

Hills to Hawkesbury

10 000 COPIES/EDITION

FREE

Community News

27th Jan – 10th Feb 2023 | Volume 40 – Issue 02
Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

Charlie's TV CHARM

READ THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 13



WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS... EST. 1956

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

MCARDLE
TREE SERVICES

0414 635 650
INFO@MCARDLETREES.COM.AU

POSITIVE EARTHMOVING

- Rock Walls Built
- All types of Excavations

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

Alan Oxford's
**PLUMBING &
ELECTRICAL**

Your Total Trade Solution for
Residential, Commercial & Industrial
Plumbing • Electrical • Hot Water
0415 20 33 88

HOME MAINTENANCE
& CARPENTRY
No job too big or too small

Dominic
Licensed Builder
0423 844 586
FREE QUOTES

40 years
experience

MATT'S SKIP BINS
02 4708 2927

www.mattsskipbins.com.au

**BLIGH VETERINARY
SERVICES CENTRE**



(02) 4587 7177
693 George St,
South Windsor



You can now read our stories on



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



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

Why Advertise with Hills to Hawkesbury

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

Performance on Search results

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

Total clicks

6.38K

Total impressions

414K

Westinvest Windfall

By BEV JORDAN

A Multi-million dollar funding boost is set to provide a recreational bonanza for residents in north western Sydney with new pools, parks, sports fields, cycling and walking tracks in the pipeline as part of the State Government's \$5 billion WestInvest program.

Member for Hawkesbury Robyn Preston MP, Pool Superintendent Steve Cooney, Hawkesbury City General Manager Elizabeth Richardson and Hawkesbury City Mayor Sarah McMahon at Richmond Pool.

Hawkesbury City Council was successful in securing \$75.4 million for five major projects which include \$30.3 million for the redevelopment of Richmond Swimming Centre, \$9.8 million for the Tamplin Field Redevelopment at Hobartville, \$6.7 Million for improvements to the Oasis Aquatic and Leisure Centre at South Windsor and \$4.7 million for a new Cycleway Bridge over Rickabys Creek to link Richmond and Windsor town centres.

Hills Shire Council has secured \$6.6 million including \$1.09 million for a Livvi's Playground extension at Bernie Mullane Sports Complex in Kellyville.

The announcement by Premier Dominic Perrottet and Treasurer Matt Kean included:

- \$30.3 million for the redevelopment of Richmond Swimming Centre to include indoor and outdoor aquatic space, splash feature park, increased shade areas and picnic facilities
- \$6.7 million - Oasis Aquatic and Leisure Centre Improvements, including children's splash park, shallow depth pool, solar heating plant, climbing wall facility, covered deck connecting change rooms to the café outdoor area,

extended child-minding area including soft fall, additional carparking, outdoor gym and water harvesting tanks onsite

- \$23.9 million – North Richmond Community Precinct upgrades - new library, indoor sports stadium incorporating netball, basketball, futsal and volleyball and performing arts studios
- \$9.8 million – Tamplin Field Redevelopment – new synthetic field with off-field grass spaces to include premier league soccer, rugby league, little athletics, dog training, school sports and personal trainers
- \$44 million – YMCA - Y Yarramundi camping conference and outdoor education retreat redevelopment
- \$5 million - Autism Spectrum Australia - new autism specific primary school in Box Hill
- \$1.6 million - Scout Association of Australia NSW – new scout hall at Kurrajong, camping amenities, carpark upgrade, landscaping, tree lighting and tree planting

The \$75.5 million in newly-announced projects is on top of the \$16.8 million in projects announced in November.

Hawkesbury City Mayor Sarah McMahon said these projects would transform the region

Hills to Hawkesbury

Community News | Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au | Facebook @hillstohawkesbury

Owner: Compton Media Group

Publisher: Diana Paton, Adelphi Printing Pty Ltd

ATF Paton Family Trust



DIANA PATON
PUBLISHER

contribute@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au
0408 011 193



TANYA COOK
ADVERTISING

advertise@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au
0499 040 726



BEV JORDAN
SENIOR JOURNALIST

bev@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au
0439 034 187



IVOR JONES
CONTRIBUTOR

ivor.jones47@
optusnet.com.au



GISELA HORNER
EDITORIAL CO-ORDINATOR

contribute@
hillstohawkesbury.com.au

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

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



Proposed bridge over Rickabys Creek

and deliver much-needed social, health, lifestyle and flood resilience benefits to the entire community.

“These projects will replace and update much-used but tired and outdated facilities that will be enjoyed for generations to come. Local families, adults, children, grandparents, sporting clubs, cyclists, those who enjoy organised and individual fitness activities – there will be something for everyone with these new projects.

“It will also add critical flood resilience for residents west and north of the river by providing a hub that quickly converts into a purpose-built evacuation centre whenever it is needed.

“A lot of work has already been done by Council staff in preparing these projects, meaning that we can expect work to begin over the next 12 months. I thank the State Government for this funding that will make these amazing projects a reality.”

Previously announced projects include the

development of Fernadell Park in Pitt Town, redevelopment of

Woodbury Reserve at Glossodia, the Kurmond to Kurrabung Cycleway, and the Hawkesbury Wayfinding Project.

Hills projects include:

- \$4.6million for Castle Hill Showground pedestrian bridge
- \$1.09 million. For Livvi's Playground extension at Bernie Mullane Sports Complex, including an amenities building and new playground equipment.
- \$999,595 t for Baker Crescent shops in Baulkham Hills, including design and rejuvenation of street and shop frontage, including McBurney Reserve.

Hills Mayor Peter Gangemi said the planned pedestrian bridge will improve access from the Castle Hill Showground into Fred Caterson Reserve.

“[It will] enhance safety for both pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. This is particularly important with more residents moving into the State Government’s Showground Precinct and using the sporting facilities within the Reserve.

“Livvi’s Place is a much-loved all abilities playground. This funding will allow Council to complete stage two of our planned upgrade, which includes additional playground equipment, such as a flying fox with an accessible harness seat, more picnic facilities and seating, as well as a water refill station and a new amenities block which will cater to families utilising the playground.”

Hawkesbury MP, Robyn Preston MP said: “Hawkesbury’s project dreams will now become a reality.”

Mr Perrottet said the projects will change the face of the Western Sydney community.

“This is all thanks to the \$5 billion WestInvest program is made possible by the Government’s successful WestConnex asset recycling strategy,” Mr Perrottet said.

More than 680 applicants submitted a WestInvest application to the value of more than \$7.9 billion.

The projects announced last week are in addition to the 68 projects announced by the NSW Government late last year through the WestInvest Community Project Grants – Local Government Allocation when Hills Shire Council secured \$15.5 million to build a new indoor recreation centre at the former Horseworld site in Box Hill.

Riverside GARDENS

RETIRE IN STYLE TO NORTH RICHMOND

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

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



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

ENQUIRIES
REGARDING RESALES
ALWAYS WELCOME



Please Phone Patricia for an appointment to inspect

PHONE PATRICIA 0447 334 615 or 4571 4545

Email: pcampbell2@mac.com

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

www.riverside-gardens.com.au



SES Contoller Daniel McGovern, Ryan Barton and John and Nickey Hill



Inset Ryan Barton during the floods

Hills Citizens of the Year By BEV JORDAN

The orange glow of State Emergency Service uniforms brightened up the stage at the Hills Shire Council's Australia Day Awards last week with members of The Hills SES nominated in three categories.

Hills SES won The Hills Community Group of the Year Award with the volunteer-based emergency response organisation, contributing more than 17,000 hours of work during 2022.

The Hills volunteer crews worked through three significant flooding disasters in The Hills and along the Hawkesbury River. In addition to this, crews also responded 1483 requests for assistance, which ranged from missing persons to emergency repairs and support.

SES volunteer Ryan Barton was named Hills Young Citizen of the Year.

The 24-year-old is one of the youngest volunteers in The Hills SES to hold the rank of Leading Senior Operator.

Ryan has put in nearly 1,400 volunteering hours responding to community calls since joining the organisation less than four years ago - an average of around 350 volunteering hours a year. In the last year alone, he has personally attended around 60 requests for help from the community. Ryan also volunteers with his local Rural Fire Service unit.

Husband and wife team John and Nicky Hill, finalists in the Senior of the Year category, have each volunteered with SES for 15 years

Nicky is a team leader, drives the vehicles and operates a chainsaw in support of the community. John is currently the deputy Logistics Coordinator. In the past 10 years they have contributed more than 7,200 volunteer hours. Since 2014 Nicky and John have responded to over 1050 requests for help from the community - 120 of these were done in the last year alone.

Full awards story on page 14.

DISQUALIFIED DRIVER

A 30-year-old disqualified driver was charged last week (Thursday, 19th January) in relation to a multi-vehicle crash in the Hawkesbury region last month.

Emergency services were called to Bells Line of Road, near Comleroy Road, at Kurmond, following reports of a four-vehicle crash at about 5.10am on Thursday 15th December 2022.

Officers from Hawkesbury Police Area Command found four vehicles – a truck, two utility trucks, and a Holden Commodore station wagon – had collided.

The driver of the Holden, a 30-year-old man, and the front passenger, a 33-year-old woman, were taken to Westmead Hospital, both in a stable condition.

Three of the Holden's rear passengers – a three-year-old girl, a six-year-old boy, and an eight-year-old girl – were taken to the Children's Hospital at Westmead.

The drivers of the two utes, a 58-year-old man and a 22-year-old man, and the truck driver, a 46-year-old man, were all treated for minor injuries on the scene.

Officers from the Crash Investigation Unit commenced an investigation and following

extensive inquiries, a 30-year-old Tregear man was arrested at Mt Druitt Railway Station about 8.45am on 19th January 2023.

He was charged with nine offences, including:

- two counts of dangerous driving occasioning grievous bodily harm - drive manner dangerous,
- negligent driving (occasioning grievous bodily harm),
- two counts of cause bodily harm by misconduct in charge of motor vehicle,
- negligent driving (no death or grievous bodily harm),
- drive motor vehicle during disqualification period,
- not keep left of dividing line, and
- possess prohibited drug.



In a life threatening emergency dial 000

DRIVER CHARGED

A man died in hospital following a two-vehicle crash in Marsden Park on Friday afternoon, 20th January. Emergency services were called to Richmond Road, Marsden Park at about 4pm following reports a Suzuki Baleno and an Audi Q7 had collided.

The driver and sole occupant of the Suzuki – a 28-year-old man – was trapped in the wreckage, before being released by NSW Fire and Rescue personnel. He was taken to Westmead Hospital with serious lower body and abdominal injuries, however, he later died.

The driver of the Audi, a 44-year-old woman and her 12-year-old passenger, were not injured.

Officers attached to Riverstone Police Area Command have commenced inquiries into the circumstances surrounding the crash. A report will be prepared for the information of the coroner.

PEDESTRIAN DIES

A 79-year-old woman died after being struck by a car in Baulkham Hills on Tuesday, 24th January.

Emergency services were called to a service station on Seven Hills Road, Baulkham Hills, following reports a pedestrian had been hit by a Lexus NX SUV at about 11.45am.

She was taken to Westmead Hospital in a critical condition but passed away during the night. The SUV driver, a 50-year-old woman, was taken to Westmead Hospital for mandatory testing.

Inquiries are continuing into the circumstances surrounding the crash. Police have asked anyone with dashcam vision or further information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers.

DOGS RESCUED IN FIRE

Two dogs were rescued from the backyard of a home on fire in Barry Rd, North Kellyville on Monday, January 16th.

Fire & Rescue NSW Kellyville Brigade and Kellyville RFS firefighters attacked the fire from both sides and fought to keep the fire from spreading to nearby homes.

Fire crews battled the intense blaze for 90 minutes. Crews from several Brigades were at the site for several hours to ensure no embers would reignite.

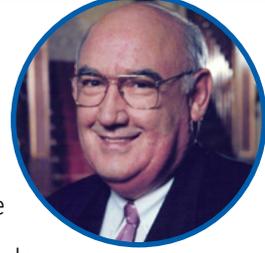
OFFICER FACES DV CHARGES

A police officer has been charged with two counts of assault following a domestic violence incident at Kellyville.

Officers from The Hills Police Area Command were called at about 10.30pm on Thursday 19th January. Following inquiries, a 50-year-old man was arrested and taken to Castle Hill Police Station, where he was charged with two counts of assault (DV).

The sergeant – who is attached to a specialist command – is not currently in the workplace and his employment status is under review.

2023 Rex Stubbs Commemorative History Symposium



Former mayor, Rex Stubbs, will be remembered at the second Dr Rex Stubbs OAM Commemorative History Symposium, to be held at the Deerubbin Centre in Windsor on Saturday 4 February.

The free, fully catered event recognises Councillor Stubbs' commitment to the Hawkesbury community and its unique history. It is aimed primarily at Hawkesbury historical societies and heritage related groups, as well as those in the region, but interested residents are also welcomed to attend. Bookings via www.hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com.au or phone 4560 4460.

This year we have several speakers discussing the rich history of the Hawkesbury River from three perspectives: Geological, Aboriginal, and colonial. The speakers are:

- Adjunct Associate Professor Carol Liston AO, talking about the early developments of Yarramundi and Agnes Banks, particularly about the period of Governor Lachlan Macquarie.
- Jasmine Seymour, will be talking about the Dharug language project.
- Robin Woods, talking about the history of wetlands and the local environment in the Hawkesbury since European settlement.

In addition, there will be an update from Council's Arts and Culture team on its projects and opportunity for information sharing by the local historical groups.

Rex Stubbs was a very active member of Council, giving 26 years of service including ten terms as Mayor. He was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in 2001 for service to local government and to the Hawkesbury community. Rex also had an abiding interest in art, history and culture. He championed the development of Hawkesbury Regional Museum and Hawkesbury Regional Gallery and was a member and President of Hawkesbury Historical Society for nearly 30 years.

For more information contact Joanne Russo, Acting Cultural Services Manager 4560 4468.

\$100M for Pitt Town Bypass

By BEV JORDAN

The State Government's announcement of \$100 million for the long-awaited construction of the Pitt Town bypass has been welcomed by residents, businesses and Hawkesbury City Councillors.

The \$100million funding is part of the \$1 billion commitment from the WestInvest fund to upgrade critical roads across the region.

Detailed design and property acquisition had been completed. The Roads and Maritime department say the Bypass will reduce traffic through the town centre, improve safety for road users and enhance flood resilience for local residents.

The key features of the Pitt Town bypass include:

- extending Pitt Town Road past Bathurst Street onto Cattai Road, east of Eldon Street
- installing a new single lane roundabout at Eldon Street and Old Pitt Town Road
- closing a portion of Cattai Road to maintain access to Buckingham St
- providing new crossings of Hortons Creek
- installing a new single lane roundabout at Pitt Town Road/Bathurst Street and Glebe Road
- the total length of the upgrade is around 1km.

Community information sessions about the Pitt Town Bypass were held at the end of 2018. Residents have been putting up signs asking "Where's Our ByPass?" for some time.

Hawkesbury City Mayor Sarah McMahon said that after years of discussion, the government can move on with the job of delivering the bypass.

"Pitt Town residents have been waiting a long time for this project to come to fruition. I am approached almost weekly about this project by locals," she said. "It is an important project not just for Pitt Town, but also for residents and businesses right across the Hawkesbury traveling to and from The Hills on a regular basis. With this \$100 million announcement, the expectation within the Hawkesbury community is that the government will act immediately to bring this long-promised piece of road infrastructure into reality."

Hawkesbury MP, Robyn Preston said it is an important investment: "With the bypass route locked in and land acquisitions completed, the next step is to award the contract prior to construction commencing."

Minister for Metropolitan Roads Natalie Ward said the improvements are also targeted to improve flood evacuation routes for families in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley and around Pitt Town.

"We are working towards widening Garfield Road East to a four-lane divided road, providing a flood evacuation route with increased capacity as well as a better connection to the communities of Marsden Park, Box Hill, Richmond, Schofields and Rouse Hill," she said.

"The Pitt Town Bypass is also a project the community has been calling for so I'm incredibly pleased we can deliver it, significantly increasing the community's resilience to flooding events."

The WestInvest funding will also support significant road projects, including: \$100 million to enable the upgrade of a 3.4 kilometre section of Garfield Road East between Piccadilly Street, Riverstone and Windsor Road, Box Hill.

New primary school in Tallawong

Community information session

We are continuing to plan for new primary school needs in Tallawong.

Join us at the upcoming information session to find out about the project. To register your attendance and book a visit, scan the QR code or visit edu.nsw.link/TallawongInfo.



Date: Monday 30 January 2023

Time: 3 pm to 6:30 pm

Venue: Vinegar Hill Memorial Community Centre
Main Street, Rouse Hill



You can also share with us what is important to you by completing our online survey between Monday 23 January and Monday 6 February 2023.

Visit edu.nsw.link/TallawongSurvey or scan the QR code.

For more information about this project, please contact School Infrastructure NSW:

☎ 1300 482 651

✉ schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au

🌐 schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au



Make your New Year's Resolution a New Will

Leave a legacy today that will impact the future of Kid's healthcare

A new year often brings a renewed sense of vigor and commitment. We often look back and reflect on those moments those moments that have brought us joy and those that have taught us what to value in our life... and perhaps this new year you have made a resolution. A resolution to make a difference or make a change you've wanted for some time.

This year, Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation (SCHF) encourages you to make your New Year's resolution a new Will.

Over 50% of Australians who should have a Will don't! There is no magic formula to say when you should have a Will, but there are life milestones when it's valuable and important to do so. Your first job, getting married, having a child, travel, buying a home, retirement, grandchildren. Your Will is a living document and should be updated when your life changes.

Leaving a gift in your Will to the Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation or any other charity is one way to ensure your memory and legacy will support future generations. A gift in your Will, large or small will ensure vital work continues, such as medical research, clinical trials, world class hospital facilities and great advancements in health care for kids in the community.

A gift in a Will goes a long way to improving health outcomes for kids like Lachie, who lives with cystic fibrosis.

For the first year of his life, Lachie battled virus after virus, and his family struggled to come to grips with everything.

But while it hasn't always been easy, Lachie's family are grateful for the incredible support team that surrounds them at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

"There's just so much extra that they do for the kids to make their experience not just better; they actually make it really wonderful." - Lara, Lachie's mum.

Make 2023 the year YOU make or update your Will and include a gift to charity. A gift that will make the world of difference to sick kids, like Lachie, who need and deserve our care and support.

Scan the QR code to create an online Will for free with our online Wills partner Gathered Here (whether you decide to include SCHF or not.)

For more information about leaving a gift in your Will, please contact the SCHF Planned Giving team on 1800 770 122 or email Alicia at bequests@schf.org.au. We'd be delighted to hear from you.

CWA Galston

Wednesday 8 th February is the first meeting for 2023 at the Galston Community and Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston.

Please arrive at 10am for a cuppa, followed by our business meeting, and BYO lunch – a sandwich or heat something in the microwave. Stay for a Craft afternoon. Visitors are very welcome to attend.

In the coming year, will have guest speakers, a fashion parade and stalls. Popular craft items for stalls will be made so stock is available. Some members plan to attend a Nepean Group Handicraft Day on beading on 1 st February at Kenthurst.

Our Branch Cookery place winners will be judged again at a special Nepean Group judging day. This is at Kenthurst on 23 rd March, and those winners will go on to enter the State judging in early May 2023 at Bathurst.

The Country Women's Association is the largest women's organisation in Australia. Funds raised support the welfare of women, children and communities.

We are always happy to receive yarn and fabrics for charity sewing and knitting.

Contacts: Jann - 0439 222 217 or Patricia - 0412 948 787



Make Your
New Year's Resolution
a New Will

...and leave a legacy that
will impact the future of
kids' healthcare

1800 770 122
bequests@schf.org.au



Lachie, cystic fibrosis, The Children's Hospital at Westmead

State Election 2023

By BEV JORDAN

For thousands of residents, the State Election on Saturday, March 25th 2023, will see them in a new State seat despite the fact that they haven't moved house.

The electoral boundaries were redrawn in August 2021, to ensure the number of eligible voters in each district does not vary by more than 10 per cent from the average enrolment across all 93 electoral districts in NSW. Some householders will find themselves in a neighbouring electorate as boundaries have subtly moved, one example is Box Hill which has moved from being in the State seat of Castle Hill to the Hawkesbury State electorate.

The State seats of Baulkham Hills and Seven Hills have not only been re-drawn significantly but they have had their names changed for the 2023 election with the newly redrawn electorates now called Kellyville and Winston Hills. There will be a lot of new faces on the electoral placards in the Hills to Hawkesbury area with Transport Minister David Elliott deciding not to contest this election.

While some candidates are already registered on the NSW Electoral Commission's register of candidates, nominations are open until noon on March 8th. The draw to decide in what order candidates will appear on the ballot paper will be the following day.

To find out which seat you are in, or register to vote visit the NSW Electoral Commission website at www.elections.nsw.gov.au

Candidates announced so far include current MPs (Robyn Preston, Ray Williams and Mark Taylor), current local councillors (Hills Deputy Mayor Mark Hodges, Parramatta Deputy Lord Mayor Sameer Pandey and Hawkesbury Councillor Amanda Kotlash) several small business owners (Angela Maguire, Tina Cartwright and Warren Kirby). Three candidates are former police prosecutors including Mohit Kumar. Alex Karki is a transport planning engineer. Independents standing include Nathan Organ and Palaniappan Subramanian.



CASTLE HILL

LABOR: Tina Cartwright

LIBERAL: Mark Hodges: Deputy Mayor of Hills Shire Council

INDEPENDENT: Nathan Organ:

HAWKESBURY

LABOR: Amanda Kotlash

INDEPENDENT: Angela Maguire

LIBERAL: Robyn Preston: Current Hawkesbury MP

KELLYVILLE:

LABOR: Alex Karki:

LIBERAL: Ray Williams: Current MP for Castle Hill.

RIVERSTONE

LABOR: Warren Kirby

LIBERAL: Mohit Kumar

WINSTON HILLS

LABOR: Sameer Pandey: Parramatta Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillor

INDEPENDENT: Palaniappan Subramanian

LIBERAL: Mark Taylor: Current Seven Hills MP

THE NEW DISTRIBUTION :

CASTLE HILL: Annangrove, Baulkham Hills, Castle Hill, Dural, Glenhaven, Glenorie, Kenthurst, Middle Dural, West Pennant Hills.

HAWKESBURY: Agnes Banks, Berambing, Bilpin, Blaxlands Ridge, Bligh Park, Bowen Mountain, Box Hill, Cattai, Central Colo, Central Macdonald, Clarendon, Colo, Colo Heights, Cornwallis, Cumberland Reach, East Kurrajong, Ebenezer, Fernances, Freemans Reach, Gables, Glenorie, Glossodia, Grose Vale, Grose Wold, Higher Macdonald, Hobartville, Kenthurst, Kurmond, Kurrajong, Kurrajong Heights, Kurrajong Hills, Leets Vale, Lower Macdonald, Lower Portland, Maraylya, Maroota, McGraths Hill, Mellong, Mogo Creek, Mountain Lagoon, Mulgrave, Nelson, North Richmond, Oakville, Perrys Crossing, Pitt Town, Pitt Town Bottoms, Putty, Raaf Richmond, Richmond, Richmond Lowlands, Rouse Hill, Sackville, Sackville North, Scheyville, South Maroota, South Windsor, St Albans, Ten Mile Hollow, Tennyson, The Slopes, Upper Colo, Upper Macdonald, Vineyard, Webbs Creek, Wheeny Creek, Wilberforce, Windsor, Windsor Downs, Wisemans Ferry, Wrights Creek, Yarramundi.

KELLYVILLE: Baulkham Hills, Beaumont Hills, Bella Vista, Box Hill, Castle Hill, Kellyville, North Kellyville, Norwest, Rouse Hill.

RIVERSTONE: Acacia Gardens, Grantham Farm, Kellyville Ridge, Nirimba Fields, Parklea, Quakers Hill, Riverstone, Rouse Hill, Schofields, Stanhope Gardens, Tallawong, The Ponds, Vineyard.

WINSTON HILLS: Baulkham Hills, Blacktown, Constitution Hill, Glenwood, Kings Langley, Lalor Park, North Rocks, Northmead, Old Toongabbie, Pendle Hill, Seven Hills, Toongabbie, Wentworthville, Westmead, Winston Hills.

To find out which seat you are in, or register to vote visit the NSW Electoral Commission website at www.elections.nsw.gov.au

WE ARE
HIRING

CADET JOURNALIST/ DIGITAL MEDIA (INC VIDEO)

OUR IDEAL CANDIDATE WOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Provide examples of excellence in writing balanced, accurate reports to a high standard of spelling, grammar and style
- Be able to show initiative in generating story ideas while working to direction and in collaboration with other editorial team members
- show examples of video content created and delivered for a younger demographic. This could be examples of projects produced during your studies, or on projects you have created for yourself.
- Diploma or Degree in Journalism/Media or Digital Media Studies
- General passion and knowledge of The Hills Shire & Hawkesbury areas. Ideally living locally in order to cover breaking stories outside of normal work hours.
- A current driver's licence and a reliable vehicle is essential for this position.

**FULL TIME
POSITION
AWARD SALARY**

BENEFITS

- Competitive Salary
- Flexibility to work from home.
- Join a great team with experienced journalists
- High quality video and sound equipment. Work with experienced IT professionals to assist with online publication and the chance to assist with development of more automated news publishing tools

If you are interested in this position, please apply <https://www.seek.com.au/job/59711717> or directly to diana@adelphi.net.au



AUSTRALIA DAY HO

A Life of Helping

By BEV JORDAN

VENA STONEHAM OAM, Cherrybrook has been honoured in the Australia Day Awards announced by the Governor General David Hurley for her service to the community, particularly through the church.

Vena turns 91 in a few week's time and will have a lot to celebrate.

She says it was "a real joy" to be told she was being awarded an Order of Australia Medal alongside some celebrities.

"It's such a great honour."

The mother of three has seven grandchildren, four great, grandchildren and a fifth on the way. She has been an active church member all her life, growing up in the Presbyterian Church which then merged with the Methodist and Congregational Union to form the Uniting Church.

She taught scripture in Primary Schools for 50 years, mostly at Cherrybrook Public School but also at West Pennant Hills and John Purchase.

Before volunteering as a scripture teacher Vena taught Sunday School at Bethlehem Uniting Church at Thompson's Corner.

Vena has loved music all her life and started learning piano at the age of 7.

"I am very grateful that my parents sent me for piano lessons. Music is something not everyone has. I have been able to share my love of music with thousands of people and bring them joy."



She taught herself to play the organ and for over 50 years has been playing the organ at church and for funerals and weddings at both Cherrybrook Uniting and Bethlehem Uniting Church.

She is on the roster to play at Cherrybrook Uniting Church on the next two Sundays. She has been choir organiser and conductor for over 20 years and church secretary for 25 years. In April Vena will reach another milestone, 40 years as a church elder and she is also an active committee member.

Vena says volunteering has been a big part of her life. "Volunteering is about being a helper." She plans to stay at home on Australia Day to receive telephone calls from family and friends.

"I do know a lot of people," she says. It's a great understatement.



FAGAN PARK HERO

ALLAN FOYS has received an OAM for his volunteering work in the heritage field.

The 93-year-old is a volunteer with the Friends of Fagan Park at Galston. He is the group's longest serving volunteer, joining the Friends of Fagan Park in 1995 after he retired.

He is considered the 'guru' for all things mechanical and technical.

Allan drives his 1960 prototype Austin Freeway to Fagan Park every Tuesday from his home at South Turramurra.

He is a life member of the Veteran Car Club, and was President in 1974 and 1975 of the forerunners to the Council of Motor Clubs

(CMC). Through these bodies he helped establish the Club Plate scheme for Historic vehicles which allowed their movement to events, which later became the present-day Historic Vehicle Scheme with much greater flexibility of use of vehicles over 30 years old.

EDUCATOR HONOURED

MARK HARRIS PSM from Baulkham Hills has been awarded the prestigious Public Service Medal for outstanding public service in education, in particular for driving outcomes at Auburn North Public School.

He has been Principal of Auburn North Public School for over 20 years leading a team of 60 staff and 650 students.

He focuses on a whole-school approach to literacy and numeracy, deepening teachers' curriculum and assessment knowledge, enhancing evidence-based practices and maximising parent involvement and engagement in students' learning.

As Principal, he supports and leads some of the State's most disadvantaged students, including from low socio-economic, non-English-speaking and refugee backgrounds.

He has developed award winning programs such as Harmony House, homework clubs for parents and various community link services to encourage authentic connection between school and home.

Psychologist's OAM

DR LISA FAHEY OAM from Sackville North has been recognised for service to medicine as a psychologist.

She and her husband Brendan founded Quovus Pty Ltd, and Quovus Technologies Pty Ltd, in 2006 to ensure that people and providers across communities could access meaningful advice, training, guidance, and support in a way that emphasised safety, wellbeing, and positive outcomes. She has been Clinical Director, Sherwood House, NSW Department of Communities and Justice, since 2009 and Clinical Director of Obviate, since 2019.

Her numerous professional roles include Director, CTARS - Software, Data and Document Management, since 2011, Director, Equalis, (2000-2006). Senior Practitioner, Department of Aging Disability and Home Care (1997-2000).



Dr Lisa Fahey OAM



Mark Harris PSM

HONOURS FOR LOCALS



AM FOR DISABILITY ADVOCATE

The late **JOHN MOXON AM** of Northmead was honoured for significant service to community health, and to people with physical disability.

His wife Margaret said: "I am so proud of him but really sad that he didn't know about it before he died."

The disability advocate passed away in September 2022 after contracting COVID. He was 83. He had spent over 52 years as a C7/8 [vertebrae] quadriplegic wheelchair user. He was injured in a racing accident at the Oran Park race track in 1970 when his car crashed into a wall and he broke his neck.

He was central to the formation of the Physical Disability Council of NSW, and was president (1996 - 2002). He was also a founding member and President of the Physical Disability Council of Australia which was set up in 1996 (now PDA) plus a Board Member and President of Spinal Cord Injuries Australia. He was involved in many organisations and services including Computer Pals for Seniors.

His wife said he was still an active volunteer until his illness: "He was very active and very sharp right up until he died."

AM FOR CHANGE MAKER

KRISTIN STUBBINS OF GALSTON AM was honoured for significant service to the financial sector, to women, and to the community.

She has worked with PwC for 25 years and has been a partner for 18 years.

Her special focus has been on mental health and supporting women and is a founding member and Chair of Women for Change.

She is also Founding Board Director, Mindgardens Neuroscience Network (2019), and Board Member, NeuRa - Neuroscience Research Australia (2018) and Founding Director, of Innovell, (a collaborative project between PwC and Sydney University) since 2017. She was also a founding participant of the Corporate Mental Health Alliance Australia.

Kristin sits on several boards including the Taronga Conservation Society Australia and is on the Board of South Eastern Sydney Local Health District and I of YMCA NSW.

In 2019, Kristin was named in the Australia Financial Review's '100 Women of Influence', having been nominated in the innovation category.



AM for Top Girl Guide

By BEV JORDAN

Rosemary Derwin has spent most of her life in the Girl Guides in one way or another.

The Kellyville resident who is currently Chief Commissioner, Girl Guides Australia started her Girl Guiding journey at the age of seven when she joined the Brownies.

Her service to youth through Girl Guides and her Community volunteering work has seen her appointed to the Order of Australia.

Her AM was officially announced on Australia Day, just days after she returned from the annual National Australia Girl Guides Jamboree where she spent a week in Ballarat with over a 1000 Girl Guides and nearly 500 volunteer leaders.

She has been Chief Commissioner, Girl Guides Australia since 2018 and was Assistant Chief Commissioner from 2002-2005.

Her involvement on the national executive level of Girl Guides stems from 1995 and followed on from her involvement at a State level.

She was a Brownie at Baulkham Hills and then moved on to be a Girl Guide.

Among other roles in Girl Guiding, she was Leader of Youth at Baulkham Hills Senior Guides, (1982-1990) and then Crestwood Guides District Manager (1995 to 2002).

Her two older sisters were Girl Guides and so were her two daughters.

But it hasn't only been about Girl Guides.

Rosemary was part of the RFS Communications team for several years, has been the honorary auditor for at Kenthurst RFS and The Hills RFS Communications for several years and has been honorary auditor since 1986, and has been auditor for The Hills Community Medical Equipment Pool since 2010.

Her volunteering has included being on the National Board of the White

Ribbon Campaign (2006-2008); Honorary Treasurer, United Nations Development Fund for Women, Australia National Committee (2006-2008), and ten years as a Sunday School teacher at Kellyville Anglican Church.

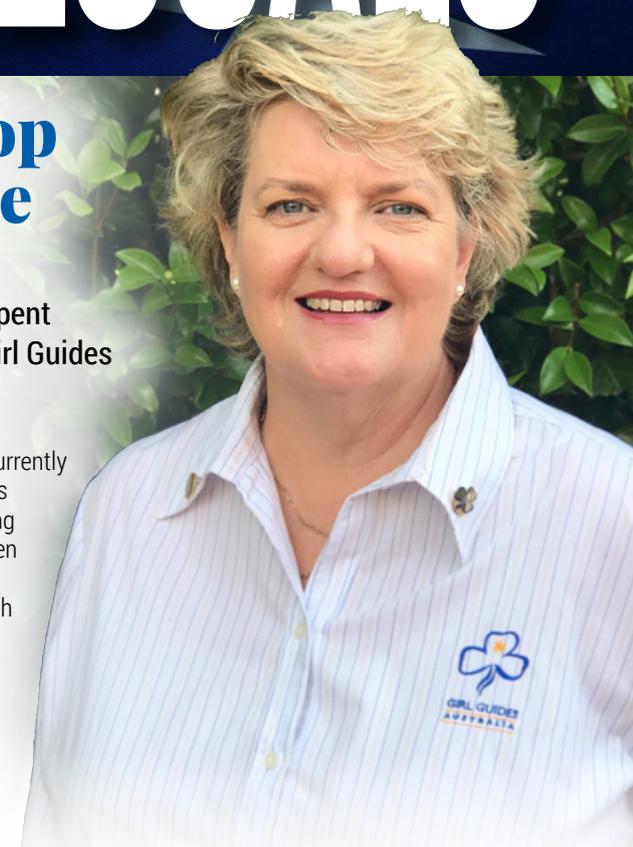
"For me volunteering is at the heart of who I am," she said.

She and her husband Tony, also a long term volunteer, have always called The Hills their Home. They run an accountancy business and are now grandparents to three little boys.

She said: "I was humbled when I received notification of the award. As a Leader in Girl Guiding it is about working as a team. I have worked with many amazing women who have inspired, mentored, supported and encouraged me and I will always be grateful to my amazing mother who shared so much of my Girl Guiding journey, for her example of volunteering and providing the foundation of who I am.

"I have enjoyed so much fun, friendship and adventure in Girl Guides. I have been empowered to discover my potential as a leader and this is exactly the mission of Girl Guides: empowering girls and young women to discover their potential as leaders of their world."

She celebrated Australia Day at home with family and friends.



NEW CANCER CENTRE OPENS IN THE HILLS SHIRE

The first private radiation therapy centre in the Hills Shire has opened its doors, with Icon Cancer Centre Norwest now providing the latest in cancer care on-site at Norwest Private Hospital.

The new centre has the capacity to deliver 900 courses of radiation therapy each year and offers the latest technology and treatment techniques for all cancer types, with no wait list.

Radiation oncologist, Dr Johnson Lam is now treating patients at Icon Cancer Centre Norwest.

He is committed to ensuring the best outcomes for his patients through using the latest treatments and a compassionate approach to cancer care.

Dr Lam completed his Bachelor of Medicine at the University of Newcastle and undertook specialist training across the Northern NSW Advanced Training Network at Westmead, Nepean, Gosford and Coffs Harbour hospitals.

He is a fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (FRANZCR) - a group driving best practice in radiation oncology for the benefit of patients across Australia and New Zealand.

Through specialist roles at Westmead and Blacktown Hospitals, Dr Lam has gained extensive experience in treating a range of solid tumour malignancies with a special interest in breast cancer, prostate cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, lung cancer and lymphoma.

He can converse in English and Cantonese to care for patients and their loved ones in a language they are familiar with.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO BECOME A RADIATION ONCOLOGIST?

It wasn't until my final months of medical school when I met patients cured of their cancer by radiation therapy that I realised this specialty existed. I was instantly drawn in by the compassion and technology involved in radiation therapy.



WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR CAREER HIGHLIGHT SO FAR?

To be one of the first radiation oncologists to provide radiation services for local cancer patients at Icon Cancer Centre Norwest. I was brought up in this area and have fond memories of spending weekends at Castle Towers. To be able to provide cancer care to my local community is a big highlight for me. It is also great to be able to work closely with the team of specialists onsite at Norwest Private Hospital and knowing that people can access their cancer treatment needs in the one location.

WHAT IS THE MOST REWARDING PART OF YOUR JOB?

Spending time with my patients and their support team and helping them navigate their cancer journey to make it a little bit easier for them. Saying goodbye at their final appointment when they have been cured is also wonderful.

WHAT DIFFERENCE WILL ICON CANCER CENTRE NORWEST MAKE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE HILLS SHIRE?

One of the important factors in optimal cancer care is ensuring a community has adequate access to radiation therapy. Studies show the further a cancer patient lives from a radiation centre, the less likely they are to receive radiation therapy. My number one goal is to provide the community with rapid access, a pleasant experience and the convenience of having radiation closer to home.

WHAT ARE YOUR INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF WORK?

I love a good boardgame night but nowadays most of my interests have been replaced with looking after my toddler.

WHAT IS RADIATION THERAPY?

Radiation therapy, or radiotherapy, is the use of radiation to safely treat and manage cancer. Radiation oncologists use radiation to eradicate cancer cells, reduce their growth or relieve symptoms of cancer. Radiation therapy treats cancer by damaging cancer cells while limiting the impact to healthy cells. It works because cancer cells are more sensitive to radiation than healthy, normal cells. When a small dose of radiation is given each day over several weeks, normal cells can recover from the radiation, but cancer cells cannot. It is typically a painless treatment, similar to having an x-ray and is only delivered to the part of the body being treated.

To find out more, visit iconcancercentre.com.au/treatment/radiation-therapy

ICON CANCER CENTRE NORWEST

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

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

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



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

P 02 9068 9540
F 02 9182 6007



Pothole Pledge

BY ANNETTE MADJARIAN

Flood damaged roads in the Hills, Hornsby and Hawkesbury Shires are finally set for repairs following the NSW Government's recent pledge to spend \$500 million on fixing the worse affected metropolitan and regional roads.

Mayors from the Hills, Hawkesbury and Hornsby Shires welcomed the news, saying the NSW Premier had "listened" to their recent calls for additional funding to fix locally-affected roads.

Late last year, Hills Mayor Peter Gangemi, Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon and Hornsby Mayor Philip Ruddock joined mayors from Penrith, Campbelltown and Wollondilly to call on the Government to fund metropolitan councils after it was announced that only regional and rural roads had been allocated additional funds to fix flood ravaged roads.

The six Councils were excluded from the original road funding program - Fixing Local Roads Pothole Repair Program - despite having rural areas and high numbers of potholes and road patching jobs, with some of these Councils receiving the highest-ever requests for work to be done.

NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet said \$220 million would be spent in Greater Sydney to assist these worse-affected local councils to "carry out urgent repair work to ensure people stay connected and safe". A further \$280 million would be given to regional councils.

"We recognise potholes are a major hazard right now. Hills Mayor Peter Gangemi said the funding, which will be proportionate to the total distance of road network within each council's area, "was greatly needed especially after the Hills Shire Council adopted its biggest ever road maintenance budget to repair its damaged roads".

"Our roads are a top priority and Council spends millions of dollars each year to keep them safe and maintained. However, the rain and the multiple floods, caused by a third consecutive La Niña, has led to our roads deteriorating much quicker than usual, and an increase in potholes and subsequent road patching jobs," he said.

Hawkesbury Mayor Sarah McMahon welcomed the funding, saying that local roads had suffered the "worst potholes in living memory".

"After six floods in three years, it has taken the combined efforts of many councils to make sure the voices of residents and motorists are finally heard," she said. "This financial year we expect to spend \$1 million on pothole filling



alone – the most we have ever spent in a single year. This is on top of the estimated \$240 million in repairs to flood damaged roads in the Hawkesbury, and our routine roads renewal and upgrade program of \$22.5 million.

NSW Transport and Roads Minister Sam Faraway said "The new funding will start landing in councils' bank accounts within weeks so work can begin right away on repairing the essential roads locals, tourists and freight operators use every day," he said. "We understand that it's not just about financial assistance, manpower is also needed, which is why the Government has already redeployed 200 Transport for NSW crews to Western NSW to help in the worst-impacted areas."

Philip's Cancer Story

Philip Gielis found out he had prostate cancer after his annual PSA blood test showed a high amount of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) in his blood.

His GP was not happy with the PSA level and sent the Baulkham Hills resident to a specialist for more tests, leading to a biopsy which revealed he had a Stage 2 cancer.

"They caught it early and told me I had two choices," he said. "Surgery or radiation and I needed to go and do the research and decide."

Philip, 67, said he was "overcome" by the wealth of information on the internet but found the Cancer Council website very useful.

"It had some very good information on both procedures." Having made the decision to have radiation treatment he said he thought he may have to travel a long distance which could prove challenging as he still works full time. He called Norwest Private Hospital where he had his biopsy and was delighted to find that Icon Cancer Centre had just opened at Norwest.

He met Dr Johnson Lam and started his 20 rounds of radiation just before Christmas and finished it last week.

"I work from 7am to 3pm so I would go in after work and then go home. It was amazing having treatment just 10 minutes from my home. Having somewhere local was so convenient."

On the last day of treatment he got to ring the bell (pictured) "I was very happy ringing the bell," he said.

His advice to men is to keep an eye on their PSA by having the free annual blood test. He says his cancer was caught early because of the test.

Icon Group CEO, Mark Middleton said "Every cancer patient has a unique perspective and story to tell, By bringing together advice, learning and hope from across our network of integrated care services, we're taking another step forward in closing the care gap."



READER SURVEY

COMPLETE THE READER SURVEY
TO GO INTO THE DRAW TO

WIN A \$100 VOUCHER

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

5 VOUCHERS TO BE WON!

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

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

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



An Australian Revolution in Hearing Care – When Hearing Aids are no longer enough.

Hearing aids have come a long way in the 20 years I have been practicing in audiology. Despite fantastic technological advances some people still struggle engaging in conversations and as a result withdraw from society and even their own family.

In today's article we want to have a closer look at this situation and offer reasons and a way out of this often dark place.

Hearing issues are often slow progressing. In the early stages one normally does not even notice that the hearing is not all that good anymore. Hearing and speech understanding in quiet situations and on the phone or TV remain quite good for a very long time. Initially one may only notice that following a conversation in noisy situations like cafes and restaurants is an issue and other the excessive background noise or music is identified as a reason for the hearing issues rather than one's capacity to understand speech.

We could say that the hearing process can be separated into two aspects; Volume and Clarity. When we lose hearing the volume of this often remains the same and we lose the clarity of speech only. This is because a certain type of hair cell in the inner ear is deteriorating which is responsible for distinguishing fine sounds like 'th' from 's' and 'f'.

This can be compared to one's eye sight. When we start losing eye sight it is not getting darker it is getting blurry and so it is with our hearing. Speech is then perceived blurry and muffled.

In the mild to moderate stages of hearing loss it is often enough to wear hearing aids to amplify enough of the speech clarity and the person will receive a good hearing result. However, If most, or even all of the hair cells responsible for clarity are damaged or lost then hearing aids can only have a vermy limited effect. These hair cells are the key part in transforming a sound wave into an electrical

signal which can travel via the hearing nerve to the brain. If these cells are lost it does not matter how good or loud a hearing aid may be - the sound can simply not be transferred into a clear signal for the brain to. A person in this situation heavily relies on quiet environment and face-to-face conversation in order to understand speech. Conversation by hearing alone is no longer possible an the person will need lip-reading and significant cognitive effort to supplement the hearing. This can become very exhausting and mentally draining. If there is noise or the person cannot see the mouth of the speaker, they are unable to understand.

From here onwards we often observe people withdrawing from family conversations and social settings. This social withdrawal is according to neurologists a major preventable risk factor of dementia.

And it does not have to come to this situation. Since a discovery in Paris in the late 1950's which found that electric current delivered through coils can cause the perception of sound a whole lot of work has been done in the area if cochlear implants. Development occurred initially in America and Europe with some successes were observed during the 60's and 70's. In the end, it was an Australian team which in the late 70's developed a certain type of implant with huge success – this implant was the founding product which would go on to lead to the creation of Cochlear. A company which has globally helped hundreds of thousands of people with moderately-severe to profound hearing issues to hear again and take part in conversations much easier than ever thought possible. Meanwhile, there are multiple

manufacturers in the space of cochlear implants with slightly different technology but overall functioning the same.

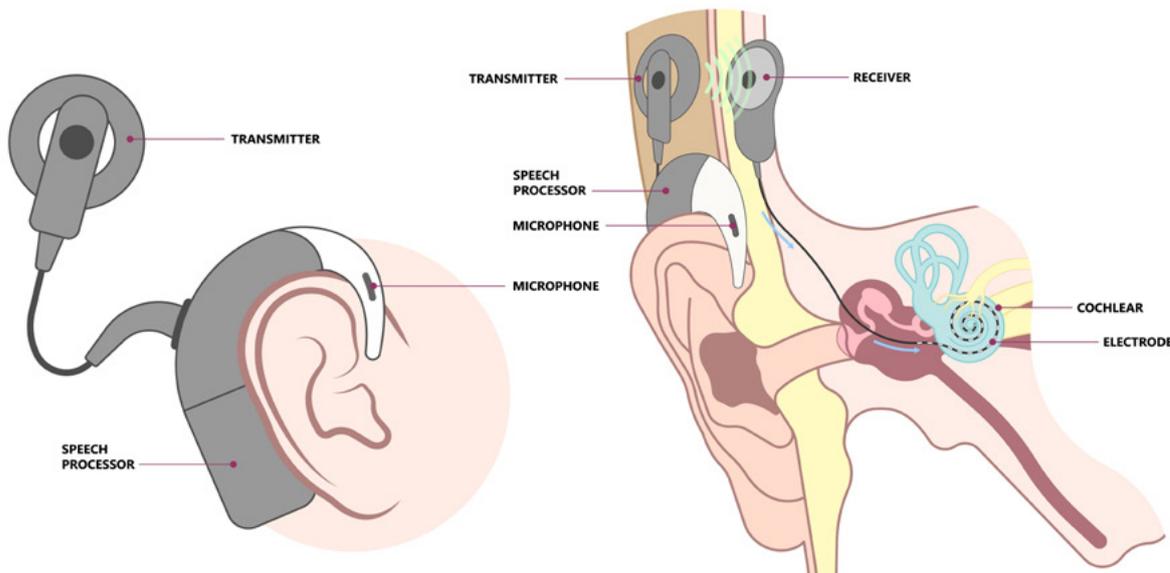
A cochlear implant can now take over the function of those damages hair cells and deliver the electrical stimulation to the nerve directly, effectively bypassing the damaged part of the ear. It consists of a hearing aid like part worn on the ear called the speech processor and an internal part which connects to the hearing nerve.

The past decade from 2010 to 2020 has seen the biggest improvement in both cochlear implants technology and surgical techniques.

Today, a Cochlear Implant surgery takes often less than 90 minutes and clients can experience hearing new sounds within only a few days. It will then take a few weeks to months for the brain to get used to the new sounds and we have seen many clients with literally changed lives within a few months.

Risks are rather low and complications rare, outcomes in comparison to hearing aids are often significantly better. Cochlear implants are available under the public system or with private health fund and out-of-pocket fees are often less than buying a set of hearing aids. We have seen people implanted of all ages from 6 months old babies to people well above 90 yrs of age. So, it is no wonder that cochlear implants become more and more common and accessible these days.

Since 2022, Ear Studio has implemented a cochlear implant program to help people with such hearing loss to communicate more effectively. If you'd like to learn more, please get in touch with us to schedule an informative consultation.



Charlie Chech on Australian Idol

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

If Charlie Chech could bottle up his “surreal” audition in front of his musical idol Harry Connick Jr he will, and use it as inspiration for his blossoming career as a singer.

The Cherrybrook teenager could hardly believe he was actually singing to Connick Jr during the recent Judges Audition for the 2023 *Australian Idol* TV show. Charlie, 18, is one of thousands of hopefuls across the country to audition for the comeback of *Australian Idol*, which screens on Channel Seven from January 30.

“*Australian Idol* is like nothing I ever experienced before,” said Charlie (who’s also a talented drummer and percussionist).

“There was a lot going on in my head, as I was taking a journey into the unknown, with many contestants doing this for all of their lives. And then sitting across me was someone I have admired for as long as I can remember, Harry Connick Jr!

“It was sheer jubilation seeing him and to perform a jazz standard (Frank Sinatra’s *Come Fly With Me*) in front of a jazz legend like Harry Connick Jr was surreal.”

Australian Idol is back on TV screens after a 13-year hiatus and it has been one of Charlie’s dreams to showcase his talents in front of a national audience. Since he began singing on stage in 2019, Charlie has caught the attention of music fans, especially following his amazing impromptu duet with Grammy-Award winning singer and star Michael Bublé at just 15 – the stuff of legends.

Charlie said there was a mixed reaction from the four *Idol* judges, Connick Jr, Amy Shark, Meghan Trainor, and Kylie Sandilands after he finished his song, nattily dressed in his trademark tux.

“Meghan was the most supportive of me, saying she admired my stage presence while being surprised I was doing a genre that wasn’t so mainstream. They were surprised I was 18.

“Amy had positive things to say about my singing and that I should do more pop, while Kyle said I looked good in my suit which was hilarious because I looked as pale as a ghost from all of my nerves!

“Harry said that I should not confine myself to one genre but to sing a lot of styles, which is what I’ve been doing actually, like Country and Western, Elvis, Billy Joel and Elton John and much more. In saying that, Harry said to stay true to who I am.”

Charlie, who is doing degrees in politics and journalism, said he was coaxed and encouraged by his family, especially his mum, to enter *Australian Idol* after seeing advertisements for it in the media.

“I was apprehensive to be honest, to throw my hat in the ring,” Charlie said. “But I bit the bullet and I had no expectations, so when my mum woke me one up one morning to tell me that I have been chosen, I could not believe it. Then we found out Harry was one of the judges, well that just topped it!”

“Performing at *Australian Idol* was on a different level to what I have done. When I perform at the clubs and even with Bublé, these are in my control. But *Idol* was very different, I had very little control. It’s something I will never forget.”

Charlie has no illusions about where this *Australian Idol* journey will take him, but having seen his amazing journey over the past several years, there is so much to like about this confident, handsome teenager. What he has is a truly amazing voice, much more mature than his 18 years, while his freakish ability to channel the old masters like Ella



Charlie with two of the hosts of the show, Scott Tweedie and Ricki-Lee Coulter.

Fitzgerald, Dean Martin, Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr, and Tony Bennett, to the current legends, Connick Jr and Bublé, makes him indeed a rare talent.

Last July, Charlie launched his first single, a remake of the haunting theme of *The Godfather*, *Speak Softly Love*. He is now planning to record an EP and will perform more shows – he will be back at Hornsby RSL Club on Sunday 21 May (tickets from www.hornsbyrsl.com.au)

If Charlie receives a coveted *Australian Idol* Golden Ticket, he will be in the Top 50 (a feat in itself!), which will be narrowed down to 24, and then 12 artists who will feature in live shows. The winner will receive a recording contract with Sony Music and \$100,000 in prize money.

Charlie has entertained audiences at private events, gala evenings, corporate events, Channel 7’s *Sunrise* program, and on 2GB, while also being a hit on the wedding circuit. Charlie is part of the 2022 graduating class of the prestigious Talent Development Project, Australia’s top training and development program in the music and entertainment industry. He also recently launched his new website at www.charliechech.com, which provides all his latest news, ventures, show details and much more.

TUNE IN: Charlie Chech’s Australian Idol Judges Audition will air on Channel Seven and 7+ on Tuesday January 31.



Hills Mayor Peter Gangemi with Connie Keith and Pratibha Bhanushali.



Shubha Kumar (India Club) Ellen Witzisperger (Fit Kidz Foundation) and Claude Corrente



Mayor Peter Gangemi with Mario Rodrigues (Positive Vibes Foundation) and Mia Macklin



Rajiv Chaudri Hills Citizen of the Year, Paul Rapp Senior Citizen of the Year and Elaine White Environment Award winner.

Hills Citizens of the Year *Continued from page 4*

Hills Shire Mayor Peter Gangemi congratulated the Hills Shire award winners and finalists.

"Our community is better off thanks to these people and groups who donate their time and efforts mainly in a volunteer capacity," he said.

"I am so thankful for the work that each of these people do and I hope today's awards go some way to showing how much The Hills community appreciates them."

The Hills Citizen of the Year Award went to Rajiv Chaudhri for his philanthropy work. Rajiv is the President of the Community Foundation of North Western Sydney, an independent, not for profit organisation that assists people in crisis or who are socially isolated, and is also a Director of the Lisa Harnum Foundation which supports victims of domestic violence.

The Hills Shire Senior Citizen of the Year is Paul Rapp from the Rotary Club of Kenthurst. Paul has helped to plan and drive a number of local community events, including ANZAC Day ceremonies, Australia Day Flag Raising events and the much-loved Kenthurst Fair over the past 16 years.

He has also contributed his time to helping local schools, the Men's Shed and sporting groups, as well as taking over the responsibility of maintaining John Benyon Rotary Park, at Kenthurst.

The Environmental Citizen of the Year award was presented to Elaine White for her volunteering efforts at the Annangrove Community Environment Centre and with the Cattai Hills Environment Network (CHEN) as part of their platypus DNA project in the Cattai Creek Catchment.

Highly Commended Awards were presented to: Shubha Kumar for services to multiculturalism. and Patricia Lee or services to midwifery (Seniors); Claude Corrente (Environment) for services to the environment and permaculture; Mia Macklin for services to premature babies and Ziyan Tejani or services to mental health and human rights (Youth); Positive Vibes for services to mental health and Fit Kidz Foundation or services to children with autism and developmental disabilities (Community Group).

Mayoral Recognition Awards were presented to Connie Keith and Pratibha Bhanushali for their community work in the Hills.

Mayor Peter Gangemi thanked Connie Keith for "helping Council to maintain, promote and enhance Balcombe Heights Estate which is enjoyed by many people and groups for its vast range of facilities, rooms and history."

He thanked Pratibha, Founder and President of the Powerful Empowered Women organisation, for the fundraising she does to support charities in the Hills.

Hawkesbury's Winners

There was a lot to celebrate when Hawkesbury City Council hosted the Hawkesbury Australia Day Awards at Don't Worry Oval in Windsor on Thursday.

Hawkesbury Mayor, Councillor Sarah McMahon congratulated all award recipients, including the 2023 Citizen of the Year – Diane Russell, the 2023 Young Citizen of the Year – 21-year-old Emily Lowe and the Community Organisation of the Year – The Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association.

Hawkesbury Australia Day Ambassador, Greg Donovan, talked about the importance of charity and being involved in the community.

Greg has dedicated himself to raising funds to help find a cure for Type 1 diabetes, and in 2012 he founded the Born to Run Foundation to inspire others to do more to help find a cure for Type 1 diabetes.

He also founded Big Red Run, Australia's only desert running race and he founded Australia's most remote music festival, the Birdsville Big Red Bash, which generates millions of dollars in tourism benefits for the many small outback towns.

Federal Member for Macquarie Ms Susan Templeman, State Member for Hawkesbury Ms Robyn Preston, Hawkesbury Police Area Commander Superintendent Michael Gardner, RAAF Base Richmond Air Commodore Bradley Clarke and Hawkesbury City Councillors attended the event along with the nominators, nominees, family members and friends of the award winners.



2023 Hawkesbury Australia Day Award Recipients

- DIANE RUSSELL – Citizen of the Year
- EMILY LOWE – Young Citizen of the Year
- PHILLIP GILES – Volunteer of the Year
- MITCHELL BRENNAN – Local Hero Award
- THE HAWKESBURY DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION – Community Organisation of the Year
- MICHAEL PAYNE – Special Achievement Award
- NOAH KEMP – Junior Person Sports of the Year
- THE HAWKESBURY CITY EISTEDDFOD SOCIETY – Community Arts Award

* Full story in the next edition of the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News on February 10th.



out and about
with MICHELLE BYRNE

The Flabbits

Having enjoyed our recent exploration of Wisemans Ferry, we decided to continue exploring historical townships along the Hawkesbury River whilst doing our bit to support small businesses.

Our latest adventure took us into the township of Windsor with a visit to the Hawkesbury Regional Museum, first on the list of things to do. The Museum houses a collection of historical artefacts that tells the story of the Hawkesbury Region over time including the importance of the Hawkesbury River, the land and its people. The permanent collection on display revolves around these themes and every artefact in the Museum whether it is part of the permanent collection or part of a special exhibition adds to the story.

The collection contains Local, State and National historically important items including convict tools, indigenous tools and artifacts, items owned by pioneering families and early colonial Governors, items from the RAAF base including model planes as well as items such as the celestial globe was owned by the Internationally famous astronomer, John Tebbutt who lived in the Hawkesbury.

Our favourite exhibition currently on display is Paradise Lost, an amusement park that operated in Cattai from 1976 to the mid 80's. Much to my daughter's delight, Paradise Gardens biggest drawcard was the life-sized fibreglass replicas of dinosaurs that roared at visitors. The Museum collection contains a model replica of a dinosaur, photos and footage of the dinosaurs and other park attractions as well as information as to why the owners chose to make dinosaurs the focus of their theme park.

However, it's the Flabbit display that has generated the most discussion in our family.

A Flabbit is a mythical creature unique to the Hawkesbury which has the body and head of a rabbit and the wings of a bird. In 1985, there was a reported sighting of the Flabbits in the wilderness at Colo attracting



media and tourists all hoping to catch a glimpse of this unusual and obviously very shy and elusive creature. Although there has been no reported sighting since, the Flabbit continues to arouse curiosity and debate about its existence.

The Museum also runs school holiday activities based on the collections and we had fun searching the Museum for hidden Flabbits and answering questions about the display. There are also tours of the Museum and the exhibitions available for a small fee. It is well worth a visit.

No trip to Windsor is complete without a walkthrough the historic town centre with cafes and boutique stores. Our current favourite stores are Lollies n Stuff, the biggest candy store in Sydney that stocks lollies from around the world as well as Delicious Desserts where you can design your own soft serve ice-cream with over hundred toppings to choose from!

Windsor is a great place to explore and we can't wait to explore more of it very soon!



LegalPro Lawyers

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Conveyancing & Property Law • Wills & Estates • Power of Attorney & Guardianship
- Family Law • Criminal Law • Commercial Leases
- Sale & Purchase of Businesses • Advice on Personal Guarantee and Indemnity

Call Paul Kaperonis B.Sc. LLB. Solicitor and Conveyancer
8628 0415 | 0401 657 713
pk@legalprolawyers.com.au

Suite 24/6-8 Old Castle Hill Rd, Castle Hill | www.legalprolawyers.com.au



Banksia Yarns

www.banksiayarns.com.au

3c East Market St, Richmond NSW

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

T: 02 4505 1615

E: shoponline@banksiayarns.com.au

The Hills Shire Council News

Fred Caterson Reserve Master Plan

The Hills Shire Council is planning to enhance the sporting facilities at Fred Caterson Reserve, providing more options for sport, play and recreation. It will cater for existing as well as future residents with the reserve being in close proximity to the State Government's Showground Precinct which will grow by another 11,000 people.

A Masterplan for the reserve was adopted in late 2020, identifying a balance of providing necessary sport and recreation infrastructure whilst maintaining the vital ecological communities within and around the reserve.

Part of the Master Plan included transforming the former Pony Club site into three fields. Council has also sought to provide opportunities to participate and enjoy sports at the elite level, investigating the use of these fields to be the new home for Eastwood District Rugby Union Football Club (EDRUFC) and its premier rugby union centre. The partnership with EDRUFC will not provide them with full-time licensing of the premises and any additional facilities

outside of Council's Masterplan will be the responsibility of EDRUFC through their own funds.

The enhancement of the reserve also includes the planned expansion of the tennis centre, improved pathway networks, spectator facilities, upgrades to the radio control car track and BMX track, improvements to the car parks and the addition of another entry and exit point into the reserve to improve access.

The overall cost for the reserve's expansion is yet to be finalised and will be revealed once the proposed plans are finalised and approved. Council looks forward to sharing the final plans as they develop over the future. Fred Caterson Reserve will continue to remain a community sporting facility and efforts will be made to balance the environmental impacts of any upgrades.

For more details, please visit Council's website and search 'Fred Caterson Reserve Master Plan'.

Seniors Festival 2023

The Hills Shire Council is hosting FREE events for seniors in The Hills.

Wellbeing for Life workshop

Healthy Brain, Healthy Body

Thursday 2 February
10.30am - 11.30am

Castle Hill Library, Cnr Castle and Pennant Streets, Castle Hill



A Man Called Otto

Refreshment included

Tuesday 7 February
10am screening

Castle Towers, Castle Hill



Roughley House Open Day

Tours of Roughley House, morning tea and stalls
Music by Bridge City Jazz Band

Thursday 9 February, 9.30am - 12.30pm

656A Old Northern Road, Dural



Bookings essential. For further information
www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/seniorsfestival23 or call 9843 0555



Rotary
Club of The Hills-Kellyville



www.thehills.nsw.gov.au | 9843 0555



Volunteers help grow food for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife

A group of dedicated and hardworking volunteers are growing food for sick, injured and orphaned native animals in the care of local wildlife rescue groups – and they are asking for more helping hands to join them at the Growing Food for Wildlife project.

The project is held on the second Saturday of the month at Council’s Community Environment Centre. Volunteers tend to the native garden plots which provide much-needed food for our native animals.

If you would like to dedicate your time and make a contribution in these efforts, as well as form lasting relationships with like-minded people, please visit Council’s website and search ‘Growing Food for Wildlife’.

E-Waste Drop Off Event

The annual Electronic Waste Recycling Drop Off Event is scheduled for Saturday, 25 February 2023 from 9am – 3:30pm at Castle Hill Showground.

Drop off your old, unwanted electronic items for recycling. Please note that white goods are not accepted. Head to Council’s website and search ‘E-Waste’ for more information.



E-Waste Drop Off Event

Saturday 25 February 2023

9am – 3:30pm | Castle Hill Showground

An Evening with Jane Caro

Join the Walkley Award-winning journalist, social commentator and author, Jane Caro, as she discusses her book *The Mother* – a gripping domestic thriller with a moral dilemma at its core. The evening will conclude with book sales and signing.

- Date: Wednesday, 8 February 2023 from 6:30pm – 7:30pm
- Location: Pioneer Theatre – Level 1, 12-14 Pennant Street, Castle Hill

To find out more, visit www.pioneertheatre.com.au

An Evening with Jane Caro

Author Talk & Book Signing for ‘The Mother’



pioneer theatre

Council Meetings

Tuesday, 7 February 2023 – 7pm.

For more information, visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and search for ‘2022 Meeting Agendas and Minutes.’



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



THE HILLS
Sydney’s Garden Shire



DINING OUT

ADVERTISE WITH US...

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



The Hill's favourite cafe

ARTHUR STREET CAFE
(your local escape)

BOOK NOW

- 26 Arthur Street, Baulkham Hills
- 9639 2255
- arthurstcafe@gmail.com

“Your Local Escape” identifies Arthur Street Café, a welcoming and delightful family-run café, considered one of the Hills’ hidden gems.

Owned and run by Fred, his vision for Arthur Street Café embodies the idea of a home-away-from-home and to provide a memorable experience for his customers.

Fred said: “With café table service becoming a rarity, patrons have become used to ordering at the counter like a modern version of a school cafeteria”. However, Arthur Street Café is definitely pushing back against what has become the industry norm.

“We were so fortunate to have community support in the Hills throughout lockdowns. That’s why we continue doing what we do - welcoming our customers, inviting them to sit in pleasant surroundings and having your order taken by friendly staff at your table.”

There is a different feel at Arthur Street Café. From the moment you walk in, you are greeted with smiling, friendly faces. The décor is homely and there’s no pretentiousness. It’s easy to forget the daily hustle and grind and lose yourself in the familiar comfort of Arthur Street Café.

THE ETTAMOGAH

WEDNESDAYS FROM 5PM
STEAK NIGHT
\$16 250gm RUMP WITH CHIPS & SALAD

THURSDAYS FROM 5PM
SCHNITZEL \$16
ADD YOUR FAVOURITE TOPPERS FOR \$3 WITH CHIPS & SALAD

VALENTINE’S DAY
Seafood & Cocktails while the kids play

Cnr Merriville & Windsor Rd
Kellyville Ridge, NSW, 2155
(02) 9629 1130
www.ettamogahotel.com.au

MARY'S
Burgers. Beer. Wine. Music.

REAL DINNER TIME

250 OLD NORTHERN RD CASTLE HILL
OPEN: Wednesday — Sunday


@MARYSGETFA



Wheelchair Basketball Bonus

By BEV JORDAN

Four brand new Junior Sport Wheelchairs donated to the Hills Hornets Basketball Association's Hornet's Academy have been in action already.

Directors from the Castle Hill RSL Group (CHRG) visited the Hills Hornets' at their Dural site to surprise the Wheelchair Skills group at their Christmas Party with the \$17,500 gift.

CHRG's President, John Payne said: "Castle Hill RSL Group has a long association with the Hills Hornets and we are excited we can now assist with their Wheelchair Skills Program.

"By supplying the Hornets with more chairs, we are providing more kids with access to this wonderful program. It's so important for all kids to play a sport they love, even more so for kids living with disabilities.

"A donation like this has long-lasting positive health impacts and CHRG is thrilled we've been able to provide kids in our local area with increased access to such an inclusive program."

Wheelchair Sports NSW/ACT applied for funding. Danielle D'Morias, Hills Hornets Development Manager, said the Hornets Academy Basketball Wheelchair Skills Program was created in 2020 and has grown from 1 to 15 participants.



The free program is designed to provide girls and boys from the age of 5 upwards the opportunity to learn basic chair, fundamentals and game play skills required for basketball. It runs during the school Term for 9 weeks.

"Wheelchair Sports NSW enable us the opportunity to supply sports wheelchairs for the participants however chair quantities don't always cover the number of athletes. Having the Castle Hill RSL generously donate the funding to be able to provide more chairs as well as maintenance equipment was an incredible opportunity and one that will benefit the program, participants and sport greatly," she said.

Hills Basketball Association was able to hold the inaugural Junior Wheelies Hub Days in 2022 where participants 16 years and under were able to participate in their own round robin competition for the first time in NSW. Most junior wheelchair athletes due to lack of athletes and resources often have to play in adult competitions or not at all. She said it was exciting to be able to provide the participants the opportunity to compete with their friends and fellow club members

Hornets Academy Wheelchair sessions are held on Saturdays at Hills Hornets Dural. For program information visit hillshornets.com.au or call 9894 8944.

love

14TH FEB

VALENTINE'S DAY

SEAFOOD, COCKTAILS, DESSERT, EVENTS, MUSIC & MORE!

SCAN HERE FOR MORE DETAILS

CASTLE HILL RSL CLUB

PETS OF THE WEEK

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



AT A GLANCE

NAME: CHARGER
 SEX: Male
 BREED: American
 Staffordshire
 AGE: 3 Years
 PRICE: \$49

CHARGER is a very friendly boy with a big personality. According to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter Changer is looking for a family who will be able to take him out on walks and allow him to be part of his new family. Staff have been told that Changer has been with children and has been introduced to cats. If you are interested in adopting Charge please visit the animal shelter with your family dog and children to meet him.

He is already desexed and so is able to leave the shelter straight away. Changer's adoption price has been reduced to \$49. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, microchipping and life-time registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.



AT A GLANCE

NAME: CHANEL
 BREED: Domestic
 Short Hair
 SEX: Female
 AGE: 3 Years
 PRICE: \$29

CHANEL is a lovely affectionate girl with style. She is a 3-year-old domestic shorthair cat. Staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter say that Chanel loves being given attention and cuddles. As cat of the week Chanel's adoption price has been reduced to \$29. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, microchipping, desexing and life-time registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

THE FRIENDS OF BELLA VISTA FARM WELCOME YOU BACK TO THE FARM SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY FROM 9AM - 2PM 1ST OPEN DAY FOR 2023



EVERYTHING TO EXCITE YOUR CURIOSITY. LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR SPECIAL!

- Trash and Treasure stall • Sausage Sizzle with onions & homemade chilli paste
- Devonshire Tea • The Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra • Gift cards - \$3 ea or 5 for \$10
- Tours of the house for a gold coin donation • 'A Chronology of the Farm' written by our volunteer research team - \$20
 - Our bush poet Greg recites his stories and poetry
- Ann spins the wool from our sheep's back on a traditional spinning wheel

COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN!

Cnr Elizabeth Macarthur Drive and Norwest Boulevard, Bella Vista
 Hear our promo on ABC Radio Sydney with favourite ABC presenter Simon Marnie on
 Saturday mornings from 6.40am prior to Open Day.

CASTLE HILL PLAYERS PRESENTS

A Few Good Men

at the Pavilion Theatre
from February 3 – 25.

Written by Aaron Sorkin and
directed by Annette van Roden.

A Few Good Men is a gripping thriller about two military lawyers defending two United States Marines accused of Conspiracy to Commit Murder of a fellow Marine. High-level conspiracy emerges in their defence of their clients.

The title emanated from the U.S. Marine Corps recruitment campaign, "We're looking for a few good men". The play explores and exposes what it means to truly be a "good man" in the United States Military. Aaron Sorkin's ground-breaking debut play, later adapted into the 1992 Academy Award nominated film of the same name, was inspired by actual events that took place at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in July 1986. "It's a different experience to the movie—you really feel like you're part of the action. If you really want to know the truth, you'll have to come see it!", said Annette van Roden.

Castle Hill Players' present *A Few Good Men* by Aaron Sorkin, directed by Annette van Roden 3 to 25 February - Wed, Fri, Sat 8pm, Sun 4pm. Tickets \$30, Concession \$25. Pavilion Theatre is located within the Castle Hill Showgrounds, Castle Hill.

To book tickets: paviliontheatre.org.au/afewgoodmen or call 02 9634 2929 For all other enquiries call 02 9634 3846 or email admin@paviliontheatre.org.au

AARON SORKIN A FEW GOOD MEN

DIRECTED BY
ANNETTE VAN RODEN
3 FEB TO 25 FEB 2023

TICKETS
\$30/25
paviliontheatre.org.au/afewgoodmen

OR
call our Box Office
02 9634 2929

The Pavilion Theatre is
located at the Hills
Showground



THE PAVILION
THEATRE
OF THE CASTLE HILL PLAYERS
IN THE SHOWGROUND SINCE 1965

By Arrangement with ORIGINAL™ Theatrical On Behalf of Samuel French
A Concord Theatricals Company

Author Clare Fletcher talks romance

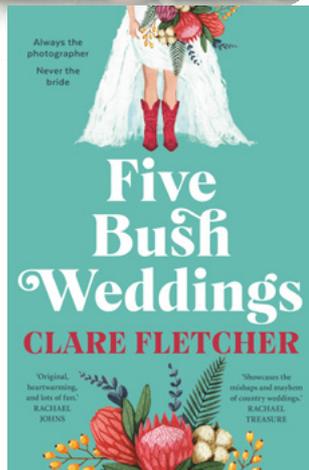
What better way to spend Valentine's Day than by joining Hawkesbury Library Service for an author talk all about romance? As part of Library Lovers' Day on 14 February, Hawkesbury Library Service will present author Clare Fletcher on her debut novel - *Five Bush Weddings*.

The novel, which captures the heartbeat of rural Australia, is an uplifting romantic comedy about looking for love, second chances, and "what really matters when the bouquet has been thrown, the swag's been rolled up and the party's over".

Clare Fletcher grew up in regional Queensland and studied journalism and business at QUT in Brisbane. She spent a few years freelancing and falling in love in New York. Now she lives in Sydney where she manages communications for the Walkley Foundation. Clare is currently working on her second novel.

This is a free event, starting at 10am on Tuesday, 14 February at Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street, Windsor.

Book via <https://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com> or call 4560 4460.



Notice of Proposed Termination of Community Title Scheme

The owners of Neighbourhood Association DP285689 unanimously resolved on 1st April 2022 to terminate the current Neighbourhood Plan DP285689 and extinguish the current Neighbourhood Scheme.

The properties within the Neighbourhood Scheme are located at 284A-284F Commercial Road, Vineyard NSW 2765.

Any person having any claim against the Neighbourhood Association or any estate or interest in or claim against any of the lots comprised in the Neighbourhood Scheme are required, on or before **13th February 2023**, to send particulars of the estate, interest or claim to: The Neighbourhood Association DP285689, PO Box 7385, Baulkham Hills BC NSW 2153.

It is intended that an application is made to the NSW Land Registry Services to give effect to the termination of the current Neighbourhood Plan.

This notice is given by Allam Property Group in accordance with Section 69(1) of the Community Land Development Act 2021 and may be contacted on 02 4732 2422.



ROBYN PRESTON MP

MEMBER FOR HAWKESBURY

How my office and I can help you

- Represent you in Parliament and raise local issues with the appropriate Minister or Department
- Answer questions, help you access government services and provide information about community groups and events
- Facilitate applications to become a Justice of the Peace or to obtain a Seniors Card
- Update your electoral enrolment details
- Send a congratulatory letter for anniversaries and birthdays of significance
- Provide you with details on how to apply for government grants

The office is located at Western Sydney University, Hawkesbury Campus Building R4, College Drive, Richmond. M: PO Box 505 Richmond NSW 2753
 T: 02 4578 0300 E: hawkesbury@parliament.nsw.gov.au

\$100 Million for Pitt Town Bypass

I welcome the NSW Government's funding announcement of \$100 million for the construction of the Pitt Town bypass. This funding is part of a \$1 billion commitment from the WestInvest fund to upgrade critical roads across the region.

The funding is an important investment which will direct more attention towards Western Sydney roads and will be well received on the back of recent flooding events in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley.

With the bypass route locked in and land acquisitions completed, the next step is to award the contract so that construction can begin.

This is all part of the NSW Government's long-term economic plan for Western Sydney, which includes targeted cost of living measures including toll relief, \$16 billion for critical transport infrastructure, more than \$480 million on local hospitals and health services and the construction of new schools.

Free Female Hygiene Products for NSW Students

I'm pleased to say that students at NSW public schools will return to school in 2023 with access to free menstrual hygiene products thanks to the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government.

More than 4600 dispensers have been installed in public schools across the state to support young women overcome barriers in accessing female hygiene products.

By making female hygiene products more easily accessible for young women, this statewide rollout is ensuring they are able to continue their education journey with dignity.

LABOR CANDIDATE FOR KELLYVILLE

Alex Karki

Alex is pleased to announce that a Minns Labor Government will invest \$700 million into the Rouse Hill hospital development that more than doubles the commitment made by the current Liberal Government that has been promised since 2014 but has never been delivered. A Minns Labor Government will finally get this built with increased medical services. In addition to this announcement, Labor will hire 1,200 additional nurses and midwives.

Alex lives in Bella Vista with his wife and son who attends a local primary school in The Hills. Alex is a Transport Planning & Traffic Engineer and holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) and a Masters by Research (Transport Planning) from the University of New South Wales.

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

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

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

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

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

ALEX KARKI

Candidate for Kellyville

ROUSE HILL HOSPITAL

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

A Minns Labor Government will finally get this built with increased medical services. In addition to this announcement, Labor will hire 1,200 additional nurses and midwives.

www.alexkarki.com.au

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

JULIAN LEESER MP

Federal Member for **Berowra**

📍 Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120

☎️ 9980 1822 📧 julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au

🌐 julianleeser.com.au 📘 [julianleesermp](https://www.facebook.com/julianleesermp)

As your MP, I am here to:

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

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.

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

It's been wonderful to catch up with so many locals over the New Year break and to see so many out enjoying Australia Day.

We have so much to proud of in our country. That doesn't mean we are perfect as a country. I don't think any country is, but we can be incredible proud of free, friendly and generous people that we are as Australians.

This year, my focus will be on continuing to practical improvements that make the lives of residents easier.

I will continue to hold the big telcos to account because across the electorate, mobile coverage and NBN coverage is nowhere near where it should be. In too many places across

Berowra, Telstra, Optus and Vodafone are letting residents down.

Having spoken to so many locals over the break, I believe the economy must be front and centre of our deliberations in Canberra. Inflation, stagnant wages along with a major interest rate hit is making it more difficult for households.

One issue I will be fighting for in coming months is in relation to Medicare funded psychological appointments. The previous Coalition Government made significant improvements to health investment and increased the number of Medicare supported psychologist appointments from 10 to 20.

I am upset that the current government has cut Medicare funded psychology appointments back from 20 to 10. It's a mean, short-sighted move and I want you to know that I will be fighting these cuts to mental health.

I was delighted to start 2023 with a big announcement for a key Hawkesbury road.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and I announced \$100 million of federal funding for repairs and safety upgrades to the historic Bells Line of Road.

We were joined by Premier Dominic Perrottet, who thanked the PM for the additional funding, and it's been welcomed by both sides of state politics. No matter who wins, that funding will be used to fix key sections of Bells Line.

Communities across the Hawkesbury shared with me their concerns about the Bells Line of Road for some time. Anyone who has driven the Bells Line of Road can see how desperately it needs fixing following recent years of extreme weather that have damaged the road surface. The Prime Minister visited Mount Tomah during the 2019-2020 bushfires

and has seen firsthand how important this road is particularly during emergencies and how vital these safety upgrades are.

The upgrades will include additional overtaking lanes, so it's safer as cars and trucks navigate it. Feel free to let me know if you have a particular spot that needs repair.

This is one of the largest investments in the historic road and reflects our commitment to the Hawkesbury and keeping Australians safe on the road.

I'm proud that we have a Prime Minister who is passionate about infrastructure and a federal Government working cooperatively with our state and local governments to deliver the best outcomes for our community.



Susan Templeman MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MACQUARIE

AVAILABLE TO HELP

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

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

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

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

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



GOING TO THE DRIVE-IN

Going back to the late 1950's and early 60's Drive-Ins became very popular. I am not referring to drive-in restaurants such as McDonalds or Liquour Barn although restaurants could become a subject for this page sometime in the future.

During the 1950's cars had become more affordable and the baby-boomer generation born after World War 2 were starting to purchase their first vehicles. This provided an opportunity for a few enterprising business people to establish drive-in theatres.

The first so-called American styled drive-in theatre in Australia opened in 1954 at suburban Burwood in Victoria and the opening night saw extensive traffic jams on the approaching roads. Later that year Adelaide's first drive-in theatre open followed by Perth's in 1955. Sydney waited another year until the Skyline Drive-In theatres opened simultaneously in 1956 at Frenches Forest and Dundas. Although I have read that a very early drive-in theatre existed in Western Australia in 1938 which could suggest that Drive-in theatres have a much longer history in this country.

As a teenager in the 1960s the closest drive-in to where I lived at Cabramatta was the El Rancho Drive-in at Fairfield West whilst another close by was the Skyline at Bass Hill. I attended both at various times. The closest Drive-ins to the Hills from memory would have been at Blacktown where one still exists, another at

Parklea on the site of Parklea Markets and also at Dundas.

Many a tale has been told by patrons of the Drive-ins of smuggling friends into the drive-in hiding in the boot of the car. Others have spoken of when driving out of forgetting to detach the speakers from their vehicles with the subsequent damage caused as the speakers were torn from the stand and damage to the car doors. Then there are those who claimed to have installed a mattress in the back of the panel van or station wagon for the benefit of their girlfriends. I don't think they would have seen much of the movies on the large screen. The eldest of our daughters, whilst still a toddler would stick her head out of the side window of the car and say "look mum", excited that she could see the picture on the screen, not realising she could see the same thing through the windscreen. Most drive-in theatres also had a playground to keep the younger children amused whilst the parents watched the movie. The kids would usually go to the drive-in in their PJ's ready for bed when they got home.

I heard of one family who did not own a car but lived close to a Drive-In theatre so on

a warm summer night they would walk to the drive-in slip under a fence with pillows and sit and watch the movies grabbing a nearby portable speaker to listen to the sound.

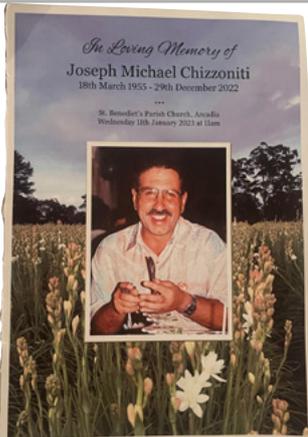
Drive-in theatres often featured horror movies on Friday 13th or at Halloween.

Back in the 50's & 60's there was no daylight saving in Sydney so the nights or evenings got darker earlier. The Drive-Ins were more popular in the warmer months when the windows did not fog up and it was not raining as the windscreen wipers would have spoilt the view of the movie screen. Another advantage with the Drive In is that you could talk to each other without annoying other movie patrons nearby.

The on-site snack bars did a roaring trade during the intervals where you could purchase ice-creams, drinks and lollies or even hot food such as pies, hot dogs or sausage rolls.

There were many Drive Ins around Sydney. On a wider scale, three hundred and thirty are believed to have existed in Australia during their peak.

After the closure of many drive-in theatres, developers turned the sites into housing estates or shopping centre locations.



The passing of a Glenorie Shopkeeper

I have been informed that former Glenorie shopkeeper, Joe Chizzoniti, passed away on the 29th December. Joe had operated Glenorie Hardware for over 40 years and was a familiar figure around Glenorie, where he used to park his car outside the Hardware store.

Joe's funeral was held at St. Benedict's Parish Church at Arcadia on the 11th January. Joe's ute is seen pictured outside his store at Glenorie in this old photograph supplied by his niece Nina Martelli.



CUMBERLAND COMMUNITY RADIO INC.

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

info@alive905.com.au
www.alive905.com.au

YOUR SOUND COMMUNITY
CUMBERLAND COMMUNITY RADIO INC.

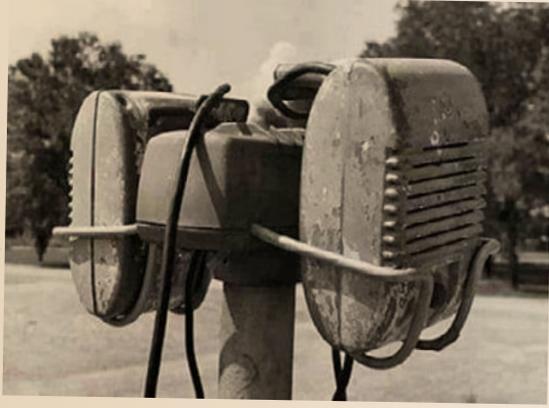
Streaming Worldwide on
tunein 
Like us on facebook.com/Alivefm90.5

Alive
90.5
FM

AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

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



Photos of drive in theatres in Sydney found on Facebook.

Kellyville's Michelle on cusp of rowing history

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Kellyville's all-conquering rower Michele Lee is due in Sydney in late February to a hero's welcome as she hopes to complete the first ever non-stop female solo row across the Pacific Ocean from Ensenada, Mexico, to Sydney.

Michelle, 50, left Ensenada last July (her launch featured in the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News*/ <https://hillstohawkesbury.com.au/great-pacific-row/>) and has so far spent more than 170 days on the high seas.

From massive storms which forced her in her cabin for more than a day, awesome backdrops to a one-metre shark landing on her deck, the massage therapist has seen the best and worst of the Pacific Ocean. As she writes in her diary posted on her website: "Mother nature truly is the boss. I am constantly in awe and wonder, in love with life."

The exact date of her arrival at the National Maritime Museum in Sydney Harbour will be confirmed closer to the date. She is rowing her own boat and is guided by world-famous marine meteorologist Dr Roger 'Clouds' Badham.

In her January 19th notes, Michelle informs us that she is doing it tough as high winds pass

through. This pushed her boat was pushed off course, which could push back her arrival date.

"At the moment I'm locked in my cabin, it's been raining, there's big seas, big winds and nothing I can do about it. I just have to wait out the storm. I'm going backwards, doing a lot of easting that I will have to make up when I get back out on deck," Michelle writes.

"Mother nature is throwing some tough times at me. Mentally, I am confined to the cabin which I'm unable to even stand up, I have to lie down. I realised, I'm quite boring after 163 days. On a positive note, it's been forced recovery, forced rest of the body. So, all I'm doing right now is eat, sleep, rest.

"I'm safe though, which is the main thing. ... right now, I'm keen and eager to get home. I just want to get home. I'm so close. 1600 miles (2575km) away but it feels so far because I've got days ahead that will be tough."

Michelle is already in the record books as she constantly tests the limits of human endurance. In 2019, she completed a 68-day epic solo, unassisted row across the Atlantic Ocean (4700km), which won her coveted *The Australian Geographic's Adventurer of the Year* award.

Michelle hopes to be the first Australian woman to row solo both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, the first female to row solo from the Pacific Ocean mainland to mainland, and the oldest woman to cross any ocean solo and unassisted. Michelle also holds the world record for the fastest woman to row one million metres on a Concept 2 rowing machine.

Michelle started rowing only in 2017 after a 20-year career in finance, massage therapy and personal training. She wants to prove that anything is possible with the right mindset and mental stamina, no matter your age.

Her life is all about conquering new frontiers and inspiring others. As she says: "Don't die wondering. Start thinking you can and you will."

* You can follow Michelle's journey and also make a donation via her website: solorower.com/

Budding cricketers put through their paces

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

Around 30 budding cricketers are enjoying a free two-week program at the Fred Catterson Reserve in Castle Hill, thanks to a grass roots initiative by Cricket Australia.

The school holiday program's final session at Castle Hill RSL CC, is on Monday, January 30. Castle Hill RSL CC will running Woolworths Cricket blast programs through Term 1 where parents can register their children at playcricket.com.au

Cricket NSW's Area Manager for Sydney North Daniel Anderson said that the Woolworths Community-Funded school holiday program has been a huge success. He hopes the participants can reconnect with their local club, Castle Hill RSL CC, after the COVID-19-induced break.

"The kids involved have been highly engaged in the sessions but most importantly, they had fun playing cricket with their friends which we hope to see translating into registrations for Castle Hill RSL's Term 1 Woolworths Cricket Blast program," Anderson said. "Cricket is a game for everyone, and our inclusive clubs are now taking registrations for Term 1 so we hope to see more great programs like this one succeeding over the coming months."

Cricket Australia's Executive General Manager, Community Cricket & Capability James Allsopp said that the WWCF is an outstanding joint initiative between Dettol, Woolworths and Cricket Australia which enables a free cricket program for youngsters who may not have had the chance to play the game.

"Dozens of programs in remote and multicultural areas have benefitted enormously from the WWCF, with thousands of kids participating from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, indigenous backgrounds and of all abilities enjoying the program's healthy lifestyle benefits."

Throughout January, Woolworths and Dettol, together with Cricket Australia, are raising money for the WWCF.

Twenty cents from the sale of each Dettol product sold at Woolworths supermarkets in January will be added to the Woolworths Community Fund, up to a maximum amount of \$150,000.



Brothers Atharva & Anadi Dangi at the Castle Hill RSL CC program. Picture: Cricket Australia

Woolworths will also match Dettol's contribution, making a maximum total contribution to the Woolworths Community Fund of \$300,000.

Through the WCF, over 16,000 cricketers across 500 programs have had the opportunity to play the game in their community to date.

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 Wed mornings, evening group
2nd and 4th Mon. 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 Probud Club of Cherrybrook

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

Cumberland Bird Observers Club

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

CWA of NSW - Galston Branch

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

CWA of NSW - Castle Hill Branch

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

CWA of NSW - Toongabbie Branch.

Monthly meetings are held the first
Tuesday of the month at Brigade House, 3
Junia Street, Toongabbie from 10:30am.
We also have a social or craft day on the
third Tuesday of the month.
ToongabbieCWA@gmail.com

Dural and District Prostate Cancer Support Group

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

Dural Country Club Bowls

04 2131 5074

Dural Men's Shed

04 0247 8498
www.duralmensshed.org

East Kurrajong School of Arts

1st Tues each month 10am to 1pm. Bring
along any sort of craft activity you're
interested in, bring 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

Feb 21 meetings Tues 10am-2pm, Tues 28
6-10pm. Stan Stevens Studio at Windsor
Library. We have a workshop in Feb - An
Introduction to canvas work (needlepoint
tapestry). Experiment with threads
and learning stitches. \$5. All welcome.
Booking essential as numbers are limited.

Catherine Delaney | 0413 340 049

cdelaney1@vtown.com.au

Galston VIEW Club

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

Girl Guides Australia

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

Glenhaven Probud Club Inc

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

Glenwood Men's Shed

Jim | 0438 701 275

Hawkesbury Artists & Artisans Trail

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

Hawkesbury District Agricultural Assn

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

Hawkesbury Neapan Chapter of the First Fleeters

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

Hawkesbury West Probud Club

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

Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Ltd

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

Hills District Women's Bowling Club

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

Hills Older Men's Network Inc

Meets fortnightly on the first and 3rd
Mondays of the month, 10am to 12.30pm
at Castle Hill. The group is aimed at retired
men over the age of 55 and provides an
opportunity to chat in a non-judgemental,
safe and supportive environment.
Ron | 0424 462 153
HillsOM1@gmail.com

Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra

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

Hills Toastmasters

Meets every 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 Probud Club of Baulkham Hills

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

Learning in the Hills

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

Lions Club of Richmond Inc.

Geoff | 0412 969 651

Lions Club of Windsor Inc

Pam | 0413 395 145

Macquarie Towns Garden Club

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

National Seniors Australia (Hills Branch)

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

North Rocks View Club

Meetings 2nd Thurs each month at 10.30 am.
The Vikings Club, 35 Quarry Rd, Dundas Valley.
Pam | 047 420 4080 or Margaret | 9872 1405

Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club

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

Pennant Hills Mens Probud Club

John | 9487 1385

Pennant Hills Combined Probud Club

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

Pennant Hills VIEW Club

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

Pitt Town Probud Club

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

Probud Club of Round Corner (Dural)

Julie; PO Box 822, Round Corner 2158

Probud Club of the Hills Inc

Is a mixed club and meets at the Galston
Club 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston on the
2nd Wed of each month commencing at
10.30 am. New members welcome.
Ken | 02 96296459

Probud Club - Glenorie

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

Probud Club - Kellyville Castle Hill Mixed

Meets at 10am on 2nd Thurs of each
month at Muirfield Golf Club, Barclay Rd
North Rocks. New members welcome.
Ian Sandercock | 0417 667 067
patiansandercock@bigpond.com

Probud Combined Castle Hill Club

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

Probud Combined Kellyville Club

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

Probud Club of Winston Hills - Northmead Combined

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

Church, 32-34 Showground Rd, Castle Hill.
New members always welcome.
0419 431 084.

Richmond/Windsor VIEW Club

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

Scouts Australia - Greater Western Sydney Region

9639 2488
www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Sleep Disorders Australia - NSW

02 9990 3514 | www.sleepoz.org.au

Soroptimist International The Hills

Meets on the 3rd Monday of the Month at
Crestwood Community Centre Baulkham
Hills 6.30pm for a 7pm start.
Cathy | 0435 837 118
sithehills@siwp.org

The Hills Community Aid and Information Service Inc

9639 8620

The Hills Learning Centre

02 8850 0555
RSVP | info@thehillslc.com.au.
facebook.com/thehillsllearningcentre

The Hills Shire Garden Club

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

The Hills District Pipe Band

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

The Hills Trefoil Guild

Elaine | 0417 330 196

The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills

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

The Sydney Hills Branch of the Association of Independent Retirees

Meets at Beecroft Presbyterian Church
Hall, Welham St Beecroft at 10.30 for a
10.45 start.
Mal Steel | airsydnehill@gmail.com

Thursday Ladies Tennis Competition in the Hills District

hillsladiestennis.org

Wanderers Bushwalking and Outdoor Club

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

Windsor RSL Fishing Club

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

Windsor Probud Club

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

Winston Hills Joey Scouts

9862 8482 | hsara@optusnet.com.au

Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed Inc

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

YMCA NSW Community Visitors Scheme

9633 8209 or 0402 255 193

Zonta Club of Sydney Hills

0414 641 408
www.zontadistrict24.org

FERGIES TREE WORKS



Please call Nathan & Lisa for all your summer garden needs

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

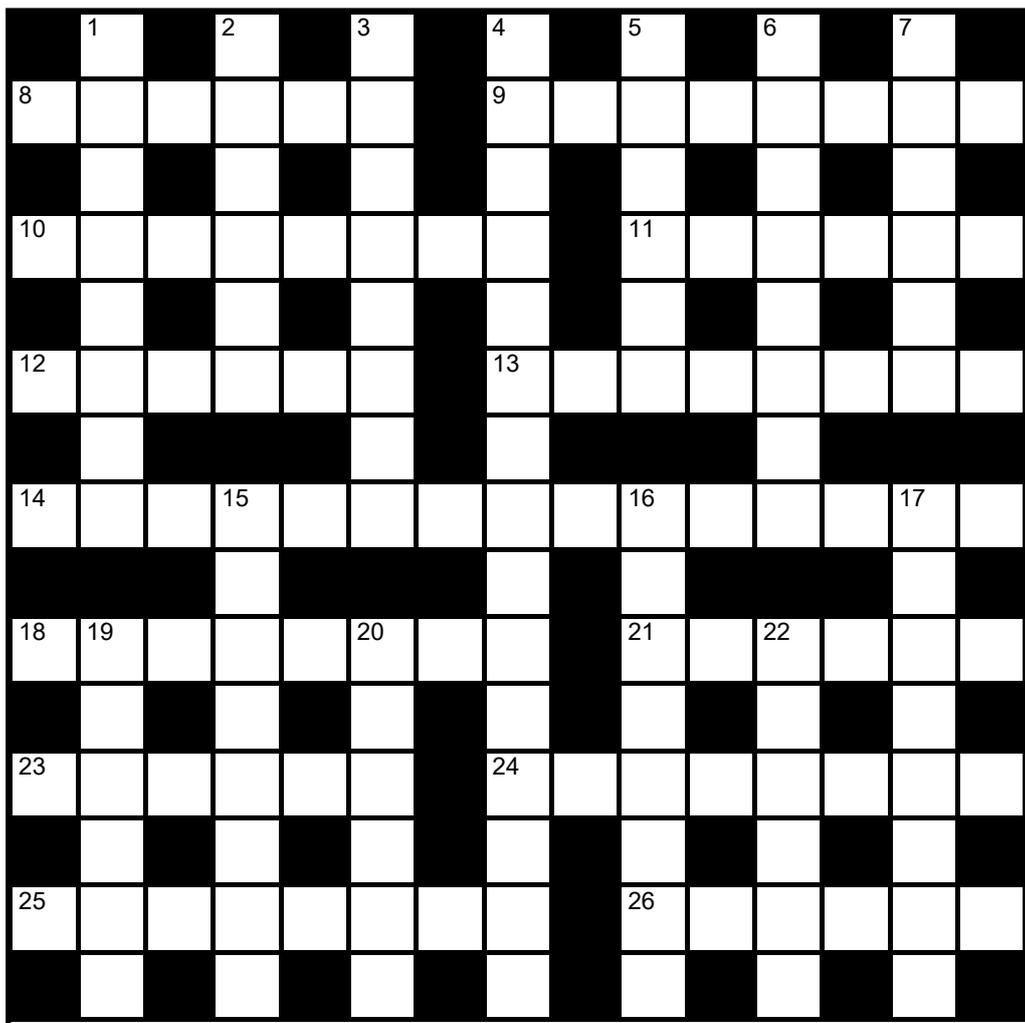
0414 428 707
fergiestreeworks@gmail.com

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA

The next meeting of the Bromeliad Society of Australia will be on Saturday, 11th February at the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground, Showground Road, Castle Hill off Doran Drive. Bromeliad sales to the public from 10am with the meeting commencing at 12noon. The meeting will be exploring Intergeneric bromeliads. Intergenerics can be created in nature, but more usually are created by hybridists.

An intergeneric is created when plant from one genus, eg *Neoregelia*, is fertilized by a different genus, eg *Aechmea*, creating some very striking plants. Intergenerics are labelled with an 'x' in front of the combined parent names ie 'x*Neomea*' is created. Some examples will be on display, including the very striking x*Vriecantarea* 'Inferno' (a cross between *Vriesea* and *Alcantarea*).

There will also be our regular meeting activities such as competitions, raffle, Tell, and a more recent activity called just "Show" for people who would just like to share a plant with others without it being critically judged or discussed. For further information please contact Ian Hook, President of BSA on mobile 0408 202 269, email: ianhook1@bigpond.com or refer to www.bromeliad.org.au for the latest updates.



Across

- 8. Most intimate
- 9. Former St. George Dragons pro rugby hooker and national captain (3, 5)
- 10. "Iron Gloves", Test wicketkeeper (3, 5)
- 11. Sort of (2, 1, 3)
- 12. Gun butts
- 13. What you usually see in a mirror
- 14. Rare Queensland spider-eating flying mammal (6-6, 3)
- 18. Patriotic (4, 4)
- 21. Refuse to accept
- 23. Deadeye Annie
- 24. For the few
- 25. Ghastly
- 26. SA leader --- Marshall

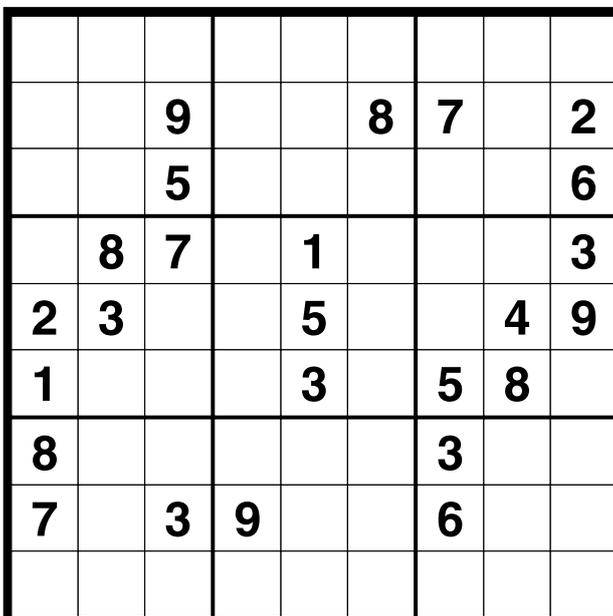
Down

- 1. Not too many (3, 2, 3)
- 2. Vast
- 3. Gets cracking (6, 2)
- 4. Long NW Australian coastal strip (6, 4, 5)
- 5. Instead (2, 4)
- 6. Worried
- 7. East Mediterranean democracy
- 15. Inhabitants
- 16. Playful dolphin relative
- 17. Place for old documents
- 19. Grounds
- 20. Give the pink slip (3, 3)
- 22. Bullying seabird

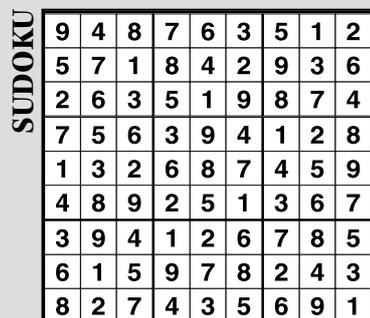
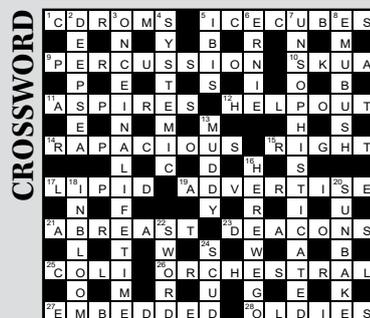
SUDOKU

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ ☆

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



Answers from last issue



WORD SEARCH

FISH

- BANDFISH HADDOCK
- BARRACUDA HAGFISH
- BASS LAMPREY
- BIGEYE MACKEREL
- BLEAK MONKFISH
- CARP PERCH
- CATFISH SALMON
- FLOUNDER SWORDFISH
- GROUPER TENCH
- GUPPY TROUT

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

ANSWERS FROM LAST ISSUE

WORD SEARCH

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

CODE WORD

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

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.

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

SUDOKU

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

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

SUDOKU

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

Meet Jordan

Our Australia Day image (right) was designed by 18-year-old Jordan Fenbow from Kellyville, a graphic design student.

The former Kellyville High student featured in the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News* in 2021 when her design for the NRL's Crazy Sock Day was chosen.

The Crazy Sock round raises money for the Men of League Foundation and in 2021 all 6,000 pairs her sock design sold out.

While the 2020 campaign which was postponed due to COVID NRL First Graders played in the socks in 2022.

At the time the 16-year-old told the *Hills to Hawkesbury Community News* that she was motivated to enter the design competition because, as a long-time Oztag player and Kellyville Bushranger player, it enabled her to combine her love of sport with her love of creative design.

She said: "When I was told by email that I had won the Crazy Socks design competition, I could not believe it and had to read it a few times for it to sink in."

Congratulations to Jordan for her contribution in this issue. Our publication is supporting young and emerging graphic designers so Jordan will be a regular contributor.



UNITED. In our commitment to support young graphic designers we asked 18-year-old Jordan Fenbow to depict a cricket match celebrating New Years, New Beginings and the traditional owners of the land we play on.

ALL TREE WORK

Hills Shire And Surrounds



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

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

MASTERCLASS ROOFING

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

NEW Guttering

CALL 0477 198 690

ABC SEAMLESS GUTTERING

20% OFF
*CONDITIONS APPLY

- GUTTER GUARD
- METAL ROOFING
- WATER TANKS
- ROOF RESTORATION
- ALL TYPES OF GUTTERING INSTALLED

9748 3022 www.abcseamless.com.au

ABC SEAMLESS EST. 40 YEARS

LOCAL HILLS TO HAWKESBURY ELECTRICIAN

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

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

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE

LIC273594C

PH: 4505 4588

WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS... ARBORIST EST. 1956

MCARDLE TREE SERVICES

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

0414 635 650
 INFO@MCARDLETREES.COM.AU

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

MATT'S SKIP BINS

MATT'S SKIP BINS 02 4708 2927

www.mattsskipbins.com.au

LOCAL PLUMBER

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

CALL NOW 9056 8107

Blocked Drains
 Hot Water
 Burst Pipes

\$0 CALL OUT SAME DAY SERVICE \$50 OFF YOU APPROVE THE PRICE BEFORE WE BEGIN 10% PENSIONER DISCOUNTS

WWW.PUREPLUMBINGPROS.COM.AU



GF

Roof & Gutter Cleaning

Call 0400 291 683

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

Baulkham Hills Doors

Accredited

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

GARAGE DOORS & AUTOMATIC OPENERS

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

GVT HOME APPLIANCE REPAIRS & ELECTRICAL SERVICES

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

PH: 9629 6750 MOB: 0408 253 646



ADVERTISE WITH US

Get your business details out to over **20,000 residents** each month. Lock in your advertising for 12 months, and just let the work flow in. Local people prefer using local trades and services.

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

H2H



Masterwork Sheetmetal Fabrication

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

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



Refresh PAINTING & CO

Your Local Painter

All Internal and external Commercial and residential
Free Quote

0433 025 464 | SEAN.REFRESH@GMAIL.COM



Tree Removal Large & Small

Climbing Expert & Qualified Arborist
Available locally

CALL JOE TODAY
0475 463 597
treesdownunder.com.au

Call Us Now SAME DAY SERVICE



vibe Marketing

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

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

PERGOLAS • GAZEBOS • DECKS • CARPENTRY



Custom Designed Outdoor Home Improvements Renovations and Repairs

0419 253 659
goannagully@yahoo.com.au

Solatec
HILLS DISTRICT

Lic 33721

J & C RANDO P/L 

PROFESSIONAL PLASTERER

SERVICES

- Gyprock plastering, Repairs, Cornices, Roses
- Ornamental Ceiling Panels, Suspended Ceilings
- Partition Walls

All types of repairs, small or large. Home, Office, Shop, Extensions, Granny flats

JOE RANDO
MOB: 0412 238 668

A.B.N. 20.003.189624 License No. RT2770- (License: Joe Rando)



FENCING

ALL TYPES OF RURAL FENCING

ADAM COX
0418 424 031

CORNERSTONE RURAL FENCING & CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

LOCAL HILLS TO HAWKESBURY PLUMBER



All Plumbing Work

Best Prices & All Work Guaranteed

Seniors/Pensioners Discount

Blocked Drains and Pipes

Hot Water Repairs

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

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICE

VISA Mastercard efoxtel LIC273594C

PH: 4505 4589

HILLS DISTRICT PLUMBER



REACTIVE PLUMBING

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

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

02 9199 2612
www.reactiveplumbing.com.au

FT COMPUTER MATTERS

PC SUPPORT & REPAIRS FOR HOME & OFFICE

- Friendly on-site service
- Virus/Repairs
- PC teaching
- Speed-up
- Network/Internet
- Supply new & used computers

45-yr exp Microsoft Certified System Engineer

Call 0422 576 061

ft@ftcomputermatters.com | www.ftcomputermatters.com

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ONLINE SHOPPING BOOM

INCREASE YOUR SALES ONLINE NOW!

ONLY \$1500 (plus GST)
Upgrade and add-ons available at additional cost

SPECIAL OFFER

SPECIAL PACKAGE PRICE

Create/Upgrade Your Website

- Secure Website hosting (in Australia)
- Set up of your E-Commerce platform
- Training and assistance on adding products & services
- Secure payment and checkout options
- Set up and training on managing inventory
- Training on online marketing
- Set up and training on Google My Business and Bing for Business
- Set up/review Social Media Accounts (3)
- Monthly Online Traffic Reports

Monthly support for your website, email, backups, security certificates etc from **\$55.00** per month



0408 011 193 / 0410 400 098
info@kintye.com.au www.kintye.com.au



Aged care that's personal

Ann loves to cook moussaka and share it with her friends.

Everyone has something that brings them joy, for Ann it is cooking. With Anglicare residential aged care, Ann can indulge her passion because person-centred care is what we're all about.

Talk to us about caring for the one you love.

anglicare.org.au/AgedCareCastleHill or call 1300 111 278



CELEBRATING SENIORS!

Join us for free entertainment and morning tea*

10am - 12 noon daily

Wednesday 1st and Wednesday 8th February

Located in the Food Court



Tony Remedios | 1 February



George Vumbaca | 8 February

*Catering available upon presentation of Senior's card. While stocks last.

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

375-383 Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills

Proudly owned by
MINTUS

