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Community News

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Local Stories, Local Events, Local People and Local Businesses

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DEL RIO RESORT FOR SALE

The McNamara family has decided to put the iconic Del Rio Riverside Resort on the Hawkesbury River at Wisemans Ferry up for sale.

The much-loved holiday destination set on a 450-acre estate has been a cherished holiday destination for generations of Australians over 45 years.

Del Rio has been listed for sale through Cushman & Wakefield. In-place development approvals include the installation of 62 mobile homes, 70 holiday apartments and 12 x 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom villas, as well as a motel, helipad, chapel, and a licensed tavern.

Bill McNamara and his wife Pat purchased the property, a former citrus orchard, in 1961 and used it as a family weekender. Prior to the Webbs Creek Bridge being built in 1972 it could only be accessed by a boat across the river.

The McNamara's established Del Rio as a family-friendly resort 45 years ago and it has grown since then, offering a wide variety of accommodation options, including cabins, villas, lodges, holiday homes, powered campsites, and unpowered camping grounds.

Bill McNamara's dream was to create a relaxing, family-friendly getaway for visitors. The resort is known for its peaceful bushland surroundings, offering guests an ideal mix of outdoor adventure and tranquil relaxation.

Its facilities are a major draw for guests of all ages, offering everything from a 9-hole golf course, tennis courts, and a swimming pool, water park, to an on-site licensed café & bistro, children's playground, and access to water sports on the Hawkesbury River.

David Curtis, Co-Head Alternatives, Capital Markets, ANZ at Cushman & Wakefield said: "The sale of Del Rio Riverside Resort presents a rare opportunity for an investor or operator to take over a well-established business with a strong loyal customer base and a prime

location within NSW's flourishing Hawkesbury region."

Raphael Sebban, Associate Director, Alternatives Capital Markets at Cushman & Wakefield added: "This is a once-in-a-generation chance to acquire a landmark destination in one of NSW's most scenic regions.

"Del Rio Resort offers not only exceptional accommodation and facilities but also potential for future growth and development, given the increasing demand for regional tourism experiences.

The potential development pipeline is poised to propel Del Rio into its next chapter, reaffirming its status as a never to be replicated, one-of-a-kind opportunity."

Visit Del Rio here <https://delrioresort.com.au/>



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

'We acknowledge the traditional Owners and Custodians of the land of the Dharug and Darkinjung People on which we work and pay our respects to Indigenous Elders past, present and emerging'. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the land's first storytellers.

Hills to Hawkesbury

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

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The Hills to Hawkesbury Community News has been serving this area for nearly 40 years. Its 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 of drop off points for the Hills to Hawkesbury Community News, visit our website www.hillstohawkesbury.com.au or click on the QR code.



New Era for Rydges Norwest

BY BEV JORDAN

Giovannino Navarra is bringing his corporate expertise in hospitality and landmark venues to Rydges Norwest after acquiring a half share of the hotel site.

He now co-owns the property with Tony Merhi and Merc Capital. A company statement said the collaboration was: "a real meeting of two thought leaders who will elevate the site with their combined vision for the community".

The Navarra family are behind a clutch of very successful venues including, Le Montage, Curzon Hall and Oatlands House.

Giovannino's parents, Filippo and Sarina Navarra, began their flagship event centre Conca D'oro Lounge at Riverwood, when he was just five years of age. He and his brother Salvatore rebooted the business in 1993 after the Navarra family bought out their silent partner, effectively starting all over again.

As CEO of Le Montage, one of their flagship venues, Giovannino led the company to great success, supported by his wife Joanne.

In 2022, he left Navarra Venues and after a brief retirement created his own company, Giovannino N Co.

Giovannino's ambitious plans aim to turn the Norwest property into one of the region's leading venues for corporate events, private functions, family vacations, and elegant dining with event spaces capable of hosting over 1,000 guests.

Tony and Giovannino are currently preparing plans to refurbish the function rooms,

restaurant, lobby area and amenities so that the venue is ready for a successful rebrand and relaunch. The mood board will be on display in the foyer from this week.

Expansion designs are being refined, prior to submitting to Hills Shire Council. Renovations will happen between existing events to ensure all existing commitments are met.

"This venue is going to set a new standard for hospitality in the region," said Giovannino. "Our renovations are focused on creating a space that can accommodate every need—from corporate events to family vacations—all while delivering an unforgettable experience."

The hotel's restaurant will offer a spectacular culinary experience, with menus that emphasise quality and innovation, catering to both casual diners and those seeking elegant dining and perfectly curated events.

"The food will be exceptional, and the service will be unparalleled. It's going to be a stunning venue in every sense of the word," he said.

Giovannino has also established a charitable trust called Miracle Million\$ focusing on helping disadvantaged people and feeding the homeless, working closely with St. Vincent de Paul Society and Jewish House and also supports the family Navarra Care



GIOVANNINO
NAVARRA

Foundation, which provides meals to vulnerable communities and funding to a variety of charities including Dementia Australia.

"My father Filippo and late mother Sarina taught me there's always more to achieve and more ways to give back," he said. "Business success is important, however as practicing Catholics, using that platform to make a difference in people's lives is what truly matters to Joanne and myself."

Joanne runs her own business, SNJ Candles specialising in luxury, handcrafted candles and candle making classes.

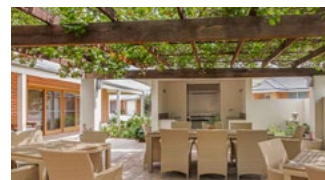
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DRIVER CHARGED

Hills Police officers observed a black Range Rover, travelling at excessive speed on Thallon Street, Carlingford at around 12:30am on 20th October. The vehicle failed to stop when directed by police. After a brief pursuit, the driver abandoned the vehicle on Plympton Road, Carlingford. With the assistance of the Police Dog Unit - NSW Police Force and multiple police resources, the driver was located and arrested nearby. The driver was transported to Castle Hill Police Station, where they were charged with engaging in a police pursuit, operating an unregistered vehicle, operating an uninsured vehicle, displaying unauthorized number plates, mid-range PCA (2nd Offence), driving while disqualified, and an outstanding warrant.

TRUCK DRIVER CHARGED

Police attached to Hawkesbury Highway Patrol stopped a heavy vehicle for random testing on Pitt Town Road at McGraths Hill at about 8.50am on Thursday, 24th October.

The 53-year-old male driver returned a positive roadside breath test before being arrested and returned to Windsor Police Station for further testing where he returned a positive reading of 0.053 (Low Range) before also returning a positive preliminary drug test to Methamphetamine and Cannabis being present in his oral fluid. A subsequent search also revealed two small plastic resealable bags containing a white crystal substance. As a result, his driver's licence was suspended. He is due in Court in late November.

FREE PARENT FORUM

A free parent forum for parents of high school students will be held on Monday, 18th November 6:30pm to 8pm at the Rebellion Room. Castle Hill Cultural Centre under Castle Hill Library 12-14 Pennant Street, Castle Hill. Dan Hardie, TeenTherapist and founder of MyStrengths Australia will be keynote speaker. He will talk about the key issues at the source of family friction and bring practical solutions for parents and their teens to understand how to negotiate for win-win situations. Hills Police Youth officers, Senior Constables Ethan West and Joel McMullan will talk about the trends and issues police are dealing with concerning young Organised by The Hills Domestic Violence Prevention Network, the Forum is free. Registration is from 6pm.

SPEEDSTER FINED

A driver who allegedly told police he was speeding because he needed to go to the toilet has been fined a total of \$1000 and awarded 6 demerit points. Officers from The Hills Police Area Command observed a black VW Polo speeding east along the M2 Motorway at Carlingford early on Sunday morning, 27th October. Police followed the vehicle for about five minutes, observing the driver weaving through traffic allegedly at speeds of up to 140 km/h in a 100 km/h zone.

Future Hawkesbury Firefighters Graduate from Cadet Program

More than 40 students from Hawkesbury completed the challenging 13-week Secondary School Cadet Program run by the NSW Rural Fire Service.

The two-decade program taught the students how important volunteer firefighters are to the community, along with valuable firefighting skills and values such as confidence, leadership, and teamwork.

RFS Hawkesbury District Manager Superintendent Jonathan Hill congratulated 19 Year Ten students from Arndell Anglican College and 24 Year Nine students from Colo High School.

"Special mention to the 40 volunteers and staff from the Hawkesbury District under the leadership of Deputy Captain Phil Hurst, who assisted with the delivery of this engaging program," Supt Hill said.

"It is fantastic to see such enthusiasm for this program from students and educators, and I would like to thank School Principal Tara Cullen and School Cadet Coordinator Brent Hoare for their support in making this course available to their students," he said.

Now in its 12th year, Colo High School is proud of its latest round of graduates and is grateful for the continued partnership between the school and the RFS.

"Congratulations to all our students who graduated from the Secondary Schools Cadet Program. This is the 12th year we have worked in partnership with RFS and are so grateful for their commitment and support of our students," the Colo High School said.

"We would like to thank all the volunteers who continue to support this program under the direction of Deputy Group Captain Phil Hurst. We would also like to acknowledge the work of Mr Brent Hoare, who has run and supported the program."

"We are so proud of our students, and this is another example of a group of students who demonstrate a 'have a go' attitude and want to give back to our community."

BODY FOUND, MAN CHARGED

A man has been charged with murder following the discovery of a man's body in the Hawkesbury last week (Friday, October 25th)

The remains, found buried at an Upper Colo property, are believed to be those of an 82-year-old man reported missing from Leppington in September 2024.

Officers attached to Camden Police Area Command immediately commenced investigations to locate him; however, he remained missing.

During the investigation, police identified a 67-year-old man – who was known to the missing man – who had allegedly told police conflicting information about the incident multiple times.

Following extensive investigations, police – with assistance from State Crime Command's Homicide Squad – arrested a 67-year-old man at a home at Smithfield on Thursday, 24th October 2024.

He was taken to Fairfield Police Station and charged with murder, hinder investigation serious indictable offence of other and unlawful disposal of corpse. He remains before the courts.

Following the arrest, police – with assistance from officers attached to Hawkesbury Police Area Command – executed a crime scene warrant at a property in Upper Colo where the body of the A report is being prepared for the Coroner.

RFS VOLLIE'S 60 YEARS OF SERVICE

RFS volunteer Donald Langdon has been recognised for 60 years of service.

He was presented with a Long Service Medal 6th Clasp by RFS Greater Sydney Area Command Capability Manager, Superintendent Peter Marshall at a special ceremony at Glenorie.

well-respected and experienced firefighter, Donald was Rouse Hill Brigade Captain for 35 years and Deputy Captain for 11 years, along with being Deputy Group Captain in The Hills from 2012 to 2022.

Also recognised with the 50 years Long Service Medal was Bill Roy Starke of the Maroota Brigade and Catering Brigade.

The special ceremony recognised 38 RFS volunteers from across The Hills District with 27 Long Service Medals, 11 National Medals and 2 Recognition of Service Plaques presented.

Superintendent Marshall said. Marshall said: "With length of service ranging from 10 to 60 years, many of these volunteers have dedicated a significant portion of their life to protecting others and deserve our gratitude."

"I also acknowledge those who support volunteers in what they do – the family, friends, employers and colleagues. We know it takes their ongoing support and patience to assist and enable our volunteers to do what they do to save lives and protect property."



Year Ten students from Arndell Anglican College

Ms Esther Fong, Year 10 Pathways to Trades Class Coordinator of Arndell Anglican College, said that the students gained various life skills they can use whether in work or joining a volunteer fire brigade.

"During their training, students gained an insight into fire safety and prevention whilst developing practical life skills and a general appreciation of community service and volunteerism," she said.

"With the unique environment that we have in the Hawkesbury it allows students to be able to gain the skills and knowledge to actively protect their community while also gaining soft skills to build their confidence and character."

Ms Fong mentioned that the students had fun and shared that 'the program has taught me skills such as teamwork and leadership' and 'I am glad that I participated in the program. I have really enjoyed learning about fire safety and supporting the community.'

"The RFS Cadet Program is linked to the PDHPE Syllabus, and as a community, we are proud to partner with the NSW Rural Fire Services to offer this Cadetship to our students."



Year Nine students from Colo High School





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HAWKESBURY NOW 2024

A Celebration of Local Artists

BY SOPHIE POREDOS

Hawkesbury Regional Art Gallery is hosting an exhibition and art fair until December, giving visitors the chance to find unique art pieces whilst supporting local artists.

Hawkesbury Now has been running at the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery since 2013, and is an annual art fair exhibition that showcases the talent of local artists. Over 150 works will be on display and available for purchase until December 1st including jewellery, ceramics and artwork that start at just \$50.

The diverse display of art pieces includes talent from local organisations and societies including the Ferry Artists, Friends of Hawkesbury Regional Gallery Art Collection (FOHAC), Hawkesbury Artists & Artisans Trail, Hawkesbury Community Arts Workshop,



Visitors participating in a workshop from 2023 Hawkesbury Now.

Macquarie Towns Art Society, Piggery Lane Artists, The Hawkesbury Remakery and TAFE NSW – Nepean Arts and Design Centre.

Mariam Abboud, the Gallery and Museum Coordinator at the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, is excited to open the gallery for new visitors to discover new pieces and artists that they will treasure forever. "Through this initiative, the gallery aims to provide our local artists with economic and mentoring opportunities to further their professional artistic practice. The intention of this program is to continue to support and develop our artists and their creative practices within the region and ultimately help to maintain and promote the important role that art and culture plays within our community".

Mariam believes events such as these are fundamental for local artists in building their brand, especially for those starting out in the industry. "Through my previous role in working as a curator alongside emerging artists, one of the major struggles that every artist faces is the opportunity to display their work in a public gallery space. There are few spaces within the Arts sector that are willing to offer up their space for emerging artists to showcase their bodies of works. So, programs such as



Some creative metalwork sculptures from Hawkesbury Now's 2023 exhibition.

Hawkesbury Now are extremely important as they not only provide artists with the opportunity to showcase their work but also to sell their work".

During the exhibition, there will also be an immersive Maker Space featuring free drop-in craft activities for all ages. Visitors are invited to create a colourful mountain collage using torn paper, with a designated Quiet Space from 12pm – 2pm on weekends.

On Saturday, the 23rd of November, there will also be an artist talk with artists Dan Kyle, Julie Simmons and Melissa Read-Devine. The event: 'Artist Talks & A Little Art Making', invites visitors to bring their sketchbook as Julie and Melissa lead creative drawing exercises. Tickets for the event running from 11am to 2pm can be booked at Eventbrite until sold out.

You can check out the amazing local talent and pick up some unique art pieces at the Hawkesbury Regional Art Gallery, at 300 George Street, Windsor. They are open from 10am – 4pm Mon, Wed, Fri, and 10am – 3pm on weekends.

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expected to be completed by the end of 2025. You can also register for updates to know when it's available in your area.

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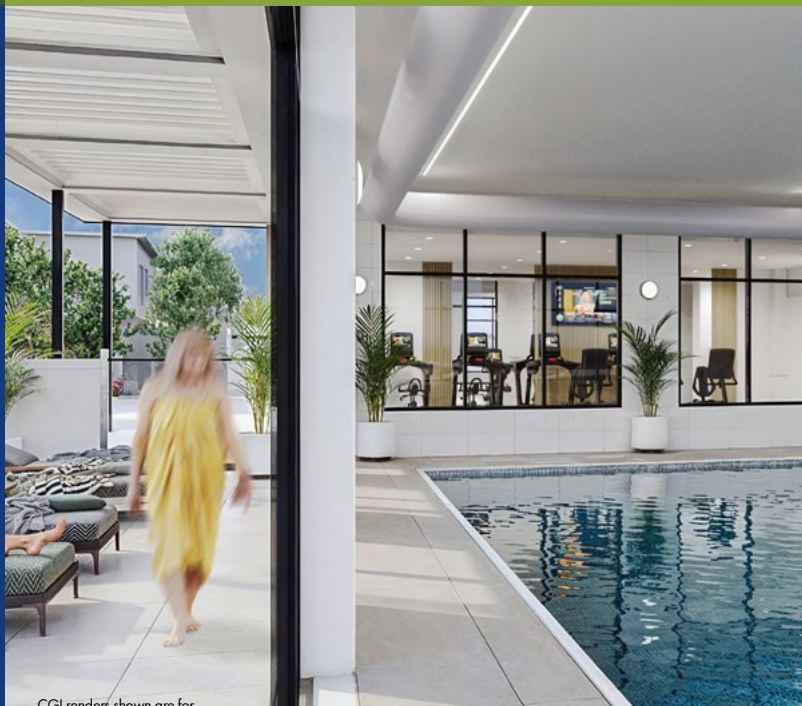
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LYNWOOD LINKS

A family fun hole-in-one!

As the warmer days arrive, Lynwood Links Mini Golf at Lynwood Golf & Country Club is quickly becoming a favourite for families and friends looking for fun and a little friendly competition.

This 18-hole mini-golf course, designed with players of all ages in mind, offers a vibrant and entertaining way to spend a sunny day outdoors.

The course layout is thoughtfully crafted, featuring rolling humps, playful hollows, bunkers, bridges, and scenic water features, promising an engaging experience with plenty of variety.

For newcomers or young players, the Yellow course keeps things light and enjoyable. Meanwhile, the Red course provides more challenges for those who enjoy testing their skills. Each hole even includes multiple pin positions, so every round feels fresh and different.

Open daily from 10am to 10pm, Lynwood Links makes it easy to fit in a game, whether you're planning a relaxed afternoon or an exciting night out.

Entry is \$18 for members, \$21 for visitors, and only \$12 for children, making it an affordable outing. And with no booking required,

it's as simple as showing up and enjoying a great day on the course.

For birthday parties and special events, Lynwood Links offers unique Putt Party packages designed for kids' celebrations. With various options to fit different group sizes and preferences, these packages ensure a hassle-free, fun-filled experience.

Each Putt Party includes engaging activities and plenty of extras to make every celebration memorable.

Visit the Lynwood website for package details and pricing, and let the team help you plan an unforgettable day for your young guests.

CHRG Group Chief Operating Officer, Andy Abey expressed her excitement about the new mini-golf course. "This is a fantastic addition to our community offerings," she said.

"Lynwood Links is the perfect place for people to come together, have fun, and enjoy our beautiful surroundings. We've designed

the course to cater to everyone, whether it's your first time picking up a putter or you're a seasoned player looking for a bit of fun with family and friends."

Whether you're introducing kids to the joys of mini-golf, enjoying a date with a twist, or gathering friends for a lively round, Lynwood Links Mini Golf is an ideal choice this spring and summer. Come by Lynwood Golf and Country Club and make the most of the season with a day on the mini-golf course!



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WINDSOR RSL PROVIDES 'First Aid for You'

BY SOPHIE POREDOS

Windsor RSL is funding a first aid course for Stage 3 students at Windsor Park Public School, equipping young students with essential life skills.

The first aid course will be run by Mary Dawes and her dedicated team at 'First Aid for You', which was founded by Mary in 2010. Mary is a qualified instructor with over 14 years experience and is passionate about empowering young learners with the knowledge and confidence to respond effectively in emergency situations:

"Teaching first aid to children not only equips them with vital skills but also instils a sense of responsibility and confidence".

The collaboration with Windsor RSL has been met with enthusiasm, especially from Yasmine Chalmers, the Community Engagement Manager at the club. Yasmine is excited to partner with Mary's organisation, recognizing

the impact such training can have on young students. "Providing kids with programs like 'First Aid For You' can expand their knowledge and make them feel confident in helping others. Emergency situations can be confronting, but by equipping children with the tools and knowledge to help, we give them something they can carry with them throughout their lives," she said.

Windsor RSL also supports a range of other community initiatives including The Jeremiah Project, which offers food relief to the homeless, and The Women's Cottage, which supports women and children affected by domestic violence.



Mary Dawes of First Aid For You teaching two boys how to properly bandage.

Having lived in the Hawkesbury region for 34 years, Yasmine deeply values the importance of community support through grants and volunteering services. "We are inspired by our community, the support, the camaraderie, and the willingness of people within the Hawkesbury to help others," Yasmine remarked. "We look forward to supporting not only these organisations ongoing but also expanding our reach within our community to provide support."

Spring into Health: Walk to Wellness

BY REJIMON PUNCHAYIL

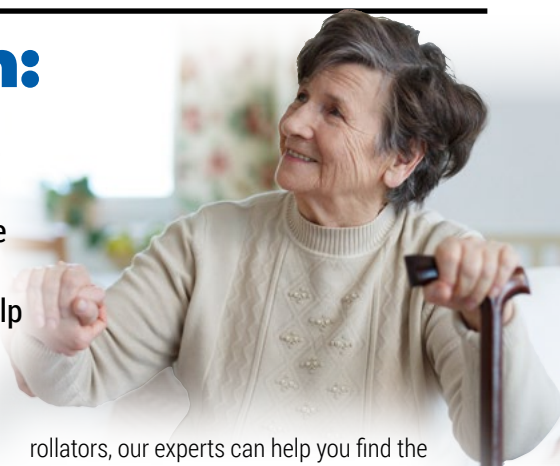
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REMEMBRANCE DAY

Remembrance Day on November 11th is held at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month to mark the month, day, and time the guns fell silent in 1918, marking the end of World War 1.

The war, which had lasted over four years, had mobilised over 70 million people and left more than 9 million dead.

Armistice Day was renamed Remembrance Day after World War 2 to commemorate those who were killed in both World Wars, it now commemorates all those who served and lost their life.

The poppy is the symbol of remembrance. There will be services organised by veterans from local RSL sub-branches held over the Hawkesbury and Hills on Monday (Nov 11th) which the public are welcome to attend. There will also be a Sunday service (Nov 10th) at Baulkham Hills.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10TH SERVICE

BAULKHAM HILLS

There will be a service of Remembrance at the Soldier's Memorial (pictured) on the Balcombe Heights Estate, 92, Seven Hills Road (opposite Jasper Road School) starting at 9.50am.

The annual Sunday service is being run by the Balcombe Heights Estate Committee in partnership with Hills Shire Council and is being held under the memorial arch of Brush Box trees planted just over 100 years ago to commemorate the fallen in World War 1.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 11TH SERVICES

CASTLE HILL

Castle Hill RSL Sub-branch will be holding a service of Remembrance in front of the RSL Club, Commencing at 10.50am on November 11th. The foreground will be a sea of hand-knitted poppies. Those attending have been asked to be seated before 10.45am.

GALSTON

The Hills District RSL Chapter is holding a Remembrance Day Commemoration Service at the Galston Cenotaph on Monday 11th November, commencing at 10.40AM.

KURRAJONG

A Remembrance Day service will be held at the Memorial Park Kurrajong at 10.55am on Monday, November 11th.

RICHMOND

Richmond RSL Sub-branch will commemorate Remembrance Day with a service and wreath laying ceremony at the Richmond War Memorial in Richmond Park, corner of East Market and March Streets Richmond, from 10.55am on Monday 11th November.

Community members are asked to assemble adjacent to the war memorial by 10.40am.

Richmond RSL Sub-branch encourages the local community to take the time to reflect on the

service of the District's veterans and serving military personnel, and to appreciate the Peace they have safeguarded through their service and sacrifice. Community leaders and representatives from Legacy, War Widows, Torchbears, RAAF Richmond, National Servicemen's Association, the Richmond Club and local schools will also commemorate the service of current and former military personnel.

RIVERSTONE

The members of Riverstone Schofield RSL Sub-Branch are holding a Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial 11am in front of Riverstone Railway Station on November 11th.

WINDSOR

The Remembrance Day service by Windsor RSL Sub-branch will be held at the new Hawkesbury Cenotaph at McQuade Park, Windsor on Monday, November 11th. Please arrive by 10.30am for a service of remembrance and wreath laying which will start at 10.55am.



2024 REMEMBRANCE DAY GALSTON

The Hills District RSL Chapter Remembrance Day Commemoration Service

will be held at the **Galston Cenotaph** on

Monday 11th November, commencing at 10.40AM

*Lest
We Forget*

Let us remember
all those who have made the supreme sacrifice
not only in World War 1, and World War 2,
but in all subsequent wars/conflicts
in which Australia has been involved

Contact Person:
William Rosier OAM

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The Hills Shire Council News

Watch Out, Snakes About



Snake sightings are becoming more frequent as we spring into summer. They play a vital role in our environment, helping keep the populations of pest species like mice and rats at bay, as well as playing their part in the circle of life as a food source for other native wildlife such as kookaburras.

If you see a snake:

- **Stay calm.** Snakes prefer to avoid interactions with humans and if given the chance, will move away and escape. Snakes tend to only bite if they feel threatened as their last defence.
- **Do not attempt to capture or harm the snake.** Most snake bites occur when untrained people try to capture, harm or handle a snake. All native snakes and reptiles are protected by law throughout NSW under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.
- **Avoid the snake.** Try to go around the snake or back away slowly.
- **Stay still.** If you cannot avoid the snake, stay as still as possible. The snake will not see you as a threat and will move on.

Other things to note are to keep your pets and children inside if you spot a snake on your property. You should also strive to keep your gardens tidy, your lawn mowed short, and your property free of debris.

Council does not remove snakes from public or private land. Only licensed reptile handlers capture and release snakes under strict conditions. If you find a snake on your property, you can contact a licensed reptile handler by visiting the NSW Government's website, www.environment.nsw.gov.au, and searching 'Catch and release reptiles'.

Council Meetings

Tuesday, 12 November 2024 at 7pm

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

An Evening with Jacqueline Bublitz

Join acclaimed author Jacqueline Bublitz as she discusses her new book, 'Leave the Girls Behind' – a suspenseful thriller overlaid with a moving exploration of how violent crime ricochets through the lives of those left behind.



Jacqueline Bublitz is a writer, feminist and arachnophobe, who lives between Melbourne, Australia, and her hometown on the west coast of New Zealand's North Island.

Catch Jacqueline at the Pioneer Theatre on Tuesday, 12 November from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Head to Council's website and search 'An Evening with Jacqueline Bublitz' to secure your tickets now.

FREE Workshops at the Environment Centre

Council's Community Environment Centre will be hosting a number of FREE workshops this November. The workshop program provides opportunities for Hills Shire residents to learn more about ways they can be more sustainable and environmentally conscious in their day-to-day lives.

The workshops are held on Thursdays and are a great chance to form connections with your fellow residents.

Upcoming workshops include:

- **Recycled Christmas Card Making**
Thursday, 7 November, 10am to 12pm
- **Sustainable Shopping**
Thursday, 14 November, 6pm to 8pm
- **Build a Straw Bale Garden**
Thursday, 21 November, 10am to 12pm

Find out more and register for the workshops on Council's website by searching 'Environment Centre Events'.



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



Do you enjoy Livvi's Place?

The Livvi's Place Experience Survey has been extended to Wednesday, 6 November at 5pm.

Tell us about your current experience with the playground and waterplay area. Complete our online survey to be in the draw to win one of three \$50 Coles Group and Myer gift vouchers! The survey will assist Council to understand your current experience at the park and

then compare this once the extension and upgrades are complete.

The playground extension work is funded by the NSW Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program. Complete the survey now by searching 'Tell us about your experience with Livvi's Place' on Council's website or scan the the QR code above.

Home Pool Safety – Check, Fix & Maintain



With the weather getting warmer and summer fast approaching, we need to ensure we are diligent with pool safety. A compliant, secure and properly maintained swimming pool and fence are essential measures to ensure the safety of young children around backyard swimming pools.

Council has a 'Pool and Spa Regulations' webpage with information on fencing requirements, pool registration and approvals. The page also has documents on first aid, CPR, a fact sheet and a Safety Checklist by the Royal Life Saving Society.

Scan the QR code to see how you can be pool-safe this summer.



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END THE MYSTERY OF THE RINGING IN YOUR EARS:

What's Causing Tinnitus and How to Find Relief

AN ARTICLE BY SANDRA RAZZAGHIPOUR FROM EAR STUDIO

For many, a ringing, buzzing, or humming in the ears is more than just an occasional annoyance—it's a condition known as tinnitus. Characterised by the perception of sound without an external source, tinnitus affects approximately 15-20% of the population. For most, the awareness of it may come and go, but for around 2% of individuals, tinnitus can severely disrupt daily life, leading to anxiety, sleep disturbances, and difficulties in day-to-day life. Given its potential impact, tinnitus should not be dismissed as a mere inconvenience but rather investigated thoroughly to uncover any underlying causes.

Types and Triggers of Tinnitus

The most common type of tinnitus is called subjective tinnitus, which only the affected person can hear. The sounds experienced can vary widely, from high-pitched ringing to low-frequency humming, and some describe it as resembling crickets or cicadas.

Several factors can trigger or worsen tinnitus, including stress, lack of sleep, and exposure to loud noises. However, other causes can also contribute to its development, such as ear wax buildup, certain medications, or can be associated with medical conditions. Understanding these factors can be helpful in finding relief.

Identifying the Underlying Cause

Tinnitus is not always a standalone condition; it may indicate an underlying issue that needs attention. Therefore, consulting a hearing care professional is an important first step in addressing tinnitus. A thorough assessment will help determine the extent to which the tinnitus affects daily life, such as sleep quality or the ability to participate in social activities.

A comprehensive hearing test is an important starting point, as tinnitus is often, though not always, associated with hearing loss. The results can offer insights into potential origins and guide us in the next steps. Our team may refer you to a medical specialist for further evaluation should we find it necessary.

Treatment Options for Tinnitus

Managing tinnitus effectively involves a variety of treatment options, tailored to the individual's needs and the underlying cause. Hearing aids can be an option if a hearing loss is present and suspected to be associated with the tinnitus.

Additionally, sound therapy tailored to you can provide relief by creating a soothing background noise that reduces the perception of the tinnitus.

For some, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) can be a helpful approach. This form of therapy leverages the brain's neuroplasticity to help individuals learn to accept and disregard the tinnitus, making the perceived sound less intrusive over time. CBT is typically conducted by a psychologist or trained therapist specialising in tinnitus management.

Taking the First Step Toward Relief

While there is no cure for tinnitus, various strategies can help manage and significantly reduce its impact on daily life. The key is to seek advice, you can do this by contacting our friendly team at Ear Studio, we offer specialised tinnitus assessment and management services. Our hearing care professionals are here to support you to begin your journey towards relief. Call us on 02 9159 6122 or visit earstudio.com.au to schedule your appointment.

Ear Studio is conveniently located in Lawton House in Castle Hill with off street parking, Suite 10 / 60 Cecil Ave, Castle Hill. Operating hours are from Monday to Thursday 8:30am – 5pm and Fridays 8:30am – 4pm

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Director & Founder, Daniel Fechner, pictured with a client at Ear Studio



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FERRY ARTISTS paint the way with their New Exhibition

BY SOPHIE POREDOS

In preparation for Christmas gifting, the Ferry Artists at Wiseman's invite visitors to their opening evening of their newest exhibition 'Ferry Artists Presents'.

The Ferry Artists are a not-for-profit group of local artisans who were formed out of the Inaugural Wisemans Ferry Art Show by Heather Winch in 2000. Heather alongside like-minded artists created a community organisation and community-run art gallery, where visitors can attend and purchase local art.

Carol Gill, the current President of the Ferry Artist Gallery, invites both existing members and the public to witness their newest exhibition, 'Ferry Artists Presents'. The opening will run on the 9th of November 2024 from 3pm – 5pm and will feature 20cm x 20cm paintings starting at an affordable price of \$80, as well as other art pieces:



President Carol Gill (left) and Secretary Mim Allan (right) at a Sydney Weekender shoot.

"Our exhibition is perfect for new curators who are starting out and are looking for unique pieces", she said.

As President since 2023, Carol's preferred artistic medium is mixed media collage and landscape paintings. She encourages the public to visit their gallery in Wisemans Ferry and browse their array of ceramics, jewellery, textiles and artwork for sale:

"Our gallery acts as the cultural soul for our forgotten valley. Visiting our shop supports local artists and provides residents with rich culture. It's important for our community to have an artistic focus and art that enriches life and mental wellbeing".

Once a month, the group meets for their 'River Sketchers', which is a free event open to the public where participants can spend the day making artwork against the

beautiful backdrop of the Hawkesbury River. Registrations are essential and you can contact them via their Facebook Page: 'The Ferry Artists Gallery' or website.

For those interested in membership, both exhibiting and social members can express their interest by emailing ferryartistsgallery@gmail.com and are asked to submit their art as part of the application. The Ferry Artists are also on display at the Hawkesbury Regional Gallery; 'Hawkesbury Now' exhibition which will run through until December.

However, Carol wants to express how the gallery and their open nights are, "never invitation only; it's always open to the community".

You can peruse their lovely art pieces at the Ferry Artists Art Gallery, at 2 Old Northern Road, Wisemans Ferry, NSW. They are open seven days a week, from 10am to 4pm.



Ferry Artist's President Carol Gill (left) and Vice President Mellissa Read Devine (right) at the OBF Taste of Wisemans Ferry.



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- Assist with accessing Federal Government services
 Attend your local community event
 Arrange congratulatory messages

Please contact my office if I can be of assistance.



JULIAN LEESER MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR **BEROWRA**

Level 11, 423 Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills NSW 2120
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 julian.leeser.mp@aph.gov.au
 julianleeser.com.au
 julianleesermp

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

Supporting our local clubs & volunteers

One of the best parts of being your local Member of Parliament is getting to know the kids, families and volunteers involved in Berowra's local sports clubs.

Berowra's local sports clubs do a great job fundraising for new uniforms, running end of year presentations and basically keeping the lights on but right around our area we've got clubs that operate in facilities that aren't up to standard. We have club houses that don't have women's changing rooms. Some clubs have bathrooms that are dilapidated and frankly just aren't equipped for the growth, especially with more young women joining up.

And as anyone involved with winter sport will tell you after the wet winter the drainage on

too many of our fields is not up to standard.

Since I have been elected, I've taken up this fight for a lot of local clubs and I'm so pleased with what we've been able to achieve working together. New club houses, returfing, equipment, storage facilities, bathrooms and upgrades and improvements totalling around \$5 million worth of local investment are some of my proudest achievements as your local MP.

Despite how much we've managed to achieve together, there's still lots to do.

Last week I met with representatives from a couple of local clubs and community groups to talk about how they're travelling and what their plans for the future are. I met with representatives from West Pennant Hills and

Cherrybrook Football Club – the Lions. The Lions play at Campbell Park, along with West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook Cricket Club which means the facilities are in demand pretty much year-round.

The representatives from the Lions gave me a few really great ideas so I've taken those thoughts and am starting work on a plan on how to support them and other clubs using Campbell Park.

If you're involved in a local sports club, community group or volunteer organisation and think your organisation might benefit from my support for more funding or a small grant then please get in touch with my office to talk about how we can work together.

DIWALI IN THE HILLS:

Celebrating Culture, Community, and Light

Diwali, or Deepavali, the Festival of Lights, is one of the most significant celebrations in Indian culture. It symbolises the triumph of light over darkness, of good over evil, and of knowledge over ignorance. The festival, traditionally celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and some Buddhists, marks significant historical and mythological events, such as the return of Lord Rama to Ayodhya and the victory of Lord Krishna over the tyrannical demon Naraksura. Diwali is celebrated by illuminating homes with lamps, sharing sweets and delicacies, performing rituals, and gathering with family, friends, and the community.

In The Hills Diwali has grown in prominence over the years. The area boasts a vibrant Indian community, and the festival serves as a crucial link to their heritage. Local celebrations include community fairs, cultural performances, and public events that showcase traditional music, dance, and cuisine. These gatherings strengthen community bonds and foster intercultural understanding among the wider Australian populace.

The cultural impact of Diwali in The Hills Shire is profound, offering the local community a window into Indian traditions, fostering respect and appreciation for different cultures. Schools often incorporate Diwali-themed activities, enhancing multicultural education and promoting inclusivity. Local businesses also benefit from the festival, with increased demand for Indian goods and services, which further enriches the economic landscape.

Diwali in The Hills Shire is more than just a celebration; it represents a blend of cultures, where traditions are preserved and shared, creating a vibrant tapestry of community life. As the festival continues to grow in prominence, it reinforces the importance of cultural heritage in shaping community identity and unity.

This October, I've had the great pleasure of attending numerous Diwali events organised by local community groups and organisations. From lively town centre festivities to a delightful harbour cruise, this month has been filled

with wonderful celebrations of the Festival of Lights. My heartfelt thanks to all who facilitated these events, nurturing this vital cultural celebration and bringing the spirit of Diwali to The Hills community.

Authorised by Mark Hodges MP, Suite 1A, 19-21 Terminus St, Castle Hill, NSW, 2154. Funded using Parliamentary Entitlements.



MARK HODGES MP
MEMBER FOR **CASTLE HILL**

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FEDERAL MEMBER FOR MITCHELL



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

2024 Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum

Together with Tristan Smith, Chief Executive Officer, it was a privilege to host another 150 student leaders from across 16 schools at the 23rd Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum. The 2024 Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum held on 17-19 October at YMCA, Yarramundi was an incredible success. The Forum is a 2 ½ day live-in program for Year 11 students, based on the values of *integrity, service and courage*.

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

Students participated in team building activities, small group discussions, and a community service project at Aminya Village, McCall Gardens and Riding for the Disabled (NSW) Association-Tall Timbers Centre. Throughout the Forum, they also listened to inspiring talks from Matt Kershaw, Botille Vette-Welsh, Josh and Nathan Katz, Sally Hurst and Barnaby Howarth.

I would like to thank our devoted volunteer team consisting of over 65 leaders and committee members who work tirelessly throughout the year and over the 2.5 days to support these students. Their passion and dedication in developing the next generation of leaders is nothing short of admirable and



the Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum would not be possible without them. These leaders are exceptional examples for the students and display the forum's values of *service, integrity and courage* throughout their daily lives.

The Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum Committee are an amazing group of young people who have an incredible passion and commitment in developing the next generation of leaders. I commend and thank; Tristan Smith, Ronie Quinn, Jan Cox, Ged Lewis, Thomas Kelly, Jessie Peake, Ken Shaw, Daniel Ridley, Marcus Cannon, Veneta Webster, Jane Doherty, Lauren Nowacka, Simon Teh and Renee Salecich.

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

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

FLOOD REPORT

The experience of Hawkesbury residents impacted by flooding has helped shape the recommendations of the final report of the Parliamentary Inquiry into the insurance issues of the 2022 floods, including the affordability and availability of flood insurance.

I was specially brought onto the Economics Committee at the start of this 13-month inquiry because of the experience of our region. From navigating the process of making a claim after a flood to facing shocking increases in premiums or being told your insurer will no longer offer flood insurance, I knew that our region had important insights on what is working, and most importantly what isn't working.

The final report: Flood Failure to Future Fairness quotes evidence that was shared by Hawkesbury residents at the Committee hearing in May.

There are 86 recommendations that cover a wide range of issues affecting the flood insurance industry. Some of the recommendations include things like:

- government intervention in the flood reinsurance market
- better buyback and home resilience upgrade schemes
- strengthening of the government's response to floods
- making it easier for households and small businesses to get data about flooding that insurers and government have

SUSAN TEMPLEMAN MP

Federal Member of Macquarie

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- reviewing the fairness of disaster recovery programs for individuals, landowners and businesses
- setting higher standards for the insurers' behaviour, and
- providing more support for people, like Legal Aid, to navigate the claims process

A number of the recommendations are on affordability and access to insurance as it's becoming increasingly unaffordable for properties with the highest risk.

We want to see insurers explore more innovative products for homes and small businesses, and better ways for individual property mitigation to be rewarded by insurers with lower premiums.

We want to see state governments remove state-based taxes on general insurance products, and that insurers commit to passing these savings on in full through lower premiums.

And we've recommended the government look at the appropriateness of a government-supported reinsurance arrangement to make flood insurance more affordable.

The real message of the report, to every Parliamentarian and every government - local, state and federal - is that there is urgency to this problem.

It's time to look at how the government can help people who have homes on the floodplain access insurance. But now is also the time to have hard conversations about buybacks, making individual homes safer and more resilient, and stopping new development on the floodplain. None of this can be done without working closely with the insurance industry.

What we don't do now will cost taxpayers further down the track, undermine the Hawkesbury economy, and lead to heartbreak for the most flood-prone homeowners.

PETS OF THE WEEK

The Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter (CAS)
is at 10 Mulgrave Rd, Mulgrave.
Call 4560 4644 for opening hours
or visit the new webpage
<https://hawkesburycas.com.au/>



AT A GLANCE

NAME: SHAKA
BREED: Short hair domestic cat
SEX: Female
AGE: 10 yrs 3 mos
PRICE: \$99



SHAKA is a sweet but shy senior girl that is looking for a quiet home to retire in. According to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter Shaka finds the shelter an overwhelming place and at the age of 10 would prefer a calm, relaxed environment to call home. Staff say if you can offer this sweet, gentle girl a "Forever Home" for the remainder of her years then please come and meet her anytime during open hours. Her adoption price is just \$99 which includes desexing, the first vaccination, microchipping and lifetime registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

RANDAL is a gorgeous, chunky boy with a beautiful heart. According to staff at the Hawkesbury Companion Animal Shelter Randal will need some time to settle into his new home, and with the right owners that will give him the love he needs, he will blossom into a wonderful companion. Staff say Randal will accept a pat and has interacted with staff on a daily basis, though he is very much a boy who likes to keep to himself while in the shelter environment. While he won't be jumping into your lap for a cuddle, he does deserve like all our cats to find his perfect person. Her adoption price is just \$99 which includes desexing, the first vaccination, microchipping and lifetime registration.

Hawkesbury Council's Rehoming Organisation Number is: R251000145.

AT A GLANCE

NAME: RANDAL
BREED: Short hair domestic cat
SEX: Male
AGE: 10 yrs 3 mos
PRICE: \$99



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At Sydney Animal Hospitals, we know that our pets are family, and their health is our top priority. This October through November, we're offering a Free Lump Amnesty, providing pet owners with peace of mind and supporting an incredible cause: Assistance Dogs Australia.

WHY LUMP CHECKS MATTER

Lumps and bumps are common in pets, especially as they age. While some may be harmless, others can indicate serious health concerns that require attention. Early detection is critical and can make all the difference in successful treatment. Our lump checks are designed to identify any potential risks before they become a threat to your pet's wellbeing.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN OUR FREE LUMP AMNESTY

During this campaign, pet owners can bring in their pets for a free lump check and cytology test. Our veterinarians will assess any lumps or bumps, taking a small sample if needed to analyse further. This process allows us to determine whether a lump is benign or requires additional treatment, ensuring that any health risks are addressed early.

SUPPORTING A WORTHY CAUSE

Our Lump Amnesty is more than just a health check; it's also a way to give back. 5% of every lump removal surgery will be donated to

Assistance Dogs Australia, helping train and place assistance dogs with people who need their support. By joining our campaign, you're not only prioritising your pet's health but also contributing to a meaningful cause that benefits lives across Australia.

SPECIAL FOCUS FOR PETS THAT SPEND TIME IN THE SUN

Pets that spend a lot of time outdoors in the sun may have a higher chance of developing skin cancer, some of which could be serious. This is the perfect time to act if you notice any new or changing lumps on your pet.

BOOK YOUR FREE LUMP CHECK TODAY

Don't wait until a small issue becomes a big problem. Book your free lump check at Sydney Animal Hospitals and provide your pet with the preventative care they deserve. Join us in protecting pets and supporting Assistance Dogs Australia—together, we can make a difference!



For more information or to book an appointment, visit www.sydneyanimalhospitals.com.au or contact your local Sydney Animal Hospital today.

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THE STADIUM WITHOUT ANY FOOTBALL

Yes! Sydney once had a stadium that never saw a game of football played within its grounds.

Sydney Stadium 1913

Erected on the site of a former Chinese market garden in 1908, by one Hugh Donald Macintosh as an open air venue for sporting events, it was originally built with a view to attracting visiting American seamen from the visit to Sydney of the US fleet to a boxing tournament between Canadian Tommy Burns and Australian Bill Squires. The event failed to attract the visiting Americans with only two American seamen turning up, who were both ejected from the stadium due to drunkenness. The event, however, proved to be popular with the locals with an estimated 12,000 attending. Later, on the appropriately named Boxing Day of 1908, a much larger crowd of more than 20,000 attended to watch Jack Johnson (an African-American) challenge Tommy Burns for the Heavyweight World championship. (A world first for a white versus black world championship bout). Johnson won the championship from Burns.

Four years later, the Stadium was reconfigured into an octagonal structure with corrugated iron walls and roof and raked wooden seats facing the stage or ring and could accommodate around 12,000 patrons and was used mainly as a boxing venue until the mid-1900s.

In the 1950s and 60s it became better known as a entertainment venue after expatriate American impresario Lee Gordon sought to introduce world famous entertainers to Sydney and sought a location that would hold audiences big enough to finance the venture. At first the shows operated at a financial loss as many Sydneysiders considered it to be a dubious hoax. They were not used to well-known popular entertainers visiting Sydney. The second show promoted by Lee Gordon was much more successful after Lee Gordon heavily promoted the concert offering two for one vouchers dropped by air from a plane. The Stadium became known colloquially by the visiting entertainers as "The Old Tin Shed".

Many "big time" entertainers, both overseas and local, found their fame extended after appearances before the crowds of local fans at "The Tin Shed". Amongst the more notable entertainers were Frank Sinatra, Johnny Ray, Bill Haley, Johnny O'Keefe, Peter, Paul and Mary, Johnny Devlin, The Beach Boys, Bob Dylan, Gerry & The Pacemakers, Cliff Richard, Chuck Berry and, in their only Sydney performance, The Beatles.



The venue was also the Sydney home to "World Championship Wrestling" and "The Roller Game" both popular on TV's Channel 9 in the 1960s.

Many Sydneysiders hold fond memories of traipsing down to the corner of New South Head Rd and Neild Ave at Rushcutters Bay to watch the Wrestling, the Roller Derby or the world famous entertainers. I can recall going to the Tin Shed to watch and listen to "the Man who shot Liberty Valance", Gene Pitney, who, I can honestly say, was more than "24 Hours From Tulsa". What are your memories of the time?

The Stadium was demolished in 1970 after 62 years of operation to allow for the construction of the Eastern Suburbs Railway.

Alive with Interviews

Hills-based author Nicola Moriarty has published seven novels and sold over a quarter of a million copies worldwide.

Alive 90.5 FM *Pick n Mix* hosts Anne and Julie were delighted to welcome Nicola to their Tuesday afternoon show recently.

Nicola shared her experience of writing her latest novel, *Every Last Suspect*. Her inspiration for the book came from a small piece she wrote as a university student about the final thoughts of a dying woman.

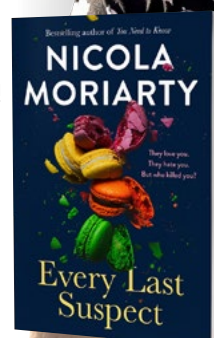
Re-reading it several years later, it sparked an idea for a murder-mystery novel about Harriet, a woman preparing to celebrate her 40th birthday who finds herself lying in a pool of her own blood.

Realising she's about to die, Harriet is determined to figure out who is responsible. Certainly an enticing plot!

Nicola also talked about how the words flow easily when the brain is in the right frame of mind but sometimes, it can be a struggle. Her advice is to keep on writing, developing a different character or a different part of the story or even writing about something else completely. Eventually, it all comes together and is well worth the effort when the novel is on the book shop shelves!

Not one to let the grass grow under her feet, Nicola is already working on her next novel and it promises to be a cracker - the complexities (aka politics) of running a local soccer club.

Anne and Julie always have interesting people to interview. Why don't you tune in each Tuesday 2-4pm.



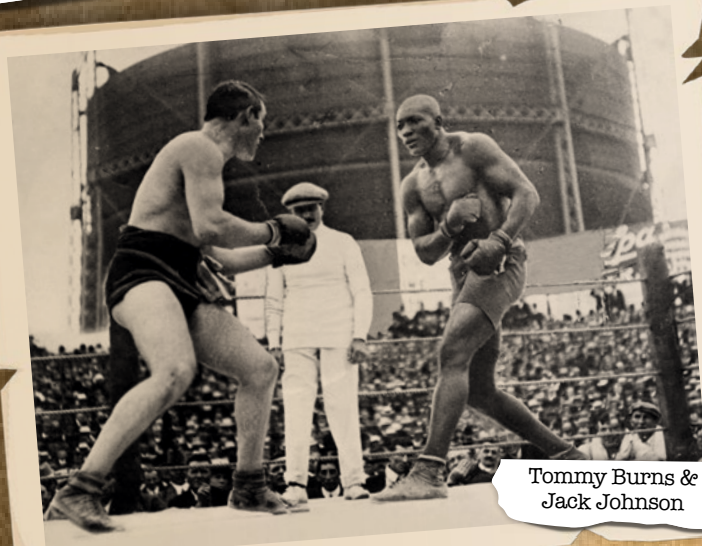
NICOLA MORIARTY

AS WE WERE

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

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Sydney Stadium from the corner of
Neild Avenue and New South Head Road
Rushcutters Bay 1965 Ern McQuillan.
National Library of Australia



Tommy Burns &
Jack Johnson



The Beatles 1964
The Stadium



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Hills golfers raise \$250,000 in marathon event

BY LAWRENCE MACHADO

Golfers are known to travel far and wide to play their beloved sport. What's more surprising was that 52 local golfers even gave up their sleep to hit the fairways for charity, playing a 24-hour golfing marathon at Castle Hill Country Club.

With special lighting to turn night into day, these golfers raised a whopping \$250,000 for their One Day event. All donations went to Love Your Sister, a charity started by Gold Logie winner Sam Johnson and his sister, Connie.

The fundraiser easily beat last year's total of \$100,000 with organisers already planning a big event in 2025 to raise \$500,000. Love Your Sister is dedicated to ensuring precision cancer treatment for all cancer patients.

Thirteen groups teed off at 7:30am on Thursday, October 22, completing their mammoth round the next morning. All dedicated golfers raised money through their networks with one player even raising \$25,000.

Event organiser and Glenorie local Rod Frost organised the challenge following personal tragedies. "In 2023, my family lost three loved ones to cancer, including my sister-in-law," Frost said. "A close mate had also recently died of cancer, so friends and I decided

to launch a fund-raising event in all their memories."

Special guest Sam Johnson promised the players that every dollar raised would be spent on cancer patients. "As it ought," said Johnson. "I promised my sister, I promise you, we do not touch a dollar of the funds raised – it goes through Love Your Sister to key programs supporting precision medicine."

"The genomic revolution is upon us, and genomic sequencing allows doctors to put cancer patients on the most appropriate treatment the first time, every time. Castle Hill Country Club general Manager Brendan Ellam said: "While golf is usually an individual sport, seeing players and volunteers band together for a greater good is the epitome of our club's camaraderie. It makes me proud to be part of Castle Hill Country Club and our local community."

One of the players, Simon Lane, said it was a special experience to be on the course at 3am. "Lots of wildlife to be heard, including bats and a cockatoo that sounded like it was defending its nest from an intruder," he said.

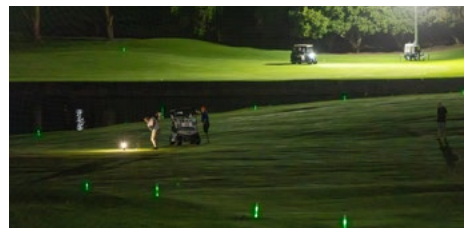


Rodney Frost, front row, third left, Sam Johnson, front row, centre, and Brendan Ellam, front row, far left, with players and volunteers.

Photo credit: Craig Tiberti/Deep Edge Studios.

Windsor Golf Club also staged its own One Day event on October 21 and similar events have been planned by other golf clubs around the country.

Local sponsors included Nova Pharmaceuticals, Windsor RSL, Minchinbury Fruit Market, Tilly Bell Lane, Deep Edge Studios and Dexion.



Castle Hill Country Club was illuminated by 19 portable lighting towers and thousands of fairy lights. Photo credit: Craig Tiberti/Deep Edge Studios.

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The champion Quakers Hill Tigers. Picture: Football NSW.

QUAKERS HILL TIGERS crowned Champion of Champions

BY LAWRENCE MACHADO

Quakers Hill forward Shayaan Shahriar will cherish this moment for many years. The youngster unleashed a long-range golden goal from the edge of the centre circle, beating a despairing Linfield FC goalie Nicholas Batistich to break a 1-1 deadlock in their recent Boys Under 16 Champion of Champions grand final.

The stunning goal capped a remarkable turnaround for the Tigers who came from behind to win their exciting final after Calan Shaw had given Linfield the lead in the 12th minute.

The Tigers, however, drew level in the first half when Joshua Hand coolly slotted a penalty after his teammate Akeen Abusalah

was brought down in the box by Lindfield's Richard Jang.

Quakers Hill custodian Levi Vander Noord was also one of the heroes for the Tigers with some fine saves in the pulsating contest in front of a large crowd at Valentine Park, Glenwood. He stopped a potential winner from Finley Pridmore

The champion Quakers Hill Tigers squad:

1. Levi Vander Noord, Joshua Kosem, Logan Lewis, Fidel Baddour, Joshua Hand, Kaan Kuru, Diego Perez-Garcia, Decklan Brown, 14. Shayaan Shahriar, Cameron Greene, Ashwin Tenneti, Andre Sathivan, Matthew Dias, Nicholas Mey, Lachlan McArthur, Edwards Zhao and William Zhao.

off a free kick in extra time, having defended his goal posts well throughout the game.

There were a few close misses for the Tigers but their never-say-die attitude meant they were always in the hunt for the match-winning goal. The perfectly-timed strike by Shayaan in extra time was the start of celebrations by the passionate Tigers supporters who rushed on the field to fete their young heroes.

It was the only title won by Blacktown & Districts Soccer Football Association at this prestigious competition, organised by Football NSW.

Unfortunately, the other local team in the Champion of Champions finals, Kellyville Kolts from Hills Football, had a forgettable Boys 15 years final against Eschol Park FC, who collected the Champion's Trophy with a 5-0 win. Eschol (Macarthur FA), never looked back after taking a 2-0 lead by half-time. Despite the defeat, Kellyville Kolts can hold their heads high after a successful regular season.

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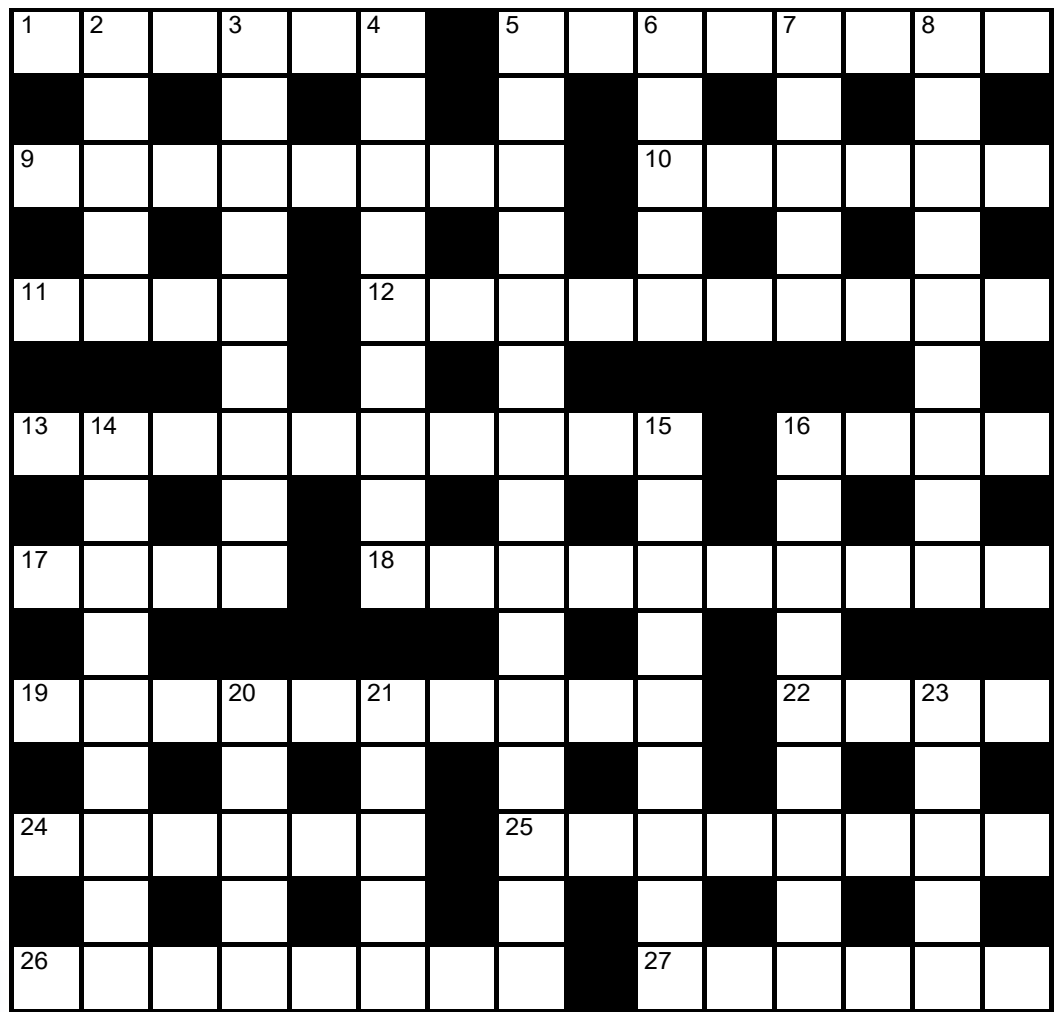
Hills to Hawkesbury Community News

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5. Queensland National Park
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11. "The --- have it!"
12. Leaving the home front
13. Everything considered
16. Pigeon talk
17. Slip
18. Like some costume jewellery
19. Advice starter
22. Letters
24. Transcribed
25. Simon ---, leading cricketer and footballer
26. Student's reading
27. Try to make ends meet

Down

2. Rough and disorderly
3. Agent amends job, botching it
4. Famed trial venue
5. Tall widespread herb, with large showy flowers
6. Boarded
7. Japanese assassin
8. Proceed independently
14. Large salt pan adjacent to the Flinders Ranges
15. Ecstatic
16. Underground worker
20. Narrowest part of the torso
21. Electromagnetic telecommunication
23. Five Pillars faith

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- LIGHTS
- PEDAL
- PUMP
- PUNCTURE
- SADDLE
- SPOKE
- UNICYCLE
- WHEEL

CODE WORD puzzle with a grid and instructions. Includes a vertical title 'CODE WORD' and a list of numbers to be placed in the grid.

Answers from last issue

WORD SEARCH grid with answers from the previous issue.

CROSSWORD grid with answers from the previous issue.

CODE WORD grid with answers from the previous issue.

SUDOKU grid with answers from the previous issue.

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