

THE STARS ARE DEFINITELY CRAZY

HORRORSCOPE FOR THE SPRING MONTHS OF 2018:

To allow for the vagaries of the universe and interpretive inexactitude, it might pay to read everyone else's stars as well.

GEMINI

As everyone knows, Donald Trump is a Gemini, with a Leo Rising, a Sagittarius Moon, a prodigious Ego and a hankering for a Space Force. If there are Martians out there they'd better not try to get to the United States or he'll have that galactic wall built as soon as Bucky can take off.

CANCER

Are you a bit off-colour this month? Maybe you're feeling blue; or green with envy; pink with exertion or embarrassment; in a black mood; or just browned off. And of course as Senator Red said, "It's okay to be white".

LEO

Your energy levels might be all over the place this week just like the sea level in the seat of Wentworth. The Greens said it was rising, the Liberals said it was parting all the way to Jerusalem and for Labor the tide receded over the horizon. Luckily a woman whose head was level snuck in, took the electorate's temperature and prescribed a dose of independents.

VIRGO

You might be feeling dwarfed by your responsibilities at this time. Speaking of the little folk, there was once a big house in Canberra. In it lived ScoMo, Dutto, Frydo and Cormo. Next door, but out of sight and not mentioned in polite company, lived See-O2 woe, kept out of sight by Abbott-O-He-Say No Problemo. Quite often and sometimes accidentally they entertain the aforementioned Little White Snow.

LIBRA

Sing a song of five cents, I tried to buy a pie; Four 'n Twenty satay I thought I'd give a try. But when the doors slid open, the queue was that darn slow, I had a

mind to give it up, just turn around and go. Through the wall behind the glass they're counting out the money, as stories go, this one's slow and not especially funny.

SCORPIO

Of all the things you need to change you start to make a list; the kettle boils, the dinner spoils and the old man comes home _____. You're not alone, pick up the phone, you have friends who will assist.

SAGITTARIUS

You ring Telstra to complain that your new iPhone's stop twerking and they have a hang up too. So you send them a screen shot and they ask you what you meme by that. Relationship go rapidly BU and TBH it won't turn out gucci.

CAPRICORN

Pluto goes into conjunction with Fido this week and together they chase Daisy, Betty and Buttercup under the moon's phase from fence to fence. Farmer Brown, aided by his helper Winchester, will attempt to send the marauding mutts into an altogether different astral dimension.

AQUARIUS

This is a good time to join a club. Why not make it a car club, then you can spend hours talking the torque. Where's your head at man, they may well ask and you can reply, Oh I've had it shaved and you wouldn't believe how well everything now flows in one side and straight out the other. Tighten everything to 65 ft-lbs, or if you have a French car, it's 88.12817 Bastilles or something.

PISCES

And they're racing in the Berejikian Cup. Ranting Jones was quick off the mark and had Chief Exec wedged against the sails. Phone Call was running hot and Instant Dismissal was threatening. At the finish line it was Crass Commercialism out of Reality Touch. Good Taste and Public Interest came a distant last.

ARIES

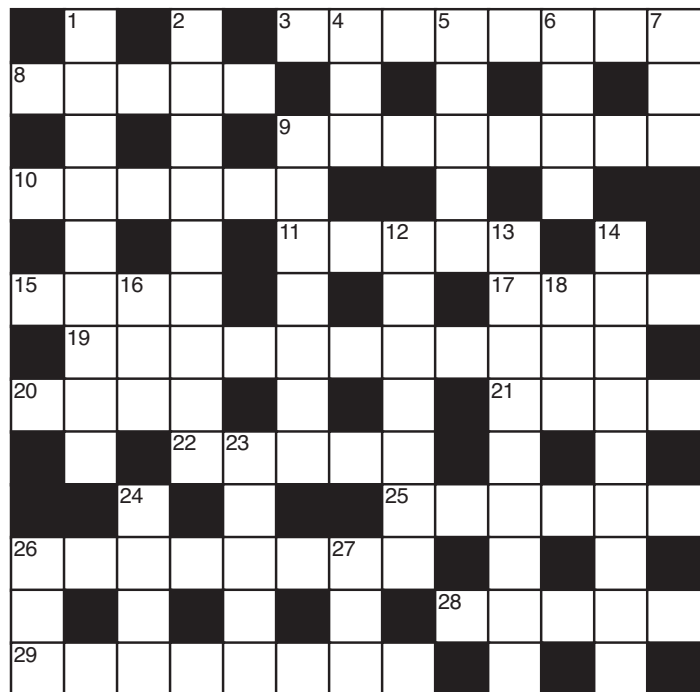
Treat yourself to some video therapy. Veg out and watch something like, 'World's Biggest Deadshits' and see if anyone you voted for has creamed the audition. As these shows become more bizzare, should we worry about calling them 'reality' TV?

TAURUS

And then sometimes events take a turn for the really sad. There was a man who was a staunch supporter of Braidwood having its own local journal right from BWD #1 in 2012. To have the blessing of such a knowledgeable and likeable man was a great source of inspiration. Magazines and newsagents are like needles and thread and this man who I admired greatly, needled me for years about why the next issue had not yet appeared. I am profoundly sorry that he's not around to see this one.



BRAIDWOOD BAFFLER BWD 17



ACROSS

- 3. In law, a room or office used by barristers or a judge. (8)
- 8. Obtained by effort (old English) (5)
- 9. Moving in the water in a deliberate way. (8)
- 10. He likes his own company. (6)
- 11. Bets are sometimes laid on the outcome of these. (5)
- 15. You might get one of these in the sun. (1,3)
- 17. Kept in, confined. (4)
- 19. Free from outside control. (11)
- 20. A stake put up by a poker player before receiving cards. (4)
- 21. Adam and Eve were kicked out of here. (4)
- 22. Colour again. (2-3)
- 25. There's plenty of places to enjoy this is Braidwood! (6)
- 26. Intrinsic, built-in. (8)
- 28. Band together in a common cause. (5)
- 29. Person responsible for presiding over board or committee meetings. (8)

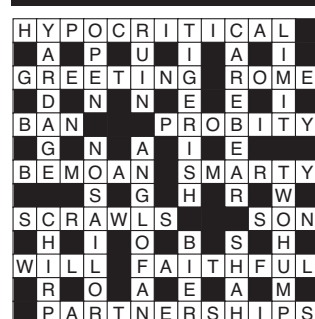
DOWN

- 1. Firmly establishing. (9)
- 2. Person in authority esp. of troops. (9)
- 4. Chop, hack. (3)
- 5. Given name of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's wife. (5)
- 6. Discharge, release. (4)

7. Droop. (3)

- 9. Zebras have such an appearance. (7)
- 12. Join a Braidwood organisation with this name! (7)
- 13. Go too fast and you can get one! (5,4)
- 14. Hobbies. (9)
- 16. Small, industrious insect. (3)
- 18. Finish. (3)
- 23. Mistake. (5)
- 24. Salvia hispanica seed. (4)
- 26. Abbreviation of the term for a company formed into a legal corporation. (3)
- 27. Abbreviation of the name of a powerful organisation opposed to gun control in the U.S.A. (1,1,1)

SOLUTION TO BAFFLER BWD 16



THE 'FORGOTTEN PEOPLE' GET FORGOTTEN AGAIN

Liberals, we need some help here

We can't all vote for the same lot, that would be a one-party state.

Liberal voters, I feel your pain. It can't be easy to have to watch your elected representatives make such a big drama of the move towards renewable energy.

How did this come about? Why has the conservative side of politics painted itself into a corner? Perhaps action on climate change is not being decided on its merit but rather on, "if that lot are all in favour then we'll be against".

The placing of people and their opinions on a scale from 'loony left' through to 'alt right' is driving us into opposing camps when what is needed is a calm reasoned dialogue.

The dinosaurs in the government are turning cartwheels in their attempt to thwart or delay a planned, orderly transition from coal-based electricity generation to renewables.

Why?

Robert Menzies who, with a small band of supporters, formed the Liberal Party in 1944 would be aghast at what has happened to his party. He said at the time:

"...what we must look for, and it is a matter of desperate importance to our society, is a true revival of liberal thought which will work for social justice and security, for national power and national progress, and for the full development of the individual citizen, though not through the dull and deadening process of socialism."

The 'forgotten people' that Menzies cared about were those whose goals, needs and aspirations had been ignored by government. He didn't say anything about sticking your fingers in your ears and yelling, "la-la-la-la" when the evidence from nearly every climate scientist on the planet is calling for the fastest reduction in the burning of coal that we can manage.

Fluffing about, trying to divert the narrative to 'affordable' electricity, is not true Liberal thought. It is not a heroic fight of the little person against the inhuman, uncaring state. Quite the opposite in fact.

Renewable energy is by its nature decentralised and not controlled by the state. This is one of the best reasons

(apart from stopping the planet from cooking) for getting away from monopolistic power.

Underplaying at every opportunity the danger of climate change is neither, 'working for social justice and security', nor 'for national power and national progress'.

Australia is becoming the laughing stock of the world for our willful in-



towards the future by Paul Cockram

THE PUNCH CARTOON BELOW DEMONSTRATES THE FEAR OF COMMUNISM THAT GRIPPED THE DEMOCRATIC WORLD IN 1930. TAKE OUT THE HAMMER, SICKLE AND CROSSES AND IN TODAY'S WORLD IT COULD BE CAPTIONED:

"THE OLD LAW — THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER FUEL BUT ME."



ability to take action on climate change. But they won't be laughing for long. As the impact of global warming makes life unbearable for some countries, those like us who claim an exemption from action on the grounds that it's not in our economic interest, will be held in the contempt we deserve.

So come on Liberal and National Party voters, it's up to you. Make some noise, write to your local member or make bumper stickers that say, "I want to vote Liberal and I want my grandchildren to inherit a liveable planet".

Pandering to an industry that is on the skids, but fighting furiously as it goes down, is not what Sir Robert Menzies would have wanted.

He and his band of 'eighty men and women from non-Labor political parties' wanted to save Australia from the yoke of totalitarianism and to support the rights of the individual.

The irony here is that all individuals are now threatened by a big business that holds virtual totalitarian control over government energy policy through its political lobby power.

And then government is the yoke.