DORAL ROUNDUP



NOVEMBER 2023

Official Publication of the Dural Chamber of Commerce www.duralchamber.com.au



'TIS THE SEASON TO THINK ABOUT MAINTENANCE



See page 2 for further information.



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The Dooral Roundup loves to receive contributions from our community!

Guidelines for contributors:

- · Please send stories in editable text, eg Word or email (no PDFs), maximum 250 words.
- Please email pictures as separate files (not embedded into Word document).
- · Deadline for community stories: 15th of the month.
- · Deadline for advertisers providing your own art: 22nd of the month.
- The paper is distributed in the first few days of the new month.

Our beloved "FREE" paper is paid for by our loyal advertisers.

Support our advertisers and their local businesses by buying their products and services!

If you are promoting an event with paid ticket sales, consider taking out an advertisement, however small.

Not for profit events can have a 30 word listing in "What's On."

SMALL BUSINESS MONTH

The 19th October saw the Dural **Business Chamber hold a Small** Business Month event to promote small business sustainability and growth in our area. Approx. 25 local business owners attended the sessions at Glenorie RSL.

The event centred around three key elements: Business Resilience, Mental Health/Wellbeing, and low cost marketing techniques. Each of the three sessions complimented each other.

Michael Parker spoke on the age old problem of many small business owners working hard every day IN their business but often neglect the time to work ON their business. Cash flow is a key element of being financially responsible.

Susan Smith from Positive Vibes had a very profound message, that we need to look after our own wellbeing. Make time for yourself, not just dedicate yourself to the business, or you could burnout.

Hannah Stack from "In the Willow" marketing delivered a strong message, that it

is critical you establish an online presence, with a marketing strategy behind it.

Low cost marketing depends on knowing your customers' personas, so you can build a strategy that is complimentary. Hannah again reinforced the message of working ON your business not AT your business.



Small Business Month session presenters: L_R: Susan Smith from Positive Vibes, Hannah Stack from In the Willow, Michael Parker

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VISIT OF SALVATION ARMY VETERANS BAND TO DURAL ON TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2023



Many Australians have fond memories of The Salvation Army Band playing Christmas Carols in residential streets at Christmastime. It was always a memorable and happy occasion when the Salvos would come around our homes playing and singing Christmas carols. It is a cherished memory for many readers.

On **Tuesday 5th December** the Sydney Veterans Band of The Salvation Army will be presenting a free Christmas concert at The Salvation Army 277 New Line Road Dural (entry from Old Northern Road) at 10am. Come and hear your favourite Christmas music played by a genuine and most experienced group of Salvos. This concert will be followed by a free lunch.

This is certainly a date not to be missed!

Below is a photo of 3 Hills residents (Gordon Bowie, Allan Snitch and Jim Muir) who are members of The Salvation Army Sydney Veterans Band, Looks like they are in good form and have been rehearsing for the concert.





ESCAPE ABROAD WITHOUT LEAVING DURAL AT THE CENTRE



Already home to a thriving Men's Shed, The Centre at Dural has been looking for more ways to reach out to some of the older populations nearby. Angie, our resident Nonna, saw an opportunity to do what she does best, entertain and put on a great lunch!

Following Covid shut downs, and dreaming of travelling abroad, she came up with the idea of coming together to watch a travel video of a far off location, following it up with a themed lunch to really immerse yourself in the culture for a day. Her first lunch was a huge hit, and the monthly (or sometimes bi-monthly) lunches have grown on a life of their own!

Dance the night away on the red carpet with 'A Night at the Oscars'

Sunday 31st December 2023
From 7:00PM

For more info and to book visit our website:
www.bivianosdural.com

BOOK NOW

(02) 9651 2022 | Open 7 Days
628 Old Northern Road, Dural NSW

Locals have been journeying with us to Greece, Turkey, Italy and more, enjoying delicious two course meals with friends at our café. The details of upcoming lunches are available on our website, or give Angie a call on 8989 0000 to book in. We are heading to Italy on the 14th November, Greece on the 21st and 28th November and a special festive visit to Christmas Markets around the world on the 12th December.

In 2024, The Centre is also expanding its popular Over 55s Movement class, offering a class every weekday. This low-impact class is a great way to maintain fitness and independence in a supportive and encouraging environment.

Visit thecentredural.org.au for more information







CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF HORNSBY FOUNTAIN

Friday at the Fountain on Friday 24th November is an opportunity for the community to come together in Hornsby Mall and enjoy live entertainment, family friendly activities, a pop-up bar and a variety of food trucks. There will also be a formal ceremony to celebrate the revitalisation of the fountain, after refurbishments have been made possible by a grant from the Australian Government.

The fountain clock will transform into a musical instrument "played" live by one of New South Wales' only carillonists.
This will be a one-of-a-kind symphony, with the raincoat-adorning musician playing the musical pipes from inside the fountain.

Hornsby Shire Mayor Philip Ruddock AO says the fountain is a Hornsby landmark

that stands out as an icon of the town centre.

"Our unique fountain-clock, Man, Time and the Environment, as it's officially known, has been a central point of Hornsby Mall and part of our lives, for 30 years," said Mayor Ruddock.

The sculpture was designed and built by Victor Cusack to pay tribute to the beauty of the environment in Hornsby Shire.

Friday at the Fountain will take place from 4pm to 8pm on Friday 24th November in Hornsby Mall, and residents are invited to come along with family and friends to enjoy this fabulous free event.

Community events like this are part of Council's range of initiatives to build resilience in the community and help combat social isolation, by providing opportunities for people to connect. For more information, visit hornsby.nsw.qov.au/fridayfountain.



NEW QUARTERLY PUBLICATION 'OUR COUNCIL'

Hornsby Shire Council has begun delivery of the first edition of a new, free publication to all residents of the Local Government Area (LGA).

Titled 'Our Council', the publication is to be delivered quarterly to mailboxes throughout Hornsby Shire and includes updates on major projects, information on services, local history and sustainability along with contact information for the Shire's Mayor and each of its nine councillors.

Hornsby Shire Mayor Philip Ruddock AO says the publication ensures that all residents of the Shire feel informed and updated on Council projects.

"To regular users of the web and digital devices, receiving a printed publication in the mail might seem like a hark back to the past. But as a diverse and inclusive community, it's important that Council news and information reaches all residents, not just those who frequently use social media," said Mayor Ruddock.

"Now more than ever, residents of the Shire expect to be kept up to date on exactly how their rates are being spent and what we are doing to deliver timely and effective projects and services, and to have their say and help us shape the future of our Shire."

The first edition of the publication includes updates on

projects at Hornsby Park and Westleigh Park, latest waste and recycling news, Council's efforts in mitigating significant road damage over the previous years, and maps recent upgrades and new builds delivered for the community.

To access a digital copy of 'Our Council', please visit: https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/council/noticeboard/news/join





Display Home

6 Alcorn Place, Pitt Town









This modern residence blends timeless design with industrial elements. Warm and tactile sandstone, timber and steel accents invite you into the home. The spacious entry features double-height glass and skylights, bathing the interior in natural light. The handcrafted steel staircase leads you to the upper level. The kitchen, living and dining areas are connected by oversized doors blurring the line between interior and exterior spaces and directly flowing into the pool and garden areas. Premium finishes throughout the home reflect skill and elegance, making it an exceptional showpiece property.

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IN AND AROUND DURAL

Rotary's 'Tree of Joy' at Cherrybrook Village Shopping Centre and Westleigh Village Shopping Centre, 6th Nov – 10th Dec. Select a bauble and help put some joy into Christmas for those less fortunate.

Community walk supporting Domestic and Family Violence, organised by Rotary WPH/Cherrybrook, 10th November, from Castle Hill Shopping Centre to Castle Hill RSL. For details visit wphcrotary.org/ and click "What's On."

Bromeliad Society of Aust Blue Mountains bus trip, 11th Nov, to Wildwood gardens Bilpin and Mount Tomah botanical gardens. For info contact Ian Hook 0408 202 269, ianhook1@bigpond.com www.bromeliad.org.au

Dural and District Historical Society, Guest speaker Prof Don Napper on Colonial Architect Francis Greenway, 11th Nov 2pm Galston Uniting Church, School Road, Galston, entry is free with a gold coin for afternoon tea. All welcome. Enquiries to Michael Bell 02 9653 1365.

Arcadian Artists Trail Weekend 11th-12th November. Entry is free and you don't have to register. For more information, visit https://arcadianartists.net.au

Travel Lunches – A fun day out, enjoy a travel movie from an exciting location, followed by a delicious 2 course meal. From 11am at The Centre, 1 Pellitt Lane Dural. \$38pp, RSVP one week before 8989 0000. • 14th Nov Italian lunch • 21st Nov Greek lunch • 28th Nov Greek lunch • 12th Dec Christmas Market.

Art Xmas Market, Sat 18th Nov 9am-2pm, Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill. Art works, gift cards, craft, books, trash & treasure, jewellery, plants. FREE Christmas ornament making for all ages. Book a table at chasart@bigpond.com

Broadway Meets Pop! Circular Keys Chorus and Sydney Harmony, a show-stopping a cappella spectacular, Sat 18th November, Hornsby RSL, 4 High St, Hornsby. Book at www.HornsbyRSL.com.au

PICTURES, Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra. Sat 18th November 7:30pm, Hills Grammar School. MARQUEZ Danzon No. 2, TCHAIKOVSKY 'Nutcracker' Suite, MUSSORGSKY arr. RAVEL Pictures at an Exhibition. Info hillsshiresymphonyorchestra.org.au

International Men's Day Magnificent Men' Breakfast organised by Rotary WPH/Cherrybrook, Sun 19th November, 8:30am Sunny Side Café, 35 Coonara Ave, West Pennant Hills. For details visit wphcrotary.org/ and click "What's On."

Christmas Fete at Cherrybrook Primary School, assisted by Rotary WPH/Cherrybrook, Sun 19th Nov 2–7pm, for details visit wphcrotary.org/ and click "What's On."

Australian Plants Society, Parramatta/Hills Branch, Speaker: Lyndal Thorburn "An Eremophila for every garden." 2pm Sat 25th November, Gumnut Hall, Gumnut Place, Cherrybrook. Afternoon tea will be served. Visitors welcome!

Rotary WPH/Cherrybrook Christmas Market, Sun 3rd December 9am-3pm, Rural Fire Services/Girl Guides site, cnr Shepherds and Macquarie Dr Cherrybrook. Still some vacancies for Stallholders, info at wphcrotary.org/

Service of Remembrance for families and friends whose children have died or are missing. St Matthew's Anglican Church, cnr New Line and Castle Hill Rds, West Pennant Hills,

Tues 5th Dec 7.30 pm. All welcome. Watch online at www.stmatts.au to register your child's name in our Tribute List, visit www.stmatts.au/remember or call 8568 8773.

Kenthurst Rotary Carols in the Park Sat 9th December 3–9pm, John Benyon Rotary Park Cnr Kenthurst and Nelson Sts Kenthurst. Rides, entertainment, food trucks, BBQ, Santa!

Christmas Wreath Making at The Centre, 9th Dec 10am, 1 Pellitt Lane Dural. Book online thecentredural.org.au/christmas-wreath-making

Christmas Carols at The Centre, 1 Pellitt Lane Dural. All welcome for festive Carols service followed by a free sausage sizzle. 10th December 10am. Free Event.

REGULAR MEETINGS:

Rotary Club of Kenthurst meets every Monday at 6:30pm.
1st Mon of month at Kentgrove Village, cnr Jones and Kenthurst
Roads, Kenthurst. Subsequent Mondays at The Australian Brewery,
350 Annangrove Rd, Rouse Hill. Visitors welcome! Info Chris Gaskin
on 0414 903 185. rotaryclubkenthurst@hotmail.com
www.kenthurstrotaryclub.com.au

Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook meets 1st Thurs of month at Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Centre. Ross 0411 104 863. We warmly welcome you to our Probus Club to share the good times!

Probus Club of Round Corner meets 2nd Monday of month, 9.30am Galston Club, 21 Arcadia Rd Galston. We enjoy Tennis, Mahjong, Movie Club and Luncheon. Visitors welcome! Secretary Julie Patman 0439 072 218.

Probus Club of the Hills welcomes you to our meetings! 2nd Wednesday of the month (except Jan), Galston Club 10am. Bob Heyward 0427 360 389 or Ken Smith 0413 309 573.

Dural & District Prostate Cancer Support Group meets 3rd Monday / month 7:00pm Blue Gum Centre, Glenhaven Green, 607 Old Northern Road. Glenhaven. Call Graham 8677 7896 or 0402 421 062.

Kenthurst Probus meets 3rd Monday of every month (except Dec) 9.30am Kenthurst Uniting Church. Membership Director Burt Stuut 9652 1239. Guests are always welcome! Just turn up on the day!

Coonara Cherrybrook Combined Probus Group is a friendly group that meets at Castle Hill Bowling Club on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10.00am. Come and join in the many activities if you enjoy fun and fellowship.

The Dooral Roundup has so many stories, we can't print them all!

Scan to go straight to our Latest News page at dooralroundup.com.au/latest-news/







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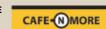
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ACCOUNTS ALL SORTED WINS AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS 2023

Growing a business can be full of challenges, dreams and goals. It's a journey that requires resilience, determination, and a whole lot of passion. As business women, we strive to make an impact in the market, not just for ourselves but for the community as a whole.

This year, I am thrilled and deeply humbled to announce that Accounts All Sorted have been recognised as Winner in the Accounting Category at the Australian Women's Small Business Awards 2023.

Winning this award is more than just a trophy, it's an acknowledgement of the blood, sweat, and tears that go into building and growing a business; and it's about acknowledging every businesswoman who has dared to dream and worked tirelessly to turn that dream into reality.

Of course, I wouldn't have reached this milestone without our valued clients and the commitment of my experienced and dedicated team. Teamwork really does make the dream work! I am truly blessed and grateful to have such a team who are just as passionate about helping our clients as I am.

This award inspires us to strive harder, innovate more, and deliver better. It reaffirms that our efforts are being noticed



and appreciated, fuelling our passion and drive to continue doing what we do best.

To everyone on the journey with me – thank you. Without you, this award would not have been possible.

Keryn Stack - Director, Accounts All Sorted, Specialising in Bookkeeping, Payroll, Business Advisory, Xero and BAS Agent Services. Phone 0409 962 777 keryn@accountsallsorted.com.au | www.accountsallsorted.com.au



BUILDING COMMUNITY

WITH TIMBER

Four local groups are drawn together with the common passion of working with timber.

The NARANGBA timber company of Dural has teamed up with Dural Men's Shed, the Dural Pony Club and Warrah school in projects that will have a great benefit for the Dural community.

Narangba Timber has donated timber to the Dural Men's Shed for the "GIDDY UP PROJECT." The shed is rebuilding the old, unsafe spectator seating for the Dural Pony Club, much to the delight of the pony club members.

Lisa Stephenson from the Dural Pony Club states "The Pony Club is incredibly grateful for the support given by Narangba Timber.



As a purely volunteer group,
Dural Pony Club is fortunate that
we are part of a community that
has civic minded businesses
such as Narangba Timber and
community groups like Dural
Men's Shed. Working together the
three organisations are making
a difference to help us provide a
modern, safe and beautiful space
for our members and the greater
pony club Zone 23 to survive. We
simply cannot thank them enough."



Narangba Timber has also joined up with the Dural Men's Shed to supply timber for the building project of four tables that WARRAH have asked for in their farm produce shop at Dural.

These tables are actually going to be built by the young men from WARRAH who come to the shed every Wednesday. The WARRAH young fellas will proudly be able to show off their building achievement "back at the ranch"! Great community partnerships in action.

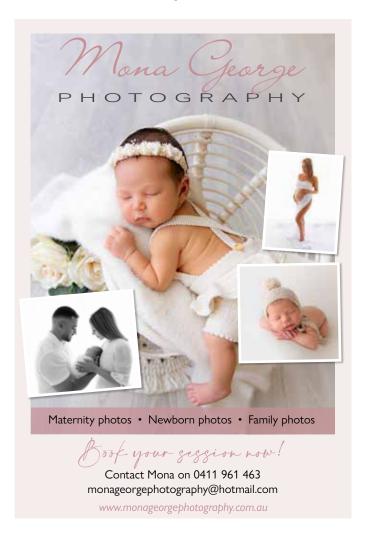
Dural Men's Shed is located at The Centre, 1 Pellitt Lane Dural 2158, open Thursdays (9am To 4pm) and Saturdays (9am To 2pm). Contact us on 02 8989 0000, duralmensshed@gmail.com, duralmensshed.org



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DECK THE GARDEN HALLS FOR CHRISTMAS

With November's warm sun upon us, it's the ideal time to ready your garden for a beautiful Christmas. Whether you're an experienced gardener or just beginning to explore the world of plants, Sydney's Plant Market is your trusted source of expertise, helping you achieve a lush and inviting garden for the holiday season.

YOUR FESTIVE FLORA CHECKLIST:

Seasonal planting: November is the perfect time to think ahead. Choose and plant varieties that will be in full bloom or at their peak by Christmas.

Garden grooming: To ensure your garden looks its best, regular maintenance is key. Prune, weed, and nourish your plants to keep them thriving throughout the season.

Outdoor decor: Enhance your garden's appeal with outdoor decorations, including garden ornaments, pots, seating options, and festive lighting. These elements create an inviting atmosphere for your Christmas celebrations.

Lawn Care: Remember to give some attention to your lawn. Mowing, aerating, and watering are essential for a lush, green carpet that complements your garden's festive decor. Pest Patrol: With the warmer weather, keep an eye out for garden pests. Check plants regularly, especially the underside of leaves. Use natural deterrents or eco-friendly sprays where possible.

Mulching Magic: As temperatures rise, mulch your garden beds. This helps retain soil moisture, suppresses weeds, and gives garden beds a neat appearance. Choose an organic mulch that'll break down, adding nutrients to the soil.

Hydration Habits: Set up a watering routine. Early morning or late evening is best to prevent evaporation. If you're planning a vacation around Christmas, consider investing in a drip irrigation system or asking a neighbour to help.

Finishing Touches: A week or two before Christmas, do a final garden check. Prune any overgrown plants, add some festive outdoor decor, and ensure pathways are clear. Maybe even set up a small Christmas tree or ornament display in a garden nook!

Armed with this checklist, your garden is set to be a stunning backdrop to your Christmas festivities.

For any questions or concerns, the team at Sydney's Plant Market are ready to assist. Open 7 days, 7am-5pm, 184 Annangrove Rd, Annangrove or visit www.sydneyplantmarket.com.au Happy Gardening!

MANAGE CHRONIC PAIN AT WESTLEIGH CHIROPRACTIC

We emphasize the importance of effectively managing chronic pain during Osteoporosis Awareness Month.

This observance aims to raise awareness about various types of pain and promote new solutions for those living with it.



Pain is a complex, subjective experience that can affect anyone, often resulting from injuries, medical conditions, or lifestyle factors, significantly impacting your quality of life.

As chiropractors, we address the root causes by understanding the interplay between the musculoskeletal and nervous systems, providing comprehensive care.

Chiropractic care takes a holistic approach to pain management, aiming to restore balance and optimize the body's natural healing abilities. Through non-invasive techniques like spinal adjustments, mobilizations, exercises, and soft tissue therapies, we alleviate pain, enhance mobility, and improve overall well-being.

By realigning the spine and reducing nerve interference, our care promotes proper communication between the brain and the body.

If you or someone you know struggles with chronic pain, consider seeking help from our practice on a journey to a healthier and vibrant future.

For a limited time, we are offering a \$49 initial patient consultation to all new patients. This offer will give you an in-depth discussion and an opportunity to talk to our doctor to see what we can do to assist you in your spinal and overall health. Give us a call at 02 9484 7090 to book with us!

Westleigh Chiropractic is located at Westleigh Village - Shop 15/2 Eucalyptus Drive, Westleigh next door to Six and Seven Cafe

Visit www.westleighvillage.com.au



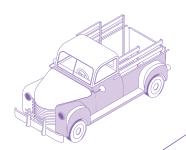


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NEW DURAL TOWN CENTRE PLANNING REQUEST LODGED

AS PUBLISHED ON "DURAL 2158" FACEBOOK GROUP BY ADMIN TERRY CARTER:

More info has been filed relating to the DA lodged for the vacant land at Round Corner near Stonelea Court - 488 Old Northern Road - a new \$19m shopping and residential development promoted as the new Dural Town Centre.

Could something finally be happening there?

Watch the developer's video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vxcSMbb0aQ







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50,000 NEW JOBS IN ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN

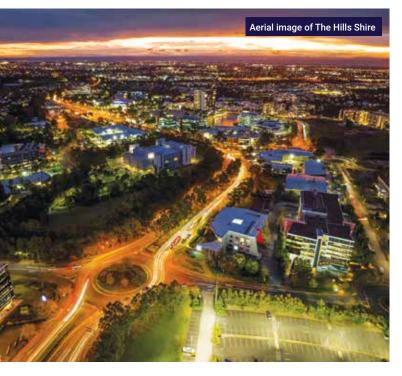
The Hills Shire Council has approved a forward-thinking Economic Growth Plan which targets the creation of 50,000 new jobs by 2041, aims to boost tourism in The Hills' rural north and capitalise on the skills of residents.

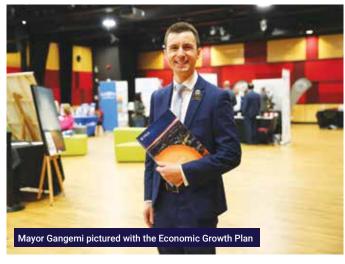
The plan was endorsed during an Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 10th October, following a comprehensive three-month public consultation process.

Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Peter Gangemi said the plan's vision is to position the region as a hub for innovation, health and science.

"It is a clear goal of Council to help foster economic growth and the creation of local jobs in The Hills, and boost agritourism in the rural parts of our Shire.

"The Economic Growth Plan also looks at how we can attract skilled and educated employees, encourage visitors and increase employment opportunities for our highly skilled residents so they can work close to their home.





KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ECONOMIC GROWTH PLAN INCLUDE:

- Create over 50,000 new jobs by 2041 and attract investments.
- · Champion local businesses.
- Enable the region's highly skilled residents to work close to home.
- Infrastructure and transport plan to upgrade green spaces, roads, pathways, and cycleways, enhance employment areas and advocate for new infrastructure and transport links.
- Seeks investment in four pivotal sectors: healthcare and social assistance, education and training, advanced manufacturing and professional scientific / technical services
- Review Council's brand identity and the development of a marketing program aimed at conveying the strengths that The Hills has to businesses and industries, thereby attracting new enterprises to the area.
- Build partnerships with key tourism businesses and organisations operating in the Shire to maximise strategic tourism opportunities.

The approved Economic Growth Plan can be viewed on Council's website, www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and by searching "Finalisation of Economic Growth Plan".





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THREE BOX HILL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS



Three projects that will connect and reshape Box Hill are a step closer after The Hills Shire Council awarded contracts for their construction.

The transformative projects include the construction of Anthony Skarratt Reserve Stage One, upgrading the intersection of Edwards Road and Annangrove Road to a four-way roundabout, and the establishment of a vital culvert crossing on Terry Road.

Mayor of The Hills Shire Dr Peter Gangemi said Council had prioritised the construction of infrastructure in growing areas to make life better for residents.

"These three projects are crucial for Box Hill, which is increasing in population as part of the NSW Government's Northwest Priority Growth Area," Mayor Gangemi said.

Read the full story at https://dooralroundup.com.au/latest-news/

LOCAL GROUPS IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Chat a Lot Quilting Group recently presented Soroptimist International of The Hills Inc with a beautiful quilt they had made, to be used for fundraising efforts in the Hills Community.

The Soroptimist International (S.I.) organisation is an international network of clubs with a focus on improving the lives of women and girls. S.I. Hills has been active in the Hills local area for 43 years with a focus on raising awareness and supporting activities at a local, national and international level.

President Cathy Tracey says that it is through the generous donations of groups such as the "Chat a Lots" that we are able to have wonderful prizes for our raffles throughout the year. The money raised generally goes to support local community services. We are very grateful for this support.



If you are interested in learning more about Soroptimist International of The Hills Inc, please contact President Cathy Tracey on 0435 837 118.







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NEW BOOK BY LOCAL AUTHOR

GREAT XMAS GIFT FOR DAD OR GRANDPA

THE 36TH EAGLE WRITTEN BY JEFF MULLER

As tensions between Australia and China boil over, an invasion fleet headed by China's new aircraft carrier is on its way south...

Defenceless and alone, Australia finds an unexpected glimmer of hope in two retired RAAF pilots in a daring plan...



If these men fail, Australia falls to China and the world as we know it changes forever...

The author, a retired scientist, has had a passion for aviation since he was a child. Over a fifty-year flying career, he has flown many types of aircraft, from gliders to fighter jets. He has owned and operated six aircraft, including four warbirds.

Jeff and his wife Liz have travelled to every continent seeking adventure. They favour remote places like Africa, the Arctic, Antarctic, Pacific Islands and Central Australia.



When at home in Sydney's Hills District, Jeff restores vintage cars and helps Liz in their large garden.

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SOROPTIMISTS RAISE \$7,000

Members of Soroptimist International Hornsby held their very successful "Spring Fling" fundraiser for the local women's refuge in September. Raffle tickets were sold to raise funds, as well as members holding afternoon teas for friends to come along into their own homes.

\$7000 was raised for the Hornsby and Kur-ring-gai Women's refuge which helps victims of domestic violence.

Soroptimist International is an international organisation for women working through service projects to raise the status of women, advance human rights for all and promote equality, development and peace.

For further information please contact Pam on 0425 229 615.



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Latest News



To lodge, view and track the latest Development Applications in your area please visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/property



from the Mayor's Desk

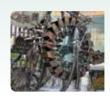
In Hornsby, one landmark stands out as an icon of the town centre - our famous Hornsby fountain. Love it or hate it, our unique fountain-clock, Man, Time and the Environment, as it's officially known, has been a central point of Hornsby Mall, and part of our lives, for thirty years.

To celebrate three decades of the fountain, and a raft of recent upgrades made possible by a grant from the Australian Government. we are hosting a community event in Hornsby Mall on Friday 24 November. Friday at the Fountain will be an opportunity for us all to come together and enjoy music, food, kids' activities and more. Check hornsby.nsw.gov. au for details. I hope to see you all there.

Community events like this are part of Council's range of initiatives to build resilience in the community, and help combat social isolation, by providing opportunities for people to connect. Other initiatives include our Hello Hornsby program for seniors and our work with young people. We've also partnered with Lifeline to launch Lifeline Connect each Thursday at Hornsby Library. This free service, staffed by compassionate and non-judgemental Lifeline volunteers, is an opportunity for people to have a confidential conversation in a safe space. Please feel free to drop in for a chat if you need support.

Our major project to build a new park at Westleigh reached a major milestone last month as we lodged a Development Application (DA). Adopted earlier this year, the Westleigh Park Masterplan outlines how the redevelopment of the former Sydney Water site will create a major recreation facility with much needed spaces for sports including football, rugby, AFL, athletics and cricket, and activities such as mountain biking, walking and cycling. You can view the DA and provide feedback until 20 November at yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Philip Ruddock AO Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council





Come and celebrate the 30th anniversary of Hornsby's unique fountain-clock with food trucks, popup bar, live entertainment and family-friendly activities.

Friday 24 November, 4pm-8pm. Hornsby Mall hornsby.nsw.gov.au/FridayFountain



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WASTE AND SUSTAINABILITY **EVENTS**

For details and bookings visit:



- Hornsby Library ■ Have a Very Merry Sustainable Christmas Wednesday 15 November, 10-11.30am Hornsby Library
- Beeswax Wrap Workshop Saturday 18 November, 10.30am-12pm Pennant Hills Community Centre
- Solar and Batteries with Adam Corrigan Tuesday 21 November, 7-8pm Online, bookings essential
- Clothing Swap Saturday 25 November 11am-1.30pm **Thornleigh Community Centre**
- Chipping for Mulch Galston Sunday 26 November, 7.30am-12.30pm Council Depot - Johnson Road, Galston



Hornsby Development Control Plan Amendments Submissions close:

EREE

Monday 6 November

Westleigh Park Development Application Submissions close: Monday 20 November

Have your say and sign up to alerts visit yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Express Your Ability art exhibition

BY LOCAL ARTISTS LIVING WITH DISABILITY

29 November - 2 December

Studio ARTES, 33 Jersey Street, Hornsby

Wednesday - Friday 3.30pm-6pm Saturday Celebration - 10am-1pm

hornsby.nsw.gov.au/ExpressYourAbility

RED CROSS GET PREPARED WORKSHOP

Tuesday 7 November, 6.30pm-8pm. Cowan Community Centre

Bookings essential. hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson





LIFELINE CONNECT

Thursdays 1pm-5pm **Hornsby Library**







A "pub choir" style inclusive singing event for seniors, during Social Inclusion Week, Tuesday 21 November.

Join up to 200 seniors in the Showroom of the RSL to have fun, meet new people, learn a song and sing together at the grand finale of the event.

More details: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/hellohornsby

hornsby.nsw.gov.au

SPECIALS SEASON IS HERE – ARE YOU IN OR OUT?

November to January is a huge season of specials! We start in November after the US Thanksgiving holiday with Black Friday (23rd November) and Cyber Monday. Then it's into pre-Christmas sales, the infamous Boxing Day sales (a billion dollar day in Australia) through to New Years sales, and then back to school. It's one massive sales period.

As a small business owner, should you be discounting or offering specials just because 'everyone' else is? It all comes down to your strategy and pricing.

If you intend to discount or offer specials, you must make sure you've factored them into your pricing, and this is where so many businesses go wrong. Randomly deciding, I'm going to discount my prices 25%, but they haven't planned for it ahead of time.

What would you offer discounted? Would it be products that are obsolete and could otherwise not be sold? Or is it across the board, losing out on products you would've sold anyway? For services, are you offering an add-on, or are you getting people to book in during quiet periods? Maybe you're launching a new service or membership and discounting the introductory period?

Offering discounts and specials, particularly when it's almost expected in the market, can be good for business, but ONLY if you know the cost of that discounting and you factored it in.



If you need help, I've worked with NSW Government funded Business Connect clients on this and have a prerecorded training course on discounting under my business FAQ Business Training.

Jane Tweedy - Western Sydney Business Centre 0490 102 194 | jane@wsbusiness.com.au







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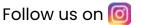


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2023 HORNSBY ART PRIZE WINNERS



The winners of the 2023 Hornsby Art Prize have been announced, with Ryan Daffurn taking home the top prize for his painting, Proposition 5, 4, 3, 2, 1! — an oil on linen depiction of a young musician described by judge James Powditch as "an accomplished painting with a subdued yet resonating power".

The Hornsby Shire Local Artist Award went to Libby Moore from Beecroft for her painting, *Just put your feet up for a while.*

"I'm so excited and I'm very honoured to be the recipient of the Local Artist Award. This kind of recognition is very exciting and affirming," said Ms Moore.

Hornsby Art Society President Chris Beard expressed his delight at the overwhelming response to the Prize, stating that the Society was "blown away with the number of entries this year and beautiful artworks received".

The prize winners, along with the finalists, will be on exhibition at the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre from 20th October until 5th November 2023, Tuesday - Sunday, 10am - 4pm.

For more information go to: https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/artprize

ARCADIAN ARTISTS TRAIL WEEKEND

The inspiring Arcadian Artists Trail weekend is on again on 11th-12th November. Entry is free and you don't have to register.

In Arcadia over 30 years ago, a small group of artists opened their studios to their neighbours and the local community who embraced the idea. It soon became an annual event which has come a long way since then! This unique exhibition has, over time, expanded to include between five and eight working studios in this beautiful rural enclave and boasts close to 50 talented artists who represent many different disciplines in the arts.







Participating artist Julia Elsey of Pine Valley Studio expounds upon her muse:

"I think my love of printmaking must have come from my grandfather who was a printer. I love the serendipitous nature of creating images in this way. A plate can be made from many materials and inked in a variety of ways, but when it is put through the press and the picture is revealed, it can be very exciting. Inks mix in unexpected ways and multiple layers can be used. My inspiration comes from many trips in the outback of Australia where the colours are amazing and the visual images are raw and earthy. There is a spiritual element to my work that draws me in. Co-creating with the Creator is such a delight. Visual images take the viewer somewhere, and I would like to believe that a doorway to God can be opened up as beauty or tension is embraced. My studio is nestled at the base of beautiful sandstone cliffs and has a small lake where turtles, fish and ducks love to play. I feel very relaxed working and living in such a lovely environment."

For more information, visit https://arcadianartists.net.au

PET PORTRAITS

Are you looking for a unique gift for Christmas, or any other occasion?

A friend of the Rotary Club of Kenthurst has a passion for capturing beloved pets in pencil. All proceeds are donated to the club for our many community projects.

For details, please email us with subject Pet Art, rotaryclubkenthurst@hotmail.com

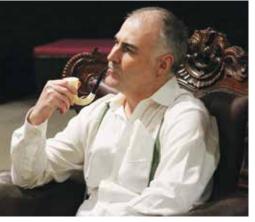




A FAR FROM ELEMENTARY COMEDY - CASTLE HILL PLAYERS PRESENTS BASKERVILLE: A SHERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY

AT THE PAVILION THEATRE FROM 17TH NOVEMBER - 9TH DECEMBER (WRITTEN BY KEN LUDWIG AND DIRECTED BY JASON SPINDLOW)

Get your deerstalker cap on—the play's afoot!
Comedic genius Ken Ludwig (Lend Me a Tenor,
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Doyle's classic The Hound of the Baskervilles into a
murderously funny adventure with Castle Hill Players'
final play of the season.



Sherlock Holmes is on the case. The male heirs of the Baskerville line are being dispatched one by one. To find their ingenious killer, Holmes and Watson must brave the desolate moors before a family curse dooms its newest heir.

Watch as our intrepid investigators try to escape a dizzying web of clues, silly accents, disguises, and deceit

as five actors deftly portray more than forty characters. Does a wild hellhound prowl the moors of Devonshire? Can our heroes discover the truth in time? Join the fun and see how far from elementary the truth can be.



A classic mystery to die for where you'll laugh trying to solve with Holmes and Watson. - Jason Spindlow, Director

Castle Hill Players presents

Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

By Ken Ludwig, directed by Jason Spindlow

17th Nov – 9th Dec | Wed, Fri, Sat 8PM, Sun 4PM

Pavilion Theatre, Castle Hill

Tickets \$30, Concession \$25

The Pavilion Theatre is located within the

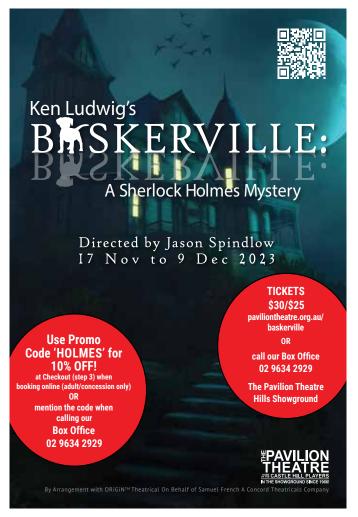
Castle Hill Showgrounds, Castle Hill

Bookings: paviliontheatre.org.au/baskerville or

call 02 9634 2929

Enquiries: 02 9634 3846 or email admin@paviliontheatre.org.au





POP UP CRAFT SHOP **OPEN IN NOVEMBER**



Elouera Cottage Crafts' POP UP will open each Friday and Saturday 9am - 1pm from 3rd November until Saturday 18th November 2023. It will be located in the Reid Room (at the rear of the main building and adjacent to the car park) at Cherrybrook Uniting Church, 134 New Line Road, Cherrybrook.

Featuring a creative collection of handmade items including appliqued tea towels, crocheted top kitchen towels, cross stitched bath towels and hand towels, knitted baby jackets, cushions, patchwork quilts, bags and table runners, Christmas decorations plus a whole lot more - all items are locally made and at very affordable prices.

Full details www.cherrybrookuc.org.au or follow Elouera Cottage Crafts on Facebook/Instagram.









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ROTARY CLUB OF KENTHURST



Our Club has been busy as usual! Christine Owen our District Governor, attended our meeting on 25th September, giving a presentation of this year's global and district visions.

We also welcomed Oosha from Adambakkam Rotary Club in India. Oosha presented us with a flag, and we responded with a Polo Shirt. Great to have visitors sharing their experiences.

Our Club has donated and installed a life-saving AED Defibrillator into the Kenthurst Community Bus.

Hills Hearing representatives attended our meeting on Monday 9th October. Shirley gave a presentation on the importance of looking after our hearing and conducted hearing tests for willing members. The evening was a very informative one.

Dr Leonard Smith is a local artist and philanthropist. The Club was lucky enough to have him speak about his life and passion for his art and culture. Len graciously donated a piece of his art for the club to auction at a future date.

The club also celebrated Hat Day for Mental Illness and Oktoberfest at the same meeting, making for an entertaining evening.



Visitor Oosha from Adambakkam Rotary Club in India

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST PENNANT HILLS Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills Characterists Characterists AND CHERRYBROOK





Two students from our sister club in Coonabarabran attended 'The Science Experience', a program where 'science meets fun' at Macquarie University held 4th-6th October. It was a wonderful experience for the students. who did experiments, attended site visits and heard about careers in science, technology and engineering. The visitors were hosted by members of our Club.

The Club's annual Garage Sale on 30th September was a great success, raising over \$8,000 with proceeds going to Domestic and Family Violence charities and other Rotary charities.

A 'Colours Run' was held at West Pennant Hills Public School on 12th October. Our Club members cooked a sausage sizzle for the 630 participants!

The Club provided a Referendum BBQ and Cake stall at West Pennant Hills Public School on 14th October, and a BQ at Bunnings Castle Hill on 28th October.

If you would like to know more about the Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook, be involved or join us for dinner please call 0412 064 336. We meet at The Vicar, 271 New Line Road, . Dural and our Calendar is at http://www.wphcrotary.org/

COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF KENTHURST

A bunch of our Members enjoyed a four day bus excursion to Canberra in September, taking in a lot of the sights including the Floriade Exhibition, the War Memorial and the radio astronomy site.

Closer to home, in early October a smaller group made its way to Ebenezer, to visit the oldest existing church building in Australia: the Ebenezer Uniting Church. Being built in 1808, it has outlasted earlier constructions in this country and is a credit

to the current congregation. Kenthurst Probians were treated to a morning tea with scones and jam, followed by a guided tour and history of the buildings: always a church, but once partly used as a school.

Our October meeting was addressed by Ramon Rees who spoke of the Japanese Midget Submarine attack on Sydney Harbour in World War Two.

Kenthurst Probus meets at 9.30am on the third Monday of each month, and quests are always welcome.



THE PROBUS CLUB OF THE HILLS INC

Our walk this month was in Parramatta where we visited the Wisteria Gardens in the Mental Hospital grounds. The gardens were spectacular as usual with vibrant colours. Morning tea followed.

A total of 41 boarded the coach for our latest mystery trip which ended up at Avoca Beach. It was here we enjoyed our fish and chips at the beachside in glorious sunshine. Following lunch, we went on a guided tour of the Edogawa Commemorative Gardens in Gosford.

Our final activity for September was a theatre party to see the Hills Players performance of "Cactus Flower" in Castle Hill. It was a wonderful show.

Our regular activity groups of golf, snooker, bowls and finance continue to be popular.

Our meetings are held at the Galston Club on the second Wednesday of each month (except January) at 10am for 10.30am. We look forward to welcoming new members.

Enquiries Bob Heyward 0427 360 389 or Ken Smith 0413 309 573.







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To learn more, contact the Living Choice Galston team on 1800 797 333 or email sales@livingchoice.com.au

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CHERRYBROOK PROBUS PONDERINGS - EXPLORING ALL POINTS

Last month brought varied activities for members of the Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook. Our October Meeting welcomed Guest Speaker, Annette Madjarian who discussed her life journey and in particular her time as a journalist. Garden lovers enjoyed a beautiful experience



at Boongala Gardens at Kenthurst with owner Mal sharing lovely rainforest walks and exquisite orchids. We also took two train journeys to opposite ends of Sydney: one to Como for a great walk along the Georges River, and the other heading north to Gosford for lunch. Culture vultures were spoilt with outings to 'Miss Saigon', the 'Good Old Days' concert at the Town Hall and 'Wicked' as well as movies and plays at Castle Hill.

Upcoming events include a picturesque walk around Kirribilli admiring the jacarandas and Whiteley Garden, a Melbourne Cup function, social drive to the Wyong Milk Factory, tour of the refurbished Sydney Opera House, Happy Hour and Dining Out at Lusso Tapas at Rouse Hill. Plenty to keep all busy!

If you are an able bodied, semi-retired or retired couple and wish to get out, meet new people and have new experiences the Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook could be for you.

We meet at the Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Centre on the first Thursday of each month.

For information contact Ross on 0411 104 863.
We look forward to warmly welcoming you to our Probus Club!

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mantra of Karis Life's values and commitment to helping their customers achieve their best and most dignified independent life.

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WHY IS HEARING IN NOISE SO DIFFICULT?

BY SANDRA RAZZAGHIPOUR

When we gather with friends and family around the dinner table, at a BBQ or at the local pub for a meal and a catch-up. In those situations, many people experience they have difficulties following the conversation as everything seems to get 'muddled up'. Why is this and what can be done?

If one struggles to hear and understand in social settings it bears the risk of 'tuning out' and social withdrawal may be a result. It is difficult for most people to communicate in situations with lots of surrounding noise.

The problem has multiple reasons. Human speech consists of many parts. Some parts like letters such as "M, N, L, A, O" are low in frequency but high in intensity so they carry well and have lots of power. These parts of the speech transfer volume from a speaker to a listener and they do that very well as they have plenty of energy. Other parts of speech like sounds such as "TH, S, C, F, SH," are essentially only pressed air through the teeth and tongue. These unvoiced sounds are very high in frequency and extremely low in energy. The purpose of those sounds is to transfer speech clarity and help to distinguish

one word from another. Often the smallest part of a word makes all the difference. For example, "Faith" and "Face" – the difference between 'th' and 'ce' is very small. In most cases our eyes 'hear' these sounds better by lipreading than the ears really hear them. A major problem with these highly important part of speech is that they can be masked and literally squashed by louder sounds.

In social settings the "cocktail-party-effect" makes the noise level increase quickly. There is a little bit of music, that makes it harder to hear – so everyone starts speaking louder and as we 'shout' the energy of A, E, M, N, O etc. gets so high that they overpower the important sounds for clarity. So, in a situation with many people talking everything sounds really muffled and it's difficult to make out the words the other person is saying. Additionally, most age or noise related hearing losses start in the higher frequency only adding to those issues.

Some people with even a mild hearing loss choose not to go to functions and meetings anymore as they cannot participate in conversations. It is very tiring for the brain to constantly strain to try hearing what is being said and the choice to withdraw is quickly made.



But it does not have to be this way. There is help available! We want our community to hear well and have fun when they are in company and not feel lonely and isolated.

If you have experienced those issues or know someone close who has, you will understand the struggle for both sides. Please call us on 02 9159 6122 to book in for a Hearing Assessment, or you can book online at www.earstudio.com.au – Once your Hearing Assessment is completed, we can then discuss next steps in your hearing rehabilitation journey.

Ear Studio (Audiology Competency Centre) located in Lawton House, Suite 9-10 / 60 Cecil Ave Castle Hill 2154. We are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.



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DURAL AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

NEWS FROM HISTORY COTTAGE



At our Annual General Meeting on 14th October, enthusiastic members and visitors showed their treasures and examples of their wide-ranging interests. Nominations for the Society Management Committee did not require a ballot, and members thanked those elected for their commitment.

The coming year will include speakers on George Hall, Cattai Creek, Murder and Mayhem and the infamous, Hellfire Pass. The June Roughley Memorial Lecture in the Arcadia Hall will be given by Dr Grace Karskens on her Hawkesbury River research. Tours will include trips to Lithgow, Parramatta and Mosman.

The Society continues to help local organisations and families with research and family history. To know more about the land or dwelling on your property, please contact the Society for assistance!

The Glenorie Memorial Hall open day was held on 21st October. Part of the extensive map collection in History Cottage was used to explain some aspects of the Ray Whiteman photograph collection displayed in the Hall.

The last meeting for 2023 will be 11th November. Guest speaker Professor Don Napper will tell the story of Colonial Architect, Francis Greenway; a convicted forger commemorated on our ten dollar note! The meeting is in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road, Galston, 2.00pm. Entry is free with a gold coin for afternoon tea. All welcome.

Enquiries to Michael Bell 02 9653 1365.



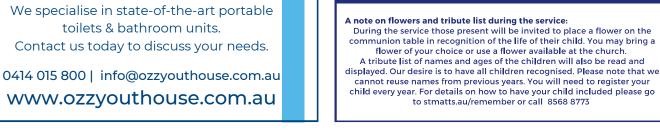






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BENDIGO BANK GALSTON SPONSORS KENTHURST FOOTBALL CLUB

Bendigo Bank Galston continues to support local sport through its recent sponsorship of Kenthurst Football Club. The Bank will provide \$40,000 over 4 years, supporting the 50 year old Kenthurst Football Club as they train young players in our district.

Sue Torville, Kenthurst Football Club President said "We are excited to begin a new chapter with the Galston Branch. Both organisations have a true passion for nurturing local community spirit and the growth of local sport."

In early September the Kenthurst Football Club hosted their Annual Dinner Dance. Branch General Manager, Savio Pereira, and Senior Mobile Lender, Mevan Fernando announced to the enthusiastic room of 120 guests that Bendigo Bank Galston would be sponsoring the club for the next 4 years.

Savio said, "It was a fun night, filled with a lot of laughs. It was good to see how enthusiastic the club members were with our sponsorship. Hopefully, with our help, the club will be able to celebrate much more in the coming years".

Both organisations are already in the process of developing new playing kits with Bendigo Bank Galston on the front and creating sign designs to rename the main playing field after the local branch.

If you'd like to continue to see more great sponsorships and partnerships helping to grow and nurture the local community, feel free to get in touch and support the bank.

Visit us in the branch at 348 Galston Road, Galston, NSW, 2159 or call us on (02) 9653 2227.

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NORTH KELLYVILLE'S FIRST SPORTING RESERVE NOW OPEN

Saturday 23rd September marked the grand opening of North Kellyville's first-ever sporting complex, Samantha Riley Drive Reserve.

Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Peter Gangemi, was joined by members of local sporting teams, including the Rouse Hill Rhinos Rugby League and the Kellyville Supersonics Sports Club, at the official inauguration.

"Council is proud to have delivered this facility on time and budget. It will become a significant centre for community sports in North Kellyville, and I am confident it will be where our future sporting stars are born," Mayor Gangemi said.

Samantha Riley Drive Reserve offers four multi-purpose fields that can be transformed into two spacious ovals with two cricket-wickets.

There's also a basketball shooting circle, two cricket nets, a playground, picnic facilities and pathways that connect to the local pedestrian network.

The amenities building has fully equipped change rooms, a canteen, a dedicated referee room, and 200-space carpark.

President of Rouse Hill Rhinos, Paul Fuda, said the new sports complex will enable his club's growth, particularly with the launch of their first under 12s girls' rugby league team.

"The Rhinos already have 30 teams, so it will give our coaches a lot more space to train and develop players," Mr Fuda said. "The ability to hold finals and grand final matches with this amazing facility is also exciting for the club and the community."



Ming Lau of North Kellyville Advocacy Group, Mayor Gangemi, President of Rouse Hill Rhinos Paul Fuda and President of Kellyville Supersonics Sports Club Anbu Ezhilan

Secretary of the Kellyville Supersonics Sports Club, Murugs Ramassamy said he was delighted that the club had new facilities to train and play on.

"Kellyville is a growing suburb with immense potential and interest for sports," Mr Ramassamy said. "Our club is honoured to be associated with promoting cricket in this community and grateful this venue is allocated to our club."



DURAL SCOUTS EXPLORE ASTRONOMY

The Cubs had a great night at Hayes Oval looking at the starry sky. Their goal was to learn about the Southern Cross and use it to find the direction South.

A big thanks to Tony who brought his telescope along. The enjoyment continued as they shared lollies and chocolates at the end of the night.

It was a fun night for those who attended and hopefully it will cultivate an interest in the sky and outdoors for our Cubs.

Dural Scout Group also took part in the Kenthurst Family Fair, organised by the Rotary Club of Kenthurst in conjunction with the Orange Blossom Festival. There was a parade on Kenthurst Road with a pipe band and community groups including Dural Scouts, Galston Guides and Kenthurst Public School.

Dural Scout Group has vacancies for Girls and Boys from 5 to 25 years. Joeys (5yo), Cubs (8yo), Scouts (12yo) and Venturers (16yo).

Please contact Phirooza: 0411 731 976 or phirooza@bigpond.net.au or Simon: thewolf_1stdural@bigpond.com



JUNIOR SCHOOL WORLD CHANGERS AT PACIFIC HILLS





In our Junior School, at Pacific Hills Christian School we have a remarkable group of students with hearts full of compassion and kindness and a desire to make a difference as God's beacon of hope in the world. They are our Junior School World Changers.

Our school's vision is to be a Christian Education community of teaching, learning and serving. Our Junior School World Changers embody the spirit of service, seeking to positively impact others. Their actions are simple, but their impact is profound.

Recently several residents from a local aged care residential facility visited

Pacific Hills Christian School. Our Junior School World Changers spent time serving and engaging them, bringing joy to their day.

The visitors were warmly greeted by our Junior School World Changers, and were served tea, coffee, scones, jam, and cream. Students read books and chatted with the visitors. As they exchanged their stories, our students formed bonds which transcended age. Kindness became the common ground for young and old.

Through their small hands and big hearts, our World Changers are having a significant influence on people in need of support. These students teach us that kindness, care and help are not limited to grand gestures but arise from changing the world one step at a time through acts of service.

KINDY IS COMING IN 2024

New Hope is the most modern purpose-built school in the Hills for children with mild to moderate intellectual delay or Autism Spectrum Disorder. Years K-12.



New Hope Christian School is an independent school trading under the Pacific Group of Christian Schools ABN 11001832 828

enrolments@newhope.nsw.edu.au



www.newhope.nsw.edu.au

MARK HODGES

MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

I was delighted to be invited to attend The Hills District NSW RFS Medal Presentation Ceremony recently. It was a pleasure to see the brave men and women of the RFS being recognised and awarded for their bravery and their dedication to the community they serve. One Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal, three National Emergency Medals, five Long Service Medals, and thirteen National Medals were awarded at the presentation.

In an age where service work is on a rapid decline, any Australian who makes the sacrifice of time and often comfort, may stand proud knowing that they have served their country, and more personally, the people in their communities. This rings twice as true for those who volunteer with NSW Rural Fire Service, the largest volunteer firefighting organisation in the world. In times of natural disaster, these brave volunteers made a choice, and put themselves in the fire's line to protect people, property, and national bushland.



At the end of the day of volunteer is defined and formed by dedication, both to their organisation and to their community, and these men and women have demonstrated their dedication sevenfold. Their bravery, sacrifice, commitment, and service is admired and appreciated by our community and by our nation. And it is right that we should award them and honour them for all that they have done in service of us all. Thank you to The Hills District RFS for all you do for our community, and congratulations to those members who have been recognised for their service.

(02) 9686 3110 Suite 1A 19-21 Terminus Street, Castle Hill, NSW, 2154

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

I've always been struck by the generosity and community-mindedness of our community.

We come together around local organisations, community events, and cultural holidays.

The greatest pleasure of my job is to support those organisations, attend those events, and celebrate those holidays.

Recently, it was an absolute pleasure to speak at the 100th anniversary gala dinner of the Eastwood Thornleigh District (North-West Sydney) Tennis Association.

It's remarkable that they have been providing a place for everyone from 2-year-old to 90-year-olds to enjoy tennis for over 100 years. That is a testament to the quality of their volunteers, and the community that they have built up over the years.

In late October, I opened the Inala Fair. Inala is another excellent community organisation in our area, which supports individuals living with disability in our community and across Sydney. I also want to say happy Diwali to all the Indian-Australian members of our community.

It was an honour to speak at a dinner celebrating the local Indian community recently, and to share in the positive message of Diwali – that ultimately light always triumphs over darkness.

On a more serious note, every member of our community needs to make sure they have a bushfire survival plan.

This is predicted to be a disastrous bushfire season for our area. The 2023-24 bushfire season is not a drill.

If you haven't already, go to the NSW RFS website and create your bushfire survival plan. Making that plan could save the lives of you and your family.

On Sunday **26th November**, I will be hosting community events to promote bushfire awareness in our area, in partnership with the local Rural Fire Services.

They are among the most exceptional local organisations in our area. Look out for further details.



- Suite 1A, 25-33 Old Northern Road, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153
- **©** 9686 3110
- castlehill@parliament.nsw.gov.au





As previously advised, funding for the completion of New Line Rd has been cut. It is important that the Hills and Hornsby Shire communities make it clear to the

and Hornsby Shire communities make it clear to the State Government that this is unacceptable. I will be working with the Hills Councillors to ensure that this desperate situation is once again made a budget priority. If you feel strongly about this issue, I recommend writing to the roads Minister, the Hon. John Graham, directly: john.graham@parliament.nsw.gov.au

CLR WARREN WADDELL

By contrast, it has been fantastic to see the final seal and line marking completed on Cobah Rd Arcadia. This project was a clear demonstration of how collaboration between the residents of Arcadia and Fiddletown, the Northholm School community, Councillors, and management could bring about a budget priority where it previously didn't exist.

Likewise, I welcome the completion of the most recent stage of the Arcadia Rd upgrade. I look forward to working with our finance team in keeping the next stage on track.



More improvements at Wal Buckingham Park Glenorie have been completed. Worth a look when in the vicinity of the Glenorie Memorial Hall.

The much-anticipated re-opening or the Galston Aquatic Centre is now close. Practical completion has pushed out slightly and is set for early November with access anticipated towards the end of that month.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Open Garden committee for another successful event. The weather was kind which really helped in the success of such a popular community project.

Equally exciting is the return of events to Fagan Park. Carols by Candlelight has advised that this free event will be held Saturday 9th December 4pm – 8pm.

As always, happy to assist with any issue via the contact details below. wwaddell@hornsby.nsw.gov.au Ph: 0499 004 861



FROM THE DESK OF MATT KEAN

MEMBER FOR HORNSBY

Residents in the Glenorie area are eager to have safe pedestrian/cycle access along Old Northern Road between Glenorie and Dural. A shared pathway in that area would allow the local community to increase their walking and cycling opportunities and decrease their reliance on using motor vehicles, particularly for shorter trips.

The previous State Government introduced the Active Transport Strategy to identify and provide funding for these major shared pathway opportunities and I will be working hard with the current Government to have this section of Old Northern Road included in the Active Transport plan.

The recent NSW police boundary changes have relocated the Glenhaven/Cherrybrook areas from the Eastwood Local Area Command to the Hills Local Area Command. This will reduce response times to Glenhaven/Cherrybrook area, and I know it is a very welcome change as a number of residents previously contacted my office with concerns on this issue.

I am pleased to see Hornsby Council rolling out significant road repairs across my electorate. These repairs are being funded as part of the previous State Government's \$500 million Regional and Local Road Repair Program for NSW councils to support emergency patching to roads damaged from last year's severe storms. Through this funding, announced in February this year, Hornsby Council received \$6.5 million as a boost to their existing repairs budget for roads that fall under their responsibility.

If you are aware of a road that requires repairs in your local area, please report it to Hornsby Council or my office.

If I can assist with any issues, you can contact me at hornsby@pariliament.nsw.gov.au



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HILLS COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE

CLR MITCHELL BLUE

It was great to watch the Price and Speed Hawkesbury 120 Ski Race on 15th-16th October. The race started in Windsor, went to Wisemans Ferry and then back again. I was amazed at the speed and skill of the competitors. This event attracted participants from right across the country. It is fantastic to see events such as these return to The Hills/Hawkesbury after a long break caused by the bushfires, Covid and floods.

When this river isn't flooding, it truly is beautiful.

Post-flood works continue on River Rd, and I appreciate the patience of the residents as council navigates its way through this huge project. Approximately \$8.5M is to be spent on River Rd alone, which includes pavement stabilisation and embankment works.

In October, Council moved to put its draft Community Engagement Policy, Community Engagement Strategy Framework and Community Engagement Toolkit on public exhibition. They will exist to make the community engagement process across Council more consistent, streamlined, and easier.

Community engagement improves the process of making sustainable decisions by drawing on the knowledge and experiences

of the public. Issues can be identified and addressed earlier, and the community will also have a better understanding of Council's decision-making process, keeping them in the loop and improving their confidence and trust in Council.

Community engagement is something I am passionate about. It is the reason I wanted to become a Councillor and the reason I moved that Council investigated an update of our Community Engagement Strategy and activities in February last year.

As we are now in the Bush Fire Danger Period, I am encouraging all residents to download the 'Hazards Near Me' App to be aware of what is going on. We have already seen a number of Extreme Fire Danger Ratings and Total Fire Bans. I'm ready, and I'd like you to be too.

Until next month.

For more information on the happenings here in The Hills and North Ward, follow me on Facebook. Councillor Mitchell Blue – The Hills Shire Council.

Councillor Mitchell Blue
Deputy Mayor – The Hills Shire Council
Councillor – North Ward
0400 449 324 clr.blue@thehills.nsw.gov.au, www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

TENANTS PAYING INFLATED ENERGY PRICES

CLR MONIKA BALL

Property developers and energy retailers are able to establish energy contracts that leave tenants paying inflated energy prices.

This exploitation of tenants is due to the establishment of an Embedded Network where services for water, gas and electricity are installed by an energy company, instead of the developer. The developer therefore saves money by not having to build this infrastructure and allows the energy provider to embed a long-term contract that tenants cannot negotiate, leaving them tied to the profiteering of that energy company.

One resident of an embedded network received a hot water bill for \$2,000 for a 9-month period, while another was charged \$9,700 for a 14-month period! When a resident complained about their exorbitant prices, they were threatened with disconnection despite knowing the customer was registered for life support. This racket is causing mental

and physical harm. Vulnerable people on fixed incomes are going without hot showers or essentials such as food and medicine, and many are having to turn to charity for support to manage their bills.

Embedded Networks are not new and are common practice in shopping centres, retirement villages, apartment complexes and caravan parks. However, regulation has not kept up, and with the rise in residential apartments, more tenants are getting ripped off.

Consumers are becoming trapped into energy agreements that are overpriced, uncompetitive and impossible to exit and there is no obligation for the seller or agent to disclose whether a complex is on an Embedded Network or not.

The laws governing Embedded Networks are not fit for purpose so if you would like to get involved, please send me an email mball@hornsby.nsw.gov.au so we can collectively put pressure on the NSW Government and look after the most venerable members of our community.

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Hidden In The Hills

HAZARD REDUCTION BURNS

BY LACHLAN TURNER

From time to time it is necessary to conduct "controlled burns" in areas of bushland near residential areas to reduce to fuel load and protect homes and property.

It was a privilege to observe a recent operation conducted by local Bush Fire Brigades in conjunction with the NSW Rural Fire Service. Extensive equipment and manpower were employed in what could be likened to a co-ordinated military style offensive.

The professionalism exhibited by these firemen was most evident as they systematically went about their assigned tasks.

It is recognised that low impact fire is beneficial to many species of flora, as there are numerous plants that require the added heat from fire to germinate seeds for the next generation of that species. This style of burning operation can also be of assistance in controlling, if not destroying many of the invasive weeds and plants (i.e. home garden escapees), that often colonise the fringes of the bushland and eventually choke out our native plants species.



SYDNEY HILLS GARDEN COMPETITION

The gardening community of the Hills and surrounds came together on 22nd September for an awards night at the Harvey Lowe Pavilion in Castle Hill showgrounds.

The Sydney Hills Garden Competition is steeped in history – the first in 1959 was the forerunner of the Orange Blossom Festival.

Hills residents, businesses, schools and institutions can enter their gardens in the competition.

The Garden Competition is run each year by The Rotary Club of the Hills-Kellyville and has a variety of categories for gardeners from small Town Houses to residential gardens, to gardens of industrial, commercial and retirement complexes. The garden competition is open to gardens located in the Hills Shire and adjoining parts of surrounding suburbs.

Read the full story online at https://dooralroundup.com.au/latest-news/



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BROMELIAD BUS TRIP

The Bromeliad Society of Australia's members and their guest are heading to the Blue Mountains on the 11th November, so there isn't a meeting due until Saturday, 9th December.

A bus trip has been organised by Carolyn Bunnell and the executive committee. First stop, will be Wildwood gardens at Bilpin then onto the beautiful botanical gardens in Mount Tomah.

A must see plant, currently flowering in the gardens is the blue puya which is a spectacular South American beauty that stands two metres tall with deep turquoise flowers and is part of the Bromeliaceae (Bromeliad) family.

Following lunch a visit to the Hillbilly Cider Shed, Bilpin is planned, providing an opportunity to taste the locally made varieties of apple cider.

For further inquiries please contact Ian Hook, President, BSA on mobile 0408 202 269. ianhook1@bigpond.com www.bromeliad.org.au



LATEST FROM **LANGLANDS**

As spring will come to a close at the end of the month, it is very important to get nutrients into your existing gardens.

With the use of soil conditioner, cow manure and mushroom compost added to these gardens your plants will love the boost as we enter a hot summer.

Premium garden soil mix containing all these things is also ideal to add to these areas and will give vital energy to new or existing greenery. It is also crucial to contain the moisture in the soil as much as possible with the coming heat, so mulching your gardens will be a necessity to keep healthy plantlife.

For new gardens the Shapescaper steel edging is fantasic to retain the soil and keep wandering grass out. It can be sculpted to whatever shape you desire in a vast range of heights.

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GLENORIE FIRE FAMILY

The Zeaiter family of Cattai Ridge Rd Glenorie are still coming to terms with the bolt of lightning that burned their two adjoining homes to the ground.

Wife Adele said "We saw the lighting and the sky was white, the noise was like a bomb going off and immediately there was a blackout. It was frightening."





"There was a bit of smoke coming from the roof and that's all vou could see."

Husband George called emergency services and was in their house trying to hose it down when the ceiling started to collapse, and he escaped through a window.

"That's when we saw the flames, there was no time to get anything."

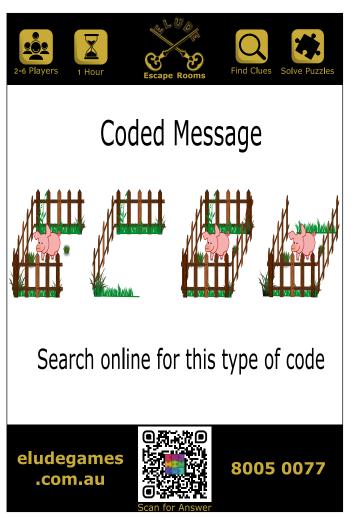
"It was the most heartbreaking thing I have ever seen," she told the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News.

"We lost everything, but we are so grateful we got out."

A Go Fund me page to help the family is at https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-zeaiter-family

For the full story go to https://dooralroundup.com.au/latest-news/





DURAL RURAL FIRE BRIGADE NEWS

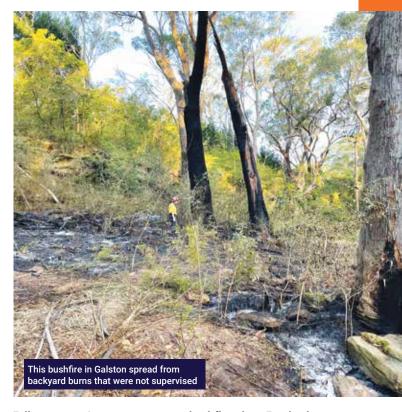


Sydney has seen a number of hot, dry, and windy days over the last month and these are likely to become more frequent as we move into summer. We've already had several major fires in NSW and across the country so now is the time to review your bushfire risk and your bushfire survival plan. Simple actions like cleaning your gutters, moving flammable materials away from the house, and keeping your yard tidy can make a massive difference to your house's ability to withstand a bushfire.

Having a bushfire survival plan is essential to being able to respond to the threat of fire quickly and effectively. Templates for bushfire survival plans can be found at www.myfireplan.com.au or at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au. Your bushfire plan should include some key details such as whether you'll leave early or stay to defend your property, where you will go if you need to leave, and how you will evacuate any animals you have.

In October, Dural attended a bushfire in Galston that had escaped from several pile burns that hadn't been fully extinguished. It is a good reminder to make sure that you don't leave your pile burns unattended and to make sure they are fully extinguished before you leave them. As it is now bushfire season you will need both a Hornsby Council Permit and RFS Pile Burn Permit.

Whilst many of you are familiar with our Dural Rural Fire Bridge Facebook page, in order to reach our wider community, we are excited to have a new Instagram page.



Follow our new Instagram page at @duralrfb and our Facebook page 'Dural Rural Fire Brigade' to stay up to date.

GLENORIE STOCKFEEDS READY FOR FIRES

Michael and Louie Estephan at Glenorie Stockfeeds are getting ready to help their community prepare for fires, with a range of Aussie Pumps.

"When we saw the difference between the Aussie Fire Chief and the same sized Davey pump, we couldn't believe how much better the Aussie Pump is!" said Michael.

"The Aussie had 25% more performance than the competition. When you add other features, as well as the 5 year warranty, we were absolutely sold," said Louie.

The Estephan brothers have done remarkably well since they set up Glenorie Stockfeeds. With their range of tanks, hose kits and the world's best lightweight portable fire pump, they're ready to help people as we move into what could be a catastrophic summer. Pick up your FREE copy of Aussie's Bushfire Survival Guide.

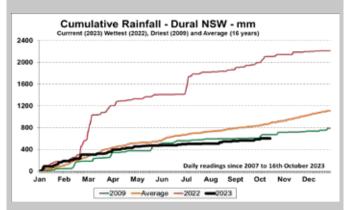
"Going with the Aussie Pump range is a no-brainer," said Michael.

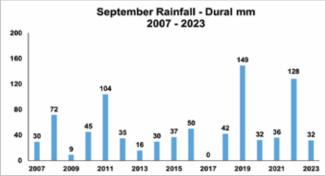
Further information, call Michael, Louie or Michelle at Glenorie Stockfeeds, 73 Cattai Ridge Rd, Glenorie, 02 9652 0520.



DURAL RAINFALL CHARTS

BY HANS KUNNEN







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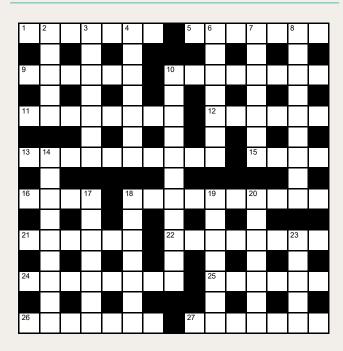
As a Dural & District Business Chamber member you will get to meet people at our regular meetings that you would not normally interact with and have the opportunity to share your skills and experience with others.

Do you want to grow your business? Network with other local businesses? Call Mark Coupar today 0497 014 950 to find out how.

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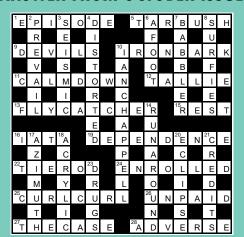
ACROSS

- 01 Such as Jarndyce v Jarndyce (7) 16 Sour (4)
- 05 Declares as fact (7)
- 09 Available to rent (6)
- 10 Part of a literary team (2-6)
- 11 Dealing with a subject (8)
- 12 Poverty-stricken (2,4)
- 13 Victorian surf pioneer and
- board designer (5,5)
- 18 Study of pictures and painters (3,7) 21 Work schedules (6)
- 22 Not normal (8)
- 24 Widespread type of fern (8)
- 25 In recent times (2,4)
- 26 Educates (7)
- 15 Sometimes syphoned in bars (4) 27 Wheeled status symbol (7)

DOWN

- 02 Covered with water (5)
- 03 Vagabond (7)
- 04 Overall (2,5)
- 06 Iberian tongue (7)
- 07 Prolongs (7)
- 08 Bundaberg hockey striker who won Olympic Gold in 2004 (4,5)
- 10 Important tropical crop tree (7,4)
- 14 Boozy (9)
- 17 In reality (2,5)
- 18 Gun collection (7)
- 19 Refresher on a stick (3,4)
- 20 Small, noisy, black and white bird (7)
- 23 Communion table (5)

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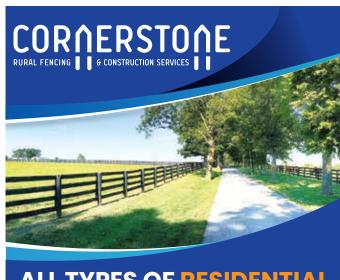
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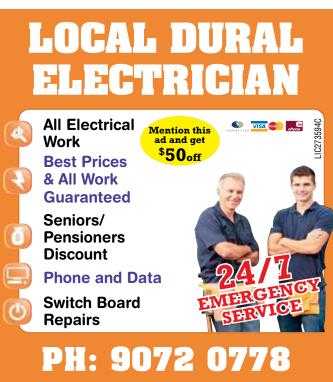
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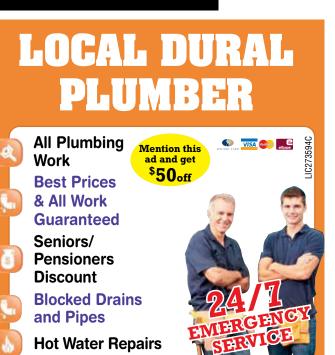
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