



FREE

Hills to Hawkesbury

10 000 COPIES/EDITION

Community News

16th – 30th December 2022 | Volume 39 – Issue 25
Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

A Million Lights FOR A CAUSE

FULL STORY ON PAGE 11

Alan Oxford's
PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL
Lic. 185820C

Your Total Trade Solution for Residential, Commercial & Industrial

Plumbing • Electrical • Hot Water
0415 20 33 88

HOME MAINTENANCE & CARPENTRY
No job too big or too small

Dominic
Licensed Builder
0423 844 586
FREE QUOTES

40 years experience

MATT'S SKIP BINS
02 4708 2927

www.mattsskipbins.com.au

BLIGH VETERINARY SERVICES CENTRE

BVSC
Bligh Veterinary Services Centre

(02) 4587 7177
693 George St, South Windsor

www.bvscsydney.com



POSITIVE EARTHMOVING

• Rock Walls Built • All types of Excavations

0418 26 16 76
mbpetith@hotmail.com Est. Over 40 years

WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS...
ARBORIST EST. 1956

MCARDLE
TREE SERVICES

0414 635 650

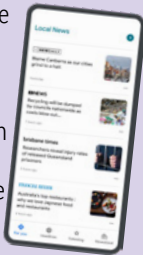
TREE REMOVAL | PRUNING
STUMP GRINDING | LAND CLEARING
MULCH SALES | FIREWOOD

INFO@MCARDLETREES.COM.AU

You can now read our stories on



If you like reading the latest news all in one place, well now you can. The Hills to Hawkesbury Community News is now featured on Google News. With the Google News app (or via a web browser) you can now read local, national and international news all in one place. Just search our name, then 'follow' us. Often we carry the same local stories as some of the larger outlets, but ours are free and not behind a paywall.



If you prefer other channels to read news, we are also now on Telegram. Search our channel "Hills to Hawkesbury Community News". The nice thing about Telegram is you see all our news in date order. Unlike Facebook who use an algorithm so THEY decide what you see in your news feed. You can also read our latest news on twitter.

Why Advertise with Hills to Hawkesbury

Having our news published on different platforms means we are consistently increasing our website traffic month on month. Last month 20,000 readers visited our website, So if you are thinking of advertising with us, this means your ads will be seen by up to 20,000 users per month. In September our website was shown in search results to 414,000 potential new readers, who clicked through to our website 6,380 times.

Performance on Search results

Search type: Web | Date: 1 Sept 2022-30 Sept 2022

Total clicks

6.38K

Total impressions

414K

New at School Kellyville By BEV JORDAN

A new school will be opening in Kellyville next year, starting with Kindergarten to Year 2, and is inspired by the principles of the Bahá'í Faith which teaches that every individual is a noble and spiritual being.

The principal at Esslemont College is Judy Navidi who has a 40-year career in education, spanning primary and secondary education, adult training and English as a second language. She has worked in both public and independent primary schools in Victoria and NSW as well as schools in The Kingdom of Tonga, Japan, and Tanzania.

She said she was looking forward to welcoming students in K-2 in February 2023 at the school at 13 President Road, Kellyville (the former M.E.T Independent School site).

"At Esslemont College we aim to empower each child to develop a desire for the attainment of knowledge, realise their inherent potential and make a positive impact on the world," she said. "Our whole child educational approach is focused on the cultivation of intellectual, physical, emotional, moral, spiritual, psychological and social attributes in each child."

A school spokesperson said a team of people had been working on the plans for the school since January 2021 "however the vision for a Baha'i inspired school in Sydney has been a long term goal "for those financially backing the school.

"Funding has come from a couple of individuals who are passionate about education and in particular to offer a holistic educational program, aimed at educating the child to fulfill their inherent potential in order for them to serve and contribute to the betterment of society," they said.

Chairman of the Esslemont College Board, Badi Mahabat said: "The founding values of



Knowledge, Volition and Action, which are the hallmark of Esslemont College, will make learning a journey that is intrinsically rewarding and provide the foundation for the students to achieve their full potential."

The college held a community open day recently and staff and board members were officially welcomed by Hills Shire Mayor Peter Gangemi.

"The Hills Shire is growing and there is a real need for additional educational resources in the area, particularly a primary school," he said. "It's fantastic to see Esslemont College opening in 2023 to students. It will be an important addition to the area's educational and cultural life, and also for the Bahá'í community."

The college website says the objective at Esslemont College is to provide an educational environment in which every individual is considered a noble and spiritual being, and where excellence in all things is aimed for.

"We will deliver a holistic educational program focused on the cultivation of intellectual, physical, emotional, moral, spiritual, psychological and social attributes in each child. We aim to inspire each child to fulfil their inherent potential and to contribute to the betterment of society."

"We are committed to the principle of diversity and seek to enroll students from a broad range of backgrounds, welcoming all children and their families from within the local area." For more details visit <https://esslemont.nsw.edu.au>

Hills to Hawkesbury
Community News | Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

Owner: Compton Media Group
Publisher: Diana Paton, Adelphi Printing Pty Ltd
ATF Paton Family Trust

www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au
Facebook @hillstohawkesbury



DIANA PATON
PUBLISHER

contribute@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au
0408 011 193



TANYA COOK
ADVERTISING

advertise@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au
0499 040 726



BEV JORDAN
SENIOR JOURNALIST

bev@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au
0439 034 187



IVOR JONES
CONTRIBUTOR

ivor.jones47@
optusnet.com.au



GISELA HORNER
EDITORIAL CO-ORDINATOR

contribute@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au

The Hills to Hawkesbury Community News has been serving this area for nearly 40 years. It's name may have changed over the decades but the commitment to providing a free service to the community is still at the heart of what this hyper local fortnightly publication does. Established in 1982 it has evolved into a community news magazine with a big digital footprint. Our aim is to inform, inspire and connect our community. It is a family-owned small business. Our team is local and love what they do.

Please follow us on Facebook @hillstohawkesbury. Printed copies are available at local shopping centres and other outlets. For a full list visit our website www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au.

HCF and Healthscope Issue By BEV JORDAN

Negotiations between private health fund HCF and Healthscope which runs both Norwest Private Hospital and The Hills Private Hospital have broken down meaning that patients with HCF will be charged higher fees at the hospitals from February 1st.

HCF has emailed its members outlining the situation with Healthscope and saying if patients have any concerns or need to make alternate hospital arrangements to email HCF at HealthscopeEnquiries@hcf.com.au or call 1800 565 919. An HCF Group spokesman told *the Hills to Hawkesbury News*: "We're disappointed Healthscope chose to terminate our longstanding agreement, but we are still in negotiations."

"We're committed to keeping members informed of the changes, and will also be updating our website (hcf.com.au/healthscope-hospitals) with information as it becomes available. We ask that members please stand by us, we hope to have alternative arrangements in place before the end of the transition timeline."

In its statement to clients HCF said: "Members shouldn't experience any disruption or unexpected out-of-pocket costs if admitted to a Healthscope facility before 31st January 2023. Members will be covered further until 31st July 2023 for certain treatment they have commenced or booked before 31st January 2023 (and longer for pregnancy)."

"Our guiding principle of putting health before profit means we remain focused on

building long-term partnerships that deliver meaningful benefits for our members. This includes providing access to innovative models of care and alternate treatments at home, as well as securing purchasing arrangements to help keep the cost of health services and premiums affordable and deliver more value for our members."

A statement from Healthscope posted on the Norwest Private Hospital site called it a "disappointing outcome, and certainly not our preferred option."

The provider hit back at HCF saying: "Unfortunately, HCF were not prepared to fund the cost of providing private hospital care for their members, meaning HCF members will be required to make up the funding gap. The cost of providing quality hospital care continues to rise quickly, and is impacting both public and private hospitals, especially in the wake of the COVID pandemic."

"We have been challenged by health insurers not adequately funding the real and rising costs of our private hospital services, including rising interest rates, food, energy and power, insurance, nurse wages, PPE, maintenance and cleaning costs. These

cost pressures have been well documented throughout the pandemic, and are now being exacerbated by the highest levels of inflation seen in decades.

"We will continue to negotiate with HCF in the hope of reaching a fair agreement that removes the need for their members to pay additional out-of-pocket costs."

Healthscope says maternity patients who have pre-booked their hospital admission before 31 January 2023 will face no additional out of pocket charges if they are admitted before 1 November 2023.

HCF Members have been told that If they undergo treatment at a Healthscope hospital that starts between now and 31 January 2023, they will be covered (other than any excess that applies to their cover and other small permitted gaps). They can also attend ER at Norwest Private until 30th of April and pay normal gaps in cover. After that day the fees will be determined by Healthscope.

Healthscope says it has agreements in place with all other major Australian health insurers.

Lakeside Private Hospital at Norwest is unaffected as it still has a contract with HCF as does Hawkesbury Hospital at Windsor.

Riverside GARDENS

RETIRE IN STYLE TO NORTH RICHMOND

If you are over 55 and looking to relocate to the semi rural area of the Hawkesbury why not consider us? We are a small retirement village offering security, companionship, comfort and independent living. If you live alone and worry about safety and security come and see us.

- Secure gated property
- Security cameras
- Vital Call in every home
- Affordable costs
- Spacious community centre
- 8km from Hawkesbury Hospital
- Walk to shops, health professionals and bus stop
- Nearby scenic walks along the Hawkesbury River foreshore
- Pet friendly

THE VILLAGE CONSISTS OF 48 X 2 AND 3 BEDROOM VILLAS AND 6 X 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS

ENQUIRIES REGARDING RESALES ALWAYS WELCOME





Please Phone Patricia for an appointment to inspect

PHONE PATRICIA 0447 334 615 or 4571 4545

Email: pcampbell2@mac.com

34 Beaumont Avenue North Richmond 2754 (opposite Panthers North Richmond)

www.riverside-gardens.com.au

STUDENT KILLED

Detectives are investigating whether a 90-year-old woman driver suffered a medical episode during a crash in Carlingford on Thursday, 1st December after her car mounted the kerb, killing a teenage boy.

Calvin Wijeweera, 17, a Year 12 student from Carlingford High School was walking on a pathway near Carlingford Court with two friends when the incident occurred. They had just completed their HSC exams.

Police said the woman's car crashed into a van that was parked at a residence near the path, pinning the teenager under the vehicle.

He was treated at the scene but could not be revived. One of his friends who was injured was taken to The Children's Hospital at Westmead. The third student was not hurt.

Flowers have been left at Rembrandt Street where the incident happened.

DROWNING DEATH

The body of a teenage boy who disappeared whilst swimming in the Hawkesbury River at Windsor was recovered on Wednesday (14th December), just over four hours after he disappeared following an extensive search.

Officers attached to the Hawkesbury Police Area Command were called at noon following the disappearance of the 16-year-old.

A search of the river commenced, with assistance from specialist police including PolAir, police divers, as well as NSW SES, and the Toll NSW Ambulance Aeromedical service. His body was located at around 4.20pm.

The death is not being treated as suspicious. A report is being prepared for the Coroner.

There have been several drownings in the Hawkesbury River including a 16-year-old boy who died the day after being pulled from the water at the Hawkesbury River in January 2021 near Sackville and a 51-year-old man drowned while swimming in the river near Windsor in December 2020.

DRUG CHARGES

Three men arrested driving through Kellyville have been charged as part of an investigation into the supply of prohibited drugs across Western Sydney.

Police allege the men had over \$2m-worth of cocaine in the vehicle when it was stopped in Free Settlers Drive on Wednesday (14th December).

Strike Force Stickers was set up six months ago to investigate the ongoing supply of cocaine and other prohibited drugs.

Investigators from Penrith Region Enforcement Squad, with assistance from North West Metropolitan Region Operations Support Group, stopped the vehicle at about 1.50pm on Wednesday 14th December following extensive inquiries.

The three male occupants – aged 31 and two aged 29 – were arrested. Police searched the vehicle and located a cooler bag containing blocks of cocaine, with a total weight of 9.2kg, and an estimated potential street value of \$2.3 million dollars. The men were taken to Castle Hill and Riverstone Police Stations.

Later that day, search warrants were executed at homes in Shalvey, Rooty Hill and Blaxett. Police seized electronic devices, cash, vehicle keys, luxury goods and other items relevant to the investigation.

A 29-year-old Rooty Hill man was charged with supply prohibited drug (large commercial quantity), and knowingly direct activities of criminal group.

The 31-year-old Blaxett man was charged with supply prohibited drug (large commercial quantity), and participate criminal group contribute criminal activity.

The 29-year-old Willmot man was charged with take part supply prohibited drug (large commercial quantity), and participate criminal group contribute criminal activity.

Investigations under Strike Force Stickers continue.

Anyone with information that may assist Strike Force Stickers investigators is urged to contact Crime Stoppers: 1800 333 000 or <https://nsw.crimestoppers.com.au>. Information is treated in strict confidence.

TRAFFIC NIGHTMARES

There have been several drink driving and speeding arrests made by Officers from The Hills Highway Patrol.

- A 17-year-old female P1 licence holder from The Ponds was stopped at about 7.20pm on Sunday the 11th of December near Gilbert Road, Castle Hill. Police say they observed a silver Kia Cerato travelling along Applecross Drive and watched two rear passengers seated on the rear door window with half their bodies out filming each other. The two rear passengers were 14 years of age. Only 20 minutes prior to being stopped, the driver was recorded travelling at 93 km/hr on Tuckwell Road Castle Hill which is sign posted 50km/hr. The driver was issued an infringement notice for P1 Driver Exceed Speed Limit – Over 30kph and 2 x Drive with Passenger 7 years or older by less than 16 years old not restrained as prescribed. Her NSW driver's licence was confiscated and suspended on the spot for a period of 3 months.
- A P2 licence holder was recorded travelling at 174kph on the M2 at Baulkham Hills about 7.30am on Sunday, 11th December. The male driver of the Ford Territory Doonside had four passengers in the car. He failed a roadside breath test and was arrested and conveyed to Castle Hill Police Station where he returned a reading 0.064. He was issued an infringement notice for Drive with Low Range PCA, Exceed Speed Limit - over 45 kph and Not Display P Plates. His NSW driver's licence was confiscated and suspended on the spot for 6 months. The number plates were seized and confiscated for 3 months.
- A 52-year-old woman was allegedly four times over the legal limit when she was stopped for a random breath test on Mile End Rd Rouse Hill just after 10am on Wednesday, 7th of December. She was arrested and taken to Castle Hill Police Station where she returned a Breath Analysis of 0.202. Her licence was immediately suspended and she was issued with a Court Attendance Notice.
- A 34-year-old woman from Glenorie has been charged with High Range drink driving after being stopped for a random breath test at about 12.10pm on Monday 5th of December at Cattai Ridge Road, Glenorie. She was arrested and conveyed to Castle Hill Police Station where she returned a reading of 0.178. Her drivers' licence was immediately confiscated and suspended. She is due before Hornsby Local Court in January 2023 for Drive with High Range PCA – 2nd Offence.
- A P1 licence holder from North Rocks had their licence suspended after being caught travelling 60 km/hr over the sign posted speed limit and including other offences totalling 15 demerits points. The driver was detected at about 2.30pm on Sunday, 4th December in a silver Holden Commodore on Windsor Rd Baulkham Hills travelling at 120 km/hr in a sign posted 60 km/hr zone. He was issued an infringement notice for Exceed Speed Limit - over 45 kph (6), Not comply P1/P2 high performance vehicle restriction (7) and Not Display P Plates (2). His NSW driver's licence was confiscated and suspended on the spot for a period of 6 months.
- The driver of a red Maserati was fined for travelling 57 km/hr over the sign posted speed limit of 100 km/hr on the M2 Motorway at Baulkham Hills at about 8pm on Saturday 3rd December. The Kellyville man was issued an infringement notice for Exceed Speed Limit - over 45 kph, his NSW driver's licence was confiscated and suspended on the spot for a period of 6 months. The number plates of the vehicle were seized and confiscated for 3 months.



IN A LIFE THREATENING
EMERGENCY DIAL 000

Memorial to Bryson Anderson



Family, friends, dignitaries and police officers gathered at Windsor Police Station last week to honour the 10-year anniversary of Detective Inspector Bryson Anderson's death, and to unveil the Bryson Anderson Police Memorial.

The respected senior police officer was fatally wounded while responding to a neighbourhood dispute at Oakville on Thursday 6th December 2012 at a property on Scheyville Road.

During the course of the police operation he suffered serious stab wounds and, despite efforts of his colleagues and emergency services, he later died at Hawkesbury District Hospital.

His wife, Donna, and three children, Cain (now a probationary constable) Darcy and Olivia, attended the dedication of the memorial with Bryson's mother Shirely and his brothers.

The memorial includes three sandstone pillars, each with the words inscribed 'Courage', 'Pride' and 'Integrity'. Names of officers who were members of the NSW Colonial Police Force (pre-1862) and those members of the NSW Police Force (1862 and onwards) who passed away while serving the Hawkesbury community will also be inscribed on the pillars.

Donna Anderson, Detective Inspector Bryson's Anderson's wife, said she was moved by the immense community support and that of his colleagues.

"To stand here 10 years on and to see the memory of Bryson honoured in such huge numbers is truly overwhelming and indicates just how truly respected Bryson was," she said.

"Bryson's murder has received significant attention on a level that was hugely overwhelming to my family and me; however, it was extremely comforting to know that we had the support and love of our family, friends, the community and the NSW Police Force.

"Our blue (police) family are ordinary people doing an extraordinary job in order to make our community a better and safer place."

Hawkesbury Police Area Command Superintendent Andrew Garner said the loss of Bryson was immeasurable. He said officers there at the time said: "There was an immense sense of loss, confusion, disbelief and devastation."

NSW Police Commissioner, Karen Webb gave an emotional address saying that the Bryson Anderson Police Memorial would ensure the legacy of distinguished fallen officers would carry through for generations to come and never be forgotten.



She said Bryson was a brilliant police officer who was also a retained firefighter and junior soccer coach, "a true hero".

"One of the toughest challenges for police is starting work each day not knowing what will happen yet understanding they may have to risk their own life to save another," she said.

"It is with great pride I dedicate this memorial and honour Detective Inspector Bryson Anderson, and those officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty, whose names are inscribed, remembering their selfless sacrifice and courage. They will not be forgotten."

The unveiling came just days before the shooting of Queensland Constables Rachel McCrow and Matthew Arnold in the course of a routine inquiry.



Trevor Leslie
Real Estate

GOLD CLASS

WHY LIST & SELL WITH US!!

- World Class Service
- Complex Record Sales
- Residential Sales
- Sales Hills to Hawkesbury
- Auctions, Exceeding Expectations

Considering selling?

Call Trevor Leslie
9686-7999
0427-230-556

realestate@trevorleslie.com.au
www.trevorleslie.com.au

Axed Horse Course By VIRAG TOTH

The local equine industry is still fuming after TAFE Richmond shut down its Equine Unit and all of its corresponding courses at the start of the year, blaming funding cuts. The drastic move saw 12 TAFE staff lose their jobs.

Former head teacher of the TAFE Richmond Equine Unit Karlie Triffitt said that the Richmond campus was one of only two facilities in the country that ran courses on trackwork and taught students on horseback.

"We had a program called Thoroughbred Industry Careers which produced about 100 students who went on to be successfully employed in racing. There are so many young people who aren't fortunate enough to grow up around horses, and we provided a way for them to work in the horse industry."

She said staff were so dismayed by TAFE's decision that they offered to step down to part-time roles. "We even spoke with Robyn Preston, the MP for Hawkesbury, to try and generate support and understanding. We were just trying to do the right thing by the TAFE and the industry, and we were treated like criminals."

"The government just wants to cut costs wherever and run it like a business, which it's not, it's an educational facility. TAFE didn't listen, no-one listened, they just tied our hands and legs together and said swim," she said.

Lindy Maurice, founder of the not-for-profit program Thoroughbred Industry Careers, which was run through Richmond TAFE, described the process of lobbying and the ultimate closure as "deflating and stressful".

"The whole closure was all smoke and mirrors, it was like a vendetta against us. I established the program because I saw there was a gap in our industry to educate people properly, so I made it a mission of mine to try and help. All I can say is it's devastating. Our programs were really just gaining momentum and credibility. All our students were very well-educated, well-rounded people, and they were out in the industry flying the flag and growing our reputation," she said.

Annangrove resident Corinna Huskinson slammed the decision as "ridiculous".

"Our farriers used to have at least one or two apprentices, but for the last six months, if not longer, they have been turning up by themselves and have found it incredibly hard to find apprentices. Between Richmond, the Hills and the Hawkesbury, every other property has a horse. It's crazy to be shutting down equine

courses in such a horse-dominated area," she said.

A TAFE NSW spokeswoman said TAFE's "training portfolio is aligned with emerging skills needs and changing labour market conditions".

"This means, TAFE NSW regularly reviews the courses it offers. As a result, in Western Sydney resources have been directed into peri-urban agriculture, animal sciences, childcare, aged care, disability support, and traditional trades."

"Almost 12 months ago, TAFE NSW ceased delivery of equine courses at Richmond following several years of declining enrolments. We will continue to review our local and state-wide course profile, to ensure our delivery prioritises the skills needs of local communities and industry. The equine industry in Western Sydney is serviced by a number of private training providers that teach the necessary skills required to work with horses," the spokeswoman said.

She said that since 2021, the NSW Government had invested more than \$1.9 million at Richmond in classroom technology and new teaching equipment, including a new veterinary clinic and agricultural livestock facilities.

EAR STUDIO

Passion for Hearing™

Our last clinic day for 2022 is Friday 23rd December
and we reopen on Wednesday 4th January 2023



We are located inside Lawton House

Suite 9-10 / 60 Cecil Ave, Castle Hill NSW 2154

Contact us on 02 9159 6122 or book online at www.earstudio.com.au

Top Place Developer

NSW Fair Trading has revoked the licence of Toplace, while the developer behind it, Jean Nassif, has had his building licence revoked for 10 years.

The disciplinary action comes after an investigation into Toplace's Atmosphere and Skyview developments at 299-309 Old Northern Road and 51-53 Old Castle Hill Road, both in Castle Hill.

Toplace has over 1,000 apartments under construction across Sydney and 24 projects in its development pipeline including: Box Hill City Centre; Hyda, Phoenix and Vela in Castle Hill; Grand in Kellyville and Watkins Street Town Homes in Baulkham Hills.

A NSW Fair Trading spokesperson said:

On 1st December 2022, NSW Fair Trading made a disciplinary decision regarding Toplace Pty Ltd. The disciplinary decision, due to take effect on 15 December 2022, cancels Toplace's contractor licence and permanently disqualifies Toplace from being the holder of any authority under the Home Building Act 1989 (NSW).

On 2 December 2022, NSW Fair Trading made a disciplinary decision regarding Mr Jean Nassif, the sole director and secretary of Toplace. The disciplinary decision, due to take effect on 16 December 2022, cancels Mr Nassif's supervisor certificate and disqualifies Mr Nassif for 10 years from being the holder of any authority under the Home Building Act 1989 (NSW).

This disciplinary action was taken following a NSW Fair Trading investigation of building work at the following developments: 299-309 Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, 15 and 18 Charles Street, Canterbury, and 51-53 Old Castle Hill Road, Castle Hill.

Fair Trading Minister Victor Dominello was quoted on Channel 9 as saying: "This is a double hammer blow, firstly it's a hammer blow against Mr Nassif but it also sends a warning signal to all developers who do



the wrong thing that we have a building commissioner with strong powers that will come after you."

A statement from a Toplace spokesperson posted on the NINE website said:

Toplace will challenge the notices issued by NSW Fair Trading in court.

"We have always stood by our projects and where defects occur we will fix them like all other major developers. We remain committed to supporting our customers."

Box Hill City Centre is being built at the corner of Terry Rd and Mason Rd Box Hill.





PATIENTS FIRST

At Lakeview Private Hospital, we have a contract with every Australian health fund, including the four major funds- **BUPA, HCF, NIB and Medibank.**

No matter who you have cover with, you can rest assured that you and your family are covered at Lakeview.*

17-19 SOLENT CIRCUIT
NORWEST NSW 2153
P: 02 8624 5000
www.lakeviewprivate.com.au






*Depending on your individual health fund coverage

Dural Country Club Rescue

By ANNETTE MADJARIAN

Dural Country Club is set to be rescued by Parramatta Leagues Club in a multi-million-dollar deal to effectively save the club from going under.

Parramatta Leagues Club will inject \$5 million into reviving Dural Country Club, as well as pay off its debts, which are believed to be some \$3 million.

In a detailed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Parramatta Leagues Club has guaranteed spending at least \$5 million within the first three years of the amalgamation, which will go towards upgrading, refurbishing and renovating Dural Country Club's premises and facilities. This includes upgrading the clubhouse itself, the bowling greens and also the bocce courts.

Within the first 12 months, Parramatta's plan includes renovating the main bar; installing new gaming machines; putting in facial recognition technology; and repairing parts of the building.

It also has visions to build a new alfresco area and kids play area; upgrade the existing function rooms; upgrade food and beverage facilities (kitchen); install outdoor lighting for bowls; upgrade the facilities for bocce; install an EV car charger and solar panels; and upgrade the audio/visual technology throughout the premises.

As part of the Amalgamation, Dural Country Club would be wound up. The MOU states the

core property would not be "disposed of" for 10 years. According to the MOU, Parramatta intends to conduct a strategic analysis of the club's 58 existing gaming machines and depending on the outcome, would "either increase or decrease the number of gaming machines at the Dural Premises". It's believed Dural Country Club has been struggling financially for some time, with Covid placing extra pressure. Membership has been dwindling and the club cut its operating hours. Dural Country Club President John Puleo said the amalgamation would give the Board, members, and the club security and a future.

"We had difficulty with Covid lockdowns and we were not able to recover from that unfortunately. Also, we've had competition with newer hotels that have opened up around us, so that's not been easy either," he said.

"We see this as an ideal fit. Parramatta Leagues is very comparable to us, very sports orientated. They will continue to support the sub-clubs like the bocce, which is really important."

As part of the MOU, Parramatta Leagues plans to spend \$150,000 annually towards marketing and activities to increase brand awareness, and to grow membership. The two



bowling greens and bocce courts will remain for at least the first 10 years after amalgamation.

Parramatta Leagues said that prior to completing the amalgamation, it will make offers of employment to all of Dural's employees.

Parramatta Leagues Club CEO Chris Dimou said he saw the amalgamation "as a great outcome for members of both organisations".

"The PLC Group has a strong connection to the Hills District, including the thousands of PLC and Eels Members who live in the area. It is home to our future \$60 million Centre of Excellence & Community Centre at Kellyville and we currently provide significant grants to local sporting and community clubs within the area."

Advertise on the Market Place Built for Granny Flat Owners

Prospect tenants awaiting your listing now.

Check us out at grannyflatrental.com.au

Agents are welcome to advertise for their landlords.



GrannyFlat Rental

Enquiries service@grannyflatrental.com

Follow us on Instagram & Facebook @grannyflatrental for granny flat ideas

THE NEW PROPERTY ADVERTISING PORTAL JUST FOR GRANNY FLATS!

GrannyFlat Rental is an advertising portal for property owners to upload their granny flats, studios, tiny houses, duplexes or unique secondary dwellings to a market place specifically searching for these properties. Property managers and Best Practice Realty Agencies also have the potential to list any secondary dwellings they manage on GrannyFlat Rental, giving our users as many options as possible to find the next home ideal for them.

Built by a local for locals, we are aiming to build a community that respects social responsibility, and our latest action towards this mission is our new Reduced Rent for Service feature. Property owners can choose to advertise their secondary dwelling with an option for reduced rent if the tenant can accept responsibility for a required service, like lawn and garden maintenance or walking the dogs of the main residence.

We hope the people in our community find the property that will suit their needs easily and help with support around how to apply, and how to be the best tenant that agencies and owners love.

The long term goal is to enable ease of finding the right, reliable home for the right reliable tenant.

Go to grannyflatrental.com.au to list your property or find a granny flat rental!

The Cabana Granny Flat, Tweed Coast NSW, on the GrannyFlat Rental Blogging Trip



Windsor Landmarks 200 Years On

By BEV JORDAN

This Sunday (December 18th) the bells at St Matthew's Anglican Church Windsor will ring out 200 times at 10.30am to mark the bicentennial of its Consecration by Rev Samuel Marsden.

Both St Matthew's and the historic Windsor Court House were designed by former convict Francis Greenway and are still operating as they were intended, 200 years on.

Attorney General Mark Speakman described the 200-year commemoration of Windsor Court as a milestone event.

"This building has stood in the centre of the Windsor township for 200 years, as the focal point for the administration of justice in the Hawkesbury valley," he said.

"When this building first opened in 1822, convicts were still being transported to Australia and Governor Lachlan Macquarie had not long returned to Scotland."

He said the Government was committed to ensuring the courthouse remained fit for purpose and retained its historic character.

Member for Hawkesbury Robyn Preston said the courthouse has been upgraded over the years to meet modern justice needs.

"Most recently, the NSW Government has completed upgrades to the existing safe room and remote witness room to help empower domestic and sexual violence survivors and vulnerable witnesses to give their best evidence in court. Additional restoration and landscaping works to preserve the building's unique heritage have also been carried out over the past month," Ms Preston said.

Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon said it had been a historic week for the area with the 200th milestones for both St Matthew's Anglican Church Windsor and the Windsor Courthouse.

"It is not widely known that the Hawkesbury was actually the third colonial settlement of Australia, after Sydney Cove and then Parramatta, in 1794 (although discovered earlier).

That is why we have centuries old buildings, steeped in history and local significance," she said on social media.

"There are not many other places in Australia that have what we have - and as its current custodians, it is our duty to honour, commemorate and to share, so that future generations may be lucky enough to celebrate their 300th and 400th anniversaries."

Windsor Court House was commissioned by Governor Macquarie, designed by Francis Greenway, and built by William Cox, using convict labour.

William Cox was also responsible for construction of the road from Sydney to Bathurst and St Matthew's Anglican Church in Windsor.

Francis Greenway had the first building started on the site of St Matthew's torn down part way through construction because he said the work was of inferior quality. He sacked the original builder Henry Kitchen and the rejected bricks were used to build a wall next to the Macquarie Arms hotel in Windsor.

Greenway designed a totally new structure for St Matthew's and oversaw the stonemasons and construction workers.

St Matthews Church Windsor 1905. Image: Royal Australian Historical Society.



Windsor Court House Commemoration: Hawkesbury Deputy Mayor Barry Calvert, Mayor Sarah McMahon, Hawkesbury MP Robyn Preston and Carol Edds President of the Hawkesbury Branch National Trust.

**WEBSITE DESIGN +
SEO - SEARCH ENGINE
OPTIMISATION & ONLINE MARKETING**

SO MANY WEBSITES HAVE VIRTUALLY NO SEO, AND THEREFORE DON'T RANK ON GOOGLE SEARCH RESULTS. THIS IS OUR SPECIALTY.

**AFFORDABLE RATES
GREAT RESULTS**

REFERENCES AVAILABLE FROM OTHER LOCAL BUSINESSES

CALL US 0408 011 193

EMAIL: INFO@KINTYE.COM.AU

WE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE ON WHATS APP, MESSENGER OR TELEGRAM

www.kintye.com.au

READER SURVEY

COMPLETE THE READER SURVEY TO GO INTO THE DRAW TO

WIN A \$100 VOUCHER

to SPEND at the Richmond Inn (90 March St Richmond)*

5 VOUCHERS TO BE WON!

Please scan this QR code with your phone camera and complete the questionnaire.

Or go to this link <https://forms.gle/GP6ww97ZifZ5t1Yg7>

* Full Terms and Conditions for draw available on our website at www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au/draw-to-win

Kids Play Santa

By BEV JORDAN

Hundreds of Christmas cards are currently being delivered to aged care homes as part of the Be Santa to a Senior program run by Home Instead Hornsby Hills office.

Co-ordinator Cathy King (pictured) said she had been so impressed with the colouring in skills of the primary school children involved and the lovely messages they had written.

She has received 500 handwritten Christmas Cards from students at St. Michael's Primary School in Baulkham Hills and Barnier Public School in Quakers Hill and 110 have already been delivered.

She said the reaction from residents had been very touching.

"During COVID Lockdowns, a lot of seniors had no contact from family and friends, so we thought we would like to help brighten up their Christmas with a personalized message from a Primary school student from the participating," she said.

"Residents told us they had never had anything like this before. It was a really beautiful day (delivery day)."

Residents from Woodlands Retirement Village at Cherrybrook are due for a delivery in a few days time.

Cathy, who is Triage Care Coordinator at Home Instead Hornsby Hills Office which covers the Hawkesbury area as well said that the feedback from both the schools and the aged care centres had been so positive that they intended to expand the program next year.

"They all want to do it again next year."

She said any schools or aged care centres wanting to be part of the program for 2023 should email her at carecoordinator4@hiscsyduns.com.au



Cathy King from Home Instead with some of the cards coloured in and written by students at St Michael's Primary School at Baulkham Hills



SISTERS HELP OUT

By BEV RICHARDSON

Members of Soroptimist International of The Hills (active in the Hills area for over 40 years) have always supported local organisations that help women experiencing domestic violence as part of our advocacy mission.

Speakers from the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network and Hills Community Aid were invited to our November meeting, held during the "16 Days of Activism" Campaign, giving us insight into the practical ways support is provided to women in need, whilst at the same time advocating for recognition and change.

As a practical way of contributing members put together a number of gift bags for women and children supported by Hills Community Aid and were able to deliver them on the day a Christmas lunch was held.

The Hills SI members meet monthly at a local venue. Anyone interested in learning more about the group should call Jan on 0439 417 576 or email sithehills@gmail.com.

You can also check out the Soroptimist International The Hills Facebook page to find out more <https://www.facebook.com/sithehills>.

What will you look forward to?

Take the first step to great retirement living.

Many people who make the move to an Aveo retirement community speak of the feeling of belonging. Looking forward to trying new activities and making new friends. Finding a place that truly is home.

At Aveo, we're here to help you make the decision that's right for you – one with a little relief, less worries and a whole lot more looking forward to life.

"I love the feeling of being able to do whatever I want, whenever I want."

- **Wilhelmina**, Resident

Aveo Bella Vista
Final Apartments
Now Selling



Unit 1
2 bed
2 bath
1 car
\$699,000*

Aveo Bella Vista is located at 28 Norbrik Dr, Bella Vista

To book an appointment call **13 28 36** or visit aveo.com.au/bella-vista

*Prices provided are the listed property prices and are current as at 8/12/2022. The entry payment & any other amounts payable if you move in depend on any available contract option you select. You will have to pay a departure fee when you leave this village. Services and facilities are current as at 8/12/2022. Furnishings are for illustrative purposes only and are not included in the home.





Lighting Up Christmas for a Cause

Opera singer Viktoria Bolonina (pictured) thrilled residents in Grasmere Ave Northmead when she sang at the official launch of the Christmas lights at the Catajar family home.

The mezzo-soprano with Australian Opera who is currently undergoing her own cancer journey is the ambassador for the Kids With Cancer Foundation and this year Andy Catajar is fundraising for the charity with his illuminated home.

Viiktoria has been diagnosed with stage four brain cancer. A tumour the size of an orange was removed from her brain earlier this year and found to be malignant.

The mother of toddler Milana, reached out to the Kids With Cancer charity to ask how she could help saying she knew as an adult what having treatment was like and she wanted to help children facing a cancer diagnosis.

Tonight (Friday December 16th) she will again be on stage as part of the Christmas at the Domain carols concert. She has performed several times at the annual event since being a finalist on Season 1 of The Voice in 2012.

For Andy Catajar and his wife Carmen having their home covered in over a million lights is quite normal. The happy grandfather starts work on the decorating his home months

in advance and has been a feature in the street for over 25 years. The family always raises money for children's charities and this year his light display will be raising money for the Kids with Cancer Foundation.

The display will set the street and suburb aglow every evening until 31st December but the biggest night is set to be Christmas Eve when there will be a barbecue with volunteers from Kids with Cancer Foundation and Christmas carols at a giant street party in Grasmere opposite the Catajar home.

It will be a well lit community barbecue. The 82-year-old said: "I have been creating my Christmas light display for more than two decades now, using it to shine a light for sick children.

"Kids with Cancer Foundation is a locally-based charity which does a lot of great work in my area, throughout Sydney and nationally and I am honoured to partner with them to raise awareness and funds to help kids with cancer."

The Castle Hill-based foundation has helped over 2,450 families, funded 186 clinical

positions and donated \$23 million to children's hospitals across Australia.

A spokesman for the charity said: "Near 800 children are diagnosed with cancer every year, and the team at Kids with Cancer Foundation, together with their supporters – such as Andy - are committed to making today easier and brighter for these children and families.

"Donations for Kids with Cancer Foundation will be welcomed at Andy Catajar's Christmas Light Up, via both a donation bucket plus QR code online donations, and Andy is also selling raffle tickets with fabulous prizes to help raise funds."

For more information about the work of Kids with Cancer Foundation visit www.kidswithcancer.org.au

The Didsbury family at Beacon Ave on the Corner of Greenbank Drive Glenhave are raising money for the Cancer Council. Their lights will be on until the New Year.

For more lights to see visit Out and About on page 14.

BOOKS! BOOKS! BOOKS!

Nina's PRELOVED BOOKS

4-83 George Street, South Windsor
(In the arcade)
Ph: 0404 169 855

Hills to Hawkesbury

TO ADVERTISE HERE
CALL

0499 040 726

Banksia Yarns

www.banksiayarns.com.au

3c East Market St, Richmond NSW

Open Mon-Fri 9:30am – 5pm,
Sat 9:30am – 1pm, Closed Sun and Pub Hol.

T: 02 4505 1615
E: shoponline@banksiayarns.com.au



Australia Day Returns to The Farm!

Fireworks, fun and a fantastic line-up of entertainment are in store when Australia Day celebrations return to Bella Vista Farm!

One of the great voices of Australian music, Kate Ceberano, will be headlining on the main stage with legendary songs from her 28 albums - her latest offering, 'Sweet Inspiration' hit number 5 on the ARIA album charts.

Classic covers band Jellybean Jam will deliver hits of yesteryear and current chart busters with a taste of disco, retro, funk, rock and pop and dance music.

The incredible Dauntless Movement Crew will dazzle crowds with jaw-dropping acrobatics, fire breathing and parkour. There is also fun for the whole family, with Bluey and her little sister Bingo making a special appearance!

Get ready to play Magic Asparagus, Magic Xylophone, Keepy Uppy and more. Throughout the day, loads of fun activities will keep everyone engaged with entertainment on the local stage, yard games, SES display, sand pits and amusement rides.

Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Peter Gangemi said the upcoming celebration had something for everyone to enjoy.

"Australia Day at the historic Bella Vista Farm is a much-loved, iconic event in The Hills calendar," Mayor Gangemi said. "Whether you enjoy excellent entertainment, spending time with friends and family in the great outdoors or connecting with your community, I encourage everyone to join me at Bella Vista Farm this Australia Day and celebrate what's great about our nation, and our region."

Entry is free and parking is available onsite. Attendees can bring a picnic or purchase food at the event. Find out more on Council's website www.thehills.nsw.gov.au or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

WIN ONE OF THREE

Traditional

CHRISTMAS HAMS EVERY DAY!*



Simply spend \$10 or more in any specialty store OR \$50 or more at Woolworths, Coles or ALDI at Grove Square The Hills to enter

Thursday 15 to Wednesday 21 December

Write your contact details on the back of a valid receipt and pop it into the barrel located at the Information Desk

Ham supplied by



*Terms and conditions apply. Prize is a selected ham and cannot be substituted or redeemed for cash. First three entries drawn meeting the terms and conditions will be deemed the winner. You can enter as many times as you like, but you can only win once during the competition. Visit grovesquare.com.au for details.

[f GroveSquareTheHills](https://www.facebook.com/GroveSquareTheHills) [@grovesquarethehills](https://www.instagram.com/grovesquarethehills) grovesquare.com.au

375-383 Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills

Proudly owned by





Summer Reading

December marks the start of summer and the start of The Hills Shire Library Service's Summer Reading Adventure - a great way for kids to continue reading in the summer break.

The annual program for children aged 5 to 14 years, encourages reading as a lifelong habit and also aims to boost their literacy skills through the books that they read.

"This program will motivate children to continue reading throughout the summer break, which is very important as they move to the next grade at school," Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Peter Gangemi said.

"Being able to read is extremely important for concentration, memory, vocabulary and self-confidence. It also strengthens their analytical skills and teaches them more about the world around them.

"I encourage all children from The Hills Shire to join the Summer Reading Adventure," Mayor Gangemi added.

Participants will receive a booklet, filled with fun activities and challenges, which children can complete at their leisure. Once the booklet is complete, participants will receive a special reward and a certificate.

The program is open to all children of all reading abilities, and those who meet the age requirements and are members of the library. To become a member of The Hills Shire Library Service, simply visit your local library branch - Dural, Castle Hill, Baulkham Hills and Vinegar Hill - and sign up for FREE.

The Summer Reading Adventure will run until January 31. For further details, visit The Hills Shire Council website, www.thehills.nsw.gov.au, and search for "Library".

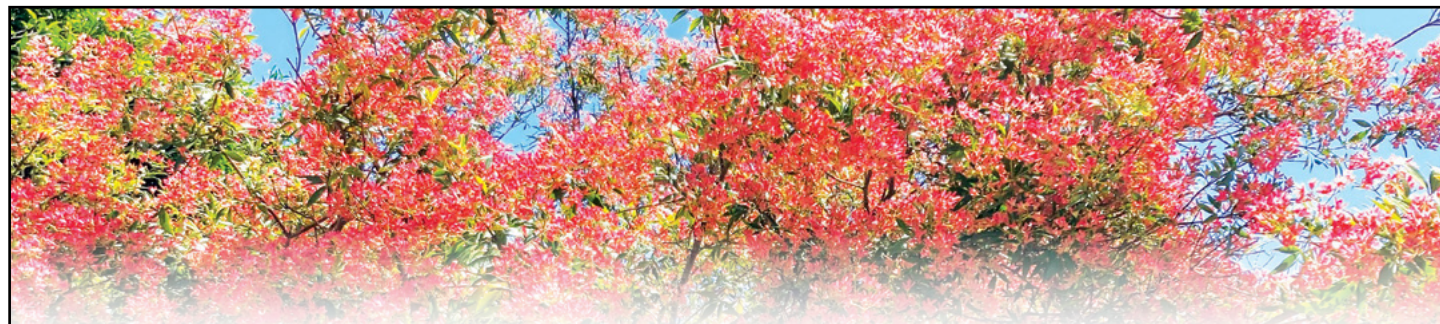
Are you studying, or have a passion for, Digital Media or Videography?



The Hills Community Media Association is looking for volunteers to help produce videos of local community events and record the work of local community groups. We supply all the equipment, we just need volunteers to help us with the recording and editing.

This would be a great opportunity for a student to gain experience and add to their portfolio of work or for anyone who has a passion/interest for digital media.

Most projects will start in 2023 and we welcome all ages. If you are interested, please text your details to Diana on 0408 011 193.



THE FRIENDS OF BELLA VISTA FARM THANK OUR VISITORS FOR YOUR SUPPORT THIS YEAR.

Have a very happy Christmas and New Year

We look forward to welcoming you to the farm next Open Day on 5th February 2023 - 9.00am-2.00pm.

Corner of Elizabeth Macarthur Drive and Norwest Boulevard, Bella Vista





Golden reindeer Hillsong lights



Christmas Lights

Christmas is the most magical time of the year. It is a time filled with good cheer and good will. It is a time to celebrate the end of the year with friends and family and to look forward with hope and anticipation to a brand-new year full of adventures and new opportunities.

For the kids, the hope that Santa Claus will soon visit, results in endless excitement and endless questions about “how many days till Santa comes?” and “Am I on the nice list? Will Santa come to me” and “how does Santa get around the world in one night”?.

In the lead up to Christmas, one of our favourite things to do is to pile into the car as a family and to explore the Christmas light displays on offer. Every year there are more and more houses lit up with thousands of Christmas lights and each year the decorations become bigger

and better than the year before. Illuminated reindeers, snowmen and santas fill front yards along with nativity scenes and inflatable santas riding jet skis and dinosaurs carrying presents. Flashing lights adorn the rooves and gardens resulting in screams of delight from the back seats and pleas to stop and get out for a closer look. Each display is different, but each brings a crowd especially those houses with music, laser light shows and snow machines.

So far this Christmas one of our favourite places to explore lights is at Hillsong at

Your local Home Care team.



Enjoy the experience of our friendly and local team. We deliver tailored services to meet your specific needs, allowing you to maintain your independence at home.

Our team can support you with:

- Domestic Assistance
- Social Support
- Respite Care
- Personal Care
- Veterans’ Home Care and DVA

We can also guide you through the aged care process and help you attain the services that you need.

Let us show you how we achieved 9/10 customer satisfaction
 Unit 53, 301 Galston Rd, Galston NSW 2159
 Call 02 9653 4927 or visit rsllifecare.org.au



Norwest. It is a great place for the kids to run and explore the different elements of the display. There are large reindeers lit up and a sleigh attached for people to sit in. There is also a large bauble, a large gift and a tunnel all lit up which you can walk through. Illuminated swings and see-saws along with a gingerbread house keep the kids entertained. The trees are lit up with gold lights and it is certainly worth a wander through.

We still have a couple more weeks to explore Christmas light displays but some of our favourites so far are Minago Place, Castle Hill which is complete with a snow machine and Santa's chair. Murrumba Place Castle Hill which is an incredible display with so many elements to look at and includes a flashing Merry Christmas sign and nativity scene. 136 Excelsior Avenue Castle Hill is also mind blowing with a walk-through display. There is so much to look at including the grinch much to my daughters' delight. Baulkham Hills Road also has some fantastic displays including a snow machine at 149 Baulkham Hills Road which provides endless delight for the kids and adults alike. Carlisle Avenue, Kellyville has a group of houses all brightly lit up and it is fun to walk from house to house and get a closer look at each of the displays. Farmhouse Avenue Pitt Town also offers an incredible display and also includes a snow machine and laser projections.

Looking at the displays it's easy to see why many of them take weeks to put together with some consisting of tens of thousands of lights and many different elements. However,



if you ask the owners why they spent weeks putting together displays, they will all tell you that they love seeing the smiles on the faces of others and the joy it brings to the community makes it all worthwhile. Many of the owners also use their displays to raise awareness as well as funds for charities close to their hearts, reflective of the Christmas spirit they possess and the desire to make the world a better place.

Every night we discover more and more displays around every corner and each one

brings us Christmas joy. I encourage you and your families to check out and appreciate this year's Christmas light displays – you won't be disappointed!

To find Christmas light displays close to you go to www.christmaslightsearch.com.au

From my family to yours, may I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New year. I look forward to sharing more of our "Out and About" adventures with you in 2023.



Trading Hours

	Thu 22 nd	9am – 9pm
	Fri 23 rd	9am – 9pm
Christmas Eve	Sat 24 th	9am – 9pm
Christmas Day	Sun 25 th	CLOSED*
Boxing Day	Mon 26 th	10am – 7pm
Holiday	Tues 27 th	10am – 7pm

	Thu 29 th	9am – 9pm
	Fri 30 th	9am – 9pm
New Years Eve	Sat 31 st	9am – 9pm
New Years Day	Sun 1 st Jan	10am – 7pm
	Mon 2 nd	10am – 7pm
	Tues 3 rd	9am – 8pm

**Note that by law, there can be no packaged liquor sales on Christmas Day anywhere in NSW*

9686 7959 | [@ DRINKS_HQ_BAULKHAM.HILLS](https://www.instagram.com/DRINKS_HQ_BAULKHAM.HILLS)
 SHOP 99 GROVE SQUARE, 375-383 WINDSOR RD, BAULKHAM HILLS

Drinks HQ supports the Responsible Service of Alcohol. New South Wales Liquor Act 2007. It is against the law to sell or supply alcohol to, or to obtain alcohol on behalf of, a person under the age of 18 years.

Choose to DrinkWise.

The Hills Shire Council News

Illuminate The Hills

Immerse yourself in the Christmas Spirit and visit the recently refurbished Roxborough Park Rose Garden, decorated with thousands of twinkling fairy lights, illuminating the pathways and arbour. There will be carollers present every Friday and Saturday night singing Christmas carols.

The beautiful Rose Garden will be lit up each evening from Thursday, 15 December to Tuesday, 27 December at around 7:30pm.

For more information, visit Council's website and search 'Illuminate The Hills'.



Council Operations over Christmas & New Year

Council's Customer Service Centre, located at 3 Columbia Court, Norwest, and all other areas of Council will close at 4:30pm on Friday, 23 December 2022 and resume operations at 8:30am on Tuesday, 3 January 2023.

More information about other Council services can be found by visiting Council's website and searching 'Council Operations for the New Year'.

Waste Collection over Christmas & New Year

Over the Christmas period, bins will be collected as normal, even if your bin collection falls on a public holiday. Please ensure you place your bins out at the kerbside the night before your collection day.

For more information, visit Council's website and search 'Tis the Season to Recycle'.



Small Business Workshops

Registration for The Hills Shire Council's business education workshops for 2023 are now open. The workshops cater for both new and established business owners, covering fundamental topics for small businesses.

If you're looking at starting or growing your business, visit Council's website now and search 'Small Business Workshops'.



Making a Submission to Council?

Any person may make a submission to Council. Submissions which obtain objections must be specific in their content. Council's preferred method of receiving submissions is via Council's website through each exhibition's online submission form. To view current exhibitions, search for 'Have Your Say.'



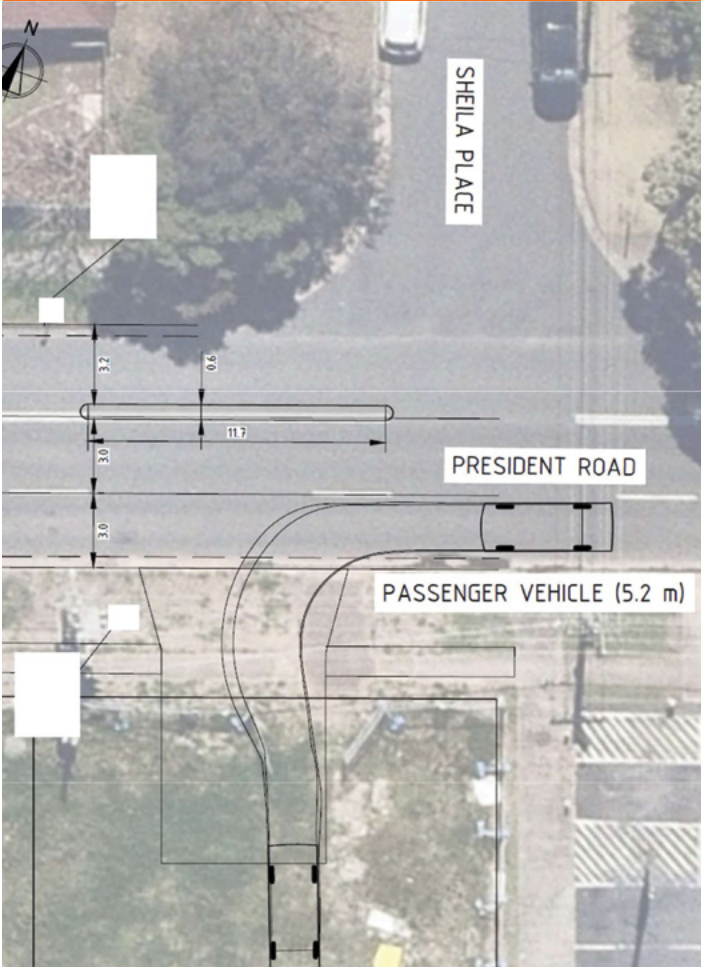
Pile Burning Regulations

Council has adopted new exemptions, which will allow residents living in the rural areas of The Hills Shire and outside of the Sydney Fire District to be exempted from applying for a permit to carry out a pile burn of dead and dry vegetation on their premises.

These new exemptions will provide residents with more opportunities to reduce the bushfire risk on their property.

Those who do meet the requirements, can make an application to Council to consider their request to carry out a pile burn. Online application forms are located on The Hills Shire Council's website – search 'Pile Burns'.

Proposed Concrete Median Island



In accordance with Section 116 of the Roads Act 1993, notice has been given that a concrete median island is to be installed on President Road, across the proposed driveway to the approved development (DA 677/2021/JP) at 1A, 1B, and 1 President Road, Kellyville.

For further information and to make a submission, visit Council's 'Have Your Say' webpage.

Santa's High Tea

Head on down to the Pioneer Theatre and join Santa with his best elves and friends all the way from the North Pole! Celebrate the magic of Christmas with the deliciousness of a themed High Tea for all ages along with singing joyful hymns and plenty of dancing.



Santa's elves will also deliver a gift to each of their guests, with opportunities for photos with the main man himself!

What are you waiting for? Sleigh the Christmas holidays and book your tickets using the QR code above.



Are you enjoying The Hills Shire Council News? Scan the QR code to let us know.



DINING OUT

ADVERTISE WITH US...

Call Tanya 0499 040 726 or email advertise@hillstohawkesbury.com.au

KIDS EAT FREE*

ALL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS MON-FRI FROM 5PM

THE RICHMOND INN
90 MARCH ST RICHMOND | @RICHMONDINNNSW



Looking to entertain the kids these school holidays?

Head over to Castle Hill RSL Club and take advantage of our Kids Eat Free Promotion from 5.30 pm every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Enjoy a festive meal from our Courtyard Restaurant while the kids are entertained in our huge covered kid's playground and arcade.

Castle Hill RSL Club also has a variety of school holiday activities planned to keep little minds and bodies active during January. From First Aid Workshops for Kids to Cartoon Classes and more, we have plenty of activities planned to keep the kids occupied!

For bookings and details please head over to www.castlehillrsl.com.au

JOIN US THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
FOR FAMILY FUN PERFECT FOR THE KIDS.

The Ettamogah Hotel boasts a massive outdoor area great for parents this summer whilst the kids can use our air conditioned massive play area, rock climbing walls and 2x arcades rooms great for all ages.

WEDNESDAYS FROM 5PM

\$16 STEAK NIGHT

250gm RUMP

WITH CHIPS & SALAD

THURSDAYS FROM 5PM

SCHNITZEL

ADD YOUR FAVOURITE TOPPERS FOR \$3

WITH CHIPS & SALAD

\$16



Cnr Merriville & Windsor Rd
Kellyville Ridge, NSW, 2155

(02) 9629 1130

www.ettamogahhotel.com.au

LONE STAR
PUB AND BREWS
- ROUSE HILL -

Weekday
LUNCH SPECIALS

FROM \$14

ALL STAR REWARDS MEMBERS

SCAN TO BOOK

8605 2252 | 1 RESOLUTION PL, ROUSE HILL NSW 2155
#LONESTARRIBHOUSE | LONESTARRIBHOUSE.COM.AU



Illuminate The Hills

The Christmas Spirit has come alive in the newly refurbished Roxborough Park Rose Garden, Baulkham Hills. Thousands of fairy lights twinkle along the pathways and up into the majestic conifers, illuminating the whole spectacular park. Christmas Carollers sing popular carols to entertain visitors each Friday and Saturday night.

The event commenced on Thursday, 15 December and continues until Tuesday, 27 December at around 7:30pm so don't miss the magic setting in the beautiful Rose Garden.

For more information, visit Council's website and search 'Illuminate The Hills'. It will make your Christmas even more festive!



Big Screen Gifts

Youngsters being supported by two local charities will be able to head to the movies thanks to some festive cheer from people who know how to entertain.

This Christmas, CHRГ (Castle Hill RSL Group) will be supporting Foster Care Angels Incorporated and SaintsCare (Youth Rezolutions) who are working hard to assist local disadvantaged youth and families.

CHRГ together with Event Cinemas Castle Towers are giving 200 x Event Cinema Tickets (100 for each organisation) to be distributed to families and youth who sadly are often overlooked and receive very little if anything at all, at Christmas.

CHRГ's Group CEO David O'Neil said: "We know Christmas can be a very difficult time for some and we hope our small gesture will bring joy to young people and families in our local communities who are doing it tough at this time of the year".



Victoria Sykes (Event Cinemas) Annemarie Christie (CHRГ) Wendy Bennett (Foster Care Angels) Mike Yeo (CHRГ) Liam Daynes (Event Cinemas).

CLUBS OPEN FROM 10AM

Christmas Day LUNCH SET MENU

LUNCH AVAILABLE 12PM-3PM

Fresh baked artisan bread and butter

ENTRÉE

Individual Tasting Plate

Tuna and scallop tartare with black sesame seed, cucumber ribbon & rosemary infused olive oil

Seared salmon with poppyseed and pistachio crust base, asparagus spear & mango pineapple salsa

Loyster and fennel vol au vent topped with black caviar & garlic butter sauce

MAIN COURSE

Duo of Meats

Sous vide Moroccan marinated lamb rump served with purple dutch boulangere & rosemary jus

Slow cooked Murray Valley pork belly, roasted pumpkin puree, pan fried caulini, seared scallops topped with fly fish roe & vermouth jus

DESSERT

Individual Tasting Plate

Dark and white chocolate dome, Watermelon verrine and Christmas bread and butter pudding served with torched meringue, chocolate truffle, chocolate soil, strawberry rosette and fresh custard anglaise

MORE INFORMATION & BOOKINGS



castlehillrsl.com.au



clubparramatta.com.au



lynwoodcc.com.au

Hills Community Aid AGM

By BEV JORDAN

Executive officer at Hills Community Aid, Mici Beer says the past year has been the busiest in the services 51 year history.

In 2022 HCA helped 2,824 clients with emergency relief, an increase of 289% from the previous year. HCA's Financial inclusion program gave out \$311,000 in gift cards to buy food this year which was up from \$170,000 in the previous financial year – an increase of nearly 83%.

More than 7,200 people were referred to HCA's financial inclusion program during the 2022 financial year (7276).

Former HCA President Maria Kovacic, who retired earlier this year after 7 years on the Board, said: "I am very proud of what we have achieved. (HCA) is the benchmark organisation in Western Sydney."

Allan Gibson who took over from Maria said in his report at Wednesday's AGM (December 14th) that HCA was an "essential part" of maintaining and supporting the social fabric of the community in both good times and troubled times.

Hills Shire Mayor Peter Gangemi said told HCA members at the AGM: What you do for people in the Hills is absolutely invaluable.

"You have achieved a lot this year."

Patron Michelle Byrne said the challenge for Hills Community Aid during the year had been to service more and more people on a limited budget with limited resources.

"It is vital that we continue to work together to ensure HCA is sustainable and in a position

to help even more people as the population in the Hills continues to increase significantly"

As well as providing financial support services Hills Community Aid also runs a homework group for students in years 5 to 12, supported playgroup, Parents Again playgroup for foster carers/kinship carers and grandparent carers and Family Fun Days, school holiday workshops.

Its extensive community engagement programs include Learning in the Hills and Hills Daily Grind which runs a Cafe Connect program to upskill young people with barista skills. Safer Communities program and a community transport program and community bus.

To find out more about Hills Community Aid visit the website at <https://hca.org.au>.



HCA Board members Dr Jill Rathborne, Peter Durie, Vice-President Sarah Tolhurst and President Allan Gibson with former President Maria Kovacic, HCA Patron Michelle Byrne and Board Member Sam Uno.



HCA executive officer Mici Beer with Cllr Frank de Masi, Elder Uncle Col, Deputy Mayor Mark Hodges and Mayor Peter Gangemi.

Christmas Pets

Hawkesbury City Council is urging the community to consider carefully whether they are ready for the long-term commitment of caring for an animal before buying a pet this Christmas.

Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter already has a large number of lost and surrendered animals it is working hard to care for and rehome from the Hawkesbury, Penrith, The Hills, Hornsby and Cumberland local government areas, and has been extremely busy all year.

Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon said pet ownership is a rewarding experience but is also a lifelong commitment.

"That cute kitten and puppy in December quickly grows up and has needs just like any of your family members," Mayor McMahon said.

"Owning a pet is a responsibility for the lifetime of the animal. Unfortunately, every year around this time the Shelter receives large numbers of lost or abandoned dogs and cats. This can be due to a number of factors, including the

ongoing cost of caring for a pet, the challenge of training pets essential behavioural skills, and families returning to work and school after the holidays. Different pets grow to different sizes, have differing appetites and temperaments, and differing training and exercise needs. Please do your research carefully before deciding which pet is the right fit for your family, if any."

She said that if a family is certain that the responsibility of pet ownership is something that they are ready to take on, they should first consider adopting a pet from the Shelter rather than from a pet store or breeder.

"We have a large selection of beautiful cats and dogs just waiting for a second chance at a forever home. They are much cheaper than from a shop or breeder, and come with microchipping, lifetime council registration, desexing and their first vaccination," she said.

All cats at the shelter are currently \$29 until Wednesday December 21st.

If a pet goes missing, particularly after a frightening event like an electrical storm,

fireworks or other New Year'Eve party noise, it is possible the animal may have been picked up by Council's rangers and taken to the Companion Animal Shelter at Mulgrave.

The Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter is at 10 Mulgrave Rd, Call 4560 4644 or visit Hawkesbury Council's Facebook page.



SUKI is a 2-yrs-old female cat \$29



Raven is 2 ½ years great dane cross female \$49

Shakespeare in the Hills

Sport for Jove Theatre is proud to present *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as part of their 2022/2023 Summer Season.

The theatre was founded in 2009 through the creation of an outdoor *Shakespeare Festival* in Sydney's Hills District and Leura in the Blue Mountains. The brain-child of Artistic Director Damien Ryan, the Festival produced a repertory season of *Romeo and Juliet*, directed by Ryan, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Ryan and Terry Karabelas, Co-Artistic Director of Sport For Jove Theatre.

The first performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was in the Roxborough Park Rose Garden, Baulkham Hills. Shakespeare in the Rose Garden utilised more than 25 actors, musicians and crew, was run on a donation-only basis and sold out the bulk of its season. SFJT returned to the Hills in December 2010 with the newly-branded *Sydney Hills Shakespeare in the Park*. Having outgrown the Rose Garden, the season was moved to Bella Vista Farm Park.

The star-studded cast include Claudia Ware (Ensemble Theatre's *Nearer the Gods*), Jake Speer (Channel 7's *Home & Away*), Wendy Strehlow (Channel 7's *A Country Practice*), Jade Fuda (CDP's *Magic Beach*), Darius Williams (Channel 7's *Home & Away*), Rupert Bevan (Sydney theatre debut), Toby Blome (Foxtel's *The Twelve*), Bishanyia Vincent (Hayes Theatre's *Dubbo Championship Wrestling*) & Giles Gartrell-Mills (Sport For Jove's *Othello*),

and is directed by Sean O'Shea whose credits include the Sydney Theatre Company, Melbourne Theatre Company, Queensland Theatre Company, Western Australia Theatre Company, Bell Shakespeare, Ensemble Theatre, Griffin Theatre Company, Belvoir and Hayes Theatre Company.

So come and immerse yourself in the magical world of this 400 year-old Shakespearean comedy set in two spectacular venues, Bella Vista Farm Park and Everglades, Leura. Combining fantasy, dream, nightmare and excitement, social convention implodes to reveal what lies beneath us all; our funny, quaint and perplexing need to love and be loved.

"Not many days go by when I don't ask myself the question: why is it necessary to keep the flame of these old classic plays fresh and vital for future audiences? Why do Shakespeare anymore?"

I hope we never stop asking the question. With each renewal of contact with these plays, and with each new audience member I meet who has never experienced or 'understood' Shakespeare's work before, the question answers itself exponentially".

~Damien Ryan Artistic Director



VENUE: Bella Vista Farm – Elizabeth Macarthur Drive, Bella Vista, NSW 2008

DATES: 16 December – 30 December 2022

TIMES: PREVIEW: 16 December 8pm;

OPENING: 17 December 8pm;

SEASON: 17–20 December, 22 December, 27-30 December 8pm

PRICES: ADULT: \$47.50 + bf

CONCESSION: \$35 + bf

GROUP 6+: \$30 + bf

FAMILY OF 4: \$120 + bf

*Children 9 and under free

TICKETS: <https://events.ticketbooth.com.au/event/a-midsummer-nights-dream-bella-vista-farm>

The performance will also be performed at Everglades, Leura in January 2023.

Tickets: <https://events.ticketbooth.com.au/event/a-midsummer-nights-dream-everglades-gardens>

Nursery Awards 2022

By LEISHA JORDAN

The winners of the 2022 Nursery and Garden Industry NSW and ACT (NGINA) Industry Awards were announced at a sell-out gala celebration at Rydges Norwest on Friday, December 2nd.

ABC Gardening presenter, Costa Georgiadis was MC for the Awards which recognised wholesale/production nurseries, retail garden centers, allied suppliers, apprentices and the next generation of industry leaders from across NSW and the ACT for being at the top of their fields.

Anita Campbell, NGINA CEO said the calibre of nominees was outstanding: "The standard of entries was exceptionally high and each and every one of this year's finalists could have taken home a prize for excellence in the nursery and garden industry.

"In saying that, some members absolutely excelled this year and NGINA is delighted to recognise the individual efforts and contributions of these industry representatives across a wide range of categories", she said.

Local winners included Swane's Garden Care at South Maroota which was named Small Wholesale/Production Nursery of the Year.

According to the judges in this category this small nursery at South Maroota is managed with great attention to detail. The owners pride themselves on growing good quality stock and have excellent site management.

The title for Large Wholesale/Production Nursery of the Year was won by Scotts Tubes at Mangrove Mountain which won the title

for the third successive year. It was also praised for its commitment towards sustainability and continuous improvement.

Brent Tallis from Arcadia was made a NGINA Life Member for his distinguished and meritorious service to the industry. He started in the industry in 1986 as an apprentice at Glenacres Nursery and in 1992 Brent was awarded NGINA's Junior Nursery Person of the Year and around the same time was appointed President of the newly re-formed Tree and Shrub growers' group. Brent served on the NGINA board between 1998-2006 (he was President in 2003 and 2004 and Vice President before that). He has served the industry on multiple committees including the Industry Advisory Committee for Horticulture Australia.

Through his business, Brent has been a great supporter of the industry and the events it has organised, particularly conferences both state and national, awards nights, industry run trade expos and trade days.

Based at Kenthurst, the NGINA is the peak representative body for operators in the nursery and garden industry and is committed to a growing, united and sustainable nursery and garden industry.



Life Member
Brent Tallis

Rob Swane and Ruby Tuohy Swanes
Swanes Garden Care

The annual Awards are decided by an in-depth judging process that is carried out by a panel of industry experts and a band of mystery shoppers.

OTHER WINNERS

- Small Retail Nursery of the Year: Native Grace at Robertson
- Large Retail Nursery of the Year: Heritage Gardens East Maitland
- Allied Supplier of the Year: CutAbove Tools at Seven Hills
- Next Genner of the Year: Jasmine White, Scotts Tubes, Mangrove Mountain.
- Apprentice of the Year: Raychel White, Penrith City Council.

As your Federal MP, I am here to help.

- ✔ Assisting with accessing Federal Government services
- ✔ Attending your local community event
- ✔ Arranging congratulatory messages
- ✔ Helping you resolve federal issues, including NDIS, NBN and Centrelink

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.

ALEX HAWKE MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MITCHELL



📍 Suite 8, 23 Terminus Street, Castle Hill NSW 2154 📞 9899 7211 ✉ alex.hawke.mp@aph.gov.au 🌐 www.alexhawke.au 📺 AlexHawkeMPMitchell

Authorised by Alex Hawke MP, Liberal Party of Australia, 8/23 Terminus Street, Castle Hill NSW 2154.



CHRISTMAS: A TIME FOR HOPE AND LOVE

Christmas is a wonderful opportunity for families, friends and neighbours to come together and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and Australia's Christian heritage. Christmas is a time to be grateful for the blessings of peace and prosperity we enjoy as a nation.

On behalf of my family, Amelia, Jack, Lachlan, Thomas, Jonathan, I would like to wish you and your family a happy and holy Christmas, and a safe and prosperous 2023.

The past few years have been tough with the COVID 19 pandemic, severe floods and storm damage to our region. Our communities have been hit hard by six floods in three years and sadly rural and regional NSW are still impacted by severe weather conditions. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone working, volunteer support, or carers for those in need during these difficult times.

During this season where families and communities come together, whatever your faith or beliefs are, please continue to pray for the communities in rural and regional Australia who are doing it the toughest this season.

VALE DENNIS DAVIS – THE LAST ‘RAT OF TOBRUK’ IN NSW

During one of the final weeks of Parliament this year, I had the honour and privilege to speak in the Parliament to pay tribute to the life of Dennis Albert Davis, a veteran of World War II and a Rat of Tobruk. Please visit www.alexhawke.au/speeches to read my speech.

OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE YOUR SAY: INFLUENCE OF INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL PLATFORMS

The Senate Economics References Committee has released an Issues Paper for the Inquiry into the role of international Big Tech platforms in our society and our economy.

The Inquiry into international digital platforms operated by Big Tech companies will examine how these platforms exert power and influence over markets and public debate.

The Issues Paper can be found on the Committee website www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Economics/Digitalplatforms/Issues_Paper.

View the Terms of Reference at www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Economics/Digitalplatforms/Terms_of_Reference_before_making_a_submission.

The deadline for submission to the inquiry is Tuesday, 28 February 2023.

Alex KARKI
Labor Candidate for Kellyville
Baulkham Hills * Beaumont Hills * Bella Vista *
Kellyville * North Kellyville * Norwest * Rouse Hill
Wishing you a Merry Christmas

Alex Karki

Labor Candidate for Kellyville

Alex lives in Bella Vista with his wife and son who attends a local primary school in The Hills.

Alex is a Transport Planning & Traffic Engineer and holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) and a Masters by Research (Transport Planning) from the University of New South Wales.

Alex is of Nepali heritage and his grandfather served in the Nepali Gurkha Army, supporting Britain during World War II.

He is keen to focus on local transport issues, but also local schools, health services and community issues.

As a local resident and a parent, Alex understands the issues faced by people in the Kellyville electorate. He is running for State Parliament to make a difference for his local community to ensure they have a strong local voice.

Alex knows that cost of living pressures are increasing and firmly believes that only a Minns Labor Government will deliver on issues that matter to local residents, including:

- Proper planning & sustainable development
- Road & Traffic Management plan to ease congestion across The Hills
- Addressing school overcrowding and providing more support for our teaching staff
- Vastly improved healthcare system that the Hills community desperately needs
- Ensuring community services keep pace with our growing population in The Hills

Alex believes that locals have been taken for granted for too long and it's time to elect someone in Kellyville who will stand up for locals on the issues that matter to them and be accountable to the electorate.

Susan Templeman MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MACQUARIE

AVAILABLE TO HELP

- Education and Training
- Centrelink
- Medicare
- NBN & Telecommunications
- Defence & Veterans Affairs
- Immigration
- NDIS
- Child Support
- Taxation

Office: 299 George Street, Windsor NSW 2756 (across from Windsor Library)

Phone: (02) 4573 8222 **Email:** susan.templeman.mp@aph.gov.au

Mail: PO Box 855, Windsor NSW 2756 **OPEN:** Mon - Fri 9am-5pm

www.susantempleman.com.au Authorised by S. Templeman MP, Labor, 299 George St, Windsor NSW 2756



SEASON'S GREETINGS



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Yes, it's here's already! I'd like to wish everyone in the Hawkesbury a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. I hope everyone can enjoy a break over the summer and spend time with family and loved ones. Thank you to all the emergency and essential workers who are working over the holiday period – Covid showed us how important you are in keeping us going.

IT'S BEEN A BIG YEAR!

I've been reflecting on what a massive year it has been for our community and the country.

Here in the Hawkesbury we've experienced yet more storms, flood and Covid, which has stretched people to their limits, but also seen neighbour helping neighbour.

But we've also had the war in Ukraine pushing up energy costs to the highest they have been since the 1970s. All of this has added strain on families and our community organisations.

Since we formed Government in May, the Albanese government has worked hard to respond to these circumstances plus deliver on our election promises.

In Parliament we've passed more than 60 pieces of legislation: 10 days paid family and domestic violence leave, which will save lives; our Secure Jobs, Better Pay Bill to get wages moving; a National Anti-Corruption

Commission; cheaper medicines which kicks in from 1 January 2023; cheaper childcare and improvements to paid parental leave; and our significant investment in renewable energy. And of course, just this week, Parliament sat an additional day so we could legislate to ease the cost of living by capping electricity and gas prices and provide bill relief to small businesses and families – the details of which will now be finalised with State governments.

While I'm so proud of what we've delivered so far, I know next year will be another huge year and I have no intention of slowing down. I'm focused on working with community groups and different levels of government to deliver a better future for the Hawkesbury.

My office will be closed from 21 December to 4 January, so my amazing team can take a break to be fresh for another big year. Emails will be monitored and we'll do our best to assist with urgent matters.

Dear Residents of Berowra,

The Christmas season is always a great opportunity to look back on the year that has been, and I have enjoyed reflecting on both the challenges and joys that we have faced as a community throughout 2022.

This year has been a hard one for many of us, with communities along the Hawkesbury River facing their fifth flood in two years. The emotional, physical and financial toll on families and local businesses has been immense. However, I have continued to be inspired by the bravery and perseverance even amidst this hardship. I visited residents along the river both during and after the floods and was proud of the way our community rallied around them.

In early September the world also faced the end of an era with the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. I was proud to participate in both local and national events to mourn her

loss but also celebrate the many years of service she gave to both our country and the Commonwealth. I was pleased to help plant trees in honour of Her Majesty's jubilee at Pacific Hills Christian School and look forward to seeing many other community groups take part in the jubilee tree program over the next few years. I wish King Charles III well as he continues his mother's legacy.

Some of the highlights of my year were the community events I attended in my capacity as the Member for Berowra. I was grateful to meet with various community and religious organisations like the Hills Charity Gala Ball

and the Mahamevnawa Buddhist Monastery and was delighted to present awards to many valuable members of the community at the Hills RFS Award Ceremony and the St John Ambulance awards.

As we look forward to Christmas and spending time with family and friends, I wanted to take the time to also give my thanks to the first responders, defence personnel and all those who cannot be with their families on Christmas day. Thank you for your dedication to serving our community. But to our entire community, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

JULIAN LEESER MP

Federal Member for Berowra

Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120
 9980 1822 | julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au
 julianleeser.com.au | julianleesermp



As your MP, 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.

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



SKIPPING ROPES & SPINNING TOPS

Girls in a skipping rope race. From Ivor Jones' Collection taken at various museums around Australia.

With Christmas comes thoughts of children and toys. In days gone by, before the advent of electronic and computer games and toys, life was much simpler. With the Depression of the 1930s and the deprivation following the war years of the 1940s families often "made do" with hand made toys or "hand me down second-hand toys"

Wood was quite plentiful whereas metals and plastics were very much in short supply. Wood, therefore, was often whittled or shaped to form such things as wooden spinning tops, skipping rope handles, or to build billy carts or rocking horses. Wooden dolls' houses, toy farms, castles or forts were created. Other plentiful materials were used to make rag dolls, golliwogs, nurse's or cowboy outfits. My father once made me a toy farm with wooden buildings and a pond made from an old mirror. He once also bought me a second-hand Hornby Clockwork Railway for Christmas. Living in a cold climate country, my father also once also made me a sled. Taking it up a nearby hill in the snow I sat on it to slide down the hill only to find that it kept turning to the

right. I guess one side must have been a little shorter than the other side. I just loved these toys at the time and spent many hours playing with them.

Many parents would spend time in the work shed or elsewhere with lathes or sewing machines creating wonderful simple toys for their offspring to be placed under the Christmas tree or at the bottom of the bed on Christmas Eve. These would be the memories of children past. The toys and gifts would have been created with love and affection by the parents and thankfully received by the children of yesteryear.

Children would be seen out in the street or park on Christmas day playing with their mates and with their toys and games.

Boys would gather round for a game of street cricket and girls may be seen skipping with their ropes. Times have changed since those idyllic days. What children want now seems to be the latest computer games or robotic toys. The days of hand-made and home-built toys and games have gone into the history books.

Recently I read an account of Christmas in the 1930s. The author of the account wrote about decorating the tree with old matchboxes wrapped as parcels and tiny velvet Santa Clauses. I recall during my childhood my father creating paper chains to hang across the ceilings as decorations. Cotton wool would be used to imitate snow on the branches of the Christmas tree.

Where are the children that used to play "hop-sotch" in the playground and pavements of the past? Children seem to no longer play games with each other in the playgrounds. They congregate to view what is the latest trend depicted on social media via their mobile telephones.

Whilst I enjoy seeing the fun and excitement of my grandchildren opening and playing with their toys at Christmas time, I do miss the Christmases of the past when toys and games were often made by struggling parents.

I conclude this article with wishing readers all the best and hope that you all enjoy your Christmas.

CUMBERLAND COMMUNITY RADIO INC.

Building 9/92 Seven Hills Road, Balcombe Heights Estate, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153 Australia

 info@alive905.com.au

 www.alive905.com.au



YOUR SOUND COMMUNITY

CUMBERLAND COMMUNITY RADIO INC.

Streaming Worldwide on



Like us on facebook.com/Alivefm90.5



AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

COLLECTION COMPILED BY
IVOR JONES SHOWING LIFE IN
THE HILLS AND HAWKESBURY
AREA DURING PAST DECADES.



Child with rag dolls



Mother with child on a rocking horse possibly at Hay NSW

Dolls House at Thirroul Antiques



Thirroul, NSW

© Ivor Jones



Camden Museum, Camden, NSW

Toys at Camden Museum



Hannah wins Wheelchair Athlete of the Year Award

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Acardia-born Hannah Dodd continues to raise the standards in Australian wheelchair sports. She is now Basketball Queensland's number one wheelchair athlete.

This follows a stellar year where she helped Australia win the silver medal at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham in the highly-competitive in 3x3 wheelchair basketball event.

Hannah, who was born with sacral agenesis and spina bifida, also led the Australian team to the Asia-Oceania Basketball Zonal (AOZ) title in May.

Hannah said she was floored when she was named Basketball Queensland's Wheelchair Athlete of the Year.

The multi-talented athlete is currently playing in the Italian National Wheelchair Basketball League, where she continues to add new admirers to her exciting style of play. Her partner Steven Elliott plays alongside her in the same team, PDM Treviso.

Hannah told The Hills To Hawkesbury Community News from Italy that she was humbled to be honoured by the Queensland federation. "This is definitely a surprise to be named because there have so many great performances from other Queenslanders in wheelchair basketball this year," the 30-year-old

said. "I was informed by Basketball Queensland telling me I'd been awarded Wheelchair Athlete of the Year for 2022 and my first reaction was total surprise because I really didn't expect it."

Hannah moved to Queensland to study and play basketball. She still has time to turn out for Sydney Uni and Wollongong in the National Leagues.

In awarding our Hannah their Wheelchair Player of the Year trophy, Queensland Basketball said that the two-time, two-sport Paralympian has "emerged as one of the best low-point female wheelchair basketball players in the world".

"Hannah's success and commitment to excellence makes her a worthy recipient of the 2022 Wheel Chair Athlete of the Year Award," the association said,

Hannah skipped the Australian team which won gold at the 2022 Asia-Oceania Zonal (AOZ) championships to qualify for the 2023 world championships. She won the NWBL championship and bronze in the WNWBL championship. Hannah was named in the All-Star 5 and MVP for 1 point classification for the 2022 season.



Hannah Dodd wins Basketball Queensland's Wheelchair Athlete of the Year Award.

"I now play only basketball competitively but I jump in a rugby chair every now and again as well as tennis and paddling on very rare occasions," Hannah said.

Speaking about her professional career in Italy, Hannah said: "I miss home. I grew up on acreage and I do miss the open space and farm life living in suburbia.

"But it's going well here in Italy. We're just over halfway through the regular season and about to stop for Christmas break before starting up again in the New Year.

"We have no plans for Christmas just yet, we'll probably do a little bit of travel but don't have that much time off with the season starting back the first week of January."

Nicholas, Grace Win Golden Boots

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Nicholas Giampietro and Grace Gibbeson of Kellyville Kolts won the respective men's and women's Golden Boot Awards in The Hills District, showing the immense depth of talent in this club.

The duo recently picked up their awards at a glittering annual gala dinner of Hills Football, which honoured several players, officials, and clubs for their achievements this year.

Giampietro was presented the Men's Premier League Reserve Grade Golden Boot Award with Gibbeson winning the Women's Premier League Golden Boot for topping the goal-scoring charts in a busy season.

Castle Hill United, founded in 1973, won the coveted Champion Club. They are one of the largest clubs in the area and their Champion Club Award is a fitting reward for their overall success.

The annual presentation showcased the best of football players, clubs and officials in The Hills District for the year, and underlined the tremendous growth in the game since the association was founded a few years ago.

Cath Hughes of Baulkham Hills was chosen the Club Person of the Year by the Hills Football Board from many nominees.

Geoff Johnson of The Hills Grammar School was inducted into the Hall of Fame while Steve Wright of the Hills Spirit took home the Chairman's Award.

The Referee of the Year was Tristan Harris, who was selected by the HFI Referees Committee, with Alana Zic the Female Referee of the Year. Mitchell Renton was presented the Under-21 Referee of the Year award.

Hills Football General Manager Charlotte Ercil said their biggest achievement this year

was the successful completion of the season and "providing our members with all rounds and finals played".

"This was questionable across all associations due to the extreme impacts that the wet weather has had on our competitions," Charlotte said.

She said the number of players for both men and women increased this year with more expected to sign up for the 2023 season as they head back into what should be a more 'normal' season post-Covid and wet weather impacts.

Asked for the reasons why women's football has taken off this year, Charlotte said: "It was due to targeted promotion and the increasing interest due to the announcements around the hosting of the Women's World Cup in 2023."

She also welcomed the newest club, Bella Vista FC, into their ranks next year, saying: "This is a huge growth area in a relatively untapped market. A great new facility with two full-size football fields (Balmoral Road Reserve) is also a key asset to the association.

"Our goals for 2023 include the growth of all competitions, particularly female football as we leverage off the women's World Cup, securing further funding to commence the initial stages of the Home of Football (Caddies Creek Stage 2) and the push for non-traditional football/playing formats."

Last year, Football NSW backed Hills Football's plan to have a 'Home of football' at Caddies Creek Sports Complex.

The full list of award winners:

- U21 Referee of the Year: Mitchell Renton
- Female Referee of the Year: Alana Zic
- Referee of the Year: Tristan Harris
- Violet Nutt Award: Jenny Crandell (Castle Hill United)
- Women's Premier League Golden Boot Award: Grace Gibbeson (Kellyville Kolts)
- Men's Premier League Reserve Grade Golden Boot Award: Nicholas Giampietro (Kellyville Kolts)
- Men's Premier League First Grade Golden Boot Award: Christian Zebec (Kellyville United)
- Community Award: Kellyville Kolts
- Club Person of the Year: Cath Hughes (Baulkham Hills)
- Chairman's Award: Steve Wright (Hills Spirit)
- Champion Club Award: Castle Hill United
- Hall of Fame: Geoff Johnson (The Hills Grammar School)



Club Person of the Year Cath Hughes with other nominees

COMMUNITY groups

2nd Castle Hill Rovers

www.gwsrovers.com.au

Annangrove Environment Centre

02 9654 3571 (Thurs) |
02 9843 0533 (Wed-Fri)

gnolan@thehills.nsw.gov.au

Arcadian Quilters

Meet in Galston Community Health Centre 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings, evening group 2nd and 4th Mondays.

New members welcome

Carole | 9894 7749

Castle Hill Art Society

Art practice for artists of all ages, either in groups or classes for adults and children. Monthly demonstrations and workshops by well-known artists. Members can participate in exhibitions during the year.

9899 3179 (ans. machine)

www.castlehillartsociety.org.au

Castle Hill Senior Citizens Club Inc.

Anyone over 55 welcome to come and play carpet bowls, cards and rummikub. Cnr of McMullen Ave. and Old Northern Road, Castle Hill (opp. new Metro station) with parking at the rear.

9680 3958

castlehillseniors@gmail.com

Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook

We are a mixed gender club of over 170 retirees and semi retirees. Meetings on 1st Thursday of each month at the Cherrybrook Community & Cultural Centre.

Ross | 0411 104 863

rossfitzpatrick@icloud.com

www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/cherrybrook/Welcome

Cumberland Bird Observers Club

The Club conducts 3 outings a month to observe birds in their natural environment. General meetings are held at Castle Hill on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. New members are always welcome.

Peter | 0412 770 757 or Cathy 9809 5668

www.cboc.org.au

CWA of NSW - Galston Branch

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 10am at the Galston Health & Resource Centre, Cnr The Glade & 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston.

Nicci Chaney | 0411 058 852

CWA of NSW - Castle Hill Branch

Holds its monthly meeting every 2nd Tuesday at the CWA Hall, 2 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst (off Angus Road) from 10am. We also hold our Craft mornings for members on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 10 to 12.

Maureen | 0411 724 925

CWA of NSW - Toongabbie Branch

Monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at Brigade House, 3 Junia Street, Toongabbie from 10.30am. We also have a social or craft day on the third Tuesday of the month.

ToongabbieCWA@gmail.com

Dural and District Prostate Cancer Support Group

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Blue Gum Centre, ARV Glenhaven Green, 599-607 Old Northern Rd, Glenhaven.

Denis | 9629 2645 or Maurice | 9654 2138

Dural Country Club Bowls

04 2131 5074

Dural Men's Shed

04 0247 8498

www.duralmensshed.org

East Kurrajong School of Arts

1st Tues each month 10am to 1pm. Bring along any sort of craft activity you're interested in, bring pencils or brushes to practice your drawing or painting with Ruth, browse the library for a book to read or simply just relax, have a cuppa and enjoy a chat from 10am to 1pm. Gold coin donation for morning tea.

Ann | 02 4576 5031

Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc

Hawkesbury Group

Meeting 3rd Tues 10am-2pm, 4th Tues 6pm-10pm at Windsor library. Teach visual arts, textiles and design, or groups planning 2023 speakers calendar, we would love to come and talk about the art of embroidery.

Catherine | 0413340049

cdelaney1@vtown.com.au

Galston VIEW Club

Galston VIEW Club raises money for the Smith Family "Learning for Life program". AGM on 25 Jan 2023 at Galston RSL Club. 11.00 for 11.30am. All welcome.

Merle 9634 2378 | 0412 110 698.

Girl Guides Australia

Great programs for girls 6-18. They meet once a week in groups relevant to their age run by trained Leaders and Unit Helpers.

Margo | 0417 657 433.

Glenhaven Probus Club Inc

Meets 10 am on 2nd Tuesday of each month at Castle Hill Bowling Club.

secretary.glenhaven.probus@gmail.com

Glenwood Men's Shed

Jim | 0438 701 275

Hawkesbury Artists & Artisans Trail

02 4567 7400

Leanne@mellowcrest.com

www.haat.com.au

Hawkesbury District Agricultural Assn

4577 3591 (BH)

www.hawkesburyshow.com.au

Hawkesbury Nepean Chapter of the First Fleeters

Meets on 2nd Saturday of each month.

Pamela Hempel | 0407 660 579

www.ffhnc.com

Hawkesbury West Probus Club

Meets at 10:15am on the first Monday of each month at Panthers North Richmond. New Members Welcome

Membership Officer Fay | 0414 341 253

hawkeswest.probus@gmail.com

Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Ltd

9.30am to 2pm Wed. & Sat.

www.hawkesburywoodcraft.org.au

Graham | 02 4576 1517

Hills District Women's Bowling Club

Jenner Street, Baulkham Hills

9639 2733

www.thehillswomensbowls.com.au

Hills Older Men's Network INC

Meets fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 10am to 12.30pm at Castle Hill. The group is aimed at retired men over the age of 55 and provides an opportunity to chat in a non-judgemental, safe and supportive environment.

Ron | 0424 462 153

HillsOM11@gmail.com

Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra

Welcomes new players and gig enquiries. Rehearsals Wednesday evenings.

Chris | 0405 994 605

info@hillsshiresymphonyorchestra.org.au

www.hillsshiresymphonyorchestra.org.au

Hills Toastmasters

Meets every second Tuesday, 7pm. Restore Church: 47 Britannia Rd, Castle Hill. New members welcomed

Terry | 0488 089 951

Hills/Toongabbie Music Club

Meets 2nd and 4th Fridays 7.30pm Northmead Scouts Hall 17 Whitehaven Northmead. Beginners to professionals all welcome.

Allen | 0439 831 531

allendavisuitar@gmail.com

Kurrajong Hand Spun Craft

Come and learn a beautiful old craft at North Richmond Community Centre. Friendly group just bring yourself.

Thursdays at noon.

Margaret | 0403 819 165

Ladies Probus Club of Baulkham Hills

Meetings 10am, 2nd Wednesday of the month. At The Fiddler, Windsor Road and Commercial Road, Rouse Hill. New Members welcome

Suzanne Dennis | 0412 424 593

ladiesprobusbh@gmail.com

Learning in the Hills

To find out more about the huge range of courses available call 9639 7918

www.hca.org.au/learning-in-the-hills/

Lions Club of Richmond Inc.

Geoff | 0412 969 651

Lions Club of Windsor Inc

Pam | 0413 395 145

Macquarie Towns Garden Club

The Club meets at 2 pm on the 1st Thurs of the month, in the Tebbutt Room of Hawkesbury Central Library at Windsor.

macquarietownsgardenclub.wordpress.com

National Seniors Australia (Hills Branch)

Meets on the 1st Thurs of every month at Baulkham Hills Sports Club Renown Rd, Baulkham Hills at 9.30am for 10am. New members welcomed.

May | 0414 634 572

maybruce@bigpond.com

North Rocks View Club

Meetings 2nd Thurs each month at 10.30 am. The Vikings Club, 35 Quarry Rd, Dundas Valley. Contact.

Pam | 047 420 4080 or Margaret | 9872 1405

Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club

We are a breakfast Club and meet every Friday morning at 7.15am. The Rotary Motto is Service Above Self. If you want to meet like-minded people pls join us.

norwestrotary.org.au

Pennant Hills Mens Probus Club

John | 9487 1385

Pennant Hills Combined Probus Club

Meets at Hotel Pennant Hills every third Monday of the month at 10am. New members and visitors welcome.

Lorene | 0429 396594

Pennant Hills VIEW Club

Meets for lunch on the 2nd Tues of each month at Oatlands Golf Club at 11am. Meetings consist of a 2 course lunch followed by an interesting guest speaker. Visitors & new members are welcome. On the 4th Tues of the month a social outing is organized.

Margaret | 9873 2402

Pitt Town Probus Club

Meets at 10:00am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Pitt Town and District Sports Club, 139 Old Pitt Town Rd Pitt Town. New members welcome.

Denise Fairfax | 0435 447 414

Probus Club of Round Corner (Dural)

Julie; PO Box 822, Round Corner 2158

Probus Club of the Hills Inc

Is a mixed club and meets at the Galston Club 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston on the 2nd Wed of each month commencing at 10.30 am. New members welcome.

Ken | 02 96296459

Probus Club - Glenorie

This Club meets every 4th Wed at 11.00am at Glenorie RSL Club. New members are welcome.

Wendy | 9653 1022

wendyireneblack@yahoo.com.au

Probus Club - Kellyville Castle Hill Mixed

Meets at 10am on 2nd Thursday of each month at Muirfield Golf Club, Barclay Rd North Rocks. New members welcome.

Ian Sandercock | 0417 667 067

patiansandercock@bigpond.com

Probus Combined Castle Hill Club

General meetings 3rd Tues of the month at 10am at Cherrybrook Community Centre.

Glenys | 0408 160743

donpye@live.com.au

Probus Combined Kellyville Club

Meet 2nd Monday of the month at 10am. At The Glenhaven Community Centre: 76 Glenhaven Road, Glenhaven. New members welcome.

Veronica | 0408 039 308

ken_n_sue@hotmail.com

Probus Club of Winston Hills - Northmead Combined

Meets at 10am at Toongabbie Sports Club, 12 Station St, Toongabbie, 2nd Thursday of the month. New members welcome.

winstonhillspobusclub@gmail.com

RDA (NSW) Tall Timbers Centre

Equine assisted programs, Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy and Volunteering Opportunities. Located at Gables/Box Hill

9679 1246

admin@rdanswtalltimbers.org.au

www.rdanswtalltimbers.org.au

Red Cross - Castle Hill Branch

Meetings 2nd Friday of the month 10.15am to 11.45am at Wesley Uniting Church, 32-34 Showground Rd, Castle Hill. New members always welcome.

0419 431 084.

Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club

Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club Which Supports The Smith Family Learning for Life meet on 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 11.30 at The Richmond Club

Christine Walshaw | 0416073483

Scouts Australia - Greater Western Sydney Region

9639 2488

www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Sleep Disorders Australia - NSW

02 9990 3514 | www.sleepoz.org.au

Soroptimist International The Hills

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the Month at Crestwood Community Centre Baulkham Hills 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Cathy | 0435 837 118

sithehills@siwp.org

The Hills Community Aid and Information Service Inc

9639 8620

The Hills Learning Centre

02 8850 0555

RSVP | info@thehillslc.com.au

facebook.com/thehillsllearningcentre

The Hills Shire Garden Club

Meets on 3rd Monday of the month at Barton Hall at 178 David Rd castle Hill at 1 pm. We have guest speakers, raffles, plant sales and bus trips to various gardens

New members are always welcome.

9624 5034

The Hills District Pipe Band

Practices at Stamford Hall, Balcombe Heights Estate, Baulkham Hills every Wednesday night from 7pm-9pm. The band warmly welcomes new members and gig enquiries.

Instagram: @hillsdistrictpipeband

Suzie Whitaker

pipeband.hillsdistrict@gmail.com

www.hillsdistrictpipeband.com

The Hills Trefoil Guild

Elaine | 0417 330 196

The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills

Meets at St. Joseph' Conference Centre on the 4th Monday of each month at 6.00pm (dinner optional) for meeting at 7.00pm.

Robyn | 9639 2742

The Sydney Hills Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees

Meets at Beecroft Presbyterian Church Hall, Welham St Beecroft at 10.30 for a 10.45 start.

Mal Steel | airsidedneyhills@gmail.com

Thursday Ladies Tennis Competition in the Hills District

hillsladiestennis.org

Wanderers Bushwalking and Outdoor Club

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8 pm at Crestwood Community Centre, Cnr Crestwood Drive and Conway St, Baulkham Hills.

Ted | 0429 790 091

www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/wanderers

Windsor RSL Fishing Club

Meets on the last Tues of the month at Windsor RSL club at 6:30pm. The club has been established for over 40 years and welcomes new members. It holds regular fishing outings including in land water and deep sea fishing.

Les Mison | 0421 821 1990.

Windsor Probus Club

Meets at 10am on the 1st Wed of each month at Windsor Golf Club, McQuade Ave, South Windsor.

Membership Officer Alan | 0407721461 or

Secretary Ann | 0414298945

Winston Hills Joey Scouts

9862 8482 | hsara@optusnet.com.au

Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed Inc

Meeting Tues and Sat 9am - 5pm

Alan Hunt | 4566 4626 or 0428 784 425

Adrian Acheson | 0448 833 781

YMCA NSW Community Visitors Scheme

9633 8209 or 0402 255 193

Zonta Club of Sydney Hills

0414 641 408

www.zontadistrict24.org

PUZZLE

FERGIES TREE WORKS



Please call Nathan & Lisa for all your summer garden needs

No job is too BIG or too small!
Free Quotes • Free Advice
No Obligation • Fully Insured

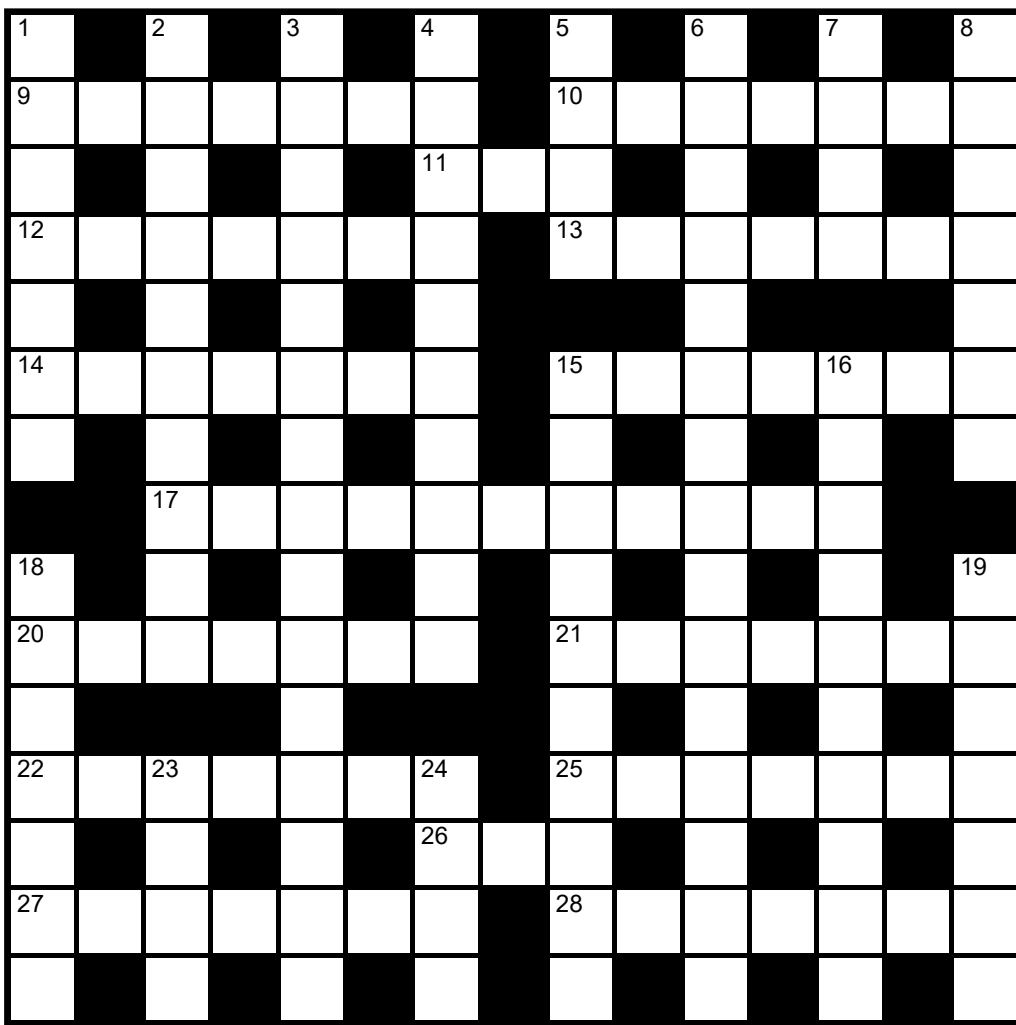
0414 428 707
fergiestreeworks@gmail.com

WANTED TO BUY OLD NOTES AND COINS

- Australian decimal & pre-decimal
- Paper and polymer banknotes
- Pennies
- Shillings
- 1c, 2c, round 50c,
- Colour coins
- Stamps and more

We come to you - mobile service.

**Call Steve
0415572560**



Across

- Swaggering show
- Small carnivorous marsupial of the south
- Go a few rounds
- Fords from the end of the last millennium
- Ailing while sailing
- African tongue
- They're hooked
- Stir enough tar or get a distinction (5, 6)
- Loser (4-3)
- Drink cooler (3, 4)
- Ornate wardrobe cabinet
- Fascinate
- Pillage
- Swag
- Bludgers

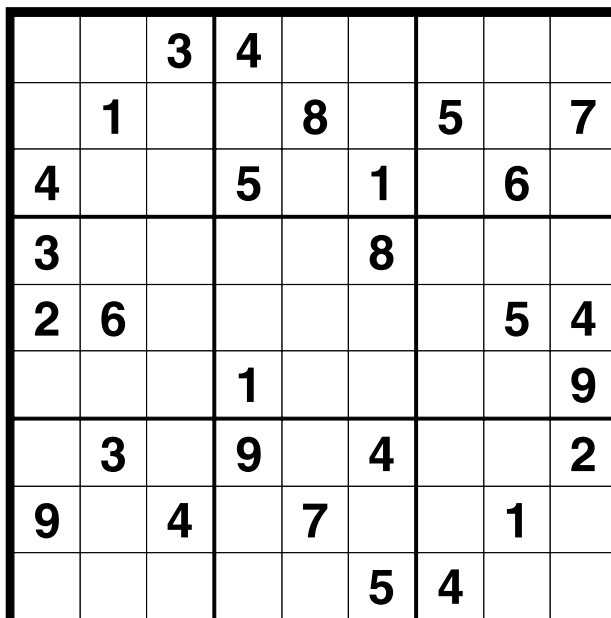
Down

- Inflammation
- Oil alternative (7, 3)
- Periodical item (8, 7)
- Footballer who won the Brownlow Medal three times (3, 7)
- "Original Sin" band
- Tiny central Australian nocturnal flyer (6,6,3)
- Indonesian resort island
- Like the interior of a medium steak
- Loathsome (10)
- Diffused cacti ruled out (10)
- One revered in India
- He looks down in the mouth
- Dust speck
- They're shorter than eons

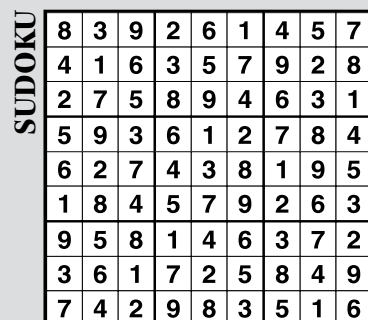
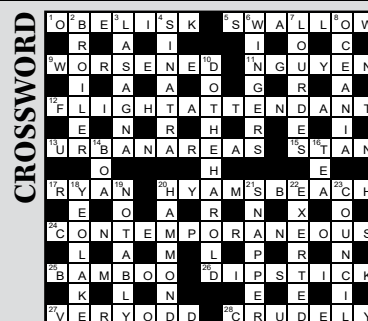
SUDOKU

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.



Answers from last issue



WORD SEARCH

CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

- ANGUILLA GUADELOUPE
- BAHAMAS JAMAICA
- BARBADOS MARTINIQUE
- BARBUDA MONTSERRAT
- CAYMAN NEVIS
- COZUMEL PUERTO RICO
- CUBA TOBAGO
- DOMINICA TORTOLA
- GRAND TURK TRINIDAD
- GRENADA VIRGIN GORDA

E G R E N A D A S N E V I S U
P A I T D M B O A Y U S S U V
U U J Y T A D R E V Q O R Y P
O G I U R A D C T S I W L U A
L R P B B S D I E E N F E T B
E Y U R R D O G N R I R P T U
D D A C A Y M A N I T N R O C
A B V I R G I N G O R D A R D
U Q I W R I N H R I A T E T E
G G Y T I S I I L E M U Z O C
T W C S T A C I A M A J E L C
T O B A G O A P B A H A M A S
E T M L A G R A N D T U R K R
I A A N G U I L L A A R L Q Z
X S F U A T A R R E S T N O M

ANSWERS FROM LAST ISSUE

WORD SEARCH

T T E R E L W A R T Y W E T S
L R U G T T L R X T A H O A X
Q O E G O E A N A M C E N O Y
F L N N B N S A V Y H R A B H
K L I G O O D L A A T R C E G
T C R J B O A O O Y L Y T S N
R A R N X O H T L O R A T U I
O T L A L U A C A A P R P O D
O A M U A C O T S N E Y E H N
K M W K G I E Z E T T Y N P
Z A T U M G H Y D R O F O I L
I R M P P P E L I F E B O A T
P A B X L Z S R L T F R A F T
T N F E G R A B Y E L L A G O
Y Z T A O B W O H S N C P Y L

CODE WORD

T A C T I C A L A P S E
U L N D C R L
S L O P E S O Z O N E
K G X O N L V
A T T R A C T I V E
P D R B E F N
O R I G I N U P L I F T
L S C J T C H
L O Q U A C I O U S
U U B G A M A
T W I L L G L E A K S
E E E L L U P
S I T E R E C Y C L E S

CODE WORD

Numbers in the grid (1-26) correspond to each of the letters of the alphabet from A-Z in some order. Solve the puzzle and fill in the letters in the key provided as you find them. Three letters are provided to give you a start.

2	20	1	23	12	23	1	4	13	1	14	8	
7		19		19		21			2		21	
2	9	2	23	8		17	19	26	2	15	19	13
17		13		19		22			23		23	
		19		6		14	25	11	1	19	19	8
11	19	17	5	14	25	19		17		13	19	
19			19					2			13	
16		10		26		26	21	20	14	13	1	13
23	3	19	24	2	8	2		1		20		
9		2			25	23			18		26	
17	2	12	23	21	26	23		20	17	19	16	21
19		19			8		19		25		26	
19	2	17	26		18	2	17	16	24	2	26	26
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Y			J						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
											L	

SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

			2	7				
		8		6				
3	4				9	2		
4					2		6	
	5					9		
7	3							8
	1	6			4		5	
				5		3		
			9	6				

SUDOKU

6	2	8	9	3	1	7	4	5
4	1	7	2	5	6	9	8	3
9	5	3	8	7	4	1	2	6
7	4	1	3	8	2	5	6	9
8	3	2	5	6	9	4	7	1
5	9	6	1	4	7	2	3	8
2	8	9	7	1	3	6	5	4
3	7	4	6	9	5	8	1	2
1	6	5	4	2	8	3	9	7

Plan Today & Enjoy Life Tomorrow

At InvoCare Memorial Parks, we are committed to bringing certainty to life's most challenging moments. By pre-purchasing a memorial, you ease the burden on your family and secure your future resting place at today's price. For a limited time, we are offering selected discounts on a range of memorial products across our Memorial Parks.

Speak with our friendly team today to discuss your options.

10% off¹

Burial Accessories

Plaques, photos and headstone inscriptions.

\$500 off²

Cremation Memorials



9629 1477
castlebrook.com.au



9606 5822
forestlawn.com.au



9625 8066
pinegrovecrem.com.au



Terms and Conditions: This offer is valid until 22nd December 2022. This offer is strictly for use at Castlebrook, Forest Lawn and Pinegrove Memorial Park only. Mention this ad to redeem discount. ¹This discount is strictly for purchases of burial accessories of new properties with minimum spend of \$9416.00 inc GST. This discount is not available for the purchase of funeral services, cremation and burial sites, crypts, vaults and memorial accessories separate from burial accessories. ²This discount is strictly for purchases of cremation sites over \$5000 only. This discount is not available for the purchase of funeral services, burial sites, crypts, vaults and memorial accessories. For full terms and conditions on these offers please visit the website www.mymemorial.com.au/metrodiscount

ALL TREE WORK

Hills Shire And Surrounds



- Tree removal
- Tree trimming
- Palm removal and cleaning
- Land clearing
- Crane work
- Stump grinding

ARBOR BIZZ TREE SERVICES 0425 213 380
 Qualified arborists ★★★★★ Fully insured

MASTERCLASS ROOFING

- Roof Repairs
- Rebedding
- Repointing
- Broken tiles
- Fix Leaks
- Replace Valleys

NEW Guttering

CALL 0477 198 690

HILLS DISTRICT PLUMBER

▶ Google 4.9 Star Rating
 ▶ Guaranteed 24/7 Fast Response
 ▶ Lifetime Labour Warranty
 ▶ 15% Seniors Discount
 ▶ On Time, No Mess or you Pay \$100 Less



REACTIVE PLUMBING

02 9199 2612
www.reactiveplumbing.com.au

Leaking Taps • Blocked Drains
 Leaking Toilets • Burst Pipes • CCTV Inspection
 Hot Water Systems • Pipe Relining

LOCAL HILLS TO HAWKESBURY ELECTRICIAN

All Electrical Work
 Best Prices & All Work Guaranteed
 Seniors/Pensioners Discount
 Phone and Data
 Switch Board Repairs

Mention this ad and get \$50 off

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE

LIC273594C

PH: 4505 4588

WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS...
 ARBORIST EST. 1956

MCARDLE TREE SERVICES

TREE REMOVAL | PRUNING
 STUMP GRINDING | LAND CLEARING
 MULCH SALES | FIREWOOD

0414 635 650
INFO@MCARDLETREES.COM.AU

- ✓ 4th Generation Expert Arborist
- ✓ Fully Licensed & Insured
- ✓ 24 Hour Emergency Service

MATT'S SKIP BINS

02 4708 2927
www.mattsskipbins.com.au

GVT HOME APPLIANCE REPAIRS & ELECTRICAL SERVICES

All Repairs Stoves, Ovens, Cooktops, Rangehoods
 Dishwashers, Fridges, Freezers, Washers, Dryers, and more
 All Service Guaranteed, All Brands All Models,
 All Suburbs 24/7 Service, 25 Yrs Experience

PH: 9629 6750 MOB: 0408 253 646

accounts all sorted

Specialising in Xero, Bookkeeping & Payroll Services

Keryn Stack
 0409 962 777
keryn@accountsallsorted.com.au
accountsallsorted.com.au

BAULKHAM HILLS DOORS

Accredited

GARAGE DOORS & AUTOMATIC OPENERS

1300 76 22 66
 Email: sales@baulkhamhillsdoors.com.au

- Sales
- Installation
- Service
- Repairs to Most Major Brands

LOCAL PLUMBER

24/7 EMERGENCY Service
 Ontime Reliable Plumbers
 Plumbers You Can Trust
 All Work Guaranteed

CALL NOW 9056 8107

\$0 CALL OUT SAME DAY SERVICE \$50 OFF YOU APPROVE THE PRICE BEFORE WE BEGIN

Blocked Drains
 Hot Water
 Burst Pipes

WWW.PUREPLUMBINGPROS.COM.AU



GF

Roof & Gutter Cleaning

Call 0400 291 683

Roof Pressure Cleaning • Gutter Cleaning By Hand • All Other Pressure Cleaning

ADVERTISE WITH US

Get your business details out to over 20,000 residents each month.

Lock in your advertising for 12 months, and just let the work flow in. Local people prefer using local trades and services.

Call 0499 040 726



Masterwork Sheetmetal Fabrication

- Custom Steel Fabrication
- Metal Work Repairs
- Machine or Vehicle Modification
- Remanufacturing of rare parts

For a quote call Tim
0431 741 099
www.masterworksheetsmetalfabrication.com



BEAUMONT AIR CONDITIONING SOLUTIONS

SUMMER IS HERE!

Let us help you stay cool this summer season.

Air Conditioning Services from \$208

Your local trusted HVAC experts

1300 11 BACS
www.beaumontair.com.au

AU31432 License No: 366933C



REFRESH PAINTING & CO

Your Local Painter

All Internal and external Commercial and residential
Free Quote

0433 025 464 | SEAN.REFRESH@GMAIL.COM



Tree Removal Large & Small

Climbing Expert & Qualified Arborist

Available locally

Trees Down Under

CALL JOE TODAY
0475 463 597
treesdownunder.com.au

Call Us Now SAME DAY SERVICE

LOCAL HILLS TO HAWKESBURY PLUMBER

- All Plumbing Work
- Best Prices & All Work Guaranteed
- Seniors/Pensioners Discount
- Blocked Drains and Pipes
- Hot Water Repairs

Mention this ad and get **\$50 off**

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE

LIC273594C

PH: 4505 4589



vibe Marketing

- Mobile Apps
- Bespoke Websites
- Online Shops
- SEO
- Social Media
- PPC
- Telemarketing
- Email Marketing
- Videos
- Graphic Design

Tanya 0413 953 000
tanya.cook@vibe-marketing.com.au
vibe-marketing.com.au



PHILIPS Homecare

Feel Like Home
phomecare.com.au

Respite 24/7 care
Shopping Assistance
Community nursing support
Wheelchair transport

Call **0493 061 477**
ndis@phomecare.com.au

Disability Support AgedCare

POSITION AVAILABLE

MATURE, RELIABLE, INTELLIGENT PERSON FOR CASUAL DOMESTIC AND OTHER DUTIES IN ARCADIA

VARIED HOURS
Monday • Tuesday • Wednesday

Phone 02 9653 1115

All the staff at Hills to Hawkesbury Community News wish our readers a very happy and safe festive season and thank you for your support.

Our next edition will be on
13th January 2023

www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au

ESSENTIA

LUXURY TOWNHOMES

FINAL TOWNHOMES NOW SELLING
READY FROM MID-2023



Enjoy spacious townhome living with resort-style facilities in the heart of Bella Vista.

Final townhomes now selling from \$2.29m*

4 bed, 3 bath, 2 car | Residents-only pool, gym and function space | 400m from Bella Vista Primary School

VISIT OUR DISPLAY HOME

1300 312 842 | essentiatownhomes.com.au



Disclaimer: *Prices correct as at 16/12/2022.