

# Hills to Hawkesbury

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## Community News

5th July 2022 | Volume 39 – Issue 13  
Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses



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# JUSTIN'S CRAFT

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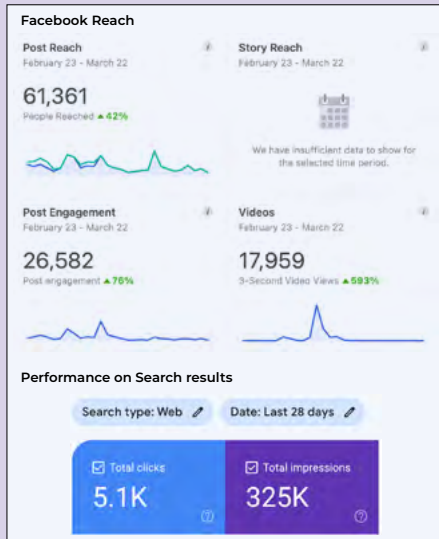
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# Shining a light on Windsor's future

BY TONY BOSWORTH – EDITOR HAWKESBURY POST

**Windsor is set to have a major rejuvenation as part of the multi-million dollar Liveability project which will see the area being tidied up and parts restored or refreshed, and one of the iconic features of the Mall will be kept – the 24 gas lamps – and the push is on to get gas back.**

The Windsor Mall gas lamps are the biggest network of gas lamps in Australia and many heritage supporters believe they would be an additional major tourist attraction for historic Windsor, if restored and publicised.

That publicity has already started, with a straightforward question being asked on the I Love Windsor Facebook page - Do we want gas lamps for the Mall?

So far the poll has seen almost all (some 99% of those answering the poll) giving a resounding yes to keeping the lamps and restoring them, with 56% saying they should be gas powered.

Over 500 votes, and counting, have been cast in total, with some 44% in favour of electric-powered lamps.

Hawkesbury Council has already agreed to keep and restore the gas lamps but many of those who value Windsor's heritage and see it as a tourist drawcard believe they have to be resurrected as gas, not electric.

Windsor businessman Darren Pead – he owns three shops in the Mall – is the man behind I Love Windsor and he says, “we want to gauge community feedback as to whether they should be restored as gas lamps or electric lamps”.

He points out the lamps, “are run down and not working. The gas pipes are still underground and the lamps are believed to be still connected to the gas supply”.

He says, “it's a no brainer to restore these gas lamps and make Windsor the best historic town in Australia.”

Of course one potential minus to using gas as against electricity is its effect on climate change, given gas is a fossil fuel, while electric lamps don't produce any pollution – at least not from themselves.

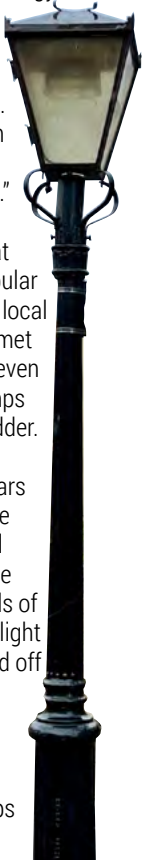
But Mr Pead points out the technology has moved on since the Windsor lamps were last powered by gas.

“These lamps could be restored and restarted using the gas,” he says. “The technology exists to make them electronically operated and reduce emissions by 70% from previous use.”

He's not long returned from the UK where he visited the historic Great Malvern area - part of the tourist-popular town of Malvern - where he talked to local Council staff, gas lamp technicians, met a man who restores gas lamps, and even got to take close look at how the lamps function himself, with the aid of a ladder.

Great Malvern has over 100 fully functioning gas lamps, many 100 years old, with the local Council responsible for looking after 26 of them. Mr Pead reports that the annual gas bill for the Council lamps is “only in the hundreds of pounds” and they operate on simple light sensors, which means they go on and off automatically, so saving fuel.

In the UK town, there are also additional replica, electric operated, ‘gas’ lamps installed throughout the town adding to the genuine gas lamps stock.



# 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](http://www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au).



Dying gum trees at Kenthurst

# Anger over Tree Losses By BEV JORDAN

**Long time residents in Kenthurst are furious over the loss of mature trees in the area over the past six months saying "enough is enough".**

Several residents have written to Hills Shire Council and local MPs demanding that something be done to stop the damage being carried out in bush blocks.

Dennis van Someren said "the whole community is up in arms about it".

He said residents have watched in horror as large numbers of trees have been killed on recently purchased blocks in the Kenthurst area, calling it "carnage".

Residents have been particularly concerned about the loss of approximately 20 mature gum

trees on land on the corner of Pitt Town road and Emperor Place at Kenthurst.

"The five acre block has been denuded of trees that have been there for a long time – no other trees on the road or adjoining properties have been affected," said Dennis.

He said the block used to be owned by a long-time resident who sold flowers from the front of the property.

He said trees had also been killed on land in Hazeldean Place and Bushland Place at Kenthurst.

He has just joined the Bushland Conservation Committee and is Kenthurst Rotary Club's conservation director and is intent on pursuing the matter.

Ross Williams, a Kenthurst resident for over 55 years, said he was "truly dismayed and disgusted" by what is happening. I have never seen such wanton destruction of bushland... the devastation is a blight on our community."

There are fines of \$3000 per tree for people found guilty of destroying trees on their property.

Under State legislation fines can range from \$3000 for individuals and \$6000 for corporations for each offence. Court proceedings for the unauthorised damage (including intentional damage) or removal of a protected trees or vegetation include penalties of up to \$1,100,000 if dealt with in the Land and Environment Court or up to \$110,000 in the Local Court.

Hills Shire Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi said the illegal removal of trees on both private and public property is a serious issue.

"Council condemns the illegal removal of trees, especially through methods such as poisoning," he told the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*. "Council does investigate these matters and can pursue enforcement within the confines of state legislation that it is bounded by."

"I hope this sends a strong message to property owners that removing trees without the correct approvals in place can result in significant fines being issued if any wrong doing is found," he said.

# Riverside GARDENS




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SES volunteers spent nearly six hours clearing up the mess, cutting the tree, clearing the roof and placing a tarp on it, when this giant gum fell onto a house in Hyde Ave Glenhaven during big winds a few weeks ago. Photo supplies by Matthieu Feray The Hills SES Unit

## SES WARNING

The Bureau of Meteorology is predicting a very high (90%) chance of showers in the coming days as a low pressure trough deepens in the region, possibly forming a low. The chance of rainfall between 40-100mm is expected.

The Hills SES statement reads: "While we cannot control what nature occasionally throws at us, there are some simple things we can do to reduce or even prevent the impact on life and property.

"If you are advised that a storm is on its way, you should park your vehicles under cover and away from trees. To prevent water damage, gutters, downpipes and drains should be checked and cleaned periodically. Blocked gutters and drains are a major cause of damage to internal ceilings, walls, furniture and floor coverings and can be easily prevented."

"If you are driving when flooding occurs, please be safe and never drive through flood waters. Be aware of driving hazards such as mud, debris, damaged roads and fallen branches or trees. If driving conditions become dangerous, safely pull over away from trees, storm drains, low-lying areas and floodwater."

Additionally, The SES wants to remind people to:

- Never drive, ride or walk through floodwater
- Secure objects that are likely to float and cause damage
- Keep listening to your local radio station for information, updates and advice
- Be prepared to evacuate if advised by emergency services
- Act early as roads may become congested or close
- Stay clear of creeks, drains, causeways, gutters, streams, fallen trees, power lines and damaged buildings

For emergency help in floods and storms, call the NSW SES on 132 500. In life threatening situations, call Triple Zero (000) immediately.

## CHECK SMOKE ALARMS

Fire and Rescue NSW is urging people to check their smoke alarms following several house fires. A 52-year-old man and his dog escaped in South Windsor after an alarm woke them after 7.30am on June 10th as toxic smoke and flames began filling their small Church Street cottage. The man quickly gathered his dog and ran outside where he called Triple Zero (000).

Nine Fire and Rescue NSW trucks arrived at the property and extinguished the flames. An overheating electrical device was found to be the cause of the blaze. It melted and slowly consumed the carpet in the front bedroom before igniting a foam mattress nearby.

FRNSW Superintendent, Adam Dewberry, said fortunately the resident had ensured the smoke alarm outside his bedroom was in good working order.

"People need to understand that when you're asleep, so too is your sense of smell," Supt Dewberry said. "The smell of smoke won't wake you and without an alarm, you can be overcome by poisonous carbon monoxide gas, which is odourless, colourless and tasteless, and you could die in your sleep."

The public is urged to check and maintain smoke alarms and if they are older than 10 years, replace them. Residents can contact their local fire station and inquire about booking a 'Home Safety Visit.' Fire crews can visit your home and carry out a safety inspection, replacing smoke alarms at no cost to residents.

A 96-year-old woman, who narrowly escaped a fire in her Blacktown home, on June 8th has warned others to be extra careful around heaters this winter.

Connie Down was enjoying a sleep-in in when she decided to turn up the fan heater, a metre from her bed. Without warning, the heater burst into flames, blocking her bedroom door and only escape route.



Photo courtesy FRNSW: Bedroom damage in South Windsor Fire.

Connie was able to push the heater aside, without injury, and run outside to call for help. "That heater just flared up... just exploded."

Fortunately, the smoke alarms in Connie's home were in working order. The alarms were heard by neighbours who called Triple Zero (000) and crews from the Blacktown Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) station were quickly on the scene to extinguish the heater and stop the fire spreading. "It was just by the grace of God that I was able to get around it (the fire)... it was terrifying... it just scared the daylight out of me," Connie said.

Connie says she'll never use a heater in her bedroom again. "I would rather stand out in the cold than do that because it's just terrifying."

FRNSW recommends:

- don't overload power boards;
- keep everything a metre from the heater;
- never use wheat bags to warm your bed;
- check electric blankets for frayed cords and other damage;
- don't use outdoor heating and cooking equipment inside the home as it can be fatal;
- keep looking when cooking;
- have a Home Escape Plan; and
- most importantly, if a fire does occur, get out, stay out and call Triple Zero (000).

## KELLYVILLE CRASH

Two women in their 70s were rescued from a car following a crash between the car they were in and a bus on Memorial, Kellyville at noon on Wednesday, June 29th.

Emergency services were called at noon. Fire and Rescue NSW crews had to remove the door and cut the roof off the car to release the women who were treated on the spot.

They were taken by ambulance to Blacktown Hospital in a stable condition.

Photo Courtesy Channel 7.



## MEN ARRESTED

Three men have been arrested after an allegedly stolen excavator and two stolen cars were found at an address in Graham St, Baulkham Hills.

Hills Police visited the home at 4am on Wednesday June 29th. Later in the day, at 1pm, police arrested a third man who turned up at the same address. He was taken into custody for outstanding arrest warrants.

Police are still looking for a man who ran off when officers visited the house at 4am.

# Fine Craftsmanship in the Hills District Region

By GISELA HORNER

Tucked away nestling on 25 lush acres behind a huge walled garden is a workshop where beauty is crafted - 'wood art'.

Justin White spends most of his days, when not working at the violin shop Vivaldi's in Epping for two days, making violins, violas, cellos and guitars in a perfectly set up 'man shed' at the family home in Berrilee. His extensive knowledge of the great Masters of violin making – Amati, Guarneri and Stradivari – means that his design follows the gold standard and traditions.

Justin grew up with his two brothers in Kellyville on a five-acre property. From Kellyville Primary School where he learned piano, he went to Castle Hill High taking up electric guitar. Justin's parents Kay and Dennis were under the impression that he was studying for his exams in his bedroom behind closed doors, but he was actually teaching himself the guitar! Justin became fascinated with the classical guitar because of the complexity of the music and playing the instrument. From school, he went straight to the Australian Institute of Music studying classical guitar. While there, he was given the opportunity to learn a second instrument and decided on the violin. By the end of the year, Justin knew where his future lay. He took up lessons with Sam Podjarski, well-known conductor and Violinist with Opera Australia and in his late 20's, attended UNSW doing a Bachelor of Music with 1st class honours. While studying violin and to make a living, he worked for 10 years in an upholstery shop doing leather work for prestige cars. It gave him knowledge of

working in metalwork with tools and patterns and sparked his interest in how musical instruments were made. Justin looked more into the subject and was lucky to become acquainted with Irish/Australian violin maker/restorer Alan Healy, who became a mentor, guiding Justin with his valuable knowledge of the craft.

Starting from full size templates of 17th and 18th century instruments, which detail the image and accurate measurements, like an architect, Justin begins with a mould onto which the sides are fixed, then traces the outline of the instrument, meticulously following the technical instructions, onto spruce or maple sourced from overseas. The timber is stored in a sealed cabinet as the instrument is created. Once the parts have been carved, the back, sides and neck in maple for its beauty, and the front in spruce for its strength and acoustic response, the fingerboard in ebony, they are glued, assembled with the accessories including the gut and metal strings. Inlay called 'purfling' is inserted into the finely carved groove and finished with a special linseed oil varnish to be hung in the drying cabinet. The process can sometimes take up to 120 hours. His customers include both professional and amateurs. He has provided services to members of the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra and Pinchgut Opera, as well as the Newtown High School for the Performing Arts and Epping Boys High School.

Justin was three quarters of the way through his PhD in Musicology when the GFC occurred. Due to financial constraints, he sadly had to pull out of university. He took up teaching violin and also started seriously making instruments. At the end of 2019, another global disaster crashed into our society. COVID-19. Justin left teaching violin and is now full-time doing what he loves, making beautiful musical instruments. Since life has somewhat returned to normal, he has gone back to playing with various ensembles at social functions. He is married to accountant Sabrina and has two sons. His elder son, now 21, began doing a Science Degree but has switched to a double Degree, the second in Music. Justin believes he may even surpass his own musical talents! His younger son, seven, shows great promise artistically.

The craft of making string instruments has such a long and wonderfully rich history with the four great Masters Amati, Stradivari, Guarneri and Jacob Stainer (the only German also 'counted' as Italian as his

work follows the Italian designs). Justin has taken years studying the background of this art, attended forums, and read extensively. It has given him great joy and says, in the tradition of the Masters, "I want to make something of great beauty, not perfection. If you want perfect, get a machine to make it".

For more information on this fine craftsman, the website is: [www.jcwhitemusic.webs.com](http://www.jcwhitemusic.webs.com)



# Tour of historic cemeteries

Rediscover some of the Hawkesbury's lesser-known cemeteries on an excursion to old cemeteries in McGraths Hill and Pitt Town. The Methodist Cemetery at McGraths Hill was established in the 1850s, with over 80 headstones including many of Windsor's business owners. The Old Pitt Town Cemetery is much older and larger, with many pioneer family names inscribed on the headstones.

At the Old Pitt Town Cemetery, we will visit several graves including Ann Smallwood and Granny Greenfield. Ann Smallwood was the daughter of shipbuilder John Grono and died in 1838 while Granny Greenfield was a local midwife, who brought many Pitt Town residents into the world in the early 1900s.

Notable headstones at McGraths Hill are Reverend Peter Turner and his wife Mary, who were missionaries in Tonga and Samoa in the mid-nineteenth century. Several members of the Chandler family also have headstones at McGraths Hill including the local undertaker James Chandler, who died in 1919, and who was also the Mayor of Windsor Council on three occasions.

Join us on this driving and walking tour and discover some of the stories behind those buried in these historic cemeteries. Tours will be held on Thursday, 14 July 2022 10am to midday and repeated on Saturday, 23 July 9am to 11am. Cost is \$10 and bookings are essential via [hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com](http://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com) Instructions and directions are provided at the time of booking.

Contact name: Michelle Nichols, Local History Librarian Phone: 4560 4466 Email: [history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au)



## Richmond Girl Guides Celebrate 60 years

On Saturday 25th June 2022, the Richmond District Girl Guides celebrated 60 years of guiding at the Richmond Guide Hall on Bourke Street, Richmond. Special guests were

- Deputy Mayor of Hawkesbury, Councillor Barry Calvert
- Hawkesbury 2022 Citizen of the Year, Dianne Williams
- Kerrey Williams, Deputy State Commissioner, Girl Guides NSW, ACT & NT
- Chesne Jones, Archivist (and Hawkesbury local), Girl Guides NSW, ACT & NT
- Heather Pinning on behalf of Girl Guides Greater Rivers Region
- Special guest Robin Bennett (nee Holman) who was the first Richmond girl guide to earn her Queens Guide in the Richmond Guide Hall
- Generations of Guides celebrated the 60-year anniversary with an afternoon tea and enjoyed the current girl guides (aged from 5 to 16) entertaining the audience with their activities.

Chesne Jones, Archivist (and Hawkesbury local) gave a brief history of guiding in Richmond, from the first unit in 1925 to how they came to the current location on Bourke St, Richmond. The Richmond Guide Hall was opened on 30th June 1962 by the then Mayor, Victor William Gillespie. It was originally acquired from the RAAF base, as the RAAF no longer needed the building. The Lions Club Richmond assisted in raising funds to transport the hall from the RAAF base back to Bourke Street, Richmond. Over the past 8 years it has undergone some renovations to allow for another 60 years of guiding!



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# HDVPN 30 Years of Action

BY BEV JORDAN

There was a standing ovation for Sister Margaret Harper when she was honoured for her role in helping to set up the forerunner of the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network in 1991.

Guests at the event to launch the anniversary booklet, 30 Years of Action, were given a history of the service by Carol Harding of The Sanctuary – The Hills Women's Refuge who joined the network in 1995. She compiled the booklet with the help of founding member Faye Hansen.

The network was started by women in the community, often survivors, who came together to discuss domestic violence which was not often talked about in the community. Agencies and services were invited to come along to provide support for those seeking help.

Carol Harding and Faye Hansen said: "The Hills was seen as an affluent area and many people believed the myth that there was no domestic violence happening in the Hills. Survivors and workers knew differently."

The HDVPN has been holding forums for parents for many years, it produces wallet cards containing numbers of vital services and has compiled and printed a number of publications. The 60-page anniversary booklet covers the achievements during the 30 years plus lists of service providers and useful contact numbers.

HDVPN Convenor Uma Menon said: "The Hills Domestic Violence Prevention

Network was established to raise awareness and reduce the incidence of Domestic Violence in the Hills. We remain firmly committed to this aim."

Special guests at the launch at Castle Hill RSL on June 24th included key-note speaker Jodie Harrison MP, Shadow Minister for Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Peter Primrose MP, Hills Shire Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi, Deputy Mayor Mark Hodges and Hills councillors, Castle Hill RSL Director Annemarie Christie and Members of the Sisters of Mercy who founded St Michael's Family Centre.

Jodie Harrison MP said: "Your advocacy is driving positive change, we now talk about DV, it affects every part of society no social group is exempt"

HDVPN Patron Dr Michelle Byrne said: "There is no doubt that the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network has played a huge role in the last 30 years ... you've literally saved lives."

Hills Mayor Peter Gangemi said talking about domestic Violence is vital.

"We all have a responsibility to ensure the violence against women and children is not acceptable. It will not be tolerated, not today, not ever. This book will help spread the word about the support and assistance that is available for women and children



Donna Fraser, Robyn Waite, Uma Menon, Faye Hansen and Carol Harding.

escaping domestic balance Noosa provides an essential educational tool for people wanting to understand more alert call ways they can help recommend the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network on this fantastic initiative."

To get a copy of the 60-page HDVPN booklet or to find out more about the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network email: hillsdvpvention@gmail.com

The Domestic Violence Help Line is 1800 656 463 The National Counselling Line is 1800RESPECT, Mensline is 1300 789 978.

Contact details for the local accommodation services in the Hills are: The Lisa Harnum Foundation 1300 732 848 website: [lisa hf.org.au](http://lisa hf.org.au) and The Sanctuary – The Hills Women's Shelter Ph: 9680 2653 Website: [thesanctuaryshelter.org.au](http://thesanctuaryshelter.org.au) In an emergency call 000.

## Interested in finding out more about Retirement Villages & Resorts?

Then don't miss the **Hills Retirement Village and Resort Expo** coming to Castle Hill RSL, 77 Castle Street, **Castle Hill on Sunday 24th & Monday 25th July, 2022**, open 10am – 3pm both days, admission is free.

The Hills Retirement Village & Resort Expo will provide a wonderful opportunity for retirees to meet directly with representatives from many different retirement villages and over-55's lifestyle resorts, including new developments both in the Hills and other locations, all under

the one roof. Retirees will be able to do their research in their own time, while gathering information and asking any questions they may have about retirement living.

The decision to make the move into a retirement village or resort is often one that involves lots of searching and planning to find the right village/community that suits your needs. The Retirement Village & Resort Expos have been designed to make this process easier and more accessible.

Specifically dedicated to retirement living, the expo is highly recommended for anyone who is considering on making the move to or seeking information about retirement villages, over-50s lifestyle resorts, land lease communities, apartments designed for seniors, that are available in the Hills district and other desired locations. There is no need to register for this event, just come along.

Don't miss this great opportunity, it could change your life! [www.retirementexpo.com.au](http://www.retirementexpo.com.au)



Looking for the latest information on retirement living? Visit

## The Hills District Retirement Village & Resort Expo

Sunday 24th & Monday 25th July 2022  
Castle Hill RSL Club (77 Castle St, Castle Hill NSW)  
10am-3pm both days | Free Admission

Don't miss this life changing event!

On display will be the latest resort style developments as well as established villages from many different organisations and locations, all under one roof.

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## Hawkesbury's hundreds of bee hives 'in a lockdown' as devastating varroa mite arrives in NSW

BY TONY BOSWORTH – EDITOR HAWKESBURY POST

Hundreds of Hawkesbury beekeepers are among the thousands across NSW ordered to put their honey hives into a virtual lockdown situation after the devastating varroa mite was found in hives near Newcastle Port.

"We're hoping this is just an interim thing. It's rather like a COVID lockdown, but for bees," says Sue Carney who is Vice President of Amateur Beekeepers Australia.

Until this week Australia was the only major beekeeping nation without varroa, which when it takes hold leads to hives and their bees having to be destroyed to eradicate the bug.

No bee hives in the Hawkesbury have been found to have varroa at this stage.

In Europe and the US, they can't totally eradicate varroa - they live with it, making beekeeping a much more difficult business.

The mite attacks and feeds on European honey bees – it doesn't attack native bees - and can only reproduce in a honey bee colony, where it attaches to the body of the bee and weakens it by sucking fat body tissue, ultimately causing the bee colony to collapse.

The Department of Primary Industries order put in place on Sunday sees all hives within 10km of the port being destroyed and all other hives across the state locked down – the bees and hives cannot be moved anywhere until the order is lifted. The order has since been updated twice and there are now have several confirmed locations, but none in the Hawkesbury.

NSW is home to 44% of the nation's beehives, and the Hawkesbury region has hundreds of hives.

The Hawkesbury plays a major part, with hundreds of beekeepers across our local government area, and many crops which rely on bee pollination, notably apples, commercial flowers, and other fruit.

Bees not only produce fresh honey, they are also used on a large scale to pollinate crops – typically with hives being moved around the state - and if that doesn't happen it could even lead to crop failures.

One in three mouthfuls of food that we eat has had pollination by honeybees in some shape or form. "Although the Hawkesbury is not in the immediate vicinity of areas of high

concern at the moment, the state-wide order is affecting all beekeepers," says Ms Carney who keeps bees at her property in the Blue Mountains.

"The situation is beekeepers are not allowed to touch their hives except to check for varroa and are not allowed to move them anywhere in the state."

At the moment, for our local beekeepers, it's a matter of waiting for information from the DPI and the people involved in the emergency response, and carrying out regular checks for the invasive varroa mite.

The DPI says, "You cannot tamper with your bees unless you are doing sugar shake, ethanol washes and brood uncapping to check for the presence of varroa mite. If you think you have found varroa mite, you must tell NSW DPI immediately."

"It's a bit of a lock down. We wait and see, and hold tight," Ms Carney told the Post.

"Bees are critical in somewhere like the Hawkesbury where you've got apple orchards, and other agricultural enterprises relying on pollination by bees, particularly in the next few months," she says.

"Almond pollination is going to be coming up in the next few weeks in Victoria and South Australia and that's a huge event when something like 300,000 hives are moved to the pollination orchards."

Kurrabung Heights beekeeper Mike Allerton – he has 15 hives and has been a beekeeper for six years - says one of the concerns revolves around unregistered beekeepers, those who the DPI don't know about.

"The great concern I have is that some beekeepers – the unregistered ones - won't admit they have got hives. I don't like to blindly follow government direction myself, but in this case it is such a serious thing I'm hopeful all beekeepers in our region, even those unregistered, will let the DPI know about their beehives."

He points out the DPI has said there will be no repercussions for unregistered beekeepers who step forward, such is the concern around stopping varroa.

Both Mr Allerton and Ms Carney say it is also important people keep an eye out for any feral bee colonies in the Hawkesbury – typically those bees that have escaped from hives – and simply register where they are in case the mite does spread to our region.

There is some good news – we're in winter and bees are much less active now than in spring or summer, so there's less movement by bees.

"We're lucky we are in winter and bees are not as active as they are in spring and summer," says Mr Allerton.

"If they can get on top of it in winter we could be lucky."

He says it is crucial authorities and beekeepers – who have been shown how to check for varroa – get on top of the issue now, pointing to an outbreak of varroa in Townsville several years ago, which he says took two years to eradicate, though it was a variant which only attacked the Asian honey bee.

"Although it's winter and typically that's when beekeeping is fairly quiet we are rapidly going into that phase when bees are used big time, so it's critically important," says Ms Carney.

"You can't touch your hives, you can't open your hives, you can only do surveillance checks to confirm that varroa is not present, so you are allowed to do those checks and you're not able to open the hives for any other purpose or to move your bees."

Both Ms Carney and Mr Allerton stress that Hawkesbury honey which has already been extracted from hives can still be sold. The mite is never in the honey.

"Beekeepers can still sell honey, they just can't take it out of a hive," says Ms Carney.

"If they already have stores of honey and have bottled them that's fine because there is no risk of the mite in honey, it is going to be with the bees. The issue is simply around any activities around hives and not disturbing them.

"We encourage people to support our local beekeepers."

You can read more Hawkesbury news at [Hawkesbury Post on www.hawkesburypost.com.au](http://www.hawkesburypost.com.au) or [facebook.com/hawkesburypost](https://facebook.com/hawkesburypost)





## Hawkesbury Regional Museum is offering a **free trial** of its new program - **miniMuseum** - for people living with dementia and their carers...

These travelling *miniMuseum* boxes will provide a much needed service to people living with dementia and their carers across the Hawkesbury. This program will allow participants to engage in multi-sensory activities and object handling that encourage **learning, connection & cognitive stimulation**, as well as **reminiscence**.

The first box, ***In the School Yard***, will be made available for **free** to a select number of nursing homes, aged-cared facilities and community groups to gain vital feedback on the program. More boxes are due to be released from Summer 2022.

**Who runs the session?:** Museum staff  
(future programs will also offer self-facilitated sessions)

**Where is it held?:** At your facility or the Museum

**Recommended session size:** Max. 10 people

**Contact:** **Kate Fisher** at [creative@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au](mailto:creative@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au) (spaces are limited!)

# Community Stalwarts Honoured

by BEV JORDAN

While being nominated for an Order of Australia Medal may have come as a surprise to Dennis and Margaret Mitchell, no-one else in the Hawkesbury area was surprised at all.

The OAMs for the Ebenezer couple is a reflection of the regard with which they are held within the community they have served for decades in a multiple of roles.

Both are life-long volunteers with the Rural Fire Service and before that the Civil Defence which became the SES.

Dennis, 79, has volunteered for 34 years with Ebenezer Rural Fire Service, where he has been Brigade Captain for 34 years as well as serving in other roles. He was also Captain of the Wilberforce RFS Brigade and gave over 20 years service with the SES.

Margaret, 74, has been treasurer of the Ebenezer RFS Brigade and Brigade Catering officer since 1989 and has held other roles including First Aid Officer and Call Out Officer. Her multiple roles with the Hawkesbury RFS Catering Unit include Senior Deputy Captain (since 2007) and executive member since 2014.

The couple's community roles are wide reaching with Margaret a member of the CWA for 47 years and Dennis a volunteer at The Australiana Pioneer Village at Wilberforce for 40 years.

Both have kept the doors open at Wilberforce School of Arts where Dennis has been Vice-President for 16 years and Margaret Bookings Officer.

Dennis is also Life Member of Hawkesbury Showground Committee and is a member of the Hawkesbury Cricket Association and Margaret has been a life Member of Hawkesbury Grade Cricket Club, since 2002. Dennis is also a Justice of the Peace.

Margaret says her pioneering family, the Cobcrofts, have known the Mitchells for generations. Their grandfathers played cricket against each other (Sackville and Wilberforce) and Dennis and Margaret would meet at cricket matches when their fathers and grandfathers played.

She was 24 and Dennis 29 when they married at St John's Wilberforce. Margaret says they both came from families that "just rolled up their sleeves and helped" wherever help was needed which is why they always pitched in with the SES before moving to the RFS, helping in floods and fires and any situation where help was needed.



"We get satisfaction out of the help we can give people," she says.

Volunteering has seen them work round the clock. Dennis works during the day (on the fire ground or organising the crews) while Margaret works at night "supervising the feeding of the teams and packing the eskies of food". During the 2019/2020 bushfires she clocked up 749 hours. During the floods she also helped Hawkesbury's Helping Hands for 17 days by opening up the community hall for distressed people to come.

The couple have four children, two boys and two girls and 10 grandchildren.

"When I first got the letter (telling them about the OAM nominations) I thought someone was having a lend of us. We didn't think that people like us got something like that," said Margaret.



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BY MULPHA



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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS AWARDEE

# Marjorie Clarke (OAM)

Marjorie Clarke from Wilberforce has been awarded The Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours.



Marjorie or Marj as she is known, has been committed to the growth and long-term sustainability of the Australiana Pioneer Village since 1971 and has given so much of her time and life to the Village. She has now become Patron of the Village due to her work in keeping Australian history alive and accessible to school children and the general public. The Village cannot thank Marj enough for her invaluable efforts and contribution. Many other similar places have closed due to COVID-19 because they didn't have someone like Marj with the same commitment and passion to keep it open. Marj's amazing love and care for animals is her other outstanding quality - especially her love of horses, but also all the animals we have in The Village. She has her own menagerie at home - from a horse, ducks, wombats and other animals which she calls family - a wonderful trait she has passed onto her two lovely daughters Lisa and Mandy. Those at the Village are thrilled for Marjorie to receive this special Award.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# It's Official - Hills Council Censors Social Media

The Hills Shire Council moved on Tuesday night to officially ban all "political" comments from their social media outlets. The new rules also prevent users from naming the mayor or councillors in their comments.

After extensive consultation, the NSW Office of Local Government (OLG) recently released a model social media policy that includes none of the controversial provisions. But the Hills Shire

Council voted on Tuesday to adopt their own policy. Social media standards frequently prohibit behaviours such as bullying, intimidation, harassment as well as comments that are potentially defamatory. However it is very unusual for a council to prohibit "political" comments. None of the Hills' neighbouring councils have implemented such repressive policies. Users report that the council deems comments about their lack of climate action to be "political" and is already in the habit of hiding them.

The council recently adopted their 2022-23 Annual Plan but have faced criticism for the plan's failure to acknowledge or address the climate crisis.

In 2019-20, northern parts of the shire held their breath as firefighters valiantly fought to prevent the Gosper's Mountain mega-fire from jumping the Hawkesbury River at Wisemans Ferry. In 2021 and again this year parts of the shire have been heavily impacted by flooding in the Hawkesbury River catchment.

Councillors Kasby (Greens) and Tracey (Labor) spoke and voted against the move. But the rest of the council voted to proceed with the move. (Councillors Jethi and Hay were absent.)

The censorship is insidious because it is usually implemented by hiding (not removing) your Facebook comment. Your comment remains visible to you and to your friends, but nobody else will see it. So you may never know that your comment has been hidden.

*Hugh Vaughan of Kenthurst*

## Don't forget your 'flu shot!

Seniors living across Castle Hill are reminded to protect themselves against the 'flu by getting vaccinated. People aged 65 and over can book in a free 'flu shot at pharmacies and GPs.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said: "I care about everyone's health and wellbeing, especially older people living across the local area. Getting the 'flu vaccine reduces your risk of getting the 'flu by up to 60 per cent and most importantly it provides vital protection against severe illness and death. This is especially important for those who are immune-compromised or living in close proximity to someone who is susceptible to serious illness from influenza."

"The flu shot and COVID-19 booster can be given at the same time, so if you are yet to get either, make sure to book in today."

People aged 65 and over are recommended to have the enhanced quadrivalent vaccine (Fluad® Quad), which stimulates a greater immune response in this age group, known to have a weaker response to vaccination. Those considered to be at higher risk of severe illness from influenza are eligible for a free flu vaccine under the National Immunisation Program and include:

- People aged 65 and over
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from six months of age
- Children from six months to under five years of age
- People with serious health conditions (including severe asthma, diabetes, cancer, immune disorders, obesity, kidney, heart, lung or liver disease)
- Pregnant women

When people book they should ask their pharmacist or GP which vaccine is right for them. For more information visit [www.nsw.gov.au/flu](http://www.nsw.gov.au/flu)



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# War Memorial Upgraded By BEV JORDAN

**For 102-year-old World War 2 veteran Dennis Davis, being able to witness the official unveiling of the upgraded War Memorial at the Balcombe Heights Estate in Baulkham Hills was a special moment.**



Veterans including Dennis Davis (second from right).

The Castle Hill local said: "It's good that we have somewhere to remember friends who never returned." He was one of several veterans who were on hand to witness the unveiling of the \$202,000 monument funded by the Federal Government.

Federal Member for Mitchell and Hills Shire Mayor Peter Gangemi spoke about the historical significance of the former Masonic School site (now the Balcombe Heights Estate) which was opened in November 1922 to cater for the children of Freemasons who died in World War 1 and was the site of a Field Hospital in World War 2.

Federal MP for Mitchell Alex Hawke said: "I am very proud that the Federal Government invests very heavily in War Memorials around the world."

He said he was delighted to get extra Federal funding for the project which cost \$205,000.

"I thank our local historical society and all the groups who worked so hard to get all the names right. We can be proud of the role our service men and women play in so many theatres today around the world. This acknowledgement of service and sacrifice is so important."

Hills Shire Mayor, Dr Peter Gangemi thanked the Federal Government for their contribution to the project, "It has been a goal of ours to make this site a special place where we can commemorate our servicemen and women, both past and present.

"I believe we have successfully achieved this thanks to the funding we have received from the Australian Government to beautify this site and keep it as a significant location that can be used by future generations for services and events that pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedom, beliefs and values," he said. "The War Memorial looks spectacular, and I am so happy with the outcome."

The project involved a complete refurbishment of the Memorial, while retaining the original central monument and the flagpole opposite the former Masonic School building.

The former concrete retaining walls and paving were demolished and replaced by new granite stone steps and paving, as well as new concrete pathways and ramps. A commemorative concrete seat and a garden of white roses, rosemary and westringias is also part of the project. The Balcombe Heights Estate features an avenue of 354 Brush Box trees

commemorating the NSW masons who died in service or were killed in action in World War 1.

The William Thompson Masonic School operated for just over 50 years and closed in December 1974. The land was sold to council for community use.

Mr Hawke said: "It's so great to see this site (Balcombe Heights Estate) evolving in so many different ways we have the history, the present and the future in what council is doing. We are going to have community activities here for a long time to come."



Mason Bill Driver, Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi, Connie Keith, Alex Hawke MP and Don Tait former President of Castle Hills RSL sub-branch.

# Farewell Maisie Grady

**Poet, teacher and long-time volunteer Maisie Grady was remembered by a huge crowd of family and friends at Wesley Uniting Church Castle Hill as someone who loved her community.**



The Castle Hill resident often supplied poems for the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News and was a popular contributor.

He husband, Alan Grady, said his wife had packed a lot into her 89 years.

She trained as a teacher and was Deputy Principal and Acting Principal at a number of schools before her retirement. She completed post-graduate studies in early childhood education at Wagga Wagga University and after retiring obtained a Graduate Diploma in Counselling and Psychology.

Maisie's love of children and education was ever-present and she returned to work for a

couple of years (following her retirement), and was involved in setting up the Kenthurst after-school day care.

Maisie was a long-time member of the Tuesday Writer's Group at Castle Hill and recently wrote a children's book, which is about to be published.

She was a volunteer at the weekly Day Club organised by the Castle Hill RSL sub-branch for people living in isolation and was a member of the Inner Wheel club of Kenthurst.

The following poem written by Maisie was included as part of the service on June 20th.

*The Beauty of Nature*  
By Maisie Grady

Do not grieve too long for me,  
For I am still about you see.  
You'll find me in the things I love,  
The sky and fluffy clouds above.  
The bush, the flowers, the plants and trees.  
The cooling rain and the gentle breeze.  
The autumn colours, red and gold,  
The pretty winter snow so cold.  
Golden sunsets - a lovely sight,  
Bright and twinkling stars at night.  
Mountains, creeks, a country scene.  
All loved places where I've been.  
Now part of nature can be me,  
My spirit with the Lord will be,  
My heart with all my loved one stays,  
Forever near you or your days.

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# Stronger Together 2022

**A free conference for parents and carers of children with neuro-diversity will be held at Castle Hill RSL on August 20th.**

Organised by the Fit Kidz Foundation, the one-day conference aims to break down the isolation that many parents of children with specialised needs feel.

Fit Kidz Service Director Ellen Witzlsperger said: "Part of our mission is to build a community of parents and carers who can support each other through their journey of having a neuro-diverse child in their family."

"A lot of the time they feel isolated, they don't have people to connect with that understand their journey and it can impact on their own mental health."

She said while her organisation runs support groups they wanted to run a conference with greater community access with exhibitors from support organisations and speakers that

would inspire and an event that would connect people.

"We don't want finance to be a barrier so we are seeking 20 table sponsors for \$500 each which would enable 200 people to attend the conference at no charge," she said.

Speakers include local Jo Abi talking about preparing life for her neuro divergent sons, Richard and Randa Habelrih from Autism Mates with their talk: "I'm just like everyone else" and Sandy Golder founder of the Kindship group on cultivating support networks.

The afternoon will consist of panel discussions. Local mum Katherine Pym whose daughter 11-year-old Eva attends St Gabriel's School at Castle Hill said she was looking forward to the conference.

"The journey of having a neurodiverse child can be isolating at times, so the thought of having the opportunity to be able to meet and connect with other parents in our local community who are on the same journey as I am, is really exciting."

The Fit Kidz Foundation is a not-for-profit Early Intervention Service which supports children with Autism or other Developmental Disabilities, their families and the local community. To find out more visit [www.fitkidzfoundation.org.au](http://www.fitkidzfoundation.org.au)

If you are interested in sponsorship visit [events.humanitix.com/stronger-together-sponsorship](http://events.humanitix.com/stronger-together-sponsorship). The event's Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/StrongerTogetherEmpoweringYourJourney>

## BANKSIA YARNS

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From quality wools for the budget conscious to luxury yarns to spoil yourself, there is something here for almost everyone. Our involvement in the local community has seen us attend a range of craft events in the region (and



out of the region too!), and we also sponsor some of the prizes for the crafts at the Hawkesbury show each year.

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We have Mohair, Alpaca, Silk, Cotton, Wool and Acrylic yarns from known and trusted brands. We also have a range of crochet hooks and knitting needles, and now a growing range of crafts, including cross stitch, macrame and loom knitting are being catered for.

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# Powerhouse Castle Hill Renewal Project

The Powerhouse recently announced the achievement of a major construction milestone for the \$30 million Powerhouse Castle Hill Renewal Project with the pouring of concrete foundations.

A span of 640sqm concrete - the equivalent of 88 trucks - was poured over two days to create two suspended slabs, marking the first step in the formation of public spaces. Due to be completed in early 2023, the Powerhouse Castle Hill expansion includes a new public-facing building, expanding storage space by 30 percent and providing a new level of access to the Powerhouse collection for the communities of the Hills Shire and Greater Sydney. The new building will also feature state-of-the-art conservation facilities and flexible spaces for learning, research and exhibition.

It is designed by NSW-based architecture firm. The new building is designed with an appreciation of concrete as more than just a building material; it will be a core design feature of the new facility.

"Increasing community access to the Powerhouse collection lies at the heart of this expansion. Upon completion, Powerhouse Castle Hill will house more than 500,000 objects from the Powerhouse collection. With dedicated exhibition spaces, additional storage, production, conservation and operational facilities, Powerhouse Castle Hill will be a

remarkable cultural asset for the local Castle Hill community and beyond," said Powerhouse Chief Executive, Lisa Havilah.

The expansion of Powerhouse Castle Hill forms an integral part of the Powerhouse renewal program which includes the construction of the new flagship museum Powerhouse Parramatta, the renewal of Powerhouse Ultimo and the digitisation of more than 330,000 thousand objects from the collection.

The site remains open to the public every weekend throughout the duration of the build: [www.maas.museum/museums-discovery-centre/](http://www.maas.museum/museums-discovery-centre/)

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# The Hills Shire Council News

## 2022/23 Community Grants Program

Applications for the 2022/23 Community Grants Program will open on 1 August 2022. Online applications will be available on The Hills Shire Council's website from 1 August 2022.

The annual Community Grants Program provides funding between \$1000 and \$15,000 to projects which fall within four main priority areas, including:

- Events that connect the community;
- Domestic violence prevention and recovery;
- Mental health and suicide prevention; and
- Community participation opportunities.

Applicants must be local to The Hills Shire LGA and provide community service/s or program/s for the local community. For more information, including attending one of Council's Information and Application Training Sessions (28 July/1 August), visit The Hills Shire Council's website and search "Grant".

## Park Project – New Playground at Bella Vista Farm

A new playground has been planned at Bella Vista Farm, located within the vicinity of the BBQ and amenities area.

The new playground will feature a variety of equipment such as rope climbs, a spiral slide, and a whirly-go-round to name a few.

The project is funded by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's NSW Public Spaces Legacy Program – initiated by the department to allow for faster delivery of 'legacy' planning proposals.

Proudly funded by



To stay updated, visit The Hills Shire Council's website and search for "Bella Vista Farm Playground".



## Park Project – Samantha Riley Drive Reserve

Samantha Riley Drive Reserve construction has commenced which will include a range of features and amenities.

As part of the project, a new roundabout entry to the reserve will be constructed at the intersection of Goodison Street and Stamford Bridge Avenue.

Completion is scheduled for August 2023 (weather permitting). For more information and to stay updated, visit The Hills Shire Council's website and search for "Samantha Riley Drive Reserve".



## Council is going 'Cashless'

From 1 July 2022, The Hills Shire Council will no longer accept payments by cash or by cheque at our administration centre and other facilities, including libraries.

Council does not charge merchant fees so customers will not be penalised if they pay with a credit card. For those that prefer to pay by cash or cheque, you can still pay your Rates at any Australia Post office.

For more information and payment options please visit The Hills Shire Council's website and search for 'cashless'.

## Council Meetings

Tuesday 12 July 2022 – 7pm.

For more information, visit [www.thehills.nsw.gov.au](http://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au) and search for '2022 Meeting Agendas and Minutes.'





## War Memorial Upgrade at Balcombe Heights Estate

The War Memorial at Balcombe Heights Estate was re-opened to the public on Wednesday, 29 June.

The memorial, which pays tribute to the men who attended the former Masonic School at the Estate and then went onto fight in the Second World War and in the Vietnam conflict, was upgraded after Council successfully secured approximately \$200,000 under the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program.

The project involved a complete refurbishment of the Memorial, while also retaining the original central monument and the flagpole, which is located opposite the former Masonic School building.

## Pioneer Theatre – New Website!

The Pioneer Theatre, located at Castle Hill Cultural Centre (Level 1, 12-14 Pennant Street, Castle Hill) has a new website. Visit [pioneertheatre.com.au](http://pioneertheatre.com.au) or Google "Pioneer Theatre" to see what's on, past productions, and information about the theatre.

## Celebrate NAIDOC Week in The Hills Shire

Celebrate the history and culture of our First Nations people during NAIDOC Week.



Activities and events will be in full swing across The Hills Shire during the first week of July (from July 3 -10), including a special performance for children (in Kindergarten to Year 6) by solo artist Majeda Beatty at Castle Hill Library on Friday, July 8.

Majeda, a Sydney-based singer, actress and dancer, and a proud Wuthathi woman, will share her culture with attendees through song, dance, stories and language.

Council's childcare centres will also run a series of educational activities, with one centre looking to plant a bush tucker garden.

See the full list of events and activities on Council's website and at [www.naidoc.org.au](http://www.naidoc.org.au).

# Report it to Council

ANY DEVICE, ANYWHERE, ANY TIME



Have you seen something that needs our attention? You can report an issue from anywhere, on any device, at any time.

To get started, visit [www.thehills.nsw.gov.au](http://www.thehills.nsw.gov.au) and search 'Report it to Council.'

## Making a Submission to Council?

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



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



**THE HILLS**  
Sydney's Garden Shire

AMERICAN CLASSIC AT THE PAVILION THEATRE  
**Castle Hill Players present  
 Arthur Miller's All My Sons  
 from 29 July**

The Pavilion Theatre's bumper 2022 season continues with its fourth offering, proudly presenting ALL MY SONS written by American stage legend Arthur Miller - and directed by Jan Mahoney.

Based on true events of WWII, *All My Sons* examines the American Dream through the lives of the Keller family - father, Joe (Dave Went), mother, Kate (Leigh Scanlon) and son, Chris (Julian Floriano). Elder son, Larry, has gone missing in action 3 years previously and Kate clings desperately to hope he is still alive.

Joe's company supplied faulty engine parts to the US Army Air Force, resulting in the deaths of 21 pilots. He was exonerated of any crime while his business partner, Steve, now serves time for his role in the tragedy. Steve's daughter, Ann, had been Larry's girlfriend at the time of his disappearance, but she now plans to marry his brother, Chris, despite Joe and Kate's misgivings. Then, revelations throw all into chaos. Does the need to provide for one's family put a man above the law? Does wartime create a different set of rules by which to live? When the truth is known, what does that do to love?

Arthur Miller's much-loved classic shines a light on wartime, human behaviour and family frailties. In so doing, he created a theatrical masterpiece relevant to this very day. Mr. Miller said of his play: "This was my first success and it was an invigorating experience. It made it possible to dream of daring more, risking more."

*All My Sons* also stars Tess Needham, Dimitri Armatas, Steve Rowe, Nicole Harwood, Tracey Okeby Lucan, Daniel Boole and 11yo Jayden Bishop.

Director Jan Mahoney has a slew of credits to her name in companies in Sydney and beyond. She has been involved both on and off the stage in six productions for Castle Hill including most recently the acclaimed season of *The Cripple of Inishmaan*. She also has a powerful connection with this story: Jan's grandfather was an airforce mechanic during WWII stationed in the same area in the South Pacific where the 21 pilots lots



their lives. She hopes she can pass that emotion on to audiences.

**Castle Hill Players present  
 All My Sons by Arthur Miller  
 29th July - 20 August,  
 Wed, Fri, Sat 8pm; Sun 4pm  
 The Pavilion Theatre, Castle Hill  
 Tickets available at  
[www.paviliontheatre.org.au](http://www.paviliontheatre.org.au) or 02 9634 2929  
 More Info - [www.paviliontheatre.org.au/all-my-sons](http://www.paviliontheatre.org.au/all-my-sons)**

The Pavilion Theatre is located within the Castle Hill Showgrounds, Castle Hill

ARTHUR MILLER'S  
**ALL MY  
 SONS**

DIRECTED BY JAN MAHONEY  
 29 July to 20 Aug 2022  
 BOOKINGS: PAVILIONTHEATRE.ORG.AU

**THE PAVILION THEATRE**  
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 IN THE SHOWGROUND SINGERS  
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## Infrastructure Grants available for Community Groups in Castle Hill

Local organisations in Castle Hill can now apply for funding to support local community projects thanks to the NSW Government's Club grants program, Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP said today. Mr Williams said Club grants allow local community groups to build or upgrade community facilities and a new round opened on 27 June, with applications welcome from not-for-profit organisations.

"\$12.5 million is available this year for new or upgraded facilities across sport and recreation, arts and culture, disaster readiness and community infrastructure. It is an opportunity for local organisations to apply for funding for projects that will provide long-term benefits to the community by funding construction, alteration, renovation, completion and fit-out of buildings and community infrastructure. This is about connecting the community, fostering participation in sport, recreation and arts, and boosting social inclusion and disaster resilience," Mr Williams said.

Flood affected communities will be prioritised in funding decisions for this round, in line with priorities for disaster affected communities.

Applications for the first round of funding for 2022/23 open on 27 June to 18 July. To find out more information or to apply, please visit [nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/clubgrants-infrastructure](http://nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/clubgrants-infrastructure).

**Latest Infrastructure Grants announced**



## Naidoc Week in the Hills

Hills Community Aid is celebrating Naidoc Week these school holidays with a Naidoc Family Fun Day. This free event will take place at Balcombe Heights Estate, 92 Seven Hills Road Baulkham Hills on Wednesday 6 July starting 9.30am with an Acknowledgment of Country and Cultural Dance followed by a range of free, fun, family friendly activities including African drumming, open craft, inflatable obstacle course, yard games, photo booth, youth band, buskers, Open Learning in the Hills classroom displays and much, much more! A range of local community services will be in attendance offering child friendly activities and will be available to chat more about what services they provide. The event will finish at 1pm. No registration required, so just drop by! More info check out [www.hca.org.au](http://www.hca.org.au) where you will also see other school holiday workshops on offer.

## The Bromeliad Society of Australia

The Bromeliad Society of Australia's next meeting is on Saturday, 9th July in the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground off Showground Road, Castle Hill.

Sales to members, guests and the general public is from 10am with the meeting commencing at 12 noon.

Ian Hook, President, BSA will discuss the many varieties of the Billbergia Bromeliad and briefly touch on the history of *Mr Billbergia*, and great hybridizer Don Beadle.

Billbergia plant species are a very popular bromeliad, Nutans, Pyramidalis and Alfonsi Joannis being 3 of the most widely grown species. Billbergia 'Santa Barbara' is an upright cultivar, small but very attractive pink and green flowers, that will reach around 30 cm in height and looks fabulous massed planted in a large pot. Being relatively easy to grow they have colourful flowers and interesting foliage, originally from Brazil, Mexico and surrounding areas. Propagation is easiest by division, best carried out after flowering. Simply separate the pups with a knife and repot in a free draining fine to medium orchid potting mix. They require very little attention once established, they are naturally epiphytic and can be easily grown in pots using suitable potting mix. These plants may be mounted on wood for a spectacular display. The tubular leaves of are designed to hold water to keep the plant healthy and happy. Best grown in bright dappled shade or indirect light and they also do well in sheltered verandahs or pergolas. Billbergia Cultivars include : Hallelujah, Domingos Martins, Pink Champagne, Santa Barbara, Smokstack and Beadle Man.



BSA Meetings include plant sales, club news, raffles and competitions as well as providing an opportunity to meet with like-minded people in a friendly and inviting environment.

Contact Ian Hook - mobile 0408202269, email: [ianhook1@bigpond.com](mailto:ianhook1@bigpond.com) website: [www.bromeliad.org.au](http://www.bromeliad.org.au)

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## Embroiderers Guild NSW Inc Hawkesbury Group

Do you love to stitch or would love to learn? From beginners to advanced workers and everyone in between, Embroiderers Guild NSW – Hawkesbury Group, is for you.

Is your interest in cross stitch or canvas work, crewel work or machine embroidery, or any of the hundreds of other kinds of embroidery? Do you have your favourite pattern books and kits, or design your own work? Would you like somewhere to sit and stitch with like-minded people, make new friends, and expand your stitching skills? Is there something you need help with?

Our group is one of around 40+ Guild groups in NSW and we are re-forming after many years. We would be really happy to see you at one of our next meetings – Tuesday 19 July 10am-2pm and Tuesday 26 July, 6pm-10pm, in the Windsor Library building. From then on, every 3rd Tuesday day and 4th Tuesday evening. Come to one, or come to both. Guests are always very welcome.



Guild members can join any of the groups, enrol in members only courses, or pay reduced rates at other workshops, have access to a 5000+ title specialist library and enjoy many other embroidery-related benefits. Three of our local members have each been in the Guild for over 50 years, others have recently joined. We can't think of a better way to spend a cold winter's evening than adding a stitch or two to the latest project! Join us!

Contact: Catherine 0413340039  
cdelaney1@vtown.com.au

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out and about

with MICHELLE BYRNE

## THE CUMBERLAND STATE FOREST WEST PENNANT HILLS

The Cumberland State Forest is Australia's only metropolitan State Forest and we are fortunate to have this wonderful green space to enjoy right on our doorstep. Forty hectares of native forest, the Cumberland State Forest is home to some of Australia's most valuable fauna, flora and ecological communities.

It is a tranquil oasis in the middle of suburbia and as you enter the Forest you quickly forget the outside world with its hustle and bustle.

For my daughters this was their very first visit to the Cumberland State Forest and they were amazed by the trees, the trails that take you through the Forest and of course the Tree Tops Adventure Courses. They are already asking if we can visit the Forest again soon!

There are three Forest walks available. The Sensory trail which is 350m in length and perfect for small children and prams. My almost 3-year-old, Sophie was able to walk the trail herself and it was a delight to see her walk hand in hand with her older sisters. The Palm Gully Trail and Forestry Trail are 1km and 1.3km in length and both of these trails are fairly easy to walk but aren't pram friendly. All trails allow

you to explore the forest and to really enjoy the wonders of our environment.

For those that enjoy an adrenaline rush, there is the Tree Top Adventures which consists of obstacle courses in the canopy of the trees. There are 4 courses to try which increase in difficulty and cater to all ages from the very young to the young at heart.

There is a café on site called Café Saligna which sits in the visitor centre that has plenty of interesting information about the Forest. Café Saligna is a hidden gem and a great place to catch up with friends and family for coffee. Next to the Café, is a nursery which sell some absolutely beautiful plants

There is also multiple picnic areas spread throughout the Forest with BBQs with plenty of space for the kids to run around making it the perfect day out for families.

As our suburbs become denser and our population increases, the Cumberland State Forest becomes even more valuable as an important green space. COVID-19 has also highlighted how essential green spaces are, especially for our physical and mental wellbeing.



It is important that we fight for the Cumberland State Forest and ensure that it remains intact for current and future generations to enjoy. During my time as Mayor, The Hon David Elliott Member for Baulkham Hills and myself lobbied the State Government to reclassify the Cumberland State Forest into a National Park in order to strengthen its protection and ensure it can continue to provide a much-needed place where people can enjoy the great outdoors and nature, as well as play a key role in looking after the area's remaining biodiversity. I hope the reclassification soon comes to fruition and that the Cumberland Forest gets the forever protection it deserves.

# OPTUS

## PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE EXISTING OPTUS MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION

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- The proposed upgrade to the existing facility consists of the following works; replacement of three (3) existing panel antennas (no more than 2.8m in height), installation of three (3) new panel antennas (no more than 2.8m in height), installation of associated ancillary equipment including twenty-seven (27) new Remote Radio Units and two (2) new GPS antennas and reconfiguration of existing equipment on the facility and within the equipment shelter, including removal of existing Remote Radio Units and GPS antenna.

Optus regards the proposed installation as a Low-impact Facility under the *Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 2018* (Amendment No.1, 2021) based on the description above.

In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Further information and/or comments should be directed to: BMM Group, 1300 260 834, [submissions@bmmgroup.com.au](mailto:submissions@bmmgroup.com.au) by **15 July 2022**. Further information may also be obtained from the website provided above.



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# PETS OF THE WEEK

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



**AT A GLANCE**

NAME: PORTER  
 BREED: Domestic Short Hair  
 SEX: Male  
 AGE: 6 year old  
 PRICE: \$29



**PORTER** is ginger Domestic Short Haired cat. Staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter say Porter is a lovely big friendly boy who just loves being around people. If you have been looking for a lovely cat to join your family please come to the shelter to meet Porter.

His adoption price has been reduced to \$29 and includes the first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and lifetime registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

**AT A GLANCE**

NAME: LEBRON  
 BREED: American Staffordshire  
 SEX: Male  
 AGE: 2 year old  
 PRICE: \$99



**LEBRON** is a well-behaved dog, according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter. Staff say he is a well behaved boy who has been very well mannered with the other dogs playing next to him in the exercise yard, They say he is also very obedient and eager to please. If you are interested in meeting Lebron please come to the shelter with your family, including the family dog to meet him so that staff can be sure they will all get on together. As a featured dog Lebron's adoption price has been reduced to \$99. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and life time registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

**AT A GLANCE**

NAME: DASHER  
 BREED: Kelpie Cross  
 SEX: Male  
 AGE: 1 year old  
 PRICE: \$99



**DASHER** is a very friendly energetic boy who just loves to run and play, according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter. Staff say Dasher would be best suited with a family who are prepared to give him the daily exercise he needs. If you feel you can give this active boy the home that he requires please come to the shelter with your family dog and the children to meet him so that staff can be sure they are all going to get on well together.

Dasher's adoption price has been reduced to \$99. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and life time registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

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SYDNEY ANIMAL HOSPITAL

# Dog dental care

**Does your dog have bad breath, discoloured teeth or difficulty eating?** Dogs can't brush their teeth, but just like people, they are at risk of developing dental problems because bacteria and plaque accumulate on their teeth contributing to gum disease or gingivitis, which can be painful and also lead to bacteria entering the bloodstream and circulating to affect other body organs.

Over 80% of dogs develop dental disease by the age of three. Dental disease can often be hidden from sight, with unhealthy teeth contributing to pain and other diseases. During July and August, Sydney Animal Hospitals are offering free dental checks by our veterinary nurses, along with reduced price dental procedures and discounts on dental pet foods.

Regular health checks with our veterinary team are so important, so that we can examine your pet and discuss any dental treatment or preventative management that may be required to help keep your dog's teeth healthy.

Some tell-tale signs that your dog may require a dental treatment include if they have bad breath or if they have yellow or brown tartar deposits on their teeth – as normal healthy teeth should always be white. If there is a red line along the gum margins around the teeth, this usually indicates gingivitis - or inflammation and infection of the gums.

Our veterinary team will discuss with you the appropriate treatment options available

to manage your dog's dental health. This may include a dental scale and polish procedure performed under a general anaesthetic to clean and protect the teeth. Using dog dental chews can also be helpful, as these products help to draw plaque and tartar off the teeth helping to keep the teeth clean. Special dental foods are also available to help reduce the risk of dental disease in your dog.

Much like people brushing their teeth to keep them clean, you can also brush your dog's teeth using a dog tooth brush and special dog toothpaste. This mechanical brushing action against the teeth surface will help slow the build-up of plaque and tartar.

Recognising when your dog's teeth require veterinary attention, seeking advice from our veterinary team and implementing the appropriate treatment will ensure that your dog remains happy and healthy into their older years.

The signs of dental disease can sometimes be difficult to see, but the good news is that



we're here to help. During July and August the team at Sydney Animal Hospitals are providing free vet nurse dental checks to examine your dog for signs of dental disease, along with reduced price dental treatments and discounted Hill's dental food. This offer is valid until the 31st August 2022 (T&C's apply). For more information, please contact our team at Kellyville on 8883 0533 or Norwest on 8883 0411 or book online [sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au](http://sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au)

## Dog Dental Months July and August

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# Funding To Help Local Sport Get Back In The Game

Sports clubs across Baulkham Hills have received funding for new equipment, programs, and facilities to get more people involved in sport following the awarding of grants under the NSW Government's Local Sport Grant Program.

\$50,000 was awarded for the following projects across the Baulkham Hills Electorate:

- Norwest Swimming Club, for Race Starting Equipment.
- Hills District Little Athletics Centre, for Website Upgrade, and Equipment.
- Kellyville Bushrangers Junior Rugby League Club for Development and Education Program.
- Impalas Netball Club, for Player Skill & Development Program.



The Hon  
**David Elliott MP**  
Member for Baulkham Hills  
Minister for Transport and Veteran Affairs

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Proudly serving the people and communities of Baulkham Hills, Bella Vista, Carlingford, Castle Hill, Kellyville, North Rocks, Norwest and West Pennant Hills.  
Authorised by David Elliott MP, Suite 1, 25-33 Old Northern Road, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153. This publication is funded using parliamentary entitlements.

- Renegades Rugby, for Registration subsidy and Equipment.
- Hills Ultimate Frisbee Association, for Coaching Course, Beginner Women's Tournament, and Youth Clothing & Equipment.
- Hills District Junior Rugby League Club for Clothing & Equipment.

Baulkham Hills MP, David Elliott, said the grants would help local clubs to get more people involved in sport.

"Sport is a way of life in the Baulkham Hills community," Mr Elliott said. "These grants provide essential funds to our local clubs for programs, equipment and facilities that will enable more people of all ages and abilities to participate in sport."

"Projects funded by the Local Sport Grant Program will play a vital role in bringing communities together and give people the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of sport.

"With community sporting competitions returning to normal following two pandemic-affected seasons, these grants will support both people returning to sport and those participating for the first time."

# Thank you Berowra

It is a great honour to have been re-elected as the Member for Berowra. I was also honoured and humbled that Peter Dutton has invited me to be the Shadow Attorney-General and Shadow Minister for Indigenous Australians. I have had a long and deep interest in both these areas of public policy.

As Shadow Attorney-General I will support the protection and improvement of the legal system which keeps our community, and all Australians, safe and free. Australia's legal institutions, which are some of the oldest in the world, are critical to the success of our democracy.

And as Shadow Minister for Indigenous Australians, I want to commit myself to doing all I can to improve the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians who are the custodians of the oldest continuous culture in the world and hold an important place our communities. I want to acknowledge the Darug and Guringai nations who

are the traditional owners of the land in our community. I look forward to continuing to work with community elders like Uncle Laurie Bimson to find practical ways to support Indigenous peoples in Berowra and across Australia.

My first priority as a member of parliament always will be to serve our amazing community. I love the Berowra community and always do my best to serve our community in Parliament. I'm excited to continue to fight for the people of our community both at home and in Canberra.

**JULIAN LEESER MP**

Federal Member for **Berowra**

🏠 Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120  
☎ 9980 1822 ✉ julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au  
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**As your MP, I am here to:**

- ➡ Assist with accessing federal government services
- ➡ Attend your local community event
- ➡ Arrange congratulatory messages

**Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.**

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



# Haka stuns outgoing coach Tony

by LAWRENCE MACHADO

*A memorable Tina Tonu haka by his Under-14A team caught outgoing Kiwi coach Tony Turanga and the home crowd by total surprise, underlining how much he means to Norwest Bulls Rugby Union Club.*

The passionate haka, led by skipper Cooper Matia, came at the end of the Under-14s big 31-7 win over Penrith RSL at Alywn Linfield Reserve, Glenwood. It was the final game before Tony returns to New Zealand after 38 years.

"I was very privileged to see the young players perform a haka because a lot of them had never done a haka before," an emotional Tony said. "It is now a part of my life and it will be embedded in my heart and memories."

Tony, who played for the Sydney Kiwis, the Māorīs, and the famous Kings Country RUC, said it is time to return home and give back to his community.

"I have come to an age where I want to return my skills back to where it all began," Tony said. "I will be going back to my tribe, Ngati Hikairo."

Former club president Dennis Nothdurft recalled the chance meeting at Stanhope Village. "Tony spotted me and my son wearing

our Norwest rugby shirts and asked if he could bring his grandson to play," he said. "He showed up at our next training session and quickly established himself as a coach whose focus was on developing the skills and character of the kids. His wife Lynley soon volunteered to manage our canteen, and then we couldn't keep them away from the place!"

"We are blessed to have had Tony and Lynley as part of our club. Opposition teams always mention Tony's positive rugby spirit, particularly his tradition of forming the 'circle of rugby' after each game - win, lose or draw.

"A sign of their respect is that Penrith offered to give up their own home game against Norwest so that Tony could have his last game at our home ground.

"We wish them all the best for the future." The farewell came after one of the most



Tony Turanga, right, with his Norwest Bulls Under14A team, who performed the memorable haka.

dominant weekends by the Norwest Bulls. It was the first clean sweep of all games in a long time, and is down to the dedication of the development coaches and their players.

In last weekend's girls seven-a-side matches, the Bulls Under-11s beat Mosman 25-15, and the Under-15s thumped Randwick 20-0. In the boys matches, the Bulls Under-10 Reds crushed Newport 61-0, Under-10 Blues edged Hunters Hill 17-14, Under 11s saw off Linfield 38-22, Under-12s romped past Clovelly 43-10, Under-13s routed Penrith 31-7 and Under-16s pipped Manly 33-31.

This Saturday, the Norwest Bulls Dads take on Blacktown Old Boys in their annual 'Dust em off Cup' at Alywn Linfield Reserve, Glenwood. Kick off: 3.15pm.

# Rising stars of the Hills

BY LAWRENCE MACHADO

*Welcome to the latest batch of young, elite Hills athletes who could be the future stars of NSW and Australia, if they can continue their progress in their respective sports.*

The Hills Shire Council honoured the latest batch of 15 youngsters who are a part of the acclaimed program organised annually by the Western Sydney Academy of Sport. Hills Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi recently presented the athletes, aged between 13-18 years, with a Certificate of Achievement.

The athletes included Beth Abbot, Tahliah Harding, Zoe Wilmshurt (netball), Pyper Marchant, Andrew Gaitau, Bradley Patterson (rugby), Scarlet Proc (softball), Danielle Fleming, Nicola Fleming (BMX racing), Leila Dickson, Ella Dickson, Charlotte Hussein (triathlon), and Ella

Hussain (cycling, triathlon). Robyn Winn, the triathlon coach, also attended the event.

The academy, established in 2004, has produced scores of sports stars, including multiple Olympian and world championship slalom canoe winner Jessica Fox, Rosalyn Lawrence (world champion in canoe slalom), Australian softballer Taylah Tsitsikronis, netball aces Paige Hadley and Kim Ravaillon, cycling champ Amanda Spratt, Paralympian cyclist Gordan Allan, current Penrith Panthers and NSW rugby league star Jerome Luai. The list goes on.

Mayor Gangemi said he was also pleased to see several Hills locals selected into academy programs.

"The WSAS is so beneficial to helping our talented young athletes to progress within their discipline, as well as providing them with quality coaching and training, he said.

"As our athletes move through the program, their personal growth and development also builds and transforms positively, which is especially important for preparing them for their future career, whether that be in sport or a different pursuit. I congratulate our athletes on their success, and I can't wait to see what they achieve in the future. WSAS CEO Martin Bullock said the council has been a strong advocate of their athletes and coaches since the academy's inception in 2004.

"In that time, over 500 talented pre-elite level athletes have represented The Hills LGA, which is testament to the council's focus on sport as a highly significant aspect of health and lifestyle," Mr Bullock said.

The WSAS is a non-for-profit community-based organisation providing quality development training programs for talented young athletes across many sports. Their programs include technical and skill development, as well as being educational.

The Hills Shire is one of seven LGAs, including Hawkesbury, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Fairfield, Parramatta and Penrith, which make up WSAS's catchment.



Hills Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi, Councillor Rosemarie Boneham, with the WSAS athletes and an official.

Dynamic Lifter products and some of the producers. Powerhouse Museum. Photo by Andrew Frolows.

# IT'S DYNAMIC

**The Hills and Hawkesbury Districts were major food baskets for Sydney in the past. Much produce has been grown in the areas such as citrus, grains etc as well as Dairy, Poultry and eggs providing food for the ever expanding Sydney population. Also, the Hills Shire is commonly called the Garden Shire due to the numerous garden nurseries that abound in the Shire.**

Over recent years much of this has disappeared as Sydney's population growth has seen citrus groves, Dairy and Poultry farms as well as a few garden nurseries giving way to housing development. Can you remember Alexander MacDonald's nursery at Castle Hill, Hargrave's at Dural or Wagon Wheels and Ferguson's at Baulkham Hills. Alexander MacDonald's once stood where the Castle Hill Day Surgery building is located. Hargrave's lies vacant, Ferguson's on Windsor Rd were opposite The Grove Shopping Centre at Baulkham Hills and now consists of blocks of home units whilst the Wagon Wheels site on Seven Hills Rd, is now a location of the Summit Retirement Homes. These memories also brings to mind the local product now sold world wide of "Dynamic Lifter".

Dynamic Lifter was created by Norm Jennings at Rouse Hill back in 1969. Norm's father-in-law was a poultry farmer at Rouse Hill. Norm, after driving his truck through western NSW, realised that the crops grown by most farmers were not as productive as those grown by poultry farmers. At the time many poultry farmer were changing from open range to a caged shed system and were having trouble with disposing piles of waste chook manure.

Norm set about to come up with an environmental solution to the waste chook manure and the poor production of grain and other crops. Having been an apprentice Fitter and Machinist at the Clyde Engineering Company at Granville, he also gained a

Mechanical Engineering degree at the Granville Technical College. He put these skills to work and after five years of research and development he came up with a system that perfected an organic based fertiliser that improved the quality of crops and disposed of unwanted chook manure.

Norm Jennings realised that while chooks couldn't lay golden eggs, the stuff at the bottom of the cage was almost as good. It took another 15 years to work out ways to convert chook poo into Dynamic Lifter, a fertiliser that's easy to package, transport and use.

To keep the droppings as dry as possible, he redesigned the birds' drinking trays to stop water from splashing onto the floor. He then used his engineering skills to develop machines to cure and sterilise the droppings and turn them into pellets, and that's the secret of Dynamic Lifter's international success.

Farmers who used it for the first time remarked favourably some saying "it's dynamite" others saying "it lifts the plants out of the ground". Nadia Jennings, Norm's wife, combined the two sayings to come with a name to market the product as "Dynamic Lifter". From that the family business became established providing employment for Norm, his wife Nadia and their three children who had roles within the business.

With demand continuing to grow a new factory was built in Withers Rd Rouse Hill in 1982. In 1995 the Australian and New Zealand

business was sold to Arthur Yates Ltd whilst Norm and his family retained control of operations in America, Hawaii, India, the Middle East, South East Asia and the Pacific Islands.

The company negotiated agreements with poultry farmers in the region around each of the factories. In return for a contract to buy chicken droppings, the company installed its patented equipment in the farmer's sheds. Farmers benefit from the arrangement because Dynamic Lifter's drinking system for chickens keeps the manure dry and eliminates pollution and blowfly problems. The company collects manure from each of the farms on a regular basis and trucks it to the factory site to be cured and processed.

Field trials in the 1970s demonstrated the outstanding success of Dynamic Lifter, and it was sold in bulk to farmers and orchardists. In the late 1980s bagged pellets began selling in supermarkets and plant nurseries to home gardeners. Dynamic Lifter is made under licence in the USA and exported from Australian factories to Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

In 1995, the Jennings sold their technology and rights to Dynamic Lifter for \$18.8 million.

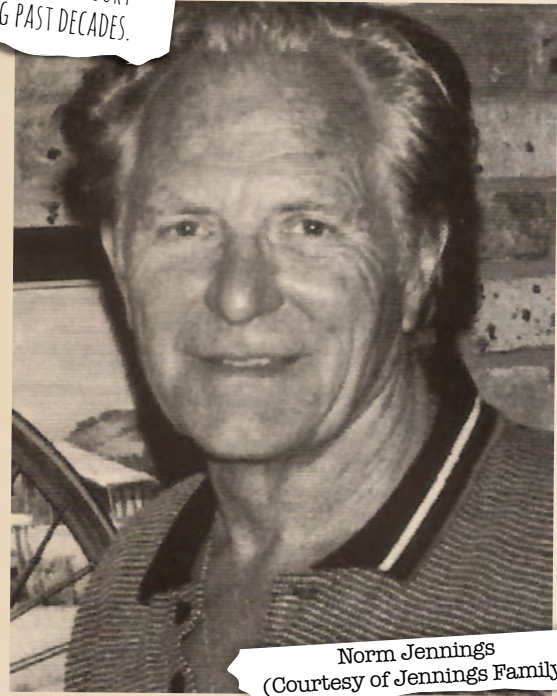
Sources: Information gleaned from article written by Clarrie Neal from a collection of stories appearing in the book "Heart of the Hills" compiled by Elizabeth Porter published by the Hills Historical Society 2008 and also from MAAS (Powerhouse Museum).

# AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

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

Dynamic Lifter backyard factory 1969  
 Courtesy of Jennings Family



Norm Jennings  
 (Courtesy of Jennings Family)



Norm and Nadia Jennings, who built a business  
 empire out of chook poo. Powerhouse Museum.  
 Photo by Jane Townsend.



Dynamic Lifter Factory, Cnr of Commercial Rd &  
 Withers Rd., Rouse Hill. 1999 (Courtesy of HDHS)



Piles of chicken droppings are the raw  
 materials for dynamic lifter. Powerhouse  
 Museum. Photo by Jane Townsend.

# COMMUNITY groups

## 2nd Castle Hill Rovers

www.gwsrovers.com.au

## Annangrove Environment Centre

02 9654 3571 (Thurs) |  
02 9843 0533 (Wed-Fri)  
gnolan@thehills.nsw.gov.au

## Arcadian Quilters

Meet in Galston Community Health Centre 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings, evening group 2nd and 4th Mondays. New members welcome  
Carole | 9894 7749

## Castle Hill Art Society

Art practice for artists of all ages, either in groups or classes for adults and children. Monthly demonstrations and workshops by well-known artists. Members can participate in exhibitions during the year.  
9899 3179 (ans. machine)  
www.castlehillartsociety.org.au.

## Castle Hill Senior Citizens Club Inc.,

Anyone over 55 welcome to come and play carpet bowls, cards and rummikub. Cnr of McMullen Ave. and Old Northern Road, Castle Hill (opp. new Metro station) with parking at the rear.  
9680 3958  
castlehillseniors@gmail.com

## Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook

We are a mixed gender club of over 170 retirees and semi retirees. Meetings on 1st Thursday of each month at the Cherrybrook Community & Cultural Centre.  
Ross | 0411 104 863  
rossfitzpatrick@icloud.com  
www.probusouthpacific.org/microsites/cherrybrook/Welcomer

## Cumberland Bird Observers Club

The Club conducts 3 outings a month to observe birds in their natural environment. General meetings are held at Castle Hill on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. New members are always welcome.  
Peter | 0412 770 757 or Cathy 9809 5668  
www.cboc.org.au

## CWA of NSW – Galston Branch

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 10am at the Galston Health & Resource Centre, Cnr The Glade & 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston.  
Nicci Chaney | 0411 058 852

## CWA of NSW – Castle Hill Branch

Holds its monthly meeting every 2nd Tuesday at the CWA Hall, 2 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst (off Angus Road) from 10am. We also hold our Craft mornings for members on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 10 to 12.  
Maureen | 0411 724 925

## CWA of NSW – Toongabbie Branch.

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

## Dural and District Prostate Cancer Support Group

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Blue Gum Centre, ARV Glenhaven Green, 599-607 Old Northern Rd, Glenhaven.  
Denis | 9629 2645 or Maurice | 9654 2138

## Dural Country Club Bowls

04 2131 5074

## Dural Men's Shed

04 0247 8498  
www.duralmensshed.org

## East Kurrajong School of Arts

First Tuesday each month 10am to 1pm. Bring along any sort of craft activity you're interested in, bring pencils or brushes to practice your drawing or painting with Ruth, browse the library for a book to read or simply just relax, have a cuppa and enjoy a chat from 10am to 1pm. Gold coin donation for morning tea.  
Ann | 02 4576 5031

## Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc

### Hawkesbury Group

Love to stitch or would love to learn? Join us at a morning meet-up, 11am Tuesday 7th June Alley Cafe Orange Grove Mall Richmond. Group meetings (day and evening) start in July. We are looking for space.  
Catherine | 0413340049  
cdelaney1@vtvton.com.au

## Galston VIEW Club

Raises money for The Smith Family "Learning for Life" program" will hold its next Luncheon/Meeting on Wednesday 27th July 2022 at The Galston Club, 21-25 Arcadia Rd Galston. 11am booking essential. Guest speaker, Mr Graham Sims "Harry & His Mate"  
Merle 9634 2378 | 0412 110 698.

## Girl Guides Australia

Great programs for girls 6-18. They meet once a week in groups relevant to their age run by trained Leaders and Unit Helpers.  
Margo | 0417 657 433.

## Glenhaven Probus Club Inc

Meets 10 am on 2nd Tuesday of each month at Castle Hill Bowling Club.  
secretary.glenhaven.probus@gmail.com

## Glenwood Men's Shed

Jim | 0438 701 275

## Hawkesbury Artists & Artisans Trail

02 4567 7400  
Leanne@mellowcrest.com  
www.haat.com.au

## Hawkesbury District Agricultural Assn

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

## Hawkesbury Nepean Chapter of the First Fleeters

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

## Hawkesbury West Probus Club

Meets at 10:15am on the first Monday of each month at Panthers North Richmond. New Members Welcome  
Membership Officer Fay | 0414 341 253  
hawkeswest.probus@gmail.com

## Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Ltd

9.30am to 2pm Wed. & Sat.  
www.hawkesburywoodcraft.org.au  
Graham | 02 4576 1517

## Hills District Women's Bowling Club

Jenner Street, Baulkham Hills  
9639 2733  
www.thehillswomensbowls.com.au

## Hills Older Men's Network INC

Meets fortnightly on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 10am to 12.30pm at Castle Hill. The group is aimed at retired men over the age of 55 and provides an opportunity to chat in a non-judgemental, safe and supportive environment.  
Ron | 0424 462 153  
HillsOMI1@gmail.com

## Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra

Welcomes new players and gig enquiries. Rehearsals Wednesday evenings.  
Chris | 0405 994 605  
info@hillsshiresymphonyorchestra.org.au  
www.hillsshiresymphonyorchestra.org.au

## Hills Toastmasters

Meets every second Tuesday, 7pm. Restore Church: 47 Britannia Rd, Castle Hill. New members welcomed  
Terry | 0488 089 951

## Hills/Toongabbie Music Club

Meets 2nd and 4th Fridays 7.30pm Northmead Scouts Hall 17 Whitehaven Northmead. Beginners to professionals all welcome  
Allen | 0439 831 531  
allendavisguitar@gmail.com

## Kurrajong Hand Spun Craft

Come and learn a beautiful old craft at North Richmond Community Centre. Friendly group just bring yourself. Thursdays at noon.  
Margaret | 0403 819 165

## Ladies Probus Club of Baulkham Hills

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

## Learning in the Hills

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

## Lions Club of Richmond Inc.

Geoff | 0412 969 651

## Lions Club of Windsor Inc

Pam | 0413 395 145

## Macquarie Towns Garden Club

Meetings are on the 1st Thursday of the month, Tebbutt Room at Hawkesbury Library at 2 pm.  
macquarietownsgardenclub.wordpress.com

## National Seniors Australia (Hills Branch)

Meets on the 1st Thurs of each month at Muirfield Golf Club, 58 Barclay Road, North Rocks. 9.30am for 10am. The group has day outings, short tours and interesting speakers. This very friendly group welcomes visitors.  
May | 0414 634 572  
maybruce@bigpond.com

## North Rocks View Club

Northmead Bowling Club, The Windsor Room, 166 Windsor Rd, Northmead. Meetings 2nd Thursday each month at 10.30 am. Visitors welcome.  
Pam | 9634 2670 or Margaret | 9872 1405

## Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club

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

## Pennant Hills Mens Probus Club

John | 9487 1385

## Pennant Hills Combined Probus Club

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

## Pennant Hills VIEW Club

Meets for lunch on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11am at Oatlands Golf Club. Meetings consist of a two course lunch followed by an interesting guest speaker. Visitors & new members are welcome. On the 4th Tues of the month a social outing is arranged for members.  
Margaret | 9873 2402

## Pitt Town Probus Club

Meets at 10:00am on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Pitt Town and District Sports Club, 139 Old Pitt Town Rd Pitt Town. New members welcome.  
Denise Fairfax | 0435 447 414

## Probus Club of Round Corner (Dural)

Julie; PO Box 822, Round Corner 2158

## Probus Club of the Hills Inc

Ken | 02 96296459

## Probus Club – Glenorie

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

## Probus Club - Kellyville Castle Hill Mixed

Meets at 10am on 2nd Thursday of each month at Muirfield Golf Club, Barclay Rd North Rocks. New members welcome.  
Pam | 0417 667 067  
pamelaloves66@gmail.com

## Probus Combined Castle Hill Club

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

## Probus Combined Kellyville Club

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

## Probus Club of Winston Hills – Northmead Combined

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

## RDA (NSW) Tall Timbers Centre

Equine assisted programs, Speech Pathology, Occupational Therapy and Volunteering Opportunities. Located at Gables/Box Hill 9679 1246  
admin@rdanswtalltimbers.org.au  
www.rdanswtalltimbers.org.au

## Red Cross – Castle Hill Branch

Meetings 2nd Friday of the month 10.15am to 11.45am at Wesley Uniting Church, 32-34 Showground Rd, Castle Hill. New members always welcome.  
0419 431 084.

## Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club

Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club Which Supports The Smith Family Learning for Life meet on 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 11.30 at The Richmond Club  
Christine Walshaw | 0416073483

## Scouts Australia - Greater Western Sydney Region

9639 2488  
www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

## Sleep Disorders Australia - NSW

02 9990 3514 | www.sleepoz.org.au

## Soroptimist International The Hills

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the Month at Crestwood Community Centre Baulkham Hills 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Visitors are always welcome.  
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/thehillsllearningcentre

## The Hills Shire Garden Club

Meets on 3rd Monday of the month at Barton Hall at 178 David Rd castle Hill at 1 pm. We have guest speakers, raffles, plant sales and bus trips to various gardens. New members are always welcome.  
9624 5034

## The Hills District Pipe Band

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

## The Hills Trefoil Guild

Elaine | 0417 330 196

## The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills

Meets at St. Joseph' Conference Centre on the 4th Monday of each month at 6.00pm (dinner optional) for meeting at 7.00pm.  
Robyn | 9639 2742

## The Sydney Hills Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees

Meeting on Friday, at Becroft Presbyterian Church Hall, Welham Street Becroft. Meeting commences at 10.45am. The future topics will be Health, Centrelink, Retirement, Technology Safety and others.  
Mal Steel  
airsydneyhills@gmail.com

## Thursday Ladies Tennis Competition in the Hills District

hillsladiestennis.org

## Wanderers Bushwalking and Outdoor Club

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8 pm at Crestwood Community Centre, Cnr Crestwood Drive and Conway St, Baulkham Hills.  
Ted | 0429 790 091  
www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/wanderers

## Windsor RSL Fishing Club

Meets on the last Tuesday of the month at Windsor RSL club at 6:30pm. The club has been established for over 40 years and welcomes new members. It holds regular fishing outings including in land water and deep sea fishing.  
Les Mison | 0421 821 1990.

## Windsor Probus Club

Meets at 10am on the 1st Wednesday of each month at Windsor Golf Club, McQuade Ave, South Windsor. New members always welcome.  
Membership Officer Alan | 0407721461 or Secretary Ann | 0414298945

## Winston Hills Joey Scouts

9862 8482 | hsara@optusnet.com.au

## Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed Inc

Meeting Tues and Sat 9am - 5pm  
Alan Hunt | 4566 4626 or 0428 784 425  
Adrian Acheson | 0448 833 781

## YMCA NSW Community Visitors Scheme

9633 8209 or 0402 255 193

## Zonta Club of Sydney Hills

0414 641 408 |  
www.zontadistrict24.org

# PUZZLE

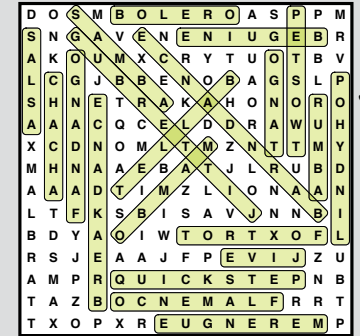
## WORD SEARCH

### RIDING A BIKE

- BALANCE            HELMET
- BEARINGS        HORN
- BELL                LIGHTS
- BICYCLE          PEDAL
- BRAKE             PUMP
- CABLE             PUNCTURE
- CHAIN             SADDLE
- DYNAMO          SPOKE
- GEAR              UNICYCLE
- GLOVES          WHEEL

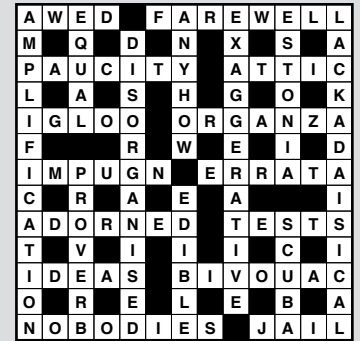


## WORD SEARCH



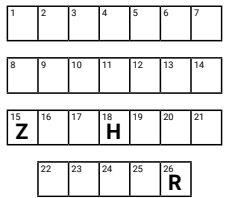
Answers from last issue

## CODE WORD



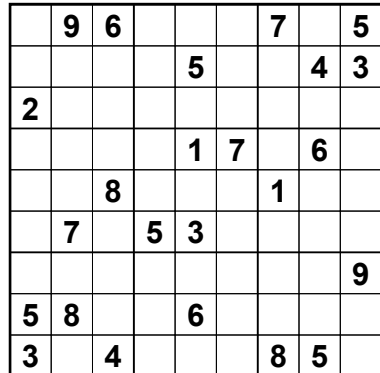
## CODE WORD

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

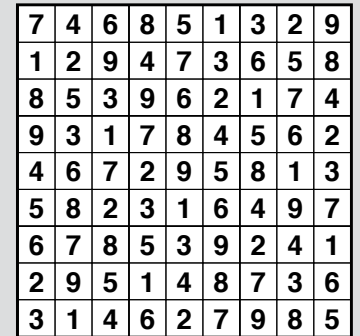


## SUDOKU

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



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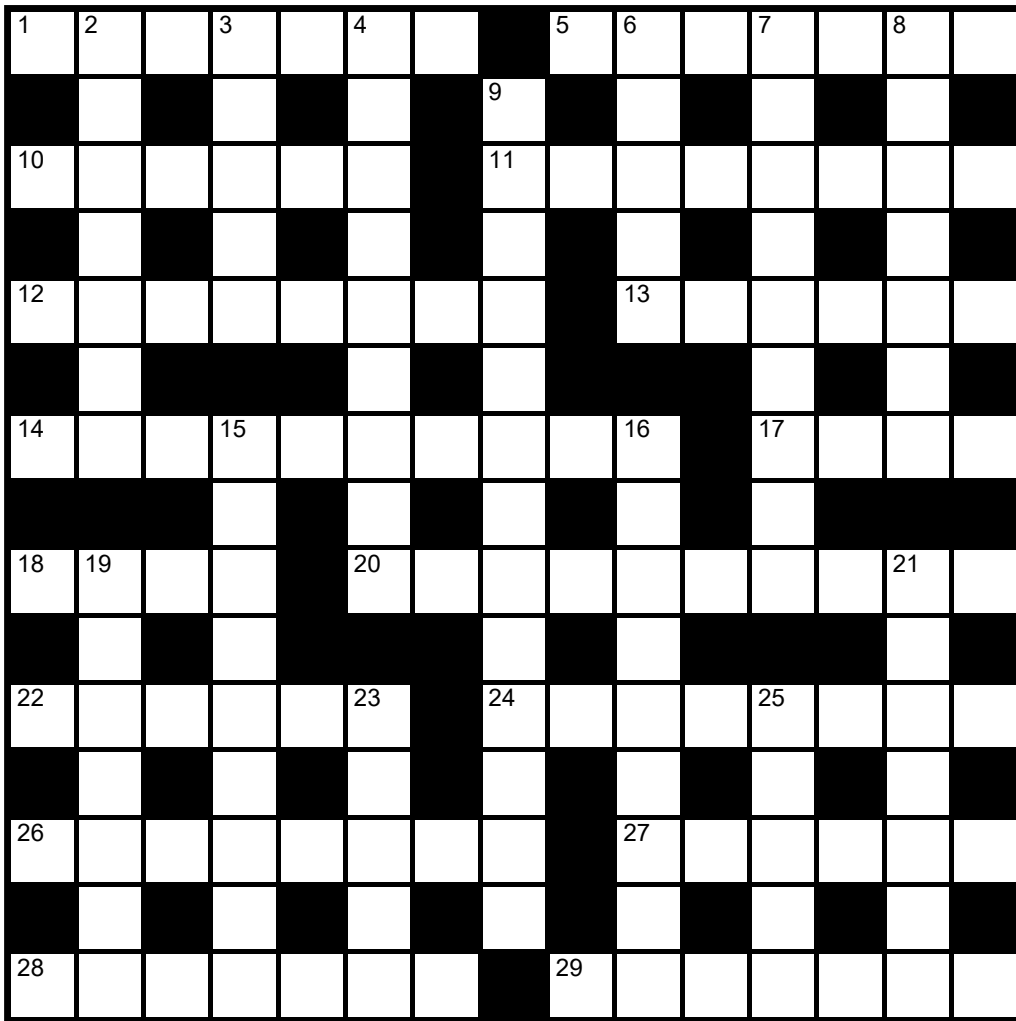
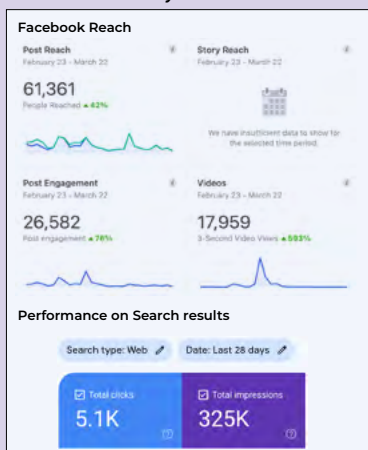
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#### Across

1. Realm
5. Makeshift
10. Top gear for a biker
11. In being
12. Set upon
13. Adequate
14. Olympic gold-winning Melbourne Hockeyroo (5, 5)
17. Such as Perth or Brisbane
18. Chital or Rusa, perhaps

20. 11, to 121 (6, 4)
22. Red grape variety (3, 3)
24. Enoch ate out, finding nothing to drink (3, 5)
26. Abnormally dilated
27. "9 to 5" actress Lily---
28. How Leda wrong-footed a tennis champ (3, 4)
29. Magnates

#### Down

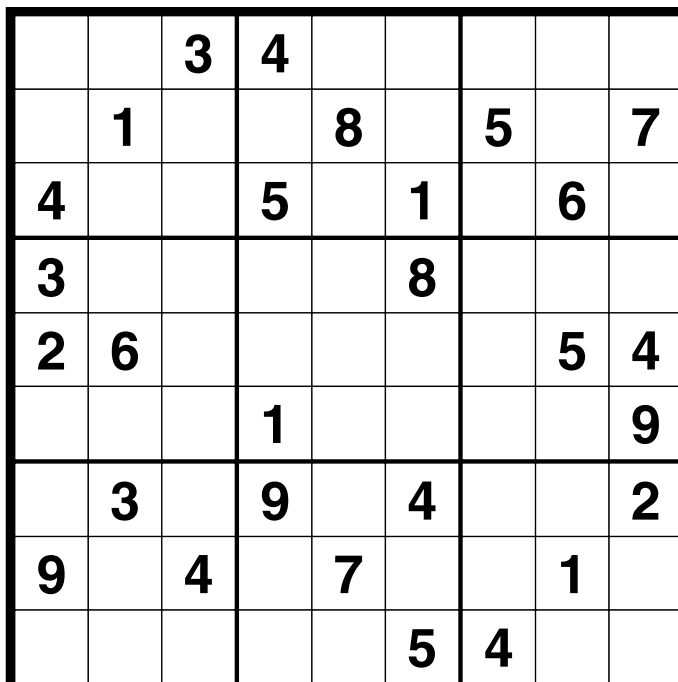
2. Sluggishness
3. High-energy radiation
4. Fringe areas
6. Nonsense
7. Cop carrier (6, 3)
8. When bats fly (2, 5)
9. Pioneer Sydney, NSW and national rugby footballer (5, 8)

15. Often called the father of Australian Rules football coaching (4, 5)
16. With deep sincerity
19. Proceed
21. Sort out Ontario address
23. Tenor violin
25. Injury payment

## SUDOKU

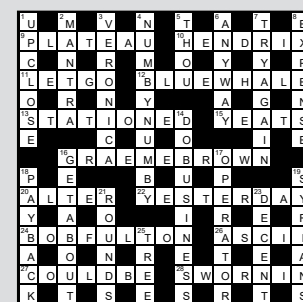
Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

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

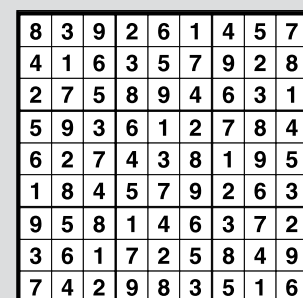


Answers from last issue

### CROSSWORD



### SUDOKU



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LIVE-WELL HOMECARE

The care of your choice

Your Care Our Priority  
**PROVIDING HIGHEST QUALITY  
HOME CARE SERVICES**



**WE DO HOME  
CARE DIFFERENTLY  
SO YOU LIVE WELL  
IN YOUR OWN HOME**

### **Our Speciality**

- ✓ Tailored Care Plan to Suit Individual Needs
- ✓ Personal Care
- ✓ Domestic Assistance
- ✓ Transportation
- ✓ Social Support and Companionship
- ✓ Respite Care
- ✓ Hourly/Daily Care/24-hour & Live-In Care

### **Why Choose Us?**

- ✓ Quality & consistency of Care
- ✓ Highly Experienced, Trained and Reliable Care Workers
- ✓ No Basic Daily Fee and No Long-term contracts
- ✓ Zero exit fees
- ✓ Dedicated Care Managers available 24/7
- ✓ No other hidden costs

Call us today for a Free In-Home consultation to determine how we can best service you or your loved ones!

**02 4789 0622 / 0421 331 327**

17/458 High Street, Penrith 2750

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Richmond • Windsor  
Hawkesbury • Blacktown  
Westmead • Parramatta & surrounding suburbs

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