

The Cockfighter

Linking the Country of Broke Fordwich Bulga & Milbrodale

April 2016



FREE

**BROKE
FORDWICH**
WINE REGION

The tranquil side of the Hunter Valley



MOUNT BROKE
Wines
EST. 1997
ENTRANCE →



Mt Broke Wine - from pioneer dairy farm to boutique cellar door and cafe

Also: A Little Bit of Italy in Broke 8,9,10 April

BANKS, MARINE EXPERTS AND FIRST PEOPLES CONDEMN COAL MONSTROSITY IN QUEENSLAND.....BUT POLLIES CAVE IN TO PHONEY JOBS SPIN

As we look forward to that great festival of fun, food and fine wine we link with La Bell'Italia, less palatable prospects loom up North with the Palaszczuk Government's approval for Australia's biggest coal mine—the Adani-backed Carmichael colossus. Condemned by eminent figures in the world of marine science, Aboriginal Land Rights and hard-nosed economists, this \$27-billion foray into a terminally challenged resource has encountered a public reaction of outrage and incredulity. Much publicity has been given to the views of experts like former Australian Institute of Marine Science supremo Charlie Veron (he described the approval as 'evil' and 'defying reason' for its impact on the Great Barrier Reef) and Kelly O'Shanassy, who is CEO of the Australian Conservation Foundation. Indian energy giant Adani's own figures, said Mr O'Shanassy, forecast emissions so bad that they will cancel the pollution cuts the Australian Government pledged at the Paris summit. And remember that late last year, the Commonwealth Bank ended its financial advisory role with the project, with other institutions nixing any loans for what they see as an extremely over-ripe if not putrescent lemon. No wonder—Adani's claims for 10,000 jobs a year were reduced to less than 1500 by court revelations last year.

COCKFIGHTER has another voice to add to these—and it comes from the remarkable spokesman for the locals of the Galilee Basin in Central Queensland, Adrian Burragubba. As Editor of your own little organ of dissent and dismay over the antics of corrupt politicians (à la the Baird Government and Rio Tinto), I feel proud to reprint this cry from the heart of Aboriginality. I cannot recall a more eloquent condemnation of this ghastly invasion and usurpation of the rights of our First Peoples.

(Tom Jackson)

The Queensland Government just betrayed us.

Queensland Mines Minister Anthony Lynham wrote a letter to us in October, promising he would await the outcome of our Federal Court action against the Carmichael mine before considering issuing Adani with the mining leases. But today the Premier and the Minister double-crossed us.

Adani doesn't have our free, prior and informed consent to build their Carmichael coal mine on our land, and they never will.

The Queensland Government just rode roughshod over our rights and granted the mining leases anyway. They have given Adani the green light to ignore our opposition and to tear the heart out of our country. To destroy our rivers and drain billions of litres of groundwater. To leave a black hole

The Cockfighter

April 2016

of monumental proportions in our homelands.

We feared the Government would do this -- and they did. And we need your help to fight it. Today's approval changes everything. But we can and will fight on. Can you donate now so we can fight against Adani's mining lease in court?

This is far from over! Our incredible supporters have already helped us take a fight against the mine to the Federal Court. The case is still underway as we speak.

But once again this Government thinks it can trample all over our rights without consequences. Once again this Government pays lip service to our rights, but they never stand up for them when mining and money become involved. This is a lie and it's a betrayal, clear and simple.

Two weeks ago, our claim group met en masse and voted down an Indigenous Land Use Agreement with Adani. It was the third and final time. We said it again, we said it loud and we said it clear: we do not consent to this mine and we never will.

The Minister has trashed our rights and pushed the leases out the door in one of the worst acts of bad faith towards Queensland's Indigenous people in living memory.

This fight will define our people and be a landmark moment for Indigenous rights in Australia. Can you help us fight for our rights and our country in court?

Adani and the Queensland Government think they can walk all over us but they've never seen anything like this. Our lands and our way of life, and the legacy of our ancestors, mean too much to our people for us to roll over.

Our resolve is doubled. Minister Lynham can issue all the bits of paper he likes, hide behind false claims of jobs and benefits, and pander to big coal for an unviable project.

But our people's rights are not expendable. This act of infamy will be challenged all the way to the High Court if necessary, and we will continue to pursue our rights under international law.

The Minister may think this is the end of the matter, but for us it is just another chapter in the long struggle we have to get proper respect and protection for our rights under law, and ensure our sacred homelands are preserved for time immemorial.

We won't stop until our rights are upheld and our land is protected.

Adrian Burragubba, on behalf of the Wangan and Jagalingou Traditional Owners.

For more information on how to support thi appeal: getup.org.au

Diary Dates

- 31 March (from) Hunter Valley Wine Food & Film Festival Around Hermitage
- 8-10 April A Little Bit of Italy in Broke
- 9 April Jazz in the Grove Stonehurst Cedar Creek
- 23 April Inaugural Harvest Lunch Nightingale Vineyard Broke
- 25 April Anzac Day service Broke - Memorial Garden
- 25 April Anzac Day service Bulga - Memorial Gardens
- 26 April Solar Pumping and Energy Storage Free Workshop Pokolbin Community Hall
- 30 April St Michaels Trivia Night Laguna Hall
- 1 May White Label Lunch Margan Wines Broke
- 7 May Go for Broke bike ride Berowra to Broke
- 7 May Stonehurst Rock & Blue Revival Cedar Creek
- 27 May (from) The God of Carnage play Laguna Hall
- 29 May Taste of Wollombi Wollombi Village
- 5 June Olive Long Lunch Whispering Brook Vineyard Broke
- 13 June Long Weekend Market Wollombi Sale Yards
- 26 June Taste of Wollombi Wollombi Village
- 7 August Hunter Valley French Car Club Nightingale Vineyard Broke
- 26 August 25th Laguna School Art Show Laguna Hall
- 27-28 August Wollombi Country Fair
- 3 September Wollombi Wild Ride
- 10 September Stonehurst Long Table Lunch Cedar Creek
- 11 September Broke Village Fair Broke
- 17 September Sawmans Wine Club Lunch Noyce Brothers Wine Wollombi
- 24 September Wollombi Music Festival Wollombi
- 2 October Catherine Vale Jazz Day Broke
- 3 October Long Weekend Market Wollombi Sale Yards
- 1 November Melbourne Cup GNTF Laguna & Wollombi Tavern
- 6 November Meet the Makers Broke
- 12 November Folk in Broke Broke
- November (all) Sculpture in the Vineyard Wollombi Wine Trail
- 10 December Outdoor Cinema Grays Inn garden Wollombi
- 12 December Community Christmas Party Wollombi
- 31 December New Years Eve fireworks Wollombi Tavern

March Rainfall 12mm
Year to date 258 mm

Broke Fordwich 'Wine Boutiquery' at its Best

Much of the early European history of Broke involved cattle and dairy – going back to the first European settlers in the 1820's. In 1905 the McNamara family settled on the fertile banks of the Cockfighter Creek or Wollombi Brook, as it is sometimes known.

William (Bill) McNamara established a working dairy farm selling milk, cream and butter in nearby Singleton. Bill's son Frank, one of 12 children, took over in the 1930s and his son Neil took over the thriving dairy business in the 1950s. Neil was also the mayor of Singleton for a record 29 years and when he retired his son Tony took over the farm in the mid 1990s.

Tony has also followed in his father's footsteps representing the local community on Singleton Council since 2000.

Large-scale production methods and milk pricing policy saw the decline of dairy as a viable business in the mid nineties. The property was converted to Angus beef production and a small portion (20 acres) was planted as a vineyard by Tony's brother Phil in 1997. The first wines were produced in 1999.

Phil McNamara takes control of the vineyard side of things; Tony looks after the 120 or so head of Angus beef cattle grazing around the property.

The former milking shed was converted into a cafe and tasting room for estate grown wines and opened in 2001. After being closed for several years, the newly re-furbished milking shed cafe has been re-opened, sporting a bar and ancillary furniture manufactured from the old, now demolished low-level bridge in Broke. Fittingly, the bridge was originally built in the 1960's after a campaign by Neil and his wife Joan, to replace the causeway and flying fox that was not only an extremely slow method of transporting product across the river but was highly dangerous.

Today the tasting room continues to serve classic wines that have a well deserved reputation for quality and consistency.

Phil is an enthusiastic supporter of his wines. Visitors receive a knowledgeable



Swedish trained chef Melanie Steffen, has notched up experience in award-winning restaurants in Darwin and Melbourne as well as overseas.



and highly entertaining 'walk-through' of Mt Broke wines, as Phil describes the processes and the influences involved in producing one of Broke Fordwich's stable of boutique wines. Because Phil, like many wine-growers in the region, actually works the vineyard himself, his information is made more interesting because of his hand-on knowledge.

The Café –has now been re-opened and is serving lunches on weekends.

Internationally trained and experienced chef, Melanie (Mel) Steffen, has brought a new look to the menu with meals that look fabulous, are inexpensive and bring excitingly unique flavours to the Mt Broke eatery.

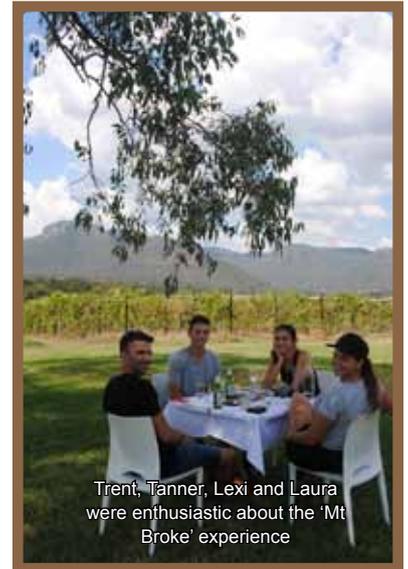
Mel fell in love with Australia many years ago and became an Australian two years ago.

"What I like about being at Mt Broke is that it captures everything I love about Australia. The

mixture of bush settings, expansive views, sophisticated tastes and a laid-back spirit," she said.

"I try to recreate that mix in my choice of dishes. People want the sophistication of a carefully crafted dish. Phil wants food that will harmonise with his wonderful wines and the customer wants to experience something special," she added.

Overlooking the vineyards with stunning views across the brook to the impressive Pokolbin State Forest ranges, a wine tasting at Mt Broke, accompanied by Melanie's food should be at the top of the 'to-do' list for visitors to the Broke Fordwich Wine



Trent, Tanner, Lexi and Laura were enthusiastic about the 'Mt Broke' experience

Region.

An excerpt (one of many) from Tripadvisor helps complete the story of Mt Broke:

We visited Mount Broke Wines after two different people suggested we shouldn't miss it and boy they were right! The most beautiful location and place to enjoy and immerse yourself in wine. Phil, the owner was so lovely, personally greeted us as we walked in and we proceeded to spend the next 90 minutes loving his wines, especially the Verdelho and Shiraz. After visiting many wineries around Australia and the world and coming from a wine family myself, this was the first time I can say we tasted the wines as close to the vineyard and grapes being grown as you can. A MUST for any Hunter Valley visit. We'll be back again! Thanks Phil, we had a ball!

Mt Broke Wines

130 Adams Peak Road, Broke-Fordwich, Hunter Valley

0428 409 584

philmcnamara@outlook.com.au



Melissa (4th from the left) enjoyed her 'Hen Party' before flying over to Ireland to marry long-time boyfriend Ryan.

Solar Pumping and Energy Storage Free Workshop

Learn about solar water pumping technologies and techniques. Hear about energy storage and energy saving

This workshop will be useful to anyone with an interest in water pumping or energy storage. Primary Producers including the wine industry, intensive cropping, dairying, water utilities and treatment agencies;



Irrigators and Water industry organisations are particularly welcome.

When Tuesday 26th April 2016 9am to 2pm. Registration from 8:30am.

Where Pokolbin Community Hall 128 McDonalds Road Pokolbin, NSW 2320

Cost Free

Catering Morning tea and lunch provided
Book online: Solar Pumping and Energy Storage Workshop

Contact Gordon Fraser Ph: 02 4927 3145, gordon.fraser@environment.nsw.gov.au

Councils join Wine ...

Cessnock City Council and Singleton Council are jointly progressing the subject Planning Proposal. The objective of the Planning Proposal is to standardise, as far as possible, the objectives and land use tables of the RU4 Primary Production Small Lots Zone in the Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Singleton and Cessnock, so that there is effectively no arbitrary planning boundary within the area of the Pokolbin Vineyard District.

The outcome of the Planning Proposal will be amended objectives and land use tables of the RU4 Zone in both the Cessnock Local Environmental Plan 2011 and the Singleton Local Environmental Plan 2013. The Land Use Tables will be amended to be as compatible as possible, whilst respecting important differences between the LGAs. At present, the differences that will remain relate to the permissibility of hotel and motel accommodation, forestry, and recreation areas and outdoor facilities.

A Gateway Determination was issued by the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DoPE) on 3 March 2016. The Determination was issued subject to 5 conditions, including condition 3 that requires consultation to occur with vineyards related 'peak bodies', including the NSW Department of Primary Industries (Agriculture).

...and join Tourism Boundaries

The Singleton Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre is delighted to announce that as of Monday this week we have begun providing a seven day per week service for all accommodation and tour enquiries and bookings for Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association (HVWTA).

This collaboration is in line with the objectives of the Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Alliance. The arrangement will deliver excellence in customer service to the consumer and an expanded suite of promotional services for our tourism providers across Hunter Valley Wine Country.

In addition, Singleton Council will merge its tourism website, visitsingleton.com, with the Hunter Valley Wine Tourism Association website, winecountry.com.au, in the coming weeks.

This transition will provide a simple, one-stop information and booking portal for consumers and free up valuable resources across both organisations to promote and advance Hunter Valley Wine Country as the premier tourism destination.

Mechanisms are in place to ensure no businesses are disadvantaged by the website merger and Singleton Council has already implemented a program of joint marketing activities with Hunter Valley Wine Tourism Association to build brand awareness and increase visitation. Members of the Singleton Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre will retain access to the full complement of promotional and marketing opportunities currently available as well as some additional products.

Once the merger is complete, the visitsingleton.com domain will be automatically redirected to winecountry.com.au and all Singleton and surrounds content will be visible on the Wine Country site at that time.

Broke Fordwich winegrower, Geoff Brown expressed some concerns about the new merger.

"Broke Fordwich, the biggest wine producing region with the most cellar doors in the Singleton LGA will be highly disadvantaged by this merger," Mr Brown said.

"Many of the small accommodation holders in the Broke Fordwich region do not belong to the HVWTA and are not included," he said.

"Hopefully this merger does not mean that Singleton will be asking the same huge membership fees as HVWTA - at the moment we pay about \$135 to our volunteer group, Broke Fordwich Wine and Tourism Association and they do a great job," Mr Brown added

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195 YEARS SINCE BENJAMIN SINGLETON GAVE HIS NAME TO THE TOWN

Benjamin Singleton (1788 - 1853) arrived in Sydney on 14th February 1792. He travelled from England with his father and mother on the convict ship the "Pitt". His father, William, then a warehouse porter in London, was sentenced at the Old Bailey on 8 June 1791 to transportation for seven years. Benjamin Singleton went on to marry Mary Lane Sherland on 4th February 1811.



who thought Singleton 'a very trustworthy man'. In the same year he fell foul of James Mudie, who refused to accept his instructions concerning the employment of convicts on Sundays and their attendance at musters. Singleton appealed successfully to Close, the nearest magistrate, to uphold his authority 'or else the District will be no better than bushrangers'. In 1825 his application for additional land, granted in 1828, was supported by the four major landholders of the district.

Farming he found 'but a poor employment'. He was grazing stock on Liverpool Plains in 1827, his mill and inn at Singleton being managed by relatives. With his brother Joseph he built a water-mill at Boatfalls, near Clarencetown, in 1831 and then embarked on a new venture. He commissioned from William Lowe's yard at Clarencetown a horse-drawn vessel, aptly named the Experiment, to be used in the Parramatta trade. Neither horses nor passengers took kindly to the novelty, and in December 1832 he offered it for sale 'for want of funds to propel her by steam'.

Want of funds also forced the subdivision, sale or mortgage of much of his property during the 1830s and his insolvency in 1842, but did not prevent him making the first gifts of land to the Anglican and Presbyterian churches in Singleton. His unique contribution to education was to plough a furrow from the town to the schoolhouse at Whittingham, so that the children would not lose their way. He died on 2 May 1853, aged 65, and was buried in the Whittingham (Singleton) cemetery.

He was survived by his wife Mary (1796-1877), whom he had married on 7 February 1811, and by their ten children.

On the 5th March 1820, Singleton accompanied John Howe's exploration party, and by the 15th March they had arrived at what was to be known as Patricks Plains.

The town of Singleton is built on part of Singleton's 200 acres (81 ha), granted on 31 March 1821 as a reward for his share in this successful expedition. Benjamin took up residence on the land and by 1823 his family (which was to reach 10 children) had joined him and that same year he was appointed District Constable.

Cattle on agistment from the Hawkesbury were soon grazing 'at Singleton's' and in February 1823

Major James Morisset appointed him district constable, on the recommendation of Edward Close

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till late.

Anzac Services 25 April 2016

Broke Anzac Service

Service starts at 10am. Followed by morning tea at the Memorial Garden next to the fire shed.

If people could bring a plate to share that would be much appreciated.

Short dawn service as well.

Any enquiries people can contact Kathleen on 0422 314 137

Bulga Anzac Service

The Bulga Anzac Memorial Service 2016 is to be held on Monday 25th of April at the Memorial Gardens in the Bulga Recreation Grounds at 11am. Following the service a light luncheon will be served at the Bulga Community Hall.

VILLAGE MASTER PLANS

CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS

The draft Village Master Plans for Broke, Bulga, Jerrys Plains and Milbrodale are currently on exhibition for public comment. Singleton Council will host two workshops for interested residents to discuss the draft documents, answer questions and take on feedback.

Thursday 7 April 5pm-7pm

Bulga Community Hall

Thursday 28 April 5pm-7pm

Broke Hall

No RSVP is necessary – all welcome.

For more information visit www.singleton.nsw.gov.au



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"IN-SYNC" Adverb; simultaneously, at once, at the same time, in concert, concurrently, all together



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Singleton Festival committee appoints new chair

Newly appointed chair of the Singleton Festival Committee, Cr Dan Thompson, paid tribute to outgoing chair John Drinan during the position changeover this week.

Like Mr Drinan, Cr Thompson will represent the Rotary Club of Singleton on Hunter on the committee and is looking forward to taking the annual event into the future.

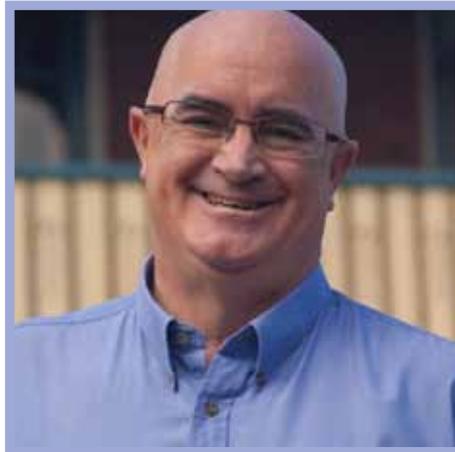
“John did an exceptional job which has seen the event grow from a music and art event to an all-inclusive celebration of the arts, food, wine, music and culture of Singleton and the surrounding region,” Cr Thompson says.

“Singleton Festival is a chance to showcase the cultural side of our community and the 2015 event saw more than 30 events held over the three week period of the festival.”

Singleton Festival in its entirety is held

every two years with a mini festival held in between the much larger biennial event.

This year’s program is a mini festival and



will be held over two weekends focusing around an Irish Baroque concert at Sacred Spaces on 17 July and the Singleton Art Prize the following weekend.

The committee is keen to hear of any events being held during this time that could come under the Singleton Festival banner.

A benefit of doing so is having your event incorporated into the mini-festival program and promotional material.

Please call Singleton Visitor Information and Enterprise Centre (SVIEC) on 02 6571 5888 if you have an event you would like to promote during this time.

The next Singleton Festival meeting is 13 April at 2.30pm at the SVIEC.

For more on the Singleton Festival visit www.singletonfestival.com.au

A PHISHING TRIP YOU DON'T

Cyber criminals around the world are baiting up and casting their lures in the hope of reeling in your personal details.

It's a practice called phishing. It comes in

the form of an official-looking email from your bank, your internet provider, iTunes account



telling you to log in and update your details.

It can result in people gaining access to your personal emails, your computer and even your bank accounts.

It's not just private individuals that are targeted –businesses including EBay and JPMorgan have also been caught on the hook, showing that companies with even the most sophisticated and well-resourced IT departments are still vulnerable to cybercrime.

Reputational damage of hacking can be just as problematic as financial damage; at least insurance often covers financial loss. The Sony Pictures data hack in 2014 resulted in the downfall of one of the company's top executives and exposed some very embarrassing

WANT TO GO ON

opinions about some of the world's biggest stars. It has since been revealed Sony's CEO has reverted to handwriting and faxing much of his correspondence following the hack.

Going back to handwriting and faxing is not practical or recommended. The increasing uptake of technology across the world is driven by its ability to streamline processes and save time and money. Businesses and individuals can take some simple steps to avoid falling victim to hacking and phishing.

Have a healthy amount of suspicion about official-looking emails asking you to update your details. Companies like your bank, PayPal, Ebay and iTunes will NEVER send you an email out of the blue asking you to update your details. If you do receive this type of email it is a safe bet you can delete it. Type the address into Google or the browser you usually use to access the service (eg, www.anz.com.au) and log into your account as you normally would..

Get serious about passwords. Use different passwords for different accounts and make sure they do not include family or pet names and significant dates.

Get a good spam filter and back up your data regularly. However, if you do happen to fall prey to a hack having a regular back-up schedule in place can minimise the damage from a data loss perspective.

Be aware that mobile devices like your mobile phone or tablet, which don't always have anti-virus protection, can also be hacked.

Visit business.gov.au for more information about how to keep your business secure online.

BULGA COAL

—
GLENCORE

Environment and Community Contacts

Ralph Northey - Bulga Coal
Environment and Community Manager
T: 6570 2539 M: 0418 439 874
ralph.northey@glencore.com.au

Ned Stephenson - Bulga Underground
Environment and Community Coordinator
T: 6570 2541 M: 0400 266 877
ned.stephenson@glencore.com.au

Community complaints line, 24 hours a day,
7 days a week **1800 332 693**

You can also view our approvals, management plans and environmental monitoring data on the website.
Go to www.bulgacoal.com.au and click on the Publications tab on the menu.

Break Free from Fossil Fuels - call for protest support

An online group, Break Free From Fossil Fuels, plans to co-ordinate a huge protest targeting the coal loading terminal in Newcastle on 7 and 8 May. The object of the protest is to shut down the facility because "... the Port of Newcastle, [is] polluting surrounding communities, exporting climate pollution to the rest of the world."

The dilemma for Hunter Valley residents is how to reconcile the historic dependence the community has had on the wealth created by coal mining and the growing knowledge of how damaging it has become.

Historically Hunter residents have been complacent about, if not, even proud of the symbiotic relationship that has existed between the coal industry and the community.

Generations of families have grown wealthy building service industries and of course, income from contracting to or working with the mines has been at the highest level.

In addition, the mines, both voluntarily and by decree, have contributed tens of millions to community facilities and groups, from schools to small business.

Organisations such as *Break Free From Fossil Fuels* are declaring that wealth-

sharing does not heal the damage caused by mining and burning fossil fuels.

There is growing concern throughout the world as climate change becomes an observable phenomenon.

Information released by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) indicated that last month was the hottest March on record, reaching 1.7 degrees Celsius above the long-term av-



erage. This eclipsed the 1986 record of 1.67 degrees. More climate records were broken and set in 2015 than in any year in history.

Opponents to fossil fuel usage argue that alternative energy solutions will create more jobs and wealth than the fossil fuel industry ever did. The hurdle to overcome is the power and strength that lobbyists bring to bear on politicians around the world.

Some commentators are suggesting that an effective way of replacing fossil fuel is to encourage the miners to invest in green solutions.

This will bring tens of millions of dollars into research, development and marketing of power generation and storage whilst supplanting dwindling income from fossil fuel. This could be done with the co-operation of governments keen to demonstrate their closeness to the voter.

Meanwhile shareholders would respond favourably to such a shift and the new clean, green branches of the fossil fuel industry would provide a public relations coup.

To ensure a successful protest event, *Break Free From Fossil* is providing transport, logistics and training details as soon as people sign-up on the on-line site.

Emails distributed recently state:

"We will put our bodies on the line to stop the digging and burning of dirty fossil fuels and call-out the politicians who perpetuate this destructive cycle. And we will demand a plan that properly supports workers and communities to transition away from decades of living and working around coal and gas. And what better time to send that message than a few months out from a federal election."

For more information about how to join the protest:

australia.breakfree2016.org



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Singleton Council to open recycling shop and education centre

Singleton Council will inject new life into reusable items recovered from landfill when it opens a recycling shop later this year.

An information centre and the recycling shop to be located at the Singleton Waste Management Facility on Dyring Rd.

The recycling shop will provide the Singleton community the opportunity to purchase reusable items at very low prices that have been recovered from the Community

Recycling Centre, waste transfer station or tip face.

It's anticipated that ornaments, curios, furniture, steel, garden implements, flooring and building materials will all be available

for a fraction of retail prices.

Residents will be able to access the recycling shop every day from 8am to 4pm and drop off materials for reuse to the Community Recycling Centre.



The proposed Education Centre

The information centre will provide a venue for Council's waste and recycling education programs, including school and community workshops, as well as amenities for staff that work at the waste management facility.

The project has been made possible by a grant from the NSW EPA Waste Less Recycle More program funded from the waste levy and contributions from Council.

Singleton Council General Manager Jason Linnane says the recycling shop will reduce the amount of waste that ends up at the tip face and extend the life of Singleton's landfill.

"The funds raised from selling reusable items will help offset the cost of providing other recycling options free of charge such as ewaste and polystyrene," he said

Construction on the new facilities is expected to commence in April and be open by mid-June.

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 If you would like to talk to us about our operations and plans, get in touch with our Community Relations and Environment teams:
 Visit:
 Shopfronts in Singleton (127 John St) and Muswellbrook (19 Bridge St)
 Phone:
 Community Info line - 1800 727 745
 Complaints Hotline - 1800 656 892
 Read:
 Singleton and Muswellbrook Community Newsletters, distributed direct to your letterbox
 Email:
 cnacommunityrelations@riotinto.com
 Blasting hotlines:
 HVO: 1800 888 733
 MTW: 1800 099 669
 www.riotintocoalaustralia.com.au

A LITTLE BIT OF ITALY IN BROKE



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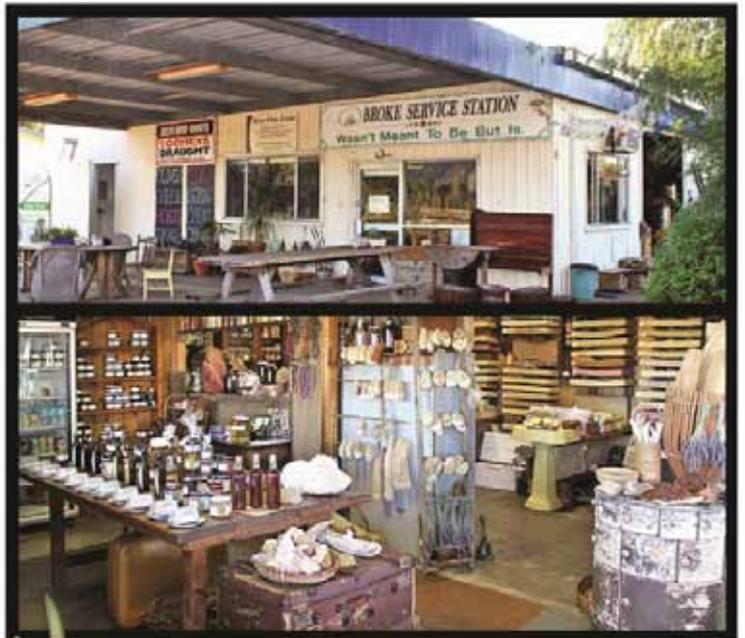
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OUR NEW ADDRESS:
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BROKE VILLAGE

RETAIL OUTLET OF RIVERFLATS
ESTATE & BARE NATURES'KIN

ANDTHE BEAT GOES ON

Bulga Beats Festival 2016 was another great success thanks to an overwhelming show of support from both the public and local businesses.

Festival goers were treated to great music, markets and fantastic food. The Art Exhibition and Sale attracted artists from around the state and was a great success.

Our focus of community building, attracting people to our district, supporting and promoting sustainable industries, local businesses and wine and tourism definitely showcases all our beautiful area has to offer.

The Wakagetti Dance Troupe again proved overwhelmingly popular with their amazing morning and dusk performances while Southern Fire added some more heat to the evening with an exhibition of fire dancing.

Great music on Saturday was also performed by Boneman, Fred's Ginger, Zappo, William John Junior and from interstate, Golden Orb. Daheen closed the show with an amazing set that included special lighting and projections.

Our special guest on the day, Luke O'Shea (Best Male 2015 Golden Guitar winner) not only performed some of his great songs but also signed a special guitar and spoke in support of our town and the Festival.

Our guitar auction was again extremely popular this year with guitars autographed by legends such as Paul Kelly, Peter Garrett, Jimmy Barnes, Troy Cassar-Daley, Kasey Chambers, John Butler, Ash Grunwald, The Cruel Sea and Archibald Prize winning artist Ben Quilty.

Our little town's big festival attracted



people not only from the Hunter Valley but also from Sydney, the Central, Mid and North Coast. We had festival goers from the Northern Territory, Victoria and even Tasmania. We received many fantastic reviews and the overall consensus from the crowd was that they would certainly be attending the next Bulga Beats Festival on May 6th, 2017.

All raffle winners were very excited about

the quality and variety of prizes on offer.

These are the generous contributors who were instrumental in the success of Bulga Beats Festival 2016:

Debbie and Xia at Starline Alpacas
Don and Lance at Nightingale's Winery
Barb and Geoff at Ascella Wines
Wendy at Catherine Vale Wines
Marion at Pickled & Pitted
Klaus at Glenguin Estate
Stewart at Bin 688 Vineyard
Graham at Brokes Promise
Karen at Hollydene Winery
Andrew at Margan Wines
John at Godolphin Woodland Stud
Michael at Coolmore Stud
Jody and Richard at HHH Transport
Peter at Valley Scaffolding
Robert at Tutt Bryant Hire
Ian and Jan at Hedweld Engineering
Brent Wyborn Earthmoving and of course Eden, Tom and all at The Cockfighter who helped in publicising our Festival.

Mark your calendars everyone, Bulga Beats Festival is back again May 6th, 2017.....the Beat Goes On!

AnneMaree and Robert McLaughlin

Bulga Beats Festival

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Tom Jackson phone: 6574 5266

Eden Anthony 65791259

fighter@broke.nsw.au



COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Broke Bulga Landcare Group Inc.

C/o President, Wendy Lawson
PO Box 120, Broke NSW 2330

Broke Fair Committee

Eden Anthony
President, Eden Anthony
0498 633 864 mail@hunterstay.com.au

Broke Fordwich Wine & Tourism Assoc.

President, Eden Anthony
0498 633 864 mail@hunterstay.com.au

Broke Bush Fire Brigade

C/o Broke Post Office, Broke NSW 2330

Broke Community Hall

Kathleen Everett (02) 6579 1470

Broke Public School

Principal/P&C Association,
Cochrane Street, Broke NSW 2330

Bulga Milbrodale Progress Association

President - John Krey
6574 5376
PO Box 1032, Singleton 2330
bmpa.contact@bigpond.com

Bulga Rural Fire Brigade

President: John Lamb
6574 5205
Captain: Michael Bendall
6574 5193
Permits: M Bendall 6574 5193
A Gallagher 6574 5100

Bulga Community Centre Inc.

Secretary Belinda Passlow 65745113
Treasurer and bookings Phillip Reid 65745237

NSW Rural Fire Service Hunter Valley District

Phone 6575 1200, Fax 6574 5266,
email huntervalley.team@rfs.nsw.gov.au
Manager, Inspector Martin Siemsen

Justice of the Peace

Tom and Sue Jackson 6574 5266
Graeme O'Brien 6574 5185
John Darr, Broke 0437 173 277
Joan McNamara 6579 1057

Milbrodale Public School

Principal/P&C Association
Putty Road, Milbrodale NSW 2330

National Parks and Wildlife Service- Upper Hunter Area Bulga and Scone

Peta Norris, Putty Road, Bulga
NSW 2330 6574 5555

Palliative Care Volunteers

for Singleton & Cessnock
Kath Watkinson (02) 65722121

PID Admin

Saywells
12 Vincent St CESSNOCK
office@saywells.com

PID - Private Irrigation

admin@bfpid.com.au
Water On/Off 1300 767 118

St Andrews Anglican Church Broke

Parish Secretary at 6571 1414

St Marks Anglican Church

C/o Marie Mitchell
Inlet Road, Bulga NSW 2330

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Broke

Paul O'Toole
C/o Broke Post Office, Broke NSW 2330

Wildlife Rescue, Rehabilitation and Release

www.wildlifeaid.org.au 0429 850 089

The Cockfighter is a not-for-profit community service publication run by volunteers

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Secretary: Sarah Purser

Production: Eden Anthony

Accounts: Ken McCraw

Advertising: Chris Hagan

OUR WILDLIFE



RAINBOW BEE-EATER. (Merops ornatus)

Gorgeous blue and green bird: bill finely curved; eyes red in blue edged long black – eyeline; throat yellow- orange with black crescent. Male: crown orange-bronze; tail shaft extend 2.5cm. Female: crown greener in colour and tail shaft shorter. They live in groups of 20-40, roosting in small shrubby trees at night and migrating to the far north in winter. They hunt from a perch, very rarely from the ground, making complex aerial manoeuvres to catch insects and squeezing out bee – stings before eating the bees. They breed from November to January in the south and at the beginning of the dry season in the north. Females lay 3-7 eggs in a nest at the end of a tunnel to 1m long, dug into a bank or bare flat ground. Group members help to dig tunnels, incubate the eggs for around 21 days and rear the young who fledge in about 4 weeks. They have a high pitched chattering call. Diet consists of bees and other flying insects.

I had only ever seen these beautiful little birds in the Broke area but have now seen them in both Broke and Bulga. ☺

Elizabeth

Joey's Retreat

Trades & Services Directory

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65791259 mail@hunterstay.com.au

CARRIER - General

John Lamb
6574 5205
MOB 0427 695 468

CARRIER - CATTLE

Lionel Caban
6574 5366
MOB 0427 745 366

CATTERY

Jan Pennell
6579 1450

CLEANERS - PROFESSIONAL

Hunter Valley Cleaning Group
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hvceg@gmail.com

COMPUTERS & COMMUNICATION

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ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

Robert McLaughlin
0405 555 901
rob.mac46@hotmail.com

GARDEN AND LAWN MAINTENANCE

Grandview Gardens
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paul@grandviewgardens.com.au
grandviewgardens.com.au

GOURMET FOODS

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POOL & YARD MAINTENANCE

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65791228 or 0400 367025

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WINE MAKING

Michael McManus
6579 1400
Mob 0403 014 787

