday Wollondilly RFS sent off five teams to help their Coonabarabran colleagues.  

George Drakakis from Queen Charcoal Chicken shop in Camden contemplated closing when he heard the forecast for late last week and the weekend when temperatures reached more than 40 degrees.  

“A few of the staff were hot and bothered,” Mr Drakakis said. The shop serves up chicken slowly cooked over a charcoal pit along with hot chips. Despite the weather trade was up. “We tend to be busier during this time; people don’t want to cook.”  

Even though the air conditioners were running, Mr Drakakis thought about not opening on the very hot days when temperatures reached such as 44 degrees.  

He like others welcomed the change of weather on Sunday afternoon. “It was beautiful. It was a change from the 20 hot days that have been around.”  

For Lee Lam from Amigos French Bakery, the weather also proved tiresome. The bakers get to work at 1am while the ovens baked bread from 5am until mid morning. “Sales were a bit slow, but people still need their bread.” The shop also had the air conditioners at full speed.  

Swimming centres at both Wollondilly and Mt Annan saw an increase in numbers during the very warm weather with the Picton facility putting on extra staff. A cool dip was the order for the day for many people of all ages.  

Even the local cinema saw a higher than usual attendance in one location, Air-conditioned centres and swimming pools were the order of the day for people seeking relief from the hot weather.  

A glorious sunset overlooking Narellan Town Centre filled the sky on Sunday following the extreme temperatures. Photo by Brittany Atkins.

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... News
**Macarthur’s singing extravaganza**

A ‘Vocal Extravaganza’ will launch Macarthur Music Club’s 2017 program. On March 4, classic music lovers will be treated to the fine vocals of Tessa Hayward - Soprano, Bronwyn Douglass - Mezzo Soprano and Matthew Reardon - Tenor performing favourites by Bizet, Charpentier, Lehár, Lehmann, Mozart, Offenbach and others.

The singers will be accompanied by director, Sharelyn Kimmorley. The concert will take place at Camden Uniting Church, John Street, Camden at 2pm. Admission is visitors $20, concession $15 and children free with paying adults. Free afternoon tea included. Bookings and enquiries call 4669 3991.

Matthew Reardon will be delighting music lovers in the first Macarthur Music Club concert for 2017.

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**NBN steams ahead in Hume**

Around 94 households around Bargo this week joined the four million premises across Australia to have access to the national broadband network (NBN).

Federal MP for Hume Angus Taylor said the switching-on of the Bargo NBN fixed-wireless tower comes as the rollout makes progress.

There are now 38,932 Hume homes and businesses with an available network service - more than double the number since October 2016.

“The NBN rollout in Hume is past the half-way point, tens of thousands of homes and businesses now connected, which is a remarkable effort in just three years,” Mr Taylor said.

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**Rotaract interest meeting**

Interested and enthusiastic young people of Wollondilly are invited to attend a Rotaract Interest Meeting with the view to establishing a club to serve both local and international communities. The Rotary Club of Picton is aiming to sponsor, support and encourage the start of a club in Wollondilly.

Rotaract is for young people aged between 18 and 30 years of age and the aim about service to the community plus volunteer work, fun, companionship and leadership responsibilities for its members whilst opening opportunities to extend contacts with other clubs around the world.

The Interest Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21 at 7.30pm in the Picton Bowling Club.

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**Summer at Thirlmere Nursery**

Advanced Shade Trees from only $35

Shade Trees in open spaces are valued at $100,000 by government departments. How much value will the right shade tree add to your home?

**Flying adventure film sets the scene**

Picton Theatre Group’s Vintage Film Day will start rolling for 2017 with the screening of ‘I Wanted Wings’.

So mark February 26 on your calendar and make an afternoon of it at Bargo Sports Club - movie goers who love the classics will certainly enjoy this one. But note this film will be screened at 12noon rather than the usual 2pm time slot.

The 1941 flick features Ray Millard, William Holden, Wayne Morris, and Brian Donlevy. It follows the training and personal lives of three recruits (a wealthy playboy, college jock, and car mechanic). The supporting cast includes Veronica Lake, which was the actress’ first major film role. Her career soon took off and Veronica Lake would go on to become one of the most popular and successful leading lady’s of the early 1940s. This film also includes a romance scenario mixed with some flying.

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Aspiring triathletes mixing with the nation's best

A select group of the region's best up and coming young triathletes recently represented the South West Sydney Academy of Sport (SWSAS) in Triathlon Australia's flagship junior racing series.

The 2017 Australian Youth Triathlon Series was held at Glenelg, South Australia and is the key national racing development opportunity in Triathlon Australia’s talent pathway for youth, junior and U23 athletes, with ages ranging from 13-23 years.

The series is designed to challenge and enhance development triathletes by pitting them against their peers and also earning series points to determine which Australian Series Point Score Champions.

Within the Australian series athletes can also compete for Australian Championship Titles in both individual triathlon and the exciting triathlon mixed relay events.

Ella Wooldridge, Erin Wooldridge, Matilda Orchard, Alecsa Austin, Cody Turner, Thomas Hine and Blake Mckenzie all packed their swim-suits, bicycles and racing shoes and were more than ready to undertake the challenge.

The local academy athletes are local progeny of the strong Mac Tri Club and are under the guidance of coach Guy Creber.

"At this particular race meet Erin Wooldridge, the younger sister of 3 time Australian Youth Championship T2 medalist Ella Wooldridge had a wonderful win in the junior 'B' girls' race.

"No doubt, Erin was very excited about her win, it was a great confidence boost to her," SWSAS sports program manager James Watson, said.

"But as it her nature, Erin almost instantly wanted to thank her coach and the other members of her squad."

Ella and her older sister are very mature and her main focus is to apply herself to the program that her coach has mapped out for her.

"And, bringing the team environment to what generally is an individual sport is something wonderful, something Guy does so well," Watson said.

Ella placed 11th in the recent National Junior Triathlon Series event held in Glenelg.

Australian Youth Triathlon Series was held at Glenelg, South Australia. Photo by Josh Brightman.
The list we all want to be on
(and what it tells us about wealth)

by John Jones

Lists of the highest paid professions can be good fun. But they also tell us some fundamental truths when it comes to making money, whether we are running a business or deciding on investments. So, take a look - we have a think about the most recent list of Australia’s best paid.

So, did your job make it onto the list of the 50 highest-paying jobs in Australia? The Australian Tax Office released the list. You can check on their website if you want to. It’s not a list to check if you have to check, you probably didn’t.

We love these lists. They always give you some interesting things to chat about over dinner. For example:

- The top 12 best-paid occupations for men are all in medicine. But the best-paid occupation for women is a judge. This comes 13th for men - even though male and female judges get the same pay.
- A male neurosurgeon earns $577,000 a year. This is the highest paid profession for men. A female neurosurgeon earns $332,000 a year. This is only the second-highest paid profession for women.

A male Member of Parliament does not make the top 50 in terms of pay. Female MPs come in 23rd.

Australian cricketers (male) earn more than paediatricians. A list should help you make a few better decisions. For one thing, if you need neurosurgery, look for a female surgeon. She is either cheaper, or less busy than a male one. These two choices are probably a good thing. What's more, you probably are better off voting for a woman than a man. Women are far less likely to need to earn more while working elsewhere. That means that parliament is a good option for a smart woman. But for a smart man, not so much. Australia’s current parliament is 71 per cent male.

You can see how lists like this can be good fun - but they can also be useful in more serious ways; especially if we are running our own business, or looking to make a successful investment. The list has much to teach us about economics. For example, almost every one of the highest paid jobs is a skill set that few people can get through all that and qualify to perform neurosurgery. High barriers to entry reduce the supply of people who can do a given job. Combine low supply with high demand and you get high prices. And why land where lots of people want to live - for Australians, this usually means near the city and the water - has long proven a good investment.

In business, if there are lots of people who can do what you do, and/or there is not much need for what you do, success will not follow. Conversely, if your business has some special capacity that few share and people need it, then you can expect to succeed.

The same goes with investment. For example, take property. You know the saying: the location is everything. But what's more, it's also everything. That is, low supply - remember, we are talking land here. The supply of apartments is much less fixed, especially high rise ones. Combine limited supply with high demand and you get high prices. Why land where lots of people want to live for Australians, this usually means near the city and the water - has long proven a good investment. And land where no one wants to live is never a good buy, no matter how cheap.

Source: ABL Financial Advice More information re this and other issues will soon be available at: abetterlife.net.au.
Skill and grace of showjumping

One of the highlights of the day schedules at the Camden Show is the equestrian program, especially the showjumping. Spectators flock to see the skill and grace of rider and horse as they manoeuvre jumps.

Showjumping began in Italy around the start of the 20th century. The Italians developed the forward riding position rather than leaning back in the saddle and this made it much easier for the horse and less tiring for the rider.

Glamour and excitement are two vital ingredients in any successful sport and showjumping has it all - action, excitement, dedication and glamour. It is a sport where men and women compete on equal terms and champions can be of any age.

This sport has emerged as an excellent test of fitness, training and courage in a partnership between horse and rider.

It is an all round test of horse and rider and designing and building showjumping courses has become a specialist art. In each class, horse and rider combinations jump a series of obstacles that may include water jumps, simulated stone walls, parallel rails, triple bars and many other variations, all designed to test the rider's skill and the horse's jumping ability. Penalties are given for faults such as knocking down an obstacle (four penalties), refusing an obstacle (three penalties) and exceeding time limits.

Horses in Australia are graded according to their experience and talent - a young horse just beginning his jumping career will begin on 0 points (D Grade) and in every official competition points will be awarded up to third place. As the horse progresses his points are tallied and once a certain level is attained then the horse reaches the next grade through to A Grade.

There are many different competitions in showjumping such as 6 bar (six jumps in a line and after each round the heights are raised), knockout stakes (two competitors against each other over identical courses) and the puissance (a brick wall that is raised after each clear round) and of course many other variations including speed, high jump and ride and drive. Throughout NSW there are many clubs which run monthly showjumping meetings ranging for beginner classes to the top level.

If you have never been to see the showjumping at the Camden Show make sure you don't miss this year's event.

For riders interested in taking part they can call the show society on 4655 8338 or visit www.camdenshow.com. Information about showjumping from Jumping NSW.

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Vet Chat

Myxomatosis infects rabbits

Dr Steven Ferguson

Myxomatosis is a viral infection of rabbits. Like all viruses the organism is minute and can only be seen under the electron microscope.

The very first signs we see after infection are puffy, fluid swellings around the head and face. 'Sleepy eyes' are a classic sign along with swollen lips, tiny swellings on the inside of the ear and puffy swellings around the anus and genitalia. Within a day or so, these swellings can become severe as to cause blindness and there may be some distortion around the face, mouth, ears and nose.

Myxomatosis is spread by blood sucking insects. A major insect parasite that transmits the disease in this country is the rabbit flea that is frequently found on wild rabbits although is less common on pet rabbits. Mosquitoes are also a major source of infection. Incidentally, myxomatosis is not easily spread by simple contact from one rabbit to another. For instance if an infected rabbit is placed in the same hutch as a healthy rabbit and neither animal is parasitised by fleas or mosquitoes, then the disease is virtually never transmitted by contact.

As the mosquito or fleabites the rabbit a small amount of the virus is placed in the skin of the rabbit as the insect sucks blood. The virus mainly multiplies in the skin around the eyes, the nose, the face, the soft skin inside the ears and also the skin around the anus and genitals of the rabbit.

Some animals may survive for weeks or months after infection but, in general, if an infection is severe in a susceptible rabbit, death occurs within 12 days.

Not all affected rabbits die - recovery is more common in pet rabbits. With aggressive treatment recovery rates may be as high as 10 per cent.

However, a word of warning - myxomatosis can be a very protracted disease and affected animals may take weeks or months to recover. Even then there may be severe scaling, scabbing and scarring on the head and body.

Flea control is important and may involve not only keeping wild rabbits away from pet animals but also use of flea control measures. Obviously, isolating pet rabbits from possible close contact with wild rabbits is sensible. Do not forget to control mosquitoes - it may be possible to use mosquito nets and insect repellent strips. Care should be taken that the bedding of animals is kept dry and that pet rabbits are not kept in moist conditions, which favour mosquito activity. Talk to your vet for more details.

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D & R STOCKFEEDS

Mick Smith

For Professional advice, talk to the team at D&R

With the extreme high temperatures beware that poultry are getting highly stressed and some may die if we don't help. The birds that survive usually go off the lay for two weeks and resultant poor egg shell quality.

To help the birds water sprinklers on the shed roof is a must for over 30 degrees and make available clean fresh cool water.

Spraying the birds with water every hour is necessary to help them bring down their body temperature. Keep them cool.

See ya at D&R

Mick

10-12 Cnr Edward & Mitchell Streets (Opposite Camden Sales Yards)
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Macarthur Veterinary Group
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6 Ironbank Ave, Camden
www.macarthurve.com.au
Health and wellbeing...

By Magnolia Bonnet

Iodine, kiwifruit and fake news

I was going to write about the iodine in our soils, fruit and veggies and how important it is for our health and the health of our children, but I was distracted by a news clip from a popular conservative tabloid published in Sydney this week. The story was about how Elijah was now flying the longest non-stop route in aviation history - New Zealand to Dubai. The article included facts, the logistics of such an amazing exploit, including, and I quote, “The daily service provides a freight...”

Now, here is the point which is really the reason for all of this talk. Iodine usually exists in naturally occurring soil, from the bedrock and also from the rain and wind. But where we have over exploited the soil by constant farming, the soils become depleted. On these depleted soils crops grow by virtue of the application of artificial fertilizers. The risk being that the crops contain no iodine. So the simple solution is to feed the soils (especially with iodine rich seaweed) and eat food from the soils which haven’t been over exploited. Otherwise get yourself some iodized table salt. Done.

Best start to the school year

If school was challenging last year, perhaps because your child felt socially isolated, was teased or had trouble learning, it is important to get in early to make 2017, much more productive. You can help to improve their emotional, social and academic lives by starting the New Year with a positive attitude and focus on what is possible. As parent’s we need to re-evaluate to see if new strategies are needed.

Life matters

Just because the holiday period is over, does not mean we should not take a break till next Christmas. Short holidays help us revive, survive and keep going. When we become emotionally and psychologically exhausted and burdened with the stresses of daily living it is important to take time out. We may be part of the workforce or unemployed, we may be parents, grandparents or carers of aged and or disabled people. If we don’t help ourselves by taking time out we are not in a position to help others nor are we in a position to give our best effort.

Take a moment - take a day - take a break. Don’t forget to take time out and if you may well avoid stress induced illnesses for wellbeing.

Staying healthy by Dr Sandra Cabot

A good start to the school year

Macarthur Country Meats

Camden Saver Pack ONLY $65
1 kg Chicken Pieces
1 kg Lamb Chops
1 kg Thick Sausages
1 kg Premium Mince
1 kg Grilling Steak
1 kg Pork Chops
ONLY $2.70 PPPM (Approx. 24 individual meals in this pack)

Butcher’s Choice Pack ONLY $125
1 Leg of Lamb
1 kg Sifton Steak
1 kg Pork Spare Ribs
1 No. 15 Chicken
1 kg Lamb Chops
1 kg Round Steak
1 kg Mince
1 kg Thin Sausages
ONLY $3.90 PPPM (Approx. 32 individual meals in this pack)

Family Meat Pack ONLY $90
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1 kg Round Steak
1 kg Lamb Loin Chops
1 kg Pork Chops
1 kg Chicken Drumsticks
1 kg Mince
ONLY $3.75 PPPM (Approx. 24 individual meals in this pack)

Bulk Freezer Pack ONLY $230
1 kg Rump Steak
1 kg Frying Steak
1 kg Pork Chops
1 kg Chicken Breast Fillets
1 kg Lamb Grillers
1 kg Thick Sausages
1 kg T-Bone Steak
1 kg Lamb Loin Chops
1 kg Mince
1 kg Lamb
1 kg Crumbled Steak
10 Cutlets
PLUS 1 kg Flassoes + 1 Dozen Eggs
ONLY $4.10 PPPM (Approx. 56 individual meals in this pack)

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Life matters

Short holidays for wellbeing

Nicole Milatos

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When we become emotionally and psychologically exhausted and burdened with the stresses of daily living it is important to take time out. We may be part of the workforce or unemployed, we may be parents, grandparents or carers of aged and or disabled people. If we don’t help ourselves by taking time out we are not in a position to help others nor are we in a position to give our best effort.

Sleep and rest are vital and rejuvenating. Literature shows that our brain waves enter different cycles when we rest and this allows us to heal. There is also plenty of research around the benefits of relaxation exercises and meditation.

I strongly recommend a website named “Smiling Mind” which can provide a new relaxation exercise each day and is now an app to help us maintain optimal emotional and psychological health and wellbeing.

With so many destinations in this beautiful country we live in - a short break can be as much fun as fancy hotels and resorts.

If we can’t get away, even a camping trip in our backyard is just as good or a day out or a day in.

Don’t forget to take time out and if you are a carer you may consider some temporary respite care for your loved one. This may mean you get away or simply even just catch up on a good night’s sleep. Many organisations like PC nurses, rehab and day centre offer temporary respite. Take a moment - take a day - take a break.

Nicole Milatos from the Temora Medical Centre is a Senior Psychologist of the Paramedical Centre, providing services to adults, couples and children for over 30 years across Sydney, the Southern Highlands and Tablelands.
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- Attractively timbered
- Watered from 2 dams
- Good location with easy access to Camden, Picton & the M5

For Sale
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- View: By Appointment
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DEATH NOTICES

PEMBERTON, Phyllis Joan 07.02.2017
Late of Camden. Goodmate of her husband Norman. Loving and caring mum to her children, Nan Gran - Gran and great-grandchildren. ‘Goodbye is not forever. Goodbye is not the end. It simply means I miss you, until we meet again.’

VIRGINIA, Judi Ann 01.02.2017
Late of Thirlmere. Very dear sister, mother and grandmother.

WALKER, Paul Eric ‘Dick’ 05.02.2017
Late of Narellan. Treasured father of Michelle, Paul & Phillip. Cherished brother. Much loved uncle & great uncle. Aged 75 years. ‘Will never be forgotten’

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MULLENS 08.02.2017

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Phone: 0411 115 977, Lic. 71721.

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Sitters 140 kg – 210 kg $3.45 - $4.50
Light Vealers to Trade 160 kg – 260 kg $3.02 - $4.00
Heavy Vealers to Trade 260 kg – 350 kg $3.05 - $3.92
Year Vegs to Trade 350 kg – 450 kg $1.10 - $4.60
Heavy Steers to Trade 450kg – 550kg $0.95 - $3.50
Buttlicks $0.12 - $0.54
Riffs $0.02 - $0.60
Light Cows $1.70 - $2.10
Heavy Cows $2.09 - $3.34
Weaners Steers 180kg – 280kg $3.85 - $4.50
Weaners Heifers 180kg – 280kg $2.75 - $3.85
Feeder Steers 300kg – 400kg
TOTAL YARDING 380 HEAD (last week 385)

14/2/2017 CAMDEN FAT STOCK REPORT

Pigs
Trade Trend
Heavy Backfatfers $210
Light Backfatfers
Heavy Bacon
Light Bacon
Heavy Pork
Light Pork $80 - $125
Weaners & Growers $35 - $50
TOTAL YARDING 132 HEAD (last week 110)

Friday, February 17, 2017  The District Reporter 15
El Caballo Blanco, a forgotten past

By Dr Ian Willis

Catherine Fields once boasted a national tourist facility which attracted thousands of visitors a year to the local area, the El Caballo Blanco entertainment complex. The El Caballo Blanco complex opened in April 1979 at Catherine Fields. The main attraction was a theatrical horse show presented with Andalusian horses, which was held daily in the large 800-seat indoor arena.

The El Caballo Blanco complex at Catherine Fields, according to a souvenir brochure held at the Camden Museum, was based on a similar entertainment facility at the Wooroloo, near Perth, WA, which attracted over a quarter of a million visitors a year. It was established in 1974 by Ray Williams and had a 2000-seat outdoor arena. The horse show was based on a similar horse show (ferias) in Seville, Jerez de la Frontera and other Spanish cities.

The programme of events for the horse show at Catherine Fields began with a parade, followed by a pas de deux and then an insight into training of horses and riders in classical horsemanship. This was then followed by a demonstration of dressage, then a session 'on the long rein' where a riderless horse executed a number of steps and movements. There was a Vaqueros show (a quadrille) then carriage driving with the show ending with a grand finale. All the riders appeared in colourful Spanish style costumes.

The indoor arena was richly decorated in a lavishly rich style with blue velvet ceiling drapes and chandeliers. The complex also had associated stables and holding paddocks, with-in a Spanish-Moorish setting the stables had brass fittings and grilles, based on the design from star cases at Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas.

The horse show at Catherine Fields was supplement with an ancillary Australiana show which consisted mainly of sheep shearing and sheep dog trials, while a miniature horse show was introduced in the late 1980s. The also boasted a variety of rides (train, bus, racing cars, paddle boats, and ponies), a carriage museum, a small Australiana zoo, picnic facilities, water slides and swimming pool, souvenir shop, shooting gallery, restaurant, snack bar and coffee shop, and car parking.

Emmanuel Margolin, the owner in the 1989, claimed in promotional literature that the complex offered an ideal location for functions and was an educational facility where children could learn about animals at the zoo, dressage, and botany in the gardens. At the time the entry charge was $10 for adults, children $5 and a family pass $25 (2A + 2C), with concession $5.

A promotional tourist brochure held by the Camden Museum claimed that it was Sydney’s premier all weather attraction. It was opened seven days a week between 10am and 5pm.

By the mid-1990s the complex was struggling financially and in 1995 it was put up for auction, but failed to reach the $5 million reserve price. The owners at the time, Emmanuel and Cecile Margolin, sold the 88 horses in July, according the Macarthur Chronicle. By this stage the complex was only open on weekends, public holidays and school holidays.

The last performance of the horse show at Catherine Fields was held in 1998. Unfortunately by 2002 the good times had passed and the horses agisted on the site, according to the Camden and Wollondilly Advertiser, were part of a “forgotten herd” of 29 horses that roamed the grounds of the complex. It was reported that they were looked after by a keen group of Camden riders.

Worse was to come when in 2003 a fire destroyed the former stable, kitchen and auditorium. The fire spread to the adjacent paddock and meant that the 25 horses that were still on the site had to be re-located. It was reported by Macarthur Chronicle, that Sharyn Sparks the owner of the horses was heart-broken. She said she had worked with the horses from 1985 and found that the complex was one of the best places in the world to work. She said that the staff loved the horses and the atmosphere of the shows.

El Caballo Blanco at Catherine Fields in 1980s (Camden Images)

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El Caballo Blanco at Catherine Fields in 1980s (Camden Images)

El Caballo Blanco Spanish Horse Show Catherine Fields 1980s (Camden Images)