

Palmer's fugitive nephew is found

DANIELLE GUSMAROLI
IN LONDON

THE fugitive nephew of mining magnate Clive Palmer appears to have closed the door on a return to Australia and started a new life in Bulgaria.

The 54-year-old Clive Mensink, who fled Queensland in 2016 after the collapse of a nickel refinery of which he was a director, has qualified for permanent residency in the Balkan country and has now established his own consultancy company.

He has bought an apartment in the capital of Sofia which he shares with girlfriend Gabriela Konstantinova.

Mensink has been lying low in Bulgaria but living a jetsetting lifestyle visiting Vienna,

Munich, Frankfurt, Berlin and Rome since he fled Australia. He has also been spotted at the home of Palmer's parents-in-law, Alexander and Silyana Sokolov, who live in an apartment in the Oborishte district in Sofia.

It has been previously alleged in court that Mensink had been receiving a weekly sum of \$4000 from two of Palmer's companies. Palmer denies Mensink is being sent any money.

After ignoring requests to comply with demands to attend the Federal Court in Australia for questioning about the Queensland Nickel liquidation which went into voluntary liquidation owing \$300 million to employees and creditors, Mensink was hit with contempt of court charges and a warrant for his arrest.

It is unlikely he will face extradition from Bulgaria as he has not been charged with criminal matters.

In 2018 he lodged an appeal against the validity of the court's orders, but it was dismissed. He launched another appeal to the full bench of the court but lost that as well.

In a judgment handed down in June, Justices Robert Bromwich, Michael Lee and Tom Thawley dismissed Mensink's latest appeal saying sections were "without merit".

Mensink has been ordered to pay costs to the registrar of the Federal Court of Australia.



Clive Mensink.

How little Arthur was born five years after he

THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL A MIRACLE FOR CHRISTMAS



EXCLUSIVE
JANE HANSEN

HAYLEY and Ben Oakley have the best Christmas present they could wish for - their son Arthur.

They had thought their dreams of a family were impossible, because they faced every hurdle you could imagine in the quest for children, including two bouts of cancer.

"He is just beautiful, he is a mixture of me and Ben," Ms Oakley said. "We are blessed, we don't need anything else for Christmas."

In 2017, the south coast couple lost their first child Erica, who was stillborn at 37 weeks after suffering a foetal maternal haemorrhage.

After losing Erica, Ms Oakley continued to suffer abdominal pain and scans showed she had follicular lymphoma, which would require gruelling chemotherapy and could damage her fertility.

"I was borderline stage three so it needed to be treated very quickly and, because we had lost the baby the fertility stuff was front of mind for us," Ms Oakley said.

"The doctors were aware we lost the baby (and) told us that chemo can make you sterile (so) she put us in touch with Professor Lionel Reyftmann from Geneva," Ms

Oakley said.

Prof Reyftmann recommended harvesting her eggs and creating embryos.

"One of the collateral damages is the eggs can be literally burnt by the treatment and damaged," Prof Reyftmann said. "When she lost her baby, everyone was crying when there was a review of that case and we learned not only had she lost her baby but she had cancer. We only had a few weeks to collect the eggs, generate the embryos and it was a desperate measure."

Four embryos were created and frozen then Ms Oakley embarked on chemotherapy that went from March to August. Doctors recommended not trying for a family for a year to allow the chemo drugs to leave her system.

While the chemotherapy cured her lymphoma, a scan picked up another cancer, this time cervical.

"In March of 2019, that scan showed I had cervical cancer. We were devastated. I had to decide whether or not to have a hysterectomy, which was the only treatment," she said.

"I had the hysterectomy in May. I did think it was the end ... we had the embryos but at that point we thought surrogacy was really hard. We were devastated, it felt like we lost



the baby all over again."

In yet another blow, the following year a routine inspection found the cervical cancer had returned, requiring radiation treatment for five weeks. After recovering from that, the couple turned their thoughts to the embryos and posted their story on a private surrogacy website.

From that a surrogate came forward and their first implantation took in January this year.

"I cried, my husband was over the moon. We were in disbelief because so many negative things had happened over the years and it didn't

Hayley Oakley, pregnant with Erica, before her nightmare began.

“My husband said it’s a boy and we were both in tears

HAYLEY OAKLEY

AFP has seized the day in its war on bikies

ANTON ROSE

THE Australian Federal Police is signing off on a year that saw it take 96 guns off the street and throwing 66 bikies in jail.

The AFP has revealed its National Anti-Gangs Squad has recorded one of its biggest years on record.

The offensive against the bikies this year also saw \$2.3 million in cash and gold bullion seized by police.

"Outlaw motorcycle gangs will use firearms to commit violent acts, as well as to intimidate rivals to protect their criminal interests," Superintendent Anthony Conway said.

"Even when they are targeting each other, their access to these weapons puts innocent people at risk."

"They have callous disregard for the lives of others and

that is why the NAGS teams are focused on seizing illicit firearms and disrupting their criminal businesses."

The biggest bust in NSW came when police arrested George Sarkis, 53, and Paul Zhang, 28, charged over attempting to import 51m worth of meth into the country.

Police allege the drugs were hidden in diving equipment.



Seized guns.

The AFP's Anti-Gangs Squad also delivered a blow to an alleged drug syndicate with links to the Comanchero and Rebels bikie gangs.

Western Sydney jeweller Jean Wimmer is currently awaiting trial after being extradited to Tasmania to face charges over the alleged imports.

Police seized more than \$2 million worth of Ferraris belonging to Wimmer they allege were the proceeds of crime.



Jean Wimmer and innocent friend, plus one of his Ferraris.

was conceived ... after mum beat cancer TWICE



Hayley and Ben Oakley, with their son Arthur, who was born via surrogate after a long and difficult journey to parenthood. Picture: Tim Hunter

sink in until we saw the eight-week scan," she said.

Arthur was born on September 11, 2022.

"It was just amazing, I don't know how to put it into words. There were tears as soon as we heard him cry," she said.

"My husband said it's a boy and we were both in tears, the surrogate was in tears.

"(We faced) every single hurdle, one thing after another, we just felt we were never going to get there and we kept wondering why does this keep happening to us, we are good people, we haven't done anything bad, we just want to be parents"

Proud new dad Ben said his son's birth was a relief.

"He was technically a five-year-old before he was born, as he'd been in the freezer waiting," the 38-year-old said.

"There was a lot of relief when he was out. I was just happy to see his face and I was so grateful to the doctors and nurses and the surrogate and Hayley. Fatherhood is everything I hoped it to be."

Mrs Oakley, a teacher had to give up work throughout her treatments and the financial impost on the family was lightened by the generosity of the Illawarra Convoy Charity which helped them out over

the five years. "We were so grateful to them" she said.

For Professor Reyftmann, Arthur is a career highlight.

"No one had ever the idea she would have another cancer and lose the uterus. If we knew this I would have said don't do it, your priority is to save your life but we gave her the option," he said.

"When I saw it going pear-shaped and she was going to have a hysterectomy I thought that's it, it is never going to happen, so it is an incredible story. In 20 years, I have never had a case like this, her story is incredible, this is the reason why we do this."

“In 20 years, I have never had a case like this

PROFESSOR LIONEL REYFTMANN



Genes' Prof Lionel Reyftmann



Wade Basanovic.

Fearful prisoner bashed on iso exit

LINDA SILMALIS

A CONVICTED bikie killer is alleged to have bashed a fellow inmate who had been placed in a cell by himself after expressing fears for his safety.

Former bikie Wade Basanovic, who was jailed for more than 13 years after being convicted of the 2013 manslaughter of Hells Angel heavyweight Zeljko Mitrovic, is accused of assaulting inmate Mitchell West at Shortland Correctional Centre on Monday.

A prison source claimed West had been separated from other inmates and placed in a "one-out cell" after alerting officers of his concerns for his safety the previous week.

The source said West was to have remained in the cell by himself pending a threat assessment from the prison's functional manager.

However, after an unrelated incident involving another inmate last week, West was released back into the pod with other inmates, the source said.

"Ten minutes later he gets flogged senseless," the source said.

A Corrective Services NSW spokesman said NSW Police were investigating.

"At about 10:20am on Monday, 12 December 2022 Shortland Correctional Centre staff responded to an assault on a 30-year-old inmate," she said.

"The inmate was transferred to Maitland Hospital with swelling to the face and returned to the centre at 7:30pm the same day.

"A 31-year-old inmate was identified as the alleged assailant and he was placed into segregation while Corrective Services NSW and NSW Police investigate."

No charges have been laid.

'Crazy' high-speed car chase

MADLINE CRITTENDEN

TWO people allegedly involved in an attempt to kill a man in Queensland have been arrested in Sydney after leading police on a dangerous chase through traffic.

Annabelle Smith, 25, and Rob Birch, 35 were arrested in dramatic scenes at Killara on Friday, after allegedly fleeing Queensland following the attempted murder of a man.

Police spotted the pair driving a red Ford Focus on the Pacific Hwy on Sydney's north shore and attempted to stop them, however they took off.

The pair allegedly led officers from the State Crime Command's Robbery and Serious Crime Squad through the area and into oncoming traffic, as shocked drivers did their best to avoid a collision.

"It was crazy," one witness said. "Most dramatic thing

that's happened on the north shore in a while."

The interstate chase came to a dramatic close at Killara, after police fired rubber bullets through the front windscreen, before boxing the car in.

Birch was bitten by a police dog after he allegedly tried to flee, while Smith was arrested and taken into custody.

Smith and Birch were refused bail and are set to face an extradition hearing next week.



The aftermath to the dramatic police chase.

Derailment closes rail line

THE main western rail line through the Blue Mountains will be closed for repairs from today for at least five days following a freight train derailment.

"The track in both directions is impacted. It is expected more than 15,000 sleepers will need to be replaced and 120 broken rails fixed," Regional Transport Minister Sam Farraway said.