

The Cockfighter

Linking the Communities of Broke Fordwich Bulga & Milbrodale

FREE



BROKE
FORDWICH
WINE REGION

The tranquil side of the Hunter Valley

DECEMBER 2016

It looks like Humphrey has become Cockfighter magazines official mascot - anyway he wishes you all a very happy Festive Season and a terrific New Year



WET Tax Reform - Hunter Valley Wine Tourism helps chalk up a massive win for the Wine Industry

Our magazine - named after Cockfighter Creek - So named in 1820 by John Howe and B. Singleton because one of their horses called Cockfighter was bogged here on their return trip from Wallis Plains (Maitland) to Patrick Plains (Singleton)

The Cockfighter

Linking the Communities of Broke Fordwich Bulga & Milbrodale

From the Editor ALL SHOOK UP

The tragic earthquake which devastated Indonesia's Aceh region early this month came not far from an all-too-familiar anniversary for many Hunter communities—the tremor which hit Newcastle (with thankfully much smaller loss of life) some 27 years ago. And my former countrypersons across the ditch are still recovering from another shock near the site of the Christchurch catastrophe of recent years. So, it seems that such events shouldn't be consigned to the 'can't-happen-here' basket some of us complacently hide under the bed—only to fall into it (the basket, not the bed) when nature strikes. That's if it is nature.

I owe my interest in this to a new report by Matthew Kelly, the Hunter Valley News staffer who tackled the quite regular disturbances which have worried more than a few residents of our little patch—the patch we revere as the Tranquil Side of the Valley. I wanted to widen Matthew's audience for this story (with thanks) because the HVN is a freebie and is distributed to a restricted Upper Hunter locale (Bulga just makes the classification). The article quoted our own John Krey, local resident and leader of the Bulga-Milbrodale Progress Association's battle with those behind the Mt Thorley expansion scandal. To John, the earth tremors are a no-brainer: his own experience of blasting led him to the conviction that there is a clear relationship between mining and seismic activity.

Greenscience Australia records point to a considerable increase in the number of these earth-moving experiences in the last 20 years: between 1976 and 1996, there were 65 instances—but between 1996 and this year, there have been 94 in the Hunter region. A GSA spokeswoman commendably stressed that the later figures should be addressed in the context of advances in reporting technology as well as the addition of more reporting stations.

From a personal point of view, the blasts that have occasionally rocked Hacienda Jackson over the last 20 years or so could have emanated from the mines, Army artillery or (most unlikely) the rear ends of the considerable livestock population on the agistment property opposite. But residents of other areas would dispute this: people from Branxton, Greta, Kurri and Lochinvar all reported an earthquake only last month—a shock that rattled windows, and shook houses. GSA said seismic stations (at Newcastle and Mangrove Mountain) recorded these incidents but 'the characteristics of the signal were not consistent with seismic activity.' GSA recorded tremors at Denman and Muswellbrook of more than 3 magnitude but warned of the difficulty in linking such episodes with man-made seismicity. The Mining Council CEO, Stephen Galilee, said the number of coal mines operating in the Hunter had fallen by a third in the last five years.

On that note, Industry reporter THE COALFACE could be in line for the scoop of the year. Although unable to claw confirmation from the parties involved, it seems that Rio Tinto may be on the brink of off-loading Mt Thorley Warkworth and Hunter Valley Operations to Yancoal, having sold Bengalla and Mount Pleasant earlier this year. Let's hope there's a new direction as well as a new owner, but that shouldn't stop all at COCKFIGHTER wishing all out there, miners and majors (yes, we have our readers at the Home of Infantry), debaters and detractors and our astoundingly supportive advertisers a safe and rewarding Christmas and New Year.

(Tom Jackson)

The Cockfighter
To all our readers
Merry Christmas
Festive Season
and a
Bountiful New Year



Advertising rates
Business Card \$32.05
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December 2016

November Rainfall 63.00 mm
TOTAL to date 640 mm

Diary Dates

- 9 December Broke Village Christmas Carols Recreation Ground Cochrane St Broke
- 10 December Outdoor Cinema Grays Inn garden Wollombi
- 12 December Community Christmas Party Wollombi
- 31 December New Years Eve fireworks Wollombi Tavern
- 7-9 April 2017 A Little Bit of Italy in Broke
- 10 September 2017 Broke Village Fair and Vintage Car Display

First Sunday of the Month Broke Village Markets

Other dates to add to your calendar

- November 19th The Return of the Sugar Man Rodriguez
- November 26th Baby Animals,
- December 3rd Garbage, The Temper Trap, The Preachers & Adalita
- December 10th Culture Club with support acts Kids In The Kitchen, Real Life, Wa Wa Nee, 1927 and Pseudo Echo
- January 26-29th Slideapalooza
- February 11th Simple Minds & The B-52's
- February 12th James Taylor
- February 18th Bruce Springsteen & The E-Street Band
- February 25th Suzi Quatro
- March 25th Red Hot Summer Tour 2017
- April 1st Cyndi Lauper & Blondie
- April 8th Barry Gibb



WET Tax Reform - A Win for the Hunter Valley Wine Industry

The Hunter Valley Wine & Tourism Association (HVWTA) welcomes the recent announcement of changes to the Wine Equalisation Tax (WET) rebate, said Chairman of the Hunter Valley Wine and Tourism Association Hon George Souris AM.

The Government in the last May budget made significant changes to the WET rebate and the definition of wine producers that would have threatened the viability of many of our small wine producers, and would have had a major impact on the ability of our larger producers to retain employment levels and make further investments in our region.

Today the Government has reconsidered its decision to reduce the WET rebate cap in two stages from \$500,000 to \$290,000, by today announcing it will maintain the cap at \$350,000 and couple this with a \$100,000 grant scheme focusing on investment at the cellar door. These changes will take effect from 1 July 2018.

Mr Souris said, "This decision to retain support for direct to consumer wine sales to the current level and to adopt a sensible definition of a wine producer is vital to the sustainability of the medium sized regional producers, and to the small boutique wine

producers who make up the rich tapestry of our local wine industry given the market, climatic and cost structure pressures we all face".

Further, "this will allow wine producers to continue to invest in their businesses that make the Hunter Valley world renowned from its distinctive wines to its rich tour-

bulk and unbranded suppliers would not be eligible for the WET rebate whereas genuine wine producers would continue to attract a rebate up to \$350k (down from \$500k) and also be able to claim a new Cellar Door QET rebate of up to \$100k pa.

"This is a great outcome for Hunter Valley Wine producers and cellar door business."

If you make wine, import wine into Australia or sell it by wholesale, you'll generally have to account for wine equalisation tax (WET). WET is a tax of 29% of the wholesale value of wine. It's designed to be paid on the last wholesale sale of wine, which is usually between the wholesaler and retailer.

Senator Anne Ruston led a responsive investigation into the concerns of the wine industry by visiting many of the wine regions, including the Hunter Valley and for that we are truly thankful. She understands the opportunities we can seize with wine tourism and export, and understands that the economics aren't the same for everyone given the vast disparity between the cost structures of the largest and smallest producers.

The HVWTA would also like to thank Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce for his efforts and advocacy at the highest levels to ensure the sustainability of the wine and wine tourism industry, Mr Souris said. "I also wish to thank the HVWTA and in particular Mr Ian Napier who led the campaign for the enormous effort and time invested."

"A great deal of the outcome is to the credit of the staunchness of the HVWTA", Mr Souris concluded.

ism facilities including restaurants, golf courses, accommodation facilities, cellar doors and wine tours", Mr Souris said.

Mr Souris said the Government chose a fair arrangement vis-à-vis the bulk and unbranded market by harmonising any changes to 1st July 2018. "From this date

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**Don't worry kids
Santa is still coming
to your place at
Christmas as well!**

On Saturday 26th November the Bulga hall Committee and Members held a wonderful Christmas Party for the residents of Bulga, Milbrodale and surrounding area at The Bulga Community Hall.

Plenty of bright lights and decorations were put up for the occasion. A Disco for the children with games and prizes. Santa arrived with gifts and which were greatly appreciated by those who received them.

The Verdict?

It was a really fantastic Family Night with a large attendance.



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**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.

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He ain't no ass ... he's Supreme Champion of the Show!



Humphrey trying hard not to smile having been awarded
"Supreme Champion of the Show!"

Humphrey Bogart has appeared several times in *The Cockfighter* and hogs the limelight on the cover of this issue.

We like Humphrey because he is the epitome of the classic donkey made good story - from emaciated sick rescued donkey to multi- award winner, we think he is worthy of our attention.

Young Humphrey Bogart was back in the spot light recently at the inaugural Donkey Olympics, organised by Donkey Welfare With Heart (DWWH). The Bowerman family generously hosted this year's Hunter Valley Show, at their beautiful property in the Quorrobolong region.

People and their long eared friends came together from far and wide to enjoy a day of competition and camaraderie with like minded Donkey fans. 42 Donkeys of many sizes, breeds and ages attending, including one very tall Mammoth Donkey.

The classes were Officiated by two DWWH registered Judges who generously provided their time for the day of showing and the Olympics covered a wide range of competitions; Led, Ridden, Harness, Sled & Pack Saddle. There were also Obstacle Courses, a Beginners Class and a Fancy Dress Event.

From a nervous young animal that was rescued by DWWH less than two years ago, Humphrey competed in many classes and at the end of the day amongst very stiff competition, he was declared Supreme Champion of the Show.



Meg Wright introducing Rocco to Humphrey before the awards.

DONKEY WELFARE WITH HEART
 HAPPINESS HAS LONG EARS

DWWH inc
 600 Wollombi Road,
 Bishops Bridge. NSW 2326
 cbwellwell@gmail.com

A huge vote of thanks to Christine Berry, Dr. Gelderman (DWWH Vet) and a legion of loyal Volunteers that spend an enormous amount of time and effort to rescue, rehabilitate and if possible re-home 100's of Donkeys throughout the greater Hunter Region.

Please consider how you could help Donkey Welfare With Heart to continue their amazing work to improve the lives of these truly tough, stoic and clever animals.

Stirling & Sarah
 DWWH Foster Carers of Humphrey Bogart
HEE HAW!

The Willows Restaurant & Broke Village Store

The focal point of the Broke community and surrounding area

The Village Store serves many needs:

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Lazy. No commitment. Lack of respect. Ungrateful. Spoiled rotten. Entitled.

Have you ever heard these words used to describe the next generation? Well Generation Y is proving us all wrong.

Entering the workplace and leaving their mark in increasing numbers, Millennials (aged between 18-35) are a force to be reckoned with.

The digital natives are breaking free of their presumed stereotypes and are overwhelmingly becoming 'work martyrs' according to a report by Project: Time Off.

'Work Martyrs' are defined as employees who prefer not to take time off work as they believe no one else can do their work while they are away. They even feel guilty for taking vacation time.

They also believe being a 'work martyr' will impress their employer and help them stand out as a star employee. 'Work martyrs' are completely dedicated to their organisation and want to be seen as irreplaceable.

The report studied 5,600 employees across the US, who work more than 35 hours per week. 29



percent of all employees were 'work martyrs'.

More surprising was the finding that 43 percent of 'work martyrs' are millennials. Nearly half (48 percent) of millennials believed being seen as a 'work martyr' by their boss was a positive.

The reasons Generation Y might be more prepared to forfeit their hard earned holidays than any other generation might be associated with lingering economic fears. These millennials have grown up and entered work during a tumultuous economic period.

Despite earning less than counterpart generations, proving their worth in the workplace is linked to wanting increased career advancement and retaining their job.

Not only are Gen Y committed to putting in the long hours when necessary, in managerial positions they understand the value of their employees taking time off to avoid burn-out and stress.

Having a whole generation of highly engaged employees can reap rewards for business owners. High commitment can secure high job satisfaction, a positive team environment and increased productivity.



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

Blasting hotlines:
HVO: 1800 888 733
MTW: 1800 099 669

Read:
Singleton and Muswellbrook Community Newsletters, distributed direct to your letterbox

Email:
cncommunityrelations@riotinto.com

www.riotintocoalaustralia.com.au



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SUMMER MUSIC SERIES BRINGS LIVE TUNES TO COOK PARK TO CELEBRATE FRIDAYS

December 9 saw Backbeat kick off the Summer Music Series in what was a fantastic night of never before experienced live music at Singleton's Cook Park, thanks to a partnership between Singleton Council and Glencore.

The music started at 6pm, wrapping up about 8.30pm and the entertainment had young and old kicking up their heels from the get-go.

The music was been chosen on the advice of the Warners Bay Chamber which has been conducting a similar event along their foreshore for almost 20 years.

Apparently, selection of music is critical to ensure it appeals to a wide audience.

Other bands to perform at the Summer Music Series are D'Lish Trio, Hey Poncho, Jumpin Jukebox, Brent Murphy-Duo, Kyda and Sass N The Boss.

Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore said she was looking forward to seeing the community come out in force to support the initiative.

"And why wouldn't you?" She said.

"It's fun and it's free, and no one ever

needs an excuse to celebrate the fact that it's Friday."

Glencore's Community Relations Manager, Craig Strudwick, said the company was pleased to be able to support an event with such a strong community focus.

"We aim to have a positive impact on the communities in which we operate, by effectively managing our mining operations and through community partnerships such as this," he said.

"It is about creating a family-friendly, free event where the community can come together and just enjoy being in the outdoors and listening to some different music.

"There has been a deliberate decision not to incorporate other activities around this event such as kids' entertainment that often means parents digging into their pockets."

Cr Moore said the aim was for a relaxed atmosphere where people could enjoy the music in a wonderful space, where "people can set up their little area at Cook Park and just enjoy being together."

She thanked Glencore for their financial support of the Summer Music Series and the cooperation of both Singleton Junior

League and Singleton and District Cricket Club.

"Both sporting bodies have assisted in the preparation with a couple of game changes for cricket and junior league sharing their facilities, and we thank them for that," Cr Moore said.

She was also pleased that the event is accessible.

"Legislation changes have grown from having a focus purely on physical infrastructure to events that are inclusive for the entire community and this event is certainly something I believe everyone will enjoy," she said.

Still to come:

December 16 – d'Lish Trio

December 23 – Hey Poncho

December 30 – Jumpin Jukebox

January 6 – Brent Murphy – Duo

January 13 – Kyda

January 27 – Sass N the Boss

Australia Day at the Civic Centre will also see Infusion Trio play, another great Hunter band sure to keep the crowds in a top mood.

LAUNCH OF VISITOR INFORMATION BAY

Singleton Council will hold a special event to mark the completion of a new Visitor Information Bay on Hermitage Road designed to help visitors best plan their stay in the region.

The information bay, located just south of the Old North Road intersection, marks Singleton Council's first completed milestone in the construction of the joint \$16.7 million upgrade of Hermitage Road with

Cessnock City Council and funded by the NSW Government's Retart NSW Resources for Regions program.

The information bay includes a regional map and tourist information, seating, two picnic tables, parking and native landscaping.

The Singleton project also includes installation of a new 10.6km cycleway,

improvement of the road surface, intersection upgrades, wayfinding signs and new linemarking.

Representatives of the NSW Government, both Singleton and Cessnock councils, contractors, local winemakers and property owners will toast the new information bay at a special opening event on Friday 2 December 2016 at 3pm.

HALL OF FAME

Two new inductees have been added to the prestigious Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame in a special ceremony held at Singleton Civic Centre this recently.

Dirt track motorbike rider Luke Richards and long-time Rotarian Harry Dorsman became the latest to join an important list of people recognised for their achievement in, or contribution to their field of endeavour with an engraved tile on the Hall of Fame.

More than 60 people attended the ceremony to see Luke Richards inducted in the

category of Sport, and Harry Dorsman in the category of Community Service.

Kaye Hornery delivered the response from the 2015 inductees.

Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore, said both Luke and Harry were worthy nominees for the Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame.

"The Wambo Coal Singleton Hall of Fame is a celebration of those people among us who achieve great things in a range of fields, and serves as an inspiration to us all

to give our best at whatever we do," she said.

"Both Luke and Harry fit the bill and then some as wonderful ambassadors for Singleton and I congratulate them both on this honour.

"I am continually amazed by the calibre of nominations that we receive for the Hall of Fame and I thank Peabody Energy Wambo Coal for their continued support that we as a community can continue to recognise these people in this way."

MAKE A PLAN TO BEAT THE HEAT THIS SUMMER AND KEEP YOUR COOL WHEN THE TEMPERATURES RISE

Summer is starting to heat up in Singleton and with forecasts for the weeks ahead predicting a dramatic rise in temperature,

disorders, asthma and obstructive lung conditions,” he said.

“Summer is great fun for water sports and

3. Check on elderly friends, neighbours and relatives, especially if they live alone

4. Have a Plan for how to stay cool when it



it’s timely for residents to prepare for the change in weather.

Singleton Council is encouraging the community to join the Beat the Heat campaign and have a plan to combat sweltering conditions as the mercury begins to climb.

Mark Ihlein, Council’s Director Planning and Infrastructure, said many people didn’t realise extreme heat was a major cause of health problems in Australia, with heat-waves causing more hospitalisations and deaths than any other natural disaster.

“In addition to heat stress, heat exhaustion and heat stroke, heatwaves can worsen existing health conditions including cardiac disease, mental health and behavioural

outdoor activities, but people should also be aware of the health risks that come with being out in the heat.

“That’s why Council is getting behind the Beat the Heat campaign to encourage residents to have a heat plan in place that includes a designated cool spot and lots of water to protect themselves against heat-related illnesses such as dehydration, heat stroke and heat cramps.”

Four actions everyone can take to protect themselves against heat-related illnesses:

1. Drink plenty of water and avoid alcoholic, hot or sugary drinks
2. Keep Cool – do less and avoid being outside during the hottest part of the day

heats up

Early signs of heat-related illness include dizziness, fainting, tiredness, thirst, bright or dark yellow urine.

“If you or anyone you know experience any of these symptoms, take steps to prevent it reaching dangerous levels such as moving to somewhere cool, and drinking water or diluted fruit juice (one part juice in four parts water). You should also avoid tea, coffee or alcohol,” Mr Ihlein said.

“If you start to feel unwell, you should seek medical advice.

“To find out more about ways to beat the heat and be prepared during a heatwave, visit Council’s website.”

BROKE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CAROLS



Why’s Santa in a fire truck Dad? Cause the reindeer are doing their last minute Christmas shopping

Not content with volunteering to risk life and limb, the Broke Rural Fire team can always be relied on to get in involved in a community event.

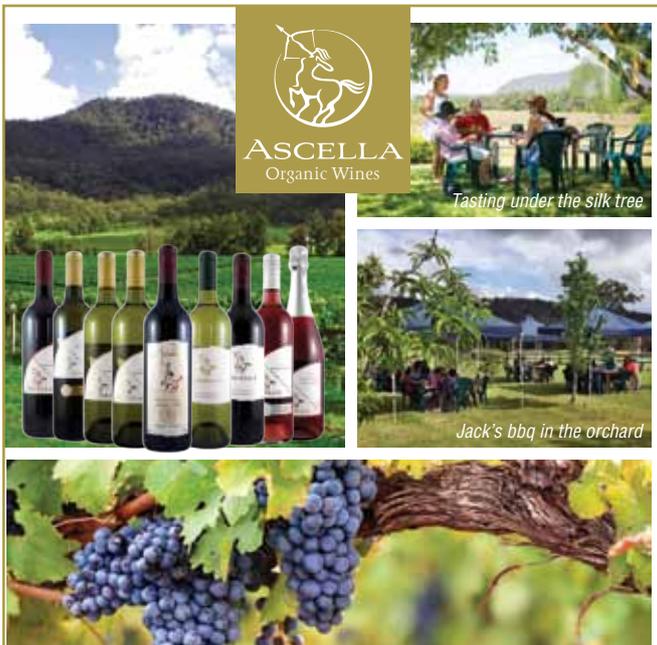
Fire Captain Paul Meyers allowed Santa to ride on one of the fire engines to get him to the Recreation Grounds in Broke - to the delight of scores of children eagerly awaiting his arrival.

Organiser, Jody Derrick was pleased that Santa got there as well



Being Nice, not naughty, the kids form an orderly queue to meet Santa





Tasting under the silk tree



Jack's bbq in the orchard



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I've got salad for dinner. Actually fruit salad Well, mostly grapes. OK all grapes Fermented grapes. Wine. I've got wine for dinner.

BROKE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Term 1 2017						
Term One	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT SUN
1	23 School Holidays	24 School Holidays	25 School Holidays	26 School Holidays	27 Staff Development Day	28 29 January
2	30 Students Return Best Start Testing	31 Best Start Testing	1 Kindergarten Starts	2	3	4 5 February
3	6	7	8	9	10 SSS Swimming Carnival	11 12 February
4	13	14	15	16	17	18 19 February
5	20	21	22	23	24	25 26 February
6	27	28 National Red Balloon Day (thank the Firey's)	1	2 Regional Swimming Carnival @ Maitland	3 Young Teen Talk Yr 6 @ Singleton Public School Library	4 5 March

Term 1 ends Friday 8th April 2017

Vacation Care January 2017

Bookings, enquiries and information
6571 5780

Monday 2 nd Jan	Tuesday 3 rd Jan	Wednesday 4 th Jan	Thursday 5 th Jan	Friday 6 th Jan
Closed Public Holiday	Closed Public Holiday	D.I.Y Crafts and Design Day	Ten Pin Bowling \$9pp includes hot chips	Messy / Crazy Craft and water
Monday 9 th Jan	Tuesday 10 th Jan	Wednesday 11 th Jan	Thursday 12 th Jan	Friday 13 th Jan
Wacky Water Day Slip N Slide Paint Bombs	Majestic Cinemas Movie Day \$22pp Movie-Sing Includes bus, movie, popcorn and drink	Record own Stories at library	Master Chef If You love cooking then today is the day for you! Become a master chef in the kitchen as we explore the wonderful world of food.	Yrs 4- 6 Youth Venue Safe Self Defence Class
Monday 16 th Jan	Tuesday 17 th Jan	Wednesday 18 th Jan	Thursday 19 th Jan	Friday 20 th Jan
Ghost JAM@ Singleton Library \$10pp	Science Day	Rock Pool Adventures visit Sea Life Show \$20pp	Wacky Water Day Sprinklers	4-6 Youth Venue Video game tournament K-3 Crazy Craft
Monday 23 rd Jan	Tuesday 24 th Jan	Wednesday 25 th Jan	Thursday 26 th Jan	Friday 27 th Jan
Ten Pin Bowling \$9pp includes hot chips	Yrs K- 3 Library 4-6 Movie Popcorn	Australia Day Festivities Sausage Sizzle Lunch Lamingtons Craft Games	Closed Public Holiday	Majestic Cinemas Movie Day \$22pp Movie: Moana Includes bus, movie, popcorn and drink

Yellow Bus Stands for Excursion; fill out permission forms on the day of arrival!

The Cockfighter Editorial:

Tom Jackson phone: 6574 5266

Eden Anthony 65791259

mail@hunterstay.com.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
Captain: Adrian Gallagher 6574 5100. Permit officers:
A Gallagher 6574 5100 and B Anderson 0417 403 153

Bulga Community Centre Inc.
Secretary Belinda Passlow 65745113
Treasurer and bookings Phillip Reid 65745237

NSW Rural Fire Service Hunter Valley District
2161 Putty Road Bulga 2330
Phone 6575 1200, Fax 6575 1299
email huntervalley.team@rfs.nsw.gov.au
Manager: Superintendent Ashley Frank.

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
Editor: Tom Jackson
Secretary: Sarah Purser
Production: Eden Anthony
Accounts: Ken McCraw
Advertising: Chris Hagan

OUR WILDLIFE



COMMON BRUSHTAIL POSSUM. (Trichosurus vulpecular)

This arboreal marsupial has large pointy ears and a moderately prehensile tail. Active at night, they forage in trees and shelter in tree hollows, logs, undergrowth rabbit holes and roof spaces. Several dens are used within a home range of 5-7ha. And adults often travel long distances, scent-marking their den sites. They have a large vocal repertoire including coughs, hisses, loud chattering and screeching. They breed mainly autumn and spring and the female gives birth to a single young 16 – 18 days after mating. The joey suckles in her forward-opening pouch for 4- 5 months and then it is either left in the den or rides on mothers back until 7-9 months old. Possums eat leaves, native blossoms, fruit, grass and insects. They live in sclerophyll forests, woodlands.

Possums are protected species and are very territorial, so for anyone to trap or relocate, is a certain death for them. Possums and indeed any wildlife problems PLEASE call your Local Wildlife group for help. Wildlife Aid 0429 850 089.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Elizabeth

Joeys Retreat

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REAL ESTATE

Taylor Real Estate Hunter Valley
1300 803 300
0404 494 482
Catherine@taylorproperty.com.au
Taylorproperty.com.au
PO Box 3 Broke NSW 2330

VINEYARD SERVICES

Bright Vine Services
Vineyard consulting
0410625540
jennybright@bigpond.com
www.brightvineservices.com.au
563 Wollombi Rd, Broke NSW 2330

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Michael McManus
6579 1400
Mob 0403 014 787

