BtN: Episode 27 Transcript 15/09/15

Coming up.

- Doctors call for kids to be banned from boxing we find out why.
- Australia's closest neighbour celebrates 40 years of independence we meet some of the kids that call Papua New Guinea home.
- And the school kids who broadcast the news in sign language.

Hi, I'm Nathan and welcome to BtN! You can see all that later but first.

The Wire

To some big news out of Canberra, here's the Wire.

Australia has a new Prime Minister!

His name is Malcolm Turnbull and he used to be Communications Minister.

But on Monday he challenged Tony Abbott for leadership of the Liberal Party and therefore the Prime Minister-ship!

The party voted on it and the result?

WHIP: Malcolm Turnbull was successful on 54, Tony Abbott 44.

Julie Bishop was also voted in again as Deputy.

Turnbull says he is aiming to be a different PM than Tony Abbott was.

MALCOLM TURNBULL: We will ensure that all Australians understand that their Government recognises the opportunities of the future.

He also says he's proud to take on the top job.

MALCOLM TURNBULL: This is a turn of events I did not expect but it's one that I'm privileged to undertake.

To other news now and last week former PM Tony Abbott announced that 12 thousand extra people from Syria will now be allowed to come to Australia as refugees.

He said we'll mostly take women, children and families who belong to the ethnic and religious groups most at risk in Syria like Christians.

Australia's also going to give 44 million dollars to refugee agencies to look after people who've had to leave their homes because of war.

Video Game fans around the world have celebrated the 30th birthday of Super Mario!

Nintendo's little Italian plumber is one of the best known video game characters ever.

He first appeared on screens back in 1981 as a character called Jumpman in Donkey Kong.

But he really got famous in 1985 when Super Mario was released.

Over the years Mario's had a few make-overs and earned Nintendo billions of dollars but he's still going strong.

And two five year olds from Russia have staged a great escape from their kindergarten.

They used sand-spades to tunnel under the fence before walking a couple of kilometres to a showroom selling luxury cars.

Apparently their plan was buy a car except they didn't have any money.

Refugee Intake

Reporter: Amelia Moseley

INTRO: Okay as you heard in the Wire, the Australian Government has now agreed to let more Syrian refugees come here to live. But what is a refugee and what difference could this decision make to their lives? Amelia found out.

This is Salma, Wali and their mum, dad and little brother. Just over a year ago, their family moved to Australia from Afghanistan.

SALMA: We have a lot of problems in Afghanistan. I love my country, but they are not safe. We can't do anything there.

They've been learning English and making new friends.

WALI: When I come, new at school, I don't have any friends. Now I have lots of friends.

But it isn't always easy living in a new country.

WALI: I miss my Grandma and my Uncle and my Aunties.

These guys are refugees. A refugee is someone who has had to leave their home country because their lives have been threatened by war, poverty or bad treatment; often because of their race, gender or beliefs. Around the world there are at least 14 million refugees who are still in need of help. But there are countries that have agreed to help them.

In 1951, the United Nations started a special agency to support people who had to leave their homes during World War Two. It wanted to make sure governments would recognise them, protect them from danger, and give them the same rights as everyone else. So it created a special refugee treaty and more than a hundred countries signed up including Australia.

In the decades since, those countries have helped by giving money or aid to the UN's refugee program. Many also take in refugees to give them a safe place to live. The countries currently looking after the biggest number of refugees are Turkey, Pakistan and Lebanon. That's mainly because they're close to the countries most refugees are escaping from.

Here in Australia, we have a set number of refugees we take in every year. This year it was 13,750. That number can go up or down depending on what the government decides the country can handle. It can also change when there's a huge need, which is exactly what's happening now.

About four million refugees have been escaping war in this country, Syria, in the Middle-East. Many have travelled to Europe looking for safety but because there are so many people the UN has asked other countries to help out. These are some of the countries that have agreed to take in extra Syrian refugees; that includes Australia. Our government says we'll take in an extra 12 thousand Syrian refugees as quickly as possible.

TONY ABBOTT: A response that best reflects Australia's history as a country with a generous heart.

The PM says Australia will take those it thinks are most in need, like kids and women on their own, families, and religious minorities. A lot of people are happy with the government's decision and are ready to welcome the Syrian refugees that arrive. But some say we shouldn't accept any extra; while others say we should be willing to accept even more, and that we shouldn't be picking and choosing which groups of people from Syria to help because so many are in trouble.

Salma and Wali say they're happy Australia is helping some Syrian refugees.

WALI: It's not a good place to live, it's not safe. They have to come here to be safe and be a good person.

SALMA: Everyone have a dream and I can get my dream from Australia. Like me, I want to be a journalist.

AMELIA: What do you like about living in Australia?

WALI: Ah, everything!

Quiz 1

Okay sticking with the subject of refugees let's kick off our first guiz of the day.

What percentage of refugees worldwide are under 18?

Is it

5%

25%

Or 50%

The answer is 50%

Boxing Ban

Reporter: Emma Davis

INTRO: Now the Australian Medical Association has announced that it believes combat sports like boxing should be banned for all children under the age of 18. It also says boxing should be removed from both the Olympic and Commonwealth Games. But lots of kids take part in sports like this and many of them think a ban would be unfair. Here's Emma with more.

Boxing. It's a tough sport with an even tougher reputation.

KID 1: I train three times a week and at trainings we do core work, bags, just all partner work and stuff.

KID 2: We normally pair up with someone who's the same type of skill level as us

But should kids be allowed to do it?

Recently the Australian Medical Association said it wanted all combat sports to be banned for people under 18. That's not just boxing but other sports like karate, wrestling and judo. They also want boxing banned from the Olympics and the Commonwealth Games. They say that the idea of these sports is to hurt your opponent and they're not just worried about injuries during a match. Injuries can develop over time.

AMAL, NEUROSURGEON: When you get a hit on the head or you're punched in the head this brain shakes inside this tough skull and you can get bleeding on the brain.

But the damage isn't always obvious right away.

AMAL, NEUROSURGEON: It can start out as a minor injury and can evolve into something more serious quite quickly.

They say that's especially bad for young people because their brains are still developing so it could cause long term damage.

The AMA is also worried that these kinds of sports encourage kids to be violent in everyday life.

Back in the boxing gym these guys say they take safety really seriously.

MICK, COACH: There is procedures for people when they get knocked out. So as opposed to football where they come off and they do a concussion test, automatically we're banned from sparring or boxing for 28 days.

KID 1: It's very controlled and stuff, you have like gloves, mouthguard, boxes, head guards.

KID 3: To be honest, I feel more safe in a boxing ring than on a football field.

Plus they say that all of this training helps them control their aggression, not encourage them to use it.

So that's both sides of this boxing debate. What do you reckon, should it be banned?

KID 4: I think it should because a lot of people are getting injuries

KID 5: No I don't think so because if you're going to make it to the Olympics you need to start practicing when you're younger.

KID 6: No because everyone has all their different talents

KID 7: Yes because it's very violent and dangerous and people can get hurt.

Poll

Okay I think that's the perfect issue for this week's poll.

Do you think boxing should be banned for all kids under 18?

Head to our website to place your vote.

Last week we asked you if we should get rid of the Queen as our head of state.

And out of nearly 6000 votes it seems most of you aren't big fans of the idea.

As always, thanks for having your say!

PNG Independence

Reporter: Carl Smith

INTRO: This week our nearest neighbour Papua New Guinea will celebrate its 40th year of independence. It might surprise you to learn that that independence was

actually gained from us. But both Australia and PNG have even more shared history than that. Here's Carl.

These kids are celebrating the culture of their country, Papua New Guinea.

There's arts and craft, traditional outfits, a coconut cracking competition, and even a coconut race! It's all their way of celebrating an important moment in their country's history.

Kids: Hi I'm Isobel, Hi I'm Jemimah, and I'm Mason, we're all grade 6 students from the Ela Murray International School in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Aly: We're celebrating the independence of Papua New Guinea, which took place 40 years ago

Hayley: It's all about when PNG gained their independence, and when they took the Australian flag down and put the PNG flag back up.

Independence Day here celebrates the moment more than 700 tribes of Papuans united to form a single independent country, Papua New Guinea.

Before then, this beautiful region had been controlled by many nations, including Australia!

After these islands were discovered by Europeans, Britain and Germany set up colonies there. They were called German New Guinea and the Territory of Papua, which ended up being controlled by Australia. During the First World War Australia also seized German New Guinea, renaming it the Territory of New Guinea. After the war ended Australia set up plantations and gold mines.

But big parts of the region stayed the same because the thick tropical jungle and high mountains made it hard to get around. In the Second World War those thick forests became an important battleground in the Pacific.

The Japanese invaded the island. But the thick, hot, wet jungle here on the Kokoda trail made it hard for them. So it was there that the Australians, Americans and local Papuans helped push the invaders back. It was one of the most important victories in the war in the Pacific and the Papuans that took part are still remembered for saving many Australian lives.

After the Second World War Australia remained in charge of the area. But in the early 1970s the territories of Papua and New Guinea combined, held elections and then in 1975 became an official independent country: Papua New Guinea. Since then PNG has grown and changed a lot.

Hayley: If PNG wasn't independent we wouldn't have different cultures and we wouldn't be celebrating things every single year.

They still embrace the traditional way of life in the region. But PNG has also kept a close relationship with countries like Australia. In fact these guys say there aren't that many differences between the two nations! At this school they even watch BtN!

Isobel: We're officially BtN's biggest overseas fans. Each and every Friday we watch BtN rain, hail or shine and we just love it.

Mason: After each episode of BtN we play quiz masters where we pose BtN questions to our class mates and teachers. Here's an example right now:

Hi BtN fans, I'm Kenneth with your quizzy fact of the weeeeek. FACT, did you Aussie kids know that PNG has 800 spoken languages? EIGHT HUNDRED!? That's a lot of dictionaries my green and gold friends.

Jemimah: Think what I like most about BtN is how we learn about world news in a really, really fun way.

Mason: And I'm really like the sport because I live and breathe sports.

Isobel: But the best thing about BtN, is how they always make the news interesting and fun.

Kenneth: I just want my big head on television!

Isobel: We love our island home of PNG, but it's great to find out news from our neighbour country Australia, and the issues that shape our world.

They say they're excited to be celebrating the 40th anniversary of PNG's independence and they hope Australians will celebrate with them!

Mason, Jemimah and Isobel: if you ever pop into Port Moresby, make sure you pop into TEMIS as well and say hello! Bye bye!

Quiz 2

Okay time for our second guiz now. Good luck!

What is the capital of PNG?

Is it

Kokoda

Port Moresby

Or New Guinea Town

The answer is Port Moresby

Signing the News

Reporter: Carl Smith

INTRO: Okay next we're going to be checking out a rival news bulletin with a difference. One of the most common features of a news show is reporters speaking to camera just like I'm doing now. But that doesn't work very well for viewers who are deaf or hard of hearing. So the students of one primary school have come up with a solution - signing the news! Here's Carl.

Kids signing: Together we're the Klemzig Primary School News team.

Deaf news being translated by teacher: So all children please remember to bring your school uniforms. On Friday, year 6 and 7 boys and girls have a football carnival.

It looks a bit like your average news set, but you might have noticed these rookie reporters have a very different way of reading the news. They're using sign language.

Simon (translated): My name is S-I-M-O-N, Simon.

Carl: Simon, tell me what sign language is.

Simon: Well deaf people like to communicate with each other with their hands because they can't really speak and they can't hear. And we call it Auslan.

Auslan stands for Australian Sign Language and it's actually recognised as an official language! You might have seen Auslan interpreters translating at special events or on TV. Normally, only people who are deaf or hard of hearing, and sometimes their families, learn how to sign. But here at Klemzig Primary school in Adelaide every student learns it as a second language.

Teacher in class: Ok children can we stop talking, stop communicating please, that means you up the back with the Auslan too please Matthew stop!

Having this second language is really useful for the 18 deaf or hard of hearing kids at the school.

Prabin: It feels good, I like it. Feels nice to be able to communicate with people.

Simon: Yeah it's a really good feeling for the deaf people that are here.

But it is pretty tricky to learn!

Reporter: Can you show me how to use sign language?

AMY: C-A-R-L. Carl

Carl: Well that seems pretty straight forward, but you guys seem to do it much faster right? Show me just how fast you go - tell me what you did on the weekend?

AMY: On the weekend I went to the shops with my mum and dad and we bought lots of food because we ran out at home.

Carl: Yeah that's way too tricky for me!

These guys and their teacher set up the newsroom so that other kids could keep up to date with what's going on in the news and around their school.

TANYA: We normally film one day for the following week. The first thing is special events, and then we talk about lunchtime activities, and then we talk about the news. We used to talk about the weather but we replaced that with the news.

But it also helps them practice signing and they say getting faster and more confident can be really fun!

Simon: Sometimes you can sign underwater, you don't have to talk underwater. It's very easy to communicate underwater, and we can do secret signs on our sides as well.

And who knows, maybe one day you'll see something like this on your TV at home.

Kids translated: Reporting live from Klemzig primary school, I'm Tanya, and I'm Simon, and I'm Prabin!

The Score

Okay it's sport time now. Here's some of the biggest plays of the week.

Australia's women's soccer team the Matildas is on strike because the players say they aren't being paid enough.

Australia's Football Federation has said it is trying to reach an agreement.

But the Matildas have cancelled their upcoming US tour while the negotiations continue.

For the next step we have to take, we need to be rewarded for it and we need a sense of respect from the federation.

The FFA says it would consider paying the women's team more but it would mean Socceroos and A-league players would have to accept less.

Australia has ended its tour of England on a high by claiming a three-two victory in their one-day series.

One of the highlights of the series was this tricky boundary line catch by Australia's Glenn Maxwell.

It took a few replays for the umpire to see it was a fair catch and a pretty good one at that!

COMMENTATOR: We'll be seeing this again, absolutely outstanding.

And here's one of the best goalkeepers you'll see today, or at least one of the cuddliest.

Purin's a nine year old beagle from Japan and she's just broken her own world record by catching 14 mini-footballs with her paws in just one minute.

It may not strictly be a sport but it's the cutest thing we've seen for a long time.

Cattle Judging

Reporter: Emma Davis

INTRO: Okay last up today we're often told not to judge other people. But what about cattle? Well in that case it's not just okay but part of a competition that lots of kids take part in. Here's Emma to tell you more about it.

For most of us, if you've seen one cow, you've pretty much seen them all. But for kids like Andrew, each one can be different in heaps of different ways!

ANDREW: So this is a 5 and a half year dry cow. One of the things you would look for is the pins and the hooks. This part here is the firle and the placement of that is very important. The bone down here, you want it to be flat like that. You want the ribs on a 45 degree angle.

That may sound like a crazy amount of stuff to notice about a cow, but that's what makes Andrew really good at cattle judging competitions.

The aim of cattle judging is to be able to pick the best cow out of a line-up. The cows are brought out into the ring and the kids score them from one to four, from best to worst! While it might sound simple, it's definitely not! There are a bunch of different features the kids have to factor into their decision.

COURTNEY: We have to know what a good structure of a cow is so like the rump and the legs and how they're supposed to walk.

ARCHIE: I just look for the best thing that they have like the udder and the teat placement on the udder.

Once they've put their scorecards in the top 6 kids then have to explain their scores to the crowd.

ARCHIE: You get a little bit of time to prepare for it just before you start speaking so when the cows walk around you have what you want to say in your mind.

After all that the over judge, who's an adult, decides which kid did the best job and they're named the winner! The idea of these comps is to help train kids who want to become farmers one day.

COURTNEY: It's good to pick up more skills and then you get well known around the industry.

And the kids who take part in them say it's a great experience.

ANDREW: I've always loved dairy cattle and judging's just something fun to do.

COURTNEY: I like it `cause it's something different and it's always good to learn new skills and it's just fun.

So if you've ever wanted to know more about cattle than anyone else, maybe cattle judging would be right up your alley.

Survey

Okay we're nearly finished for this week and this term but just before we go I want to give you a quick update on our Kids' Happiness Survey which we launched last week.

We've had an amazing response from you guys. So much so we managed to hit our target of ten thousand responses within 4 days!

A massive thank you to everyone that has got behind it so far!

The survey is still open for another week so if you or your class haven't let us know about when you are at your happiest and when you aren't please jump onto our website to have your say!

Closer

Right that wraps us up for today!

See you on Friday for #AskaReporter and then again after the September holidays!

Bye for now!