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# News Of The Area

# NEWS

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**March Koalas**  
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**Around the base**



**School**  
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**Open Day**



# Left, Right, Left

TWO high school students are in final preparations for a European tour with the Hunter Region's Marching Koalas.

By Heather SHARP

**MATILDA** Logvyn (14) who plays the flute and Jamie Pont (13) who plays the trumpet will embark on a 16 day, 3 country tour through Germany, Austria, and the Czech Republic performing with the band along the way.

Both are former Medowie Public School students and now attend San Clemente, Mayfield and will be part of the tour that includes performing at Austria's famous four-day

music festival, Woodstock Blasmusik; the biggest event in the region for brass and woodwind musicians.

During the 16 day tour of which there are 55 Marching Koala musicians traveling, 10 performances will be given to European audiences.

Amongst their repertoire is Thriller, James Bond movie theme songs, and the Australian classic, Waltzing Matilda.

CONTINUED Pg 2



STAR STRUCK SIBLINGS: Emilee and Matthew Pedder, of Medowie, poised to dazzle the crowds at the 2016 Star Struck performance at Newcastle Entertainment Centre

## Star Struck duo are ready to go

By Jenny BAXTER

AUDIENCE members at the annual Star Struck production were dazzled by the multitude of talent on offer during the 2016 performances.

Students from public schools right across the Hunter took part in the production, with matinee and evening performances being held on 17-18 June at Newcastle Entertainment Centre.

The performances were the culmination of several months' worth of preparation and rehearsals.

Scores of dedicated teachers and over 3600 dedicated students, supported by their loving

families, collaborated to present the biggest show yet, since the program's inception in 1992. For Medowie siblings Emilee and Matthew Pedder, it was a rewarding opportunity to showcase their talents.

CONTINUED Pg 3

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# Preparation for the European tour

FROM Pg 1

When asked if it is difficult to learn to play an instrument, march, and perform all at the same time both Matilda and Jamie agreed that it takes a lot of practice to do the three actions simultaneously.



PHOTO 1: Musicians, Jamie Pont and Matilda Logvyn prepare for their European tour.

James, a trumpet player for the past 5 years, told Medowie News Of The Area that he is "looking forward to going to different countries and seeing how people live; it's going to be an exciting trip."

Matilda, who has been playing the flute for 7 years, told Medowie News Of The Area she is looking forward to traveling because she likes to "meet new people; having different experiences and it's a good way to get to know different members of the band when we are together for such a long time."

The Marching Koalas have been busy fundraising for the trip; selling chocolates and raffle tickets for a prize donated by Gullivers Music Travel.

The Hunter Region's Marching Koalas meet for rehearsals each Tuesday, 6-9pm, at the Jesmond campus of Callaghan College. For more information about the band, or to join, please contact Geoff Lynch on 0416 486 711 or access their website: <http://hrba.org.au/marching-koalas-2/> or [www.marchingkoalas.org.au](http://www.marchingkoalas.org.au)

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# Port Stephens Council to issue Flood Certificates

IT is now a whole lot easier to access information about the flood risks of properties across Port Stephens.

Port Stephens Council will issue Flood Certificates from 1 July 2016, allowing property owners, developers and potential property owners to apply online for all the information they need to know on one piece of paper for a small fee.

Sally Callander, Council's Draining and Flooding Engineer, said the potential for flooding from rivers, creeks and the ocean exists in many parts of Port Stephens, and has been reinforced with recent weather events. "These certificates will

provide a better picture of the flood risks of individual properties," Mrs Callander said.

"One of the most common enquiries we get is from people wanting to find out what the flood risk is for their property, and until now we could only provide limited information in response to the questions they asked us.

"Now, because of improved flood mapping, we can quickly and easily access a range of information about particular properties, including the potential flood levels, and provide it in a snapshot for property owners."

"Council often receives development applications for flood prone land that don't factor

the risk of flooding, and we have to advise the applicant to revise the design or the plans to incorporate that," she said.

"This results in costly time delays or trips back to the architects to draw up new plans.

"The new requirement will identify at the very start of the process whether flooding is an issue for new developments, and save a lot of time and money for our customers."

To determine whether a property is flood prone and if a flood certificate is available for a particular property, people are encouraged to first refer to Council's Flood Hazard Mapping on the website.

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# Siblings in the annual Star Struck production



**PERFORM:** Emilee Pedder of Medowie  
**FROM Pg. 1**

With the pair featuring in no less than 7 dances between them, Emilee (Year 10) and Matthew (Year 8), both students of Hunter

School of the Performing Arts, the lead up months have certainly been hectic for the Pedder family.

Emilee said, "It's such great fun. I love getting to make so many new

**PERFORM:** Matthew Pedder of Medowie

friends and to catch up with friends I've had for years, such as the friends I had at Wirreanda Public School, because we now all go to different high schools."

For younger brother Matthew,

**By Jenny BAXTER**

he was thrilled to be one of only three Year 8 students chosen in the Senior Contemporary Dance ensemble.

"It's the highest dance group there is.

"There's junior, intermediate and senior, so I was shocked to be chosen for the senior group," he said.

"That was definitely the biggest highlight of this year's show for me."

Matthew also enjoyed the opportunity to perform with live music.

"Wednesday was a rehearsal in the Hall of Industries, but Thursday was a full technical rehearsal.

"It was the first time we'd got to rehearse with the live music and in full costume.

"It's a lot different than performing to recorded music."

For these well-spoken, enthusiastic teenagers, it's certain they have an optimistic future ahead of them.

Currently they are rehearsing for roles in the Hairspray production to be performed next month.

The pair will feature on stage alongside the likes of Australian icons Christine Anu (Aria Award winner), Simon Burke (Playschool and Mary Poppins) and Wayne Scott Kermond (Anything Goes and Singing in the Rain).



## Community Grants available for non-profit groups in Port Stephens

**By Jenny BAXTER**

Is your local community group always talking about that 'one day, when we win the lottery'?

Have you got plans for an upgrade or extension? Is there a new program you'd love to set in motion, if only you had the money to back it?

Well now could be the time to take action.

All local not-for-profit organisations are being invited to apply for funding grants from the NSW State Government.

Funds can be used for infrastructure or capital works projects or for equipment.

Applicants are required to be incorporated, and must be not-for-profit.

Requests for grants of \$2500 or above will be

considered, as part of the official application process.

Local Member for Port Stephens, Kate Washington, said she encourages all local groups who think they are eligible, to apply.

"This grant program is an excellent opportunity to for local groups to fund much needed upgrades and repairs.

I have recently met with a number of the 2015 recipients and inspected the new equipment and facilities this grant has funded.

It is fantastic to see local groups successfully applying for funding and seeing their efforts come to fruition." 2015 saw 12 separate

groups from Port Stephens share in approximately \$300,000.

Recipients included Port Stephens Women's Crisis and Support Group, Medowie Football Club, Karuah Public School P&C and Anna Bay Public School.

Applications for the 2016 Community Building Partnerships Grant Program opened on 13 June and close 5pm 22 July.

For further information go to [www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au](http://www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au) or email Kate Washington on [portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

2015 RECIPIENTS: Kate Washington with Anna Bay PS students on the new equipment partly funded by a Community Building Partnerships Grant.

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# DVD Hire Shop is set to close

By Heather SHARP



**DVD:** Local child, Elizabeth Kilday surveys the remaining DVDs available to purchase before the shop closes.

While no longer able to hire DVDs, locals are able to purchase store copies of films, TV shows, games, and associated film paraphernalia such as posters until the end of the financial year, June 30.

**WHAT** can be seen as a sign of the digital times' age, Medowie's only DVD and games hire shop is closing its doors at the end of the month.

Main Street Video, located in the Ferodale Road Plaza, has been under its current ownership for two years and will cease trading as the business is "no longer

viable" shop worker and sister of the current owner, Liz, told Medowie News Of The Area.

For long term residents, the close of the business will be a big change in the area, the DVD hire shop having been on the same premises, under various names including

Network Video and Video Ezy for over 20 years. With such slow internet speeds, and no NBN planned for Medowie in the near future, locals may have to travel to Raymond Terrace and elsewhere to hire a film; a regular Friday or Saturday evening activity for many young families.

**SELECTION:** Two local children, Elizabeth Kilday and Michael Kilday go through the remaining DVDs available to purchase before the shop closes.

## Candidates competing for Paterson seat for July 2 polls

**WITH** the Federal election only weeks away, seven candidates will be running for the seat of. Karen Howard, Liberal, John Brown for the Greens, Peter Arena, Christian Democratic Party, Meryl Swanson for Labour, Peter Davis represents the Citizens Electoral Council, Graham Burston is the candidate for Pauline Hanson's One Nation and Brian Clare will represent

the Rise Up Australia Party. The seat of Patterson has had its boundaries re-distributed to be only one sixth of its original area. The boundary is now 1,123 square km's in size. It includes Port Stephens, Lochinvar, Raymond Terrace, East Maitland, most of Maitland and Kurri Kurri. This re-distribution has seen the original 9.8% liberal

favouring margin change to a 0.4% labour favouring margin. Voting can now be done by either numbering 6 boxes above the line or at least 12 numbers below it. For younger residents who are unsure if they are enrolled to vote, you can check on the AEC website. It is now too late to enrol if you have not already done so There are currently

112, 575 residents enrolled to vote in the Paterson division. As voting is compulsory for every Australian resident over 18, there are a range of ways for people to vote who may not be able to get there physically. A valid and sufficient reason for not voting must be presented, or a fine will be distributed. The election will be held on 2 July.

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# Call for to re-evaluate the merger

By Jenny BAXTER

## Port Stephens and Newcastle Council merger

**FEDERAL** Liberal candidate for the seat of Paterson, Karen Howard, has called on the NSW State Government to re-evaluate the merger between Port Stephens Council with Newcastle Council.

In a statement released by Ms Howard, she said, "Until I spoke out on behalf of the people of Port Stephens, on 11 May, the proposed merger was almost guaranteed to go ahead."

She claims the government has now undertaken a community consultation process to canvas the views of a Port Stephens/Dungog merger and cites 'a plethora of joint tourism opportunities' as one of the many advantages.

Ms Howard said, "I met with the Port Stephens Council General Manager, who made it abundantly clear to me that many residents and businesses within the Port Stephens local government boundaries could be significantly and negatively impacted by the proposed merger with Newcastle."

"Port Stephens Council have taken a mature and sensible approach in considering the position of the State Government and the Premier's goals in the process to research and develop an alternative option to the Minister's merger proposal," said Ms Howard.

"I applaud Port Stephens

Council for unanimously resolving to formally initiate a merger with Dungog Shire Council if its preference to stand alone in not an option under the State Government's local government reforms."

"I stand shoulder to shoulder with the Port Stephens community on this issue," she said.

State Member for Port Stephens, Kate Washington, agrees with the alternate suggestion for a Port Stephens/Dungog solution, should the stand alone option be rejected.

She said, "Everyone remains of the view that Port Stephens should be allowed to stand alone."

"If forced to merge, the general view is that Dungog is the better fit."

She goes further to say, "Unfortunately, there is a sense of inevitability that our community wishes will again be ignored and that ultimately, we will be forced to merge with Newcastle Council."

"I fear that we are all wasting our time - yet again - engaging in a sham consultation process."

Karen Howard suggests that residents and groups wishing to make a submission on the merger, should do so by 5pm Sunday 26 June, via [www.strongercouncils.nsw.gov.au](http://www.strongercouncils.nsw.gov.au)

# NBN roll out

LABOR'S NBN policy will leave residents in Paterson waiting longer and paying more for broadband, Liberal Candidate for Paterson, Karen Howard, publicly said last week.

"Under Labor's NBN you'll wait longer," Ms Howard said.

According to Ms Howard, she feels Labor's NBN policy will slow down the rollout in key areas that the News Of The Area newspapers at Medowie and Myall Coast circulates.

Ms Howard said, "Lemon Tree Passage, Mallabula, Medowie, Salt Ash, Tanilba Bay, Williamtown, Hawks Nest, Pindimar and Tea Gardens because they will dig up everyone's front garden and driveway - despite technologies being available that avoid this."

"Labor's NBN policy means these locations could be waiting until 2022 to connect to the NBN," she said.

"Under a Coalition Government they will have the NBN over the next two years."

"Monthly internet bills are also set to rise under Labor, because their policy costs \$8 billion more than the Coalition's."

"Under Labor's last mismanaged rollout, just 289 premises in Paterson were able to connect to the NBN. Under the Turnbull Coalition Government, this has increased substantially to 6,428 premises able to connect in Paterson. Minister for Communications Mitch Fifield said Labor's already tried and failed to deliver the NBN," Ms Howard said.

# The RAAF jets take their formation manoeuvre practice



**THREE** Hawk 127 jets from Number 76 Squadron will be conducting formation manoeuvring overhead Royal Australian Air Force Base Williamtown on Friday, 24 June.

The flying will take place at approximately 12:00pm in support of Number 50 and 51 Introductory Fighter Course graduations and Number 76 Squadron Family Day activities.

The aircraft will form Echelon, Victory and Arrowhead formations including a 'bomb burst'.

A solo Hawk 127 will then separate from the flying formation and conduct an aerial display over the Base before joining the remaining jets to conduct a simulated 'airfield attack'.

The solo handling display will be conducted at 200 metres above ground level and fly at speeds up to 1000km/h.

In addition, a formation of up to six aircraft will conduct a low 'initial and pitch' during the same flying sequence.

Residents should note that these dates and times are subject to change due to operational requirements. Noise reduction and the environment are vital considerations in the planning and conduct of military activity. Air Force appreciates the ongoing support of the Port Stephens community during these training activities.

For further information on Royal Australian Air Force Base Williamtown flying activities, members of the community are encouraged to ring Royal Australian Air Force Base Williamtown on 1800 033 200.

**PHOTO:** A No. 3 Squadron F/A-18 Hornet touches down at RAAF Base.

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# School Open Day is set to impress

## Medowie Christian School will open to the Community

By Heather SHARP

**MEDOWIE** Christian School is set to welcome the community this Saturday, 26 June between 1.30 and 3.30pm at its annual Open Day.

It is an opportunity to see what goes on at Medowie's only school that caters for students from Kindergarten up to year 12 of high school.

Principal Mr Simon Herd told Medowie News Of The Area, the school "caters for a safe learning environment for every student and treats them as an individual; we aim to bring out their creative elements, academic, and sporting; giving students the opportunity to showcase their talents."

Ms Jackie Hays, Marketing Coordinator of the school told Medowie News Of The Area the Open Day is a "chance for the community to come and see the wonderful facilities of the school."

Community members can also learn more about what the school is currently offering students in the curriculum, including information about the Board of Studies, Teaching, and Educational Standards (BOSTES) approved three year Senior program: year 11 in one year, and spreading year 12 across two years.

The three year Senior school option provides a way for students to pursue a variety of interests without being unduly stressed by the HSC examinations.

Medowie Christian School has also been granted special permission by BOSTES for the HSC examinations to be held on the school grounds; a relief for students as they are able to sit their exams in familiar surroundings.

Throughout the Open Day, visitors can go on guided tours of the school, featuring many of the school curriculum activities, including: Japanese students in kimonos serving tea; the state of the art Gym equipment available, scones being cooked in the food tech area and can be sampled at the end of the tour; agricultural plot used by students from all grades to grow and sell vegetables.

"Developing the students as a whole person, while also committed to academic excellence" is very important to the school, Ms Hays said.

On the day, visitors can see the plans for the new building that will commence shortly, which will include facilities for metal work, wood work, science lab, theatre, sports science centre, and a Stage 6/Year 12 Common Area.

Although the Open Day occurs once a year, Mr Herd told Medowie News Of The Area he wants to "encourage and remind people we are open every day for people to see our amazing staff and students."

For more information about the school, access their website: <http://medowiecs.nsw.edu.au/>



**READY TO MEET:** Medowie Christian will showcase its facilities at the Open Day: Elizabeth Patton, Year 10 and Tani Broadhead, Year 8.

## Young voters encouraged to get involved with election

"I've had a look at the candidates but I haven't fully decided who I'm going to vote for. I don't think many people my age know or care about the election."

By Simone JOHNSON

**ONLY** 71% of 18-year olds and 83% of 19-year-old Australians are enrolled to vote this year.

These numbers have jumped since enrolments closed, originally only being 51% and 76% consecutively. 18-24 year olds are the highest demographic of voters missing from the electoral roll.

There's 254,000 young Australians in that age group who won't be voting this year. According to statistic released in May, the amount of young people not enrolled to vote could have the power to

swing up to 10 marginal seats in the election.

First time voters are being encouraged to get involved with the election and consider preferred political parties.

The Australian Electoral Commission has enabled an interactive, practice voting section on their website.

This is designed to help residents who may not have voted before and are concerned with how it works.

18-year old Medowie resident, Hayden Cox told News of the Area,

"In my opinion, not many

political parties do things to appeal to the 18-24 year old audience as they often don't show any interest," he said.

Young people are encouraged to look at the Paterson candidates and elect someone they think will benefit them.

The 18-24 year old demographic have different wants and needs to their parents, and are more concerned with things such as the NBN and education.

Without the younger demographic voting, it is unlikely that their needs and wants will be met.



**VOTE WISELY:** Hayden Cox considering the election candidates

# Pilot program P-TECH launch for school and local businesses

By Jenny BAXTER



TOGETHER: Karen Howard along with Hunter River High staff and students, Minister for Education and Training Simon Birmingham along with local business representatives at the P-TECH announcement

P-TECH will see a collaboration between Hunter River High, and locally based Williamtown (and surrounding area) businesses such as BAE Systems, Varley Group, Jetstar Airways, Ampcontrol and other local aerospace industries, aimed at providing new pathways for students to link to future employment opportunities. The pilot program is one of 12 new Pathways in Technology (P-TECH) being promised by a re-elected Turnbull Coalition Government. This, and other similar programs, are being directed at improving employment outcomes and delivering stronger results in STEM performance (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

Federal Liberal Candidate, Karen Howard, was on hand to help launch the official program recently. "A program like P-TECH at Hunter River High is a practical way the Coalition is combining technical and vocational skills with school and industry partnerships to tackle the challenges of youth unemployment and to help more young people into work," Ms Howard said. "By boosting science, technology, engineering and mathematics skills the Turnbull Coalition Government is preparing our children for the jobs of the future."

Minister for Education and Training, Simon Birmingham, has said, "Around 75 percent of Australia's fastest-growing industries require STEM

skills but unfortunately the performance of Australian students in Mathematics, science and reading has declined in recent times. This is despite government investment in education increasing nearly 40 percent over the decade to 2012-13. With youth unemployment at 11.3 percent in Newcastle and 18.9 percent in the Hunter Valley, this P-TECH pilot at Hunter River High is designed to help young people develop the skills they need for the jobs of the future." The P-TECH program comes as part of a promised \$4.6 million commitment by the Turnbull Coalition Government to develop greater links between schools and businesses in local communities.



# Medowie Rural Fire Service volunteer recruitment

By Jenny BAXTER

HAVE you ever watched television footage of bushfires threatening homes, or of flood waters inundating properties, and noticed the countless volunteers in the background defending against them?

Have you ever wondered what it takes to be one of those volunteers, or thought "I'd like to do something to help out"?

Well now could be your chance.

Medowie Rural Fire Brigade, a volunteer organisation, has a proud history of serving the community since 1946.

With the brigade having grown in recent years to provide three modern fire fighting vehicles, the local arm of the RFS currently has 35 active members.

This number is set to grow, with the group presently

embarking on a recruitment drive.

Medowie RFS not only assist in the event of bushfires, they also attend other incidents, such as house fires and motor vehicle fires and accidents.

They also provide essential services to the community by providing fire related information and assistance.

Brigade Captain Andrew Collins said, "The brigade has for many years enjoyed a strong membership and has been capable of turning out multiple crews regardless of the time of day.

"However, it is always important to keep an eye on the future."

"It takes time to train and mentor new members to a point where they are

proficient, and as with every journey, it starts with the first step."

Community members with an interest in joining are invited to attend an information session to be held at the Medowie RFS Station on Tuesday 28 June, at 7pm.

"We are particularly looking for members who are available during normal weekday hours," said MRFS member Ken Johnson.

If you would like help deciding if this is a volunteer role for you, or you'd simply like more information, contact Medowie RFS by emailing Medowie.RFS@outlook.com

Arrangements can also be made this way for those who are interested, but not available to attend the information evening.

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**Letters**  
Let us know what is on your mind  
medowie@news-of-the-area.com.au

LETTERS and opinion are to be emailed to us by 12 noon Monday's for consideration in upcoming editions. Let us know what interests you, what upsets you, what could be better in our area, what is great within our area, what needs to be communicated and open for public discussion. Letters can be emailed to: medowie@news-of-the-area.com.au Alternatively, letters may be submitted via our news website being: www.news-of-the-area.com.au Or you may post us your letter to, Letter To Editor, PO Box 1000, Raymond Terrace NSW 2324.

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# News Of The Area ticket giveaway to Taronga Zoo



**WOMBAT:** You will see Taronga's new Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat joey, Kibbar

**TARONGA** Zoo visitors will join a very select group of Australians who've seen a flock of rare Regent Honeyeaters when they visit the Zoo these July School Holidays.

Your local News Of The Area has not one, but two Family Passes to giveaway valued at over \$130.00 each. It's easy to enter. Will tell you in a moment.

At the Zoo, the Blue Mountains Bushwalk with its towering sandstone walls and limpid pools is home to about 50 of the tiny black and gold birds, along with over 20 other species from endangered Brush-tailed Rock-wallabies to Dollar Birds and Turtles.

This beautiful exhibit is like a slice of the Blue Mountains bush transported to Taronga and even features modern Aboriginal rock art and a tumbling waterfall.

The Regent Honeyeaters are one of the Zoo's Centenary Legacy species which Taronga is committing to support

for the next 10 Years. They will also be breeding more Regent Honeyeaters to be released next year at Chiltern in Victoria.

Mornings are a great time to see the birds as they swoop through the bush in the exhibit, where the famous dinosaur tree, the Wollemi Pine, also grows along the cliffs.

Taronga's new Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat joey, Kibbar, can be seen at Backyard to Bush nearby, occasionally exploring outside her night den.

There are over 30 free keeper talks and presentations including Taronga's famous Seal and Free-flight Birds presentations, along with taking a ride on the Sky Safari cable car to get a bird's eye view of the Zoo and Sydney Harbour.

The Zoo's best view is from the Wild Ropes course where kids and adventurous parents can clamber through the four courses available,

all the while overlooking the Harbour.

There are lots of exciting building projects under way too and the Kids at Work program these school holidays will offer our youngest guests the chance to design their own zoo exhibit inspired by the Zoo's new Sumatran Tiger Adventure which is being built now.

**HOW TO ENTER?:** News Of The Area has two Family Pass to give away.

Simply take a photo (even a selfie) of

- 1) YOU,
- 2) YOUR PET (if you have one), and
- 3) a copy of the News Of The Area (newspaper or news stand).

Email your photo to Medowie@news-of-the-area.com.au

You can also send us your entry though our website [www.news-of-the-area.com.au](http://www.news-of-the-area.com.au) or through our Facebook page.

Entries close on Sunday 3 July 2016 at 5pm.

# Water rates may raise in July

**LAST** week's IPART determination will see a significant increase in water prices for Hunter residents. The determination, which will come into affect from July 1, will see the average household water bill increase by 18.2 per cent or an extra \$193 a year by 2020.

A pensioner would face a water and sewerage bill increase of \$132 a year (around 19.8 per cent).

The price determined by IPART is far in excess of the increase sought by Hunter Water - which had asked for a \$69 increase for pensioners over the same

period.

This massive increase in water bills in the Hunter comes at the same time that the Government announced a \$100 decrease in water bills for Sydney Water customers.

While the Government held a large media conference yesterday in Sydney congratulating themselves for water bill reductions for Sydney Water customers there was no sign of the Government in the Hunter to explain to residents here why they have to pay so much more.

While customers have to pay more for their water

rest assured that the NSW treasury is the big winner.

During Budget Estimate hearing in September Hunter Water admitted that the Government will increase the dividend taken from the corporation by more than 40 per cent.

In 2014-15 Hunter Water paid \$21.3 million to the State Government.

This year it's forecast to be \$29.9 million, a massive increase of \$8.6 million.

From 2014 to 2017 the NSW Government has demanded that Hunter Water hand over \$80 million in dividends from Hunter Water.

# Community forum to meet the Paterson line up

**SALT** Ash Community First, Williamtown and Surrounds Action Group and Fullerton Cove Action Group held a Paterson candidates forum earlier this week.

**By Simone JOHNSON**

The event was on Tuesday at 6.30pm at Hexham Bowling Club.

Each candidate was given 10 minutes each to speak about the Williamtown Contamination, draining, CSG and environmental issues.

There was no question time at the end of each speech.

Residents had the opportunity to mingle and ask questions with each

candidate afterwards.

The MC for the evening was Mr Lindsay Clout, President of Fullerton Cove Action Group.

Candidates made a presentation addressing what they intend to do about the contamination, if elected, areas of support for local families and their stance on the open coal seam gas licence and sand mining.

Julie Bailey, secretary of Salt

Ash Community first told News of The Area, "All the local action groups,

Williamtown and Surrounds, Fullerton Cove and Salt Ash Community First have worked tirelessly to put this together for the community to have the chance to hear what our Paterson Candidates are going to take to Canberra on behalf of their constituents."

# New Entrance for RAAF Base

A spokesperson for the department of defence told News of The Area, 'Defence and its managing contractor for the RAAF Base Williamtown Stage 2 redevelopment project, CPB Contractors, are working collaboratively with the Port Stephens Council and NSW Roads and Maritime Services to finalise the designs.'

**By Simone JOHNSON**

THE Department of Defence are currently working towards improving the entrance and access points to the Williamtown RAAF base.

A new 24/7 base entrance will be constructed along Medowie road, approximately 80m north of the existing base entrance.

The construction will include a new set of traffic lights and a turning lane.

The existing Southern base entrance will also

receive renovations in order to improve base access and better address traffic management issues.

A spokesperson for the department of defence told News of The Area, 'Defence and its managing contractor for the RAAF Base Williamtown Stage 2 redevelopment project, CPB Contractors, are working collaboratively with the Port Stephens Council and NSW Roads and Maritime Services to finalise the designs.'

The plan hopes to 'achieve the best outcome for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians,' they said.

The road works are currently affecting Medowie Road, taking the speed limit down to 60km/h.

Drivers are encouraged to allow extra time and show caution when passing the RAAF base.

Construction work at the base is set to take place in two different stages, finishing in late 2019.

# MEDOWIE

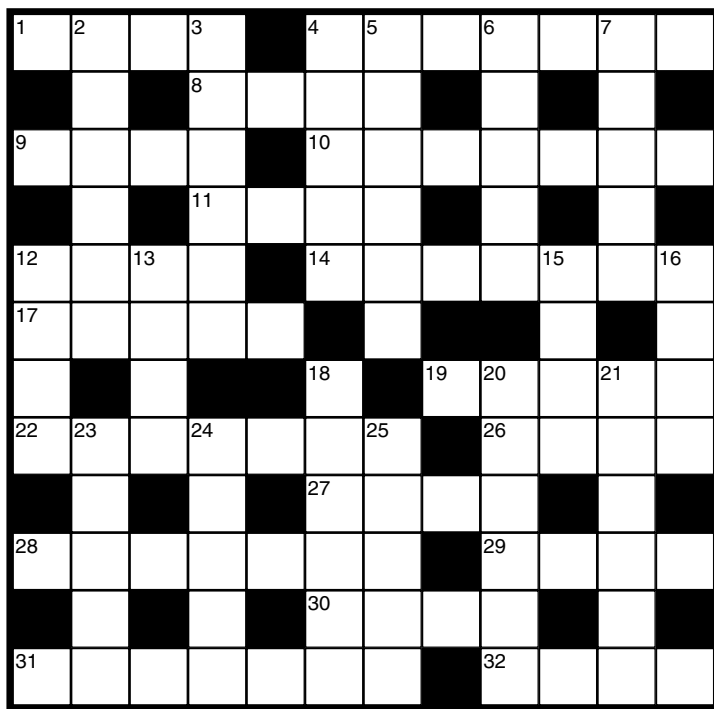
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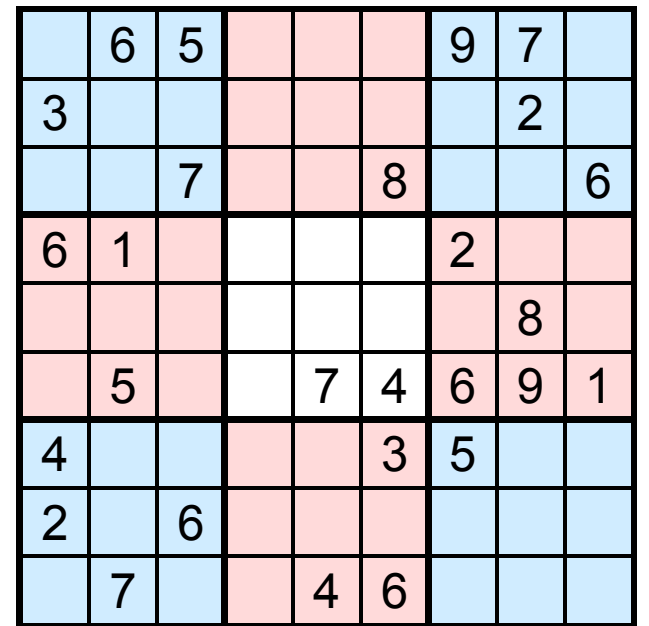
**Goldstar Crossword 17604**



- Across**
- 1 Nee
  - 4 Pertaining to vision
  - 8 Colour
  - 9 Inclination
  - 10 Reddened
  - 11 Hard work
  - 12 Welfare
  - 14 Having made a will
  - 17 Flower
  - 19 Nervous
  - 22 Encourages
  - 26 Headland
  - 27 Cultivate
  - 28 Stuck
  - 29 Ages
  - 30 Split
  - 31 Antedate
  - 32 Turfs
- Down**
- 2 Supposes
  - 3 Snuggle
  - 4 Regular course
  - 5 Young hen
  - 6 Insert
  - 7 Watchful
  - 12 Homeless child
  - 13 Particle
  - 15 Top
  - 16 Finishes
  - 18 Affirm
  - 20 Bays
  - 21 Isle
  - 23 Command
  - 24 Correct
  - 25 Edge along side-wise

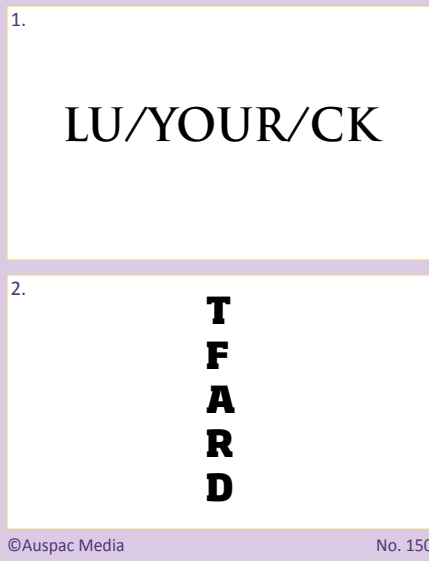
**Classic Sudoku 150**

To solve the puzzle, all the blank cells must be filled in using numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and in the nine 3x3 blocks.



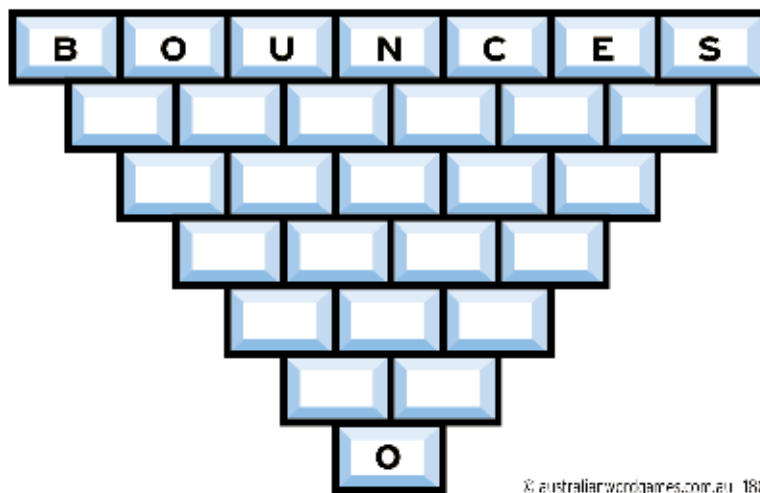
**Explorawords**

Can you find the hidden meaning in the picture puzzles below?



**Stepdowns**

Starting with the seven-letter word, drop a letter, rearrange if needed to form a six-letter word. Continue in this manner until you reach the lone letter at the bottom. Your solution may differ from ours.



**Palindrome Puzzle**

A word, phrase or sentence that reads the same backward or forward e.g. A man, a plan, a canal, Panama

Living in Nevada and having no friends, this person's nickname is a palindrome



**ANSWERS:** Answers to this week will be published in next weeks edition

**Solutions LAST WEEK** Puzzles and pagination © Auspac Media

**GOLDSTAR CROSSWORD**  
 Across: 1. Richer, 5. Amigo, 8. Merge, 9. Walrus, 10. Oaten, 11. Swing, 12. Isis, 13. Irate, 16. Amazed, 18. Pursue, 20. Seeps, 22. Vial, 23. Seems, 25. Robin, 26. Eerily, 27. Daunt, 28. Level, 29. Thence.  
 Down: 1. Rawhides, 2. Calliope, 3. Emus, 4. Reswims, 5. Agonize, 6. Meagre, 7. Greet, 14. Addition, 15. Employee, 16. Arsenal, 17. Augment, 19. Upside, 21. Erode, 24. Seth.

**EXPLORAWORDS**  
 1. Ginger snap.  
 2. Swivel Chair.

**STEPDOWNS**  
 Cameras, scream, scram, mars, arm, am, m.

**PALINDROME PUZZLE**  
 Panda had nap.

**CLASSIC SUDOKU**

5	6	9	7	8	4	1	3	2
4	2	8	1	5	3	9	6	7
1	3	7	2	9	6	4	8	5
6	1	3	8	7	5	2	4	9
7	9	4	3	2	1	8	5	6
2	8	5	6	4	9	7	1	3
8	5	1	9	3	7	6	2	4
9	4	6	5	1	2	3	7	8
3	7	2	4	6	8	5	9	1

**Didyknow!** - May be fact, may be fiction. You decide.

- Didyknow!** an ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain
- Didyknow!** lemons contain more sugar than strawberries
- Didyknow!** 8% of people have an extra rib
- Didyknow!** 85% of plant life is found in the ocean
- Didyknow!** Ralph Lauren's original name was Ralph Lifshitz
- Didyknow!** rabbits like licorice
- Didyknow!** the Hawaiian alphabet has 13 letters
- Didyknow!** 'Topolino' is the name for Mickey Mouse Italy
- Didyknow!** a lobsters blood is colorless but when exposed to oxygen it turns blue
- Didyknow!** armadillos have 4 babies at a time and are all the same sex
- Didyknow!** reindeer like bananas
- Didyknow!** the longest recorded flight of a chicken was 13 seconds

**Funny bit**

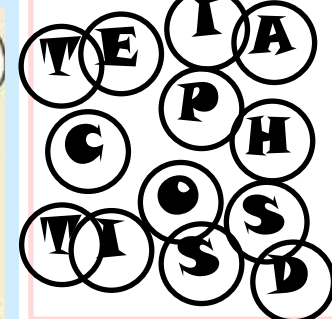


**Quote**

Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Til your good is better and your better is best.

St. Jerome

**How many words?**



Can you make more words than us? Each letter can only be used once. **No plurals, no proper nouns and no foreign words. No 2-letter (or under) words.** Email us your answers to us: news@mcnota.com.au There is at least one 13-letter word.

The 8 letter word last week was **Elastic**

**Reading**

**Revelation 3:17**

You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

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**Tips for Preparation for your Court attendance:**  
 by Mark Sullivan Part 1 of 4

**What to wear:** There are no rules about what to wear in court but you need to be as relaxed as your circumstances allow. The court is a formal place so you should dress neatly and respectfully- and if you would not get into your local club because of what you are wearing, then it is more than likely unsuitable for court.

**Children at court:** For obvious reasons, courts are not appropriate places for children. We want you to be focused and as relaxed as your circumstances allow. Therefore, for most court attendances you will need to make other arrangements for your children's care when you come to court. This includes having a Plan B for getting them to and from school if it is an early start or risk of a late finish, or if they are under school age.

**Personal safety:** If you have any concerns about your safety while attending court, call 1300 352 000 before your court appointment or hearing and if we are acting for you, tell us. Options for your safety at court can be discussed and request for arrangements can be put in place. There are security officers on the ground floor at the court and they can give assistance also.

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# 'It was fantastic for our Club'

## SOCCER

FROM Page 12

Immediate past President of Medowie FC, and well-known local GP, Dr Paul Burford led the committee that applied for the grant.

The club's situation was quite dire when they applied for the grant last year.

Due to a lack of funds, the field had not had the necessary upkeep over at least five years.

Current President, Ms Cheren Hall, told News Of The Area that during the 2015 season, "We couldn't always get on the oval due to torrential rain; we had to reschedule some of our games and play at Raymond Terrace, which is not ideal for our club."

The \$15 000 they were awarded, combined with additional Port Stephens Council funds, meant that Yulong Oval the Club's home ground, could be top-soiled, levelled, trenches cleared and dug, storm water diverted, and the sprinkler system repaired.

Mr Michael Sloane, Secretary of the Club told News Of The Area, "It was fantastic for our club. We hadn't had any ground improvements in five years; there was a lot of negativity last year due to the cancellations of games and this had an impact on morale."

Mr Sloane said, "The Council has been really great, the Club is now in a great position, the best it has been in for a long time."

With over 400 members,

catering for all ages from Under 5s to over 35s, and a strong presence in children's, women's, and men's competitions, the Club is in a good position for 2016 and beyond.

Indicating the success of the ground improvements, during the current season no games or training sessions have been cancelled despite a few episodes of heavy rain.

More information about the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership Grant, including how to apply, can be found at: [www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au](http://www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au) or through the State Member's office: [portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

# Local Notices

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Ensure your **NOTICE** is in the **N.O.T.A.**  
The weekly newspaper where LOCALS LOOK!

Public Notices	For Sale	Items	Caravans
<p><b>Medowie Pharmacy</b> Baby Clinic starting Tuesday 7 June. 9:30am - 12:30pm each week. Free, no appointment is necessary</p> <p><b>AGM NOTICES</b> Ensure your Organisation's AGM is in the NOTA. Phone: 4983 2134</p> <p>Or email <a href="mailto:medowie@newssofthearea.com.au">medowie@newssofthearea.com.au</a></p>	<p><b>OUTDOOR</b> gas heater. Heats large area. gas bottles \$60 Ph 0432661797</p> <p><b>CLASSIFIEDS</b> in the News Of The Area <a href="http://newssofthearea.com.au">newssofthearea.com.au</a> Or (02) 4983 2134</p> <p><b>RIDE-ON</b> Mower John Deere. Good Cond. \$1000ono Ph 49979783</p> <p><b>STOVE</b> 600mm LPG stainless. Very gd cond. \$200 Ph 49979783</p> <p><b>SURFBOARD</b> Al-Merrick Kelly Slater K-Step up. 6'8 X 18 3/4 X 2 1/2. Excellent Condition. \$300. Paul 0414690791.</p> <p><b>TECHNICS</b> Organ with stool \$250. Ph 0428970662</p> <p><b>TWO</b> Queen Size dooner cover sets, exc cond 1 black &amp; white, 1 purple &amp; maroon \$30 ea. ph 49972258.</p> <p><b>WEACO</b> fridge/freezer model 110 including 12/24 Volt transformer for this unit. Ideal for 4wd owners. Perfect working clean unit. Total package \$900. Phone 49972828</p>	<p><b>HOUSEHOLD</b> goods T.V. Entertainment unit Mahogany 1.56m long very good cond. \$100. Homemaker Oil Heater 4 bar \$20. Cane Laundry Basket large with lid.60cm. high 60cm.high \$30. Cane Picnic Basket \$10. Ironing board with cover \$10. Text Chris for photos 49970890 or 0478130249</p> <p><b>KING</b> size Bed (wooden) mattress almost new. Male Bike Typhoon-Holstar (endora series Shimano Breaks. Female Bike Odyssey-Southerncross 18 speed Shimano breaks. Ph 0410 329 870.</p> <p><b>Wanted</b></p> <p><b>CLEAN</b> Egg cartons for project. Will collect Tea Gardens area. Call 49979783.</p> <p><b>Boats</b></p> <p><b>STACER</b> boat \$5,000, Good condition. Ph 0414433262</p> <p><b>YAMAHA</b> 5 HP 2-stroke outboard. As new. Approx 30min running. Built-in fuel tank with connected external. Instruction book. Extra pull cord. Cost \$1770, will sell \$1300ono Ph 0429915118</p>	<p><b>2010</b> Grandcruiser 21.5ft fibreglass caravan \$47,000, shower, toilet, washing machine, solar. Near new tyres, batteries and charger plus brakes. exc/cond. Tea Gardens 49970367</p> <p><b>2007</b> Coromal XL511 Poptop, Elec brakes, A/C S/Axle, Full Annex + extras V.G. Cond \$22500 ono onto PH: Brendon 0427110130.</p> <p><b>CAMPERVAN</b> 2004 Aliner has full annex &amp; fly. Very good condition. \$13,700. Phone 0438337349.</p> <p><b>COROMAL</b> Seka 535 Pop Top 2001 Model Caravan. LED Lighting. Axle, Island Bed. Very Good Condition. \$19,500 o.n.o Ph 0408 632 431.</p> <p><b>MILLARD</b> Caravan twin beds 2000 \$12,999, Ph 0414433262</p> <p><b>REGENT</b> Cruiser pop top 2001, 17'6" Single beds, 200 watt solar system, New awning, elec brakes, Porta potty, en suite tent, Campshower, \$14,740 ono Ph:49971233</p>

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# Abolish State Payroll Taxes

Dear News Of The Area,

I am a Senate Candidate in the upcoming election. Small business is the lifeblood of the Australian economy, harnessing as it does, the energy, creativity and resourcefulness of many millions of people. Harassing small business to pay payroll tax in addition to the cost of hiring staff is counterproductive and in the long term can add to the demise of our economy's greatest asset. State Governments across Australia are drunk on payroll tax. Over time State Governments need to be phasing out their reliance on payroll tax so that small businesses are not inhibited in flourishing and growing their workforce. Small business employs about a third of the entire Australian workforce, and they need room to grow. Small business need to put their best efforts into producing the goods and services we need for both domestic and overseas markets, not paying an inefficient payroll tax.

**Phil Jobe, Senate Candidate Family First**

## HUNTER QUARRIES ..in the community

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- Clarencetown Football Club.
- Hunter Medical Research Institute
- East Gresford Showground.
- The Crime Prevention Review.
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**ADDRESS:** Just off the Pacific Highway Andersite Road Karuah NSW 2324.  
**PHONE:** 02 4997 5966. **OPENING TIME:** Mon-Fri: 7am to 4pm. Sat 7am to 12pm.

# Week at the Dunes

## GOLF

### Pacific Dune Golf Club

Saturday  
Men's Foursomes Championship (Round 1)  
Gross Winner  
Mark Hampson & Rodney Hook 77  
Nett Winners  
1st PlaceBrendan Garrett & Bill Pitt 72 c/b  
2nd PlaceMark Hampson & Rodney Hook 72  
3rd PlaceJason Nunn & Bill Siebert 74.5  
NTP 5th Jon Perry  
NTP 14th Billy Blyth  
Ladies  
Gross WinnerTania Hutchins & Lee Ann Hackett 89  
Nett Winners  
1st PlaceTania Hutchins & Lee Ann Hackett 81  
2nd PlaceAnne Leo & Lynda Stuart 81.5 c/b  
3rd PlaceJo Nunn & Linda Overend 81.5  
NTP 5th Linda Overend  
NTP 14th Vicki Melville  
Men's Individual Stableford  
1st PlaceDarryl Widders 40  
2nd PlaceJohn Bell 37  
3rd PlaceGeoff Wright 36 c/b

4th PlaceFraser Newcombe 36 c/b  
5th PlaceKen Jones 36  
NTP 5th Ken Jones  
NTP 8th Peter Gallagher  
NTP 14th Ken Jones  
NTP 17th No Winner  
Sunday Foursomes Round 2  
Men's Daily Winners  
1st PlaceGraeme Valler & Jon Perry 72.5  
2nd Place Bill Pitt & Brendan Garrett 75  
3rd Place Leigh Hadley & Dave Lucas 80.5 c/b  
NTP 5th Richard Ayre  
NTP 14th Jason Nunn  
Women's Daily Winners  
1st Place Anne Leo & Lynda Stuart 82.5  
2nd Place Judy Valler & Tegan McNiff 83.5  
3rd Place Sue Miller & Kerry Edwards 84  
NTP 5th Catherine Hendersen  
NTP 14th Linda Overend  
Overall Foursomes Club Championship (36 Holes)  
Men Gross Mark Rota & Phil Bowron 164  
Men Nett Bill Pitt & Brendan Garrett 147  
Ladies Gross Lee Ann Hackett & Tania Hutchins 181  
Ladies Nett Anne Leo & Lynda Stuart 164

## PIGEON

**RT Pigeon Club**  
By Nigel ARCHER  
By D & S Archer 0420917940  
Raymond Terrace Pigeon Club

Pigeon racing from Taree on Friday the 17.6.2016  
1st- A Janissen Time: 01:39:13 Vel: 1248.14  
2nd- D & S Archer Time: 01:40:10 Vel: 1241.70  
3rd- Rankovic & Wright Time: 01:18:25 Vel: 1217.4

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# Club scores grant

APPLICATIONS are now open for groups to apply for the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership Grant.

By Heather SHARP

**INCORPORATED** and not-for-profit groups can apply for capital works or equipment, with a minimum amount of \$2500.

Proud recipient of the 2015 Grant, the Medowie Football Club (or, Soccer) is benefiting greatly from the \$15 000 they were awarded.

CONTINUED Page 10

## SOCCER



**CAPTION:** Some of the over 200 members at training on Yulong Oval on Wednesday evening. (L-R) Matt Morris (coach), Megan Yarrington, Laura Buggy, Cheren Hall (President), Kim Anderson, Stephanie Focic, Millie Denton, Louise Cole, Paige Focic (front row).

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