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Covering Queensland's Sunshine Coast Hinterland



Hinterlandgrapevine Online

Friday December 12th, 2008

WHAT INTEREST DO YOU PAY ON YOUR CREDIT CARD?

Westpac announced recently that they would cut the interest rate on its lowest interest rate card by 0.65 percentage points to 11.99 per cent.

Westpac also announced the rate on the Business Choice Everyday card would be cut by 0.8 percentage points to 13.39 per cent .

What has this got to do with local news you might ask! Well, most of us have credit cards and pay interest.

These announcements by the banks is welcome news for thousand of consumers who are paying high interest rates on their credit card balances, but in light of the present economic climate and the recent continued rate cut by the Reserve Bank the banks are fialing to pass on this saving to customers.

As customers we should the banks that it is inexcusable for banks to pass on interest rate rises when the Reserve Bank increases the cash rate but refuse to act when interest rates drop.

The reality is that the credit card interest rate on existing accounts is way too high. As bank customers we are simply paying too much on credit card debt.

Every extra dollar too much that the bank takes from our family budget is something the family has to go without.

Meet Pete & Andrew in the park

There will be a free community barbecue to enable local residents to have a chance to meet local Federal member of parliament, Peter Slipper and the LNP candidate for the Glass House electorate, Andrew Powell to discuss any issues of concern.

Andrew will be on hand to introduce himself and to get some feedback about state issues of concern.

These meetings are designed to give locals who are normally unable to make the trip to their member's electorate office a chance to catch up in an informal setting on a Saturday.

The community barbecue will be held at Tesch Park, Maleny from on Saturday 13th December.

Please RSVP to Hom Peter Slipper's office at 5443 3555 for catering purposes.



Hon Peter Slipper cooks up a storm

Turning off your lights will increase savings

As from July 1st 009 electricity prices are expected to rise another 15%. This is on top of hefty price rises for each of the last two years. This is in spite of a promise from the Queensland Labor Government that privatisation of the electricity industry would not be a cost to the user. That is all in the past but there is something that we can do to contain costs as much as possible.

Encourage all members of your household to turn off lights every time they leave the room. Where possible install two-way switching for staircases, halls and rooms with more than one door. Push button

time switches and sensor lights are ideal for stairways and garages.

Tests have shown that compact fluorescent bulbs in rooms you use regularly you could reduce the amount of energy you use for lighting by up to 80 percent. By using six fluorescent 20 watt light bulbs instead of six normal (incandescent) 100 watt light bulbs for five hours each day, you can save over \$110 a year on your electricity bill.

Information on energy-efficient lighting can be found online in the Australian Greenhouse Office "Your Home technical manual" at <http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/yourhome/technical/index.htm>

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Truth-ful Jones Tells...



that one of his neighbours, Big Peter McDonald died in hospital, his old widow wished to tell all his friends at once, so she went into the Range News newspaper and says "I'd like to place an obituary for my late husband".

The girl at the desk says "OK, how much money do you have?"

The old woman replies \$10.00 to which the girl says, "You wont get many words for that but write something and we'll see if it's ok".

So the old woman writes something and hands it over the counter and the girl reads "Peter McDonald, from Witta, dead".

The clerk feels guilty at the abruptness of the statement and encourages the old woman to write a few more things.

The old woman ponders and then adds a few more words and hands the paper over the counter again.

The clerk then reads "Peter Reid, from Witta dead. Ford Escort for sale".

Morale: It might be better to actually attend to your personal matters so that when the time comes you can be sure of the final address.

You only live once, but if you work it right, once is enough.

"Weightwatchers"

Join Online today and save \$24 on a 3 month plan

Click here now to go to Online Registration

This week with Peter Slipper M.H.R.



Volunteer Day

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers that help out in the community.

December 5 marked International Volunteer Day, to recognise the valuable contribution made to communities around the world by volunteers.

International Volunteer Day is an opportunity to say thank you to the millions of Australian volunteers whose time and effort is the mainstay of communities across the country.

Centaur

I was pleased to see the Australian Government has agreed to allocate \$4million toward a search for the Australian Hospital Ship Centaur, which was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine on 14 May 1943 and sank, resulting in the loss of 268 lives.

I have been campaigning strongly for the government to fund the search for the Centaur, which is the last remaining undiscovered vessel sunk in Australian waters in WWII.

The funding announcement will mean a lot to the Centaur "family" and to Queenslanders generally.

Australia Day Awards

With the festive season fast approaching, the time is now to think a little further ahead to Australia Day.

If you know of any hard working community members who give up considerable amounts of their own time for the good of others, you

should consider nominating them for a Fisher Community Australia Day Award.

The Fisher Australia Day Awards for 2009 represent 10 years of the awards, which were launched in 2000.

For a nomination form, contact Richard in my office at 5443 3555 or at richard.bruinsma@aph.gov.au

Spinal damage campaign

A new Government campaign will repeat the message to urge people to take precautions in every day life to protect your spine.

Four new Community Service Announcements (CSAs) have been launched in association with the Spinal Injuries Association. They aim to raise awareness about the risk of spinal cord injuries and to encourage people to please take care.

The Spinal Injuries Association reminded people that it can take only a split second decision to change your life forever.

Common precautions include checking the depth of water to ensure its safe to dive into, taking care on the roads and while playing sport.

Click here to go to our "Gig Guide" (Must be connected to the internet at the time)

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News from the Maleny District Sport & Recreation Club inc

DSARCINC

Christmas Party



Some MDSRC members are doing a barbecue at the upcoming Club Christmas party and we need to have some idea of numbers for catering purposes.

Please send me a quick email if you're planning to attend with numbers? Don't miss out on this great get together.

Thanks to those who have already RSVP'd and.... please ignore this email!

Details are: 3.00 pm Sunday 21st December at the Bowls Club

Bar available (free soft-drinks for kids).

RSVP gail@mavmuse.com

The "NUT" Award

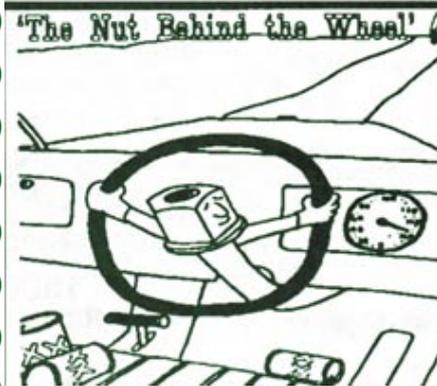
It matters little what the monetary penalty is or how much education is given there are some drivers who just will not take notice of the road rules.

They are not only a danger to themselves but they are a danger to other road users who have no control over the prevailing situation, not through their actions but the actions of the inconsiderate drivers.

Each week we will bring you the contender for the weekly "NUT" award - that is the weakest part of the car's safety - "The Nut behind the wheel"...

Let us see if we can do our little bit to improve road safety around our town.

If you know the person mentioned please have a quiet word to them.



This week's award goes to: - those who are leaving the tyre burnout marks on various roads around Maleny including Lawyer Street and in the vicinity of the Maleny High School.

We are including this week a rerun of a letter we published a few weeks ago because it said so much about unnecessary loss.

Mum's favourite Recipes

Spaghetti with a salmon taste

- easy evening meal on these warm afternoons.



Ingredients

- * 350g spaghettoni - * 60g butter - * 250g smoked salmon (torn)
- * 4-6 radishes (very thinly sliced) - * 1/2 cup frozen peas (thawed)
- * 3 tbsp white wine - * 200ml pouring cream - * salt and pepper
- * 1/4 cup chives (snipped) - * 1/4 cup flat-leaf parsley (chopped)

This is a delicious dish where the creamy sauce offsets the smokey flavour and saltiness of the salmon.

Method

Cook 350g spaghettoni in lightly salted boiling water until al dente. Drain. Melt 60g butter in a large frying pan over medium heat and add 250g smoked salmon (torn), 4-6 radishes (very thinly sliced) and 1/2 cup frozen peas (thawed) and toss to combine.

Add 3 tbsp white wine and cook for a further 1-2 minutes, then add 200ml pouring cream, salt and pepper and stir until heated through.

Add 1/4 cup chives (snipped), 1/4 cup flat-leaf parsley (chopped) and spaghettoni and stir until pasta is coated with the sauce. - Serve immediately.

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WHY IS IT SO?

How did the aerosol can come to be?



The aerosol can was first invented by Rotheim, a Norwegian engineer and inventor more than 75 years ago. The technology has evolved somewhat over the years but whilst there have been some improvements to the technology it remains basically as it was back then.

Initially, Rotheim's innovation didn't have much of an impact on the world. It wasn't until World War II, when the U.S. military introduced an aerosol can for dispensing insecticide, that people fully realized the potential of the device.

The easy-to-use cans were an invaluable aid for soldiers in the Pacific, where disease-carrying insects posed a deadly threat.

In the years after the war, manufacturers adapted this technology for a wide range of applications.

Today, there are thousands of products packaged in aerosol cans -- everything from hair spray to cooking oil to medicine.

Another paint hint from Maleny Paint Place

Painting a room for a little boy!!!

A few days ago we had in the shop a lady who wanted to decorate her young son's bedroom. He has a very keen interest in aeroplanes and has many models.

After some thought it was decided to paint the ceiling to look like the sky with clouds. Then some of the models would be hung there.

This is how she did it.

Firstly she painted the ceiling with a top quality interior low sheen water based paint in a sky blue colour. We don't recommend flat paint for this technique.

Sometimes it's fun to bring the sky blue paint down onto the side walls (by about a foot) This will give your ceiling a three dimensional look.

Allow blue paint to dry thoroughly

Determine where you want to place your clouds, including portions of clouds on the walls if you painted them. You can use chalk marks to guide your cloud design process.

To paint the clouds use "New Look" interior white water based paint in a satin finish.

Mix 1 part white paint with 3 parts glaze to make 'cloud glaze' This will help to keep the paint so that you can work with it without it drying too quickly.

Using a rolled up cotton rag, apply the cloud glaze to the 'cloud' area. Using rags gives you better control over the amount of paint. Clouds should be 'heavier' in the center and lighter around the edges.

To add more color and perspective, after the cloud is completely dry (>24 hours) add touches of pink, purple or yellow glaze to small sections of the cloud.

Make these color glazes the same way you did the white cloud glaze.

Hang the models with a very fine fishing line from the ceiling. The models will move with any slight wind movement in the room giving a realistic effect.

I bet even dad will love it....

*This weeks
Special*

**Taubmans Living Proof
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6 lts - \$69.00



Paint Place, Maleny

6/14 Lawyer Street,
Maleny. 4552.

Ph 54942002

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Click on the word Paint on the right hand side of page.

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News from Maleny Bowls Club
with Chairman Ian Hansen



With the green under repair the recent weather has been most beneficial to the regrowth of grass. If this weather continues we may be back playing a little sooner than expected.

Even though Bowls cannot be played, the Members' Draws are still being held on Friday evenings. The only winner present this week was Don Ginns who won the Live Life Villages prize.

Other winners would have been: Les Fawkes for the IGA, Glad Penney for Maleny Paints, Reg Darwell for the Full Monte and Linda Fawkes for Beechwood Bakehouse which would have given the Fawkes a double.

Saturday evening's Presentation Night and Christmas Party was particularly well patronised and proved to be a resounding success.

Four of our six Sponsors were present, the meal catered by Maple Three delicious and the Karaoke

provided entertainment of varying quality. The singing varied from dulcet and melodious to somewhat racous and off-key but none-the-les it kept the audience enthralled and was enjoyed by all present.

The presentation of Trophies included two 2007 winners in matches that couldn't be finished in 2007.

They were the "B" singles which went to Nev Littler and The Scott Fawkes Memorial Handicap singles which was won by Curley Petersen for the third successive year.

The 2008 Finals that were completed included The Ladies Singles won by Jo Littler and the Ladies Pairs won by Linda Fawkes and Norma Nuttall-Smith.

The completed Men's matches were: "A" singles won by Ray Oldfield, "B" singles won by Ken Jackson and the Men's Fours won by John Kapetanic, Ray Oldfield, Nev Littler and Ian Hansen.

The other Championship matches will have to be completed in 2009. The Christmas Raffle on Saturday evening boasted 39 prizes so the winners are too numerous to mention but I should like to thank all those generous souls who donated prizes as well as the four Business Houses, viz., Maleny Newsagency, Maleny Pharmacy, Maleny Harvest and Sweets on Maple who also so kindly gave prizes.

Finally, just a reminder that your 2009 Subs need to be paid by December 21st so an up to date Form Two can be sent off to Bowls Queensland. Defaulters may have to be charged another \$15 Nomination Fee in January to rejoin the Club.

This is a Bowls Queensland regulation not ours.

Have an enjoyable week.

Maleny celebrates Christmas with carnival

It doesn't matter what the weather does the Maley Christmas Street Carnival brings together the community in an environment that is conducive to reconciliation.

The street carnival originally started as a late afternoon event when Maple Street shop-keepers put on some "christmas cheer" for their loyal customers.

Closing Maple Street and presenting a night of fun and laughter helps people to overcome the aggression of the past year. Let us hope that we can get through next year without some of the aggression that we have seen in our community this year.

To all members of the Maleny community have a safe and happy christmas break.

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A brief insight into the history of Maleny & District and other things.

I had to say "goodbye"

For more local information
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I received this letter from one of our readers. To me it was a very "to the point" pouring out of the heart concerning a sad incident in her life that today is becoming a part of too many people's life. What can one say to the writer? Please think a little about how your "small and unthinking" actions can change other people's life forever. Thanks to the writer for sharing her loss with us as a means of making us understand how our actions change other people's lives.

I had to say goodbye to my sister about seven months ago. I believe I have kept this part of my life locked up tight in my mind. Clear in the bad to the point of were no one could break it unless I opened it up. And I guess I'm ready to open up about it. to talk about what I had done the day she had passed away. She was in a traffic accident with my aunt because of a drunk driver. They both were rushed to the hospital at 9:00 pm on April 6th. The hospital that they were sent to wasn't a very big hospital so they were transported to another bigger hospital that had more technology I think that's what you would call it. I had no idea any of this was going on until my uncle come to get me to take me to the hospital to stay with my aunt and sister.

They both were in critical condition, both on the respirators, feeding tubes, heart

monitors, a ton of IV's in both of them. Now when I came in a saw my aunt I was upset because my uncle had told me what had happened. She didn't look so good. I didn't know the human body could take so much.. Her whole face looked like it was melted off of her face but she wasn't burned. Her face had gone threw the wind shield (not wearing a seat belt) both of her arms were broken, she had a broken neck, and back, and she had broken her femur bone. She was in a coma.

I could feel the tears coming down my checks just the thought of what my sister was going to look like was just breaking me apart inside of me.

The nurse took me to where they were keeping my sister. I didn't think she was my sister. I thought it was all a dream. Her face was so swollen. She was in her car seat up front. If she wasn't in the front seat she might

of been a little better. She looked so defeated. So broken. So hurt and so weak.

She was just as bad as my aunt. She had a four fractures to her skull. The doctors told me that she was lucky to even last threw the night. I was thinking the worst so many things were in my mind.

I stayed with her all night dreading just the worst, but also praying to god that she made it not just for the day for the rest of her life. I didn't sleep at all I stayed up all night talking to her, kissing her forehead. Just hoping.

The next morning my uncle came in he didn't look so good. He came in and told me my aunt had passed away during the night. I just started crying it was so horrible to actually see him cry over his wife he never acted like he enjoyed her at all.

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A brief insight into the history of Maleny & District

After that I was in a state of shock. Thinking that my sister wasn't going to make it. But she did. My uncle left what did he care about his wife just died and my sister was fighting for her life.. Her life of barely a year. I hate that he didn't stay with me. The nurses were pissed off at him for leaving because he had to sign things that were important he never came back so I was forced to sign them I really didn't even know what I was doing with everything going on. I never left my sister's room. I didn't eat, sleep, bathe just nothing I was to concerned about her. I talked to her all the time. I could see her little eye's moving in her eye sockets and the nurse's told me that was a good sign.

I prayed even harder. But it wasn't hard enough. I was sitting there right beside her when she started having a seizure. It was the scariest thing I had ever seen in my whole life. I didn't know what to do I started screaming for the nurses and the doctors. They came in and stabilized her.

I was in a state of just numbness this just made me feel like the worst person ever. I didn't know what I was going to do.. The doctor came in and told me in the most nicest way ever and told me that my sister if she ever woke up she wouldn't be normal. That it might just be

best if we took her off of everything. I never in my dreams ever thought someone would ever even ask me to take someone off of something that was saving their life. He left and let me think things threw.

I told him an hour later that I wanted him to do it. I didn't want my little sister to suffer anymore. But I had him take everything off of her the feeding tube, respirator, IVs. After he took everything off of her he told me she wouldn't last for another five minutes.. He left me and my sister alone in the room for her last breaths. I held her all the way until her last breath.

It was the worst thing I have every had to do in my whole life. I felt her last breath and her last heart beat. I didn't even cry I felt that if she felt me cry she would know I was devastated that I was weak. I held everything in. I didn't want her to know that. I kissed her goodbye and I told her that I loved her. I sat with her for thirty minutes. If anyone tried coming in I told them to please leave.

I know that was stupid I just wanted to be with my sister alone. I sat there looking at her body. Just wishing it was all a dream. I told her goodbye for the last time thirty minutes later and I walked out the door and

sat on the ground bawling my eyes out.

I didn't want my sister to be dead. I didn't believe she was gone. I didn't want her to be gone. They sent a counsellor to sit with me. Talk to me and pray with me. But why did I have to pray when she was already gone??

I don't know maybe they thought it would make me feel better. It didn't. I was with my sister from the time she was born. It was like I had just lost my own child even though she was my sister. People tell me that I have no reason to feel that. But I was the one who raised her. The one her taught her how to walk, how to talk only if it was just a few words. I was the one who played with her, stayed up with, held her when she was crying.

I remember when she called me mama. I guess that isn't a reason to think that I had lost a child.

But I don't care what people think she was like a child to me.

To this day it feels like it's my fault that she died. Because I told the doctors to take her off the machines. It's just a horrible feeling I have deep inside of me. I had to say goodbye to a little girl that was so important to me. I miss her still to this day. I wish she didn't have to go but she did.

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Thomas the Tank Engine is ready for summer fun.

Recently I visited the Railway workshops at Ipswich. This precinct was an important hive of activity for Queensland for over 100 years and was central to Queensland's history.

Whilst Thomas the Tank Engine was not part of Queensland's Rail history he has been part of Queensland's children's life.

Well, Thomas the Tank Engine and The Fat Controller make a welcome return to The Workshops Rail Museum for the popular Day out with Thomas 2009 event.

Day out with Thomas 2009, 26 December 2008 – 26 January 2009, brings to life the popular book and television series with fun characters, entertainment and activities.

This year, Thomas the Tank Engine will also be joined by some of his well known friends including Donald and Douglas the Scottish Engines and Lady the Magical Engine.

Must every Queenslander should take one look through this great museum to see that Queensland History unfold Young Thomas fans will be kept enthralled with daily activities including the Thomas Play Pit, providing interactive activities for the whole family as well as 'meet and greet' and storytelling sessions with the Fat Controller, arts and crafts at the Thomas Creation Station and the 'Where's Thomas?' Model Railway Adventure.

Director of The Workshops Rail Museum Andrew Moritz said the Day out with Thomas 2009 event was a unique opportunity for families to experience this childhood favourite up close.

"The event continues to be updated each year and we are proud to have Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends here at the Museum," Mr Moritz said.

"A day spent at this event is not only the perfect school holiday boredom buster but it is also an enjoyable way to learn about

other types of locomotives and the story of rail in Queensland."

Visitors can purchase an Annual Pass Membership when they visit the Day out with Thomas 2009 event, which allows unlimited entry into The Workshops Rail Museum for 12 months including other forthcoming events.

The Workshops Rail Museum is a campus of the Queensland Museum and is the winner of the 2007 Australian Tourism Award for Heritage and Cultural Tourism.

For further information and ticket prices, phone (07) 3432 5100 or visit www.theworkshops.com.

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