

Forbes flying pharmacist brings community care to new heights

FORBES pharmacist Jack Buckley was a lifeline during the devastating 2022 floods.

He dropped baby formula to stranded new mums, made sure isolated palliative care patients were looked after, and even continued to deliver vital medication by torch light.

That's why he has been named Pharmacist of the Year, by Independent Pharmacies of Australia.

"We didn't do it to get the award, we did it as there's a definite need for improved health care outcomes and health care access in rural and regional NSW," Mr Buckley said.

Often found 15,000 feet in the air, Mr Buckley is a community pharmacist that works right across regional NSW by flying his own aircraft.

"People in these rural and regional areas shouldn't be isolated due to where they live," Mr Buckley said.

He also helped communities through plenty of disasters and disruptions including the 2022 floods as well as during the COVID-19 lockdowns, ensuring everyone he could get to



Jack Buckley has been named Independent Pharmacies of Australia's 2024 Pharmacist of the Year. Picture by Toby Zerna.

had the pharmaceutical necessities they needed.

One moment that stood out to him were patients that lived out of the town-

ship, who had been receiving palliative care before the floods.

"They couldn't access a pharmacy or medications

needed for those patients so ... I jumped in the plane and delivered them, landed on their driveways," Mr Buckley said.

He has also helped organise urgent vaccination clinics to rural and remote NSW such as Cobar, Brewarrina and Broken Hill.

"There's so much more than what we can do outside of the four walls of the pharmacy," he said.

- EMILY MIDDLETON

Could we be Trumped again?

BY ANDREW MARSHALL

IF DONALD Trump's unabashed self confidence is correct and he does storm home to win this week's US presidential race, Australia should probably anticipate a somewhat poorer Asian marketplace for our farm exports.

Sales to the US, including our beef, wine and lamb, could also be less lucrative if a second Trump presidential administration follows through with his election campaign promises to slap a

universal 10 per cent tax on imports into America.

In fact, if the Republican hopeful wins to follow through with his extreme 60pc tariff on Chinese imports, Americans could be paying an average of almost 17pc extra on imports, compared with just 2.2pc at the moment, according to ANZ Banking Group economic analysis. That import impost would be higher than tariffs set by any other World Trade Organisation member, except Barbados.

The ANZ research has identified a worldwide chain reaction from the prohibitive trade policies promised by a Trump presidency.

Although it was unclear who would win the US election as *The Land* went to print, or if Donald Trump would actually follow through with his brazen economic policies, ANZ's chief South East Asia and India economist, Sanjay Mathur, noted the much-touted universal tax could at very least trigger a global trade war

as other nations retaliated against Washington's protectionist moves.

He said Trump trade policies threatened to be far more prohibitive than those implemented during his past presidency. More extreme US tariff hikes against China would also push more Chinese-made goods into the rest of Asia at competitive levels. They would trigger greater competition from China against South East Asian-made goods exported to other global markets, too.

The impact for Asia would be felt most in export oriented and manufacturing-heavy economies such as Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, South Korea and Malaysia - markets where Australian farm exports had been cashing in on the region's economic growth.

"Meanwhile, a 60pc tariff on all US imports from mainland China is likely to truncate aggregate demand in both major economies and put global supply chains in disarray," Mr Mathur said.

Sustained economic weakness in China was not only an issue for Australia's valuable trade ties in that marketplace, but also would exacerbate competition against the rest of Asia.

From an Australian point of view, ANZ's agribusiness insights executive director, Michael Whitehead, said despite our free trade agreement with the US, a blanket 10pc tariff regime under a Trump presidency would potentially hit our red meat industries hardest.

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