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Whisper Trivia

1. What do you call the visible part of the rivet commonly found on the pockets of jeans?
2. What is the main profession of Nintendo character Luigi?
3. The term “Grand Prix” was first used in a motor race in which country?
4. What guitarist notably performed on the Michael Jackson song “Beat It”?
5. What year did the comedy sketch TV show, “Saturday Night Live,” debut?



Answers:
1. The burr
2. A plumber
3. France
4. Eddie Van Halen
5. 1975

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Missed the Whisper?
If you live in Aberdeen you should receive a copy of the Whisper but unfortunately, for whatever reason it may not get to your Letterbox. If it does happen you can collect a copy from the Aberdeen Post Office. Thank you for your understanding.

A big thank you to the Warrior Disability Service staff, parents and participants for delivering your Whisper. The service offers people with disabilities choices through group activities, one-to-one support, and in-home support. NDIS registered. Sally Pereira is the Director of Participant Services. The office is situated at Shop 12 Brook Street Plaza, Muswellbrook, 0432 680 936.



Earle’s Column

continued on page 8

A TRUE SERVANT OF THE COMMUNITY
Since the Ordinary Meeting of Council on the 28th September, I’ve been asked several times, “Why does the Upper Hunter Shire Council have a new mayor?” In short, my answer has been ‘I don’t know.’

UHSC doesn’t have a popularly elected mayor. That is, the general electorate does not get to cast a vote for their preferred candidate for mayor at the four-yearly local government general election. So, the Local Government Act provides that at the first Ordinary Council meeting after the declaration of the poll, the newly elected councillors are required to elect a Mayor and a Deputy Mayor but only for a term of two years. Then, at the half-way point of the term, the positions of mayor and deputy mayor are declared vacant and councillors are required to go through the process again.

Maurice Collison has served on the Upper Hunter Shire Council since 2012. He became Deputy Mayor before being elected as Mayor in 2020. Maurice has led the Council through some very testing times in these last six years. He has borne the brunt of some brutal criticism, often from anonymous ‘keyboard warriors’, over contentious issues in Council. Through all of that, he has fearlessly advocated for our Shire in Newcastle, (at meetings of the Hunter Joint Organisation), at State Parliament in Sydney and also at the Federal level in Canberra. He has regularly devoted more than three days in a week to critical Shire matters. In responding to criticism, Maurice has done so with grace.

Maurice had been publicly clear, that in 2028 he would retire from serving his community on Upper Hunter Shire Council. As the election in September approached he said to me that he would like to finish his term as Mayor and complete a couple of, as yet, unfinished projects.

So, I remain unable to offer a clear explanation to the question that I’ve been asked several times. I hope that self-interest hasn’t triumphed over the decency of allowing a true servant to complete his service on his own terms.

Make of that what you will.

SMACKED!
Rural and regional councils have been under severe financial pressure for a very long time. Often, they occupy very large geographic areas and have a very small population. Upper Hunter Shire Council perfectly fits such a description, which contrasts with some of the large metropolitan councils or even the large regional cities, that have a large population packed relatively densely into a comparatively small area. Consequently, UHSC is heavily dependent on grant revenue from State and Federal sources.

About a month ago, there was considerable delight at Council when the NSW Local Government Grants Commission, (LGGC), advised a change to the methodology governing grant allocations that would have seen UHSC gain an additional $1.9 million per annum, desperately needed to maintain services in the shire. Councils were asked to comment and UHSC replied it was broadly in support but suggested some additional modifications. Our confidence was high. Consultation closed on Friday 9th October and at the Commission meeting on Tuesday 13th it was announced that the 102 submissions had been evaluated and a decision made to maintain the status quo, i.e. no change! The LGGC offered no explanation of the remarkable effort to evaluate more than 100 submissions in little more than one business day! The major metropolitan councils, including the City of Newcastle and the City of Lake Macquarie, who do not face anywhere near the financial stresses that we face and have other sources of revenue such as street parking charges, have very clearly exerted substantial political influence to ensure no redistribution of funds occurs.

Yet again, political power, greed and influence have shoved aside equity and

Happy to hear from you

If you know someone in your community that has an interesting story to tell, who’s doing some interesting things - we’d love to hear about it. Chances are if you think it’s interesting - others will too - and we’re always open to ideas for stories, or features here.

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NSW GOVERNMENT

New England Renewable Energy Zone
Have your say on the environmental impact statement

EnergyCo is planning the New England REZ network infrastructure project to connect renewable energy projects to the electricity grid and deliver reliable power to homes and businesses across NSW.

The environmental impact statement (EIS) is now on exhibition. It explains how the project could impact people and the environment during construction and once operational.

View the EIS and make a submission via the NSW Planning Portal: **planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects** and searching SSI-74175972.

Upcoming events

EnergyCo will host a series of community information sessions in local venues across the New England region during the exhibition period.

Everyone is welcome to attend a drop-in information session to learn more about the EIS and speak with the project team.

Visit **energyco.nsw.gov.au/nerez** to find out where you can meet the project team and learn more about the project.

Learn more

Visit **energyco.nsw.gov.au/nerez** to view the interactive EIS map, fact sheets, register for webinars and learn more about the EIS and key topics.

If you have questions, you can contact us on 1800 061 114 (toll free) or by emailing **nerez@energyco.nsw.gov.au**. We look forward to hearing from you.

C6155

WHAT'S ON AT
ABERDEEN SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB





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Sports

Against the Bias

Christine Constable's journey began fifteen years ago at the Aberdeen Bowling Club. At first, she played for the joy of it and the camaraderie , but soon her competitive spirit began to stir.

Over the years, Christine became a fixture in local competitions, winning across all disciplines. Yet, she felt the pull toward greater challenges Joining the Maitland City Club was her leap into greater challenges. Almost immediately, she found herself matching stride with seasoned bowlers, her confidence growing. with each game.

Last month, her dedication bore fruit at the Australian National Titles. Partnering Carolyn Nelson, she claimed victory in the para pairs, and together they helped NSW secure the coveted state title. Just weeks earlier, she had teamed with Janine Katon to win the NSW Over 60's Pairs, a triumph that propelled them into the final four of the Champions of Champions.

But Christine's path was far from smooth. A condition in her hand made gripping the bowls impossible without assistance. Many would have seen it as a barrier; with determination, she adapted her technique, relying on precision and strategy rather than sheer physical control. Her resilience paid off when she captured the state senior pairs title despite her handicap.

When asked about her success, Christine's answer was simple: dedication and practice. "I practice every second day," she said,. "Mostly with my husband Paul—he's improving," she added with a smile.

For Christine, lawn bowls is more than a sport—it's a testament to perseverance.



Events

Festival of Words, Scone

There's a particular kind of joy and hope that comes with evolution—when something you've cared for grows into something bigger than you first imagined, and you realise you need to give it a name that matches what it's become.

For years, we've gathered our community around the Scone Literary Festival, a name rooted in the celebration of the written word. But over time, something wonderful has happened. The Festival has become a constellation of voices, all kinds of voices, speaking and singing and storytelling in every form imaginable.

That's why I'm delighted to announce that this year, we're stepping into our next chapter as the Scone Festival of Words.

MORE THAN WORDS ON A PAGE

This new name carries who we are now, not who we were.

We've always known that story matters—but we've discovered that story shows up everywhere. It arrives in a podcast episode shared in someone's commute. It emerges in a poet's verses, in a journalist's investigation, in a politician's conviction. It lands in a comedian's punchline, in an actor's embodiment, in a singer's voice. It moves through the advocacy work of those brave enough to speak what needs saying. Provides Workshops so our audience is well armed with words and up skilled in the process.

The new name sparkles in the conversation of a three-year-old discovering the world, and it deepens in the wisdom of our elderly community, who've lived whole chapters we're still turning pages in.

The Festival of Words, Scone honours all of this. All of them, everybody.

ROBUST, FUN, PURPOSEFUL

We're a town that asks: what story would you like to explore? And then we do—without flinching. No issue is too big, too prickly, too obscure, or too random for us to gather around and engage with together. That's part of what makes Scone, in these few days every second year, a place where real conversation happens. Where connection is made. Where we remind each other that we're not alone in what we wonder about, what we care about, what we dare to imagine.

ROOTED, GROUNDED, REACHING

This new name brings our past along with it. We would not be here—we would not be—without the foundations that the Scone Literary Festival laid. Those early days, that vision, that commitment to bringing people together through story: that lives in every word.

And from that solid grounding, we're free to imagine boldly. To shape what's next. To stay relevant, to stay planted firmly in our calendar—that first weekend in March, every second year—and to keep the Festival growing in colour, curiosity, hope and connection.

2027 IS CALLING

I can feel it already. The energy. The conversations starting. The storytellers thinking about what they want to share. And I know we're in for another fabulous few days. I can share there will be a Community Singalong, Poetry and prose breakfast, change makers, storytellers and more in the mix!

Whether you're three or ninety-three, whether you've been with us since the beginning or this is your first time stepping into our tent, whether you're here to tell your story or to listen to someone else's—you belong here.

Welcome to the Scone Festival of Words.

Supplied by Sal O'Regan

President, Festival of Words, Scone

Council

Upper Hunter Council Focuses on Community Needs

STUDENTS RECOGNISED THROUGH MAYOR FOR A DAY

More than 500 entries were received from 10 primary schools across the Upper Hunter Shire for the 2026 Mayor for a Day competition.

Held as part of Local Government Week, the competition invited students to share ideas for improving their communities through a postcard or short essay. School winners, their families and principals attended a presentation announcing the overall winner and runner-up.

COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGES LONG-SERVING STAFF MEMBER

Council put forward formal recognition of Margaret "Marg" Casey for her longstanding contribution to the organisation.

Marg began her career with the former Merriwa Shire Council before playing a key role in integrating records and information technology systems following amalgamation in 2004.

As Information Services Coordinator, she has continued to lead improvements in information governance, document management and technology, including the recent transition of two major business systems to cloud-hosted environments.

SUPPORT FOR CHRISTMAS ON KELLY

Council resolved to fund the traffic management required for Christmas on Kelly 2026 in Scone, recognising the event's contribution to local businesses, town-centre activity and community engagement.

The support includes traffic planning, traffic controllers, temporary road closures, signage and safety infrastructure. Council will also investigate a fair annual funding allocation for Christmas events across the Shire, with future funding arrangements to be considered through its next Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

CALL FOR FAIRER GRANT FUNDING

Council has expressed disappointment with the NSW Government's decision not to proceed with proposed changes to the distribution of Financial Assistance Grants. It intends to write to the Minister for Local Government and the NSW Grants Commission, asking that the reform process continue and submissions be properly assessed.

Council previously supported a revised funding methodology, recommending improvements to better recognise the costs faced by smaller councils servicing large geographical areas. The Grants Commission confirmed the existing methodology will remain in place, with a revised model potentially reconsidered for the 2029–2030 council term if additional funding becomes available.

FINANCIAL REPORTING AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Council considered arrangements for signing its 2025/2026 Annual Financial Statements before independent auditing. A public presentation of the statements is proposed for the Council meeting on 30 November 2026. Separate arrangements will apply to the financial statements of Gummun Place Hostel.

The Scone Neighbourhood Resource Centre also presented its planned activities for 2026/2027, highlighting its contribution to community wellbeing through programs, events and support services, alongside Council's ongoing funding and in-kind assistance.

Other decisions included appointing alternate Councillor representatives to eight advisory committees covering community facilities, Australia Day events, youth music and traffic management.

CULTURAL GRANTS ENDORSED

Cultural Activity Grants totalling $14,645 were endorsed for the 2026/2027 financial year to support community projects and activities. Council will review the program's funding criteria for 2027/2028.

Supplied.

Events

Upper Hunter Quilt Adventure

So many people came together so we could hold the Upper Hunter Quilt Adventure. Hanging them and keep that paperwork in order, sharing the Facebook posts and telling their friends. We were all amazed that visitors dropped in from London, Adelaide, Sydney, Cessnock, Maitland just to name a few. Some had cleverly googled "what's on in Scone" and made us part of their weekend away. The support of our locals was great.

It was lovely to look out and see people having morning tea and lunch with friends and family on lawn of the Arts & crafts. The Wybong Hall Caters have done it again.

Winner of the Viewer's Choice - Congratulations Heather Anderson from Singleton. Heather won a $50.00 We Live here voucher. Heathers quilt was "Natures Paint Box".

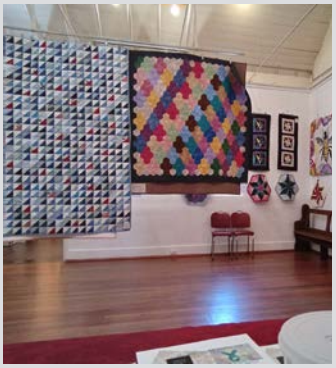
Once again Anne March shared the quilts that she has made to donate to the homeless. There were over 60 quilts on display, as well as table runners from the Brenda Burgess workshop held earlier in the year.

A big thank you to our talented quilters, your generosity to loan your quilts for the weekend is appreciated. Quilts came in from Murrurundi, Scone, Aberdeen, Muswellbrook and Singleton they were beautiful what talent we have in our Valley.

RAFFLE WINNERS

1st Prize Basket: Maria Ross
2nd Prize Two River Voucher: Alison Collins
3rd Prize Pukara Estate Gourmet Gift Pack: M Watson
4th Prize Pukara Estate Gift Voucher: Danny Thompson
Thank you for the donations from Pukara Estate and Two Rivers.
The raffle has raised over $650.00 for Ovarian Cancer research and we hope awareness.

Supplied by Elizabeth Birch.



Quilts on Display



Natures Paint Box



Drawing the Faffle



Winner of Raffle

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WHAT'S ON AT
ABERDEEN EX-SERVICEMEN'S CLUB





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Earle's Column

continued from page 2

fairness in LGA funding. Upper Hunter Shire Council has communicated its dissatisfaction with, not only the decision, but also the apparent superficial 'evaluation' of 102 submissions.

AND AGAIN!

The exceptionally contentious transmission line project that connects the New England Renewable Energy Zone to, firstly Bayswater, and then linking with the Hunter-Central Coast Renewable Energy Zone to transmit electricity down to the major metropolitan areas to the south is being "bulldozed" through the planning system as a 'State Significant Infrastructure' project. This means that UHSC will have virtually no effective planning input on the substance of the project. Our influence will extend only as far as development activities impact 'associated' shire responsibilities such as roads and other council services.

The proponent, EnergyCo, a NSW Government entity has submitted the required Environmental Impact Statement to NSW Planning.

It is quite some statement.

THE SUBMISSION EXCEEDS TEN THOUSAND PAGES.

That's twenty reams of copy paper! And the law says that it is on public exhibition for 28 days until 12th November. That means that any person or organisation is required to review more than 10,000 pages if they wish to make a well-considered submission, either positive or negative.

The simple reality is that EnergyCo has had many months, probably rolling into years, to prepare this document, with the aid of a variety of specialist consultants.

Those who will have to cope with the severe impacts of this project on their homes, their businesses and the destruction of thousands of hectares of native bushland get 1 month. This scenario means that there is not even a 'playing-field' that one might wish to consider to be 'level'.

Throughout the process of the alleged consultation on this project, EnergyCo have employed what may best be called "opaque transparency". Certainly, they have consulted but have consistently ignored the very legitimate issues raised by landowners, whose properties will be radically impacted. When asked to justify their reasoning they have refused to provide any substantive evidence or studies to support their position. It is not unreasonable to describe EnergyCo's attitude, (and by extension the NSW Government), as arrogant contempt for, not only, Upper Hunter Shire but also the Walcha and Uralla Shires.

UHSC has written to the relevant authorities seeking an extension of one, (1), additional month to prepare a response to the EIS. As of 26th October, Council had not received a reply. Call me cynical if you like, I have very little confidence that either an extension will be granted or that legitimate concerns will be properly addressed.

So, now faceless planning officials with absolutely no understanding of the impact this project will have on our Shire and on those to the north of us will declare an outcome. There is NOTHING democratic about the manner in which this project is being prosecuted. What happened to that long-held Australian virtue of a 'fair go'?

Sports

Aberdeen Tigers Announce Their 2027 Committee

The Aberdeen Rugby League Football Club (ARLFC) has confirmed its committee for the 2027 season following its Annual General Meeting, thanking members and supporters for their ongoing commitment to the club.

Luke Foley will serve as President, with Jacob Dallah as Vice President. Anna Fenton has been appointed Secretary, while Linda Wilkinson will continue as Treasurer.

The incoming committee includes Steve Lambley as Ground Manager, Daph Tanner as Canteen Manager, James Drayton as Registrar and Andrew Burton as First Aid Coordinator. Other appointments include Anna Fenton as Licensee and Public Officer, Jacob Dallah and Jackson Bridge as Table Officials, and Luke Foley and Jhi Tanner as Group 21 Representatives and Sponsorship Coordinators.

Jacob Dallah will also oversee social media, while Sue Milton will serve as club Patron.

General committee members are Albert Albury, Caitlin Albury, Sue Milton, Shane Hasselman, Jeff Drayton, Jason Power, Zabia Power, Kristal Foot, Uiti Baker and Daniel Hoogerwerf.

The club also acknowledged outgoing President Jhi Tanner, thanking him for his leadership and dedication over the past two years. His contribution has played an important role in supporting the club and keeping the Tigers moving forward.

The club congratulated the incoming committee and thanked everyone who continues to support the Aberdeen Tigers, looking ahead to a successful 2027 season.

Supplied.

Schools & Education

St Joseph's Catholic College

AIDAN NAMED VET STUDENT OF THE YEAR FINALIST

St Joseph's Catholic College in Aberdeen is celebrating student Aidan, who has been selected as a finalist for the Catholic Schools Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Vocational Education and Training (VET) Student of the Year Award.

The award recognises students who demonstrate the qualities of an outstanding vocational student, including passion, skill, persistence, commitment, communication and initiative. Catholic Schools Maitland-Newcastle recognises vocational education and training as an important pathway to further study and employment, allowing students to apply their learning in real-world environments.

The winner will be announced at the 2026 Diocesan HSC Awards Ceremony in 2027. The college congratulates Aidan on his achievement and wishes him all the best for the awards.





BUSY TERM FOR ST JOSEPH'S AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

St Joseph's Catholic College's Agriculture Department has had a busy end to the term, with students taking part in several events showcasing their skills and experience in the agricultural industry.

The team helped cater at the Annual Elite Poll Herefords Bull Sale, achieved strong results at Quirindi Show and joined St Mary's Show Team for a Mock Holiday Show Day. Students also participated in the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza over the weekend, with results to be shared by the college at a later date. The college congratulated all members of its Cattle Show Team for their commitment and hard work throughout the events.

Supplied.

State Matters with Dave Layzell MP

SEIZURE LAWS

NSW Police Force Traffic and Highway Patrol Command has put e-bikes users on notice that new seizure laws came into effect from 21 August. Not all e-bikes sold in Australian shops or through online retailers are legal for road use.

E-bikes that operate at higher speeds, have high-powered motors even if restricted by software, or do not require pedalling cannot be used in public places.

Apart from ensuring that your e-bike is legal, e-bike riders must follow the same road rules that apply to regular bicycles. This includes wearing a helmet, not carrying more passengers than the bike is designed for, and complying with footpath riding rules. If you are 16 years of age or older and are not supervising a child under 16 years of age who is riding a bicycle, you cannot ride on the footpath.

Remember, if you ride a non-compliant e-bike in a public place it can be seized and destroyed, so check the rules:www.police.nsw.gov.au/safety_and_prevention/crime_prevention/e-bikes_and_motorised_wheeled_devices

PREMIER'S SCHOLARSHIP

Germany, Belgium and France will be the locations for the 2027 Premier's Anzac Memorial Scholarship study tour. Applications are now being called for three teachers to accompany up to 18 students from around NSW on the trip.

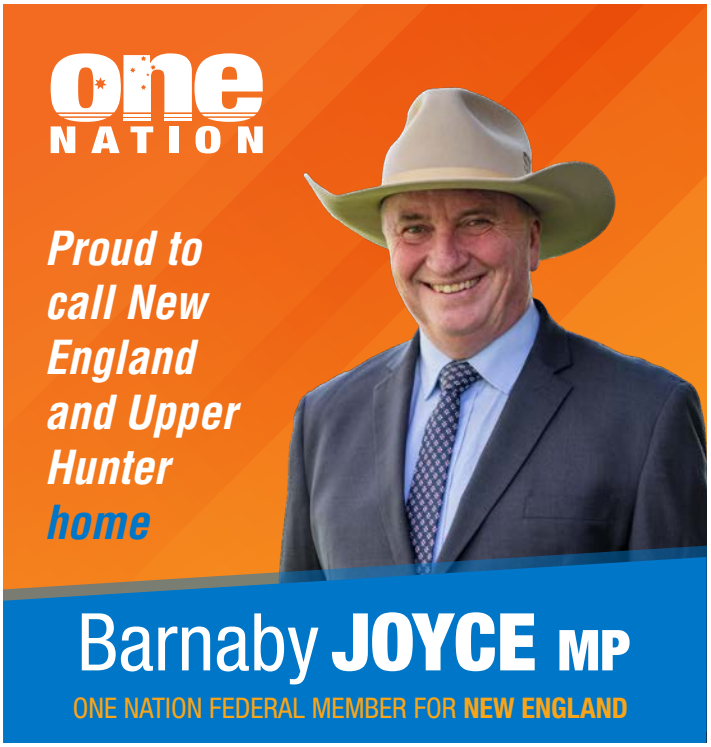
The two-week tour to deepen understanding of Australia's military service and sacrifice during the First and Second World Wars includes participation in commemorations, visits to museums, war memorials and significant historical and cultural sites.

The 2027 tour will take place in the Term 3 school holidays to coincide with the 85th Anniversary of the Greece and Crete campaigns in 1941.

Teachers of Stage 5 History and/or Stage 6 Modern History are encouraged to apply for the role of Accompanying Teachers by 23 November: https://veteransaffairs.smartygrants.com.au/PAMS2027Teachers

Student applications for those in Year 10 or 11 and studying History or Modern History in 2027 are expected to open in February next year, with students able to register their interest at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BFXMB5B

Supplied.



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Agriculture

The Creation of a New Upper Hunter Community Landcare Group *by Doctor Dirt*

We welcome community members to join us in the newly formed Landcare Group the "Upper Hunter Community Landcare'. We intend to assist the area and community by building a sustainable future, protecting natural resources, improving ecosystems of native plants and wildlife, research, detailed education workshops, community events and working bees.

We intend not to limit our work and engagement to catchment boundaries; a good project or issue will be considered for assistance. The Upper Hunter environment or community is not bound by local geological constraints. Several initial priorities have been tabled at our initial meetings. They include education seminars, invasive weed control, feral animal control assistance, supporting ecosystems improvement, protection of habitats, assisting gardeners promoting native habitats, native flora establishment, native nesting boxes, sustainable agricultural practices, public areas and waterway improvements, working bees and community events.

Please consider joining us and contributing to our inspirational, passionate, proactive community group. The group is striving to achieve ecological and agricultural sustainability. This month please join us at the Public Meeting events Sunday 1 to 2 pm 15th November Sporting Club Scone and a working be Sunday 2 to 4pm - 29th November at Scone Sporting Club to clean up a section of the Creek adjacent to the Clubs car park where we will meet.

For further information you can contact Ian on 0448248404 or email us on upperhuntercommuniutylandcare@gmail.com.

We look forward to joining and participating in any capacity with the group.

Supplied by Steve Eccles.





MACHEnergy

Mount Pleasant Operation

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Dave Layzell MP

MEMBER FOR UPPER HUNTER

HOW I CAN HELP YOU

As your State MP I can make enquiries and representations on your behalf for matters involving NSW Government departments and agencies.

Upper Hunter Electorate Office

94 John Street, Singleton NSW 2330

(02) 6543 1065 upperhunter@parliament.nsw.gov.au

THE NATIONALS for Regional NSW

Authorised by Dave Layzell MP, 94 John Street, Singleton NSW 2330
Funded using Parliamentary entitlements.

Gloucester
Dungog
Singleton
Muswellbrook
Aberdeen
Scone
Broke
Branxton
Luskintyre
Lorn
Bolwarra
Maitland Vale

Clubs & Community

Aberdeen Pony Club Members Saddle Up for a Busy Season

It's nearly the end of another busy pony club year and our wonderful pony club members haven't slowed down yet.

We hosted ring 2 for the Aberdeen Campdraft, this day was full of some fantastic results for our pony club members as well as many riders who joined in on the fun competition.

This year Aberdeen Pony Club sponsored a award at the Aberdeen Campdraft "Aberdeen Pony Club highest scoring rider " - this year it was won by Emity Croft and Quinn.

October rally day was a mixture of flat riding, polocross and a swim at the river. A big thank you to Leila Markham and Lee Tonkins for instructing.

Sophie Stafford and Erin Wilson attended the Showjumping Championships at Singleton and came home with a swag of ribbons.

ISHE in Tamworth was another event where Molly McCosker, Emity Croft, Lacie Hall, Erin Wilson and Sophie Stafford competed against a large number of children.

Between these events the majority of the committee and their families have been busy campdrafting. A big shout out to Jess and Frankie Carrigan, George, Kayla, Louie and Hattie Lee-Warner, Brendan, Sarah, Flynn and Willow Bates, Graham, Lexie and Chase Aird, Treen and Molly McCosker, Courtney and Lacie Hall, Amy and Erin Wilson and Emity Croft. Congratulations on all the recent wins and placings.

In the next article I will include the results from Zone 7 Jamboree. Next rally day is the 15th of November with details to follow. Please note the change in date.

Supplied by Amy Croft.





PRINT SPOTLIGHT

Supporting local businesses through quality printing, signage and design

Roma Orchard: Driving Their Brand Forward



A family legacy, brought to life on the road.

With a history spanning more than 100 years, Roma Orchard is a family-run property nestled in the picturesque Upper Hunter, offering accommodation, camping, weddings and events, alongside locally produced apples, wines and ciders.

Hunter Valley Printing was proud to produce custom vinyl vehicle decals for Roma Orchard, helping bring its branding onto the road and increase visibility wherever the vehicle travels.

Vehicle decals are a practical way to promote your business on the go, turning everyday travel into an opportunity to build brand recognition.

Project Snapshot
Client: Roma Orchard
Industry: Agriculture, Tourism & Hospitality
Project: Custom Vinyl Vehicle Decals

Want your business to go places?
From vehicle decals to signage, banners and business stationery, Hunter Valley Printing can help your brand stand out.

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Mining Development

Several significant decisions in the past week will help the Upper Hunter transition beyond coal mining. New planning controls for Mt Arthur Coal Mine in Muswellbrook identify two areas for industrial development, with access to major highways and the existing rail loop. Around 800 hectares have been identified for early activation. Land will only be released once rehabilitated and confirmed safe, stable and non-polluting, with future projects subject to individual development assessments.

Meanwhile, the Future Jobs Investment Authority will be established following the NSW Parliament's passing of the Future Jobs and Investment Bill 2025. The Hunter and Central West will be the first of four Local Divisions, bringing together representatives from workers, industry, local government and the community.

The initiative is backed by $29.7 million in ongoing funding for the Authority and more than $170 million through the Future Jobs and Investment Fund.

Supplied.

Cellarbrations

JUST SOME OF OUR SPECIALS COMMENCING
MONDAY 2ND NOVEMBER TILL SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2026

XXXX GOLD STUBBIES & ULTRA STUBBIES & CANS		$ 52.00
HAHN SUPER DRY 3.5 STUBBIES		$ 56.00
HEINEKEN & SILVER STUBBIES		$ 56.00
CARLTON DRY 24 STUBBIES & CANS		$ 58.00
HAHN SUPER DRY & ULTRA STUBBIES	$ 59.00 – LOYALTY	$ 57.00
CARLTON DRY 3.5 30PK CANS		$ 60.00
POETS COUNTRY LAGER 30PK CANS		$ 62.00
GREAT NORTHERN SUPER CRISP 30PK CANS		$ 64.00
VB STUBBIES & 24 CANS		$ 64.00
TOOHEYS NEW & ULTRA 30PK CANS	$ 65.00 – LOYALTY	$ 63.00
GREAT NORTHERN ORIGINAL 30PK CANS		$ 69.00
SOMERSBY 10PKS	$ 26.00 – LOYALTY	$ 24.00
MATSOS VDK 4PKS	$ 22.00 EA OR 2 FOR	$ 40.00
BROOKVALE G/BEER 6 PKS		$ 28.00
KIRIN HYOKETSU MANGO 440ML 4PKS		$ 30.00
BUNDY RUM 4.6% 10PKS		$ 50.00
HARD RATED 6% 10PKS	$ 52.00 – LOYALTY	$ 50.00
WILD TURKEY 4.8% 10PKS	$ 52.00 – LOYALTY	$ 50.00
JAMESON 6.3% 10PKS		$ 59.00
CANADIAN CLUB & JIM BEAM CUBES		$ 100.00
CRUISER DBL 4PKS		$ 28.00
BUNDY OP & COLA 6% 6PKS		$ 47.00
J/DANIELS & COLA 10PKS		$ 57.00
CANADIAN CLUB ORG 37% 700ML	$ 49.00 - LOYALTY	$ 47.00
JIM BEAM WHITE LBL 700ML	$ 49.00 – LOYALTY	$ 47.00
SMIRNOFF RED 700ML	$ 49.00 – LOYALTY	$ 47.00
SIERRA TEQUILA BLANCO 700ML	$ 55.00 – LOYALTY	$ 50.00
MAKERS MARK BOURBON 700ML		$ 59.00
BUNDY RUM RED & UP 1LTR		$ 70.00
ABSOLUT VODKA 1LTR	$ 74.00 – LOYALTY	$ 72.00
JACOBS CK CLASSIC 750ML WINES	$ 11.00 EA OR 2 FOR	$ 20.00
DE BORTOLI 4LTR CASKS (EXCL PORT)		$ 22.00

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