

BtN: Episode 8 Transcript 25/3/14

Coming up

- Find out why Tassie's forests are back in the headlines
- Celebrate the birthday of an Aussie icon that's out of this world
- And meet our latest Rookie Reporter who tells us what it's like living with dyslexia

Hey it's Sarah Larsen. Welcome to BtN. There are some great stories coming up today. But first, Emma's going to fill you in on some of the biggest stories of the week.

The Wire

The search is still on for the missing Malaysian Airlines plane and Australia's playing a big part.

Last week, Prime Minister, Tony Abbott announced satellites had spotted what might be debris from the plane two and a half thousand kays off the coast of Western Australia.

The task of locating these objects will be extremely difficult and it may turn out they are not related to MH370. Because it's so far away the search hasn't been easy and so far planes and boats haven't found anything.

Now, the hunt has shifted as French satellites have picked up images of what they think could be debris eight hundred and fifty kays away from the search area.

All up authorities are now covering 68,000 square kilometres

Back in Australia there's been a fatal plane crash near Brisbane.

Five people - including two skydivers and their instructors - died when the plane crashed not long after take-off.

In South Australia there's finally been a decision on who will lead the state.

The election was more than a week ago but it was really close and it didn't look like either party would win enough seats to form government.

In the end it came down to one independent politician. He sided with the Labor Party giving them the majority they needed.

And an Adelaide school has set an interesting new world record. The most people taking part in a hand clapping game at one time!

More than six hundred kids got involved.

KID: I think 660 is a good score to knock out the park.

And now they're keen to take on a few more records!

KID: Mark Oliphant is gonna beat more records!

Law of the Sea

Reporter: Rebecca Opie

INTRO: Now, you might remember a big news story earlier this year about the Australian Navy going into Indonesia's waters. Last week group of politicians started an inquiry into how it happened. But have you ever wondered just what "Indonesian waters" means? Does anyone actually own the ocean? Bec went to find out more about the laws of the sea.

REBECCA OPIE, REPORTER: On land, it's easy to tell which country's which, there are maps and borders and laws but what about all that blue in between? Have you ever wondered who owns the oceans? Do certain fish belong to certain countries and are there rules about who goes where? The answer is the oceans belong to everyone and no-one.

Ever since the days of old, the high seas have been shared by traders, explorers, fishermen and even pirates and that's still true today. A lot of the Earth's oceans are what's known as International Waters or High Seas. No-one owns them, everyone can use them. It's all part of the Law of the Sea; an international agreement between countries that's been around since the 1980s.

The Law of the Sea covers all sorts of things like who owns the oceans and whose responsibility they are. Say someone gets into trouble out here. The law of the sea says which country is supposed to help.

You probably don't recognise it but this is the shape of Australia's search and rescue borders. If a boat is in trouble or plane goes down in this area, it's Australia's job to help out but if it happens here for example, it would be Canada's job. But it's not just about search and rescue.

It might not seem like it when you look around but the ocean can be pretty valuable. It's a means of transport for ships and under the sea there can be all sorts of precious resources, like oil and gas.

So the Law of the Sea gives countries with a coast line a stretch of ocean they're allowed to make money out of - it's called an Exclusive Economic Zone. This is

Australia's. We don't actually own this water and anyone's allowed to pass through but no-one's allowed to fish or mine here without Australia's permission.

And there is a point out there in the deep blue, where the ocean officially becomes part of a country. Australia actually ends 22 kilometres out to sea. These are called our territorial waters. Australia owns the sea, the seabed and the airspace above it. Entering Territorial waters is like entering a country, you're not supposed to do it without permission and you have to follow local law.

That's how Australia got itself into trouble recently. Navy boats that were towing back asylum seekers went into Indonesia's territorial waters without permission. The Navy said it was an accident and the government apologised.

IMMIGRATION MINISTER, SCOTT MORRISON: "If they went within that zone and that's the key thing and that should have never happened and our assurance to the government of Indonesia is that it won't happen again."

They're now having an inquiry into what happened.

Countries take their ocean rights seriously, and while the Law of the Sea isn't always crystal clear, understanding it is really important.

Quiz 1

Let's see how much you know about the oceans.

The question is:

Roughly how much of the Earth is covered in water?

Is it:

50 percent

70 percent

80 percent

Answer: 70 percent

Tassie Timber

Reporter: Matt Holbrook

INTRO: Back on land now, to a state that's famous for its forests and the timber that comes from them. Tasmanians have seen a lot of debate over the years between supporters of the logging industry and people that think more forests should be off-limits. And the fight isn't over. The state's new government wants to give the logging industry a boost to create more jobs but that's made some pretty angry. Here's Matt to explain.

MATT HOLBROOK, REPORTER: Winning an election is the ultimate prize for any political party. It means they have a chance to change things. And now, the new government in Tassie wants to unlock land for logging.

It's an issue that's divided people here for a long time. There have been protests, fighting, and elections won and lost over logging. So why's the new government so keen to get behind it?

Well, there's a lot of history here. Since Europeans came to Tassie, timber has been a big part of the island's economy. The wood from its native forests was ideal for building, making furniture, and for turning into woodchips to make paper and other products.

Logging has changed a lot over the years, but it's still seen by many as an important part of the state's identity.

But it's controversial. While a lot of timber is now grown on plantations, some is still taken from old growth forests. They're areas that have been growing and evolving for many, many years without being disturbed by humans. They contain some rare trees and provide habitats for animals. Many Tasmanians think that the forests are more valuable to the environment than to loggers. There's also money to be made from tourism, as people come to see the spectacular trees.

Over the years a lot Tassie's forests have been protected from logging. Some say, not enough. But others say too much. In recent years the timber industry in Tassie hasn't been doing so well. Pulp mills have closed and people have lost their jobs. Some blamed the government for siding with environmentalists.

In 2012 a new deal was struck designed to protect larger areas of forest, while also helping workers in the industry find new jobs. For a while, it seemed like the fighting was over. But it didn't last. This year there was an election in Tassie, and a lot of debate over one big issue employment. Tasmania's got the highest unemployment rate in the country, and its economy is in a bad way.

The Prime Minister said it would help if Tassie threw out the forest deal, and opened up more old growth forest for logging. The new state government agreed.

And that's brought the issue back into the spotlight. It's a tricky debate, because Tassie's forests are important to so many people for so many reasons.

Online Poll

What do you guys think about that? We'll make it the subject of this week's poll.

The question is:

Should more old growth forest be opened up for logging?

To vote, just head to our website.

Deep Space

Reporter: James Bartold

INTRO: Ok, so we've had oceans and forests, how about Outer Space? When you think of the big players in space exploration you probably think of the USA and Russia and China. But did you know that some of the most famous images and important discoveries in space were made possible by bunch of antennae right here in Australia? This week Canberra's Deep Space Communication Complex turns 50. James had a look at some of its greatest achievements.

REPORTER, JAMES BARTOLD: It was one of the biggest moments of the 20th century when humans walked on the moon.

But those famous words could have never made it to earth, without the help of a dish right here in Australia. There was a movie made about Australia's involvement in the moon landing and the real life story of Canberra's Deep Space Communications Complex is just as interesting.

It started back in the 60s in the middle of the space race. NASA realised it need a way to keep in contact with its missions but one dish wasn't going to cut it. You see, the Earth is constantly spinning so if you're trying to look at something in space, say, the moon at certain times of day you're going to be on the wrong side of the planet. To make sure there was always a dish facing the right way NASA built three Communication Centres in California, Madrid and Canberra.

Dr David Williams, CSIRO: Basically without it. It would be true to say NASA couldn't manage the missions it sent out". The Deep Space Network's powerful antennas have kept in touch with just about every mission that's gone to the moon or beyond.

The first was way back in 1966 when NASA sent the Surveyor 1 rover to the moon. Information about the surface was relayed by Canberra back to NASA and the information it received helped to prepare for this. And it didn't end there.

The Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex helped to track and steer satellites and probes like the Voyager space craft. They explored Saturn and Jupiter before travelling to the very edge of the solar system.

Canberra's dishes helped to track Galileo as it found water on Jupiter's moons and it was there as Cassini studied Saturn. In recent years it's helped to steer two robotic rovers to the surface of Mars and received images of the red planet.

Now the centre is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Deep Space Network and that's meant some of the big wigs of NASA have come down under to celebrate all the missions they've accomplished with the help of our Aussie dishes.

Charles Bolden, NASA : "For so many of NASA's missions Australia has been and will continue to be an important part through the work the Canberra deep space communications network"

So what's next for the complex? Well two new satellite dishes are being added to the three already here and they're going to have a really important mission, picking up the first fly-by images the dwarf planet Pluto.

With so much space to explore and so many more discoveries yet to be made the Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex's job is far from over.

Quiz 2

Right. Let's have a space quiz!

The question is: What is the biggest planet in our solar system?

Is it Venus?

Jupiter?

or Saturn?

Answer: Jupiter

Jupiter is massive! Experts reckon that it is almost 1000 times bigger than Earth.

Dyslexia

Reporters: Emma Davis

INTRO: Now to a story about a condition that affects thousands of Aussie kids. Dyslexia makes it hard to recognise the squiggly lines on a page that we know as words. It can make it harder to read, to spell and even do maths! And our Rookie Reporter Eliza has put together a story to help us understand it.

ELIZA BAMPTON, REPORTING: My name's Eliza. I'm 14 years old and I'm heading into English. But the way I learn is a bit different to most people, because I have dyslexia.

You probably won't be able to tell just from looking at me, but all the differences are all inside.

This is my brain and it's like everyone else's in just about every way. There are parts for seeing, parts for remembering and parts for understanding. All those parts are connected by lots and lots of tiny little electrical pathways. When we are born, our brains aren't actually set up to learn how to read. We have to teach ourselves to connect the things we see, to the sounds we hear, to the lines on a page. Tricky, huh? Well if you have dyslexia, it's even trickier!

Scientists reckon that when you have dyslexia, the wires in your brain are connected differently. It means that we have trouble remembering how sounds and words fit

together. So I can see this and know it's a caterpillar, but if I see the word, I have trouble linking the sounds in my brain, with the letters on the page. Same goes with spelling! It's hard to find the letters that fit the sounds!

When I was a kid I used to say the words got stuck in my feet!

My family found out that I truly had dyslexia when I was five and when I was diagnosed. But you see my family already kind of knew because my nanna is dyslexic, my sister's dyslexic, my other sister has a little bit of dyslexic but she's not as severe as I am.

This is just my sort of dyslexia. It actually comes in all different shapes and sizes, and it's pretty common. Kids with dyslexia can get really frustrated when they try to read. It can sometimes feel like you're seeing a different language to everyone else.

But there are ways to help. This is Bill.

BILL HANSBERRY: Hi Eliza

Bill's been helping me with dyslexia for a while now. Haven't you Bill?

BILL: Yeah it's been a while now hasn't it.

So Bill, how do you help kids with dyslexia?

BILL: Well Eliza, the kids I work with they know a lot of letters and sounds but because of dyslexia they get muddled. So it's my job to do a lot of un-muddling. Stuff that people without dyslexia do naturally but kids with dyslexia need to be retaught that."

Dyslexia isn't a disease, you can't catch it like a cold! It's something you're born with and it stays with you for the rest of your life. But people learn how to manage it!

In fact, you may be surprised to learn that a lot of famous people have dyslexia! This guy and even this guy! Even Albert Einstein and Walt Disney may have had dyslexia!

So having dyslexia isn't actually a bad thing, because most people with dyslexia are actually kind of smart!

BILL: "Well yeah, most people with dyslexia will tell you that school was really tough, right. But the researchers and the scientists who work on dyslexia actually think that the same wiring that makes you or gives you dyslexia actually can make you highly creative, a really fantastic problem solver, the type of person who can see the big picture. So dyslexia's not always a bad thing."

So dyslexia may not be easy, but it's a part of me! And I would not want to change that for anything!

Presenter: If you want to hear more about Eliza's story make sure you visit our website. She's put together some fantastic extra stuff. OK, let's get some sports news now with the Score.

The Score

Australia's lost its first match of the Twenty Twenty World Cup to Pakistan.

The Aussies were set a huge target of 191.

And we're on track thanks to some big hitting from Glen Maxwell.

But after his wicket fell the rest followed quickly and in the end the Aussies were 16 runs short.

Australia will play the West Indies on Friday and to make it to the semis they'll probably have to win all of their remaining games.

The NBL regular season has wrapped up with minor premiers, Perth winning at home against Wollongong.

The Adelaide 36ers also had a win over the Melbourne Tigers.

It's a bit of a warm up for the finals because the same teams will face off in the semis which start later this week.

In Netball the Waikato Bay of Plenty Magic are still unbeaten.

The Magic beat the Melbourne Vixens by 5 points.

Jo Harten and Ellen Halpenny were stand outs.

And a rare treat for Aussie Baseball fans as America's Major League season hit off in Sydney!

Both The Los Angeles Dodgers and Arizona Diamondbacks flew here to start the season on Aussie soil.

They played a two game series over the weekend with the Dodgers winning both.

Young Musos

Reporter: Matt Holbrook

INTRO: Have you ever wanted to record your own song or music video? Well in the Queensland community of Woorabinda some professional musicians have been helping kids to do just that; using music to give kids confidence and to spread

positive messages. And as Matt found out they've unearthed some impressive talents.

These kids have got serious talent. And thanks to a bit of help from professionals, they're creating some awesome music.

KID 1: Ma ma boy, dedicated to the Woorabinda.

They're from Woorabinda. It's an Aboriginal community in Queensland, where about a thousand people live. Getting kids here to go to school can be tricky. And that's where this music studio comes in, because if kids do go to school, they get the chance to come here and create their own tunes.

KID 2: Raise your hands to the ceiling right now, I need your love and support for me to figure this out.

It's a chance to talk about their lives, and the big issues that affect them. And since it was set up eighteen months ago, more than one hundred kids have got involved.

Miiesha's one of them. She's fourteen.

MIIESHA: Walk by my side is about family and like fighting and wanting to come close to each other and learning how to trust one another and respect one another.

ELIZABETH, MIIESHA'S GRANDMOTHER : "We didn't realise she had the ability to sing until she's in grade 4/5. She had been singing at the churches that she goes to in Rockhampton. She sang Amazing Grace. She sang it through the mic and in her own style which was really lovely.

Miiesha's already recorded a few songs with the studio. And thanks to the community's Youtube channel, she and the rest of the kids are helping to find a new audience!

KID 3: Put things on YouTube to show everyone what we're like, to show everyone like out of town.

The kids are involved every step of the way. It's up to them to get involved in creating the music and planning the videos. They also learn how to use the equipment with a bit of help from Stephen, who runs the studio.

STEPHEN: You can just see the amazing progression and confidence how they hold themselves in body language and that sort of stuff.

For some, it's a bit of fun. For others, their passion for music is a little more serious. But regardless of where they take their musical dreams, these kids are definitely sending a positive message and having a lot of fun along the way.

Closer

That's it for BtN. Thanks for watching. I'll see you next time.