

## Blue skies by the sea after all

By ROGER GREEN  
in Batemans Bay

Early yesterday morning the first blue sky in days showed over Batemans Bay.

But any hopes of a sustained improvement were dashed by radio reports predicting cloud. On the coast the radio seems to have caught the boundless optimism which infects real-estate agents and whoever dubbed a calm cove "Surf Beach".

Perhaps for fear of losing listeners desperate to extract some value from expensive holidays, the radio station habitually describes leaden and threatening rain clouds as "high cloud" or intermittent showers as "patches of sun".

On Thursday the car radio broadcast news of "a beautiful 24 degrees" as the windscreen wipers were shifted to high speed; and there may have been "patches of warm water" but they were not near the beach.

All week "sunny patches" have kept the beaches deserted and so yesterday, anticipating "cloud on the coast with sunny patches in the afternoon", *The Canberra Times* set out in search of seaside fun.

In fact, for a few hours Batemans Bay experienced the best beach weather all week. In spite of "scattered cloud" (huge grey clouds bearing down from the hills and threatening rain), patient holidaymakers flocked to the beach.

At Corrigans Beach sailboards and catamarans caught the breezes and over the hill at Caseys Beach a crowd enjoyed the clear blue sea.

Both sand and water were packed at Denhams Beach. In the waves surfboard riders and surf skiers mixed it with the bodysurfers. The beach was dotted with umbrellas and sunbakers were quietly roasting.

At Surf Beach, where Canberra meets the sea, the smell of coconut was strong on the breeze. The sand between the flags was covered with hasting bodies while hundreds of bathers rode the one-metre waves.

It was the most crowded the beach had been for a week: there were babies, beach beauties, board riders and patrolling lifeguards all performing the summer ritual they had been deprived of lately.

The only ominous note was those "scattered clouds" the radio station was trying so hard to gloss over.

## Disobedience trying at Moruya show

By ROGER GREEN

Perhaps it reflects the declining moral standards of our times but, at the dog-obedience trials at the Eurobodalla show in Moruya yesterday, obedience was not greatly in evidence.

The dogs ran around in circles with their masters but few stayed at heel. Most of the dogs seemed to be out for a good time.

There were all sorts of dogs, tiny and large, fools and rogues. Barking came from tents, cars and cages with the level raised by the passage of a provocative peer.

Some of the dogs were sober, others complained about their accommodation or service, others simply slept. Some dogs came as they were, others brought their own cases of mirrors, brushes and cosmetics and human slaves to comb their long hair.

The Moruya Agricultural and Pastoral Society founded the show in 1872. The tradition is carried on by the Eurobodalla District Show Society. This year's show runs until tomorrow.

The secretary of the show society, Mr John Irtel, said yesterday, "The show is shaping up extremely well this year." Last year's show began with the showground under water.

He said the dog show, which had 550 entries, was exceptionally large for a small country town. The show would also have an "impressive" collection of stud beef cattle.

The Eurobodalla show also reflected the changing patterns of land-use brought about by new settlers in the area, hobby and "alternative lifestyles". The large numbers of angora and dairy goats entered demonstrated one of these new land uses. When the dairy industry around Moruya declined, exhibits of dairy products at the show ended.

In the showground pavilion, exhibits of the area's produce were being judged yesterday. The farm produce included huge cabbages, squash, onions and tomatoes.

There were arrangements of "pancies, collection in large dinner plate" and bowls of floating flowers and leaves. Framed tapestries illustrated people, dogs and European landscapes.

## Canberra to show its products

A week-long "Made in Canberra Show" featuring various locally manufactured goods will be held at the new headquarters of the Canberra Development Board next month.

The board's trade commissioner, Mr Richard May, said yesterday that the board would be moving to the Capital Savings Centre in Ainslie Avenue, Civic, soon and the show would be staged in the foyer of the building.

Six local apparel manufacturers will display their products along with the award-winning Aquabike. Building, chemical, computer and electronic products will also be on show.

About 60 products will be displayed at the show, which will be opened by the Minister for Territories, Mr Scholes, on February 18.



Mr Robert Burgess, the manager of the Tomakin general store, tides the area around the shop.

## Swamp hole Tomakin a Tidy Town winner

By ROGER GREEN

From the main road you would not think Tomakin was big in the tidy town world: pipes and piles of mullock lie about waiting to fill another part of the swamp, scrappy signs leer at motorists, the petrol station sticks out from its surroundings like a sore thumb.

Even driving through the streets, Tomakin looks like just another holiday village, with architecture ranging from the two-storey brick mansion to frail sheds and vacant lots occupied by cars, boats, trucks or caravans.

Tomakin, near Brullee, has just won a major award in the NSW tidy town contest. The Keep Australia Beautiful Council of NSW will announce the category of Tomakin's award in Grafton on February 16. In 1983 Tomakin won the category A award for the best river/lakeside program.

From the headland overlooking the town it becomes clear that Tomakin's great asset is its natural surroundings — the Tomaga River

and the mangroves around it, the town's three beaches, one protected by rocks in the cove, dunes and trees. In the distance mist hung over mountains.

Mrs Lorna Greig, of the Tomakin Progress Association, believes the judges were impressed by the river and beaches. The townspeople have made a pleasant walkway through the she-oaks and banksias on the river bank. Rosellas and other birds call from the branches about the path.

Fishing seems to be a major pursuit. Down at the launching ramp Dad and the boys had cast their lines into the river. When Dad caught a blackfish the little boys got very excited. Other boys on the bridge had caught a tailor.

In the middle of town little girls with big dogs, a mother with pram, girls on bicycles and horses converged on the general store which still has "Merry Christmas" stencilled on the window. A backhoe roared through the middle of a

cricket game (with four stumps in the wicket) being played across the road.

As a woman used ice cream to negotiate with her children, the manager of the store, Mr Robert Burgess, explained the problem of ice cream wrappers that children left outside the shop. He cheerfully tidied up saying that all the town had become involved in the tidy town project. "People take a lot of pride in their gardens here," he said.

Mrs Greig said that everyone in the town had been encouraged to help their neighbours, many of whom were absent much of the year. She and her family moved from Garran to Tomakin 18 months ago, after owning a house there for 10 years.

"About a month before the judging [last September] it really did look beautiful," she said.

Mrs Greig hoped that filling more of the riverside swamp could make a park for Tomakin. "It's just a swamp hole, you know," she said.

## Public asked to help prevent fires

The Department of Territories has appealed for public assistance in preventing bushfires in the ACT in the wake of 10 fires started deliberately on Wednesday night.

A spokesman for the ACT Bush Fire Council said yesterday that six of the fires had been started about 10.30pm along the old Uriarra and Mountain Creek Roads, on the way to Wee Jasper.

The other four had been started about 6.20am early on Thursday morning, on the Brindabella Road.

The biggest of these, the first lit, had burnt about 2½ hectares in the Stromlo Forest.

A spokesman for the Department of Territories said the community could ill-afford to divert its resources to deal with deliberately lit fires.

The fires on Wednesday had cost the community about \$8,000 in wages alone. Additional costs included the use of plant and equipment, helicopter hire, staffing of fire towers and repairing the damage to farm property and plantation and natural forests.

"Whilst it is always difficult to detect and apprehend an arsonist, there are a number of ways in which the community can assist," he said.

"It is likely that some member of the community, perhaps a parent, wife, husband or friend, has some knowledge of what must be considered to be an unbalanced person lighting these fires."

Any such information should be immediately passed to Canberra police, he said.

The public could also assist by

quickly reporting to police or the ACT Bush Fire Council any suspicious activity associated with fire lighting, such as vehicles observed in the immediate area or rapidly leaving the scene. Vehicle numbers and descriptions should be noted for follow-up investigation by the police.

"We have experienced more than 100 fires in a little more than six weeks," the spokesman said, "and whilst our Bush Fire Council has successfully contained almost all of the fires in a reasonable time, there is always the potential for such fires to develop to a large size, possibly with the tragic consequences which have been so evident in Victoria, NSW and South Australia during three of the past five summer fire seasons."

## Prime Minister's statement about his letter to the NZ Prime Minister

The following is the text of a statement by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, about a letter sent recently to the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr Lange:

I am concerned at false, misleading and damaging reports about a letter I sent recently to the Rt. Hon. David Lange, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

I will not depart from the principles and practice of this Government by releasing copies of private communications with foreign Governments.

The facts of the matter are, however, that on 10 January, after consultation with my colleagues, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Defence, I wrote to Mr Lange to inform him that I would

be visiting the United States in early February for talks with President Reagan and senior members of his Administration.

I said that I expected the Americans to want to discuss in some depth the state of and prospects for the ANZUS Alliance. At the same time I indicated that it was important, from Australia's point of view, that I should explore at first hand United States thinking on this key matter.

I informed Mr Lange that, in developing views for my talks in Washington I would value his thoughts on ANZUS and, in particular, on the longer term management of the question of ship visits. I stressed that I had no wish or intention to act in any way as an

emissary. But I knew that the New Zealand and United States Governments had had a number of bilateral exchanges on the subject, and that it would be helpful to have his judgment on where the matter now stood and the prospects of an agreed outcome.

I noted that Australia, as I knew Mr Lange would understand, had important and direct interests at stake, notably the future of the ANZUS Alliance and of two of Australia's most important bilateral relationships. He would recall that, when the ALP Government came to power in 1983, we made it an early objective to initiate a review of ANZUS, in association with our Treaty partners. We had firmly concluded from that review that

ANZUS continued to serve fundamental Australian security interests.

I went on to say that, in the light of this unequivocal conclusion, the Australian Government would need to continue to make clear that, whatever New Zealand's position or policies might be, Australia, as a sovereign nation which must protect its fundamental security interests, had its own well-known and clearly expressed position on visits by United States warships and the importance of maintaining the neither confirm nor deny principle. We could not accept as a permanent arrangement that the ANZUS Alliance had a different meaning, and entailed different obligations, for different members.

I said that Australia would be avoiding any public statements which cast doubt on whether the USA was applying its policy of neither confirming nor denying that warships were carrying nuclear weapons in particular cases and, as New Zealand's Alliance partner, saw it as important that the New Zealand Government should do the same.

I indicated that I was leaving Australia on 2 February for meetings on 6 and 7 February, and I understood that late in January he and his colleagues would be taking important decisions on the questions of ship visits. If time constraints permitted, I would greatly welcome any views he might wish to let me have before I left. Similarly, I

wanted Mr Lange to have an indication of the very broad lines of my thinking before my meetings in Washington.

I concluded by saying that I would also be visiting Brussels and both there and in Washington I planned to take up trade matters, including issues of concern to both our countries such as dairy products and progress in consultations on trade in the Pacific region. I undertook to pass on to Mr Lange the outcome of my discussions on my return.

The statement concluded: As the facts I have outlined above indicate, the letter in no way departs from established Australian policy on these matters.

## AUSTRALIA DAY

# Citizenship important to country, says Tange

By KERRY COYLE

Long-time residents of Australia should formally commit themselves to the country by taking out citizenship, the former head of the Department of Defence, Sir Arthur Tange, said yesterday.

He told an Australia Day lunch that citizenship would help develop an Australian identity and reduce racial tension.

"Because the composition of our society has changed so much as our population grew, we have, I believe, need for demonstration of national solidarity, and particularly for an Australian identity," Sir Arthur said.

"No act of identification is more important than possession of Australian citizenship — the formal commitment to this country, and to its values and its risks — and to stay with us if we fall under threat."

Speaking in Melbourne, he

said there was no multi-racial society on earth that did not have some frictions, prejudices and misunderstandings — or worse.

Australia had been, and would be, no exception, so it was extremely important to work the causes out of society.

The first defence against racial or ethnic disharmony should lie in the equality of status afforded by universal citizenship. "Too many have yet to commit themselves," he said.

Sir Arthur was speaking in his capacity of chairman of the Order of Australia Association. He urged governments, organisations and "people of goodwill" to advocate a more universal adoption of citizenship.

He said citizenship formalities should be taken seriously, rather than reflecting "the casualness that, for us



Sir Arthur Tange

native-born, is part of our heritage."

"They should have a dignity which corresponds with the deep feelings that can accompany renunciation of the earlier allegiance," he said.

Sir Arthur called for more

organised demonstrations of "Australianism".

In the text of his speech distributed in Canberra, Sir Arthur also said Australia needed to have "in some obvious places, more people with brains and imagination and vision than we have been content with" if Australia was to take a more prominent role in the world.

"For this, the quality of our teachers, and of the taught, will be our strength or our weakness," he said.

Australians were "overquick" to put down people who had genuine credentials for calling on them to lift their goals.

"We need leaders capable of articulating — and there may be few votes in it — a vision of a greater Australia which governments cannot create but which they will do their best not to frustrate," he said.

Australia was no longer a country in need of a patron.

## Newcombe to head new council

Mr John Newcombe will head the new National Australia Day Council, membership of which was announced by the Government yesterday.

The Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism, Mr Brown, said the council would replace the National Australia Day Committee, but would work along similar lines.

The council members appointed by the Commonwealth are Mr Newcombe (president), Jacki Weaver, Mr Michael Edgley, Mr Mark Ella, Father Brian Gore and Mr John Reid.

State and Territory representatives are

Mr John Laws (NSW), Mr Chris Wallace-Crabbe (Victoria), Mr Raymond Suss (Queensland), Mr John Baker (WA), Mr Brian Anders (SA), Jennifer Pringle-Jones (Tasmania), Dr Ella Stack, (NT) and Mr Fred Daly, (ACT).

Mr Brown said, "The council will be responsible for the overall co-ordination of the celebration of Australia Day in all parts of Australia."

Its tasks would include selection of the Australian and Young Australian of the Year awards, presentation of a national television concert on Australia Day, development of new initiatives for Australia

Day celebrations, seeking of sponsorship for specific events and maintenance of a national network of Australia Day Councils and regional celebration committees.

The major difference between the new council and the former committee was that each State and Territory had nominated its own representative to sit alongside the Commonwealth nominees, he said.

Mr Brown said he was delighted to have such a strong team of prominent Australians to help popularise Australia's national day.

## Australians gear up for celebrations

SYDNEY: Around the country people were gearing up last night to celebrate Australia Day and the founding of the nation.

In Sydney, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Bowen, gave one of the Government's keynote speeches, emphasising that although Australia "is already a great country" it still had a long way to go.

Speaking to the 600 guests at the official Australia Day Council lunch, he said, "The challenge is now to build a better society."

Mr Bowen said Australians had to realise the terrible things that had happened to Aborigines in the early days, and that the country was now a part of South-East Asia.

Although some South-East

Asian countries might criticise Australia's foreign policy, none objected to its standard of living and its freedoms.

Australia Day, formerly called Anniversary Day, marks January 26, 1788, when the First Fleet under Governor Arthur Phillip raised the Union Jack at Sydney Cove, marking the first permanent white settlement in the country.

"Our greatest values are our independence of spirit, our sense of fair play and our equal opportunities," Mr Bowen said.

In another move, the Premier of NSW, Mr Wran, announced that Sydney's and Australia's first Government House would be preserved.

He said a competition would be held to find the best design

to preserve the site at the corner of Bridge and Phillip streets in central Sydney. The foundation stone for the first six-room Government House was laid on the site close to Sydney Cove in May, 1788.

In another competition announced yesterday, Mr Wran asked for designs for a \$3.5 million monument for Sydney's Queen's Square. He said the Bicentennial Monument would form a gateway to Hyde Park and be part of an \$11 million facelift for Macquarie Street.

### Unions criticised

BRISBANE: The Premier of Queensland, Sir Joh Bjelke-

Petersen, used his Australia Day message delivered at an official flag-raising ceremony in front of Brisbane's Parliament House yesterday to criticise "irresponsible union action" and call for greater unity among Australians.

### Serbian festival and dance

The Free Serbian Orthodox Church in Australia will hold its annual dance and folk festival and a soccer tournament this weekend. The festival will be opened at 11.30am today by Bishop Peter Bankerovic at St Sava's Monastery, Wallaroo Road, Hall.

## Train conference to be held today

SYDNEY: Mr Justice Williams, of the Arbitration Commission, has convened a compulsory conference today in an effort to end the NSW train strike over the long weekend.

A further round of talks between the Premier, Mr Wran, and leaders of the Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Enginemen made little progress yesterday, according to both parties.

Mr Wran warned that the Government was not prepared to make any concessions, and he called on the AFULE to hold membership meetings by Monday so rail services could resume on Tuesday.

But prospects appear dim, with the AFULE State secretary, Mr Bernie Willingale, saying the union would bring forward the meetings due next Thursday only if today's conference produced guarantees on driver training in the Hunter Valley.

There appears to be a total break-down in communication between the parties involved in the dispute, which now centres on award coverage of the second crew position on Hunter coal trains, which combines duties currently performed by the AFULE observer, and the guard, represented by the ARU.

According to Mr Wran, the AFULE leaders at yesterday's meeting discussed matters which had nothing to do with the dispute in question, such as XPT trains.

Neither Mr Wran or State Rail Authority chief executive Mr David Hill would be drawn on their next move if there was no return to work after the Arbitration conference.

But a senior Government official said the meeting today was a "last chance" for the union, with mass sackings and deregistration of the union being considered.

## Lasa fever scare: KLM passengers told to check

SYDNEY: A woman suffering from African lasa fever was flown from Bomaderry, on the South Coast, to Melbourne yesterday.

Commonwealth and State Health Departments are appealing to anyone else who was on KLM flight 843 to Australia on December 14 and has since suffered fever symptoms to seek medical advice.

The woman, accompanied by her husband and daughters aged 9 and 10, was one of 141 passengers on the KLM flight.

A Commonwealth Department of Health spokesman said the incubation period for the disease had passed and there were no indications that anyone else was suffering from it.

The spokesman said the unnamed woman, who was a missionary in Nigeria, was found to be suffering from lasa fever after a blood sample was flown to London for analysis.

The woman, thought to be an Aus-

tralian, was with the Sudan United Mission.

The spokesman said it was believed to be the first case of the disease, which is highly infectious and often fatal, in Australia.

The woman is recovering in the isolation unit of Fairfield Infectious Diseases Hospital after being flown to Melbourne in a transit isolator — a special unit which seals the patient off from other people in the aircraft.

The spokesman said lasa fever, which occurs in Nigeria and Sierra Leone and is caused by small wild rats, has symptoms similar to yellow fever, including headaches and nausea.

During an epidemic in Nigeria, nine out of 20 medical workers who caught the disease died.

It is estimated to have a mortality rate between 30 and 50 per cent.

Severe cases can also cause heart and renal failure and deafness.