

# BtN: Episode 19 Transcript 22/7/14

Coming up:

- Coal power; is it too cheap for us to give up on?
- We take a look at the stuff muscling in on young athletes diets.
- And meet Flynn, the kid turning old parts into works of art.

Hi I'm Nathan and this is BtN.

All that stuff coming up later. But first let's go straight to the tragic news this week of the Malaysian Airlines flight that was shot down over Ukraine. Here's what we know so far.

## The Wire

298 people were killed; Including 37 Australian citizens and residents, when a passenger jet was deliberately shot down. The Malaysian airlines plane known as MH17 was travelling over Ukraine, where there's been a lot of fighting going on recently.

Authorities reckon the plane was hit by a missile fired from the ground. And our PM, Tony Abbott has blamed Pro-Russian rebels for the attack. They've taken over the crash area and are controlling who's allowed in and out. The Australian government's not happy about it and has asked for all countries and organisations to work together to find out what happened and why.

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To the Middle East and things have gotten really serious between Israelis and Palestinians. After ten days of fighting along the border of Gaza, Israel sent troops in. Hundreds of Palestinians have now died since the fighting began. But Israel says it's defending itself from rocket attacks launched out of Gaza.

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Kids at a school in Adelaide are trying to get their friends back after they were taken to an immigration centre in Darwin more three weeks ago. Their classmates Dung and Yui are from Vietnam.

They're trying to stay in Australia as refugees. But a few weeks ago they were picked up by immigration officials and moved all the way here to Darwin's Wickham Point detention centre.

Steve Nguyen: "we didn't even have a chance to say goodbye. That's very hard for some of us".

Students at the school have now started a petition asking the government to release their classmates.

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And this weekend marked 45 years since man first landed on the moon.

NEIL ARMSTRONG, ASTRONAUT: I'm stepping off now. It's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind

On July 20th, 1969 people around the world watched as American astronauts, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin put footprints on another world. It was a huge moment in history.

## New Senate

Reporter: Matt Holbrook

*INTRO: Over the holidays some new senators started their first term in federal parliament's upper house. Usually these new members go under the radar for a while they learn the ropes. But these senators made headlines from day one because they already have more power than some political veterans. Matt explains why.*

Who do you reckon are the new power players in politics?

BOY 1: Are they in Labor?

BOY 2: No.

BOY 1: So are they from the Coalition?

BOY 2: Nope

That's right, they're not from a major party.

BOY 1: So they've got to be with the greens, right?

BOY 2: Wrong again!

BOY 1: That leaves me with all these random people. Hang on, do they have something to do with the balance of power?

BOY 2: Yes!

That's what this group hold. We'll meet them in a moment. But first, what's so important about them? Well, they're members of the Senate. For the government to introduce a new bill, the senate has to vote on it. Without their approval it can't go through. At the moment, no one party has a majority in the Senate. So the government has to rely on people from minor parties to help pass laws and make things happen. That means these senators hold the balance of power!

Let's find out more about them. Most of them have just arrived in the Senate after last year's election. And three of them belong to Clive Palmer's Party. First up is retired rugby League star, Glen Lazarus. He's known as the brick with eyes...

There's Jacqui Lambie, a former Aussie soldier, who's got a bit of a way with words.

JACQUI LAMBIE, PUP: If you want to come into the kennel with the pups, prepared to be chewed up, and spat back out.

And Dio Wang.

SARAH FERGUSON, 7:30: How would you describe your politics before you joined Palmer United Party?

DIO WANG, PUP: My politics? Zero.

SARAH FERGUSON, 7:30: Zero?

DIO WANG, PUP: Yep.

There's also Bob Day from the Family First party, David Leyonhjelm, who used to be a vet, and he's pretty big on rural issues. And car lover, Ricky Muir, who recently had to buy his first suit!

RICKY MUIR, AUSTRALIAN MOTORING ENTHUSIAST PARTY: I've got some nice clothing, but I haven't got a suit yet, but I will get one.

Those six join senators Nick Xenophon and John Madigan in holding the balance of power. It's a pretty good position they find themselves in. They will get a final say on many of the government's laws. And if they want something changed, no problems! They can negotiate it in exchange for their support.

Recently, we saw just how powerful that support can be. The government needed help in the senate to get rid of the carbon tax. But when Clive Palmer wasn't happy with how they were going about it, he and his party pulled the plug on the deal. Eventually, it did go through, with the changes the Palmer United Party wanted. So as you can see, with a bunch of new senators in the game, and a lot of big decisions to make there are sure to be some interesting times in Parliament House ahead.

## Quiz 1

Yes there will.

Now let's stay with the senate for our first quiz.

The question: How many senators are there in Australia's federal parliament?

56

76

96

The answer - 76

## Australian Energy

Reporter: Matt Holbrook

*INTRO: Now what is it that powers Australia? Well if you're talking electrical power the answer is definitely coal. Burning coal produces a lot of electricity but it also produces a lot of greenhouse gasses and pollution too. That's why the Government is aiming to reduce our use of coal in the future. But some people say it won't be that easy. Here's Matt to explain why.*

Here in Australia we're known for our sunny weather and nice beaches.

MATT HOLBROOK, REPORTER: Well, maybe not so much during winter. Can I go now?

But all this sun, and our natural windswept beaches aren't just pretty pictures. Both can be used to create electricity. Today, solar panels and wind farms are harnessing more and more of this natural power. But that's not where the majority of Australia's power comes from.

Most of the electricity that powers our towns and cities actually comes from deep beneath the ground. I'm talking about coal. Here in Australia, we've got lots of it, and burning it creates around 80 per cent of our electricity. So it's this black stuff that really powers Australia.

Coal is mined right around Australia. In fact, we've got so much of it, more than half of what we mine is sent overseas. Having this much coal available makes it really cheap for us to use to generate power. But price isn't everything. There are some big drawbacks to coal that can't be ignored.

Burning coal pollutes the atmosphere, and there is only so much of it under the ground. So eventually, coal supplies will run out. A few years ago, the last government decided we should move away from coal for those reasons. They committed to making sure 20 per cent of our energy came from renewable sources by 2020.

That means less coal, and more wind, solar and other new technologies. The benefit is that these sources don't have as much impact on the environment, and can be useful for a long, long time. But as we get closer to 2020, meeting that target is looking unlikely.

One of the big problems is that renewable energy costs more than coal. While we don't have to pay for the sun, or the wind, the technology to capture these types of renewable energy can be pricey. So that would mean price rises for all of us if we moved away from coal. And with electricity prices already on the rise, some politicians are really keen to stick with coal for a bit longer.

That's one of the reasons why the 20 per cent renewable energy target is currently being reviewed. And some people are worried the target will end up being reduced or ignored entirely, which they say is bad news for the environment. But with the alternative being bad news for our wallets, it seems Australia's energy future is still up in the air.

## Online Poll

Right, let's go to you guys on this one.

Should Australia use more renewable energy, even if it makes power bills rise?

Our website is the place to vote.

Before the holidays we asked you if walking while texting should be made illegal. We got a huge response from you on this one. Out of around 6000 votes most of you thought it probably should be. As always thanks for voting!

# Korean War

Reporter: Amy Watson

*INTRO: This weekend is 61 years since the end of the Korean War. It's a war not many Australian kids would have heard about. But hundreds of Aussie soldiers died during it. So to find out more we sent Rookie Reporter Amy over to South Korea. Here's her report.*

AMY: This is South Korea. It's a pretty cool country with amazing palaces, interesting markets and even some fancy shops! That's where me and these other guys got to visit recently. But we weren't there to see the sights. We were there to learn more about a war that Australia helped fight here more than 60 years ago.

It was called the Korean War because the two halves of Korea were fighting against each other, North Korea versus South Korea. South Korea needed help so countries like the US and Australia got involved. 17,000 Aussies came over and 340 were killed here.

We were lucky enough to be there on ANZAC Day to commemorate the Battle of Kapyong. We were told that battle was the most important that Australia fought in. The other side were trying to get to the capital of South Korea but Aussie soldiers did an amazing job stopping them.

Later on we visited a war cemetery. Here we spent some time looking at the names of some of the Aussies that died here. It was pretty moving. But one of the most amazing parts of the trip was going to the border of North and South Korea. Even now, so many years on, things are pretty tense between North and South Korea. So they have a bit of land between them where there's no fighting allowed!

If you look on this map, it's this bit. It's called the demilitarized zone. It's about 4 kilometres wide and 250 kilometres long. It's mostly used for meetings between the two countries now, in buildings like this! While there is a lot of military stuff at the border, there are also prayer ribbons everywhere! People put them here asking for peace.

During this trip, we learnt a lot about a war that I had no idea Australia was involved in and hopefully now you know a bit more about it too.

Presenter: Thanks Amy.

## Quiz 2

Okay let's quiz you on South Korea now.

South Korea is home to the world's fastest what?

Is it

Train

Internet Speeds

or Long Distance Runner

The answer is: Internet Speeds

Yep, South Korea has the fastest average internet connection in the world.

Australia is way down the list in comparison.

## Sports Supplements

Reporter: Emma Davis

*INTRO: Now, A new study has found that sport supplements, like protein powders, are increasingly being used by young Aussie athletes. Some take them to try to improve their performances while others take them to try to look better but experts say they can actually be harmful for kids. Emma found out why.*

**ANGUS:** Hi I'm Angus and I want to be a professional footballer. For breakfast I usually have cereal or toast. For lunch I usually have a ham sandwich. And for dinner I have grilled chicken with salad.

**EMMA DAVIS, REPORTER:** Angus is serious about making it to the top. So he works hard and eats a balanced diet. But a new study's found some kids are trying to get that same nutritional edge in another way and it's got nutritionists worried. This is what we're talking about. Protein Powders, bars, and other things like them. They're called sport supplements. They're designed for adult athletes to help them perform better, build up muscle and recover quicker. But a recent study found a third of kids who play elite sport say they take them too. For some kids, it's about improving their performance.

**ZAC:** There's quite a few people who do use supplements.

**GAB:** I used to use protein powder after a workout, after a strengthening workout

For others, it's about trying to improve how they look.

SAM: There's always the feeling that girls are after the guy with the biggest arms and the best abs and whatever.

FINIAN: Everyone just wants the easiest way to get that look. They don't really care how they get there.

Most experts want kids to stay away from them. To find out why I went to visit Karina who's a sports dietician.

REPORTER: So maybe start off by explaining why is it so bad if kids have supplements?

KARINA: Well for children a healthy balanced diet is the most important thing to focus on getting all the five food groups is really important for them in order to provide them with the vitamins and minerals and everything the energy that they need to get through the day whether it's in the classroom or out on the sporting field. Supplements won't provide any additional development as long as their diet is fine.

REPORTER: Kids still want to be big and strong so what can they have instead of taking supplements like this?

KARINA: So the best way Emma for children to become big and strong and perform to the best of their ability is to start the day with a great healthy breakfast, we've got some wholegrain breads and cereals and dairy products and fruit and to continue through the day with lots of fresh fruits and vegetables, basically sticking to the five food groups with as many wholesome foods as they can.

So like Karina says, there are heaps of healthy options out there that can still help you grow big and strong and make it to the big time!

## The Score

Sport time now. Here's the latest big results.

The AFL launched multicultural round on the weekend to celebrate the diversity of Australia. There were heaps of events and competitions around the country. The league even started selling official head-scarfs in team colours!

Right now, there are 112 AFL players who have a least one parent who was born overseas!

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It was a big round for the NRL this weekend as well. More than a hundred thousand fans turned out to support Alex McKinnon who suffered a really bad spinal injury playing for the Newcastle Knights four months ago.

The NRL donated one dollar from every ticket sold. All up, it's estimated that more than a million dollars has been raised for Alex's treatment.

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To tennis now and Aussie Bernard Tomic has taken out the Claro Open in Columbia. Tomic beat Croatian Ivo Karlovic 7-6, 3-6, 7-6 to grab his second career title. The win should push him back within the top 100 men's players.

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And the Commonwealth Games are upon us! More than 400 Aussies will compete this year which is our biggest team ever!

But some of them are already in a bit of trouble. Runners Sally Pearson and Alex Rowe And discus thrower Benn Harradine have been fined. Because they were late to a pre-games training camp! They chose to compete in a warm up comp instead.

And you'd have to say it was a good choice for Alex he managed to equal the Australian record for the 800 metres.

## Metalwork Kid

Reporter: Matt Holbrook

*INTRO: Finally today, a young artist with a serious health condition has just been awarded a grant to take his work to the next level. He's a metal sculptor, who takes old metal junk and turns it into amazing art. Matt met him to find out how he does it.*

Inside this shed, rusty old car parts are being transformed into something new. Flynn's fifteen and he uses recycled metal parts to create works of art.

FLYNN: When I see old car parts lying around, I don't like them going to waste. It's such a beautiful shape and a good material and it would just be a shame if it all went to waste. I'd really like to use that, great material.

Flynn's got a serious health condition, and there are some things he can't do, like sport. But it led to him giving metal work a try.

FLYNN: I have an underlying heart condition called primary pulmonary hypertension. What that does is it puts a lot of pressure on my right side of the lungs

and my heart, and that in turn makes everything work a little harder. So I can't be involved in any physical sports, so this is a good alternative for me.

So while other kids were doing PE, Flynn used that time to create sculptures.

FLYNN: The Special Ed teacher there had studied engineering, and so we got together and decided to make a sculpture out of old car parts.

And he's been hooked ever since.

FLYNN: I like metal, I like engines, anything that rolls, bangs or explodes, really.

For Flynn, it all starts with finding the right parts with a bit of help from mum and dad.

FLYNN: We find car parts and motorbike parts, and we then bring them back here and clean them. I then plan out the sculpture I'm going to make in my head, then maybe research a bit, I start the first part, and it all goes from there.

Once he's chosen the parts he needs, he uses an angle grinder to clean up the rusted bits, and then welds it all together piece by piece.

This was Flynn's very first sculpture, a fisherman!

MATT: Flynn, this is pretty amazing, but where do you get your ideas from? When you see a car, how do you go "I can definitely turn that into a fisherman", for instance?

FLYNN: Well, I'm really drawn to certain shapes, I like strong lines. I collect most parts that are the right shape and good materials. Once I have that I start making a sculpture. If I think it really works, I'll pick up that part and that will go along with it.

Flynn's fisherman was such a big success, it won some awards! And since then, he's been flat out creating new pieces.

FLYNN: I've sold a lot of my work, everything but the first piece, so I think I'll keep that. Because it's my first piece, it's got a place in my heart.

Flynn would like to make sculpting a career. And to help him do that, an art group has given him their support and funding to buy new equipment. For now, Flynn just wants to share his art with as many people as he can.

FLYNN: I'd love to go on and make more stuff. I want to go somewhere with my work, exhibit around the world really, that'd be the dream, that'd be ideal.

## Closer

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And that brings us to the end of the show. We'll be back next week but in the meantime don't forget to jump onto our website to have your say on our stories this week and vote in our Renewable Energy poll. See you next time!