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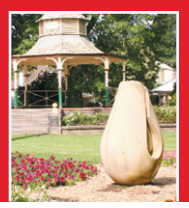

community diary

MARCH 9

Bushwalkers

Club meeting will be held at VRA HQ Bessemer St, Mittagong at 7.30pm. Visitors welcome. Enquiries to Malcolm on 4889 8661 or David on 4871 1291.

National servicemen

THE next meeting of the National Servicemen's Southern Highlands sub-branch is on March 9 at the Mittagong RSL Club from 10.30am. Visitors and members are welcome. Details: Laurie Kent on 4861 7396.

MARCH 11

Composting

Three-bay hot composting: how to make weed free compost in six weeks using the bay system. Ideal for those with large lawns or lots of vegetation. Come prepared to help with gloves, hats, garden footwear and clothing. Workshop to be held at the RRC from 10am to 11.30am. Bookings essential: 4868 0507 or esther.landells@wsc.nsw.gov.au

Climate action

THE guest speaker at the next meeting of the Climate Action forum on March 11 is Nick Batt, who leads the Application Engineering Team at Australian energy storage provider, Ecoult. He will be describing the various types of batteries for use with solar photovoltaic (PV) systems which are very typical at present with householders seeking ways to reduce their energy costs. The forum will be held in the Henrietta Rose Room at Bowral Library. Refreshments available prior to the meeting at 6.30pm. Admission is $5, or $2 for pensioners.

Fibromyalgia support

THE next meeting of the Fribomyalgia Support Group will be held on March 11 from 12-2pm. The meeting will be held at the Henrietta Rose Room, Bendooley Street, Bowral. Everyone is welcome Details: Elaine on 044 007 619 or Dianne on 0415 541 589.

MARCH 14

Bushwalkers

Car Camp, South Coast. Various walks Monday to Friday including Pigeon House. Contact Malcolm on 4889 8661.

MARCH 17

Worm farming

Worm farming and container composting: how to reduce your waste to landfill and help your garden flourish. How to be a successful worm farmer and/or use a compost bin and improve your soil my making your own compost. Bring your gardening boots/gloves/hats etc. Workshop will run 10am to 12 noon. Bookings essential: 4868 0507 or esther.landells@wsc.nsw.gov.au

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Oxley College at the forefront of learning

OXLEY College recently featured on the world stage at an education conference.

Deputy Head of Learning Kathryn Cunich returned from London earlier this year where she attended the 2016 World Conference of Visible Learning.

The conference brought together educational leaders from around the world to hear about the latest research in education

The program featured academics, practitioners and researchers from the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Asia, Denmark, Norway, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates.

Visible Learning is a professional development program for teachers, schools and system leaders that explores how evidence about learning can be used to create innovation and raise achievement in the learning environment.

It has been based on Professor John Hattie's research in Visible Learning which involved millions of students and represents the largest ever evidence based research into what actually works best in schools to improve learning.

Professor Hattie is an internationally acclaimed education researcher and is recognised as a master at figuring out what helps students to learn.

He has written 14 books and is Director of the Research Institute at the Melbourne Graduate School of Education.

Other speakers at the conference included Professor Andy Hargreaves (Canada), Professor Guy Claxton (UK) and James Nottingham (Scandinavia), all of whom are well known for their books and work in teacher practice.

Kathryn also spoke as a part of a panel that discussed the latest Visible Learning into Action Case Study book, in which Oxley College is featured.

She was able to discuss the school's strategy of using evidence based practice.

Oxley College was one of only four schools in Australia to be involved with the project, alongside 11 other schools from around the world.

Visible Learning is now a globally recognised program that is being implemented at a system level in many countries.

Additionally many individual schools are beginning to use the framework, including most recently prestigious British schools such as Eton.

It was a great achievement for Oxley College to be a part of the conference and for the school's successes to be celebrated at an international level.

Oxley College's Kathryn Cunich attended the World Conference of Visible Learning earlier this year.

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