

BUNGENDORE MIRROR

Bungendore's Community Newspaper Wednesday 1 December 2010 Year 2010/ Week 48/ Page 1 www.bungendoremirror.com.au



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The paper that can't be bought
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Global interest in Quilt Show



Quilt lovers from the USA, Canada, Holland, the United Kingdom and New Zealand were amongst the visitors to Bungendore's Fifth Annual Quilt Exhibition, held at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 November. REPORT PAGE 3. FACES@BUNGENDORE QUILT SHOW PAGE 14

Free Press
Proprietary Limited

Small & game
Published by
Free Press Pty Ltd
ABN 5910310140

SPOT PRESS
Printed by
Spotpress
Pty Ltd

Printed on 52
gsm Norstar
newsprint made
from recycled and
plantation grown
fibres

BUNGENDORE
MIRROR
Bungendore's
Newspaper

Upper Lachlan's ineptitude is killing Collector

"In addition, they will ask the Ombudsman to consider the Council's abuse of the Freedom of Information Act and a conflict of interest.."

By John Mitchell
Collector residents are considering seeking compensation for loss of income and loss of amenity as a result of the prolonged closure of the Collector Creek bridge. The bridge is a critical link back to the Federal Highway and essential for buses and other large vehicles to conveniently visit the town.

The residents are also

completing a submission to the NSW State Ombudsman seeking a full investigation of Upper Lachlan Council's lack of due diligence and public consultation in the demolition of the timber bridge and the design of the low level concrete culvert that will replace it. In addition, they will ask the Ombudsman to consider the Council's abuse of the Freedom of Information

Act and a conflict of interest involving council staff.

When the Council closed the bridge in June, they advised the residents that its low level culvert replacement would be ready in six months. Two months after the bridge was demolished, the Council belatedly yielded to the legal advice obtained by the residents, that under section 29 of the Roads Act, they must

consult with affected parties before the construction of the new crossing can commence.

At a meeting held on Friday 13 August, a Council spokesman dismissed claims that the low level culvert would be prone to frequent flooding, and said it could be flooded once or twice in 25 years. Soon after, within a period of one month, the creek twice rose to levels that would have

flooded the culvert.

At the same meeting, in reply to a resident's statement that [the bridge] must be open by the Pumpkin Festival [in May], the spokesman said, "I'm putting my money on it being opened in February." The residents have now been advised it may be open in May.

In a recent letter to the Council, [continued page 3]

Graham Spackman
0427 202 987

Carwoola-Captains Flat-Wamboin



SPACKMAN
real estate

sales@spackmanrealestate.com.au



Margaret Dorsch
0409 141 595

Burra-Googong-Royalla