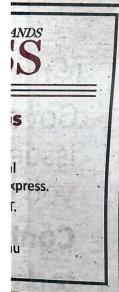
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irk Wallace, Editor
@shexpress.com.au





We could've suspended Scandrett: Who knew?

There is a way to restore the Wingecarribee Shire Council and remove all sources of dysfunction.

If the minister restores six councillors, they now know, following evidence at the Public Inquiry into the council last week, that they would suspend an offending councillor and the majority could remove trouble-maker Ian Scandrett.

Two other disruptive councillors have resigned.

Despite numerous requests to the Office of Local Government for help, it never advised council that it had the power to remove a councillor.

Five is still a quorum and there was ample evidence before the inquiry that those five could work together harmoniously.

The public inquiry into Wingecarribee Council did not question the interim administrator Viv May on matters raised in written submissions by former councillors.

The councillors were forensically and exhaustively crossexamined on their behaviour and public statements but the administrator was not subjected to any rigorous questioning on allegations he had committed many breaches of the code of conduct, sacked dedicated staff, etc etc.

I'm not saying that the suspended councillors were not fairly treated by counsel assisting and the commissioner, but the administrator was a protected species. Perhaps this was because his performance was not covered by the terms of reference but it was not a level playing field when he could criticise councillors even though the inquiry could not test that criticism. He was a protected species under the terms of reference.

The former Liberal Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock set those terms of reference.

Much evidence was given-to the inquiry that the council under Liberal mayor Juliet Arkwright was dysfunctional, but the Liberal Government of the day did not suspend that council or order a public inquiry. Another protected species.

Cr Graham McLaughlin Bowral

How many Her Majesties?

I refer to your article (Southern Highlands Express, April 13) re the Angus cattle win.

Could you please advise your readers of the number of "Her Majesties" in the British Royal family?

Gordon Hopkins Bowral

New Probus president

The Probus Club of Moss Vale held its annual changeover dinner at the Mittagong RSL Club recently.

Jim McGrath was elected President for the new term following on from Malcolm Stephens, who completed two terms as President due to the Coronavirus pandemic over this period.

This is a vibra ing fun and fr members, which by an active members.

The Club proties for members ocial gathering tours to interestions, luncheon attendance at momentings where speakers proviously presentation world topics as we experiences.

The Probus Clition covering Aust Zealand is the mo and accessible or retirees, fostering of Probus – friend fellowship.

The Moss Vale meets at Mittag on the second Tl month and is members.

New memb Southern High rounding dist welcome and c information for Secretary Mi 0409 745401 01 0409 374741.

The club's w cessed at w vale.org.au.

Probus

haveyoursay