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FEBRUARY 2024

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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."



Already New Year's Day seems a distant memory... I always feel the New Year really kicks off in February, with parties cleared away, many businesses back to full swing and kids going back at school.

Don't forget it's a leap year, with the 29th February back after four years.

Can't wait to see the Summer Olympics in late August, with Break Dancing included, and we get to see the Matildas in action again.

The Dural and District Business Chamber has some exciting forums planned throughout the year. The first event in early June is on the topic of Business Resilience and includes EOFY preparation, back by popular request! It is FREE and all are welcome.

Upcoming events can be found via our website www.duralchamber.org.au. Our events section is updated from time to time, so please check in.

Our Chamber now has 51 members, including 9 new members who joined our chamber over the past few months - a great sign that business confidence might be starting to re-emerge!

So let's all have a great 2024!

THE DURAL **CHAMBER IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR JPS.**

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Mark Coupar

info@duralchamber.com.au or 0497 014 950

Dural Chamber and Dooral Roundup Contacts



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COUNCIL WELCOMES NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR VISION FOR FUTURE OF HOUSING SUPPLY IN HORNSBY SHIRE

Hornsby Shire Council has cautiously welcomed plans unveiled by the New South Wales Government to address the supply of housing in the state by rezoning land around eight rail stations, including Hornsby — providing an opportunity to enhance progression of Council's recently adopted Hornsby Town Centre Masterplan.

Adopted at its General Meeting in November of 2023, the Masterplan seals Council's commitment to long-term future housing provision and comes to fruition after five years of strategic planning, supported by comprehensive studies and analysis and prepared in collaboration with state agencies, land-owners and significant community consultation.

In line with the stage government's objective to accelerate housing supply, the Masterplan provides an ambitious vision to facilitate the delivery of over 4,900 dwellings and 4,500 new jobs in towers up to 36 storeys in height — a boost in population that requires careful planning and commitment by all levels of government to ensure coordinated delivery of supporting infrastructure.

"Hornsby Shire Council has a proven track record of successfully preparing local housing strategies in close consultation with our community while respecting the unique bushland setting that defines Hornsby Shire," said Hornsby Shire Mayor the Hon Philip Ruddock AO.

"I'm very proud of the immense amount of work that has gone into ensuring that our Masterplan delivers not only adequate

housing but also design excellence, environmental sustainability, heritage conservation and creation of quality places for people to live, work and recreate. Critical to the success of this Masterplan is the delivery of the essential infrastructure which will ensure that the current and future community of Hornsby Shire experiences a liveable and sustainable environment.

"We welcome the State Government's recognition for this need and look forward to a collaborative approach in delivering the Masterplan's facilities, improvements and upgrades as identified by our extensive planning and consultative processes," he said.

For more information about the Hornsby Town Centre Masterplan visit: https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/hornsby-town-centre-masterplan



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/



Read this month's "What's On" online at dooralroundup.com.au





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Located at 11/827 Old Northern Road, Dural NSW 2158. Access via Quarry Road, last driveway, up ramp.





CHERRYBROOK PROBUS PONDERINGS OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

2023 finished with a bang for the Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook. Our Christmas party had more than one hundred attendees many of whom hoped they would have made the '2023 Naughty List' complete with badges worn with pride. A fine Christmas lunch was followed by much fun with a visit from Santa and plenty of dancing.

The celebrations continued with members donning their sparkles to enjoy dinner, dancing and entertainment by Abbalanche at New Year's Eve celebrations in Hornsby.

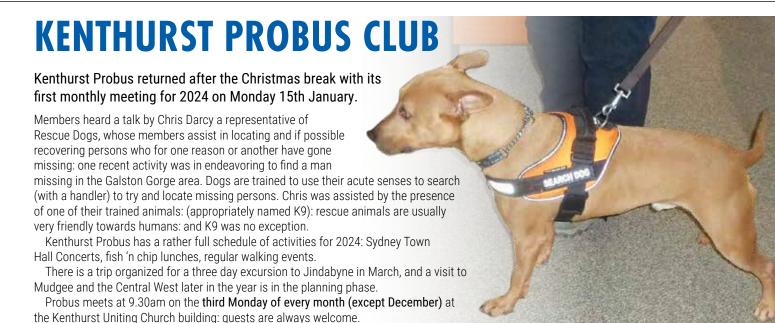
Our well attended January meeting greeted guest speaker, Rod Best who began the new year for us with a talk on 'Murder and Mayhem in Beecroft'! Obviously the neighbourhood has improved greatly since the early 1900s.

Recent events included a guided tour of State Parliament House followed by lunch on site, fish and chips by the water at Berowra and coming soon our social drive, ten pin bowling and a delightful river cruise on the Hawkesbury with commentary on historical aspects. In late January or early February all regular activities return for members' enjoyment.



If you are an able bodied, semi-retired or retired couple and have promised yourselves to get out, meet new people and have new experiences come and visit.

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 to share the good times.









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TOGETHER WE CAN TACKLE AUSTRALIA'S WASTE CHALLENGES

In 2023, over 760,000 Australians pulled on their gloves and gathered for the iconic Clean Up Australia Day.

Register now for Clean Up Australia Day on **Sunday March 3rd, 2024** at **cleanup.org.au**

Business Clean Up Day on **Tuesday February 27th, 2024** and Schools Clean Up Day on **Friday March 1st, 2024**.



PROPERTY & YOU — BY PAUL MCKENZIE, ABS CONVEYANCING PROPERTY INSURANCE — ARE YOU ADEQUATELY PROTECTED?

Summer time, we tend to see bushfires, storms, floods etc.

Are you adequately covered in your property insurance for these events?

Anyone who owns residential houses or commercial property, should check to make sure, their property insurance covers these events. Some insurance policies do, some don't.

Property owners also should check, if the building reinstatement value insurance is adequate or not, for such an event. If your building reinstatement value insurance assessment and cover is too low, then your run the risk of bearing the cost of the shortfall. For example, if your building insurance cover is for \$200,000 only and the full building instatement value is about \$300,000 to rebuild, based on average building reinstatement estimates. Then, you run the risk and bear the \$100,000 shortfall. Such situations, you need to cover the shortfall with your own money or take out a loan to cover the shortfall.

If unsure about the building reinstatement value insurance cover is adequate, then best to seek an insurance valuation report, to assist on the adequate insurance cover. People or businesses who own strata property, should make sure, their strata manager has an insurance valuation report done, every 2 to 3 years, to ensure adequate insurance cover.



JOHN BENYON ROTARY PARK UNVEILS NEW PLAQUE TO HONOUR VIETNAM VETERANS FROM KENTHURST AND ANNANGROVE

Kenthurst Rotary recently hosted an unveiling of a new plaque in John Benyon Rotary Park to honour the service of those from Kenthurst and Annangrove who fought in the Vietnam war.

The plaque is situated alongside other plaques honouring those who fought in the World Wars, Korea, Malaya, and Vietnam, as well as those involved in UN Peacekeeping.

The plaque lists the names of Kenthurst locals who served in Vietnam – James Birch, Ronald Prager, and Allan Johnston.

The unveiling event was attended by members of the community, Rotary members, and family and friends of those honoured by the plague, some of whom had travelled from Queensland for the event.

The event was also attended by Julian Leeser MP, the Federal Member for Berowra and as well as Mayor of Hills Shire Council, Dr Peter Gangemi, alongside other local councillors.

Julian Leeser MP reflected on the importance of this event.

"It was wonderful to see the Kenthurst and Annangrove communities, alongside the families of those who fought in Vietnam, come together on this important occasion."

"It was also fitting that the ceremony was held soon after Remembrance Day, when we take time to remember all those who have fought and died in the protection of our country."



Paul Rapp, one of the Directors of the Kenthurst Rotary Club, helped to organise the event and noted the importance of the event for the community.

"The Vietnam plaque placement on our memorial at the John Benyon Rotary Park was long overdue."

"We must honour all soldiers who came from Kenthurst to fight for our country in all wars."

"Malcom Johnston was the driver behind the establishment of this plaque, as his brother was one of the soldiers who went to Vietnam. Without Malcom's drive, the contribution of our local soldiers would still be forgotten."

ROTARY CLUB OF KENTHURST



Chris Gaskin, Dawn Chang, Anthony Battah, Marie Beck, Mike O'Connell and David Beck

Bunnings BBQs

Wet but worth it! That was the sentiment at our latest Bunnings BBQ held at Dural on 25th November. Club members braved the elements to raise funding to put towards our many community events. It was our last fundraising BBQ for 2023. We shall be back in 2024 on the 4th Saturday of each month. See you there!

Thanksgiving CelebrationsIn honour of our Hawaiian member Dawn

Chang, the club celebrated Thanksgiving on 27th November. Dawn gave a talk on what Thanksgiving means to her. Our Sergeant's session was a Thanksgiving trivia event with American treats as prizes. We all dressed in something red, white & blue and played Ladder Toss. It was a very funny evening.



Carols in the Park

The extreme heat may have kept the crowd numbers down, but it didn't stop the enjoyment of those that braved the conditions. The Rotary Club of Kenthurst would like to thank all the stage acts that kept the crowd entertained for the evening. A special shout out to the Rock N Soul Choir that had young and old captivated. Santa arrived via fire engine, courtesy of

Kenthurst RFS and we even arranged for it to snow much to the delight of the crowd.

UP THE SEPIK RIVER IN A CANOE

Kenthurst Rotary Club member Karo recently returned home from overseeing the latest building works being carried out on the Sepik River Dental Clinic in Korogu Village PNG.



All supplies are transported to the location by canoe which is no mean feat. Building of this clinic is the club's international project which will provide dental services to an estimated 100,000 people living inland and along the Sepik River.

If you would like to assist by providing funds, please see link to our GoFundMe page: https://gofund.me/e49f7fbc

DURAL AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. NEWS FROM HISTORY COTTAGE

After a most successful year in 2023, with record numbers attending the monthly meetings, forty four members enjoyed the Society's Christmas party. Often the conversation turned to the interesting subjects presented during the year, particularly the local family histories and special local places. Encouraged by this interest the Committee has arranged a series of talks for the coming year that it feels will add to understanding our special community.

The first meeting for 2024, on the 10th February, will be given by Rod Best, a lawyer who specialised in child protection and social history. Taking a dramatic incident in Pennant Hills in 1905, Mr Best shines a light on the lives of all groups in society in the Federation years before World War 1.

Future talks will tell, among others; of a century old mystery solved, the research and recognition of the infamous Hellfire Pass; local architecture; Cattai Creek and a little known local institution.

The August, June Roughley Memorial Lecture, will be given by renowned researcher and author, Dr Grace Karskens. A tour to Lithgow is planned for March and Judith Dunn will guide members on a tour of Parramatta in May, after a preparatory talk earlier in that month. At least one more tour will also be arranged.

The Society continues to receive valuable donations of historical material that must be recorded and archived. In addition there are



many requests for research into land title, family and residential history and photographs.

The Society is in urgent need of new members who could help with the work associated with this most important part of its responsibility to our community. Please contact **Michael on 9653 1365** or **Judy on 9651 2034.**

Next meeting on the 10th February at 2.00pm in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road Galston. All welcome. Enquiries 9653 1365.



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**

As a Council, we're committed to delivering events and activities across the Shire for the whole community to enjoy. So, we're excited that our popular 'Food Truck Fridays' are returning in 2024.

'Food Truck Fridays' will showcase some of Sydney's best food truck offerings at different locations in Hornsby Shire on Friday evenings from 5pm to 8.30pm. The events will feature great live music, too.

In March, the trucks will roll into Pennant Hills and Berowra, then in April they will visit Galston for the first time as well as Cherrybrook.

More than just providing delicious treats, our 'Food Truck Fridays' are an opportunity for residents to come together and enjoy our public spaces. And they help activate our local evening and night-time economy. For locations and other details, see hornsby.nsw.gov.au/ftf

We're also excited to present a special event celebrating our diverse multicultural community on Saturday 17 February in Hornsby Mall. For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au

I'm proud that Hornsby Shire is a diverse and welcoming community. To support all our residents, we are developing a Plan to foster social cohesion and encourage community connectedness, resilience, and wellbeing. Please help shape the new Hornsby Shire Social Plan by sharing your thoughts. Find out more and complete a short survey at yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Philip Ruddock AO

Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

What's on





GET READY FOR THE WEEKEND AND ENJOY GREAT FOOD AND MUSIC IN YOUR SHIRE

FRIDAY NIGHTS IN MARCH AND APRIL PENNANT HILLS, BEROWRA, GALSTON AND CHERRYBROOK

5-8.30PM

For dates and venues details visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/ttf



Theme: 'Crossroads

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Entries close: 21 March 2024 hornsby.nsw.gov.au/remagine





Hornsby Shire Social Plan

Help us develop a plan to meet the social needs of your Shire.

Complete the survey today. Scan the QR code or visit: yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au



WASTE EVENTS

Get Your Recycling Right Thursday 8 February, 6-7pm Online via Zoom

Chipping for Mulch – Galston Sunday 18 February, 7.30am-12.30pm Council Depot, Johnson Road, Galston **Beeswax Wrap Making**

Wednesday 21 February, 10am-12pm Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby

Compost and Worm Farm Workshop Thursday 29 February, 10am-11.30am Thornleigh Community Recycling Centre

For details and bookings visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste



Next Council meeting Wednesday 14 February, 6.30pm

hornsby.nsw.gov.au

CHALLENGE FOR ARTISTS



Hornsby Shire
Council's Remagine
Art Prize challenges
artists to create
works in response
to the waste and
overconsumption
crises. Artists are
invited to enter
Digital Art Stills,
Sculpture, Mixed
Media, Ceramics,
Painting, Drawing,

Printmaking and Photography. \$11,000 in total prize money is offered.

Entries close on **Thursday 21st March 2024** at 5pm and the winners will be announced at an award ceremony on **Friday 10th May 2024**.

The Remagine Art Prize exhibition will be held from **Friday 10th May** until **Sunday 26th May 2024**, at the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre, Hornsby.

For further information and to enter visit https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/remagine



PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION LOCATED AT CASTLE HILL

Telstra plan to upgrade the existing telecommunications facility comprising a 30m steel pole off Glen Road, Castle Hill, New South Wales 2154 (Lot 1 on DP576773) www.rfnsa.com.au/2154013

- Telstra Corporation Limited (A.C.N 051 775 556) are currently upgrading existing mobile network facilities. The purpose of this installation is to improve 4G and 5G mobile coverage and connectivity for our customers in the in the Castle Hill service area.
- 2. The proposed facility upgrade includes the removal of three (3) existing panel antennas, the installation of three (3) new panel antennas (each no more than 2.8m long), as well as the installation and removal of associated ancillary equipment. All internal equipment will be housed within the existing equipment shelter located at the base of the facility.
- 3. Telstra regard the proposed installation as a Low-impact Facility under the *Telecommunications* (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018 based on the above description.
- 4. In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about this proposal. Further information and/or written submissions should be directed to Adi Ananda, Aurecon Australasia Pty Ltd (A.B.N 54 005 139 873) via email to: adi.ananda@aurecongroup.com or via post to: Adi Ananda, Aurecon Australasia, PO Box 23061, Docklands, VIC, 8012 by 5pm on 19/02/2024.

CASTLE HILL ART SOCIETY

Art Demonstration – 6th March, 2024

Jacqueline Balassa – Gouache Painting

Jacqueline is a Contemporary Landscape painter who is based in Sydney.

Her gouache practice begins with plein air sketches, then she creates images that are delicately balanced between observation and imagination, expressing her visual and emotional response to particular places.

Visitors are welcome to join with the Castle Hill Art Society 7.30pm at Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill.

Enquiries 9899 3179 | www.castlehillartsociety.org.au







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CHURCH NEWS AT THE CENTRE

Happy New Year! It is a universally shared desire to improve our lives, and the start of a new year is an opportunity to reflect and set resolutions to enhance our health, finances, social life or skills.

While setting resolutions is one way to improve our lives, as followers of Jesus, we believe He is the only way to create real, lasting change. Jesus once said, "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full."

The Centre offers various programs, such as sports, fitness, dining, and community events – however, physical wellness is only one aspect of what makes life meaningful.

Our mission at The Centre is to make Jesus the Centre of our lives through activities like prayer and play. We welcome you to join our church community, where we aim to make Jesus the Centre of our lives. Our Sunday service is at 10 am. We would be delighted to see you there!

Our regular ministry programs resume after the break. The Men's Shed opens Thursday, January 25th, 9am-3pm.



Our feeding Program, Hands and Feet, resumes 10:30-12:30am on **Monday, February 5th,** and Playtime on **Thursday, February 8th,** from 9:30-11am.

For more information, visit our website https://thecentredural.org.au/or phone 8989 0000. THE CENTRE, 1 Pellitt Lane, Dural.

NATURAL LONGING

People greeted 2024 with new resolutions and hopes. Sadly, there are so many people in the world who are struggling to find hope in a long and dark tunnel of war, oppression, injustice, natural disasters, poverty, and so on. Yet humans have a natural optimism.

When the weather is pleasant, people hurry out, simply to turn their faces into the sunshine, and enjoy not only the warmth of the sun but also the richness of the soul. They don't need to talk about its feelings, explain to the sun what they need from it - nothing is asked of them in that moment. They simply follow the deep natural longing in their body and soul to place themselves where that longing can be met.

In this coming season of Lent and Easter, I want to invite you all to consider God's invitation to follow the deep longing in your spirit, soul, and body to place yourself where Christ Jesus our Lord can meet that need.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28)

REV PETER CHUNG, Cherrybrook Uniting Church

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FALLS RISK PREVENTION STARTS HERE

BY DANIEL FECHNER

In the 2018 Australian Health Report it was revealed that falls are the leading cause of injuries resulting in death. Overall, falls were accounting for 37% of all deaths in Australia.

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) a fall is "an event which results in a person coming to rest inadvertently on the ground or floor or other lower level".

Over 70% of falls occur in a person's residential environment. There are many different causes for a fall, but ultimately it comes down to the fact a person is losing their balance to a point where they cannot recover their footing. Gravity takes care of the rest, resulting in a fall.

The human body operates a very complex and sophisticated system to keep us in balance. This allows us to ride a bike, balance on a ledge, get out of bed and walk through the bathroom at night, even with the lights off.

The brain takes information from the feet, ankles, knees, hips and spine which then combines the information together with what the eyes see and what the inner ear senses (the balance organ). There are over 20 separate 'sensors' which help the brain to maintain balance.

Multiple things can affect one or more sensors of this system and the body has difficulty maintaining balance. The most common contributors include the use of some specific medications or using several at once, losing parts of our hearing (and with that also parts of the Vestibular System – the balance organ), vision impairment,

muscular-skeletal issues such as strength and flexibility and other diseases, for example Diabetes.

Falls prevention is especially important to us at Ear Studio, because our founder Daniel lost his own grandfather due to a fall. In our view the first step to reducing the risk of falling is knowledge. Knowing which factors influence your balance is a great starting point. Based on the NSW Health system we have put together a comprehensive falls-risk assessment

that incorporates general questions about your health as well as high-tech measurements of your balance functions. With this we can guide you in the right direction and together with your GP, work on improving your balance and thereby reduce your risk of falls.

If you think you or a loved one may be showing signs of being unbalanced/unsteady on their feet or signs of being hard of hearing, perhaps it's time to book an appointment with us at Ear Studio, early intervention is key to alleviate the risk of falls.

We are a small independent Audiology Clinic who are a passionate and dedicated team. We compassionately guide our patients through their concerns. From the moment you call us, walk through the door and spend time in your appointment, our aim is to help you feel welcome and at ease. Our highly educated and trained clinicians endeavour to reach the best possible outcome for your personal situation and needs. We look forward to welcoming you to the Ear Studio family.

To learn more or book your appointment please visit www.earstudio.com.au and go to Falls Risk Assessment or call us on 02 9159 6122.

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www.livingchoice.com.au









WE'RE BACK AT GALSTON AQUATIC AND LEISURE CENTRE

WITH TWO FANTASTIC OFFERS FOR YOU



Offer 1: Four Free Swims with Hills Aussi Masters Swimming Club

We are returning to our swim sessions on Tuesday nights at 7pm at Galston Aquatic Centre with an accredited coach for 3 of every 4 weeks. The four free swims offer includes free pool entry on four consecutive Tuesday nights, thanks to Hornsby Shire Council.

So now is the time to take the plunge and join Hills AUSSI Masters. If you are 18 years or over, of any swimming ability, you are welcome to come along.

So look on our Facebook page for our vouchers for FOUR FREE SWIMS or turn up at GALC on Tuesday night at 6:45pm, mention at reception that you wish to swim with Hills AUSSI Masters and see us for your vouchers.

Offer 2: Come and Try Masters

Hills AUSSI Masters Stroke Workshop Sunday 18th February 10am – 12:30pm

Are you interested in making your Freestyle as efficient as possible and get a taste of improving your technique in backstroke and breaststroke?



This Workshop is run by qualified Masters Swimming Coaches, including two National Coach of Year recipients. Come and try what Masters Swimming is about.

Again you need to be 18 years old or over but this time be a reasonably

proficient swimmer to register. Bring your fins and pull buoy. Email us to register now: hillsmastersswimming@gmail.com
Workshop Cost is NIL (pool entry NOT included in this offer) but you must register as numbers are limited.

Funded courtesy of



GLENORIE RSL CLUB

If you want to talk to a real person about these offers, please don't hesitate to call Tony on 0418 207 476 or Di on 0418 432 587.





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SPORTS NEWS AT THE CENTRE

Term 1 is fast approaching, and with it is the start of all things sports at The Centre. With our prime location and premium junior competitions, we are the perfect place to fill the gap between the end of Term 4- 2023 sport, and the start of outdoor winter competitions, with our mid season intake for our competitions.

Our new and exciting venture into the individual fitness side of things is kicking off in Feb, with the introduction of our boot camps, and additional days for our ever popular Over 55's classes. Both are a great option if you are starting your fitness journey, or looking to get back into fitness after a break.

We have also launched our new "Outdoor" Netball Club for 2024, the Dural Warriors. Our teams will play in the Hills District Netball Association, at Pennant Hills Park, but get the benefit of indoor training sessions to beat the winter weather at The Centre! For a limited time, we are offering a FREE uniform for each new registration for Dural Warriors.

For more information visit https://thecentredural.org.au/, phone 8989 0000, or check out our Facebook and Instagram pages.



DURAL BOWLING CLUB NEWS

A social game of Lawn Bowls took place with the travelling bowlers at Parramatta Leagues on 19th November 2023 as an introduction to both playing groups. The travelling bowlers is a social group that was formed from the active players in the vicinity of Parramatta, Hills and other close districts.

The Open Gender Major pair final took place on the 2nd of December. Doug Farlow and Glen Davey defeated Reg Munusamy and Cheryle Hobart. Congratulations to the winners.

Dural Lawn Bowls is looking forward to next year and the years beyond. The amalgamation with Parramatta Leagues Club on August 18th 2023 has given a secured financial stability and will be providing improved amenities and a brighter future as per the agreed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Anyone interested in playing bowls or having a Barefoot Bowls Party please contact Robert on 0411 375 580





HILLS HAWKS FOOTBALL CLUB



As this particular scribe 'hangs up their pen' after four years working with the mighty Hills Hawks Football Club (Go Hawkies), thoughts go back to the wonderful group of people that devote their time to make this club – and indeed all community sports clubs – run smoothly year after year.

They exist behind the scenes for the most part, selflessly giving up their time so that the local community can enjoy a healthy social activity like soccer, netball or rugby league. People come and go from such committees, sometimes helping out for a year, often times several before stepping aside as their children grow up or move on. However, in my experience there are generally a core group that provide the knowledge and stability that makes a club great, that invest hours and hours of their spare time in planning meetings, organising committees, operating the Club BBQ, working as Fair Play officials and so forth. It is these people that provide the platform for a whole community to come together, wear their club colours proudly and enjoy a sport, whether they are six years old or forty-five.

Much as it may sound like a lot of work and even sometimes a thankless task, let me assure you it is a thoroughly rewarding experience and I personally leave the committee with mixed emotions about stepping down. To be a volunteer in the great Galston, Glenorie, Arcadia, Dural area and surrounding suburbs is to engage with new people, make new friends and forge strong ties to individuals and business owners – to be a bigger part of the community, in other words.

As others step in to fill vacant roles, the cycle of volunteer work at a local sports club continues and the energy and dedication that others have shown passes down the line. However, never take for granted the work that these wonderful people do for their community, to keep the wheels turning and provide a strong, proud club for their locals to enjoy. We salute you, regardless of which code you represent, and commend your dedication and selfless commitment to the sport, local kids and the wider community.

I would personally urge anyone and everyone to get involved, and take a turn filling one of the roles at their club. It really is a vital part of running a not-for-profit sports organisation, as well as being very rewarding and a whole lot of fun with great people.

Oh... and one last time... Go Hawkies!





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NORTHHOLM GRAMMAR HSC SUCCESS — RANKED 45TH IN NSW



We are thrilled to acknowledge the outstanding academic achievements of the Class of 2023 in the HSC results. Northholm Grammar continues to build its reputation of achieving academic growth through personalised learning to be positioned 45th in NSW on the SMH HSC rankings. For the third time in the past four years, Northholm Grammar celebrates being the most successful co-educational private school in the Hills District. It is also the second time in the past three years, Northholm Grammar has achieved a Top 50 Ranking in NSW.



Our students embraced the opportunity to engage in a rigorous academic program allowing them to achieve their personal best. The sacrifices were many and they worked together as a collective group with enormous commitment and character throughout the year. It is with much pride that we celebrate their achievements and recognise that our vision and commitment to academic growth and scholarship continues to be rewarded.

Some excellent statistics and achievements include:

- 64 Honourable Mentions on the Distinguished Achievers list (Band 6 results)
- 56% of students achieved at least one Band 6/E4
- 85% of students achieved at least one Band 5 or Band 6
- Top ATAR: Calum Fraser (School Captain) with 99.80
- · 2 All-round Achievers list students
- Every Subject achieved above State Average results
- Every student in Drama achieved an Individual and Group On Stage nomination
- Northholm Grammar was 13th in the NSW for Mathematics Standard
- 100% of students achieved Band 6 results in Music I and Mathematics Ext I

Our Year 12 students have shown resilience, determination, and an unwavering drive towards excellence in all aspects of their schooling. These achievements would not be possible without the pastoral attentiveness, hard work and support from our staff, parents and community.





SCHOOLIES DONE DIFFERENTLY MATES HELPING MATES



BY WENDY MORAN

At Pacific Hills Christian School, we are an educational community of teaching learning and service excellence. Our students are encouraged to serve others and to extend their helping hands beyond the gates of our own school yard.

Schoolies done differently was an exciting venture for some of our graduating 2023 Year 12 cohort to mark the completion of their school journey. Our students were invited to participate in a special mission project in partnership with Scripture Union and the Pacific Island Christian School in Vanuatu.

On 26 November our team of Year 12 students and staff departed for the shores of Vanuatu to lend a helping hand across a range of service activities including teaching, practical work in areas of need and contributing to the local community.

The time our students spent with their peers at the Pacific Island Christian School in Bene, East Santos, Vanuatu was transformative as they encountered a different culture and school that does not have the same access to resources that many Australian schools have. Our students learned gratitude from the Vanuatu children and have gained new perspectives on life.

Our students and staff loved helping with some specialised projects at the school. They got their paintbrushes out and helped to paint the new kindergarten classroom. They ran a mini-Olympics for the school and conducted a flat bread making class.

Our students felt privileged to be able to have this opportunity. Upon their departure they donated an assortment of resources such as storybooks that would further support the school in Vanuatu.

The Vanuatu mission trip was also a lot of fun as our students spent time with their new friends enjoying meals together, swimming, singing, and getting their 'game on' with loads of games.

Students are always impacted by these mission trips. They get the chance to walk a mile in the shoes of others and to share a journey that profoundly changes them. Schoolies done differently was a fresh and innovative way of marking the completion of their school years, and no doubt a memorable way to do schoolies.



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MARK HODGES - MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

Recently, on the 16th January, the Hills Shire Council held its Australia Day Awards Ceremony. The annual ceremony is held to recognise and honour the contributions made to the community of The Hills by selfless volunteers. What a perfect way to celebrate Australia Day, by celebrating local Australians who seek to make our community and our country a better place.

There were twenty-eight finalists across five categories: the Community Group of the Year, Citizen of the Year – Environmental Award, Citizen of the Year – Youth Award, Citizen of the Year – Senior Award, and the Citizen of the Year.

Though there could only be one winner, all nominees were well deserving of their nomination. They are shining examples of the

effort and tremendous care these volunteers have for The Hills and truly represent the Australian Spirit.

Congratulations to the winners of each category:

Citizen of the Year: Ellen Kulbicki

Community Group of the Year: Fit Kidz
Citizen of the Year – Environmental Category: Lilly Schwartz
Citizen of the Year – Youth Award:
Little Helpers on the Run – Aiza, Aish, and Abdullah Khurram
Citizen of the Year – Senior Award: James Smith

It is this selfless act of giving, the care for our local people, that sets them above and beyond, and that makes the people of the Hills stand out. Congratulations to the nominees, and especially to the winners, and thank you for all you have done for the community of the Hills and wider Sydney communities. I look forward to seeing the work of these amazing volunteers in the future.





- Suite 1A, 19-21 Terminus Street, Castle Hill NSW 2154
- 9686 3110
- castlehill@parliament.nsw.gov.au



FROM THE DESK OF MATT KEAN

MEMBER FOR HORNSBY

To date, we have had a relatively mild summer and not faced the extreme bushfire season that was anticipated. However, I would like to remind everyone not to become complacent as we are not out of the bushfire season yet and dangerous fires can occur at any time.

We all should continue to take precautions and ensure we have prepared our properties as well as have our plans in place in the event of a bad bushfire breaking out in our local area.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank all our local Rural Fire Service volunteers for their significant commitment to keeping us safe all year round. As a member of the Hornsby Brigade, although not as active as I'd like to be, I am aware of the

work that is put in by RFS members and the sacrifice their family makes to allow them to do what they do.

Congratulations to both the Glenorie Cricket Club and the Glenorie Progress Association in achieving 130 years. Both these community organizations are well respected, wonderful advocates for their local area and are thriving. This has set them up for many years to come.

It is pleasing to see the work recently completed on the repair to Laughtondale Road. This important road that links Maroota with Singleton Road was badly damaged by storms and flooding in 2022. The previous State Government provided the funding and Hornsby Shire Council undertook the repair work that has the road in a safe functioning condition once again.

As we hit our stride for 2024, I once again look forward to serving you as the Member for Hornsby. As always, if you think I can help with any issue please feel free to contact my office at any time.

CELEBRATING AUSTRALIA DAY

JULIAN LEESER - MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

Australia is the best country in the world. Every year, Australia Day gives us an opportunity to celebrate Australia and being Australian.

Australia Day is a day of beginnings – about how the Australia that we know and love today has come to be. It is a chance for all of us to reflect on how our families came to be here.

As Noel Pearson has rightly said, there are three parts of our national story: our Indigenous heritage, our British inheritance, and our multicultural success.

Australia Day is a chance to celebrate these three strands of our society, and in particular to reflect on the arrival of the First Fleet,

which brought with it many of the British institutions which are so central to Australian life today – our system of Parliamentary democracy, the rule of law, property rights, and the right to vote.

Our unique Australian sense of humour is a mix of the British and the Irish, and the British gave us a language that connects us to English-speaking people in every continent around the world.

As Australians, we have hand-picked the best bits of British culture (while rejecting the class system which holds Britain back) to create the exceptional Australia which is so dear to each of us today.

To everyone across the electorate, I hope you had a very happy Australia Day!

CHERRYBROOK RESIDENTS UNITE TO EFFECT CHANGE

CLLR DR VERITY GREENWOOD - HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

Recently, the strength of a united 16 Cherrybrook resident voice became the catalyst for shaping change. These residents raised concerns and requested action due to difficulties using a 200 metre unpaved grass path on New Line Road, Cherrybrook, between Franklin Road and the County Drive intersection.

So, what is stopping Hornsby Council from providing this much needed paved footpath? New Line Road is a State Road under the jurisdiction of Transport for NSW who advised, in November 2023, that the New Line Road project is deferred for 2 years. Therefore, Council cannot proceed with additional footway works until a safe crossing of New Line Road has been provided by State Government.

In December, 2023, at the Council General meeting, a Cherrybrook resident group representative supported my motion for Council

to investigate construction of their much needed Cherrybrook paved footpath. My motion requested a report on the outcomes of the investigation and discussions with Transport for NSW, for consideration of inclusion in Council's Delivery Program/Operational Plan 2024/25. The motion was accepted unanimously.

If you have any concerns or issues where I may assist, please do not hesitate to contact me at vgreenwood@hornsby.nsw.gov.au



RURAL ROUNDUP NEWS UPDATE

CLR WARREN WADDELL

With predicted hot weather over the break, it was terrific to have the Galston Aquatic centre open for business. Although the official re-opening is on Saturday 3rd February, we welcomed the opportunity to provide access over the holiday period. I look forward to the resumption of all activities now we are into the New Year.

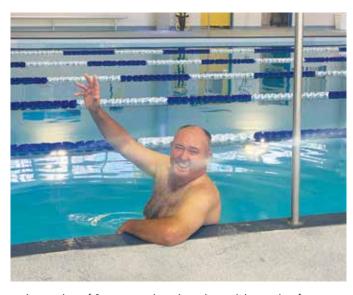
With construction access no longer a requirement from Galston reserve, the third outdoor gym station will be scheduled for installation. This will complete this popular circuit.

Elsewhere in the area, upgrades have been scheduled to school crossings at both School Rd Galston and Tecoma Drive Glenorie. These improvements will ensure safer crossings for children accessing their school at these locations.

Workshops continue to take place in Wiseman's Ferry that focus on recovery and building resilience to severe weather and flood events. This grant funded pilot program seeks to adopt a community led approach to resilience and recovery. To participate or make a comment please contact Lana Frost on 9847 6549 or lfrost@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Looking ahead...

- 2024 will see a strong focus on improved public domain, led by the current project to upgrade public spaces in Galston village.
- Gateway signage has been rolled out across the shire, but more work needs to be done in improving first impressions at these key locations. In particular, resolving the jurisdictional issues over



the number of State-owned roads and roundabouts that feature prominently in all our villages.

• I will continue the investigation into a fixed location for a mountain bike skill track. Along with funding options for a completed footpath from Galston to Dural.

There will be plenty more to report on but for now, I wish everyone a healthy and prosperous New Year!

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



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^ Roy Morgan Quarterly Update February 2023 Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1525005 OUT_34205432, 08/01/2024

Hidden In The Hills

TERRESTRIAL ORCHIDS

BY LACHLAN TURNER

There are many ground hugging orchids that flower in early autumn, lasting through to late spring.

The flower of the Trim Greenhood Orchid (Pterostylis concinna) stands about 250mm above the grass. It is often found in quite large colonies in open woodland growing amongst shorter sedges and grasses, in dappled sunlight.

The Red Beard Orchid
(Calochilus paludosis) has a flower stem
up to 400mm tall and carries numerous
flowers which are characterised by
hair-like extensions resembling a man's long and
untrimmed beard. It grows in scattered areas along
the coast of eastern New South Wales, west to the
Blue Mountains. Surviving in dry, sandy as well as swampy

conditions it is found in both heath and woodland environments, frequently growing under eucalypts.

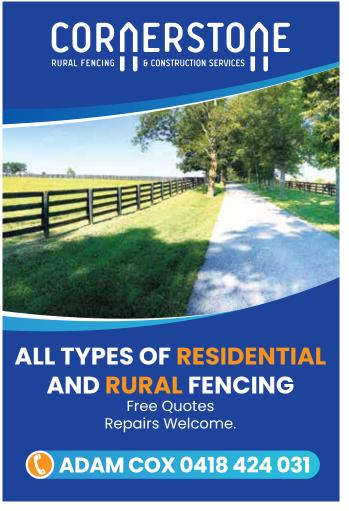
The Copper Beard Orchid (Calochilus campestris,) growing on 600mm stems, tends towards bluish

(Calochilus campestris,) growing on 600mm stems, tends towards bluish purple coloured hairs. The Purplish Beard Orchid (Calochilus robertsonii), growing on 450mm stems, tends towards bronze purple coloured hairs. Yet another orchid sometimes found growing from the fissures in large sandstone rock formations is the distinctive mauve coloured Dipodium punctatum

Hyacinth Orchid. This orchid gains its nutrients from decaying vegetable matter found either in leaf litter or in rocky locations.

Hyacinth Orchid





BROMELIAD SHOW AND SHOP

The next meeting of the Bromeliad Society of Australia will be on

Saturday, 10th February at the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground, Showground Road, Castle Hill. Bromeliad sales to the public from 10am with the meeting commencing at 12noon.

Long-term member of the BSA
Warril Evans has a magnificent garden
but does have a particular passion
for bromeliads.

She will be bringing some of her very favourite Broms to this meeting for discussion and advice on

her methods on successfully growing bromeliads.

There will also be our regular meeting activities such as competitions, Raffle, Show & Tell, and a more recent activity called just "Show" for people who would just like to share a plant with others without it being critically judged or discussed.

For further information please contact Ian Hook, President of BSA on mobile 0408 202 269, email: ianhook1@bigpond.com or refer to www.bromeliad.org.au for the latest updates.

EDGING SUPPLIES

With the start of a new year it's always good to plan your gardening needs.

Our steel edging is so popular at the moment. We have full range of galvanized steel and Corten steel edging ranging in heights from 75mil all the way up to 580mil high. We stock the stakes and each length comes with joiners and screws or rivots. The lengths are all 2.44 mtrs long.

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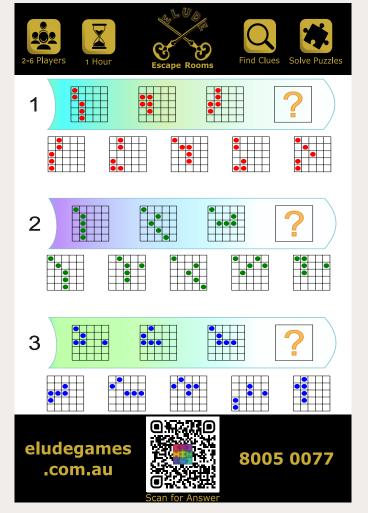
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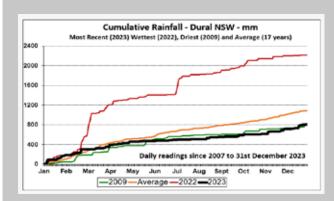
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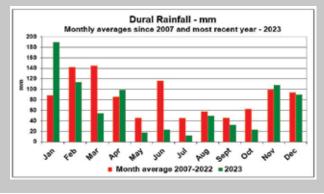
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DURAL RAINFALL CHARTS

BY HANS KUNNEN





CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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27								28			

ACROSS

- 01 Hire (4)
- 04 Tourist spot south of Denmark (5,5)
- 09 Establishes (4,2)
- 10 Dinner site (8)
- 11 Atherton Tableland pine (10,5)
- 12 "Know thyself" philosopher (8)
- 15 Profane expression (4)

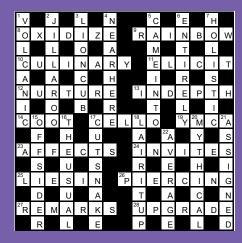
- 18 Spot (4)
- 19 Lineage (8)
- 21 Rat only found way up North (4,4,7)
- 25 Desert runner --- Gash (8)
- 26 Bread (6)
- **27** Abandoned (4,6)
- 28 Barbie staples (4)

DOWN

- 02 They obey one's will (9)
- 03 Preference (5)
- **04** Pope is to upset another performer (8)
- 05 Beyond what is usual (5)
- 06 Unimportant person (6)
- 07 They're uplifting (9)
- 08 Church singers (5)
- 13 Former Richmond centre half-forward (5,4)

- 14 Vast amount (3)
- 16 Rugby's "The Back-up man" (5,4)
- 17 Yelled (8)
- 20 Footwarmer (6)
- 22 Up (5)
- 23 Dull yellowish brown (5)
- 24 Scent (5)

ANSWER FROM DECEMBER ISSUE



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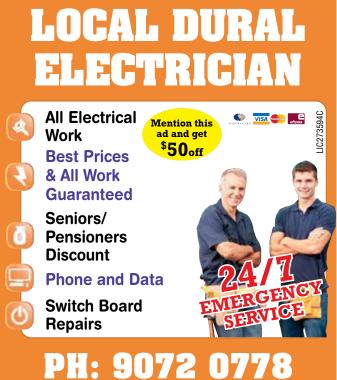
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