FREE

DOORAL ROUNDUP

Dural & District Business Chamber

NOVEMBER 2026

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

CUSTOM HOMES • RENOVATIONS • FIRST FLOOR ADDITIONS

NOV 2026

Where did *2026* go?

Get your home plans moving for 2027.



Turrell BUILDING

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Where did *2026* go?

The house plans might have slipped down the list. There's still time for a conversation before Christmas.

It's usually somewhere between the first Christmas ad and the school concert reminder that it hits you. The year's nearly over, and you still haven't done anything about the house.

You meant to. But work got busy, the weekends filled up, and here you are. Meanwhile, the kids have grown another few centimetres and the spare room is still doing three jobs badly.

It's tempting to leave it until after Christmas. But there's a difference between making every decision before the holidays and simply finding out where to start.

Before you get to the floor plan

If you love your patch of the Hills but the house no longer fits, it's worth exploring what could change. That might mean a substantial renovation or an extension. Sometimes, starting again makes more sense.

Or perhaps you've been picturing a new home on acreage and haven't yet worked out how to get from the idea to the building site.

At Turrell Building, we can help with those conversations. We'll want to hear what frustrates you about your current home, what you hope to build and whether you have a budget in mind. You don't need to arrive with all the answers.

Design, pricing and any necessary approvals take time. An early conversation helps us work through what's involved and whether a 2027 start is achievable for your project.

Let Christmas do the homework

The holidays are useful for something else, too. Having everyone home tends to expose the things you've spent the year working around.

Watch what happens when the kitchen's busy. Can anyone get past the person cooking? Does lunch spill out onto the verandah, or is it too hot to sit there? Where do the grandparents sleep?

Then, once the visitors have gone, think about what still bothers you during a normal week. There's not much point designing the whole house around one big lunch.

Jot a few things down while they're fresh. Bring the photos you've saved, and bring that list too. It tells us why you want to make changes, which is a useful place to begin.

There's enough on the calendar between now and Christmas without adding every building decision to it. Give us a call, tell us what you've been thinking, and we can work out the next step together.

Thinking about building in 2027? Let's talk before Christmas.



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Urgent Help Needed!

by Ben Dessen, Hills Wildlife Sanctuary



There is an escalating crisis unfolding for our beautiful flying foxes! A mass starvation event is taking place with a critical shortage in flowering native plants which usually provide essential food for our bats at this time of year.

Thousands of flying foxes are currently impacted with dozens coming into care each day emaciated and starving. Many mothers are aborting their newborn babies as they don't have the energy to feed or care for them.

In order to support a number of other rescue groups who are inundated, the Hills Wildlife Sanctuary has offered to take in more than 50 flying foxes this week alone!

Each individual flying fox requires 500g of fruit to eat per night. We need to source up to 200kg of fruit per week just to keep these bats fed and help them to recover and put weight back on.

We desperately need:

- FUNDS. On top of fruit, the bats also require a specialised High Protein Supplement which costs $137 per 5kg bag. We will be going through at least one of these bags per week. If anyone is in a position to make a donation to sponsor the costs of purchasing this essential food, we would be incredibly grateful. Tax-deductible donations can be made via our website.



- PLEASE SHARE. Our entire volunteer team would be incredibly grateful of you could please share this post far and wide. Our sanctuary has been built by and continues to run off generous support from the community. We don't receive any Government funding or support for our work and would be grateful for any donated fruit or funds to support our team through this challenging time.

Editors Update: Ben's earlier social media post requested Fruit Donations. It was pleasing to read that Harris Farm and local residents/farms stepped up to help cover this request. Harris Farm is now donating over 200kg of fruit per month to help with this crises. Well done to everyone. The donation of money is now their top priority to cover the ongoing costs of vetinerary bills. To donate, go to their website https://www.hillswildlifesanctuary.org/donate

On behalf of all our volunteers and the beautiful bats, thank you for your kind support 💚

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- Communicating your issues to the relevant Ministers
- Organising Justice of the Peace applications
- Recognising Community Achievements



Contact James

(02) 9476 3411 @ hornsby@parliament.nsw.gov.au
PO Box 1687, Hornsby Westfield NSW 1635

Authorised by James Wallace MP. Funded using parliamentary entitlements.

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EMERGENCY SERVICES

Childcare Worker Faces 115 More Charges

The former Sydney childcare worker is facing a further 115 charges as part of an ongoing investigation into the alleged exploitation of children at five early childhood education facilities in Sydney's north-west.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) laid the additional charges under Operation Moonbi, bringing the total number of charges against the 35-year-old man to 444.

The allegations involve children known to the man, as well as children who attended facilities where he worked or attended between 2009 and 2025. The AFP said the number of identified victims has not increased following the latest charges.

The new charges include 105 counts of producing child abuse material, one count relating to a sexual act with a child under 10, five counts of filming a person engaged in a private act in circumstances of aggravation, and four counts of possessing child abuse material.

The man has remained in custody since his arrest and initial charges in July 2025.

The matter was due to return to Parramatta Local Court on 8th October 2026.

Parents and carers seeking information about Operation Moonbi can contact the AFP at op-moonbi@afp.gov.au

Fire Season Meetings

With NSW's statutory Bush Fire Danger Period running from 1st October to 31st March 2027, The Hills RFS is holding community meetings to help residents prepare for the season.

Kenthurst FRB and Hillside led the first two meetings on 29th October and 4th November, with three further sessions scheduled throughout the month. All meetings begin at 7 PM.

- **Glenhaven:** Thursday, **November 12th** — Glenhaven Community Centre.
- **South Maroota:** Thursday, **November 19th** — South Maroota Hall.
- **Wisemans Ferry:** Wednesday, **November 25th** — Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club.

Residents are encouraged to attend and prepare their homes and families for the bushfire season.

RFS Volunteers Honoured

Two Hills volunteers, Philip Dunn and John Ebbott, were among 10 NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers honoured at the 26th annual NSW Emergency Service Volunteers Memorial Service in Sydney on 11th October.

Their names were added to the memorial alongside eight other RFS volunteers and two Marine Rescue NSW members, William (Bill) Ewen and Frank Petsch, who died while responding to an emergency on the NSW north coast earlier this year.

RFS Commissioner Trent Curtin paid tribute to the volunteers' contributions to their brigades and communities, while acknowledging the sacrifices made by their families.

Held at Mrs Macquarie's Chair, the annual service honours emergency services volunteers who lost their lives while serving their communities.

Established in 1999, the memorial now bears 137 names from the NSW Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Service, Marine Rescue NSW and the Volunteer Rescue Association.

Hills RFS Members Recognised

Hills RFS members were recognised for decades of service at a medal presentation ceremony in Dural on 24th October, honouring 20 NSW RFS members with medals and citations.

Round Corner Brigade member David Barnes was recognised for 45 years of service, including major emergency deployments across NSW and interstate and contributions to firefighter training.

Glenorie Brigade member and District Group Captain Matthew Lloyd received recognition for 32 years of service. Joining as a junior member in 1994, he contributed to the development of the FireWise for Kids program.

Former Group Captain Phillip Bow received a Long Service Medal Clasp for 30 years of service, including emergency deployments and helping develop fire stations and firefighting vehicles across the district.

AFAC Memorial Medallions were also presented to the families of the late John Ebbott, of Communications and Kenthurst brigades, and Phillip Dunn, of Annangrove Brigade.

Acting Area Commander Greater Sydney, Chief Superintendent Paul Best, presented the awards.

"Behind every medal and every year served is a member who has answered the call in times of fire or other emergency, often at great personal sacrifice," Chief Superintendent Best said.

He also acknowledged the families of deceased members, saying: "Today is also an important opportunity to honour those we have lost and acknowledge their families, whose loved ones will always remain part of the RFS community."

He congratulated recipients and thanked their families, friends and employers for supporting their service.

Commercial Fire

Three RFS districts responded to a commercial building fire at Grantham Farm early on Thursday, 15th October.

Crews from the Cumberland Macarthur, Hawkesbury and The Hills RFS districts were called shortly after 4:30 AM, alongside Fire and Rescue NSW.

Firefighters arrived to find the premises well alight, with flames spreading into the roof space.

No injuries were reported. Crews remained at the scene throughout the morning to extinguish remaining hotspots and ensure the area was safe.

Oversized Pile Burns

Round Corner and Kenthurst Rural Fire Service (RFS) brigades attended three separate property fires from 24th to 25th October, including two oversized pile burns that had not been covered by permits or notifications.

One of the pile burns required significant firefighting resources to extinguish, prompting the brigades to remind residents to obtain the necessary approvals before burning off, particularly as the weather becomes hotter.

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Round Corner Brigade said the fire had the potential to spread and would have been difficult to control using a domestic garden hose alone. The third callout involved a pile burn that had a permit.

Dural RFS Open for Vollies

Dural RFS is seeking new volunteers to help respond to emergencies beyond bushfires, including storm damage and fallen trees.

In October, the brigade joined crews from across the district in Cherrybrook to clear several trees brought down across roads during a storm and make the area safe.

Members drew on skills gained through RFS training, including chainsaw operation, working safely on roofs and truck driving, to help resolve the incident.

The RFS offers a range of training opportunities to equip volunteers with skills for different emergency situations.

People interested in joining Dural RFS can email community.dural@hkrfs.org.au or visit their Facebook page for more information.

If you have any information on any of the above, please contact Crime Stoppers NSW at 1800 333 000.

Kenthurst Probus Club



At its October Meeting, Kenthurst Probus suffered a disappointment: for the first time in living memory a Guest Speaker was unable to attend. Members were looking forward to hear from Diana Baird on the topic "Helping Hearts Survive" but unfortunately she was prevented from being with us.

Nevertheless, Members enjoyed an address from Club Member Rosalie Chaloner who spoke about the Club 's excursion to Yarrawonga, then Peter and Cathy Bray (picture) came from Kenthurst Rotary to tell Probus personnel about the Club's Food Van project that provides unfortunate persons with evening meals – currently on site at the Dural Salvation Army venue on Old Northern Road. This, we learned, is a project filling a great need for unfortunate residents of our city and something that Rotary can be very proud of.

Club members are planning to visit the Dural History Cottage later this month. In November the Club will attend a Melbourne Cup Day and in December there will be a Christmas Lunch, with no formal meeting.

Kenthurst Probus members and guests meet at 9.30 am on the third Monday of every month (except December) at the Kenthurst Uniting Church building on the corner of Jones Road and Kenthurst Road.

Visitors are always welcome: details can be obtained from Membership Director Rosalie Chaloner on 0410 911 917.

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Seafood Experience Special Menu		**Monday 28th**	Open Lunch & Dinner	*NYE Special Event. More info coming soon*	
Christmas Day	Closed	**Tuesday 29th**	Open Lunch & Dinner	**New Years Day**	Closed
Boxing Day	Closed	**Wednesday 30th**	Open Lunch & Dinner		

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Council Buzz

THE HILLS SHIRE COUNCIL

www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

Australia Day Award Nominations Open

Nominations for The Hills Shire Council's 2027 Australia Day Awards close at 12 PM on 9th November.

Categories include Citizen, Young Citizen (aged 24 or under on 20th January 2027), Environmental and Sporting Citizen of the Year, and Community Group of the Year.

Nominees must live in The Hills, be Australian citizens or permanent residents, and have contributed positively to the community over the past year.

Nominate via Council's website by searching "Australia Day Awards". Finalists will be announced before Australia Day 2027.

Digital Skills

Small and micro-businesses can access digital training through Council's partnership with the Australian Government's Digital Solutions Program.

It offers workshops, webinars and resources covering digital marketing, websites, AI, cyber security and automation.

Business owners can also access the Hills Digital Learning Hub's tutorials and checklists, plus up to five hours of one-on-one mentoring, valued at $1,995, for $110.

Register at Council's website by searching "Digital Skills".

Hills Christmas events return

Illuminate The Hills opens with a Christmas market, food trucks and Santa on 29th November from 5 PM at the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden, Baulkham Hills. Free festive lights, including a walk-through Christmas train, run nightly from 30th November to 2nd January 2027.

The free Mayor's Children's Christmas Party runs on 6th December, 10 AM – 2 PM, at Bella Vista Farm, with crafts, face painting and activities. Rides and refreshments cost extra.

Visit the Council's website and search "Christmas Events in The Hills".

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Disability Inclusion Action Plan

Council adopted its Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2026–2030 to improve accessibility across services, facilities and public spaces.

More than 11% of residents live with disability, while 14,208 people provide unpaid assistance to others.

Priorities include accessible information, transport, public spaces and disability awareness. Council will also investigate an Inclusion Reference Group of people with lived experience of disability.

Speed Friending

Hornsby Council will host a free Speed Friending event at Hornsby RSL on 24th November, from 10:30 AM to 1:30 PM, as part of Social Inclusion Week and its Hello Hornsby program. Bookings required.

Other activities include a library morning tea on 17th November, disability inclusion events on 2nd and 4th December, a Welcome Table on 16th December and a school holiday activity on 21st December.

Details and bookings: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/hellohornsby.

The Art of Roslyn Kean

Galston printmaker Roslyn Kean, the 2025 Hornsby Art Prize Local Artist Award winner, will showcase Japanese woodblock prints in a free exhibition at Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre from 20th November to 6th December.

Featuring works inspired by Japanese aesthetics and ma, the exhibition also includes Rock at the Roadside, a collaborative project incorporating tanka poetry.

Open Tuesday to Sunday, 10 AM – 4 PM, at 25 Edgeworth David Avenue, Hornsby.

Details: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/roslyn-kean-art.

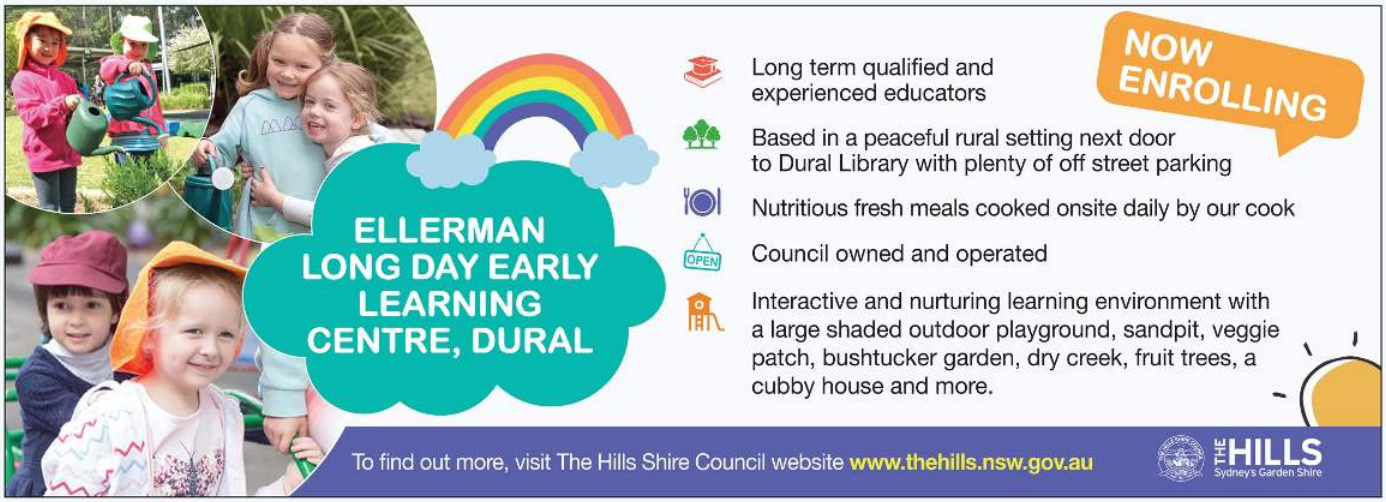
Community Milestone

More than 30 Hornsby Shire organisations were recognised at Council's Community Milestone Awards at Wallarobba Arts and Cultural Centre on 22nd October.

The 2026 awards celebrated anniversaries ranging from 10 to 180 years, including Barker College (130 years), Milsons Passage RFS (75 years), IABBV Hindi School (40 years) and Hornsby Connect (10 years).

Certificates were presented to representatives of organisations marking significant milestones.

For more details, visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/Community.



ADVERTORIAL

Aged care that's personal at Carlingford House

A trusted name in caring for communities for more than 170 years, Anglicare is now bringing its experience in residential aged care to Carlingford.

With a strong track record in quality and care, Anglicare's arrival at Carlingford House is an exciting addition to the local community.

For residents and families, this means having an experienced provider close to home, with a commitment to knowing each person beyond their care needs and supporting them to continue living a life that feels like their own.

Anglicare has been putting person-centred care into practice for more than a decade. In 2012, it introduced the collection of life stories to help teams get to know each resident as an individual – their history, interests, relationships, routines and what gives their life meaning and purpose.

At the heart of this approach is a simple idea: aged care should support people to keep doing the things they enjoy, stay connected to the people who matter to them and maintain the routines that make them feel at home.

At Carlingford House, residents are encouraged to have a say in how they spend their days and what they would like to see happening in their home. By listening to their ideas and experiences, the team creates opportunities that reflect the residents who live there and the things that are important to them.

It means care can look different for everyone. For one resident, it might be spending time in the garden or enjoying a cup of tea with a friend. For another, it could be taking part in an activity, playing the baby grand piano or simply having someone take the time to sit and have a conversation.

Connection is an important part of life at Carlingford House. The home offers opportunities for residents to build friendships, stay connected with family and take part in activities and experiences that bring people together. From the Gardening Club and the popular Cooking Class to bus outings and sharing a meal together, there are many ways residents are connecting with others and enjoy community life.

For residents Patricia and Olwyn, moving to Carlingford House has also meant



reconnecting with an old friendship. The two residents knew each other from the local community and are enjoying having the opportunity to spend time, and a lot of laughs, together again.

Anglicare recognises that wellbeing encompasses the body, mind and spirit. Chaplains are available to offer residents friendship, a listening ear, prayer and spiritual support for those who would like it.

When Anglicare delivers aged care that's personal to each and every resident, it's about more than just the care someone receives. It's about knowing who they are, what they enjoy and what makes a good day for them – and making space for more of those moments.

For more information on Anglicare's Carlingford House residential aged care home, please contact us on 1300 111 278 or visit the website anglicare.org.au/carlingford-house





Carlingford House is growing more than herbs this spring.

The gardens at Anglicare's Carlingford House, residential aged care home, are coming to life this spring with the weekly Gardening Club bringing residents together to enjoy the outdoors and each other's company.

It's a chance to share stories and exchange gardening tips. For some, the club offers a way to reconnect with a favourite pastime, while for others, it's an opportunity to discover the simple pleasure of watching plants grow.

This spring, residents planted strawberries, thyme, and herbs that will be used in meals for the home. Barbara is a lifelong gardener and says there aren't many things she hasn't planted! "Don't worry about gloves", she says. "You have to get your hands dirty!". Pattie is new to gardening and enjoys being together with her new friends outdoors. It's not just the vege garden that is growing at Carlingford House, it's the friendships too.



"It is really nice around here, so many lovely plants."

– PATTIE

Carlingford House
Residential aged care
3 Dalmar Place, Carlingford
1300 111 278
anglicare.org.au/carlingford-house

Anglicare

A Tribute to the Journey of Our Year 12 Family Community

Through the Mint Gates

The morning sun shone as I helped you rise.
And there you were, standing before my very eyes.
Dressed in a new uniform to take you through your day.
"Hold my hand, darling, I'll show you the way."

Little school shoes with room to grow.
Stepping through the Mint Gates, a new place to get to know.
As I let go of your hand, a sudden twinge in my heart.
But I knew it was time for us to be apart.

To leave you in the care of those who teach,
There to guide you and show how far you can reach.
From English to maths, geography and more.
To running, swimming, rugby - the crowds would roar.

Many of us watched on over the years,
Through your triumphs and occasional tears,
Yet you continued to march on through,
Each day evolving and learning something new.

And now, with shoes that fit, it's time to steady your stride,
With heartfelt gratitude to all who have walked by your side.







The ones who guided you through your foundational years.
Oh, how I gasp for my breath to hold back the tears.

The morning sun shines, you need no help to rise.
And here you are, standing before my very eyes.
Dressed in your final uniform to take you through your day.
You've let go of my hand, darling; through the Mint Gates you've found your way.

Jacqueline Cherie Wright

Dedicated to my son, Oliver Wright, and for those who share the sentiment on the eve of a transitioning chapter.





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NEW at City Cave Dural: Discover the Power of Red Light Therapy

There's a new way to enhance your wellbeing at City Cave Dural! We've introduced Red Light Therapy as an add-on to our Infrared Sauna sessions, bringing together two highly beneficial light-based wellness experiences.

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Whether you're looking to support your skin, soothe tired muscles, manage everyday stress or simply enjoy some well-deserved time to yourself, our newest addition offers another way to invest in feeling your best.

Red Light Therapy is available as a $10 add-on to your Infrared Sauna session.

City Cave Dural is open 9am–9pm, 7 days a week, located at 4/829 Old Northern Rd, Enter from Quarry Road, Dural.

Visit **www.citycave.com.au** or call **8418 9924** to book your next wellness experience and discover the benefits for yourself.



Cherrybrook Probus Ponderings

The Skies The Limit

Over the past few weeks members of the Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook have enjoyed a range of outings including a wonderful day trip to The Historical Aircraft Restoration Society at Albion Park. We were guided by retired Qantas Captain Rob who gave us many insights into the piloting of our commercial aircraft. We will fly more easily knowing the intense level of dedication and expertise involved in crew training. Members inspected a wide variety of planes including John Travolta's 707 currently under restoration. Transport has featured prominently with a week on Norfolk Island, a cruise to Davistown and our popular 'Opal" day to Cronulla by Metro and rail.



Upcoming visits include an overnight visit to the Hunter Valley for a river cruise, wine and chocolate tasting and viewing the Hunter Valley Gardens Christmas lights.

As always, our sport and interest groups provided regular activities for fitness and fun with golf, bowls, Ten Pin, Book Club, movies, theatre outings and a Money Matters trip to discover more about retirement living.

If you are active retirees or even semi-retired 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 information please contact Vicki on 0417 200 351.
We look forward to warmly welcoming you to our Probus Club to share the good times.

Galston CWA invites the community to join us at our upcoming events this November!

Enjoy Devonshire tea at the Arcadian Artists Trail, 16 Fishburns Road, Galston, on 7th November.

Visit us at the Rowland Village Market on 21st November, 10am–2pm, and don't miss our Annual Christmas Stall outside Bendigo Bank on 28th November, 9am–2pm.

Galston CWA meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 10am at the Galston Community Health Centre. Visitors and new members are always welcome!





Parramatta Hills Group of the Australian Plants Society

Next Meeting Saturday 28th November at 2pm.

Artistic Botany: Where Art Meets Science

The next meeting of the Parramatta Hills Group of the Australian Plants Society will be held on Saturday 28th November at 2pm.

The speaker will be one of our members, James Indsto, who is a forensic botanist. He will be giving a demonstration of techniques to create artistic images from plant material using a microscope. There will also be an opportunity for audience members to experiment with some of these techniques.

The meeting will be held at the Group's new venue The West Pennant Hills Community Church at 41-43 Eaton Rd, West Pennant Hills. The meeting will be followed by afternoon tea and plant sales.

All are welcome to attend.

Artistic Microscopy: Where Art Meets Science

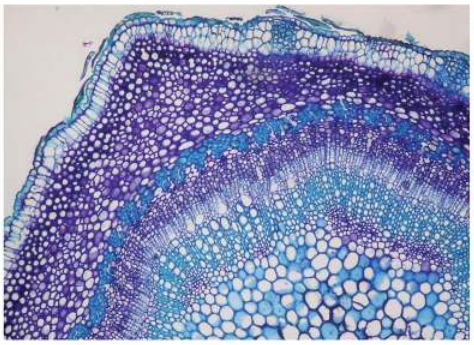
A presentation by James Indsto

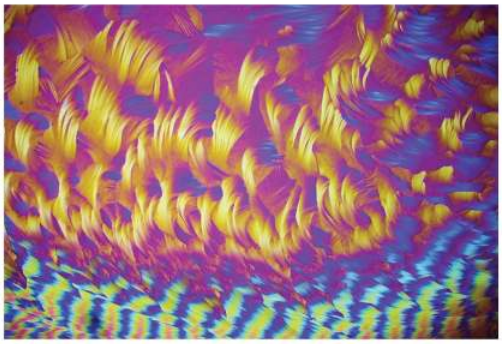
Microscopes are often to be found in laboratories and are used for serious scientific pursuits. But what happens when scientists come out to play? Microscopes can reveal the beauty of the miniature world, which can be admired as much for its aesthetic value as scientific value. Microscopy can also be a rewarding hobby.

Unstained plant material is nearly colourless with standard microscope illumination. Here a section of young olive stem has been stained with toluidine blue dye to reveal many different cell types and detailed structure.

Potato starch grains are almost invisible with normal transmitted illumination, but show a spectacular 'Maltese Cross' pattern under polarized light. The addition of a piece of cellophane in the light path makes an improvised 'wave plate', creating beautiful colours and additional detail.

Crystals can form beautiful patterns. In this case 'BALG', a mixture of the amino acids Beta Alanine and L-Glutamine form dreamy curves when crystallised on a microscope slide. The addition of a small piece of cellophane results in an image that explodes with colour!







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Join our Open Days



Bring your friends and family along to experience our vibrant communities, take a village tour and explore move-in ready homes.



Cherrybrook Gardens Retirement Village

10 Casuarina Drive,
Cherrybrook, NSW 2126

Friday, 6 Nov 2026
10am - 12pm
Homes from $697,000*

With Christmas Markets



Rowland Retirement Village, Galston

301 Galston Road,
Galston, NSW 2159

Saturday, 21 Nov 2026
10am - 2pm
Homes from $520,000*

*Prices correct at time of printing on 2/11/2026 and are subject to change.

RSVP Today!

Scan the QR code to RSVP

RSL LifeCare

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Rotary Club of WPH & Cherrybrook

Our inaugural *'Movies Under the Stars'* event was held on 12th September at John Purchase Oval, Cherrybrook. We were fortunate with the weather and a large crowd of adults and children enjoyed watching *'A Minecraft Movie'*. A food van, soft-serve ice cream van and coffee van kept attendees well catered for throughout the evening. All proceeds from the event went to RuffTrack and other Rotary charities.

On 13th September our Club supported Pennant Hills Public School's biennial fete by running the BBQ. The fete had a wonderful carnival atmosphere, and our team of dedicated volunteers had a very busy and enjoyable day serving the crowds. All proceeds from the BBQ went back to the school.

We held another successful BBQ and cake stall at Bunnings Castle Hill on 20th September. With perfect weather bringing plenty of shoppers to Bunnings, the store was packed and orders came in





at a steady pace throughout the day. Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers, all proceeds went to Helping Hearts Survive and other Rotary charities.

Our Club also continues to support the community through a regular program of lawn mowing, line trimming and pruning at several transitional houses in Kenthurst. These ongoing efforts help maintain the properties and provide a practical service to support those living in the homes.

Upcoming Events

Bunnings BBQs at Castle Hill on Saturday 24th October 2026 and 28th November 2026

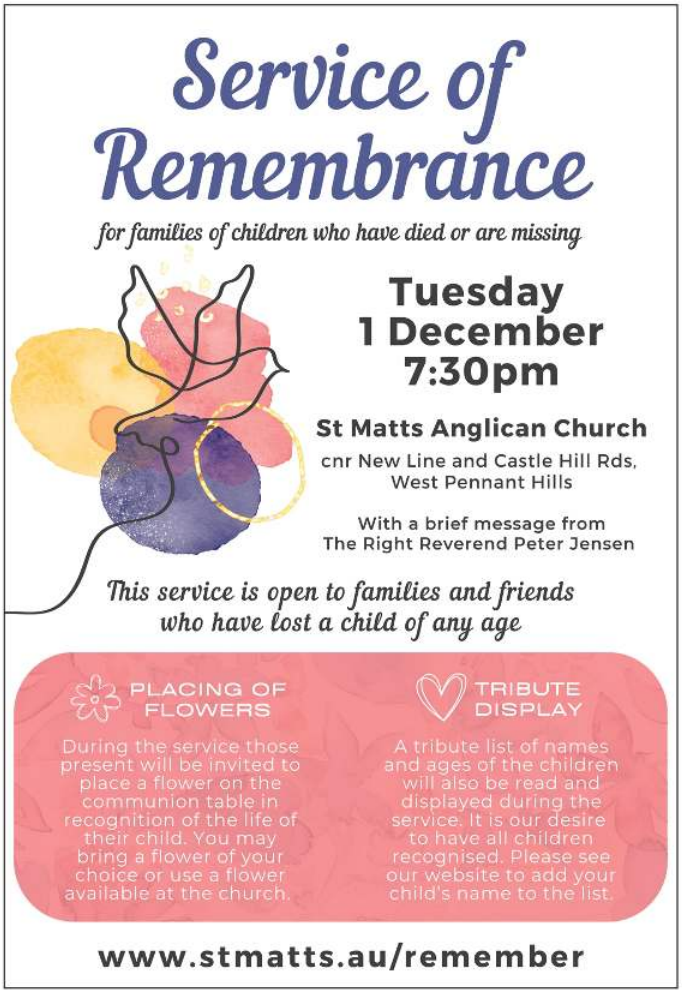
If you would like to know more about Rotary, be involved or join us at a meeting please call 0412 064 336.

Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook

Web page: http://www.wphcrotary.org/

Rotary Club of West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook

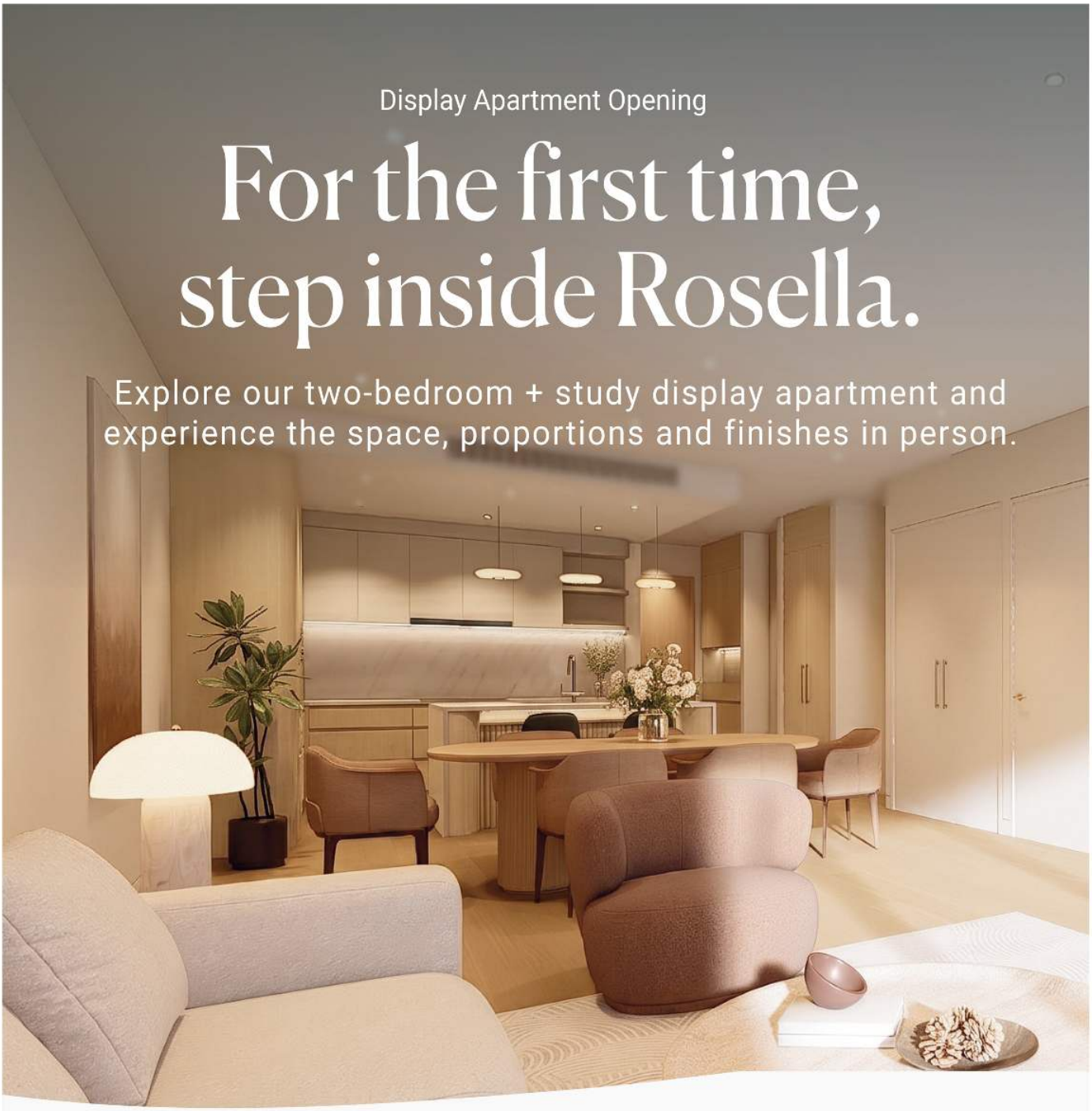




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Explore our two-bedroom + study display apartment and experience the space, proportions and finishes in person.



TUESDAY
17 November
1PM

WEDNESDAY
18 November
11AM & 1PM

3 Pellitt Lane, Dural

Reserve your viewing | 1300 040 588

Booking essential. Limited viewing appointments.

ROSELLA
RETIREMENT RESORT

Dural and District Historical Society Inc.

News *from* History Cottage

The Society held its Annual General Meeting on Saturday the 10th October. These are always happy, well attended afternoons, with formalities reduced to a minimum; a financial report from the treasurer, one for thought on the Society's place in the community from the president; then a quick election of nine enthusiastic committee members.
The highlight of the day is the Show and Tell from the assembled members and friends, who tell why they value an item from among their possessions.



This year eleven eager members entertained with the story of their treasure; including the life of a clock that had never worked but had moved from house to house on its own section of mantelpiece! How the Derwent pencil came to Australia; of beautiful hand made mother of pearl buttons and thread reels and a poignant reminder of the result of the horrors of the First World War. The display table provided a closer look over afternoon tea.

The last meeting of the year, on **Saturday the 14th November**, will have David Jehan tell **The Journey of Clyde Engineering-100 Years of Manufacturing 1891-1998**. David spoke to the Society in 2024 and members have asked to hear more of the history of Clyde and the Hudsons from a most interesting and entertaining speaker. As usual the meeting will be held in the Galston Uniting Church starting at 2.00pm.

The History Cottage open fourth Sunday will be on the 25th October between 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm. Members are on hand to help visitors understand how the research archives can help with family and local history study.

Meetings are held in the Galston Uniting Church, School Road, Galston starting at 2.00pm. All are welcome. Entry is free. A gold coin for afternoon tea. Enquiries to Michael Bell 02 9653 1365.

The freshly elected Management Committee. Unfortunately Colin Burgess was away. (photo Judy Budden).





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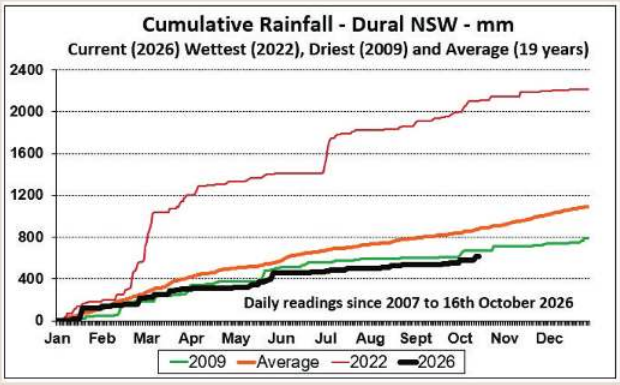
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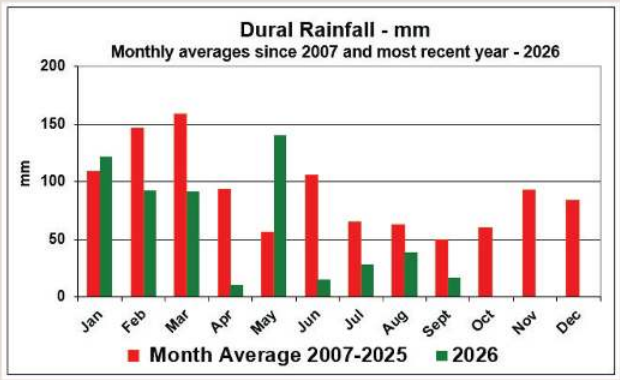
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by Hans Kunnen





The Making Lives Better Million

One Million Dollars Worth of What We Do Best. *Caring.*

Over the next year Nurse Next Door has committed to provide $1,000,000 of free short term care to older Australians who need it most. Those people who desperately need care but have fallen through the cracks of our aged care system and don't have the means to pay for care themselves. Every dollar of that free care is tracked on this page.

To be considered for The Making Lives Better Million the person must

- Live within an area serviced by Nurse Next Door
- Have a genuine need for immediate short term care
- Not have the financial means to pay for care needed
- You can apply for yourself, a family member, friend or someone else in your community.



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Latest News

HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL

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



from the Mayor's Desk

November is shaping up to be an exciting month across the Shire, beginning with the return of Hornsby Spring Fest on 7 November. This free community celebration will transform Dural Lane into a vibrant festival precinct filled with live entertainment, market stalls, international food, family activities and much more.

As we enjoy these community events, Council continues to deliver important projects that will enhance our public spaces and support our growing communities. In Galston, works are progressing on the Galston Village Centre project to improve the village domain and create a more welcoming and accessible town centre. As part of these works, Galston Library has successfully relocated to a temporary premises across Galston Road, ensuring this valued community service remains available throughout construction.

In Hornsby Town Centre, road improvement works are progressing to enhance safety and accessibility for residents, businesses and visitors. At Westleigh Park, construction has commenced on the approved mountain bike trail network following the successful completion of site access tracks. The carefully designed trail network will provide high-quality recreational opportunities while protecting the park's significant environmental values.

Meanwhile, at Hornsby Park, works are progressing well on the new Old Mans Valley Field of Play, a major milestone in the transformation of this unique recreation destination. There is also more to come, with exciting plans for new shared pathways and lookouts that will further enhance opportunities for residents to enjoy the park and its spectacular surroundings. Look out for more news coming soon.

Warren Waddell
Mayor of Hornsby Shire

HORNSBY SPRING FEST

Saturday 7 November
3pm–9pm
Dural Lane Hornsby

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Repair

- **Bicycle repair workshop**
  Saturday 14 November, 9.30am-12.30pm
  Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby
- **Repair Café – Electronic Sessions**
  Saturday 14 November, 10am-1pm
  Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby
- **Stitch and fix: clothes mending workshop**
  Saturday 14 November, 10.30am-12.30pm
  Storey Park Community Centre, Hornsby
- **Sew What? Make & Mend**
  Thursday 19 November, 4pm-6pm
  Hornsby Library
- **Chipping for mulch**
  Sunday 22 November, 7.30am-12.30pm
  Council Depot, Galston
- **Common Threads: Make & Mend**
  Tuesday 24 November, 10.30am-12.30pm
  Hornsby Library

Bookings essential: **hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste**



Second Hand Market HORNSBY

Sunday 8 November 9am - 1pm
Coronation Street, Hornsby

Over 30 second-hand stalls

'YOUR SAY HORNSBY'

- **Bellevue Street, Thornleigh, Raised pedestrian crossing.**
  Submissions close: Friday 6 November
- **Wideview Road, Berowra Heights, Upgrade to existing children's crossing.** Submissions close: Friday 6 November
- **Waratah Road, Berowra. Road improvements.**
  Submissions close: Friday 20 November
- **Proposed Road Dedication at Hall Estate, Dural.**
  Submissions close: Sunday 29 November

For more information visit: **yoursay.hornsby.nsw.gov.au**



Explore Your Backyard

Join a free guided bushwalk and discover Hornsby's hidden natural gems.
hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks

Next Council meeting Wednesday 11 November, 6.30pm

hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Behind Palace Doors:
Conversations That Shaped a Nation

Castle Hill Players presents

THE AUDIENCE

**at the Pavilion Theatre
from 13th Nov – 5th Dec**

**By Peter Morgan.
Directed by Meredith Jacobs.**

Experience the pulse of history in the year that would have been Queen Elizabeth II's 100th birthday.

Peek behind the closed doors of Buckingham Palace, where Queen Elizabeth II holds private weekly meetings with her Prime Ministers. Both parties have an unspoken agreement never to repeat what is said.

From the creator of Netflix's The Crown, this compelling drama breaks that contract of silence, imagining a series of pivotal meetings between the Downing Street incumbents and their Queen. From Churchill to Cameron, each Prime Minister has used these private conversations as a sounding board and a confessional – sometimes intimate, sometimes explosive.

History unfolds as the complexities of leadership, the weight of responsibility, and the human side of power are revealed. Sharp dialogue, rich characterizations, and more than a touch of humour, provides a unique glimpse into the inner workings of the British monarchy and the pivotal moments that have shaped a nation.



Kate Mannix, Leigh Scanlon, Imogen Taylor, Photos: Penny Johnson

An extraordinary theatrical experience that brings history to life on stage.

Copyright by Peter Morgan, copyright agent: Jessica Stewart of Independent Talent Group Ltd, 40 Whitfield Street, London, W1T 2RH, United Kingdom

'Come for the Crown. Stay for the conversations.' Meredith, Director

Castle Hill Players presents *The Audience*.
By Peter Morgan. Directed by Meredith Jacobs.
13th November – 5th December 2026
Wed, Fri, Sat 8PM, Sun 4PM
Pavilion Theatre, Castle Hill
Tickets $30, Concession $25
The Pavilion Theatre is located within the Castle Hill Showgrounds, Castle Hill

Bookings pavilliontheatre.org.au/the-audience or call 02 9634 2929

Enquiries call 02 9634 3846 or email admin@pavilliontheatre.org.au

Media enquiries email Abby marketing@pavilliontheatre.org.au

Castle Hill Art Society

**Art Demonstration – 4th November, 2026
Christine Webb -
"Discussion and Photo Presentation"**



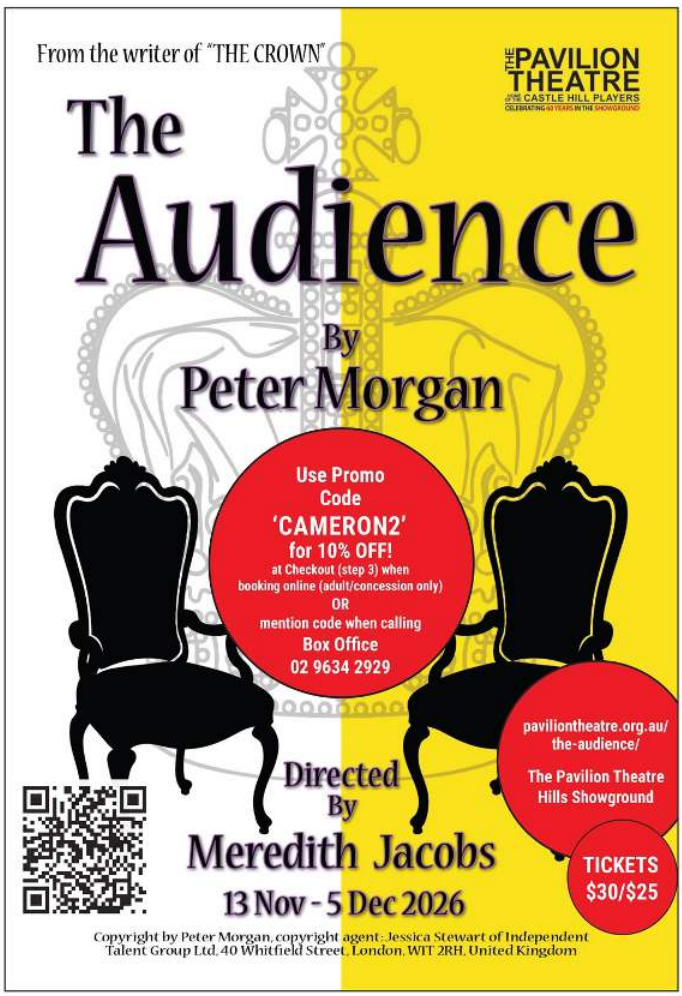
Christine is a contemporary figurative artist who is interested in the play of colour, light passages and perspective. Her vibrant paintings are expertly composed and direct the viewer's eye to multiple points of interest. Christine splits her time each year between painting in Australia and then is off to Italy to capture the golden light of the Mediterranean.

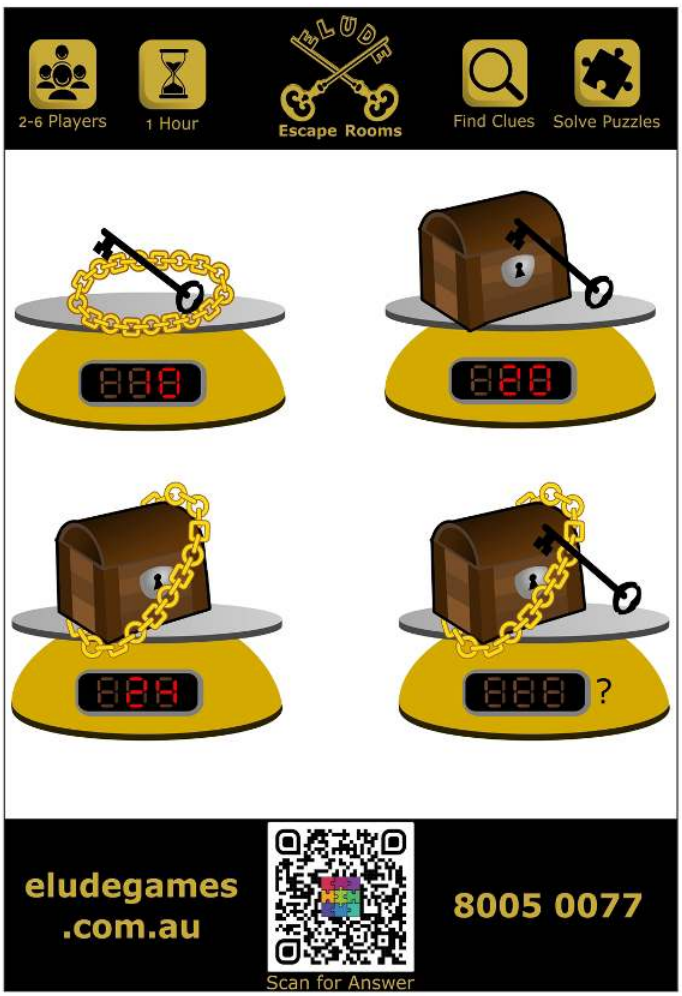
Visitors are welcome to join with the Castle Hill Art Society 7.00pm at Castle Glen Community Centre, 157 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill.

Enquiries 9899 3179
www.castlehillartsociety.org.au









The Price of Silence: Why Ignoring Hearing Loss Still Comes at A Cost

In clinics across Australia, audiologists often meet patients who suspect their hearing is slipping but hope it will somehow improve, or at least remain manageable without help. Once hearing loss is diagnosed, you cannot simply "ignore it away." Sooner or later, you pay for it, one way or another.

To explain, Ear Man Dan drew an unexpected comparison from a billboard he noticed at Brisbane Airport: a government anti-smoking campaign titled "Choose Your Hard." The message was stark, quit smoking and protect your health, or keep smoking and live with the consequences. Hearing loss, he argued, presents a similar fork in the road. While most people do not choose to develop hearing loss in the first place, they do face a decision about what happens next: treat it now, or delay.

Choosing treatment often means paying mostly in money, sometimes a significant sum. But the "price" is not purely financial. Many people also pay in confidence and self-image, particularly those worried about looking older or appearing vulnerable. Some middle-aged men, especially those who pride themselves on being "bulletproof," can find it emotionally difficult to accept hearing aids, regardless of financial cost. Beyond that, there is also the practical burden: devices must be charged, cleaned, maintained, and remembered, another daily responsibility in an already busy life.

Yet the alternative, doing nothing, may carry heavier costs. Hearing clinics earn income from providing devices, discussions about consequences can sound like a sales pitch. Patients deserve clear information about the risks of untreated hearing loss so they can make informed choices without judgment.

He pointed to research comparing people with normal hearing to those with hearing loss who did not pursue treatment. One study found that over a ten-year period, general healthcare costs were about 46% higher for those with untreated hearing loss, alongside higher rates of hospitalisation. The study concluded that hearing aid use was associated with fewer emergency department visits, fewer hospitalisations, and fewer nights spent in hospital.

Another research highlights a serious cognitive dimension. Long-running studies, including work associated with Johns Hopkins researchers, have identified untreated hearing loss as a major modifiable risk factor for cognitive decline, largely due to the social isolation that can follow when conversation becomes difficult. The message is not that hearing aids "prevent dementia," but that treating hearing loss appears linked to reduced risk. A large meta-analysis pooling data from roughly 126,000 people reported that use of hearing restorative devices was associated with a 19% decrease in the hazard of long-term cognitive decline.

There are also human costs that do not show up on medical bills. Untreated hearing loss can quietly erode relationships: repeated "what?" and "say that again" moments can lead partners and family members to speak less, saving conversation for only the "important" topics. Over time, that reduction in everyday communication can contribute to loneliness and depression, outcomes supported by multiple studies, particularly in older adults.

His message is simple: both paths cost something. The question is what you are prepared to pay with, money and adjustment now, or potentially greater medical, social, and emotional costs later. Want to know more? Scan the QR code below, subscribe to the channel.



Dural Bowling Club News

Recent Results and Match Update

Open Nominated Pairs Final: Congratulations to **Stuart Yeend and Phil Laing** for winning the **2026 Open Nominated Pairs Final**, defeating Graeme Giles and Robert Whiddon with a final score of **22-12**.



NOMINATED PAIRS FINAL


KATE IN ACTION WITH TONY LOOKING ON

NSW Rookie Pairs Qualifiers
Saturday 26th September: Kate Liu and Tony Simnor represented Dural brilliantly at the **2026 Bowls NSW Rookie Pairs - Metro North-West Qualifiers** at Toongabbie Sports and Bowling Club. They went undefeated through all three of their matches to secure a spot in the semi-finals.

Kate Liu and Tony Simnor were back at Toongabbie Sports and Bowling Club on Sunday 27th September. In rainy conditions, the Dural pairing faced off against the Hills duo in the semi-final of the Metro North-West Rookie Pairs Qualifiers. Unfortunately, they could not maintain their winning streak and lost to the Hills pair. Congratulations to Kate and Tony.

Triples Carnival: The club successfully hosted its **2nd Parramatta League & Dural Club Sponsored Triples Carnival** on


CARNIVAL TRIPLES

Monday 28th September. The event reached a **full complement of 28 teams**, representing **26 different clubs** from as far as Brisbane, the Central Coast, Corrimal, Waverley, Mosman, Glenbrook, and Penrith. Despite overcast weather and slow greens due to prior rain, the day wrapped up with great banter, a nice lunch, a presentation, and a raffle.

The **winning team** hailed from **Glenbrook**.

Upcoming Events

The next carnival sponsored by Living Choice is scheduled for Monday, 26th October. The Ladies Major Singles has reached the semi final stages and the Men's Major Singles is scheduled to start on the 24th October.

Anyone that is interested in playing Lawn Bowls, Free lessons by qualified coaches are available Phone: Rob Whiddon 0411 375 580.

ELC Celebrates First Birthday

PACIFIC HILLS EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

The Pacific Hills Early Learning Centre (ELC) recently celebrated its first birthday, marking a significant milestone and celebrating the strong, vibrant community that has flourished since its opening.

Families came together to share in the festivities, enjoying a wonderful day that reflected the warmth, connection, and sense of community that have become hallmarks of the ELC. It was a joy to see both children and parents embracing the celebrations and creating special memories together.

What an incredible first year it has been! Since opening its doors, the ELC has grown into a thriving community where children are encouraged to explore, discover, and flourish in a nurturing environment. As a ministry of the Pacific Group of Christian Schools, the ELC is committed to laying strong foundations for lifelong learning through Christian values, quality care, and play-based educational experiences. We are thankful for the support of our families and proud of all that has been achieved together. As we celebrate this milestone, we look forward with excitement to many more years of growth and community in The Hills.

PACIFIC HILLS
EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

ENROL NOW FOR 2027

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Ages 4 months to 6 years

Start your child's journey with Pacific Hills Early Learning Centre.

Scan to learn more today





James Wallace
HORNSBY MP

Keeping Our Retirement Villages Connected to Transport

I recently visited the peaceful and leafy Cherrybrook Gardens Retirement Village and had the chance to speak at their Residents' Meeting. A key topic of discussion was the lack of public transport access to Cherrybrook Metro and parking which favours long-term commuter parking over shorter-stay spots. Staying socially and physically active as we age is a key factor of healthy ageing and is something our community members deserve access to.

Residents at the meeting said the lack of short-term parking near transport hubs like Cherrybrook Metro is an issue which makes taking advantage of the Metro's quick trip into the City a real challenge. All the parking is dedicated to long term commuter parking and is full up very early in the day. One resident described how she needed to drive to Castle Towers to make use of the free short-term parking so she could get to the Metro for a trip into the city.



Distance and lack of frequency of bus stops and services from many retirement villages was another concern. Costly carpooling, taxis or simply missing out on social activities were the only options available to those residents without a car or license. As I spoke about with residents, I am interested in exploring new options to open up space for additional parking and increasing short-term parking spots for those wanting to do a short day trip into the City or elsewhere outside of peak commuter hours.

Reinstating the express bus services to the city is another improvement that would make a material difference to the lives of our elderly. I hope to visit more retirement villages over the coming months and help make life easier for those who have contributed so much to our society throughout their lifetimes.



Julian Leeser
MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

Dural Men's Shed Helping Young People Build their Futures

I recently visited Dural Men's Shed to see firsthand an inspiring mentoring program helping students from Galston High School develop practical skills and prepare for careers in the trades.

Over the past three years, dedicated volunteers have worked with around 100 students, giving them hands-on experience in woodworking, metalworking, mechanics and electronics, while teaching important workplace skills including teamwork, problem-solving, responsibility and resilience.

What impressed me most was hearing that every student from last year's group has gone on to secure an apprenticeship.

I enjoyed speaking with the students about their career ambitions, including Brydon, who hopes to follow his father into concreting. The boys clearly value the opportunity to learn from experienced mentors and explore different trades outside the traditional classroom.

With local businesses struggling to find skilled apprentices, programs like this demonstrate the enormous value of connecting schools, volunteers and industry.

A special thank you to Chris Thomas and the wonderful volunteers at Dural Men's Shed who generously give their time and expertise to help the next generation succeed.

This is a fantastic example of our community working together to create real opportunities for young people.







Mark Hodges
MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

Nominate your Castle Hill Local Senior of the Year 2027

Castle Hill residents can recognise an outstanding older person in their community through the 2027 NSW Seniors Festival Local Senior of the Year Awards, with nominations opening on Tuesday 10th November 2026.

Member for Castle Hill Mark Hodges MP said the awards celebrate the tremendous contribution seniors make to their community.

"If you know a senior who strives to make our community a better place through volunteering, innovation or simply supporting family and friends, I encourage you to nominate them for recognition," Mr Hodges said.

"We are fortunate to have so many seniors in our local community who are generous with their time, energy and commitment.

"By highlighting seniors' continued efforts in helping Castle Hill thrive, we are challenging ageism and celebrating the valuable role older people play in our community."

Each year, MPs across NSW use the awards to recognise seniors whose service, leadership and dedication have made a meaningful difference to others.

In 2026, Kenneth Walsh, Ann O'Connor and Elaine White were celebrated at a special morning tea at The Hills Club. Kenneth and Ann were recognised for their dedicated support of veterans and their families, while Elaine's longstanding contribution to environmental conservation and local heritage was acknowledged.



Their service demonstrates the lasting difference seniors make across The Hills.

Nominations can recognise contributions through community service, volunteering, promoting health and wellbeing, cultural activities, creative achievements and sharing knowledge across generations.

Nomination forms will be available by scanning the QR code accompanying this article or by contacting the Castle Hill Electorate Office. Completed forms must be returned to the office by Wednesday 10th February 2027.

Nominators should complete all sections of the form and inform the person they are nominating.

The awards form part of the NSW Seniors Festival, which runs from 1st to 14th March 2027. Details of the Castle Hill awards presentation will be announced separately.

The festival promotes social inclusion and connection, encouraging older people to participate in art, sport, music, entertainment, technology, travel, health, wellbeing and recreation.

"These awards are an opportunity to thank the people whose contribution can sometimes go unrecognised," Mr Hodges said.

"I encourage residents and community organisations to help us recognise the seniors who make Castle Hill such a special place to live."

For nomination enquiries, contact the Castle Hill Electorate Office on 02 9686 3110 or email castlehill@parliament.nsw.gov.au

For more information about the NSW Seniors Festival and the Local Senior of the Year Awards, visit seniorsfestival.nsw.gov.au

Mark **Hodges MP**
Member for Castle Hill

Mark can help you by

- Representing you in the NSW Parliament
- Assisting you to access State services
- Communicating your issues to the relevant Ministers
- Organising Justice of the Peace applications
- Recognising Community Achievements



Contact Mark

02 9686 3110 castlehill@parliament.nsw.gov.au
MarkHodges.com.au markhodgesmp MarkHodgesMP
Suite 1A, 19-21 Terminus St Castle Hill 2154

Authorised by Mark Hodges MP. Funded using parliamentary entitlements.

SCAN ME



Jane Seaglove
HORNSBY COUNCILLOR

Hello Residents,

Galston Village Public Domain plan

After such a successful start, it was disappointing that Transport NSW has tried to introduce changes to their previously approved scope of works for Galston Village. The Council team are working with State Transport representatives to ensure no further delays are encountered and that Mack Civil are able to continue in delivering this long-awaited project.

In the meantime, the library has been temporarily re-located to the Cali centre in the middle of the village. This is a highly accessible and more functional location.

Council's recent arrangement to manage directly the toilets in the Aldi complex will also help improve accessibility to public amenities.

Glenorie connectivity

Feasibility funding has been awarded for the investigation into an active transport corridor from Glenorie to Dural. This comes as we also wind up the final exhibition of the Glenorie Village Plan. I thank the community for their participation in every step of the planning process.

I look forward to seeing plans for the Cairns Rd Pocket Park progress. This park, accessed from Cairns Rd and Tecoma, is the next in line for an upgrade.

Connect Sydney

It has come to my attention that much of the maintenance of our State Rd infrastructure is to be carried out by an agency known as Connect Sydney. Maintenance is less likely to be scheduled now but instead, reactive based on the level of contact they have received.

So, I encourage everyone in the community that observes a pot hole, edge fatigue, overgrown roundabouts and medium strips, graffiti etc to use the contact details provided below. Remember that this applies to the length of Galston Rd, Mid Dural Rd and Old Northern Rd. Please report the any concerns using Ph 1800 735 563 or info.harbour@connectsydney.com.au

For these or any other issues please feel free to contact me on jseaglove@hornsby.nsw.gov.au



Dr Michelle Byrne
MAYOR OF THE HILLS SHIRE

Nominate A Local Champion for the 2027 Australia Day Awards

The Hills is home to many remarkable people and community groups who dedicate their time to making our Shire a better place. From volunteers and sporting leaders to community organisations, these individuals and groups help strengthen our community and make a lasting difference to the lives of others.

Nominations are now open for the 2027 Australia Day Awards, providing residents with an opportunity to recognise and celebrate people who have made an outstanding contribution to The Hills over the past year. The awards acknowledge the achievements and commitment of local residents and groups whose efforts have helped enrich our community.

Nominations are open in the following categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Environmental Citizen of the Year
- Sporting Citizen of the Year
- Community Group of the Year

To be eligible, nominees must be Australian citizens or permanent residents, reside within The Hills Shire Local Government Area and have made a positive contribution to the community over the past year.

I encourage all residents to take a moment to nominate someone who goes above and beyond for others. Recognising these local champions is an important way of celebrating the values that make The Hills such a connected community.

Finalists will be announced in the lead up to Australia Day 2027.

To submit a nomination, visit Council's website, www.thehills.nsw.gov.au, and search 'Australia Day Awards'.



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Clr Mitchell Blue
THE HILLS SHIRE COUNCIL

It's been more than six years since the Black Summer bush fires dominated the news. Since then, The Hills has changed a lot.

Suburbs like Box Hill, North Kellyville and Annangrove have grown rapidly, with thousands of new residents moving into areas surrounded by bushland. New roads, new estates and new schools might have changed the look of our communities, but one thing hasn't changed - the bush fire risk.

For many people who have moved to The Hills in recent years, this could be their first summer living in a bush fire prone area and for those that have lived in The Hills for a while, it would be some time since they have experienced a fire. That's why now is the time to start thinking about what you would do if a fire started nearby.

With El Niño conditions established, forecasts are pointing towards a hotter and drier summer. Large parts of NSW have already experienced below-average rainfall through autumn and winter, with some areas now in drought. If those conditions continue, fire activity may increase through spring and into the 2026-27 bush fire season.

The good news is that being prepared doesn't have to be complicated.

The Hills District RFS is hosting a series of Fire Preparedness Community Meetings across the district, giving residents the opportunity to hear directly from local firefighters about the risks in their area and the practical steps they can take to prepare.

These sessions will cover:

- What the 2026-27 fire season outlook means for local communities.
- Bush fire risks specific to The Hills landscape, including gullies and bushland reserves.
- Practical actions you can take around your home before summer.
- How to create or update a Bush Fire Survival Plan.
- Why leaving early is often the safest option.
- The chance to ask questions and speak directly with local RFS volunteers.

Upcoming Fire Ready Community Meetings

Kenthurst
29th October, 7pm
Kenthurst Public School

Hillside
4th November, 7pm
Hillside Public School

Glenhaven
12th November, 7pm
Glenhaven Community Centre

South Maroota
19th November, 7pm
South Maroota Hall

Wisemans Ferry
25th November, 7pm
Wisemans Ferry Bowling Club

While major bush fires may feel like a distant memory for some, the conditions that create them haven't disappeared. Understanding your risk, having a plan and making a few simple preparations now can make a significant difference when fire threatens.

The best time to prepare is before there's smoke on the horizon. These meetings are a chance to learn from local firefighters, understand the risks in your area and make sure you're ready for the season ahead.







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Ace Ohlsson	McGraths Hill	02 4571 6400
Glenorie Stockfeeds	Glenorie	02 9652 0291
Galston Mower Centre	Galston	0473 871 336
Chain's Mowers & Chainsaws	Dural	02 9627 9999
JW Farm & Garden Equipment	Tennyson	02 4576 5555

Trigger Plant



Frequently when out walking and looking for any wildflowers it is probable that the bushwalker may notice a small low growing plant with pink flowers on a stem protruding upwards from what appears to be a tuft of fairly thickly leafed grass.

More than likely this plant is one of the Trigger Plants, which are fairly common perennial herbs. There are two very similar varieties of this plant that grow in sandy soils in sheltered locations of open woodland forest.

One is simply known as Trigger Plant (Stylidium productum) which flowers from November to January.

The other is known as Grass-leaf Trigger Plant (Stylidium graminifolium) which generally flowers from September to December.

These two plants are very difficult to separately identify due to their similarity in growth habit and the colour and form of their flowers. Added to this is their overlapping flowering periods, which make a quick identification difficult.

To explain how the name "Trigger Plant" is derived requires some simple botanical terminology.

There is a small tube in the flower containing the style with two anthers that are usually bent backwards below the flower. An insect lands on the flower's



centre which activates the tube to flick up and strike the insect, thus depositing a layer of pollen on the insect. The insect will visit a neighbouring Trigger Plant and unsuspectingly deposit the pollen onto another flower.

The trigger mechanism usually resets after a short period ready for the next visiting insect.

GARDEN NEWS

Bromeliad Society of Australia – Black Bromeliads



The next meeting of the Bromeliad Society of Australia will be held in the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground, Castle Hill on Saturday, 14th November.

Sales to the public are from 10amwith the meeting commencing at 11.30am.

As a nod to the Halloween season, just past we are showcasing 'Black Bromeliads' at this meeting.

We are usually talking about how colourful our bromeliads can be, reds, pinks, yellows, bright green, dark green and even those with a bluish tinge, variegated, spotted striped, tall, squat, mini in size, from a few centimetres to gigantic plants over a metre and a half wide.

Though the leaves are not truly black they are very close. Why are they this dark? How do you keep them looking good? Where do you get them? All will be revealed by Ian Hook, President and Kerry McNicol, Vice President.

Black bromeliads look spectacular when planted in a garden bed full of colourful bromeliads.

Some examples are Aechmea 'Black Opal, Vriesea 'Black Hawaiian and Neoregelia Cultivars of various dark-red, deep purple, and near-black hybrid Neoregelias for example 'black satin may be available through our club members.

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

There is also an opportunity to meet like minded people in a friendly and inviting environment.

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

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ADVERTORIAL

Aussie Gets Ready for Fire Season

With warmer than average forecasts and winter rain producing increased fuel for bushfires, early preparation is vital. Professor David Bowman, a leading Australian Fire and Pyrogeography scientist, says, "People are still in a daze after winter and can't imagine, that fires could be unseasonal and early."



The smiles say it all... Aussie Team after the infield testing

Aussie Pumps recently took its high-performing fire pump trio — **Fire Chief, Imposter and Mr. T** into the field for a hands-on testing day, putting the machines through their paces and seeing what they could deliver in real-world conditions.

The field day provided a valuable opportunity to see the three pumps in action, assess their performance and prepare the complete production range for the demands of the coming fire season. Each pump had its moment to shine, demonstrating the capabilities that have made Aussie Pumps the trusted name in fire protection equipment. Our pumps are the only ones backed by unique 5-year warranty.

For Aussie Pumps, preparation is about more than simply getting products off the production line. It means ensuring the equipment is ready to perform when it matters most. The Fire Chief (75m head/450lpm), Imposter (90m head/350lpm) and Mr. T Twin (95m head/500lpm) all bring their own strengths to the range.

Aussie field day reflected the philosophy that has guided the company since the beginning: **"We design and build machines as if we're going to use them ourselves."**

For more details contact Aussie Pumps today at 02 8865 3500 or your local Aussie dealer.

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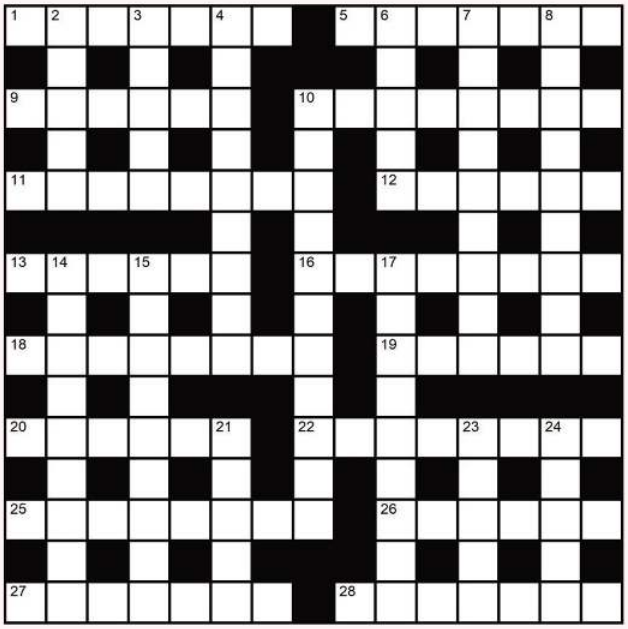
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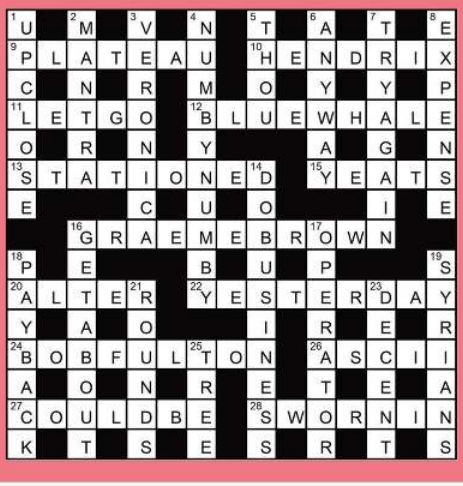
Across

01 Short prayer (7)
05 Bounded (7)
09 Underlying structure (6)
10 Football's "Captain Blood" of yesteryear (4,4)
11 Sole wetland in Central West Queensland (4,4)
12 Tallied (6)
13 Keynote (1,5)
16 Rhett's belle (8)
18 Software (8)
19 Last movement (6)
20 Designer McCartney (6)
22 Group of spectators (8)
25 Olive-green, black and white avian with a distinctive call (8)
26 Chamber music instruments (6)
27 Preparing for publication (7)
28 3-D artworks (7)

Down

02 Japanese port city (5)
03 Substantial (5)
04 Red-flowered leafless shrub (6,3)
06 Obtained on Route 66? (5)
07 Small brush wallaby (9)
08 Primitive (9)
10 Baird Bay, SA, pelican breeding site (5,6)
14 Out of the race (9)
15 Sydney electronic music band (9)
17 Sworn statement (9)
21 One of 4.5 billion or so (5)
23 Small German WW2 marine raider (1-4)
24 Pursue (5)

Answer from October Issue



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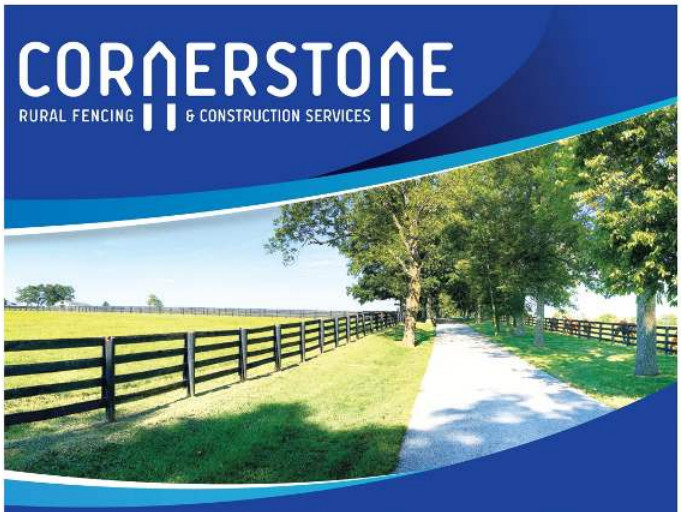
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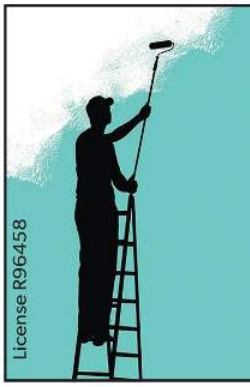
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