Coronavirus presents “grave threat” to world

With the death toll from the coronavirus at 1115, the head of the World Health Organization gathered top scientists in Geneva on Tuesday to try and answer a raft of questions about the new disease. Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus issued a plea for global unity against “a common enemy that does not respect borders or ideologies.”

The WHO said there were 45,708 confirmed cases of the disease in China alone, with 393 more in 24 different countries. That includes a new case confirmed in San Diego, the 13th person diagnosed in the U.S. Like most cases, that patient was recently in the Chinese city of Wuhan. All but one of the fatalities from the virus have been in China, also there are 15 person diagnosed in Australia.

“With 99% of cases in China, this remains very much an emergency for that country, but one that holds a very grave threat for the rest of the world,” Tedros warned Tuesday, urging health officials and governments to “use the window of opportunity that we have now.”

Over 100 American troops diagnosed with traumatic brain injuries after Iran strike

The Pentagon is reporting another jump in the number of American troops diagnosed with traumatic brain injuries from the

Syria: OPCW briefing aims to distract attention from manipulation in Douma incident final report

Syria affirmed that what has come in a briefing by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) regarding its inter investigation

Oscars winners 2020

The Academy Awards 2020 are done and dusted and the winners are flying high on champagne bubbles.

'Three thousand miles' Star Wars wins two top Oscars

Best Actor: Joaquin Phoenix (Joker)
Best Actress: Renée Zellweger (Judy)
Best Director: Bong Joon-ho (Parasite)
Best Picture: Parasite

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Established online 2007
Fortnightly - 10th February | 2020
www.theworldobserver.com.au

不得不知的 1000 个电力常识

1. 每个国家的家用电器电压和电流都不同，需要使用适配器或转换插头。
2. 家用电器在使用时，要确保电源插头与插座连接稳定，避免短路。
3. 家用电器在使用完毕后，要及时拔下插头，以免电力消耗。
4. 家用电器在使用过程中，要避免湿手操作，以免触电。

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The climate wedge deepens for Scott Morrison as rebels toy with power

Australia’s black summer, as Scott Morrison calls it, has dramatically changed the politics of climate change. But nobody has told the Nationals. And that is spelling big trouble for the Coalition government.

Unlike during the relentless campaigns against the “carbon tax”, there is every indication voters now see the link between fossil-fuel emissions and extreme weather due to climate change in much more stark terms. Even MPs like Queensland Liberal Andrew Laming, who has been in the sceptics camp, has sniffed the political climate change in his Brisbane seat and has urged his colleagues to be similarly aware.

Certainly, further south Liberals in Sydney and Melbourne need no convincing they are as much threatened from green independents like Zali Steggall, who won Tony Abbott’s seat, as the regional Queenslanders fear the menace from Pauline Hanson. The divisions that led to the brawl in last week’s Coalition party room were on show in public on Monday.

The campaign by Barnaby Joyce and his ally, former resources minister Matt Canavan, to force the government into funding new coal-fired power stations is meeting head-on resistance.

High Court rules Aboriginal people cannot be deported for criminal convictions

One of two Indigenous men at the centre of an historic High Court ruling has confirmed he has been released from immigration detention, after it was found Aboriginal people hold a special status in Australian law.

The High Court has determined Aboriginal people are exempt from immigration laws, after considering the cases of two men facing deportation for criminal convictions. The two Indigenous men, Daniel Love and Brendan Thoms, have faced deportation since failing their migration character tests as a result of serving jail sentences. In a 4-3 split, the High Court today found Aboriginal Australians were not subject to the alien powers in the constitution and could therefore not be deported under immigration law.

But the court did not clear Mr Love entirely, saying it could not reach agreement on whether he was an Aboriginal person on the facts stated in the case. Both men were born overseas but moved to Australia as children and held permanent residency visas.

Cup runneth over: Rebel MP accuses Michael McCormack of orchestrating a day at the races

Nationals leader Michael McCormack has been accused of organising a party meeting in Victoria to coincide with the Melbourne Cup by the rebel MP who sensationaly quit to sit on the crossbench. Ex-Nationals MP Llew O’Brien quit the party and blindsided his former leader by teaming up with Labor to secure the role of Deputy Speaker on Monday.

The former police officer, who backs a tough national integrity commission, claims Mr McCormack convened a party room meeting in regional Victoria in late 2019 to coincide with Melbourne’s Spring Racing Carnival. By doing so, he allowed Nationals MPs to travel to Melbourne at taxpayer expense under the rules, before enjoying the free hospitality at the races.

“I raised strong objections to that. It was a party meeting that ended when a race was on in Melbourne,” Mr O’Brien said.
It was a horrible tragedy that broke our hearts and shocked us to our very core. The terrible event that claimed the lives of four children and injured another three from the Lebanese community in Sydney after a traffic accident led to two family’s suffering a great loss.

The accident shocked all of Australia when a drunk driver drove a four-wheel drive, lost control and veered onto the sidewalk ending the lives of these beautiful children while the others were taken to hospital. The Abdullah family lost their three children Anthony aged 13, Angelina aged 12 and Sienna aged 9. The Sakr family lost their daughter Veronique aged 11. At the scene of the incident three others were injured and were hospitalised and currently recovered after treatment.

This is without a doubt an unthinkable tragedy that has shattered the hearts of the family and friends close to these little kids. Father of the children Danny Abdullah spoke beautifully about his lost children, “I’m numb, all I just want to say is please, drivers, be careful.”

Danny added “where so blessed to have six kids, we love our kids so much. We tried to focus on their spiritual side more than anything. We tried to teach them to pray the rosary, to read the Bible and to share God’s faith”.

The mother Leila Abdallah delivered stunning message, she had been relying on her relationship with God in the day since her children were killed.

“I asked God for all to come together to pray as a community, I am sad, I am heartbroken but I am at peace because I know my kids are in a better place,” she said.

“It feels very unreal, I still don’t feel it’s true. I feel they are still with me. I’m still waiting for them to come home.”

Mrs Leila honoured her children, telling reporters she doesn’t hate the driver.

“I think in my heart to forgive him, but I want the court to be fair ... I’m not going to hate him, because that’s not who we are,” she said.

“We loved our kids so much... I can feel them hugging me right now”;

You can’t begin to imagine how the parents must feel and how they will carry this forever.

The Abdallah family had six children. They’ve lost half of them. Out of this tragedy it should be realised that every action and every decision we make in our lives has the power to impact those around us. Drive safely and watch out not only for yourself but for those who surround you.

President Joko Widodo has urged Australia to stand with Indonesia in defence of human rights during a historic speech in Canberra.

Indonesian President Joko Widodo has called on Australia to unite against a rising tide of xenophobia and intolerance in the world.

President Widodo became only the 15th foreign leader to address Australia’s Parliament on Monday during his first visit to Canberra.

He opened his historic speech with a casual “G’day mate”, earning laughs from the packed gathering of members and Senators.

The president went on to compare Australia and Indonesia to Marvel superheroes the Avengers when faced with a common enemy - calling for the nations to become anchors for developing partners in the Pacific region.

“When the forces of good unite, the Avengers Assemble and the common enemy can be defeated,” Mr Widodo told Parliament.

“Then intolerance and protectionism and the fear of poverty and the threat of climate change can be overcome.

“We must continue to advocate the values of democracy, human rights, tolerance and diversity.

“Stop intolerance, stop xenophobia, stop radicalism and stop terrorism.”

The Muslim-majority nation of 260 million is home to thousands of different ethnic groups and is regarded as the world’s third-largest democracy.

Mr Widodo drew parallels between his nation and Australia’s own diversity and values, urging younger generations to embrace these common ties.

“They live in democratic cities, familiar with Netflix, Instagram and Facebook and actively exchange international perspectives,” he said.

Mr Widodo said the “youth today are the leaders of tomorrow”.

“We must encourage a love for Indonesia amongst Australian youth, and vice versa. A love for Australia among Indonesia’s younger generation.”

Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced on Monday that Monash University would set up Indonesia’s first foreign campus.

The deal was made possible after the Indonesian government finalised regulations as part of a push to improve the country’s higher education performance.

His visit came after Australia and Indonesia signed a free-trade agreement to begin a new era of economic relations between the two nations.

Australia’s two-way trade with Indonesia stands at some $18 billion, more than 10 times less than trade with China.

Mr Morrison said there remained “enormous” untapped trade potential with the neighbouring nation.

“By continuing to work together, we can build the region’s resilience and make our people safer and our economies stronger,” he said.

Mr Widodo also put climate change in focus, asking Australia to work together towards lowering carbon emissions and investing in renewable energy.

But monitors have warned Indonesia itself has questions to answer over failures of its human rights record.

West Papuan activist Ronny Kareni said Mr Widodo’s speech was hypocritical, knowing the realities on the ground in parts of Indonesia.

“In West Papua it is the classic example of democracy not at work,” he said.

The honour of speaking in Parliament was also granted to Mr Widodo’s predecessor Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in 2010.
Most of celebrity chef George Calombaris' restaurant empire is going into voluntary administration, following a $7.8 million wage controversy in 2019.

Celebrity chef George Calombaris has put much of his restaurant empire into voluntary administration. Advisory and investment firm KordaMentha has been appointed as administrators of 22 companies in the Made Establishment Group.

Calombaris' Made Establishment group, which KordaMentha says operates 12 restaurants and food venues in Melbourne, is going into voluntary administration after a meeting on Monday afternoon.

About 400 employees are set to lose their jobs.

The only part of the business excluded from the appointment is a chain of four Yo-Chi outlets.

The administrators said in a statement that employees have been paid outstanding wages and superannuation up to the date of KordaMentha's appointment.

"To all my team, I truly regret it has come to this. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your loyalty and friendship," Calombaris posted on his personal Instagram account.

From page 1

Oscars winners...


Laura Dern

Win: Best supporting actress for playing a tough-talking, hotshot divorce lawyer in Marriage Story.

Renee Zellweger

Win: Best actress for recreating Judy Garland's final run of concerts in the musical biopic Judy.

Joaquin Phoenix

Win: Best actor for his mind-bending performance in Joker.
Sydney Reflects Upon the Meaning of Life and Death

Religious leaders gather to discuss Life and Death, according to religious scriptures at HWPL Sydney’s 54th inter-faith dialogue Sydney, January 18, 2020. HWPL Sydney hosted its 54th World Alliance of Religions’ Peace Office (WARP Office), at Abraham Mott Hall, NSW on the 18th of January 2020. Religious leaders from Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and Jainism as well as close to 100 enthusiastic youth and community members gathered to have a dialogue and a deeper understanding on the topic of “Life and Death”, based on their respective scriptures.

The event began with a video showcasing HWPL’s journey so far and its achievements towards world peace and cessation of war, including creation of an enforceable international law framework for peace, introduction of peace education around the globe and World Alliance of Religions Peace (WARP) Office. This was followed by discussions by the panelists from the various religious backgrounds.

The discussion began with in-depth understanding of death. The Christian panelist Dr. Daniel Zeitoune emphasised the link of sin to our current lifespan and eventual death. While the Islam panelist, Sheikh Soner, focused on the importance of living to the fullest according to their respective scriptures, everyone will inevitably experience death. Mr. Venkatraman Shastri, the Hindu Panelist, looked more on the elemental level of death that is closely linked to reincarnation. Mr. Mukesh Maru of Jainism directed us to the current time segment we are living in which affects our lifespan.

The discussion then progressed to the hope of life. Sheikh Soner talked about the hope of heaven in spiritual realm after the time of judgment in Islamic scripture. Mr. Maru explained about the attainment of liberation “Moksha” after purifying the soul in Jainism. Likewise, this concept was reiterated by the Hindu panelist, Mr. Shastri. Dr. Zeitoune explored the bible scriptures and showed that when revelation is fulfilled, eternal life, indeed, will be achieved.

The audience then asked further questions to the panelists which they strived to answer with concise yet comprehensive explanations according to their respective scriptures.

The event concluded with a message of bringing peace between religious communities. At WARP Office we believe that discussing the similarities and differences between scriptures, we can develop mutual understanding and become messengers of peace and harmony in the society and the communities worldwide.
A confident Budget

The Federal Budget for 2018/2019 delivered by the Treasurer, Scott Morrison, earlier this week, received the market’s thumps up, said Mr Radwan Hamdan. The market reacted positively to the budget to the applaud of Moodys rating agency and the preservation of AA rating economy.

Mr Hamdan, a chartered accountant, economic commentator and a former President of the Australian Arab Business Council (AABC), was the keynote speaker at the May monthly dinner of the AABC, held on Wednesday 9 May at the Waterview in Bicentennial, Homebush.

Mr Hamdan Believed the Budget was delivered confidently in an effort to appease most stakeholders with an imminent election in sight. It delivers modest tax relief to middle income earners with a gradual but a limited adjustment to the tax system that reduces the tax brackets from 5 to 4 over a seven-year period. Higher than expected tax collections and a crackdown on tax avoidance and welfare recipients will generate healthy returns that enabled the Government to be quite generous in some areas. Once again, the government missed an opportunity for Tax reform (to simplify the complex tax system) and an overhaul of the Tax Act of 1936 that received thousands of amendments since, Mr Hamdan said.

The budget provides some relief for the aging population with 14,000 additional home care packages, but does not tackle long standing issues such housing affordability and wage stagnation, added Mr Hamdan. Investment in major infrastructure projects continues and a return to surplus will occur in two year time but no obvious relief from the mounting debt problem.

The next monthly dinner will be held on 4 July, brought forward by one week to avoid a clash with the final of the State of Origin Series. There is no dinner in June. The speaker will be an economic expert from the National Australia Bank and dinner will be held at the same venue.

For more information or booking please contact Ms Reem El-kudor on 0414 747 316 or check our website: www.australianarabbusiness.org.au

Photos of the last monthly dinner are available through this Link: http://australianarabbusiness.org.au/may-2018

The first AABC monthly dinner for 2020 was purely networking event for members & guests to learn about each other’s business.

The next dinner of the AABC will be held as usual on the second Wednesday of the month, for more information or booking please contact Ms Reem on 0414 747 316 or check AABC website: www.australianarabbusiness.org.au

Photos by: Antoine Yammine
‘Fly high, little angels’:
Thousands farewell Abdallah siblings allegedly killed by drunk driver

Some 2000 people have attended a funeral service for three siblings killed when a car ran them down on a footpath in Sydney’s west. Doves and balloons in the shape of rosary beads rose into the air as thousands of mourners surrounded the coffins of three western Sydney children run down on a footpath by an alleged drink-driver.

The Abdallah siblings Sienna, 8, Angelina, 12, and Antony, 13, were killed when a car mounted an Oatlands footpath as they went for ice cream last Saturday.

The children died at the scene alongside their cousin Veronique Sakr, 11.

About 2,000 people filled Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral in Harris Park on Monday morning to farewell the siblings.

The employees of Danny Abdallah, the children’s father, formed a guard of honour outside the church as white hearses arrived.

Wearing white polo shirts emblazoned with the logo of Mr Abdallah’s construction business, hundreds of people linked arms to line the church driveway while other mourners held white roses.

Bells tolled as pallbearers, wearing navy suits with pink shirts to represent the children’s genders, carried the coffins into the church for their joint funeral.

Monsignor Shora Maree in his homily addressed Mr Abdallah and the children’s mother Leila Geagea, saying “we’re not going to forget that hill” in Oatlands, just as Jesus’ crucifixion site of Calvary was not forgotten.

The couple sat directly in front of the three white coffins flanking their daughter, who cried at points during the service.

Ms Geagea took the stage to pray, asking God for the comfort of the Holy Spirit for her family during their “hour of pain”.

On the last day he spent with his father, Antony told Mr Abdallah he wanted to dedicate his basketball game to NBA legend Kobe Bryant, who had died the week before, Mons Shora said.

The 13-year-old’s coffin was draped with Bryant’s LA Lakers jersey.

“God has taken them to the most wonderful celebration in heaven - they’re alive,” Mons Shora told the congregation.

After receiving communion, Ms Geagea kissed each of the framed pictures of Sienna, Angelina and Antony at the front of the church.

The couple wrapped their arms around each other as they followed the coffins out of the church, where the photos of the children were held aloft as some raised their arms and clapped as drums played.

As white doves and balloons strung together in the shape of a rosary chain were released, silence fell among the thousands gathered outside.

The children will be buried in a private service.

A representative for the Commander of the Lebanese Armed Forces, General Joseph Aoun, was also in attendance.

A contingent of about 100 students from the Kings School and Tara Anglican School, which the children attended, were also at the service.

A prayer said on behalf of both schools thanked God for the friendships students had had with the Abdallah children: “May we cherish all the good times we had together. Fly high, little angels.”

Hundreds of people have visited the Oatlands crash site since the tragedy to pay their respects and lay flowers.

Samuel William Davidson, 29, was allegedly three times the legal blood alcohol limit when he is said to have driven into the children.

He’s been charged with 20 offences, including four counts of manslaughter, and is due to next appear in court in April.

A funeral service for Veronique is scheduled for Tuesday morning at the Santa Sabina college chapel in Strathfield.

The grieving family of Veronique Sakr, who was killed alongside her cousins 10 days ago, says the 11-year-old “was an angel on earth and now is in heaven”.

Veronique Sakr’s sparkling eyes would change colour with the Sydney weather, her grieving mother Bridget says.

On Tuesday they would have been blue.

Mourners gathered on Tuesday to farewell 11-year-old Veronique, who was killed by an alleged drink-driver alongside her three cousins in western Sydney.

The sky was blue, the balloons were blue and hundreds of people wore blue - Veronique's favourite colour - during the packed funeral service at Santa Sabina College in Strathfield.

“At such a young age she carried such wisdom. She could read between the lines on anything,” Mrs Sakr told the gathering.

Mrs Sakr, like others who knew Veronique, often wondered why her daughter had no attachment to material possessions.

“It now makes sense to me,” she said.

“She never belonged to this world. She belonged to the spiritual world and therefore earthly possessions meant nothing to her.”

About 2000 people filled Our Lady of Lebanon Co-Cathedral in Harris Park on Monday to farewell her three cousins.
Variety

Antarctica records hottest-ever temperature

The continent of Antarctica has experienced its hottest temperature on record, with a research station provisionally recording 18.3C.

The reading breaks the previous record on the Earth's southernmost continent of 17.5C in March 2015 by 0.8C, according to the Argentine station Esperanza, which collected the data.

The tweet reporting the news from Argentina's meteorological association was shared by the United Nations's World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

The Antarctic Peninsula, the northwest tip near South America, is among the fastest-warming regions on earth, with temperatures rising almost 3C during the past 50 years, the WMO said.

About 87 per cent of the glaciers along its west coast have “retreated” during those decades and had shown an “accelerated retreat” in the past 12 years, it said.

Professor James Renwick, a climate scientist at Victoria University of Wellington, told the Guardian Australia the WMO committee would likely reconvene to ratify the record.

“The reading is impressive as it’s only five years since the previous record was set and this is almost one degree centigrade higher. It’s a sign of the warming that has been happening there that’s much faster than the global average,” he said.

“Have a new record set that quickly is surprising but who knows how long that will last? Possibly not that long at all.”

Esperanza, near the northern tip of the Peninsula, has been collecting data since 1961.

The reading breaks the 2015 record for the Antarctic continent, defined as the main continental landmass and adjoining islands by the WMO.

The record for the Antarctic region – defined as all land and ice south of 60 degrees latitude – is 19.8C recorded on Signy Island in January 1982, the WMO said.

News of a major manufacturer withdrawing from the Australian TV market is just a signal of what’s to come, as viewers steer away from traditional living room viewing in favour of individual binging, an industry insider says.

Panasonic this week announced it would no longer be selling TVs in Australia in “light of current local market conditions”, and would instead be focusing on strengthening its other lines of products.

When was the last time your household sat down in front of the television, with the sole purpose of viewing a program or movie, in crisp, high-definition colour?

If you’re finding it hard to remember, you’re part of the changing television landscape, Deakin University retail and marketing expert Michael Callaghan says.

Panasonic is just the first high-profile victim of Australians’ newly found, diluted attitude towards television viewing, Dr Callaghan said.

“The way in which people consume television has changed, from Millennials through to Baby Boomers – we like to curl up in bed with a laptop or tablet,” Dr Callaghan said.

To cater to that want, TV has migrated towards streaming platforms, spelling trouble for broadcasters and advertising – and now, the physical sets themselves.

“Ten, 20 years ago, the television was the central focus of the home. That was the big-ticket item,” Dr Callaghan said.

“Times have moved on from there.”

It’s hard to pinpoint exactly where each manufacturer stands in the Australian market, but data from November 2018 shows Samsung and LG as the leaders with 28.1 per cent and 18.8 per cent of the Aussie TV market respectively.

Panasonic trailed behind Hisense, Sony and TCL with just 4.5 per cent.

Victorians welcome wombat protection laws after hunting revelations

Wombat lovers are celebrating the Victorian government’s decision to overturn a legal loophole that left the animals open to being killed without a permit.

The amendment to the Wildlife Act 1975, which came into effect on Thursday, officially revoked a law that declared wombats unprotected in some parts of the state.

Until Thursday, Victoria was the only state in Australia that had areas where wombats could be killed without question.

It followed a state government inquiry into wombat protection laws that was triggered by public outrage after The New Daily revealed wealthy international tourists were being invited to a Murrindindi farm in northern Victoria to hunt the animals.

The farm is owned by a Chinese businessman and partner of Crown casino at the centre of a Nine investigation into links between casinos and organised crime.

Revelations that wombats were being offered as hunting targets for foreign tourists exposed a “confusing” loophole in the Wildlife Act that meant the animals were not protected in 193 parishes in Victoria.
Calls for e-scooter laws to change as people flout the rules and police turn a blind eye

Pressure is mounting on state governments around the country to change laws regulating e-scooters as more commuters use them to beat congestion.

The RACV is calling for a national change to how e-scooters are regulated to allow them to travel up to 25kph on roads and shared pathways, and 10kph on footpaths.

Current state laws:

- E-scooters in Victoria, Tasmania, and Northern Territory can have a maximum power output of 200 watts and cannot have the capacity to travel faster than 10kph if ridden on a road or footpath
- Queenslanders are allowed a little more speed and can travel up to 25kph, but must stay on the footpath, except for local streets with a speed limit of 50kph or less
- In Western Australia, South Australia and New South Wales you can only ride an e-scooter on private property and in ACT e-scooters are not allowed at all
- South Australia is currently trialling e-scooters but only in the CBD

The calls come after an RACV survey of more than 1,400 Victorians found almost 80 per cent would consider using an e-scooter and almost 60 per cent would use one instead of a car.

The National Transport Commission is currently considering submissions on potential national laws to cover e-scooters. Individual states can then decide which rules they want to adopt.

But the final report is not due for another year and the RACV wants to see new national regulations introduced as soon as possible.

RACV senior transport manager Peter Kartsidimas said e-scooters were fast and reliable and while there was "no silver bullet", e-scooters could help combat crippling congestion in Australia's capital cities.

"Let's get things going. Most people want these scooters, let's get some national, consistent rules in the next few months," he said.

Laws already being broken

Many riders are already anticipating a law change and say even police are turning a blind eye.

Michelle Mannering co-founded the e-scooter start-up Raine with two others in Melbourne last year.

The 29-year-old sold her car shortly after buying her first e-scooter because it was so much faster and easier to use.

"It's the fastest quickest thing that will take you from A to B around the city. It's faster than driving a car, faster than public transport, faster than an Uber," Ms Mannering said.

She was "definitely" anticipating a law change and said almost everyone on an e-scooter flouted the rules anyway.

"The law is really dumb. Mobility scooters go faster than 10kph and 200 watts is an arbitrary number. Every single e-scooter on the market has more power than that. A hairdryer can have 2500 watts. Watts doesn't equal speed."

Police officers were also turning a blind eye, she said.

"I ride past multiple cops per day and they don't care. I'm sure if I was running down pedestrians or was on my phone they would but they have better things to worry about."

Ms Mannering said e-scooters were a "cleaner, greener, and safer option" than cars but agreed there were safety features on scooters that should be made mandatory.

She said ensuring e-scooters had strong lights and better brakes would fix most of the issues people were having with the device.

Moreland City Council mayor Lambros Tapinos said the council supported relaxed laws and wanted to trial a shared e-scooter scheme.

"People are buying these scooters already so we need to know what the laws are going to be around them," Cr Tapinos said.

He said Moreland would be a great place for Melbourne to trial share e-scooters and supported speeds being at 25kph.

"I think at the moment 10kph is a bit wobbly, it's safer to do a higher speed."
**Kylie Jenner**

strikes a pose with mom-to-be Malika Haqq at her over-the-top bear-themed baby shower

Khloe Kardashian showed off her party planning skills when she surprised her expectant best friend Malika Haqq with the baby shower of a lifetime on Sunday.

And the family turned up in style to celebrate Malika’s upcoming bundle of joy.

Kylie Jenner led the charge in an awe-inspiring off white dress that put all of her best assets on display.

Kris Jenner, who put her best leg forward in an open front dress, was also in attendance during the teddy bear themed celebration.

Kylie, immediately upon arrival, took to her Instagram to document every piece of Haqq’s next level shower for her 161million Instagram follower.

The reality star posted a photo of herself with her hand upon Malika’s bump, along with the touching message, ‘the most beautiful baby shower for the most beautiful pregnant woman inside & out.’

Kylie flaunted her enviable curves in a vintage inspired silhouette that included a sweetheart neckline and tapered hem.

Her brunette tresses were parted elegantly to the side and gracefully hung down her back.

**Taylor Swift**

begs Phoebe Waller-Bridge to let her little brother Austin sing on the soundtrack of Killing Eve

Pop superstar Taylor Swift has pleaded with Phoebe Waller-Bridge to give her kid brother a job.

The American singer, 30, is a huge fan of Killing Eve – Phoebe wrote the script for the first series and is now its executive producer.

During their chat at the Golden Globes last month, she asked Phoebe, 34, if her brother Austin could sing on the soundtrack for the third series of the hit BBC show, which is now being filmed.

Phoebe politely agreed to think about the request, although I’d imagine she would prefer to have Taylor herself.

After all, she’s the one with six number one albums

**Federer and Nadal**

play in front of biggest tennis crowd ever in South African exhibition

Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal always draw a crowd, but even for them this was a record.

Two of the greatest players to ever pick up a racquet came together in front of a sell-out crowd of 51,954 at Cape Town stadium, the biggest ever to watch a tennis match.

Federer beat his great rival 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 in the three-set exhibition match in aid of the Roger Federer Foundation, on what felt like something of a homecoming for the Swiss star.

His mother was born in South Africa and although the Swiss great regularly holidayed there as a child, he had not been to Cape Town in 20 years.

Signs around the cavernous football stadium said, “Welcome home, Roger,” whilst the coin used for the toss was a newly minted 20 Swiss Francs with Federer’s image on it — Federer recently became the first living Swiss to be engraved on one of the nation’s coins.

Even South Africa’s biggest sports stars were in awe. Siya Kolisi, South Africa’s Rugby World Cup-winning captain, came out pre-match to present Federer with a South Africa team jersey with Federer’s name on the back. He was asked who he was supporting.

The 38-year-old Federer, winner of a record 20 major singles titles, and the 33-year-old Nadal, close behind with 19, laughed and joked regularly between points.

Federer pulled in a couple of big-name friends alongside Nadal to help out on the night: Bill Gates and The Daily Show host Trevor Noah.

Before the main match, Federer and Gates teamed up to beat Nadal and Noah 6-3 in a one-set doubles exhibition.

Microsoft co-founder Gates played one pinpoint lob volley that the announcer described as “the billionaire’s touch”.

Comedian Noah did plenty of good-natured trash talking. He shares a similar heritage to Federer. Both have Swiss fathers and South African mothers.
**Talk of the Town**

**Demi Moore and Rob Lowe**

relight their St Elmo’s Fire with a smooch 35 years after the film came out

Demi Moore and Rob Lowe delivered a lesson in Hollywood ageing on Friday night when they appeared at Tom Ford’s Los Angeles fashion show looking barely a day past their 20s – the age they were when their 1985 film St Elmo’s Fire came out. Although the two have always been coy about whether they dated in the 1980s, it seems they have now decided to change tack, enjoying a smooch to the surprise of onlookers.

In St Elmo’s Fire, Rob’s character Billy Hicks makes a pass at Jules, played by Demi, but is rebuffed, so fans of the film may be amused to see the two finally get it together.

However, I wonder whether make-up artist Sheryl Berkoff, who has been married to Rob since 1991, will find their lip-locking quite so cute.

One person who didn’t express shock was Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, whose face and remarkably plump lips remained motionless at the same event. She’s only 32, so I hope she hasn’t joined Demi by starting on anti-ageing treatments already!

A Canadian man has been sentenced to jail after he was found guilty of burning a million dollars in cash in a bid to avoid his ex-wife from getting any money.

Bruce McConville, 55, a businessman from Ottawa was sentenced to 30 days jail after telling a judge that he had burned a million Canadian dollars (AU$1.54 million), to avoid having to pay his ex-wife child support in their divorce settlement.

McConville allegedly took the cash out of six different bank accounts over 25 withdrawals, keeping the receipts from each transaction as proof.

He then told the judge who was overseeing the case that he burned the money in two separate bonfires — $1.1 million on September 23 and $440,000 on December 15.

“How does destroying over a million dollars advance your child’s best interest?” Superior Court Justice Kevin Phillips asked McConville in court.

McConville said that it isn’t something he would usually do, and that he is usually very frugal.

He also acknowledged that he had no proof that he had indeed burned the money, however insisted he did so out of frustration.

The judge in the case was reportedly livid at hearing the man’s actions, even more so for his disregard for his children.
Little Habits That Gradually Drive Your Partner Away

Some relationships end after a big fight — a showdown over one thing or another, something from which the two of you can't recover. Other relationships, however, end softly, almost gently, when you just wake up one day and realize that you two are near-strangers living side-by-side, rather than partners in a healthy relationship. It's sad and disappointing and about a million other things any time a relationship ends, but maybe even more so when it ends due to little habits that gradually drive your partner away. These are things when, looking back, you realize are silly and minor and could’ve been avoided. Habits can be hard to break, but in order to even try, you need to know that you have these habits in the first place.

1. Telling White Lies
Little white lies might seem harmless, but if it happens over and over again, eventually, it could push your partner away. Dr. Piper Grant, a licensed clinical psychologist tells us that this is because, over time, your partner could start to question whether or not they can trust the things you're saying. If they can't trust you and you can't trust them with the truth, even if that's not how you intend your little fibs to come across, it could lead to the distance that ends your relationship.

2. Letting Life Get In The Way
When you first start dating, Grant says, it's pretty easy to invest — both time and money — into your relationship, but as time goes on, there's more mundane life stuff that can just get in the way if you let it. You may cancel plans with your partner or just forget to make them because there are other little things that need to be tended to. If that becomes a habit, it could negatively affect your bond.

3. Too Much (You Guessed It) Screen Time
Everyone wants to relax at the end of the day, especially after busy or stressful days. Taking time for TV, movies, video games, social media or clicking around on the internet can feel like a nice way to wind down, but it's not your best bet if you're neglecting your relationship along the way.

4. Sweeping Everything Under The Rug
Fighting all the time over every little thing isn't great, but sweeping everything under the rug all the time isn't good either. If you have a habit of insisting that everything is always fine, that could wear on your partner. "Avoidance is a short-term strategy to feeling better temporarily, and a guaranteed long-term way to suffering. Bring up the issues that matter. Your relationship will be stronger as a result.

5. Having Too Many Relationship Rules
Getting caught up in ‘texting rules’ and therefore perhaps not playing their own role in helping a relationship reach the next step [or] having too many rules about what a relationship ‘should’ look like or ‘feel’ like – falling into the rom-com trap,” can drive your partner away. It's hard to live up to those rules and it can be difficult to have a real relationship if your partner is constantly comparing yours to what they think it's supposed to be.

6. Being Overly Reliant On Each Other
Grant says that being too dependent on your partner is one habit that, if you fall into it, can gradually create space between the two of you. It's a lot of pressure to constantly be expected to check on someone or do things for someone within a relationship and over time that can take its toll.

7. Being Late Or Disorganized
If you're that person who is never on time or is never quite sure where you're supposed to be when, that could drive your partner away. Partners can get fed up if you're constantly running late or can never find what you're looking for. While, of course, they're likely willing to overlook it here and there, if it becomes a consistent habit, eventually it'll get old and their patience will run out.

If your partner tries to talk to you about one of your habits, it can be difficult to listen and attempt to make behavioral adjustments. Remember that, too, when you bring up their habits. Changing your way of doing things can be difficult, talking about these things can be difficult... but if it might save your relationship, it just might be worth it.
Existing borrowers gouged by banks offering new mortgage discounts, RBA says

Are you one of those people who spend hours online or in stores trying to find the best discount on the latest gadget or fashion item?

If the answer is yes and you also have a mortgage, then new data from the Reserve Bank shows you should probably divert some of that time to finding a better deal on your home loan. That is especially the case if your loan is more than four years old.

"Currently, these loans have an interest rate that is around 40 basis points higher than new loans," the RBA noted in its latest Statement on Monetary Policy.

On a $250,000 loan balance, that means an extra $1,000 a year of interest payments to the bank — potentially a lot more than you saved on finding bigger discounts on anything else you bought this year.

And, if you have purchased a home in Sydney or Melbourne over the past decade or so, there is a high chance your loan is a lot bigger than $250,000, and so are the costs of not shopping around banks as you might with retailers.

If your loan is twice as big, then the cost of paying that higher interest rate doubles, and so on.

The situation is even more urgent if your loan was written more than eight years ago and has not been refinanced since, with this RBA graph showing that, on average, you would be paying around 60 basis points more than a new customer.

But virtually no-one is on an SVR — if you are, you're almost certainly heavily overpaying for your home loan.

The average discount on the SVR being offered to new borrowers with the major banks has risen from around 100 basis points just five years ago to well over 150 basis points last year.

The Reserve Bank noted that the very cheapest loans advertised may be around 200 basis points — that is a full 2 percentage points — below the standard variable mortgage rate. That is basically eight official rate cuts difference between paying the bank's rack rate, to borrow some hotel jargon, and the cheapest discount rate.

While SVRs are the reference rates against which variable-rate loans are priced, lenders also advertise a range of interest rates that are materially lower than their SVRs," the RBA advised.

"In addition, most individual borrowers are offered, or may be able to negotiate, further discounts on the interest rate applied to their loan. "For instance, the major banks' 'package' mortgage interest rates for owner-occupier loans currently attract a discount of around 50–100 basis points to SVRs.

"The lowest advertised rates are around 100 basis points lower than those package rates, and a few borrowers receive even larger discounts."

These figures come from new data that the RBA, bank regulator APRA and the Australian Bureau of Statistics have started publishing this year.

The data is intended to help consumers understand the interest rates that are actually being charged in the market.

It might pay handsomely to keep an eye on them every now and then to make sure that your home loan has not fallen out of line with the better rates currently available.
Wildlife will need food drops for a year to survive in razed bushland

Surviving animals in bushfire-razed areas are at serious risk of starvation and will need to rely on food drops for at least a year, wildlife volunteers have warned.

So far this season, Australia’s ferocious bushfires have killed an estimated 1.25 billion animals across the country, with some species pushed to the brink of extinction.

More than 800 million animals are estimated to have been killed in New South Wales alone.

But that high death toll is certain to grow as thousands of injured and homeless animals suffer food shortages as a result of the destruction of 10 million hectares of bush habitat.

Volunteer wildlife organisation Wildcare Queanbeyan has been delivering monthly food drops in NSW following a fire in Tallaganda National Park that burnt thousands of hectares of forest.

The group’s president Belinda Hogarth-Boyd said there were “huge numbers of animals facing starvation” in the region, which borders the bushfire-ravaged ACT.

“This is a marathon, not a sprint,” Ms Hogarth-Boyd said.

“We’ll be support-feeding the wildlife for probably the next 12 months.”

So far, the organisation has been distributing hay, fruit, vegetables, pellets and extra native vegetation to 40 rural properties bordering the national park.

Homeowners are backing the volunteers.

Long-time Forbes Creek resident Peter Smith said he was pleased to see wallabies, wombats, birds and other wildlife eagerly eating the food drops.

“Hopefully this will tide them over through the difficult time until we get enough rain to get some regrowth,” Mr Smith said.

Sadly, despite the best efforts of volunteers, there are still thousands more animals languishing in razed bushland around the nation.

In many cases, authorities have deemed the fire grounds too dangerous and banned wildlife volunteers from accessing them.

International wildlife carers on NSW’s east coast have worked around some of these restrictions by flying heat-sensitive drones over hectares of scorched bushland in search of injured animals.

Last month, the NSW government delivered thousands of kilograms of carrots and sweet potato to endangered brush-tailed rock-wallabies in fire-affected areas.

“The wallabies typically survive the fire itself, but are then left stranded with limited natural food as the fire takes out the vegetation around their rocky habitat,” Environment Minister Matt Kean said.

In Victoria, dozens of rare and threatened species are also reeling from the fire emergency.

The Victorian government has arranged wildlife triage units and assessment teams at fire grounds, as well as targeted food drops from the air and on the ground.

The World Wildlife Fund has also committed more than $1.7 million to support projects focused on immediate wildlife rescue, care and recovery efforts across all fire-affected states and territories.
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Taronga Zoo Offers An Unforgettable Day Out

Meerkat encounters, baby booms and first birthdays - with over 4000 animals and more keeper talks and shows than ever before, this summer, there are some experiences you’ll only find at Taronga Zoo Sydney.

Open every 365 days a year Taronga Zoo Sydney brings together a full day of fun for the whole family on the stunning foreshore of Sydney Harbour.

Two adorable Koala joeys, six Little Penguin chicks and one curiously cute Echidna puggle have arrived just in time for summer, while Taronga’s cheeky and cheerful trios of critically endangered Sumatran Tigers and Red Pandas will each celebrate their first birthday.

As the weather heats up, set yourself up for a splash at Taronga’s iconic Seals for the Wild presentation or let the kids take inspiration from Jai Dee the Asian Elephant and enjoy Taronga’s interactive Water Play.

While there’s plenty of fun to be had outside, beat the heat inside by visiting some intriguing creatures inside the Nocturnal House or step into the Taronga’s Centenary Theatre for a packed program of shows, animations and short films.

To take your Zoo adventure to the next level, stay overnight at one of our unforgettable overnight experiences. Wake up with the animals with Roar and Snore and experience stunning harbour views, luxury glamping accommodation and exclusive up-close encounters with the Zoo’s animals. For the first time ever, Roar and Snore will be open on Christmas Eve so guests can wake up with the animals for Christmas like never before.

For those feeling nostalgic, relive the magic of years gone by with a trip on Taronga’s iconic Sky Safari or see how times have changed with a visit to the moving QBE Free Flight Birds animals presentations.

If one full day of fun isn’t enough, for families who plan to visit more than twice a year a Taronga Zoo Friends annual membership is a great way to see our animals again and again. A membership provides 12-months of adventure for the whole family leaving plenty of time to make some magical memories, and as Taronga is a not-for-profit, a membership also helps support Taronga’s important conservation and education programs around the globe.