

# DOORAL ROUNDUP



MAY 2024

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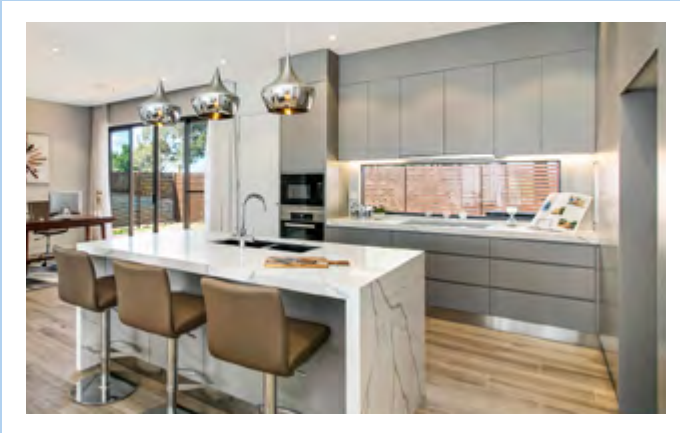
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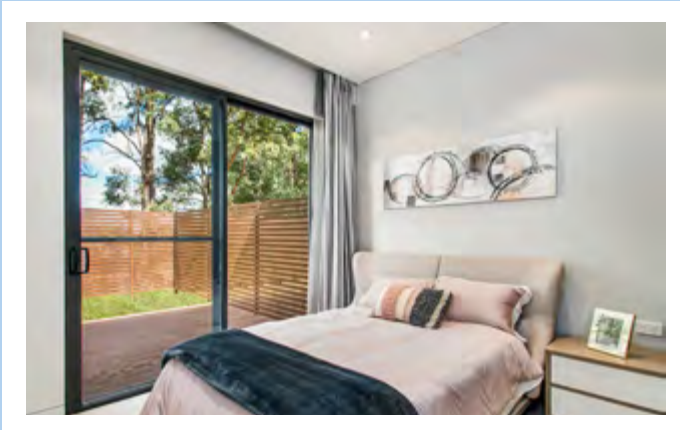
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**Villa 27,  
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**The Dooral Roundup loves to receive contributions from our community!**

**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.

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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."



# Wishing all the mums a

## *Happy Mother's Day!*

BY MARK COUPAR

By now a lot of us are getting ready for Mother's Day, which occurs on the second Sunday every May.

If you are going to buy mum a bunch of flowers, Carnations represent love and appreciation and generally accepted symbols of Mother's Day, as are Tulips and Lilies.

Often the challenge is what to buy a mum that says she doesn't need anything.

Most Mums would love to see their children, but often time and distance make this difficult.

If you can't be with your mum this year, how about writing a handwritten card or letter to her?

Nowadays when so much communication is electronic, a beautiful keepsake she can hold will be a valued gesture.

Another way to show you care is to treat her with a meal or do some chores around the house, so she can have a rest.

Mums do so much for everyone else, but try to remember when she has mentioned something she liked, just for herself, and try to make that come true for her. She will be thrilled you were listening!

However you celebrate your mother and all she has done for you, we wish all the mums a fantastic Mother's Day!

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# Local representatives jointly call for New Line Road upgrade

Local MPs today have called on the Minns-Labor Government to honour the previous Coalition Government's commitment to upgrading New Line Road.

\$70 million is required to convert New Line Road to dual carriageway between Purchase Road and Hastings Road. However, the Minns-Labor Government have yet to support this planned upgrade.

Today, various representatives, at all three levels of government, have come together to jointly call on the NSW government to upgrade New Line Road.

- The State MP for Hornsby, **Matt Kean** said, "This upgrade is vital to relieve congestion on New Line Road to improve safety and travel times. Chris Minns needs to stop playing politics and start delivering the required essential infrastructure."
- **Julian Leeser**, Federal Member for Berowra said, "People throughout the Berowra electorate have been calling for the upgrade of New Line Road since before I was elected. I was proud to deliver Federal funding to support the State Government in planning the upgrade of the road. By delaying this crucial project indefinitely, the Minns-Labor Government is letting down everyone who has fought for this project for almost 2 decades."
- "The NSW Government must deliver essential infrastructure, not just pump more residents in an area where people are already forced to use a road that is at its capacity," said **Mark Hodges**, State MP for Castle Hill.
- **Robyn Preston**, State MP for Hawkesbury made the point, "New Line Road might be located in the electorate of Hornsby



Photo L-R: Nathan Tilbury (Deputy Mayor Hornsby Shire Council), Robyn Preston (Hawkesbury MP), Peter Gangemi (Hills Shire Mayor), Matt Kean (Hornsby MP), Julian Leeser (MP for Berowra) Mark Hodges (Castle Hill MP), & Mitchell Blue (Hill Shire Deputy Mayor)

however, due to its strategically important location and key links, the flow of this road seriously impacts residents of Hawkesbury daily. The desperate need for its immediate upgrade cannot be ignored by the Minns-Labor Government."

- "Independent reports have identified an upgrade to New Line Road would improve safety, traffic flow, travel times and provide capacity for the growing population of Sydney's northwest, as well as support the NSW Government's Cherrybrook (Metro) Priority Precinct," said, Hornsby Mayor **Philip Ruddock**.
- **Peter Gangemi**, Hills Shire Mayor said, "The upgrade of New Line Road is a critical project to help people get to and from the rural suburbs in The Hills. As more families choose to call The Hills home, it is important that the State Government remain committed to key infrastructure projects such as the upgrade of New Line Road".
- **Nathan Tilbury**, Hornsby Shire Council Deputy Mayor said, "Despite the desperate need, the new NSW Labor Government have yet to commit to upgrading New Line Road to make it fit for purpose for the existing population. They cannot only consider new developments in the area without also considering the required infrastructure."

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# Fagan Park Children's Forest to foster 'connection and responsible stewardship of nature'

Hornsby Shire Council in association with the NSW Government have proudly unveiled a new Children's Forest in Galston's Fagan Park.

Featuring educational discovery pods, timber animal interactions, an outdoor learning space, yarning circle and a pond with stepping stones, along with grassed picnic areas and accessible pathways, the Children's Forest provides an educational model showcasing the value of trees and was designed in close consultation with schools in the surrounding area.

The Children's Forest claims the title of the first park in New South Wales designed specifically to nurture children's relationship with the natural world – a concept that Hornsby Shire Mayor, the Hon Philip Ruddock AO says is crucial in ensuring our future generations' sense of "connection and responsible stewardship of nature."

For more information on the Metropolitan Greenspace and Places to Play programs, visit: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/plans-for->



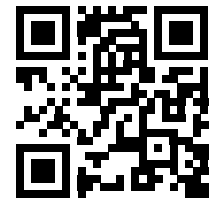
Children from Galston Public School play on the stepping stones at official opening of Fagan Park Children's Forest

[your-area/infrastructure-funding/metropolitan-greenspace-program and https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/places-to-play](https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/places-to-play)

To learn more about the Children's Forest visit: <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/faganpark-childrensforest>

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/](https://dooralroundup.com.au/latest-news/)



Read this month's "What's On" online at [dooralroundup.com.au](https://dooralroundup.com.au)



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## Cherrybrook Probus Ponderings – Out with the Old, In with the New!



Recently The Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook celebrated its Changeover Lunch inducting President Norman and his new Management Committee. Attendance was wonderful with 108 members sharing the occasion and eagerly anticipating

the 'new' year. The first meeting under Norman's stewardship involved welcoming 5 new members and a presentation by Preet from Services NSW to increase everyone's awareness of the benefits available to older members of the community. Judging by the number of questions and appointments booked we have much to learn!

All the regular activities including golf, bowls, tennis, craft and book clubs, money matters continued with strong support and special monthly events included dining out at Pear Thai, Grease at the Capitol Theatre for a toe tapping time, a social drive to Patonga with lunch at the Boat House and our Happy Hour in Cherrybrook which kept all entertained.

Upcoming outings include a Mystery Bus Trip, a walk from Meadowbank to Concord, Ten Pin Bowling and a day at the Wyong Races.

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 the Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook could be for you.

Our meetings are held at the Cherrybrook Community and Cultural Centre on the first Thursday of each month. For current information please contact Lynn on 04 1484 8413. We look forward to warmly welcoming you to our Probus Club to share the good times.

## Guests welcome at Kenthurst Probus Club

"Aussie Ballads and Bush poetry" was the very enjoyable presentation by Graham Simms, to the Kenthurst Probus Club on April 15th.



Graham, pictured, is a former high school teacher, and a poet himself. His talk was well received by members and guests.

Recently, a busload of Club members enjoyed a tour of the Snowy Mountains area, based in Jindabyne accommodations. This month's Club activities include a concert in the City Town Hall, a regular walking group, a visit to the Western Sydney Airport site, and various theatre experiences.

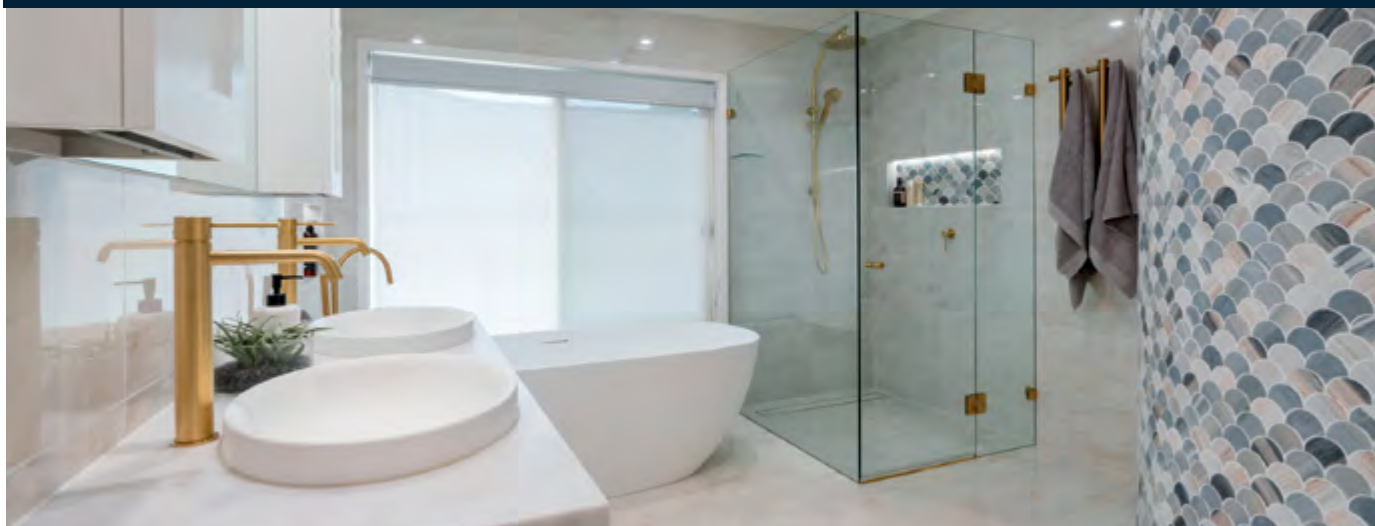
On Monday the 20th of May Kenthurst Probus will hear one of the Club members, Barbara Roberts, speaking about her experiences in Mianmar as a Nurse Specialist assisting Dr. Fred Hollows.

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



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# Let's End Stereotypes Together

Celebrating your birthday is always an important day, but for Angela, who was born with Down Syndrome, it's a double celebration because it also falls on World Down Syndrome Day. On this day, people across the world shine a light on

current stereotypes and celebrate each individual and their contribution.

Angela shared the day with friends and staff at Dulkara, which is part of Inala, a disability service provider located in Cherrybrook. Through her variety of programs, Angela is able to develop her artistic skills and follow programs she enjoys. This includes participating in the cooking program, as well as art and candle-making.

CEO Alexandra Davis believes this is how Inala is able to ensure each individual can live a full and meaningful life.

"We offer everything from pottery to pilates and film-making to cooking, there is a program for everyone," Mrs Davis said.

**Inala Disability Services, 99 Franklin Rd, Cherrybrook NSW 2126, 02 9680 1000, [inala.org.au](http://inala.org.au)**




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# Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook

The Club's annual book sale was held 8th-10th March, our most successful sale yet with proceeds going to Domestic and Family Violence Charities and other Rotary Charities.

Sixteen Club members attended the District Conference in Terrigal 15th-16th March along with another 330 Rotarians from the District. A great time was had by all. Our Club won 'Best Dressed' at the Friday night dinner, the theme 'Beach Party - Good Vibrations'. There were a lot of good quality speakers at the Conference including our past President, Janelle Craig who emceed the Saturday session. There was a Domestic and Family Violence awareness walk prior to the conference.



The Club's Youth Night was held on 25th March and was well attended. Our incoming exchange student from Finland, Lisa, talked about her extensive travels over the past few months. Two students talked about their experience at RYPEN in January. Another student attended the Engineering Summer School and a young adult sponsored by the Club attended RYLA and found the experience very inspirational.

Our Mother's Day Market will be on **Sunday 5th May 9am-3pm**, at the corner of Shepherds & Macquarie Drive, Cherrybrook. Bring mum for some shopping and a bite to eat!

All proceeds go to Domestic and Family Violence Charities, and other Rotary Charities. Stall sites are still available, contact us for more info.

If you would like to know more, be involved or join us for dinner please call 0412 064 336. <http://www.wphcrotary.org/>

# Rotary Club's fabulous Kenthurst Fair

**Our main fund raiser, the Kenthurst Fair, part of Hills Shire Orange Blossom Festival, is happening again this year. We are seeking stall holders and entertainers for the event. If you are interested in taking part in the categories on our flyer, please contact us.**

In other club news, Summer RYPEN attendees Abigail Storrie and Kai Brown came along to our meeting on Monday 25th March to recount their adventures at the camp. Tales of 'Bob' the raft and a bomb defusal task kept club members entertained.

These students, from Galston High, were accompanied by their Deputy Principal Julia Petrulis and her husband Glen, along with Abigail's parents Josh and Rebecca, and Kai's mum Kylie.

We were all impressed by the level of maturity, composure and gratefulness displayed by Abigail and Kai during their presentation.

The club shall be sponsoring students from Hills Grammar, Marian College and Galston High to attend Winter RYPEN in June.

Rotary Club of Kenthurst  
[www.kenthurstrotaryclub.com.au](http://www.kenthurstrotaryclub.com.au)

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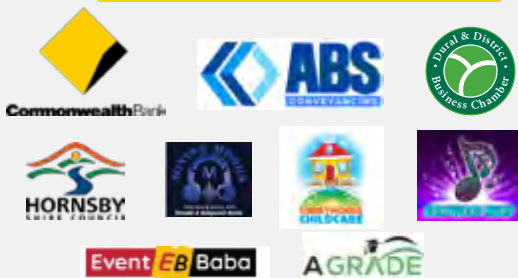
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Business risks - the commercial lease document from the landlord's solicitor, could have tenant obligations, that could include risks involving strata related contractor trades people entering into the business premises. Make sure your solicitor reviews such clauses, ask for amendments if needed, and get your business insurance broker involved, to make sure you are covered for such risks, in case such risks do occur.

## Small talk at the Park?



**MURRAY LAMERT – PASTOR AT THE CENTRE DURAL**

I love living in The Hills. With a 2-year-old son who never runs out of energy and by all accounts seems to be solar powered, it's amazing to have so many playgrounds walking distance from our home. Whilst spending yet another afternoon at the park, the question among fellow parents inevitably comes up;

**PARENT:** So what do you do for work?

**ME:** I'm a pastor at a church in Dural.

**PARENT:** Oh which one?

**ME:** The Centre?...

A look of confusion grows on their face. At this point, they either don't know where our building is, or have this response;

**PARENT:** Oh, is that a church!? I thought it was a sports centre?

**ME:** Yeah, we're actually a church who built a sports centre.

**PARENT:** Oh... wow!

**ME:** Yeah, we had the option when expanding to either build a big, pretty building with stain glass windows, or to build a space that invites people in from the community, so we built a sports centre. It means we're not just using the building to worship in for a few hours on Sunday and then it just collects dust the rest of the week. So we made ourselves a local hub – a "centre" of the community open every day.

Typically by this point in the conversation one of our children is about to creatively maim themselves on a see-saw or swing, so we go our separate ways. But in case we never get the chance to meet at a local playground while our kids pretend to be crocodiles;

**ME:** Hey, my name's Murray, I'm a pastor at The Centre Dural. What's your story?

**YOU:** ?

If you ever wanna chat, I'd love to buy you a coffee at our church café [murray@thecentredural.org.au](mailto:murray@thecentredural.org.au). 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/](http://thecentredural.org.au/church/)



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# News from History Cottage

How fortunate is our community to have a person with intimate knowledge of the history of the establishment of the war memorial at Hell Fire Pass. While working in Thailand, Ken Bradley, our guest speaker for April, was able to draw together much valuable information on locations, personal recollections and rare photographs associated with the construction of the railway during World War Two. Ken hopes to present these valuable resources to the Australian War Memorial.

Our guest speaker on **11th May** will be Judith Dunn OAM. Judith is a widely respected author, historian and guide; she is also a most entertaining speaker. She will tell the stories of some of the 25,000 convict women transported to the colonies between 1788 and 1868. Their crimes, how they lived, and overcame the many obstacles they met, make for an interesting afternoon. The Government facilities, such of the Female Factory and the Orphanage, played an important role for many, and our tour in May to Parramatta will visit these. It is worthwhile reading "The Floating Brothel" by Sian Rees, the story of the convict transport ship Lady Julian bringing



237 women to the Colony in 1789. The humanity and pragmatism shown is a message to those who might think only the worst.

This ANZAC day dawn service was held at the Cenotaph commencing at 6.30. As usual the Society provided seating and facilities.

## Dural and District Historical Society Inc.

Next Meeting: 11th May 2pm, Galston Uniting Church, School Road, Galston.

Entry free. Gold coin for afternoon tea at the conclusion of the meeting.

Enquiries to Michael Bell 02 9653 1365.

## Castle Hill History: Our Exiles

BY JOHN MAHER  
[MAHER/MEAGHER CLAN]

The Castle Hill Heritage Park is a gem. Even more so now that it has steel beams giving the precise location and dimensions of the former two storey barracks for convicts.

The construction was directed by Governor King. He showed concern for convicts in other ways. One person freed by Governor King was Father James Dixon, convicted [seemingly in error] of Sedition. He was appointed as Chaplain to the Colony's Catholic community. On 15th of May 1803, he celebrated the first public Catholic Mass in the Colony in what is now the Heritage Park.

The Mass was attended by Governor King and most of the Colony's dignitaries.

The two leaders of the Castle Hill Rebellion of 1804, William Johnston and the stonemason Philip Cunningham, were United Irishmen who had taken part in the first Battle of Vinegar Hill in 1788, aimed at freeing Ireland from English rule. Johnson and Cunningham still wished to fight for Irish independence; their defeat here was given the same name as the first one - Vinegar Hill. Johnston and Cunningham were taken prisoner at musket point under a flag of truce. Cunningham was then cut down by a sword wielded by Quartermaster Laycock.

In the Castle Hill Rebellion, Father Dixon was used by Major Johnson in order to delay the Rebels. After the Rebellion was quashed,



Steel beams give the precise location and dimensions of the former two storey convict barracks in Castle Hill Heritage Park

he was dismissed from his post as Catholic Chaplain and then removed from the Colony. Major Johnson received a land grant. Ironically, he was to later depose a Governor.

For further information, visit the Local Studies Collection at the Castle Hill Library.

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# The Benefits of Wearing Your Hearing Aids All Day: Making Your Hearing Better with Ear Studio

At Ear Studio, our dedicated and highly skilled team is committed to helping our clients make the most out of their hearing devices. In this article, we will explore 3 key benefits of wearing your hearing aids all day, highlighting how it can significantly enhance your overall hearing and well-being.

## 1. Improving Communication

Much of our daily communication involves hearing. From talking to your family members and friends, to an interaction at the shops, or speaking to a health professional. Some of them may be more important than others. Of course, you will want to understand advice or warnings extended to you from your doctor or other professionals. Yet sometimes it is a little interaction you may share with others that have the potential to make you smile and can make a difference to your day.



## 2. Improve Your Connections with Others

Connections with your loved ones grow over time and, like plants, benefit from regular attention. Being able to have a meaningful conversation is part of that. Ensuring you can join in during events, big and small, lets you be part of the action. Social connections are not only what warm our hearts, they also ensure that the opposites are kept at bay. Social isolation, frustration, and sadness can be results of an inability to hear and understand well.

## 3. Help Maintain Cognitive Functions

The connection between hearing loss and an increased risk of dementia has been well studied in recent years. While the risk of dementia may seem far away in the

future for some of us, a more immediate factor is our daily cognitive load. With an untreated hearing loss, our brain has to work much harder and uses its resources to receive information. As a result, less cognitive resources for processing and understanding are available. Should the information you receive be complex or fast, such as rapid speech, even more resources are needed. If this becomes too hard most people become stressed; they may seem impatient as they cannot keep up, they may feel embarrassed to ask for repetition, and others simply switch off.

Hearing aids can therefore bring benefits in different parts of your life. It is important to point out that these positive factors will only come into play if your hearing devices are worn daily, ideally for most of the day. Only then will your brain continue to receive auditory stimulation and stay active. The longer your brain remains deprived of this stimulation, the more work you will have to put in to achieve your maximum outcome.

At Ear Studio, we believe in the positive change improved hearing can bring to you. If you (or a loved one) would like to explore any of these aspects, please take the time to call us today. You can contact our friendly reception staff on 02 9159 6122 or via email at [reception@earstudio.com.au](mailto:reception@earstudio.com.au). We are happy to help find a time that is suitable for you. We are open Monday to Thursday from 9am to 5pm and Fridays from 9am to 4pm and are located at Lawton House in Castle Hill (Suites 9-10 / 60 Cecil Ave). We look forward to guiding you on the journey to better hearing.

## HILLS MOWERS OFFERS SATELLITE CONTROLLED ROBOTIC MOWERS

Hills Mowers have moved to Unit 3, 829 Old Northern Road (the old Bike and Power premises). The entry is via Quarry Road.

With the move comes a specialisation in Kress products. Kress are leaders in robotic mowers and professional battery garden tools. This is the post-petrol range.

The new robotic mowers are satellite controlled so no more boundary wires. They can be programmed to mow to your requirements (day and night). They can cover large acreage properties with ease and can deal with uneven ground.

So no more petrol fumes and noise pollution. Take back your weekends, enjoy more family time and sit back and watch your garden being maintained automatically.



For a free demonstration and quotation, drop into to Hills Mowers and Irrigation or phone 0416 104 660 or email [info@hillsmowers.com.au](mailto:info@hillsmowers.com.au)



## Have You Stopped Wearing Your Hearing Aids?

At Ear Studio we understand that there are many reasons why you may have stopped wearing your hearing aids. Please take the time to read our article above explaining 3 benefits of wearing your hearing devices all day. Our highly skilled team at Ear Studio are here to assist you and help you hear well again - Call us today to book in your consultation.



Let us help you become part of the conversation again  
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We are now opposite our old premises,  
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## Kress Mission RTKn 3000

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## Kress 60 V 35 Cm Brushless Chainsaw



**\$359**  
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Quiet, zero-emissions and cost-effective, KG760E.9\* delivers the power of petrol without petrol – ideal for challenging jobs and very large lawns up to 2000 m<sup>2</sup>.  
\*with 2 x 4.0 Ah batteries.



**\$799**

## Kress Commercial 60 V 42 Cm Line Trimmer- Tool Only

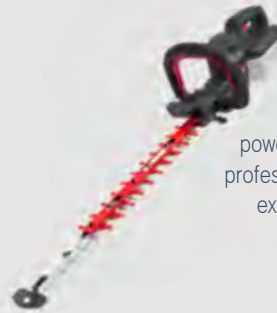
Powerful and lightweight. Delivering 1.2 kW output power – as much as a 30 cc 2-stroke gas-powered range, the Kress commercial line trimmer is suitable for your everyday landscaping needs and the severe conditions of overgrown areas that usually require a larger trimmer. With a simple push of a button, you can control your RPMs for the power needed during any trimming operation.



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# Latest News



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



## from the Mayor's Desk

As we service our community, engaging with and listening to our residents is of great significance. This month, we have a number of important projects and strategies on which we invite you to have your say.

The draft 2024-2027 Delivery Program and 2024/25 Operational Plan (DPOP) details the many steps we will take to ensure Hornsby Shire becomes more resilient and maintain our natural environment. It also reveals how we will spend just over \$65 million on capital projects. Key initiatives for 2023/24 include local road and traffic improvements (\$5.6 million), footpaths and shared paths (\$4.7 million), improvements to parks, playground and sporting facilities (\$12.5 million) and open space recreation including Hornsby Park and Westleigh Park (\$26.9 million). Read more and provide your feedback by 13 May at [yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au](https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au).

The Hornsby Shire Social Plan aims to identify and address social needs and issues in the Shire, while the draft Arts and Cultural Plan recognises the importance of creative pursuits in the health and wellbeing of our community. Both important documents will be available for comment from 9 May, also at [yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au](https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au).

On the subject of creative pursuits, our annual sustainability and environmental art prize, Retime, returns this month from 10-26 May at the Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre in Hornsby. The Retime Art Prize challenges artists to create works in response to the waste and overconsumption crises.

I encourage you all to take some time to enjoy the wonderful collection of Digital Art Stills, Sculpture, Mixed Media, Ceramics, Painting, Drawing, Printmaking and Photography responding to this year's theme, Crossroads of Consumption. Congratulations to all the finalists and I hope everyone enjoys the exhibition.

**Philip Ruddock AO**  
Mayor, Hornsby Shire Council

## What's on

### THE WESTSIDE VIBE

FRIDAY 3 MAY  
4PM-9PM

DURAL LANE, HORNSBY | LIVE MUSIC | FOOD TRUCKS | LICENSED BAR | LOTS MORE!

[hornsby.nsw.gov.au/westsidevibe](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/westsidevibe)

### REIMAGINE ART PRIZE EXHIBITION

10 May – 26 May, 2024

Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre

Theme: 'Crossroads of Consumption'

Ross Tamlin, Scrap Metal (detail), 2023

### YOUR SAY HORNSBY

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

- Hornsby Development Control Plan amendments – All electric buildings**  
Submissions close: Monday 27 May
- Galston Village public domain upgrades**  
Submissions close: Sunday 2 June
- Draft Hornsby Shire Social Plan**  
Submissions open from 9 May to 9 June
- Draft Arts and Cultural Plan 2024-2029**  
Submissions open from 9 May to 9 June
- Greenway Park Cherrybrook small dog park trial**  
Comments close: Tuesday 29 October

[yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au](https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au)

### Workshops for International Composting Awareness Week

- Compost and Worm Farming**  
Tuesday 7 May, 1pm-3pm  
Neal Park, Cnr of Sherbrook and Northcote Road, Hornsby
- Your Recycled Kitchen Garden**  
Thursday 9 May, 10am-12.30pm  
Thornleigh Community Recycling Centre

[hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste)

### Knowledge is (solar) power

Free solar webinar. Tue 7 May, 7pm. [hornsby.nsw.gov.au/solar](https://hornsby.nsw.gov.au/solar)



# Welcome Back!

SPORT NEWS AT THE CENTRE DURAL



Time flies when you're having fun, and there is plenty to be had here at The Centre! We were full steam ahead during the school holidays, with Inflatable World, and our sport-based Holiday Clinics. Inflatable World is always a hit with the children, and being open 7 days a week for school holidays, gives parents a chance to relax for 2 hours while the kids are getting rid of all of their excess energy on the Inflatables.

Our Holiday Clinics were a hit, with 3 hours of specific sport based fun (think soccer/netball drills, skills, and games), a movie and lunch (this holidays we watched all the Toy Story movies), followed by an afternoon of movement and brain games (scavenger hunts, movement bingo, paper aeroplane competitions, and so much more).

Our Winter sport competitions started back the week of Easter, and are off to a great start! We have Ladies and Mixed Futsal, and Ladies netball on a Monday night, Mixed netball on a Tuesday night, Mens Futsal, and Ladies netball on a Wednesday night, and Mixed and Ladies Netball on a Thursday night. If this is something that appeals to you, get in touch, as we'd love to help foster your love of our sports!

**There is always something going on at The Centre, so feel free to pop on over to our website, to check out all the other things we have to offer, <https://thecentredural.org.au/> or phone 8989 0000. That's all for this month!**

# Dural Bowling Club News



## Competitions for Dural Bowlers

The consistency final took place on Tuesday 9th April with Neil Mansfield the winner and Barry Fisher the runner up. The score was 122 points to 118.

Three teams of four players are currently playing in the district Pennants competitions. The game on Saturday 6th April was postponed due to heavy rain. The next game will be on Saturday 13th April at the Hills Club.

A team representing the ladies is playing in the North West Challenge and won their first game against West Pennant Hills.

The Dural Bowlers have been showcasing the new uniforms in the current competitions. The standard uniforms have replaced the old uniforms to be consistent with being one association after the amalgamation of the men and ladies' clubs.



## Mixed Triples competition

Anyone interested in playing bowls or having a Barefoot Bowls Party please contact Robert on 04 1137 5580.

# TINY HOME EXPO

Hawkesbury Showgrounds

24, 25, 26 May

FRI: 10AM-3PM

SAT 9AM-5PM

SUN 9AM-5PM

TICKETS

Tickets online or at the gate

[www.tinyhomesexpo.com.au](http://www.tinyhomesexpo.com.au)

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ONE PLACE  
”



“  
BOUGHT  
MY FIRST  
TINY HOME  
”



“  
WHAT A  
WONDERFUL  
SHOW  
”



# Instant Asset Write-Off

**ATTENTION PLUMBERS, TRADIES, AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS...**

Don't let the end of financial year creep up unnoticed. Aussie Pumps are alerting small business owners to the *Government's Instant Asset Write-off support which finishes on 30th June 2024.*

*Aussie Pumps is urging business owners to consult with their tax agent to determine if they are eligible. Companies with a turnover of less than \$10 million can get the benefit of instantly writing off assets bought this financial year worth individually up to \$20,000.*

The benefits are enormous! Now is the time to buy and take advantage of these tax incentives, particularly plumbers looking to upgrade their jetter or replace their electric Eel.

## AUSSIE JETTER SALE

Aussie Pumps has been able to double production of Jetters since moving to their new facility in Norwest. This has led to increases in efficiency and they can now offer exceptional pricing as we head to the end of financial year.

The Jetters are powered by a Honda twin cylinder electric start petrol engine. The machines are designed for efficiency with the average choke cleared in less than 20 minutes.

All Aussie Jetters feature a Big Berty Bertolini high pressure triplex pump, the only high pressure pump on the market that carries a 4 year warranty, gearbox drive and are built for continuous operation.

A great investment, these Jetter pay for themselves from a few jobs and last for years. Buy at a great price before the 30th June and have it instantly depreciated! Contact us on (02) 8865 3500 and we will put you in touch with the right dealer for your application.



# Pacific Hills Christian School: World Changers Club



Pacific Hills Christian School's World Changers Club and the Kellyville Social Club team up for an Intergenerational Carnival.

The World Changers Club at Pacific Hills Christian School is a weekly lunchtime club for Year 3 and 4 students to discuss and implement ways we can share God's love and help others in our local community. Recently, nine of our Year 4 students and

teachers boarded the bus for a special visit to the Kellyville Social Club, a social group run through BaptistCare in Kellyville. The Social Club residents were excited to host the students for morning tea and an intergenerational carnival. Students and their new friends teamed up for some friendly competition across a variety of games like Pictionary, 5 Second Rule, a giant memory match game and more.

Teachers' Aide, Rhonda Burfield writes *"It was wonderful to witness the young students work alongside the residents, finding similar interests and life experiences along the way."*

As the day ended, students and residents drew portraits of each other and exchanged them as memorable gifts to take home. This fantastic initiative was enjoyed by all, and valuable friendships were made in our wonderful community.

## ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

Experience the difference of Christian Education.

**Enrolling now for Prep – Year 4**



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# Galston High Excellence at the Sydney Royal Easter Show



The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW ("RAS") Poultry Competition was first held in 1858.



Galston High School (GHS) has successfully competed in the RAS Poultry Competition many times since the school was established some 50 years ago.

In 2024, the Show's Poultry Section

contained over 1,250 competition classes and was open to a wide range of breeds and varieties.

## GHS achieved excellent results in a number of classes, including:

- Two first-place ribbons in soft feather, beauty bantam, and any breed categories for both males and females.
- Two second-place ribbons in soft feather categories, specifically in any breed male for both light and heavy standards.
- Attaining the title of Champion in Schools' classes for Bantam, soft feather, heavy, and any breed categories.

- Earning the prestigious titles of Champion in Schools' Poultry exhibits.
- Achieving the pinnacle of success with the Supreme School Exhibit, showcasing one of the Bantam Rhode Island Red pullets bred on the school farm.
- Extending special recognition to Brayton Cannon, who clinched the Open Showmanship title with his White Indian Runner Drake.

Congratulations to Mr Date and the entire farm team! These accomplishments reflect the skill, passion and commitment to excellence in the field of agriculture and poultry breeding at GHS.

Special thanks to Kollah Cannon and her family, for their exceptional dedication, expertise and hard work in making this year's Sydney Royal Easter Show Poultry Competition an outstanding success for the GHS Farm Team.





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## Art Demonstration

“Secrets of impressionistic painting with water mixable oils”



Bob Gurney is a multi-award winning artist from Camden whose works are represented in private and corporate collections in Australia and overseas.

He is proficient in oils, acrylics, drawing and pen and wash and is an avid “en plein air” painter. Water mixable oils are a great alternative to traditional oils but without chemicals and odour, and can be quickly cleaned up using only soap and warm water. Both acrylic and oil painters will love this demonstration.

Saturday 1st June 2pm at the Castle Hill Art Society, Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill

Enquiries 9899 3179  
www.castlehillartsociety.org.au

## Councillor Mitchell Blue

Council currently has a number of plans and surveys on exhibition.

The Hills Shire Plan is Council's annual plan, setting out its delivery, operational and resourcing strategy for the next twelve months.

### The plan's budget is split into 5 pillars:

1. Building a vibrant community and prosperous economy \$54.4 million
2. Proactive Leadership \$10.3 million
3. Shaping growth \$12.3 million
4. Delivering and maintaining infrastructure \$162.8 million
5. Valuing our surroundings \$68.7 million

Total expenditure (including depreciation) of \$338.1 million.

Some key projects include \$24.4 million for the Annangrove Rd upgrade from Edwards Road to Windsor Rd, \$20.2 million for the Withers Rd upgrade from Smalls Creek to Barry Rd, \$17.6 million for the upgrade of Boundary Rd, along with a number of parks, environmental initiatives for our waterways.

One such environmental initiative is to further investigate the possibility of water quality testing of our creeks and tributaries. I was pleased to bring this to the table at a recent strategic workshop with a briefing to Councillors to come shortly.

I encourage residents to view this plan which is on Council's website, and provide comment.

### Council also has two surveys out for residents to participate in.

1. Arts and Culture Strategy
2. Housing and Infrastructure

I encourage you to have your say by visiting the 'have your say' page on Council's website. Your input will help guide council as it moves forward.

I am a big supporter of community engagement and after having called for a review of Council's community engagement strategy in 2022, I am glad to see the newly adopted strategy put into practice.

As always, if I can be of any assistance, please call 0400 449 324 or email [clr.blue@thehills.nsw.gov.au](mailto:clr.blue@thehills.nsw.gov.au). You can also follow me on Facebook or Instagram - Councillor Mitchell Blue

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[sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au](http://sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au)

## “Posting & boasting” break-in could happen in your home

CLLR DR VERITY GREENWOOD

As Ward C Hornsby Shire Councillor, I attend the bi-annual Community Safety Precinct Committee Meetings, hosted by Ryde Police Area Command (RPAC), and accompanied by Mayor Philip Ruddock. These meetings provide updates on emerging crimes, community safety and crime statistics.



In 2023, we were advised young offenders were breaking into homes in our area, stealing car keys, taking vehicles on a ‘joyride’, posting Instagram images of the high speeds of the vehicles stolen and then selling, dumping or burning the vehicle.

Shortly after this meeting, a local resident woke to discover his new

4WD had been stolen. On examining camera footage around his home, he saw six men, dressed in black with balaclavas, scaling walls around his home during the night. One man entered the home by squeezing through a small dog door in the laundry. Our resident was horrified to see all the men then enter and walk around the house whilst his family slept. He saw his car keys being picked up from the kitchen bench, his laptop and watch being taken, and his car driven away. He immediately contacted the Police, his car was fortunately tracked and recovered but items taken from the home were never located.

The media refer to this type of crime as ‘posting and boasting.’ Police suggest we must maintain responsible trust to ensure our safety in the home, the safety of our possessions and security of our vehicles. We must ensure all windows and doors are locked at night. If possible, keep vehicles locked in the garage and car keys should always be under your mattress when you go to bed - never leave car keys on the kitchen bench!

**If you have any concerns or issues where I may assist, please do not hesitate to contact me at [vgreenwood@hornsby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vgreenwood@hornsby.nsw.gov.au)**

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**From the desk of Matt Kean**  
MEMBER FOR HORNSBY

Recently I was very pleased to be joined by other politicians, from our local area, at all levels of government and together we have called on the NSW government to honour the previous Coalition Government’s commitment to upgrading New Line Road. On behalf of our constituents, we will continue to make strong representations to fix New Line Road, until a result is achieved.



One of the most special places in my electorate of Hornsby, is Fagan Park and it was my pleasure to be part of the opening of the Children’s Forest playground at the park recently. This unique play experience, largely funded by the previous NSW Government, has proved to be a great success.

There were students from both Galston and Arcadia Public School at the Children’s Forest opening. During the school holidays many more kids have given it a good work out and I

have already received so much positive feedback.

Instead of trees being cleared to deliver a new recreation facility, it’s so pleasing to see how the playground’s designer, Fiona Robbe, managed to include the trees as part of it.

Situated in the southeast section of the park, in an area that was previously underutilized, it is exciting to think that this is just stage one. The Children’s Forest will ultimately include tree climbing, a cubby building area, treetop canopy walk, bird hide, tree house with a slide and much more.

The next new facility to be delivered in Fagan Park will be a dog park and this should be available for use later this year.

My favourite part in Fagan Park is Carrs Bush. This is a preserved area of remnant bushland that includes over 120 species of plants. There is an impressive, elevated boardwalk with interpretive signage for people to enjoy the bushland. I can tell you from firsthand experience, it is an amazing place to visit.

When he donated the land for public use in 1979, Bruce Fagan described his vision for Fagan Park, as being a “Park for the People”. Without a doubt his vision has become a reality.



**Matt Kean MP**

Member for Hornsby

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- Recognising State achievements



Contact  
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PO Box 1687, Hornsby Westfield NSW 1635

Authorised by Matt Kean MP. Funded using parliamentary entitlements.





## Rural Roundup News Update

CLR WARREN WADDELL

The Hornsby Shire Council delivery and Operational Plan is currently on exhibition. What does this mean? It presents for comment what Council plans to do over the coming years. It covers all aspects of Council's budget and finances and what we hope to achieve in areas like:

- Our core business of waste, vegetation, drainage etc.
- Projects and Capital works
- Local roads and paving improvements
- Fees and charges

Basically, anything that Council is involved in is on exhibition for comment. We would love to hear from the community to make sure we have our priorities right and that important items have not been missed. The details are accessible at any of our libraries or online using the "Have your Say" link on the Council website - <https://yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/>

In addition, work has begun on our regional Tourism strategy. I would encourage anyone participating in a tourist, destination, or appropriate recreational activity to reach out. This will form part of our long-term Economic Development plan.

April was the month that we celebrated youth week, (11th – 21st). It is important that we seek the involvement of youth in our community when developing ideas. Often their perspective will be different to older members of the community and to that of the Council administration. Council ran a series of activities to encourage youth participation.

Of course, April is also a time of reflection as we all come together in one place or another to share in our remembrance of those that served in our military campaigns and lost their lives defending our way of life. I was privileged to attend ANZAC services in Galston, Glenorie and Berowra.

**As always, happy to assist with any issue via the contact details below.**  
**waddell@hornsby.nsw.gov.au Ph: 04 9900 4861.**



## Mark Hodges

MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

### ANZAC Day

April 25th is one of the most important dates in the Australian calendar. This date marks the anniversary of the landing of Australian and New Zealand forces on the shores of Gallipoli, Turkey in 1915 during the First World War. Now, 109 years later, we continue to remember those brave soldiers who fought and who sacrificed their lives for their countries. ANZAC Day gives us time and space to reflect and honour those who have sacrificed and those who have and who continue to fight for our freedom. Our soldiers truly embody the Australian ideals of endurance, courage, and mateship. From the first military action of Australian and New Zealand troops during WWI and in every war and conflict since, we remember and we thank those who have fought bravely for our countries.



## Julian Leeser

MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

For many years, it has been a key priority of mine to champion a better deal for our area from the telcos – for more towers and fewer blackspots.

Only weeks ago, we got a new phone tower in Glenhaven. This is a cause of celebration after years fighting for the tower.

I agree with the Minister for Communications Michelle Rowland that reliable communications is not "a nice to have, it's a necessity".

It has become apparent to me that the Government's decision to shut down the 3G network has not been totally thought through. It's also a deep concern to local residents.

Residents have told me in emails: "Lately my signal bars have reduced to one bar and I appear to only have 3G".

And "We don't rely on 3G unless 4G is down, which happens. We seem to be in a black spot or hole. We need 3G when this happens."

Another resident wrote, "4G is very bad at our address. We needed to install a phone booster. The phone booster works better on 3G than 4G."

Many residents across the electorate are still relying on the 3G network and cannot get the 4G or 5G network. And for those in boats on the Hawkesbury River, 3G is the vital link with emergency services.

There is not a shortage of technology, only a shortage of will.

It's a cause I took up during the recent parliamentary sitting fortnight. I am pleased that Minister Rowland has formed a working group inquiring into the 3G shutdown - with a particular emphasis on triple zero calls.

Additionally, following my advocacy and the advocacy of others in the Coalition, the shutdown of the 3G network has been referred to the Senate's Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee, to review the impact that the shutdown will have on Australians who rely on the 3G network.

**If you are impacted by this change, I encourage you to make a submission to the Committee. Submissions close on 31st May. If you would also like to share your thoughts with me, please don't hesitate to contact my office at [julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au)**

## MARK HODGES MP

MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

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**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

Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120 02 9980 1822  
[julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au) [julianleeser.com.au](http://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.

# Hidden In The Hills

## Eastern Water Dragon

BY LACHLAN TURNER

Beneath bushland and tree ferns along watercourses can be found creatures that thrive in the wet conditions.

On exposed rocks or logs near water, it is possible to see an Eastern Water Dragon

(*Physignathus lesueurii*), soaking up the warmth of the sunshine. Their strong and sharp claws allow them to climb rockfaces or trees.

Although quite large, growing to about 80cm long, they are difficult to locate. When disturbed they scurry into crevices or deep water, and may remain submerged for up to 30 minutes.

Their diet can be other smaller reptiles, earth worms, frogs and insects, as well as fallen ripe berries.

Mature dragons may exhibit black and red markings on their body. Females lay around 12 eggs in an excavated hole in sandy soil above the floodline and eggs hatch in about three months. Newborn dragons, miniature replicas of their parents, must fend for themselves immediately after hatching from their egg, as the parents do not nurture their young offspring.



# Platypus research at St. Albans field day

BY TIM PALLISTER



Setting out from Dural and meeting up at St. Albans, Hawkesbury Nepean Landcare Network coordinator, Monique Bailey, organised a field trip and workshop to investigate threatened species in the region.

Our group met at the Pickled Wombat on Bulga Rd, after crossing the truss steel bridge over the Macdonald River.

We sat down for a community workshop on the need for a wildlife survey in the Macdonald River valley. Our first speaker, Dr. Michelle Ryan from Western Sydney University, spoke of her Platypus research and previous catch and release program that checked on the health of the population in their urban home range.

Our second speaker was Stephan from the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust who spoke of the known local threatened species, including plants as well as animals. All were subject to the same problem of isolated home ranges with no connectivity to others, creating genetically similar groups which are vulnerable to becoming locally extinct.

We heard about the importance of online reporting tools, community engagement, citizen science, research projects and surveys to ensure all species are fully represented, which aids in the conservation of endangered flora and fauna.

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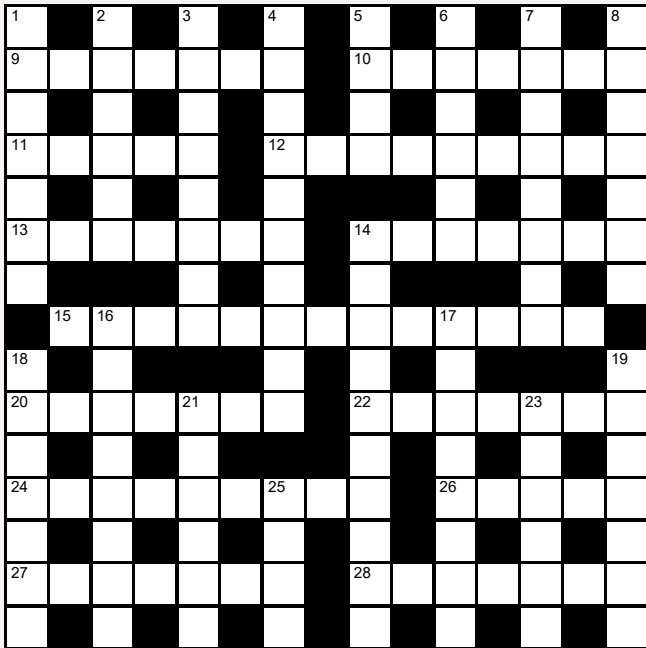
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# CROSSWORD PUZZLE



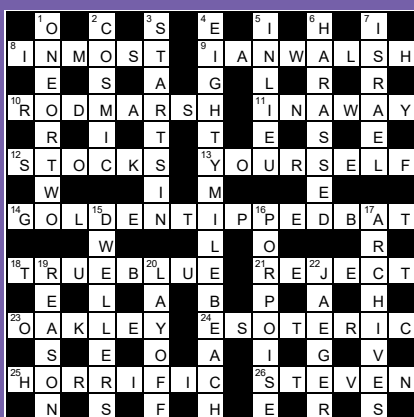
## ACROSS

- 09 Fit (7)
- 10 Small long-tailed bird (3-4)
- 11 Claire Hooper, for example (5)
- 12 Misnamed fruit bat (6,3)
- 13 Utopian (7)
- 14 Some arts (7)
- 15 Sydney-born country singer (7,6)
- 20 At the start (5,2)
- 22 Flat-bottomed canal or harbour barge (7)
- 24 Corner of "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" (9)
- 26 Register (5)
- 27 Mocked (7)
- 28 Developed over time (7)

## DOWN

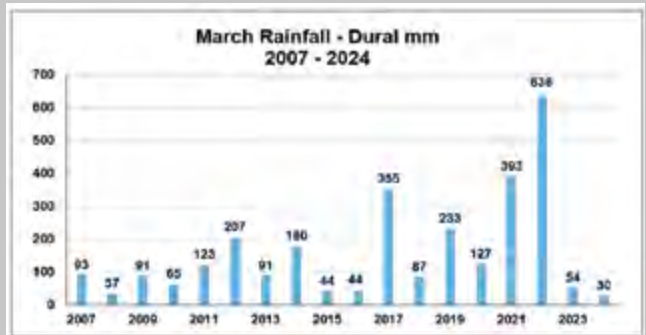
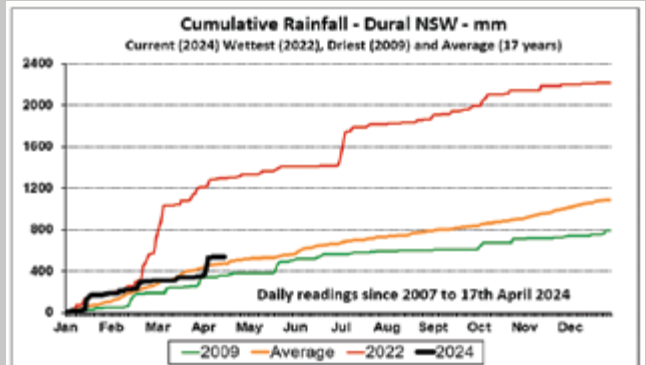
- 01 Clairvoyant (7)
- 02 Consternation (6)
- 03 Powerful (8)
- 04 Enforce pit discipline to achieve improvement (10)
- 05 180-degree turn (4)
- 06 Disposable mobile phone (6)
- 07 Some wall art (8)
- 08 Banished (2,5)
- 14 Popular NSW National Park (5,5)
- 16 Bombastic monologue (8)
- 17 Enlisted (6,2)
- 18 Mass-to-volume ratio (7)
- 19 Musical introduction (7)
- 21 Like fresh bread (6)
- 23 Prosper (6)
- 25 Chucks in (4)

## ANSWER FROM APRIL ISSUE



# Dural Rainfall Charts

BY HANS KUNNEN



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


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