

# Hills to Hawkesbury

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Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses



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

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Kenthurst Rotary members Chris Gaskin, Cathy Bray, Mike O'Connell



Haran Ramachandran



Mina Howard congratulates The Ponds Rotary club

## Rotary Awards

Members from the 65 Rotary Clubs from District 9685 gathered at two special Changeover lunches to witness District Governor Mina Howard hand over the chains of office to incoming District Governor Christine Owen.

The District stretches from the Blue Mountains to the Central Coast and includes Rotary clubs in the Hawkesbury and Hills which were thanked for their work during the year, raising money for local charities as well as supporting overseas aid projects. Several awards were presented with local clubs and members honoured.

The Rotary Club of Kenthurst was awarded the District Governor's Shield (for large club) by Mina Howard who also awarded the Rotary Club of The Ponds the District Governor's Shield for small club.

Kenthurst Rotary is behind the opening of a community shelter for homeless older women and meets on Monday evenings. The Ponds Rotary members meet fortnightly on Sunday afternoon at Stanhope Gardens.

Richmond Rotary Club won the Vocational Service Award (large club) for its TAFE scholarships; WSU Hawkesbury.

A Service Above Self Award was won by Barry Philps from Greater Hills Rotary and an Inspirational Leader award was presented to Azita Abdollahian from Norwest Sunrise Rotary Club. Kellyville resident Haran Ramachandran was presented with an International Rotary award.

The focus for the next Rotary year (2023/2024) is helping victims of domestic abuse.

To find out more about Rotary and the difference members are making visit [rotarydistrict9685.org.au](http://rotarydistrict9685.org.au)

# Hills to Hawkesbury

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

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ATF Paton Family Trust

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

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



## Toplace Fallout by Bev Jordan

**Thousands of people will be affected by the collapse of developer Toplace Pty Ltd which was placed into receivership on Monday (7th July). Company director Jean Nassiff is believed to still be overseas.**

Toplace has several high rise developments in the Hills including Atmosphere and Skyview at Castle Hill and was developing Box Hill City Centre at Box Hill on land bounded by Terry Rd and Mason Road. The Toplace website is still showing plans for townhouse developments at Grand, Kellyville and Watkins Street, Baulkham Hills.

Antony Resnick and Suelen McCallum of DVT Group were announced as voluntary administrators (Administrators) of Toplace Pty Ltd (Toplace) on Monday (7th July)

Fair Trading NSW is urging anyone who believes they have claims against Toplace to contact the administrators by calling (02) 9633 3333 or emailing mail@dvtgroup.com.au to

register as an unsecured creditor.

The first meeting for creditors is being held on 19th July at Drummoyne Oval.

NSW Police issued an arrest warrant out for Jean Nassiff last month alleging he obtained a \$150-million loan from Westpac through fraudulent pre-sale documents for the construction of three buildings in the Skview development in Day Street Castle Hill.

On June 15th this year Hills Shire Council issued Toplace with a notice to rectify fire safety issues at its Skyview Apartment building after the partially completed apartment complex failed a Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) inspection.

FRNSW discovered several fire safety breaches including an inoperable and dry fire hydrant system (for the three of five buildings under construction within the complex), faults, isolations, and disablements on the fire indicator panel, problems with the emergency warning and intercom systems, issues with the absence of fire compartmentation in the basement carpark. A media statement from Hills Shire Council said staff also inspected the building and identified issues with the sprinkler system, non-compliant ceiling heights, non-related fire services found in the fire stairway and problems with fire doors not opening and closing, amongst other safety breaches.

In March Advisory firm KordaMentha was appointed as the receivers and managers of 51 OCHR and JKN Finance which were listed as the owner and developers of the Skyview complex of five towers..

Buyers were prevented from moving into the 900-apartment complex after the NSW Building Commissioner confirmed "extensive signs of cracking" were discovered in the building's basement.

Toplace and its associated entities are being sued in the NSW Supreme Court over its Atmosphere project at Castle Hill and two developments at Parramatta.

NSW Fair Trading has stated that disciplinary action to cancel and disqualify Toplace's contractor licence remains in force.

Building work rectification orders and other orders issued by NSW Fair Trading remain in force.

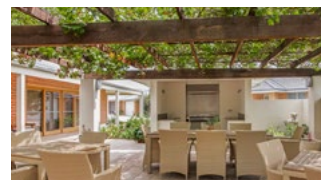
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## TEEN STABBED

Police are investigating a stabbing of a teenager following a party in the Hawkesbury.

Emergency services were called to a service station on Bells Line of Road at North Richmond just before 1am on Saturday, 1st July 2023 where they found a teenager suffering stab wounds.

The 19-year-old was treated by ambulance paramedics before he was taken to Westmead Hospital where he remains in a stable condition with non life-threatening injuries.

Police were told he was stabbed after he and his friends were confronted by three men after they left a party held at a property on East Kurrajong Road, East Kurrajong.

The 19-year-old was punched to the head and stabbed twice in the lower back before the group fled the scene in a dark vehicle; they were last seen travelling north along East Kurrajong Road.

Friends drove the injured man to the North Richmond service station where they met with the ambulance paramedics.

Officers from Hawkesbury Police Area Command are appealing for anyone with information to contact Crime Stoppers.

The males have been described as being of Pacific Islander / Maori appearance, aged in their late teens to early 20s, and with heavy builds.

## FRAUD WARNING

Police are again warning people to be very careful about clicking on links sent through text messaging on mobile phones or through emails purporting to be from the Australian Taxation Office or from banks.

In May 2023, the ATO received 1,978 reports of ATO impersonation scams – a 70% increase from last month. Of those 742 were SMS messages on mobile phones, 1,128 were scam emails, 94 were via landline phones and 12 were on social media.

According to the Government's Scamwatch <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au> scammers are using new technology which tricks victims into believing the call comes from the bank's legitimate phone number or by sending a text that appears in the same conversation thread as genuine bank messages.

A Box Hill businesswoman who was nearly scammed last month said it was important to warn others on how easily it happens.

She was taken in by a text from her bank (pictured) containing an Online Security Code "837829" asking her to call NAB on 1800 517 229 if she don't recognise the transaction. Ref: JA283.

She said she rang and the call went through to similar sounding recordings as the real NAB and she followed the prompts to get through to someone. She was asked if she had used her credit card for a \$400 purchase in Canberra and she said NO.

She was "escalated" to someone in "security" who said he would help her reset her password as there had been signs of fraudulent activity.

"The whole call was so professional and seemed genuine," she said. "He told me that he had blocked/secured my accounts, and that I needed to go to an NAB branch on Monday quote Ref # T400AB to get my new Personal ID, and also a refund for the \$400 that was transferred out."

It was then that alarm bells started ringing, it was Friday and she couldn't understand why she couldn't go to the bank straight away.

She called the NAB number on their website and realised when she spoke to staff she had been scammed. The bank acted quickly and blocked the card. She reported the incident to the bank and Police Assistance line.

Scamwatch received 14,603 reports about bank impersonation scams in 2022, resulting in more than \$20 million in losses. Total losses to phone and text scams increased significantly last year, with over \$169 million lost.

If you receive an SMS with a telephone number to call, do not use it. Instead, call your bank direct on a number you have sourced yourself.

Never provide online banking passwords, one-time security codes, pins or tokens to anyone over the phone. Contact your bank or financial institution immediately if you think you have been scammed.

Never click on links. Links have also been generated by scammers pretending to be from Australia Post and other delivery services asking people to click on links.

Report scams or scam attempts to Scamwatch and local police. To find out more visit <https://www.scamwatch.gov.au>

## PEDESTRIAN INJURED

Police are investigating a crash in West Pennant Hills on 5th July which left a pedestrian with critical injuries. Emergency services were called to the intersection of Castle Hill Road and Church Street at West Pennant Hills at about 9.50am (Wednesday 5th July 2023) following reports a pedestrian was struck by a car.

The pedestrian, an 83-year-old man, was taken to Westmead Hospital in a critical condition. The driver, a 67-year-old man, was not injured and was taken to Westmead Hospital for mandatory testing.

Officers from The Hills Police Area Command established a crime scene and are investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident.

As inquiries continue, anyone with dashcam vision or further information is urged to come forward. Contact Crime Stoppers. Information is treated in strict confidence.

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are being called for the Customer Service Police Officer Of The Year Award.

The Bryson Anderson Police Officer of the Year awards are being organised by the Rotary Club of Windsor in conjunction with Hawkesbury Area Command.

Members of the community are invited to nominate a police officer who has provided outstanding customer service and/or outstanding contributions to community based policing.

The customer service award is sponsored by the Hawkesbury Chamber of Commerce.

Nominations can be emailed to the Executive Officer at Hawkesbury Area Command [hawkexo@police.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hawkexo@police.nsw.gov.au). Nominations are to be received no later than 5pm on 24th July 2023.

The winners of all the categories will be announced at a special dinner on August 22nd at Windsor RSL.

## PLAY-DOH DRIVE

The Hawkesbury Police Area Command kicked off its annual Play-doh Drive with a huge haul at Richmond Market on 29th of June.

Every year the Play-doh is donated to children at Westmead Children's Hospital where the product is used by the hospital's physiotherapy teams to assist with muscle recovery, co-ordination building and other treatments to assist the recovery of young patients from illness or surgery.

Due to a risk of cross infection, the Play Doh is disposed of after each use.

Thanks to the community's response every year the Hawkesbury Police drive has provided thousands of tubs to the hospital, enough to last a year, enabling the money normally spent on the purchase of Play Doh to be used on other things at the hospital.

The next collection will be at Richmond Good Food Market on Saturday, July 22nd.



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# Older Women's Housing By BEV JORDAN

A move to open up accommodation in Kenthurst for older women at risk of homelessness is another step closer with the Kenthurst Community Transitional Housing project launched on the Wesley Mission's website.

Wesley Community Housing (part of Wesley Mission) and a local community steering committee are working together to provide a safe haven for women over 55 without a roof over their heads. Wesley Mission Housing will manage the property.

The housing project has won the support of several local service groups including Kenthurst Rotary Club, Galston branch of the Country Women's Association and The Hills branch of Soroptimists International which have given a financial commitment.

Members of the former Kenthurst Uniting Church began looking at options to provide accommodation to people who were homeless around five years ago.

At one point members looked at the feasibility of converting unused rooms at the Jones Rd church into transitional short-term accommodation but Parramatta/Nepean Presbytery of the Uniting Church viewed the conversion of the church building as too costly and Uniting offered another building instead.

Several years of talks between Uniting and Wesley Mission have now had a positive result. James Visone and Dennis van Someren who led the campaign thanked all the groups and individuals who had attended the public

meeting, heard the talks and committed their support.

They told the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News: "A safe and comfortable home is a basic need we all share. We want the Kenthurst project to provide this security to at least a few of the growing number of older women experiencing homelessness.

"The project may become an example of what can be done, even by a small but determined group with community support, a possible pilot for similar projects elsewhere. It has taken a long time to get off the ground but we never lost hope. We were continually encouraged by our faith and the goodwill and support of so many individuals and community groups."

Terese Wilson from Kenthurst Rotary said: "Kenthurst Rotary Club is very supportive of this. We should be supporting older people."

Ann Waters from Galston CWA (Country Women's Association) said her branch had donated to the project because they believed it was needed. "Our members felt as women that it is very important to have a safe place in the area for women."

*The story continue on page 15*



Jacqui McLachlan (St The Hills), Terese Wilson (Kenthurst Rotary) and Ann Waters (Galston CWA).



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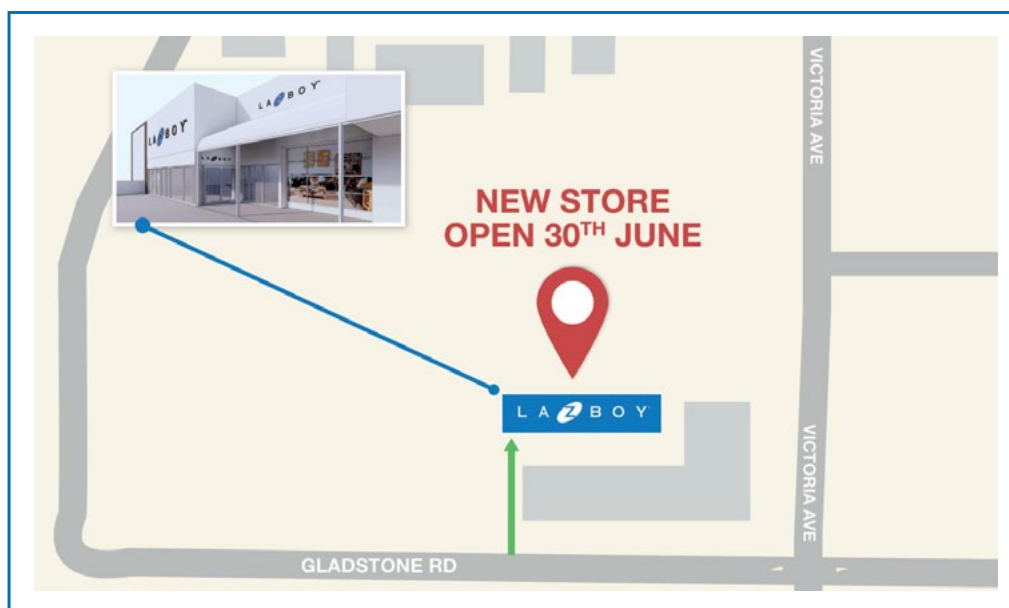
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*out and about*  
with **MICHELLE BYRNE**

## Rouse Hill Estate

Rouse Hill Estate offers an amazing glimpse into the history of Rouse Hill.

On the top of the hill within the Estate sits the heritage Rouse Hill House which has magnificent views over adjacent paddocks and was owned by 6 generations of the Rouse and Terry families.

The house was initially constructed by Richard Rouse, who was the Colonial Superintendent of Public Works and Convicts at Parramatta in 1813. This particular site was chosen given its proximity to the Windsor Road tollhouse which formed part of Governor Macquarie's upgraded road to the Hawkesbury River and allowed Rouse to keep an eye not only on the tollhouse but also on his ever expanding property portfolio.

Following the construction of the house outbuildings were added over time including the laundry wing, cottage, barn, woolshed and servant's arcade. A large formal garden was also constructed and today remains one of Australia's oldest surviving colonial gardens.

Given its continuous occupation by a single family, each generation simply improved and added another layer of additions and objects.

Today the house contains 20,000 artefacts spanning over 180 years and include the earliest colonial treasures such as baubles and brooches to a 1960s television. The Rouse and Terry families continued to occupy the house until the late 1990s when it opened to the public as a Museum.

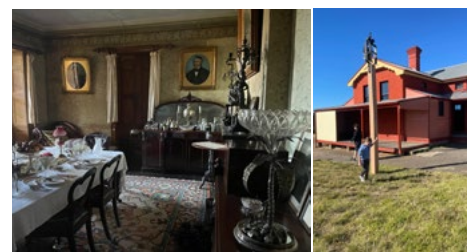
Apart from Rouse Hill House, Rouse Hill Estate also includes the restored 1888 Rouse Hill school house, a section of the original Windsor Road turnpike proclaimed by Governor Macquarie in 1813, and the site of the doomed 1804 'Vinegar Hill' convict rebellion.

The Rouse Hill Estate is now operated by Museums of History NSW and it is an opportunity to step back in time and to explore the estate whilst having fun and getting some exercise. You can walk along part of the original Windsor Road, look at the animals on site including cows, horses and chickens, take a tour of the Rouse Hill House as well as exploring the outbuildings, stables, barns and the expansive gardens. The highlight for us, however, was exploring the school house, writing on small

chalk boards, looking at specimens in jars and ringing the school bell.

The visitors centre onsite is also an opportunity to learn more about the history of the site including the Aboriginal history of the area and includes some great displays. A room in the visitors centre is dedicated to a Lego model of the Rouse Hill Estate and an opportunity for children and adults to sit down and have fun building their own models as well.

Rouse Hill Estate is open to the public every Sunday for free and is a great activity for families and kids. For more information on the Estate go to <https://mhnsnsw.au/visit-us/rouse-hill-estate>



## Understanding Home Care event

Are you in the process of finding a Community Care provider or accessing a Home Care Package? **Join us for morning tea** and meet our friendly and local care coordinators. This is a great opportunity to learn about:

- Home Care services available in the Hawksbury & Hills Districts
- Government funded Home Care Packages
- How to navigate MyAgedCare

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# Vale Warren Glenny By BEV JORDAN

Long-time former president of CHRG (Castle Hill RSL Group)

Warren Glenny AO passed away on Wednesday 5th July.

He was 87.

The Castle Hill Resident was a club director for 26 years and President for 17 years. He had dedicated 70 years of his life serving his community through various roles including Commissioner of St John Ambulance and Commander of the 1/15th NSW Lancers.

The retired Major General was also Patron of numerous service clubs and charities.

He joined the Royal New South Wales Lancers in 1950 as a regimental cadet and did national service in 1953 before completing his time in the Lancers as Lt Colonel and Commanding officer in 1975.

He held several posts at Reserve HQ and in 1990 was promoted to Major General and was sent to Melbourne to command 3rd Division and then to Sydney to Command 2nd Division and serve full time in the Reserves.

He was an honorary ambulance officer early in his life which was followed by a 7-year stint as a volunteer firefighter. He was heavily involved in the Parramatta Foundation Week Procession (1964 to 1976) and in later life was chair of the Refugee Resettlement Advisory Council among other appointments.

He worked in the wool industry for nine years and for a time worked in the steel industry. He was a retail executive which included time as General Manager with K-Mart

in 1986 and GM for Coles Myer-Linfox joint venture. He accepted early retirement and later became CEO of AUSTCARE (Australia's Overseas Refugee Aid Organisation (1996 to 2002) which included clearing landmines in Cambodia.

Warren was the recipient of numerous awards for service. He was appointed an Order of Australia, a Commander of the Order of St John, was a recipient of the Chief of Army's Commendation, and the Reserve Forces Decoration to name a few.

CHRG Group general manager David O'Neill said Warren was an inspirational leader, mentor and friend – kind, compassionate, considerate and committed to his family, friends, colleagues and the community.

"He was a true statesman respected, and admired by all that met him," he said. Warren will be best remembered as a loving husband, father, mentor and friend."

Cheryl Hill, President of the Castle Hill sub-branch, said that Warren first joined the sub-branch in 1960 and had been a member for 63 years.

"Warren regularly attended sub-Branch meetings and was an avid supporter of the sub-Branch and all of its activities," she said.



"He was a very compassionate man, a great mentor, always ready to give his time and to listen, his guidance and wisdom will be greatly missed."

Warren is survived by his wife of 59 years, Gay and their son Andrew.

The funeral service will be held on Friday, 14th July at 11am at All Saints Church North Parramatta.

The Glenny family have asked for donations to the Heart Foundation in lieu of flowers.

TWILIGHT

# WINTER MARKETS

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hospitalizations in Australia each year. Polio caused paralysis and death for thousands of Aussie children. Poor children did not have access to the same level of healthcare as the rich ones.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of medical professionals and the generosity of people like you, much has changed. Today, Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation (SCHF) is here for the newborns and the not-yet-borns, the toddlers and the teenagers, from inner cities to outer suburbs, rural and beyond. We believe that every child deserves the best possible healthcare, no matter

what. We believe that no child should ever hear the words "Sorry, we can't help you."

## **We need your help to make that a reality.**

By leaving a gift in your Will to Sydney Children's Hospitals Foundation, you will be investing in the future of children's healthcare. Your gift can help fund life-saving transport services for the sickest babies and infants. Your gift can support the only palliative care hospice for children in New South Wales, providing long-term ongoing support to children with life-limiting illnesses and their families. Your gift can help fund research that ensures every child has a fighting chance at the childhood they deserve.

Anne McFadden, Head of Planned Giving at SCHF says, 'Leaving a gift in your Will is a big decision, but what better gift, what better legacy to leave, than the gift of life'.

By planting a tree today, you can ensure that future generations can enjoy its shade. And by leaving a gift in your Will, you can ensure that children of the future can get the best possible healthcare.

If you would like to learn more about leaving a gift in your Will, please contact our Planned Giving Team, on 1800 770 122 or [plannedgiving@schf.org.au](mailto:plannedgiving@schf.org.au)



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1800 770 122







## Greening the Gables by JOSH KERWICK

There are thousands of reasons to head to the Gables on Sunday 30th July between 9am and noon, where Hills Shire Council will be celebrating National Tree Day with a huge tree-planting event.

The Council is expecting 4,500 trees to be placed at Wheelie Park to increase the amount of greenery in the new suburb. Mayor of the Hills Shire Peter Gangemi shared his excitement for the upcoming event, which community members are encouraged to participate in. "It's a great initiative where we can give back

to the environment, and we can get volunteers involved to help improve the local area in a practical way," he said.

The Mayor continued, adding that residents will be helping to make the Gables a more environmentally friendly place: "As a council, we're looking to plant more trees in newly

developed areas - they provide more shade and it's great for the habitat. It's an initiative that is good for both the environment and the community."

The Castle Hill Lions Club are thrilled to be providing a free barbeque on the day, eager to provide for the community while they plant trees. The Club's President Ritesh Duggal is keen to help with the event: "We are here as a Lion's Club because we care for nature. It's everyone's responsibility to save the planet and Mother Earth. We're planning to have the barbeque so we can all have a little fun while we plant the trees on that day."

Helen Roth, the Lions Club Zone Chair, shared Ritesh's anticipation for the National Tree Day event. "We'll be busy dishing out the sausage sizzles, because I know the Council is expecting quite a large number of people to come - usually about 100," she said. "It goes from the early hours of the morning right until noon, and from there on, we watch to see the results in the years to come."

Mayor Peter Gangemi encourages all residents to attend the National Tree Day event. He said: "It's a great opportunity to improve the area and meet your fellow residents down here. For those with families, you're right next to Wheelie Park, so the kids can cycle while you plant a tree or two. It'll be a win-win day, so I really encourage all locals to come down here on the 30th of July."

The National Tree Day event is at Wheelie Park on Cataract Rd in The Gables.

## ON BEHALF OF MALEK FAHD ISLAMIC SCHOOL (MFIS) (THE PROPONENT)

Curio Projects (heritage consultants) seek registration from local Aboriginal groups and people with respect to a proposed development located at 20-36 Mungerie Road, Beaumont Hills (the study area), within The Hills Shire Council LGA.

The project is in the initial stages of developing a Masterplan for the school campus. The Masterplan is a long-term plan (20-25 years), with initial focus on the first 5-10 years. Works proposed will include:

- Site preparation works, including tree clearing (no. of trees to be confirmed)
- Construction of new classrooms, staff rooms, assembly area, multi-purpose hall, library, cafeteria, prayer room, community hall, sports courts, play areas and courtyards
- Construction of new service access road from Mungerie Road along northern boundary with new entry/exit
- Construction of new internal access road, carparking area and reconfiguration of existing carparking areas
- Associated landscaping

The MFIS has a capital investment value in excess of \$30 million and as such the State Significant Development Application (SSDA) is submitted to the New Minister for Planning pursuant to Part 4 of



Figure 1: The study area, located at 20-36 Mungerie Road, Beaumont Hills  
Source: SIX Maps

the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. The project will therefore be exempt from the requirements for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) in accordance with Section 90 of the NSW Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. Community consultation is being undertaken in order to assist the assessment of cultural significance of the Beaumont Hills study area. This notification is being undertaken in accordance with Section 4.1.3 of the Heritage NSW guidelines *Aboriginal cultural heritage requirements for proponents 2010*.

Curio Projects invite local Aboriginal people who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal object(s) and/or places in the area to register an interest in a process of community consultation. The proponent can be contacted on: [admin@mfis.nsw.edu.au](mailto:admin@mfis.nsw.edu.au) but contact via Curio Projects is preferred.

**Please forward registrations to Curio Projects no later than 28 July 2023, via phone, email or mail to:**

Curio Projects  
5 Blackfriars Street, Chippendale NSW 2008  
[consultation@curioprojects.com.au](mailto:consultation@curioprojects.com.au)  
(02) 8014 9800

## New Australian Musical Premieres at Richmond Players

By JOSH KERWICK

A new Australian musical is having its NSW Premiere at the Richmond School of Arts, opening on August 5th. *Captain Moonlite* chronicles the adventures of Andrew George Scott, an Irish immigrant and bushranger in the late 1800s who led a gang of fellow outlaws that became the centre of an early Australian trial-by-media case.

Jye Bryant, the creator of *Captain Moonlite*, was initially intrigued by Scott's story as far back as 2016: "There's an injustice element to the story, and this captivating character in Scott that often gets in his own way. There's just so many questions, and to me that is interesting. The show uncovers how the gang were presented in the media, and we see where that was untrue."

Though Jye has extensive experience writing musicals, having penned the international hit *The Things I Could Never Tell Steven*, he initially wondered how to adapt the story of Scott into a musical. Jye found the necessary framing device in Scott's death cell letters that he found both poetic and passionate. The eventual result was *Captain Moonlite*, which Jye planned to premiere in 2020 before COVID shut down all theatre productions in NSW.

However, thanks to Queensland's more relaxed lockdown laws, the musical was able to premiere at the Redcliffe Musical Theatre. "Though I couldn't go up there, they filmed it and

I got to see that," Jye says. "I reached out to critics and people who saw it, and asked 'What needs work?' So that was my rewrite, which is what's in production." It was *Captain Moonlite*'s concept about a group of wrongfully maligned outlaws that made Jonathon Brown return to the director's chair. "I've directed lots of musicals and plays, and I just finished *Romeo and Juliet*," Jonathon says. "I was going to have a break when Jye talked to me about *Captain Moonlite*, and I thought 'This is interesting - a brand new story.'"

Jye and Jonathon have enjoyed working together on this production, praising their actors, musicians and crew. "We've got a really strong cast and *Captain Moonlite* in Peter David Allison," says Jonathon. "He's one of the best actors I've ever seen. And he looks like a bushranger!" The process of collaborating with the crew has been rewarding for Jye, admiring the production crew's ability to problem-solve on a new production: "It's such a relationship of trust with a new show, but it's great fun."



(L to R): Lucas Galatidis (Warnecke), Peter David Allison (Andrew George Scott/Captain Moonlite), Michael Clewes (James) and Grace Lizzio (Charlie)

The wish of Jye and Jonathon is that *Captain Moonlite* will inspire audience members to look back into Australia's past to learn more about one of the nation's early folk heroes. "There's that hope that when people see this, they'll go 'Yeah, well, who was this guy? I want to read more about him,'" says Jye. "I hope that I might just have them interested in finding out who this man was."

*Captain Moonlite* opens Saturday August 5th at the Richmond School of Arts, with weekly showings until the 26th. Head to [www.richmondplayers.com.au/captain-moonlite.html](http://www.richmondplayers.com.au/captain-moonlite.html) to buy your tickets.

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## THE PONDS PROBUS CLUB

### OPENING SOON

Please come along to our information morning tea:

10am, Wednesday 26th July, 2023

The Ponds Community Hub, Hall 1

45 Riverbank Drive, THE PONDS 2769

To RSVP or for more information please contact Ethan via email

[membershipsupport@probussouthpacific.org](mailto:membershipsupport@probussouthpacific.org)  
or call on 1300 630 488



**1ST MEETING 26TH JULY 2023**  
**THE PONDS COMMUNITY HUB**



**FUN & FRIENDSHIP IN RETIREMENT**



## Newest Pavilion Play an Audacious Adult Romcom

Castle Hill Players are set to open their fourth production of the year on the 28th of July with *In The Next Room or The Vibrator Play*, an intriguing romantic comedy in the blossoming age of electricity.

Dr. Givings (Paul Sztelma) is a gynaecologist in 1880s New York, where people are excited at the advent of an amazing new invention called the light bulb. However, the doctor has been working on an entirely different kind of electrical device; the Chattanooga Vibrator, designed to cure female hysteria.

Catherine (Kate Gandy), the wife of Dr. Givings, becomes increasingly flustered as patient after patient departs her husband's work space with a new lease on life and a desire to return for more treatment. It's up to her to get to the bottom of what's happening in the next room.

The play, written by Sarah Ruhl, was nominated for three Tony Awards for its 2009 Broadway production and has regularly attracted acclaim worldwide. The Pavilion Theatre's production of the play is directed by Meredith Jacobs, one of Castle Hill Players' most prolific directors and actors. From *Amadeus* to *Just Macbeth* to *Harvey*, her decades-long portfolio at the Pavilion is reason enough to put *In The Next Room* in your calendar.

"There's plenty of times where you'll just be laughing and it's funny," says Meredith. "And then there are moments where, all of a sudden, it's incredibly intuitive about what has not changed since the 1880s to the 21st century. It's a nice little romantic comedy, but there's also a theme through it about the impact of new inventions and how that affects the way we live." She guarantees that *In The Next Room* will definitely make you laugh, and almost certainly make you cry too.

The cast is similarly experienced, with actress and director Kate Gandy starring as the lead Catherine, who she describes as "full of insatiable curiosity." Kate brings with her 10 years of theatre experience and excitement to introduce theatregoers to Catherine.

Paul Sztelma's role as Doctor Givings is his 26th at the Pavilion, and he's relishing the opportunity to play the passionate doctor with members of his Castle Hill Players

family. Other Pavilion alumni include Kimberlea Smith as Annie, and Julian Floriano as Leonard.

*In The Next Room* is shaping up to be a stellar production; one that local theatregoers won't want to miss. As with all productions at the Pavilion, tickets are expected to start flying as the season approaches - head to <http://paviliontheatre.org.au/inthenextroom/> or call 9634 2929 to book your seats today. Shows run from the 28th of July until the 19th of August.

**ADVISORY:** *In The Next Room or The Vibrator Play* contains adult themes



L-R: Kate Gandy (Catherine Givings) and Lana Hill (Sabrina Daldry)

## Home in on your ideal lifestyle

Learn everything you need to know about retirement living in just one day.

After a lifetime of hard work, many of us look forward to a relaxing retirement, often in a retirement village or resort. But selling the family home and relocating is a major financial decision that should not be taken lightly.

It is vital that you research your options thoroughly to find the right situation for your circumstances. Doing your homework can lead to years of happiness enjoying the rewards of a low-maintenance lifestyle in a like-minded community.

The perfect place to start is the Hills District Retirement Village and Resort Expo, Sunday,

July 23 and Monday, July 24, at Castle Hill RSL Club. This is a rare opportunity to explore a huge range of retirement living options — all under one roof.

From established villages and lifestyle resorts to brand new luxury residences, in Sydney and throughout Australia, the Expo showcases the best of what's available now and offers a glimpse of upcoming developments.

Visitors are encouraged to take their time and engage deeply with exhibitors to get a true insight into daily life in their community. The

Expo lets you look beyond the brochure and ask detailed questions to find your ideal retirement lifestyle.

With scores of retirement communities represented, you can save yourself hours of driving from village to village and discover everything you need to know about retirement living in a single outing.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity, it really could change your life!

The Expo is open from 10am – 3pm both days. The Club offers free car parking to members and guests. Admission is Free.

For more details about the Hills District Retirement Village Expo, go to [www.retirementexpo.com.au](http://www.retirementexpo.com.au).



**FREE  
ADMISSION**

## The Hills District Retirement Village & Resort Expo

Sun 23rd & Mon 24th July 2023 | 10am-3pm daily  
Castle Hill RSL Club - 77 Castle St, Castle Hill NSW

On display will be the latest resort style developments as well as established villages from many different organisations. All offering a wide range of services & facilities, sizes, prices and locations, all under one roof with free admission.

[www.retirementexpo.com.au](http://www.retirementexpo.com.au)

Discover  
the joy of  
retirement  
living!

# 80% of dogs Have Dental Disease by 3 years

It is often a surprise to many pet parents that their dog is suffering from dental disease at their veterinary check up. Over 80% of dogs develop dental disease by the age of 3. If we don't look after our pet's teeth properly, not only will they have problems with their teeth and gums, they can also suffer from issues elsewhere in their body.

Bad breath in dogs is often considered normal but it is actually due to an unhealthy mouth and an overgrowth of bacteria. The subsequent inflammation (gingivitis) and sore, often bleeding, gums can allow the bacteria to enter the bloodstream and spread to their internal organs potentially causing severe illness. In the later stages of dental disease, the teeth become loose and can fall out or lead to severe bone infections around the tooth roots. You may also notice dark red areas appearing along the gum line and brown discolouration (tartar) of their teeth. Normal healthy teeth should always be white.

In the early stages the problem is often reversible with regular dental care. The gold standard is daily teeth brushing with a special toothbrush and dog-specific toothpaste (human toothpaste can't be used, as is toxic to dogs!) which will help slow the build up of plaque and tartar.

Dental chews can also be offered which help to draw plaque and tartar off the teeth helping to keep them clean. Special prescription dental foods are also available to help prevent dental disease in your dog. Hills T/D prescription food and OraVet chews are discounted in our practices until the end of our dental months.

During July and August, Sydney Animal Hospitals are offering free dental checks with our veterinary nurses, along with reduced price dental procedures and discounts on dental dog food. Call your local Sydney Animal Hospitals Kellyville 8883 0533 or Norwest 8883 0411 or book online [www.sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au](http://www.sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au)



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AGED  
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## Older Women's Housing from page 5

Jacqui McLachlan from Soroptimists International of the Hills said: "We have been supporting this project for two years. Social and affordable housing is one of our key focuses this year and we have made a financial commitment to support this project."

The SI group will be holding a Hidden Homeless Forum in October to discuss the issue homelessness in the area.

### THE STATISTICS

ABS Statics from the 2021 census highlighted by Mission Australia show:

- 1 in 7 people experiencing homelessness are over the age of 55.
- There are over 122,000 people experiencing homelessness on any given night.

In NSW the February 2023 street count revealed 1,623 people sleeping rough – a 34 per cent increase compared to 2022.

Street counts took place between 2 February and 27 February 2023, in more than 350 towns and suburbs in 76 local government areas (LGA) across NSW.

The Housing for the Aged Action Group (HAAG) estimates there are 405,000 older women at risk of homelessness in Australia.

Women experience homelessness later in life due to a number of factors including: rising housing costs, eviction, job loss, financial instability, the end of a relationship, sudden illness and disability, domestic violence or elder abuse or a combination of these factors. Limited superannuation is also a problem.

According to HAAG Many older women are "hidden" and do not present at homelessness services. They may be couch surfing, pet sitting, or travelling in vans.

Wesley Mission webpage states: "Our Wesley Community Housing team has joined with the Kenthurst community to address the growing need for safe, stable and affordable housing for older women.

"Known as the Kenthurst Community Transitional Housing project, together, we're turning a three-bedroom cottage into a safe, stable and affordable place for older women to call home. But we need your support to make this home a reality."

Help older women leave homelessness behind for good | Wesley Mission <https://www.wesleymission.org.au/get-involved/donate/help-older-women-leave-homelessness-behind-for-good/>

## Hills Winter Sleepout

The annual Hills Winter Sleep Out is at Bella Vista Farm next month and will span from 4pm Saturday, August 5th to 10am Sunday, August 6th.

Now in its tenth year it aims to give people an understanding of what homeless people face every night and will raise funds for Hills Community Aid's Homeless Prevention Initiative and StreetMed which offers First Aid services and food to people living rough.

Mici Beer, Executive Officer at Hills Community Aid said since 2020 there has been a 186% increase in the number of people contacting HCA for financial support services, "this includes people experiencing homelessness, DV, and financial hardship".

Founder of The Hills Winter Sleep Out Dr Michelle Byrne said it had been an eye opener for people taking part and the funds raised were needed more than ever.

"With the increased cost of living coupled with soaring energy costs, more and more families and individuals are doing it tough in our own community," she said.

"The sleep out is an opportunity to raise much needed funds to help those who are homeless or one step away from becoming homeless.

To get involved visit the Hills Winter Sleep Out Facebook page or visit the fundraising page <https://the-10th-hills-winter-sleepout-2023.raisely.com> to donate or join the sleep out.

## PETS OF THE WEEK

### The Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter

is at 10 Mulgrave Rd, Mulgrave.

Call 4560 4644 or visit Hawkesbury

Council's Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/hawkesburycitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/hawkesburycitycouncil)



#### AT A GLANCE

NAME: HUGO  
SEX: Male  
BREED: Staffy X bull Arab  
AGE: 10 months  
PRICE: \$49

**HUGO** is a lovely calm boy according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter. Staff say Hugo has been great with other dogs in the exercise run and has been very friendly towards staff. If you are interested in adopting Hugo please bring your family dog (if you have one) and the children to meet him just so staff can be sure they will all get on well together. As one of the featured dogs Hugo's adoption price has been reduced to \$49. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and life-time council registration.

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



**SALLY** is a sweet girl according to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter who say Sally is a friendly girl who just loves interacting with you. If you are interested in adopting this playful cat please come to the shelter to meet her. As cat of the week Sally's adoption price has been reduced to \$29. The adoption price includes the first vaccination, desexing, microchipping and life-time registration.

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

#### AT A GLANCE

NAME: SALLY  
BREED: Domestic short hair  
SEX: Female  
AGE: 1 yr six mos  
PRICE: \$29



# The Hills Shire Council News

## Last chance to help plan the future

The Draft Precinct Plans for Norwest, Castle Hill and Rouse Hill, which set the 20-year vision for Council's Strategic Centres remain on exhibition but only until the end of July.

Also on exhibition for public comment is the Draft Economic Growth Plan, which provides a direction for economic development, jobs and investment within The Hills, setting out actions for Council to pursue to progress the vision.

Opportunities to make a comment and help plan the future concludes on Monday, 31 July 2023 at 5pm. 'Have Your Say' by searching 'Help Plan For The Future' on Council's website.



## Council Wins Gold

The Hills Shire Council recently won a Gold Award for its 2021-2022 Annual Report at the 73rd Australasian Reporting Awards (ARAs).

The award recognises Council's commitment to transparency and for delivering an exceptional report.

Council also secured the Work Health and Safety Reporting Award, which acknowledges exceptional reporting that promotes workplace health and safety.

To view Council's report, search 'Annual Report' on our website.



*Council Executive Manager of Finance Corporate Strategy, Chandi Saba, Mayor Gangemi, Council Internal Communication Officer Nicole van der Stel, and General Manager Michael Edgar.*

## Council Meetings

Tuesday, 25 July 2023 – 7pm

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

## Longer day preschool



Located in the leafy, rural setting of Round Corner, Dural Ellerman Child Care Centre has been servicing the community and preparing children for school for over 30 years. Places are now available for 2-5 year-olds.

Open from 7am - 6pm, our 40 place centre features a large shaded outdoor playground, sandpit, veggie patch, fruit trees, dry creek and cubby house.

Nutritious food is prepared freshly each day by an on-site cook and children are cared for by nurturing, qualified and experienced educators.

Start Strong funding is available for children aged 4 years old on or before 31 July 2023. To book a tour or enquire, head to Council's website and search 'Ellerman'.





Mayor Gangemi and Ming Lau with local children from North Kellyville.

## Picnic and Play at Kumbatine Crescent

The Hills Shire Council is expanding its North Kellyville recreational network to include more options for locals to enjoy the outdoors. Recently, Council maximised the use of additional land near a stormwater management basin by constructing a new park called Kumbatine Crescent Reserve.

The park boasts walking paths, a picnic shelter, and a playground ideal for young children and toddlers.

The main feature of the park is the large kickabout area, perfect for older children and residents to play outdoor games, participate in activities like frisbee, and have a picnic with family and friends.

The Mayor of The Hills Shire Council, Dr Peter Gangemi, officially opened the park on Thursday, 6 July 2023, along with Ming Lau from North Kellyville Advocacy Group (NKAG) and local children.

"We are continuing the implementation of North Kellyville's stormwater management infrastructure and simultaneously enhancing the family-friendly and

active greenspaces that the community needs," Mayor Gangemi said.

NKAG's Ming Lau said that the opening of additional parks and kickabout areas will provide more opportunities for the community to enjoy a healthy and active lifestyle.

"The addition of Kumbatine Crescent Reserve offers a safe and engaging environment where kids can freely play and have fun," Mr Lau said.

## Showcase your production at Pioneer

Are you looking for a boutique theatre for your next production? Take it to the Pioneer Theatre, located in the vibrant heart of Sydney's North-West. Expressions of interest for 2024 are now available. To find out more, visit [www.pioneertheatre.com.au](http://www.pioneertheatre.com.au)



## How's business?

Council's annual Business Performance and Sentiment Index (PSI) survey is open until Monday, 31 July 2023 at 5pm. It is a chance for Hills business owners to share their experiences in running a business, which will assist Council in determining the overall economic conditions of the Shire, helping format the business workshops and initiatives for the following year.

The survey is 21 questions long and only takes 5-10 minutes to complete. To participate, head to Council's website and search 'PSI'.



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



**THE HILLS**  
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# DINING OUT

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## Experience the Ultimate Winter Delight at Lone Star Rib House & Brews!



As the chilly winter winds blow, locals are seeking the perfect spot to enjoy a satisfying, heartwarming meal that warms both body and soul. Look no further than Lone Star Rib House & Brews, where patrons are treated to a delightful array of slow-cooked meats, delectable sides, and a vibrant atmosphere, making it the go-to destination for all winter cravings.

At the core of Lone Star Rib House & Brews' offerings lies a steadfast commitment to delivering exceptional flavors and quality. Their signature slow-cooked meats, including fall-off-the-bone ribs and tender steaks, are expertly prepared to perfection. However, the real star of the season is their latest limited-time special: the Lamb Shank. Imagine sinking your teeth into succulent, slow-cooked lamb, expertly paired with seasonal vegetables, creamy mash, and rich gravy. It's a symphony of flavors that warms from the inside out.

Winter diners are invited to gather their loved ones and indulge in this exquisite seasonal delight. Lone Star Rib House & Brews' friendly staff and inviting ambiance provide the perfect backdrop for creating cherished memories while savoring their delicious food.

For those seeking an extraordinary winter dining experience, Lone Star Rib House & Brews is the perfect choice. Visit [www.lonestarribhouse.com.au](http://www.lonestarribhouse.com.au) to explore the menu, make a reservation, or order takeout. Don't miss out on the limited-time special – the Lamb Shank – and discover why Lone Star Rib House & Brews is the epitome of winter dining.







## SARINO'S RESTAURANT & BAR – LEVEL ONE

New world Italian glamour has landed in The Hills later with an impressive Italian restaurant and bar located on level one at Mullane's Hotel featuring private dining areas and dedicated event spaces.

Featuring an open kitchen where guests can watch the chefs in action, the dining area spills into a decadent cocktail bar with intimate lounge seating perfect for a nightcap or aperitif.

The artisan modern-Italian restaurant, Sarino's, which centres sophisticated cuisine is inspired by Italian craftsmanship, cooking techniques and a passion for fresh, local produce that has been handed down through generations. Sarino's is bringing Italian heritage and dedication to The Hills community.

*"The name 'Sarino' is a tribute to my father – it was his nickname growing up in Calabria."*

– Marcello Colosimo CEO Memento Hospitality

With its impeccable service, inviting ambiance, and exceptional cuisine, Mullane's Hotel is a cherished destination for memorable experiences in The Hills.

The intimate private dining rooms are the perfect backdrop for exclusive and decadent dining experiences, and private events. Sarino's extensive beverage list includes a selection of premium hand-picked wines and reinvented classic Italian cocktails, along with over 200 whiskies from around the world. Private liquor cabinets to stow top shelf bottles are also available for guests to access each time they visit.

Incorporating our Atrium, Dining Room, Sarino's Bar, Whiskey Room, Lounge, Conservatory, Cellar and Library, your event will be bursting with excitement around every door. The possibilities are endless – you can host with the same theme throughout, or our personal favourite – transform each of these spaces into unique experiences. Have a whiskey tasting in one room, a cheese experience in another and in true Italian Form, an Aperol Spritz or Italian wine service from the cellar. We can transform the Sarino's Bar into the Entertainment hub for your event and utilise all other spaces to give the perfect experience to your guests.

Sarino's has just added its '*Pranzo Espresso*' menu offering a simplified offering a lighter lunch menu which is available Wed – Friday & Sunday lunches.



**Memento**  
HOSPITALITY

**SARINO'S**

Level 1, 36 Brookhollow Avenue Baulkham Hills 2153

02 8884 2828 | [www.sarinos.com.au](http://www.sarinos.com.au)



# Annual Winter Fair

Mark 22nd July in your diaries!

It's St. Andrew's Annual Winter Fair.

A feature of the fair will be a stunning wedding dress display in the historic church building, including gowns from yester-year as well as more recent dresses. A variety of pre-worn wedding outfits will be thoughtfully displayed for the public to enjoy.

In addition to the wedding display will be our usual fare, such as the popular Devonshire Tea with freshly made scones while you wait. The sumptuous cake stall with local preserves and home-made cakes and biscuits will have you wanting to take home more! The book stall will again provide hours of reading entertainment, the BBQ will keep you well fed for the day ahead as you peruse the craft and plant stall.

The beautiful church was built in 1845 and continues to be an integral part of Richmond. The upkeep of the church is on-going with maintenance issues and funds raised from the Fair help in its upkeep and restoration.

**WHERE:** St Andrews Uniting Church 25 West Market Street, Richmond

**WHEN:** Saturday, 22nd July 2023

**TIME:** 8am – 2pm

## WINTER POP UP SHOP

Elouera Cottage Crafts will be holding a WINTER POP UP on Saturday 5th August from 10am – 2pm at the Uniting Church, 134 New Line Road, Cherrybrook.

Our knitters have been very busy and we have a great selection of hand knitted jackets and pullovers for Babies & Children, and these will be featured on the day at very affordable prices. A selection of our other popular handcrafted items will also be available. Full details can be found at [www.cherrybrookuc.org.au](http://www.cherrybrookuc.org.au) or follow Elouera Cottage Crafts on Facebook. Enquiries: 0408 441 766

**ST ANDREWS  
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# Ray Williams MP

Member for Kellyville



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🌐 www.raywilliamsmp.com.au

Authorised by Ray Williams MP. Funded using Parliamentary Entitlements.

## Thank You Kellyville

I am honoured and humbled to have been re-elected once again in the NSW Parliament. Though the name of the electorate is now Kellyville, the locality remains almost the same, with the added suburbs of Bella Vista, Crestwood and Norwest. I am looking forward to representing you all in the 58th NSW Parliament. Should you require any assistance with state matters such as health, education, major roads, or public transport etc. please do not hesitate to contact my office on:

Phone: 8882-9555 Email: kellyville@parliament.nsw.gov.au

## Labor Puts Hospital on Hold & Cuts Family Support

**Whilst every new government should have an opportunity to review future planned projects, it is extremely disappointing that the new NSW Labor Government has stopped the Rouse Hill Hospital from progressing, despite the project having commenced stage one of construction.**

So too, in Labor's first 100 days they have cut the Active Kids, Creative Kids and First Lap vouchers; and backflipped on a ban of secret rent bidding. Plus, the promises to deliver public servant pay rises, not privatise government-owned land, have no disruptions to train services, ending industrial action and

Union strikes, enshrining our State's water assets in the Constitution (but leaving out critical infrastructure like Warragamba Dam), implementing the cashless gaming trial by July 1 and preventing mining and exploration off the NSW coastline – have all been exposed as a pre-election lie to voters.

## Cheaper Childcare Delivered for Around 9,300 Greenway Families

**Whenever I'm out and about in our community, one of the issues that local families always raise is the importance of affordable childcare.**

Over the past few years, parents have been worried about childcare fees and what that was doing to their household budgets. Under the old arrangements, parents were also being financially penalised for going back to work sooner.

That's why before the last election, I made a clear commitment to our local community: an Albanese Government would make childcare cheaper for Greenway families.

All the evidence pointed to this cost-of-living measure not just making things easier for families, but good for a child's development and good for the economy.

It means local kids will have greater access to the transformation health and education

benefits of foundation years of learning – no matter their postcode or background.

And for parents, it means creating an easier and fairer pathway to return to work without being financially worse off if they do so.

It's a win-win.

**I'm proud to say that our Government has delivered on that commitment.**

From the 1 July this year, around 1.2 million families will be able to access cheaper childcare – including around 9,300 families right here in Greenway.

For a family earning \$120,000 with one child in care – their child care costs will be about

\$1,700 a year less than they otherwise would be. For families on a combined income of \$80,000 or less, the Child Care Subsidy rate will lift to 90 per cent.

Families with two or more children aged under 5 in care will continue to receive the higher subsidy rate of 95 per cent for their second child and any further children.

I'm proud to belong to a Government that is committed to delivering for families. That's why we're also expanding the single parent payment and making paid parental leave more flexible for families.

We want to make things easier – and that's exactly what we're doing. Local families can now calculate their new Child Care Subsidy by visiting [www.childcaresubsidy.gov.au](http://www.childcaresubsidy.gov.au)

My office is always available to assist local residents, and can be contacted at Michelle. Rowland.MP@aph.gov.au or on 9671 4780

As your Federal Member for Greenway,

# I'm here to help.

Albanese Labor Government Delivers for Greenway in 2023-24 Budget

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Federal Member for Macquarie

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# WAYNE'S WORLD

Recently, at an open day held at Bella Vista Farm, a visitor enquired about staging a Vintage Car display. This approach reminded me of a person, who in the past used to organise an annual vintage car display at the Bull & Bush Hotel at Baulkham Hills. This community-minded fellow, Wayne Merton, also organised an annual Senior's Concert at North Rocks during the same period.

I got to know Wayne through various organisations that he supported in the Hills district. Wayne, and his wife Olwyn, were active in several groups in the district which he represented in the NSW State Parliament.

Wayne was also a musician who played in a local Salvation Army band. He had a particular interest in Vintage cars though and, in what little spare time he may have found in between his various community and parliamentary work commitments, he would enjoy playing around and restoring his vintage vehicles at his Dural home.

Wayne served in the NSW Parliament from the 19th March 1988 until his retirement on the 4th March 2011 and during that time, of almost 23 years, served in the Ministry and shadow Ministry or as Parliamentary Secretary in numerous positions and on numerous Parliamentary Committees.

During the campaign for the State election held in March 2011, Barry O'Farrell, who was then leader of the Liberal Party, was opening a new Salvation Army store when he sighted an old radio for sale at just \$20, just the thing for a retirement gift for Wayne Merton. The radio, or I guess it may have been a "wireless" as they were once called, was made of bakelite and O'Farrell paid \$50 for the wireless. He asked the sales assistant if he was the store's first customer only to be told that he was the second customer. O'Farrell then commented that coming second would not happen again, referring to the upcoming election. He said, whilst performing the opening ceremony of the new Salvos store, "I like the Salvos because my family went through


Cyclone Tracy, my mother would tell you, if she was here with me today, "the people who helped the most were the Salvos."

During an interview in 2012 Wayne went on to say "Well I'm very proud of Bella Vista Farm. I was first alerted to the problems that arose at Bella Vista Farm by the caretaker. A chap by the name of Frank Ward (actually Len Ward). Frank was a very fine English gentleman, not a young man and he was the caretaker as I have indicated. He came in and told me that the farm was going to wrack and ruin and that there were vandals and hoodlums there at night time. I was listening to him and then he started to tell me the story that he was sleeping in his caravan that he lived in on the premises. One night he woke up and heard all this noise, next thing he said "everything just seemed to spin around. I didn't know what was happening". What was happening was they'd pushed his caravan down the side of the hill while Frank was in bed and the thing rolled three or four times before it stopped. He was in some state of despair. This guy was probably in his seventies at this stage. So I went out there to have a look at it and obviously saw the caravan and saw what had happened. So I then spoke about this issue in Parliament. I also raised it with a number of Ministers from time to time who had the responsibility for heritage matters. I took out two or three Ministers to have a look at it. They all agreed that there was a problem."



What people have got to understand about Bella Vista Farm is that this is the place where Merino Sheep were first bred in Australia. So we finally persuaded or found a friend in former

Labor Minister Craig Knowles who could see the virtues of the farm. It was on a parcel of land some fifty acres as I recall. It just had all the ingredients to be a great recreation area and reserve for The Hills, the people of NSW and the people of Australia. So Craig Knowles indicated that he would see if he could obtain a Heritage Grant. He finally bailed me up one day in the corridor of Parliament and said "Mert he said I think that it's coming off, I'll keep in close contact with you". That's exactly what he did and that's exactly what happened. The then State Labor Government gave a grant of one million dollars which at the time was the largest single Heritage Grant that had ever been made. That got the mechanism going and also Craig Knowles suggested that a steering committee advisory committee be set up. I was on that committee for some years. The Council has restructured it and made some changes. Then the work commenced. First of all stabilising the situation so the buildings didn't deteriorate further, then the conservation work proceeded and it's come a long way. It's now open for inspections and hopefully in the not to distant future it will be available for community use. It is an outstanding venue. It is of note that the Bella Vista Farm is probably about two or three kilometres down the road from where my grandfather's dairy farm was (in Toongabbie). Which is a bit ironic."


Wayne's daughter Rachel has followed in her father's footsteps and is now also a NSW State politician and is a member of the NSW Legislative Council (The NSW State Upper House).





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AREA DURING PAST DECADES.

Bella Vista Farm 2009  
Courtesy of Hills Shire Council



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# Hills star Simon eyes World Cup glory

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

The most capped Australian footballer in the Hills, Kyah Simon, will be showcasing her silky skills in the 2023 Women's World Cup which gets underway on Thursday, July 20.

Having missed the 2019 edition, Simon, 32, knows this could be her last chance to perform on the world stage. The Quakers Hill star, who has 111 caps, was a surprise Matildas selection having just recovered from an ACL tear, suffered while playing for Tottenham last October.

Simon, 32, has been a sensation since winning her first cap way back in 2007, scoring 29 goals. She is the eighth most-capped women's footballer in Australia. Matildas coach Tony Gustavsson called her a "game-changing" substitute after selecting her.

"I haven't got a whole season under my belt, and the discussion with Tony was that maybe I will have a different role in this team for this tournament," Simon told the Sydney Morning Herald.

"Even when Tony told me I was in the squad, I said: 'I'm not expecting a free ticket, and I don't expect a free ticket for what I've done in the past at World Cups and goals I've scored, or the type of player that I am. I want to be there because I want to feel like I deserve to be there.'"

Simon is the first indigenous Australian to score a goal at a FIFA Women's World Cup (in

2011). She attended the Pacific Hills Christian School, Dural, and later Hills Sports High School.

Simon first played for Quakers Hill Junior Soccer Club, and later for Hills Brumbies and Penrith Nepean United. Her prodigious talent saw her represent Australia at just 16 years.

I have been writing about this amazingly-talented but humble footballer for years and she is very grateful to the Quakers Hill club.

"I like to go back to the club and help them because they have given me the first opportunity to play rep football," she told me some years ago. "It's a huge honour they have named the Golden Boot after me and that will always keep me tied to the club."

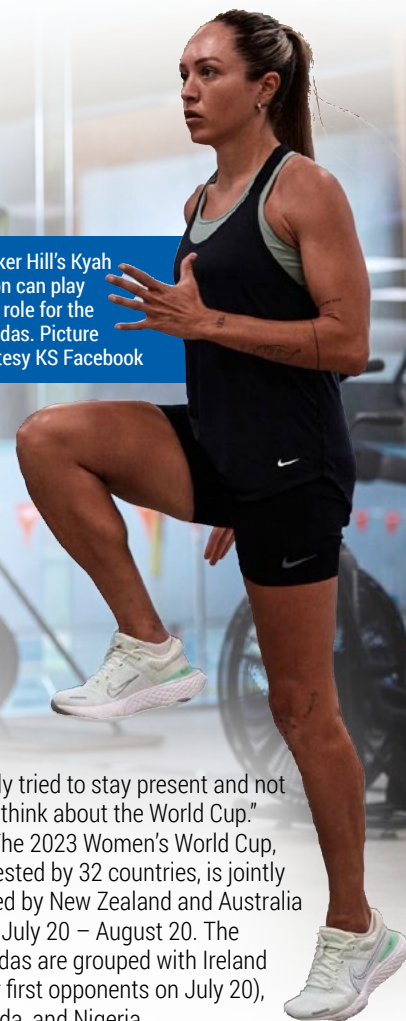
She has played professional football for Australian, European, and American clubs though her recent injury had her pondering her future. "Why do I want to play football? Why do I want to put myself through this?," she told the SMH.

"Emotionally, I was a moody wreck some days and then other days, I'd be on top of the world because I had small wins in my rehab. So,

Quaker Hill's Kyah Simon can play a big role for the Matildas. Picture courtesy KS Facebook

I really tried to stay present and not even think about the World Cup."

The 2023 Women's World Cup, contested by 32 countries, is jointly hosted by New Zealand and Australia from July 20 – August 20. The Matildas are grouped with Ireland (their first opponents on July 20), Canada, and Nigeria.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposed termination strata Scheme No 46522 being the properties situated at 2 & 2a Fullers Road Glenhaven NSW.

Notice is given of intention to apply to the Registrar General for an order terminating the above Strata Scheme and the consequent winding up of the Owners Corporation, pursuant to section 142 of the Strata Schemes Development Act 2015 (NSW).

Any person having any claim against the Owners Corporation of the above Strata Scheme or any estate or interest in or claim against any of the lots comprised in the Strata Scheme is required, on or before the 31st of July 2023, to send particulars of the estate, interest or claim to 13 Brian Street Merrylands West NSW 2160.

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Bruce Fraser was a towering figure in the Hills football scene.

## Bruce Fraser's Footballing legacy will live on

By LAWRENCE MACHADO

**Much-loved Bruce Fraser, the founding father of Glenhaven Football Club, is being mourned by his family, the club and community.**

Bruce, 72, a towering influence in sports in the Hills and beyond, was fittingly awarded the Commonwealth Australian Sports Medal in 2000.

He was married to Donna, and they have two children, Andrew, and Kristy, and four grandchildren, Bronson, Ryan, Dylan, and Theo.

A brilliant goalkeeper in his younger days in Queensland, Bruce played for Pine River, where he helped in the development of that club, and San Souci before moving to Glenhaven.

Glenhaven FC said it was in 1990 when Bruce and other local football enthusiasts decided to form the club. "The inaugural official meeting took place on March 25 1991 at Glenhaven Community Centre, where Bruce Fraser was elected as our inaugural president," the club said.

After consultation with the then Baulkham Hills Shire Council, a Park Management Committee including Bruce, was formed to develop Holland Reserve which opened in 1991.

Initial funds to finance the Holland Road project were sourced through donations, raffles & BBQs run by the Glenhaven Father's Club plus the generosity of members. On January 19, 1991, the first Glenhaven Soccer Club Registration Day was held. The club fielded just seven teams in the 1991 winter season.

Bruce served the club as president for the first 10 years, playing a vital role in its success. Apart from his long football playing days, he played many 6-a-side competitions in the Kenthurst and Glenhaven summer series plus touch football. According to club secretary Terry Louras Hoyle, they now boast over 600 registered players representing 43 teams, including 25 junior mixed sides. There are more than 100 coaches, managers and volunteers who support the committee.

Bruce was the first person at the fields even on a cold winter's morning and was a familiar figure walking his dogs around Glenhaven Oval or Holland Reserve.



Close mate John Robertson said Bruce was incredibly passionate about sports. "He was an avid cricketer, with St George and Kenthurst," John recalled. "He played a lot of golf, and we joined Lynwood Country Club when it opened. Bruce had retired due to Parkinson's, and I was between jobs, so we played a lot of mid-week golf there.

"I started full time work again, and Bruce kept going for as many years as he could. He made a lot of new friends there and it was quite amazing to see all the symptoms disappeared when he was concentrating on the game.

"His influence on the football kids throughout the years was just enormous, and his legacy from that will live on.

When he was unable to tend to his beloved garden, we organised a working bee to do a makeover and tidy up. The first ones to put their hands up to attend were the kids that grew up through Glenhaven FC and knew how much they owed the man. It was heartwarming to say the least.

"It was his passion, vision, and drive that has made not just this football club, but all those others that he has been involved in."

May the turf rest gently on him.



Bruce Fraser's Commonwealth Sports Award

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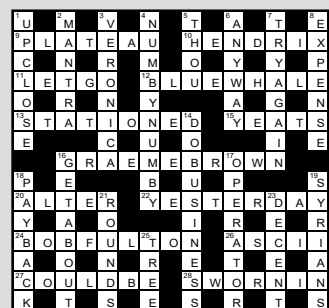
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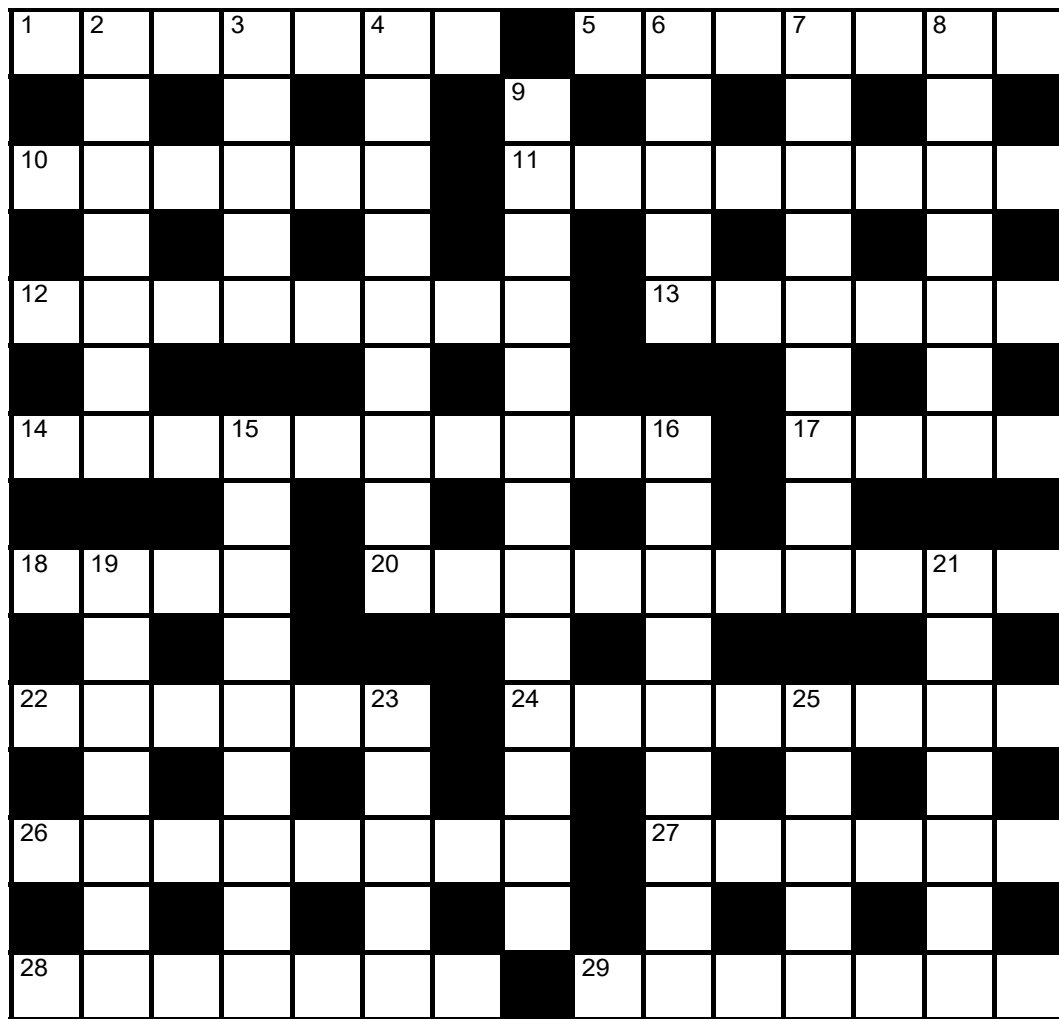
Answers from last issue

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



## Across

1. Realm
5. Makeshift
10. Top gear for a biker
11. In being
12. Set upon
13. Adequate
14. Olympic gold-winning Melbourne Hockeyroo (5, 5)
17. Such as Perth or Brisbane
18. Chital or Rusa, perhaps
20. 11, to 121 (6, 4)
22. Red grape variety (3, 3)
24. Enoch ate out, finding nothing to drink (3, 5)
26. Abnormally dilated
27. "9 to 5" actress Lily ---
28. How Leda wrong-footed a tennis champ (3, 4)
29. Magnates

## Down

2. Sluggishness
3. High-energy radiation
4. Fringe areas
6. Nonsense
7. Cop carrier (6, 3)
8. When bats fly (2, 5)
9. Pioneer Sydney, NSW and national rugby footballer (5, 8)
15. Often called the father of Australian Rules football coaching (4, 5)
16. With deep sincerity
19. Proceed
21. Sort out Ontario address
23. Tenor violin
25. Injury payment

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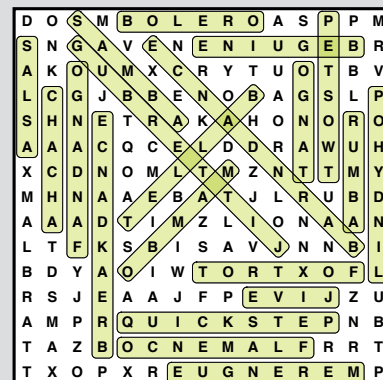
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Answers from last issue

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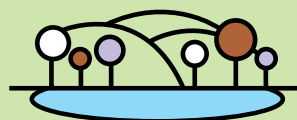
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