

WHAT WE SAY...

Remember who did it

Now that most of us are living longer, cancer becomes more likely and that's when living in the far-flung suburbs of Sydney can be horrible.

So many people who require constant treatment for their cancer have to travel to Westmead or Nepean, and it consumes their lives, with little time left for anything else.

The new oncology centre, which could be a functioning reality as early as the end of next year, will make a huge difference to these people's lives.

Not only will it drastically reduce travel time, it'll mean they're not feeling crook (caused by their chemo etc) during those long car trips, .

The new centre will also offer help to those who require regular infusions.

Our identity has historically always been as a rural district – near Sydney, but not of it. Now we are unequivocally part of Sydney, but our infrastructure is lagging behind our residential development.

Having specialist cancer treatment in our district will at least get us up to speed in that domain.

At a time when corporate Australia is being lashed in the media for its tight-fistedness when it comes to donating to charities in comparison with America, the Peels' amazing donation of \$1 million for the centre stands out as a beacon of generosity.

And it came from the heart, as Mrs Peel explained. "A lady we have known for years is undergoing cancer treatment and we saw what she was going through," she said, explaining their motivation for the donation.

And by hooking up the development with nursing home renovations over on March Street, instead of building a separate centre in Windsor Street as was originally planned, there has to be some cost savings.

And it makes the centre a more comprehensive one-stop shop in some ways for people who might have multiple complaints – now the centre is bigger and part of the nursing home complex, it now incorporates infusion facilities, counselling and dementia care.

Now the emphasis has to be on getting the money to get the whole plan over the line, with Richmond Club's Kimberley Talbot saying they were applying for a \$1.8 million, dollar for dollar grant from the government.

This whole project is an extraordinary and historic move in our district, and the people responsible will be remembered for decades to come for their efforts to improve the quality of life of some of our most vulnerable residents.

A GOOD FRIEND

your letters

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Save our livestock

HELP save our Australian cattle and sheep from a torturous death. Did you watch ACA the other week?

Do you realise what happens to our cattle and sheep that are exported to Indonesia?

The animals spend days in Australia, in trucks, sale yards, then weeks on a crushed ship, then further days in their saleyards, then on to be inhumanly slaughtered.

What a long hard way to go, to be inhumanly slaughtered, very cruel!

I cannot believe that the Australian people allow this to happen. I can't close my eyes of a night, without it all being there.

Everyone needs to view the video clip (except for the very young) and

see what really happens to these poor unfortunate animals.

Make the Australian Government, Ms Julia Gillard and the Agriculture Minister Mr Joe Ludwig accountable for their actions.

It all comes down to greed. What next will this Government do to raise money, to spend on stupid things? Shame on them.

These animals deserve to be slaughtered properly, not inhumanely, not kicked and punched, tied down with ropes, not given broken legs to make it easier to handle them, calling out for someone to help them, then finally slowly killed, while these so-called "human beings" stand by laughing and talking.

I ask the people of Australia, not to

turn a blind eye to this horrendous situation.

We need to stop the export of live animals to these third world countries. Don't turn your backs on this very sad issue.

Please join the fight to stop all exported live animals, by signing a petition today.

The people who are running petitions are: www.getup.org.au, www.animalaustralia.org, www.banliveexport.com.au, RSPCA NSW or write to: Ms J Gillard PM c/-Parliament House, Canberra ACT or your local member or The Minister for Agriculture Mr Joe Ludwig MP.

Please help, your signature will make the world of difference to these poor unfortunate animals.

– M. Henry
GROSE VALE



Gazette glimpses

Hawkesbury Races,
4.17pm, Monday, June 13, 2011
Photo: Geoff Jones

Act against proposal

I AM writing further to my previous correspondence about the Amendment to DA0852/08C regarding the proposed "Seniors Living Development" at North Richmond.

The developer's representative has supplied further information to Hawkesbury City Council and it is now designated "DA0852/08D".

The period for public comment has been extended until June 16 – still not very long when we need to appraise the community and give them an opportunity to voice their opinion! We did request an extension to June 29.

The public needs to be made aware that there are significant changes to the original DA which will result in ALL traffic to and from the nursing home using Pecks Road and Arthur Phillip Drive as well as construction vehicles prior to the opening of the nursing home and possibly even for the whole period of development.

The permanent access road from Grose Vale Road will not be built until Stage 3 of the development. The developer also wishes to delay their contribution to the upgrading of the intersection of Grose Vale Road and Bells Line of Road which we think is unacceptable.

Pecks Road and Arthur Phillip Drive are not suitable for such an increase in traffic without major modification. Extra vehicles on these residential streets will increase the danger to ALL residents in this area.

We urge ALL residents to urgently let Hawkesbury City Council know how adversely these changes will affect your family, lifestyle and property. The reference is: DA0852/08D. It can be addressed to Mr Peter Jackson, Hawkesbury City Council, PO Box 146, Windsor, NSW, 2756 or

by email to peter.jackson@Hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

– Bill Turnbull
NORTH RICHMOND

Carbon tax debate

WHY does the present government want the carbon tax? Only reason is to raise money, because of all the billions wasted on the BER, pink batt insulation, cash handouts, set-top boxes etc. So we would all be so grateful to keep voting for them!

Why do Malcolm Turnbull and a lot of other well-off individuals want it? Because they will trade in shares in the future ETS scheme. A whole new economy to be created and they will benefit – not the climate.

We the voters are not stupid.

Could the global warming debaters please explain the following. The earth has experienced at least five major ice ages in its 4.57 billion years of history. After each one there was warming. I wonder which dinosaurs created the pollution to cause all these warmings?

Sea levels have changed over the years (billions of years). The ice at the poles is at almost its smallest in history and yet our sea levels at present are identical to over the last 200 years. Underwater seismic activity also causes sea levels to change. Try the following – fill a bucket with water to the brim. Put in a large rock and the water will overflow. It is called displacement. How many underwater eruptions that created new islands have we had in the last millions of years? Get real people. We cannot control the climate.

Volcanic eruptions and the world wobbling on its axis can.

Our economy was talked down by Labor when we were economically sound. Australia seems to be heading for a recession now. Our money was spent when we were not in recession and now we are going to be taxed to the hilt, so the government can waste more money. Then they

will falsely claim they have saved us again.

– Jack de Vries
KURMOND

Let's do re-enactments

BATTLE re-enactments are something well worth pursuing, because they can bring a tourist influx to the Hawkesbury and are worthwhile for our general historical education nationally and state wise. This also makes it worthwhile as an exercise for our newly made representatives for the seats of Londonderry and Riverstone.

Better still they do the work through government by way of our ministry for museums, by arranging a visiting tour from a museum in the United States of America.

The knowledge of it comes to me from an email from my sister Winnie, as follows: "We went to the Admiral Nimitz museum. I bought tickets to a re-enactment of an American invasion of a Pacific island Japanese fortification at a special location close to the museum. It was done very well and by volunteers dressed in Japanese and American uniforms of WWII.

Before the enactment they displayed a lot of weapons and equipment used in the war. Guns, boats, vehicles. They made the weaknesses and advantages of each clear. They do these enactments several times a year and this weekend it is for Memorial Day. In the afternoon we went to the National Museum of the Pacific war. The National Museum has a visual history of Chinese and Japanese expansion, Pearl Harbour and the US involvement in Pacific war."

They are in Fredricksburg in the state of Texas, USA.

– Frank Scharfe
RIVERWOOD

less than 150 words

Which boy was it?

IN RELATION to *Home and Away* being filmed in Richmond. Clearly the Braxton boys were in Yabbie Creek courthouse. But which one?

– Shane Couch
RICHMOND

– Editor's note: I always thought that Yabbie Creek was only big enough for one courthouse!

Damn the ratrunners

REGARDING the letter, "Bridge not traffic problem" published in the *Gazette* on June 1. In answer to Ms Wilson's response to my suggested closing of Yarramundi Lane to improve traffic flow at North Richmond I think this is a typical attitude of selfish Yarramundi Lane rat runners. I refer to my letter to the editor on May 25. Some people just don't get it. In the morning peak it only takes two rat runners waiting to turn right into Yarramundi Lane to completely stop the flow of traffic travelling toward Richmond. Frustrated drivers patiently crawl forward, to the next blockage caused by right-turning rat runners. This effectively would happen dozens of times during the morning peak. As I stated before, rat runners are selfish, and seem to treat the wider commuting community with contempt. Never have so many been affected by so few. Close Yarramundi Lane and go with an easier flow.

– Alan Campbell
NORTH RICHMOND

Do it once, do it right

ALAN Campbell ('Study's been done', May 25) may well be right with his dissection of the problems around North Richmond and Richmond Bridge and I thank him for the analysis. Unfortunately, many other people have equally detailed but different thoughts on the reasons for the congestion, including Venecia Wilson (Bridge not traffic problem, June 1).

An enormous number of people shared their thoughts with me during last year's federal election campaign. I'm not a road engineer, and while many of the ideas may well help form the solution, I would hope that they share them during the consultation process to make sure the final plan is one that suits the majority of those on the North Richmond and Richmond sides of the bridge.

As to the time frame, I support taking a bit of time to get the plan right before spending the \$15-20 million that initial estimates put the cost of upgrading this type of road/bridge infrastructure. I hope people understand that the only reason I lobbied hard for this project is because almost everyone I spoke to in North Richmond told me that crossing the bridge was one of the biggest annoyances in their life. So, much as I'd love to ask the Minister to pop the cheque in the mail to Mr Campbell, I might have to decline that request.

– Susan Templeman
ALP SPOKESPERSON
FOR MACQUARIE

LOOKING BACK

25 years ago: Cliff Young, the ultra marathon champion is special guest at the Grose Vale Fun Run.

50 years ago: An alderman tells Council that "dire consequences" could result from golfers practising in McQuade Park, Windsor.

100 years ago: A Sydney suburban picture show runs a men's beauty competition, and the event was 'drawing large crowds of fops and dudes'.