

FREE
TAKE ONE

THE VOICE

of Upper Lachlan Shire,
the Shire of Villages



2011 AUSTRALIA DAY



TARALGA



CROOKWELL



GUNNING

Taralga Australia Day: L-R David Speers Upper Lachlan Shire Ambassador; Kath Heath Taralga Citizen of the Year; Ian George representing the Taralga Event of the Year winner 'The Taralga Australia Day Rodeo and Campdrafting'. **Crookwell Australia Day:** L-R David Speers, Crookwell's Citizen of the Year - Beryl Croker; Mayor John Shaw; the Upper Lachlan Shire's and Crookwell Event of the Year, 'The Melbourne Cup Tour' - President of the Binda Picnic Races Catherine Culley; while representing the Dr. Thangavelu the Upper Lachlan Shire Council's Citizen of the Year was Ms. Julie Eldridge (insert, Dr. Ramaswamy Thangavelu). **Gunning Australia Day:** L-R, Mayor John Shaw; Nataasha Lewis the Shire's and Gunning's Young Citizen of the Year; David Hallam Gunning's Citizen of the Year; winner of Gunning's Event of the Year 'The Wool, Wine and Jazz Festival', Kelly Dowling President of Gunning's Show Society and Ambassador David Speers

Awards

The presentations of Australia Day Awards are an integral part of Australia Day. They recognise and honour the outstanding achievements and celebrate Australian excellence in our community.

2011 ULSC Australia Day Citizens of the Year winners:

Dr. Ramaswamy Thangavelu as the Shire's Citizen of the Year, Beryl Croker as the Crookwell Citizen of the Year, David Hallam as Gunning's Citizen of the Year and Kath Heath as Taralga's Citizen of the Year

Dr. Velu

Dr. Thangavelu, or Dr. Velu as he is affectionately known, was recognised as the Shire's Citizen of the Year.

Dr. Velu has given over 33 years of service to the Upper Lachlan Community. Early in his career in Crookwell Dr. Velu was the only full time Doctor, and was required to deal 24 hours a day seven days a week with the demands of a 35 bed hospital.

Doctor Velu is known as a strong, humble, and tireless worker who has dedicated his

life to the health and well being of the greater Crookwell community. He truly is a worthy candidate for this year's Citizen of the Year. Dr. Velu was also recognised for his contributions to the community with an OAM, Member of the Order of Australia.

Crookwell Citizen of the Year

Beryl Croker was acknowledged as the Crookwell Citizen of the Year.

Beryl was nominated for her continued activities including junior sports, care of the elderly, the Crookwell Hospital, Viewhaven Lodge and the Community Trust.

Beryl is noted as a hard worker with an ability to get things done.

Gunning Citizen of the Year

David Hallam was recognised as the Gunning Citizen of the Year.

David has served the Gunning area as an Honorary Fire Control Officer, Group Captain for the Southern Tableland Zone in the Upper Lachlan Shire Council area and is currently Chairman of the Zone Bush Fire Management Committee.

David is also a dedicated worker for the

NSW Farmers Federation.

Taralga Citizen of the Year

Kath Heath was honoured as the Taralga Citizen of the Year. Kath, known for her warm and friendly personality, has been there for those in her community who are suffering from illness. Seventy-nine years old, Kath not only gives moral support but also lends a hand to help those in need with any chore that needs to be done. Kath is also a member of the Taralga Red Cross and regularly visits residents in the local aged care facility.

Young Citizen of the Year

Nataasha Lewis, of Gunning was the Young Citizen of the Year. Nataasha was recognised as an excellent role model for young people with interests and abilities in a number of areas. She has displayed very strong community spirit as evidenced with her involvement in the Argyle and Lieder Theatres, Lions Club, WIRES, and the local show society. She has done all this while studying at Trinity College and working in a local restaurant.

Event of the year

The Race that stopped a nation stopped at Crookwell. The Melbourne Cup Tour as the Event of the Year and Crookwell event of the year. Organised by the Crookwell and District Picnic Race Committee, the 149 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour visited only four country towns in NSW with Crookwell the last town to be visited before the cup went back to Flemington.

The Committee's efforts were supported by community groups, businesses and local schools. Community involvement included a parade, on main street of Crookwell, horse shoe throwing, hay bale races, and a free BBQ served by Committee members. The event was finished off with a champagne dinner hosted by racing identity John Letts.

Gunning Event of the Year

The Wool Wine and Jazz was Gunning's Event of the Year. The evening combined the district's fine wool industry with young people modelling garments and the formal announcement of the 2010 Showgirl.

- Continued on page 10

countryenergy

We live here too.



Back row L-R Darren Basterfield, Kim George, Ray Jackson (obscured), Jillian Croker, Craig White and Luke Nagle Front row L-R Barry Storrier, Tim McCarthy, Zane Hall, Joyce Collins, Audrey Warren and Heather McDonald

Local charities to benefit from energy crew win

THE Crookwell Country Energy Field Service Centre (FSC) is celebrating multiple successes in a company wide competition, known as the *FSC Cup Challenge*, to measure and rank the performance of FSCs against a range of productivity, safety and customer service goals.

The Crookwell FSC topped the state in the medium division, beating 35 other Country Energy field teams across New South Wales which also have between eight and 16 employees. Regional general manager South Eastern Phillip Green, described the achievement as "outstanding", but explained that the ultimate winners were customers.

"The main aim of the FSC Challenge is to encourage employees to find better ways to serve our customers, whether that be through increased productivity, raising the bar even further in regard to safety or exceeding customer expectations regarding response times," he said.

The reward for the Crookwell FSC's achievement was the opportunity to make a sizable donation to a charity or com-

munity group of their choice. The group has chosen two local beneficiaries - The Crookwell Community Trust and the Crookwell Day Care Centre.

Crookwell Resource Supervisor Zane Hall said the group decided to choose the two charities because of the important role each plays in the community.

The Crookwell Community Trust took the opportunity to thank the Crookwell Country Energy Field Service Centre for their "generous donation" to the Trust.

"The donation will be utilised to support families in need within the Crookwell Community," said Chairman Tim McCarthy.

Phillip congratulated local employees on their hard work and community spirit and said he was "confident the team will continue to perform extremely well, as we have a very strong and dedicated crew which never accepts near enough is good enough."

"Country Energy challenges such as the *Region of Origin* and the *FSC Cup Challenge* provide an opportunity to recognise our employees' hard work and dedication while promoting teamwork and local pride," he said.



Library Biz by Kerri-ann Pratley

NEW OPENING HOURS ON TRIAL AT YOUR LIBRARY

IN an endeavour to provide the best service to patrons of our libraries, the Upper Lachlan Shire Library Service will trial revised opening hours for a six month period from 4th January to 30th June 2011. During this time the Crookwell Library will open 30 minutes earlier and close 30 minutes earlier, every day during the week. Crookwell Library's new opening hours will be: 10.30am to 5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; and from 1.30pm to 5pm on Wednesday. Saturday mornings will remain the same, with the library opening from 10 to 12 noon. Gunning Library's opening times will see a change on Fridays when the library will close at 5pm, while on Thursdays the

library will open 30 minutes earlier at 1pm. Gunning Library's new opening hours will be Tuesday and Wednesday 2pm - 5pm, Thursday 1pm - 5pm and Friday 10am - 5pm. For the convenience of library patrons, after hours book return chutes are always available near the front doors of both Crookwell and Gunning Libraries. Comments and feedback regarding the proposed changes are very welcome and may be made via feedback forms available at 'Your Library'. Any enquiries may be made to the Upper Lachlan Shire Council's Manager of Library Services, Kerri-ann Pratley at the Crookwell Library or on 48321048.

Yippee ... StoryTime is on again! Now the Christmas holidays are over for 2011, the time has come for Storytime to recommence at 'Your Library'. During school term, Storytime is held every

Monday at 10.30 am at Crookwell and 10.30am on the first and third Friday of each month at Gunning Library. Storytime comprises a picture book read aloud to the group, followed by a simple related craft activity. Designed to introduce young children to the delights of the library and the joys of reading, Storytime is usually finished within an hour. Aimed at children 3 to 5 years of age, Storytime is an opportunity for children to practice the skills they will need when they go to school. These include sitting and listening, sharing and participating in a group situation and the fine motor skills of cutting, gluing, and colouring in. Storytime provides an opportunity for parents and carers to spend quality time with their child, meet and socialize with other parents and choose items from the library's collection to borrow for every member of the family. Parents and children are requested to be at the library a few minutes before the commencement of Storytime and we also ask that parents stay with their child during the session to assist them with the craft activities. Storytime is free and no bookings are required. Your Library has a great range of material to develop the reading skills of young chil-



dren. Our large selections of beautifully illustrated picture books are fantastic for arousing the interest and imagination of young children. The Leap Frog collection consists of first readers, with the complexity of the text ranging from one word to a page to short chapters. Young boys particularly love our junior non-fiction collection which holds books on every subject including trucks, cars, dinosaurs, space, pets and sea creatures. There is also a wide range of music CDs, DVDs and talking books for children. For further information about Storytime or any of the services offered by Your Library just pop into your local Library and talk to library staff.

The Voice

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Crookwell / Bigga / Binda / Tuena / Grabben Gullen / Laggan / Taralga and Big Hill areas: Roads, bridges and tips 0429 786 659, water and sewer 0407 496 358.
Gunning / Dalton / Breadalbane / Collector / Jerrawa areas: Roads, bridges and tips, water and sewer 0427 454 206.
Contact details for Council's Crookwell, Gunning and Taralga offices
PO BOX 10 Crookwell NSW 2583, Ph: (02) 4830 1000, Fax: (02) 4832 2066, Email: coun-

cil@crookwell.nsw.gov.au
PO BOX 42 Gunning NSW 2581 Ph: (02) 4845 4100,
Fax: (02) 4845 1426, Email: council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au
29 Orchard Street, Taralga NSW 2580 Ph: (02) 4840 2099,
Fax: (02) 4840 2296, Email: taralgacsc@ceinternet.com.au
Web Site: www.upperlachlan.local-e.nsw.gov.au

Medical services available in the Upper Lachlan Shire

CROOKWELL
Crookwell Hospital: 13 - 15 Kialla Rd
Crookwell, Ph: 02 4832 1300
Crookwell Health Care Centre: 17 Kialla Rd.
Crookwell, Ph: 02 4843 2500. Medical, Pathology, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Physiotherapist, Audiologist, and massage therapist also available.
Open Monday to Friday 9am till 5pm and Saturday 9am till 12 noon
DR. R THANGAVELU M.B.B.S, M.S.
110 Goulburn St. Crookwell, Phone - 4832 1006
Open Monday - Friday 9am till 6pm
Saturday 9am till 12pm
* Practice Nurse
* Audiologist
* Mental Health Nurse

GUNNING
Gunning District and Community Health Services: 101 Yass Street, Gunning, Ph: 02 4845 1166.
Gunning Health Services are open Monday to Friday 9am till 4pm.
Services provided include:
*Community Nursing Service, *GP Clinic, *Seniors Day Program, *Respite Care, *Equipment Loan, *Pathology Clinic, *Early Childhood Clinic, *Women's Health Clinic, *Physiotherapy, *Podiatry, *Short-term 'after hospital' assistance, * Social Support, * Frozen Meal Service, and Occupational Therapy

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CR. JOHN SHAW - MAYOR'S REPORT



Peelwood Creek Bridge

THE PASSING OF LYLE MARTIN



Gunning town and the whole of Upper Lachlan Shire has lost a valued friend and

employee. Lyle Martin passed away suddenly on January 17, 2011. As Mayor of the Shire and a friend of Lyle, I'd like to express our sympathies to Anita, Lyle's wife, as well as his daughter, granddaughters and family.

Lyle had worked for the Gunning and then Upper Lachlan Shires for the past 20 years. He was one of Council's most respected and skilful employees. He could handle a backhoe/frontend loader as well as, if not better than anyone else. Most residents of the Gunning area would be able to relate some story or other of Lyle's contribution to the district. Lyle's dedication and presence will be missed by us all.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

On a brighter note, I'd like to begin by congratulating all those nominated for the 2011 Upper Lachlan Shire Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year Awards as well as those groups nominated for their efforts in the Event of the Year. Each and every one of you should be proud of such recognition.

The Australia Day awards are a wonderful opportunity for the community to demonstrate not only who we are, but what we value, both as residents of the Upper Lachlan Shire and of the larger community that makes up Australia.

This year's nominations show Upper Lachlan to be a positive community that cares about our fellow citizens. Through those nominated, the community has demonstrated that we embrace a range of values and cultures achieved after years of effort.

Those nominated have reflected the community's aspirations, our ideals and our standards. These awards are the community's opportunity to say thank you, you have made a difference.

CHALLENGE

Every resident of the Upper Lachlan Shire will be well aware that not only have the residents of Queensland and Victoria been affected by heavy rains, but that our Shire has also taken a heavy hit from the torrential rains in December.

I would like to thank Council's staff, especially the outdoor staff for their effort during this time. Many of our outdoor staff volunteered to forego their rostered day off to help remediate damage caused during the floods. Not only did they do this, but they also worked on the following two Saturdays. The Shire's recovery from the damage will take months to repair. I want to assure you all that Council is making every effort to repair all damage as soon as possible.

The damage has been investigated, recorded and valued. That information has been sent, for funding purposes, to both the RTA and the Public Works Department.

Repairs have been prioritised and those deemed most crucial have already started. Updates of the situation are available on the council's website. Thank you for your patience and understanding.



John Bell
General
Manager's
Report

ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS PROGRAM

COUNCIL received correspondence from the Mayor of Orange City, John Davis, requesting that Upper Lachlan Shire Council support the Royalties for Regions Program. The Royalties for Regions program is an initiative of the Association of Mining Related Councils to work with the NSW State Government to assist communities across the state to provide additional services and community infrastructure by returning 30 percent of all royalties received by the State Government back to Local Government. The cooperative arrangements promoted by the Association of Mining Related Councils will assist local and regional government to establish long term funding programs that support the community. The royalty money

is in addition to regular budget programs of Local Government and it will provide an estimated \$300million for regional communities.

STREET FURNITURE

The Crookwell Lions Club made a request to place a bench seat dedicated to Dr Thangavelu in front of the Doctor's surgery in Goulburn Street, Crookwell.

The bench seat will be the second to be installed in the main street, with the first seat installed in front of the Uniting Church and dedicated to the late Bob Spackman.

WOMEN'S DAY GRANT 2011

The Hon Jodi McKay MP, Minister for Women wrote to Council on 14 December 2010 advising that Council has been successful in the NSW Government's 2011 International Women's Day (IWD) grants program.

The NSW Government will provide Council with a \$1,000.00 grant to help celebrate the centenary year of International Women's Day.

On a rotational basis, it is the Gunning areas turn to celebrate International Women's Day. Therefore Council, in collaboration with the

Gunning community, will stage the following three events: A luncheon (with cooking and serving undertaken by volunteer males) with a guest speaker (possibly the author of a book on the history of local midwifery), a photographic exhibition with portraits of local women (past and present), talking heads - a series of play-lets with a theme relating to and featuring women in the main roles.

CULTURAL ACCORD

The Local Government and Shires Associations (LGSA) have advised the signing of a three year partnership agreement, to work on arts and cultural development. Signed on November 30, 2010 by the LGSA Presidents and Virginia Judge MP, NSW Minister for Fair Trading and Minister for the Arts, a fourth Cultural Accord has been sought by the Associations prior to the third accords expiration in 2008.

The Fourth Cultural Accord will operate for a period of three years, commencing on January 1, 2011 and concluding on December 31, 2013. This accord will further develop the working partnership between NSW State and Local Government.

Arts NSW and the Local Government

Associations of NSW and Shires Associations of NSW have committed to working together to progress the Accord. Arts NSW and the LGSA will also collaborate with peak arts bodies and other government and non-government agencies when appropriate.

GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Council received email correspondence from Kristina Keneally MP, the NSW Premier on December 17, 2010 announcing that funding will be provided to Upper Lachlan Shire Council under the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership program within the Burrinjuck and Goulburn electorate.

The Premier offered her congratulations on Council's successful application of \$20,000 for the "Barbour Park Recreation Area Refurbishment Project" in Gunning and \$10,000 for the "Painting Taralga War Memorial Hall (Internal and External)" project.

The Council would like to thank Katrina Hodgkinson, the Member for Burrinjuck and Pru Goward, the Member for Goulburn for their assistance in gaining these grants.

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Andrew Croke
Director of Finance and Administration

Rate Peg Determination for 2011/2012

THE maximum ordinary (general) rate peg increase for NSW local government for 2011/2012 has been set at 2.80 percent by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

The 2.80 percent increase is applicable to the total revenue received by Council from ordinary (general) rate income and is not a uniform increase on every individual rate assessment. The rate pegging limit does not apply to other Council rates and charges for services such as water, sewer, domestic waste, rural waste, etc.

This rate peg decision is the first to be made under the new policy arrangements which were announced by the Premier on

June 4, 2010. The new arrangements require IPART to determine the maximum allowable increase in the general income of local governments ('rate peg') commencing with the 2011/12 income year.

The Local Government Cost Index measures movements in prices of a representative 'basket' of inputs that are used to deliver local government services. The methodology used by IPART for the Local Government Cost Index is similar to the one used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) for the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

This new system does provide more transparency and accountability but despite this, the 2.8% rate cap still falls well short of the real cost increases facing Councils, making it difficult for Councils to meet the grow-

ing service and infrastructure needs of local communities. NSW Councils already have to deal with an inadequate share of taxation and continue to pay over \$440 million every year for costs shifted onto us by other levels of government. The annual cost shifting from the NSW State Government to the Upper Lachlan Shire Council is equivalent to 4.5 percent of total income or in dollar terms is an annual operating cost to Council of \$845,000.

New Land Values for 2011/2012 Rates

The NSW Valuer General (through the Land and Property Management Authority) has conducted a General Revaluation of land values applicable to each rateable assessment of land within the Upper Lachlan Shire Council. The new land values will be used for the calculation of rates from 2011/2012. Ratepayers should shortly be receiving a formal Notice of Valuation from the Valuer General advising them of their new land value. The land values used to calculate the current 2010/2011 rates can be found by referring to 2010/2011 rate notice. The land value

does not generally reflect the full sale price that could be obtained for the property but is based on the price of land sold in the area and any increases or decreases in property values should be reflected in the new land values.

The Valuer General advises landowners who are not satisfied with the land value recorded on their Notice of Valuation that they have 60 days to lodge an objection to have the land value reviewed. The Valuer General has the discretion to accept objections beyond the 60 day time frame. If you want to lodge an out of date objection you must provide detailed reasons why the objection is late. The Valuer General will then determine whether to accept the objection. Objections must be made using the approved valuation objection form or by using our online objection facility at www.lpma.nsw.gov.au/valuation.

While changes in land values on individual assessments can impact on individual ratepayers, the total rate income Council is able to collect is determined by the rate pegging increase and not by the valuation of land.

WIRES



Eastern Brown snake

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

OF the thousands of varieties of snakes and lizards in Australia, very few are aggressive or venomous. Most snakes will only bite when they are surprised or feel

threatened. All snakes are protected in Australia. Snakes have an important role to play in the environment by controlling pests such as rats and mice and therefore are beneficial to have in your local environment.

Reptiles can occasionally move inside your house in search of food or shelter. If this happens, leave the animal alone and call **WIRES**. Do not move, touch or attempt to harm a snake as this often ends up in a bite. Give a snake time and space and it will move away. Given the opportunity snakes will always move away from humans.

threatened. All snakes are protected in Australia.

Snakes have an important role to play in the environment by controlling pests such as rats and mice and therefore are beneficial to have in your local environment.

Reptiles can occasionally move inside your house in search of food or shelter. If this happens, leave the animal alone and call **WIRES**. Do not move, touch or attempt to harm a snake as this often ends up in a bite.

What you can do to help avoid contact with snakes

Keep lawns short. Snakes will sun bathe at the edges of open areas. Short grass means they can see you or your pet approaching and move into cover.

A thick layer of ground cover plants allows snakes to hide in safety.

Take care when moving items which have been resting on the ground for some time. Timber and corrugated iron are favourite hiding places for snakes.

Most Australian snakes eat other reptiles, skinks and amphibians such as frogs and other snakes. If you have a garden pond, expect to have a snake visit sooner or later. If you don't want to attract snakes, don't feed birds. Birdseed attracts rodents and rodents attract snakes.

Control dogs and cats, especially at night. Don't litter. Put rubbish securely in a bin.

Please phone **WIRES** on **4822 3888** if you need advice or assistance with reptiles or any other native animals.

PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN

NEW national child restraint laws were introduced in NSW on March 1, 2010. A transitional period was in place until June 30, 2010 to give parents and carers time to fully understand and comply with the new laws. However, all children up to seven years of age must now be safely fastened into the right restraint for their age and size.

A child who is properly secured in an approved child restraint is less likely to be injured or killed in a car crash than one who is not

Summary of changes

The new national child restraint laws state:

1. Children younger than six months must be secured in a rearward facing restraint.
2. Children aged six months to under four years must be secured in either a rear or forward facing restraint.
3. Children aged four years to under seven years must be secured in forward facing

child restraint or booster seat.

4. Children younger than four years cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows.

5. Children aged four years to under seven years cannot travel in the front seat of a vehicle with two or more rows, unless all other back seats are occupied by children younger than seven years in a child restraint or booster seat.

Remember

1. Using a restraint correctly greatly increases a child's safety during a crash.
2. Placing a child in a restraint that is designed for a larger/older child increases the risk of serious injury in a crash.
3. Ensure the restraint is installed correctly. See a restraint fitter if in any doubt.
4. Always use the top tether strap where required.
5. Teach your child to always keep both arms within the harness system of the child seat or the seat belt of the booster seat.

6. When using a seat belt with a booster, ensure the seat belt is correctly fitted over the child's shoulder.

7. Move your child into a forward-facing restraint only when they no longer fit into a rear ward facing restraint.

8. Move your child into a booster seat only when they no longer fit into a forward-facing restraint.

For more information please visit the RTA web site:

www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety/children/childrestraints



LOOKING FOR A HARP

MY name is Rosemary Hallo. I am a student at the Adelaide University, Adelaide, currently researching the history of harp in Australia in the early 1800s for my PhD studies.

I am looking for information concerning harp and harpists in your region during the 1800s. This includes concerts as well, or perhaps harp music or even photos of events.

If you know of a harp, or have one yourself in any size type or condition, could you please go to my website: www.australian-harphistory.vpweb.com.au.

All personal information will remain confidential.

Kind Regards, Rosemary Hallo **Email:** rosemaryhallo@bigpond.com **Postal**

Address: 67 Cashel Street, Pasadena, South Australia 5042. **Phone:** 0418 827 616

Goulburn & District Community Transport

UPPER LACHLAN



SERVICE

This transport service runs a small bus in your area Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

This service provides for people within the Crookwell community who are without transport and would like to access appointments or just do their shopping.

It is a door to door service at the cost of \$4.00 return.

For more information please phone Sheree 0428195962





Director of Environment and Planning, Tina Dodson

NEW DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

THE recently appointed Director of Environment and Planning, Ms. Tina Dodson, brings 20 years of local government experience predominately within the environmental services area. This has provided the new Director with extensive experience in the planning, health and environmental processes relating to both the rural and urban Council environment.

Ms. Dodson noted that within her career in Local Government the one thing that is guaranteed is the certainty of change.

An example of change is the Upper Lachlan Local Environmental Plan of 2010, and the Upper Lachlan Development Control Plan 2010 which were gazetted in July 2010.

"The LEP and the respective Development Control Plans that accompany it will provide a clear direction and guide future change in the area for the next 15 to 20 years," the Director said.

"What should be appreciated is that this plan took over five of years to bring to this point. And as the Shire changes so too could the makeup of future LEPs. This will require the development of close working relationship with the Shire's Councillors, its staff but most of all its citizens. That is why Local Government is such an interesting and challenging occupation," Ms. Dodson concluded.

BACKGROUND

Ms. Dodson has held such senior management positions as the Manager of Environmental Services and Director of Environmental Services with Mulwaree Shire Council, Manager Development Control with Goulburn Mulwaree Council and Manager Environment and Planning with Upper Lachlan Shire Council.

REVIEW OF NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT



ON the week commencing December 13, 2010 Industry and Investment NSW released a Statutory Review Issues Paper as part of a process of reviewing

the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. A copy of this Issues Paper was provided to Councillors at the December 2010 Council Meeting.

The Noxious Weeds Act sets out the regulatory framework for the control of noxious weeds in NSW. A review of the Act is conducted every five years to determine whether the objectives of the Act remain valid.

The issues paper provides an opportunity to make comment on specific issues as well as the broader operations of the Act with Council's now having an extra month to provide information with the closing date for written submissions extended to February 28, 2011.

The Statutory Review Issues Paper outlines a wide range of background information in relation to the Act and has identified twelve main issues to be considered and an additional ten more technical issues in Appendix 1. The majority of the issues and the proposals seem to be reasonable or have separate review processes however some issues require comment which are outlined in the following issues to be addressed in a proposed submission.

To view the document please go to the NSW Industry and Investment web site at www.industry.nsw.gov.au or contact Mr. Paul brown at 48402099.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC EXHIBITION

AMENDMENT to Upper Lachlan Development Control Plan 2010.

UPPER Lachlan Shire Council gives public notice of the exhibition of an Amendment to Upper Lachlan Development Control Plan 2010 (DCP 2010). The proposed amendments to DCP 2010 are to:

Part 9 Special Development Types – Section 9.5 Wind farms. Amendments made are as a result of the conditions of consent made in the Land and Environment Court of NSW in respect to the Gullen Range Wind Farm.

Part 3 Submitting a Development Application – Section 3.17 Community Enhancement Program and Appendix A – Wind Farm Planning Agreement.

Amendments made are as a

result of the amendments made to Section 9.5 Wind farms of DCP 2010.

The exhibition documents will be on display from Thursday 13 January 2011 to Friday 18 February 2011 at the Crookwell, Gunning and Taralga Offices, during normal opening hours and on Council's website <http://upperlachlan.local-e.nsw.gov.au/>

All interested persons are invited to inspect the exhibition documents and make written submissions (email is acceptable) to be received by 4.00 pm Friday 18 February 2011. If an objection is made, the grounds of objection must be specified in the submission.

Enquiries should be directed to Council's Environment and Planning Department on (02) 48 301 000 or council@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au

FEASIBILITY REVIEW FOR POTENTIAL GAS-FIRED POWER STATION AT BIG HILL

ORIGIN has commenced a feasibility review of a potential gas-fired power station development near Big Hill which, if constructed, would play a significant role in helping to meet growing and future demand for electricity in NSW.

The assessment of the 'Kerrawary Power Station' development is aligned with Origin's pursuit of a portfolio of gas and renewable energy opportunities in Australia and abroad. Origin is currently assessing the development of a 1,000 MW gas-fired power station, which may be constructed in two stages. The 20 hectare Kerrawary site is on approximately 900 hectares of land which has an extensive buffer zone around it.

Origin has commenced community engagement in the local area

as well as a series of environmental, sociological and engineering studies as part of the feasibility review for the project.

Origin's Community Relations Advisor, Kathy Howard said that Origin was committed to respecting the rights and interests of the communities in which it operates.

"We have been engaging with the community to understand the range of local views and provide information in relation to the potential development. This work will continue as we progress studies and review the potential of the project," Ms Howard said.

If you would like to meet the project team to gain further information please contact Kathy Howard on 1800 832 233 or kerrawarypowerstation@originenergy.com.au

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Go to www.upperlachlan.local-e.nsw.gov.au

Click - About the Shire

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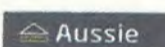


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Phil Newham Director of Works and Operations

STORM DAMAGE REPORT

DECEMBER rains have seen significant damage to the Shire's bridges and roads.

In a report to Council, at the January 20, 2011 meeting, The Manager of Works Peter Mowle, reported that the Works Department had inspected most of the Shire's 260 local roads, of which 193 have been damaged by

the flooding on December 9, 2010. Mr. Mowle reported to Council that the RTA had approved \$832,000 million with total damage estimates to be in the area of \$6 million. Of that \$6 million \$5 million are earmarked for roads, three quarters of million dollars for bridge repair and one quarter of a million dollars are estimated for the repair of the Carrington Street large sewer main (this pipe line caters to the needs of three quarters of Crookwell residents).



Fogg's Crossing

Inspections have identified that of the Shire's 73 bridges, 12 had been damaged. The damaged bridges included are; the Brooklands footbridge in Crookwell, the Bell Street, the Peelwood, the Mulgowrie, the McDonald Street, Julong, Woodville, Meadow Creek and the Coates Creek bridges.

Of the 193 damaged roads the highest priority are those with damages in excess of \$100,000. This level of damage was incurred to the following roads: Bridge Creek, Fogs Crossing, Kangaloolah, Mulgowrie, Rhyanna, Lost River, Hollywood, Woodhouselee, Gunning, Bevendale, Jerrara, Mullengrove, Glen Erin, Reids Flat and Rye Park Roads. Minor roads damaged by the rains and in the general location of the major roadways will also receive repairs.

Depending on weather conditions and other

unexpected circumstances, road damage is to be completed first and will take approximately 12 months using both Council employees and contractors. Repair to the 12 damaged bridges is yet to be determined. Scheduling of these repairs will be determined in consultation with the Council, RTA and the Public Works Department (PWD).

Worst impacted areas during the December 9 rains included the Heffernan's Creek area at Pomeroy, areas west of Bigga and the Mulgowrie Creek. Residences in these areas are requested to report any rainfall data they may have collected. Please forward that information to Carrie Gibson at the Council's Works Department on 4830 1053. Council will continue to update residents on road closures and repairs scheduling via its web site located at www.upperlachlan.local.e.nsw.gov.au



Bridge at Woodville Road

LIONS HONOUR BOB



Left to right: Norm Fountain Crookwell and District Lions Club's Publicity Officer, John Bell Manager of the ULSC, Tracey Anderson Lions Secretary, Mena Spackman mother of Bob, Kevin Laing Lions club member and Phil Newham ULSC Director of Works.

LONG time member of Crookwell Lions Club, community figure and 2005 Citizen of the Year, Bob Spackman was honoured on November 17 with the unveiling, in his honour, of a bench outside the Uniting Church in Crookwell.

Norm Fountain, Public Officer for the Crookwell and District Lions Club, thought it was fitting that on the anniversary of Bob's death that this small gesture was now available for the public.

Norm said, "This bench was made possible through the fund raising efforts of the Crookwell's Lions Club, the skill of the Crookwell's Men's shed, and the installation by Upper Lachlan Shire Council. Money for the bench was raised through a series of markets, raffles and the collection and sale of scrap metal.

John Bell, General Manager of the Council welcomed Mrs. Mena Spackman to the commemoration and congratulated the Lions Club and the Men's shed for their wonderful efforts. These types of projects are of considerable benefit to the Shire's community. Besides the beautification of the streetscape, and the provision of comfort to our elderly, such projects also encourage the growth of community spirit.

"I would like to encourage other service groups to contact Council with their ideas and establish if we can continue to build on the good work of the Lion's Club."

Meg Francis, who nominated Bob for Citizen of the Year, said Bob was always willing to lend a hand to anyone in need. "It didn't matter what it was or when, if you needed help you could count on Bob."

Free chemical collection - Crookwell

Drop off your old pesticides, herbicides, paint products, solvents and household cleaners, motor oils and fuels, batteries and household gas bottles for free on: Saturday 2 April 2011, from 8.30am to

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TRACTORS TREK TO TARALGA



Front L-R: Rob Temple, Tim Geyer (secretary), Ken Ainsworth (President), and David Keith (Vice. President), gentleman on the tractor Beau Raditz

BLUE skies and warm temperatures greeted thousands of visitors at the Third National Tractor Trek and Heritage Rally. Held at the Taralga Showground on November 18 through 21, 2010, the rally included vintage steam engines, cars, bikes, military vehicles and farm machinery from across NSW, South Australia, Victoria and

Queensland. Besides the vintage display there were activities for the children, trade stalls, an antique tractor pull and live entertainment. In short organisers provided a well organised four days of Australian farming history and entertainment that should make their community proud.



SES SUPPORTS COUNCIL

L-R: Local Controller Darryl Page, Deputy Regional Controller Kevin Anderson, Mayor Cr. John Shaw, and Regional Business Manager Joanne Humphreys.

DURING the November meeting of Council, NSW SES Deputy Region Controller of the Southern Highlands Region, Kevin Anderson, presented a cheque for \$25,000 (plus GST) to Council. The money is a subsidy to assist Council in replacing SES Response vehicles, which are part of the Council vehicle fleet. Kevin Anderson said, "This cheque is presented to Council as our contribution for the new response vehicle that Council recently acquired to replace the previous

Crookwell SES Unit's vehicle. "The support of council in providing vehicles for the three SES Units in Upper Lachlan Shire is appreciated by the SES and goes some way to recognising the great work done by the SES volunteers in the Council area. Mr. Anderson continued, "SES looks forward to maintaining this good relationship with Council and their support of the SES volunteers, who provide such a great and valuable service to their community."

BUG VISITS MURPHY'S INN



Kiama Bugs: L-R; Jenny Adams, Di Ellisen, Bruce Arnold, Helen Twickham, Ross Mansell, Jen Borg, John Borg, Les Davies, Rob Rich, and Lyn Rich

STAY at the house and go right round the bend? Or seek something special? Recently sixteen Kiama BUG [Bike Users Group] cyclists, travelled to Crookwell to rediscover two rare diamonds, Denielle and Barry, care of Spud Murphy's Inn.

In small groups the members of BUG have been travelling to Crookwell because of safe cycling and other friendly features.

"Four great days cycling gave us many

thrills," Les Davies said, "climbing and descending those numerous hills was great exercise, the natives were friendly and all eateries superb."

What else can I add to my bike-rider's blurb?

"Denielle and Barry once again rolled out the red carpet and welcomed us in with hot meals and speciality soups. With such hospitality future visits are now on the cards," Les said.

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From front page (Event of the year) -

Over 200 people attended the social evening with food wine and music all arranged by the Gunning Public School's P&I committee.

Taralga Event of the Year

Taralga Australia Day Rodeo and Campdraft was that town's Event of the Year. In its fiftieth year this Australia Day Celebration has grown from a one day event into a three day celebration of Australian stockman.

The event featured over 300 competitors competing in the campdrafting events and a further 200 in the various rodeo events.

Visitors are drawn from the region across the country and from overseas. Proceeds from the event go to support of the Sunset Lodge.

Top right: Billy and Jack Speer with Granny Robyn Piec.
Below: Crookwell residents gathering in Memorial Park.

**Upper Lachlan Shire's
New Resident Incentives**

Just by deciding to move to Upper Lachlan Shire, new residents are automatically entitled to receive a goods-and-services voucher package valued at over \$750.00

The package, a joint initiative of Upper Lachlan Shire Council and Business Houses, provides practical assistance to new residents, as well as introducing them to many of the local businesses in our community.

It's a win-win incentive scheme. New residents receive an attractive range of discounted goods and services, while Upper Lachlan Business Houses obtain the opportunity to secure ongoing consumer loyalty and trust.

Local businesses can take the opportunity to turn new customers into loyal customers

Offering incentives is a great way to welcome newcomers to Upper Lachlan Shire, a great way to contribute to the growth of the Upper Lachlan Shire's business sector, and a great way to strengthen Upper Lachlan's position as an excellent centre in which to live, work and invest.

What's the first step?

To claim your voucher package, visit the Upper Lachlan Shire's Council offices located at 44 Spring St, Crookwell, 123 Yass St, Gunning or 29 Orchard St, Taralga with proof of your permanent Upper Lachlan Shire residency. To qualify, you must be moving into a property that contributes council rates to Upper Lachlan Shire Council. The package must be claimed within three months of you moving to Upper Lachlan Shire.

You'll need to produce one of the following documents: A signed Contract of Sale for a property in the Upper Lachlan Shire; a rental agreement of at least six months duration; a letter of employment indicating permanent employment or an employment contract of at least six months duration from your new employer and one of the following documents: a driver's licence, car registration papers, or a passport

How long will it take? The whole process will take about 10 minutes, and you'll walk out with a discount voucher pack worth more than \$750.00.



UNION FENOSA

CROOKWELL DEVELOPMENT PTY LTD

Proposed Crookwell 3 Wind Farm Part 3A Application

Crookwell Development Pty Ltd is in the final stages of preparing the Environmental Assessment Report for the proposed Crookwell 3 Wind Farm project under Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)*.

The feedback received from the community through the door-knock consultation process in the area (during 28th, 29th and 30th of April 2010), and also consultation with other stakeholders, has assisted the consultant team to refine the layout of the wind turbines and associated infrastructure.

Once the Department of Planning has completed a preliminary review of the Environmental Assessment Report, it will be placed on public exhibition for a period during which any person may make a written submission in relation to the Part 3A Application. The public exhibition period will be advertised in advance. A community information day is planned to be held during the public exhibition period in the Crookwell township. The consultant team will be available during this information day to answer any questions in relation to the Environmental Assessment Report.

If you would like to make an enquiry in relation to the proposed wind farm project and the current Part 3A Application, please call Crookwell Development on the free call number
1800 457 181

Out and about in the community



UPPER LACHLAN WOOD GUILD

THE Upper Lachlan Wood Guild shed has been open since November 2009 to anyone wishing to do woodwork in a friendly and helpful atmosphere.

We are dedicated to the concept of recycling timber and of using fallen timber which may otherwise have been left to rot in paddocks. We are safety conscious and are setting up a comprehensive set of sessions on how to use the main items of machinery in the shed. As well as members doing their own projects we will be bringing in experts in particular wood working skills to demonstrate these skills. We also have a pizza oven which we fire up on request.

A shed boss will open the Guild on Wednesdays 7pm – 10pm, Friday 9am – 3pm and Saturday 9am - 2pm. If you would like to join the Guild, contact Meg Harrison at PO Box 61, Dalton NSW 2581.



Top: Carol White, David Harrison, Marie O'Brien, Marg Baines hard at work.

Below left: Marie O'Brien using the scroll saw.

Below right: Ray Baines with Peter Crowe lending some advice.



Top: Ray Baines concentrating while using a felder saw bench.

Bottom: Marg Baines enjoying her carpentry success.



THE HAPPY (GRABBEN GULLEN) MARKETS



VISIT the friendly village of Grabben Gullen for the fresh produce and markets the fourth Saturday of each month, 9am to 1pm.

The stall holders have dubbed it *the happy markets* which include fruit and veg, meat, plants, cakes, morning teas, BBQ, scented candles, flowers, chilli, products olive oils, jewellery, Rusty Balls soaps, Ewe and Me cappuccino coffee and more. The hall trust run the markets and all proceeds are used to refurbish the community hall.

Come and visit us on last Saturday of every month February (we will skip June, July and August as the weather is too cold). Thanks must go to the unselfish efforts of the trust members who have devoted countless hours of their precious time to this community project.

Let us put Grabben Gullen and all the Villages of the Upper Lachlan Shire on the map. Come along and enjoy the fun of the Markets.



Top left: Tony Curtis and Ann Forbutt from the Hill Top.

Below left: Julie Degrueter of Taralga showing off her plants to Richard and Carol King.

Top right: Kim Motely with products from Chilli Factory.

Bottom near right: Jane Adams displaying Whiter Marsh Olives from the Southern Highlands.

Bottom far right: Ian McFaul of Crookwell.



This page is proudly sponsored by Origin's Cullerin Range Wind Farm. If you would like to promote a message about your not for profit, community or sporting group please contact Kathy Howard on 1800 677 315 or cullerinrangewindfarm@originenergy.com.au

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Tips to save money and energy this summer

AS the mercury rises and air conditioners go into overdrive, Country Energy has some easy tips to help you minimise the cost of keeping cool this summer.

Reducing energy consumption during the hotter months can be as simple as turning the air conditioner up by just one degree, which can save up to 10 per cent of the operating costs.

Using less energy can potentially save families hundreds of dollars each year, as well as contributing to reduced greenhouse gas emissions - a win-win situation for the environment and the household budget.

There's potential to make savings in every room of the house, without sacrificing creature comforts.

By taking on board simple tips like opening doors and windows to take advantage of cool winds, fitting door protectors to keep hot air out and installing an AAA-rated shower head, customers can enjoy substantial savings this summer."

The top ten energy saving tips this summer include:

Making sure you choose the right size air conditioner for your home. Some homes are better suited to fans or evaporative cooling devices

Setting the air conditioner or cooler to the most comfortable and energy efficient level - around 25 degrees in summer

Closing off unoccupied rooms so cooling

systems don't have to work so hard and keeping air conditioners clean, as dirty coils and filters can reduce efficiency

Planting deciduous trees in the north for shade. This will keep the house cool in summer and will let the sun through in winter

Closing the curtains and using blinds, sunshades, low, wide eaves, awnings or trees to keep the hot sun off windows

Painting walls in light colours, as dark walls can make rooms hotter

Ensuring the fridge is not in direct sunlight, the temperature is set at five degrees, it is well defrosted and an area is left around it so generated heat can escape

Installing insulation and effective ventilation - a well-insulated home is up to 10 degrees cooler in summer and can save hundreds of dollars each year in energy costs

Installing a timer and only use the pool filter a few hours each day

Turning the hot water system off if you are going on holidays.

Country Energy encourages customers to use its free efficiency calculator to see how using different appliances can affect household energy and water use by visiting www.countryenergy.com.au.

Country Energy's *energyanswers* advice line is also available on **1800 ENERGY** or **1800 363 749** (during business hours) for customers to find out where they can make a difference to their energy bill and the environment.

Waste Services Calendar

2011

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

For a full year calendar go to www.upperlachlan.local-e.nsw.gov.au or Council Offices

RECYCLING - FORTNIGHTLY

Binda, Laggan, Grabben Gullen
Crookwell
Gunning, Breadalbane, Collector, Dalton
Taralga, Golspie

GARBAGE - WEEKLY

MONDAY	Binda, Laggan, Grabben Gullen
TUESDAY	Crookwell
WEDNESDAY	Gunning, Breadalbane, Collector, Dalton
THURSDAY	Taralga, Golspie

SPECIAL EVENTS

Household Chemical Collection - Todkill Park Carpark Crookwell
Clean Up Australia Day

Monthly Events

Crookwell Community Markets
First Saturday of each month
Crookwell Lions Trash and Treasure Markets the second Saturday each month.
Gunning Car Boot Sale second Saturday each month.

Taralga Lions Markets second Sunday each month.
Laggan Markets third Saturday each month.
Grabby Fresh Produce and Market fourth Saturday each month.
Gunning Lions Markets the last Sunday each month.



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Town Planning Engineering and Project Management Flora and Fauna On-site Waste Water Bushfire Risk Assessments

If you're thinking of building, subdividing or any form of property improvement or development that requires the consent of Council or other government departments then we can help.

Please feel free to call us for an obligation free assessment of your situation and advice on how we might be able to help you achieve your objectives.

