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WEATHER PAGE 63

TODAY MIN 15 MAX 26 Sunny

TOMORROW MAX 28 Sunny

FRIDAY MAX 29 Sunny

SATURDAY MAX 26 Shower or two

SUNDAY MAX 26 Possible shower

OZLOTTO

DRAW 1417 13-4-2021 7 45 34 23 33 30 36 SUPPS 16 40

DIVIDENDS	WINNERS
1st \$35 million	1
2nd \$46,712.95	7
3rd \$4260.85	158
4th \$398.90	868
5th \$53.80	7505
6th \$26.00	177,520
7th \$16.60	311,393

BREAKING NEWS ALL DAY, EVERY DAY couriermail.com.au

Two die in plane crash

TWO people have been killed in a light plane crash involving an Essential Energy aircraft in the NSW Southern Tablelands.

The Cessna aircraft crashed into a paddock on Tallagandra Lane in Sutton just outside Canberra at about 4.30pm yesterday.

NSW Ambulance and ACT paramedics and the NSW Rural Fire Service were called to the scene, but the two occupants were declared dead upon arrival.

Officers from The Hume Police District have started inquiries and a crime scene has been established.

EX-AUS POST CHIEF IN SHOCK REVELATIONS

Holgate's letter bomb: I was bullied, suicidal

JAMES MORROW

EX-AUSTRALIA Post boss Christine Holgate sensationally accused Prime Minister Scott Morrison of conspiring to have her fired in an extraordinary showdown in Canberra on Tuesday.

Under questioning in a Senate estimates hearing Ms Holgate launched an impassioned and forensic attack on the Morrison government, which she blames for orchestrating her downfall — while also revealing the toll of how she was treated had sent her to the brink of suicide.

Ms Holgate was stood down last year amid accusations of impropriety and loose spending for awarding luxury watches to executives who secured a \$220 million deal. On October 22, Mr Morrison denounced Ms Holgate's actions in Parliament, declaring that she should stand aside "or go" over the matter.

When asked at yesterday's senate hearing about how she was treated by the government, Ms Holgate said, "I don't know why the Prime Minister did what he did."

"I lost my job, a job that I loved, because I was humiliated by the Prime Minister, committing no offence, and then bullied by my chairman," she said.

Ms Holgate also told of how she was considering self-harm as a result of her treatment and was taking tranquilisers.

Asked by Senator Pauline Hanson about her attempts to make contact with the PM as



Christine Holgate told a Senate committee that she felt suicidal after being bullied out of her job.

I lost my job, a job that I loved, because I was humiliated by the Prime Minister, committing no offence, and then bullied by my chairman ... I was suicidal, you know?

CHRISTINE HOLGATE

well as Communications Minister Paul Fletcher and Finance Minister Simon Birmingham, Ms Holgate said she had tried to make contact via email but that the correspondence was "rambling" because "I was seriously ill, I was on Temazepam."

"I was suicidal, you know? That's why it was rambling."

"I wrote to him (Birmingham) and said surely now that you're Minister of Finance, Minister of Trade and head of the Senate, you will help me

get a resolution and stop what's happening to me."

Ms Holgate added she was "humiliated" by Mr Morrison and Australia Post chairman Lucio Di Bartolomeo who "unlawfully stood me down".

"Their bullying of me was far from over. I was subjected to a biased investigation and intimidated with constant threats of further allegations and criticism."

Ms Holgate's testimony was followed by that of Mr Di Bartolomeo, who revealed he

had received phone calls from Mr Fletcher but denied they were "directions".

As to whether the gifting of watches to executives who had secured a deal to provide banking services through local post offices, was inappropriate, Mr di Bartolomeo said, "I view the purchase of the watches as an error of judgment made in good faith by an otherwise highly effective CEO."

"There was no policy that she contravened, no doubt

about that," he said, when asked if Ms Holgate had operated within her remit.

"I think Christine Holgate has been treated abysmally, but I believe the board and management did the right things by her," Mr Di Bartolomeo added, saying that in his view Ms Holgate was not "stood down, she stood aside."

"I don't believe Australia Post owes her an apology but I do believe she's been badly treated."

LIFELINE 13 11 14

HIGGINS TO TELL IT ALL

FORMER Liberal staffer Brittany Higgins, whose alleged rape sparked a cultural reckoning at Parliament House, will tell her own story in a memoir due to be released next year.

Ms Higgins said she felt privileged to be able to detail her experience in her own words after claiming she was raped by a colleague on the couch of her former boss, then-defence industry minister Linda Reynolds in 2019.

The memoir is expected to detail the alleged sexual assault, the culture she experienced as a ministerial staffer and her experience since coming forward.



Brittany Higgins

Luxe drive for dearly de-paw-ted

EMILY TOXWARD

GRIEVING pet owners are lining up to give their dearly departed a swanky send-off in a luxury car, with a uniformed chauffeur and white roses.

In what's believed to be an Australian-first, Gold Coast business Pet Angel Funerals has launched a luxury service that allows pet owners to give their fur babies one final ride in a high-end Mercedes-Benz fitted with custom

leather and timber interior. Owner and founder Tom Jorgensen recently expanded to open a factory in Brisbane, and his business services the entire south-east and northern NSW.

Mr Jorgensen said he created the service to cater for a spike in demand for a more luxurious service from long-term customers wanting something special for their "babies".

"So we thought a fitting way would be to use a luxury car such

as a Mercedes-Benz," he said. "We have only had Pet 1 and Pet 2 on the road for a few days now and we have been inundated with inquiries. It's about the finer details like having stunning white roses and special music playing in the Mercedes with your pet. We want pet owners' minds to be at ease, knowing their angel is being taken to the crematorium in a most beautiful way."

He said the new deluxe service package started from \$575.