

Primary entry #5: Eleebana Public School



# Eleebana ENDEAVOUR



Greg Upton and Neil Roberts demonstrate the art of disc golf.  
Picture: Matthew Whittington

## New spin on golf begins in the Hunter

By **ERIN DEER, MATTHEW WHITTINGTON** and **SAMUEL HAREN**

A NEW sport is taking a fresh approach to the game of golf. It can be played by people from all walks of life and all you need is disc and a basket.

Disc golf is a revolutionary new game that has taken Eleebana Public School by storm.

Neil Roberts from the Hunter Disc Golf association said: "It all started off by throwing a frisbee at a target and then the great sport of disc golf grew worldwide".

There are two courses in the Hunter Valley, one at Jesmond and one at Rathmines. The disc golf community are looking to introduce it in the Maitland and Port Stephens areas in the near future.

Greg Upton, also a member from the Hunter Disc Golf association said: "It is a relatively simple sport that involves throwing a frisbee like disc into a steel basket. Players start from the first flag with the object of the game to throw your specialised disc into the basket with as minimal shots as possible."

Eleebana Public School is the first school to trial this sport and is enjoying the new experience.

Student Matthew Whittington said: "It is fun for all ages and is something new for our school". Expansion to other schools in the region is a goal for Neil and Greg.



For more details visit  
[newcastlediscgolf.com](http://newcastlediscgolf.com).

## Moving on from Pasmenco

By **RACE COTTON, CAMERON JOHNSON, COOPAH HYSLOP** and **JACK DOUGHTY**

THE old Pasmenco smelter, located near Boolaroo, is currently being rehabilitated to allow for the development of residential, commercial and business centres.

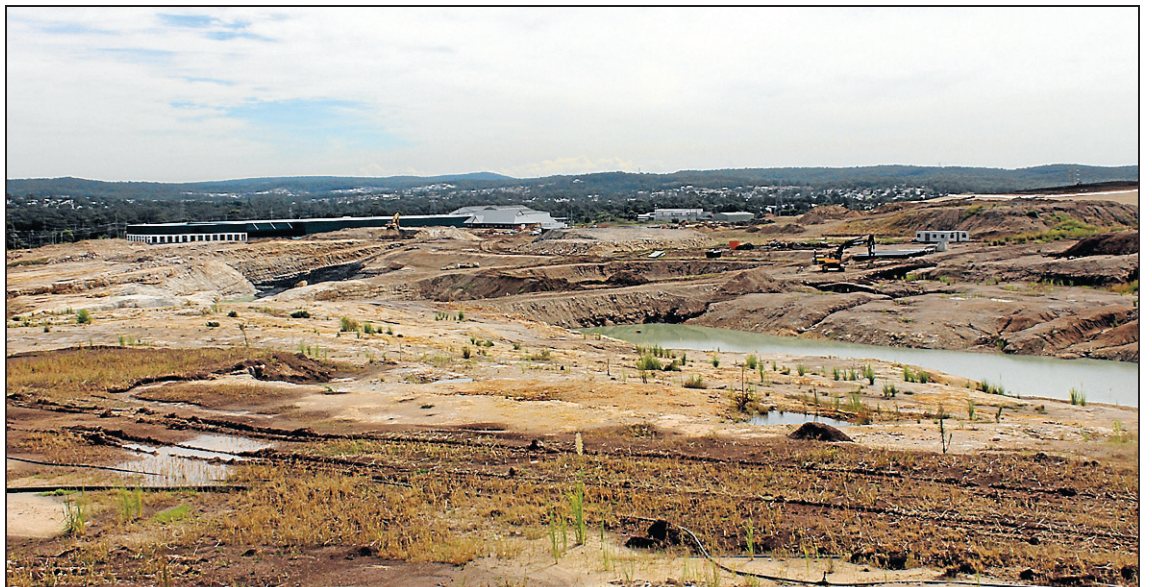
Questions have been raised as to whether the new residential development, Bunderra, will be a safe place to live.

Pasmenco used a blast furnace to smelt lead and also produced zinc and sulphuric acid. It was one of the first industrial sites in the Hunter and was a major contributor to the growth of NSW.

It now turns out that lead pollution, a byproduct of this smelter, is continuing to have an impact on nearby residents and families.

Ms O'Brien, who grew up in Boolaroo, claims that while the smelter was in operation, "large explosions at the smelter site were common place and toxic fumes drifted across the community regularly." The toxic fumes drifted and settled on the soil, water and residents resulting in soil and water contamination and reportedly serious health impacts for locals. The smelter was closed in 2003 and later demolished.

Some attempts to remove the black slag from nearby properties



The old Pasmenco site is being remediated and included in the Bunderra project. Picture: Race Cotton

have been made in the past including the removal of 100 millimetres of top soil from nearby properties.

Recent research and media reports suggest that this attempt to address the lead problem has not been effective and that some properties still have high levels of lead pollution that make them unsafe for people to dwell in.

Lead is a substance that can be harmful especially for children as

it can affect brain growth, damage to the nervous system, hearing and vision. Some of the long term symptoms for adults include poor body co-ordination, nerve damage, liver and kidney damage and in some cases, permanent disability.

A 207.25-hectare parcel of the site has been rehabilitated to allow the development of a commercial and business centre. The site extends from Cardiff and Argenton to Boolaroo and east of Boolaroo to Macquarie Hills. A potential 1600 jobs will be created.

Current real estate prices in the development are comparatively low for the Lake Macquarie area and possibly reflective of the site's past. It will be attractive to buyers willing to accept the assurances from authorities that the site is now safe and does not pose a risk of lead-related health problems.

## Ebola virus still spreading, killing

By **ISABELLA MICEVSKI, AMELIA GELLATLY, HOLLI MAYNARD** and **MADELYN WEALE**

THE Ebola epidemic caused hysteria and panic across the world in 2014. Now the media scrum has settled and other world issues have taken over, but people are still dying.

As of March 10, 2015, the virus has infected over 24,350 people and killed over 10,000 people. Thousands of people

are still at risk of dying from Ebola and it could cost West Africa \$15 billion over the next three years. Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia have been the worst countries to be infected.

The virus has also spread to Mali, the US, Senegal, Nigeria, Spain and the UK. Researchers throughout

the world have been scrambling to find a cure, in particular the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

They have identified a number of antibodies that corresponded to proteins in the virus and are confident of finding a cure in the near future. It appears the Ebola outbreak has killed many innocent people and is still continuing.



Countries in West Africa have been the worst affected by the deadly Ebola illness.

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