

BtN: Episode 10 Transcript 29/4/14

Coming up

- Anzac day, through the eyes of a kid named in its honour.
- Training goannas to see cane toads as brussel sprouts.
- And meet the kids who got to show off in front of royalty.

Hey it's Nathan here and you're watching BtN. Heaps to get through today. But first let's hear about some of the biggest stories in the news this week.

The Wire

Last Friday was Anzac Day and services were held around the country and overseas to honour those who've died and served in our armed forces. A Dawn service was held at Gallipoli in Turkey to mark the moment that forces from Australian and New Zealand landed there in World War I in 1915.

Two surprise guests at the Dawn service in Canberra were the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

They were in Australia for a Royal Tour of our country Prince William, Kate and baby Prince George were only here for 9 days but it was enough time to get out and about and make a few new friends too!

Alyssa Azar who was aiming to become the youngest Aussie to reach the top of Mount Everest has had to cancel her climb.

Last week a massive avalanche hit the mountain and more than 15 sherpas were killed in the accident. Sherpas are people native to the country of Nepal and they act as guides for people who climb the mountain.

Because of the accident all Everest climbs have been stopped for this year leaving Alyssa with no choice but to come home.

And the Logies were held over the weekend! They're the awards given to the best or most popular Aussie TV shows over the last year. My Kitchen Rules won the Most Popular Reality Program, while ABC3's Nowhere Boys won most outstanding kids show.

But as for the top honour of the night the Gold Logie, that went to the host of the Block Scott Cam.

Corruption

Reporter: James Bartold

INTRO: Recently the state of New South Wales got a new leader. The Premier stepped down after controversy over a gift he'd received years before. So how can something as simple as a gift bring down an important politician? James explains.

Reporter, James Bartold: This is the story of a man called Barry, who was given a really expensive gift, from this guy Nick. Doesn't sound all that strange does it?

Well it just so happens that the guy who received the bottle of wine was the premier of NSW, Barry O'Farrell, and because of that gift years and years ago he's now lost his job.

Former NSW Premier, Barry O'Farrell: "I will be resigning the position, and enabling a new liberal leader to be elected"

Reporter: But why has getting a present led to him stepping down? Well when it comes to gifts and politics what everyone is worried about is something called corruption. That's when someone in an important position misuses their power to benefit themselves or someone they know.

In politics ministers have the power to control a lot of money. So people can try to sway their decisions by giving them things in exchange for valuable contracts. But corruption can happen in other ways too. Say you're in the police and you get given a gift to let a criminal go. That's corruption. Or you're a sports star and you purposely lose a match for money. That's corruption too. And as you can probably guess it's illegal.

In some countries corruption is a really big problem because it means not everyone gets treated fairly. Australia's got a pretty good record with corruption. There's even special commissions set up to spot it and politics is one of the areas they spend a lot of time looking at. But just receiving a gift doesn't make you a corrupt politician.

Here are some of the things politicians have been given. This minister got tickets to sport and the opera. And this one got his flight and room upgraded. Now that is not corruption. It's okay as long as these politicians don't reward the people that give them gifts and as long as they record the gifts in a special book. It's called, well let's just call it the Register. The register keeps track of all of the presents they get so we can all check they're doing the right thing.

There's no evidence the ex-Premier did anything corrupt at all, but he says he forgot receiving the bottle of wine and that's why he says he didn't put it in the register. But he stepped down anyway because he misled a special commission that's looking into corruption.

Former NSW Premier, Barry O'Farrell: "I've accepted than I've had a massive memory fail, I still can't explain either the arrival a gift that I have no recollection of, or its absence which I still can't fathom"

Reporter: So you can see even the simplest of slip ups can bring about the downfall of one of Australia's most powerful pollies.

Anzac Day

Reporters: Matthew Holbrook

INTRO: As you saw earlier, Anzac day commemorations were held on Friday. And on that day we were lucky enough to meet a young Aussie with a very special connection to it. His name is Anzac. Here's his story. But first, a warning to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewers, this story contains images of people who've died.

ANZAC: I'm Anzac. I'm the fifth person in my family with that name. There's my cousin, uncle, grandfather and great grandfather. We've all been called Anzac in memory of my great-great grandfather who fought in the First World War.

His name was Arthur Walker. He enlisted in the army in 1915. That was a big deal, because to do it, he lied about being Aboriginal and being married with kids. It was a different time, when Aboriginal people weren't even considered citizens of their own country. But Arthur was determined to fight for Australia.

Australia's first battle of the war was Gallipoli. They were told it was going to be easy, but it wasn't. My great-great grandfather joined them, as part of the tenth battalion. A lot of them died, but my great-great grandfather survived.

ANZAC: He went on to Egypt, and then to France. But soon after, he was reported missing. And in 1916, my family found out he was killed in action.

He was one of sixty thousand Australians who died in World War One. His medals were returned home to my great-great-great grandmother. And not long ago, they were given to us.

ANZAC: How long have we had these medals for?

JOHN, ANZAC'S DAD: These are the originals. We've had them for nearly two months now. These are the medals that Nanna's been looking for over fifty years. We got a phone call this year and one of our great aunties had them. She realised we were direct descendants of Arthur Thomas Walker.

It was really special for us to get them.

ANZAC: In Aboriginal culture, when you die you have to be buried where you were born. And when my great great grandfather died in France, and when we got his medals back, it felt like his spirit was with us.

The date of the Gallipoli landing, the 25th of April, became known as Anzac Day. And every year since, people have remembered it.

ANZAC: Anzac Day's not just about Gallipoli, it's about those who have died in all wars.

My dad and I take part every year, wearing the medals that belonged to my great-great grandfather. While I won't ever really know what it must have been like for Arthur, fighting in far-away places all those years ago, it's important to me and my family to remember him and the sacrifices he made. It's why I'm proud to be called Anzac.

Presenter: Thanks Anzac.

Online Poll

Okay poll time now.

This time we want to know what you got up to on Friday.

We want to know.

Did you attend an Anzac service this year?

Our website is the place to vote.

Quiz 1

Next up we're going to meet some kids who have a lot to tell you about pain.

But first let's do a quiz about it.

How fast do pain signals travel through the body?

100m/s

70m/s

or 60cm/s

Answer: 60cm/s

Yep, pain signals are actually pretty slow. So if you jam your hand in a door, you will feel the sensation of it before you feel the pain.

Kids in Pain

Reporter: Emma Davis

INTRO: Now imagine living life with pain in your body that never really stops. That's what it's like for many kids around Australia. But a new website is hoping to help. Here's Emma.

SAM: Ok so my name is Sam Doyle, I'm seventeen years old.

LAUREN: Hi, I'm Lauren. I'm thirteen years old

ANNA: Hi, my name is Anna. I'm eighteen years old.

BAYLY: Um, I'm Bayly. I'm eleven.

EMMA DAVIS, REPORTER: These kids are all very different but they have one thing in common: They know all too well what it's like to be in pain.

LAUREN: "I don't like it, I think pain is one of those things that shouldn't exist, but it does. It sucks, it stops you from doing heaps of things. So I really don't like it."

BAYLY: "Pain to me is a pain in the butt."

REPORTER: It's with them as they relax, and with them at school. It was even there as they recorded these videos. And the worst part is there are heaps of kids right around Australia who suffer this kind of constant pain. So what's going wrong?

Pain is a signal that's sent from a part of the body to the brain to tell you something's up.

There are two categories of pain: acute pain lasts a short time. It's the pain we're all used to feeling. It's mostly caused by an injury or if you get sick. But then there's

chronic pain which lasts a lot longer. It could be because of a sickness that doesn't go away or maybe the nervous system isn't working properly. Whatever the cause, it means the pain sticks around.

LAUREN: "It's very difficult sometimes I go through phases where it gets a bit better and then it goes a bit worse but since the website has come out it's made a huge difference."

These videos are part of a new website for kids that live with pain every day. Lauren hopes it'll help kids with chronic pain to feel that they're not alone.

LAUREN: "It makes me feel um sad when people, you know, think that you're healthy and they can't see you on the inside. And no matter how many times you can try to tell people they, some people just don't get it."

Bayly also wanted to help other kids with chronic pain. He says going to school can be tough for kids like him.

BAYLY: "It's Um, sort of hard because you'd still be in pain but you'd get to see your friends and they'd help distract you and all the work would distract you."

Activities outside of school can be even tougher.

LAUREN: "Netball is like my favourite sport. Ah I love playing it but it was really hard."

But these guys say despite the pain, getting into sport and other fun activities is actually a good way to help.

BAYLY: "When I ride a horse it distracts me from the pain and it doesn't hurt."

SAM: "I think the thing about physical activity especially is that it's a great way just to release any tensions that you might have."

LAUREN: "You've been, you know sitting around for months and you need to try and get back into the swing of things."

For these guys, pain is something that's a part of their life. But thanks to this website, and the videos they helped to make, they're able to connect to other people in the same situation.

LAUREN: "Yeah it does, it makes you feel like you're not alone."

And that can make everything a little less painful.

Presenter: Great work guys.

Toad Training

Reporters: Matthew Holbrook

INTRO: Now, we all know cane toads are pests. But lately they've been making an even bigger pest of themselves by killing goannas. Goannas see the toads as lunch, but because they're poisonous the meal doesn't end well. So how do you stop goannas chowing down? Matt's got the plan.

MATTHEW HOLBROOK, REPORTER: These rangers are on a mission. On the ground and in the air, they're tracking down an important native animal.

RANGER: This is Lizzy.

RANGER 2: She's a female.

Lizzy's a goanna. She's one of forty fitted with a radio tracking device. Rangers want to protect goannas like Lizzy from a dangerous threat, the cane toad. They're not pretty, they're not nice, and they're not good for our environment. They're an introduced species and they're becoming a bigger problem all the time.

They first came to Australia in the nineteen thirties. Scientists brought them in to Queensland from South America to eat beetles that were annoying sugar cane farmers. The toads liked their new home a little too much, and they quickly got out of control! Toad populations grew and grew, and with no predators to stop them, they've been spreading across Australia ever since.

Australia doesn't exactly have the greatest history with introduced animals. Rabbits, foxes and cats have all had a big impact on our environment. But cane toads are right up there with the very worst! They eat everything from dog food to mice and because they're poisonous, when native animals eat them it spells trouble.

No-one's come up with an effective way of putting a stop to these pests, not that these kids are going to give up just yet.

But if you can't stop them, these rangers feel the next best option is to protect the native animals toads come into contact with.

After tracking down the goannas, they're giving them a tiny taste of toad, just enough to make them sick.

GEORGIA WARD-FEAR, SYDNEY UNIVERSITY: Basically we're trying to expose the goannas to non lethal doses of toad toxin just before the front arrives, and yeah,

hopefully they will learn that that's not a good thing to attack and eat. When the large toads come through, they'll avoid them.

Scientists say it's a bit like how some of us feel about brussel sprouts!

DR DAVID PEARSON, WA DEPT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE: You are so affected by eating that you vow never to eat one ever again and that lasts with you. That's a learning experience, taste aversion learning experience. So it's a bit the same. If they eat a small toad, it doesn't taste nice, they feel ill but it doesn't kill them.

So far it's a tactic that seems to be working, with lots of the goannas already keen to take toads off the menu.

GEORGIA WARD-FEAR, SYDNEY UNIVERSITY: That head flicking, when she got close and she's head flicking that was no, she wasn't up for it. So she's eaten the toad and she's, we've never got her to eat another toad. She's one of our star pupils.

And hopefully it's a lesson more of our native animals will learn. At least until there's a way to put a stop to this ugly problem.

Quiz 2

Okay: Toad quiz!

How many eggs can female cane toads lay in one season?

3

3,000

or 30,000

The answer: 30,000

No wonder they're such a pest.

Okay, did you struggle to catch up on all the sport over the long weekend?

We've got you covered.

The Score

Brisbane and Western Sydney will battle it out in this weekend's A-League grand final.

The Wanderers cruised into their second straight grand final with a 2 nil win over last year's premiers the Central Coast Mariners.

It wasn't as easy for Brisbane just sneaking through after a controversial clash against Melbourne.

The Roar went ahead with only few minutes left.

But Melbourne fought back and could have even been given a penalty to level the game.

But the referee decided it wasn't a foul and the Roar went through to their third grand final in four years.

The race is still on for the English Premier League after league leaders Liverpool lost 2 nil to Chelsea.

It opens the door for Manchester City, who are now favourites. Although any slip up in their remaining games would mean Chelsea and Liverpool could be right back in it.

And can you imagine running a marathon? Well what about 20 in a week?

That's what two mates Shane and Tim have done. They ran from the coast of Tasmania all the way to Sydney.

The two guys made the 900 k trek over eight days to raise money for Children's Cancer Research.

Royal Performers

Reporter: Natasha Thiele

INTRO: As you saw earlier Prince William, Kate and their little baby George have been touring Australia. They met lots of politicians and other dignitaries. But what's it like to meet them as a kid and even perform for them? Tash found out.

NATASHA THIELE, REPORTER: These guys are part of the Elizabeth Riders Committee in Adelaide and flipping and twirling their bikes and scooters is what they

do best. But a little while ago, they were busy practising for something special. A royal visit from Prince William and Kate; the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge!

REPORTER: How you feeling about it all?

BRADLEY: Yeah it's pretty exciting, it's different.

REPORTER: How about you guys?

JAKE: Yeah it's not something we'd come across everyday is it, yeah it's something pretty good to me.

Practising their performance wasn't the only thing they had to prepare for. They had to learn how to act around the Royals as well.

LUKE: We just practised how we stand, how we speak to them, how we approach them and stuff.

The big day finally came and it was Luke who had the special job of telling Will and Kate what they're all about.

LUKE: They were so nice and friendly just easy going like easy to talk to.

He even helped present a skateboard to them with Prince George's name on it!

The group performed their tricks and straight after they got the chance to meet the Duke and Duchess up close!

REPORTER: Alright Bradley, so you got to meet the Royals. How was it?

BRADLEY: It was good. He asked a lot of questions and he was, we weren't expecting to talk to him so it was good.

REPORTER: What did he ask you?

BRADLEY: He asked us, just if it hurts when we fall off and he asked us, he'd seen a few scars on us so he asked what they were from and we told him. He guessed it was from riding so yeah.

REPORTER: Did you ask him to have a go?

ANDREW: Nah I didn't want to. (JAKE: A bit weird when he came up to us hey) I was like nervous I didn't know what to say so I was pretty happy I got to meet him.

REPORTER: And what did he say to you or did you say to him?

NATHAN: I was a bit speechless as well so I was just like hello sort of thing, explain how to do a back flip but that's about it.

So why have Will and Kate come all the way from the UK to visit us? I can give you a tip; it's not to learn about back flips.

REPORTER: Royals like the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have a special connection with countries like Australia.

That's because Australia is part of the Commonwealth of Nations and has the Queen as our head of state. So for the Royal family, it's important they go around meeting people in those countries especially Prince William, who could one day be our king. But for these guys, a visit from the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge wasn't just about performing for royalty. It was about showcasing their talents to Australia and the world!

Closer

Right that's it from us today. But you can fill the void by visiting our website. Kids, leave a comment or two in the forums and vote in our poll. And teachers, there's heaps of resources and even lesson plans. And as always anyone can hit me up anytime using the hashtag BehindTheNews. We'll be back next week. See you then!