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Community News

20th Oct – 3rd Nov 2023 | Volume 40 – Issue 21

Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

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Tender Out for Gables Intersection Traffic Lights

BY JOSH KERWICK

Residents of Box Hill and the Gables have gladly welcomed the news that the Terry Road, Old Pitt Town Road and Fontana Road intersection is well on the path to receive traffic lights, with The Hills Shire Council currently accepting tenders until November 1st for the project's construction.

On top of traffic lights, the upgraded intersection will also be made more pedestrian-friendly with signalled crossings and new shared paths and landscaping, as well as additional landscaping and curb construction.

The intersection upgrade follows many years of campaigning from both members of the community and Council to implement traffic lights for the intersection due to an extremely high number of crashes on the road. Hills Shire Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi has been advocating for the lights since 2017, with Council having submitted numerous applications to Transport for NSW in that six-year period; all of which were rejected.

Though the news was welcomed by the community, some are still concerned about the upgrade's timeline, including crash victim Stacey Kent. A critical care nurse and RFS volunteer, Stacey was in a major collision at the intersection in May 2021, where two cars collided with significant force on a Friday night and spun into hers.

All three vehicles in the incident were eventually written off. Stacey says: "Even now, I get very stressed when I'm driving through that intersection. I won't go straight through it because I don't think it's worth the risk, and I

think the response to the accidents that have happened has not been adequate at all."

Stacey is glad to hear that the tender for the lights is underway, but is still feeling cautious. "I do feel a sense of relief that they've been properly announced, but this process has taken absolutely way too long. I can see there potentially being future stalls and problems to delay the project, and I hope there are no injuries or losses of life between now and then. I won't necessarily be completely relieved until they're there - I'm waiting to see it to believe it."

Mayor Gangemi commented on the new developments for the intersection: "TfNSW approved the warrants for traffic lights last year, after our many submissions, together with the accident history, were finally heeded, enabling the design work to progress further. The final design approvals for the intersection have been given, allowing the project to proceed to seeking tenders for construction."

"Residents can once again be assured that, as we have since 2017, Council is doing everything we can to assure the construction of the traffic signals as soon as possible. In the meantime, please continue to drive safely through this intersection." Locals thanked Mayor Gangemi on Facebook for his work in continually advocating for the upgrade of the increasingly busy road.

Tender submissions for the intersection are open until the 1st of November – after that, it's expected a contract will be awarded in December 2023 with construction to follow in the first quarter of 2024.



Hills to Hawkesbury Community News

Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

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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.

Floral Tributes to Principal

A wall of flowers at the front of Crestwood Public School in Baulkham Hills this week paid tribute to the school's Principal Diana Angeloudis who died suddenly during the week.

The much-loved principal was in hospital when she passed away having suffered a medical episode earlier in the week.

Families were alerted to her death on Friday 13th October. In a letter to parents and carers sent to the school community by Relieving Deputy Principal Barbara Cassar.

The letter said:

Dear parents and carers.

Unfortunately, I am writing with the very sad news that our respected, much loved principal Diana Angeloudis, passed away in hospital after suffering a medical incident this week. On behalf of our school community I offer Diana's family and friends our sincere sympathy and deepest condolences.

Our thoughts are also with the Matthew Pearce Public School community where Diana was Deputy Principal for 20 years.

Since arriving as our principal three years ago Diana quickly showed she was not only a

talented educator but a skilled and empathetic leader. Her main concerns were always the well-being, welfare and education of Crestwood Public School students.

As Diana's passing will deeply affect students and staff alike, the school has arranged for extra counselling and other support services to be available on Monday. We understand that you may wish to explain the situation to your children at home this weekend.

School and counselling staff will talk to the children on Monday and provide support.

The letter went on to give additional information on support services including the Kids Helpline 1800 551 800 or www.kidshelpline.com.au

Flowers started appearing at the entrance gates to the school on Friday and by Monday was a wall of flowers. Her family has asked for privacy at this time.



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SES ADVICE

With the wild storms that hit last week The Hills SES (pictured clearing up at Castle Hill) has advice after the event.

- Check your house or property for damage (you may need to get experts in to check structural stability)
- Follow health and safety advice when clearing up after storms (wear appropriate clothing and have experts check things like electricity, sewage and water supplies)
- Do not drink water that has been exposed to storms
- Do not eat food that has been exposed to storms
- Stay clear of creeks, drains, causeways, gutters, streams, fallen trees, power lines and any damaged buildings
- Check to see if your neighbours need help
- Do not go sightseeing as this may hinder recovery efforts or put yourself and others at risk

For emergency help in storms and floods call the SES on 132 500. For life threatening emergencies call 000.

TEENS CAUGHT

Four teenagers were caught by police after they robbed a young man of his bag containing cash at Castle Towers on Sunday evening (October 8th).

The 17-year-old was approached at about 6.30pm and threatened with a knife. He handed over his bag. A quick response by general-duty officers from The Hills Police Area Command led to prompt arrests after the four teens jumped on a bus. Responding officers located the offenders as they attempted to leave the area.

All four were arrested and taken to Castle Hill Police Station. A knife was located secreted behind a bus seat and the stolen property was recovered.

An 18-year-old-man from Girraween and three young-persons aged from 14 to 17 were each charged with armed robbery. Anyone with information about this or other incidents is urged to call Crime Stoppers NSW. Information is treated in strict confidence.

RFS AWARDS AND 556 YEARS

Members of the Hills District Rural Fire Service were recognised for their dedication and achievements at a special ceremony held at Dural Country Club last weekend

Special mention was made of Don Langdon from Rouse Hill Brigade who was awarded a National Medal to mark 59 years of service as an RFS volunteer.

RFS Commissioner Rob Rogers joined The Hills District Manager Superintendent Glen McCartney to present three National Emergency Medals, one Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal, 13 National Medals and five Long Service Medals to the members at the ceremony. Between them recipients have contributed 556 years of service to the community.

The National Emergency Medal is awarded to persons who rendered sustained or significant service during nationally significant emergencies in Australia, including the 2019-2020 bush fires.

Commissioner Rogers said the District had been instrumental in battling blazes across the state during this fire season.



Don Langdon (centre) with Castle Hill MP Mark Hodges and RFS Commissioner Rob Rogers

"Members of The Hills District have always answered the call, not only assisting with incidents locally but also to communities in need across the state," he said.

"The hard work and professionalism of all RFS members does not go unnoticed and while you don't do the work for praise, your contribution and commitment to the community is outstanding and today we thank you for that."

"We also thank the family, friends, employers and colleagues of all NSW RFS volunteers. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and property."

FRAUD CHARGES

A Marsden Park man has been charged by Financial Crimes Squad detectives following an investigation into 140 alleged financial fraud related offences under Strike Force Meckiff.

Strike Force Meckiff was established by State Crime Command's Financial Crimes Squad to investigate alleged fraud offences by a Sydney-based finance company offering finance through approved merchants.

Between April and June 2023, police will allege the company submitted fraudulent finance applications on behalf of 79 customers for the purchase of solar panels to the value of \$747,308 – without the customers' knowledge.

Following extensive inquiries, about 9.30am on Thursday 28th September strike force detectives – with assistance from the North-West Metropolitan Regional Enforcement Squad – executed a search warrant in Marsden Park, where they arrested a 43-year-old man.

He was charged with 140 offences including knowingly deal with proceeds of crime, deal with identity info to commit etc indictable offence and dishonestly obtain financial advantage etc by deception.

Commander of the Financial Crimes Squad, Detective Superintendent Gordon Arbinja, said: "While we do encourage people to make sure they're taking steps to protect their identities online, we also want to urge companies who provide financial services to ensure they're doing their due diligence in confirming the legitimacy of their customers."

"If you believe your identity has been exploited or compromised online for the purpose of illegitimate finance applications, you should contact the police immediately."

"People are also reminded there are credit-monitoring services available, who will provide you an immediate alert if your identity is used in any future applications."

MAN ARRESTED

The Hills Proactive Crime Team have arrested a 39-year-old Doonside man who was wanted for his alleged involvement in the theft of a motor-vehicle from Kellyville on 21st September.

The Daihatsu was stolen from outside a residence in Jupiter Rd, Kellyville.

It was abandoned a short time later at the intersection of Showground and Green Rd, Castle Hill. Witnesses saw two men running away.

The man was charged with take and drive a conveyance without the consent of the owner.

SES
132 500

IN A LIFE THREATENING
EMERGENCY DIAL 000



Glenorie Fire Family

BY BEV JORDAN

A video of a fire started by a bolt of lightning engulfing a Glenorie home stunned everyone who saw it but for the Zeaiter family, the loss of two family homes on the same property in less than an hour is something they are still coming to terms with.

Adele Zeaiter, her husband George and four children (Olivia, 25, twins Georgia and Alanna, 23, and son Nicholas 19) were living with Adele's mum Janette while their home was being renovated when the lightning storm struck their property on Cattai Ridge Rd.

Not everyone was home that evening (September 27th) but Adele said her mother was watching television and she and her daughter Alanna were both working online when the storm began.

"We saw the lighting and the sky was white, the noise was like a bomb going off and immediately there was a blackout. It was frightening."

She said the three of them decided to go to her sister's house nearby because she had power while her husband stayed behind to investigate if there was any damage to the renovated home they were just three weeks away from moving back into.

"There was a bit of smoke coming from the roof and that's all you could see."

Adele said her husband called emergency services and was in their house trying to hose it down to prevent it spreading to her mother's house when the ceiling started to collapse and he escaped through a window.

"That's when we saw the flames, there was no time to get anything." George called Adele to alert her to the situation and she returned to see the flames engulfing both homes.

"It was the most heartbreaking thing I have ever seen," she told *the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*. "I was inconsolable. We went from one lightning strike to the loss of two houses in just 45 minutes. It's nobody's fault. It's like a one in 20 million chance."

Story continued on page 14



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Saving Kids' Lives at RuffTRACK

BY JOSH KERWICK

Ashton Kersten was 14 when he first joined RuffTRACK, a charity dedicated to turning around the lives of kids who are disengaged from the schooling system and often either perpetrators or victims of crimes. "It all went really bad downhill in school, I was going maybe an hour and a half then going back home, and I had a real problem with drugs at the time," he says.

Now 19, Ashton has gone through RuffTRACK's program and earned a Cert III in Rural Operations and become a full-time employee of the charity to give back to the community. He says: "I know exactly what those kids are going through; I was them not even five years ago."

The success story of Ashton is one of many out of RuffTRACK, which uses bonding with dogs as a launching point to teach disadvantaged kids skills that can completely turn their lives around. Located on the edge of both the Hills and Hawkesbury areas, the charity was founded in 2019 by Dave Graham (known more popularly as Farmer Dave) and Hawkesbury Senior Constable Belinda Flynn with three goals in mind: keep kids alive, out of prison, and with a future ahead of them.

From there, RuffTRACK has grown steadily while substantially helping those going through the program. Operations Manager Tara Palffy joined the team two and a half years ago after being exposed to young people in strife when she was studying to become a paramedic. She says: "A lot of our clients and patients were young people, and many of them would have some sort of addiction. And that really hurt me to see, that at such a young age that was happening."

"When the job at RuffTRACK came up, I thought why not? Let's go and see what it's about. On my first day, I met a crew of 10 young people who all had the utmost respect. There's a cliché out there that people think, that this kid's stolen a car, had a fight with this person, never goes to school. They're always pointing out the problems, but RuffTRACK has the solution to actually change the ways that young people think about themselves."

When a young person joins the RuffTRACK program, the first step for them is to pick a dog that they'll build a connection with over 10 weeks. "We do dog training, we do walks in the morning, and we go to our bush classroom which is all about getting that connection with them," Tara explains. "We do a lot of agricultural shows too, and we usually have a team of 8-10 young people that participate, and they get to take their dogs and perform in front of hundreds, sometimes thousands of people. The Sydney Royal Easter Show is our biggest – 14 days straight, eight shows a day, which is pretty phenomenal."

In addition to relationship-building with one of the now-25 dogs on-site at the farm, RuffTRACK also helps its participants develop a variety of physical and emotional skills with programs running every day of the week. The Round Yard Programme builds the necessary foundations by developing the relationship between the dogs and kids across 10 weeks as they undertake a number activities with their canine companions. During the program, daily conversations in the main area are held to allow participants to express how they're feeling and give them the necessary space to navigate their emotions.

RuffTRACK has been proven to work, with participants in the program shown to have been less likely to reoffend. Similarly, over 90% of participants from 2021-22 gained White Card qualifications by the end of the program.

Tara finds the work RuffTRACK does deeply gratifying: "My ultimate goal is to try and help as many young people as possible, and to build the staff up a bit. I stayed full time and pushed aside my Paramedicine because I just thought that this is so much more rewarding - getting our



TARA PALFFY - back row extreme R; ASHTON KERSTEN - back row 3rd from left

name out there, and showing the public what these kids can do, building confidence and compassion and all of that."

RuffTRACK's current location is a rental property, and the team are looking to relocate to their 'Forever Farm', away from the hustle and bustle of suburban life and development to create a more serene space for the kids going through the program. Tara says: "We're on a main road, which is good, but it's a bit of an issue now having a shopping centre across the road. We want somewhere that's a safe place for young people."

If you'd like to help RuffTrack attain their Forever Farm, you can help by participating in their Krispy Kreme Doughnut Drive (details below). Furthermore, they're always accepting donations, sponsorships for the young people in the program and volunteers to help out. Head to <https://www.rufftrack.com> to find out more about what you can do to help support this terrific local charity.

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BELLA VISTA FARM CELEBRATES The Environment SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

Following the success of last year's Environmental Fair at Bella Vista Farm, the event will be held there again on Sunday, 5 November from 9am-2pm.

This is an open event to the general community, friends and neighbours from the Hills Shire. It will be a family-fun picnic event with Hills Shire Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi attending.

Come and visit the interesting stalls - recycling activities, demonstrations, composting, soil testing, worm farming, recycled goods, gardening tips, talks on sustainable living, pet management, bush tucker, art installations, complimentary plants/seedlings and mosaic art, or any other contribution.

Why not fulfil your enjoyment by taking a tour of Bella Vista house for a gold coin donation?

Enjoy a sausage sizzle (with onions and home-made chilli paste); and/or a delicious Devonshire Tea; visit the Trash and Treasure stall, buy plants at reasonable prices, sit and relax in the beautiful grounds of the farmhouse, listening to music performed by ensembles of the Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra. If that's not enough, four Cherrybrook Bands will be performing on the stage at Bella Vista Farm from 10am until 2pm.

The need for awareness and action is becoming ever more critical and the Environmental Fair is to encourage the wider community and multicultural community

groups to participate in environmental activities; to educate and share environmental practices for individuals, communities and in the home. People can bring their plastic and glass bottles for Return & Earn.

Whatever you decide to do, it will be a day to remember. Bella Vista Farm is open the first Sunday of every month (except January). You will be surprised at the beauty and history of the farm and the wonderful activities provided. Cnr Elizabeth Macarthur Drive and Norwest Boulevard, Bella Vista. Check out the website: www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/Venues/Parks





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Environmental Fair

Sunday 5 November

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- Composting & Recycling
- Platypus / Koala in the hills
- Bushcare and Bushwalking
- Living sustainably
- Energy-saving ideas
- Understanding Climate Change
- Children's Activities
- Return and Earn

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Zone Bowling Castle Hill

School holidays are always a challenge to find new and interesting ways to entertain the kids that don't involve iPads and phones and involve some form of exercise.

Growing up Ten Pin Bowling, movies, ice-skating and roller skating were regular school holiday activities in our household. Although these days there are plenty more activities to choose from such as indoor play centres, trampoline centres and climbing centres, you still cannot go wrong with a classic game of bowling or ice-skating or roller skating – if you can find a rink!

These holidays I decided to introduce Maddie and Alexis to the world of bowling and share with them the stories of competing with my family and friends to be the ultimate Ten Pin Champion. In my memory bowling alleys were musty smelling places that served up endless hotdogs and rented out bowling shoes that were falling apart after being worn by so many people over the years. However, stepping into Zone Bowling Castle Hill was like stepping into the mecca of bowling alleys – no musty smell, an incredible café with more than hot dogs on the menu and beautiful bowling shoes!

What has also changed is the diverse range of activities and games for all the family to enjoy – regardless of age! Zone Bowling Castle Hill has 22 bowling lanes with automatic bumpers that pop up and down depending on the age of the bowler as well as option to play glow in the


dark bowling depending on the time of your visit. It is fair to say I am no longer the Champion of bowling with Maddie and Alexis both resoundingly beating me.

Following two rounds of bowling we tackled the 44 arcade games, earned tickets and chose prizes in the prize shop. We had some very energetic, very competitive and slightly dangerous games of air hockey with the puck leaving the table multiple times.

Adrenaline rushing Laser Tag is also on offer as well as an amazing café that serves up an array of dishes including nachos, pizzas, fries with various toppings, burgers, salads and so much more. For the sweet tooth, there is a sweet menu including rocky road pizza and churros. Crazy shakes on offer including our favourite the M&M Cookie Explosion which is close to impossible to finish.

Zone Bowling Castle Hill was a lot of fun and a great day out. Next time you're looking for some adrenalin rushing, competitive activities, grab your mates and your family and head down to the bowling alley and find out who is bowling champion in your circle of friends and family.

For more information on Zone Bowling Castle Hill go to <https://www.zonebowling.com/en-au>



FREE EVENT!

BELLA VISTA POCKET PARK

CELEBRATE DIWALI!

Saturday 4 November, 5pm - 9pm

Brought to you by the Community Migrant Resource Centre, the colourful Indian festival of lights is set to take over Bella Vista Pocket Park.

We're inviting the whole community to be a part of this magical evening celebration, filled with amazing food, music, dancing, and of course, lights!

Featuring dance performances by the Rasika Dance Academy and Nikhil Goyal & Group, plus facepainting by Kidz Mantra, henna design workshops by Diwali Delight Group, and a range the best Indian street food, there's something for the whole family to enjoy.

For more information about our full Diwali lineup, please visit the What's On page at BVPocketPark.com.au.

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Dementia Care

BY BEV JORDAN

Dementia is an umbrella term used to describe a large group of illnesses (including Alzheimer's) which result in a progressive decline in intellect, rationality, social skills and physical functioning as well as loss of memory.

There are currently more than 400,000 Australians living with dementia including more than 28,650 people with younger onset dementia. Without a medical breakthrough, the number of people with dementia is expected to increase to more than 800,000 by 2058.

For Founder and Executive Director of Group Homes Australia Tamar Krebs the figures highlight the importance of getting dementia care right.

Tamar worked in aged care and with people living with dementia for over 20 years and knew that it was not the care she would want for herself or loved ones.

"I wondered, why are we disconnecting them from their communities?"

Tamar founded Group Homes Australia in 2012 with the catchline: "Doing Dementia Differently" after she studied approaches to caring for people living with dementia overseas, particularly in the Netherlands where the focus has been on community care since the '60s. There was a lot of data available on the outcomes over the years.

"The social and inclusive model keeps people living in the community and the research shows that people are active for longer with far less rates of depression," she said.

The first Group Homes Australia home opened in St Ives in 2012 and GHA has just opened its 20th home for people with dementia in Castle Hill, the second in the suburb.

In the GHA model 6 to 10 residents live in a shared home with staff called "homemakers". Their interests are taken into account and life revolves around their home and the community. The homemakers are nurses and social workers rostered around the clock.

"This model is focussed on people's abilities and we support people to keep really involved in life," says Tamar. "It's the power of normal."

Before the newest home opens for residents in Chiltern Ave, GHA is offering a free five-day residential retreat for people diagnosed with dementia and their support partners thanks to funding from the Federal government.

The retreats started this year and will run through next year with the aim of giving people hope beyond the diagnosis.

Donna Ward is community engagement director for GHA and came across the work it did when she was looking for support for her mum Joanie who was diagnosed with frontotemporal dementia at the age of 67.

She lived in her home for years while it was managed but had a horrible experience in an

aged care home where she was very unhappy. The family took her out immediately and were really happy when they found GHA.

"You can live well. The home is a family," says Donna. "The care is about respect and dignity. My mum was so happy and made such good friends."

The Dementia Australia website says it is estimated that more than 1.5 million people in Australia are involved in the care of someone living with dementia.

For more information about the retreats or about respite and short stay options run by Group Homes Australia visit the website grouphomes.com.au or call 1300 015 406.



Tamar Krebs

Donna Ward at the new Group Home in Castle Hill

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Homeless Forum

BY BEV JORDAN

The forum: Hidden Homeless in the Hills is a must for those concerned about the lack of affordable housing in the area and the growing number of homeless women.

The event is this Wednesday, 25th October at Castle Hill RSL and is being organised by The Soroptimist International (SI), an international network of clubs with a focus on improving the lives of women and girls.

Club President, Cathy Tracey told the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*: "We are concerned about the continued rapid growth in the North West of Sydney. The cost of housing, rent and living costs are skyrocketing and no doubt these pressures are contributing to family breakdown and homelessness.

"There is a serious lack of transitional, social and affordable housing in the Hills District despite significant housing development projects."

Anglicare's Rental Affordability Snapshot released earlier this year showed that a single woman on the Age Pension can afford less than 1% of rental listings across Australia. That includes those on the highest rate of rent assistance.

Anglicare Australia Executive Director Kasy Chambers said: "Every woman should have a safe and affordable home. It prevents homelessness, protects families from violence, and promotes equality.

She said: "Building social housing is the most powerful way to keep older women in secure housing, and stop them from getting trapped in a cycle of homelessness."

Money raised by the forum will go towards the Kenthurst Women's Transitional Housing Project which is providing a safe haven for older women at risk.

The event Forum will be chaired by Emeritus Mayor Michelle Byrne who started the Hills Homeless Sleep out 10 years ago to highlight

the plight of people forced to couch surf and sleep in cars or overcrowded houses.

She said: "Older women are one of the fastest growing cohorts of homeless people in our country. They are often well hidden, sleeping in cars or couch surfing. This forum aims to shine a light on the issues older women who are homeless are facing and to advocate on their behalf. More needs to be done to find solutions for housing affordability and homelessness.

"I encourage everyone to attend, to learn more about homelessness and to help us find solutions that ensure all women over the 55 have a permanent safe roof over their heads."

Guest speakers include Bev Baker from the Older Women's Network and Annabelle Daniel CEO Women's Community Shelters who both spoke at the last Forum held in March 2020.

They quoted Australian Bureau of Statistics figures that showed there were more than 6,400 homeless people aged 55 and over in NSW on census night in 2016, of those, 2,186 were women — a rise of 48 per cent. When it came to women aged 65 to 74, the increase was 78 per cent.

That forum was attended by Dennis Van Someren and James Visione who have since successfully lobbied for a house owned by Uniting to be used by the Kenthurst Women's Transitional Housing Project.



Speakers Annabelle Daniel CEO Women's Community Shelters and Bev Baker from the Older Women's Network at the packed 2020 forum

They will speak about the project at the Forum as will a representative from - Housing Services | Western Sydney Nepean Blue Mountains District

The Hidden Homelessness Forum which will be a night of education and advocacy.

For more information visit the Soroptimist International of The Hills District Facebook page and to book tickets go to <https://events.humanitix.com/hidden-homelessness-forum>.

The Soroptimist International (SI) organisation is an international network of clubs with a focus on improving the lives of women and girls. The SI of the Hills District Club has been active in the Hills local area for 43 years with a focus on raising awareness on domestic violence issues and homelessness for older women. COVID prevented it following up its successful 2020 Homelessness forum until this year.

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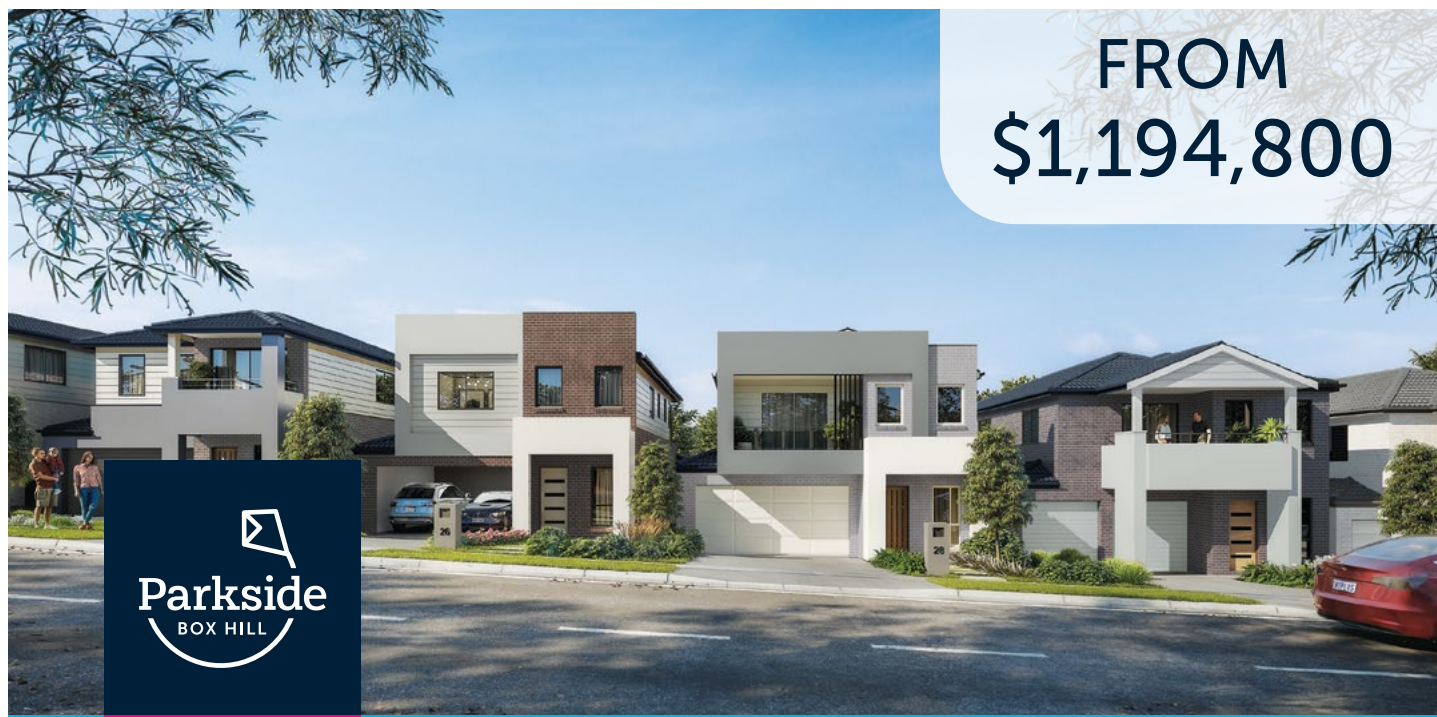
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Hills Translator Honoured for 40+ Years Service

BY JOSH KERWICK

Cherrybrook resident Rahmat Khaiami was one of 11 interpreters and translators at Multicultural NSW awarded a medal during an International Translation Day ceremony to celebrate their long standing service. Rahmat, who is 71, has been working as a Persian interpreter and translator since 1979 at the government office, marking 44 years of service to his community.

That journey began when Rahmat needed a letter translated from Persian. He explains: "I looked up the Yellow Pages, and I found a phone number for the then-Ethnic Affairs Commission of NSW. I had the document translated, but it had significant errors in it. I went back and said 'This translation is not correct', and they explained they did not have a Persian translator on staff.

"They asked me if I was interested in working for them as a translator, and I said of course! I went to UNSW's Institute of Languages, passed the exam and went through a training program, and ever since then I've been on the board."

Rahmat was one of the first ever Persian translators accredited by NAATI in the 1980s, and has done a huge range of translating work in that time. No two jobs as a translator are the

same, with work ranging from interpreting in courts to translating for major companies.

Rahmat finds the role gratifying, given the amount of different things he's been able to undertake as a result. "I used to work with the SBS as a subtitler, and I got to learn a hell of a lot about filmmaking, movies and how they're made," he says. "I found that particularly satisfying. I also find the work I do in courts quite enlightening and informative."

Some of Rahmat's most gratifying recent work include translating information related to COVID-19. "At the time, it was critical for the Health Department and other government entities to communicate with and inform people on what the requirements were, and what services were available, particularly the more recent arrivals in the community who didn't have very good English language skills. So that was

particularly satisfying, because you have the feeling you are doing something that matters to other people, and that's a very great point of satisfaction for me."

Rahmat received his medal of long-standing service on the 27th of September by the Minister for Multiculturalism Steve Kamper and CEO of Multicultural NSW Joseph La Posta in a ceremony he described as wonderful. "It was very good, very informative - they had panel discussions about issues affecting the industry and the work we do, including artificial intelligence, and how they'll impact the services we provide.

"There were a couple of gentlemen who received plaques that had been around for more than 50 years, so I took my hat off to them, and then the rest of us received medals. It was a great, great day, and I was very honoured to receive that medal from the minister."



L-R: Steve Kamper, Rahmat Khaiami, Joseph La Posta
(Photo credit: Multicultural NSW)

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Glenorie Stockfeeds Ready for Fires

Michael and Louie Estephan at Glenorie Stockfeeds are getting ready to help their community prepare for fires, with a range of Aussie Pumps.

"When we saw the difference between the Aussie Fire Chief and the same sized Davey pump, we couldn't believe how much better the Aussie Pump is!" said Michael.

"The Aussie had 25% more performance than the competition. When you add other features, as well as the 5 year warranty, we were absolutely sold," said Louie.

The Estephan brothers have done remarkably well since they set up Glenorie Stockfeeds. With their range of tanks, hose kits and the world's best lightweight portable fire pump, they're ready to help people as we move into what could be a catastrophic summer. Pick up your FREE copy of Aussie's Bushfire Survival Guide.

"Going with the Aussie Pump range is a no-brainer," said Michael.

Further information, call Michael, Louie or Michelle at Glenorie Stockfeeds, 73 Cattai Ridge Rd, Glenorie, 02 9652 0520.

Glenorie Stockfeeds brothers Michael and Louie Estephan protecting their community with the world's best fire pumps.



Glenorie Fire Family

from page 5

She says the community support has been humbling. She said on the night, neighbours appeared from everywhere with hoses to help and one neighbour took the family dog.

"We lost everything but we are so grateful we got out. My children are grieving, we all feel very empty and sad. It's the things we lost that we can never replace, the photos of the children growing up, my dad's wedding ring, his diary. It was such a happy place. My mother has four children, 12 grandchildren and a great grandchild. We have so many joyous memories."

She said while they wait for the insurance process to go through they have been very humbled by the support of friends, community and strangers. The boxes of fruit and food that have been dropped off and the clothes and shoes. She said a group of teenage girls dropped off a voucher for \$1,000 for her girls to buy new clothes with.

"I am still trying to process it all while we decide what happens next but we are so grateful that when we reached rock bottom, the community held us up. Amid the sadness there have been a lot of beautiful moments."

Her niece Larissa has started a Go Fund me page to help the family pull together the basics. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-zeaiter-family>
So far it has raised over \$38,000.



The Zeaiter family in happier times

Cherrybrook Station Precinct, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study – Invitation to Register an Interest

Artefact Heritage has been engaged by Warren and Mahoney on behalf of the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE), to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study for the Urban Design and Planning Package – Cherrybrook Station Precinct – State-led Rezoning Project. The Urban Design and Planning Package will support the rezoning of the broader Cherrybrook Station Precinct.

The study area is bounded by Coonara Avenue/Edward Bennett Drive to the east and Highs Road/County Drive to the west and Dalketh Road and Ridgemont Close to the north. The area includes the land to the north of Castle Hill Road within the Hornsby Shire Council and land to the south of Castle Hill Road within The Hills Shire Council Area. The study area falls within the boundary of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (Metro LALC).

The Urban Design and Planning Package requires the inclusion of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study including consultation with Aboriginal stakeholders guided by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents 2020 (the Consultation Requirements). The proponent wishes to consult with any Aboriginal persons or organisations that hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and places in the locality.

The contact details for the proponent are:

MR DAVID HAZELDINE | NSW Department of Planning and Environment
david.hazeldine@planning.nsw.gov.au

Please register your interest in the project by 1st November 2023 by contacting:

KELLY BARTON | Artefact Heritage Services
Suite 56, Jones Bay Wharf, 26-32 Pirrama Road
Pyrmont NSW 2009 or engagement@artefact.net.au

Please be advised that the details of all parties who register will be forwarded to Heritage NSW and Metro LALC unless specified otherwise.

If you require any additional information,
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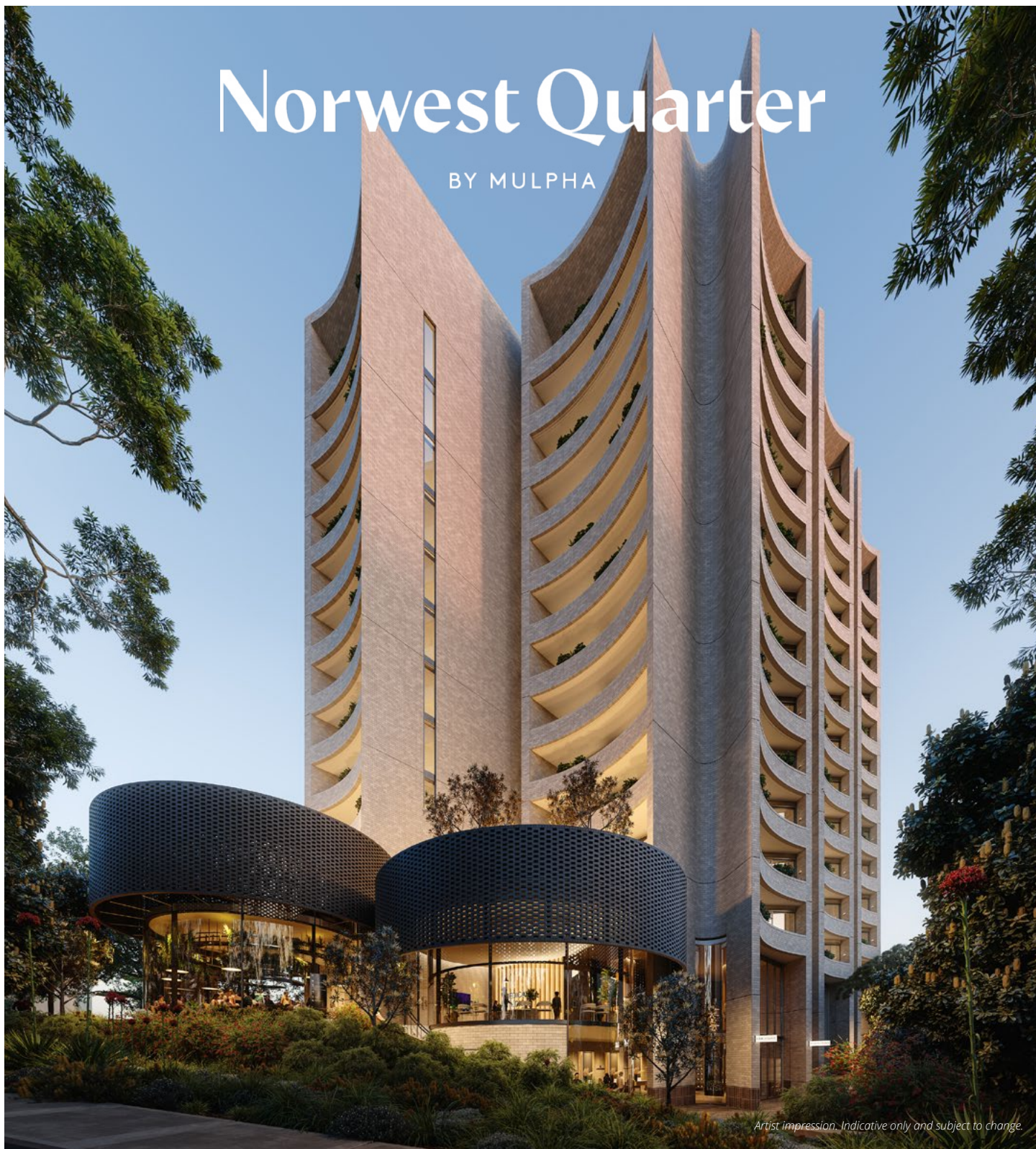
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The Hills Shire Council News

Have Your Say

Council's Community Engagement

A revised draft of The Hills Shire Council's Community Engagement Strategy has been developed, along with a new Draft Community Engagement Policy and Draft Community Engagement Toolkit.

The documents aim to streamline Council's community engagement processes, forming a foundation that keeps The Hills community and any relevant stakeholders looped in on any projects and matters that impact or interest them.

The community is invited to review and have their say on the draft documents, including providing feedback on their preferred methods of engaging with Council.

Search 'Community Engagement' on Council's website to view the documents and make a submission. Submissions close on Monday, 13 November 2023 at 5pm.



Nominate an Outstanding Local

Do you know a local Hills resident who has gone above and beyond for our community? Have them recognised by nominating them for The Hills Shire Council's 2024 Australia Day Awards.

The awards have 5 categories:

- Senior Citizen of the Year (over 65 years)
- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year (24 years and under)
- Community Group of the Year
- Environmental Citizen of the Year

Submit a nomination now via Council's website by searching 'Australia Day Awards'.

Save the good stuff



Garage Sale Trail is back over two weekends on 11-12 and 18-19 November! Join the nation's biggest preloved treasure hunt and kick off the circular economy.

Registration is free with how-to guides and promotional resources included. You will be part of a nationwide movement that saves over 3 million kilograms of good stuff from landfills every year.

If you're a shopper, you're in for some goodies - one person's rubbish is always another's treasure!

Visit Council's website and search 'Garage Sale Trail' to find out more.

Chemical Cleanout

Head down to Castle Hill Showground on Saturday 3 December from 9am – 3:30pm for the annual Chemical CleanOut.

Bring any household quantities of chemicals you may have to be disposed of appropriately and help prevent the harmful effects they have on our environment.

Search 'Chemical CleanOut' on Council's website for more information, including what you can bring for disposal.

Council Meetings

Tuesday 24 October, 2023 – 7pm

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



Samantha Riley Drive's Streetscape Design

You are invited to Have Your Say on the proposed streetscape design plans for Samantha Riley Drive that include extensive street tree planting, shared pathways and cycleway signage and line marking.

The proposed streetscape commences from the roundabout at Redden Drive and Brampton Drive, and heads eastward along Samantha Riley Drive to the roundabout at Green Road, Kellyville.

Head to Council's website and search 'Draft Streetscape Design Plan' to view detailed design plans and to make a comment before Friday 17 November at 4pm.

Oh, What a Night



Hornsby Musical Society is bringing the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, Jersey Boys to Castle Hill's Pioneer Theatre from 3-12 November.

Jersey Boys follows the fascinating evolution of four blue-collar kids who became one of the greatest successes in pop music history. Go behind the scenes of the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons and discover the secret of a 40-year friendship and their rise to stardom.

Visit www.pioneertheatre.com.au to grab your tickets.

Oceans of Possibilities

It's not too late to send in an entry for this year's Summer Reading Adventure Bookmark Design Competition.

Children aged between 5-14 years old are invited to showcase their creative talent with this year's theme, 'Oceans of Possibilities'. The winning designs will be printed into bookmarks and distributed for The Hills Shire Library's Summer Reading Adventure program.

Winners will also receive a book pack prize to celebrate their accomplishments.

Entries close on Monday 23 October 2023. Head to Council's website and search 'Summer Reading Adventure' to download the template and make an entry.

Snake Safety Workshop

Head over to Council's Community Environment Centre on Thursday 2 November from 7pm – 8:30pm for a FREE interactive workshop about snake safety and behaviour.

The workshop will be run by Ravi from Sydney Wildlife, who is an expert wildlife rescuer and snake and reptile carer, with unique experience in rescuing snakes in The Hills.

Learn about the important role of snakes in our environment, what to do when you spot a snake and how to treat a snake bite using basic first aid.

To register and find out more, go to Council's website and search 'Snake Safety'.



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In the heart of Castle Hill, a culinary treasure trove is taking the neighborhood by storm. Clever Chachi, founded by the dynamic duo of young entrepreneurs **Megha Katyal** and **Ricky Katyal**, bringing the Indian flavors to the local community.

What sets Clever Chachi apart is its unwavering commitment to authenticity and exceptional hospitality. The moment you step inside, you're transported to a different world.

The menu at Clever Chachi is a testament to the diverse and vibrant culinary traditions of India. Each dish is a masterpiece, prepared with passion and using the finest ingredients. From the rich, aromatic curries that hail from the north to the smoky, tandoori chicken, every bite is an adventure through India's kitchens. Savor our special cocktails for a unique culinary experience.

Clever Chachi isn't just a restaurant; it's a community. A private courtyard for intimate gatherings, hosting corporate parties, birthday celebrations and more. Clever Chachi is well-equipped to turn any occasion into an unforgettable event.

Megha and Ricky invite you to join them on their journey to savor the essence of India. It's a place where tradition meets taste, where each dish is a love, and where the heart of Indian cuisine beats. So, come and be a part of this extraordinary experience.

For more info, visit: <https://cleverchachi.com.au/> or call 0430 736 403 or 0430 731 603. Their location is Shop 6, 3-9 Terminus St, Castle Hill.

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New Bowls Co-Ordinator at Castle Hill Bowling Club

Castle Hill Bowling Club (CHBC) has a new Bowls Coordinator in first grade bowler and Zone 10 representative player William Harkins.

The exciting announcement was made recently by CHRg (Castle Hill RSL Group) along with the Castle Hill Bowling Club (CHBC) Bowls Advisory Committee and is the latest appointment for CHBC since the amalgamation was finalised early this year.

William took up the role last month and said he was thankful to CHRg for the opportunity. "Castle Hill is a fantastic bowling club, with strong foundations, that has many opportunities for growth. I am excited about this role and look forward to working with the community to bring success, both on and off the green," he told the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News.

His passion for bowls is very much a family affair. He embraced the sport as a means to connect with his brothers, father, and grandfather.

The family bonding resulted in him mastering the game and propelled him to become a fierce competitor on the greens, earning him a well-deserved spot as a first-grade bowler and representation for Zone 10.

More than a sport, William views bowls as a vehicle to build a close-knit community within the club. Expressing his belief in the power of community for a club's success, he emphasises, "It's all about creating a community culture."

Castle Hill Bowling Club president Noel Benson said: "During the rigorous recruitment process, William consistently conveyed this principle, aligning seamlessly with CHBC's values.

"William's outstanding communication skills, coupled with his unwavering integrity and strong values, position him as a valuable asset to the CHBC team. The club has great confidence in William's capabilities to drive the growth of Bowls at Castle Hill, enhancing the experience for both existing members and newcomers," Noel said.

Before joining Castle Hill Bowling Club William bowled at NBC Sports Club (Northmead Bowling Club). He has worked as a greenkeeper for five years and also garden maintenance.

Noel said: "Having commenced his role as Bowls Coordinator on September 18th, William has already made a positive impact on the club. The CHBC family enthusiastically welcomed him, ensuring he feels embraced and an integral part of their close-knit community.

"William's presence is met with eager anticipation and optimism within the CHBC community. All eyes are on the promising changes and growth he will bring to the world of bowls at Castle Hill. Here's to a flourishing future under William's guidance as the new Bowls Coordinator."

Castle Hill Bowling Club has been known as the "friendly club" since it was founded over 60 years ago.

To find out more about the club visit: <https://www.castlehillbc.com.au>





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19

100 Years Young

BY BEV JORDAN

Mary Leonora Smith, better known to her friends as Noreen, has just celebrated her 100th birthday (27th September) and still writes a very good poem.

She has been writing poetry most of her life and has had many poems published in the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*. She has also published a book containing over 200 poems and pieces of prose called *In My Words* as a legacy to her family.

The current poem she is writing is called *On The Way Out*.

She grew up on a farm on Seven Hills Rd, Baulkham Hills as Mary Leonora Brown and was given the nickname Noreen when attending Baulkham Hills Primary School and it stayed with her. The farm that she and her brothers Noel and John grew up on was where the Wagon Wheel Nursery and now SummitCare now stand.

She left school, studied stenography and started work at the age of 15. Her secretarial work included a job at radio station 2GB. She met her husband when she was working in Baulkham Hills for the Broadfoot family who ran an irrigation business and a horse stud. Bill was a plumber.

Miss Brown became Mrs Smith and she still lives in the house that her husband built in 1949

after they married and where they bought up their three children, Debbie, Jeff and Bill.

She started writing again as a young mum and now writes for her three grandchildren and two great, granddaughters.

Her short stories and poems have won numerous prizes including first prize in the Henry Lawson Festival of Arts. One of her poems was also accepted for the ABC publication: *The Year of the Outback*.

Her parent's story is contained in *Slices of Life*, a book that's in a time capsule buried by Hills Shire Council in 2003 to be opened in 2056.

She celebrated her 100th birthday with family and was thrilled to get birthday wishes and cards from politicians and dignitaries including the Governor General and the Prime Minister.

Her biggest thrill though was a card from His Majesty King Charles and Queen Camilla (pictured).

One of the 200 poems to feature in her book is this one: *At The End of The Day*.



At The End of The Day

When the rose has dropped its petals,
And each bird has gone to rest
Seek solace in your inner self
If you won or failed the test.
If your step is light or weary
Grieve not for things not done
Rest easy with a quiet mind
At the setting of the sun,
And then again at sunrise
Embrace the coming day,
If you take a little, give a little
There will be nothing to repay.

By Noreen Smith

Amazing Alive

By Leonie Dixon

An elephant has the longest gestation period of any animal, nearly 2 years, but the period it took for our podcast studio to gain traction was over 5 times that long. The idea was discussed and mulled over through many different Boards, but finally we had the big launch Friday evening 6th October.

About 40 members and sponsors joined in the celebration which included a slide show presentation of the efforts it took to change what was the bathroom area for student boarders at the Masonic Schools, into a super studio equipped with high-end microphones, cameras, lighting and an editing computer. Of course, it's totally soundproofed, which is something ex-Chairman, Graham Johnson spoke about when describing what would now be seen as antiquated soundproofing in the 1st studio with which he was involved.

Graham told us many more interesting developments he oversaw during his years

as Chairman and we could see why he was a worthy candidate for having the studio dedicated in his honour.

Chris Mathers from Sydney Event Tech Specialist gave a demonstration of the capabilities of the studio and we enjoyed supper, all the time in awe of how our present Chairman, Andsley Dennis, was able to design, site manage and gain funding through grants to provide such a valuable asset for the station.

We intend to make the studio available for members as well as groups in the community and a booking sheet will shortly



be made available through our website alive905.com.au

Already there have been a few enquiries so if you're a keen podcaster and love the smell of a brand-new studio, get in quick!

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“Heathers” in Castle Hill Opens Today

BY JOSH KERWICK

The role of Veronica in *Heathers: The Musical* was one Jenna Woolley had been eyeing long before she was cast in the part for Blackout Theatre Company's production of the black comedy at Castle Hill's Pioneer Theatre.

“Since I was 14, Veronica was a dream role for me,” she says, “I love the music so much, and I’m a person that loves a challenge - it’s one of the hottest musical theatre roles that exists in terms of what you’re singing.

“It’s also such an interesting journey for this character, where it’s all these highs and lows. When I look at Veronica, I also see so much of myself - it’s a character that feels so natural to play. I used to do a musical masterclass with my friends, and we’d learn duets from *Heathers* together when. And I remember singing those songs and saying ‘I’m gonna do this one day.’”

Now 23, Jenna has been able to bring Veronica to life in a way that’ll leave you equal parts impressed and entertained, her passion shining through in a multi-faceted performance which takes the audience on a wild ride. That level of quality is present throughout every aspect of *Heathers*, with each detail smartly considered to make an effortlessly funny and energetic show.

Set in 1989, the musical follows high schooler Veronica Sawyer as she begins to

rise up the social ladder by associating with the popular it-girls who all share the same first name: Heather Chandler (Katie Staddon), Heather McNamara (Haley McCudden) and Heather Duke (Claire Hutchinson). At the same time Veronica meets JD (Aleks Justin), a brooding new transfer student who she soon falls for... before discovering his more sinister intentions.

Owing to a phenomenal cast, great musical arrangements and a truly mind-boggling amount of coordination both on display and behind the scenes, *Heathers* is a deliciously dark and fantastically funny production that continues to prove BTC is a benchmark for local community theatre.

Each member of the cast also deserves high praise. Each of the three Heathers have moments to show their terrific voices and attitudes, while Aleks Justin plays the ominous nature of JD with excellence. Tim Drummond and Will Smith also deserve special mention, their hilarious performances as half-wit bullies Ram and Kurt stealing the show each time they appear.



Jenna Woolley as Veronica Sawyer
(Photo credit: Maria Gorelik, Lightup Photography)

For Jenna, who’s studied musical theatre for years and has been cast in a number of professional productions, the group at Blackout provides a perfect mixture of both community feeling and genuine passion. She says: “I love how much they do what they want to do, because it will be lots of fun and we think The Hills will enjoy seeing it. It’s such a good group of people both creatively and socially, and everyone has gelled together really quickly. Blackout definitely gets the best of both worlds; talented people and the feeling of togetherness.”

The Blackout Theatre Company's Production of *Heathers* opens today, October 20th, and runs until October 29th at the Pioneer Theatre. Tickets are \$59 for adults, or \$49 for students and pensioners.

Be advised Heathers contains adult themes relating to suicide, murder and sexual violence.

HAWKESBURY ARTISTS SHINE AT THE ARCADIAN ARTISTS TRAIL 2023

It is a great privilege to have artists from the Hawkesbury Area in our Arcadian Artists Trail this year. Two of these artists are Wayne Wagstaff and Janelle Gavin.

Wayne Wagstaff is a qualified Blacksmith who uses his trade to create handmade metal pieces of great interest and high quality. Using traditional skills and techniques, and incorporating some modern twists with wood, he creates valuable and authentic items. A hand forge and hot steel enhance his creativity, producing items that are practical as well as beautiful. He will be exhibiting at *Kathleen Berney* in Arcadia in the second weekend of November. Come and see his remarkable work.

Janelle Gavin is a talented photographer who will also be exhibiting at the Arcadian Artists Trail 2023. Her passion and skill have led her to macro photography, capturing intricate and detailed aspects of the natural world. She has been working on the process of focus stacking where multiple images are used to produce almost three-dimensional photographs. The results are exceptional. It's well worth a visit to *Sandra's Ceramics Studio* to see Janelle's work.

Treat yourself to the beauty of the rural outskirts of Sydney as you explore 6 rural properties that have opened their studios for the weekend. Each of these venues has a wide and beautiful selection of treasures with artisans showing their amazing talents. Jewellers, watercolour artists, photographers, stonemasons, textile artists, printmakers, potters, and others are excited to show you their selection of handmade items. The experience is enhanced by the magnificence of the local scenery, the local food, and the local cheer in Arcadia, Galston and Dural.

On November 11-12, 2023. 9.00am – 5.00pm Saturday and Sunday. Admission is FREE. Come and enjoy! Visit their website www.arcadianartists.net.au for more information.

We thank Bendigo Bank for their generous support of this community event.

ARCADIAN ARTISTS TRAIL NOVEMBER 11-12

MEET THE ARTISTS

Don't miss it



POTTERY SCULPTURE
JEWELLERY PAINTING
TEXTILES 40 ARTISTS



Business Breakfast

Visionary Entrepreneurs Australia kicked off its first Business Networking Breakfast at Castle Hill on National Family Business Day last month.

Pratibha Bhanushali and Amit and Mamta Bhardwaj established Visionary Australia to support small businesses in the area. Forty people gathered for the networking event that brought together entrepreneurs, and professionals from various sectors.

They said: "The event, held at Rebellion Hall, Castle Hill provided a dynamic platform for networking, knowledge sharing, and fostering valuable connections.

"Attendees had the chance to connect with like-minded individuals, exchange ideas, and explore potential collaborations. The event's success is a testament to Visionary Entrepreneurs commitment to facilitating meaningful connections within the business community. Attendees left with a renewed sense of purpose and a wealth of new contacts to propel their businesses forward."

The group is planning regular networking events for details email Pratibha.Bhanushali@proaccounting.net.au



PETS OF THE WEEK

AT A GLANCE

NAME: TALLEY
SEX: Male
BREED: Staffy Cross
AGE: 6 years
PRICE: \$49

BART is a seven-year-old American staffy, Staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter say Bart has been very well-behaved when with them. They say Bart is a gentle and calm dog who loves to be with people. If you are interested in adopting Bart come to the shelter to meet him with your family dog and children. As one of the featured dogs, Bart's adoption price has been reduced to \$49. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and life-time registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

Pet Blessing
at Wesley Uniting Church
32 Showground Road Castle Hill
Sunday 22nd October during the 9.30am service



Bring your animal for a special blessing by the minister

Pet Blessing SERVICE



All dogs, cats and small animals are welcome. If your pet is unable, too shy or you are worried about bringing him or her please bring a photo, soft toy or come dressed as your pet.

Please Note that you as the owner are responsible for your animals at all times. Please consider the needs of each individual pet before bringing them along. All dogs must remain on leads and small animals in their appropriate carriers during the service.



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



TALLEY has been at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter since May this year. Staff say he is a friendly active boy when out in the exercise yard and inside his kennel but is very relaxed and content whilst inside the office with staff. Talley has been social to other dogs in the exercise yard. If you are interested in adopting Talley please come to the shelter with your family dog and children to meet him. He is already desexed so can leave the shelter with you. His adoption price has been reduced to \$49. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, microchipping and life-time council registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

AT A GLANCE

NAME: BART
SEX: Male
BREED: American Staffy
AGE: 7 years old
PRICE: \$49



Hills District RFS Medal Presentation Ceremony

I was delighted to be invited to attend The Hills District NSW RFS Medal Presentation Ceremony recently. It was a pleasure to see the brave men and women of the RFS being recognised and awarded for their bravery and their dedication to the community they serve. One Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal, three National Emergency Medals, five Long Service Medals, and thirteen National Medals were awarded at the presentation.

In an age where service work is on a rapid decline, any Australian who makes the sacrifice of time and often comfort, may stand proud knowing that they have served their country, and more personally, the people in their communities. This rings twice as true for those who volunteer with NSW Rural Fire Service, the largest volunteer firefighting organisation in the world. In times of natural disaster, these brave volunteers made a choice, and put themselves in the fire's line to protect people, property, and national bushland.

Their bravery, sacrifice, commitment, and service is admired and appreciated by our community and by our nation. And it is right that we should award them and honour them for all that they have done in service of us all. Thank you to The Hills District RFS for all you do for our community, and congratulations to those members who have been recognised for their service.



MARK HODGES MP
MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL

AS YOUR STATE MP, I AM HERE TO:

- Help you with any State Government matters.
- Assist in accessing NSW Government services, assistance or grants.
- Provide Justice of the Peace services.
- Arrange congratulatory messages.

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• Suite 1A, 25-33 Old Northern Road, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153
• 9686 3110
• castlehill@parliament.nsw.gov.au

2023 Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum

Together with Tristan Smith, Chief Executive Officer, it was a privilege to host another 150 student leaders from across 16 schools at the 22nd Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum. The 2023 Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum held on 12-14 October at YMCA, Yarramundi was an incredible success. The Forum is a 2 ½ day live-in program for Year 11 students, based on the values of integrity, service and courage.

The students who attended brought an immeasurable amount of energy, enthusiasm, and passion to the Forum. It was incredible to watch their growth throughout the forum and I can't wait to follow their success back at their schools and within our wider community.

Students participated in team building activities, small group discussions, and a community service project at Aminya Village, McCall Gardens and Riding for the Disabled

(NSW) Association-Tall Timbers Centre. Throughout the Forum, they also listened to inspiring talks from Matt Kershaw, Botille Vette-Welsh, Josh and Nathan Katz, Kristie Bennett and Barnaby Howarth.

I would like to thank our devoted volunteer team consisting of over 65 leaders and committee members who work tirelessly throughout the year and over the 2.5 days to support these students. Their passion and dedication in developing the next generation of leaders is nothing short of admirable and the Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum would not be possible without them. These leaders are exceptional examples for the students and display the forum's values of service, integrity and courage throughout their daily lives.

The Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum Committee are an amazing group of young

people who have an incredible passion and commitment in developing the next generation of leaders. I commend and thank; Tristan Smith, Ronie Quinn, Jan Cox, Ged Lewis, Veneta Bailey, Ken Shaw, Jane Doherty, Thomas Kelly, Daniel Ridley, Marcus Cannon, Simon Teh, Renee Salecich, Lauren Nowacka and Meredith Maihi. They do a fantastic job for the youth in Mitchell.

We would also like to thank our valued sponsors; our major sponsors, Nature's Sunshine Australia, Castle Towers, and sponsors; AMICUS, School Bytes, Redeemer Baptist School and The Hills Lodge for their continuing commitment to the future of our student leaders.

For further information on the Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum visit www.mitchellylf.org.au

As your Federal MP, I am here to help.

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

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.

ADVERTISEMENT

ALEX HAWKE MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MITCHELL



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

OUR OWN PILGRIM FATHERS OF THE HILLS AND HAWKESBURY REGION

The United States may well celebrate the Pilgrim Fathers who sailed across the Atlantic from England to America in the "Mayflower". Here, in our neck of the woods of the Hills and Hawkesbury region, we recognise a similar group of people who sailed from Deptford, England on board the "Coromandel" on 12th February 1802 heading for the Colony of New South Wales arriving on 13th June 1802 in the, then record, time 121 days (when average time was 175 days of sea travel).

On board the "Coromandel" were a party of passengers who were members of the congregation of the Crown Court Church of Scotland located at Covent Garden, London. After serving a short period of time at the Government Farm located at Toongabbie, they were given land grants along the Hawkesbury region in the area known as Portland Head (now called Ebenezer). They were then joined by seven other newly arrived families. Both groups were deeply religious and as there was no established church in the district they met and held religious services under a tree situated on a piece of ground which they named Ebenezer Mount. Remains of the tree still stand across the road from Ebenezer Church forming a new canopy after several storm damage events. The services were conducted by James Mein, one of the settlers from the "Coromandel".

Although there were, what we now call Anglicans, amongst the congregation most of the settlers were non-conformist motivated by a desire of freedom of worship and independence, coming from Scotland and Wales where they did not have religious, social and legal status as Anglicans. Also in this period there were limitations in politics and commerce for the non-English and so many enterprising Scots

and Welsh headed to the colonies where they found greater independence.

The citizens at Portland Head also involved themselves in political happenings in New South Wales by supporting Governor Bligh during the Rum Rebellion. They had petitioned for reinstatement of the Governor which was unsuccessful resulting in Lieutenant Bell with a detachment of troops marching from Windsor to Ebenezer Mount at Portland Head. When he arrived he found the congregation engaged in worship. After the conclusion of the service Lt. Bell shook hands with each member of the congregation and advised that he was satisfied with the orderly conduct of the meeting and that he would neither disperse nor interfere with their meeting.

The church, which is the oldest continuous church in Australia, was constructed in 1809 following a meeting of residents of the Portland Head community held at "Hope Farm" on the other side of the Hawkesbury, opposite the current site of where the church now stands. This meeting was held on the 26th September 1808. Whilst the church is reputed to be the oldest church in Australia it was not the first church to be built as there were churches in Sydney and Parramatta which were built earlier. The first church constructed in Australia constructed in 1793 was a wattle and daub building that held 500 persons located at what is now the corner of Bligh and Hunter Streets, Sydney which was destroyed by a deliberately lit fire in 1798. After the loss of this church, Governor Hunter decided that a more substantial church be built at Church Hill in what is now Lang Park and was finished in 1810 and called St Phillips. St. Phillips was deemed unsuitable by 1845 and was dismantled and a new St Phillips was completed in 1856. A

similar situation occurred in Parramatta with St Johns originally being constructed in 1803 and later dismantled 1852 being replaced by a new larger St. Johns.

The first wedding ceremony at Ebenezer Church brought together two of the pioneering families of the Hawkesbury region when Matilda Grono, daughter of John (a Welshman) and Elizabeth Grono married William Wiseman, eldest son of Solomon Wiseman of Wiseman's Ferry fame.

For the first twenty years following construction, Ebenezer Church was a non-denominational church although the congregation sought to have ministers appointed by the London Missionary Society. The said society did not respond to the settlers' requests, so the church operated as a non-denominational church serving all Christians alike.

In 1824 The Rev. John Garvie of the Presbyterian Church assumed the role of Minister at Ebenezer making Ebenezer Church the first Presbyterian Church in the Colony. From that time, up to 1977, it remained as a Presbyterian Church when the congregation of both Ebenezer and Scots Church Pitt Town agreed to join the new Uniting Church movement whilst still maintaining links with the Presbyterian Church. Ebenezer and Scots Church Pitt Town share the same congregation, Minister, and management committee.

The name Ebenezer is a Biblical name chosen for the church and, thus, the village adjoining the church took the name from I Samuel VII, Verse 12:

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mispah and Jeshanah and called its name Ebenezer, for he said "Hitherto the Lord has helped us".



POP UP CRAFT SHOP

Open in October and November

Elouera Cottage Crafts' POP UP will open each FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
9AM – 1PM from Friday 27th October until Saturday 18th November 2023.

It will be located in the Reid Room (at the rear of the main building and adjacent to the car park) at Cherrybrook Uniting Church, 134 New Line Road, Cherrybrook. Featuring a creative collection of handmade items including appliqued tea towels, crocheted top

kitchen towels, cross stitched bath towels and hand towels, knitted baby jackets, cushions, patchwork quilts, bags and table runners, Christmas decorations plus a whole lot more – all items are locally made and at very affordable prices.

Full details www.cherrybrookuc.org.au or follow Elouera Cottage Crafts on Facebook/Instagram.

AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

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

— EBENEZER CHURCH —
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ERECTED IN AUSTRALIA
FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD.
1809.



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Mercurial Mackenzie signs off on a high

The Hills motorsports star Mackenzie Tricker will be signing off on an amazing motorcycling career on a high, having notched up her fifth US National Enduro Championship women's elite title with one race to go.

The mercurial rider, who overcame a horrific shoulder injury in February to crown herself champion, confirmed she is officially calling it a day, but plans to keep racing.

"I'm actually about to retire from racing full time but I have a few more races left for this year and that will be it for me," Mackenzie, 27, told the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News from her North Carolina base. "I'm still going to ride but I just won't be racing full-time."

The Vineyard local plans to make her traditional trip to Australia during Christmas time and spend three months relaxing with family and friends.

Mackenzie was born to race and has scooped up a swagful of titles and awards over the years in her highly-successful career in the US. This includes winning a hat-trick of Loretta Lynn National Amateur Motocross titles from 2013-2015. This is regarded as one of the toughest amateur motocross challenges in the world with many unable to even qualify for it.

Mackenzie Tricker wins her fifth US National Enduro Championship women's elite title.

Mackenzie has also won several off-road and amateur championships in the US where she has been competing since 2011.

She won several state and national titles in Australia before taking on the bigger challenges in America. In 2018, Mackenzie, Tayla Jones and Jessica Gardiner helped Australia lift the prestigious Women's World Trophy Team title in the FIM International Six Days enduro championships.

Mackenzie's fifth national enduro championship women's elite title puts her in a special category in this tough competition and provides a fitting finale to one of Australia's most successful female riders in America.

"This has been a great year," Tricker said. "I won the National Enduro Championship women's elite title with one race to go."

In this competition, riders are allowed to drop their worst score for the season, which

allowed Mackenzie to skip the last remaining round, and still win the championship.

"This was my fifth title, as always there is pressure that comes along with it as well as a lot of money on the line," she said.

"I'd say title number four last year was the most challenging and toughest one to win as I went head to head winner take all at the final round. So that was much more challenging and stressful than this year but I'm stoked to win."

The riding ace has already begun to share her vast skills and experience to

the new crop of motorcycling riders.

"I currently have a job instructing people on how to ride motorcycles," she said. "So that's fun to share my knowledge and experience with them."



Mackenzie Tricker with her support team after capturing her fifth US National Enduro Championship women's elite title.



Top Men's coach
Luke Casserly.
Picture: FNSW

Top goalkeeper
Ryan Woods.
Picture: FNSW

Fair Play Award winners.
Picture: FNSW

Hills United Gain More Honours

Hills United FC are kicking higher this season after taking out four major titles in the 2023 football season. After storming to the FNSW League 1 Men's title, they captured a further three awards at the annual presentation held recently by Football NSW.

Men's coach Luke Casserly was recognised as the FNSW League 1 Men's Coach of the Year, with coaching regarded as "one of the toughest jobs in football".

Ryan Woods was awarded the Goalkeeper of the Year trophy while the champion Hills United men's squad came home with the coveted Fair Play Award 2023. This is surely one of their finest seasons and underlines the depth and commitment of the players, coaching staff, volunteers, and committee throughout the busy season.

Congratulations to the club which acknowledged it was a combined effort that saw them ascend to the top this year.

"We were recognised and awarded as a club and individually, and so many people made this season possible," the club said. "Massive thanks to the technical staff for their support and to the players who were immense and delivered week in, week out, and did with humility and the values of our club in mind." Hills United President Tristan Rimmer was also praised for his role in the club's huge success this season.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS FINALS

North West Sydney Football will be fighting for glory at the 53rd Champion of Champions Finals this Sunday (Oct 22) at Valentine Sports Park. Organised by Football NSW, 38 of NSW's top grassroots clubs meet to determine the champions of their respective age group. All matches will be played at Valentine Sports from 8:15am with the finals kicking off at 4:15pm.

DURAL BOWLING CLUB NEWS

PHIL, ROBYN WIN MAJOR TITLES

Both the men's and ladies' major singles (Dural Competition) have been completed. Phil Laing (left in the picture) won the men's title with Mike Keane finishing runner-up.

Robyn Scoble (left in the picture) won the ladies' title with Elizabeth Goode as the runner-up. Congratulations to Phil and Robyn for emerging worthy club champions.



DURAL WIN MITCHELL PLATE

Dural Bowling Club won the coveted Mitchell Plate in the ladies competition. Dural secured the championship with some close wins. It is very exciting for the Dural Bowling Club as the Mitchell Plate will be replaced next year in a revamped competition by Bowls NSW.



COMMUNITY groups

2nd Castle Hill Rovers

www.gwsrovers.com.au

Annangrove Environment Centre

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

Baulkham Hills Probus

Meets 1st Thurs each month 1.30pm
Baulkham Hills Sports Club, 11 Renown Rd
Visitors welcome. Activities every Thurs.
Betina | 0419 595 007
probus56830@gmail.com

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 Probud 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

Computer Pals for Seniors – The Hills

A non-profit club run by volunteers dedicated to providing low-cost tuition for Seniors in a friendly atmosphere, enabling them to stay safe online & become proficient in the many facets of computing.
Colin Wright | 0479 137 131
cphills.org.au

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

Meets 2nd Wed each month at the Galston Community Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. 10am followed by business meeting and BYO lunch. Craft day 4th Wed each month. Visitors welcome.
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 held 1st Tues of the month at Toongabbie Girl Guide Hall in Junia Avenue Toongabbie from 10am. We also hold craft mornings for members on 1st and 3rd Tues of the month from 10-12.
ToongabbieCWA@gmail.com

Dural and District Prostate Cancer Support Grp

We meet on the 3rd Mon of every month 7:00pm for 7:15pm at the Blue Gum Centre, Glenhaven Green, 607 Old Northern Road, Glenhaven
Graham | 8677 7896 or 042421062

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 Grp

3rd Tues 10-2 & 4th Tues 6-10 of the month at Windsor Library. Bring your own project or join the workshop – Start with a Stitch. Beginners upwards \$10. Bookings essential.
Catherine Delaney | 0413 340 049
cdelaney1@vtown.com.au

Friends of Hills Library

Meets 2nd Thursday of the month at Castle Hill Library. New members welcome.
Lesley Nelson, President - 0478 000 925

Galston View Club

The 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 Probud 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
www.haat.com.au
Leanne@mellowcrest.com

Hawkesbury Camera Club

Club meets at 7.30pm on the first 3 Wed of the mo at the Richmond Club, Francis Street, Richmond. Facebook Hawkesbury Camera Club.
www.hawkesburycameraclub.com.au

Hawkesbury District Agricultural Assn

4577 3591 (BH)
www.hawkesburyshow.com.au

Hawkesbury Nepean Chapter of the 1st Fleeters

Meets on 2nd Saturday of each month.
Pamela Hempel | 0407 660 579
www.fffhnc.com

Hawkesbury West Probud Club

Meets at 10:15am on the first Monday of each month at Panthers North Richmond.
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
HillsOM1@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 2nd Tues, 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 Probud Club of Baulkham Hills

Meetings 10am, 2nd Wednesday of the month. At The Fiddler, Windsor Road and Commercial Road, Rouse Hill. New Members welcome
Suzanne Dennis | 0412 424 593
ladiesprobusbh@gmail.com

Learning in the Hills

To find out more about the huge range of courses available call 9639 7918
www.hca.org.au/learning-in-the-hills/

Lions Club of Richmond Inc.

Geoff | 0412 969 651

Lions Club of Windsor Inc

Pam | 0413 395 145

Macquarie Towns Garden Club

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

National Seniors Australia (Hills Branch)

Meets on the 1st Thurs of every month at Baulkham Hills Sports Club Renown Rd, Baulkham Hills at 9.30am for 10am. New members welcomed.
May | 0414 634 572
maybruce@bigpond.com

North Rocks View Club

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

John | 9487 1385

Pennant Hills Combined Probud Club

Meets at Hotel Pennant Hills every third Monday of the month at 10am. New members and visitors welcome.
Lorene | 0429 396594

Pennant Hills VIEW Club

Meets for lunch on 2nd Tuesday of each month - Oatlands Golf Club at 11am. A short meeting, a two course lunch & an interesting guest speaker. Visitors & new members welcome. On the 4th Tues of the month a social outing is organised.
Margaret | 9873 2402

Pitt Town Probud 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

Probud Club of Round Corner (Dural)

Julie; PO Box 822, Round Corner 2158

Probud 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

Probud Club – Glenorie

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

Probud 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

Probud Combined Castle Hill Club

General Meetings 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10am at Cherrybrook Community Centre.
Helen | 0403 751 934
enquiries@probuscastlehill.org.au

Probud 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

Probud 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.
winstonhillspclub@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.
Donna | 0416 082 626

Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club

Richmond/Windsor View Club Meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at The Richmond Club. VIEW (voice, interest and education of woman) supports the Smith Family and Learning for Life
Trish Carter | 0417 010 619

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
sithills@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/thehillslarningcentre

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.
9624 5034

The Hills District Pipe Band

Practices at Stamford Hall, Balcombe Heights Estate, Baulkham Hills every Wednesday night from 7pm-9pm. The band warmly welcomes new members and gig enquiries. Instagram: @hillsdistrictpipeband
Suzie Whitaker
pipeband.hillsdistrict@gmail.com
www.hillsdistrictpipeband.com

The Hills Trefoil Guild

Elaine | 0417 330 196

The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills

Meets at St. Joseph'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

Welcome to Members and Visitors.
Mal Steel | airsdsydneyhills@gmail.com

Thursday Ladies Tennis Competition in the Hills District

hillsdiadistenniss.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.bushwalkingsw.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 Probud Club

Meets at 10am on the 1st Wed of the month at Windsor RSL 36 Argyle St, South Windsor.
Ross | 0414450900 or
Secretary Ann | 0414298945
ann.jones@jbff.com.au

Winston Hills Joey Scouts

9862 8482
hsara@optusnet.com.au

Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed Inc

Meeting Tues and Sat 9am - 5pm

Alan Hunt | 4566 4626 or 0428 784 425

Adrian Acheson | 0448 833 781

YMCA NSW Community Visitors Scheme

9633 8209 or 0402 255 193

Zonta Club of Sydney Hills

0414 641 408 | www.zontadistrict24.org

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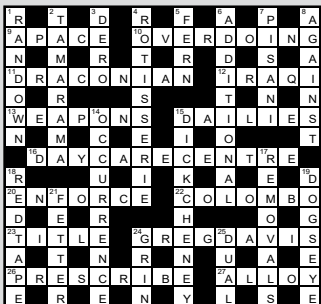
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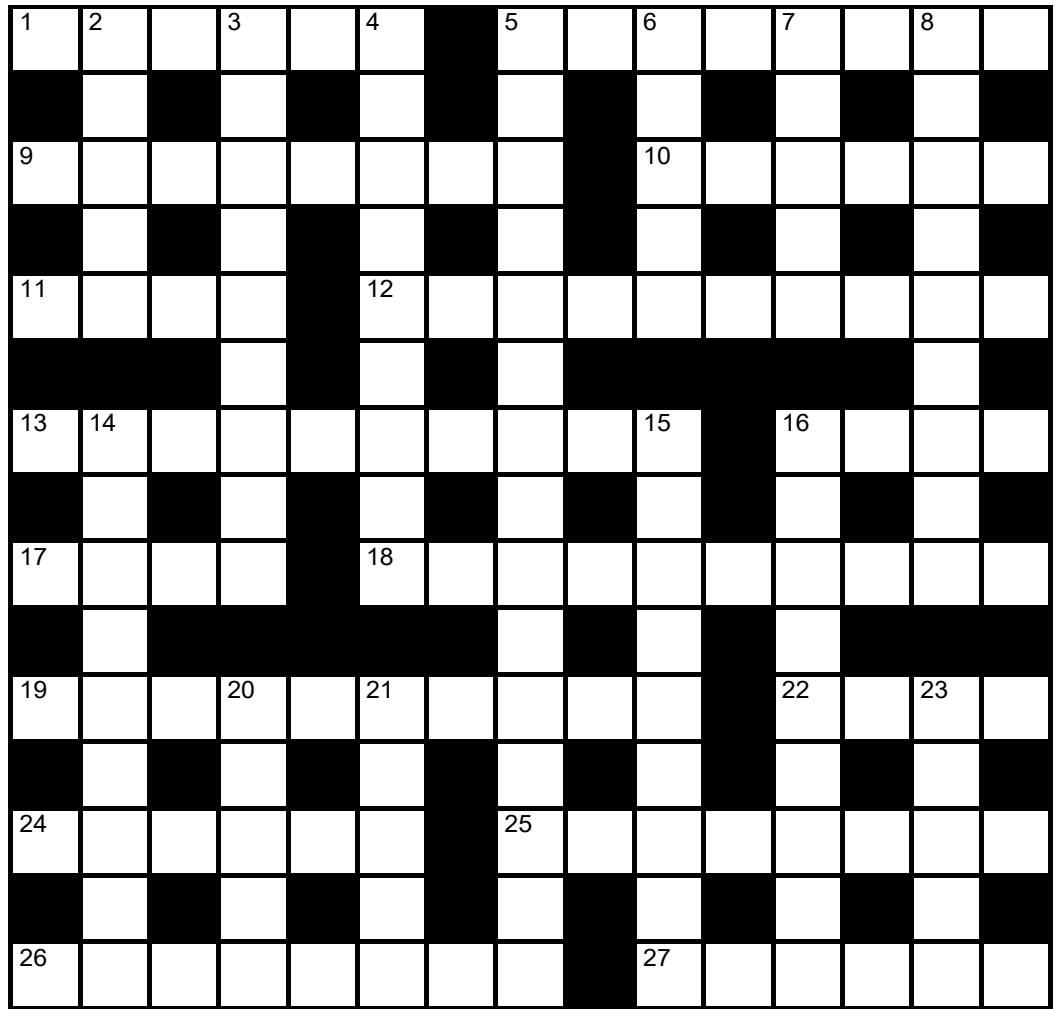
Answers from last issue

CROSSWORD



SUDOKU

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



Across

- Computer threat
- Queensland National Park (4, 4)
- Drunken tramp saw rodent (5, 3)
- Court sport
- "The --- have it!"
- Leaving the home front (6, 4)
- Everything considered
- Pigeon talk
- Slip
- Like some costume jewellery (4-6)
- Advice starter (2, 1, 4, 3)
- Letters
- Transcribed
- Simon ---, leading cricketer and footballer
- Student's reading
- Try to make ends meet

Down

- Rough and disorderly
- Agent amends job, botching it (5, 4)
- Famed trial venue
- Tall widespread herb, with large showy flowers (6, 9)
- Boarded (3, 2)
- Japanese assassin
- Proceed independently (2, 2, 5)
- Large salt pan adjacent to the Flinders Ranges (4,5)
- Ecstatic
- Underground worker (4,5)
- Narrowest part of the torso
- Electromagnetic telecommunication
- Five Pillars faith

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WORD SEARCH

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

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

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CORIOLANUS
DRAMATIST

FIRST FOLIO
HAMLET
HENRY V
HISTORIES
JULIUS CAESAR

KING LEAR
KING'S MEN
MACBETH
OTHELLO
PLAYS

PLAYWRIGHT
POET
SONNETS
THE TEMPEST
TRAGEDIES

Answers from last issue

WORD SEARCH

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

CODE WORD

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

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.

CODE WORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| | 6 | 20 | 1 | 13 | 9 | 6 | 14 | 4 | 18 | 25 | 20 | | | |
| 16 | | 13 | | 14 | | 20 | | 6 | | 21 | | 24 | | |
| 1 | | 21 | | 9 | 20 | 17 | 19 | 1 | | 10 | 1 | 9 | | |
| 13 | 8 | 17 | 19 | 22 | | 14 | | 13 | | 1 | | 20 | | |
| 4 | | 14 | | 1 | | 26 | | 11 | 20 | 13 | 8 | 21 | | |
| 24 | 2 | 18 | 21 | 13 | 4 | 20 | 6 | | | | | 17 | | |
| 25 | | 6 | | 12 | | | | 24 | | 3 | | 6 | | |
| 6 | | | | | 24 | 9 | 21 | 25 | 25 | 21 | 9 | 14 | | |
| 20 | 5 | 20 | 25 | 9 | | 20 | | 22 | | 13 | | 15 | | |
| 20 | | 13 | | 16 | | 20 | | 20 | 23 | 25 | 20 | 15 | | |
| 13 | 21 | 13 | | 21 | 15 | 9 | 20 | 6 | | 1 | | 20 | | |
| 24 | | 18 | | 13 | | 20 | | 7 | | 20 | | 6 | | |
| | 3 | 1 | 13 | 12 | 20 | 6 | 10 | 14 | 21 | 6 | 4 | | | |
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | | |
| | Q | F | | J | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | | |

SUDOKU

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

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

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

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