Vehicle destroyed

FIRE destroyed a vehicle on the Hume Highway near Medway on Saturday, August 10. Police and the Rural Fire Service attended the scene and extinguished the fire, however the vehicle was totally destroyed. Police believe a fire on a nearby property may have caused the vehicle to overheat. No-one was injured.

Car theft

A CAR was stolen from Waite Street in Moss Vale last week. Police said the car was stolen between 7.30pm on Wednesday, August 7 and 2.20pm on Thursday, August 8. The vehicle is described as a 1986 model Peugeot Sedan which is white in colour. Any persons with information about this theft can contact Bowral Police on 4862 9299 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Having a field day

SHEEP shearing, wool spinning, farrier demonstrations and vet talks are just some of the features of today’s modern farm focus on farming the 21st century. The Field Day starts at 10am to 2.30pm and is open to anyone interested in tips and tricks of the industry.

Throsby battle heats up

By David Alexander

AUSTRALIA’S second-longest serving prime minister was in town last Friday to throw his support behind the Liberal Party’s Throsby candidate Larrissa Mallinson.

Mr Howard also met with some of the region’s youth leaders and presented a cheque to Bowral Hospital’s children’s ward, courtesy of the Bradman Foundation.

The money was raised by visitors to the International Cricket Hall of Fame who made donations into the museum’s fountain. It will go towards new equipment for the ward.

Mr Howard addressed the more than 100 people in attendance saying Ms Mallinson has a mountain to climb in the electorate of Throsby.

“I’m delighted to be part of Larrissa’s campaign. She’s got determination, intelligence and energy and she brings a youthful zest. Gathered around her are a band of very young and energetic people,” he said. “Throsby sits on a margin of 12.5 per cent for Labor. It’s a very mixed electorate to say the least.”

“Larrissa understands just how big the mountain is to climb. There’s a sense of excitement in being involved in an election campaign when you feel the mood is shifting in your favour.

A very significant win for the coalition is not out of the question. I think it will be a seat to watch with enormous interest.”

Twenty-nine-year-old Ms Mallinson is up against a long list of hopefuls for the seat in the September 7 election, including incumbent Stephen Jones, the National Party’s Angry Anderson and The Greens’ Peter Moran.

She said she was thrilled to have Mr Howard supporting her in the campaign for the seat of Throsby, coming up against a long list of candidates including Labor’s incumbent, Stephen Jones.

John Howard and Peter Costello were the reason I wanted to join the Young Liberals in 2007,” she said. “They were pretty much my idols and they were leaving politics and I didn’t like it.”

Ms Mallinson said Mr Jones was “scared” of her efforts in the build-up to the election.

“It’s a testament to my campaign that Stephen Jones is finally spending money in the area,” she said.

“Over $20 million has poured into Throsby since the election started. For too long we’ve suffered. Now that he’s getting scared, we’re starting to get everything. You need to be a marginal seat if you want changes in your area.”

Mr Howard’s visit to Bowral followed a trip to the coast where he dropped into Ms Mallinson’s Albion Park campaign office.

He would not comment on Ms Mallinson’s “sex appeal” as Tony Abbott did with Lindsay candidate Fiona Scott earlier in the week, however, he told Fairfax media “there is absolutely nothing wrong with paying a compliment to a woman.”

Steiner school gets expansion nod

THE newly opened Southern Highlands Rudolf Steiner school has received a glowing endorsement that secures its plan to expand.

In a recent inspection of the school, the NSW Board of Studies not only approved the existing kindergarden for a further five years, but also gave it the go-ahead to offer Classes 1 and 2, from 2014.

Education manager Joanna Panagiotopoulos, said the inspectors’ praise had been a welcome response. “To be given registration for so many years at once, is apparently extremely rare,” she said.

“The inspectors were delighted with everything we are doing here and amazed that the school has come about entirely through the dedication of a handful of committed people.”

We are very proud of this outcome and excited to now be able to continue with our vision of providing Steiner education in the Highlands.”

The Southern Highlands Rudolf Steiner School currently offers Aurora Rose Kindergarten and plans to expand year by year, to a full primary school.

Ms Panagiotopoulos said interest in the school was growing each week, with enrolments in kindergarten, Class 1 and Class 2 being accepted for next year.