

# GAY ROW BAND ARE FINED £2M

**Rockers The 1975 have been ordered to pay more than £2million in damages for allegedly breaching a contract with a Malaysian music festival.**



**SHOW'S OVER** **Matty** Future Sound Asia (FSA), organisers of the Good Vibes festival, said it got "a pre-showwritten assurance" the band's set would adhere to "all local guidelines and regulations".

During their set at the Kuala Lumpur festival in July, frontman **Matty Healy** made a speech about homosexuality – illegal in Malaysia – and kissed bassist **Ross MacDonald** on stage.

FSA alleged that Healy's "abusive language, equipment damage and

indecent stage behaviour" caused the event to be cancelled.

The three-day event was axed and headliners **Australian singer-songwriter The Kid Laroi** and **American rock band The Strokes** did not play. Representatives for Healy were approached for comment.

## Alarm over speech ban

Human rights groups expressed fears after the king of Jordan approved a law to punish online speech deemed harmful to national unity.

Activists fear the measures – backed by King Abdullah II – will expand state control over social media – and penalise anti-government speech.

## Sex abuse survey bid

Women and girls as young as 13 are being urged to share their experiences of sexual abuse and harassment in an online safety survey.

It is the second by the **Wise Women community group**, with **Glasgow Girls Club** and **Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership**.

# STRENGTH... THESE CALEDONIAN

# AUSSIES HAVE TURNED THEIR VILLAGE INTO BRIGADOON



### SPORRAN LEGION

The Sydney Thistle Pipe Band on the march at the Aussie Games



**ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR**  
A little corner of Scotland



**YA DANCER**  
Bundanoon residents get jiggy with it

# DOON UNDER



**AULD LANG SIGN** Alastair & Joan Saunders are at heart of the Aussie/Scots Highland Games

### ■ Rachel Silvestri

**Welcome to Bundanoon, the Australian village with a Scottish spirit which changes its name to Brigadoon and holds Highland Games every year.**

With mist rolling around its gullies and rocky sandstone outcrops, and with the strains of bagpipes floating on the wind, you could be forgiven for mistaking the New South Wales village for a Scottish outpost.

But at just two hours from Sydney's picturesque Southern Highlands, it could hardly be further away from the country that's inspired so much of its character.

The annual Bundanoon's Brigadoon Festival and Highland Gathering sees 12,000 visitors descend on the village for a day of Caledonian revelry each April, with 25 pipe and drum bands games forming a spectacle from dawn 'til dusk.

Highland and country dancing, strongman contests, grannie's story-telling tent and even a Brigadoon Bonnie Bairsns competition form part of the

## It's fun and games in Bundanoon for feast of all things Scottish



**TAKE IT AS RED**  
Aussie goes full Scot

day, with an evening ceilidh topping off the festivities.

Festivalgoers pack the hotels and B&Bs of Bundanoon as well as the surrounding area with an early morning Brigadoon Express train also wending its way into the mountains from Sydney Central train station.

And its destination's signage is switched from Bundanoon to Brigadoon in time for its arrival.

Bundanoon is Brigadoon's tagline maybe "Always in April" but visitors can feel the Bundanoon Aussie/Scottish vibe any day of the year.

Tartan bedecks everything from taxis and the Bundanoon Hotel's logo to the bowling club's carpets and the jackets on the local pooches. And



**“The vast majority wearing tartan are Australians but it's still their heritage”**

### COBBER TOSSING

Aussies put their backs into the strongman events



The swirl of the pipes ring out all around you with a healthy proportion of Bundanoon's residents involved in the village band.

The haunting pipe mixed with the otherworldly calls of kookaburras and cockatoos in the national park makes for a quite a heady mix.

Oban-born Alastair Saunders, 81, came to Bundanoon on holiday in 1985 and never left.

He traces the links between Bundanoon and the home country back 200 years. He said: "The first Scots in the area came from Glasgow to work in the nearby shale mines in the 1800s. Then they spread out over the area – there's an awful lot of places around with Scottish names.

**"The first Brigadoon Highland Gathering took place on the 29th November, 1978, before it was moved to each April to bring visitors to Bundanoon in the off-season, help the local hotels and promote the Southern Highlands to the rest of the country and beyond."**

Alastair, vice-president of the Bundanoon Brigadoon festival, has been involved in its running since 1997.

He added: "Brigadoon is a gathering of the clans – the vast majority wearing tartan are Australians but it's still their heritage.

"We are regis-



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