Olympic Memories Still Sparkle After 20 Years

Twenty years ago Sydney hosted the biggest sporting event ever held in Australia and Parkes created unique memories to be included in this exciting part of the country’s history.

Not only did the Olympic torch come through our town with the late Parkes Mayor Robert Wilson taking it on top of the Parkes Radio Telescope, and local hockey hero Stephen Davies represented Australia at his third Olympics, but IBM also broadcast an advertisement worldwide about Parkes and Stephen.

Stephen, who was known as the Maradona of hockey, scored for the Kookaburra team when they won the bronze medal. With three Olympic medals in his pocket, he announced his retirement after the Sydney Olympics having played more than 274 games in green and gold and scoring 140 goals.

Two decades later people all over the country have dug up their photos and memorabilia to revel once again in this universally uplifting event and share their glowing memories.

“I’m sure it’s one of Parkes Shire’s favourite memories how the Olympic Torch galvanised the whole community from schools, sports clubs, service groups and the general public,” said Helen Magill, who was one of the torch bearers.

Continued on page 2
Continued from page 1

Council’s promotions officer at the time, Michael Greenwood said as Parkes was lucky enough to get an overnight stop for the torch, it was decided to do something different. “We organised a procession with 35 different floats each representing an Olympic sport with Stephen Davies leading it in a chariot, just ten days before the start of the Games.”

Michael said Olympic organisers in Sydney said the event at Parkes was one of the most innovative in the whole country. According to Michael, Parkes was also the only town where the torch was handed over between twins with Ken Keith (current Mayor) handing it to his brother Tim, the town crier.

Parkes’ iconic radio telescope provided another unique opportunity and footage of the Mayor with the torch on The Dish went around the world.

That was exactly the focus of the famous IBM advertisement — two Parkes icons: Stephen Davies and The Dish that again splashed the name of Parkes around the world.

“The American film crew came for a week and had their every need looked after. We even closed the main street for them to film,” Michael recalled.

Memorable moments included the horse that went into a café and filming Stephen bouncing a ball on his hockey stick as the sun came up at The Dish. “When I saw the ad for the first time on TV, I nearly dropped my beer. It was so good!”

After all the excitement of filming the ad and hosting the torch relay, Michael and his family were lucky to watch three hockey matches at the Games in Sydney. “There were a lot of Parkes people there and it was great to feel part of it.”

Although Helen could not get any tickets, she still has very fond memories of the torch relay.

“I was so proud to be representing my community and even though we were far away from Sydney, the torch relay was our piece of the Olympics and we felt like we had contributed to the Games. I’d have to say it’s been one of the highlights of my life.”

By Maggi Barnard

The golden chariot made by Jim Frecklington (front) with hockey hero Stephen Davies and Parkes resident Betty Muzyczuk riding in the chariot at the front of the Olympic torch procession.

The Parkes Shire is going into this fire season well equipped and prepared with a fourth new station opened last Friday at Mickibri between Alec Town and Peak Hill.

The new single bay station, built at a cost of almost $50,000, will house one of the two brigade trucks based at Mickibri. Another single bay station was built several years ago.

Over the past three months three other new stations were opened at Parkes, Coradgery and Waratah.

The Mickibri Brigade has a long history of service to the community spanning back over 80 years, with local families on the land banding together as part of the brigade to help protect their own and neighbours’ properties.

Speaking at the opening Member for Orange Phil Donato said: “I am in total admiration of the men and women who drop everything, temporarily abandoning their work and family commitments to help fight fires to protect life and property, in many cases at financial loss in their absence from work. They display unity, courage and commitment.”

The ceremony included an awards presentation, with 17 of the brigade’s 21 volunteer members recognised for a combined 651 years of service ranging from 10 to 58 years.

By Maggi Barnard

THUMBS UP...

THUMBS DOWN
confirmed case is ever present. There may be people in our communities or visiting our communities that have returned from areas with confirmed cases. We also have many vulnerable people living in our communities that we need to be extra considerate of.”

She said complying with the Public Health Orders was up to each individual, business and event organiser, and reminded people that fines could be issued for a breach of the Public Health Orders. For more information on COVID Safe Business Plans go to: www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19

Deductible Gift Status: Men’s and Women’s Sheds have been granted access to Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status by the Federal Government. This means you can claim an income tax deduction when donating $2 or more to your local shed, provided they register with the Australian Tax Office for this status. Member for Riverina and Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack said: “I have been to many sheds around the Riverina and Central West and I am always impressed by the fantastic work they do for our communities. They are not only great organisations working hard for our cities, towns and villages, they also are places where people go for friendship and support,” the Deputy Prime Minister said.

SNIPPETS...

Have you seen the new street art at Cooke Park? Local artist Jac Clark added more work to her existing panels recently.

Christian Martin (left) with his grandmother Jean Wright and brother Dane at the Olympic Games: I was 14 years old and went with my family to the rowing and the water polo. The excitement and energy I felt being at such a unique sporting event with people from all around the world cheering their respective countries was just the best.

Bob and Bev Bokyar: The friendliness of the people – everyone was talking to everyone on public transport and everywhere. The atmosphere was just electric. The cheering of the crowd and Mexican wave in the stadium when Australian Louise Sauvage won her gold medal in the wheelchair event at the Paralympics is something we’ll never forget. We felt a lot of pride being there. We just looked around in amazement at everything. We forget. We felt a lot of pride being there. We just looked around in amazement at everything. We

CASUAL COOK/CHEF
PARKES SERVICES AND CITIZENS CLUB

Applicants must have previous experience as a Cook working in a Club, Hotel or Restaurant. You would be available to work a range shifts including days, evenings and weekends.

Applications close: 30th October 2020

Apply to General Manager
PO Box 169 Parkes 2870 or gm@parkesservicesclub.com.au

MILL-HAND REQUIRED

Full-time Position
Austasia Animal Products Pty Ltd

Applicants should possess the following:
- Forklift Operators License

We offer above award wages plus bonuses and other company benefits.

Interested applicants need to apply with CV by email to Garry Dempsey gdempsey@aapforbes.com

What is your best memory of the 2000 Sydney Olympics?

Your free weekly guide to what’s happening in and around Parkes... shop locally first! Friday 25 September 2020 Page 3
There’s been so much talk about how the plastic pandemic is only getting worse during COVID-19. You can still help to clean up safely and responsibly. You can even organise an event, register with Clean Up Australia and receive a free COVID Clean Up kit including a face mask, hand sanitiser and enough gloves and bags for 10 volunteers to Step Up to Clean Up in a safe and socially distant way.

At least 180 millions birds were wiped out by the destructive bushfires last summer. A significant number of birds sought refuge in gardens and parks to survive the flames, which makes this year’s BirdLife Australia’s Aussie Backyard Bird Count from 19-25 October significant. Not only will you be taking part in the nation’s largest conservation event, but also take a break, connect with nature and do something peaceful. To register and find out more, visit: www.aussiebirdcount.org.au

A great school holiday activity for the blossoming cooks in your house. Jamie's Ministry of Food course will be available online over five sessions from 28 September to 2 October for anyone from age 12 and above. Learn to make key recipes that cover every meal; from breakfast and sides to lunch and dinner, as well as knife skills. Register at www.jamiesministryoffood.com.au/courses/jamies-ministry-of-food-online-program

When last did you delve into the renowned fantasy world of Narnia, the home of hundreds of magnificent creatures each with their own origins, morals and ideals? Let your imagination run wild as you enter the wardrobe and meet some of the most famous literary characters in history.
COVID-19 has led to the cancellation of many events so far this year, but fortunately for three students from Parkes the Active Citizen Program will still be going ahead, albeit in a modified form.

Trudy Richardson, Charlie Oraha and Jayden Pope have joined ten other Year 10 students from Forbes, Condobolin and Lake Cargelligo in the program run by the NSW Police Force’s Central West Police District.

The aim is to build leadership skills, confidence, increase employability and awareness in being an active citizen in their local community whilst enhancing cultural knowledge.

Activities this year have included visiting significant local cultural areas with local elders talking about the history of the town, completing workplace courses, artefact activities and visiting the Condobolin SES unit.

The highlight so far has been an online link-up with former NRL star, Jonathan Thurston, giving the students an opportunity to ask questions.

Upcoming activities include completing courses, health checks, presentations by a NSW police officer and Aboriginal elder and YouGotThis program through the Jonathan Thurston Academy on life choices and building self-confidence.

The students will also visit local businesses and community groups to discuss ways on being an active citizen and why they choose to give back to their communities.

Central West Police District Officer-in-Charge, Inspector Shane Jessep, said police were pleased to be able to offer the modified version of the program this year.

“The Active Citizen Program gives local police and businesses an opportunity to be involved in developing leadership qualities of young people in our community,” Shane said.

“Participants also have this exciting opportunity to build their skillsets and learn – not only from local identities, but also famous people – which will help them become the best versions of themselves as leaders.”

Central West Police District Youth Officer, Senior Constable Daniel Greef, said: “We are excited to be able to work with and build-up these future leaders of our communities and see them grow.”

The group of students at one of their activities they’ve done so far this year as part of the Active Citizen Program.

Attending one of the Active Citizen Program’s activities were Trudy Richardson from Parkes, Billie O’ Bryan (Condo), Kiara Harris (Condo).

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**SPONSORED BY... Greenparkes Garden Centre**

**ROUND 19 WINNER... PARKES DÉCOR SHOP**

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**Warren Keeps On Walking**

Warren Edwards has walked the equivalent of going to Orange and back and to Orange again so far this month. Tomorrow you can help him get back to Parkes!

It is a personal quest for the Parkes resident, who is one of almost 3,500 Australians taking part in The Long Run, The Prostate Cancer Foundation's first ever fundraising event. Warren has several family members diagnosed with prostate cancer, the greatest threat to men's health.

He is close to doing 300km, which is well over the required 72km for taking part. He has also smashed his fundraising target with almost $4,000 raised so far.

Members of the local Prostate Cancer Awareness and Support Group and the Parkes Action Group have ‘Walked with Waz’ each Saturday morning during September. Tomorrow, Saturday 26th September, Warren invites the broader community to join him for his final push starting at Lions Park at 9am and ending with a victory celebration.

Warren and his supporters welcome any more support for his effort and donations are still accepted to assist in developing research and medical care for those suffering with prostate cancer. You can do this by making a tax deductible donation to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia online www.thelongrun.org.au/fundraisers/warrenedwards or give your donation to a member of the Parkes Prostate Cancer and Awareness Group 0408 975 643 or a member of the Parkes Action Group.

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**WHAT’S On**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>26 Sep</td>
<td><strong>Walk With Waz for prostate cancer</strong> – meet at Lions Park at 9am for a walk and return to park for a celebration. Everyone welcome.</td>
<td>Lions Park</td>
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<td>7 Oct</td>
<td><strong>AGM Parkes Forbes Community Housing Inc</strong> at Neighbourhood Central at 9am.</td>
<td>Neighbourhood Central</td>
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<td>12 Oct</td>
<td><strong>Parkes Shire Library re-opens</strong> in newly refurbished library in Bogan Street.</td>
<td>Bogan Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><strong>The Adult Survivors of Child Abuse</strong> - Cowra Support Group meets on the 1st Friday of each month at 12:30. During COVID, meeting restrictions apply with your full name and contact details supplied. Please confirm attendance by Thursday evening, contact Pascale on 0458 698 460 or online at: recover.itmatters.com.au.</td>
<td>Cowra Support Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><strong>RSL meeting</strong> every 2nd Monday of the month at the Services Club at 2pm. Everyone is welcome.</td>
<td>Services Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><strong>Parkes Shire Concert Band</strong> is back and rehearses every Tuesday 7pm - 9pm during school term in the music room above the pool complex in Dalton Street. Contact music director Duncan Clement on 0405 035 164.</td>
<td>Parkes Shire Concert Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><strong>Parkes Painting Group</strong> meets at Northparkes Oval every Wednesday from 10am-4pm. New members welcome!</td>
<td>Northparkes Oval</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><strong>The Parkes Dragon Boat Club</strong> trains at Lake Endeavour on Sundays at 10am for 10:30am on the water. Contact 0418 253 045 for more information.</td>
<td>Lake Endeavour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><strong>Georgie’s Pantry</strong> at 45 Currajong Street Georgie’s Pantry is changing back to self-serve with just two customers in the shop at a time. The new opening hours are Thursday Community Pantry 10am to 3 pm, and Friday Farmer’s Pantry 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Enquiries call 0411 763 448.</td>
<td>Georgie’s Pantry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td><strong>The Henry Parkes Museum</strong> at 66 – 78 Peak Hill Road is open 9am – 3:45pm on week days and 9am – 3pm on weekends and houses many items of historical significance.</td>
<td>Henry Parkes Museum</td>
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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
COMMUNITY FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Parkes Shire Council is calling on not-for-profit organisations and groups serving the Parkes Shire community to apply for funding in Round 1 of the 2020/2021 Community Financial Assistance Program.

Council encourages groups and organisation to apply for a donation, or waived fees and charges.

Application forms for both streams of funding can be downloaded from the Council website www.parkes.nsw.gov.au

Applications close 5.00pm 02 October 2020.

Enquiries to Shona Henry Governance Officer 6861 2335

GENERAL MANAGER
Kent Boyd

STEEL TECH

We are seeking an enthusiastic, motivated, hardworking individual who can fit right in and add their skills and personality to our own bunch of nerds/awesome employees. This position will place you at the forefront of technology, so you need to be adaptable and versatile to fit this role. You will have to have great troubleshooting experience and must be a logical thinker with sound reasoning skills. The main tasks are as follows – Customer service! we mean great service!, our customers are extremely important to us. General computer and hardware sales, stock and storefront management. On-sites for installation of computer equipment, network, general support and troubleshooting. Remote help-desk support, monitoring, internet installations and troubleshooting.

* All Applications will be kept confidential

DESIRED CRITERIA:

- PC Repair and clean-up experience
- Internet and VoIP experience or knowledge
- Prior experience with Microsoft Windows Operating Systems and Microsoft Office software
- Experience with Server environments such as Domains, RDS, Folder Redirection, Active Directory, Hyper-V Virtualisation etc
- Experience with Point-to-Point wireless links
- Prompt, good timekeeping and time management skills. Excellent Record keeping
- Responsible, Reliable and Honest
- Excellent Customer Service skills, Phone Manners and sound communication skills
- Excellent Presentation, attention to details and general neatness

If this sounds like you please apply in person or call us.

126 Lachlan St, Forbes NSW 2871
Email: careers@stech.com.au | Office 02 6852 3204

OUR Gal

Ana Mill

How long have you lived in Parkes and what do you like most about living here?
We moved here in 2007 from Sydney when my husband started work at Northparkes mines. I like it here because it’s peaceful like the islands and people are nice.

Where do you work or what do you do currently and what do you enjoy about it? I work at Redbend Catholic College in the kitchen, cooking and feeding the students and boarders.

What is your favourite thing to do when you have free time? I like doing my volunteer baking for the farmers and frontline workers fighting the COVID pandemic.

What makes you proud? My son and daughter make me proud because they are doing well and have careers and are nice children.

If you could be an animal which one would you choose, and why? I would like to be a bird and fly because we can’t fly anywhere with COVID-19.

What is your all-time favourite movie, song and/or book, and why? Movie: Sound of Music. I like the story and the music; Song: Unforgettable by Nat King Cole, it reminds me of growing up in Tonga, my parents used to play it a lot; Book: Any Patricia Cornwell book.

Tell us about your best holiday. Mauritius, because the hotels are beautiful and it reminds me of Fiji but it is prettier.

What is on your bucket list? Go to England and see Buckingham Palace and meet the Queen! Europe to see my penpal land and see Buckingham Palace and meet the Queen! Europe to see my penpal.

Mighty Makeover

The team at Acheson’s in Forbes is getting ready to ‘turn blue’ as part of a rebrand of their Oxford Street business to Mitre 10 to improve the shopping experience for locals.

The change will strengthen the store’s ability to provide a wide range of products at competitive prices through Australia’s largest independent home improvement and hardware wholesaler, while remaining proudly family-owned and operated.

Aaron Acheson and wife Jacinda, who are both life-time Forbes residents, say it is an exciting new era for the family who have proudly serviced the Forbes region with hardware and building supplies for over 40 years.

“I grew up in hardware. With our family store starting in 1970. Our longevity in the town is down to the value we place on local relationships and knowing what our customers want,” said Aaron.

“The move to Mitre 10 is a natural progression for the business, joining a strong national brand that is highly regarded for both trade and DIY. It suits our strategy and allows us to expand our promotions to offer even greater value to the community.”

One thing that Aaron insists won’t change however is the same familiar faces and specialist knowledge that customers have come to expect at Acheson’s. It will be the same business with the same great team.

CLASSIFIEDS

AGM PARKES FORBES COMMUNITY HOUSING INC.
To be held at Neighbourhood Central Parkes at 80-82 Currajong Street 7 October 2020 at 9:00am.

WINE BARRELS FOR SALE
Half wine barrels $130 each Full wine barrels $250 each
Ph: Parkes Brick & Pavers 6862 2253
The Australian Government is extending JobKeeper until 28 March 2021 and the temporary Coronavirus Supplement for those on income support until 31 December 2020, after which income support will continue.

For JobKeeper and the temporary Coronavirus Supplement there will be some changes to payments and eligibility to support businesses and households who need it most.

For information on how these changes affect you, visit Australia.gov.au