RALLY FOR RURAL MUMS AND BABIES: Mr Phillip Donato, MP joined Parkes locals and hospital staff at the rally last Friday to help save the Parkes Maternity Unit.

Maternity Matters

Hundreds of people gathered at last week’s rally to provide a loud, clear and strong message of support for the Parkes Hospital’s Maternity Unit.

As the speakers commented on the impact that the loss of maternity services would have on the local community, I was reminded of stories I heard from my mother, Leona (Lee) Ramsay, who was Nursing Unit Manager of the Parkes Maternity Ward from the early 1970s through to the late 1990s.

Although there were many positive reports of successful childbirths, I particularly remember the stories of critical situations that had developed very quickly and unexpectedly. Some of those unforeseen situations had been as a result of people having to travel from out of town, with babies being delivered in a car, or under a bush.

I mentioned this to my mother at the rally. “Through those years there were also quite a few doctors skilled in birthing and you could rely on them and call on them at any time of day or night,” my mother replied.

The current lack of qualified doctors in Parkes has impacts beyond practicality and the potential risks of having to travel to Forbes. Being able to give birth in your own community is an important part of people’s lives. This is evident when people continue to stop my mother in the street to say, “thank you for delivering my son/daughter/s,” or “my mother says you delivered me,” with a warm smile.

By Lisa Ramsay
MOVING A STEP CLOSER: (L-R) Ken Keith OAM, Parkes Shire Mayor; Michael McCormack, Deputy Prime Minister; Paul Toole, NSW Minister; and Alistair Lunn, RMS Director Western Region, met this week to inspect designs for the jointly funded Parkes bypass project.

Proposed Parkes Bypass – Have Your Say

Deputy Prime Minister, Nationals’ Leader and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack and NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Paul Toole were in Parkes this week to inspect concept designs for the bypass project which has joint funding from the State and Federal governments.

“I am excited to see the project progressing,” Mr McCormack said.

“The 10.5 kilometre bypass will improve road efficiency, pedestrian access through Parkes and traffic flow. We will see increased reliability of trips for motorists and reduced travel time of up to 10 minutes compared to the existing route through town.”

“The goal is to reduce congestion and delays caused by the two rail level crossings and four 90-degree bends which are difficult for heavy vehicles to safely navigate on the current route,” Mr McCormack said.

Mr Toole said the bypass should remove more than 1000 trucks per day from local streets, and also facilitate connectivity to the Parkes Special Activation Precinct and the Inland Rail.

Parkes Shire Mayor and Chair of the Newell Highway Task Force Cr Ken Keith OAM said this is a great outcome for the Parkes Shire community.

“I encourage our community to provide feedback on the revised Concept Design while it’s on public display in the coming months,” Cr Keith said.

Local residents, business owners and road users are encouraged to attend the upcoming information sessions to find out more about the project.

The concept design and Review of Environmental Factors will be on display at rms.work/parkesupgrade, at the Parkes Shire Council Administration Centre and Service NSW Parkes from Monday 1 July to Friday 9 August 2019.

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS: PSCB on a high after winning at the Forbes Eisteddfod.

It’s All Happening With The Parkes Shire Concert Band

Congratulations to the Parkes Shire Concert Band (PSCB), who competed at the Forbes Eisteddfod, coming first in the Open Instrumental Ensemble, and first in the Open Band Group. Music Director Duncan Clement was responsible for a great choice of contrasting music pieces to play and for preparing the band to play with focus, confidence and enjoyment.

The PSCB loves to collaborate with other music groups in the Shire. The recent concert ‘New Harmonies’, a concert showcasing choral and instrumental groups was a great success.

Five of the PSCB band members are in the band for the next production of the Parkes Musical and Dramatic Society, ‘Les Misérables’, and are keen to musically support the fantastic team who organise the shows at the M & D Society. It’s a wonderful opportunity to become part of a great group of people who all volunteer their time, who are very welcoming to new people to the theatre while making friendships along the way.

It does not matter at what level you can play, whether you used to play an instrument or even if you would like to learn, all are welcome to join the PSCB.

Rehearsals on Tuesday 7-9pm during school term, above Pool Complex, Dalton Street.

Contact Duncan Clement, PSCB Music Director, duncanclement@hotmail.com, 0405 035 164.
Regional Focussed State Budget

The Central NSW Councils welcome the focus on regional NSW in the recent state budget. The following are some of the investments pertinent to the Parkes region.

• $355 million to extend critical drought assistance measures for farmers and rural communities.
• $170 million for the Drought Stimulus Package.
• $185 million in on-farm Emergency Drought Relief measures including continuing transport cost rebates and waiving annual land rates.
• Additional $350 million towards the Farm Innovation Fund.
• $15 million to build on partnerships with groups like GRDC, CSIRO and UNE to develop new R&D capacity and help keep our primary producers world leading.
• $2.8 million over two years to extend the Quad Bike Safety Improvement Program, including rebates for farmers who prefer drones as alternatives to quad bikes.
• $52.4 million for continued delivery of overtaking lanes along the Newell Highway.
• $5.6 million for planning the Newell Highway upgrade at Parkes.
• $3 million for detailed investigation of potential international air freight hub sites, once the current prefeasibility study is complete.
• $100 million allocated for round three of the Stronger Country Communities Fund for projects and programs in the regions, including $50 million aimed at supporting young people.

SNIPPETS...

Petition to Save Parkes Maternity Ward: Over 500 baby outfits were donated for the Rally to support the Parkes Maternity Unit last Friday. If you were not able to attend the rally, there is also a petition circulating in Parkes and Forbes asking the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales to stop the downgrading of health services in Parkes and Forbes Hospitals. 10,000 signatures are required to have the petition considered for a debate in Parliament. The petition is available at some of our local businesses. If you have a business and would like to include the petition for your customers to sign, please contact the Parkes Chamber of Commerce at chamber@parkeschamber.com.au.

Ag in Education. Combating the City/Country Divide: The NSW Farmers’ Parkes/Forbes Branch Annual Meeting will be held at 6:30pm at the Forbes Services Club on Wednesday, 3 July. The Special Guest for the meeting will be Sarah Thompson, beef and grain farmer from Cassilis, with a long record of representation within the Association, as an Executive Councillor and on the Rural Affairs Policy Committee. Following the Annual Meeting a General Meeting will be opened. Please note, ten voting members are required to attend to form a quorum and the branch is entitled to send five delegates to conference. Please RSVP to Gavin Tom, Chair on 0438 678 916, gaveltom@hotmail.com, or Catriona McAuliffe, Regional Services Manager, 0488 100 005, mcauliffec@nswfarmers.org.au

Restrictions Reminder: Level two water restrictions are still in place across the Parkes Shire. Under level two restrictions, residents are only permitted to water outside the hours of 10am and 5pm with odd numbered households allowed to water on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and even numbered households on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. For more information about Level 2 water restrictions, visit www.parkes.nsw.gov.au

Urgent call to support St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal: With just days until the end of the financial year, Vinnies is only halfway towards its Winter Appeal fundraising goal. The charity is urgently calling for donations to support its work with people experiencing poverty, homelessness and disadvantage. “Sadly, more and more people are turning to us for help with very basic needs. Our aim is to raise $1.2 million to ensure that we can continue to be here for the growing number of people needing our help,” said Jack de Groot, Vinnies NSW CEO. You can make a donation at 13 18 12 or visit vinnies.org.au.
**TWO-WAY CROSSWORD**

**QUICK CLUES**

ACROSS

1. Apartment building (US) (11)
2. Personal pronoun (3)
3. Aerial (7)
4. Falls (5)
5. Hebrew teacher (5)
6. Pried (5)
7. Departing (5)
8. Violent whirlwind (7)
9. Top pilot (3)
10. Unprotected (11)

DOWN

1. Arranged joint efforts (11)
2. Becomes less wide (7)
3. Gives approval to (informal) (5)
4. Bury (5)
5. Small hotel (3)
6. Inconsequential (11)
7. Subdivision of an army (7)
8. Sewer (5)
9. Planet (5)
10. Sports official (3)

**CRYPTIC CLUES**

**ACROSS**

1. It’s a kind of counterfeit coin mound I’m involved with in my apartment building (11)
2. The centre court belongs to us (3)
3. Aerial acrobatics Nana did around an upturned net (7)
4. Declines small amounts of water (5)
5. The teacher uses Bismuth to bend the bar (5)
6. Pried into one’s detective activities (5)
7. Making tracks operational (5)
8. Violent weather on the road-not-travelled (7)
9. He could be the current electricity expert (3)
10. They, in essence, fled hurriedly because they were so vulnerable (11)

**DOWN**

1. A rather odd reaction to that which was combined harmoniously (11)
2. He warns or destroys as he loses scope (7)
3. Gives approval to obtain a wild yak, so there! (5)
4. If it seems to look inert just cover it with dirt (5)
5. Somewhere to stay beginning in the middle (3)
6. Try living in a single manse, how inconsequential!! (11)
7. Form a bridge for a very large body of troops (7)
8. Exhaust the supply of water outlet (5)
9. Can a log be turned into a sphere? (5)
10. Father took his hat off to the official (3)

**QUIZ**

1. Who directed Star Wars: The Force Awakens?
2. Who plays the runaway daughter in the 2013 film We’re The Millers?
3. Eddie McGuire is the chairman of which T20 cricket team?
4. The Persian Gulf is an extension of which ocean?
5. Robert Mugabe became President of Zimbabwe during which decade?
6. In 2006, which band had a hit with the song, Chasing Cars?
7. Which Australian played on the same team as Stan Wawrinka in the 2015 International Premier Tennis League season?
8. Who lit the Olympic flame at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics?
9. Gala, Granny Smith and Pink Lady are varieties of which fruit?
10. What Australian film includes the phrase “Tell him he’s dreaming”?

**SCATTERWORD**

**Today’s Aim:**

- 20 words Good
- 25 words Very good
- 28 words Excellent

Form at least one nine letter word from the given letters and as many other words as possible of four or more letters. Each word must contain the letter in the central circle. Simple plurals, formed by adding “s” are not counted as extra words. No prefixes or suffixes. Reference: The Macquarie Concise Dictionary.

**SUDOKU**

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**DIFFICULTY:** Hard

*How to play sudoku:* You are given a 9x9 grid which has been divided up into nine 3x3 boxes. The aim of the game is very simple: to fill each row, column and 3x3 box with the numbers from 1 to 9 inclusive.

**SOLUTIONS**

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Tax time can often be a difficult time of the year as you become overwhelmed with what to do. To be prepared this year set aside some specific time now to go over your paperwork and create a checklist. This will ensure you tick off all of your required jobs and are able to lodge before the rush.

A lot of individuals become uncertain with what they can and can’t claim at tax time. It can often be a very time consuming and frustrating time, so you can always reach out and ask the professionals in Parkes such as Peter Woods & Associates, David Bickett and Ward and Associates Accountants for advice.

Running your own small business in today’s world, and keeping abreast of change can be a complex task. The requirements to keep up with changes in tax laws and software requirements can take away valuable time from running your own business.

The team at Peter Woods and Associates are able to support you and your business, and make this process easier. They can assist not only with tax returns and activity statements, but also the requirements of running a business, business advice, and accounting software (MYOB, Xero, Phoenix amongst others) including single touch payroll solutions.

Peter Woods and Associates is a long established accounting firm with over 20 years’ experience in the accounting field, they recognise that every business is different and will require different levels of support at different times in the business lifecycle, let them know how they can help you.

It’s important to collate all of your documents such as PAYG summaries, pension or government allowance, interest earned, rental property income, business income, work related expenditure, investment expenses, charity donations and private health insurance, just to name a few.

Tax planning should be customised to individual needs, and should be undertaken with the assistance of an expert. When planning now you should certainly consider strategies available specifically for Small Business Entities, such as the immediate write off deductions for capital items, and bringing forward expenses into the 2019 financial year. Other tools to discuss with your accountant or advisor include the use of Superannuation Contributions as a deduction or Farm Management Deposits as a strategy.

This time of year is also ideal for planning and forecasting for the new financial year. Professionals can refine the process of identifying both the goals and the concerns of clients, and work with them to map a plan for the coming years. This includes a cash flow forecast and projected Profit and Loss, and is ideally revisited regularly through the new financial year. Planning and measuring performance are essential for reaching your personal and business goals.

The sooner you get in touch with the experts, the sooner you can lighten your load.
WHAT’S On

31 May - Mid Jul  BreastScreen NSW in Parkes at The Little Theatre Carpark, cnr of Bogan & Dalton Streets. If you’re 50-74, book your free breast screen now on 13 20 50. It’s important, it’s free and it could save your life.

29 Jun  National Parks Association of NSW 8km bush walk graded medium at Columbia National Park, Wallaby and Ironbark Trails. Meet at Gooloogong Park at 9:15am. Walk leader Peter Cannon on 6866 1225.

29 Jun  All things Teapots and Tea Towels with soup and slices lunch at St George’s Church St. If you wish to display your teapot and/or tea towel, come after 8:30am on 29th June. For further information contact Norma on 6862 2880 or 0409 622 888.

29 Jun  Bogan Gate CWA branch is hosting a free barbeque night for farmers and their families from Bogan Gate and Gunningbland at the Railway Hotel in Bogan Gate at 6:30pm.


1-3 Jul  The Mobile Blood Bank will be at the Little Theatre Carpark Cnr Bogan and Dalton Street from 9:45am – 3pm each day. You can make an appointment by calling 13 14 95 or visit www.donateblood.com.au

3 Jul  The Lachlan Area Suicide Prevention Network Annual General Meeting from 6pm in the Uniting Church Meeting Room. All welcome. Community support is vital to the continuation of the LASPN. Phone 0400 137 300.


30-31 Aug  Heaven & Earth Legends Show at Hotel Gracelands. $85 ticket includes 2 course meal and show. Call 0400 012 111.

Ongoing  Parkes Day VIEW Club Luncheon meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at the Astro Dish Motor Inn. Call Pamela on 6863 4552 to book.

Ongoing  Author-rised creative writing group for adults and teens meets first Tuesday of the month from 6pm to 8pm at Parkes Library.

Ongoing  Parkes Camera Club meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday night of the month at 7pm at Neighbourhood Central on the corner of Bushman and Currajong Streets. All welcome. Contact email address cameraclubparkes@gmail.com

Ongoing  The Peak Hill Library Book Club meets the first Wednesday of the month 6pm - 7pm.

Ongoing  Lachlan Area Suicide Prevention Network (LASPN) meets at 6pm on the first Wednesday of the month at the Uniting Church, Court Street.

Ongoing  The Adult Survivors of Child Abuse - Cowra Support Group meets on the first Friday of each month at 12:30. Open to all survivors of any community. If interested contact Pascale on 6342 1612. Members come from as far as Forbes. All details on our website: http://recover.itmatters.com.au

Ongoing  Free evening meal the first Monday of each month from 5:30 – 6:30pm at the Uniting Church Hall. All welcome.

Ongoing  St George’s Soul Café is open the first two Saturdays of the month from 2 – 6pm in the church hall. Enjoy home-made food at very reasonable prices and good conversation.

Ongoing  Georgie’s Pantry at 45 Currajong Street is open every Thursday from 10am – 3pm for pensioners and people with a health care card for groceries and fresh produce at very reasonable prices.

Ongoing  Farmers Friday at Georgie’s Hub supplying grocery staples, bread, fruit, vegetables and meat (when available) to farmers for free from 12.30 pm to 3pm. Enquiries call 0439 8750 54.

Ongoing  Parkes Toy Library, a not-for-profit service operated by St. George’s Anglican Church, is open every Monday from 3:30 – 6:30pm during school terms for children ages 0 to 8 years old. Located in the Lower Hall with entry via Souden Lane carpark.

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LADIES GOLFERS – COFFEE TIME: (L-R) Leona Ramsay, Chris Stait, Colleen Staples.

LADIES GOLFERS – COFFEE TIME: (L-R) Patsy Christie, Jill Crisp, Kaye Inglis.

BROTHER & SISTER BONDING: (L-R) Steven Hanns and big sister Billie May Hanns enjoying spending some time together.
Luka Parkin
School Captain PPS

How old are you? 12

How long have you lived in or around Parkes, and what do you like about living here? I moved here when I was around 3 months old and have lived here since. I enjoy Parkes because it has great mountain biking tracks and you can have some great friends.

Where do you go to school and what year are you in? I go to Parkes Public School and I am in Year 6.

What is your favourite after school activity? Either building lego or playing soccer.

What is your favourite food and movie? Favourite food is nachos and favourite movie is Hitch Hiker’s Guide to the Galaxy.

What music do you listen to? I quite enjoy music from two artists called ‘Imagine Dragons’ and ‘For King and Country’, but I also enjoy electronic music.

What do you want to do when you grow up? I would like to be an engineer.

If you could have a super power what would it be? I would love to have telekinetic powers.

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself. I like camping and also multiple day hikes.

---

OUR Young Bloke

Luka Parkin
School Captain PPS

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The Lachlan Area Suicide Prevention Network will hold its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, July 3, from 6pm in the Uniting Church Meeting Room. All welcome. Community support is vital to the continuation of the LASPN. Phone 0400 137 300.

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Lucky Day For Parkes Local

A woman from Parkes has won the guaranteed 1st Prize of $200,000 in the Lucky Lotteries Mega Jackpot, drawn Wednesday 19 June 2019.

Confirming her prize with a NSW Lotteries official, the winner revealed the timing of her windfall couldn’t have been better.

“Oh my god! Thank you so much. I can’t believe it. I just can’t believe it. Just a few days ago I’d really been thinking about how nice it would be to win just $100,000 and just how much easier that would make my life right now. It’s just so surreal! When I saw the results online I didn’t want to get too excited just in case it wasn’t real!”

“It’s definitely come at a very good time. In fact it couldn’t have come at a better time. Wow!”

The hardworking and generous mum said she’d already planned exactly how she’d use her windfall.

“We will pay off our mortgage and we just won’t have to worry about money which is a huge weight off our shoulders,” she said.

“I’d love to take the family on a lovely holiday as well. It’s just so hard to comprehend. It’s just so lovely. I am in absolute shock!”

The happy winner, who wishes to remain anonymous, purchased her winning entry online at thelott.com – Australia’s official lotteries.

The Lucky Lotteries Mega Jackpot prize is now $75.16 million for draw 1360 while the Lucky Lotteries Super Jackpot is now $1.80 million for draw 10295.

For your chance to make today your ‘Lucky’ day, why not get your paws on a Lucky Lotteries ticket at your local NSW Lotteries outlet or online via thelott.com. NSW Lotteries customers can purchase a single ticket number into the Lucky Lotteries Super Jackpot for $2.20 and the Lucky Lotteries Mega Jackpot for $5.50.
Fast Feet On The Court

Mother Nature certainly gave us a chilly morning this week with girls having to resort to dancing on the court to keep warm. It was very entertaining to watch such original dance moves from some of our division 2 girls. This week also saw for the first time this competition a couple of forfeits with numbers being low in both divisions. With this in mind, could players please let coaches know if you will be away as this will make it easier to organise teams each Saturday. We would like to thank all of our beautiful girls who sub up every week to help out other divisions run smoothly. Not only do you give up your time you show great sportsmanship towards the teams your involved with.

This weekend will be the last round before our 3-week break for school holidays. Netball will be back on Saturday 27th July. To all families who are travelling, stay safe on our roads and have a great holiday.

Good luck to the Parkes Representative girls heading off to Sydney next weekend for the NSW Junior State Titles.

Results – Round 9
- Division 1: Wildcats forfeited Panthers, Tigers 17 def Pumas 13
- Go Division: Panthers forfeited Pumas, Pumas 20 def Wildcats 7

Saturday 29th June – Round 10
- Division 1: 9:30am: Court 1: Panthers v Tigers, Court 3: Wildcats v Pumas
- Go Division: 10:30am: Court 1: Pumas v Panthers, Court 3: Wildcats v Tigers
- Set Division: 09:30am: Court 4
- Net Division: 09:30am: Court 8

By Lisa Nutley

Pavlosas To Bowl You Over

Four games of triples were played this week with Betsy Johnstone, Flo Riseborough and Liz Byrne defeating Carla Bishop, Hilda McPherson and Marja Illfand. Ann Wright, Rosemary Mitchell and Lorraine Baker defeated Jean Kennedy/Eileen Bradley, Laurie Keane and Heather Harvey. Carol Reed, Valmai Westcott and Gwenda Carty defeated Kay Craft, Frances Charlton and Kim Evans. Di Howell, June Burgess and Cherie Frame def Lea Orr, Maureen Miller and Jan McPhee. Winners for the day were Di Howell, June Burgess and Cherie Frame. Runners up were Kay Craft, Frances Charlton and Kim Evans. The raffle winner was Lea Orr. Thanks to Lea Orr for the June birthdays Pavlova!

The CWD Mixed Pairs will be held this Saturday 29th June with Morning Tea at 8.30am. Our Annual General Meeting will be held 2nd July at 1.30pm.

To play social bowls, ring Table Selectors Rhona Went and Gwenda Carty between 9am to 9.30am.

By Rosemary Mitchell

Try Bushwalking With The National Parks Association NSW

The National Parks Association of NSW runs the largest activities program in the state, with over 1,000 bushwalks led by an extraordinary team of knowledgeable and skilled volunteer leaders every year.

By Lisa Nutley

GOAL IN MIND: Ella Harbridge taking a shot at last week’s game.

The National Parks Association of NSW runs the largest activities program in the state, with over 1,000 bushwalks led by an extraordinary team of knowledgeable and skilled volunteer leaders every year. At the Lachlan Valley Branch, an Autumn program of walks has been developed to cater for the average fitness level. Walks are graded Easy, Medium or Hard:

- Easy: Range between 5 to 10 kilometres. Mostly flat to slightly undulating topography. Walks are mostly on tracks or fire trails of moderate distance. Suitable for those with a minimum level of fitness.
- Medium: Range between 5 to 8 kilometres. May be over moderate hills or rough terrain. May involve some off-track walking. Walk may involve shorter distance overall due to rougher conditions. Suitable for an average fitness level.
- Hard: Range 5 or more kilometres. Walk may involve hilly or mountainous terrain, rough tracks, a trackless route or an extended distance. Walk suitable for above average fitness level.

All walks are subject to there being no adverse Rural Fire Service fire warnings at the time and no closure of the relevant State Forest due to hunting permits etc.

The next walk will be on Saturday 29 June at the Conimbla National Park, Wallaby and Ironbark Trails. Meet at Gooloogong Park at 9:15am. This is an 8km walk graded as Medium.

Walkers are reminded to bring along enough food and water for the entire day as well as suitable clothing, footwear, hat and sunscreen. A pair of good binoculars and a fold up chair is recommended. Walk leader will be Peter Cannon, who can be contacted on 6866 1225. Please contact the walk leader the night before the walk if you intend to take part. A $2 donation for each walker is appreciated.