

Hills to Hawkesbury

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Community News

17th Nov. – 1st Dec. 2023 | Volume 40 – Issue 23
Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

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Road Funding Boost

Hills Shire Council has received \$2.49 million for road safety projects under the Federal Government's Black Spot Program for 2023/2024 and further \$1.88m under the Local Road and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program.

The majority of the Black Spot Program money – a massive \$1.9m, will be spent on Annangrove Rd, between Edwards Road and Kenthurst Road.

The Black Spot Funding also includes \$380,000 worth of works for Langford Road/Davey Road, Dural and \$210,000 on improvements to Sanctuary Drive, Rouse Hill between Caddies Boulevard and Grandiflora Street.

The \$1.88 million Phase 4 LRCI funding announced on Thursday (November 17th) will fast-track 18 infrastructure projects.

Of that amount \$689,142 has been allocated specifically for road projects. This funding will be used to improve Chapel Hill Road, Sackville North and River Road, Lower Portland/Leets Vale, which were damaged during the March and July 2022 floods.

Hills Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi said he was pleased that all the projects that Hills Shire Council recommended for the LRCI Phase 4 Program will receive funding.

"I'm looking forward to seeing these projects come to fruition, particularly the proposed improvements to Chapel Hill Road and River Road, which were decimated by the 2022 floods."

Other projects to win funding include:

- \$240,000 to construct two additional netball courts with lighting at Kellyville Netball Complex, North Kellyville
- \$175,000 for a new dog off-leash facility and pathway at Colbarra Place Reserve, West Pennant Hills
- \$150,000 to replace worn turf area between Field 1 and amenities at Bernie Mullane Sports Complex, Kellyville
- \$130,000 to renew the ball stop fencing at Kenthurst Park, Kenthurst.
- \$100,000 to construct a new playground at Kellyville Park, Kellyville
- \$75,000 for new drainage for Field 4 at Crestwood Reserve, Baulkham Hills
- \$60,000 to replace worn turf area between Fields 1 and 2 and amenities at Caddies Creek Sports Complex, Beaumont Hills
- \$45,000 to install pedestrian safety fenceings outside Excelsior Public School at Elberta Avenue, Castle Hill
- \$40,000 to install new pathway bollard lighting at Ironbark Ridge Reserve, Rouse Hill
- \$35,000 to renew the cricket wicket on Field 6 at Fred Caterson Reserve, Castle Hill
- \$30,000 to install two basketball rings and line marking at Arnold Avenue Reserve, Kellyville
- \$30,000 to install two basketball rings and linemarking at Coolong Reserve, Castle Hill
- \$29,271 to remove vegetation from around pedestrian and road bridges at various locations
- \$20,000 to upgrade the water play pump at Heritage Park, Castle Hill
- \$20,000 upgrade of cricket training nets at Arnold Avenue Reserve, Kellyville
- \$15,000 to construct a new footpath at Ensign Place, Castle Hill

Works are expected to commence on these projects in 2024. For more information about these projects, visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and search for 'Council Works & Projects.'

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POLICE AWARD

Senior Constable Melissa Rosevear (pictured) Riverstone Police Area Command has been awarded the NSW Police Rotary Community Award.

She was recognised at the 2023 Rotary Police Officer of the Year Awards for going above and beyond in the line of duty.

The citation read: "Senior Constable Melissa Rosevear is a dedicated and compassionate Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) and specialist Youth Liaison Officer who exemplifies the role of a CPO, undertaking her duties with enthusiasm, commitment, professionalism, and always strives for positive victim and community outcomes.

She manages three volunteers in policing, responds quickly to emerging crime trends, and organises and attends many community engagements, including Next of Kin program and Dowry Abuse Forum.

Snr Cst Rosevear always adjusts her work schedule to ensure the command has excellent community representation at events. Her commander says that Snr Cst Rosevear's passion to help people is above anything he's experienced in the police before.



BUSH FIRES

Police have warned there has been a rise in bushfires within and around The Ponds area. Riverstone police are urging residents: "Should you spot any suspicious activity, report it promptly to us.

"In the event of a bushfire, please call triple zero (000) without hesitation. Your immediate response significantly contributes to the safety of our community. We maintain a strict zero-tolerance policy towards antisocial behaviour.

"For those holding information about these incidents, we urge you to contact the Riverstone Police Area Command at 02 9838 2199 or report this information anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1800 333 000."

DRUG HOUSE

A Cannabis Hydro House (pictured) was discovered by police on Sunday November 12th in the Duncraig Estate Kellyville. Police from The Hills Area Command say it was lucky the house didn't burn down with the amount of power boards and plugs needed for the lighting system.



Police say they are watching some houses and others are reported to them. Others are discovered by landlords because their tenants were not answering calls for inspections. Police are urging anyone who suspects that their rental property may be used for Cannabis production, to call police first. The last two houses found by the landlords had dangerous electrical hazards, which can only be safely disconnected by Endeavour Energy.

The basic signs to look out for are:

- Newly dug power lines from the street to the house.
- Tenants only seen once a week putting the bin out on bin night.
- Multiple security cameras placed around the home.
- Constant whirring noise, and bright lights from cracks in windows.

If you suspect your neighbouring rental property is a hydro house, then call 1800 333 000. Never enter a hydro house.

FATAL CRASH

A man died after a crash at Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford on Sunday, November 12th. Emergency services were called to the intersection of Jenkins Road and Pennant Hills Road, Carlingford at around 6.45pm following reports of a multiple vehicle crash.

Officers attached to The Hills Police Area Command attended and were told a vehicle collided with two vehicles before coming to a stop.

A driver, a 76-year-old man, was treated by NSW Ambulance paramedics on scene, before being taken to hospital where he later died. No other drivers were reported to be injured.

Anyone with information or dash cam footage is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. A report will be prepared for the information of the Coroner.

SPEEDING L DRIVER

A 17-year-old Learner driver who was not displaying his L-Plates has been fined \$4,685 and immediately suspended for 6 months after he was clocked driving at over 140/kmh in an 80km/h zone at Oakville. Officer from Hawkesbury Highway Patrol detected the silver Honda Civic on Boundary Road Oakville shortly before 10pm on Sunday 12 November 2023. He was recorded driving at 141km/h and was then seen allegedly overtaking several vehicles over double unbroken lines before being stopped. The 17 year old learner driver was not displaying L plates and did not have a supervising passenger. His licence was immediately suspended for 6 months plus he was issued \$4685 in fines with 11 demerit points.

Police have been increasing their attention on speed enforcement in the Oakville area in response to 2 fatal crashes in that area this year that involved speeding.

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Hills says ...

NO TO DV

By BEV JORDAN

Kylie Druett has lived experience of the ripple effects of domestic violence on families and communities.

She has worked in various government and non-government organisations since early 2000 working to improve safety for women and children in their own homes.

Tragically, in 2017 her grand-daughter at 10 weeks old became the 5th generation of her family to experience the impacts of DV when her maternal grandmother was killed by her ex-partner.

Being a health professional and someone with significant lived experience of domestic violence, Kylie, her granddaughter's paternal grandmother, set out to raise awareness and start discussions about domestic violence to ensure women and children who were killed did not become invisible or just number on an annual count.

The theme of the year's Hills Says No to Domestic Violence event is "The Ripple Effect" and it will be held on Friday 24th November at the Castle Hill RSL, commencing at 9.45am.

It has been organised by the Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network.

Acting Police Superintendent Claudia Alcroft and Dr Niveditha Manokaran will also speak at the event. Dr Niveditha Manokaran is a sex educator, TEDx speaker and domestic violence awareness advocate. She's an ambassador of Indian Women Empower.

Students from Oakhill College will talk about their involvement in a project with The Sanctuary, the Hills Women's Shelter and students from Kellyville High will present their video on the Love Bites program being held in local high schools.

The program teaches teenagers the importance of respectful relationships has reached more than 1,000 local students already this year.

The NAPCAN (National Association for Prevention of Child abuse and Neglect) program focuses on young teens aged 15-17 and consists of two interactive workshops addressing relationship violence and the foundation of healthy relationships.

Hills Says No to Domestic Violence Co-ordinator Aileen Mountfield from the Lisa Harnum Foundation said to date, 47 people, including children, have lost their lives as a result of DV.

Their names will be remembered at the moving rose ceremony which is held each year.

She said: "The rose ceremony is so important to reflect and remember people by name, who have died.

"Everyone is an individual, whose lives have been cut short by perpetrators (who are normally known to the victim)."

A "NO to Domestic Violence" poster campaign will be launched by Hills Shire Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi on behalf of the Hills Police Area Command, Hills Shire Domestic Violence Prevention Network and Hills Shire Council during the event.

It informs people of the different forms of domestic abuse and where to seek help.

Tickets to the Hills are limited but if you would like to attend scan the QR code to register. If you are seeking help and support call 1800RESPECT (1800 737 732).

Kylie Druett, DV advocate



Dr Niveditha Manokaran

"The rose ceremony is so important to reflect and remember people by name, who have died. Everyone is an individual, whose lives have been cut short by perpetrators (who are normally known to the victim)."

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Swing City Opens

The first Swing City in Australia is now open in Norwest and it is set to entertain a broad range of guests, from serious golfers who can "virtually play on many of the world's best golf courses to beginners and families just wanting fun.

CEO of Golf Australia James Sutherland joined Hills Shire Mayor Peter Gangemi to officially open the state-of-the-art golf and entertainment venue on Wednesday, 15th Nov.

Swing City has been developed by Mulpha Australia in partnership with golf operator Avid Sports and comprises a 40-bay range with individual hospitality seating, a licensed restaurant, undercover and outdoor alfresco dining, corporate function facilities, 18-hole mini-golf, and other amusements.

It is the first golf driving range in Australia to offer the Inrange ball tracking technology which combines radar tracking with algorithms to allow patrons to accurately record the full flight of their shot on a shorter than normal range.

It enables players to not only improve their game, but also to compete in a range of challenges, including games, longest drive, nearest the pins and virtual play on many of the world's most famous golf courses.

The immersive experience will appeal equally to serious players wanting detailed shot analysis, training tips and match play simulation; someone holding a club for the first time; or family and friends having a fun night out using the multiple game-play options.

James Sutherland said: "Swing City is a fantastic addition to the Sydney golf scene. It's a state-of-the-art golf entertainment facility in the north-west that offers something special for golfers of all ages and abilities.

"Full credit to Mulpha for responding to golf's increasing popularity ... the facility will make a huge impact - serving existing golfers in the region and providing great experiences for newcomers to the game."

Hills Shire Mayor Dr Peter Gangemi said it was a fantastic addition to the area. "As our community continues to grow, the need for enhanced recreational opportunities becomes increasingly important.

"It's fantastic to have a facility that caters to both passionate golfers and families and individuals looking for entertainment, especially with the rise in golf participation."

Mulpha CEO, Greg Shaw said: "Swing City is a game-changer, for golf range-play, and for sporting and hospitality facilities in Norwest and the broader Hills district. Mulpha has

combined our specialist operating experience in hospitality, entertainment and leisure with our proven track record in development to create a truly unique concept.

"It offers a broad range of golf, leisure and entertainment facilities in a family-friendly environment to meet the growing demand in the area while making golf fun, easy and accessible for a broad range of players.

"As the Master Developer of Norwest, Mulpha is excited to bring this leading-edge entertainment facility to support the rapidly growing Norwest residential and corporate community while creating new employment opportunities in the area."

Mulpha has partnered with Golf Australia to create a \$60 million Play Golf Fund to facilitate development of additional Swing City venues on both public and private sites.

Mr Shaw said: "Discussions are currently underway with a number of local councils, golf courses and private landowners for future Swing City sites."



Hawkesbury Community Hub

BY JOSH KERWICK

Residents of Hawkesbury are being encouraged to attend the monthly Hawkesbury Community Hub, a hotspot to help residents easily access community support services in one convenient location. The Hub, started by Link Wentworth earlier this year in May, is hosted on the first Wednesday of every month and now offers 35 services to locals, ranging from support for addiction, domestic violence assistance, housing aid and much more. The most recent Hub, held on November 1st, had the biggest turnout yet, and was attended by Macquarie MP Susan Templeman.

Toni Joseph, a Sector Capacity Specialist at Link Wentworth, says that the Hub was created so that the wide range of services across the Hawkesbury could be brought together for those who are struggling. She explains: "I was running a digital literacy course, and one of the participants asked what the use of doing a budget was when they didn't have enough money to get through the fortnight.

"So I started telling him about the different services you can go to, and he mentioned that he doesn't know half the things that are available to him. And I thought, why not bring it each month to one space to have all the services there to support the community?"

By having all of these services in one place, which are spread out across the huge area of the Hawkesbury, people who need help are more easily able to access the services they need. Toni says: "It was initially aimed at the most vulnerable in society, but it's for anybody that needs information or to just come in and have some socialisation, meet new people and what not."

In the six months that the Hub has been run, the number of attendees has grown exponentially, with nearly 40 people at the November session. One man was able to easily organise a New South Wales ID thanks to Service NSW being present at the Hub, while the Salvation Army covered the cost. A displaced young family were able to receive support from Centrelink and talk with DCJ Housing, who pre-approved a bond loan so that they could apply for private rentals.

Toni says: "The Hub plays a vital role in strengthening community and enhances the capabilities of residents in the community in various ways. I love being able to empower people when we're bringing the services to



Tenants Stephen and Sally Ann with Kaylene Service NSW

them, giving them the opportunity to speak to different services all while socialising. The community is starting to trust us, and that's why they're coming in more and more often."

"I'd like to make it known that it is for everyone; absolutely everyone," Toni says. "Our December hub is going to have a Christmas theme - we've got Santa coming, we're going to give out some gifts and have barbeque chicken and salads, while still offering our usual services. It's an awesome vibe."

The Hawkesbury Community Hub is held at the corner of Moses Street and Greenway Crescent in Windsor, and the next open day is on Wednesday December 6th, from 11:30am-2pm.

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So Much PHUN

BY BEV JORDAN

There's a whole lot of singing and laughing going on when the PHUNsters gather at Baulkham Hills every week.

Many of the Members of PHUN (Paramatta Hills Ukelele Network) are local but others travel far and wide to be at the Hills Club for the gatherings. Sue, 77, has dementia and is given a lift to the group every week by her husband. She says she remembers the songs and enjoys playing: "Music is so important for me."

It's a great atmosphere as people arrive and at least 40 people start strumming their ukes. Some are just learning and some have been playing for several years.

Arthur and Denise Ongley established the PHUNsters in 2008. It started off with a handful of people and has continued to blossom.

Arthur says it was born from a desire to connect with, and give something beneficial to the community. He says the health benefits of music and keeping connected are well documented.

"We are wired for companionship, community and creativity. PHUN enables and encourages seniors and retirees to celebrate their purpose, their stories and the musical soundtrack of their lives through learning and playing ukulele with others. Music self-played is happiness self-made."

After 15 years and several moves to bigger premises PHUN has grown into a vibrant musical community made up of people who have discovered the joy of making music, making friends, and sharing the joy of both with others.

On the day I visit the music includes crowd favourite "Will you still Love Me Tomorrow?", John Farnham, Red Gum and Mike McClellan's Song and Dance Man.

As Denise says: "PHUN gives folk an opportunity to learn their favourite songs and new ones, to enjoy the moment, and share their stories. When the group gets together, the room lights up with musical joy and friendship."

Ken Carroll, chairman of the Hills Club has been a PHUNster member for nearly seven years.

"It's been absolutely great," he said

Lynne moved from the Hills to Nowra in January and still returns to play in the group once a month. A member for 10 years, she says. "This is my family and I like to sing."

Marlene took up the ukelele last year and says it is very relaxing. "The music is just beautiful. It's like caressing your soul. I come every week and enjoy every bit.. the people are just beautiful."

Bob was given a ukelele for his 70th birthday and joined the PHUNsters to learn how to play it. His wife joined the group not to play ukelele but for the social connections and plays a cajon .. a Portuguese drum. "We both love coming", they say.

Members play regularly for charities, at festivals and at aged care homes.

Robyn from Northmead joined when Arthur and Denise started the group in 2008.



PHUNsters John White, Arthur Ongley with Marie and John Riddell



Gisela watches Trish Tune her red ukelele

"This group has been my sanity. My husband has dementia so he has a Carer for four hours while I come here to this." The "this" is a 90 minutes of playing and singing followed by coffee, lunch and a good chat at the club's bistro.

Trish has been a member for 14 years. "I come from a musical family and just love music. The group is lovely and has just grown and grown. You build relationships."

She met Gisela at exercise classes and encouraged her to join PHUN after hearing that she had a ukulele but had never learnt to play it.

Gisela said: "I had been wanting to play the ukulele for a number of years and when I saw this beautiful red ukulele, I couldn't resist buying it. But there it sat for two years untouched."

"I approached the first PHUN meeting with trepidation, but with everyone's friendly welcome I look forward to becoming a regular of this happy musical group. Music always uplifts me."

PHUN meets at The Hills Club in Baulkham Hills for Ukulele Thursday from 10.30am until 12pm (except during School Holidays). There are also classes for those who want to learn to play. To find out more visit <https://phunsters.net> or email them on phunforall@gmail.com.



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Some of the PHUNsters in action at Baulkham Hills

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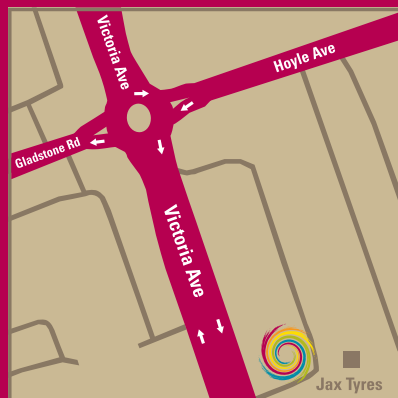


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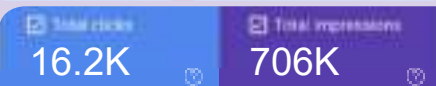
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Lower Portland Ferry will be temporarily out of service for essential maintenance

The Lower Portland Ferry will be temporarily out of service for a compulsory inspection and maintenance from Monday 15 January 2024 for approximately 12 weeks, depending on the required works.

In accordance with Australian Maritime Safety Regulations, Lower Portland Ferry is required to undergo an out-of-water service to retain its commercial license for operating a public service.

Council endeavoured to source a replacement ferry to allow the connection to remain open during the service, however Transport for NSW has advised that a suitable replacement is not available.

Hawkesbury City Mayor Sarah McMahon said she appreciated that the downtime for the ferry would be inconvenient to residents, but that it was unavoidable, due to the legal requirements for maintenance.



"The Lower Portland Ferry is a critical link between the Hawkesbury and The Hills for many residents. These works are essential to ensure the ferry remains safe and reliable," Mayor McMahon said.

"Council will do everything in our power to ensure that the ferry is returned to service as quickly as possible."

Mayor of The Hills Shire Council Dr Peter Gangemi said the works are required to keep the Ferry operating, which is in the long-term interests of residents.

"The Lower Portland Ferry connects our Councils on the Hawkesbury River, and the inspection will enable the service to continue beyond April when its current licence to operate expires," Mayor Gangemi said.

Motorists are advised to detour via Sackville Ferry, approximately 13 minutes south of the Lower Portland Ferry.

The cost of the ferry overhaul will be jointly shared by Hawkesbury City Council and The Hills Shire Council. Both Mayor McMahon and Mayor Gangemi urge the community to only rely on official sources of information when it comes to the operations of the Ferry.

Council will provide the community with updates on the progress of the works via www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au and Council's Facebook page.

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

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

Glenhaven Carols

Get ready and get set to Carol On at Glenhaven Carols by Candlelight 2023 on Sunday, 10th December.

Now in its 23rd year, the annual Glenhaven Carols by Candlelight is a much-anticipated community fixture at Christmas.

Each year Glenhaven Oval fills with thousands of residents to celebrate the festive season. Last year was a huge event, free from the COVID restrictions on 2021.

Louise Hedges, of Friends of Glenhaven's Carols Committee said: "We are truly grateful for what the Carols event has become and the support the community shows each year. There is excitement building yet again.

"Each year the community comes together on this great night to relax and celebrate.

It is a real community event; with our local Glenhaven Rural Fire Service and The Hills SES Unit assisting on the night.

"This year, attendees are asked to provide a gold coin on entry to our emergency services volunteers at the gate."

Friends of Glenhaven's Carols Committee have been meeting all year to organise the family-friendly event that also showcases local talent with Reid the Music, Jenna's Singing School, Sister 2 Sister School of Singing, NorthWest Wind Ensemble, Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Orchestra and the Hills District Pipe Band are all set to entertain.



As well as the great stage performances and music, Glenhaven Oval takes on a "Carnivale" atmosphere with rides and amusements.

Lousie said a new addition to this year's Glenhaven Carols will be a special sensory tent.

"We aim to make the event as inclusive as possible and this year, the event will see its very first sensory breakout space available for those who may require it" she said.

It is hoped it will encourage people to come who may otherwise feel overwhelmed by such a gathering. The event draws up to 4,000 people to the oval and with limited parking spaces in great demand, attendees are encouraged to park in neighbouring streets off Glenhaven Rd or walk to the event if possible.

"Without the generous support of The Hills Shire Council, local businesses such as fireworks sponsor Louis Carr Real Estate, West

Pennant Hills Sports Club, Kindalin and Finchley Insurance Brokers amongst many other local businesses, this event simply wouldn't be able to proceed," said Louise.

The event starts at 4pm on Sunday 10th December. As well as carnival rides and attractions there will be food trucks. Santa will be coming to town.

The whole event ends with a grand firework finale starting at 9pm.

Lousie said: "We look forward to seeing all the friendly faces of Glenhaven again on 10th December at Glenhaven Oval on Glenhaven Rd.

Visit the Glenhaven Carols By Candlelight Facebook page for further information.

Bring a picnic rug and enjoy a festive night of community with your family and friends.

There's a Whole Lot more Christmas fun on Pages 24-28



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Thursday 28th	Open lunch & dinner		



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A graphic featuring stylized orange and yellow flowers and leaves. Overlaid on this is the text "Spring Sale" in pink, "\$35k" in large pink font, and "Land Rewind" in pink script font.

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The logo for Park Hill Property, consisting of a stylized icon of three stacked blocks.

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*The Park Hill Property 'SPRING SALE \$35k Land Rewind' is available on packages only within Parkside Estate, Box Hill. This offer is only available for customers who: pay a \$1,000 reservation fee between 1st November 2022 and 15th December 2023 and who proceed to exchange on the land contract and pay the 5% deposit required within 28 days from the date of the deposit. The reservation fee is refundable to the customer if they choose not to be nominated for the land contract within 7 days of the deposit date. This offer refers to a \$35,000 (gst inclusive) price rewind to the land pricing only and will not be reflected in the tender for the build issued by Park Hill Property Pty Ltd. This offer is not available in conjunction with any other promotions, discounts or offers. Builders License No. 353389C. PHP948



Reclaim the Night – The Hills

BY MICHELLE BYRNE

Reclaim the Night is a global movement that began in Leeds in the UK in 1977. At that time, a massive man hunt was on for the Yorkshire Ripper, a serial killer who attacked women and girls initially in residential areas before turning his attention to women in red light districts.

He was eventually caught in the early 1980's and was convicted of 13 murders and 7 attempted murders. During this period the police response was that women should not be out after dark unless necessary which partly led to the very first Reclaim the Night, an all female march protesting against sexual violence against women as well as advocating for the rights of women to be able to move around public spaces without being harmed.

Since then, Reclaim the Night has evolved to be a protest against all forms of violence against women and for the rights of women to be safe not only in public places but also in their workplaces and in their own homes. Reclaim the Night is now held globally including here in Australia and involves both women and men marching down the main street of their suburbs or towns before returning to the nearest park for speeches and a rally.

This year will be the first year that Reclaim the Night will be held here in the Hills and it is our chance as a community to come together, to march for change and for an end to domestic violence in the Hills. Like all communities, the Hills is not immune from domestic violence with the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research data reporting 325 domestic violence related assaults in the Hills from January to December 2022, an increase of 10.6% since 2018. Domestic violence is no longer a private matter within families, it is a whole of community problem and is only getting worse with one woman killed every week in Australia by a current or former partner. Something has to change. Reclaim the Night is an opportunity to call for change but also to be a voice for those who cannot speak or who have been silenced.

Reclaim the Night – the Hills will be held 1 December meeting at Arthur Whiting Park at 5:30pm before marching down Main Street before returning to Arthur Whiting Park for speeches and a BBQ. A huge thank you to the Hills Soroptimists and Castle Hill Rotary for their assistance in establishing and running this event as well as to the Castle Hill Police and the Hills DV Prevention Network for their support. Working together we can reduce domestic and family violence in the Hills.

To register to attend Reclaim the Night – The Hills go to <https://events.humanitix.com/reclaim-the-night-the-hills-2023> or for more information follow the Reclaim the Night – The Hills Facebook page.

Toongabbie West Public School P&C Christmas Fete

Sunday 26th November
11am-3pm

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Sub-Club Sensations

There is so much more to the venues that make up CHRG (Castle Hill RSL Group).

Woven into the vibrant tapestry of CHRG are over 20 sub-clubs which are thriving under the dedicated guidance of passionate volunteers.

From the competitive spirit of cricket to the artistic notes of a youth wind orchestra, the clubs cover a wide array of interests, creating a rich mosaic of community engagement.

Boasting nearly 3,000 registered members, sub-club roots run deep, welcoming both longstanding participants with almost 50 years of continuous membership, and enthusiastic newcomers who joined just weeks ago.

A highlight in the sub-club's calendar is the Annual Sports and Community Awards Showcase which occurred on Wednesday, November 15th at Castle Hill RSL Club.

Sport and Community Development Manager at CHRG Paul Kougas said: "This event recognised the outstanding efforts of 21 individuals across two categories: Volunteer of the Year and Junior Sportsperson of the Year."

"Beyond accolades, the occasion serves as a melting pot for sub-clubs to mingle, fostering a sense of community

and providing a platform to share their unique stories and accomplishments."

Looking ahead, the excitement is building for CHRG's upcoming Sports and Community Expo on **Saturday, November 25th**, from 10am to 4pm at Castle Hill RSL Club.

This exciting event will showcase the diverse sub-clubs, inviting the community to explore the plethora of activities available. The Expo will feature activations specifically tailored for children aged 5 to 11, ensuring a day of fun and discovery for the entire family.

Paul said: "The enduring relationship between CHRG and its sub-clubs spans over 50 years, with the group providing crucial funding to support the dedicated work of volunteers and ensuring the ongoing participation in sport and community activities."

This commitment exemplifies CHRG's dedication to nurturing community engagement and development, ensuring that everyone, regardless of their interests, finds a welcoming place to enjoy time, within CHRG, its venues and sub-clubs."



Volunteer Award winners:

Ken Sherwood (Castle Hill Bowling Club)
John Langford (CHRS Adult swimming Club)
Frank Gnanam (CHRS Badminton Club)
Peter Sredojevic (CHRS Cricket Club)
Simon Duda (CHRS Darts Club)
Belinda Dale (CHRS Dolphins Swimming Club)
David Spencer (CHRS Fishing Club)
Dave Sherlock (CHRS Golf Club)
Keiran Hart (CHRS Gymnastics club)
Boris Manente (CHRS Rockets Football)
Louis Minihan (CHRS snooker club)
Petra Evans (CHRS Youth Wind Orchestra)
Tom Madigan (Parramatta Golf Club)
Wayne Ball (Lynwood Golf Club)

Junior Sportsperson of the Year

Aarohi Puri (CHRS Badminton Club)
Cadell Birch (CHRS Cricket Club)
Hailey Leung (CHRS Dolphins Swimming Club)
Eva Fountis (CHRS Gymnastics club)
Shivam Lal (CHRS Rockets Football)
Ciny Hu (CHRS Youth Wind Orchestra)
Jordan Ball (Lynwood Golf Club)

To find out more about the expo visit:
<https://www.castlehillrsl.com.au/featured/sports-community-expo/>



CHRG

Sports & Community EXPO

25TH NOVEMBER
10AM - 4PM

PARTICIPATING CLUBS

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Fishing
Golf
Gymnastics
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(kids health & fitness program)



Castle Hill RSL Club 77 Castle Street, Castle Hill

www.castlehillrsl.com.au



Wreaths being laid at Richmond Park



The flags for England, New Zealand and Australia being raised at Richmond Park

Remembrance Day Services By JOSH KERWICK

A number of Remembrance Day services were held across the Hills and Hawkesbury to commemorate 105 years since the end of World War 1, inspiring members of the community to honour the sacrifice of all those who have died protecting our country in wartime.

In The Hills, a service was held at Balcombe Heights Estate on Sunday November 5th in Thompson Hall, due to significant rainfall affecting the planned outdoor ceremony. Nonetheless, the service was moving thanks to beautiful words from speakers like Hills Shire Mayor Peter Gangemi and numerous school students.

Held in front of the War Memorial in Richmond Park, the Hawkesbury celebrated Remembrance Day on Saturday November 11th with an impressive turnout alongside the Richmond Markets. The Richmond RSL Sub-Branch conducted a wonderful ceremony, with a huge amount of wreaths laid by members of the community.



Mayor Peter Gangemi addresses the Balcombe Heights Estate Remembrance Day service



School students from across The Hills at the Ceremony



Group photo from BHE's Remembrance Day Service



All wreaths laid at the Richmond Park Cenotaph



1930 Dresden Plate quilt



1930 American quilt



Hexi-Quilt

Arcadian Quilting

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!!! The shops are already bursting at the seams with Christmas fare ... the overseas mail is also into the swing with parcels, cards and those collectable Christmas stamps.

The Carols can be heard wherever we go! I wonder if Meredith Willson had any idea how popular her Christmas song would become when she wrote "It's beginning to look like Christmas" in 1951?

The quilting members recently enjoyed several lovely surprises (a bit like Christmas) when we were shown two 1930's quilts, both belonging to one of our members. Having once lived in America she was able to buy and add these two amazing quilts to her private collection.

The first quilt is made from embroidered blocks, each representing a State of America (50 states at that time) and the second quilt is called a Dresden Plate quilt. Both are hand-made and hand-quilted.

Another group member proudly showed her 'hand-pieced' Hexi-Quilt, a true labour-of-love, 3 years in the making and quilted by Sue Olma.

Normal life goes on around the planning and preparation for Christmas and we next look forward to seeing Andrea Blackford from the Assistance Dogs Australia Team and her

Ambassador dog Bella at our meeting on 29th November when we will present quilts to her for children who will receive an Assistance Dog as a support to their lives. We are proud to be able to add in a small way to the wellbeing of children with difficulties.

May we wish each of you a very merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Let's see 2024 as an open-door to a better future for all!

For further information please call Carole on 9894 7749.



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ROUSE HILL WELCOMES SWIFT EMERGENCY AND URGENT CARE FACILITY

COMMUNITY NEWS



Rouse Hill, [Today's Date] – The Rouse Hill community has welcomed a cutting-edge healthcare facility, SWIFT Emergency and Urgent Care. This newly opened Specialist Walk-In Fast Track Emergency and Urgent Care centre is situated just a short stroll from the Town Centre and is conveniently accessible via the Metro line and bus services, promising swift care for all non-life-threatening medical emergencies from 10am to 10pm.

SWIFT operates on a Level 1 Urgent Care model, led by emergency staff specialists and nurses with extensive experience in managing both adult and paediatric emergencies. SWIFT is committed to seeing patients within 30 minutes, an approach that allows for efficient and focused care, sparing patients the long waits typically associated with busy emergency departments.

Equipped with the latest medical technology, SWIFT hosts on-site radiology services, including CT scans, Ultrasound, and MRI, available until 9 pm. It also offers comprehensive pathology services to promptly investigate, treat, and manage a broad spectrum of medical complaints. The facility is capable at managing various medical and surgical cases, from sports injuries, sprains, and dislocations to minor head injuries and other non-life-threatening medical emergencies. Whether it's applying plaster casts to acute fractures or monitoring cardiac conditions with their five cardiac monitored beds, the facility is well-prepared to address a range of health concerns.

SWIFT is equipped to treat a variety of paediatric conditions, such as minor injuries, lacerations, abrasions, as well as common childhood illnesses like chest infections, gastroenteritis, and rashes. With the support of on-site paediatric specialists, SWIFT's emergency physicians

ensure that the unique medical requirements of children are met with the utmost care and expertise. The medical care team is trained to reduce anxiety and discomfort for children during medical procedures, including minor sedation, making SWIFT a reliable and welcoming place for parents seeking urgent medical attention for their kids.

More than just an urgent care facility, SWIFT also offers specialized services in orthopaedics, paediatrics, cardiology, dental care, and physiotherapy. Additionally, SWIFT provides support to the community with a specialist falls clinic for recurrent falls and syncope and a rapid-access infusion clinic for iron and zoledronic acid in a closely monitored environment.

In cases requiring hospitalization, such as surgical conditions like appendicitis, SWIFT will coordinate a seamless transfer to both private and public hospitals for further treatment, bypassing busy emergency departments.

As a Level 1 Urgent Care Centre, SWIFT is well-positioned to support the rapidly growing Hills district and surrounding areas, while it awaits the development of the Rouse Hill Public Hospital. This innovative health service is set to change the way urgent medical care is delivered in Rouse Hill, offering a new beacon of hope for fast and efficient medical attention.

For more information, visit the SWIFT Emergency and Urgent Care facility, go to www.swiftemergencycare.com.au, or call one of their friendly staff on 1300 ESWIFT.





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MONDAY DECEMBER 25TH
CHRISTMAS BUFFET LUNCH
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KIDS 4 AND UNDER: FREE
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Indulge in the Ultimate American Dining Experience at Lone Star Rib House & Brews

At Lone Star Rib House & Brews, they're not just about ribs and steak - they're about celebrating the heart and soul of American cuisine.

Their menu is a symphony of flavours, offering everything from mouth watering pastas and succulent schnitzels to juicy burgers and decadent desserts. It's a journey that explores the diverse culinary landscape of the United States.

As the Home of the Texas Rib Ranger, they proudly present Their signature dish: the Texas Rib Ranger, designed to share. This mouthwatering feast for two features their famous 8-hour slow cooked beef and pork ribs, house-made slaw, and their secretly seasoned fries. It's a culinary adventure that captures the essence of the Lone Star State and embodies the spirit of their restaurant.

But that's not all Lone Star Rib House & Brews has to offer. Their full-service bar boasts an extensive selection of local and craft beers, as well as a variety of handcrafted cocktails. Whether you're enjoying a refreshing brew or sipping on a unique cocktail, their bar is the perfect place to unwind and socialise.

What sets them apart is not just their delectable menu and vibrant bar, but also their commitment to providing an unforgettable dining experience. They're open for lunch and dinner, seven days a week, ensuring that you can satisfy your cravings at any time.

And here's the cherry on top: Kids Eat Free every Sunday with the purchase of a main meal. It's their way of making family dining even more enjoyable and affordable.

They invite you to savour the true essence of American cuisine, enjoy great company, and create memories that will keep you coming back for more. Join them today and let your taste buds embark on a journey through the flavours of the USA.

www.lonestarribhouse.com.au

out and about

with MICHELLE BYRNE

Marshmallow Kids Café

Being a parent or grandparent and spending hours in parks, playgrounds and indoor play centres you quickly become a connoisseur on the topic.

You know exactly where to find the best parks, or the playground with water play or shade clothes or which playground or indoor centre suits which age group better. There is nothing more exciting for children when you discover a new playground or indoor centre they haven't seen before and even more exciting for parents when there is a café attached or nearby with decent coffee.

This week with my 8 year old's at school, I took my youngest daughter Sophie who recently turned 4 to the Marshmallows Kids Café in Castle Hill. Located in Salisbury Road in the Victoria Avenue Industrial Precinct, Marshmallow Kid Café is spread over two levels and is completely different to any indoor playcentre we have been to. Downstairs in the main café area is a sweet little castle with a slide attached that runs into a



massive ball pit. In the back part of the ground floor is a more traditional indoor climbing playground with some seriously fast slides attached that even dare devil Sophie wasn't prepared to try!

However, what impressed us most and kept us most entertained was upstairs which is all aimed at creative playing and getting children to use their imaginations. There is a section dedicated to playing dress ups and which kid doesn't enjoy dressing up as a princess or a fireman or a dragon with hats and handbags to match. A fruit and vegetable shop, a pizza cart, a kitchen and so much more to play with. Building towers, creating things on the lego wall including a zoo and placing letters on the magnetic wall provided us with fun as did the music area with a piano which the kids can play and sing.

There are party rooms and recently Marshmallow Kids Café introduced a school holiday program for children aged 5 to 9 and including art and dance sessions. The Café itself sells an incredible range of healthy food options such as fruit salad, Japanese Curry Chicken Katsu, Lamb skewers with rice and so much more. The staff are amazing and the café and play areas are sparkling clean. Of course, all children receive a marshmallow on their way out.

Marshmallow Kids Café is very different to any indoor play centre we have visited in the past and I can see that it will easily become a favourite place of ours to visit. For more information on Marshmallow Kids café including opening times please check out their FB page.



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Do you really need a hearing aid?

with Daniel Fechner,
Ear Studio



Do I really need a hearing test?

Is it the right question to ask? In cases of hearing loss, the most common treatment a hearing care professional will offer is a hearing aid. While we all wait for a permanent cure for hearing loss, for many people hearing aids are the best option available, as they help to maximise the hearing a person has left. Hearing aids work on enhancing sounds a person may no longer hear naturally, making it easier to hear important sounds for communication and environmental awareness, and as soon as a hearing loss is measurable it's likely that a hearing aid can provide help.

If you or a loved one is recommended a hearing aid, a very natural question you may think to ask is, "do I really need a hearing aid?" This is understandable and for people that rely on hearing for their occupation, for family or social responsibilities, or for personal safety, the answer may be a clear, "yes, I do need a hearing aid!"

However, considering it takes the average person seven to ten years to act upon their hearing loss, it's obvious that many of us feel less certain about an answer. Simply considering whether a hearing aid is something you need might not give you the full picture, and a more important question that allows for an informed discussion to ask is, "what do I risk by not acting now to improve my hearing?" This allows you to understand the consequences of not choosing to get an aid, and the latest research is starting to show that there are significant consequences both

in the medium to long-term for those who decide to delay intervention.

Early adoption of hearing aids even in cases of mild hearing loss has a number of advantages over waiting. Those with hearing loss:

- who don't wear hearing aids are 50 per cent more likely to develop mild cognitive impairment, a precursor to dementia, than those with hearing loss who wear hearing aids
- who opt to not be fitted with hearing aids need to exhaust additional cognitive resources (ie. brain power) engaging in challenging social situations, resulting in additional exhaustion and mental fatigue when with company
- who don't wear hearing aids are at greater risk of social isolation, loneliness and depression
- without hearing aids are more likely to live sedentary lives with less physical activity

Meaningful connectivity

Modern hearing aids provide a number of technological benefits. They can be directly connected to media and phone sources of sound via Bluetooth technology in a similar way to earphone products, and can also access special accessibility settings of the phone, allowing for an enhanced phone or media experience, and greater connectedness to social and other entertainment activities.

Choosing to adopt hearing aids earlier saves the need for looking at other methods of hearing

augmentation, such as TV entertainment system upgrades, earphones/headphones or assistive listening apps.

The early bird gets the worm, and the early hearing aid adopter maximises the benefits of hearing aids. When it comes to maximising the benefits of wearing a hearing aid, there is a lot to gain from acting quickly, and a lot to lose if the decision is delayed. Watch out for the early warning signs that should prompt you to act: Voices are audible but not clear – people tend to sound like they are mumbling more than before.

Situations with background noise are becoming increasingly more difficult. You find yourself asking friends and family to repeat themselves often. Your TV, car radio or phone are louder than other people's. If you find yourself noticing any of these signs, or have more questions about your hearing ability, book your next appointment today.

To book, phone (02) 9159 6122, email: reception@earstudio.com.au or visit www.earstudio.com.au. Ear Studio is located at Suite 9/60 Cecil Avenue, Lawton House in Castle Hill. TRADING HOURS: Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm, Saturday by appointment only. Proudly independent and locally owned

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LET'S WELCOME SANTA TO GROVE SQUARE!

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visiting Santa
for photos will
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Meet Rudolf, The Gingerbread Man, helper elves and the big man himself while being entertained by Christmas musicians and a special cheer dance by MNM.

Saturday 2 December, from 10am

Free Christmas Craft fun at Santa's Workshop!

Sat 9 Dec Make your own Star Ornament
Sat 16 Dec Make cute Christmas Finger Puppets!
11am - 2pm daily, near Red Dollar

To view Santa photo packages
and times including Sensory Friendly
and Pet Photos, scan the QR code or
visit grovesquare.com.au



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*Visit our website for dates, terms and conditions.

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**GROVE
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- THE HILLS -

The Hills Shire Council News

Illuminate The Hills Is Back

From Thursday 30 November 2023 – Monday 1 January 2024 head down to Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden to enjoy the rose garden after dark.

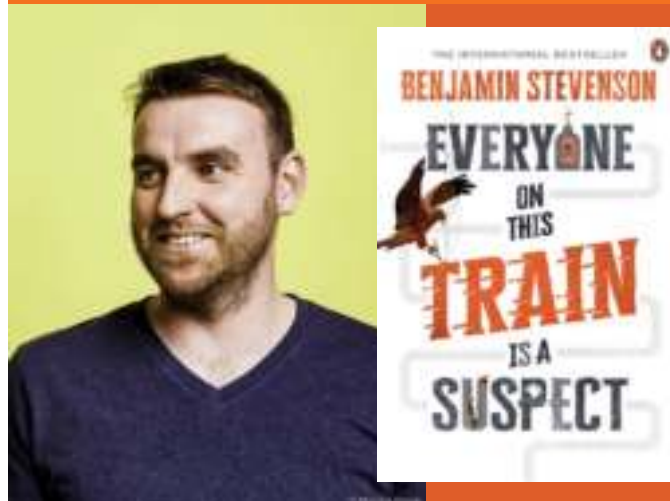
Wander through rose-lined pathways and twinkling fairy lights, magnificent Christmas installations and a nativity scene that's sure to get you and your family in the festive spirit.

On opening night, you might even see Santa and Mrs Claus! The rose garden is located on Roxborough Park Road, Baulkham Hills, next to Waves Fitness & Aquatic Centre.

For more information, visit Council's website and search for 'Illuminate the Hills' in the search bar.



An Evening with Benjamin Stevenson



Tuesday 5 December 2023 | 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Join us for an evening with award-winning comedian and author Benjamin Stevenson as he discusses his latest book, *Everyone On This Train Is A Suspect* – the highly anticipated sequel to his international bestseller. Don't miss out on an incredible evening. To secure your tickets before they sell out, visit Council's website and search for '**Benjamin Stevenson**' in the search bar.

Know someone remarkable?

We are on the hunt for remarkable individuals and groups who've made a positive impact on our community.

Nominate them now, and let's celebrate their contributions during our Australia Day celebrations!

We have five award categories you can nominate for:

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

Don't miss the chance to recognise and honour those who make our community special. Apply today via Council's website by searching 'Australia Day Awards'.

Council Meetings

Tuesday 28 November, 2023 – 7pm

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

Safely dispose of harmful chemicals

You can help to prevent the harmful effects household chemicals have on our environment by bringing them to Castle Hill Showground on Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 December (9am – 3:30pm) where they will be disposed of appropriately.

More information on the annual Chemical CleanOut events, including acceptable items for disposal, is available on Council's website.



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



Mayor Gangemi and President of Kenthurst Rotary Club Chris Gaskin at John Benyon Rotary Park.

Council Awards Over \$150k to 16 Deserving Community Groups

\$150,000 was handed out amongst 18 local community groups who applied for funding assistance through Council's Annual Community Grants Program.

The Annual Community Grants Program provides funding between \$2,500 and \$25,000 to eligible community groups that deliver services to The Hills Shire community.

To read the full story and to see the full list of recipients visit Council's website and search for '**Council Awards Over \$150k to 16 Deserving Community Groups**' in the search bar.

Your Bin Collection could be Changing Days

Starting from 4 December 2023, bin collections for around 20,000 households and businesses across 16 suburbs of The Hills will change.

Affected residents* have already begun receiving letters notifying them of their new collection days. Make sure you check your letterbox.

You can find out your new bin collection day by using the online bin collection map available on the Council website.

Visit Council's website and search for 'Bin Collection Schedule Changes' in the search bar.

**Affected suburbs include: Rouse Hill, Kellyville, Maraylya, Nelson, Baulkham Hills, Annangrove, Glenorie, Castle Hill, Box Hill, North Kellyville, Beaumont Hills, Norwest, Bella Vista and Glenhaven.*



Emily Who Christmas Show is back!



We are excited to announce that the Emily Who Christmas Show will be returning to the Pioneer Theatre! Join us for an interactive, fun-filled Christmas event packed full of Christmas songs and plenty of dancing!

Date: Monday 18 December 2023
Time: 10:00am – 10:45am
Location: The Pioneer Theatre, Level 1, 14 Pennant Street, Castle Hill

The show is suitable for preschool-age children. Bookings are essential. To book, visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au/Library and search for '**Christmas Show**'



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



THE HILLS
 Sydney's Garden Shire

WHAT'S ON

IN THE HILLS TO HAWKESBURY

NOVEMBER 18, 2023

Richmond Good Food Market
8am-1pm
Richmond Park (oval)

The Richmond Good Food Market is a weekly farmers market. My parents and I started it over 3 years ago to support local farmers, producers, to do something wonderful and special for the community and to bring tourism into the district. We are every Saturday in Richmond Park 8am-1pm. We celebrate a themed festival every month with lots of stalls and music.

Grow Our Own Food – Session 2
9am – 12pm
Hawkesbury EarthCare Centre,
Corner Campus Drive & Science
Road, Richmond

GOOF (Grow Our Own Food) is a 5-week programme which teaches you how to live sustainably and grow your own food. Apply what you learn to balconies, backyards, community gardens or local schools.

These interactive workshops are a mix of theory and practical with lots of resources. Using the Ethics and Principles of Permaculture, GOOF will show you how to design, set up and run your own sustainable garden, with an emphasis on water management, flood mitigation and changing climatic conditions.

Residents from the Penrith and Hawkesbury areas who have been affected by floods are eligible to attend.

Bookings & Enquiries:
Amanda Argent
Phone: 0409 513 337
Email: secretary@earthcare.org.au

Solar Battery Showcase
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
3/9 Killo Crescent, Glendenning

Come and learn about the latest solar battery technology at our showcase event! We'll have a range of batteries on display, as well as experts on hand to answer your questions.

This is a great opportunity to find out more about how solar batteries can help you save money on your energy bills and reduce your carbon footprint.

Celebration of Bangadyi Nawi and Opening of Canoe Exhibit
11 am
8 Baker Street Windsor,
NSW 2756 Australia

Bangadyi Nawi was a community project between Hawkesbury Regional Museum, the Dharug community and Brewongle Environmental Education Centre. The project provided a transformative experience for local Aboriginal high school students who created a traditional canoe during an inter-generational camp, led by Elder Uncle Dean Kelly and with Uncle David Payne and Dharug Educator Erin Wilkins.

Broadway Meets Pop!
07:30 PM
Hornsby RSL, 4 High St, Hornsby

Sydney Harmony & Circular Keys Chorus, are coming to The Showroom at Hornsby RSL Club! Renowned for their exquisite A-Capella prowess, unite to present a night of thrilling entertainment revisiting the best of Broadway and Pop, Sydney Harmony will leave audiences in awe with their intricate 4-part harmonies and modern Pop and Rock renditions, featuring hits by Queen, Billy Joel, and The Electric Light Orchestra

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

My Kids Market
09:00 AM – 12:00 AM
Bernie Mullane Sports Complex,
Marella Ave, Kellyville

My kids market is bringing BIG savings to families with their hugely popular baby & kids event in Kellyville.

- HUGE selection of boys & girls pre-loved clothing
- Toys, books, shoes, nursery items & more
- Local families recycling their gently used items kids have outgrown
- Prices you need to see to believe

PLUS... Exclusive Market Day deals from local business stalls, showcasing their unique baby & kids brands

CHRISTMAS FETE

19 NOVEMBER
2:00PM – 7:00 PM



Christmas Fete | 02:00 PM – 07:00 PM
Cherrybrook Primary School, 131 New Line Rd,
Cherrybrook NSW 2126

This year, the Christmas Fete will be held on Saturday 19th November from 2pm to 7pm. There will be a variety of stalls, including the Santa Stall, the food stalls, the games stalls, and the craft stalls. There will also be live entertainment, and a visit from Santa.

Platypus Bushcare
09:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Connelly Way, Kellyville, 2155

Everyone welcome. No experience necessary!

Volunteers have cleared an area of Privet and other weeds from this area of Cattai Creek Conservation Area Reserve, Kellyville within the ecological communities Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest and the Critically Endangered Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest. There have also been sightings of the Powerful Owl in this area, which is listed as Vulnerable under State legislation.

Jazz at The Pines
12:00 PM – 04:00 PM
Dural Visitor Centre, Roughley
House, 656A Old Northern Road,
Dural, 2158

The much-loved Jazz at The Pines returns to the Hills – enjoy an afternoon of live Jazz in the grounds of historic Roughley House at Dural.

Bring your picnic and relax under the magnificent old pine trees. Tables can be booked or set up your own chairs or picnic rug.

Freshly baked cakes, tea and coffee will also be available in the Visitor Centre.

Tickets can be purchased on the day at the gate by cash or card, however bookings are advised.

The Bush Track Bushcare Group
01:00 PM – 04:00 PM
Timber Grove Reserve,
Timber Grove, Glenhaven, 2156

The Bush Track Group works in Citadel Crescent Reserve within Sandstone Gully Forest along an unnamed tributary which flows into Cattai Creek in Glenhaven, removing weeds and rubbish from along the creekline.

This reserve is also home to some threatened plant species.

Everyone welcome! No experience necessary.

NOVEMBER 20, 2023

Senior's Coriander & Ginger Gardening Club
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
9 Park Street, Riverstone NSW 2765

Senior gardeners from the Coriander & Ginger Gardening Club tending to their crops. The club is a great place for seniors to stay active, learn about gardening, and socialize with other plant lovers.



NOVEMBER 21, 2023

Movies @ Your Library

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*Hawkesbury Central Library 300
George Street Windsor, NSW 2753*

Join us at Hawkesbury Central Library for our free and fun social movie events.

Due to licensing agreements, the movie titles are not able to be listed on our Eventbrite bookings page. Please contact the Library for the film title and more information.

Tea and coffee provided. You are welcome to bring along your own snack or popcorn.

NOVEMBER 23, 2023

Compost and Worm Farms

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*Community Environment Centre,
Currie Avenue, Annangrove, 2156*

Learn how to recycle your food waste at home this school holidays! Learn, discover, and investigate the effects of food waste on the environment.

This workshop goes through a step-by-step guide on how to setup a worm farm and compost bin and how to maintain it.

There will be cross sectional model of a worm farm that is on display and real-life examples of compost and worms for participants to touch and feel, along with a composting superstar native to Australia, a Giant Burrowing Cockroach!

This workshop is supported by The Hills Shire Council Resource Recovery Team.

Tech Help Windsor

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

*Hawkesbury Central Library 300
George Street Windsor, NSW 2753*

Do you have a tech enquiry or are you struggling with a specific task? Hawkesbury Library staff and volunteers will help you find the answer to your problem.

Bookings are essential by phoning (02) 4560 4465.



NOVEMBER 24, 2023

Vacation Care:

Free Information Session

10:00 AM – 03:00 PM

*Museums Discovery Centre,
172 Showground Road,
Castle Hill, 2154*

A chance for coordinators and administrators to preview the Vacation Care offering.

Bring your vacation care group to Powerhouse Castle Hill for a fun-filled day of activities discovering and interacting with the Powerhouse Collection.

Groups of 15–60 children will explore six exciting galleries, meet the Mars Rover, create and learn at the children's corner and take on the mystery object challenge.

Tech Help Richmond

03:00 PM – 05:00 PM

*Richmond Branch Library, 29 W
Market St, Richmond NSW 2753*

Do you have a tech enquiry or are you struggling with a specific task? Hawkesbury Library staff and volunteers will help you find the answer to your problem.

Bookings are essential by phoning (02) 4560 4474.

NOVEMBER 25, 2023

Australian Gem and Mineral Expo

November 25–26, 2023

*645 Pennant Hills Road,
Carlingford NSW 2118*

This two-day expo showcases jewellery, crystals, fossils, minerals, gemstones, and curios. Traders from all over Australia offer a vast collection of items. You can buy beautiful gemstones and have them set into jewellery. There's something for everyone, including a kids quiz.

The Hawkesbury Harvest

Farmers & Fine Food Markets

08:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*Castle Hill Showground,
Off Showground Road,
Castle Hill, 2154*

The Hawkesbury Harvest Farmers and Fine Food Markets run on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 8am – 12noon at Castle Hill Showground, Castle Hill.

Featuring an abundance of fresh produce to tempt the taste buds of most hunters and gatherers.

Grow Our Own Food – Session 3

09:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*Hawkesbury EarthCare Centre,
Corner Campus Drive & Science
Road, Richmond*

GOOF (Grow Our Own Food) is a 5-week programme which teaches you how to live sustainably and grow your

own food. Apply what you learn to balconies, backyards, community gardens or local schools.

These interactive workshops are a mix of theory and practical with lots of resources. Using the Ethics and Principles of Permaculture, GOOF will show you how to design, set up and run your own sustainable garden, with an emphasis on water management, flood mitigation and changing climatic conditions.

Residents from the Penrith and Hawkesbury areas who have been affected by floods are eligible to attend.

Bookings & Enquiries:

Amanda Argent

Phone: 0409 513 337

Email: secretary@earthcare.org.au

The Hawkesbury Country Christmas Market

November 25, 2023, 03:00 PM to
November 26, 2023

*Hawkesbury Showground,
Racecourse Rd,
Clarendon NSW 2756*

Returning to the Hawkesbury Showground in 2023, the Hawkesbury Country Christmas Market will help you tick off the last items on your Christmas Shopping List – and have a good time doing so! Between the beautiful boutique stalls, delicious food offerings, live music, photo opportunities, and a visit from Santa, there's a little bit of something for everyone!

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

ILLUMINATE THE HILLS 2023

November 30, 2023, 07:00 PM to
January 2, 2024, 09:00 PM

*Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose
Garden, Roxborough Park Rd,
Baulkham Hills, 2153*

Head down to Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden to enjoy the rose garden after dark.

Wander through rose-lined pathways and twinkling fairy lights, magnificent Christmas installations and a nativity scene that's sure to get you and your family in the festive spirit.



Rotary Christmas Cheer

Fresh Christmas trees are being sold by Rotarians in December with all funds raised going to charity and Rotary projects.

The Rotary Club of The Hills-Kellyville will be selling trees in both the Bull and Bush car park in Seven Hills Rd, Baulkham Hills and The Ettamogah Hotel (car park), corner of Windsor Rd and Merriville Rd, Kellyville Ridge on the first three weekends in December.

Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club members will be selling Christmas Trees in the carpark of Bunnings Castle Hill in the first two weeks of December. The finest of Christmas Trees are sourced from NSW farms and are freshly delivered each weekend.



All profits will be used to help local projects or overseas aid programs. The Rotary Club of the Hills-Kellyville use the profits from Christmas tree sales to fund local programs including literacy initiatives for students and a local community garden. Further afield the club continues its Bourke Public School Breakfast Club project, helping to increase school attendance.

Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club will also be running a Giving Tree at Norwest Marketown with all gifts collected going to the Salvation Army Rouse Hill for families in need. Last year, generous shoppers left enough to pack three big cars full of new gifts for children and teens, food for hampers and gift cards.

The Rotary Club of The Hills-Kellyville is also running "The Giving Tree" at Grove Square (formerly Stockland Mall), Baulkham Hills.

The Giving Tree has supported those in need at Christmas for more than two decades and this year up to 200 gifts will go to children, young adults and women at three women's refuges.

The Rotary Club of The Hills-Kellyville meets every Monday for dinner at the St Joseph's Conference Centre at Baulkham Hills. Arrive 6.30pm for a 7pm start.

Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club meets for breakfast on Friday mornings at The Hills Shire Cafe at Hills Shire Council arrive at 7am for 7.20am start. To find out more visit the club's facebook pages.

Members of Rotary Club of Kurrajong North Richmond will be selling their fresh Christmas trees in the Coles carpark at North Richmond every weekend in December until Christmas Eve.

Christmas is coming to The Centre Dural!

Nothing says festive spirit like jumping castles! If you are looking for something different to celebrate Christmas with the kids this year, Inflatable World Dural (at The Centre) is offering special prebooked Christmas Sessions early in the school holidays on the **18th and 19th December**. Kids will have a chance to jump till their hearts content, with visits from Santa and loads of extra Christmas fun!

For those dreaming of far off places, The Centre is offering a festive themed travel screening and lunch featuring Christmas Markets around the world on the **12th December**. Popular with the local seniors community, enjoy being momentarily whisked away to a far off location, continuing the journey through the senses with a tantalising 2 course meal.

The church at The Centre is also holding a family Christmas Carols service on the **10th December**, followed by a free sausage sizzle for the community. There is also a Christmas day service at 9am. The Centre wishes Peace and Joy to the whole community this busy season, celebrating Jesus this Christmas!

The Centre, 1 Pellitt Lane Dural, 8989 0000, thecentredural.org.au





Christmas CAROLS

Sunday 10th Dec 10am

Community event with free sausage sizzle after

thecentredural.org.au | 1 Pellitt Lane, Dural | 8989 0000



Christmas Markets

AROUND THE WORLD

12th Dec, 11am

Seniors event, enjoy a Christmas themed travel screening, followed by a festive 2 course meal.

\$38pp (SVP and wine before 1030 0000)

thecentredural.org.au | 1 Pellitt Lane Dural | 8989 0000

WESLEY Christmas Market



There will be a real feel of Christmas at the Wesley Uniting Church Community Christmas market on Saturday, December 9th running from 9.30am to 3pm.

As well as a host of stalls there will be a special musical treat with a free concert from 11am to noon at the market.

The amazing Nyanda Women's Choir will be singing everyone's favourite melodies in three and four part harmony.

As well as the 40-strong hummingsong choir there were be performances by a student from the Beata Stanowski School of Music and students from the Excelsia School of Music

Local artisans will have lots of amazing gift ideas for Christmas and there will be a big Christmas stall as well as activities for children, morning and afternoon teas and a barbecue.

If you are planning a relaxing summer break there are some wonderful books for sales as well as a great gardening section.

The Wesley Community Christmas Market is on Saturday 9th December, from 9.30am to 3pm at 32 Showground Rd, Castle Hill.



GROWING GIFTS

If you are looking for a gift that will last and bloom then pop along to Castle Hill Showground on Saturday, 9th December for a very event.

Bromeliads are stunning and come in all shapes, sizes and colours. The Bromeliad Society of Australia will be meeting in the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground and Christmas sales will be available to the public from 10am to 12pm.

The Society's meeting will commence at noon followed by the BSA Christmas celebrations for members and their guests.

The January meeting will be held on Saturday, 13th in the usual location with special guest speaker Doris Kiernan from the Central Coast Bromeliad Society.

For further information please contact Ian Hook, President, BSA on mobile 0408 202 269. Email ianhook1@bigpond.com or visit their website on www.bromeliad.org.au



Helena with some of her creations

Open Day at Creative Activities

Creative Activities has been part of the Hills crafting scene in Castle Hill for more than 44 years and if you'd like to have a peek into our world, why not come along to our open day on Wednesday, November 29. It's our last day of term for 2023 and we're bringing together the art and crafts we've made during the year to create a display of creativity.

Why not come along at 9.30am and try out the Tai Chi class. The gentle exercise is perfect for seniors and great for improving mobility and balance. Then from 10.30am, peruse the display, have a chat to those who create, then join in our end of year Christmas brunch at 11.30am. If you'd think this is something that would interest you, text Carolyn on 0416 077 291 to R.S.V.P or for more information. We're located in the church hall at 84 Cecil Avenue, Castle Hill.

Creative Activities

OPEN DAY at CREATIVE ACTIVITIES
NOVEMBER 29, 2023
84 CECIL AVENUE, CASTLE HILL

Join us to see what happens each Wednesday.

9.30am Tai Chi | 10.30am Display of Art & Craft | 11.30am Christmas Brunch

For information or to RSVP text Carolyn on 0416 077 291

INFLATABLE WORLD
DURAL

Christmas Sessions

Jumping, photos with Santa and lots of extra Festive Fun!

18 & 19 DEC Tickets \$25 each, pre-book online only
LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

thecentredural.org.au/inflatable-christmas

Power up with Tesla Powerwall

Prices Slashed
Quick install

\$750 REBATE ENDS SOON

Get A Quote

1300 525 451 SolarMadeEasy.com.au



Illuminate The Hills At The Rose Garden

The rose-lined pathways of Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Garden will be transformed into a Christmas wonderland with the return of Illuminate the Hills.

The Baulkham Hills garden, which is located next to Waves Fitness & Aquatic Centre, will be adorned with twinkling lights and decorated with festive installations, including a nativity scene and a walk-through bauble.

Mayor of The Hills Shire, Dr Peter Gangemi encouraged residents to visit the rose garden during Illuminate the Hills.

"The rose garden is one of the most beautiful spots in the shire, and during Illuminate the Hills, the location will be showcased at a whole new level," Mayor Gangemi said.

"Bring your family and friends to enjoy the rose garden embellished with thousands of

glittering lights and Christmas displays. The opening night of Illuminate the Hills will be a particularly wonderful celebration, and you may even see Santa, Mrs Claus, Rudolph and carollers."

Home to over 4,000 roses from 80 different species, the rose garden is one of the largest of its kind in NSW. The garden also features concrete pathways, making it wheelchair and pram-friendly.

The opening night of Illuminate the Hills will take place on Thursday, 30 November 2023. The event will begin at 7pm and the lights will be officially switched on by Mayor Gangemi at 7:30pm on the same night.

WHAT: Illuminate the Hills
WHEN: From 7pm on Thursday 30 November 2023 – Tuesday 2 January 2024. On opening night, see Santa, Mrs Claus, Rudolph, carollers and more.
WHERE: Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Rose Garden, located next to Waves Fitness & Aquatic Centre on Roxborough Park Road, Baulkham Hills.

The Christmas lights will be available for viewing every day from then up until Tuesday, 2 January 2024. Please note the lights will be switched off each night at 10:30pm.

For more information, visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and search for 'Illuminate the Hills.'

Rotary
 Club of West Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook

Christmas Market

Sunday 3 December 2023 - 9am to 3pm

Location: Corner Shepherds & Macquarie Drive, Cherrybrook.

FOOD, DRINKS, CRAFT, AND LOTS OF GOOD CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

All proceeds go to Domestic and Family Violence Charities, and other Rotary Charities.

Gold Coin Donation Entry | Card Payments Accepted

Make 200 call | rotary@rotaryclub.com.au
www.rotaryclub.com.au/2023-christmas-market

ROTARY CLUB OF GREATER HILLS

CHRISTMAS MARKETS

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GREATER HILLS
 IN CONJUNCTION WITH GALSTON,
 GLENORE NEWS PRESENT THE

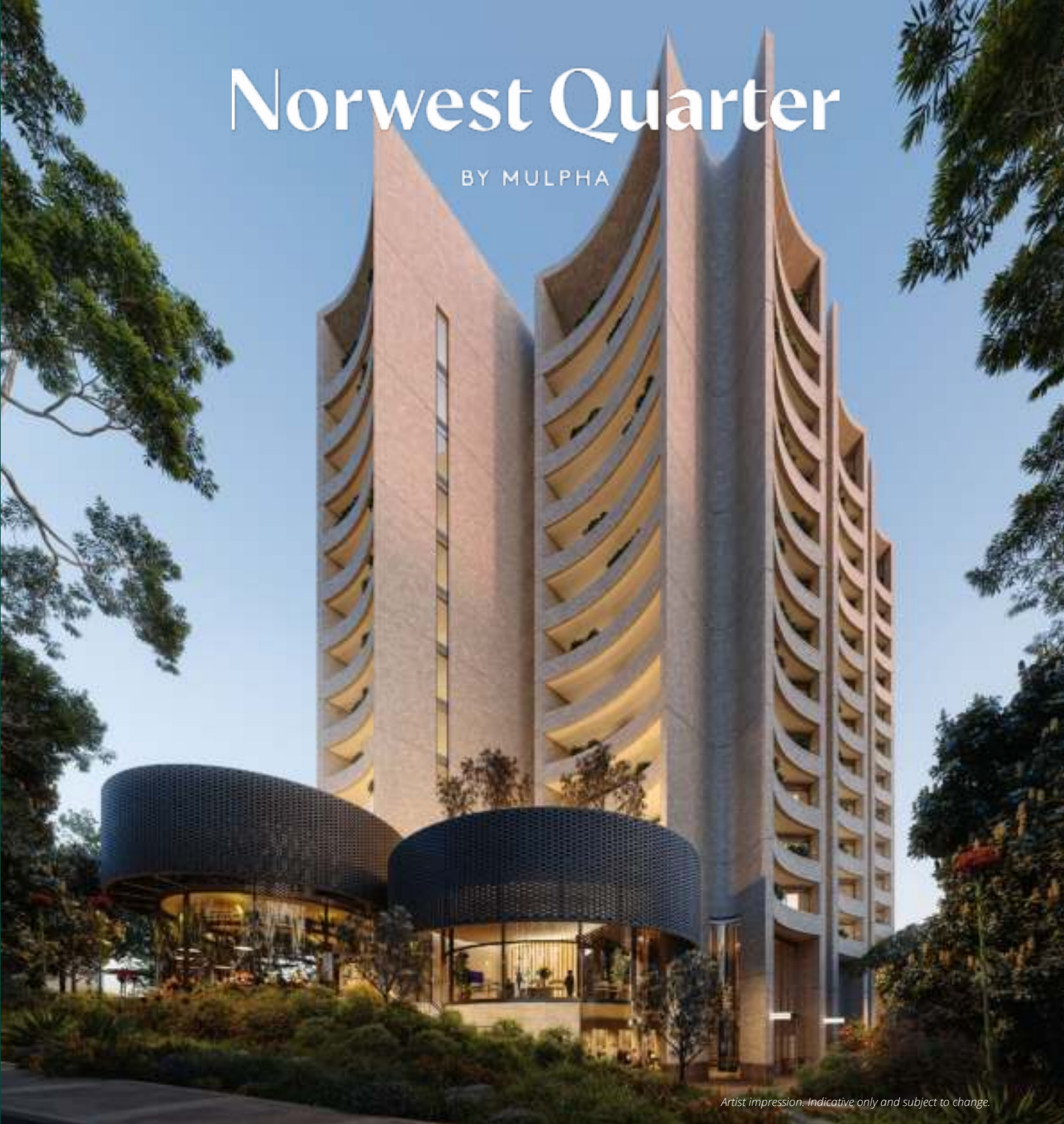
CHRISTMAS MARKETS AT THE GALSTON CLUB

NOVEMBER 25
11:30AM - 4:00PM

rotary club

Norwest Quarter

BY MULPHA



Artist impression. Indicative only and subject to change.

A track record you can trust.

Creating places to live, work and play in Norwest for 30 years.
Apartments under construction and now selling from \$720,000*



norwestquarter.com.au
1300 103 580

*Price correct as at 15/11/2023



Jim Green's
'Deforestation of Habitat'



Steph Brown's
'Breakfast set'



Sally Blackwell's
'Earth colours'



LOCAL ARTISTS SHINE AT HAWKESBURY NOW

By JOSH KERWICK

The work of talented locals is the focus of the current Hawkesbury Now Art Fair, taking place at Hawkesbury Regional Gallery until the 3rd of December. The exhibition is a chance for artists in the area to have their work properly displayed, whether it's their first or fifteenth time putting their art in public for gallery patrons to see.

Over 150 works by 62 artists have come from all across the Hawkesbury, including from the minds of creatives at beloved community makerspace Hawkesbury Remakery. A number of different artistic disciplines are present in the Remakery section of the exhibit, with metal sculptures, photographs, baskets and upcycled plane parts on display. Hawkesbury Remakery co-founder Liz Germani says it's "an incredible opportunity for artists to be part of this exhibition and get the exposure. Thanks to the Gallery for featuring local artists at least once a year!"

It's the first chance that Tasman Clayworks' Steph Brown has had to display her artwork in a formal gallery setting, despite having already made pottery her full-time profession in the last three years. "It started as a hobby on a Friday morning with a group in Blacktown, and I just fell in love with designing and creating little clay masterpieces," she says. "I moved to a group in Richmond, and they asked me to start teaching."

"My student list got so big that I had to find my own little shop in the South Windsor Mall. Now, I run multiple classes a week with 43 students and no longer have my normal day job – I've just had my week as a full time potter, and I'm loving it!"

Steph's pieces in the exhibit are a number of intricately decorated bowls and a set of breakfast ceramics, all distinctly striking in their designs. She is very pleased to have her work in the gallery: "The Remakery was glad to

submit a few of my pieces, and I put a few of my favourites in. It's so nice to see the talent we have in our little community, all the amazing artists and artwork that's up there now. It's a very major privilege to be doing this!"

Another artist, Jim Green, submitted a number of his meticulously crafted metal sculptures of Australian iconography. He's been creating sculptures of animals, movie characters and much more for over a decade, and this exhibit is not the first time that his work has been displayed publicly: "I displayed a dragon made out of recycled materials three years ago at the Hawkesbury show, and I got first prize in my category. Last year, I made a rooster, and that also got the top prize."

For the Hawkesbury Now exhibit, Jim submitted pieces that he was proud of that all revolved around Australian iconography. "After creating for so many years, the quality of my work keeps increasing, and I'll keep pushing myself to do better next time. Liz at the Remakery has been amazing, pushing me to do public pieces like a farmer over 6 feet and to submit to the Hawkesbury show, and three years in a row I've taken the top prize."

Creating artwork is a satisfying reprieve from working life for Jim: "Work can be repetitive, so I need that creativity so I can use my mind and hands for other things. I'm always trying to find new and interesting things to create and continue increasing the quality of my work."

Basket-weaver Sally Blackwell is also familiar with displaying her artwork across her 15 years of artistry: "I had just retired from the Department of Education, and I was offered the chance to learn basket making. So I went 'Sure!' and I haven't stopped since, because it's very addictive."

Sally has been involved with Hawkesbury Remakery from the beginning, since before they took up residence at their old Loder House location. She says "I like the ethos of it, being not-for-profit and all about giving opportunities to local people, while also having a social aspect. I noticed people isolate themselves too much, and through a number of programs at the Remakery, we try to counteract that."

The terrific works Sally is showing at Hawkesbury Now are all made out of upcycled materials, including bits of raffia and recycled net. It's indicative of her general style, for which she has won a number of awards at the Hawkesbury Show. Displaying the art is not what drives Sally, though: "I do a lot of workshops around the Hawkesbury, so that lots of people know how to weave and express themselves creatively. Because I was a teacher for so many years, I really like passing on knowledge and want everybody to keep learning – I firmly believe in that."

Follow Steph: @tasmanclayworks on Instagram
Follow Jim: @jimbosmetalart on Instagram
Follow Sally: @wastenotfibredesigns on Instagram

TICKS YOU DON'T WANT

By DR ALEX KANNEGIETER | BLIGH VETERINARY SERVICES CENTRE

Summer is here! While the long awaited warmer weather means we can head outside and enjoy the sunshine with our pets, it unfortunately has also encouraged some creepy crawlies to show themselves as well. The combination of recent rains and the warm conditions have resulted in the perfect environment for paralysis ticks to flourish.

Whilst usually more common in coastal areas, at Bligh Veterinary Services Centre we have had reports of ticks popping up in unexpected places.

Paralysis ticks are small insect with a distinct pale grey body. They tend to thrive in warm and wet conditions and usually live in bushy areas, however can sometimes be found in parks and even gardens. As they grow they seek out higher branches and leaves, then as an unsuspecting animal walks past they will drop on to them and begin feeding.

As suggested by their name, it is this feeding process that will cause paralysis to the unlucky victim. As the tick feeds it will secrete a powerful neurotoxin into the bloodstream, resulting in a profound paralysis.

This toxin will generally take anywhere between 2-3 days for signs to manifest, but in smaller animals may be quicker. Once signs develop they can progress quickly and form what we call an 'ascending paralysis'.

The paralysis tends to ascend from the hind limbs, up through the body towards the head over hours or days. Wobbly back legs are often the first visible sign, however presentations

can vary substantially. As the syndrome progress, the animal will be completely unable to walk as all the limbs become affected. The toxin will then start affecting all muscles throughout the body, including those that control swallowing and barking and most importantly, the muscles of the chest that allow an animal to breath. If left unattended, this paralysis will leave an animal unable to breath and result in death.

Signs that tick paralysis are developing include weak or wobbly movement, breathing difficulties, changes in bark or vocalisation, vomiting and regurgitation.

Fortunately tick paralysis can be treated by means of an antiserum, but due to the way that tick serum binds to muscle, even after they are treated, most animals will still get worse for some time before they get better. Additionally, even mild cases of tick paralysis will still require long hospital stays and require significant supportive care to recover fully.

This is absolutely a case where prevention is better than cure and fortunately there are

a wide range of effective tick preventatives on the market today for both dogs and cats. When given regularly, these products almost completely negate the risk of deadly tick paralysis. Whilst classic knowledge has often recommended only giving these products through summer, our changing climate has led us to see ticks popping up even through the winter months, and as such we recommend year round preventative medication be given to your pet.

If you have any questions or are worried about your pet, feel free to call us at Bligh Vet Services Centre.



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: SPOT
SEX: Male
BREED: American Bully x Staffy
AGE: 1 year old
PRICE: \$49



SPOT is still looking for a home. The one-year-old is a very happy, friendly boy according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter. They say that Spot just loves his play time and playing alongside the other dogs in the exercise yard. Spot has a big personality and loves to sit with you for attention and will need some training to help him settle into his new home. He is eager to please and will listen to commands. If you are interested in adopting Spot please come to the shelter with your family dog and children to meet him so that staff can be sure they are going to get along together. His adoption price has been reduced to \$49. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, microchipping and life-time council registration.

*Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation
Number is: R251000145.*

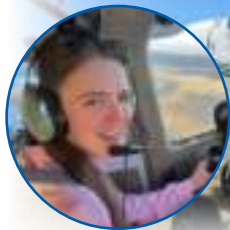
AT A GLANCE

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



JAX is a vibrant, happy boy according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter. They say at 7 years of age Jax still has a lot of life to live and will be happy with a daily walk, treats and lots of love. Staff say Jax has been social towards other dogs while enjoying his time in the exercise yard. If you are interested in adopting Jax and would like to meet him, come to the shelter with your family dog and children so that staff can ensure they will get on. As one of the featured dogs, his adoption price has been reduced to \$49. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and life-time registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.



Chloe has the right stuff

Meet Chloe Familton, a 17-year-old student living in Cherrybrook NSW who has just completed her HSC exams. Chloe started learning to fly at the age of 15 and progressed on to earning her Private Pilot's license in early 2023.

On the 13th of November, Chloe departed Cessnock Airport in a Cessna 172 and began a journey around the coast of Australia, with the aim of becoming the youngest woman to circumnavigate Australia solo in a light aircraft. This adventure will take over a month and she will land at 40 different airports, covering a distance of over 14,000 km, in a project named "Spread Your Wings".

"I feel so blessed to have been able to follow my passion at such a young age, to reach new literal and metaphorical heights. This November, I plan to spread my wings further by becoming the youngest woman to circumnavigate Australia solo in a light aeroplane", said

Chloe on her website www.chloefamilton.au.

Chloe's journey has three main goals:

1. To pay forward the support she has received and inspire young people, especially girls, to spread their wings and take flight to new possibilities.
2. Through this flight, Chloe is raising money for A Start in Life - www.astartinlife.org.au (<http://www.astartinlife.org.au>), an Australian charity which assists students by addressing barriers they are facing to their education. Support can include school essentials, IT equipment or camps and excursions. Chloe's aim is to raise \$20,000.
3. To challenge herself as an aviator.

Good luck Chloe and safe travels!

It's Spring-cleaning time!

Are you looking for specialist cleaning service? Is life keeping you so busy that the housework just doesn't seem to get done? Then Organised Cleaning is the company you need to contact!

Having launched in 2019 and with over 10 years' experience, this family-run business will gladly visit your home to take on this time-consuming task.

With highly trained staff and a reputation of paying particular attention to detail, they will bring all the necessary cleaning products, and proudly leave you with a sparkling clean home.

Covering both residential and commercial cleaning they work to an extremely high standard. They uphold a reputation that proceeds them paying particular attention to detail, so you can rest assured that the job is getting done well.

We all know how hard it is to find trusted and meticulous cleaners – but this struggle is now in the past. Don't stress over cleaning anymore. Call 0404 554 247 or request a free quote - Clean@OrganisedCleaning.com.au

(See ad on Page 44).

NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 81D OF THE REAL PROPERTY ACT 1900 ('ACT')

APPLICATION TO EXTINGUISH OBSOLETE RESTRICTIVE COVENANT (AT445221) BY LEGPRO 77A PTY LTD ('Applicant')

The above mentioned Application has been made under Section 81J of the Act to cancel the recording of covenant W294123 ('Restrictive Covenant').

The Applicant is applying to have the Restrictive Covenant extinguished on the basis that it is expressed to be in limited in operation, as the terms of the Restrictive Covenant state that it becomes void when the benefitted lots are transferred by way of sale.

The Restrictive Covenant sought to be cancelled:

1. affects the land in Folio Identifier 2/1281505 being Lot 2 Box Rd, Box Hill NSW owned by the Applicant. This land is adjacent to 2 Coursebrook St, Box Hill. For the avoidance of doubt, 2 Coursebrook St, Box Hill is not owned by the Applicant and the address has been provided to assist with geographical referencing only; and
2. benefits the land in the road remaining in 148/11104, lots 1-13 in DP1266842, 46/1288285 and lots 104-108, 114-115 and 117 in DP1282471. The above lots are in the vicinity of the land owned by the Applicant as specified in item 1 above.

We intend to register the Application and extinguish the recording of the Restrictive Covenant from Folio Identifier 2/1281505 unless, within one (1) month from the date of this notice you lodge at this Office, pursuant to section 74F(4B) of the Act, a caveat on form 08X prohibiting the granting of the Application, accompanied by the prescribed fee (currently \$165.40).

Enquiries: AT445221 JS LEG4, **Tel:** (02) 8776 3575

Email: ldr@nswlrs.com.au

Date: November 17th 2023

AUSSIE SAYS

Thank You

Aussie Pumps, birthed only 30 years ago in Arcadia, continues to grow not just in Australia, but also globally.

This innovative company is a great local success story. Unlike big corporations that are driven by shareholders with demands for dividends, Aussie is a family business and has proven that Australian innovation can produce products that are now considered "world best".

"This is a big thank you to the residences of the Hills and Hawkesbury area for the terrific support they have given us", said Aussie Pumps Operations Manager, Hamish Lorenz. "Our pumps outperform all others and are substantially better value than competitor products like Davey Pumps. 25% more performance and a substantially lower price makes the Aussie better value," he said. "The Aussie Fire Chief is the best lightweight portable fire pump in the world", said Hamish. Check the Aussie Pump Fire Ready ad for your local stockist.

(See ad on Page 4).





A WELCOMING RETIREMENT COMMUNITY IN BAULKHAM HILLS

Set among exquisitely landscaped gardens that have won awards for their all-year-round beauty, Aminya Village is a thriving retirement community nestled in the heart of Baulkham Hills.

With local shops, cafes, restaurants and medical facilities just a five-minute stroll away, residents can come home to a quiet village featuring stylish villas and an array of facilities.

Enjoy a relaxed social scene at the onsite community hall, café or barbecue area overlooking the bowling green. Or why not pamper yourself at the hair salon, get creative at

the carpentry workshop or show off your skills in the billiards room?

It's the residents that really make Aminya Village a home. It's a place where people care and look out for one another, and where you can feel safe, secure and supported.

For us, this is what retirement living is all about – community, belonging and togetherness. As a trusted provider since 1944, we pride ourselves on offering a holistic retirement living experience, with integrated home care services and a co-located residential aged care home for your future peace of mind.

Call now to book a tour – 1300 275 227



6 Goolgung Avenue, Baulkham Hills
Scan for more information or visit
baptistcare.org.au/aminya-village

Because we care

Tell us what you think and go into the draw for a \$100 gift card!

Hawkesbury Library Service is conducting a new Library Program survey to find out about residents' views on its current program of events as well as offer suggestions for future ideas or improvements.

The survey is open until midnight on Sunday, 3 December and participants can choose to enter the draw for a \$100 gift card.

The survey results will help to create a vision for a vibrant program of Library events and activities in the Hawkesbury in 2024, while also considering cost of living pressures.

The information you provide will be used to help shape and inform our services and programs for children, young adults and adults. We would like to encourage all members

and non-members, to share their ideas and insights and to help us put together an exhilarating strategy for the future.

Survey respondents will be required to register with Council's Your Hawkesbury Your Say to complete the survey, however the survey is anonymous, with no personal information collected, unless you wish to participate in the draw for a \$100 gift card (Councillors, staff and their immediate families may complete the survey but are not eligible for the gift card).

If you haven't registered previously, it is a quick and easy process. An email, username and password are all that is required and then you are ready to participate in the Library survey as well as comment on any of Council's current community engagement projects whenever you wish to do so.

To complete the survey, go to Council's community engagement website Your Hawkesbury Your Say at www.yourhawkesbury-yoursay.com.au/hawkesbury-library-service-program-survey up until midnight on Sunday, 3 December 2023.



BEST WISHES, RICHARD GLOVER

Come along to Hawkesbury Central Library, 300 George Street, Windsor for a fun and lively talk with the much-loved author and ABC radio presenter Richard Glover on Tuesday, 5 December 2023 from 6pm.

Richard's new book *Best Wishes* is a heartfelt and hilarious guide to making the world a better place, one wish at a time. Richard's humour and hopefulness is on full display – examining life's absurdities, annoyances and joys.

Richard Glover regularly writes for the Sydney Morning Herald as well as presenting the Afternoon Drive slot on ABC Radio Sydney.

Tickets are \$5 with bookings essential via <http://hawkesburylibrary.eventbrite.com> or call 4560 4460.

As well as meeting the author, there will be the chance to purchase the book (card or cash) and have it signed.

HIDDEN IN THE HILLS DUCKS

BY LACHLAN TURNER

Along many creeks flowing through local bushland reserves there are numerous ponds or deeper pools. Several water birds frequent the larger pools in search of food as well as establishing a secure nesting environment in thicker vegetation around the shoreline.



Australian Wood Ducks - with family

One such bird is the Pacific Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*). Although it is found in suitable habitats throughout Australia, it is generally a wary bird when not accustomed to people. It can be solitary, but also gathers in pairs and small groups. When breeding, mature ducks are mostly seen in pairs as they dabble along the edges of water courses searching for aquatic plants.

This common species is characterised by a distinctive blue bill, black and white markings on its head, with its neck and body being covered in dappled dark brown plumage.

Other ducks that frequent bushland waterways are the Australian Wood Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*) and the Australian

Shelduck (*Tadorna tadornoides*). All three mostly prefer a hollow in a tree for nesting which is only a short distance above the ground in close proximity to water.

These three species may lay up to 10 eggs each. The clutch leaves the nest very soon after birth. Both parents take seriously the responsibility of raising and protecting their family. The Australian Wood duck illustrated has a clutch of at least 13 chicks to look after.

When young, the newborn ducklings are confined to the ground, concealing themselves in long grass not far from the parent birds. They also have the ability to swim within a couple of days of hatching.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL TO SUPPORT SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Lisa Harnum Foundation is a local non-profit organisation dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic violence. Our mission is to provide a safe haven for those who have experienced hardship, offering hope, healing, and the chance for a brighter, safer future.

Your financial support can make a significant difference. No amount is too small, and every contribution counts.

Let's make this holiday season a time of compassion, empowerment, and transformation. Together, we can create a community that stands up against domestic violence and offers a brighter future for survivors.

Together, we can transform lives and spread joy. Your support matters. Our donation page: <https://lisa-harnum-foundation-christmas-appeal2023.raisely.com> Learn more about our foundation, visit our www.lisahf.org.au

Pavilion's Baskerville To Deliver Big Laughs

BY JOSH KERWICK

Castle Hill Players are delivering one more play before 2024 begins with Ken Ludwig's *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery*, a production that promises to pair an engaging murder-mystery with a healthy dose of comedy.

The men of the wealthy Baskerville family are being picked off one-by-one by a mysteriously clever killer, and it's up to Sherlock Holmes (David Allsop) and John Watson (Peter Phan) to crack the case before it's too late in this comedic twist on the classic Arthur Conan Doyle novel.

Baskerville is the first time that Jason Spindlow, a long-time member of the Pavilion Theatre family, has fully stepped into the role of director. Since his first play at the theatre, 2014's *Just Macbeth!* directed by Meredith Jacobs, Jason has become a valued member of the Castle Hill Players family, starring in a number of plays and recording many of them for archival purposes.

Having previously directed a *Dracula* radio play and been assistant director on 2022's production of *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. Jason says: "The big difference has been seeing all the other stuff you have to do as the full director backstage. Being assistant director, you just sit there and write your own notes, just focusing on the actors – but with directing, you have to answer lots of different questions. It's a lot of troubleshooting!"

In directing a play based on one of the most famous literary characters of all time, Jason has been inspired by a number of other Sherlock Holmes adaptations to build out the version in this play. "It's been interesting, because people have their own view of that character as well. Since it's comedic, everything has to be a bit tongue and cheek to the audience, while also showing he's struggling in a world of normality because of the way his mind works."

A notable aspect of *Baskerville* is its unique distribution of roles; while David Allsop and Peter Phan play the iconic duo of Holmes and Watson, the play's remaining three actors – Lana Jean Hill, Josiah Lucas and Jonathon Burt – play close to forty different roles in the play. Jason says one of the biggest challenges was determining how to differentiate each character: "Costume is a huge component of that, but the crew backstage have always said 'Yeah, we can do that.' And even when I ask if they're sure, they always say they've got it."

"Lana, Josiah and Jonathon have all been a blessing to work with too, because they've been building so many different characters. It was really tough during auditions, there were other actors that could do that, but these three came in with preset characters ready to go, and I was immediately thinking that's what I want."

Even for David and Peter in the roles of Holmes and Watson, Jason has encouraged a lot of playing around. "We're being irreverent to the text, having a crack at anything even if the script makes you feel one way, you try to take it another. Peter has been particularly irreverent, I get lots of different things from him - it'd be a different accent every night, from Northern England to Cockney!"

Although it's a lot of work to create so many different characters, everyone's been having an "almost illegal" amount of fun, according to Jason. "I think sometimes that maybe I should be a little more rigid with



Director Jason Spindlow on the set of *Baskerville*


things, but I feel like we've produced some really cool stuff. We've had some things happen accidentally onstage and we've burst out laughing, and I say keep that! That's brilliant for your character."

Jason has deeply enjoyed being in the director's seat for *Baskerville*. "I loved the journey with it; seeing the evolution of the actors, the difference between the rehearsals in the foyer and then seeing a set with a black curtain being put up, and you sit there thinking how different it was to when you first started. I've got lots of enjoyment out of it, but the fact that this is a story lots of people are going to come and see... that's the part I'm most excited about."

Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery opens on Friday 17th November at 8pm, with the season running until the 9th of December. It's a play you'll die laughing trying to solve, providing lots of laughs while still containing the bones of an enthralling murder mystery - don't forget your deerstalker caps. Tickets are \$30pp, or \$25pp for Concession tickets.



The Cast of *Baskerville*



Ken Ludwig's BASKERVILLE:

A Sherlock Holmes Mystery

Directed by Jason Spindlow
17 Nov to 9 Dec 2023

Use Promo Code 'WATSON' for 10% OFF!

at Checkout (step 3) when booking online (adult/concession only)

OR

mention the code when calling our Box Office

02 9634 2929

TICKETS \$30/\$25

paviliontheatre.org.au/baskerville

OR

call our Box Office

02 9634 2929

The Pavilion Theatre Hills Showground

THE PAVILION THEATRE
THE CASTLE HILL PLAYERS
 IN THE SHOWGROUND SINCE 1966

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

Bushfire Season is nearly here; BE PREPARED

The official start of summer is only a short few weeks away, but hot temperatures in recent weeks have given a foreboding warning about the season to come. The declaration of an El Nino event means that conditions will be drier than they have been in recent years, making rural areas like those in the Hills and Hawkesbury highly susceptible to bushfires.

Local RFS brigades have been doing work year-round to prepare residents for what NSW Premier Chris Minns has called a potential 'horror summer', with a number of fires having already occurred throughout the state. However, it's not too late to get prepared – a number of fire safety events are on the horizon to keep residents informed about the best practices to keep their homes safe.

Berowra MP Julian Leaser is hosting two bushfire readiness on Sunday 26th of November, one of which is taking place at Dural Country Club from 10am-12pm. The event will give community members the opportunity to make a fire plan, watch RFS demonstrations about preparedness, hear from bushfire survivors and understand what should be in a 'to-go' box in case of emergency.

Mr Leaser said the following: "The Rural Fire Service has told me that our community has told me that our community is more at risk of significant bushfires this summer than at any time in the last 20 years. We can hope for the best, but we need to prepare for the worst; being prepared could save your life and the lives of your family."

Hills RFS Inspector and District Co-Ordinator also warned of the danger to the community this year. "Due to high fuel loads and the forecast of warmer, drier conditions, residents are expected to see an increased risk of fire this year," he said. "It's important to be alert to local risks of bushfire over the coming months, regardless of their location. You must understand your risk, know where you will get your information, and talk to your family about what you will do."



Remember the top 5 tips to help you this Bushfire Season:

- 1. TRIM:** Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the re spreading to your home.
- 2. MOW:** Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.
- 3. REMOVE:** Remove material that can burn around your home (e.g. Door mats, wood piles, mulch, leaves, paint, outdoor furniture).
- 4. CLEAR:** Clear and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters surrounding your home. Burning embers can set your home on fire.
- 5. PREPARE:** Prepare a sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around your home. Make sure you've got a reliable source of water.



Residents are invited to have their say

The Hills Shire Council has unveiled a plan to guide the rollout of smart technologies within The Hills.

The draft Smart Places Strategic Framework, currently on public exhibition, presents a long-term strategy to stimulate innovation, tackle urban challenges, attract investment and improve the overall liveability of the region by implementing technology into the urban environment.

The evolution of The Hills into a Smart Place is already well underway, including:

- Flood warning systems on some bridges
- Remote access to Council sporting facilities
- Solar panels at Council's Administration Building

- Electric vehicle charging stations at the Waves Fitness and Aquatic Centre
- Water level sensors in some dams
- Free public Wi-Fi in major retail centres
- Facilitating the submission of forms, payments and applications online
- Increased utilisation of QR Codes

The draft Framework flags potential opportunities and sets some clear decision-making principles that will assist consideration of future initiatives. These include smart lighting, additional CCTV, night-time wayfinding systems and incorporating innovative technology into street furniture, such as outdoor benches that allow visitors to charge their devices while enjoying public areas.

The draft Framework complements the recently exhibited draft Precinct Plans for Norwest, Rouse Hill, and Castle Hill Strategic Centres, Council's Draft Public Domain Strategy and Council's recently adopted Economic Growth Plan.

Residents and stakeholders are invited to 'have their say' on the draft Smart Places Strategic Framework via Council's website, www.thehills.nsw.gov.au and by searching 'Draft Smart Places Strategic Framework'.

The draft Smart Places Strategic Framework will remain on exhibition until Monday 11 December 2023.



As your Federal Member, 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.

ADVERTISEMENT



JULIAN LEESER MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BEROWRA

Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120 02 9980 1822

julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au
julianleeser.com.au
[julianleesermp](https://www.facebook.com/julianleesermp)

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

Reflecting on the Past Year and the Year to Come

Every year has its challenges, and 2023 has been no exception.

Families, households and businesses across Berowra have all experienced financial pressure. Thirteen successive interest rate increases, and wages not keeping up with prices have put most households under pressure.

Young and old are experiencing the financial vice – with interest rates and rents going up and up.

As your federal MP, I want to assure you that the number one, two and three issue that I'm focused on is the economy. Productivity, workplace relations and keeping government spending under control really matters.

My view is that it is better that government tightens its belt than households having to tighten its belts.

During such times when we are all under stress, our sense of community and attachment to community matters more than ever. Getting involved with community groups, like mums' groups, Men's Sheds, bushwalking groups and many of the service organisations can all help alleviate the sense of isolation that can strike in such times.

These groups are important not only for the service they provide our community but the bonds they create across Berowra. It's why I've been proud to work with over 65 local groups this year in securing federal funding to help them in their work.

We live in a bushfire prone area, and with summer approaching I want to encourage to freshen up their fire plans for the summer. If you haven't ever done one, you can find out more at myfireplan.com.au.

Please read up on this, it could save your life.

As Christmas nears, I want to thank all our emergency services personnel and volunteers for everything they have done over the year and will do over the summer.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone across Berowra. I look forward to continuing to serve you in 2024.

11.11.23 Remembrance Day Service

Castle Hill RSL Club

On the 11th day of the 11th month at the 11th hour, we all stood silently to reflect and to honour those men and women who have gone before us in service of our country.

Remembrance Day is marked by a minute's silence, and as the silence falls it offers us the opportunity for reflection and gratitude. Remembrance Day is a special day for Australians and for the World. It is a moment when we can pause and contemplate the moment in 1918 when silence fell on the Western Front of World War I, to remember those who lost their lives serving and protecting their country, and to honour all those men and women who continue to serve their country.

I joined the Remembrance Day Service which was held by the Castle Hill and District RSL sub-Branch at the Castle Hill RSL Club. The event was solemn and gave the attendees time and a space for reflection. Stories were told of those who made sacrifices, and wreaths were laid to honour the fallen. Thank you to those who have laid down their lives in service of their country, and to those who continue to sacrifice for their country today.

Thank you to the Castle Hill and District RSL sub-Branch for arranging the beautiful service.





MARK HODGES MP

MEMBER FOR CASTLE HILL



AS YOUR STATE MP, I AM HERE TO:

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

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castlehill@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Hills rugby youngsters off for Ireland, UK tour

Three promising rugby union players from The Hills District will be soon heading to Ireland and the United Kingdom for a under 15 rugby tour.

Lock forward Heath Stafford (Norwest Bulls JRC), prop forward Jazz Figure (Blacktown Scorpions JRC) and Moses Lewadromromo (Hills JRC) have been selected for the Australian Raptors Rugby Academy following recent trials.

The talented trio have been a part of the three-time State Cup winning Under-15 Two Blues junior representative team and are relishing the opportunity of gaining invaluable experience on their forthcoming tours.

"After being injured last year, I'm looking forward to all my hard work and training paying off," Heath said. "It's a great opportunity to train and play with players from other districts and areas across the state and I'm grateful for the opportunity to represent my country and sport across the UK and Ireland."

Heath, who plays for Oakhill College, has been playing rugby for the past five seasons.

Moses, a rugby player since he was nine years, says he appreciates the opportunity of competing against foreign teams and seeing their style of play.

For Jazz, his selection has boosted his confidence knowing his hard work and dedication has paid off. "I'm excited because it's a step closer to me achieving my goals," Jazz said. "Being selected also means to me that I am a part of a team where I can grow and learn with other teammates who are striving to achieve the same goal as me, knowing my mistakes won't be judged and are to be learned from."

They will be joined by their Two Blues team-mate Stranz Schaunkel, who attends Hills Sports High and was recently a part of the NSW Under-15 Gen Blue team.

A Norwest Bulls official said the program provides an opportunity for youth players to experience the game at an international level, while focusing on personal development, not just physical development.

The Australian Raptors Rugby Academy is a not-for-profit organisation that "aims to develop coaches and players both on and off the field to be the best version of themselves they can be".



TALENTED TRIO: Moses Lewadromromo, Jazz Figure and Heath Stafford

The academy says it targets people who are serious about becoming a rugby professional, either in a coaching or playing capacity. The academy, according to its website, offers a development program for participants to evolve through every age group to gain the most out of their academy experience. The Academy runs parallel to, and is supported by, the NSW Rugby Union Gen Blue program.

The team are currently fundraising for their trip via their GoFundMe campaign. You can support the Australian Raptors tour here: <https://gofund.me/8c059656>

Alternatively, if any businesses would like to enquire about a sponsorship package, they can contact James Morgan via marketing@raptorsrugby.org

Australian All Schools Championships

Lani, Teddy to lead Cherrybrook charge

Nine Cherrybrook athletes, led by gold medal-winning duo Lani Khiroya and Teddy Hampton, are aiming to cover themselves in glory when they represent NSW at the Australian All Schools Championships from December 8-10 in Perth.

To qualify, athletes had to place either first or second at the NSW All Schools Championships which were held over the September school holidays. The events were held first for 16-19 years on September 23-25 and for ages 12-15 years on October 6-8.

Cherrybrook's gold medallists at the NSW All Schools Championships: Teddy Hampton (Pennant Hills High School): 15 years male: Pole vault 3.20m; Lani Khiroya 47m (Carlingford High School) 15 years female: Triple jump 11.

Cherrybrook's silver medallists at the NSW All Schools Championships: Caitlin Brennan (Santa Sabina College) 16 years female: 400m hurdles 1:06.61; Idris Burkhardt (Rouse Hill High School) 16 years male: 2000m steeplechase 6:25.74; Viktorija Calusic (Barker College) 17 years female: high jump 1.68m; Xavier Hennessey (Gilroy College) 16 years male: pole vault 3.20m; Sarah Koot (Cherrybrook

Technology High School) 16 years female: 100m hurdles; Samuel Price (St Aloysius) 14 years male: high jump 1.75m; discus 47.25m, and Nisini Rajapaksha Mudiyansele (Cherrybrook Technology High School) 13 years female: pole vault 2.25m

Teddy, Viktorija, Xavier, Sarah, and Sam are returning for a second crack at the Australian All Schools Championships, having all also qualified for the event last season.

At last season's Australian All Schools in Adelaide, Sarah impressed with a silver medal performance in 90m hurdles; Viktorija took home bronze in the high jump and Xavier lifted bronze in the pole vault. Teddy finished fourth in the pole vault and Sam, with a PB in the shot put, took seventh spot.

All are hoping to equal or better those results this year.

Nisini also won the silver in 12 years girls discus at last season's NSW All Schools but that younger age group was not eligible to

Cherrybrook athletes are vying for more glory in Perth



Sam Price and Ted Hampton
Gold Medallist

Lani Khiroya
Gold Medallist

Nisini Rajapaksha Mudiyansele
Silver Medallist

progress to Australian All Schools. Nisini will be out to prove that she is able to cut it with the best of Australian athletes at her age this time.

The Cherrybrook squad are part of a strong group in the Hills competing at one of the most prestigious school athletic events in the country.

Xavier Hennessey
Silver Medallist

Why girls cricket is booming in the Hills & Hornsby

Girls' cricket is booming in the Hills District and Hornsby, thanks to the amazing groundwork laid by Glenorie District Cricket Club's Amanda Fraser. Recently-crowned Cricket Australia's and Cricket NSW's Volunteer of the Year, Fraser has made a tremendous impact on grassroots cricket in a relatively short time.

Fraser has made Glenorie District CC, one of the outer Sydney suburbs' most successful clubs with a 50% female committee, uniting the local community with her leadership. As the girls' cricket coordinator for the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Association (HK&HDCA), Fraser has inspired the district to focus on girls' cricket, boosting the number of female cricketers by more than 30 percent.

This year, HK&HDCA has started its first girls' Stage 1 competition in the association's history. The Stage 1 HK&HDCA girls competition features seven of the 13 clubs putting together girls-only teams, while two clubs had a joint side. Four clubs in the association have Stage 2 and 3 teams as well.

If you visit Montview Oval at Hornsby Heights on Friday afternoons, there is a carnival-like atmosphere with music, dancing, and lots of cricket, played by girls who just can't have enough fun, according to Cricket NSW.

Jacob O'Sullivan, Cricket Manager, Sydney North West, acknowledged that Cricket NSW and HK&HDCA have been able to start the girls' Stage 1 competition after two seasons, due to Amanda's efforts.

"She is a powerhouse and has been able to build those club connections in the district for clubs to buy into the idea. We were also bolstered by the Hornsby Council's support of growing female cricket participation in the area,"

O'Sullivan said.

"It is a clear strategy for Cricket NSW to have more girls, especially in the 5-12-year-old age group, play and love cricket. The mission has been transformed into reality with the Stage 1 girls' competition, made possible by our strong female volunteers in the district. We are grateful for their efforts and are excited to provide more opportunities for girls to play cricket in the Hornsby and Hills area."

Stage 1 girl players (8-12 years) who previously played Cricket Blast or haven't played the game, play against other teams at Montview Oval. They use pink balls, and their playing kits are colourful. There is a lot of fun with girls dancing with their bats, inventing cricketing moves and perfecting their legwork all in one. A few pink hoodie-wearing fielders move around, ready for a catch, or to stop runs.

At the scorers' corner is the remarkable cricket force, Amanda Fraser, watching on with pride.

According to Cricket NSW, "last season, the number of females playing cricket in the association increased from 508 to 660 in one



Amanda Fraser with some of the players.
Picture: Cricket NSW

season. There were four girls' only Stage 1 teams, formed after Fraser met multiple times with club volunteers to make sure all their questions were answered to keep a focus on growing female participation.

"This year, the HK&HDCA girls are playing cricket on their own turf, with teams from their own communities."

To encourage players, Hornsby District CC has made registrations free for girls, while West Pennant Hills-Cherrybrook CC have found equipment and kit sponsors for their teams.

Some girls play in mixed teams on Saturdays, so HK&HDCA decided to hold the girls' only matches on Friday evenings under lights, with music and dance thrown in. Liesl, Fraser's daughter, loves her all-girls cricket, plus the fact that she can wear green pants to play.

Sign up to play girls-only cricket on <https://play.cricket.com.au/>



Dural Bowling Club Champions

PICTURED FROM LEFT:
Rosemary Taylor, Kay Turrell, Marion O'Connell, Ann Wilson, Elizabeth Goode, Lyn Luxford, Margaret Yeend, Robyn Scoble, Lan Lim (President Mitchell Zone); Absent Cheryle Hobart.

The Dural Bowling Club's champion ladies' team have been officially awarded the Mitchell Plate, after some close victories last month. A club official said it was a very exciting victory for the Dural Bowling Club as the Mitchell Plate will be replaced next year in a revamped competition by Bowls NSW.

The presentation was done by president Lan Lim, match chair Lyn Skeers, and secretary Elizabeth Whelan from the Mitchell Zone.

JACK ATTACK

The Dural Bowling Club four-week Jack Attack Competition took place between October 13 and November 3, with prizes donated by the new parent club Parramatta Leagues.

Jack Attack is a lawn bowls game similar to Barefoot Bowls but played over a number of weeks as a competition. Players are mostly inexperienced bowlers, participating for fun, friendship, and prizes. The teams of three add to the fun element by giving themselves imaginative names.

OPEN GENDER PAIRS

The finals of the Open Gender Pairs competition is scheduled for Saturday, November 25.

If anyone is interested in playing bowls or having a Barefoot Bowls Party, please contact Robert on 0411 375 580.

A MAN NAMED VLAD

Vladimir Tichy, a refugee from, what was then Soviet occupied Czechoslovakia, created a huge mural made of ceramic tiles which was located in the, now demolished, Hills Entertainment Centre. Arriving in Australia in December 1968, he established a studio in Parramatta as a ceramic artist in partnership with Rudolph Dybka the following year.

After the closure of the studio, he was invited by the Lanceley family to start a new studio at Norbrick Brickworks at Baulkham Hills, the site now forming part of the Norwest and Bella Vista suburbs.

As a ceramic artist and muralist, he created many ceramic murals for large buildings, clubs and other architectural sites around the country. One of his largest, and a favourite was the huge 30m mural that featured in a wall in the Hills Entertainment Centre. This was lost however when the centre was demolished in 2015 to make way for the Norwest Rail Link. Whilst most of the ceramic tiles were reduced to rubble and dumped, at least one was saved and is now in the hands of the Friends of Bella Vista Farm where it is hoped that a space will be found in which to display the tile within the homestead.

Whilst a lot of his work has been lost due to the demolition of buildings over time, The Hills Shire council preserved some of his pieces by way of photographing panels before demolition. A selection of his works is also displayed at the Shepparton Museum in Victoria, as well as at various locations throughout Sydney and elsewhere.

Professor Dr. Vanessa Berry is a fan of Vladimir and said, when discussing a tunnel at Museum Station in the City, "The end of the tunnel expands into a shopping arcade, located in the basement of 227 Elizabeth Street. One wall is engraved with ceramic murals by

Vladimir Tichy, a sculptor from Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic), who arrived in Sydney after World War II, he created many ceramic murals around the city during the 60s and 70s. "I knew about him, so I saw that wall. Most people walk by and probably think it's a feature wall," said Dr Berry.

She said the tunnel is hardly a profound element of Sydney. "It's just another part of the city." But noticing these tiny details make a walk "psychogeographic", Dr Berry said.

"There's just something about being there, in the moment, observing things around you and paying attention ... [it] can make you feel more connected to the city and its stories. And I think that's a very worthwhile thing."

Tichy retired in his 60s and then established a small studio at his home in Hornsby. His output of work slowed down, with Tichy laying down his tools upon the death of his wife Jirina (Georgina) in 2009. Having been married for 46 years, Tichy said there was no way he could continue making art without Jirina in his life. "I stopped working completely when my wife passed away," he said. "My work was for her, and from that moment I lost inspiration. "I can't work anymore."

His art has been displayed in galleries and public spaces across the country, as well as Czechia and Russia, but some of his best work rested behind the walls of his Malsbury Rd, Hornsby home and in his garden. This included more than a hundred pieces of art believed

to be valued, collectively, in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. His art has African and Egyptian influences but his daughter, Marcella Roman, said it was "very much his unique style".

When The Hills Centre was demolished to make way for the North West Rail Link, the greatest work of Vladimir Tichy's colourful artistic career was broken into rubble. The mural took Tichy more than 12 months to design, sculpt and install.

"This mural is the biggest and the best that I have ever done," he said. "It means a lot to me, and I am not happy about losing, it but what can I do?"

Investigations by The Hills Shire Council found there was no cost-effective way of saving the mural, with the artwork simply crumbling when removed from the wall. It is not the first time Tichy will have watched his work demolished in the name of progress. A giant mural at the base of Centrepont Tower was pulled down during redevelopment in 2009, while other significant works were lost at Queanbeyan RSL and St George Sailing Club. Tichy said he had lost track of how many of his one-of-a-kind creations had been destroyed. "It's sad but that's just how it is," he said.

Tichy's last creation was a lovingly handcrafted urn, which occupied pride of place in his Hornsby home, cradling the ashes of his muse, Jirina. Tichy passed away, aged 92, in July 2019 leaving a great legacy.

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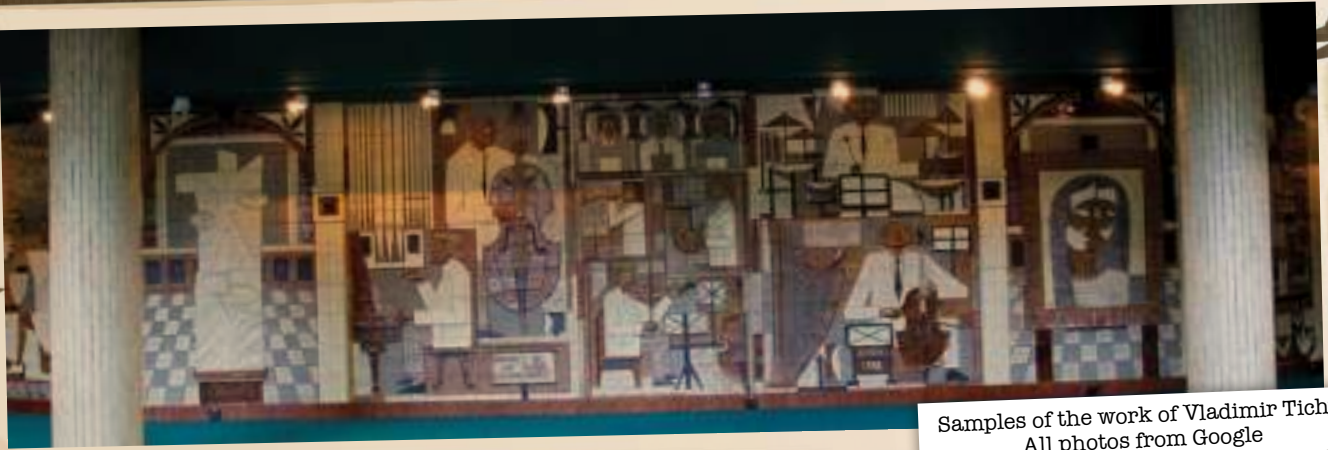
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AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

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



Samples of the work of Vladimir Tichy.
All photos from Google

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

Baulkham Hills Probus

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

Bonsai Society of Australia

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

Castle Hill Art Society

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

Castle Hill Senior Citizens Club Inc.,

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

Combined Probus Club of Cherrybrook

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

Computer Pals for Seniors – The Hills

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

Cumberland Bird Observers Club

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

CWA of NSW – Galston Branch

Meets 2nd Wed each month at the Galston Community Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston. 10am followed by business meeting and BYO lunch. Craft day 4th Wed each month. Visitors welcome.
Jann | 0439 222 217 or
Patricia | 0412 948 787

CWA of NSW – Castle Hill Branch

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

CWA of NSW - Toongabbie Branch.

Monthly meetings held 1st Tues of the month at Toongabbie Girl Guide Hall in Junia Avenue Toongabbie from 10am. We also hold craft mornings for members on 1st and 3rd Tues of the month from 10-12.
ToongabbieCWA@gmail.com

Dural and District Prostate Cancer Support Grp

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

Dural Country Club Bowls

04 2131 5074

Dural Men's Shed

04 0247 8498
www.duralmensshed.org

East Kurrajong School of Arts

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

Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc Hawkesbury Grp

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

Friends of Hills Library

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

Galston VIEW Club

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

Girl Guides Australia

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

Glenhaven Probus Club Inc

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

Glenwood Men's Shed

Jim | 0438 701 275

Hawkesbury Artists & Artisans Trail

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

Hawkesbury Camera Club

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

Hawkesbury District Agricultural Assn

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

Hawkesbury Nepean Chapter of the 1st Fleeters

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

Hawkesbury West Probus Club

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

Hawkesbury Woodcraft Cooperative Ltd

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

Hills District Women's Bowling Club

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

Hills Older Men's Network INC

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

Hills Shire Symphony Orchestra

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

Hills Toastmasters

Meets every 2nd Tues, 7pm. Restore Church: 47 Britannia Rd, Castle Hill. New members welcomed
Terry | 0488 089 951

Hills/Toongabbie Music Club

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

Kurrajong Hand Spun Craft

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

Ladies Probus Club of Baulkham Hills

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

Learning in the Hills

To find out more about the huge range of courses available
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
Margaret | 9872 1405

Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club

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

Pennant Hills Mens Probus Club

John | 9487 1385

Pennant Hills Combined Probus Club

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

Pennant Hills VIEW Club

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

Pitt Town Probus 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

Probus Club of Round Corner (Dural)

Julie; PO Box 822,
Round Corner 2158

Probus Club of the Hills Inc

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

Ken | 02 96296459

Probus Club – Glenorie

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

Wendy | 9653 1022

wendyireneblack@yahoo.com.au

Probus Club - Kellyville Castle Hill Mixed

Meets at 10am on 2nd Thurs of each month at Baulkham Hills Sports Club, 11 Renown Road, Baulkham Hills 2153. New members welcome.

Ian Sandercock | 0419 567 608

patiansandercock@bigpond.com

Probus Combined Castle Hill Club

General Meetings 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10am at Cherrybrook Community Centre.

Helen | 0403 751 934

enquiries@probuscastlehill.org.au

Probus 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

Probus Club of Winston Hills – Northmead Combined

Meets at 10am at Toongabbie Sports Club, 12 Station St,

Toongabbie, 2nd Thursday of the month. New members welcome.

winstonhillspubclub@gmail.com

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admin@rdanswtalltimbers.org.au

www.rdanswtalltimbers.org.au

Red Cross – Castle Hill Branch

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

Donna | 0416 082 626

Richmond /Windsor VIEW Club

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

Trish Carter | 0417 010 619

Scouts Australia – Greater Western Sydney Region

9639 2488

www.greaterwestscouts.com.au

Sleep Disorders Australia – NSW

02 9990 3514

www.sleepoz.org.au

Soroptimist International The Hills

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

Cathy | 0435 837 118

sitthehills@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/
thehillslc

The Hills Shire Garden Club

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

9624 5034

The Hills District Pipe Band

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

Instagram: @hillsdistrictpipeband

Suzie Whitaker

pipeband.hillsdistrict@gmail.com

www.hillsdistrictpipeband.com

The Hills Trefoil Guild

Elaine | 0417 330 196

The Inner Wheel Club of Baulkham Hills

Meets at St. Joseph' 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

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Mal Steel

airsydneyhills@gmail.com

Thursday Ladies Tennis Competition in the Hills District

hillsladiestennis.org

Wanderers Bushwalking and Outdoor Club

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

Ted

0429 790 091

www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/
wanderers

Windsor RSL Fishing Club

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

Les Mison

0421 821 1990.

Windsor Probus Club

Meets at 10am on the 1st Wed of the month at Windsor RSL 36 Argyle St, South Windsor.

Ross | 0414450900 or

Secretary Ann | 0414298945

ann.jones@jbff.com.au

Winston Hills Joey Scouts

9862 8482

hsara@optusnet.com.au

Wisemans Ferry Community Men's Shed Inc

Meeting Tues and Sat 9am - 5pm

Alan Hunt

4566 4626 or 0428 784 425

Adrian Acheson | 0448 833 781

YMCA NSW Community Visitors Scheme

9633 8209 or 0402 255 193

Zonta Club of Sydney Hills

0414 641 408

www.zontadistrict24.org

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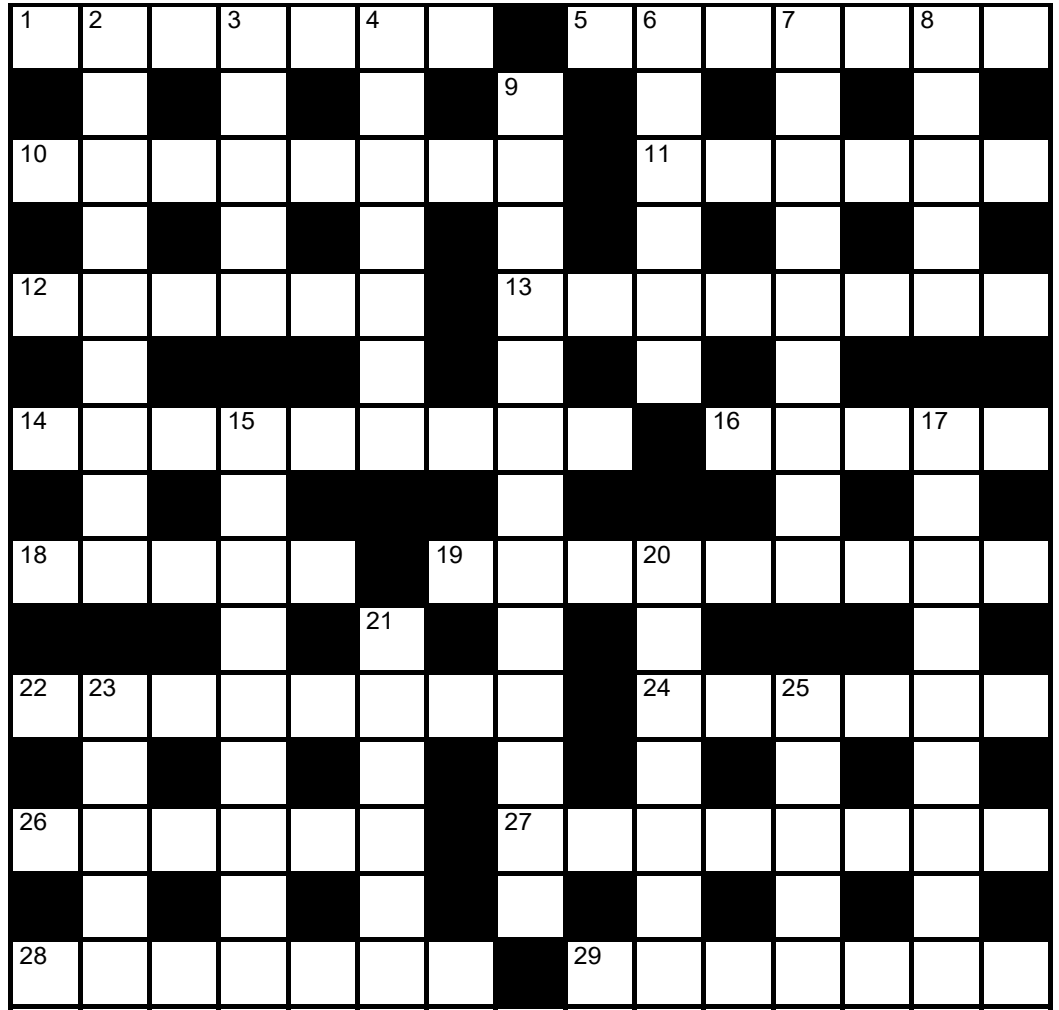
Answers from last issue

CROSSWORD

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

SUDOKU

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



Across

1. Gentleman of the road
5. Kicking around
10. Future threat (4, 4)
11. Caller's fate (2, 4)
12. Mocha native
13. Deeply absorbed
14. Former international cricketer, brother of fellow-cricketers Steve and Dean (4, 5)
16. Clean vigorously
18. Grins from ear to ear
19. What a gyroscope should provide
22. Where WW1 started
24. Walked lamely
26. Wild horse
27. Poison remedy
28. Mutts' huts
29. Rich fabric with raised designs

Down

2. The banded ---, a bird of dryer regions
3. Cacklers
4. Island site of US victory in 1945 (3, 4)
6. Flourishes
7. Laser chip turned round in all directions
8. Nick --- of "Lorenzo's Oil"
9. Epic film about 1944's Operation Market Garden (1, 6, 3, 3)
15. Perth rocker, with The Scientists and The Surrealists (3, 6)
17. Deter a nut running wild without drugs
20. Long pillow
21. The other side of Mr. Hyde
23. Give consent
25. Frontline physician

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WORD SEARCH BOATS

Word search grid containing letters for boat-related words.

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CANOE
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DINGHY
FERRY

GALLEY
GONDOLA
HOUSEBOAT
HYDROFOIL
LIFEBOAT

LONGBOAT
LUGGER
RAFT
SCHOONER
SHOWBOAT

SLOOP
TRAWLER
TUG BOAT
WHERRY
YACHT

Answers from last issue

WORD SEARCH

Word search grid with highlighted words from the previous issue.

CODE WORD

Code word grid with letters and numbers.

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

CODE WORD

Code word puzzle grid with numbers and letters.

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