

McGirr's success sees fresh vote division

NEWS BRIEFS

► WAGGA

By Laura Little

THE NSW Electoral Commission has announced it will redistribute the two-party preferred vote for the seat of Wagga to reflect the success of independent candidate Joe McGirr at last month's state election.

Prior to the election, the electoral commission decided its two-party preferred vote would be between sitting member Daryl Maguire and Labor candidate Glenn Elliott-Rudder.

But the success of Dr McGirr at

The two-party preferred figure the electoral commission put up was misleading.

Former independent candidate for Wagga
Dr Joe McGirr

the election, which saw him finish in second place ahead of Mr Elliott-Rudder, has caused the electoral commission to revisit the two-party preferred vote for the seat.

"In instances where the second runner wasn't in the original

choice for the notional distribution of preferences we redo the distribution for the candidate's information," an electoral commission spokesman said.

"The information will not be published but it is given to the candidate."

Dr McGirr welcomed the news, saying many people in the community had expressed their disappointment at the electoral commission choosing to focus on the race between Mr Maguire and Mr Elliott-Rudder when the competition for the seat was actually between Mr Maguire and Dr McGirr.

"The two-party preferred figure the electoral commission put up was misleading," Dr McGirr said.

"It hid concerns about the hospital and local representation which is what I ran on."

It is not known when the redistribution will take place.

Forum to focus on flood policies

A FORUM will be held in Wagga next week to discuss the impact of Snowy Hydro and the NSW Office of Water's flood mitigation policies on the Murrumbidgee Valley. The forum is a chance for flood experts, the State Emergency Service, Snowy Hydro and the NSW Office of Water to help the community understand how the Murrumbidgee River is controlled and why certain flood mitigation techniques are used.

It will be held at Wagga RSL on Wednesday, April 13 from 2pm to 6pm.

To attend, phone Barbara Johnson on 6929 1066.

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Sam is proud of free-range product

► CENTRAL WAGGA

By Stephanie Muir

THE truth can be distorted, lies told or gimmicks created to cover the real truth.

Producers can claim to have free-range eggs with the knowledge their chooks lay in a dirty open shed or a large paddock without a blade of grass to nibble on.

Holbrook Paddock Eggs owner-operator Sam Pincott is not only horrified by the treatment of the chooks, but the compromises producers are making on the quality of eggs sold to consumers.

Mr Pincott said Holbrook Paddock Eggs' top priority is ensuring customers receive an outstanding product, by offering an egg that carries a free range guarantee.

"Our eggs are genuinely free range, the chooks are as free as they could possibly be," he said.

"Unlike some brands or producers that say their eggs are free range even though the chooks are laying in an open shed or a paddock that is only dirt, our chooks are constantly on the freshest and greenest grass.

"Our chooks roost and lay in portable sheds that we never lock.



FAMILY AFFAIR: Sam and Prue Pincott own and operate Holbrook Paddock Eggs with the help of their children Abigail, Annabel and Amelia.

facts

Farmers Markets

When: Today (the markets are held on the second Saturday of every month)
Where: Front of Civic Theatre
Time: 8am to 1pm

"The sheds are moved every three to four days, along with the mob of cattle that live alongside the chooks, to ensure the chooks are always on fresh grass."

Mr Pincott firmly believes the approach taken by Holbrook Paddock Eggs guarantees his eggs are of

the highest quality.

"The simple procedure of using a portable shed, which allows us to constantly move the chooks to fresh grass, ensures our eggs are always of outstanding quality," he said.

"We believe our free-range system, which is very differ-

ent to the approach taken by a lot of supermarket brands, results in a better-quality product."

Holbrook Paddock Eggs has been displaying its products at the Wollundry Rotary Farmers Markets for six months, much to the pleasure of regular customers.

it's your library

Book Sale

Friends of the Library
Book Sale
Saturday April 9
Lagoon-side entry
9am - 12 noon

Good quality donations welcome
History, art, fiction, magazines,
children's books and more

Wagga Wagga City Library

www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/library

The Grange

LIFESTYLE VILLAGE

Now Open

Check out the display units at Wagga Wagga's premier lifestyle village, The Grange, located in Gregadoo Road, opposite Mater Dei Primary School.

When completed The Grange will consist of 185 free standing quality villas, 63 serviced apartments, a men's shed and a resort style community centre complete with indoor swimming pool, gymnasium, auditorium, café, consulting rooms and private function rooms.

Times:
Week Days
9am to 4pm
Sundays
1pm to 4pm

For further information
phone Kirstie Clark on 0458 575 888