

Students in the centre of the regional capital

# Canberra excursion 'fantastic'

A visit to the art gallery proved popular

BIBBENLUKE Public School's trip to Canberra last Friday has been voted 'fantastic'.

The adults and students enjoyed artworks at the National Gallery and Museum, where they saw Sidney Nolan's collection of Ned Kelly paintings.

Some students painted one of these pictures as part of school studies.

ies on busrangers.

They also enjoyed the variety of street art sculptures in Canberra's centre.

The children gleefully posed for many photos in, on and around these sculptures.

Another treat was in store for the students as they watched the play, The Thirteen Storey Treehouse, at

the Canberra Theatre.

This play was adapted from the multi-award winning book by Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton.

The children got many laughs out of the show and were even able to participate in parts of the show by interacting with the actors through singing and actions.

"Who wouldn't want to live in a treehouse? Especially a 13-storey Treehouse that has everything, including a bowling alley, a secret underground laboratory, a vegetable vapouriser and a marshmallow machine that shoots marshmallows into your mouth whenever you're hungry," Bibbenlake Public School, School Administration Manager, Moira Braden, said.

According to a report in the regional papers, Bombala is desirable to grow as a unique destination half way between Melbourne and Sydney, one hour to the sea, two hours to the snow and three hours to the Lakes in Victoria.

Economic growth in this area will develop due to reasonable land/housing costs, increased road use, industry growth and tourism.

All of these processes contributed to greenhouse gases, it said.

"This will have to be balanced environmentally, socially and with governance," the report said.

"Therefore on a global scale it is important that every community discusses and identifies their role as a contributor and what can be done to assist abatement.

By integrating a Greenhouse Action Plan, our community can be confident that all leadership level this important issue is being addressed," it said.

# Emergency patients get faster access

EMERGENCY patients in Bombala will have faster access to pathology results with two new devices being installed at the town's Multipurpose Service.

The hand-held point of care (PoCT) devices look like TV remotes but provide fast on-site analysis for blood gases, lactate, haemoglobin, troponin, chemistries and electrolytes and INR/PT.

Some of the most common pathology tests emergency department teams rely on electronically so we have the

The machines also pass the information electronically to the patient's medical records.

Rhonda Stewart, senior nurse manager, said that until now Bombala Multipurpose Service had been using devices that produced results in hardcopy printouts that are then entered manually into a patient record.

"Having these new point of care devices means results are available in real time electronically so we have the

The aim is to provide ED teams, particularly in regional and rural areas, with access to on-the-spot results for certain types of pathology tests so they can deliver more timely care for patients.

The state-wide PoCT pathology rollout has been funded through a \$5 million grant from the COAG's National Partnerships Emergency Department Capital Program.

In addition to providing

PoCT devices for small EDs, the program also includes training for ED staff to ensure the devices are used properly, technical support and ongoing monitoring for devices and software that will enable results to be electronically transmitted to pathology laboratory information systems and ultimately to a patient's electronic medical records.

Dr Max Alexander, chief executive for Southern Local Health District, said the managed PoCT strategy will increase reliability, consistency and accuracy of tests across the district.

"It's a great opportunity to use technology to support better healthcare across our rural and regional communities and we're excited to be working with NSW Health Pathology and Pathology West support better care for patients in our region," Dr Alexander said.