

# BtN: Episode 29 Transcript 21/10/14

Coming up.

- The government announces its 20 year plan for Antarctica but why do penguins and ice need a plan?
- Find out about the city thinking about banning cat freedom.
- And meet the kids taking part in a beach cricket tournament in the far north of Western Australia.

Hey it's Nathan here and you're watching BtN.

All that stuff is coming up really soon.

But first to Anti-Poverty Week.

## Poverty Week

Reporter: Natasha Thiele

*INTRO: Events were held around the nation last week to raise awareness about those suffering poverty in Australia. A new report says nearly 14 percent of people in this nation are living below the poverty line and that number is even higher for kids. It's a problem the girl in our next story is desperate to do something about. She experienced poverty and homelessness growing up. Now she's trying to help other young people in the same situation. Here's Tash with her story.*

**NATASHA THIELE, REPORTER:** This is Sarah and she is really passionate about what she does. She's a youth ambassador for an organisation called Hypa that helps young homeless people find a place to live. The organisation was one of many taking part in this Anti-Poverty Week event. People could get a free meal, a haircut, even a health check! For Sarah, it was about meeting people who are keen to get their life back on track.

**SARAH:** Our main focus is on youth homelessness so we have a lot of services available for people to be able to come in and get help in getting off the street or getting advice on what they can do in whatever situation it is that they're coming from.

It's something Sarah knows all about too. She used to be homeless.

**SARAH:** So there was just a lot of conflict going on at home which meant that I was unable to stay there and I found myself on the street and couch surfing around, all around Australia. So I came to Hypa and they really helped me to create a plan, get into housing and to also focus on my future which is something that I think I really felt really robbed on being on the street because you're focusing on where you're

going to eat that night or where you're going to stay. You don't have that long-term view so being able to start to focus on where I'm going to get an education and where I'm going to be in two years was just the most amazing thing for me.

In Australia, Sarah's story is more common than you might think. A new report found that more than 2-and-a-half million Aussies don't have enough money to buy the things they really need and around 600-thousand kids are living in poverty. Sarah says she'd like everyone to remember that homelessness and poverty can affect anyone at anytime in their life.

SARAH: And I think it's just important for the community to know that they're not there because it's their own fault. The majority of the time they're there because they've been through incredibly painful situations. I think the biggest thing is just talking about it and letting your friends know that if there's ever any issue going on in their life that they can talk to you about it.

And she says there is lots of things kids can do to help stop poverty too.

SARAH: I think volunteering is a big one so try and figure out what services there are in your area and see if they can, you know, reach out to them. See if they need any help doing food drives and stuff like that or even running fundraisers to be able to donate to some services. There's so much that they can do to help, even within their schools if they wanna, you know, do a clothes drive or donate, you know, canned food or clothing or stuff like that. Every tiny little bit helps.

Which can make a big different to someone's life.

Presenter: Okay, let's see what else happened this week. Here's the wire.

## The Wire

Prime Minister Tony Abbott raised some eyebrows last week when he said this about Russian President Vladimir Putin.

TONY ABBOTT, PRIME MINISTER: Look I'm going to shirt front the President, you bet you are, you bet I am.

Prime Minister Abbott's not happy with the role Russia played in the attack on Malaysia Airlines plane MH17 which killed everyone onboard including 36 Australians.

But he's copped a lot of criticism for the comment because most people know 'shirt fronting' as a sports term meaning 'to ram someone really hard so they hit the ground'.

Of course the PM didn't actually mean he's going to tackle the Russian President.

He says he'll have strong words with him instead.

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New rules that would've banned women from wearing burkas in the Parliament House public gallery have been scrapped.

The rules were announced earlier this month after some politicians said they were worried about safety.

The original ban made a lot of people unhappy and caused a big debate.

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A 13-year-old surfer has survived a shark attack on the New South Wales central coast.

Kirra-Belle was bitten on the calf and the foot by a one metre shark.

She took it all in good humour though.

Saying she got what she deserved because she dropped in on the Shark's wave.

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And the winner of this year's Wakakirri festival has been announced.

Aberfoyle Hub R-7 School in South Australia took out story of the year for their performance 'The Window Within'.

It tells the story of a young girl and her battle between positive and negative thoughts.

## Antarctic Future

Reporter: Emma Davis

*INTRO: Now recently, the federal government released a 20 year strategic plan for Antarctica. The plan set out the things Australia needs to do to become a world leader in research way down south. But why do we even care about research in Antarctica? Well we have more of a stake in the place than you might realise. Here's Emma.*

It's home to penguins, seals, whales and these creatures too - scientists! And for all of them this place is paradise. About 7 thousand kays south of Australia lies Antarctica. It's the coldest, driest, windiest place on earth, so it sort of makes you wonder why scientists love coming here! But experts have actually been coming here for a really long time.

Research done in the early 1900s by explorers like Sir Douglas Mawson helped map the icy continent for future expeditions. Then in 1959, a few countries realised they needed to work together to take care of Antarctica so they created the Antarctic Treaty. It's an international agreement, signed by 12 countries. The treaty has a lot of rules and conditions, like no weapons testing or military practices, free sharing of

information between countries and free access to all of Antarctica for scientific purposes. A lot of other countries have joined the treaty since it was created but only a small number claim parts of Antarctica as national territory.

As you can see on this map, Australia claims about 40 per cent of Antarctica and we've used that area to do lots of important research in the past, mostly to do with climate change. About 90 percent of the world's ice is locked up here and when ice freezes, it also traps air bubbles and other particles within it. So if you drill down you can get a record of what the climate used to be like when that patch of ice froze. Scientists reckon they might even be able to find ice from a million years ago which will give them a better idea of how the Earth's climate has changed over time. Australia should be leading the world with that kind of research, but a new report says we're in danger of falling behind.

This is the report and it says the Antarctic program is struggling because of a lack of funding. But according to this, the problem can be fixed! One of the key recommendations is to get a new ice breaker. That's a really strong ship, designed to push its way through ice-covered waters. We already use one at the moment, called the Aurora Australis, but the report says it's time we upgraded! Another recommendation is to have more researchers actually stationed down there. You remember our special Antarctic territory? Well other countries have started putting their own research stations on our area too. It's not against the law but it could lead to them making really important discoveries that Australia should have made.

The federal government's already responded by announcing they'll be buying a new icebreaker and putting forward more money for research but experts say they still need a lot more support to help them uncover the secrets that lie within this amazing landscape.

Presenter: And that brings us to our first quiz.

## Quiz 1

The question is: Who was the first person to reach the South Pole?

Douglas Mawson

Roald Amundsen

Ernest Shackleton

Answer: Roald Amundsen

## Cat Ban

Reporter: Natasha Thiele

*INTRO: Okay, now heaps of Australian households have cats. They're the second most popular pet in this country behind dogs. But while they might be great*

*companions for us, they're also a huge danger to small native animals if they are allowed to roam free. So one Australian city is looking at requiring all cat owners to lock them up. Tash has more.*

**NATASHA THIELE, REPORTER:** This coffee-coloured moggie has a playful personality and an obsession with mince meat! His name's Sebastian and he's Zoe's family pet.

**ZOE, CAT OWNER:** He's really loving and caring and he is also very snuggly and fluffy. He even has his own Instagram account. It's called 'Cheeky\_Ragdoll' and basically it's about Sebastian and only him and it's when he's tired or when he's angry or just when he's being playful.

But for pet cats like Sebastian who live in Canberra, life could be about to change! There's talk of banning all pet cats from roaming free in our nation's capital. That means their owners need to keep them inside or put them in a special enclosure like this all the time. One of the main reasons why they're looking at it is to stop cats hunting native animals. While cats might look soft and cuddly, they're actually incredibly efficient killers. Against them, most small native mammals, birds and reptiles don't stand a chance. So keeping cats inside helps to keep thousands of native animals safe in the wild.

Conservationists and even some cat owners think it's a good idea. Because not only will it protect native wildlife, it will also allow cats to live longer and healthier lives. They won't be able to get involved in cat fights, become lost or get hurt or killed on the roads. But other cat owners disagree. They think it's cruel to keep cats locked up because it's part of their nature to be free. And some cat owners don't think they should have to pay for an enclosure.

Canberra's not the only city with cat laws. Some other areas have curfews, which stops cats going out at night. But if Canberra's cat ban goes ahead, it will be an Australian first. That might still be a few years away, but it does raise some interesting questions. So what do you think about the idea?

**ELLA:** I think that they should be because otherwise they can get out and kill our native animals and it's important that they don't. But the bad thing about that is they deserve their freedom as much as we do.

**ALEXI:** Not all cats go for like native animals and I think what they're planning to do is cruel. I reckon like they should let them stay inside at night but let them roam around in morning.

**JOSIE:** I don't agree with it because I feel that they need to be in their own environment.

**MARLON:** Well I partly agree with the law because if cats are outside they can get lost, get run over, kill native animals things like that but also it'll be cruel to always keep them always inside because their natural habitat is like outdoors in the sun and stuff and roaming around.

## Online Poll

And just remember, you can add Sebastian the cat from the start of that story on Instagram. He's called 'cheeky underscore ragdoll' and he's worth a follow. Okay back to the main issue, what do you think about the idea of a cat ban?

That's our poll Question this week.

Should pet cats be kept inside?

To vote just head to our website.

And now to our results from last week.

We asked if Muslim women should be allowed to wear burkas in public places.

And a slim majority went with yes.

Thanks for voting!

## Beach Cricket

Reporter: Emma Davis

*INTRO: It's starting to get closer to summer now and one of the things that goes perfectly with summer is a spot of beach cricket. So an Aussie foundation is using a beach cricket tournament to encourage kids to come to school each day. Since its introduction, absenteeism has been hit for six. Emma found out more.*

A day out at the beach playing some cricket with your mates? Sounds like a pretty awesome way to spend the day! But this isn't just any old match of beach cricket. These kids have travelled up to a thousand kilometres from Indigenous communities across the Kimberly to take part in a cricket carnival on Cable Beach in W-A. These guys are part of Clontarf - a foundation that uses sports like cricket to motivate kids to attend school. The rule is no school, no sport!

Boy: I've been involved since year eight, two years ago and when I came I didn't know what to expect, but throughout the years it's been good, they've really helped me out a lot, getting to school.

Boy: You have to come to school every day and have a good behaviour.

Boy: Turn up at the right time and be responsible for ourselves.

The foundation began around 15 years ago with just one academy and 25 boys. Now it's grown to 59 academies with more than 3000 students! As well as organising sport before class the foundation helps them with school, work and their health. It's also good for kids hoping to become athletes! Some kids in the AFL and NRL versions of Clontarf have already made it into professional teams so now they're hoping to find some future cricket stars too!

SHAUN MARSH, CRICKETER: A lot of these kids haven't really played the game before. I guess they've been brought up with an AFL background and if we can come out here and help them learn the game of cricket and have a bit of fun and just have a

chat with them I think they've really enjoyed it and I have really enjoyed coming up here today and being a part of this.

As part of the program, each student gets coaching and some practice games. Then they get to take part in a big tournament like this!

Kid: It's great to be out and playing some good sports.

Kid: I've been playing like for a few months and I've been evolving more for like bowling.

Kid: how to keep my arm straight, how to bowl and how to field.

Kid: I've learnt that it's all about team leadership and team building skills.

Kid: The best part is you get to have fun as well.

Shaun: If we can get these kids into cricket, it's only going to help future indigenous Australian cricketers down the track.

And hopefully it won't be long before we see some of these guys don the famous baggy green!

## Quiz 2

Okay, we've got a bit of time before the score. So let's squeeze in another quiz.

The biggest crowd to attend a sporting event in Australia is 205,000.

What were they watching?

The AFL Grand Final

The Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix

Or Athletics at the Sydney Olympics

Answer: The Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix

That huge number was recorded when the Grand Prix was held in Adelaide back in 1995.

Time for the score now. Here it is.

## The Score

In an announcement that surprised a lot of people star rugby league player Jarryd Hayne has quit the NRL to play American rules football in the United States!

Jarryd played for the Paramatta Eels.

And this year won the Dally M medal - Rugby League's best and fairest award.

Jarryd says playing in the NFL has always been a dream of his.

But experts say it'll be a big ask!

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On the field, things were starting to look better for the Wallabies.

They only lost by a point to the top rated New Zealand All Blacks on Saturday night.

But after the match people were shocked when it was announced the Wallabies coach had quit the team.

Ewan Mackenzie had apparently had enough of all the criticism he'd been getting in the media because he thought it was starting to affect what the players thought of him.

Rugby bosses say they'll start looking for a new coach as soon as possible.

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To the A League and this weekend's second round was the league's most successful round yet!

More than 106 thousand people went along to games across the country which is a new attendance record for soccer in Australia.

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The Masters Games, a competition for adults of all ages, was held last week.

And one of the athletes taking part was 92 year old swimmer Trudy.

Trudy: I felt quite good actually but the water is a bit chilly.

Despite the cold she picked up four gold medals.

And set two Masters records!

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And remember that Tassie teenager who broke the national 100 metre record a few weeks ago?

Well over the weekend he beat his own time!

Jack Hale's run was clocked at 10 point four-two seconds.

JACK: I'm extremely happy now that I can kind of say to people who said it was only a one time sort of thing.



Amazingly Jack's even better at long-jump.

For his age he's ranked number one in the world!

## Paddle Steamers

Reporter: Natasha Thiele

*INTRO: Finally today, moving stuff around the country like food, mail or building materials is pretty easy these days. It can be driven on roads, chucked on trains or flown around the place. But back in Australia's early days, you couldn't do any of those things so paddle steam boats were the answer! Fourteen year old Jackson is so passionate about them he's in training to captain one. Here he is to tell us more about them.*

JACKSON: Hello I'm Jackson and I'm a deckhand on the PS Industry. I've been interested in the Industry or in all paddle steamers on the Murray River since I was about three years old and we'd come down there to feed the ducks. But I wasn't interested in the ducks, just the PS Industry and then I became a volunteer at the age of 5 - just a member of the Industry and then full working volunteer when I was 12. You don't find too many kids that are interested in paddle boats. There's a few kids at my school that are fairly interested but most of them think it's pretty good.

When I'm on the boat the engineer will be doing his bit with the fire men and we'll just set up the boat with the life buoys and ropes and things that need to be put out to operate it, yeah then we run it away. Deckhands like myself will do the ropes, look after that, clean the boat, passengers, just talk to them or you can drive it like I do all the time.

The PS Industry was built in 1910 and launched on August the 6th 1911 at Goolwa where it was built for the South Australian Government for their tow boat sort of thing and later as a snagging and pile driving vessel, it would tow all their barges around and helped in the construction of locks.

The river boats helped to open up inland Australia. They'd carry wheat and wool and general items that people would use along the river from the stations and also back up to the stations and everything. In the 1920s, they built the railways and road transport became more viable to everyone. These days they're used mostly for tourism.

I don't know. I just like paddle steamers. I wanna be a shipwright captain engineer at The Port of Echuca when I grow up. I think I'll be interested in paddle steamers 'til I die.

## Closer

Thanks Jackson!

And that's about all we have time for today!

Please remember to cast your vote in our poll about the cat ban.

And enjoy your week!

See you next time!