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entertainer

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YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE
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Thursday 2nd February, 2017

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Coming together for Australia Day



Upper Hunter Shire Mayor Wayne Bedggood presented the Upper Hunter Shire Citizen of the Year award to Joan Manning. Image courtesy of UHSC.

Music, barbecues, speeches, citizenship oaths, a parade, performances, markets and splashing around at the pools and a pop-up beach, marked Australia Day 2017 in the Upper Hunter, Muswellbrook and Singleton Shires. During the 2017 Australia Day ceremony in Scone, five Upper Hunter residents took the citizenship oath, becoming Australian citizens.

Ceremonies were held in Scone, Merriwa, Murrurundi, Aberdeen, Muswellbrook and Singleton where audiences heard inspiring stories from Australia Day Ambassadors writer Dr Benjamin Veness in Scone and Aberdeen; in Murrurundi Greg Donovan founder of Born to Run, and Merriwa had two Ambassadors, Pauline Carrigan from Where There's a Will Foundation and John Paul Young OAM; Singleton was addressed by fourth generation winemaker Lisa McGuigan and David Hall OAM former World Number 1 Wheelchair Tennis Champion featured as Ambassador at Muswellbrook Shire's ceremony.

Continued page 3

See inside

Strathearn TV Guide
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Mayor of Muswellbrook Cr Martin Rush with Young Citizen of the Year Amy Foster at the Muswellbrook Shire 2017 Australia Day ceremony. Image courtesy of Muswellbrook Shire Council.

SESSION TIMES: THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY - WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY

Cinema is closed on Mondays outside of school and public holidays

Muswellbrook Cinema
12-15 Sydney Street
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<p>RESIDENT EVIL: THE FINAL CHAPTER (MA15+) 106mins Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed 12.45pm, 3.00pm & 8.50pm Sat & Sun 12.30pm, 4.55pm & 6.45pm</p>	<p>PASSENGERS (M) 116mins Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed 12.50pm, 4.40pm & 9.00pm Sat & Sun 12.50pm, 4.30pm & 7.00pm</p>	<p>XXX: RETURN OF XANDER CAGE (M) 107mins Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed 10.55am & 7.05pm Sat & Sun 10.55am & 9.00pm</p>	<p>COMING SOON Allied Fifty Shades Darker Split : The Great Wall Hidden Figures Kong - Skull Island Logan Beauty and the Beast Boss Baby</p>
<p>MONSTER TRUCKS (PG) 105mins Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed 9.00am & 5.10pm Sat & Sun 9.00am & 3.00pm</p>	<p>COLLATERAL BEAUTY (M) 97mins Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed 2.50pm & 7.00pm Sat & Sun 2.40pm & 9.10pm</p>	<p>MIDDLE SCHOOL: THE WORST YEARS OF MY LIFE (PG) 92mins Thu, Fri, Tue & Wed 11.05am Sat & Sun 10.45am</p>	<p>SING (G) 108mins Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun, Tue & Wed 9.00am</p>

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what's on



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EVENT & ENTRY INFORMATION
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Performing stunts at King of the Ranges

The thrills and spills of High Velocity Trick Riding will be front and centre at the upcoming King of the Ranges Stockman's Challenge at Murrurundi on February 24 – 26.

Prepare to be amazed by the skills and bravery in this unique and inspirational show which takes horseriding to a thrilling new level. High Velocity Trick Riding delivers fast-paced performances demonstrating daring stunts on horseback. The team's performances showcase amazing Roman riders, trick horses, trick riding and liberty work, which can be appreciated by all.

The team consists of some of the most experienced trick riders in the country who have performed in numerous productions, rodeos and shows including El Caballo Blanco, Equestra, Australian Outback Spectacular, Amway China, Sydney Royal, Canberra Royal and the New Zealand Royal to name a few. With the inclusion of their amazing fire jump, High Velocity Trick Riding packs some serious entertainment punch!

SKILLED ACTION: Trick Riding performed by the High Velocity team will keep you in awe at this month's King of the Ranges event.



Shop online for tickets and vouchers at www.majesticcinemas.com.au

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www.majesticcinemas.com.au

PROGRAM INFORMATION THURS 2nd FEBRUARY to WED 8th FEBRUARY

Mark Wahlberg in Boston Marathon story **PATRIOT'S DAY (M)**
Alice is back in **RESIDENT EVIL: THE FINAL CHAPTER (MA15+)**
James McAvoy plays multiple characters in horror thriller **SPLIT (M)**
Vin Diesel is back in **XXX: THE RETURN OF XANDER CAGE (M)**
Family Adventure in **MONSTER TRUCKS (PG)**

Don't miss the Girl's Night Out Wed 8th for **FIFTY SHADES DARKER**

Select Series Emma Stone & Ryan Gosling in **LA LA LAND (M)**
Dev Patel and Nicole Kidman star in **LION (M)**

CHECK WEBSITE OR PHONE FOR SESSION TIMES

21 Ryan Ave, SINGLETON Ph 6571 5252



**Would you like your story, event or
advertisement in Up Country Entertainer?**

Contact Cheri Gibson at Hunter Valley Printing
E publications@huntermvalleyprinting.com.au
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WIN two double passes!

The Entertainer in conjunction with Majestic Cinemas are giving away two double passes each week to two lucky readers.

Look for the handwritten word "WINNER" along with the editor's signature on this page above HVP logo.

Present the winning Entertainer edition to the Muswellbrook office of Hunter Valley Printing, 6 Wilkins Street Muswellbrook and collect your passes.
(must be claimed within one week of publication date)

Coming together for Australia Day *Continued from front page*



Images: (top left) Upper Hunter Mayor Wayne Bedggood and Young Citizen of the Year Rachel Pittman at the 2017 Upper Hunter Shire Australia Day celebrations. (top right) **STANDING OVATION:** Young Achiever of the Year, Fiona Stalker, and Citizen of the Year, Toni Watson, on stage at the Civic Ceremony in Singleton receiving their awards on Australia Day.

Outstanding citizens were recognised with Australia Day awards.

Upper Hunter Shire Mayor Wayne Bedggood presented the Upper Hunter Shire Citizen of the Year award to Joan Manning and Upper Hunter Shire Young Citizen of the Year award to Rachel Pittman. In Singleton, founder of the "Bears of Hope", Toni Watson was named Citizen of the Year while the Young Achiever of the Year went to Fiona Stalker. Citizen of the Year in the Muswellbrook Shire went to Anthony Neate and Amy Foster being awarded Young Citizen of the Year. For the full list of Australia Day Award recipients visit council websites.

Welcome to Dr Wendy Brooks

Dr Wendy Brooks has been appointed Director of the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music.

Wendy has been actively involved in music education for some 30 years, teaching in primary and secondary schools in the outer western suburbs of Sydney, while simultaneously running a successful piano teaching studio.

Since 2011, she has been lecturing and conducting research in education and music education at both Sydney Conservatorium of Music and Western Sydney University. Wendy completed her PhD studies in 2015 at Sydney Conservatorium of Music, investigating music and screen media in the lives of young children, and maintains a keen interest in Early Childhood Music Education and its importance for future musical learning.

Wendy has developed a strong association with the regional conservatoriums through her research and teaching activities with Sydney Conservatorium, and is keen to strengthen community involvement in music-making and learning.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The Board of the UHCM is pleased to welcome Dr Wendy Brooks (pictured) as its new Director.





CLAIM THE DATE

Aberdeen Quilt Affair

Sunday 30th April 2017

10am – 3pm

St Marks Church Hall and Aberdeen Library

- Good coffee and great food available
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Face to Figure: From the Collections / 8 Artists: Different Strokes /

Face to Figure: Workshop Studies / Collected: Max Watters Collection

Exhibition Dates > 14 January – 5 March 2017 Opening > 6pm Friday, 13 January 2017



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Janelle McCloy,
Morton Bay Fig, graphite.

Finalists announced



Image: WHS Business of the Year, Port Hunter Conveyors, with sponsors.

Scone's Airspeed Aviation is one of a handful of local businesses named as a finalist in the 2017 Hunter Safety Awards.

A panel of industry experts and sponsor representatives chose the finalists. Launched in 2016, the Hunter Safety Awards were developed to highlight and acknowledge companies and individuals within the Hunter region who are demonstrating best-practice and innovative approaches when it comes to workplace health and safety (WHS).

Hunter Safety Awards founder, Sarah-Jane Dunford, said it was a rigorous process, with a number of close decisions. Awards will be presented across 11 categories with the winners to be announced at a gala event on Friday, 17 March 2017, at Newcastle Exhibition & Conference Centre (NEX).

Denman Farmers Market

1ST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Except January, and also in May when the Upper Hunter Wine and Food Affair is held.

**8AM TO 12PM
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www.denmanfarmersmarket.com.au



Golden Guitar bliss

It was a highly-emotional night for country music legend Troy Cassar-Daley at the 45th Annual Golden Guitar Awards in Tamworth on January 28.

The musician and author joined legends such as Slim Dusty and Reg Lindsay in being added to the Australian Country Music Roll of Renown. The 'Things I Carry Around' singer paid tribute to his wife Laurel and children in his acceptance speech before being overcome and telling the crowd, 'I've got snot coming out my nose.' The singer also won the coveted Album of the Year award. Troy wasn't the only one to take home a Golden Guitar statue, with trio Bennett, Bowtell and Urquhart picking up two awards.

Fanny Lumsden was named best new talent while Sara Storer got Female Artist of the Year. Western Sydney's Travis Collins had a great night, picking up Song of the Year, Single of the Year and Male Artist of the Year. The show included standout performances by Kasey Chambers, Bernard Fanning and Lee Kernaghan.

STANDOUT PERFORMANCE: Kasey Chambers delivered her new single with Bernard Fanning at the 2017 Golden Guitar Awards.

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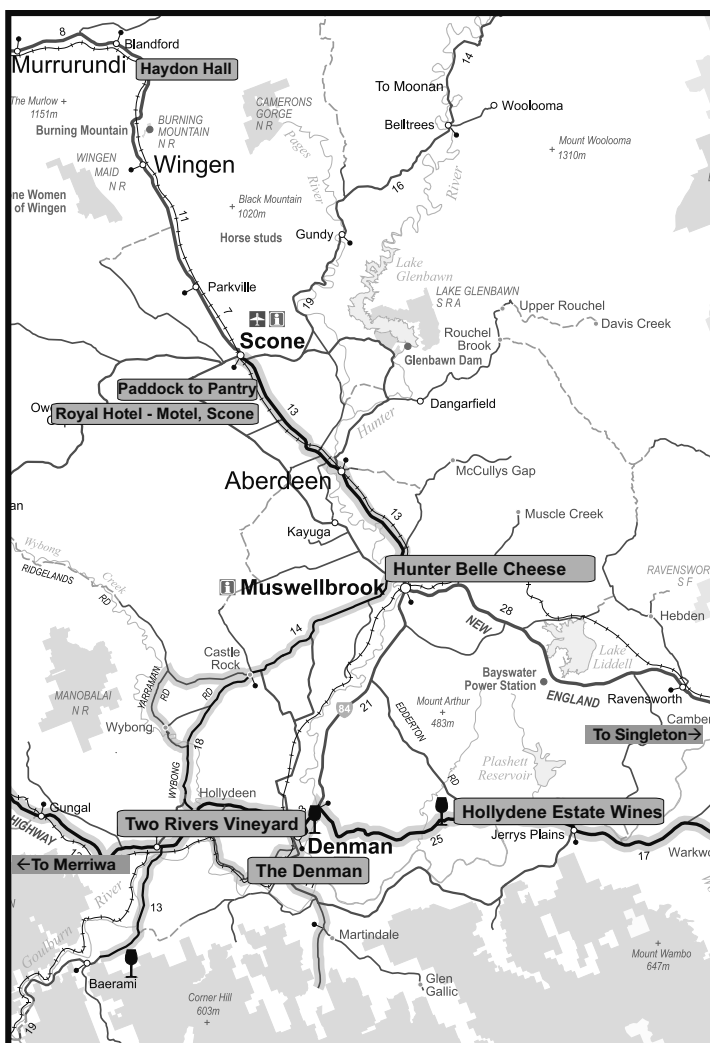
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CSP 2027 - Have your say

More opportunities to have a say on the future of the Upper Hunter Shire are popping up in coming weeks.

Upper Hunter Shire Council staff and Councillors are seeking residents' views in order to create the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) 2027.

Upcoming pop up consultations include:

- Merriwa Touch Football from 5.30pm, Wednesday 1 February 2017
- Aberdeen Football Club, Girls Tackle at McKinnon Field from 6pm, Friday 3 February 2017
- Belltrees Cricket Day, Saturday 18 February 2016
- Merriwa District Progress Association Meeting (open to the public) at Merriwa RSL from 6pm, Wednesday 22 February

Over 500 people have already given their views face-to-face as part of the CSP 2027.

People can also fill in a survey at Council offices or give their views online at www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au/do-it-online/say-it/ community-strategic-plan-2027-submissions

Mayor Wayne Bedgood said Council wanted to hear from as many people as possible of all ages, background and interests.



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A happy and relaxed pet at the vet

by Dr Peta Gay Railton

We cleaned out the old shed in Scone and I found a "meet the vet" sheet from 2005. There I am looking significantly less wrinkled, but apart from how much I've aged, what really struck me was my passion at that time, "to provide a pleasant and stress-free experience for all of the animals I see." In this passion I have never waived, and as we have grown and developed, the animals experience with us has been at the forefront.

In 2015 we became an Internationally Accredited Low Stress Handling Clinic and an International Society of Feline Medicine Cat Friendly Clinic. All of the staff of Pet Medical share my passion for animal care, not just their physical health care, but care for their stress levels at the clinic. Staff are trained to handle animals in a way that provides comfort and reduces stress and fear.

We used the best treats we can source (thank you Bow Wow Barkery for your preservative-free, 100% pure liver, beef and chicken treats), we give animals time to get to know us a bit and to relax before we begin our health check, we identify subtle signs of stress and use body language to appear less scary to the animals so they can relax and feel confident.

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Image: Dr Peta Gay Railton - Pet Medical.



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Scone, Muswellbrook & Denman



Recycling bins a win

Recyclables are no longer accepted at bins at Upper Hunter Shire Council Equipment Depot at the corner of Susan Street and Noblet Road.

Residents can drop off recyclables seven days a week at Scone Waste Depot on Noblet Road. Paper, glass and plastics recycling bins are located near the weighbridge.

Residents are encouraged to make use of the recycling facilities at the Waste Depot which is open week days 8am to 5pm and weekends 9am to 5pm.

Sorting and separating rubbish and recyclables is good for the environment and saves money by reducing waste fees.

An audit of Upper Hunter Shire waste in 2016 found one in seven recycling bins is contaminated with non-recyclable material. The Susan Street depot bins have been removed because of the high rate of non-recyclables waste dumping.

Dumping or littering can incur significant penalties and on the spot penalty notices.

To report incidents of dumping phone the Environmental Hotline on 131 555 or for smaller incidents, phone Council on 6540 1100.

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HOWZAT: Testing out the new nets at Jefferson Park during Tuesday evening's Aberdeen Junior Cricket Club training. Photo: Mayor Wayne Bedggood, Deputy Mayor Maurice Collison, General Manager Waid Crockett, Cr Lorna Driscoll, with members and the committee of the Aberdeen Junior Cricket Club.

Great catch for Aberdeen cricket

New cricket nets have been installed at Jefferson Park in Aberdeen, providing another great sports facility for the area.

The nets were funded by a \$14,832 grant from the Australian Government under the Stronger Communities Programme and contributions from Upper Hunter Shire Council, Aberdeen Cricket Club, and Aberdeen Junior Cricket Club.

Council managed the project and contributed \$26,335.

Aberdeen Junior Cricket Club President Fiona Tickle thanked Council and AJ Owens of Enduro Sports who designed the nets.

The two nets located at the Jack Walker No.1 Oval will be a great asset for the 100 members of the Aberdeen Junior Cricket Club aged 5 to 18 years. The junior players train on Tuesdays and Thursday evening from 4.30pm.

For more information about the club contact Fiona Tickle on 6543 7758.

MUSWELLBROOK CINEMA MOVIE REVIEW



RESIDENT EVIL: The Final Chapter

RATED (MA15+) 106 mins

Picking up immediately after the events in Resident Evil: Retribution, Alice (Milla Jovovich) is the only survivor of what was meant to be humanity's final stand against the undead. Now, she must return to where the nightmare began - The Hive in Raccoon City, where the Umbrella Corporation is gathering its forces for a final strike against the only remaining survivors of the apocalypse.

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Young singers blowing audiences away

Last year's Muswellbrook's Got Idol Talent competition at Muswellbrook Workies was a huge success, and now the region's younger residents have shown off their skills too.

The Junior Idol Talent contest has been held every Saturday night in January, and the final is coming up on February 4. Kids aged between 5 and 17 have been singing their hearts out for the chance to share in \$1,650.00 in cash and prizes. Muswellbrook Workers Club Manager, Scott Bailey says the competition has been stiff so far.

"The junior talent in the region has been truly amazing. From 7 year olds singing a capella to shy teenagers belting out Mariah Carey hits. The response has been amazing. The event has become quite the family affair. With one heat still to go, I can't wait to see what the final will bring," Mr Bailey said.

Classic Country Rock

Heartland

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www.muswellbrookworkers.com.au

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See page 2 for details

The Gum Ball returns

Boutique three-day music and camping festival the Gum Ball returns for its 12th instalment in April 2017 with another eclectic and lovingly crafted line-up of musical acts.



Genre-bending rock band Regurgitator return to The Gum Ball in 2017 while a trio of a very different kind, musical comedy group Tripod, will also join the line-up. The bumper first round line-up also includes revered Drones' front man Gareth Liddiard, Melbourne garage rockers The Peep Tempel, powerful songwriter Liz Stringer and her band, soulful folk singer Jack Carty, indie pop band The Ocean Party, 8 piece brass-infused reggae rock group The Steele Syndicate, enduring blues rock artist Mick Hart (accompanied by drummer Simon Gibson), touring African a cappella group Africa Entsha and stirring old-world country songbird Freya Josephine Hollick.

The Gum Ball is on Friday, April 21 to Sunday, April 23, 2017.

IRRESISTIBLE GROOVES: Regurgitator will bang out classics at this year's Gum Ball.

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the Gum Ball

FIRST ROUND LINEUP

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