

# THE WEATHER

A large high in the north-west Tasman Sea is circulating a hot north-westerly airflow over south-eastern Australia. A cold front is moving through Tasmania, and extends westwards to south of Perth. Also a weak southerly change ahead of this front is moving north along the NSW South Coast.

**Expected developments:** Some effect from the cooler change now in the Bight is expected by late in the weekend, but for the present very hot conditions will continue with very high to extreme fire danger.

**Yesterday's ACT weather:** Heat wave conditions have continued with maximum temperatures in the high 30s to low 40s and about 10 degrees above average. Winds were mostly north-westerly but a cooler southerly change passed along the South Coast during the afternoon dropping temperatures in that area by 10 degrees.

**Elsewhere:** Heat wave conditions persisted in the west while it remained sultry along the coast. Widespread thunderstorms developed along the Tablelands, Central coast, Central West Slopes and Plains District. The heaviest rainfall reported for the six hours was 42 points at Bowral. Winds turned fresh south-easterly on the far southern coast but otherwise were mainly light north-easterlies. Maximum temperatures which were 10 to 17 degrees above normal in most districts ranged from 24 degrees at Thredbo to 46 degrees at Wilcannia.

## CANBERRA YESTERDAY

**Temperatures:** Jan 18; 9am 24; 3pm 38; 9pm 27. Max to 9am 36; 9am to 9pm 38; Min across 14; grass 10.

**Humidity:** 7am 32%; 9am 44%; 3pm 11%; 9pm 26%.

**Wind (knots):** Jan Calm; 9am Calm; 3pm W/15; 9pm E/16. Max gust (knots): E/30 at 7.40pm.

**Rainfall:** Average annual rain-

fall for past 32 years: 24.77in. Rainfall for 1971: 24.19. Rainfall to date for 1972: 15.44in. Corresponding period 1971: 21.60 in. Ave for Dec: 2.38in. Dec rainfall for 1971: 3.74in. Dec rainfall to date: 0.04in. 24 hours ended 9am nil; 12 hours ended 9pm nil.

**Barometer:** 1am 1019; 9am 1019; 3pm 1014; 9pm 1013.

## FORECASTS FOR TODAY

**Warnings:** A fire weather warning is current and total fire bans imposed.

**Canberra:** Very hot with gusty north-westerly winds and the

**Canberra:** Very hot with gusty north-westerly winds and the chance of isolated thunderstorms. Maximum a very hot 39 Celsius. Fire danger: Very high to extreme.

**Lake Burley Griffin:** Moderate gusty north-westerly winds.

**Southern Tablelands:** Very high to extreme fire danger. Some morning fog then a hot mostly sunny day. Light to moderate NE to NW winds.

**South Coast:** Very high to extreme fire danger. Local morning fog patches. A sultry day with local late thunderstorms NE to NW winds 10-20 knots on the coast. Seas mainly slight but choppy at times.

## SUN, MOON

**Sunrise:** 5.46am; **sunset:** 8.18pm; **moonrise:** 10.01; **moonset:** 7.22.

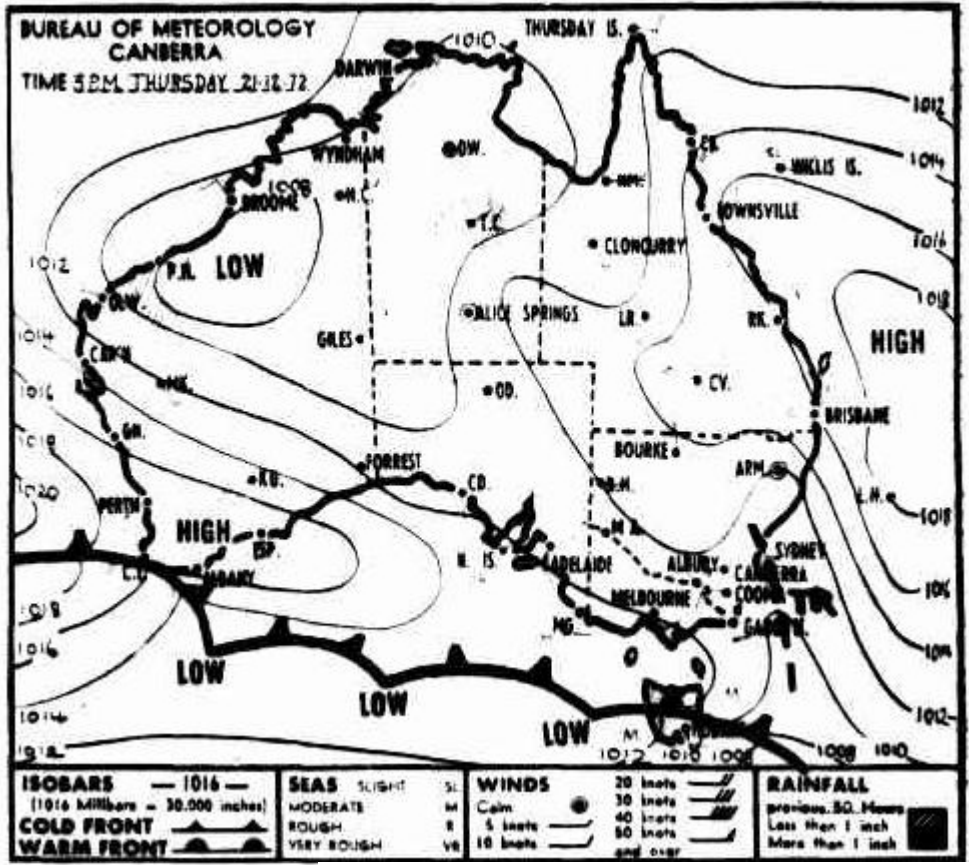
## SOUTH COAST TIDES

**Batemans Bay (at bridge) and Bermagui (at entrance):** High 1.9m (6.2') at 10.19am; 1.3m (4.2') at 11.30pm. Low 0.2m (0.6') at 4.13am; 0.0m (0.0') at 5.25pm.

**Meruya (at entrance) and Murrumbidgee (at entrance):** High 1.9m (6.2') at 10.24am; 1.3m (4.2') at 11.05pm. Low 0.2m (0.6') at 3.51am; 0.0m (0.0') at 5.05pm.

**Narrunga (Pilots boatshed):** High 1.9m (6.2') at 10.54am; 1.3m (4.2') at 11.35pm. Low 0.2m (0.6') at 4.09am; 0.0m (0.0') at 5.20pm.

**Edgars:** High 1.9m (6.2') at 10.14 am; 1.3m (4.2') at 10.59pm; Low 0.2m (0.6') at 3.55am; 0.0m (0.0') at 5.09pm.



**CAPITALS  
FORECAST**

Sydney: Hot, unsettled, Max 32.  
Melbourne: Fine, Max 24.  
Brisbane: Fine, Max 33.  
Adelaide: Sultry, Max 33.  
Perth: Fine, Max 28.  
Hobart: Fine, Max 21.  
Darwin: Afternoon thunderstorms, Max 33.

**Yesterday's temperatures  
and humidity**

	Max	Min	% Hum	9am	3pm
Canberra	38	14	44	11	
Sydney	36	21	70	41	
Melbourne	29	21	68	54	
Brisbane	33	22	66	55	
Adelaide	35	22	42	32	
Perth	29	19	61	61	
Hobart	23	16	56	68	
Darwin	34	24	89	50	