

POP QUIZ

- Q1 How did Orange get its name?
- Q2 What event interrupted this years Bathurst 12 Hour Motor Race leaving cars stuck on the Skyline for over an hour?
- Q3 The caves at Jenolan have been made by subterranean rivers eroding through layers of rock. What type of rock is it?
- Q4 What is the highest point between the Blue Mountains and Perth?
- Q5 Which road links Tomingley and Parkes?
- Q6 The first steel manufactured in Australia was in which city?
- Q7 Where is Australia's only complete Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton to be found?
- Q8 Which Cumnock woman was recently named NSW Woman of the Year?
- Q9 Ned Kelly's sister, Kate, is buried in which town?
- Q10 Which town was originally known as Spring Grove?

- A1 - Originally known as "Blackman's Swamp", it was named "Orange" by Surveyor-General Thomas Mitchell in honour of the Prince of Orange, who later became King of Holland. **A2**
- A3 - A tree falling onto the track. **A3**
- A4 - Mount Canobolas. **A5**
- A7 - Newell Highway. **A6**
- A6 - Lithgow. **A7**
- A8 - Mrs. Christine Weston. **A8**
- A9 - Forbes. **A10** - Millthorpe.

ANSWERS



HEALTH IN NEED OF MORE THAN A BAND AID

There are few bigger issues here in Calare than the provision of health care and the facilities where our hard working health staff are employed. Years of neglect by the State Labor Government has left the New South Wales Health System on its knees and left Regional New South Wales, in particular, in desperate need of help. This under-funding and under-staffing, is across the entire electorate. The city-centric focus of the current health system has left small communities high and dry from Forbes to Lithgow and Blayney to Parkes.

Of course Kevin Rudd and Nicola Roxon have suggested a way to fix this problem, namely taking over the funding of the health system with a nation wide approach. Whilst the details of the Labor Party's plan remain largely unknown, one characteristic was exposed. Just two days after the announcement was made, someone within the State Labor government released a list of 117 facilities that they believed would be shut down under the Government's new system. No fewer than 19 facilities on the list fall within the existing and new electorates of Calare. This can not happen. My National Party colleagues and I will not stand for any program or plan that judges the highly valued health facilities in Regional Australia under the same criteria as health facilities in metropolitan areas. Health Facilities in Blayney, Portland and Cobar simply can not compete in terms of costs and in terms of efficiency with health facilities in Sydney. Under the Rudd Labor health plan this then makes the regional health facilities less valuable and less worthy. Of course I know the value of these facilities, we as a region know the value of these facilities and as a Party, the Nationals certainly know the values of regional health facilities.

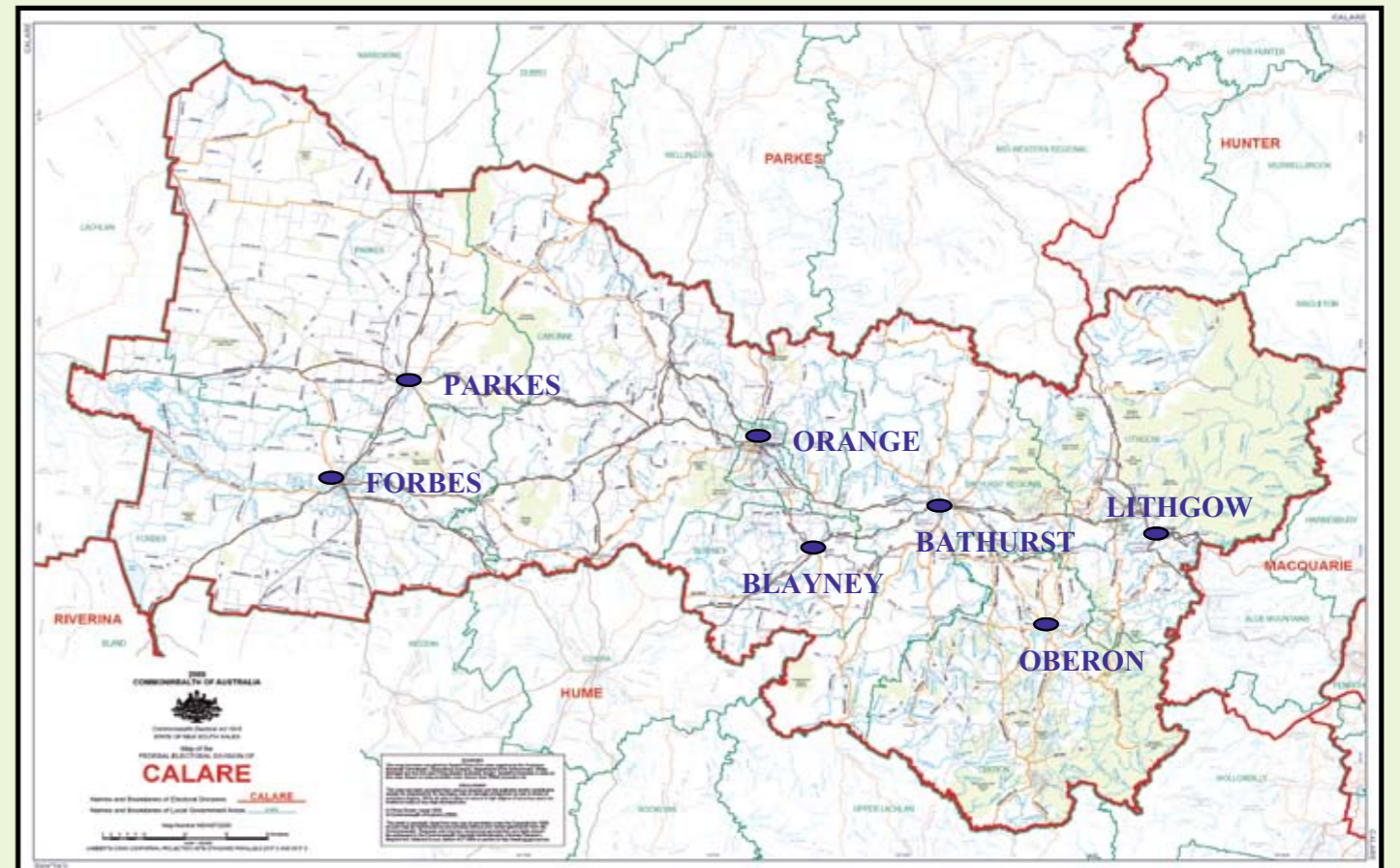
The Coalition has proposed to bring back a voice for local residents when dealing with local health issues. We believe that regional health workers and regional community members must be included in the decision-making process and such important decisions cannot be left to the growing web of bureaucracy. Strong health facilities are our right and I will continue to fight for stronger health facilities to support our wonderful health professionals.



HERE IT IS - THE NEW CALARE ELECTORATE FOR THE FEDERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD LATER THIS YEAR

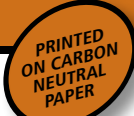
The Electorate has reverted to having a truly Central West identity with a much more localised feel. As you can see, the Electorate encompasses eight separate Local Government Areas from Forbes and Parkes in the West through to Lithgow and Oberon in the East. It is clear that the

priorities of the Electorate are Health Services, a Bell's Line Expressway, Water Security, Job Security and Food Security. This Electorate is home to the oldest regional settlements outside Sydney and is where serious mining and agriculture began in Australia. It is a wonderful place to live.



Contact Us...

P: 6361 7138 or 1300 301 740
F: 6362 3480
E: john.cobb.mp@aph.gov.au
W: www.johncobb.com.au



IT'S TIME TO STAND UP FOR OUR VITAL BEEF INDUSTRY

In Australia, especially here in Calare, there are few more important industries than our Beef Industry.

Livelihoods, careers and thousands of jobs around the region depend on Australia continuing to produce the cleanest and greenest, disease free beef in the world.

Beef produced in Lucknow, Molong and Blayney is enjoyed in major export markets such as Japan, Korea and the United States.

The Nationals have fought hard over the last month seeking a guarantee from the Labor Party that any imported beef will be produced to the same high standards that are required of Australian beef exports, including having an equivalent physical system to the National Livestock Identification Scheme.

This is why I am demanding through my Private Members bill that any country which wants to import beef into Australia must;

- 1 Have a national animal identification scheme with the same physical ability to trace an individual animal from birth to plate
- 2 Ensure that a full import risk analysis be undertaken before any beef is imported
- 3 Ensure that all imported beef has a country of origin label to give consumers a choice as to whether they eat beef from countries which have had a BSE outbreak

Since we have introduced our Bill into Parliament the Agriculture Minister Tony Burke and Trade Minister Simon Crean have both performed back flips worthy of Olympic Gold and have finally stated that they will now conduct a Risk Analysis as a result of the pressure from the Coalition and pressure from regional Australia.

I remain adamant that these three core principles should be observed by any country importing beef into Australia. Australia has the sovereign right to set its own food safety standards and our reputation for providing clean, safe, environmentally friendly, disease free food should never be compromised.



John Speaks with local Lithgow Butcher Stan Wirzykowski, who sells only local beef, about the potential impact of the changes to BSE legislation



John Speaks with the Shadow Cabinet Colleagues, (left to right) Warren Truss, Phillip Ruddock, Tony Abbott and Julie Bishop following discussions about the announced closure of St Vincent's hospital in Bathurst.

YOUTH ALLOWANCE MESS

Following the great response by the local community to our Youth Allowance emergency newsletter last year thousands of signatures were taken to Canberra calling for a change to Julia Gillard's new Youth Allowance criteria.

This month, those changes were delivered however not to all of our region's students.

Firstly it should be acknowledged that the circumstances negotiated are an improvement on the crazy Bill proposed by the Labor party last year.

However the stubborn nature of Julia Gillard and the Federal Labor government has meant that students in towns such as Portland, Canowindra and Sofala as well as the major regional centres of Orange, Bathurst, Lithgow, Blayney, Oberon and Cowra are still required to work 30 hours per week for two years before qualifying as independent.

The thrown together nature of the Labor Party's scheme is evident in Molong where the street you live in can decide whether you are exempt from the new rules or not.

Students living in the same town, attending the same school can be classified under two very different systems.

The new rules are an improvement but there is still more to be done.

COBB ROLLS UP HIS SLEEVES IN ELECTION YEAR

Following the announcement of the Electoral redistribution in mid 2009 Member for Calare, John Cobb, knew he was in for a fight and vowed to get fighting fit.

Since that day Mr Cobb, who is also the Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Food Security, Fisheries and Forestry, set about losing weight and shaping up for an election year battle.

However Cobby hasn't been forced to go it alone.

Fellow National's Member of Parliament Mark Coulton has teamed up with Mr Cobb to prepare themselves for an arduous election campaign.

"We decided it was going to be a tough fight so we had to shape up", Mr Cobb said.

"There's an old saying in Canberra that you gain a kilo' for every month you spend in parliament, so we thought we better start doing something about it."

"I'm feeling great and I am ready for a big year and will continue to take up the fight for the residents of the Central West and Regional Australia."