

Ph: 4827 3500

Classifieds: 02 4827 3555

Monday December 10, 2012

\$1.60 including GST



photo: Lloyd Scroope.



IN THE SWIM: Learn to Swim enrolments at Goulburn Aquatic Centre have increased by 100 people to 450 this month. On Friday, instructor Tom Friend took young five-year-old local boy Nathan Drakakis through his paces. **See story page 4.**

Ranger Geale hits trouble

MILLIONS of dollars worth of farm machinery, vehicles, spare parts and offices belonging to an iconic Goulburn business are this week going up for auction.

Ranger Geale, a farm machinery retailer and repairing firm whose roots track deep into Goulburn's history, has been placed in administration.

Under the instruction of bankruptcy and liquidation specialists Nicols and Brien, some 30 farm machinery items, five utes, an SUV, Isuzu truck, two plant trailers, a forklift, up to \$300,000 worth of new spare parts and office space suitable for up to 12 employees, have been put up for auction on the website grayson-line.com.

The online auction closes at 3.30pm Wednesday.

Ranger Geale director, Mark Geale, declined to comment at this stage.

The Hume Street business has been a part of Goulburn's landscape since the 1960s. In 2003 it was purchased by a founding employee, Alby Geale, his wife Joan, son Mark and daughter Julie.

The firm set up offices in Yass, Queanbeyan and Crookwell after establishing itself in the Goulburn market.

The administrators had not returned requests for comment by the time of going to press.

Going his own way

Harker-Mortlock quits Nats for Hume bid

By TOM SEBO

LESS than three weeks after defying the Federal Coalition Agreement to run as an independent candidate for Hume, James Harker-Mortlock has resigned from the National Party.

The former chairman of the Burrinjuck Nationals told the Post his decision was in the best interests of the party.

"In order to avoid any potential

embarrassment for the National Party in my candidature as an independent for the seat of Hume which might arise as a consequence of its agreement with the Liberal Party, I have decided to resign from the National Party of Australia and, consequently, as chairman of the Burrinjuck Nationals ..." he said.

"The National Party believes that

it should stick to its agreement with the Liberals whilst at the same time recognising the disappointment among local National Party members that they will not have an endorsed National Party candidate to support in Hume at the next federal election.

"The National Party is a great party, dedicated to the interests of

rural and regional Australians, and I wish all its candidates well at the up and coming federal poll."

Mr Harker-Mortlock's resignation came on Friday morning just minutes before the state's Central Council was set to decide whether to take action against him.

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• Tributes flow for the late Steve Swadling P3

E

EVA KRILLOVA
OPTOMETRIST

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We are closing at 1pm, Christmas Eve.

Reopening on Monday 7th January.

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Season's Greetings

from Eva and her team at **Goulburn Eye Care**

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