

WHAT WE SAY...

Cancer clinic strikes gold

The announcement of yet another major donation to the proposed Hawkesbury cancer facility during the Hawkesbury Gold Cup race meeting is an exciting development.

The community thanks its anonymous benefactor for ensuring that the facility will now be able to go ahead.

Credit also goes to those on the fundraising committee for their tireless efforts in making an ambitious dream of a Hawkesbury-based oncology unit a reality.

It harks back to when communities got together and raised money for their own facilities and often built it themselves through sheer hard work and determination.

Unfortunately, all too often many of these eventually fell into the control of governments or other bodies that did not appreciate them and either cut back on services or got rid of them entirely.

The outdoor swimming centre at UWS Hawkesbury immediately springs to mind, as does Camden Hospital, serving our south-western Sydney cousins in their once semi-rural area.

Those behind our cancer centre, especially in the Richmond Club-offshoot Hawkesbury Living, have, however, solid plans in place to operate it effectively and it is definitely in safe hands going forward.

Hopefully as it gets closer to being built, we'll see more of the legendary Hawkesbury community spirit emerge in helping to either build it or operate it more effectively.

A bit of Hawkesbury Council support in dealing with it quickly would not go astray either, presuming all the appropriate planning boxes are ticked by the proposal.

Then they can get on with the business of helping those in our community with the insidious plague of our generation – cancer.

So a simple thank you to everyone who has worked so hard, on behalf of the people who will not have to travel to other parts of the city to have their cancer treated.

It may even save a few lives, and wouldn't that be a fantastic thing?

– Peter Gladwell
EDITOR

A GOOD FRIEND

your letters

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Bluesfest a success

BELIEVE that we should all congratulate Peter Fricker, Garry Mannix and Rodney Coates for putting on The Sydney Blues and Roots Festival. It was the third year and every year it just gets bigger and bigger. I would like to say how wonderful it was to see the crowds in Windsor last weekend. There were people everywhere enjoying the festival as well as the restaurants and cafes which were bulging.

As I work in Windsor as well as running a business there, it was plain to see the number of visitors that descended on the town. I would like to congratulate those people who stayed open late to welcome these visitors. I heard there was a

cafe in the mall which sold sausage sandwiches late at night and the talk was what a wonderful idea it was. The thought that went into this was fabulous. By doing this in Windsor more and more, people get to know what Windsor has to offer. They might only come out for this event but you never know, they might actually like the area and come back again and again. Especially when they are welcomed by the locals and enjoy what Windsor has to offer.

I did hear that some businesses complained about the weekend. I would like to know what they had to complain about. The thing is these people are going out of their way to do this weekend for the community.

So why not join in and be part of the community. Why is it that people want to knock what these wonderful people are doing?. By all pulling together we can have a better Windsor and an even better Blues and Roots Festival next year. There are many ways to attract customers to your shops and businesses and if you need help with this, let me know as I have many ideas.

We need to pull together as a community more and more, especially when people have less to spend, as they still go out for the day or weekend, and with us working together and not pulling apart then we can do so much good for the area.

– Janice Hart
WILBERFORCE



Gazette glimpses
Windsor
1.01pm
October 29, 2011
Photo: Kylie Pitt

Limit racy images

IN RELATION to the recent paedophile story (Gazette, October 19); there is so much more to do than just get rid of this bloke.

What about all the porn about town that is in everyone's face; including perverts? Your paper, The Courier on October 14 for instance, advertised a Gentleman's Club (in a pig's eye). You call that picture OK? And right next to the birthdays too.

Then you have the pictures of kids in underwear hanging up in Woolworth's Variety for all the perverts about town to salivate over.

And also the lingerie shop at Victorian Arcade in Richmond with its provocative sales board in everybody's face. One lady even dragged the board to the side because she was disgusted with it.

Then you have the supermarkets and the newsagents plying the sex trade. I asked the owner of a news agency, "Do you have a daughter?"

"Yes," he replied.

"Then I hope a sex offender doesn't come here and see your dirty magazines, then goes and rapes your daughter."

He didn't like that comment, but how many newsagents and supermarkets (and other shops) are selling literature to rapists and sex offenders, and driving them to offend?

You are all guilty of selling offensive literature and directly or indirectly of sexual crimes against society.

So let's clean up Australia, and burn the filthy literature. Isn't it better to stop a disease instead of putting a bandage on it?

– S. Carrey
BILPIN

Speed limit redundant

IT IS time! Time to take stock of what is occurring on Bells Line of Road.

Why bother to have speed signs?

No-one follows them and if one does one is made to feel one is holding up the traffic and many rude finger gestures are used as they make the big swooping pass thinking they are "heroes".

Yes, so much for speed signs ... big joke ... that and the P-platers fuelled

on hormones and immortality, driving like there is no tomorrow and who cares attitudes.

"Only fools follow the speed limit" is their catch cry!

Solution ... hidden speed cameras.

As the old saying goes: "It's better to be late than dead on arrival".

Unfortunately, it is the innocent party that will be prevented from reaching their destination as the speed hogs break all the rules and spoil the road for us who are "silly" enough to believe in road safety.

If you don't believe me do the test yourself ... drive along the whole length of Bells Line of Road following the speed limits and count the hot-heads and even trucks that will pass you.

The revenue collected from the hidden speed cameras can be put forward to building a safer roadway ... it's a win-win situation!

But then who really cares?

– Merle Lester
KURRAJONG HEIGHTS

Psychological role

HAS Council stopped to consider the psychological damage they will cause if they plop 2000 new homes into 'Gridlock Gardens' at North Richmond?

Freud considered that all neuroses grow out of the conflict between our deep instincts and social pressures.

Surely it was peoples' "deep instincts" that drove them westwards across the river seeking green space, fresh air and a fair go?

Doubling their population without creating any new escape routes will be like putting a bunch of chooks in a jam tin.

Come to think of it, maybe it's this same neurosis that is infecting council. Maybe councillors are crammed too tightly together in council meetings.

Maybe the parts of their brains that were originally intending to represent their constituents have rotted away, leaving them confused and incapable of hearing the combined voices of the 101 per cent of people who don't want development before infrastructure.

I for one would be prepared to con-

tribute to a special rates levy to fund psychological counselling for all our dear councillors.

– John Bryant
BILPIN

Stance questioned

I REFER to Debbie Blimke's Letter titled "Lock Robertson out" which appeared in the *Gazette* of October 26.

On reading Ms Blimke's letter I was left wondering what exactly she was trying to say, though what stood out to me was her referral to "Our lovely Bart Bassett". I was left wondering about Ms Blimke's involvement in the current situation. A simple check on the internet revealed a couple of past comments posted by Ms Blimke. Unfortunately they were not in favour of Mr Bart Bassett or his political choice.

The first one was to Peter Wicks, ALP's candidate for the Hawkesbury dated March 11, 2011, starting with "I am quite disappointed with the Hawkesbury Liberal Council. So I am hoping that you will be able to bring our Hawkesbury Community up to par, primarily regarding infrastructure and in furthering infrastructure".

The second reads "With the 2011 NSW State Election being just around the corner... Why not Consider Voting for an Independent. Now that would be a Real Change & it could just make that long awaited Positive Difference we all may just be looking for". A copy of a How to Vote pamphlet for Tony Pettitt was attached, this being the same seat Mr Bassett's fellow councillor Mr Kevin Conolly was running for.

The point I am trying to make is the general public should think long and hard before posting random comments on the internet as you can end up sounding like a real mug.

In light of these previous comments what are we to make of Ms Blimke's most recent piece in the *Gazette*? I'd say take it with a grain of salt. Remember when posting items on the internet they are not written in pencil and will fade – they are written in ink that lasts forever.

– Julie Lindon
FREEMANS REACH

less than 150 words

Your view in short – no more than 150 words. Having a say is easy:

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Thanks for the blues

WINDSOR rocked, wow! Thank you to the organisers of the Sydney Blues and Roots Festival for the best weekend Windsor has seen since last year.

We all had a ball, we were all exhausted by the end of the weekend, but we will all be backing up again next year. We had the greatest weekend. The atmosphere in and around the town was one big party, there were no problems thanks to the great organisation of Peter, Gary and Rodney. The vibe in town was electric, there was something for everyone, free bands everywhere in the restaurants, no tickets required and generally everyone had a ball.

The lighting was spectacular thanks to Automation Electrical Controls who lit up the mall and donated the lighting in front of Trentino's Restaurant in Thompson Square. Windsor certainly came to life. The three tired organisers did Windsor proud; they worked their butts off with a spectacular result. Congratulations guys, and thank you to Hawkesbury Council and Windsor Police for their ongoing support.

– Gae and Michael Kelly
WINDSOR

Fantastic carers day

I'D LIKE to say a big thank you to all who organised the "carers' get together" on October 18. It was a great day for me as I am a carer for my brother. And to all who donated the lovely gifts to give to us carers. And of course to the wonderful lady who drove me there, Sandy Lee. And another big thanks to the wonderful staff at our local hospital. I was admitted to day surgery on October 26. I cannot praise the staff enough, they made me feel welcome and also comfortable. Thanks again.

– Name and suburb withheld

Canine information

IN MARCH 2005 I adopted a Maltese x Shih Tzu named Buster from my local animal shelter. He had been previously registered with Hawkesbury Council and was approximately 18 months old.

He was fully trained and well-looked after however, I believe the people who owned him separated and the person in whose name Buster was registered dumped him so his partner could not find him.

I am desperate to find his previous owner and find out more about this lovely little fellow who sadly passed away last Tuesday night. If anyone reading this knows of someone who may have owned Buster, could you please contact the editor who has my details. Thanks so much

– Sharon Lane
COLO

LOOKING BACK

25 years ago: Post Office Arcade is voted as being one of the more successful arcades in Windsor, having been fully occupied on almost all occasions since it was built in 1979.

50 years ago: The introduction of a new correct weight signal system at the Londonderry greyhound meeting proves a success.

100 years ago: To keep flies from the house, dip a sponge in boiling water and place it in a saucer. Pour on this half a teaspoonful of oil of lavender, which for some reason is obnoxious to flies.