

FREE

The Cockfighter

JULY 2017



**‘Back to the Bush’
- a concert in the Chapel
Anthony Albrecht**

Sunday 23 July, 2pm



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)

From the Editor: YOUTH SPEAKS FOR BULGA

In the place of my geriatric goings-on for this month's issue, I'm delighted to re-publicise the excellent profile of a much younger local personality—by a much younger journalist. Elise Pfeiffer of the SINGLETON ARGUS penned this interview with a member of one of Bulga's long-standing families—seven generations of the Rosers whose devotion to their beautiful surroundings has been re-kindled by unwanted expansion of mining.

For seven generations, the Roser family have called the historic village of Bulga home. Nestled in the foothills of Wollemi National Park, the vibrant village provided a wealth of opportunity.

Bulga was an agricultural hub and a food bowl for stone fruits and grapes. When the queen arrived in Sydney many years ago, it was the Roser family's grapes that hit her table – grapes that were worthy of royalty. Bulga was a peaceful, thriving and happy place to live.

Though today, Bulga tells a different story.

According to 21-year-old Vahid Roser, the vitality of the village has been stilted by the continual expansion of open-cut coal mining. Being a seventh generation Bulga local, Vahid has a strong connection to the local community but he fears that in the not so distant future his home may no longer be here.

"Bulga is the gateway to the Hunter Valley and I think that has been lost," Vahid says.

"Hardly anyone knows what or where Bulga is anymore, even though it was one of the first villages settled in the Hunter Valley.

"The township of Bulga - I don't think it will be here anymore if the mines come any closer because it won't be safe to live here, or enjoyable to live here."

Vahid Roser

Mining operations have been expanding over the past few decades, edging closer to the village and it's community. The coal industry has undoubtedly provided local townships like Singleton with enormous wealth and economic success, and as a young adult Vahid understands the appeal of working in the mines and the wider public support for it. But he often questions at

what price does the industry come at and at whose expense.

"I can definitely see the money in mining, and that as a draw card for the wider community but for me money isn't everything," he says.

"I've grown up here in Bulga and we've been off the grid for 18 years, so mining and money aren't really of interest to me. It's more about bringing positive connections back into communities and enjoying life."

And Vahid is working on doing just that, having started a music festival called 'Bulga Beats' a few years back and now setting his sights on another business venture.

"We had a few main visions when we were creating [Bulga Beats] and one was to get people to Bulga to see it for what it is and what it could be, and the other reason was just to bring back the community spirit.

"I actually started my own events management company last year too. We will be running community workshops and small-scale music events in hopefully a year or so to come."

This is Vahid's way of bringing the place back to life while providing young people with opportunities to experience the Bulga he believes may soon be forgotten.

"One of the sides of the company will hopefully be a bushwalking tour which will bring more people to see the national park and enjoy it for its beauty," Vahid said.

"If we want people to visit the area for tourism, its things like this - entertainment and activities - that we will need. And if we want young people to come and live here, it will be other industries that will have to provide like farming or sustainable energy."

In the current climate, Vahid believes mining isn't a sustainable source of employment which has only exacerbated the issues surrounding mining expansions and created stress for the miners who want to have secure jobs.

"Mining does provide employment, though I think there is a lot of up playing the percentage of just how many jobs," he says.

"At the moment, it isn't a very sustainable working environment. Miners don't know whether they are going to keep their jobs and that puts a lot of stress on those work-

JULY 2017

June Rainfall	68 mm
Year to date	372 mm

Diary Dates

Bulga Community Centre
NEXT MEETING: 9th August 7:30pm

25 August to
27 August Wollombi Country Fair

7th August and 4th September
Bingo in Bulga

Milbrodale Family Fun Day 17th
September
Wollombi Music Festival 2017 Saturday
September 30

10 September Broke Village Fair and
Vintage Car Display

**First Sunday of the Month
Broke Village Markets**

Other dates to add to your calendar

2nd December Yusuf /Cat Stevens

21st October Midnight Oil

21 October Opera in the Vineyards



ers to force the mine expansion to go ahead so they can hold their jobs."

So how can both mining and the Hunter's historic villages co-exist and is there a way to move forward?

"I think it can be achieved if we are only mining for our needs, and not selling mining companies or mines to overseas companies who are taking super profits out," Vahid says.

"There is already another 20 years' worth of coal in the current pits and I don't think there is any need to expand."

Whether this is the case or not, it's clear that for the Hunters most predominant industry and our most historic communities to live in harmony, better planning, regulation and collaboration needs to be implemented. Perhaps the region cannot simply have one or the other, but rather needs diversification to ensure that the Valley continues to be a thriving, safe and pleasant place to live and work.

'BACH TO THE BUSH' - A CONCERT IN THE CHAPEL

Anthony Albrecht is a Novocastrian* cellist and recent graduate of The Juilliard School in New York City, completing a Master of Music in Historical Performance while studying with Phoebe Carrai. During his degree Anthony performed under William Christie and Nick McGegan and alongside Jordi Savall and Monica Huggett in venues such as Alice Tully Hall and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



**Sunday 23 July, 2pm
at Sacred Spaces at
the Sisters of Mercy
Convent, Singleton,
Hunter Valley**

Beginning cello at the age of 7, his cello teachers and mentors have since included Anthea Scott-Mitchell (Newcastle Conservatorium), Alexander Baillie (HfK Bremen), Stephan Schrader (Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie), Guido Larisch (Freiburger Barockorchester), Bruno Cocset (Les Basses Réunies), Jamie Hey (Australian Brandenburg Orchestra) and Daniel Yeadon (Australian Chamber Orchestra), with whom he completed a JUMP Mentorship through the Australia Council of the Arts in 2011. He has also enjoyed private study with Pieter Wispelwey in Holland.

In New York, Anthony is a founding member of New Vintage Baroque. Back home in Australia, Anthony has performed with Ironwood, Sydney Camerata, Pacific Opera, The Sydney Consort, Salut! Baroque, the Australian Haydn Ensemble, Pinchgut Opera, the Orchestra of the Antipodes and the contemporary music ensemble Chronology Arts. As a chamber musician Anthony has collaborated with Charles Neidich, Marc Destrubé, Kathryn Selby and Neal Peres Da Costa, among others. He was an Ian Potter Cultural Trust recipient and MCA Freedman Fellowship nominee in 2013 and 2014, and a Kruger Scholarship finalist in 2016. He is founder and Artistic Director of the Lapwing Music Festival held at Cuckmere Haven in East Sussex.

Anthony is a passionate nature lover, bike rider, a qualified Railway Worker and German translator, and in 2012 completed a Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences

with Honours in Geography at Sydney University. He has recently joined the PhD program of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama as a Guildhall Scholar.

This concert, part of Anthony's Australian 'Bach to the Bush' tour, is a rare opportunity to hear solo cello in the magnificent, intimate acoustic of the Sisters' Chapel. A selection of J.S. Bach's stunning suites for solo cello will be interspersed with other short, early works for the instrument and Anthony will discuss the historical and cultural context of this timeless music.

Anthony is a recent graduate of The Juilliard School's prestigious Historical Performance program which he attended on full scholarship, and is currently based in London as a Guildhall School of Music and Drama Research Scholar.

Anthony returns to Australia regularly for performances with Pinchgut Opera and the Australian Haydn Ensemble, and has recorded for ABC Classics and VIA Records (New York City).

"Fluent and virtuosic..." The Sydney Morning Herald, 2016

For more information about Anthony, see www.anthonyalbrecht.com
Enquiries – 0400 383 391
Share the concert event on Facebook

Tickets:
\$30 adult, \$25 concession, \$10 student, child under 10 free.

Tickets available at: www.anthonyalbrecht.yapsody.com and at the door from 1.30pm.

Please note that as this concert is being organised and presented by Anthony, the Sacred Spaces office is unable to take ticket reservations, as we do for concerts in our own Fine Music Concert Series.

The annual Singleton Art Prize will be held at the nearby Singleton Civic Centre on this weekend - more than 600 works of art will be on exhibition, and are for sale.

Other 2017 concerts at Sacred Spaces:

Sun 20 Aug 2pm – Sydney Balalaika Orchestra - 'Siberian Adventure'. Tickets at www.trybooking.com/OPJQ

Sun 29 Oct 2pm – Endeavour Harmony Chorus - Australia's premier female barber-shop chorus - 'A Cappella in the Chapel'. Tickets at www.trybooking.com/OPJR

Sun 12 Nov – Classical guitarist Dennis van Rooyen – concert in the Chapel. Tickets to be announced.

Sun 3 Dec 12pm – Sydney Youth Orchestras Philharmonic - lunchtime concert in the Chapel. Tickets to be announced.

Sacred Spaces Singleton
30 Queen St, Singleton 2330
Ph 6572 2398
E: office@sacredspaces.org.au
www.sacredspaces.org.au/events
Facebook: Sacred Spaces Singleton

ADELAIDE WINE REGIONS TO BENEFIT FROM LARGEST TOURISM CONFERENCE

Adelaide will host more than 2000 delegates from around the globe when it hosts Australia's largest tourism conference next year.

The South Australian government has announced the Australian Tourism Exchange conference (ATE) would be held at the redeveloped Adelaide Convention Centre from April 15 to 19.

The 2017, held in Sydney last month, attracted delegates from 548 international travel companies representing more than 30 countries along with 555 Australian tourism businesses.

About 2500 delegates are expected at the Adelaide

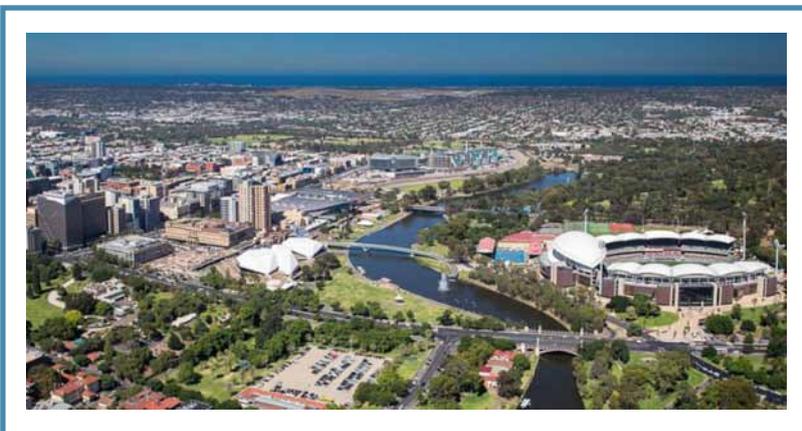
event, injecting an estimated \$10 million into the South Australian economy.

The annual event has been run since 1979 and was last held in Adelaide in 2010. International tourism is worth about \$1.1 billion a year to the South Australian economy.

South Australian tourism minister, Leon Bignell, said the conference would also allow delegates to visit nearby premium food and wine regions such as Barossa Valley, Adelaide Hills, Kangaroo Island and Eyre Peninsula.

"We will be serving up our outstanding wines and culinary delicacies as well as getting these important visitors out to the wonderful regions where it all comes from," he said.

The Adelaide Convention Centre opened in 1987 as the first purpose built convention centre in Australia. It is undergoing a \$400 million expansion, due for completion in August.



GET YOUR COFFEE CHEAPER BY GOING GREEN

Australians love our coffee. It is part of our culture, it has become a staple in our casual and corporate lives and it is an integral part of improving Monday's around the country.

An organisation is getting behind conscious consumption of coffee and promoting cafes who help reduce or eliminate disposable coffee cups.

Responsible Cafes connects local environmentally friendly cafes with like-minded customers. The organisation promotes cafes who provide incentives for customers to bring their own reusable cup.

Becoming a responsible cafe saves money and reduces waste and gives the café a competitive edge within an environmentally savvy marketplace.

Becoming a responsible coffee drinker means you can make a daily saving on your coffee bill and carry a fashion forward eco-mug instead of the regular cardboard cup.

Participating cafes get a poster to display in house, an information sheet outlining the issue and a video on the benefits of the program. They can also add value to their business offering by stocking reusable cups to on sell to customers.

Cafés in the program gain a listing on the official Responsible Cafés 'BYO Cup Dis-



count' live search and map.

Café's who share their Responsible Café incentives on social media are also rewarded. Fun photos with the poster or reusable cups in action gains café added exposure on the official Responsible Café Facebook and Instagram pages.

Responsible Cafes states that there is no provision under the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) that prevents a customer from using their own container for storage of food purchased.

Get involved in the #reuserevolution and let's add more Hunter Valley cafés to the #responsiblecafes bandwagontoday!

What else can a food business do to mini-

mise your ecological footprint?

- don't offer disposable coffee cups!
- don't offer plastic bags
- don't sell bottled water
- offer straws only on request or not at all!
- don't offer plastic cutlery
- compost food waste
- use renewable energy

If you or anyone you know owns a café, or if you would like to approach cafes in your area, get in touch with Responsible Cafes. responsiblecafes.org

The Cockfighter

Advertising Rates

Business Card	90 mm x 50 mm	\$32.05
Quarter page	90 mm x 135 mm	\$81.25
Half page	185 mm x 135 mm	\$162
Full Page	185 mm x 270 mm	\$325

*The Cockfighter Editorial:
Tom Jackson phone: 6574 5266
Eden Anthony 6579 1259
mail@hunterstay.com.au*



“ **Knowing just where you stand in the market gives you better choices!** ”

A Free Market Appraisal is a start, it gives you the peace of mind of knowing where you stand in the market. I can then plan a successful marketing campaign for your property.

Call me now for a **FREE** market appraisal and let's discuss your options.

Catherine Taylor 0408 688 836

2/72A Maitland St, Branxton NSW 2335
PO Box 3, Broke NSW 2330

E catherine@taylorrealestate.com.au
W www.taylorrealestate.com.au

hunter@taylorproperty.com.au

2/72A Maitland Street, Branxton NSW 2335

ASCELLA
Organic Wines

Tasting under the silk tree

Jack's bbq in the orchard

TASTE
Inspired By **PASSION**

TASTE A RANGE OF AWARD WINNING ORGANIC WINES
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK: Cellar Door hours 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
AWARD WINNING WINES. AVAILABLE AT FINE WINE CELLARS.

COME AND ENJOY OUR PRISTINE CERTIFIED ORGANIC VINEYARD!
FOR A WINE TASTING EXPERIENCE PAIRED WITH ORGANIC CHEESE
AND OLIVES, PLEASE CONTACT US P: 02 8574 5275 M: 0431357105

WWW.ASCCELLAWINE.COM
INFO@ASCCELLAWINE.COM
WWW.SILKRAIDIOTV.COM

RIVERPINES VINEYARD
203 THOMPSONS RD
MILBRODALE, NSW 2330

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

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.

Thank you - from Bulga Beats organisers

Bulga Beats Festival 2017 was another great success thanks to a fantastic show of support from both the public and local businesses. It was wonderful to see so many people camping on site for the weekend. Festival goers were treated to great music, markets and fantastic food. Our focus of

Katherine, Lance & Don at Nightingale's Winery
 Barb & Geoff at Ascella Wines
 Wendy at Catherine Vale Wines
 Shelby & Patrick from Bare at Broke
 Graham at Brokes Promise
 Stewart at Bin 688 Vineyard

crowd was that they loved the 'vibe' of our 'boutique festival' and certainly would be attending the next Bulga Beats Festival in 2018.

Our growing festival merges the connectivity and love of music and dance with workshops and learning. The Wakagetti Dance Troupe again proved overwhelmingly popular with their amazing performances and workshops as did the Sacredgroove Belly Dance with their exotic and colourful performances and workshop.

More than a dozen bands and artists performed a great variety of music and dance over the entire weekend.

The Art Exhibition & Sale in the Teahouse Gallery attracted quality artists from around the state. And can you believe it, Ben Quilty exhibited at Bulga Beats! Ben kindly did a drawing/etching on a guitar that was exhibited in the Bulga Beats Teahouse Gallery and was later auctioned. The Teahouse Gallery was a great success and offered a quiet retreat to enjoy the artwork, a cuppa and a delicious array of home baked goodies.

Our guitar auction was again extremely popular this year with guitars autographed by legends such as Archie Roach, Xavier Rudd, The Cruel Sea and as mentioned, Archibald Prize winning artist Ben Quilty. We also had an autographed Bulga Beats poster signed by John Butler.

Plans are already underway and with your support, Bulga Beats Festival will be back bigger and better than ever in 2018... the Beat Goes On!

*Bulga Beats Festival Management
 Robert & AnneMaree McLaughlin & Vahid Roser*



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

All Bulga Beats Raffle winners were very excited about the quality and variety of prizes on offer. A huge thank you to all these generous contributors who were instrumental in the success of Bulga Beats Festival 2017:

Glencore- Bulga Coal
 Max at Zackly Write Signs
 Candice at Prop That
 Debbie & Xia at Starline Alpacas
 Neil at Glenguin Estate

Andrew & Lisa at Margan Wines
 David at Running Horse Wines
 Karen at Hollydene Winery
 Coolmore Stud
 Godolphin Woodland Stud
 Mark at Lancaster Motors

...and of course Eden, Tom and all at The Cockfighter who helped publicise our Festival.

Our little town's big festival attracted people not only from the Hunter Valley but also from Sydney, the Central, Mid and North Coast, from the Northern Territory and Victoria. We received many fantastic reviews and the overall consensus from the

The Willows Restaurant & Broke Village Store

The focal point of the Broke community and surrounding area
 Groceries, Newsagent, Coffee Shop, Dine-In Restaurant, Delicatessen, Post Office, Bottle Shop, Petrol Station & Tourist Information. Also stocks an exclusive range of Broke Fordwich Wines.



Enjoy a meal at
 The Willows Restaurant
 ALL DAY MENU
 BEER ON TAP
 Dine in or al fresco

4 Wollombi St,
 Broke
 NSW 2330
 Ph: 02 6579 1056

Open: 7 days:
 Sunday to Wednesday
 till 8 p.m.
 Thursday to Saturday
 till late.

BULGA TO GET POTABLE WATER SUPPLY

Work is flowing to establish potable water supplies for Camberwell and Bulga residents with tenders closing on 11 July 2017 for construction of water treatment plants in both locations.

Member for Upper Hunter, Michael Johnsen, said that he was looking forward to the construction of the two water treatment plants, as part of these projects, worth a total of \$6.525 million.

“The construction of these plants as well as associated infrastructure will ensure that the towns of Camberwell and Bulga have access to safe and secure drinking water,” Mr Johnsen said.

“The NSW Government is proud to have provided a total of \$2.725 million in funding for these two Water Supply Scheme projects under the Restart NSW Safe and Secure Water Supply program.”

The preliminary work to establish and prepare for the drilling of bore water is underway in Camberwell, while drilling and

water quality testing has commenced at the treatment plant site on Putty Road in Bulga.

Angelika Hesse, Singleton Council’s Manager Water and Waste, said she was happy to commence work to establish the potable

“Currently, residents of Bulga and Camberwell rely solely on water from rainwater tanks, which leaves them vulnerable to supply issues in periods of drought,” she said.

“Secure potable water is essential for community health, particularly near the Bulga and Camberwell townships due to the high levels of dust pollution from mining activities.”

Following community information sessions in Bulga during June, Camberwell residents will have the opportunity to discuss the project with Singleton Council staff later this month.



RELIABLE WATER: Michael Johnsen, Andrew Hope, Barnaby Joyce, general manager Ron Vankaywyk and former mayor Ian Lobsey turn on Willow Tree’s \$4.8m pipeline last year
Photo: Gareth Gardner

water supply to the villages, ensuring residents would have reliable access to fresh drinking water by the middle of 2018.

Further information about the project is available at www.singleton.nsw.gov.au.

STUDENTS EXPLORE THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF MINING

A group of 15 ‘Students for Sustainability’ camped at the Bulga Recreation Ground last week.

Several local Bulga residents shared a delicious evening meal and drinks with them.

Judith Leslie explained the history of the Bulga’s battle with the Rio Tinto Warkworth mine expansion. For some of the students this was the first exposure to the challenge of the open cut coal mining as practiced by transnational corporations in Australia.

The study group spent the following Friday morning in Bulga and before travelling to the Pilliga coal seam gas blockade.



A great night out Bingo

7th August and 4th September
6:30

Bulga Community Hall
Enquiries Phil Reid 65745237



MILBRODALE FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 17th September

LOADS OF FAMILY FUN!!!

- FREE PONY RIDES & JUMPING CASTLE
- THE ULTIMATE CHALLENGES (over \$600 in PRIZES!)
- LEARN HOW TO ROPE A CALF
- LIVE MUSIC
- LOCAL PRODUCE
- SPRING SEEDLINGS
- NOVELTY GAMES
- CAKE STALL + ARTS & CRAFT
- TRASH & TREASURE STALL
- WOOD FIRED PIZZA

Market stall sites available for only \$10
 Info + Bookings - Narelle 6579 4649
 or Milbrodale Public School 6574 5163



FUNDRAISING EVENT ORGANISED BY MILBRODALE PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOC.

Supported by:



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:

cnacommunityrelations@riotinto.com

www.riotintocoalaustralia.com.au

Are you...

THE ULTIMATE?

Find out at the third

MILBRODALE ULTIMATE CHALLENGE

Sunday 17th September 2017
 Milbrodale Family Fun Day
 (A fundraising event for Milbrodale Public School)

Registrations open from 9am
 ULTIMATE CHILD (under 15) 10am
 ULTIMATE WOMAN heats 11am
 ULTIMATE MAN heats noon
Finals 1pm.
 2615 Putty Road Milbrodale

Supported by:



AGRICULTURAL AND VITICULTURAL CONTRACTING AND MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS

aG PLUS

Fertilizing, mulch, and compost spreading

Spraying

Slashing

All tractor operations

Post ramming

Fencing, entrances and yards

Property Management

Vineyard & Olive Specialists

SERVICING YOUR LOCAL AREA

PO Box 123, Broke NSW 2320
 Phone/Fax 02 6579 1084
 Mobile 0409 450 506

AFTER THE COOL BURN

Our lead story last month THE ANCIENT ART OF THE 'COOL BURN' described the benefits of employing indigenous burning techniques to ensure ecological care.

As a follow-up to the burn which took place in McNamara Park in Broke, volunteers planted native ground cover to help with weed control.

Teegan Hayward, Community Relations, Bulga Coal took part in the cool burn and the replanting.

"We planted 200 tube stock of ground covers and shrubs with the kids from Broke School Gardening Club.

They had a great time. The aim is that the ground cover / shrubs will out-compete that dastardly African lovegrass." She said.



Members of Broke School Gardening Club "...had a great time."

FROM THE STREET TO THE RIVER -TENDERS CALLED FOR NEW PARK IN SINGLETON



Call for tenders as progress on new Riverside Park for Singleton climbs to construction phase

Work on the much anticipated Riverside Park is about to swing into action with tenders to open on Tuesday 4 July 2017 for construction of a new modern playground and kiosk.

Plans for the former Sutton Ford site include two play towers, climbing net, slide, water feature, kiosk, public toilets, street furniture and lighting in a continuation of the revitalization of the Singleton town centre.

The project will also open up connectivity to the Hunter River.

The successful tenderer is slated to be decided at Council's September meeting, and is expected to be on site in October depending on availability.

Acting General Manager Anthony Egan said the park would become a fresh destination for locals and visiting families alike to relax in the CBD, taking advantage of the location overlooking the Hunter River.

"This new family-friendly space will be a fantastic addition not only to the Singleton town centre, but for our local government area overall," he said.

"We were very conscious that the park design was able to link with the Hunter River, particularly following feedback from the

community calling for greater engagement with the river.

"Council is aware there is a great deal of community interest in this project.

"It will be great to have the contractor on site and seeing the equipment moved into place as this fantastic new space takes shape."

Riverside Park is expected to be completed by March 2018.

Tender information is available from www.tenderlink.com/singleton/.

LOCAL PEAK BODIES TEAM UP TO PUSH FOR MORE TRAINS FOR SINGLETON

Singleton Council, Business Chamber and Two More Trains for Singleton on same track for more rail services

Action to address the gaps in Singleton's passenger train timetable is steaming ahead, with Singleton Council and Singleton Business Chamber teaming up with Two More Trains for Singleton following talks with NSW Transport Minister Andrew Constance MP last week.

Discussions about the possibility of additional public transport services topped the agenda when Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore, General Manager Jason Linnane and Singleton Business Chamber president Ruth Rogers met with the Minister last week.

Martin Fallding, from Two More Trains for Singleton, said he was happy to see the issue discussed with the NSW Government, and was looking forward to working with Council, Business Chamber and Transport for NSW to see additional services between Singleton and Maitland added to the timetable.

"Two More Trains for Singleton has met with NSW Government Ministers and made numerous submissions for over five years. The group is asking for a 10 year plan for passenger trains to run every two hours between Singleton and Maitland, providing a safe, cost and time effective transport option for residents and visitors," he said.

"The preferred train frequency is unlikely to be achieved immediately. However, Two More Trains for Singleton has proposed a new timetable that can be introduced quickly."

Cr Moore said the meeting with the Minister was a good start to addressing rail service limitations.

"I am very conscious of the importance of public transport to our community and it's an issue that has a very strong focus in the Singleton Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027," she said.

"I am more than confident that if Council and Two Trains for Singleton continue to work closely together to lobby for the transport services that Singleton deserves, we will achieve positive outcomes."



(L-R) Two More Trains for Singleton representatives Anne and Phillip Boyd, Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore and Singleton Business Chamber president Ruth Rogers are keen to address the gaps in Singleton's passenger train timetable.

Singleton Business Chamber president Ruth Rogers said she would be following up with the Minister's office as a result of last week's meeting that was organised by the Chamber.

www.singleton.nsw.gov.au

"It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with [Transport Minister] Mr Constance on our home turf about this issue and we are very appreciative of his time," she said.

"Having said that, the Business Chamber in conjunction with Council and the Two More Trains for Singleton group will be in contact with the Minister's office to follow up on what was discussed at the meeting."

Two More Trains for Singleton will provide

Transport for NSW with options for additional train and potential link bus options, and is seeking community feedback on the timetable options in a community and train user survey. Feedback received will assist the group to draft a submission to the NSW Government.

The survey is available online for completion at www.singleton.nsw.gov.au/TrainServicesSurvey closing Sunday 23 July.

Image caption: (L-R) Two More Trains for Singleton representatives Anne and Phillip Boyd, Mayor of Singleton, Cr Sue Moore and Singleton Business Chamber president Ruth Rogers are keen to address the gaps in Singleton's passenger train timetable.

PLANE DELAYED BY GOOD LUCK

An elderly woman has delayed a plane for more than five hours, after she attempted to throw a handful of coins into its engine for good luck.

The passenger was boarding China Southern Airlines flight CZ380, from Shanghai to Guangzhou, when she threw nine coins towards the plane's jet engine.

The coin toss was quickly noticed by a fellow passenger, who was able to alert authorities before take-off.

The coins, worth about 1.7 yuan (\$0.35) altogether, caused 150 passengers to evacuate as the airline conducted a full inspection of the plane's engine.

Police were called to Shanghai Pudong International Airport and the elderly passenger, who had been travelling with her husband, daughter and son-in-law, was

taken away for questioning.

They later confirmed the passenger, surnamed Qiu, had thrown the coins "to pray for safety" and they had been informed by a neighbour that she "believes in Buddhism".

The plane was finally able to take off safely at 5:52pm local time (7:52pm AEST), more than five hours late.

China Southern Airlines reminded all passengers to comply with civil aviation laws in a post on social media site Weibo, and to avoid any behaviour that could jeopardise the safety of their fellow passengers.



Robert McLaughlin Electrical

- Domestic
- Commercial
- Industrial

46 Inlet Rd Bulga
bulgabrave@gmail.com
0405 555 901
Cont. Lic. No. 198774G

Fishing For Whiskey

"Poor Old fool," thought the well-dressed gentleman as he watched an old man fish in a puddle outside a pub. So he invited the old man inside for a drink. As they sipped their whiskeys, the gentleman thought he'd humour the old man and asked, "So how many have you caught today?"

The old man replied, "You're the eighth."



IN-SYNC HALTERS
AUSTRALIAN MADE

ROPE HALTERS; 7mm Standard & Riding Halters in Solid & Multi-Colours
8mm Double Braid Halters 100% Polyester
7mm & 8mm "Extra Knots" Training Halters
Entire Range of Halters available as Padded

SIZES; Extra Full/Warmblood, Full, Cob, Pony, Small Pony & Mini

SPLIT REIN SETS & LEAD ROPES; 14mm Double Braid Polyester & 13MM Nylon
Joined Reins in 20MM Flat Strap in Full Colour Range



An Australian Manufacturer of Quality Rope Products for Horses, Donkeys & Mules

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

Stirling 0488 745 260 / Sarah 0414 450 010
Phone / Fax 02 6574 5262

www.insync-halters.com

insynchalters@bigpond.com

www.facebook.com/insynchalters

Hunter Valley, New South Wales
abn) 33 600 658 222



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

Secretary, Maxine Alexander
alexandermaxine6@gmail.com

Broke Fordwich Wine & Tourism Assoc.

Secretary, Mike Wilson
secretary@brokefordwich.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

OUR WILDLIFE



COPING WITH COLD

Some animals spend winter in a state of Torpor, their body mechanisms barely tick over. Faced with food shortages, many have to reduce their energy demands. They find safe places and lapse into a torpor, allowing their body temperature to drop. The processes of metabolism, chemical changes within the body are slowed, along with heartbeat and breathing. Torpor is automatic in cold-blooded creatures, which are unable to regulate their temperature. Snakes and Lizards become inactive in cold weather. Insect life cycles usually include a phase of winter dormancy in the development of eggs or larvae. Mammals have ways of maintaining their temperature in defiance of surrounding conditions. But for many of the smaller ones and the larger Echidna, it can be uneconomical to try fighting the heat loss, therefore trigger mechanisms switches off their bodies' thermostats. Pygmy possums, antechinus, dunnarts, planigales, feathertail gliders and bats can slip in and out of torpor as part of a daily cycle or suspend all activities for extended periods.

Please take care collecting firewood or chopping down trees as many of our wildlife depend on hollows and falling branches to sleep out the winter.

Elizabeth

Joeys Retreat.

Trades & Services Directory

Want to list your services?

Just \$60 per year

65791259 mail@hunterstay.com.au

CARRIER - General

John Lamb
6574 5205
MOB 0427 695 468

CATTERY

Jan Pennell
6579 1450

**CLEANERS - PROFESSIONAL
Hunter Valley Cleaning Group**

Hospitality and Private Cleaning
0439-841-487
huntervalleycg@gmail.com

COMPUTERS & COMMUNICATION-

BRUCE COWAN
6579 1130

DIGITAL PRINT & DESIGN

BINK CREATIVE
4990 3230

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

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

GOURMET FOODS

Marian Waite
6579 1063
Mob 0409 791 063
marian@riverflatsestate.com.au

**MECHANICAL & AUTOMOTIVE
SERVICES**

**Beyond Broke
Mechanical & Automotive
Services**
Jason McCraw
Licensed Motor Vehicle Repairer
0414 264 515
jmccraw@harboursat.com.au
beyondbrokemechanical.com.au

NATURAL THERAPIES

Gale Matley
6579 1401

PIANO LESSONS

Jan Pennell
6579 1450

POOL & YARD MAINTAINANCE

Anthony Smolenaers
65791228 or 0400 367025

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

WINE MAKING

Michael McManus
6579 1400
Mob 0403 014 787

