

BUNGENDORE MIRROR

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A WALK AROUND BUNGENDORE'S HISTORY/ DISTRICT 3 • SARINA LOCKE AT BUNGENDORE VIEW/ COMMUN 4
PALERANG'S ENVIRONMENT A CONCERN/ COUNCIL 7 • WANDERING ALONG MACS REEF ROAD/ LETTERS 9
RAIN BRINGS PHALARIS POISONING/ LAND ETC 10 • 2/10 BATALLION AT FINISTERRE MTN/ HISTORY 11
'THRESHOLD'@BUNGENDORE FINE ARTS/ ARTS ETC 12 • CHOOKS HAD PLENTY TO CROW ABOUT/ SPORTS 16

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'Flat Mine's loading dock trashed



This photograph of the loading dock at the Lake George Mine shows the substructure of the building still intact. By the end of Tuesday the whole structure was down

By John Mitchell

Captains Flat residents are bewildered and angry that the loading dock and weighbridge of the Lake George Mine has

"..the loading dock and weighbridge.. had an exceptional level of significance against four of the five assessment criteria.."

been demolished, apparently with the tacit approval of the responsible authorities.

The dock is within metres of a brass framed information panel which is part of a heritage trail, funded by the Federal Government, to explain the cultural and heritage importance of the remaining mine and rail infrastructure, including the dock.

An assessment of the cultural and heritage values of the Lake George Mine by Alistair Grinsbergs in 2006 listed the rail loading dock and weighbridge and noted they had "an exceptional level of

significance" against four of the five criteria for assessing significance. He also noted "the structure is a prominent and iconic part of the mining fabric" and that "this important site, is in good condition".

Over the last five years the NSW Department of Primary Industry (Mineral Resources Branch) has spent a considerable amount of money on stabilising the mine structures and their surrounds under the direction of Derelict Mines Co-ordinator Scott Brooks. Their most recent work has been the restoration of land

immediately around the loading dock to protect the structure against surface water inflow. The conservation work has been overseen by the NSW Heritage Office (NSWHO).

The land on which the loading dock and weighbridge stand was previously owned by State Rail and the loading dock and weighbridge were included in their list of heritage assets. The is now controlled by the Australian Rail Trust Corporation (ARTC).

Yesterday the ARTC advised the Captains Flat Association that 'inspection in 2005

revealed that the loader was a privately owned structure left on railway land when the mine closed. Throughout NSW there are many such non railway owned / non railway constructed buildings and structures. The loader was not listed on any heritage register including the local council LEP and as in similar situations, it was not listed on the ARTC Heritage Register because of its private ownership.

"As a result of a state-wide exercise to identify and address safety risks undertaken by ARTC, the loader was identified

during March 2010 to be a serious safety risk. A check at that time revealed the loader [continued page 2]

"..was not listed on any heritage register including the Palerang Council LEP and as such no objection to its removal was offered.."

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150 turn out for Hoskinstown Fair Collector Pumpkin Festival grows each year



Bright balloons hover above stallholders and buyers at the Hoskinstown Fair last Saturday

Burra's Biggest Morning Tea

Press Release

The Biggest Morning Tea, an important fundraiser for the Cancer Council of Australia will be hosted again this year by the Burra Quilting Group in the Burra Hall at the Burra Park on Sunday 2nd May 2010 between 10am and 12 noon. This hardworking friendly group has raised in the vicinity of \$20,000 mainly from donated materials and generously giving up many hours of their time stitching and creating wonderful items.

Once again a magnificent double bed quilt designed and made by members of the group is being raffled and drawn on the day. Second and third prizes are also handmade items. A

wide selection of new handmade craft items suitable for Mother's Day gifts made by the group members will be on sale. Interesting items of trash and treasure will also be on offer and a silent auction will be in operation during the morning.

Entry is by gold coin donation and guests are asked to bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea.

Tea, coffee and juice will be provided and there is a lucky door prize.

"...a magnificent double bed quilt designed and made by members of the group is being raffled and drawn.."

By John Mitchell

More than 150 people turned out for the Hoskinstown Autumn Fair, held in the Community Hall on Saturday.

There were stalls offering produce, cakes and jams, gardening products and plants, clothing, books and trash and treasure.

'Flat loading dock trashed

[From page 1] was not listed on any heritage register including the local Palerang Council LEP and as such no objection to its removal was offered from a heritage point of view. Removal was arranged as a matter of urgency by our Property section for safety reasons.

"[After a phone call from the NSWWHO] this morning, our Regional Property Manager has arranged for the contractor to stop work, leaving the

The church ladies turned on tea and scones and the fire brigade provided a barbecue.

An organiser Ann Agius said "The day was a great community effort. We had good local support and made about \$1,200 which will go towards upkeep of the hall"

scales in situ pending further consideration. For clarification, work had in fact stopped (almost finished) already yesterday, with the weighbridge left in situ..

"There may be an opportunity to retain the weighbridge on railway land for interpretive purposes, under a licence arrangement. If [Palerang] Council would like to pursue this, perhaps contact could be made with our Regional Property Manager.."

Press release

The Collector Village Pumpkin Festival is set to break all records this year with a huge line up of attractions and activities on Sunday 2 May 2010.

The annual event that has put the village of Collector on the map gets under way at 10:00 am and will continue until 4.00 pm. Favourite events like the Great Big Pumpkin Competition and the National Scarecrow Competition will be bigger and better than ever with the prize money doubling for the heaviest pumpkin to \$500 for first, \$300 for second and \$200 for third. \$500 is on offer for the scarecrow event and hundreds more for a variety of pumpkin growing, carving and cooking competitions.

A huge market place will add to the colour and excitement of the festival. Entries have been received from over 70 stallholders featuring an abundant variety of products. Market stalls with everything from fancy fashions, to fresh fruit and fabulous food will fill 'pumpkin square' in the centre of the village. Stallholder Coordinator, Kathleen Webster says the interest has been amazing. "Of course we will have the best pumpkin soup and pumpkin scones in the land, but there will also be an abundance of organic produce, preserves, pastries, honey, olives, chillies,



plants and delicious foods. To top things off, we have a line up of stunning gifts and amazing creations, including leatherwork, pottery, jewellery and candles." Kathleen said.

The festival will also showcase award winning local wines, classic cars, vintage machinery, rural displays and other demonstrations. Another feature will be a display of quilts by the Bungendore Quilters Association.

Also adding to the atmosphere, popular folk band 'Out of Ireland' will provide live music throughout the day and guest acts will be performed by a variety of groups including the Collector Primary School.

President of the Pumpkin Festival Committee, Gary Poile is pleased with the way the Festival is shaping this year. "We have put a lot of effort into making the Festival better for everyone." Entry to the Festival is \$5 per family or gold coin donation (for singles) and all money raised will go towards community projects such as the refurbishment of the Collector Memorial Hall. For more details, visit www.pumpkinfestival.com.au or call Gary on 0423 672 153.



A young contestant with her entry in the last Collector Festival Scarecrow competition

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