

Hills to Hawkesbury

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Community News

10th – 24th February 2023 | Volume 40 – Issue 03
Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses



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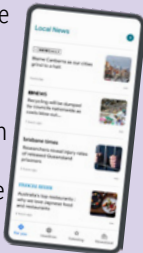
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Total impressions

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Wisemans Ferry News

A new three-lane boat ramp at Wisemans Ferry has been launched, following the devastation of two major flood events in 2022.



Hills Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi, Hawkesbury MP Robyn Preston and Hornsby Mayor Philip Ruddock.

Project-managed by Hornsby Shire Council and co-funded by The Hills Shire Council and the NSW Government, the new boat ramp is complemented by a new pontoon, a new car park with 163 bays for vehicles and boat trailers and 29 bays for single vehicles, and a new amenities block.

Hornsby Mayor Philip Ruddock said that Hornsby Shire Council was delighted to join forces with the project partners to provide this much needed facility for the benefit of the local community.

"We're very excited to launch this highly-anticipated new state of the art facility at Wisemans Ferry. We thank The Hills Shire Council and the NSW Government for their support in this important project which will provide safe and easy access to the water and an improved experience for all.

We hope that the new facilities become a symbol of hope and renewal for the people of Wisemans Ferry who have endured so much over the past few years."

Hills Shire Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi said the new boat ramp would increase tourism as the region recovers from the floods.

"This is an outstanding example of the two councils and the NSW Government working together for residents and visitors to our Shires. It will be a boost to tourism for the region and will be a valuable facility for a multitude of recreational watercraft.

"It will complement private ramps located upstream from the ferry cables and will relieve pressure on other ramps located downstream," he said.

Hornsby Shire Council also secured NSW Government funding to construct a new playground, which is now open, as well as a walking trail and village green which will be built this year. NSW Maritime Executive Director Mark Hutchings said it was great to see the project, which was part of the NSW Government's Boating Now program, come to fruition.

"The Boating Now program, now in its fourth round, has invested in about 330 projects since it began in 2014, providing funding to improve maritime infrastructure and facilities across NSW," he said.

For information about the new facilities at Wisemans Ferry visit <https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/wisemans-ferry>

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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.

Box Hill Land Dispute

By BEV JORDAN

A row between Hills Shire Council and the developers of The Hills of Carmel estate at Box Hill over the sale of land for parks and sport fields has reached a new level.



The Hills of Carmel in 1965 when it was Brahma cattle stud

At Tuesday night's council meeting (February 7th) councillors approved a Mayoral Minute by Peter Gangemi calling for a report on compulsory acquiring land within the estate for community use.

The Hills to Hawkesbury Community News understands that Hills Shire Council made a formal offer to buy a large parcel of land within the master-planned estate for parks and sports fields but the offer was knocked back by the land owners in January.

General Manager, Michael Edgar is now preparing a report for Council setting out the processes and options to proceed "as expediently" as possible regarding the acquisition of land within the Hills of Carmel estate.

In his Mayoral Minute to Hills Shire councillors, Dr Gangemi said while council had opened new parks and sports fields in other areas of Box Hill and the neighbouring Gables development it had not been able to do the same in The Hills of Carmel development.

He said: "The rollout of parks and sports fields within The Hills of Carmel section of Box Hill has been slower than surrounding areas, and a number of community members have contacted myself and councillors on the matter. I want the community to know that as a Council, we are

listening to you and are doing everything in our power to provide you the services you deserve."

He said Council has always sought to prioritise the acquisition of land as early as possible in the life of a precinct to keep the future costs of delivering local infrastructure down and had bought more than \$200 million worth of land from around 40 landowners within the precinct since 2014.

"As in all precincts, different landowners have different time horizons and different expectations and sometimes it takes time for the parties to agree. So far, Council has not needed to compulsorily acquire land in this precinct however that may soon be something Council needs to consider for some important open space, drainage and road projects.

"Despite making offers based on formal independent valuation advice to acquire land from this developer, and in contrast to our successful acquisition of land and delivery of community infrastructure elsewhere in the precinct, agreement has not been reached for the purchase of this land. I also understand that while frustrating for the community, commercial matters of this nature need to be dealt with confidentially at times. I feel that Council needs to appropriately consider its

option to progress the matter as expediently as possible within the processes available to us under legislation and also with the ambit of our available budgets.

"Residents within The Hills of Carmel deserve open space recreational opportunities, and as a Council, it is important that we do all we can on this issue for the community."

Hills Shire Council has recently opened new parks in Box Hill including Ceres Way Reserve, Equinox Drive Reserve and Hannaford Avenue Reserve. Construction has also started on the Brindle Parkway Sports Fields in Box Hill (pictured). The nearby Gables development also has a significant number of community parks that have been completed.

The \$1.3 billion development of the 223 ha Hills of Carmel, a former Brahma Cattle stud owned by Albert Scheinberg since 1960, was officially launched in 2013 with the announcement it would provide 2000 homes, schools, shops and sporting fields when completed in 2025.

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POLICE PURSUIT

A disqualified driver caught speeding in Quakers Hill has been charged with Police pursuit - drive recklessly - not stop and Drive motor vehicle during disqualification period - 2nd Offence.

Police from Riverstone Highway Patrol say they observed a white Volkswagen Golf travelling on Quakers Road in Quakers Hill at speed just after 11.15pm on Sunday 29th January.

The driver ignored police signals to stop and a pursuit was commenced through Marayong. The Volkswagen then moved to the incorrect side of Richmond Road at which time police terminated the pursuit.

A Police helicopter quickly identified the Volkswagen which came to a stop a short time later in Blacktown. Police converged on the location with the male driver arrested for the pursuit. Checks revealed that the driver was disqualified from driving until 2026 at the time of the offence.

FENCING CLUE

Officers from The Hills Highway Patrol have arrested and charged a 31-year-old man from Kellyville with drug and multiple stealing offences. He is due before court this month.

He was stopped by police at about 5.15pm on Saturday 21st of January by officers patrolling Commercial Road at Rouse Hill who sighted a white Toyota Hilux carrying temporary fencing.

Officers were aware of recent thefts of temporary fencing and stopped the vehicle. Checks on the vehicle's registration confirmed that the number plates attached to the Hilux were stolen from a Castle Hill address a few weeks earlier on 4th January.

The driver was questioned about the stolen number plates, but he alleged that the vehicle was borrowed and could not provide any further information to Police. He could not provide information of ownership of the fencing either. He was subjected to a roadside breath test which returned a negative result but the roadside drug test returned positive to methylamphetamine.

Officers arrested the driver and conducted a search of the vehicle locating rolls of copper, drug paraphernalia and a white crystal-like substance which was seized for analysis. The driver was conveyed to Castle Hill Police Station where the secondary drug test returned positive to methylamphetamine.

Officers continued the investigation of the stolen number plates while the driver remained in Police custody. CCTV footage was obtained from the Castle Hill address where the number plates were stolen from. The driver was charged. Officers from the Hills Highway Patrol are continuing with their investigation.

TEENS ARRESTED

Two 17-year-old males have been charged with numerous offences relating to Break and Enters and Steal Motor Vehicle at premises in Kellyville, Bella Vista, Box Hill and The Gables just before Christmas.

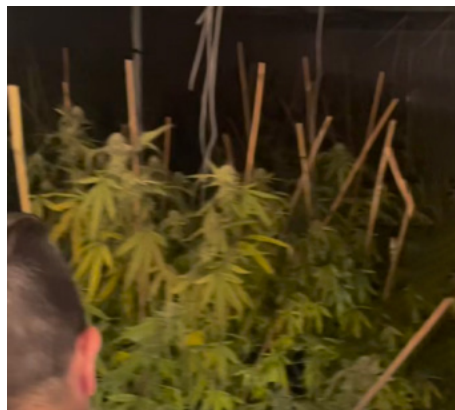
On January 30th Hills Proactive Police attended an address in Mt Druitt where the first 17-year-old was arrested. He was taken to Mt Druitt Police Station where he was charged with 30 offences including:

- 7 x Enter vehicle or boat without consent of owner
- 7 x Larceny value <=\$2000
- 4 x Take & drive conveyance w/o consent of owner
- 9 x Dishonestly obtain financial advantage etc by deception
- 1 x Aggravated enter dwelling in company intent to steal <=\$60000
- 1 x Participate criminal group contribute criminal activity
- 1 x Learner not accompanied by driver/police officer/tester

A second 17-year-old male, this time from Marsden Park, has been charged at Riverstone Police Station with 28 offences relating to Break and Enter and Steal motor vehicle. They include:

- Larceny x 7
- Enter vehicle without consent of owner/occupier x 7
- Take and drive conveyance without consent of owner/occupier
- Be carried in conveyance without consent of owner/occupier x 3
- Dishonestly obtain financial advantage etc by deception x 7
- Agg enter dwelling in company intent to steal <=\$60000
- Participate criminal group contribute criminal activity
- Learner not accompanied by driver/police officer/tester

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers. Information is treated in strict confidence.



The owners of a rented Castle Hill home were shocked to find that the tenant's furnishings were a smelly shade of green. Police have destroyed 88 marijuana plants.

SPEEDSTER STOPPED

Officers from The Hills Highway Patrol have suspend the licence of an 18-year-old P1 licence holder allegedly seen travelling 71 km/hr over the sign posted speed limit at Bella Vista.

The red P-Plater was spotted at about 5.50am on 29th January when officers were conducting stationary speed enforcement along Old Windsor Road at Bella Vista. The yellow Toyota C-HR was detected travelling at 151km/hr in a sign posted 80km/hr zone.

Police stopped the vehicle and spoke to the driver who allegedly stated, "I need to go to the toilet." The driver returned negative results for alcohol and drugs.

The driver was issued an infringement notice for Exceed Speed Limit - over 45 km/hr, his NSW driver's licence was confiscated and suspended on the spot for a period of 6 months. The vehicle was not owned by the driver and the number plates remained on the vehicle.

DRINK DRIVER

A 45-year-old Schofields man has been charged with exceed speed, and mid range drink driving after being stopped in Glenwood. It will be alleged that at 8.10pm on Friday the 27th January officers from Hills Highway Patrol, detected the man driving on Old Windsor Road at Glenwood at a speed of 164kph in a posted 80km zone driving a white sedan.

When stopped, he returned a positive roadside breath test. He was arrested and taken to Castle Hill Police Station, where he returned a reading of 0.09. His licence was suspended.

FIREARM AMNESTY

Police are reminding people to make an appointment when handing in items under the Firearms Amnesty after someone handed in two 9L buckets full of hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

The Firearm Amnesty allows for firearms or firearm related articles to be registered, supplied or surrendered to a participating firearm dealer or surrendered to a police station without fear of prosecution.

Police say ensure you contact the participating firearms dealer or your local police station, prior to attending the location with a firearm, firearm related article or prohibited weapon.

Before taking a firearm to a participating firearms dealer or a police station, make sure the firearm is unloaded and where possible, remove the bolt or other method to render the firearm safe. Place the firearm in a gun bag or wrap in a blanket. Ammunition can be taken at the same time as a firearm; however, it must be stored in a separate bag, box or container.

New Line Road Concerns Continue

by ANNETTE MADJARIAN

Residents have once again expressed concern and frustration over traffic, congestion and safety along New Line Road, despite a \$70 million upgrade pledge from the NSW Government.

NSW Transport carried out consultation with the local community and road users towards the end of last year in a bid to identify development options for the New Line Road corridor.

The 'Have your say' consultation resulted in three main themes:

- Congestion (particularly at the key intersections of Shepherds Drive/County Drive, Hastings Road/Sebastian Road and Old Northern Road)
- pedestrian and bike provisions
- safety at existing roundabouts.

Concerns were also raised about the need for more active transport and pedestrian infrastructure along New Line Road. Once again, suggestions were made to widen New Line Road with two lanes of traffic in each direction.

In his Budget announcement in June, NSW Treasurer and Hornsby MP Matt Kean pledged \$70 million, saying the funds would go towards widening New Line Road from single lanes to dual carriageways between Purchase and Hastings roads.

At the time, Mr Kean said the much-needed upgrade would widen the Pyes Creek Bridge to improve traffic flow and effectively make "an enormous difference to those that live and travel through the area".

In this latest community consultation, residents said they were concerned that widening New Line Road between Purchase Road and Jenner Road would lead to an increased volume of traffic.

The consultation found:-

- Concern regarding congestion on New Line Road near Purchase Road, particularly during school pick up and drop off times.
- Suggestion to provide an overpass at Pyes Creek to increase number of lanes available.
- Suggestion to widen New Line Road between Purchase Road and Jenner Road to three lanes in either direction to future proof the road.
- Request for the provision of a bus lane on New Line Road.
- Request for New Line Road to be made into a dual carriageway from Castle Hill Road to the roundabout at Old Northern Road.

The next big area of concern for residents was the section from Boundary Road to Purchase Road. Several suggestions were received to install traffic lights at the roundabout of County Drive/Shepherds Drive and New Line Road to aid in managing traffic and pedestrians during peak hours. **The community feedback included requests for:**

- Traffic lights with a pedestrian crossing on New Line Road near the bus stop between the intersection of Boundary Road and New Line Road and County Drive/ Shepherds Drive.
- More pedestrian crossings and a request to move the existing pedestrian crossing on Shepherds Drive closer to the Roundabout.
- A pedestrian overpass or underpass to be installed at the intersection of County Drive/ Shepherds Drive and New Line Road.

The Government has said the community's feedback will be "considered as part of the future planning development of this corridor".

Further engagement with the community is expected to occur this year.

Helping parents find the right school

Parents, don't miss The Hills Schools Expo in the Harvey Lowe Pavilion located in the Castle Hill Showground, on Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th March 2023. Open from 10am – 4pm both days, admission is free.

The expo will showcase leading independent schools serving Sydney's North-West and Hills districts.

Parents and families will be able to meet face to face with staff from many of Australia's top schools, gather information and ask questions relating to their child's specific educational

needs. From preschool and early learning right through to Year 12, exhibiting schools cater to children of all ages and abilities.

A wide variety of learning methodologies from traditional to alternative are represented to ensure that parents can find the school best suited to their child.

Exhibitors include boarding schools, faith-based and secular schools, single sex and co-ed establishments.

Many of these schools offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB) as well as specialised athletic and academic programs. For all parents who are looking to provide the best education for their child, this event is not to be missed.

With so many schools convening in one convenient location, the Hills Schools Expo helps families to accomplish what would normally be days of research in just a few hours.

For a list of schools exhibiting go to our website. www.schoolexpo.com.au



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Walk for KIDS

This smiley little girl is KYAH. She's six years old, full of sass and makes friends with everyone she meets.

Kyah also has a life-threatening form of cancer. When she was four years old, Kyah was diagnosed with a neuroblastoma – one of the most common types of children's cancer.

It's been tough. Kyah has been through nine rounds of chemotherapy, 20 rounds of radiation treatment and several major surgeries.

She still has a long road ahead. But her doctors say she's responding well to treatment, and her family are over the moon that their little Kyah is smiling again.

Kyah's not alone. Each year in Australia, 40 kids are diagnosed with this type of cancer.

To survive, those kids will all need the very best care.

Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation's Walk for Kids with Cancer is returning for 2023 on Sunday 26 March, raising funds to support kids like Kyah.

In 2022, walkers raised a whopping \$141,000 to help give sick kids the fighting chance they deserve. And that was when the official walk was unable to go ahead.

Walkers will gather in The Rocks, and start the 13km walk to Balmoral, or 27km walk



to Manly to raise money for both oncology departments across Sydney Children's Hospitals Network – Kids Cancer Centre at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick and the Cancer Centre for Children at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

If you would like to help sick kids like Kyah, sign up for the Walk for Kids with Cancer today. You can choose to walk 13km or 27km, solo or as part of team.

It will be a great day out, but the Walk for Kids with Cancer is so much more than that.

By taking part, the money you raise could help power ground-breaking research to help sick kids fight cancer. You could also help fund state-of-the-art medical equipment, and support programs like music therapy to keep kids' spirits up while they're in hospital.

To register, please visit www.walkforkidscancer.org.au

Puppy Dog Tales Reading Program

Hawkesbury Library Service is trialling a new reading program for children. Puppy Dog Tales aims to improve a child's early literacy skills while they have fun reading to a dog.



Animals are ideal reading companions because they promote relaxation and lower blood pressure, do not judge, laugh, or criticise and allow the child to proceed at their own pace.

A reading session is approximately 10 minutes long, where each child is one-on-one with a specially trained dog. Reading sessions take place in a quiet area of the library. In this non-judgemental environment, the children's focus improves, their literacy skills increase and their confidence soars.

The child can bring a favourite story or select a book from the Library's collection. The accepting, loving nature of dogs helps children relax, open up, and try harder while having fun reading to a friendly, calm friend!

This is a free event with weekly sessions running from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, Friday, 10 February until Thursday, 30 March 2023, and will be held at Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street Windsor. Bookings are essential either via Eventbrite <https://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com/> or by calling 4560 4460. Email: kate.galloway@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au



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Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards



DIANE RUSSELL is Hawkesbury Citizen of the Year. The Founder of the Hope4U Foundation also established the Hope Walk in Windsor which is being held this Saturday (February 11th).

The Hope4U Foundation specialises in grief and loss for families and individuals of those who have lost loved ones to suicide.

Diane established the **Hope Walk at Windsor** in 2016, to try and raise awareness of suicide and its impact on families and to erase the stigma of mental illness. The Walk For Hope followed the death of her son Jason to suicide in 2015. In 2021 her second son Aaron died of suicide.

The Hope4U Foundation provides free counselling, workshops, community support events, free BBQs and events such as the Hope Walk.



Dianne Russell pictured with Australia Day Ambassador Greg Donovan and Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon

The citation at the award's ceremony said: "(Diane) gives back to her community by volunteering all her free time to ensure community members have emotional and mental health support.

"She still works as a registered nurse, and she puts all her free time and money into community events and supporting our community."

EMILY LOWE, 21, was named as Hawkesbury's 2023 Young Citizen of the Year. Emily joined Tennyson Rural Fire Station as a Junior Volunteer in August 2013.

During this time, Emily has been involved in community education and preparedness initiatives through the Rural Fire Service where she has also been an active firefighter responding to incidents around the Hawkesbury.

She has been deeply involved in the response to multiple disasters that have directly impacted the Hawkesbury community including 2019/2020 Gospers Mountain Fire and the multiple floods the Hawkesbury has seen during 2020 to 2022.

In 2021 and 2022, Emily also participated in the Starlight Foundation Super Swim Fundraising Challenge. Through this challenge over two years, she achieved and exceeded her fundraising goals, raising hundreds of dollars by swimming over 40kms.

Her citation read: "Emily has excelled in an organisation with an under-representation of young women. She is an inspiration for many women and young people to join the Rural Fire Service and to volunteer in the Hawkesbury community."

LOCAL HERO: MITCHELL BRENNAN. In 2019, he fought the fires in Wisemans Ferry as a Rural Fire Service volunteer. He fought the fire for weeks on end and received an award from the Rural Fire Service Commissioner for this work.

During the first flood in 2020, he helped deliver goods to residents over many weeks and assisted with the flood clean up.

In the floods of March 2022 and July 2022, Mitch was yet again delivering goods to the Hawkesbury community and cleaning up again. He was one of the few people who knew the river well and was also truly aware of the needs of the community.



RFS volunteer Emi Lowe with Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon

Local hero Mitchell Brennan



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Mitch lost his own accommodation and belongings on his property in the July 2022 flood. Despite losing so much himself, he worked alongside the Army, cleaning up Walmsley Road and St Albans.

2023 COMMUNITY ORGANISATION OF THE YEAR: The Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association which has fostered and grown the annual agricultural show within the Hawkesbury for 135 Shows.

Of those 100 Shows were held at the Hawkesbury Racecourse with subsequent shows held at the current Hawkesbury Showground site in Clarendon.

This site was secured through the hard work of volunteers within the Association from the Hawkesbury Agricultural College. The Show events bring millions of dollars into the Hawkesbury economy and local infrastructure work on the Showground supports local jobs.

The Hawkesbury Show has grown to become the largest and best regional agricultural show in NSW attracting over 60,000 visitors each year. The Award recognises the tireless and hard work performed by so many volunteers for over 100 years.

THE HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY ARTS AWARD won by **The Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod Society** for The Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod, one of the oldest competitions in Australia and a rich part of the Hawkesbury's heritage.

For over 70 years, the Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod Society has provided a forum in

which performers can build their confidence and skill. Many performers have moved into professional careers within their chosen field including elite international ballet and dance companies, acting, teaching, law and more.

The Eisteddfod Society helps the Hawkesbury community by bringing together families, teachers, and performers and boosting tourism.

Over 7000 performers cross the stage over the approximately 18-day annual event including solos, 110 school groups and 135 dance groups.

POLICE REMEMBRANCE: A Commemorative Plaque honouring DETECTIVE INSPECTOR BRYSON ANDERSON will be displayed in perpetuity at the entrance of the Council Administration Building in Windsor..

Bryson was a Detective Inspector for Hawkesbury Police Area Command and was highly regarded by his colleagues.

As a police officer who came from a policing family, Bryson dedicated his life to protecting the communities he worked in. He was killed in the line of duty in December 2012 while protecting the Hawkesbury community.



DI Bryson Anderson

He was passionate about his role on the Hawkesbury Local Traffic Committee, and he always had a presence at our community events, either in uniform or as a community member with his family. He contributed time to his local fire brigade as a volunteer firefighter and he also organised a Special Olympics Event in Windsor. As a father of three children, Bryson volunteered as a coach to several junior soccer teams and fundraised for the school Parents and Citizens committee.

Bryson was a mentor to many and a caring and generous leader in the Hawkesbury community and a decorated police officer.

The council citation said: "This year marks the tenth anniversary of Bryson's death and it is the time for us to acknowledge his dedication and the ultimate sacrifice he made to protect our Hawkesbury community.

Bryson continues to have a presence in our community, and he will never be forgotten."

Nearly 8000 people came along to enjoy the free family fun, food and fireworks at the annual Australia Day event hosted by Hawkesbury City Council on the banks of the Hawkesbury River at Governor Phillip Park, Windsor. Hawkesbury

Mayor Sarah McMahon said: "After three years of fires, floods and lockdowns, it was so amazing to see so many smiling faces"

More stories on Award winners on page 26.

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A young Bluey ready to tag.

Bluey The Platypus By BEV JORDAN

Bluey the shy Australian has just been tagged and released back into Cattai Creek by a team researching the health of the platypus population in the Hawkesbury-Nepean River Catchment. The study will continue over the next three years.

It's very much a night job, conducted from dusk to dawn when the platypus come out of their burrows at night to forage.

The healthy monotreme was found by Dr Michelle Ryan, Senior Lecturer Ecology and Environmental Science from the School of Science, Western Sydney University and PhD candidate Katherine Warwick (pictured on the cover) close to midnight the day after Australia Day.

CHEN (Cattai Hills Environment Network) and Dr Ryan have been investigating the platypus population in the Cattai and Little Cattai Creek Catchments for the past four years looking at environmental DNA (eDNA) in water samples taken at a number of sites at different times throughout the catchment.

"Sample analysis has shown that platypus are present in Cattai Creek and use the entire length of Cattai Creek, from Castle Hill to Cattai. Platypus are also present in many of the creeks and tributaries of Cattai Creek," said Dr Ryan.

When Bluey was captured he was measured, weighed and given a quick health check, which he passed with flying colours. He was also microchipped to monitor his movements and check his growth and development over the next few years.

Dr Ryan said the tagging is vital for research: "This is important so we can see how platypus use the creek system and we can monitor their health."

"So far, the platypus captured have been in good condition. This is telling us that there is a good food source for the platypus in the creek. Platypus eat waterbugs and waterbugs are a great indicator of water quality, but more work needs to be undertaken."

"The floods had a large impact on our local creeks. We have seen that the riparian zone (vegetation along the creek) has been greatly impacted and removed in many areas. This has led to an increase in sedimentation and silt into the creek system. This sedimentation and siltation



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**PROPOSAL TO INSTALL
A NEW MOBILE PHONE
BASE STATION AT
GLENHAVEN, NSW**

**Telstra plans to install a new
mobile phone base station located at
597 Old Northern Road, Glenhaven NSW 2156
(Lot 1 DP 135396) www.rfnsa.com.au/2156017**

1. Telstra are proposing to provide improved coverage for the Glenhaven area. As part of the proposed mobile phone base station, Telstra proposes the installation of 4G and 5G technologies in Glenhaven. Proposed works at the above site will involve the installation of a 25 m high monopole, six (6) panel antennas (each no more than 2.8 m in length on a triangular headframe, associated ancillary equipment, and a new equipment shelter located at the base of the facility enclosed by a security fence.
2. Telstra regards the proposed installation as Complying Development in accordance with the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021* based on the above description.
3. In accordance with Section 6 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Further information and/or written submissions should be directed to Max Peel, Aurecon Australasia via email to: max.peel@arecongroup.com or via post to: Max Peel, Aurecon Pty Ltd, 5/863 Hay St, Perth WA 6000 by **COB 23 February 2023.**



Dr Ryan at a net in Cattai Creek Catchment.

can impact the availability of waterbugs for platypus to eat."

Dr Ryan said there are many ways members of the public can help with the research and preservation aims.

If you are a property holder on a creek in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment and would be happy for Dr Ryan and her team to sample platypus on your property, please email her m.ryan@westernsydney.edu.au

Cattai Hills Environment Network (CHEN)

has been running a number of restoration projects to repair properties along the creek network to improve platypus habitat, including creating a platypus landcare group which meets on private properties on Cattai Creek and plant vegetation to create healthy platypus habitat.

For more information about platypus in the Hills area, join a platypus Landcare group or learn more about environmental programs running in the local area visit <https://chen.org.au/>

Dr Ryan said people needed to be mindful of what they put down stormwater drains and not littering.

- The platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) is an egg-laying mammal which is only found in Australia. The male has venom in the spurs at the base of its hind legs.
- It is one of the most unusual animals in the world and when European naturalists first examined a preserved platypus body in 1799 they thought it was a fake and made of several animal parts sewn together.

The first occurrence in the fossil record of a platypus-like monotreme is from about 110 million years ago,

A platypus appears on the back of a 20 cent coin.

READER SURVEY WINNER

The first of our 5 Reader Surveys has been completed and we are happy to report that there is a huge appetite out there for local community news in print.

Hills to Hawkesbury Community News Publisher Diana Paton said the responses to the survey showed that people value the community connection that their local paper gives them. The survey was accessed by a QR code printed in the January editions of our fortnightly newspaper and 70 people responded.

Diana said: "We were interested to know what people liked about the paper and what they didn't like and also what stories and subjects did they want to see more of. People said they loved the content and the quality of the product and in particular the stories on local news and local people. They also liked the emergency services page and the puzzle pages. There was no negative feedback. What people generally wanted to see more of was more stories on what crime was happening in the area and a regular gardening column."

All survey recipients were put into a draw for a \$100 voucher to spend at the Richmond Inn.

Our first winner was Linda from Kings Langley who has been reading the paper for several years.

She said: "I love reading local news and finding out what is going on and I love the history pages."

HEALTHY OUTCOME

Healthscope has confirmed it has reached an agreement for a new two year contract with the HCF Group (including HCF, rt health and Transport Health).

Healthscope CEO Greg Horan said he was pleased the hospital group and HCF have secured an agreement which fairly recognises the cost of inflation associated with provision of services to HCF members, and is commercially viable and sustainable for both parties.

"We are delighted to be continuing our long-standing agreement with HCF," Mr Horan said. "We acknowledge that the recent negotiation process has created uncertainty for HCF members and patients. I'm pleased this new agreement means HCF members can continue to be treated in our hospitals with no additional out of pocket charges."

25th Anniversary


COMPUTER PALS FOR SENIORS
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Come along and bring a friend, have a cuppa, then have a guided tour around our club situated in The Old Caretakers Cottage near the Harvey Lowe Pavilion in the Castle Hill Showground.

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- Data Backups and Password Managers
- Smart Devices Community Club
- Family History Group
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UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA Castle Hill

Nursing students will start their Bachelor of Nursing degree at the new University of Canberra Sydney Hills (UCSH) campus at Castle Hill this month.

The first intake for the three-year full-time course has been limited to 60 students in Semester One 2023 at the state-of-the-art campus

The campus at 72-74 Cecil Ave, Castle Hill was the former Castle Hill Day Surgery building and has been refurbished to offer computer labs, lab spaces, simulated hospital wards plus high-tech teaching spaces and laboratory equipment.

The University first announced it would be expanding its in-demand Bachelor of Nursing course outside Canberra to the Hills in April 2021 in partnership with the Education Centre of Australia (ECA).

At the time the University of Canberra Pro Vice-Chancellor, Students, Partnerships & International Professor Lawrence Pratchett said the partnership represented an exciting time in the University's history.

"The partnership with the Education Centre of Australia and the establishment of the new Sydney Hills campus marks a period of growth for the University and an exciting opportunity to take our nursing courses further," Professor Pratchett said.

"We know there is high demand for health courses, particularly in this locale and internationally, so the establishment of the campus has received strong support from local community groups and council."

The two-storey, purpose-built campus offers 2,000 square metres of teaching and study spaces, equipped with all the facilities and equipment needed for the delivery of a world-class nursing curriculum.

Students studying at the University of Canberra Sydney Hills campus will have access to local and regional clinical placements and employment opportunities.

Professor Michelle Lincoln (pictured), Executive Dean of the University's Faculty of Health said: "We're excited to be bringing our globally respected course to the Sydney Hills district, and to equip our students with the necessary skills, experience and qualifications to join the local healthcare workforce."



"There is high demand for health courses in this locale, and through this partnership at our Sydney Hills campus we believe we will see significant growth in the University's nursing course offering," she said.

She said limiting nursing cohort to 60 students will ensure smaller class sizes and personalised support. Students studying at the University of Canberra Sydney Hills campus will have access to local and regional clinical placements and employment opportunities, further enhancing their student experience.

"This is an incredible opportunity for aspiring nurses to learn from experienced University of Canberra staff, while gaining valuable insight into the profession through our strong partnerships within the healthcare industry," Professor Lincoln said.

For more information visit the University of Canberra website www.canberra.edu.au email UCSydneyHills@canberra.edu.au or call 9052 8900.



Will retirement living suit you?

Get a sneak peek of the lifestyle you could enjoy at our free Open Home event. Come along with family and friends and find out why many residents say they wish they made the move to an Aveo retirement community sooner.

Bella Vista Haven
28 Norbrik Drive, Bella Vista NSW 2153
(10am-12pm)



Take the First Step and RSVP:
Scan the code, call (02) 8909 0410
or visit aveo.com.au/openhome



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Inspect our display home



Discover our social activities



Chat to our First Step team

To ensure the health and wellbeing of residents and staff, we are conducting Open Home events in accordance with the required COVIDSafe plan. Aveo are requesting that all attendees to Aveo communities are vaccinated against COVID-19 to protect the residents and staff in our communities. RSVP is essential.

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

WORLD-CLASS CANCER CARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE HILLS SHIRE

The new Icon Cancer Centre Norwest is now open and delivering comprehensive cancer care for local patients using the latest radiation oncology technology and techniques.

No longer will local cancer patients from the Hills Shire need to travel long distances from loved ones to access the best possible radiation treatments.

Icon Cancer Centre Norwest offers:

- **Precise radiation therapy treatment** for all cancer types using a state-of-the-art linear accelerator
- **Deep Inspiration Breath Hold** – A technique for breast cancer patients to reduce the potential impact of radiation on the heart
- **Image Guided Radiation Therapy** – A technique that uses advanced imaging equipment and computer software to precisely target a tumour with radiation beams
- **Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy** – A technique that delivers high dose radiation therapy to cancerous tumours, limiting the impact of radiation on healthy surrounding tissue
- **Stereotactic Radiation Therapy** – An advanced technique that delivers pinpoint precise radiation therapy to treat small tumours with well-defined edges
- **HyperArc** – An advanced technique that precisely targets multiple brain tumours with high doses of radiation while minimising doses to surrounding healthy brain tissue
- **Volumetric Modulated Radiation Therapy** – A technique that delivers radiation therapy beams in a series of arcs or angles by a rotating machine to allow for greater access to a cancerous tumour
- **Surface Guided Radiation Therapy** – An advanced technology that delivers highly-accurate radiation therapy without the need to have permanent tattoo marks



Radiation oncologist, **Dr Andrew Fong** brings an extensive knowledge of cutting-edge cancer treatments to Icon Cancer Centre Norwest.

Dr Fong has a special interest in breast, lung, head and neck cancers, as well as intensity modulated radiation therapy, stereotactic radiation therapy and stereotactic ablative body radiation therapy.

He tailors his care to suit each patient, with a gentle and empathetic approach.

WHAT IS INTENSITY MODULATED RADIATION THERAPY?

Intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) is a type of external beam radiation therapy. It is a high precision type of radiation therapy that uses computer controlled linear accelerators to deliver high dose radiation to cancerous tumours, while limiting the impact of radiation on healthy surrounding tissue. By modulating or controlling the radiation beams to the 3D mapped image of the tumour, radiation therapists are able to target the tumour in varying dose intensity patterns.

For more information, visit iconcancercentre.com.au/technique/imrt

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BECOME A RADIATION ONCOLOGIST?

Early in my medical training, a relative of a close friend had terminal cancer. I was very much affected by the care she was receiving from the oncology team and the role of radiation therapy in keeping her feeling as well as possible. Seeing the benefit of radiation therapy for cancer patients played a big part in my decision to become a radiation oncologist. I also have an interest in technology and being in the field of radiation oncology allows me to be at the forefront of technological advancements.

WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF YOUR JOB?

Interacting with my patients each day. It's a privilege to be allowed into their lives.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT WORKING AT ICON?

Icon is patient focused. It's a pleasure to work within an organisation with that focus and the people that make up the teams at Icon are all amazing.

HOW IS ICON CANCER CENTRE NORWEST BENEFITING LOCAL CANCER PATIENTS?

It allows patients to have their treatment much closer to home with their support network around them, while still accessing world-class radiation therapy treatments and techniques.

WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF WORK?

I spend a great deal of time with my children. My eldest child has an interest in photography and it's been a lot of fun getting out there with an old fashioned camera, learning photographic techniques.

ICON CANCER CENTRE NORWEST

OPENING HOURS: Monday to Friday – 8.00am to 5.00pm

Free on-site parking is available within the Norwest Private Hospital carpark. Free street parking is also available in the Norwest precinct.

Our local team at Icon Norwest are available to answer any questions people may have about accessing radiation therapy treatment close to home at our centre. Scan the QR code to contact our team.



W iconcancercentre.com.au/centre/Norwest
E admin.norwest@icon.team
A Norwest Private Hospital, 11 Norbrik Drive, Bella Vista NSW 2153

P 02 9068 9540
F 02 9182 6007



out and about
with MICHELLE BYRNE

Peak Pursuits

Peak Pursuits Castle Hill takes indoor climbing to a whole new level.... literally! It is unlike any climbing centre we have been to so far and certainly one we can't wait to visit again soon.

Nestled in the Victoria Avenue trading zone, Peak Pursuits is 400sqm of climbing challenges and activities many of which aren't for the faint hearted. There is more than just rock climbing walls on offer and we certainly were conflicted as to what to climb first.

Connected to the auto belay system, there was little to fear as my daughters climbed the giant rope spider web and attempted to scale the wall on the cat burglar climb. The Galaxy Climb with UV glow in the dark rocks also provided much delight as did the tube cargo net which the girls climbed with ease. Other vertical activities provided much more of a challenge such as the SAS log climb which required using a rope to pull yourself up a horizontal wall of logs as well as the urban glass tower climb that required much concentration to get to the top. The bean stalk, donut tyres and the rope ladders created an opportunity for a race to see who could get to the top first.

Up in the air is the high-ropes course which does require some courage to give it a go. There is a rickety bridge, a tight rope bridge, swinging steps, a zigzag beam and a cargo net. Alexis and Maddie were brave but the sheer height and watching the ropes and steps sway soon put them off from completing the course.



The Kung Fu Poles was also a challenge with the poles getting higher and higher as you scaled from one to the next, climbing higher and higher towards the ceiling. Neither of my daughters made it to the top of the highest pole but they certainly enjoyed swinging back down to the ground on the auto belay system.

The highlight for Maddie and Alexis was the big drop giant slide which is very steep and involves being mechanically winched to the top of the slide before letting go. First attempt they only made it halfway up the slide before letting go but the second time around made it to the top before letting go. It requires upper body strength to hold onto the winch for so long before dropping.

Peak Pursuits is for all ages and offers a range of challenges to suit all abilities and fitness levels. Some challenges such as the Leap of Faith require participants to be over 15 and the high ropes course is restricted to children over 5 and 1.2M in height unless accompanied by an adult. A 1-hour session was more than enough, and we were certainly tired by the end of the hour.

If you are looking for a challenge and something different to do that's indoors, Peak Pursuits is well worth a visit. You will get a workout as well as a lot of laughs and entertainment at the same time.



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The Hills Shire Council News

Twice the fun!

Two playgrounds have recently been upgraded at Parsonage Road Reserve and Woodhill Street Reserve, Castle Hill, providing residents with new and improved spaces for children to play, make friends and help them grow.

The upgrades at Parsonage Road Reserve included the installation of a climbing frame, double swing set, slide, spinner, echidna rocker and seating. Woodhill Street Reserve received a doubled swing set, slide, staircase and a noughts and crosses game.

To discover more parks and playgrounds in The Hills, visit Council's website and search for 'Parks & Recreation Directory'.



Mayor, Dr Peter Gangemi at the Parsonage Road Reserve's upgraded playground.

Free Workshops for Small Businesses

The Hills Shire Council is giving local business owners a boost with an exciting range of FREE workshops that will help them take their businesses to the next level.

Current workshops available include:

- **Strategise Your Business Growth** (Thursday, 16 February) – a workshop that explores how to plan for and utilise your business growth.
- **Plan & Structure your Marketing** (Wednesday, 29 March) – a workshop focused on developing a marketing strategy and how to measure the outcomes.

In addition to the workshops above, Council also invests in a range of initiatives to support local businesses, including data that tells business owners more about The Hills region, industries and The Hills' demographics. Business owners can also book a one-on-one meeting with Council's Economic Development team who will provide FREE personalised support.

To get more information and to register for a workshop, visit Council's website and search 'Small Business Workshops'.



What's on at the Community Environment Centre

Immerse yourself in the FREE workshops and events held at our Community Environment Centre off Currie Avenue in Annangrove.

Upcoming events include:

- **Cheese Making Workshop** (Saturday, 25 February) – learn how to process milk to make delicious and simple cheese!
- **Storytelling about Wildlife in The Hills** (Wednesday, 1 March) – a free social interactive event to celebrate World Wildlife Day and the beauty of local wildlife in The Hills.
- **Growing Food for Wildlife Working Bee** (Saturday, 11 March) – help grow food for sick, injured and orphaned local wildlife.

Aside from these events, you are more than welcome to visit the Environment Centre on Thursdays 9am – 4pm and Saturdays 10am – 2pm. More information can be found on Council's website via searching 'Community Environment Centre'.



Thank you to all who attended our 2023 Australia Day Celebrations at Bella Vista Farm



Helping Learner Drivers Workshop

Join a free online workshop that offers practical advice to parents and supervisors of learner drivers including:

- Current driving rules and requirements for L and P platers.
- How learners benefit from supervised on-road driving.
- How you can help make learning to drive a safe and positive experience.

The next online workshop is on Thursday, 9 March at 6pm. To book visit Council’s website and search ‘Helping Learner Drivers’.

E-Waste Drop Off 2023

The annual FREE Electronic Waste Drop Off event is scheduled for Saturday, 25 February from 9am – 3:30pm at Castle Hill Showground.

Drop off your old, unwanted electronic items for recycling including televisions, computers, printers, copiers, mobile phones and small household appliances like vacuum cleaners. White goods are not accepted as part of this event.

For a full list of acceptable items visit Council’s website and search ‘E-Waste’.



E-Waste Drop Off Event

Saturday 25 February 2023

9am – 3:30pm | Castle Hill Showground

Pioneer Theatre Theatrical Opportunities

Are you searching for a boutique theatre for your next production? Thinking about a place that can showcase your performance to new audiences? The Pioneer Theatre, in the vibrant heart of Sydney’s North-West, just a short walk from the Castle Hill Metro and bus interchange, may be exactly what you’re looking for!

There are currently several seasons available for bookings. To find out more, visit www.pioneertheatre.com.au/2023-expressions-of-interest



Council Meetings

Tuesday, 21 February 2023 – 7pm.

For more information, visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and search for ‘2023 Meeting Agendas and Minutes.’



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



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SATURDAY 25th FEBRUARY
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Attention Castle Hill! Mary's Has Landed, and they are bringing the infamous Mary's Burger, world-beatin Fried Chicken, creamy mash n gravy & killer cocktails to a mouth near you.

Find their rock n roll dive bar at 250 Old Northern Road. They are open from Wednesday to Sunday, primed and ready to serve up a range of craft beer, natural wine & party drinks, including \$10 margaritas every Thursday, plus their famous happy hour.

They are able to accommodate any occasion or event; whether it's a cheat day with mates, a farewell party for a disliked coworker, a gender reveal party... Whatever it is, they have got you covered, AND you can book online.

If you can't be bothered leaving the house, they are now available for delivery on Uber Eats! Mary's brought to your couch. Pretty good, eh?

So if you want to swing by and listen to some good tunes, grab a feed, a shot and a yarn, they'll be there waiting with open arms. They can't wait to meet you all.



Castle Hill RSL Group

From a focus on photography and fishing to cricket and gymnastics, there is a whole range of sporting and leisure groups that are supported by the Castle Hill RSL Group (CHRG).

CHRG's Interclub directory lists 20 clubs with something to suit all abilities and interests from the very energetic to more considered.

Young musical talent is nurtured within The Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Orchestra. The multi-award-winning orchestra is considered one of Australia's finest and is dedicated to providing outstanding opportunities for young musicians aged 12 to 19.

The Castle Hill RSL Pipe Band was formed in 1932 and is always looking for new members both experienced and learners with the option of playing pipes, side drum, or bass. The interclubs also include jazz ballet, swimming, badminton, backgammon, snooker, darts, football, tennis, and golf.

Two of the larger clubs membership-wise are the CHRSL Photography Club and CHRSL Fishing Club, affectionately known as "The Fishos".

The Castle Hill RSL Photography Club meets on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm sharp. Beginners to advanced photographers are welcome.

The Fishos' promote recreational fishing activities that the whole family can enjoy. Whether you enjoy beach fishing, kayak fishing, or charter fishing, there is something for

everyone and new members are always welcome.

The Castle Hill Rockets Football Club has a very large youth membership base and offers participation for all ages up to seniors. It was established 56 years ago and is a foundation member of The Hills Football Association within the Football NSW family.

The Castle Hill RSL Golf Club was also founded more than 50 years ago and organises up to 16 matches per annum, playing at a different course for each event.

CHRG's Group CEO David O'Neil said "CHRG aims to improve access for individuals and families to participate in the activities they love. Our support to local sports and community groups goes beyond providing grants or donations for uniforms and equipment - it's about providing access to rooms and resources to enable them to continue the work they do."

Mr O'Neil added "Our support also extends via our tri-annual educational events and we celebrate the many volunteers who are the lifeblood of these clubs, with an end-of-year Awards Ceremony."

In addition to CHRG's interclubs, the Group often supports a number of local community



clubs such as the Hills Hornets and Hills District Little Athletics via annual sponsorships and donations.

Scan here for more information on CHRG's interclubs.



BEER DINNER



a craft beer & canapé pairing experience

THURSDAY 9TH MARCH | 6.30PM FOR A 7PM START

\$50 PER PERSON INCLUDES 5 CRAFT BEER TASTINGS PAIRED WITH CANAPÉS PLUS A LITTLE CREATURE GIFT BAG!

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TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.CASTLEHILLRSL.COM.AU



PETS OF THE WEEK

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



AT A GLANCE
 NAME: ALEX
 SEX: Male
 BREED: American Staffordshire
 AGE: 1 year
 PRICE: \$49

ALEX is a sweet boy who loves playing and being involved in everyday activities. According to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter Alex does enjoy his time socialising with other dogs in "the run" and playing with toys. Staff say Alex will need a little training to improve on his skills. If you are interested in adopting Alex please visit the animal shelter with your family dog and children to meet him. As this week's featured dog his adoption price has been reduced to \$49. The adoption price includes desexing, the first vaccination, microchipping and life-time council registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.



AT A GLANCE
 NAME: FRANK
 BREED: Domestic Short Hair
 SEX: Male
 AGE: 4 years
 PRICE: \$29

FRANK is a 4-year-old domestic shorthair cat looking for companionship. Staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter say that Frank is a friendly boy who just likes to be close to you. As cat of the week Frank's adoption price has been reduced to \$29. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, microchipping, desexing and life-time registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

ARE YOUR EARS TROUBLING YOU?

With a 4.9 star google rating, this is an audiology team you can trust...



DANIEL FECHNER
 Director and Audiometrist

Daniel is an Audiometrist with over 20 years of experience across three continents. Trained in Germany, Daniel is passionate about bringing the gift of hearing to his clients through an evidence-based, German rehabilitation approach.



DR AHMAD LOTFY
 Vestibular Audiologist

Ahmad has over 15 years of experience in the audiology industry and is a highly educated practitioner in medicine and audiology. With a Bachelor in Medicine, Diploma in Vestibulology, a Master in Audiology and a PhD in Audiology, Ahmad works in diagnostics and treatment for hearing and balance disorders.



SANDRA RAZZAGHIPOUR
 Audiometrist

Sandra is an Audiometrist with over 6 years of experience in the hearing industry. She has a focus on adult rehabilitation and ear wax removal. In addition to adult rehabilitation, Sandra also works in the field of tinnitus management and counselling.



BRENDON JONES
 Vestibular Audiologist

Brendon has a background of music and sound design as well as a Masters degree in clinical audiology. He understands the impact that hearing has on the wellbeing of the entire person. In addition to general audiology, Brendon underwent further education and as a result practices in the area of balance disorders.

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Australian Romantic & Classical Orchestra's 2023 Concert Season

This year, the Orchestra celebrates its 10th anniversary exploring historically informed performance through memorable concerts and enriching education programs – with a series of concerts that journey from the luxury of Vienna to the rugged landscapes of Scotland, from the close intimacy of chamber music to the grandeur of the full orchestra. In honour of Richard Gill AO, Founding Artistic Director, the orchestra continues his extraordinary legacy every day.

For this Concert Season, music lovers are welcomed to concerts and music education programs presented throughout the year across Australia's eastern seaboard. In addition to the mainstage concert series, our unique music education programs will be performed; the Voyage of Musical Discovery, designed for intergenerational audiences to explore compositional links and similarities in Australian contemporary music alongside Classical and Romantic works, and the Young Mannheim Symphonists, created for secondary and tertiary students, and emerging artists to nurture and develop the next generation by offering historical perspectives and insights.

"We are so excited to be celebrating our 10th anniversary with our incredible audiences, generous donors, patrons and supporters,

government funding bodies and presenting partners who have been with us along the way," Co-Director, Rachael Beesley said. Fellow Founder and Co-Director Nicole van Bruggen adds: "We are hugely thankful for all the support that enables us to continue to inspire, educate and enlighten. Onwards and upwards!"

First concert - Mozart Clarinet Quintet, Schubert & Hummel (*Viennese Vogue*)

Johann Nepomuk Hummel - Clarinet Quartet in E flat major, S.78

Franz Schubert - String Trio in B flat major, D.471
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart - Clarinet Quintet in A major, K.581

Mozart Clarinet Quintet, Schubert & Hummel (*Viennese Vogue*) explores the explosion in popularity of the clarinet in the late 1700s when the instrument was brought to the fore as a soloist, and became heavily featured in chamber music. Much of this is due to the great virtuoso Anton Stadler, whose expressive playing awakened everyone to the instrument's possibilities – especially Mozart, who fell in love with the clarinet, describing it as the instrument closest to the human voice. He wrote his



Nicole van Bruggen, clarinet & basset clarinet ; Rachael Beesley, violin; Julia Russoniello, violin; Simon Oswell, viola; Daniel Yeadon, cello. Photo: © Robert Catto.

Clarinet Quintet for Stadler, a work that remains among Mozart's most beloved compositions centuries later. It also directly inspired his one-time student and protégé Johann Nepomuk Hummel, whose Clarinet Quartet is a beautifully balanced work of chamber music that demonstrates his significance as a bridge between the Classical and Romantic eras.

The first concert will be performed at The Hills Grammar School Kenthurst on Tuesday 14 March, 6.30pm.

Other dates and concert details at Hills Grammar can be accessed at <https://www.arco.org.au/2023-sydney>. Tickets available at www.arco.org.au or by calling 1300 798 224. Tickets are \$15-\$55.00.

Dural Scouts Start New Year

2022 came to an end for Dural Scout Group with considerable activity. Our Venturers got very sophisticated and held a black-tie progressive dinner.

The Cubs went camping at Bundilla Scout Camp. They put up their own tents and practised campcraft skills including ropework, fire-lighting and cooking. Later they went on a short hike and put their mapping and compass skills to good work. The evening campfire was great fun, particularly the roasted marshmallows. Thank you to the wonderful leaders and parents who made this camp so successful and fun for our Cubs.

Cubs and Joeys had a combined fishing night at Berowra Waters. Lots of fun trying to hook a line, fish etc and then eating/enjoying the left-over packets of biscuits from the weekend camp. Many thanks to Karl and Chris from the Galston-Glenorie Fishing Club, who were so helpful and talked to Cubs and Joeys and showed them a trick or two on fishing.

The year ended with our group family BBQ Christmas party at Galston Oval which is always enjoyable, meeting all the Dural Scouting family. Everyone had a ton of fun and it was nice to be able to share the evening with parents and siblings. A very big thank you to Luke for donating all the BBQ food. He is a great supporter of Dural Scouts.

Dural Scout Group has vacancies now for Girls and Boys from 6 to 25 years. Joeys (5yo), Cubs (8yo), Scouts (12yo) and Venturers (16yo). Please contact Phirooza: 0411 731 976 or phirooza@bigpond.net.au or Simon: thewolf_1stdural@bigpond.com



Bushfires ... Get Set

Prepare for bushfires now with Aussie Pumps' free Bushfire Survival Guide.

The Guide includes the essentials of bushfire protection with equipment checklists, fire drills and pump maintenance. It also includes guidelines to minimise the risk to livestock, troubleshooting self-priming pumps and of course it refers to the new National Fire Rating system.

The huge fuel build up in the Urban Interface means unprecedented fire danger. Aussie Pumps is urging people to be prepared now!

A quality firefighting pump and adequate water source are key to setting up a protection system. Not all pumps are designed to deliver top performance. Second rate gear from 3rd world countries can risk property, crops, livestock and even lives.

The 2023 free Bushfire Survival Guide is available from your local Hills District Aussie Pump distributor or directly from Australian Pumps website www.aussiepumps.com.au.

Living in the Hills district comes with a responsibility to prepare for bushfires.



Why Hills ace Molly is a natural for Dakar Rally

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Australia's all-conquering rally champion Molly Taylor finished a gutsy 12th at the 2023 Dakar Rally, the world's toughest event, despite a collision on the eighth stage.

The Hills local was delighted at improving on her performance in the T4 Modified Production SSV Class – with co-driver Andrew Short - having finished 14th in her debut Dakar Rally in 2022. Last year, she also showed her amazing courage at tackling SAS Australia, a Seven TV series where contestants are pushed to the very limit of their endurance.

Molly, 34, is as brave as they come. With rallying running through her veins, Molly and Short showed incredible fortitude to complete the near 9000km Dakar epic held in Saudi Arabia from December 31-January 15.

"I have definitely improved on my performance at the Dakar Rally compared to our first time, our pace was strong and our navigation was better," Molly said. "We were a lot stronger but we did have some technical issues which meant we could not get the results we wanted.

"Yes, our goal is to be there next year to put together the result we know we can do."

Speaking about the incident which saw their vehicle T-boned, Molly said: "It was a pretty

crazy stretch on the sand dunes and as we came out on top, a ute was coming from the opposite direction directly at Andrew's side."

Fortunately, none of them were hurt. "Certainly, it was not something you expect at the top of a blind," Molly said. "Fortunately, it was not a big hit. We lost only a minute or two and in the scheme of things in the Dakar Rally, it wasn't that big a deal."

The multiple Australian rallying champion spent a few weeks during Christmas with the family in The Hills, saying it is something she missed while on tour.

The Dakar Rally has always been one of the things Molly was keen to compete in because every January, her family will watch the gruelling event on TV.

She acknowledged the immense value of competing in SAS Australia, saying she is able to use the experience and skills not only in her rallying career but also in her daily life.

"This was pushing yourself to the absolute brink... and knowing how to respond," Molly said. "It gave me a lot of self-confidence when



Molly Taylor improved on her performance at the Dakar Rally.

things get tough and put a perspective on everything we do in life.

"SAS Australia is definitely the hardest thing I have ever done and the Dakar Rally is the next most challenging event. SAS showed how much we are capable of and has helped me in rallying and life in general."

For all her international adventures and fame, Molly is a Hills girl at heart: "I have travelled to all the cool places around the world but there is nothing like home. Coming home is the reset I needed.

"Nothing feels as nice as sitting on the grass at my home in The Hills – definitely it's the place I want to be."

LOCAL POLITICS | POLITICAL PAID CONTENT

\$700 Million Rouse Hill Hospital And Backing Small Business

The NSW Labor Party and has vowed to prioritise The Hills in North-West Sydney if elected. Alex lives in Bella Vista with his wife and son who attends a local primary school in The Hills.

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

He firmly believes that a renewed focus on local transport issues, local school overcrowding, health services, tolls, traffic infrastructure and community issues have been neglected by the Liberal Government. He is also proud to announce that Labor will invest \$700 million into the Rouse Hill hospital which more than doubles the broken promises of the Liberal Party since 2014.

NSW Labor will back the state's small businesses by ramping up local procurement as well as empowering small business by improving engagement with government. "I know small businesses are doing it really tough right now. "The cost of everything is going up, electricity prices are going through the roof. "These small businesses are doing everything they can to stay afloat. But government needs to play its part."

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



Labor

ALEX KARKI

Candidate for Kellyville

\$700 MILLION

ROUSE HILL HOSPITAL AND BACKING SMALL BUSINESS

Alex is pleased to announce that a Minns Labor Government will invest \$700 million into the Rouse Hill hospital development that more than doubles the commitment made by the current Liberal Government that has been promised since 2014 but has never been delivered.

NSW Labor will back the state's small businesses by ramping up local procurement as well as empowering small business by improving engagement with government.

"I know small businesses are doing it really tough right now. "The cost of everything is going up, electricity prices are going through the roof. "These small businesses are doing everything they can to stay afloat. But government needs to play its part."

www.alexkarki.com.au

Authorised by Bob Minns, Australian Labor Party (NSW Branch), Level 9 377 Sussex St Sydney NSW 2000.




our teaching staff Vastly improved healthcare system and building a local hospital that has been delayed for years but which 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 a candidate in Kellyville who will stand up for locals on the issues that matter to them and be accountable to the electorate.



Come Alive

There's a famous saying - "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your local radio station" or it goes something like that.

Where would we be without radio and in particular our local station which serves Parramatta, Cumberland and The Hills. It allows us a voice to express many differing opinions and where would we be without freedom of speech? Alive 90.5 lets you know what's happening in the community, provides interesting interviews with locals on a variety of subjects and encourages diversity through multicultural programs catering for the changing demographics in our community. We also keep you well informed about local sport.

Alive is run totally by dedicated volunteers and this is where the opening sentence is significant. We all know how rapidly technology is advancing and that particularly applies to radio with a lot of competition for audiences from a number of different platforms as well as the time people use up on social media and internet games. The question then, is how does a local radio station stay relevant and maintain a reasonable audience share to justify its licence? We are reaching out to you the

reader and indeed the whole local community, to consider volunteering at the station, as many more roles are becoming available particularly regarding technology and social media. There are positions available on the Program Committee as well as the following management positions-

- **Station Manager**
- **Broadcast Manager** to lead & build a broadcasting team
- **Marketing Manager** to lead & build our Connect team

To volunteer all you need do is visit our website at www.alive905.com.au and in the dropdown menu under **Membership** go to become a member and enter your details. 2023 has brought changes to membership making it more attractive with a \$36 membership entitling you to Website access, bi-monthly newsletter, 50% off events 50% off workshops, voting rights, volunteer committees as well as a welcome pack. There is also a free annual



gift such as a t shirt, cap, pen, mouse pad, beanie.

\$18 concession membership has the same entitlements except for the free annual gift. What are you waiting for? With all that on offer it's a better deal than many clubs provide. Go ahead, take the plunge and join the Alive family which also provides a strong supportive friendship-based group.

One of the best advantages of joining as a full/concession member is that we currently have a number of vacancies in our programming schedule, so if you have a good idea for a show you will be fully trained and able to take up your show within weeks. What a way to start the new year!

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



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SCISSORS & SILHOUETTES

SHORT STORY OF SCISSORS JOHN

Many older Aussies would recall the master of the scissors cutting out silhouettes. That man was Sebastian John Ross who was seen at agricultural shows around the country and at places such as Luna Park.

Known as just S. John Ross, he was born in America and served in the US Army during WW2 in the Philippines and Australia. Whilst in Sydney he met and married his wife, Florence Phyllis Counsell (known as Phyllis). They married in February 1945. He took her with him back to the US but after just a short time they returned to Australia in 1946 where they lived at Falcon St, Hazelbrook. He then started to embark on his travels to various shows setting up a small booth at the shows displaying silhouettes he had created of famous people. He had learnt his trade back in the US in the 1930s from silhouette artist Budd-Jack.

I first came across him in the 1960's when he cut my silhouette. I cannot recall exactly where but it may have been at either Sydney Town Hall or the Trocadero in George Street, Sydney. He had performed his trade at numerous locations such as Centrepont Tower (now Sydney Tower) and for quite a while at Sydney's Luna Park as well as the aforementioned agricultural shows. He was quick and prolific with his creations. He also created silhouettes of our daughters. He worked quickly with a pair of small scissors, cutting portraits from thin matt black card. He usually

concentrated on the profile of a sitter but would also enhance the portrait by snipping out a few details. Each portrait was mounted on a white card. The likenesses were remarkable, so that it was easy to recognise the famous faces that were on display. He claimed that not everyone's face was suitable for profile portraits and that he was selective as to whom he would portray.

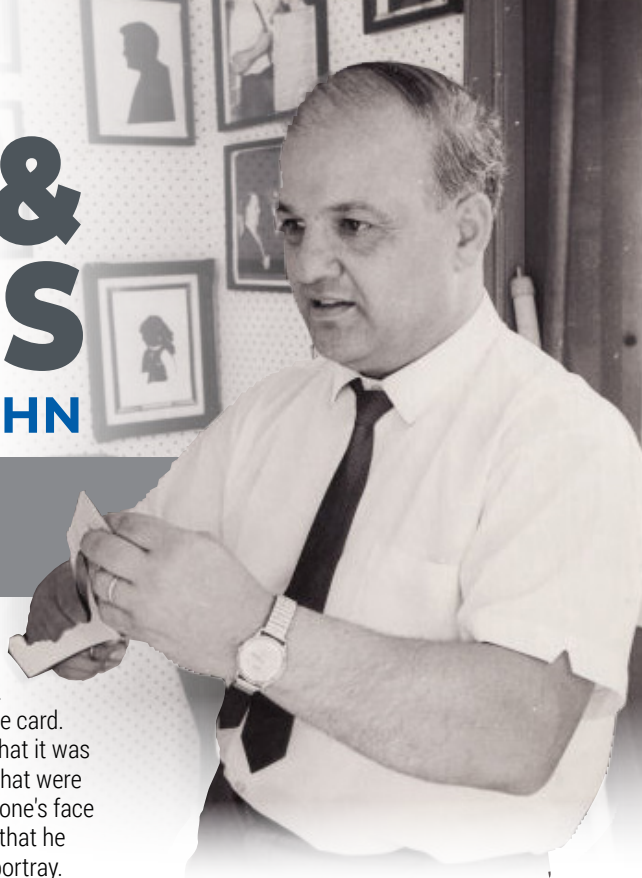
During his lifetime he created tens of thousands of portraits during his 60 year long career and Vivian Leigh, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Nicole Kidman, Sir Robert Menzies and Queen Elizabeth II are among his famous sitters. Before he joined the US Army, he also worked in Hollywood where he created silhouettes of some of his early celebrity 'cuts' including Stan Laurel, Al Jolson, Spencer Tracey and Mickey Rooney. During his war years, whilst he was working with General Douglas MacArthur he continued his "hobby" of creating silhouettes and created silhouettes of MacArthur and celebrity entertainers such as Bob Hope.

John was held in high regard by all in the Australian Show Society, being given many Show legend awards. When receiving one of these awards John always said jokingly that

he would "rather be a live legend than a dead one". He also claimed that only the Australian Taxation Office knew what the "S" in his name stood for. He was sometimes referred to as Scissors John.

Ross Eastgate, a military historian and journalist, said of Ross that "He was not tall in stature, but he was a giant in Australian entertainment."

In August 2008, S. John Ross did not attend the Brisbane Ekka as usual. John had previously taken ill at Cairns during his annual northern Queensland show tour and returned to Sydney where he was rushed to Westmead Hospital. Sadly, after some four weeks in hospital, S John Ross passed away on Sunday August 24, 2008 with his wife Phyllis (1918-2011) and younger son Philip present. John was aged 89.



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AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

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



S. John Ross silhouettes
courtesy of ozatwar.com



slide 1 - Nicole, one of my daughter
from Ivor Jones' Collection



Slide 1 - Melissa, one of my daughter
from Ivor Jones' Collection

Phenomenal Noah crowned Junior Sports Person of the Year

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

NOAH KEMP is a phenomenal sports ace who is the number one swimmer in Australia in his age group and a champion athlete to boot.

Noah is unbeatable in swimming and athletics in his age group with a swag full of gold medals plus national and state records. From the age of seven, Noah has blazed a magnificent trail at Hawkesbury City Little Athletics Club and Windsor Swim Club outclassing virtually everyone on the track and in the pool.

The 11-year-old Noah was recognised for his countless records with the Junior Sports Person of the Year Award at the 2023 Hawkesbury Council Australia Day honours.

At the 2022 Swimming NSW Championships, Noah won six gold medals and set two NSW records. Following his amazing feats, Noah was ranked first in Australia (in his age group) for the 100m freestyle, 100m butterfly, 100m backstroke, 50m freestyle, 50m butterfly, and 50m backstroke. At the 2022 Swimming NSW Short Course Championships, Noah won a total of eight medals, six gold, and two silver.

Two of the swim records he has broken had been untouched for more than 24 years,



Noah Kemp with the Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon

showing that this youngster is set for bigger things. He is the first 11-year-old Australian to go under 30 seconds in both the 50m butterfly and 50m backstroke events.

One of Noah's champion qualities outside the pool and track is to help and encourage his competitors. He wants to make it to the 2032 Brisbane Olympics, and if he maintains this stupendous form, we should be hearing more about this exceptional swimmer.

Noah won gold medals in all seven events he contested at the 2022 School Sport Australia Championship in Brisbane, to be named Male Swimmer of the Meet. He also set four NSW records at this event.

To put his sporting achievements into perspective, consider this: Noah holds 26 State and NSW All-Comers records, three Queensland All-Comer records, four NSW Metropolitan records, in addition to countless Metro North West, Windsor Swimming Club and Hawkesbury District records.

The youngster with the golden touch is also a three-time Hawkesbury District Swimming and Hawkesbury District Athletics Champion.

Youngest English Channel swimmer honoured

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

MICHAEL PAYNE, the youngest swimmer to complete a solo crossing of the English Channel, has won the Hawkesbury Special Achievement Award at the 2022 Australia Day Awards Ceremony.

Michael was just 17 years when he completed the arduous 32km swim in very cold temperatures in July 2022. The brave Colo High School student overcame strong currents, waves, and cramps to reach Cap Griz Nez, France, in 12 hours, and 48 minutes.

Swimming the English Channel is one of the world's most famous achievements, and to prepare for his biggest test, the Nepean Aquatic Centre SC star trained hard under coach Jackie Bark in the company of his team mates.

Michael also swam in Lake Wallace, Wallerawang near Lithgow, to get used to swimming in cold conditions. Sessions in the Nepean River in Penrith and Windsor also saw him tackle muddy conditions with floating debris in preparation for his channel marathon.



Michael Payne, with his Special Achievement Award.

He received the Special Achievement Award during the recent Australia Day celebrations hosted by Hawkesbury City Council, along with other winners.

"Always looking for another challenge, Michael made a formal application to swim the English Channel in 2022," Hawkesbury Council said during the awards ceremony.

"Swimming the English Channel is considered one of the ultimate challenges for long-distance swimmers. It is a test of physical and mental endurance. The cold water, strong currents, and waves make it an incredibly difficult swim."



Bligh Park FC president Phillip Giles was stunned by his Volunteer of the Year award

BIG HONOUR FOR BLIGH PARK FC PRESIDENT

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Ten years ago, Phillip Giles started volunteering at his local club so that his son could start playing football. Today he is celebrated as Hawkesbury's Volunteer of the Year and is completely bowled over by the unexpected honour which was conferred on him at the 2023 Australia Day celebrations.

The Bligh Park FC president, who is scheduled to receive his award from the Hawkesbury Council this week, said awards were furthest from his mind when he began volunteering.

"It was a huge surprise to be chosen because you know we volunteer because we want to help our local club or community and not for any rewards," Giles, 44, said. "To be recognised in the Hawkesbury is something I never expected. I am so honoured to receive this recognition."

Father of four, Phillip joined Bligh Park FC because his eldest son, Bailey, now 14, wanted to play football.

"I got involved in football when Bailey wanted to play," the long-time Bligh Park local told us. "I don't play anything anymore as it takes too long to recover for me. Now it's all about my kids and developing juniors and I am also involved in Little Athletics. I've been a member of BPFCL for 10 years now and on the committee for nine."

Giles quickly found his mojo in BPFCL, and has been president for the past eight years. He is now a well-recognised figure among the footballing circles.

His wife Amity runs the canteen at BPFCL which has around 100-200 members, with the club punching above its weight in competitions.

Giles is passionate about offering the youth of Hawkesbury every chance to play football, offering the Bligh Park facilities and grounds to all local teams when other clubs lost their fields due to flooding.

When he is not working, spends his time at the grounds talking to the youngsters and members to find out what can be improved. He also ensures that the facilities are clean and professionally looked after.

"The club needs anywhere from 10-20 volunteers each game day and we welcome new members," Giles said. "The best part about volunteering is when you see players develop not just at football but as people."

To contact Bligh Park FC, visit their Facebook page or website: <https://blighparkfc.com.au/>.

COMMUNITY groups

2nd Castle Hill Rovers

www.gwsrovers.com.au

Annanogrove 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 Wed mornings, evening group 2nd and 4th Mon. New members welcome
Carole | 9894 7749

Bonsai Society of Australia

Club meetings 1st Tues of the month 7.30pm; West Pennant Hills Community Centre, 42 Hill rd West Pennant Hills.
Ingrid | 0409 963 438

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 Probuc Club of Cherrybrook

We are a mixed gender club of over 170 retirees and semi retirees. Meetings on 1st Thurs 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 Tues 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

Wed 8th Feb at the Galston Community and Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. 10am followed by our business meeting, and BYO lunch Visitors are very welcome to attend.
Jann | 0439 222 217 or Patricia | 0412 948 787

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 pencil/s 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

Feb 21 meetings Tues 10am-2pm, Tues 28 6-10pm. Stan Stevens Studio at Windsor Library. We have a workshop in Feb – An

Introduction to canvas work (needlepoint tapestry). Experiment with threads and learning stitches. \$5. All welcome. Booking essential as numbers are limited.

Catherine Delaney | 0413 340 049
cdelaney1@town.com.au

Galston VIEW Club

The Galston VIEW Club who raises money for The Smith Family "Learning for Life program" holds its monthly lunch meeting on the 4th Wednesday at The Galston Club 21-25 Arcadia Rd Galston. 11am.
President Lesley | 0413 996 783

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 Probuc 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.fffhnc.com

Hawkesbury West Probuc 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 first 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
HillsOMI1@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
allendavisguitar@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 Probuc 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
ladiesprobushh@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.
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 Probuc Club

John | 9487 1385

Pennant Hills Combined Probuc 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

Club meets for lunch on the 2nd Tues of each month at 11am at Otlands Golf Club. Each meeting consists of a short meeting, a two course meal & an interesting guest speaker. The first meeting for 2023 will be on 14th Feb & will be the AGM & election of officers for the coming year. On the 4th Tues of the month a social outing is organised.
Margaret | 9873 2402

Pitt Town Probuc Club

Meets at 10:00am on the 2nd Tues 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

Probuc Club of Round Corner (Dural)

Julie; PO Box 822, Round Corner 2158

Probuc 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

Probuc Club – Glenorie

This Club meets every 4th Wed at 11.00am at Glenorie RSL Club. New members are welcome.
Wendy | 9653 1022
wendyireblack@yahoo.com.au

Probuc Club - Kellyville Castle Hill Mixed

Meets at 10am on 2nd Thurs of each month at Baulkham Hills Sports Club, 11 Renown Road, Baulkham Hills 2153. New members welcome.
Ian Sandercock | 0419 567 608
patiansandercock@bigpond.com

Probuc Combined Castle Hill Club

General meetings 3rd Tues of the month at 10am at Cherrybrook Community Centre.
Glenys | 0408 160743
donpye@live.com.au

Probuc Combined Kellyville Club

Meet 2nd Mon of the month at 10am. At The Glenhaven Community Centre: 76 Glenhaven Road, Glenhaven. New members welcome.
Veronica | 0408 025 577
Susan | 0400 039 308
ken_n_sue@hotmail.com

Probuc 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.
winstonhillspubclub@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 Wednesday 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 Hill, 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's 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 | airsydneyhills@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 Probuc 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 Joy 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

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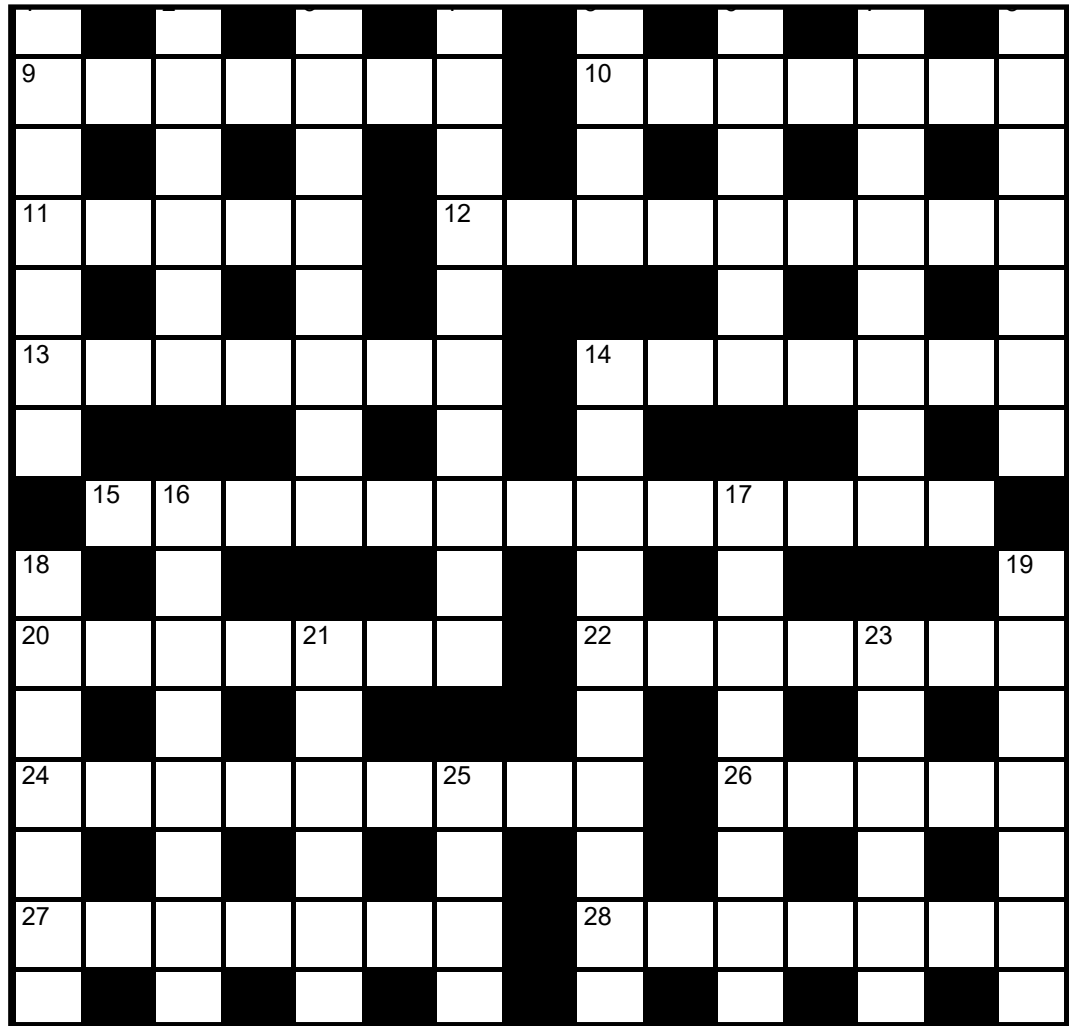


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Across

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

Down

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

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

SUDOKU
Rating: ★★☆☆☆

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

Answers from last issue

CROSSWORD

1	O	C	S	4	E	I	H	7	I						
8	I	N	M	O	S	T	9	A	N	W	A	L	S	H	
	E	S	A	G	L	R	R								
10	R	O	D	M	A	R	S	H	11	I	N	A	W	A	Y
	R	I	T	T	E	S	E								
12	S	T	O	C	K	S	13	Y	O	U	R	S	E	L	F
	W														
14	G	O	L	D	E	N	T	I	P	E	D	B	A	T	
18	T	R	U	E	B	L	U	E	21	R	E	J	E	C	T
	E	L	A	B	P	A	H								
23	A	K	L	E	Y	24	E	S	O	T	E	R	I	C	
	S	E	O	A	I	G	V								
25	H	O	R	R	I	F	I	C	26	S	T	E	V	E	N
	N	S	F	H	E	R	S								

SUDOKU

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

WORD SEARCH

- ANACONDA JUNGLE CAT
- ANTEATER LEOPARD
- APES MONGOOSE
- BABOON OKAPI
- CAPYBARA PANDA
- COATI PARROT
- COBRA PYTHON
- CROCODILE SLOTH
- GORILLA TAPIR
- JAGUAR TIGER

IN THE JUNGLE

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

Answers from last issue

CODE WORD

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

WORD SEARCH

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

SUDOKU

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

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.

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

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