

DOORAL ROUNDUP



APRIL 2024

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



PRESCHOOL

FOR OUR SENIORS

Preschool for Seniors

This month Fit Kidz Learning Centre in Dural welcomed some very special friends for an Easter morning tea. It was also Harmony Day so the perfect day to share some time with the wonderful seniors of our community.

“Our visitors and the children in our centre joined together to paint, sing, and dance. One of our visitors Carmen even showed the children how to make ravioli with the playdough. Carmen shared how she used to make it with her mother back in Malta many years ago. It was a very special morning.” says Centre Director, Mel Hogan

“Interactions between the elderly and young children enriches the lives of both age groups. The exchange of knowledge, experience, and cultural differences, strengthens social bonds and promotes mutual respect. It really is a gift we are fortunate to experience each month here at Fit Kidz.” Says, Mel

Interacting with young children can enhance the cognitive function and emotional well-being of the elderly. Engaging in activities like storytelling, playing games, or simply conversing, stimulates mental faculties and keeps the mind active.

“We find the innocence and joy of children gives a sense of vitality and happiness to our visitors and can help in combating feelings of perhaps loneliness” shares, Mel “Our children also benefit greatly from

their interactions. They gain valuable lessons in empathy, compassion, and patience whilst learning to respect and appreciate individuals from different generations”. shares, Mel

These visits are one of the many highlights at Fit Kidz and Mel and her team would like to sincerely thank the residents from Bupa Retirement Village for visiting and being part of the Fit Kidz community.



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Anzac Day Tradition

BY MARK COUPAR

The Anzac Day tradition is one of our most important national occasions and marks the first military action by Australia and New Zealand together.

The acronym ANZAC stands for **Australian and New Zealand Army Corps**. Anzac Day is gazetted as a national event to recognise and commemorate the contributions of all those who have served Australia in a time of war and warlike conflicts.

Anzac Day is always commemorated on the **25th April** since 1916, marking the date that Australians and New Zealanders landed on the Gallipoli Peninsular that was named ANZAC Cove in 1915.

On that day 16,000 people landed, and by day's end 2,000 had been killed or wounded.

It is a day that brings all Australians together as one. The day's commemorations start with a Dawn service a – tradition when soldiers guarded their posts as many attacks commenced at dawn.

Services of remembrance and wreath laying are held across our community and offer quiet contemplation, accompanied by the poignant bugle call of the last post.

By then it's off for a time honored tradition of two-up – but that's another story...

We offer heartfelt gratitude to all servicemen and women, and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for this great nation... *Lest We Forget.*



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.

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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."

Dural Chamber and Dooral Roundup Contacts



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Every cup comes with Warmth and a Smile



Nestled in the heart of Dural lies the Waaia Café, operating out of the Warrah Society, a not-for-profit organisation committed to enriching the lives of people with disabilities. Open every Friday from 10am to 12 noon, the café is run by some of Warrah's participants and their dedicated support workers.

Tania crafts her scones with meticulous care, finding joy and purpose in her role. Her scones clinched the top spot in the 2023 Hawkesbury Show!

Sam extends a warm welcome to café patrons, his infectious smile brightening the atmosphere for all who walk through the door.

The café is a training ground for people with disabilities to gain hands-on experience in baking, customer service, money handling, cleaning, and food safety. Every purchase contributes directly to Warrah's programs and services, making a tangible impact on the lives of people with disabilities.

Ali Pruys, Executive Manager Community Services said that the vision behind the Waaia café was to create a space where the community can connect with and support the Warrah community.

Tania, Sam, and the entire team extend to you a warm welcome to join them at the Waaia Cafe every Friday and be a part of something truly special.

For more information visit <https://warrah.org.au/waaia-cafe/>
The Waaia Café at Warrah Society Disability Services, 20 Harris Road, Dural 2158

Kenthurst Combined Probus

Our Club held its Annual General Meeting in Kenthurst Uniting Church on Monday 18th March. There was no change over of Office Bearers; all Committee Members were nominated to fill in the same positions. Hence Rosalie Challoner continued as President in common with other Committee Members.

After the meeting, some members travelled into the city to hear David Hobson and Bridget Costello perform in the Good Old Days Concert at the Sydney Town Hall. Next weekend, Club Members are joining in a six-day tour of the Jindabyne area.

The Club's next meeting is at 9.30am on **Monday April 15th** to hear a talk on Cyber Security. Visitors are always welcome: details can be obtained from Club Membership Director Burt Stuu on **9652 1239**.

Picture show President Rosalie receiving the Chain of Office from Secretary Pat Bonnici.







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Local Crew's 10th Year at Tamworth



Every January, when the sun is at its hottest, thousands of country music-loving people make the pilgrimage to the Australian country town of Tamworth for the Toyota Country Music Festival which runs over 10 days.

The heat of over 40°C and the flies are no deterrent as the festival, presented by Tamworth Regional Council, is now in its 52nd year and is recognised as the second biggest country music festival in the world, after the CMA Music Festival in Nashville USA. The town comes alive with ticketed and free shows alike, and buskers line the main streets. Galston based Live Event Services has been providing design and management for the past ten Golden Guitar Award ceremonies. The crew made the five-hour drive in three semi-trailers: one predominantly lighting, one audio and vision, one LED screens, and a van full of camera gear.

The awards show is mostly live, with no pre-recorded music other than click track. The team worked closely with Brendan Radford, the Musical Director. Rehearsals start Friday morning as early as possible, as it takes two days to rehearse the awards that go live on Saturday night.

"This is our 10th consecutive year providing production and management for the awards and concerts held at TRECC," remarked Colin. "We are very proud of our involvement in bringing the awards to life.

Producer for the Golden Guitar Awards is industry veteran Peter Ross who commented, "Thank you, Colin. A huge thank you and congratulations to you and the team for doing a brilliant job of delivering the vision. You have some outstanding passionate, professional and great to work with people in the team."

International Women's Day Breakfast



Soroptimist International of Hornsby held another successful International Women's Day breakfast at Kipling's Turramurra on Tuesday

5th March. The guest speakers were Sonia Cassanova SISEAP Director (Member of South West Slopes), and Annabelle Daniel CEO of Women's Community Shelter.

Thanks go also to Julian Leeser, MP for giving his support to the event.

For more information about Soroptimist International of Hornsby call Pam on 0425 229 615 or email sihornsby@siswp.org




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Stop Scully's Skyscrapers in Cherrybrook

BY MATT KEAN MP

The Minns government has plans to throw up a mini-Manhattan in Cherrybrook, proposing it as a desperate solution to the housing crisis.

The Cherrybrook precinct is an area characterised by its leafy streets and detached family homes.

With the opening of Cherrybrook Metro Station in 2019, the previous Coalition government worked with Planning NSW and local councils on increasing density around the new transport hub. A three-year process was set to deliver 3200 new homes, comprising a mix of predominantly five storey and three-storey terraces, with the new streets having 50 per cent tree cover.

There was also a desire to deliver a library, community facility and other essential infrastructure, as part of these original plans. The strategy for Cherrybrook Station was finalised following years of work with community engagement, and it was approved by the previous Liberal government in December 2022.

However, I have now learned the current Labor state government is looking to significantly increase the number new residences around Cherrybrook. I understand the new estimated additional rezonings could lead to up to 8000 additional homes with little or no supporting infrastructure.



Skyscrapers as in Sydney are not appropriate in Cherrybrook

I am seeking a briefing to understand if the government is proposing to make changes to the Cherrybrook Metro precinct and, if so, what exactly are those changes being considered.

In a letter sent to Planning Minister Paul Scully in February, I asked for an urgent briefing on the proposed changes however, I am yet to have received a reply.

I believe this additional development now being considered in the quiet suburb of Cherrybrook has not taken into account all the work already done to achieve the existing, approved housing plan for the area.

After years of promises, Labor have spent their first year in power achieving nothing in housing. Now their Planning Minister, Carl Scully's desperate solution is to throw up a high-rise hub of skyscrapers in every Liberal seat. Communities should not be punished based on where they live.

If you would like to voice your concerns, you can sign my petition to save Cherrybrook at www.stoptheskyscrapers.com



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Rotary Club of Kenthurst

Supporting Rotary's commitment to youth, Kenthurst Rotary proudly sponsored two students from Galston High to attend an action-packed weekend in February at **RYPEN Summer Camp**.

Abigail Storrie and Kai Brown both attended. 51 Year 10 students from across Sydney took part in the weekend. Kai was one of four that was awarded a 'gnome award' for growth over the course of the program.



Top Cop, Gary Raymond honoured the club as guest speaker in February. Gary kept us on the edge of our seats with stories and escapades from his time in the NSW Police Force and Police Rescue Squad. It was very touching when he spoke about the enduring relationships, he has built with many of the families who have lost loved ones or were involved in incidents he attended over his 33 years of service. Copies of his book "Top Cop" were available with all proceeds going to Suicide Prevention. A truly inspirational individual.

The first meeting at our new venue was held recently. We celebrated with cheese, biscuits, and wine. A session on Shelterbox proved very interesting.

Our **new meeting venue** is Uniting Church Hall, 116B Kenthurst Road (cnr Jones Road), Kenthurst.

'The Real Risk of Getting Hacked' was the topic for our guest speaker recently. Rob Lea spoke of his experiences of dealing with the aftermath and fighting cyber-crime. It was an interesting evening.



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Dural Cubs Enjoy Bushwalk

Stage 3 Bushwalking is not a simple Scout Hike walking around the bush!

Recently, on a sunny and rain-free day the Cub Unit set off on a challenging bushwalk starting from Cherrybrook to Galston through the Berowra Valley National Park, covering 10.5 kms.



Everyone was well prepared, they had 4 short breaks and rest time, enjoyed some wonderful scenery and lookouts along the way with some challenging steep ascents and descents.

It was a pretty challenging bushwalk for everyone and I am sure there was a great sense of accomplishment!

A big thanks to Nathan our Scout Leader and Parents who supported this bushwalk – and well done to all the Cub Scouts.

Also in early March, Dural Scouts participated in the Oceans 2024 Camp at Glenrock along with groups s from other Hills District Scouts.

Scouts were sorted into patrols of 4-6 scouts who competed for a trophy at the end of the camp. Competition points were

awarded for the state and cleanliness of their camp, a MasterChef competition where they had to cook for the Leaders, a wide game on Saturday night and a video making contest.

Dural came third thanks to winning the MasterChef comp, special mention to Lachlan for his cooking skills.

When they weren't competing, the scouts participated in abseiling, swimming in the lake on Saturday and a massive water slide was set up Sunday.

Overall, a good time had by all, and some very tired scouts on Sunday afternoon.

Dural Scout Group has vacancies now 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

Dural and District Historical Society Inc. News from History Cottage

For our meeting on the 13th April we will again call on the knowledge of our member, Kenneth Bradley. His topic describes the Second World War railway connecting Thailand with Burma built by the Japanese using some 200,000 Asian labourers and captured Allied Soldiers.

We begin at the bridge on the River Kwai and move towards Burma revealing several bridges up to the site of the Australian Government's Memorial at the cutting named

Hellfire Pass and identify several of the extraordinary men who survived the ordeal working in appalling conditions as prisoners of war. Men from our own community were among those who served. Ken's knowledge comes from his time working in Thailand and a 1988 Bicentennial project.

The next Society meeting is on Saturday the 13th April, in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road Galston at 2.00pm. All are welcome. Admission is free with a gold coin donation for afternoon tea. Enquiries: Michael on 9653 1365.



Read a longer version of this article online at <https://dooralroundup.com.au/latest-news/>

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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- 2021 Winner – HIA NSW Spec Home for 23 Kingscott Pl Castle Hill , Housing Industry Association NSW Housing and Kitchen & Bathroom Awards
- 2019 Winner – HIA NSW Spec Home for 10 Mahony St, Pitt Town, Housing Industry Association NSW Housing and Kitchen & Bathroom Awards



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from the Mayor's Desk

As a council, we are passionate about preserving our unique environment to ensure our beautiful Bushland Shire remains for future generations. In addition to Council's own programs, initiatives and strategies, we present a range of events and activities for our community to support people to live more sustainably.

Waste is a problem of particular significance, and so this month, we are presenting a series of events encouraging you recycle and reuse items rather than sending them to landfill. On 14 April, you're invited to attend our 'Second Hand Hornsby Market' at the new Coronation StrEAT space in Hornsby, when 30 store holders will sell their high-quality second-hand items. Come along and pick up a bargain!

Throughout the rest of the month, there are events teaching you how to mend your clothes, repair your furniture and electronics, and create a recycled kitchen garden. Our regular series of solar webinars and workshops returns with a webinar unpacking the basics of how to get the most from solar. Check out our ad below and visit the What's On section on our website to find out more – hornsby.nsw.gov.au.

NSW Youth Week 2024 runs from 11 to 21 April, when we focus on supporting our young people and giving them the opportunity to have their voices heard. This year's theme is 'Express. Empower. Get Loud!', and we have a range of exciting free events for youth aged 12-24 to come together and celebrate. Featuring a movie night, skate competition, art prize and more, there's lots to get involved in. Visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au for more information.

As we head further into autumn, sportspeople young and old are excited to embark on a new season of winter sports. And at Council, we've been busy getting everything prepared at our 37 sportsground venues across the Shire. Grass has been cut, nearly 50km of line markings have been applied, 55 pairs of goals have been installed and 18 cricket wickets covered. I'd like to take the opportunity to wish all the clubs and players all the best for the new season and thank all the staff and volunteers who play a significant role in community sport.

Philip Ruddock AO
Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

What's on



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Express Empower Get loud! NSW

Celebrate Youth Week in Hornsby Shire with FREE events for ages 12-24

11-21 April 2024
hornsby.nsw.gov.au/youthweek



Second Hand HORNSBY Market

Sunday 14 April, 9am-1pm

Coronation StrEat, Hornsby
Jersey Lane car park, Hornsby

hornsby.nsw.gov.au/market

WASTE EVENTS

Chipping for Mulch - Mt Kuring-gai
Sunday 14 April, 7.30am-12.30pm
5 Beaumont Road, Mt Kuring-gai

Your Recycled Kitchen Garden
Thursday 18 April, 10am-12.30pm
Thornleigh Community Recycling Centre

Repair Cafe - Furniture and Electronics
Saturday 27 April, 11am-1pm
Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby

Clothes Mending
Saturday 27 April, 10.30am-12pm
Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby

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YOUR SAY HORNSBY

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Next Council meeting Wednesday 10 April, 6.30pm

hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Archibald artists talk at Windsor

The 2023 Archibald Prize exhibition is currently in Windsor, from March 15th to April 28th. If you missed



the exhibition in town, this is a chance to see 57 remarkable portraits and to hear from three of the artists.

Catherine McGuinness, local artist from Cherrybrook was a finalist in the Archibald with her portrait of Sydney chef Kylie Kwong. Catherine and Thom Roberts are artists who attend

Studio A in St Leonards, an art studio for people with intellectual disability. Julia Gutman is the 2023 Archibald winner.

On April 21st these three artists will speak at the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery at Windsor, moderated by gallery curator Diana Robson. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to hear directly from Archibald Prize artists speaking about their artworks. Light refreshments will be provided.

Sunday 21st April, 1-3pm
Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, 300 George St Windsor 2756
Adults \$5, Under 18's FREE
Bookings are essential through Eventbrite

What makes a Successful Group?

Sometimes it's good to stop and look at 'the way we really are' ... NO photoshop effects, NO add-ons, NO tinting and tinkering.

What really makes a Community Group a successful group?

The photo shows the Arcadian Quilters creating, discussing, deciding on patterns, choosing colours, planning for workshops (and the occasional social event of course). This is a successful, genuine and valued Women's Group in action.



We made this beautifully coloured quilt from the festive table napkins from an Indian family wedding. A wonderful keepsake for the bride's family!

Our door is always open and new members are very welcome.

We meet on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday of every month at 9.30am, at the Community Health Centre, The Glade, Galston.



For further information please call Carole on 9894 7749.

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Residential Strata Properties and Pets

PROPERTY & YOU – BY PAUL MCKENZIE, ABS CONVEYANCING

Changes to the Strata Act legislation, in recent years, now prevents strata schemes with the Owners Corporate and strata manager, from un-reasonably refuse consent for a Pet.



What is reasonable or un-reasonable? Under Section 137B of the Strata Schemes Management Act legislation (as amended), strata schemes cannot have a by law to ban all pets. The Strata Scheme with the strata manager, can only refuse

written consent for a pet, based on serious safety or nuisance grounds. For example, a rottweiler dog, a breed to attack, would be deemed as serious safety concerns and reasonable grounds to refuse written consent.

Small pets now considered normal part of strata schemes, and good company, especially for people living alone, families and seniors. A Strata Scheme now cannot ban Paris Hilton's little cute dog from the apartment and strata scheme.

Such provisions have been upheld, in the Tribunal case, *Yardy v Owners Corporation* [SP 57237, 2018], ruled that a barking normal dog is not grounds for refusal or removal, unless the barking is loud and excessive enough, for numerous complaints. Mr Yardy, with his Maltese cross terrier, Baxter, won against the owners' corporation, who tried to set up a by law to ban all pets.

Clean up with an Aussie

Aussie Pumps' new production facility in Norwest is up and running, with the latest pressure cleaners and Jetters running off the line.

The range, starting with the 3,000 psi Aussie AB30 "Pocket Rocket" offers models all the way to 7,000psi (500 bar). Available in both Honda petrol or Yanmar diesel drive, these industrial machines are robust, mobile, and easy to use.

The heavy duty range of gearbox drive pressure cleaners are designed for continuous use. Called the Aussie Scud, the machines are a breakthrough in design.

They offer a unique ergonomic, stainless steel frame with four 13" steel wheels and big flat-free tyres. This means the machines are easy to move around and, there are models available to suit virtually every application. The heart of the system is a "Big Bertie" Bertolini pump, running at 1450 rpm. They are designed for a long and trouble-free life.

A wide range of attachments make clean up faster and more efficient. Extension wands for hard-to-reach areas, flat surface cleaners and even turbo lances all help to cut cleaning times.

"We always talk to users to get feedback as part of the design process" said Aussie Pump's Chief Engineer, John Hales. "The engineering and design team always want to know what the user thinks because after all, they have more experience on the job."



Staff from IPCS Seven Hills with Aussie's Pressure Cleaner

Aussie Pumps top range of Pressure Cleaners and Jetters are available from IPCS at Seven Hills, you can contact them on 9674 9088 or aussiepumps.com.au



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Trial and Error

Anyone who has ever knitted knows there are many twists and turns of the yarn along the way, and no matter how nasty the entanglements are, it will eventually come together. If it gets so tangled that you can't use your hands, you have to cut it off with scissors and tie it together or start again. There are times when you find a stitch that has fallen out. At that point, you have to unwind to do it again. In this way, even if it is somewhat flawed, a piece of knitting is beautifully completed.



A wise old person says, "I have long lived with 'trial and error' as a guide to life." "Trial and error" is the process of solving a complex challenge in life, which many learn from knitting.

Could it be that the endless bundle of yarn in front of us is a hint that one day we will be given a suitable answer to a difficult task?

At Cherrybrook Uniting Church we have two groups of crafters – Yarners (Knitting & Crocheting for Charity) and Elouera Cottage Crafts. You are welcome to come and share your gift and fellowship at either or both groups.

We also invite you to the "Fabric & Wool Destash" on **Saturday 20th April 9am – 1pm**. For full details concerning the craft groups and/or Destash visit <https://www.cherrybrookuc.org.au/craft-activities> or phone 0408 441 766.

**Rev Peter Chung, Cherrybrook Uniting Church,
134 New Line Rd, Cherrybrook NSW 2126, 02 9875 5269.**

Don't be Anxious



The smiling Mitch and Murray welcome you to our church

My name is Mitch Levingston, I am one of the pastors at The Centre Dural. Recently we have been exploring Jesus' words on the Sermon on the Mount, not to worry about money, food, or clothing but to store our treasure in heaven.

According to research, one-third of us have or are currently suffering from anxiety. There is much to be anxious about, such as mortgage stress, the cost of living, job security, international relations, or another global pandemic.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus offers the cure to fear and anxiety, "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." Jesus argues that our anxiety is built upon pursuing earthly treasure. Our earthly treasure can be stolen or destroyed. But heavenly treasure lasts forever.

Jesus' teachings can seem simplistic because, as we know, there is a lot to be anxious about, and how does storing treasure in heaven help pay the bills? Jesus is not telling us to put on a happy face or to dismiss our emotions in a bad situation or live pie in the sky.

Where we store our treasures gives us an anchor of hope. Focusing on the kingdom as our number one priority will not be a forcefield against life's problems. But it provides us with the knowledge that we rest in the hands of our Heavenly Father. Each anxiety-producing situation is a test to determine where our treasure is stored and our trust in God.

You are welcome to come along and join in our services on Sunday at 10AM. You can contact us on 8989 0000 or on our website - thecentredural.org.au/church/



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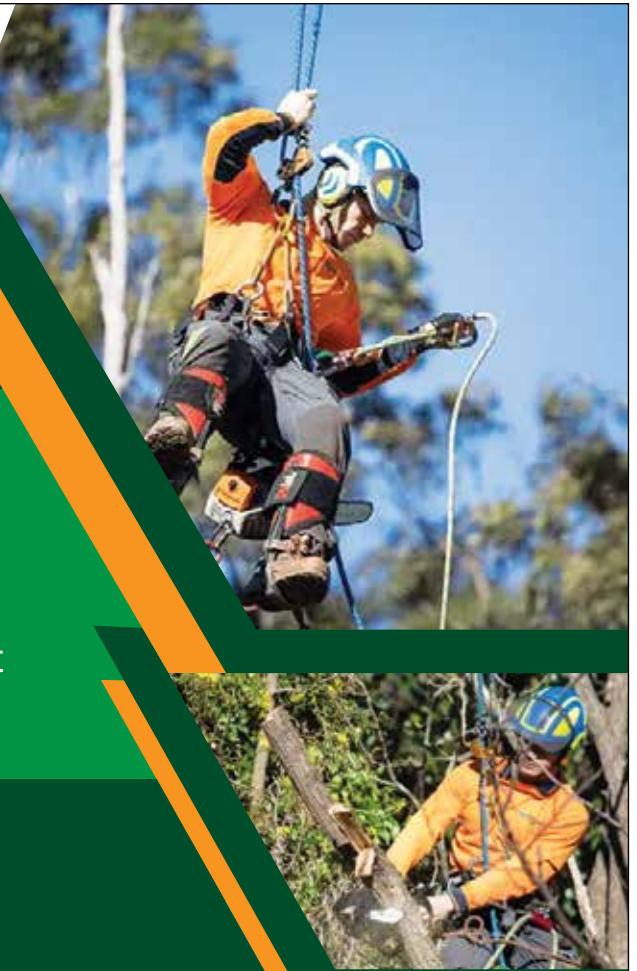
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Dural Doyenne's Glitterati Event



Thurlow Fisher House in Quarry Road Dural entertained Sydney's Glitterati on February 24th, in honour of Jenny Fisher's 60th birthday.



Matthew and Jenny Fisher



Laura Glibo, Jenny and Sharon Thornton



Imogen Smith, Jenny and Hala Awad



Glen and Olga Dubois, Rachel Troia



Jenny with Sarah Street and Gerard Farley



Susie Dobson (Jenny's twin sister) and Jenny



Jenny, Amanda Burke and Matthew Aker



Maleeka Guzman, Nader and Hibah Hazim and Amalia Mirabito



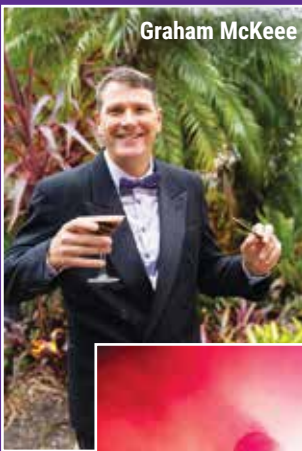
Robert and Laura Glibo



The Dural house continues an architectural legacy started by Jenny Fisher's father David Thurlow, founder of Thurlow Fisher Lawyers. In the 1950s trailblazer David built the iconic Thurlow House in Blakehurst on the George's River, with stellar architect Harry Seidler. The Blakehurst house stands unchanged as an example of elite post-modern Australian architecture.



Thurlow Fisher House Dural exemplifies the family's continued appreciation of architectural excellence. Jenny's untold hours of planning succeeded in pulling off the ultimate celebration for her special birthday, with jaw-dropping dress and makeup. We can hardly believe the number; surely she must be just nudging 40?



Many Hills locals were lucky enough to attend Jenny's gala evening. Guests were driven down to the house by chauffeured golf buggies, arriving to cocktails and roving canapés.



A bridge was built over the pool to create a huge dance floor. Guest DJ Nick Skitz played the hits while guests danced the night away.

Congratulations Matthew and Jenny on a fabulous party and we wish you both the best of health and happiness together. We're sure it's going to be a wonderful adventure for you both.



Overcoming Dinner Table Frustration: Combating Isolation Caused by Hearing Loss



AN ARTICLE FROM EAR STUDIO

Imagine this: you're gathered around the dinner table with your beloved family. The room is bustling with chatter, laughter, and the clinking of cutlery. It's chaotic, but it's filled with the warmth of your loved ones. However, amidst the noise and commotion, there's a silent struggle that often goes unnoticed – the isolating effect of hearing loss.

In such a lively setting, where multiple conversations intertwine and background noise competes for attention, individuals with hearing loss can feel isolated. Even with advancements in hearing aids, the battle to discern speech from noise can sometimes remain a challenge. The clatter of plates, the shuffle of chairs, and distant music create an environment that makes hearing more challenging in larger groups.

Seating arrangements play a crucial role, as those with hearing loss may rely on lip-reading and facial cues to follow conversations. Depending on where

they sit, visibility of speakers may be limited, worsening their sense of disconnect from the conversations unfolding around them.

Trying to follow several conversations around you can be hard on your brain and can be quite tiring. Feeling unsure where to focus attention or struggling to keep pace with fast-paced discussions adds another layer of complexity to the dining experience. In these circumstances, a conscious effort from family members to engage and accommodate those with hearing loss can make a significant difference.

Thankfully, technological innovations in hearing aids offer a glimmer of hope. Directional microphones and technologies capable of identifying and reducing ambient noise can enhance the listening experience in noisy environments like family gatherings. These devices adapt to various environments making it easier to listen even amidst bustling surroundings.

Supplementary accessories can further enhance communication for individuals with hearing loss. These would include items such as a table microphones for meetings for example or a lapel-mounted mic for an improved one on one coffee shop meal with your partner. These devices pick up sounds closer to its origin and

send it directly into hearing aids, which makes it easier to follow the conversation.

Recognising the signs of hearing loss and seeking professional assistance is the first important action. Taking proactive steps to address hearing concerns is essential for maintaining meaningful connections with your loved ones. While it may be tempting to lean on the thought that it is normal that our hearing reduces as we age, it does not improve or address challenges and frustrations you or a loved one experiences.

At Ear Studio, a locally owned and independent audiology clinic, we understand the impact of hearing loss on social interactions. Our friendly and dedicated team is committed to providing personalised solutions to help combat frustration and isolation. If you or a loved one are experiencing challenges at the dinner table, we encourage you to schedule a hearing test with us.

Don't let hearing loss stop you from engaging fully in life's precious moments. Contact us today on 0291 596 122 or you can visit www.earstudio.com.au for more information or to book online. Let's embark on this journey together towards a more vibrant and inclusive future.

EAR STUDIO

Passion for Hearing™

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– Daniel Fechner
Director, Founder & Audiometrist

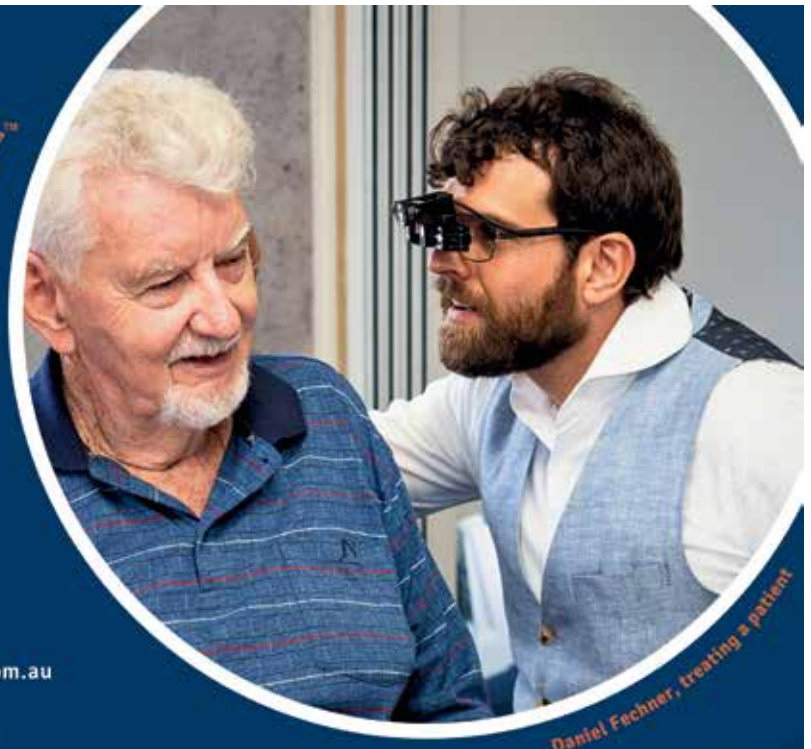
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SPORT NEWS AT THE CENTRE DURAL

Hit the Ground Running



Term 1 is well underway, which means so are our summer competitions! We've had a huge start to the year, with the kick off of our new early morning boot camps, our mid-morning ladies boot camps, and added classes for our

over 55's movement class. Our community is loving all the opportunities to move their bodies in a fun way, with the added advantage of smaller class sizes.

Our Summer competitions are nearly at an end, with Grand-Finals being played from the week of the 25th March, and we are gearing up for an action packed Winter Competition. Winter Competition brings with it the introduction of a Men's Netball competition, the re-introduction of Dural 5's Netball, and the introduction of our junior boys netball J League. We are all super excited to get these off the ground.

That's not to say though that our old faithful competitions are not getting the same amount of excitement. Men's, Mixed and Ladies futsal will be back with a bang, as will our ladies and mixed netball.

To know more, check out our website thecentredural.org.au/sports-competitions or call the sports team on 8989 0000.

Dural Bowling Club News



ROBYN SCOBLE HONOURED

The recent awarding of Life Membership to Robyn Scoble was a recognition of her long service to the club. A very competent bowler, Robyn won many events at Dural and away, including pennant wins and the Dural Major Singles.

Robyn has been a member of Dural Bowling Club since 2001. During her time, she has held a number of offices, particularly President. During that period the men's and women's clubs decided to amalgamate, she was just the right person to attend to the details of the constitution and practices of a joint men's and women's club as the foundation is so important to the well-being of any organization.

She stayed on as president of the new venture to see it settled. She likes keeping in touch with members from the past and checks on members who are absent without cause!

MIXED TRIPLES COMPETITION

Final results. Team 4 - Marion O'Connell, Mike Keane and Norm Nicholson

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



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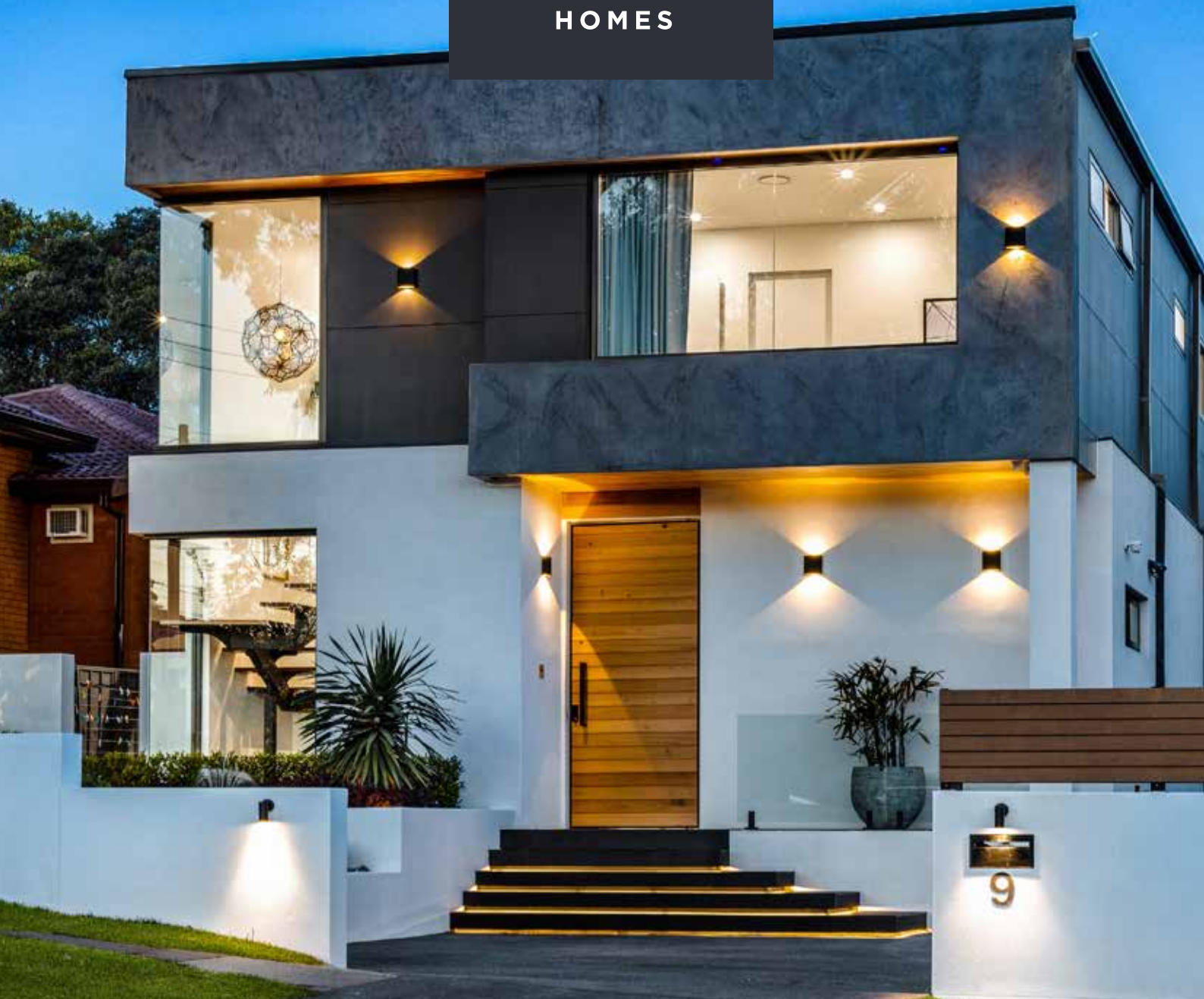


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Green Initiatives: Pacific Hills Geography students ‘role up their sleeves’ for environmental learning



BY JAMES HINCHON

Pacific Hills Christian School is an educational community of teaching, learning and service excellence. Surrounded by beautiful bushland in Dural, our school is naturally “green minded” when it comes to recycling initiatives, water conservation and use and wider environmental education.

Recently, our school was selected to be part of an initiative by Observatory Hill Environmental Education Centre (OHEEC) to partner with schools in environmental and sustainable education. Throughout the term, senior school students have been engaged in environment stewardship projects and learning what it means to truly care for the land on which they live. Through the partnership with OHEEC they have conducted water audits throughout the school, established recycling practices and planted 80 native shrubs throughout the school grounds promoting land restoration and allowing biodiversity to thrive. This initiative has been a huge success with students eager to get their hands dirty and work as a team in caring for their local environment, to make a lasting difference.

Year 12 Geography teacher Mr Patrick Lai writes “It was a lot of fun planting native shrubs and flowers around the school, making



Pacific Hills Yr 12 Geography students and their teacher Mr Patrick Lai surrounded by the freshly planted native saplings

the area look more vibrant. It’s exciting to see young people care about the environment!”

Senior School students have truly gained a critical understanding of environmental care that will no doubt last a life-time.

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New Animal Hospital Planned

The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, located in Dural, responds to calls from all around northern Sydney. Individuals, and organisations including WIRES, Sydney Wildlife Rescue, RSPCA, and others, call for help when wild animals are injured or in distress.



Ben Dessen, Julian Leeser, and Squid the Sugar Glider

Their priority is to treat and release the animals admitted. If the animals cannot be released, the sanctuary will continue to look after them.

The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary is currently seeking funding to upgrade and expand their facilities, including plans for a new hospital. If built, it would be the second wild animal hospital in Sydney, after the Taronga Zoo Wildlife Hospital.

While the Taronga Zoo Wildlife Hospital already cares for 5,000-6,000 native wildlife patients each year, that is just a fraction of the 90,000 native Australian animals who need care annually.

The manager of Hills Wildlife Sanctuary, Ben Dessen, grew up in the area and has been running the sanctuary for 10 years.

"Our native wildlife urgently need our help and we hope to further develop the sanctuary facilities to create a world-class conservation hub on the outskirts of Sydney," he said.

"There is a desperate need for a state-of-the-art wildlife hospital in the area and we hope to realise this bold vision, working closely with the Government as well as corporate and philanthropic partners."

Julian Leeser MP voiced his strong support for the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary.

"The Hills Wildlife Sanctuary does exceptional work rehabilitating our native wildlife," he said.

"I support the sanctuary's efforts to expand their facilities so that they care for and rehabilitate even more animals in the future."

If you'd like to learn more about the sanctuary's work, you can visit <https://www.hillswildlifesanctuary.org/>

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Councillor Mitchell Blue

COUNCILLOR NORTH WARD & DEPUTY MAYOR – THE HILLS SHIRE COUNCIL

Cattai Ridge Road from Boundary Road to Old Northern Road has recently seen over \$600,000 spent on asphalt work completed in March. Cattai Ridge Road will also see \$800,000 spent on rural length treatment, including guardrails.

The Cattai Ridge Road and Halcrows Road intersection upgrade is progressing through the design phase. Council is waiting certification of the electrical relocation plans prior to the tender process. Halcrows Road from Wisemans Ferry Rd to Cattai Ridge Road has seen \$800,000 spent on asphalt patching which was completed last week.

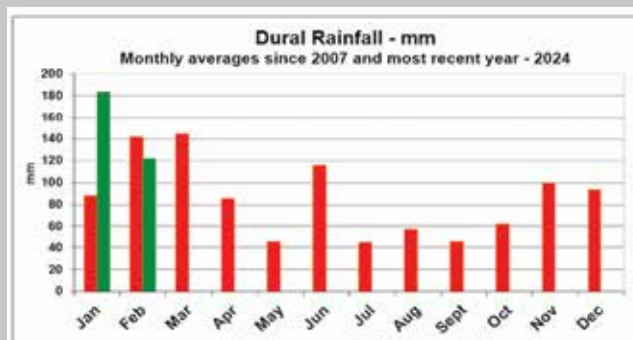
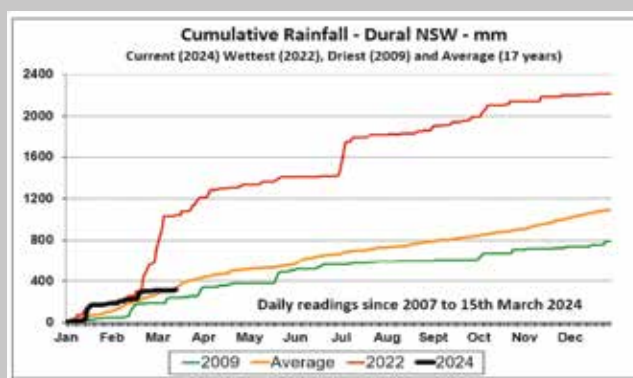
I attended Council's Clean Up Australia Day Event at Caddies Creek Park Reserve at Rouse Hill. It was great to be joined by community members, Kellyville RFS, The Hills Youth Army and Dr Michelle Ryan of Western Sydney University who spoke of the platypus living in The Hills.

It is important that we keep our creeks and tributaries clean not only for the platypus, but for the overall health of the Hawkesbury River. I have recently been working with residents and volunteers of the Community Environment Centre at Annangrove and members of Cattai Hills Environment Network on opportunities to increase water quality and investigate testing of creeks in The Shire.

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

Dural Rainfall Charts

BY HANS KUNNEN





From the desk of Matt Kean

MEMBER FOR HORNSBY

I am receiving a lot of correspondence from local residents concerned about the current government's proposed radical planning changes.

After years of promises, Labor have spent their first year in power achieving nothing in housing. Now they are proposing a series of desperate zoning changes across every Liberal seat. Communities should not be punished based on where the live.

More concerning is the government's position on New Line Road. The previous government approved a funded upgrade to New Line Road between Hastings Road and Purchase Road, taking the road from single lanes to dual carriageway. \$70 million dollars was allocated across several budgets however, the new NSW government reallocated these funds.

Indefinitely postponing the issue of addressing New Line Road is unacceptable. This road is constantly choked with traffic snarls now and with the government's proposal to significantly increase residential numbers in and around the area this will simply bring New Line Road to a complete stand still.

Labor cannot pump more housing into an area where they are cancelling major infrastructure projects required now, for the existing population. That equation simply does not work.

New Safe Park for Small Pups

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCILLOR -
DR VERITY GREENWOOD

Following strong community support, the Greenway Park off-leash fenced dog park extension is now a reality. Approximately 750m² in size, this well-designed, safe and separate space for small dogs (under 6kg), puppies (up to 6 months old) and elderly dogs (over 10 years old) has seating in the shade and waste bins, dog waste bags and water. There are presently seven existing dedicated fenced off-leash areas in Hornsby Shire and this extension will have a six-month trial period.

There are more than 40,000 pets and companion animals in the Shire, but backyards are getting smaller and outdoor spaces are becoming constrained. Having a speciality-controlled space lets elderly dogs and small dogs like my Humphrey (pictured) to run free to play in the fresh air, exercise and socialise with other dogs whilst their owners relax



Julian Leeser

MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

Anzac Day 2024

The original ANZACs forged the Anzac spirit of service and mateship in World War One on the shores of Gallipoli.

Since that time, hundreds of thousands of Australians have served our country across dozens of conflicts and peacekeeping missions.

On Anzac Day we reflect on the service of veterans, many of whom made the supreme sacrifice far too young. We also honour the more than 80,000 Australians who are currently serving our country in the Australian Defence Force, either full-time or as reservists.

This Anzac Day marks the first since we lost two remarkable young men who grew up in our area – Lieutenant Maxwell Nugent and Warrant Officer Class Two Joseph Laycock, who died tragically during a training exercise in July last year, alongside two of their fellow servicemen.

Those young men died serving our country. They did so as men who were duty-driven, noble-minded, and brave. They will be remembered not just for their sacrifice, but for who they were – bright, warm, talented, family-minded young men.

When I pause for a moment of silence on Anzac Day, I will be keeping Lt Maxwell Nugent and WO2 Joseph Laycock, and their families in my thoughts. I hope that you will do the same.

I strongly encourage you and your family to attend one of the Anzac Day services which will be held across our community on 25th April. It is an important opportunity to pay tribute to current serving members, veterans, those who have since passed away, and their families.

Lest we forget.



and have opportunities to socialise with other like-minded dog-owners in their community.

Our Council has also been very busy improving links to the off-leash dog park and its new extension by constructing new pedestrian pathways between Shepherds Drive, John Purpose Oval and Cherrybrook Technical High School.

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



Matt Kean MP

Member for Hornsby

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Contact
Matt

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Authorised by Matt Kean MP. Funded using parliamentary entitlements.



As your Federal Member, I am here to:

- Assist with accessing Federal Government services
- Attend your local community event
- Arrange congratulatory messages

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.



JULIAN LEESER MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

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julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au julianleeser.com.au [julianleesermp](https://www.facebook.com/julianleesermp)

Authorised by Julian Leeser MP, Liberal Party of Australia, Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120.



Mark Hodges
MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

Melissa Monteiro: Local Woman of the Year



I am very pleased to announce the Local Woman of the Year for the Castle Hill Electorate.

Melissa Monteiro was born in Mumbai, India and grew up in a working-class suburb. She has a Bachelor and Master's in social work and in 2000 migrated to Australia with her husband.

For the past 24 years, she has managed the Community Migrant Resources Centre (CMRC), a not-for-profit community organisation, providing settlement services to Refugees and Humanitarian entrants in Western Sydney. Melissa is currently involved in empowering refugee and migrant communities settling in Australia.

She exhibits great passion for the needs of migrant and refugee women, humanitarian resettlement, and social justice issues. Through her role as the CEO of CMRC, she has made a significant and long-lasting positive impact on the lives of thousands of immigrants and refugees.

Melissa is also a published author, having published her book 'A Migrant Story: The Girl from Mumbai' in 2021. She values deeply the dignity and worth of every person, compassion, respect, the right of self-determination, empathy, tolerance, and active listening. I believe Melissa exemplifies these values, and all in all, is an exceptional member of the community, highly worthy of being awarded Local Woman of the Year.



Rural Roundup News Update
CLR WARREN WADDELL

As part of Council's recent community engagement process and Special Rate Variation, our Shire will now be better prepared for disaster management. We have been fortunate in recruiting RFS veteran Rolf Pool as our Emergency Management Coordinator. Rolf's role is a diverse one, responsible for being the primary point of contact during disaster events, preparing disaster management plans and guiding future planning to be better prepared. Council welcomes Rolf to our team.

I am pleased to announce that the off-leash dog walking facility for Fagan Park will progress. I thank the community for their feedback and positive contributions to the discussion. This was a request brought to me in my first term as Councillor. These enquiries resulted in a Shire wide assessment which led to four more off leash parks and two more upgraded facilities.



A motion put by Councillor Greenwood at the last council meeting will result in an assessment of locker requirements at the Galston Aquatic Centre. I have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback relating to the recently refurbished pool complex, however, lockers and accessibility have been raised as further potential improvements.

Finally, our operations team will be once again pitch to Transport NSW a plan to upgrade the bus terminus located at the gateway to Glenorie Village. An upgrade to this facility would result in an improvement to the water stand area and bus stop. A more attractive gateway would be an extension of improvements being undertaken throughout the Memorial Hall and Cenotaph precinct.

In addition, recent collaboration with Hills Councillors has resulted in a plan to escalate the urgent need to complete New Line Road. Only by a coordinated approach, highlighting the frustration of the rural community will this key piece of infrastructure ever be prioritised.

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

MARK HODGES MP
MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

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Bromeliad Autumn Show

SATURDAY 4TH AND SUNDAY 5TH MAY AT CASTLE HILL SHOWGROUND

The Bromeliad Autumn Show will be held at the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground on Saturday, 4th May between 9am-4pm and Sunday 5th May between 10am-3pm.

Exquisite and rare bromeliads from local, interstate growers and collectors will be on display and for sale to the public including Tillandsia expert Chris Larsen with many of his rare and unusual plants. Glenorie respected grower Allan Beard, as will Jan and Jon Townsend, from Bonville near Coffs Harbour with their large colourful Bromeliads.

"If you're looking for plants that are colourful, drought tolerant and very low maintenance or a bromeliad enthusiast there is something for everyone at our show. If you've never been to a bromeliad show come along and appreciate the wonderful world of bromeliads." said Ian Hook, President, BSA.

20 plant sale tables are continually restocked, books, pots, information and free advice available from experienced growers.

There will be a display of the Bromeliad Show competition winners.

There is plenty of parking on site, admission is free to the show and please bring a box for your purchases.



For further information contact Ian Hook on 0408 202 269, ianhook1@bigpond.com or check out www.bromeliad.org.au



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Autumn Show

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Lucky Barrel Draw • Literature, information and advice • Plenty of Parking - EFTPOS

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For further information please contact Ian Hook, President
Mobile 0408 202 269

www.bromeliad.org.au

 Bromeliad Society of Australia

Hidden In The Hills

Five Corners

BY LACHLAN TURNER

On a recent visit to the Annangrove Community Environment Centre I decided to take a walk through the bushland near the Centre.

Whilst walking along their Wildflower Walk I came across a small spreading shrub which can sometimes grow up to around 1.5 metres tall in favourable conditions. There are variations in the flower colour of the more common variety, namely, Variable Five Corners (*Styphelia laeta*), which was just coming out into flower.

The flower can be a bright creamy colour, tending towards pink as it becomes older.



Styphelia laeta Variable Five Corners



Styphelia triflora Pink Five Corners

This shrub will grow in the open forest as well as woodland heath in sandstone soils or sandy clay. Flowering period is usually from March to July.

There are two related red and pink varieties which are not as common but can be found in a similar habitat. One is (*Styphelia triflora*) Pink Five Corners. The other being (*Styphelia tubiflora*) Red Five Corners.

These plants derive their name from the five stamens that extend beyond the tubular flower which can be around 35 mm in length. They have stiff stems with lance-shaped or triangular leaves up to 25mm long. The fruit of both varieties are said to be edible.

When walking in the bush it is sometimes easy to miss some of these smaller plants that may at times be obscured by taller more vigorous growing shrubs. Some of the most intricately formed native flowers can be located in amongst bushy undergrowth at or near ground level.

The Centre periodically conducts a workshop which introduces people to the diversity of Australian wildflowers along with a guided walk along the track behind The Centre.

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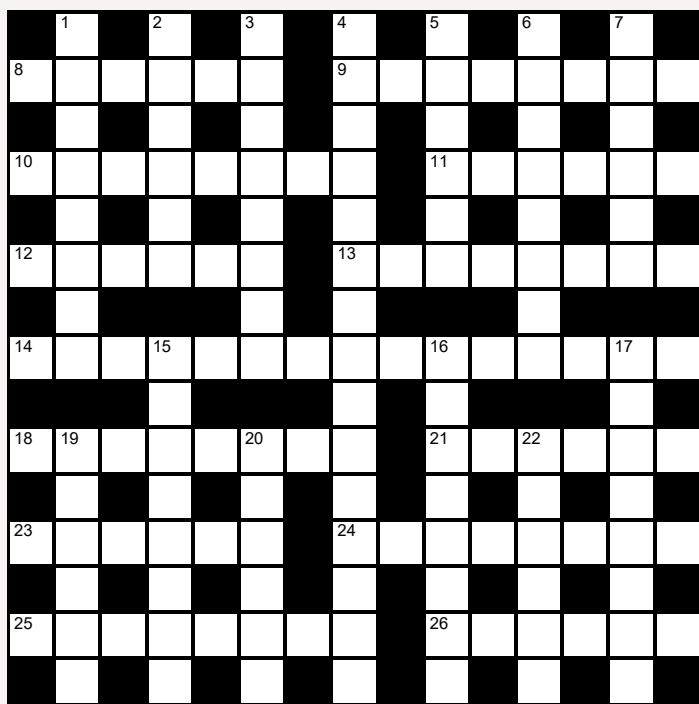
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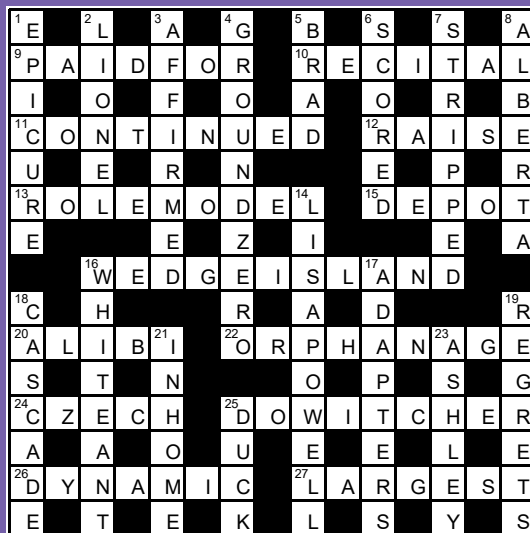
ACROSS

- 08 Most intimate (6)
- 09 Former St. George Dragons pro rugby hooker and national captain (3,5)
- 10 "Iron Gloves", Test wicketkeeper (3,5)
- 11 Sort of (2,1,3)
- 12 Gun butts (6)
- 13 What you usually see in a mirror (8)
- 14 Rare Queensland spider-eating flying mammal (6-6,3)
- 18 Patriotic (4,4)
- 21 Refuse to accept (6)
- 23 Deadeye Annie (8)
- 24 For the few (8)
- 25 Ghastly (8)
- 26 SA leader --- Marshall (6)

DOWN

- 01 Not too many (3,2,3)
- 02 Vast (6)
- 03 Gets cracking (6,2)
- 04 Long NW Australian coastal strip (6,4,5)
- 05 Instead (2,4)
- 06 Worried (8)
- 07 East Mediterranean democracy (6)
- 15 Inhabitants (8)
- 16 Playful dolphin relative (8)
- 17 Place for old documents (8)
- 19 Grounds (6)
- 20 Give the pink slip (3,3)
- 22 Bullying seabird (6)

ANSWER FROM MARCH ISSUE





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