



Drug Lab Discovered at Maroota

Two men have been charged following ongoing investigations into an alleged large-scale drug manufacturing operation in Sydney. Strike Force Warrenwood was established in 2013 by investigators from the State Crime Command's Gangs Squad and the NSW Crime Commission. The strike force was formed to investigate the alleged manufacture and supply of methylamphetamine by members of the Lone Wolf outlaw motorcycle gang (OMCG).

In May 2014, two men – aged 30 and 32– were arrested and charged after a large clandestine drug laboratory was uncovered at a rented property in Cattai. Following an exhaustive investigation, strike force detectives stopped a car at McGraths Hill on Tuesday 13th January 2015 and spoke with a 30-year-old man. During a subsequent search of his car, detectives found 70 kilograms of pseudoephedrine.

The Bligh Park man was arrested and taken to Windsor Police Station where he was charged with supply prohibited drug (commercial quantity); manufacture prohibited drug; and knowingly deal with the proceeds of crime. He appeared in court and was refused bail to reappear at Penrith Local Court on 23 January 2015.

Investigators subsequently executed a search warrant at a rented property on Old Northern Road at Maroota on Wednesday 14 January 2015. Police located and seized more than 300 kilograms of iodine and



Police photograph of allege drug lab at Maroota

 $200\,litres$ of chemicals allegedly used in the manufacture of methylamphetamine. A 41-year-old man was arrested and taken to Windsor Police Station where he was charged with possessing a prohibited drug and manufacture of a prohibited drug.

The Sackville man appeared in Penrith Local Court where he was granted bail to reappear on 27 February 2015. Investigations by Strike Force Warrenwood detectives continue and police expect further charges to be laid.



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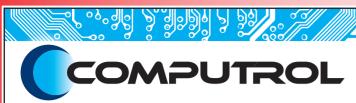




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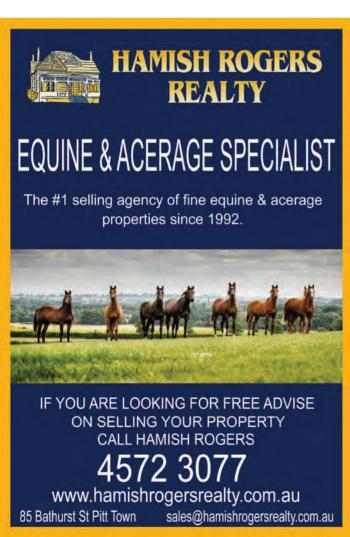
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Galston Netball Club Registration is still OPEN for the 2015 Winter Season.

Although Registration Day for Junior players was held in November, Galston Netball Club is currently looking for new players to join us for the 2015 Winter Competition in the following age groups:

- 10 Years born 2005
- 9 Years born 2006
- 6/7/8 Years born 2009/2008/2007

We may be able to accommodate requests for late registration in other Junior age groups if there is a vacancy in an appropriate age group or team.

All abilities are very welcome.

SENIOR and CADET REGISTRATIONS are now open and will be accepted up to and including **Saturday 28th February 2015.**

We are looking forward to seeing all our registered Junior players at Junior Grading Day on Sunday 8th February, 2015 on the Indoor Court at Hills District Netball Association, Pennant Hills Park.

For further information, please contact our Club's Secretary or Registrar via secretary.galstonnetballclub@hotmail.com or visit www.galstonnc.nsw.netball.com.au

Opportunities for Students to Study Through Colombo Plan

Federal Member for Berowra, Philip Ruddock, is asking all students in the Berowra electorate to consider the New Colombo Plan as part of their tertiary studies. Earlier this year, the Australian government began a successful pilot phase of the New Colombo Plan that is supporting more than 1,300 students to undertake study and work experiences in Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Following this pilot, the New Colombo Plan will be rolled out more broadly across the Indo-Pacific region in 2015.

"Students will be able undertake exciting study opportunities in more than 35 locations, including China, India, Malaysia and South Korea"

The Federal Government will be offering 60 12-month scholarships in 2015.

"Studying under the New Colombo Plan will not only provide an opportunity to learn and experience another culture but will develop skills and knowledge to benefit international employment in the future".

Any student wishing to find out more about the program can at www.dfat.gov.au/new-colombo-pla or through their universities' international offices.

Media Contact: Jeremy Greenwood 0413 280 799

Heidi Edwards Family Fund AGM

This is to notify the general public that the Heidi Edwards Family Fund Annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th February 2015.

This meeting will take place at The Galston Club at 7.30pm.



Rubbish Dumper Penalised with \$8000 Fine

Rubbish dumpers have been warned to stay away from the Sydney Hills with Council penalising one business with an \$8000 fine.

CCTV cameras caught the moment that a truck owned by an Auburn-based business dumped fill in the largely vacant Grey Gum Estate in North Kellyville.

Council's General Manager Dave Walker said he had no sympathy for rubbish dumpers.

"These rubbish dumpers have zero regard for our Shire so we have zero regard for them," Mr Walker said.

"We will penalise them with fines and push for the strongest possible penalty to be applied."

"In this case, the business has chosen a seemingly quiet and vacant part of the Shire to dump rubbish as they thought they were away from prying eyes."

"But CCTV caught them and we will do everything we can to catch more rubbish dumpers in the future."

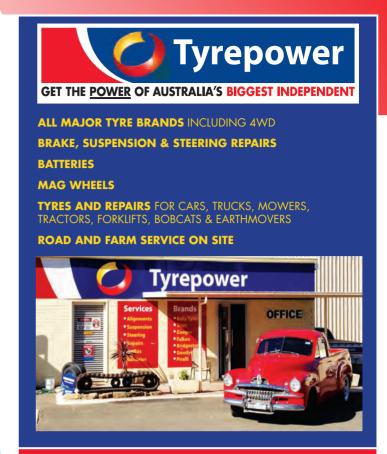
Mr Walker said that businesses that illegally dumped rubbish to avoid incurring tipping fees ran the very serious risk of incurring a much bigger fine.

"It's not very sustainable or smart to dispose of rubbish in a way that will incur you an \$8000 bill. They would've been much better off going to the tip."

Rainfall Chart

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Rainfall recorded Galston period 17/12/14 to 16/01/15 is 92mm



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The Big Red Run

Why?

Our nephew has been diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes and I know of other families who have healthy happy children one day & then a life long illness the next, with very little warning. The event is in aid of raising money through fitness to fund medical research, with an emphasis on finding a cure for Type 1 diabetes. Funds go toward continued work with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) to identify suitable and promising research projects that have the potential to progress towards a cure for Type 1 diabetes.



What & When

 $250 km,\, 6$ day stage race, Saturday $27^{\rm th}$ June - Thursday $2^{\rm nd}$ July 2015

- 5 marathons in 6 days.
- Starting at Birdsville pub with a lap around Birdsville before heading west to the impressive Big Red sand dune, which will be home for the following 2 nights.
- Day 1 = 'Birdsville Marathon' 42.195km
- Day 2 = 'Adria Downs Marathon' 42.195km
- Day 3 = 'Arpilindika Marathon' 42.195km
- Day 4 = 'Sprigg Sprint' 31km
- Day 5 = 84.39km (the equivalent of two individual marathons back to back!!!)
 - Marathon 1 "Mohan Marathon"
 - Marathon 2 "Roseberth Marathon"
- Day 6 = 'Birdsville or Bust' final 8km run to Birdsville Pub, followed by a late afternoon awards BBQ and entertainment.

Recent Events

Alison Stephens had a magnificent race at the Big Coast Run on Sunday $19^{\rm th}$ October at Botany Bay winning the 30km race in a wonderful time of 2 hours :37 minutes. Al running on trails and on the beach was too strong and beat her nearest opposition by a minute in a great tussle.

Goals & Donations

Alison hopes to raise \$3000 dollars for the cause. She has paid for the event herself and believes that the commitment to training and the pain that she will no doubt endure along the way is nothing compared to the inconvenience of being diagnosed with a life long illness. Diabetes is real and it is for life, so let's raise some funds and help find a cure.

If you are a local family and believe in this great cause or have a family member living with Type 1 Diabetes, please contact Alison to show your support and she can think of you along the way.

Donations

https://bigredrun.everydayhero.com/au/alison This online site allows for donations & receipts to be issued.

If you wish to donate to Alison directly or have an item or something that could be raffled, please phone 6344 3200 / 0408 876 930 or email alison.tom@westnet.com.au



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Hornsby Hero Wins Disability Award



Bill Bradley meeting Prime Minister Tony Abbott at the Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

Local man Bill Bradley's 60 years of service to the community has been recognised with a Lesley Hall Award for Lifetime Achievement in Disability.

Bill was nominated for the national award by Hornsby Shire Council's Community Development Officer Sophie Davis, who was at Australia's Parliament House to see him win last night.

The Lesley Hall Award recognises the efforts of an individual who has both experienced a disability and worked to improve life for others with a disability.

"We are all incredibly lucky to have a hard-working, community-focused resident like Bill living in Hornsby Shire and I am very grateful for all the contributions he has made to help people with disabilities in our area and beyond," Hornsby Shire Mayor Steve Russell said.

A promising sportsperson in his youth, Bill contracted polio at the age of 14 and spent more than a year in an iron lung.

Yet despite the ongoing effects of his illness, Bill remained an active member of the community, founding Belrose Junior Rugby League Club and supporting other local sports.

"All my dreams went down the gurgler when I got polio but I found a way to occupy the mind and assist others," Bill said.

He became interested in making sport more accessible for people with disabilities in 1995 after he was rejected from joining three lawn bowls clubs due to his wheelchair.

Since then, he has organised sporting events for people with disabilities in Australia, Korea and South Africa as well as exceeding at lawn bowls himself and winning multiple gold medals.

He also helped arrange for the donation of wheelchairs to people with a disability living in East Timor and in Indonesia after a tsunami.

Bill said that he believes his work helps to give people with disabilities a way to get back into the community.

"One particular bowler, a young lady in her 30s, had cancer of the spine and thought her life was finished... I taught her to play lawn bowls in a wheelchair and she is now one of the top 10 bowlers in the state," he said.

Beyond his work in sport Bill is also a member of the fundraising committee for Hornsby Kuring-gai Hospital, the Hornsby Homelessness Task Force and the Young Leos.

"You've got to keep the mind active ... it doesn't hurt to help anybody, it only costs you a bit of time."



Dural Fishing Club Annual Awards

Dural Country Club Fishing Club enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch at the Dural Country Club followed by the annual prize giving presentations. The main winners of this year's awards were

GIUSEPPE MILITELLO of Glenorie

Charter Champion and Champion of Champions

BRUCE O'TOOLE

Estuary and Open Champion

During the year Tony Hudson of Glenhaven was made an honary member of the Fishing Club and the Club decided to add a special trophy to the Awards, namely, the Tony Hudson Shield, to be presented by Tony to the person with the heaviest fish of the year. The inaugural recipient of this Award was presented by Tony to JOHN MEAGHER of Cherrybrook.

Various activities are enjoyed during the year including a monthly offshore charter, estuary and open fishing as well as organised fishing short stay holidays and social BBQs. Meetings are held at the Dural

Country Club at 7:30pm on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Visitors are always welcome to the meetings. A warm greeting is extended to the new members of the fishing club.

ENQUIRIES please phone President Vivienne Truelove on $9651\ 2257$.

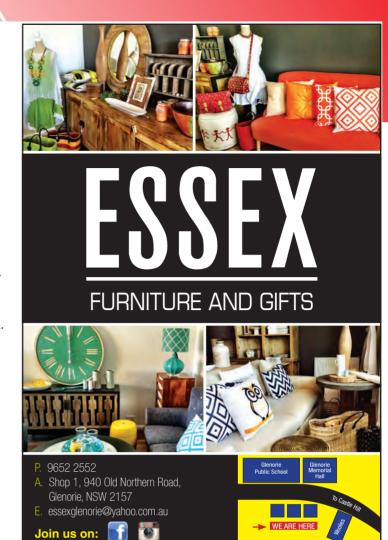


Bruce O'Toole, Giuseppe Militello and John Meagher.

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Tony Hudson and John Meagher.





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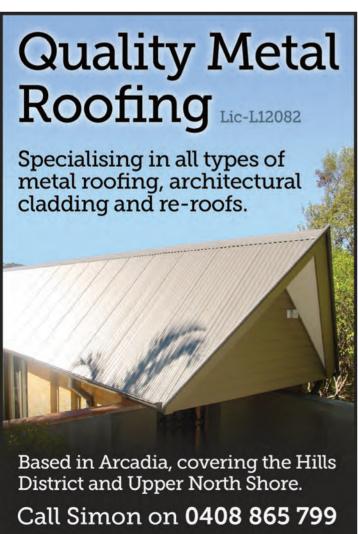
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Natural Strength Pilates - A Sanctuary for Glenorie Mums



Natural Strength Pilates is a new home-based pilates practice, established by a local Glenorie mum with a longterm love of pilates. After years of searching for a local pilates businesses that offered small and nurturing classes with a child minding option for her 3 young children, Louise decided to embark on 12 months training with Pilates International to enable her to open Natural Strength Pilates.

Classes will be small (maximum of 6) and held in the gardens and indoor studio of her acreage home. Each class will be tailored to its participants and will focus on key problem areas, such as abdominals, pelvic floor, glutes, thighs and arms, and key goals such as improving posture, flexibility, strength, endurance, preparing for birth and recovering from birth. A few minutes of relaxation will be included at the end of each class (a luxury for busy mums!) and herbal teas will be served after class with time set aside for classmates to stay and make new friends.

What is Pilates?

Pilates is a unique no-impact exercise regime of body conditioning, created by Joseph Pilates in the 1930s and developed extensively over the last century. Today it is commonly used by many health and sports professionals (including physiotherapists, professional sports coaches, celebrity trainers and dancers) as well as the general public (especially mums and dads, office workers, prenatal and postnatal women, seniors and anyone looking for a safe, effective and enjoyable exercise option).

What are the Benefits of Pilates?

Pilates strengthens, lengthens and tones muscles, improves posture, provides flexibility and balance, unites body and mind and gives you a more streamlined body-shape. The unique pilates breathing patterns work alongside the muscle activations to increase the circulation of blood and oxygen throughout the body to leave participants feeling invigorated and relaxed.

For enquiries, contact Louise on 0414770655 or info@ naturalstrengthpilates.com.au or visit the website www. naturalstrengthpilates.com.au.

Red Cross, Castle Hill Branch

Red Cross, Castle Hill Branch will hold it's first meeting for 2015 on Friday, 13th February, 2015 from 9.30a.m. to 11.00a.m. in The Tribute Room, Level 1, Castle Grand Library Building, Castle Hill. New members always welcome. Offers of collectors' help during Red Cross Calling Month of March would be appreciated. Enquiries 8850.7056.



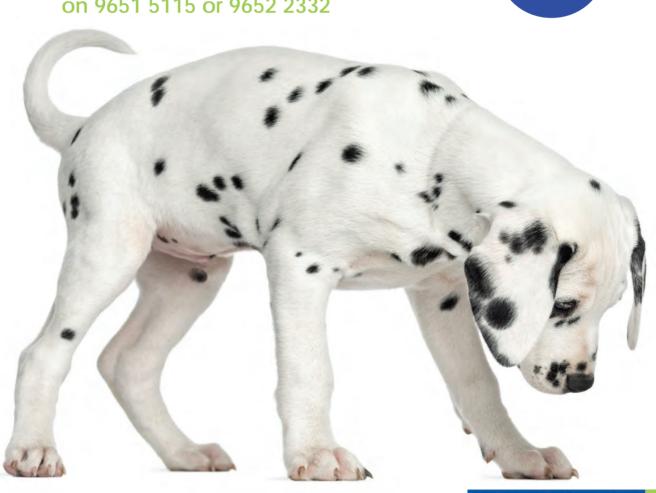
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Art Demonstration - Travel Sketching

Liz Steel - Wednesday 4th February 7.30pm

Liz is a Sydney based obsessive sketcher. Since discovering watercolour she has not stopped painting her life in her sketchbook. She has travelled extensively sketching and while she is passionate about spontaneous sketches in water-colour, using ink and wash, she also enjoys experimenting with mixed media - pencil, pen, watercolour pencil and



watercolour. Her favourite subjects are Renaissance/Baroque architecture, urban spaces and local tearooms

Visitors are welcome to the meeting at 7.30 pm, Castle Glen Community Centre, 155-157 Ridgecrop Drive, Castle Hill. Enquiries 9899 3179 or www.castlehillartsociety.org.au



Free Loose Fill Asbestos Check Available to Hills Residents

Hills residents living in homes built before 1980 are encouraged to take up an offer of free ceiling insulation testing to identify whether the home contains loose-fill asbestos.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, loose-fill asbestos was used as ceiling insulation in homes throughout NSW and the ACT. The product was installed by a now defunct company known as Mr Fluffy.

Hills Shire Mayor Clr Andrew Jefferies said that many Hills residents have taken up the offer of the free testing from the NSW Government.

"The good news thus far is that the 49 sets of results returned from homes in The Hills have not tested positive for loose-fill asbestos," Mayor Jefferies said.

"However, given the potential for exposure to ceiling insulation in many older properties, I encourage our residents to make sure that their home is clear of loose-fill asbestos and to take advantage of the free testing service and inspection."

The free testing is conducted by The Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities (HACA).

HACA advise residents with concerns about loose fill insulation to not enter their roof space, but access the free sampling service where a qualified licensed asbestos assessor will safely provide the service.

Hills residents can seek further information about loose-fill asbestos insulation and to enquire about the free testing service by visiting www.nsw.gov.au/loosefillasbestos or calling 137788



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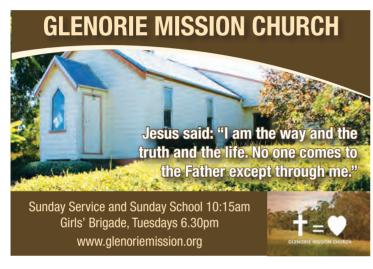
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Mayor Congratulates Worthy Australia Day Award Winners

Hills Shire Mayor Clr Andrew Jefferies has praised the Australia Day Award Winners and finalists who he has described as a credit to the Sydney Hills.

"On behalf of all the Hills Shire Councillors and the wider Hills community, I want to congratulate all our Australia Day award winners and finalists."

Citizen of the Year - Bev Jordan

Bev is well known in the Sydney Hills for her many years working as a senior reporter at the Hills Shire Times while being the major driving force behind The Hills Relay for Life. With the support of Bev and a group of dedicated volunteers, Relay has consistently raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for cancer research every year. Bev was also recognised for her commitment to Christmas in The Hills, Centenary of ANZAC and for mentoring students at Crestwood High School.

Certificate of Commendation: Melanie Morson and Brian McCombe



Young Citizen of the Year - Claudia Chow

Claudia has had an extremely busy year co-ordinating a number of initiatives including Daffodil Day, Jeans for Genes, Pink Ribbon Day, Westmead Children's Hospital Appeal, Naional Bandana Day, RSPCA Fundraiser, Teddy Bears Picnic and the Legacy Australia Fundraiser all while volunteering at the Anglican Retirement Village and with the Garage Sale Trail.

Certificate of Commendation: Dirk Jenson

Senior Citizen of the Year - Kui Chuen Donald Wong

Donald has been recognised for his dedication to the Chinese Seniors Association. Having founded the organisation 14 years ago, Donald has provided countless hours of support to the elderly within the Chinese community and organised many social events for the organisation.

Community Project of the Year - Summer Fest and Street Smart Bus Event

A partnership of the Wesley Mission, 2Realise and GPT – Street Smart and Summer Fest work alongside young people and their families, providing them with the life skills and tools they need to get through adolescence. The program connects 12 – 17 year olds with services that could include housing, health, drug and alcohol programs, family counselling, legal services, re-engagement with school and assisting young people to find suitable work.

Certificate of Commendation: Rabbit on Mental Health Campaign.



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Truncator

Local Dural resident, Dan Samter, is never too far away from

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The Truncator Multi Log Saw Horse was exactly what Dan had been searching for.

Dan immediately contacted the British based company who designed and manufactured Truncator, only to find that there was no immediate distribution available within Australia or New Zealand. Following detailed discussions with the UK manufacturer, and in conjunction with extensive local market research, Dan secured the sole Australasian distribution and formed a new company, Log Table Pty Ltd to sell the Truncator in Australia and New Zealand.

Truncator is easy to use, and saves time whilst reducing the danger of accidents, with the holding strap securely restraining the logs being cut.

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'The patented tipping mechanism which simply drops the cut timber directly into your wheel barrow or storage container, is simple, quick and effective, resulting in less bending and back stress, this is the key feature of the product' Dan commented.

Based on sales demand through Europe, United States and Japan, the Australian launch is expected to be a success.

For further information or how to purchase your Truncator, please visit

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10/50 Clearing Laws Altered

The NSW Government has altered the rules of the 10/50 Vegetation Clearing Entitlement, reducing the area that can be cleared.

The entitlement area has been reduced to 100 metres for Category One and 30 metres for Category Two vegetation. The previous area was 350 metres and 150 metres respectively.

"This means that Council's Tree Preservation Order once again applies to the majority of properties," Hornsby Shire Mayor Steve Russell said.

"This is very good news, as it allows those who are genuinely at risk of bushfire to protect themselves while limiting the actions of unscrupulous people who have been removing trees for other purposes.

"Hornsby Shire Council wrote one of the 1,800 submissions detailing flaws in the legislation and it's very gratifying to see the NSW Government listen to the community."

A wider review of the legislation is currently underway, involving the NSW Rural Fire Service and the Department of Planning and Environment, and is expected to be completed in the first half of 2015.

The legislation allows residents in bushfire prone areas to clear trees within 10 metres of their house and other vegetation within 50 metres of their house.

Significant penalties apply to those who do not implement the laws correctly.

Further information about the 10/50 laws, including entitlement areas, can be found at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au.

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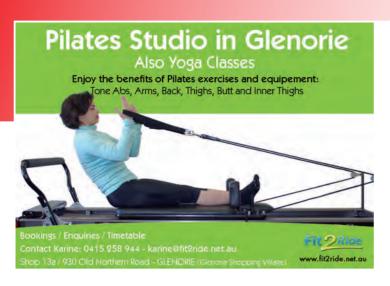
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February 22 - Janet Seidel **Trio with Paul Furniss**

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\$49pp 3 hours of Jazz and Lunch

The Riverbend Restaurant is open for dinner every evening and lunch on Sundays



The Hills Branch of the Ulysses Motorcycle Club is on the Move



Many residents of the Hills District would be familiar with the group of motorcyclist who meet each Saturday morning for its weekly social gathering at Joe's Deli & R Corner Kebab Cafe (formerly Pirate Pete's) on Old Northern Road, Round Corner Dural. We are the Hills Branch of the Ulysses Club Inc.

In January 2015 our Branch will be relocating to Vespa Cafe on Annangrove Road, Annangrove. After 12 years the Club has become a well known "icon" in the district. Often when locals hear you ride a motorbike they ask 'do you belong to that group at Round Corner'. It is with much regret that we are undertaking this move as the owners of Joe's Deli & R. Corner Kebab have made us very welcome as was the case with the original Peter Maitt of Pirate Pete's. We are confident our good reputation and knowledge of us by the community will continue at Annangrove

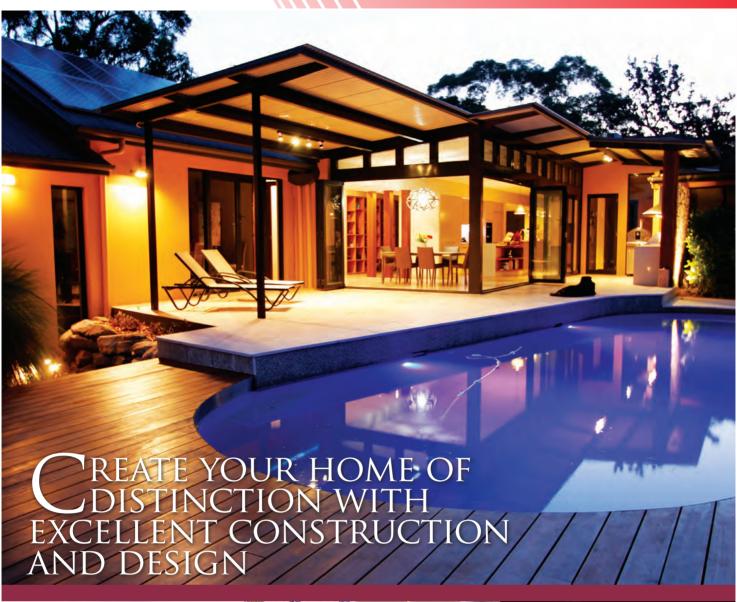
Over the 12 years the Hills Branch has been meeting at this site and its numbers are constantly increasing as is the population of the area. Traffic has also increased making parking and manoeuvring more difficult.

The Ulysses Hills Branch is part of a national and international club which was founded in 1983 for mature aged riders who share a deep passion for motorcycling and come from a wide variety of professions and riding all brands and types of motorbikes. Whether it be a cruiser, sports bike, tourer or scooter we have a variety of rides suitable for all. We actively encourage both male and female riders along with their partners who are always welcome and in fact the female members have gone from strength to strength many having gained their own licence offering an excellent balance to a traditionally male orientated interest.

Eleven residents of the Hills District who were active members of the Sydney Branch of Ulysses received approval to form the Hills Branch in 2001 with the initial formal gathering held in 2002. Since then the Branch has grown rapidly and members come from a very large radius of Dural, from Greystanes, Blacktown, Hills, Carlingford, Mt Kuringai & Northern Beaches. We also raise funds for charities, our main charity being the Arthritis Research Foundation and also Cancer and Depression.

The Hills Branch of the Ulysses Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at Castle Hill RSL at 7.30 for their General Meeting. Potential members need to be 40 plus and hold a motorbike licence. All Welcome









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Arcadia Musical Recitals Gear Up for 2015.

At the end of last year's fifth concert someone suggested the series was one of Sydney's best kept secrets. First class music in Arcadia, no parking problems, a Sunday afternoon's entertainment and at a price slightly more than the price of a single ticket in the City.



"Pastance", one of the groups performing this year.

In 2014 almost 1000 people attended the concerts in the chapel of St Benedicts Monastery, Arcadia. Patrons have become familiar with some of Australia's world renowned musicians, from the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and the Australian Brandenburg Orchestra as well as an overseas based soprano.

This year's series of five concerts will begin on the 22nd March, when "Sydney Brass", players from the SSO, will perform an all brass concert. Further concerts in April, May, June and September will bring back a soprano, a counter tenor, the Australian Haydn Ensemble, Brandenburg Soloists and the ever popular "Pastance" with harp lute and recorders.

Current subscribers are presently being offered series tickets. After the 28th February these will become available to new subscribers. Applications can be made through Margaret McKinley on 9653 3501 or Michael Bell on 9653 1365.



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Two Sides of Lawn Bowls

The women from Dural Country Club bowls club let their hair down at their annual Christmas Party. Even wearing their finest Christmas attire they were able to play good bowls through the morning to work up an appetite for the special lunch put on by the Club chef. All were amazed that the random pieces of table decoration brought by each lady blended to make a festive table and a beautiful celebration setting. President



Robyn Cook conducted the proceedings in her usual relaxed and gracious manner. Enjoyable after-lunch entertainment was provided by three members in costume singing a satirical commentary on the game of bowls, followed by several beautiful vocal duets sung by two granddaughters of one of the members. Some community carol singing and lots of happy chat of holiday plans and Christmas shopping brought the year to a conclusion with everyone promising an early return in the new year ready for some serious bowls.

Back to business: Now which is top bowl? The serious business is deciding the result of an end of bowls.

Free lessons are available at Dural Country Club. Phone 9489 3739 or 9836 0831





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HBrigade of Dragonflies By Mary at Heritage Haven

Late in the afternoon the cicadas vibrate their summer chants while hidden amongst the distant tree tops. I enjoy strolling along the pebbled driveway just as the sun sinks low on the horizon. I meander from the front gate down to the old carriage house ... a route edged with flowering blue and white agapanthus, sprawled rosemary bushes begging to be brushed, and a fragrant wilderness of passionfruit marigolds to touch and smell. Little distracts me from summer's herbaceous reflections or the pale river-stones that line my route.

Today, however, air-borne darts of shimmering blue and silver skim low above the pebbles, as jewel-toned dragonflies zigzag erratically and dart formidably across my path ... here is an aerodynamic team on the wing! These amazing hunters have survived since ancient times, their fossilized remains dating back over 300 million years, yet, here they are today ... active in my herb garden ... keeping vigil over my insect-seductive beds.



Perhaps recent extremes of temperature and downpours of rain, have induced the shimmering brigade to emerge into today's sunlight. After their watery early life in the old well they have been drawn to explore the airways around my garden today. Beautiful sun-lovers! As these visitors embroider my pebbled driveway with their amazing flashes of blue, I wish them successful hunting of insects from my garden to help retain a balanced insect population.

There is no need for toxic insecticides when we create waterfilled habitats which encourage these beautiful beneficial predators.

Arthritis Foundation, Parramatta

Arthritis Foundation, Parramatta Support Group's first meeting for 2015 will be on Monday, February 2nd, 2015, from 12.30p.m. in Room 2, 2nd Floor, Parramatta Council Chambers Building, Civic Place. Please bring own sandwich and drink.

Enquiries 8850.7056.

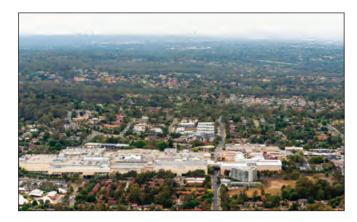
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Common Sense Approach to Tree Management



Tree management guidelines have been eased, with residents no longer needing a permit to remove trees within three metres of their home, and more species added to a list of trees that do not require a permit.

Hills Shire Mayor Clr Andrew Jefferies said the changes were reflective of community expectations and were a common sense approach to tree management.

"People move to The Hills because it is a peaceful, leafy green area with one of the widest tree canopies of any local government area in NSW," Mayor Jefferies said.

"That being said, we want to reduce red tape and allow residents the option to remove trees that cause damage to their homes or would be likely to be approved for removal."

Council receives more than 1400 applications for tree removal on private land per year with approximately 80 per cent of applications approved. The updated guidelines reduce red tape as they exempt trees that are very highly likely to be approved for removal.

Mayor Jefferies said that 57,273 native trees and shrubs had been distributed from Council's nursery at Ted Horwood Reserve in the 2013-2014 financial year.

"Our nursery produced 57,273 native trees or shrubs that were either planted, given away to residents or sold throughout the year."

"That shows Council's commitment to maintaining and improving our tree canopy. We know that residents by and large love the fact that we have a lot of trees and that these changes will result in less red tape for residents."

DEADLINE

For March Edition is 15th February 2015

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Parents of high school students about to go through the daunting experience of undertaking the HSC can get expert advice from education specialist Sarah Carman.

Sarah, who is the founder of Sponge Education, will be presenting a talk at Hornsby Library on Friday 6 February.

She will discuss how parents can support their children as they navigate the pressures of Year 12 and provide practical strategies.

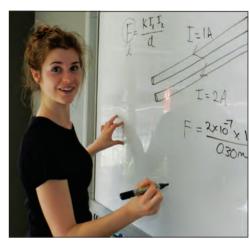
When: Friday 6 February, 10.30am

Where: Hornsby Library

Cost: Free

Bookings Essential: Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/

library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch



Sarah Carman



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Aussie Fire Cart a Winner

A new trolley mounted version of the Aussie Fire Chief bushfire fighting pump is available from Aussie Pump dealer Thinkwater, Dural. Called the Aussie Fire Cart, the pump can be easily moved around either farm or bushland property.

The Aussie Fire Chief is regarded as being Australia's iconic high pressure firefighting pump. The only pump of its kind in the world backed by an exclusive 5 year warranty, the Fire Chief is claimed to not only outlast competitors but also

"The new Aussie Fire Cart converts an Aussie Fire Chief

"The new Aussie Fire Cart converts an Aussie Fire Chief high performance fire pump into a mobile unit that can be easily deployed around a property."

produce an unequalled combination of pressure and flow. With a maximum flow of 500 lpm and with a maximum head of 75 metres, that's over 100 psi, the pump simply produces more water at high pressure. Powered by genuine Honda engines with a horsepower range up to 13HP, these unique pumps are loaded with user friendly features.

The big belly body enables the pump to prime fast from vertical lifts of 7.6 metres. The huge 7.5 inch diameter, hydraulically engineered, one piece impeller weighs up to 2.5 times that of competitors. "It's that big impeller that gives us the extra grunt. Combined with a superbly engineered volute it provides fast, efficient priming," said Donna Davey from Thinkwater Dural.

The pump features a flanged, bolt on suction port that means the check valve can be serviced without having to dismantle the complete pump. The flanged, three way outlet provides a choice of either two 1 inch outlets or a 1.5 inch outlet for top performance. The outlet ports are fitted with metal caps and chains, not plastic! A big port is built into the lower pump body for easy draining.

"It's that huge, closed vane, single piece impeller that provides the extra performance. The ability to port more water literally means fires are doused faster, which is vital," said Davey. "Aussie Pumps simply put more metal into the pump because they understand that performance counts," she said

The new heavy duty steel trolley, fitted with big 10 inch foam filled tyre wheels means the pump can operate from a robust steady base, but at the same time is highly mobile.

"Aussie came up with the Fire Cart idea because users want to be able to move the pump around the property rather than be tied to one location," said Davey. "The new trolley makes deploying firefighting pumps convenient and ultimately much safer. Its speed of action that could save outbuildings, livestock or even human life," she said.

The Aussie Fire Cart is featured in the latest edition of Aussie's Fire Smart Survival Guide, a comprehensive booklet covering protection of property, livestock and even lives during bushfire season. The guide is available from Thinkwater Dural or online at www.aussiepumps.com.au.

Further information call Helen Mahoney on 02 8865 3500.



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homeinstead.com.hills



Galston Rural Fire Brigade News

Captain

The Galston Brigade would like extend our warmest wishes and congratulations to **Hanna** and **Peter Griffiths** on the recent birth of their son Harry. Unfortunately we also have to say goodbye as they have taken leave from Galston for a while and Peter has stepped down from the Captain's role. We would like to thank Pete for all of his efforts as Captain and longstanding member of the brigade. Peter and Hanna will be missed and we hope they return to Galston one day soon.

With this of course comes news of our new Captain! The Brigade would like to thank our fellow longstanding member **Rob Symons** for stepping up to the position of Captain. His appointment as Captain comes with huge support throughout the brigade and we are already benefitting as a brigade from his proactive, supportive and 'can do' approach. Rob has been a member of the RFS for 8 years, is a local family man and business owner, and also brings a wealth of fire fighting experience from his 18 years with the NSW Fire and Rescue.

New Members Required

The Galston Rural Fire Brigade is actively seeking new volunteer recruits.

As your local fire brigade we are conscious of our ever expanding community and the ever increasing need to have fire fighters available in times of need. We are a busy station and are lucky to have a very dedicated team of volunteer fire fighters and support team, however we need some **help!**

Your brigade is made up of everyday people who are all volunteers. Men and women, mums and dads, with all manner of other responsibilities and jobs, and not everyone is available all the time. There are fire fighting and support roles available and all training is provided. It can even be a good way to improve your fitness.



If you think you would like to serve your community in an active way please come and have a discussion with current members and see if this is something that might suit you. We would welcome you to the station and give you an introduction to being a member. It is a great way to give something back to your community, make new friends, and it can be a very rewarding experience.

Please call our Duty Officer on – 0491 119 152, or email captain@galstonrfb.org.au

Congratulations

The Galston Rural Fire Brigade would like to congratulate a number of our members who have successfully completed a number of training courses recently. Continued training of our volunteer members is extremely important to the brigade and for the ongoing protection of our community.

Congratulations go to:

Kat Stocks - Breathing Apparatus Operator

Dennis Stephenson – Breathing Apparatus Operator

Glenn Truelove – Breathing Apparatus Operator and Driver Medium Rigid

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Dural and District Historical Society

The Story of Galston Neighbour Aid

By Margaret McKinley



Julie Sheerin and Dale O'Rourke at work

The Community Health Centre, on the corner of Arcadia Road and The Glade at Galston is an important part of our community, incorporating Neighbour Aid, Meals-on-Wheels, Baby Health centre, Physiotherapy and other Health Services as well as being an ideal meeting place for Arcadian Quilters and Country Woman's Association.

It all started back in the 1970's, when local resident Joan Eggleston had the mail delivery contract. Quite often she was asked to do some shopping or give a lift to isolated residents. There were only 2 buses operating in the district then, and they were busy getting children to and from school. Joan felt that something had to be done. So a general meeting was called in February 1971 at the Dural Memorial Hall, chaired by Betty Archdale. Well over 100 turned up, mostly mothers with small children (in those days mothers stayed at home to enjoy the company of their pre-schoolers!). Joan was elected as President of the new organization, to be known as Dural Neighbour Aid, based on a similar organization in operation in Baulkham Hills. It was stated "that the service to be given would be similar to what you would give to your neighbour if in need of help"

Members were rostered in either managing the office phone or field work, morning and afternoon shifts, to do transport, shopping, baby sitting, and lots of cleaning. The first office was at the back of the Dural Memorial Hall, then Guardian House and much later at the present site When Mr Neville Wran came to officially open the Galston Community Centre in May 1980, we made sure that he had one of our cards which said "If you ever need any help with transport, shopping, cleaning etc, just call 651-1661, and we'll be there to help". But he never had to call us!

Volunteers have always been the "work force" of the organization, from helping with the meals served to members at the Centre on Tuesdays and Fridays to providing transport to appointments. Members are collected from around the district in the Bendigo bus, driven by volunteers. Sometimes shopping excursions are arranged, and 5 days a week, (even over the holidays) Meals-on-wheels are delivered all around the district. For the last couple of years, the Co-Ordinator for all this activity has been Dale O'Rourke, ably assisted by full time Volunteer Julie Sheerin who has provided this little gem; BE A PEARL, COME OUT OF YOUR SHELL, BE A VOLUNTEER.

We hope that after 44 years Neighbour Aid, and the other services provided at the Centre will be able to continue to give service to the community of Galston and district.

At the first meeting of the year for the Dural Historical Society on Saturday, 14th February at 2pm, the guest speaker will be Peter Plowman who will talk about "Paddle Boats on the Hawkesbury" All welcome.

WEIGHT AND HEALTH

People who are overweight or obese tend to have higher blood pressure and higher blood cholesterol levels than others, and are more likely to develop heart disease, diabetes or a stroke. The main way to lose weight and improve health is to change eating habits and increase physical activity.

Overweight

People who are overweight have too much body fat. Excess fat around the waist (apple shaped) is more of a health risk than excess fat around the hips and thighs (pear shaped).



Self Care

Weight loss should be gradual eg 1kg per month to ensure fat is lost, rather than muscle or water.

Healthy Eating

Healthy eating means balancing the food you eat to get the amount of energy and nutrients that your body needs.

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- o Improve your emotional intelligence
- o Enhance your energy levels and mood
- Overcome depression through positive lifestyle choices
- o Eat for optimal brain function

- Manage stress without distress
- o Live above loss
- o Improve brain function
- Defeat depression through right thinking
- o Achieve peak mental performance



Recovery

Depression

Program

2-WEEK PROGRAM (Nightly Sessions from Monday - Friday)

WHERE: GALSTON ADVENTIST COMMUNITY CENTRE

49 ARCADIA RD. GALSTON

WHEN: Monday, MARCH 16, 2015–7:00 pm

REGISTER: 02 9653 1106 or 02 9653 1247 after 6pm



Depression Recovery Program

Introductory Session

Monday MARCH 16, 2015

One in five (20%) Australians, and over 350 million people worldwide, suffer from depression and during stressful times, this disease can intensify.

Many factors can lead to depression including unrealistic goals, added financial stress, family expectations, and change of schedule or eating patterns. But the cure may not be as difficult as you might think. Actually, just a few basic lifestyle changes can help you break free of the trap of depression.

Neil Nedley, MD has put together his 8- week Depression Recovery Program from his 15 plus years of research and clinical experience helping his patients. David Haupt, presenter for Adventist Health will be hosting the Nedley Depression Recovery Program. The program begins Monday, 16th March 2013 at 7pm. It will help you identify the underlying causes, or "hits," which bring on depression. "Every case is as different as each individual, but the 10 Hit Categories summarize all the possible causes for depression. And determining your causes can be as simple as taking the depression questionnaire in this program," said Nedley.

Dr. Nedley, author of the books "Proof Positive" and "Depression: the Way Out," will teach participants how to improve brain function, maximize IQ in children, increase energy, boost concentration, engage in healthy sleep habits, improve physical performance, and gain renewed hope. In addition to the essential information on lifestyle and diet, Nedley will also cover the benefits and risks of counselling and drug medications.

Haupt said this seminar is not only excellent for people who are depressed, but also for those who have family members or friends who are depressed. It will focus on brain health and what a person can do to treat depression as well as the healthy lifestyle habits they can adopt to keep depression from ever happening; even for those with a genetic predisposition to mental illness.

Haupt said that those attending the sessions will learn how to establish and maintain a strong exercise program, understand depression, eliminate negative habits of body and mind, develop healthy eating patterns, and get more out of the day by enhancing brain function. Participants will spend less time frustrated by stress, decrease the risk for many diseases, say goodbye to negative thinking, and understand the true power of positive thinking.

"Dr. Nedley will show better ways to combat depression—how to know what you can change and what you can't, the importance of minimizing drug medicine use, and how to make use of effective natural therapies," Haupt said.

Dr. Neil Nedley has served thousands of families for more than 15 years through his medical practice and extensive, worldwide lecturing. He educates students of all ages in nutrition and healthy lifestyle principles through his radio shows, satellite and cable television, and live appearances. Nedley also helped develop the Omega-3 Uplift bar, a tasty way to get more than 3,000 mg of omega-3 in each bar which is specially designed for optimal brain health.

The introductory program is free.

Those interested should call:

Glenn on 02 9653 1106 or Terry on 02 9653 1247 after 6pm or Email bookingdr@outlook.com Free introductory session will be held at GALSTON ADVENTIST COMMUNITY CENTRE 49 ARCADIA RD GALSTON

Recovery Depression



In Conjunction Real Estate







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35 MANNING RD, SACKVILLE NORTH

A few words from Karen Allmark.....

As we embark on a new year, we hope everyone is well rested from the Festive break and is optimistic about the year ahead. After a whirlwind 2014, where our local property market performed very strongly – the question on the mind of most people thinking of buying / selling is 'how long with the growth phase last?' Of course, the answer is 'no-one knows' - but I'm quietly confident that we'll have another strong year ahead.

I thought I'd share with you a quick summary of an excellent article I read late last year, authored by our data provider CoreLogic (RPdata). The article was titled "how does the current growth cycle compare to the 2001 to 2004 boom?" (if you'd like to read the full article let me know).

As the title suggests – the article looks at some key aspects of the (nationwide) property markets from the last growth spurt and matches them to today's cycle. Here are some of the highlights:-

- Today's cycle comes off the back of a declining market, whilst the previous cycle was built on the back of a stronger market, where home prices had been showing modest growth before the surge.
- The previous growth cycle across the combined

capital cities ran for 46 months (almost 4 years!) during which time values rose in excess of 68% (a monthly rise of almost 1.5%). In the current cycle values have been increasing for 30 months (between June 2012 – Nov 2014) and have shown a combined capital city increase of 19.6% (monthly growth rate of 0.7%). So far, most of this growth has been recorded in Sydney and Melbourne.

- When looking at volume of sales 2001 to 2004 also recorded significantly higher turnover than today's cycle where the monthly average 2001/4 was 30,481 – whilst today's cycle (June '12 – Sept '14) is 25,604. – approx. 16% lower – The article suggests that lower volumes may be attributed to the low levels of first home buyers (it's a very tough environment for those just stepping onto the property ladder).
- The 2001-4 lending environment was also quite different from today, with variable mortgage rates starting at 8.05% (2001) then dropping to 6.05% by the end of the year and increasing to 7.05% towards the end of the cycle. Over the current cycle, the standard variable rate was 6.85% in June 2012, before falling to 5.95% and staying at this rate for the past 18 months.

There are lots more comparables in the report (it really is an excellent article if you're interested in a statistical comparison of the two cycles!), but I guess the big question is "So what?"

Well, I'll come back to the start of my ramblings..... When I say I'm quietly confident that 2015 could be another good year, I get this feel based on the knowledge that we've seen it (stronger) before, and the fact that I'm talking with buyers every single day of the week – and their biggest frustration today is not about affordability, but rather availability (there simply are not enough properties hitting the market to satisfy demand). Couple these factors with (1) low interest rates, which don't seem to be heading anywhere soon (2) increased demand from investors and (3) a strong immigration rate (over the current cycle there have been more than 31,000 net long-term and permanent arrivals to Australia PER MONTH!) – and it seems there are still lots of positive factors in play!

As always, if you'd like to discuss the market in detail, or get an updated price opinion on your property I'm just a phone call away!

For a friendly and confidential chat, and a free Market Appraisal, call Karen Allmark

02 9653 1555

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Whether you're thinking of selling your property or are just curious to find out what you home may be worth in today's market, please feel free to call us.

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Feature Properties

2014 was a superb year for our local market! Here is a selection of some of our sales across 2157 & 2159 – we're excited about 2015 and look forward to servicing our local homeowners in the year ahead!



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ARCADIA



GALSTON



GALSTON



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Please Note - We have obtained all information in this document from sources we believe to be reliable; however, we cannot guarantee its accuracy. Interested Parties are advised to carry out and rely on their own investigations . . ."

Information accurate at time of print, but is subject to change – For latest details, and new listings, visit our website

02 9653 1555In Conjunction Real Estate Suite 3, 358-360 Galston Road, Galston



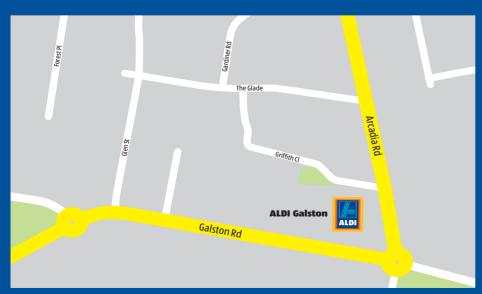


Galston

Hi there neighbour,

We're new to the area and look forward to seeing you. If you're the kind of person who keeps a look out for bargains and gets excited when you find one, chances are we'll be good friends. So pop by for a visit, you'll find us located at Galston Shopping Centre.

ALDI Galston Team



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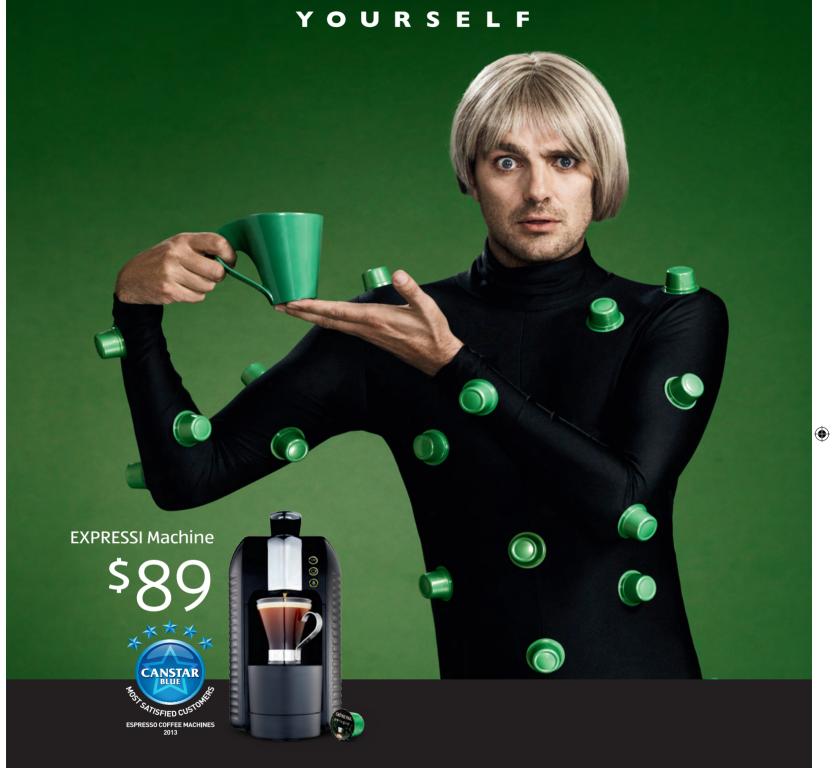


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Galston CWA News

Our first meeting for 2015 will be held on Wednesday 11th February at 10am. Melissa Morrison will be teaching us some simple embroidery ideas.

We welcome anyone who would like to learn how to embroider to come along from 10am to 12noon. Threads, needles and fabric will be supplied for a gold coin donation. Melissa has won prizes for embroidery at the Royal Easter Show and in other competitions.

We meet at the Galston Community and Health Centre, cnr The Glade and 17 Arcadia Rd, Galston.

After lunch, members will hold their business meeting.

The Country Women's Association is the largest women's organization in Australia, and works for the welfare of women, children and communities, especially in country areas.

More details from Janet - 9653 2402 or Val - 9653 1774



Embroidered Sushi by Melissa Morrison



Garage Fitness is a friendly Personal Training studio located here in Galston and NOW IN ANNAGROVE. As well as our group sessions, we also provide personal training for clients of **all ages** and **fitness levels**. Book a **free** introductory visit with our wonderful trainers today and get moving to a healthier, stronger you!

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Letter to the Editor

After visiting many country towns recently and seeing how tidy and well laid out things were, also the friendly people, it is disappointing to see our untidy village. The narrow restricted footpaths littered with obstacles, terrible parking conditions and traffic flow and lack of outdoor café facilities.

We need to lift our standard. All community groups, shop keepers and landlords should work together to improve and rectify our little town, then we might all benefit and be proud.

Patiently waiting, Paul Browning.

(

Galston VIEW Christmas Lunch

Some of the Galston VIEW Ladies enjoying a wonderful Christmas lunch at the Dural Country Club, their final meeting for the year, celebrated in style and entertained by Bob Brown who performed many "toe tapping" tunes.











Come in and see our friendly staff at Galston Village Pharmacy for a professional and caring attitude toward your health. We will be happy to advise you on appropriate treatment for your medical conditions and general wellbeing!

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Warrah Farm Intern

Warrah is excited to announce the availability of our first Internship in Biodynamic/ Organic Farming on Warrah Farm. Expressions of interest are invited for the internship which will run full time for 2 – 3 months. The successful candidate will take up a handson role in a practical learning environment.

Warrah Farm is Sydney's only certified biodynamic farm and sits on around 7 acres in Dural in Sydney's North West. The Farm uses 2 acres for a market garden with a



Warrah Farm Produce

developing orchard of citrus and other trees. Cows and alpacas and rotationally grazed laying hens take up the remaining land. We grow a wide range of seasonal produce with the majority sold through Warrah's onsite farm shop plus some select wholesale customers, predominantly cafes.

This is a unique opportunity for a motivated person to develop a practical knowledge of biodynamic and organic farming practices. The internship offers the opportunity to cultivate and develop a broad skillset that will get you started growing biodynamic/organic food in your own community or setting.

Applicants must be keen to learn, dependable, observant and willing to take responsibility. Good communication skills and a sense of humour are also important. The work can be physically demanding and requires work towards a task rather than a time based approach.

You will be expected to work and learn 5 days per week and be willing to fit in with the operational needs of the Farm during that time. Full board and lodgings is provided locally if needed. Your own transport is advantageous.

If this sounds like you, please contact Farm Manager Rob by email rgreatholder@warrah.org

Warrah Farm Manager Rob Greatholder is a qualified Biodynamic Farmer, completing his formal training at Emerson College in the UK. He has been Farm Manager of Warrah Farm for 2 years.

Warrah Farm is a social enterprise and is part of Warrah Society, a charity based in Dural that supports adults and children with disabilities.



Guests enjoying a Warrah Farm Tour with Farm Manager Rob



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Expo To Help Small Businesses Slash Red Tape



The Sydney Hills Small Business Exchange Expo is just six weeks away and Hills Shire Mayor Clr Andrew Jefferies has encouraged Hills small businesses to get on board.

"This Exchange will help our small businesses to have many complex legal and compliance questions answered, all at no charge. This kind of advice will be a real help for our smaller enterprises," Mayor Jefferies said.

The Exchange will allow business owners to have 15 minute appointments with the agencies and organisations of their choice, including the Australian Taxation Office, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, the NSW Small Business Commissioner's office and many more. Questions can relate to changing superannuation laws, human resource rights and awards, financial planning, software design, marketing tools, online resources for business and business mentoring.

In addition, business owners will be able to attend informative and practical workshops while networking with other small business owners located in the Sydney Hills.

 $\rm ``97\%$ of all Sydney Hills businesses are classified as small and the Exchange will really help them get ahead in 2015."

Organisations that are committed to this new initiative have put their support behind it to make sure it gets to all the small businesses in the area."

"I want to thank our major event sponsors Crowe Horwath and 360 HR and the expo support partners Small Biz Connect and NSW Trade and Investment. We hope it will become an annual date on our calendar for business."

"Our event partners and sponsors have shown a great commitment to support small businesses in the Sydney Hills and the event would not be possible without them."

"I look forward to opening this event with NSW Small Business Commissioner Robyn Hobbs on Wednesday March 11."

Sydney Hills Small Business Exchange Expo

When: Wednesday 11 March 2015

Where: The Hills Shire Council, 3 Columbia Court, Norwest

Business Park, Baulkham Hills

Details: 9843 0324 or events@thehills.nsw.gov.au



2015

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Library Lovers' Day in Hornsby

Celebrate everything that is great about your local library with a special event for Library Lovers' Day.

Hornsby Library will be celebrating the nationwide event on Thursday 12 February, beginning with coffee and cake in the morning.

Kids can enjoy a Storytime session for 3-5 year olds, while the 3D printer will also be working for a demonstration and information on eBooks and eAudio will be available.



Author Leila Yusaf Chung will be rounding off the celebrations in the evening with an author talk on her debut novel *Chasing Shadows*.

For more information about Library Lovers' Day, visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library

When: Thursday 12 February, 10am onwards

Where: Hornsby Library

Cost: Free

Free Loose Fill Asbestos Check Available To Hills Residents

Hills residents living in homes built before 1980 are encouraged to take up an offer of free ceiling insulation testing to identify whether the home contains loose-fill asbestos.

Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, loose-fill asbestos was used as ceiling insulation in homes throughout NSW and the ACT. The product was installed by a now defunct company known as Mr Fluffy.

Hills Shire Mayor Clr Andrew Jefferies said that many Hills residents have taken up the offer of the free testing from the NSW Government.

"The good news thus far is that the 49 sets of results returned from homes in The Hills have not tested positive for loose-fill asbestos," Mayor Jefferies said.

"However, given the potential for exposure to ceiling insulation in many older properties, I encourage our residents to make sure that their home is clear of loose-fill asbestos and to take advantage of the free testing service and inspection."

The free testing is conducted by The Heads of Asbestos Coordination Authorities (HACA).

HACA advise residents with concerns about loose fill insulation to not enter their roof space, but access the free sampling service where a qualified licensed asbestos assessor will safely provide the service.

Hills residents can seek further information about loose-fill asbestos insulation and to enquire about the free testing service by visiting www.nsw.gov.au/loosefillasbestos or calling 137788.

Galston Medical Centre

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Dr Anju Pandey

Dr Bronwyn Edwards

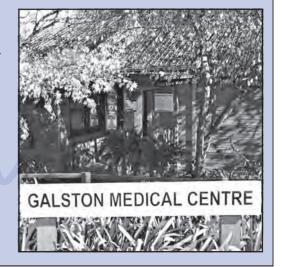
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- Raffle tickets on sale 7.00pm

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- \$12.00 Lunch specials
- Pool Comp 7.00pm, prize \$200

FRIDAYS

- \$12.00 Lunch specials
- Monster raffle, 50 prizes to be won, tickets on sale 7.00pm
- Poker 9.00pm, prize pool dependant on number of players

SATURDAYS

• \$12.00 Lunch specials

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Budgerigar Society of N.S.W. Inc.

Hills Branch - Ray Galbraith.

With the show season currently in progress. a number of shows are to be held during February on the following dates and areas namely; 1st Illawarra, 7th Northern N.S.W., 8TH Shoalhaven, 15th St George, 22nd Newcastle, 22nd Canberra, with the actual location and addresses obtainable from the Society Web Site at www.Budgerigar. com.au The Hills Branch **Annual Show** is to be held on the 1st March at the **Don Moore Community**

Centre, where viewing of



Spangle double factor white hen (winner of BSNSW 2013)

the exhibition birds will be available from late morning to the general public. Breeders/ Exhibitors from within the Hill Area along with Exhibitors from around the state will be in attendance. Come along and support the Hills Branch members, where Budgerigars similar to that shown in this article can be viewed.

Set against the back drop of the **Sydney Royal Easter** Show, the Cage Bird Show will be held during Thursday 26th and Friday 27th March 2015 and is an event not to be missed, with over 600 birds on display. The Sydney Royal Cage Bird Show is one of the largest and most prestigious competitions of its kind in Australia. Budgerigar Exhibitors from both Country and City locations come together each year for this event. Hills Area residents will have a further opportunity to view some of the best Exhibition Budgerigars, due to the N.S.W. Annual Show being held at the Dural Sports and Leisure Centre on Saturday 21st March 2015. Viewing of the birds will be available from late morning. Resulting from the above competitions, together with further shows still to be undertaken during the coming months, Exhibitors further develop their respective birds in anticipation of gaining representation as part of the New South Wales Team to compete at the National Titles in June 2015. **The National Titles** are to be held at Mandurah. in Western Australia, between the 18th to 23rd June **2015**; where it is anticipated that Hills Branch members will be

Care to join the Hills Branch or just seeking information about Budgerigars and viewing birds similar to that shown within this article, then contact should be made with Peter Dodd by telephoning 9888-5631 or peter_dodd@primus.com.au

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Arcadia Pony Club Members Finish 2014 at a Gallop!

The Zone 23 annual Jamboree event was held the last weekend in November 2014 at Dural Pony Club grounds. Arcadia Pony Club members were out in full force to represent their Club and support each other.

Leanne Davies, Senior Instructor said "All of our riders rode well with some great results. We are especially proud of the way all team members supported each other throughout the weekend."

The results for the Arcadia Pony Club members were as follows:

• Open 8yrs & Champion - Maddie Breatnach

under

• Open 11 yrs Champion - Grace Reen.

Reserve Champion – Jessica Breatnach

• Open 13 yrs Champion - Montana Jonker,

Reserve Champion - Alexandra Langthorne

• Open 15 yrs Champion - Sarah Harris (Equal Champion)

"We would like to thank all the parents that assisted with the weekend from the team managers to the judges and those just helping on the day," said Leanne.

Two members of Arcadia Pony Club also represented the Club at the State Show Riding held in Scone Jessica Breatnach and Alexander Langthorne competed in the 11 and under 13 years age group and 13 and under 15 years age group respectively. The girls rode well and enjoyed the weekend away.

Arcadia Pony Club meets the first, third and fifth Sunday every month at the Rural Sports Facility in Galston. To find out more about Arcadia Pony Club please

http://www.arcadiaponyclub.org.au



Sarah Harris on Bro on her way to winning Champion 15 years



James Cairns riding Belle in the Gambler's Stakes



Jessica Breatnach and Alexander Langthorne at State Showriding

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Well Done Class of 2014

Hills Grammar 2014 HSC students have good reason to be proud. With almost half the year group appearing in the Distinguished Achievers list, they are looking forward to gaining entrance into their chosen field of future

etudies

Ambitions, talents and interests are many and varied amongst the large group of Achievers; from the creative and performing arts to technology, humanities and sciences. Distinguished Achievers Tim Karbanowicz, Nisha Labade, Myla Swallow and Ben Sandercock are each looking for entirely different career paths with their



Four of Hills Grammar's Distinguished Achievers Tim Karbanowicz, Nisha Labade, Myla Swallow and Ben Sandercock

outstanding results. Scoring the highest ATAR, Ben is hoping to study Actuarial Studies and Applied Finance at Macquarie University; Myla, Dux of Year 12 and UNSW Co-op Scholarship recipient, is enrolled in Commerce, Marketing and Finance at UNSW; Tim is hoping to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics at ANU and Nisha who almost scored full marks for extension 2 Music will be studying Media, Screen and Sound at UNSW.

Another great achievement for HSC graduates is being nominated for one of the HSC Showcases and this year three students were nominated for their outstanding creative pieces; Clara Hong and Alana Kunz for Extension 2 English and Sian Kelly for Art Express.

Our best wishes go to the Class of 2014 as they make their way into an exciting and challenging adult world.

PNG Highland Book Drive

Hills Grammar parents and staff rallied behind Kenthurst Rotary's Book Drive for remote schools in Papua New Guinea. A huge range of text books, reference books, fiction and nonfiction were sorted and packed for a January delivery to PNG. The School would like to acknowledge the wonderful donation of packing boxes from Hills Storage, Galston.

School Scholarships Identify Best of the Best

21 January 2015: With the new school year just around the corner, the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) has reminded parents of students seeking a scholarship that applications for the 2016 school year are closing soon.

For more than 50 years, schools around Australia have been using ACER Scholarship Tests to assist in identifying academically able students for the award of a scholarship. The tests are designed to rank students by finely differentiating at the top end of the performance spectrum.

"Scholarship tests have to be challenging because they need to identify the best of the best," the manager of ACER's school assessment services, Ms Barbara Smith, said.

In research conducted between 2004 and 2013 that tracked the performance of more than 2100 students who were awarded a scholarship at Year 7, the median Year 12 result achieved by

continued on page 45



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Glenorie Pre School

Glenorie Pre School is back up and running for another year. Last year was very successful with lots of fantastic activities taking place. We also had the highest enrolments we have had in years, thanks to the dedication of the hard working team of educators, and the increase of families moving into the area.

We are starting off 2015 with high enrolments and have only limited vacancies left. We also encourage families who have children who are not 3 yet to complete a

waiting list form, found on the website or pop in and pick one up. We wouldn't want you to miss out this year or next year!

We wish all of the children who left us to start their adventures in school all the best and look forward to getting to know this year's new families.

We would also like to put a call out to any residents in the community who have special talents that they might like to come in and share with the children to get in touch. In the past we have had music, animals, plants, different languages, and craft activities shared with the children.

For more information about the Pre School contact us on 96522259, glenoriepreschool@bigpond.com, or drop in any time for a visit.

School Scholarships Identify Best of the Bestcontinued

those same students was 98.1, representing the top 1.9 per cent of all Year 12 students.

"The skills that ACER Scholarship Tests examine are developed over the child's lifetime both in and out of school. As such students do not need an extensive period of test preparation or coaching to perform well," Ms Smith said.

Ms Smith said ACER Scholarship Tests require students to demonstrate a range of skills such as the ability to interpret, infer, deduce and think critically. The tests are not curriculum based and do not test the ability to retrieve learned knowledge. Students are presented with a stimulus, such as a passage of text, cartoon, table, graph or diagram, and then need to apply their thinking and problem solving skills. The writing tasks assess students' expression of ideas, and the organisation and cohesion of their writing, rather than simply spelling, grammar and punctuation.

"The best preparation for the tests is for the student to read widely and engage regularly in activities that help stimulate critical thinking. Close to the scholarship test date, it is also useful for applicants to become familiar with the test structure and content style so that they know what to expect on test day," Ms Smith said.

More than 12 000 students in around 220 schools will sit an ACER scholarship test this year. Of these, more than 80 schools have elected to be part of a cooperative program in which approximately 4500 students sit the test on the same test date. Students are able to apply for scholarships at more than one school and the test results are forwarded to each nominated school.

The next cooperative test, for scholarships commencing in 2016, will be held on Saturday 28 February 2015. Applications to sit the test close at 11.59pm AEDT on 9 February 2015.

For further information visit www.acer.edu.au/scholarship/

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Glenorie Mission Church

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

Here we are at the beginning of a new year, freshly equipped with New Year's resolutions, ambitions and good intentions for the year ahead. It's great to make a fresh start, wipe the slate clean and try to improve our situation and our lives. Usually however we run out of steam, things don't quite go as planned or we fall back into old habits. We strive for perfection in a less than perfect world. It's impossible to get it right especially if we rely on our own abilities, but it wasn't always like that....

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. God said, "Let there be light." and there was light. He separated the light from darkness. The light He called day and the darkness He called night, and there was evening and morning – the first day. God set in place the sky, the oceans and the dry land. God said, "Let the land produce vegetation, seed bearing plants and trees." and it was so. God made the stars, the sun and the moon. God made the creatures of the oceans and filled the sky with birds. God made all the animals. Finally, God made man. God saw all that he had made and it was very good.

That means it was perfect. God's creation including mankind, in the beginning was perfect, without flaw. God and man were in harmony and enjoyed a close personal relationship. How far have we fallen, now because of our sin, our wickedness, there is a great divide between man and God.

But there is hope, all is not lost, God has thrown mankind a lifeline, a thin shimmering life line that is offered freely to all of us, ready to pull us from the abyss. Jesus Christ is that lifeline, our only hope. If you're looking to put things right in 2015 make finding out about Jesus Christ your priority. Join us at Glenorie Mission Church at 10.15 am Sunday mornings and we'll do our best to point you in the right direction.

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans10:9

Eastbend Meeting February 2015

On Monday February 16th at 1.30pm there will be a quarterly meeting of Eastbend Rural Communications at the Resource Centre, Maroota Public School, 4540 Old Northern Road.

If you have any items or concerns of local interest that you would like to discuss or have help with please come to the meeting. If you can't come yourself, please contact the Secretary, Pat Schwartz, on deblacko7@hotmail.com or 9652-1276, or Tessa Corkill, on 2archaeics@gmail.com or 9652-1470. As always, from 1pm there will be a light lunch and time for a chat before the meeting starts. We look forward to seeing you there!



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News from St Benedicts

St Benedicts Christmas carols celebration in early December was a great success, with 19 local children recreating the story of the nativity and reminding all of the true meaning of Christmas. Four gorgeous ballerinas in ivory gowns



presented a special dance choreographed by Miss Lucia, well known ballet teacher from Glenorie, and the choir led the audience in singing Christmas carols. Congratulations to all who took part or helped out on such a wonderful evening.

The Spirit of Giving Christmas Banquet

In addition to the well attended Christmas services, Christmas Day concluded with the parish Spirit of Christmas celebratory banquet. The evening was filled with music, singing, good food and that special Christmas spirit. This was an opportunity to share Christmas with many who might otherwise be alone on this day. Thanks to all involved, especially for braving the torrential rain (remember that storm on Christmas night!)

New Bishop

Local parishioners attended the installation of our new Bishop of Broken Bay, Reverend Dr Peter Comensoli, on 12 December at the cathedral in Waitara. Bishop Peter, who is originally a Wollongong boy, is enjoying making his home in the Broken Bay Diocese. And, in a modern touch, for those who couldn't attend, the installation was streamed live through the Diocesan website.

Happy 50th

The parish joined in congratulating two of our Good Samaritan sisters, Sister Fay and Sister Helen (pictured), on the 50th anniversary or their profession at the 9am Mass on 4th January.

To see photos of parish activities and events, you can now visit our Facebook page www.facebook.com/stbenedictsarcadia.

Or to find out more, call the Parish Office on 96532312. The office is open on Mondays from 10am – 4pm and Fridays from 10am – 5pm or visit the Parish website www.arcadia.dbb.org.au.

Weekend Mass Times

St. Benedict's Catholic Church Arcadia; Mass at the Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, at 7 am every morning. Mass at the Parish Centre, Corner Fagans Rd & Arcadia Rd. 7 pm Saturday, 9 am Sunday.

Galston Uniting Church

Minister Rev Geoff Smith 11 School Road Galston 2159 Phone 9653 2039 www.galstonunitingchurch.com Sunday Family Service 10 am



Happy 2015 from everyone at Galston Uniting Church! We do hope that many of you had an opportunity to slow down and relax over the Christmas period. After a great break we are ready to begin the New Year – which means that all of our regular activities are up and running again. Activities for Kids (KUCA & Sunday's kids), youth, craft, choirs, gentle exercise, bible study as well as social groups – we have a wide range of activities for you to have a look at and consider!

If you're looking for something to do, why not check us out at http://galstonunitingchurch.com/ or give us a call on the number above. We'd love to see you sometime ©

Thank you to everyone who attended one of our varied Christmas activities, it was great to see you all, we had a great time.

We especially thank those who helped to make the Carols in the Carpark a huge success. Actually, we didn't quite make the car park this year due to stormy weather, so we shifted into the hall and had a great night. Special thanks to Tonya and her team for their adaptability to the enforced change as well as to the energy and fun they brought to the night. Thanks also to 1st Dural Scouts for the sausages and participation as well as Galston RFS for transporting Santa. Great job!

I trust this finds you all well & happy. I look forward to bumping into many of you around the traps this year. Cheers, Geoff

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Galston Garden Club

After the very successful Open
Gardens Weekend our November meeting
saw the allocation of the money raised
to the various charities. eg - Fragile X
Association, Kids with Cancer, Australian
Diabetes Association, Heidi Edwards
Trust, Art Therapy Cottage, KUKA
Children's Group, Lupus Association of
Australia, Garvan Institute, Millenium
Foundation, Children's Medical Research

Foundation, Life House, Kidney Health, Asthma Foundation, Heart Foundation, Galston Community Health & Resource Centre, HSP Research Foundation, Northcott Spina Bifida, Exodus Foundation, Alzheimers Australia, Hawkesbury Helping Hands, Juli Batten Charitable Trust and the following Rural Fire Services - Mid Dural, Galston Fire Tower, Arcadia, Dural, Galston, Glenorie, Hillside and Round Corner. Any remaining funds will be distributed once all accounts have been settled.



Santa and his Reindeers

If any resident would consider entering their property in the 2015 'Galston Open Gardens' this coming October we would be eternally greatfull as it is difficult to find new and interesting properties. Should anyone be interested please, please, please contact either - Bill Fleming on 9653 2394, or Margaret Dunn on 9651 2475 at your earliest convenience.

Our year ended with a wonderful Christmas Party at the home of Richard and Hugh in Mid Dural Rd. Many thanks once again fellas for your continued support.

Should anyone be interested in seeing what we're all about then come to our next meeting on the 11th February 8.00pm at the Galston Community Centre, 37 Arcadia Rd, Galston, where you will be welcomed and entertained by our much travelled patron – Judy Horton – topic 'Gardens in the USA and Canada'.



Hugh and Richard with our President Liz Muller



Some of the 94 members enjoying the goodies

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Planting Guide for Native Plants

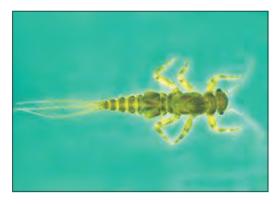
Tiny Creatures in Our Creeks

By Chris Noon

We all know that fish live in some creeks, but many smaller creatures live there too. We can see how healthy our creeks are by checking for macroinvertebrates or "waterbugs". These are typically 2 to 10mm long, so although a magnifying glass can be handy, you don't need a microscope.

Macroinvertebrates are an important part of the food web as they recycle organic matter from animal waste and dead plants and animals. Waterbugs like to live in different parts of the creek like rocky ledges or for others, in decaying leaf packs. Some, like the mayfly shown, are more sensitive to pollution so health of the waterway can be measured by which waterbugs are found in the creek.

The Australian Museum has started to measure what waterbugs exist in Sydney's creeks. Our local Landcare group has now done this in Still and Charltons creeks. If you would like join us to see how this measurement is done then contact Chris 9653 3870 or via email StillCreekLandcare@iinet.net.au, the website StillcreekLandcare.com.au or on Facebook.



Mayfly (Photo: Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre)

NSW Begonia Society Monthly Meeting.

Sunday 15th February 2015 at 2:00pm

Bloomin' Greenery Nursery 226 Annangrove Road ANNANGROVE. NSW 2156

This month's speaker's topic is "Getting the most out of your shrub-like Begonias".

Visitors Welcome.

Details: Ross 02 9679 1386 Email: info@begoniansw.com.au Website: www.begoniansw.com.au

Cumberland Orchid Circle inc.

The next meeting of the Cumberland Orchid Circle will be on Wednesday 25th February 2015 in Barton Hall, which is situated in Gough Drive (off David Road), Castle Hill. The meeting will start at 8.00pm and will last approx 2.0 hrs. At the meeting, orchids in bloom will be benched for a monthly point score competition. The guest speaker for February will be past Circle member John Hurst, who will demonstrate how to deflask an orchid culture (get orchid seedlings out of a tissue culture flask).

At each meeting there is a sales table selling plants brought along by members, in addition to accessories used for orchid culture. During our supper interval, there will be time to "compare notes" and seek advice from other members.

Visitors & new members are always welcome. For more information, contact the Circle's Publicity Officer on 9481 8895.



Stanhopea nigroviolacea, or Upside Down Orchid

NSW Begonia Society's 26th Exhibition & Sale of Begonias.

Saturday 7th March 2015 10:00am to 4:00pm Sunday 8th March 2015 10:00am to 3:00pm

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9680 5399

Sydney Water 13 20 90

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Arcadia Fire Captain Peter Jacobs 0415 369 683

Galston Rural Fire Brigade Duty Officer 0491 119 152

Glenorie Bush Fire

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Middle Dural Bush Fire Captain Len Best

0408 220 705

Hills Rural Fire Service District Office 9654 1244

Hornsby Fire Svcs HQ

9883 2000

Telstra Faults 13 22 03

LOCAL JP's Michael Bell, Arcadia - 9653 1365
Bernie Triebe & Kerron May, Bendigo Bank Galston - 9653 2227
Cathy Vipond, Hills Accounting, Glenorie - 9652 2400
Ray Whiteman, Glenorie - 9652 2454 / 0400 008 083
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There will be JP at Dural Library Wednesdays between 1pm and 3pm.

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COMMUNITY CONTACTS

ACACIA (Living Life) Exercise programme for over 65's. FREE. Every Tuesday 9.30 to 10.30 am Galston Uniting Church 11 School Road - Galston, Enquiries Melanie 9456 7103

Aglow Australia Pennant Hills - A network of caring women, meeting on the 4th Thursday at 10am-12.30pm. Excellent speakers, child minding and morning tea. Contact Glenys on 0401 770 859. Venue Thornleigh Community Centre, Cnr Phyllis & Central Avenue Thornleigh.

ALANON Family Group meets 8pm each Friday at the Galston Community Health Centre. For more details call 9264 9255. Trying to live with someone who has a drinking problem? Come along to these meetings.

APEX Australia is a service organisation that is about making friends, helping others and having fun, open to anyone 18-45. Further info. Please contact Sydney D.G 0412 400 452, National Office 18000 APEXO or website. "Heart of a Community, Hope of a Nation".

Arcadia Community Hall - 136 Arcadia Road, Arcadia. Available for functions. Inspections welcome. Bookings call 9847 6504

Arcadia Markets – May & November at Arcadia Public School, 140 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia. www.arcadiaschool.com.au Enquiries: Meegen 0419 262 850 New Stallholders always welcome.

Arcadian Quilters – Meetings held at Galston Community Health & Resources Centre, 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesdays at 9.30am (day group) and on the 2nd & 4th Monday at 7.30pm (evening group). For further information contact Carole on 9894 7749.

Association of Independent Retirees (AIR) Ltd. Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month at 10 am. Meetings are at Yarrara Rd Pennant Hills. Contact John Guthrie on 9634 6727. Castle Hill Art Society - Monthly Meetings and Art Demonstrations are held at Castle Hill Art Society - 155 Ridgecorp Drive, Castle Hill on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 p.m. Enquires Ph. 98993179

Circular Keys Chorus are always seeking would-be Divas. De-stress as you learn to sing acappella 4 part harmony with passionate CKC singers. Rehearsals in Castle Hill Wednesdays 7.30-10.pm. Contact Janet 9653 2959, email info@circularkeys.org or visit www.circularkeys.org

Dural & District Historical Society Inc holds its lecture meetings on the 2[™] Saturday of each month at 2pm at History Cottage, 412 Galston Rd Galston. The Cottage is also open to the public from 10am to 4pm on Wed & Sundays. Enquiries to Michael Bell 9653 1365.

Dural & District Prostate Cancer Support Group holds its meetings on the third Monday of each month at 7pm at Dural Country Club, Inquiries Roger 9653 2980 or Col 9651 1242.

Dural & Districts Senior Citizens' Club Come along on any Wednesday at 9.30am to Dural Country Club to enjoy good fellowship with other senior citizens. Some play indoor bowls (beginners included) while others play Bingo an enjoy the prizes. We also enjoy periodic outing to places of interest. For further information please call Helen on 8850 7845 A/H

Dural & Hills District Garden Club - Meetings at 8pm on 1st Wednesday of each month at Mid Dural Fire Station, 57 Mid Dural Road. Further information contact Di Glasgow 0409 909 161 or email duralgardenclub@yahoo.com.au

Dural-Glenorie Scouts - Joey's (aged 6–7 years), Cubs (aged 8–10 years) and Scouts (aged 11–15 years) meet weekly at the Scout Hall in Galston Road, Galston. Learn new skills, challenge yourself, experience outdoor activities, make new friends, have fun! Contact Warren Payne (W) 9622 2251 or (H) 9652 1713. Dural Mens Shed meets at Dural Sport and Leisure Centre corner Pellitt Lane and Kenthurst Rd each Thursday and Saturday from 9am. Woodwork and Metalwork/Welding facilities. Enquiries Chris Thomas 0402478498 . www.duralmensshed.org

Friends of Fagan Park - Volunteer group actively preserving the remarkable rural history of Hornsby Shire. The Friends meet every Tuesday from 9am to 4pm maintaining historic Netherby Cottage and its garden and also restoring farm machinery and implements to working order. Members of the public and new friends are always welcome! Open days are the 2nd Sunday of each month, 1.30pm to 4.00pm, and other special occasions. Contact lan Browning. M: 0419 435 475 E: isandian@tpg.com.au Ferry Artists Gallery — Old Northern Road, Wisemans Ferry 2775. ph: 02 4566 4385, for info on workshops and membership see www.ferryartists.org

Galston Area Residents' Association Inc meets at the Galston Primary School Library, School Road, Galston on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 8pm. Enquiries to 0403 076 175. New members always welcome.

Galston Branch CWA meets on the second Wednesday of each month at the Galston Community Health Centre. New members are sure of a friendly welcome. Enquiries to Janet 9653 2402 or Val 9653 1774...

Galston Community Hall - 37 Arcadia Road, Galston available for functions, air-conditioned, inspections welcome. Bookings call Robyn on 0414 647 638.

Galston Community Health Centre - This centre is an outreach of Hornsby & Ku-ring-gai Health Service and is situated at 17 Arcadia Road, Galston (cnr of The Glade), Eng. 9653 2235.

Galston Garden Club - New members are always welcome. Meetings held at 8pm on the second Wednesday of every month at the Galston Community Centre. For further information contact Bill Fleming on 9653 2394

Girl Guides - Girls Age 6-12 meet on Thursdays 5-6.30pm at Galston Guide Hall, 414 Galston Road, Galston. This is an exciting opportunity for girls to learn and develop life skills, meet new friends, enjoy the outdoors, make their own challenges, express their creativity and much more. Contact Mary 0423 353644 or Amy 0415 438210.

Glenorie Maroota Bioregional Forum — Meets at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month at Glenorie Community Hall. Let us know of your local environment and heritage concerns. Contact Carolyn Hall on carolyn@dhphc.com.au

Glenorie Progress Association Holds its meetings bi-monthly (August, October & December 2014) 7.30pm in the Palms Room, Glenorie RSL. All Welcome 9652 2454.

Hills Budgerigar Club Meet on the 4th Friday of each month, except December at the North Rocks Community Hall. Everyone welcome. Enquiries to Peter on 9888 5631.

Hills Community Aid No Interest Loans up to \$1,000 - for whitegoods, furniture, computers, essential repairs etc. Contact Hills Community Aid 9639 8620, enq@hca.org.au or www.hca.org.au.

Hills Farmers' & Gourmet Food Mkt - 2nd Saturday of the month, 8am-12pm, Castle Hill Showground. www.hawkesburyharvest.com.au

Hills Shire Garden Club - Meetings held on 3rd Monday of the month at 1.00 p.m. at Barton Hall, David Rd, Castle Hill. Enquiries 9624-5034.

Hills RSL Sub Branch - Monthly meetings held at The Galston Club, 2pm on the last Tuesday of each month. Enquiries 9653 2565.

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Four Wheel Drive Club is a family orientated club that meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 8.00pm at Hornsby Heights Community Centre, Galston Road, Hornsby Heights. www. hk4wd.com.au

JP SERVICES are available at Cherrybrook Shopping Village on Saturdays from 1000 am to 12 noon (from 10 January); and at Carlingford Court Shopping Centre on Tuesdays from 1100 am to 0100 pm (commencing 13 January).

JP's are also at Hornsby, Pennant Hills, and Epping Libraries on some days. Check with Library before attending.

The NSW Justices Association Hornsby Branch meets monthly (except January) on the 2nd Monday evening at 0700 pm, at Asquith Rugby League Club opposite Waitara rail station. JP's welcome to attend. Varied programme. Enquiries John Tibbitts 9484 8507 or 0408 491 232.

Living Life Without Children - Support Group meets once a month for childless couples, now in their 40s and 50s, finding it difficult or lonely living life without children. Contact Carol. email: feather@iprimus.com.au

Pennant Hills Photographic Club meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Mondays each month at 8pm in the Uniting Church Hall cnr Boundary Rd and Bellamy St, Pennant Hills. www.phpc.org.au. Rotary Club of Galston meets every Tuesday at The Galston Club at 6.30 for 7pm. New members welcomed. Contact Peter

Rowland Village Workshop Club invites enquiries about the Club from members of the wider community who are 55 and over years of age. Contact Michael Bell on 96531365.

0419 011 750 peteainscow@gmail.com

Soroptimist International of The Hills District Inc meets at 7pm 3rd Monday of the month St Joseph's Convention Centre Baulkham Hills.Details:0407 665 874

Shakespeare Group - meets monthly at Galston on the 2nd Thursday morning, 9am to 12.30. No cost to belong, just a delight in reading great Bards words. Further information call Isabelle 9679 1338.

Social Dance Workshops - Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Road. \$7. Contact Felicity 9456 2860, 0434 437 522. Old time contemporary, set & couple dances. Specialising in Australian, Irish & Scottish Folk Dance. Beginners & experienced dancers.

Still Creek Landcare Group - Have a say and help in the future of our catchments in Galston, Arcadia and Berrilee. We meet at 7:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month at The Galston Club Committee Room. For more information Visit www. StillCreekLandcare.com.au or e-mail StillCreekLandcare@iinet.net. au or Contact Nick on 9653 2056.

The Hills Trefoil Guild (Guides NSW) - The Trefoil Guild is the adult section of Guiding which links Members, former Members; female Members of the Scout Association; and women who have not been Guides but are prepared to make the Guide Promise. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month commencing at 10am, concluding approx 12.45pm at the Guide Hall, Bounty Ave, Castle Hill. For further information please contact Sandra on 9659 3770.

CHURCHES

Galston Uniting Church - Service times 10.00am. Children's programmes KUCA for children K-6, each Friday of the school term 4.30 to 6.00pm. #ThePower (Youth Group) for those in high school. Fridays of the school term 6.15 to 8.30pm. CRAFT group Thursday evenings of the school term from 7.00 to 1 0.00pm. OVER 55's for seniors 2nd Monday of each month from 10am to 12noon. Other groups of interest:- Men's Choir, Ladies Choir. For all enquiries, please call the church office on 9653 2039.

Galston Seventh Day Adventist Church - Every Saturday 9.30am to 10.45am Bible Study, 11am to 12noon Church Service at 49 Arcadia Rd Galston. Every Wednesday 7.30pm Prayer Group. Contact Minister Andrew Russell 0403 840 348.

Glenorie Community Church - Pentecostal and Evangelical – meets every Sunday at 10.00am. Healing Service at 6.30pm last Sunday of every month. Ladies meeting at 10.30am first Tuesday of every month. All welcome. 1507 Old Northern Road, Glenorie. Pastor A.Valich - Phone 9634 3505, Church 9652 0577.

Glenorie Mission Church - Sunday Service 10.15am, Girls Brigade Tuesdays at 6.30pm. 1409 Old Northern Road (Cnr Muscios Rd), Glenorie. Enquiries 9652 1203.

Hillslife Church - Meets every Sunday at Galston Public School. Pastors Leigh and Heidi Davy. Ph: 02 9653 2807. For more details go to www.hillslife.com

St. Benedict's Catholic Church Arcadia Mass at the Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, at 7am every morning. Mass at the Parish Centre, Ph. 9653-2312. Corner Fagans Rd & Arcadia Rd. 7pm Saturday, 9am Sunday Parish Priest; Fr. David Orr OSB 0400-371-260.

St. Columb's Anglican Church, Arcadia – Sundays at 9.30 am. Coffee n' craft group meets on Fridays at 9.30 am – enquiries Beverley 9653.1790.

LOCAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS

Dural Country Club Bowling Clubs — New members are welcome. Free lessons are available to men and women wishing to learn lawn bowls and meet a new social network. Ring 9653 1250 or 9489 3739 to speak to one of our trained coaches.

Dural Country Club Fishing Club meet at Dural Country Club on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. Activities include a monthly offshore charter, estuary and open fishing, organised short stay holidays and great social BBQ's. New members welcome. Contact Murray on 0407 950 939 or Bruce on 0428 970 439.

Dural Rugby Club - Enquiries, please contact the registrar Eric Flanagan, email efl86029@bigpond.net.au or phone 0412 230 328 or visit our website http://dural.rugbynet.com.au.

Galston Glenorie Amateur Fishing Club Meets at 7.30pm at The Galston Club on the 1st Wednesday of each month. The meeting has a raffle at 7pm with lots of prizes and every meeting has a guest speaker. Enquiries call Lachlan on 0438 801 170 or Warren on 0416 061 428.

Galston Glenorie Cricket Club - For further details regarding season events, grades and registration, please contact 0400 747 767.

Galston Club Golf Club - Plays Monthly - Variety of courses. Contact - James Roberts 9653 2017 / gm@galstonclub.com.au

Galston Equestrian Club - New Members are always welcome. Training/Competition days held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at the Rural Sports Facility Centre off Mansfield Road. Enquiries can be made to Liz on 0409 992 920 or to go to the Galston Equestrian Club's website at www.galstoneguestrianclub.org.au.

Galston Netball Club All enquiries to secretary.galstonnetballclub@ hotmail.com or visit the website www.galstonnc.nsw.netball.com.au Hills AUSSI Masters Swimming Club meets at Galston Aquatic Centre on Galston Road on Tuesdays at 7:30pm. Whether you want to swim laps, compete in competitions, or just have fun, fitness and friendship Ring Di on 9652 1215.

Hills Hawks Soccer Club. For season details & registrations

call Vivian Mepstead on 0432 333 091 or vivmep@gmail.com. Hills Hawks Softball Club. Our competition is held during the summer season (September to March, excluding school holidays) at Hayes Park, Galston. We welcome new members! For enquiries please contact our registrar Hazel Postill on 0414 474 461 or visit our website: http://hillshawks.softball.org.au.

Hills Pumas Football Club - For information including registrations, call Sarah Sumskas on 0430883385 or email registrar@hillspumasfc.com.au

Table Tennis – Junior & Adult Coaching & Social play, Dural & Glenorie Ph Chris 0468300822 or spinclub@bigpond.com

Tennis / Squash Social Group - looking for new players. Call Karen 0412 485 411 or email tennisandsquash@live.com.au Tennis Court for Hire Galston - At rear of Galston Community Hall. Available Day or Night, Mobile 0414 647 638.

Tennis Court for Hire Glenorie - Les Shore Reserve. Available Day or Night. Phone 0404 600 460.

Tennis Court for Hire Hillside Public School on Cattai Ridge Rd is offering members of the public to hire their tennis court for a minimal fee. 12 month membership \$50 per family or \$8 per hour. Please contact Hillside Public School on 9652 1459.







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DOUBLE REWARDS



THIS MONTH