Purple Day

Friday 10th August

Scone will be painted purple for the day on Friday 10th August for Scone Relay for Life.

The event’s organising committee is hoping all businesses in the town get behind the event, on this day it is hoped the town is painted purple — with purple balloons, promotional material, posters and collection boxes for the event.

Businesses, organisations and community groups are encouraged to dress their shops in purple for the day and staff are encouraged to look the part in Relay for Life shirts, if possible, or dress in something purple — a hat, wig, colour your hair or find your beat purple outfit.

Purple is the symbolic colour of hope for Relay for Life! LETS ALL GET BEHIND PURPLE DAY!!!!!!!!

Relay for Life is a unique, overnight fundraising event that brings communities together in the fight against cancer. Whether you are a cancer survivor, a carer, supporting friends or loved ones, or simply wanting to make a difference, Relay for Life empowers everyone who participates.

If you would like additional information please phone on 6545 2562 or email admin.snrc@pacific.net.au

To register a team for the event www.relayforlife.org.au
Feed a Devil Day

Feed a Devil day is a fun way to help save the endangered Tasmanian devil and learn more about our iconic Aussie animal at the same time!

It costs $2 a day to feed a Tasmanian devil at Devil Ark and we currently have 120 hungry mouths to feed!

If your school registers for our fundraiser you’ll receive a ‘how-to’ kit, heap of stickers (as giveaways to students) and posters. You’ll also receive an informative teacher’s guide with useful activities to teach K-6 students about the endangered Tasmanian devil and our environment.

When the devil is it? The 7th of September is Devils Day, commemorating the death of the last Tasmanian tiger in 1936. But it’s not over yet. Devil Ark, now in its 4th year has had over 100 devils and is on track to exceed last year’s total of 26 devils born in the first ever Devil Ark breeding season.

Devil Ark Operations Manager, Tim Faulkner, is ecstatic, saying “This further cements Devil Ark’s reputation as the leading Tasmanian devil breeding facility in the country. This is the stuff that conservation dreams are made of and it’s an incredible project to be part of.”

Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD) has now affected over 90% of the wild population and 90% of Tasmanian landscape. It now seems that extinction in the wild is inevitable. Devil Ark now has over 100 devils and is on track to reach its short term goal of 360 devils by 2016. It is the largest breeding facility in the program, which sees 20 zoos across Australia breeding an insurance population of disease free devils for repopulation into Tasmania once DFTD has forced extinction in the wild.

The highly regarded facility has some very keen supporters:

The opening in 2011 of the innovative and ambitious Devil Ark project at Barrington Tops represents a major step forward in the commitment to the insurance population and contributes significantly to the survival of the Tasmanian devil.

For further information: Jane Luttrell | Devil Ark www.devilark.com.au (02) 4340 1022 or 0407 453 200 jane@devilark.com.au

Devil Ark: Ambitious, Successful and Significant

Pouch checking is now complete at Devil Ark and we’re thrilled to announce that 32 new devils have been born during this year’s breeding season. This exceeds last year’s total of 26 devils born in the first ever Devil Ark breeding season.

Devil Ark Operations Manager, Tim Faulkner, is ecstatic, saying “This further cements Devil Ark’s reputation as the leading Tasmanian devil breeding facility in the country. This is the stuff that conservation dreams are made of and it’s an incredible project to be part of.”

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what’s on

FRIDAY JULY 27
Family Dance 8pm Aberdeen Sports Club
Fancy Western Dress Up Aberdeen Community Caring For St Heliers
Heavy Horse Field Days Inc.

SUNDAY JULY 29
National Tree Day

SATURDAY AUGUST 4, SUNDAY AUGUST 5
Upper Hunter Team Penning

SATURDAY AUGUST 11, SUNDAY AUGUST 12
St Heliers Heavy Horse Field Days. St Heliers Exhibition Ground, Muswellbrook

FRIDAY AUGUST 17
Scone Films

FRIDAY AUGUST 24
Inglis Scone Broodmare Sale - White Park, Scone

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1
Big Boys Toys - Aberdeen

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2
Upper Hunter Team Penning

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15
Scone Homegrown & Handmade Markets. 8am - 12noon, kerv cafe, Liverpool Street Scone

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15
Scone FilmFest 2012 - Short Film Festival

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 23
Scone Polo Club - Donald Macintyre Cup

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 30
Scone Polo Club - Dougal Archibald Cup

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 30
Upper Hunter Team Penning

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6, SUNDAY OCTOBER 7
Timor Polo Club - Aguirre Gold Cup

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13
Pro Series Professional Bull Riding - White Park, Scone

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13, SUNDAY OCTOBER 14
Ellerston / Quirindi Low Goal

Scone Homegrown & Handmade Markets. 8am - 12noon, kerv cafe, Liverpool Street Scone

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Tuesday 7pm
ALPHY
Thursday 7pm

MEMBERS HAPPY HOUR
7 DAYS A WEEK
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Bookings: Phone 6545 1807

National Tree Day

Sunday July 29

Two locations will be set up as registration areas. Registration will be from 9am and we expect to be finished by 11.30am. Muswellbrook - Karoola Park, at the end of Newman Street (extension of Dumaresq Street), behind the Roger Street Primary School. Participants will be planting in three main areas in the park.

Denman – Arbor Park on Virginia Street, with planting there and at Hyde Park. Free BBQ from 10.30am on.

Tools will be provided.

Please bring along long pants, sturdy shoes, well fitting gloves, sunscreen and a sunhat, and water.

If you would like more information please contact me at council, or go to the Planet Ark website treeday.planetark.org
Heat of The NSW Poetry Slam

Dungog’s historic James Theatre will be the venue for Art’s Upper Hunter’s heat of the Slam. Contestants will be given a microphone, a live audience and just two minutes to speak, scream, howl, whisper and even sing their original poems, stories, lyrics and monologues to impress five judges selected at random from the audience.

The two winners will compete in the state final at the State Library Of NSW, aiming at the national final with all expenses paid prize of attendance at the ‘Bookworm International Writers Festival’ in Beijing, Chengdu and Suzhou in March 2013 and the ‘Ubud Writers and Readers Festival’ in Bali in October 2013. It’s worth some $11,000.

The heat is on Saturday July 28, 4pm to 6pm. It’s free to compete. For audience members it’s $10 at the door. For details on competition rules and the event in general visit www.australianpoetryslam.com

Muswellbrook Creative Arts Fair

Expressions of interest close July 31.

Artists, artisans, performers, poets, dancers, writers and musicians from throughout the Hunter and beyond are invited to be part of the Muswellbrook’s Creative Arts Fair. Stall holders most welcome.

The event will be held at the Muswellbrook Pothouse, Lions Park, Lower Brook Street, Muswellbrook on Saturday September 29, 10am to 2pm.

For details contact Kevin Doherty at the Muswellbrook Visitors Information Centre on 6541 4050 or email visitorcentre@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

Max Watters’ Closing Night

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre invites you to join us Saturday 6pm July 28 for the closing of Max Watters’ Sydney Preview.

Max’s work will be whisked away to the Watters Gallery in Sydney, so the Closing Night will afford visitors a final chance to enjoy his latest offerings of this popular local painter. Max has contributed enormously to the local community by donating his wonderful collection of Australian modern art. Help us celebrate this local legend with refreshments and nibbles and enjoy the bright, bold colours of his latest works (and the orange chimneys!).

Corner of Bridge & William Streets, Muswellbrook NSW, 2330. Phone 02 6549 3880
Beach, Bush & Battlers

Photographs by Jeff Carter

The Jeff Carter photographs in Beach, Bush + Battlers have been selected from his remarkable, historically significant archive of over 50,000 works celebrating the lives of everyday Australians in rural, outback, urban and coastal communities dating from the late 1940s through to today.

The exhibition is a traveling exhibition on loan from the State Library of NSW.

Opens Tuesday August 7 and closes Friday 24 August. Official Opening 6pm. Singleton Public Library, Queen St, Singleton. Open Mon to Fri 9am to 8pm, Sat 9am to 12pm. Call 6578 7500.

Beach, Bush & Battlers

Photographs by Jeff Carter

Oils Workshop

August 18 & 19

Oils Workshop with Peter Sennell

Leaving a banking career at the age of 21 he worked in the mines at Mt. Isa where the people and the harsh outback life inspired him to pursue a full-time career in painting. At this time he travelled overseas to study the great European Masters.

“Romantic Impressionism” is Peter’s description of his approach to painting. His unique style softens the Australia he loves so well, but being a self taught artist has enabled him to approach the Australian landscape and its people with a refreshing individuality. His treatment of light and its effect on form is all important in his paintings.

He has been painting professionally for over 30 years and during this time has had many successful individual and group shows and has received many prestigious art awards. Peter is an exhibiting Member of the Royal Art Society of NSW.

This is being presented by the Scone Arts & Crafts.

Scone Arts & Crafts Centre, Kingdom St, Scone. For details call Terry Cox 65414641.

Author to Visit Local Libraries

Jaye Ford is a former journalist and public relations consultant, who decided at 40 that her dream to become an author would never be realised unless she sat down and started writing.

Almost ten years later, her first two thrillers are about to be published in seven languages.

Where: Muswellbrook Library, 126 Bridge Street Muswellbrook. When: 2nd August 2012. Time: 11.00am. RSVP: library@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

Where: Denman Library, 7 Ogilvie Street, Denman. When: 2nd August 2012. Time: 2.00pm. RSVP: denman@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

This is a free event and bookings are essential.

Muswellbrook Regional Arts Centre

16 June - 29 July 2012

Figurative Difference: Peter Griffen & Dagmar Cyanulla
Youth Snaps #7: Photographic exhibition
Max Watters: Sydney Preview
Danielle Burford: A survey of works from indigenous artist from Coffs Harbour
Muswellbrook NAIDOC Week: Local Aboriginal Art Awards 2012

Image: Dagmar Cyanulla, Lara - caravan series 2010
Image courtesy of the artist
Blue Flame Indian

Blue Flame Indian restaurant in Muswellbrook is a buzzing new business that offers authentic Indian meals, naan bread, Tandoori entrees, curries along with great children’s options.

Located at 142 Bridge Street Muswellbrook, Blue Flame is an easy and exciting new meal option for locals and visitors to the area. Open seven days a week for both lunch and dinner, whether you dine in or takeaway you are sure to receive a delightful meal and enjoy the welcoming atmosphere.

Lunch, Monday - Friday 11:30am - 2pm. Dinner, Monday - Sunday 5pm - 9pm. Phone for reservations on 6543 2200.

Asser House Cafe

Locally owned and run cafe, Asser House is proving to be a favourite of Scone locals and passers-by.

This cafe is conveniently situated on Kelly Street Scone, they offer light meals, sweet treats and barrister made coffee.

Also providing office and private catering this local business is just waiting to be enjoyed by all.

With both indoor seating as well as an outdoor courtyard, Asser House Cafe has a comfortable, inviting atmosphere no matter the weather.

Open 6 days a week. Phone: 6545 3571.
food & wine

PUKARA ESTATE OLIVES
Where: 1440 Denman Road, Mustwellbrook 2333
When: Open seven days, 9.30am to 4.30pm

Pukara Estate’s extra virgin olive oils are amongst Australia’s best, winning over 32 awards in shows nationally. Visitors to the Estate can taste the complete range of Premium and Flavoured oils, table olives and many gourmet products. All products can be purchased direct from the grove. Toby’s Estate Coffee and home made slices also available. Open 7 days a week 9:30am – 4:30pm.
Phone 6547 1055
www.pukaraestate.com.au

HUNTER BELLE CHEESE FACTORY & CAFE
Where: 75 New England Highway, Mustwellbrook 2333
When: Open seven days, 9.00am to 3.00pm

High quality gourmet cheeses handmade from the milk of Brown Swiss cows. Tastings 7 days – 9am-3pm Cafe – Coffee and cake, delicious lunches, giftwares and cheese platters.
Phone 6541 5066
www.hunterbellecheese.com.au

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www.jamestatewines.com.au

July 28 to August 3, 2012 - The Upper Hunter Entertainer - 7
Tamworth Winter Showjumping Championships

The Tamworth Winter Showjumping Championships are to be held at The Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre (AELEC) in Tamworth, New South Wales from Friday 27th July until Sunday 29th July.

The Tamworth Winter Showjumping Championships is an event which showcases Australia’s best equestrian riders. Showjumpers from all over the eastern seaboard all ride into town to compete against the array of local talent for numerous coveted titles.

The North and North West Showjumping Club is the longest running non-metropolitan showjumping club in NSW and is responsible for hosting the Tamworth Winter Championships. The North and North West Showjumping Club has been in operation for over 40 years, with the club building a wide regional member base stretching from Walgett, Collarenebri, Narrabri through to Barraba, Gunnedah and Scone.

The Tamworth Winter Championships is an event which has grown exponentially in popularity since 2009 and now attracts over 1000 competitors and spectators to the annual event. Mrs Jane Kibble of the North and North West Showjumping Club said “We have been running top quality events within Tamworth for a number of years now and each year the quality of competition and the calibre of competitors increases.”

The main class is the 1.35 - 1.45 Sue Alden Memorial Grand Prix sponsored by Omega Feeds and is set to take place at 2.30pm on Saturday the 28th of July at the Australian Equine Livestock and Events Centre (AELEC). The event will start with a walk of the course, in which members of the public are invited to take part in.

Kibble says “there are 25 of Australia’s best showjumping horses taking part in this event and each of them will be looking to take home the major prize money.”

Competitors include George Sanna who has represented Australia in Showjumping at 2 Olympic Games, 3 World Cup Finals and the World Equestrian Games in Stockholm. David Robertson will also be competing. David was short-listed for the World Equestrian Games in 2006.

There will also be a range of equestrian clothing for sale as well as food and beverage stalls, and more.

This is a free event for spectators. Spectators can enter through the top doors of the AELEC main arena. Gates will be open from 8.00am each morning and events will be run throughout the day. Saturday is the best day to see top flight showjumping.

For more information on the Tamworth Winter Championships please contact Dave Alden on 0434 499 659 or email dave@flowcommodities.com. For information on show jumping events please contact Annette Maunder on 0427 657 111 or email annette@tuffcoglass.com.au.

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Puppy Tips

By Peta Gay Railton

It's always exciting when we welcome a new puppy into the family. We lavish attention on them and often unwittingly reinforce some natural puppy behaviors that we then decide we don't really want. It's always easier to get it right from the start, to set the ground rules as a family, before we bring the pup home.

There are no set rules for acceptable behavior. It's what you are prepared to tolerate, and many owners are quite happy to have their dogs jumping all over them though their guests might be less enthusiastic.

You need to decide which behaviors are acceptable and which are not and everyone needs to be consistent in reinforcing the rules. Most problem behaviors in dogs are just normal doggy behaviors that we don't like and it's very confusing for a puppy to be allowed on the bed when he arrives, only to be chucked off it and told "no" when he is a bit bigger. You cannot allow jumping up 90% of the time and then get annoyed at the dog for putting his muddy paws on your good white pants.

It's always best if your pup learns to respond to commands. Pups learn by positive reinforcement, if its good or fun they repeat the behavior. If there is no reward then they do not. This is why behaviors like car chasing are so difficult to stop, its self rewarding for the dog and is therefore repeated. The teaching of commands, whether verbal or by hand signals, allows you to dictate where and when a behavior is allowed. In my opinion, if your dog has a solid "sit" and a good recall you are well on your way to having a lovely family pet.

Sit: You need to have a small soft delicious treat like chicken roll and you must hold it just behind the nose so that the pup has to arch his head back to get it. This will encourage him to put his bum on the ground. If the pup jumps up then your hand is too high. If he keeps backing up then you can use a corner. Avoid pushing his bum down, that will not teach him to sit as he has not done it himself. Avoid asking repeatedly for sit, you are teaching him to ignore you. I teach sit using body language initially and I add the word later once the behavior is mastered. If your pup only got a pat when its bum was on the ground then you would be well on your way to a well behaved dog.

Recall: Find a friend and start in an area with few distractions, like the back yard. With a treat in your hand, use a high excited voice and call the pup. You need to be the most appealing option to the pup. Reward the pup for coming with the treat. Once you call your pup you must be prepared to follow through if he doesn't come. Calling when he is chasing a kangaroo is going to teach him that he doesn't have to come when called so, until you have a solid recall, only call your pup when you are likely to win.
Melbourne Cup in Muswellbrook

This year Muswellbrook's racing season has a focus on local men's health and mental health services. When the Melbourne Cup visits Muswellbrook in August on Sunday the 5th and Monday the 6th, local groups and services are set to benefit.

Proceeds from a lunch with Melbourne Cup winning jockey Wayne Harris on The Bengalla Cup Day Sunday the 5th will facilitate Muswellbrook District Hospital's men's and mental health programs. Further, the Hospital will be working with Muswellbrook Race Club to provide information and mini health pit stops at subsequent race meets.

The Melbourne Cup Tour coincides with Muswellbrook Race Club celebrating 150 years of racing and the International Horse’s Birthday celebrated annually on August 1st. A Family Fun Day is planned for the Bengalla Cup Day and Muswellbrook Netball Club will also benefit by collecting the gate funds.

The activities for the Family Fun Day include a netball goal shooting competition, jumping castles, face painting, the judging of the Cup-themed colouring competition, a vintage car display, opportunities for schools to raise funds with fete stalls, and of course, the Melbourne Cup.

Parish Fair

Scone Anglican Parish fair will be held at St Luke’s Anglican Church Grounds on Saturday July 28 at 9.30am to 2.30pm.

Entertainment and fun activities include face painting, cakes, BBQ, trash’n’treasure, devonshire tea, crafts, plants, books and gifts along with children's activities.

Scone RSL Pipes and Drums will also Provide entertainment.

Karoola Park Wetlands Opened

Karoola Park Wetlands is now a public open space, with a new gravel car parking area and formed footpaths constructed by the Soil Conservation Service.

Karoola Park Wetlands was officially opened on Tuesday. The Wetlands helps improve stormwater quality before it enters the Hunter River, whilst providing a home for native birds, fish, turtles and frogs. The new car parking area and turning circle will allow locals and travellers to stop by and enjoy the peaceful surroundings. The footpath across the overflow channel now provides access for walkers to explore along the top of the channel banks and provides a view toward the constructed wetland system.

"It is wonderful to see the Karoola Wetland becoming a community space once more," Environment Support Officer Joann Williams said.

"It is a lovely area to walk in and you can see the progress of the trees which were planted here by the local Guide and Scout groups along with members of the community during 2011’s National Tree Day."

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Muswellbrook Carelink

An invitation to a special afternoon with Jan Walmsley a leading grief & loss counsellor.

“I’ll Never Get Over This”

This is almost the universal and initial response when one suffers a major loss in life. It’s the first expression of deep grief and seems to be an irreversible truth.

However a new way of living can emerge from intense sorrow and this afternoon seminar will look at the experience of grief and its unique nature.

Time will be available for sharing, discussion and questions, or just listening. All interested professionals & members of the Public are invited to come along and join Muswellbrook Carelink Inc.

Venue: Conference Room Weidmann Wing, Muswellbrook Hospital Date: Saturday 4th August 2012. Time: 1pm for 1.30pm. Finish by 4pm.

Afternoon Tea provided - please ring for catering purposes. RSVP: 66 422 041 or 0448 831 839. No Cost Involved.
Charity Golf Day

The Friends of Strathearn are a small group of volunteer ladies who raise money to buy comfort items for the residents of Strathearn. They have been raising funds for the last 30 years.

Some of the fund raising is done through street raffles, fashion parades, lunches, lamington drives plus more.

Over the years they have donated lifters, beds, mattresses, wheel chairs, thermometers, chairs and many other items, all very essential items needed by Strathearn.

Friends of Strathearn will be hosting a Charity Golf day this Sunday July 29, at Scone Golf Club.

The event will be a 9 hole 4 person ambrose. Cost is $20 per person, which includes a BBQ lunch.

Please contact Scone Golf Club for more information on 6545 1814.

This will be a fun day, and you don’t have to be a good golfer. Come along and support this great cause.

The Friends of Strathearn are always looking for new members to assist them in their fund raising. They meet at Strathearn on the third Monday of each month at 2pm.

For further information please contact Yvonne 6545 9202, Sue 6545 3630 or Virginia 6545 2087.

Photo: A lifter purchased by the Friends of Strathearn and donated earlier this year. Volunteers from left to right: Virginia Mulcahy, Yvonne McCreedy, Director of Care Janelle Birch and volunteer Sue Lewis.