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GALSTON AQUATIC CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

Hornsby Council has submitted the following Development Application (DA/1041/2019) for the re-roofing of Galston Aquatic Centre.

Galston Aquatic Centre was built and opened in 1969. In 1998 the gymnasium was added, then the smaller Learn to Swim pool in 2014.

When the refurbishment

was completed in 2017, it was noted that the roof also needed major repairs. This is now being addressed with this application. Below are artists impressions of the proposed new structure.

This application is now open for comment until 11th December 2019.

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BEROWRA WATERS FERRY UPGRADE

The Berowra Waters Ferry delivers an essential service to the local community and visitors.

We need to upgrade the ferry ramps to continue providing a safe and reliable service.

The work would take six weeks and would require the ferry to be closed during this time.

Visit rms.work/berowraferry to find out more about the proposal and have your say by Friday 13 December 2019.

The work we are proposing is significant.. It would be inconvenient for the community and local businesses, but it is necessary to continue delivering a safe, reliable ferry service.

We are inviting you to complete a short, online survey.

Your feedback will help us understand how you use the ferry and the impact the ferry upgrade would have on your community. Visit our websit: **www.rms. nsw.gov.au berowraferry** and complete the online survey.

You can also find out more about the proposal and talk to the project team at one of our community information sessions:

Thursday 28 November 4pm - 8pm Berowra Water Fish Cafe, 199 Bay Road, Berowra Waters

Saturday 30 November 10am - 2pm Berowra Community and

Cultural Centre, The Gully Rd Berowra



PROJECT BENEFITS

- Ensures a safe, reliable ferry service
- Extends the lifespan of the ferry ramps
- Helps keep visitors coming to the local area.

For more information about this project please contact us on:

1800 861 855

berowra@rms.nsw.gov.au Berowra Waters ferry

Project PO Box 973

Parramatta, NSW, 2124

rms.work/berowraferry

If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 861 855

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I met Dr. Bruce Hindmarsh on the morning of 25th December 1986. Yes! Christmas Day!

We had just moved to Glenorie from Goulburn and were settling in to our new home with quite a menagerie. No vet problems on the horizon (or so we thought!).

And then, "Mum! Why can't Scamper wee?"

I consulted the White Pages, rang the Glenorie Vet's number, and a gentle male voice said he would meet me and the cat at the hospital in 15 minutes.

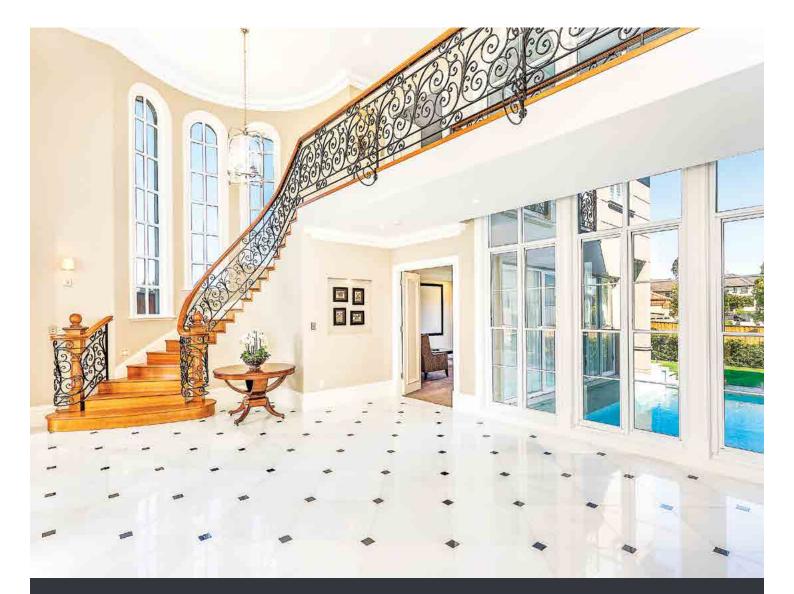
And so began a long veterinary relationship with Bruce and his likeminded colleague, Michael. What has set indelibly in my mind about Bruce is the 3 C's by which he practised: his Care for the animals entrusted to him, his Consideration for his clients, and his Commitment to excel.

My family and I wish Dr Bruce health and happiness in his retirement years. We have been blessed to have had him looking after us and our much loved pets for so many years. Katy Joscelyne

Old Paws Rescue



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Come in and discuss your design options

Be creative. They are still learning what this laser is capable of doing.







Local boy, Caleb, was recently invited onto stage at a Guy Sebastian concert due to his

recent rando<u>m act of kindness</u> towards a blind boy at school. Well done Caleb.







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GLENORIE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION THANK YOU. SO MUCH OWED BY SO MANY TO SO FEW

The recent fires have received much mention across many forums. I note Glenorie Public School community has already thanked Glenorie RFS with hampers and gifts. Without wanting to be repetitive, we must take this opportunity to thank our local heroes. We appreciate all volunteers across the community, in caring, community organisations, schools, churches and anyone who gives up time for the community. The recent fires remind us of the sacrifice of our Rural Fire Service Volunteers. These are the members of Glenorie and Hillside RFS as well as other brigades such as Maroota, South Maroota, Arcadia, Galston and surrounding areas. We thank you for your sacrifice and service.

The local brigades are crewed by a dedicated few when compared to the immense task. The members come from all walks and stages of life. I note that some members are self employed and are literally sacrificing their own incomes and business revenue to protect us. Others are taking leave without pay. All members sacrifice their personal time to protect their community and the members' families sacrifice time that would otherwise be spent with their loved ones.

The effectiveness of the back-burn operation to meet the threatening "Gosper's Mountain" fire was testimony to the professionalism, dedication, planning and investment of the volunteers and RFS organisation.

All brigades are seeking new

members. It is a good juncture to consider joining and supporting your local brigade.

Thank you to the volunteers.

Glenorie Community Carols

Don't forget to save the date for the local carols this year.

2019 Glenorie Community Carols is set to be a great evening with a bigger line up than ever before.

When: 6pm Sunday 22nd December 2019

Where: Glenorie RSL lawn

The Line up: The Matt Moodie Jazz Band, Local Maronite Singers: Ann-Marie Boumerhe, Violet Boumerhe, George Kambel. Classical Singer Emelina Phillips. Local Singers: Alyssa Thomson, Gloria Giuffre, Jazmyn Gillies, Joanne Taylor

Reclaim – The Public Access Balancing Act

Susanna Mills, local resident, recently wrote to the GPA with a comprehensive summary of feedback promoting trail walking and riding as well as motivating the community to get outdoors and take advantage of our amazing local environment. We have published this excellent article on the GPA website. It states among other initiatives the importance of maintaining community access to our environmental assets: "there seems to be an alarming and selfish tendency by a handful of local landowners to claim servitudes, creeks, fire trails and even entire beaches and inlets

for themselves. They put up nasty little signs and are rude and aggressive towards the outdoors community "trespassing" on "their" land." property would not be pleasant

proximity to your dwelling. One

can also entirely understand the

annoyance if people are abusing the access with noisy vehicles

or motorbikes. But what about a

family who just want to complete

for decades with a walk or a ride:

Broadwater Road is timely and

brings into question the balance

between access for community

to an amazing natural resource

versus the wishes and privacy of

the landholder. The GPA has not

discussed the matter as yet, nor

come to a position. As access to

natural space becomes more of

a premium and trails that have

been public access for decades are

closed, we need to consider how

You can have your input on these

matters by becoming a member

and attending the GPA meetings.

Please head to our website to read

December, 7pm at Glenorie RSL.

the full feedback document by

Next meeting Thursday 12th

You can find out more or

to strike a fair balance.

Susanna Mills.

join or renew at

the circuit that has been open

should they be stopped?

The proposal to close the

particularly if they are in close

GPA has stated a commitment to advancing public green access for the community.

We were recently alerted to a proposed closure of public access in the famous Broadwater. This area is an environmental sanctuary with the picturesque Little Cattai Creek home to amazing wetland and bird life. It is currently accessed from Spur Place in Forest Glen, and Smallwood Road and Halcrows Road in Hillside. For decades the public have been able to complete a mountain bike ride or walk from Halcrows Road to Smallwood Road via the Fern Gully / Creek Fire Trail. It is a beautiful circuit. perfect for a mountain bike or trail cycling. This is despite some landholders on the trail placing gates and locks on the crown road which you can simply walk your bike around.

The landholder in this case is probably seeking privacy and does not want the general public traversing his land. Anyone can accept that having random people passing through your



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CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND TWILIGHT MARKETS Friday 6th December 5.30pm

Come along and enjoy a free family event on the grounds of Galston High School on the 6th December starting from 5.30pm.

There are over 50 Christmas Stall holders, food vendors, free entertainment, yummy dutch pancakes. All proceeds go to our local community charity Bone Dry supporting our farmers.

There is also a surprise visit from Santa which will excite all the children (and maybe some adults!).







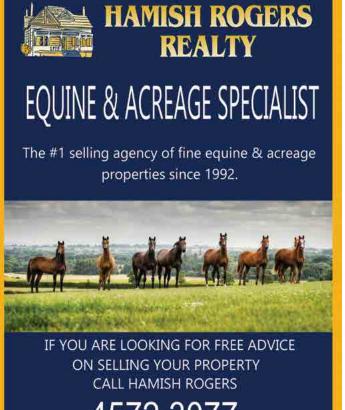
CAROLS IN THE VALLEY VISION VALLEY

Thursday 12th December 3pm

As the sun sets, get the kids together and relax on a picnic blanket as you sing along to your favourite carols, watch Santa arrive and share some Christmas cheer. Registration required via eventbrite. Go to www.carolsinthevalley.com.au

COMMUNITY CAROLS AT GLENORIE RSL Sunday 22nd December 6pm

Bring a picnic blanket, sit and enjoy your favourite carols on the lawns of the Glenorie RSL Club. Special guest appearance from Santa. All Welcome



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ESME WOOD 1930 - 2019 A LIFE WELL LIVED

Esme Wood was a dynamic person\ who was creative, artistic and passionate about the protection of heritage and the natural environment.

Esme grew up in Beecroft. Aged 21, she married Bill Wood and they purchased 3 acres with an old weatherboard cottage on Shepherds Lane, West Pennant Hills (now Cherrybrook). Residential subdivision caught up with them and preferring a rural lifestyle, they moved to Galston, where they purchased 5 acres of long grass and bush on Fishburns Road in about 1970. The road then was a dirt track with boggy sections when it rained. They built a house and Esme lived there for nearly 50 years, content to stay in her familiar and beautiful surroundings.

As a child, Esme developed a love

Esme at her front gate during the Voluntary Conservation Agreement celebration for literature, poetry, classical music and art. After leaving Meriden school, she studied art at Julian Ashton's Art School and East Sydney Technical College and worked in the Mitchell Library. The love of art and all things creative continued throughout her life. She studied art and sculpture at Hornsby TAFE in the 1980s. She was a theatre set designer at the Castle Hill Players for about 18 years. She was involved in over 30 plays and was awarded the Shelagh O'Hanlon Award in 1987 for long-term service. Esme was very active in the community. For several years in the 1980s and 1990s she was actively involved as a volunteer at the Dural & District Historical Society History Cottage and involved with the Hornsby Conservation Society. She also volunteered for the

Mastertouch Piano Roll Company (Petersham) when it was trying to establish a museum in the heritagelisted Stanmore Fire Station. In the early 1990s, Esme assisted with the assessment of roadside verges for conservation significance for Hornsby Shire Council's Rural Lands Study. She also carried out water monitoring in about six creeks at Galston including in Galston Gorge. She wrote numerous letters to politicians about a host of topics, trying to improve conservation outcomes for heritage and bushland areas.

From the 1990s to 2015, Esme also volunteered as a bush regenerator at four Bushcare sites: Carrs Bush (Fagan Park), Tim Brownscombe Reserve (Fishburns Rd), Berowra Creek and Rosemead Rd Hornsby. She assisted writing

> Esme with Turpentine tree on her property

and distributing pamphlets about Bushcare. In 2004, she made the commitment to protect the *Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest*, a Critically Endangered Ecological Community, on her own property on Fishburns Road by organising that it be subject to a Voluntary Conservation Agreement to protect it in perpetuity. Esme was a remarkable person, dedicated to conservation and trying to make the world a better place.

Esme was much loved by her family and will be greatly missed. Family and friends are warmly invited to a Celebration of Esme's Life to be held at Carrs Bush, Carrs Rd, Galston at 10.30am on Friday 6th December 2019. Morning tea of scones (Mum loved scones) and BBQ lunch. Please phone Meri 0423 910 324 for more details.



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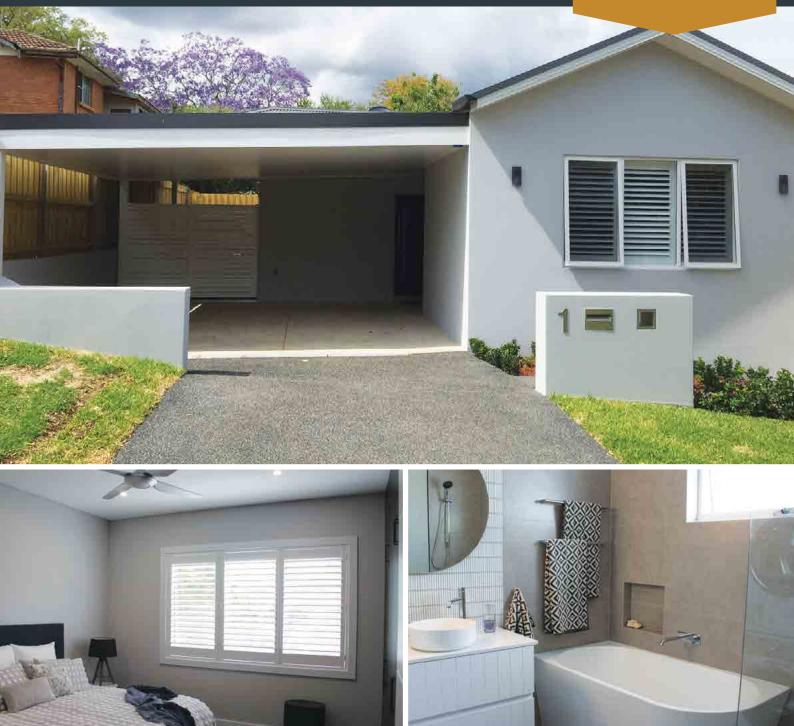


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GALSTON CWA NEWS

As the holiday season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and wish to say a big thank you to those who have helped us in our aim to support women and children, both locally and further afield. From buying a humble scone to the generous donations of sewing machines and everything in between, thank you from all of us at CWA of NSW Galston. We hope your holidays will be filled with happiness and may love and prosperity abound in your home.

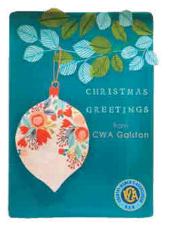
A great way to connect with those you love this holiday season is by crafting together! We will be sharing Christmas craft and DIY gift ideas on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/ CWAGalston this month. Swing by our page and give us a thumbs up.

And why not join us for a delicious Christmas lunch? There promises to be an amazing spread at our next meeting on Wednesday 11th December from 10am at the Galston Health & Resource Centre. We are a warm and friendly bunch always looking for new members and would love to see you there. Our members range in age from juniors of just 2 years old to veterans of 90+ years. If you are interested in joining, please contact us.

For more details please contact Jann 0439 222 217 or Val 9653 1774.

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GALSTON GIRL GUIDE HALL A COMMUNITY HALL AVAILABLE TO HIRE

The Galston Girl Guide hall is hidden away at 414 Galston Road, Galston.

Thanks to Bendigo Bank sponsorship, hirers have access to a large hall with plenty of chairs and tables. There is a separate kitchen which includes: electric oven, microwave, kettle, fridge/ freezer, hot water, crockery and cutlery. There are ceiling fans and wall-mounted heaters. The bathroom area has two separate toilets and wash-basins. Outside is an enclosed grass area, safe for





children to play.

The Galston Guide hall is a community resource and is available to hire for birthday parties, exercise classes, drama groups, playgroups and more. Please contact our Booking Officer, Amanda, on 0413 059542.

Junior Guides (aged 6-9) meet Thursday 4.30-6pm and Guides (aged 10-14) meet 6.30-8.30pm on Tuesday.

Please contact Mary 0423 353644 to find out more about your daughter's free visits.



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Wishing all our with customers, family and friends a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year

We will be closing from 23rd December – reopening on Wednesday 8th January.



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Latest News





from the Mayor's Desk

It was heartening to see our community come together to face the threat of bush fire. Our emergency services had strong plans in place for the forecasted dangerous conditions and they succeeded marvellously, aided by a favourable outcome with the weather and well-prepared residents. Living in the Bushland Shire, we have always known that this is one of the issues we may have to contend with. We have been planning for this for a long time and it all proceeded exactly as it was meant to.

Special thanks, of course, goes to the heroes of the Rural Fire Service and NSW Fire and Rescue, who risked their safety to protect the lives and safety of others. It will be impossible to ever express our full gratitude to these noble people, most of whom are volunteers.

I would also like to thank all of the residents who took the proper steps to prepare, by cleaning out their gutters and being ready with their bush fire survival plan. It was a community-building endeavour with a positive outcome for all involved.

Philip Ruddock Mayor Hornsby Shire Council

WHAT'S ON



Teaching your Learner Driver

Thursday 28 November, 6.30pm-8.30pm Hornsby Shire Council Chambers

A free workshop that offers practical advice and information to parents, carers and supervisors on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.

Free. Bookings essential: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson

Summer Reading Challenge



Sunday 1 December-Friday 31 January Hornsby Shire Libraries

Adults and teens 12+ are invited to join in the summer reading fun. Collect your Book Bingo card from any Hornsby Library branch, or print from our website. Jumpstart your holiday reading for the chance to win book vouchers.

For more information visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library

Join the Conversation

Keep up to date with what is happening at council.

Sign up to our monthly enewsletter: **hornsby.nsw.gov.au/join**

International Day of People with Disability

Tuesday 3 December, 1pm-3pm Hornsby Library

Come and join our free afternoon tea and art exhibition to celebrate and create a more inclusive community for all.

For more information visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library



Keep your kids active at the intensive learn to swim programs at Hornsby and Galston, take part in the Summer reading challenge or have fun at a magic workshop.

For more information visit: hornsby.nsw.gov.au/schoolholidays



ARCADIAN QUILTERS

This month finds the Arcadian Quilters Group combining efforts in making Quiltsfor-Keeps to give to Ronald McDonald House.

Several of our quilts are already adding smiles to young faces and our plan is to have more ready, "in time for Christmas"!!!

As we always welcome new members a bonus for us as this year draws to an end is that we have added two new names to

our Wednesday group.

New ideas - more companions, what a lovely way to head into this happy Christmas season.

The Arcadian Quilters meet at Galston Community Health Centre, Cnr Arcadia Road and The Glade, Galston. 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday@9.30am and an evening group meets 2nd and 4th Monday @ 7.30pm. Contact Carole on 9894 7749.



BONE DRY DROUGHT A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE WATER RUN TO BREWARRINA

By Jo Stephenson

drought for yourself? All of the photos and news footage in the for the personal experience.

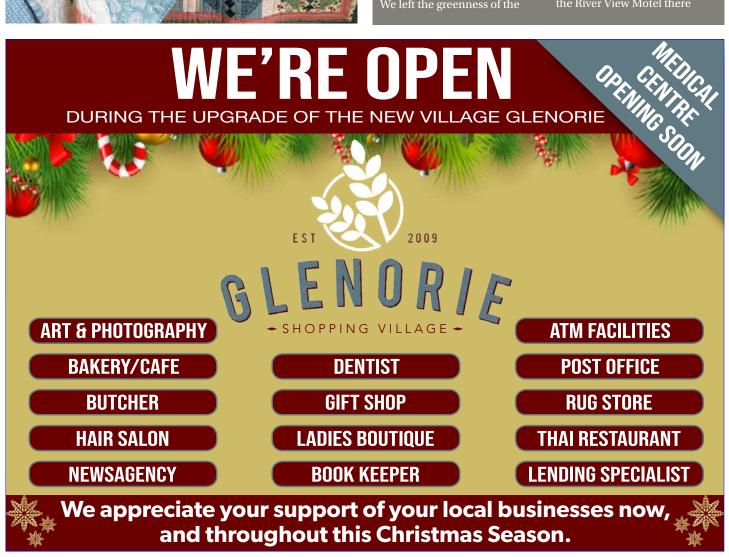
I am a new member of the Bone Dry Hay Run fundraising group and on Friday 15th November I drove out of Natures' Best Water in Penrith, behind a semi-trailer of drinking water, headed to Brewarrina in far northdriven by my brother, Dave, truck was provided by his company, Freight Specialists, free of charge. They covered the cost of the truck and the fuel and we are so very grateful for this as it will make our funds stretch further.

We left the greenness of the

Blue Mountains behind us and watched the landscape dry and crack. Fields of brown. Fields of grey. The highway littered with roadkill where animals had tempted fate to nibble tiny morsels of green grass along the roadside.

driving in NSW, QLD and NT. In the past I have seen paddocks full of stock - cattle and sheep – all fat and healthy. This time, the landscape was bare. No stock, no feed - just Sloping hills of dust.

At midnight we pulled into Redmond Transport in Brewarrina and parked our precious load. We were surprised to see Trevor from the River View Motel there



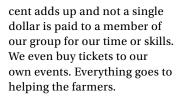
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to meet us. He had estimated our travel time and wanted to make sure we got to the motel safely. On the way into town we passed a large active group of indigenous youth in the park. I was pleased to have an escort.

With the high gates securely locked and after a quick cup of tea and Vegemite toast, we headed to our rooms. As I opened the bathroom door, the smell of the water assaulted my nostrils. It was rank. Not fit for drinking and even when boiled the taste tainted everything. The next day I was told that tea, coffee and even boiled vegetables carried the flavour.

On Saturday morning I met up with the other members of the Bone Dry group who had made the trip out to Bree for the weekend. We headed to the transport depot to unload 22 pallets (over 22,000 litres) of bottled drinking water. We were also meant to be unloading 2 B-Double trucks (70 tonnes) of hay, but bushfire road closures down south had turned our trucks around for now. Most of our water was transferred to smaller trucks and taken for storage, waiting for the hay which would arrive in the coming week. The water was primarily for the out of town farmers who did not have access to town water. They would take their allocation when they picked up the stockfeed. We did assign a few pallets for distribution that morning and ute after ute arrived to take their share. The gratitude was evident, we were thanked, and thanked again. The locals told us that they were heartened by our acts and the fact that city folk cared enough to raise the money and then take the time to personally deliver such necessities to them. Tears in some eyes, "Thank you so much for what you are doing". But in essence, they were thanking each of you, the generous people in our local community back home. It is true that the Bone Dry Hay Run group takes the time and makes the effort to organise events, but the money comes from all of us and each of you. Every ticket purchased to an event, a raffle ticket, participation in our money games. Every



We have one more fundraiser planned for this year - **Comedy for a Cause on Saturday 30th November 2019 at the Galston Club. Doors open at 7:00pm**. The headline act is Peter Berner, supported by David Smiedt, John Cruckshank and Andrew Paskin. Tickets are just \$35 (+ booking fee) and are available from **comedyforacause.net**/ **bonedry**. It is an adults only 18+ show. Please come along with your family and friends for a good laugh for a great cause.

We are hoping that funds raised will enable us to supply a final load of hay or water in mid December, along with Christmas hamper bags for each farming family that we are helping.

I truly believe that we will all be rewarded in some way by showing generosity and kindness to others. The gratitude of the farmers is enough reward for me.







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It is the time of year when we are all full of excitement for fresh summer farm produce. The growth of all plants has amplified with the warmer weather. We have watched the cucumbers, tomatoes, eggplants and zucchini all become big and strong. The strawberries have also been ripening and growing bigger, with a lot of the picking being done by the Warrah Special School team. Harvesting is the most rewarding and satisfying activity for growers!

The first of the tomatoes that we planted are starting to fruit, and the capsicum and eggplant have shown a positive response to the hotter temperatures. The warmth also caused all our flower varieties of paper daisies, lavender, Queen Anne's lace, dianthus, cosmos, chimchimeree and calendula to burst with pinks, purples, reds, white and blues.

The oranges, grapefruit,

lemons and limes along with figs and asparagus have all gone through their seasonal transformation, from the eruption of flowers with an incredible aroma filling the air, to beginning to set fruit. This summer we are growing our usual array of salad mix, lettuce, rocket, rainbow chard, silver beet, kale, pak choi, beetroot, rainbow carrots, along with fruiting crops of beans, zucchini, cucumber, tomato, capsicum, eggplant and strawberries. We also have basil and parsley growing.

The nursery is one of the more active areas for the clients of our disability services. Tasks include cleaning seedling trays, making seed raising mix and filling trays, thinning seedlings, and then planting the crops they helped raise.

The chicken run project, undertaken as part of a TAFE life skills course, is nearing finalisation. The sections of chicken wire fencing have



been erected, and the final painting is being done. Soon we will be graced with the sites and sounds of lovely hens outside our Farm Shop.

The Farm Shop continues to sell the fruits of our farming labours, along with a full range of Australian certified organic and biodynamic produce. We have the first of the peaches, nectarines and mangos available at the time of writing this. Soon there will also be grapes - always worth the wait. Spare a thought for just how hard Australian farmers work to feed us. Faced with floods, droughts and bushfires, Australian farmers need our support now more than ever.



Hereit and the second s

Banana Cabana Guesthouse and Primate Sanctuary is home to many monkeys retired from zoos, circus's and private ownership. Please join us for a journey we hope will touch your hearts as we introduce you to our residents each with a colourful and unique history. Our fully escorted keeper tours are followed with a scrumptious high tea overlooking the gardens and Sanctuary.

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Your support in visiting our Sanctuary is truly, sincerely appreciated and enables us to continue to care for our beautiful residents





PATHWAYS INSTITUTE

We are extremely pleased to announce that our scholarship partnership program with Bendigo Bank Galston Branch will be ongoing in 2020! Bendigo Bank teamed up with Pathways Psychology Institute in 2019 to offer 2 full fee scholarships to our 1-year ASQA accredited Diploma of Counselling (CHC51015) course. The two lucky 2019 recipients, local residents Lucy Falvey and Andrea Pateman, are on the verge of graduation and have powered through the course with flying colours.

The Bendigo Bank scholarships are open to applicants who are local residents, the district covers the areas between Wiseman's Ferry and Cherrybrook, who intend to reside and work in the area for the foreseeable future and are aged between 25 and 40. If you are thinking about a career change or know someone who would like to study counselling, and who fits these criteria, we have 2 full fee scholarships available for 2020 courtesy of Bendigo Bank as well as a number of other full and partial scholarships with a range of selection criteria. Application forms can be found to download on our website www. pathwayspsychology.com.au Our current 2nd year Graduate Diploma students have been busy out and about in the community offering free support sessions via our student clinic, Pathways Community Counselling Clinic. The clinic allows students to gain

invaluable hands on experience and provides our community with a wonderful resource. This clinic is made possible with the support of Bendigo Bank Galston Branch. If you would like more information or to book a session visit www. pathwayscounselling.org or call 0434 293 116.

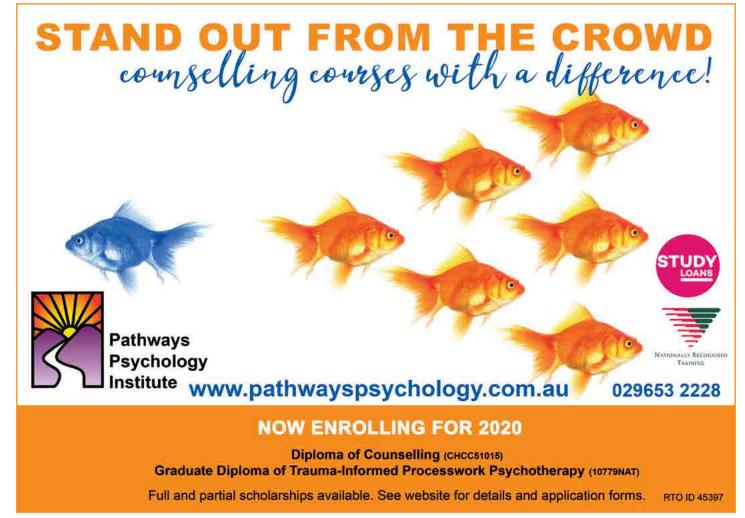
Pathways Psychology Institute is currently offering a 20% off, early bird special, to students enrolling for 2020 in either of our ASQA accredited courses, our 1-year Diploma of Counselling (CHCC51015) or our 2-year Graduate Diploma of Trauma-Informed Processwork Psychotherapy (10779NAT).

2020 applications are now open, please see our website for details or to download application forms.

For more information please visit our website **www. pathwayspsychology.com. au** call (02) 9653 2228 or

email info@pathwayspsychology. com.au





DEMENTIA CAFÉ OPENS ON SYDNEY'S NORTH SHORE TO REDUCE ISOLATION AND SUPPORT CARERS

By David Barwell

A new cafe is serving up fresh memories for people living with dementia on the north shore as diagnosis rates continue to rise across the region.

Volunteer Fiona Jenkins is a driving force behind the newly launched D Cafe in West Pymble that is helping to support people living with dementia and their loved ones.

She has been nominated for a Pride of Australia award.

As well as providing cups of coffee and a place where attendees can be themselves, the initiative also offers talks from guest speakers, light exercise programs and activities that stimulate the brain.

Ms Jenkins said she was inspired to assist in the launch of the cafe after supporting several close friends and family members through the early stages of diagnosis."The cafe is of us have had family or friends living with dementia," she said. "I've had some wonderful friends of who've been diagnosed and I really saw a growing need for something like this in the area".

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NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF FAGAN PARK

We are looking forward to our next Open Day on Sunday, January 26, Australia Day. As I write this, we are confronted with the forecast of 'catastrophic' fire weather conditions for the next couple of days. Let us hope the district comes through unscathed, and that our open day is kind to us weather wise.

We wish all our friends and readers a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of one of our Friends, John Baguley, after a long illness. He had been with us for a few years only, and had applied himself to his assignments with perseverance and dedication. His stoicism and good humour in the face of adversity was an inspiration to us all.

Last month, I mentioned the promise of a fine display

of November lilies in the Netherby garden. Well, they did not disappoint - the finest display of these beauties you will ever see! Contact us in February if you would like a few bulbs, as that is about the right time to lift them, and ours will need to be thinned out then.

The 1918 International truck restoration proceeds on many fronts. Current attention is focussed on the front and rear axles in anticipation of the completion of rebuilding the wheels. We have had to have some spring leaves remade, and now we can dismantle the springs, clean them thoroughly, reassemble and paint them. The brakes have been relined, and the re-cored radiator is complete and in safe storage. It is gratifying that such services still exist in this throw-away world. Work is proceeding on the engine, with much yet to do. The Fagan Park museums and Netherby Homestead are open every Tuesday, our volunteering day, and we open the museums on the second Sunday each month during the afternoon. All visitors are welcome.

Contact me at the park on a Tuesday or phone anytime if you would like to join us. Ian Browning, Honorary Curator, 0419 435 475.

Top to bottom Magnificent November lilies & The rebuilt radiator







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to Fri.

NAUGHTY OR NICE? WHY AN E-BIKE IS ON MY CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

By Susanna Mills

Neither a bicycle nor a motorcycle, an 'E-Bike' is any bicycle with an electric motor integrated or attached to it.

'Throttle' electric bikes operate by the twist of a handlebar or push of a button which surges power to the back wheel, like a motorbike.

'Pedal assist' electric bike technology only contributes power when the rider is pedalling. There are different levels of assistance (either automatic or manual) for situations like riding up hills.

Sales of E-Bikes are exploding worldwide, due to affluent aging populations, Climate Change policies and the global popularity of mountain biking. Cycling offroad conventionally is fun if going downhill, or if you're slender and fit enough to pedal up the short, but steep gradients of Sydney bush trails. Regardless of where your body is at, mountain biking is always hard due to the sheer intensity of skill and effort required to ride technical terrain. Surely you didn't expect a sport and recreation with the word 'mountain' in it, to be easy, did you? E-Bikes however, have taken the mountain out of mountain biking, so now everyone from portly gentlemen to grande dames like me can relax and quietly enjoy cycling deep into the bush with friends and family. Everyone gets fitter, stronger and happier because they are not utterly shattered after every ride. And you can keep up. And you

feel like a 21 year old again. Nice! But, there's a big Naughty List out on the roads, where e-bikes that are legally supposed to be limited to 200 or 250 watts have been known to be tampered with to produce much higher power, or the speed limiter that restricts power assistance to speeds under 25km/h gets 'modified.' Consequently, throttle- controlled E-Bikes with questionable power output are springing up everywhere, particularly in the food delivery sector. Consequently we have motorcycles, which require registration and a licensed rider, masquerading as bicycles. Pepperoni Pizza with that, anyone?

Across Australia, state authorities haven't quite caught up or

caught on yet... so trendy users of powered bikes, scooters or self-balancing devices have been left in e-limbo. These personal conveyances can't be registered, technically making them illegal if used on public roads or footpaths or inside Parks.

Whether you are for or against E-Bikes, the fact remains that choosing to get from A to B without using a private car helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, traffic congestion and our reliance on oil. Additional benefits include dollops of fun outdoors, improved mental and physical health, and reduction of wider environmental impacts from fossil fueled transportation. Just say "EEEE !" and remain Merry and Bright, all year round.





RESEARCH, TEST RIDE & BUY

DURAL: The Odd Spoke, Unit 23/286 New Line Rd, PH: 96539388

THORNLEIGH: Sydney Electric Bikes: 274a Pennant Hills Rd PH: 0411 897760

VINEYARD: Lifestyle and Leisure: 444 Windsor Rd, PH: 96276626

ONLINE: Bicycles Online (based in Northern Beaches) https://www.bicyclesonline. com.au **BE GOOD !** Cycle commuting and road riding: Get a folding e-bike from \$800, a 'nice' bike path commuter from \$2500 or a very 'naughty' top of the range E-Cannondale for \$13,000.

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DEMENTIA??...NOT ME!! "I play music with Katy"

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EASTBEND REPORT FOLLOWING 2019 AGM & ORDINARY MEETING

At the Eastbend Rural Communications AGM on 11th November 2019 the following Committee was elected:

President: Pr Peter Goldstien Vice President: Vicki Brownless Public Officer: Jenny Carrey Secretary: Vicki Brownless Assistant Secretary: Liz Wilkinson Treasurer: Carole Sweeny Publicity Officer: Tessa Corkill Ordinary Committee members: Pat Schwartz, Bev Tollman, Jessie Goldstien, Sheila Trotman, Diana Paton.

We welcome our new President and his wife Jessie, who has also become a member of the organization.

During 2019 Living Heritage continued to be successful in its mission of keeping the community informed about local matters each month; many thanks to Editor Carole Sweeney and her helpers. The sorting of archival material to put in the new cabinets continues (more volunteers to help with this would be much appreciated). Among items discussed was the current research into reports that Koalas are finally starting to repopulate local bushland following the

- disastrous 2002 fires.
 Also discussed were ongoing strategies to deal with many unpaid accounts for advertisers in the Living Heritage.
- The next meeting will be on Monday 10th Februray 2020 at 1.30pm. If you have any local issues you would like to discuss or have help with in the meantime please contact the Secretary Vicki Brownless on livingheritage6@gmail.com or Tessa Corkill, at 2archaeics@ gmail.com or 9652-1470.
- Compliments of the Season from all of us to all of you!

GLENORIE MAROOTA **BIOREGIONAL** FORUM

The Annual General Meeting of the Glenorie Maroota Bioregional Forum will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th December, 2019 at the Community Hall, Old Northern Road, Glenorie. An election will be held to choose members of the Executive Committee for the coming year. If you wish to nominate for any position or have anything you would like discussed during the meeting please mail to PO Box 240, Glenorie, NSW 2157 or contact the Chairperson Carolyn Hall at carolyn@ dhphc.com.au or 0418 651 300, or Co-ordinator Pat Schwartz at deblacko7@hotmail.com or 9652-1276. Anyone is welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you there!





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COMMUNITY NEWS

A GIFT OUTSIDE THE BOX

Tech companies know more about us than we do about ourselves these days. Ask Google, Apple or Amazon. They know where we shop, what we eat, what we like etc better than our spouses. How easy would it be to choose a gift for our loved ones with that additional knowledge? It's the thought that makes the difference. In every gift, we also pack our time, our thoughtfulness, our consideration and our care.

Think out-side the box this year when you select your Christmas gift for your loved ones. Consider what would make that difference in the lives of those who receive your gift. If you are too busy to think, specialised vendors will have gifts suitable for people in a particular demography. This Christmas, show you care by wrapping something helpful for older people in your family. A mobility store is a great place to look for some wonderful ideas to suit every budget.

When you have older family members visiting you for

Christmas, please ensure that the experience is least inconvenient for you as well as your guests. Plan ahead. You can hire for short term some mobility aids, like a chair, a shower stool or even a wheel chair. It will make a world of difference to those who need them.

Get away from the hassle of Parking at a shopping Centre. Instead head to comfortdiscovered.com or their store for Christmas shopping his year! Comfort Discovered's shop is located at 73 Jersey St Hornsby.



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SPORT NEWS

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SPORTS NEWS

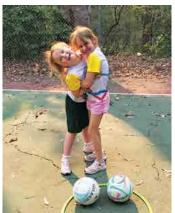
GALSTON NETBALL CLUB OUR NETSETGO CLINICS DELIVER SKILLS AND SMILES!

Whilst the 2019 netball season is over, we are still running our NetSetGO clinics each term and welcome all girls and boys aged from 5 to 10 years to join us.

Our Term 4 clinic has just two weeks to go and our littlest netballers have been learning all the foundations skills including passing, catching, pivoting, defending, shooting and footwork. These skills are learnt through drills, exercises and games such as Rob the Nest, the big favourite! We would love to see them all return in 2020 and for those who are interested, we would love to see you join Galston Netball Club and play in the 2020 Hills District Netball Association NSG competition.

If you would like more information about our NSG clinics or playing in our 2020 NetSetGO competition, please contact our NSG registrar at nsg. galstonnetballclub@gmail.com











The 2020 netball season will be here soon – and we can't wait! Our 2020 registration will open on Wednesday 1st January. We will also run our Expo on Sunday 9th February at the Galston Recreation Reserve just near the Galston netball courts, make sure you save the date!

Term 4 clinic participants love playing Rob the Nest

Want to play soccer?

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CHRISTMAS **MUSINGS** sent in by local residents

Ancestors at the Table

As the busy season of Christmas descends upon us once more (at an ever increasing rate) I sit down to write up my Christmas lunch menu and various other bits and bobs that make up our Christmas Day. It dawns on me that I now have snippets of Christmases past in my repertoire. A way of remembering dear family members now departed, they are taking on greater significance.

My grandmothers "hard sauce" and Christmas pudding, my mother in laws special roast potatoes and absolutely sublime mince pies none since ever come close! Good old fashioned gravy that my mother taught me to make more years ago than I care to remember, mums trifle and her "party susan" of which I am now custodian, always filled with treats of cashews and scorched almonds among other things. And now a new generation is adding their touches. My daughter who lives in USA has added her favourite American dish - green bean casserole.

It all comes together in a delicious feast full of love and memories that make our Christmas Day extra special. Contributed by VW Glenorie

Santa in a Hurry

As Christmas approaches and all the frantic shopping and preparations begin, it is sometimes lovely to look back at the funny episodes of Christmases past. They are not always funny at the time!

A favourite one in our family is from when our children were very young and Santa was bringing a surprise swing set - you know, the green pipes and yellow seat kind!

Santa had been working very hard right up until Christmas Eve and with nowhere to conceal a fully assembled swing set, had to wait for that special time when children have gone to sleep.

Unfortunately, with the excitement, that was not long before sunset.

Everyone who has ever assembled a

swing set knows it is never as quick as you think it will be. Despite Santa being very handy, the fading light on our completely dark property beat him in the end.

He managed to assemble the swing set so it looked perfect but without tightening the nuts and bolts.

The following morning, bright and early, our delighted children saw their Christmas present and went to run and climb on it.

We told them that Daddy should check it first to make sure Santa had done up the bolts tight enough! Can you believe it? Santa must have been in a hurry to deliver everyone's toys and didn't have time to finish! Lucky Daddy checked.

I still recall standing on the back verandah for 15mins with two excited children watching while Daddy finished Santa's work.

However, our story is not unique. To all those parents and care givers who will finish Santa's work this year Merry Christmas! Contributed by YS Arcadia

Christmas Day in the 1970's A Quintessential Aussie Christmas

As a child Christmas Day was always so wonderful. My parents didn't have much money to spend on us but we never went without! Even if it meant mum was still sewing our special Christmas presents at midnight. There is an 8 year gap between me and my sister but we managed to somehow get matching, handmade outfits for Christmas most years. Oh, my sister and I still laugh about it today. Mum still thinks it was a great idea. Our day would begin with a visit to one of our neighbours' homes with a Tuppaware 'party susan' filled to the brim with liquorice allsorts, peanuts, pretzels, chocolates, glace cherries, Christmas cake etc.

After the morning session with the neighbours, it was the big rush to get to my Nan and Pop's at Fairfield. A whole 5 minute's drive which, at the time, I thought very far!

Once at my grandparent's house it

was time for more fun times with my cousins and, being the eldest grandchild, I got to dole out all the presents out with my Uncle Ernie who played Santa. They had a huge back yard with chickens, bird aviaries, vegetables, fruit trees and lots of room to run. Before lunch we had sack races, played lots of energetic games and took the yearly family Christmas photo. Loads of delicious food was to be consumed for lunch, everyone contributed in some way, and even better were the deserts, cakes, chocolates and lollies for afterwards, when your tummy couldn't possibly fit another thing in and was almost bursting. Wonderful Christmas memories! Contributed by DW Dural

A Bold Move

Christmas means different things to different people and sometimes it is the recollections of Christmases past that mean more to us now than the actual celebration itself.

One of the Christmases I most remember was the one when my uncle took my cousin and I to see the David Jones Christmas Pageant and decorations to meet Father Christmas in the Sydney store.

As like today these events are usually packed out and the queue for admission stretched around the block to gain entrance through the main doors. Of course being Sydney in December it was hot and humid and we kids were growing restless with the waiting and whingey at not being able to get drinks or ice creams to cool down.

My uncle, who was a very enterprising man, took one look at the queue and sized up the situation. He marched us up to the front of the queue where he spoke sympathetically to frustrated and frazzled the young Mother waiting with a brood of children.

"Excuse me Madam" he says "you and your children look hot and tired with all this waiting to get in. I'll mind your spot while you go and get some refreshment for yourself and the children so you will be bursting

with energy to carry on".

The mother fell for it and happily let us in while she and her children set off in search of cooling drinks.

Needless to say although my cousin and I were happy to have beaten the crowd to enter the wonderland that was David Jones Christmas fantasy and overawed with the spectacular event, we did feel we had tricked the other family out of their rightful place so we could go in first.

Years later my Uncle confided he arranged with the door Concierge that when the lady returned she should be let in and I hope that was the case. The joy of Christmas is in the giving which is in the spirit and heart of it.

Have a Merry One everyone. contributed by Kerron May

Celebrating the longest Christmas Season

Some are surprised when they see their neighbours in Australia, decorating their homes from early November. My birth country, the Philippines, excitedly celebrates the start of the season from the 1st of September. Yes, the malls start decorating and playing Christmas carols and traditional paper lanterns (called parols) light up the streets and homes.

I remember our highlight wasn't about expensive presents on Christmas Day but rather a greater significance was placed on traditions such as 'Misa de Galla'; daily dawn masses which we would start attending from the 16th of December. If you complete the full 9 days before the Christmas Eve mass we believed that our Christmas wishes would come true.

'Noche Buena' is the family feast we would traditionally have after midnight mass on Christmas Eve, with special dishes reserved only for that time of year. I miss going around homes with my youth group, singing Christmas carols.

These happy memories from my childhood help remind me about being kind, thoughtful and to remain cheerful. Contributed by Zumba Nina, Galston



Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au

Heartbeats is about recognising the good news stories which are happening in our community.

BUSH TURKEY TALES By Christine Stockman

At a recent Galston Garden Club meeting we had a 'Questions & Answers' segment. The question was put forward - "How do you get rid of BushTurkeys?" As these birds are native to Australia, they should not be baited or killed, despite being pests in the garden.

Various helpful and humorous tales were shared by the panel and audience. We heard of one who spread mulch evenly over a hillside, then within a few days found it all in a mound at the bottom of the hill! Another said he had once counted 15 in his vard - imagine that!. I know my Mum once had one in her tennis court.

A suggestion for their removal was "Lay a soaker hose over the lawn

and often set it going". I have heard removing their mounds repeatedly can disturb them so they'll shift elsewhere.

Fearthe

Then, we heard of an unsuccessful attempt by Paul, who caught three in a cage, painted the tail of one blue, then drove them a few kilometres away - they returned two weeks later. Another said taking them 50kms away had solved the problem for them.

Truly, they can be persistent and seemingly smart birds and very hard to remove.

Anyway, I hope this story has been helpful to anyone with Bush Turkey troubles. At least it's amusing!

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YOUNG Stars Launch **Concerts for 2020**

The Galston Concerts as part of Hornsby's Festival of the Arts celebrated a rousing finale in November with a Young Performers Awards Gala which also launched Galston's 2020 concerts.

A kaleidoscope of musical colours included familiar (violin, cello, the Galston Uniting Church concert grand piano and historic organ) and exotic (two bassoonists!).

The young musicians line-up included prize-winners from youth music festivals - Sydney

and Ryde eisteddfods, the Organ Music Society and the Ku-ringgai Philharmonic's Secondary Schools Concerto Competition.

While the Thompson family from the Central Coast contributed three young organist prize-winners, most performers were from Hornsby and the Hills districts.

Galston, Pennant Hills, Castle Hill and James Ruse high schools plus William Clarke College, Knox and The Kings School all contributed students to the Gala talent pool – some also being part of the Sydney Conservatorium Rising Stars or tertiary divisions.

A quintet from the state and national champion Castle Hill RSL Youth Wind Orchestra brought down the curtain with jazz contrasts to Classical styles.

Importantly the Gala itself was not a competition - all performers shared \$3,000 in awards from the Galston Concerts.

The Gala also launched the 2020 Galston series, soon to be posted on trybooking.com (search Galston). Leading professionals, the focus of most concerts, will also present outstanding student proteges.

The 2020 series will maintain Galston's 'Classical & contrasts' flair but add pre-concert organ preludes and cameos of music by Beethoven in his 250th birthday year.

Enquiries can be directed to 9653 2039 or 0428 248 348.



Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au



FASHION PARADE SUCCESS

What a fabulous afternoon was had by all at the Ladies Afternoon of Fashion, Fun and Fizz on 16th November supporting the Women's Shelter in Hornsby! It was a great way for everyone to wind down, have a few laughs, connect and catch up in an invigorating and energetic environment raising much needed funds for the Shelter as well as raising awareness throughout the local

community and businesses! A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who made this happen, including The Rotary Club of Galston, Blume Clothing, Zumba Nina, Dionne Barton and Galston, Glenorie & Hills the programs! We hope to organise another parade for next year. Stay tuned!!







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STUDENTS GO BACKSTAGE IN NSW PARLIAMENT

By Matt Kean MP

I was pleased to host students from Primary schools across Hornsby for a behind-the-scenes look at NSW State Parliament.

The students, all leaders at their respective schools, were treated to a tour of the Legislative Assembly where they witnessed lively debate on single-use plastic bags.

Over morning tea they heard from sporting stars Kiera Austin from the Giants, Alex Tobin ex-Socceroo, Jessica Nash from the Matildas and Alex Newsome from the NSW Waratahs. These sporting legends spoke to the students about the hard work and dedication needed to play for your State or Country. Also dropping in on morning tea was Premier Gladys Berejiklian who conducted an impromptu question time. I was impressed with Galston Public School Student Milla who asked the Premier why she became Premier. Thank you to students from Galston Public School, Arcadia Public School, Dural Public School, Middle Dural Public School and Pacific Hills Christian School who attended the event.

Christmas Card Competition

I put a call out to Kindergarten students from around Hornsby to enter my Christmas Card competition. This year the theme was Joy to the World!. Cecile who attends Berowra Christian School was selected to go on the cover and the other four finalists, including Geoffrey who attends Galston Public School and Jacqueline from Arcadia Public School, will appear inside the card.

All finalists and the winner received a Westfield Gift Card and Certificate.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their support in 2019, it has been a busy but exciting year. I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and look forward to continuing to work hard for Hornsby in 2020.

Geoffrey from Galston Public School, Peter from Asquith Public School, Jacqueline from Arcadia Public School, Cecile from Berowra Christian School and Lila from St Patrick's at Asquith.







- Organising Justice of the Peace applications
- Recognising State achievements



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Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au



RURAL ROUNDUP

By Councilor Warren Waddell

During November community consultation continued on the Rural Lands Review. Two workshops were held at The Galston Club and two were held at Glenorie Club. The primary purpose of the workshops was to determine if the consultants had accurately determined the base line "landscape area maps" required for future planning.

It was extremely heartening to see all of the sessions oversubscribed and that the range of community input was so varied. In particular, it was terrific to see the collaborative approach demonstrated by staff, consultants, councillors and – above all – members of the community. It was clear that, despite the diversity in opinion surrounding rural land use, a level of respect for the varying opinions was extended to all that participated. The process of collating this large contribution from the community has begun and a draft report should come back to councillors in December.

The Galston Village Public Domain concept plan has been introduced to property owners within the village. With further refinement, a more developed plan should emerge soon that will be introduced to both village tenants and the broader community. The next step is to get the initial concept formally endorsed so that detailed design work may begin and budgets developed.

The Glenorie Village bus area upgrade was endorsed at the last Council meeting so more detailed design work will begin on that important gateway project.

Finally, a special thanks to all of our Rural Fire Service

divisions and their volunteers for the high level of education and preparation that has been provided to our communities. It has been a particularly vulnerable time and we are most grateful for the peace of mind their service provides.







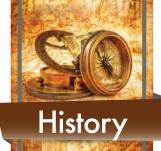
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NEWS FROM HISTORY COTTAGE

By Michael Bell

The Society's year is drawing to a close. Our November speaker was Shire Councillor and historian, Nathan Tilbury who gave us a talk on the history of Berowra. Our part of Sydney is special and it is always a pleasure to hear an enthusiastic researcher uncover another piece of its history.

Members and friends gathered for lunch on the 15th November and judging by the animated conversations, recollecting the year's activities showed that it has been an enjoyable one. The topics ranged from the history and origins of our plant foods, architecture, Cattai Creek, the migration experience and the remarkable story of the recording of the first contacts in Botany Bay in our June Roughly Memorial Lecture. The Committee will meet in December to decide on nine guest speakers and consider where the members might visit on the three one day trips and at least one with an overnight stay. While History Cottage will close on Wednesday the 11th December, members will be catching up on research and scanning photographs to add to the Society's collection. Should there be a need for assistance of an historical or heritage nature, contact can be made by telephoning Michael Bell, the Society's President, on 96531365. The members meet in History Cottage, beside the Cenotaph in Galston Park, on the second Saturday of each month at 2.00pm. The first meeting for 2020 will be on the 8th February. Come along, enjoy meeting like minded people and learn what will be happening over the coming months.

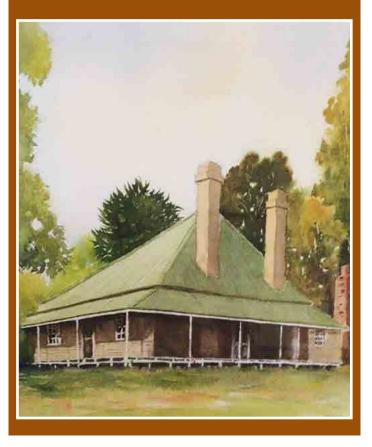
The Society members wish readers a happy family Christmas and look forward to enjoying their company in the New Year.

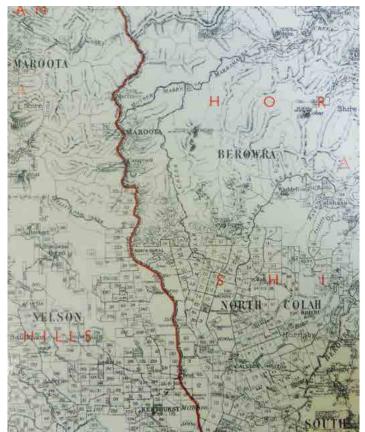
RAMBLINGS FROM ROUGHLEY HOUSE

It has been quite a busy few weeks at Roughley House "The Pines". We have had the normal enquires at the visitor information and convict interpretive centre, regarding places to visit in the North West area of Sydney's outskirts. Also the usual groups visiting through the week for conducted tours of Roughley House. These groups included the Green Point Probus Club, Hills Friendship Club and a

retirement village gathering from the Northern Beaches.

Enquires from groups such as these continue to be received to experience this "step into the past", which is what a tour of Roughley House provides. Our Spring/ Summer program of "Jazz at The Pines" conducted by the Kellyville/Hills Rotary Club has commenced, with the first feature bands being the ever popular "Mike Hallam Hot Six" and the "Bridge City Jazz Band".





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Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au



Pets



Various members of the branch have been attending a number of country shows and having success namely;

Ed Steer

• Best Dominate Pied @ Penrith, Orange and Gilgandra Shows

Adrian Corner

- Best Lacewing @ St George / Illawarra Show
- Best Cinnamonwing
 Best Opaline Any Standard Variety
- Best Novice Young Bird and
- Best Opposite Sex
- Best Juvenile Bird and
- Best Opposite Sex

The great effort at these shows against all level of exhibitors, has seen both these members being confirmed as Intermediate

BUDGERIGAR Society of NSW inc

Hills Branch - Ray Galbraith

Exhibitors for all future shows. During November the Annual Lawn Show was held at St Ives Show Ground Pavilion, with the general public showing an interest in the birds on display. Also during November, Hills Branch held the annual Christmas Party at a Pennant Hills Restaurant, which allows members and their partners to socialise without a budgie in sight. This opportunity is taken by Hills Branch President, Daniel Childs, to extend Season Greetings to all the readers.

Budgie Facts

- The shells of Budgie Eggs are covered with tiny pores which enable oxygen and carbon dioxide to pass through.
- The artificial light in our homes

can disrupt breeding in budgies as they judge the season by the length of the daylight hours.

• Budgies do not have bladders. Their urine and faeces pass out the same orifice.

Know the Variety

- Opaline ASOV. Solid even colour, Black wing edged withbody colour, Tail to blend to body colour, Black eye with clear iris.
- Clearbody. Suffused Yellow or White body, Wings Black edged with Yellow or White,Tail Dark Blue to Black. Black eye with White iris.
- Lacewing. Solid body colour, Wings cinnamon edged with White or Yellow, Tail cinnamon, Red eyes with White iris.

Care to be part of a hobby that can be enjoyed by the individual, partnership or family? Then contact should be made with Ray Galbraith, by telephoning 9653-1538 or e-mail boxer73@bigpond.net.au



ANOTHER RECORD PRICE ACHIEVED IN 2019

CONSIDERING SELLING?

For the thrid consecutive year Beth O'Brien & Nikki Summerhayes of Willu Prestige Property have sold another record for Arcadia post code 2159 with a very happy vendor!

This property has presented a number of fresh new high-end buyers to the Hills Rural Market.



43-71 Calabash Rd Arcadia

"Beth, worked relentless on selling my property, her loyalty and support was beyond the call of duty. Nikki and Beth are not the typical real estate agents, they are ethical, precise and knowledgeable, could not of done it without them!" - Mr Eric Cooper

WILLU PRESTIGE PROPERTY IS A NATIONAL FINALIST FOR REB ONLINE AWARDS FOR 2019 AS 'NEW COMER OF 2019'



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WILLUPROPERTY.COM.AU



Last month, at the Northholm's Senior School Assembly, we celebrated the work of the Rural Fire Service Cadets and the volunteers who led this program for our students.

During Term Three, 16 Northholm students participated in the Rural Fire Service Secondary Schools Cadet Program. The program provides Year 9 and 10 students with an insight into fire safety and prevention whilst developing practical life skills and a general appreciation of community service and volunteerism.

The aim of the program is to:

NORTHHOLM Supports RFS program

By Gabriela Moore

- Develop an interest in the NSW RFS and its traditions
- Provide cadets with a knowledge of fire safety and preparedness
- Develop the qualities of leadership, self-discipline, self-reliance, initiative and team work
- Encourage cadets to continue service in the NSW RFS or other community service organisations
- Provide training that can contribute to NSW RFS firefighter and other specialist training.

These qualifications can be used in later life, whether it's for work or for joining a volunteer rural fire brigade.

A special thank you to the Volunteers who so willingly gave their time to work with our students. We would also like to acknowledge and thank The Hon Mr Matt Keane MP and The Hon Cr Phillip Ruddock, Mayor of Hornsby for attending the service and for their continual support.

We thank Dr Michelle Gleeson who co-ordinated the program at Northholm, Dural Brigade member and school parent, Mr Andrew Dyson, for leading the training, and the Volunteers who so willingly gave their time to work with our students.

With the current fire situation throughout NSW and the Sydney region, the outstanding work by the RFS men and women who give tirelessly and selflessly of their time to protect homes and save lives makes Northholm incredibly proud to have these young students participated in this incredibly invaluable program.







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23 MILLION DOLLAR CAR DISPLAY

By Craig Hingston

Pacific Hills Christian School at Dural has hosted a display of motorsport cars with a combined value of over \$23,000,000! The trio included a McLaren Formula One MP4 car driven by Kimi Raikkonen, a Porsche GT4 and a Porsche 911 rally car.

The MP4 is a gift presented to the Re-Engineering Australia Foundation by the McLaren team. The two Porsches were provided by School parent, Grant Geelan. Grant has a Porsche workshop called Autohaus Hamilton and is a sponsor of the School's champion team which recently won the NSW Finals of the F1 in schools STEM Challenge, operated by REA Foundation. The occasion was the Year 6 STEM Day in which students were involved in the Jaguar Primary School Challenge also run by the REA Foundation. This competition involved making and decorating a balsa racing car and racing it on a track with Formula One-style start lights and computer timing.

Twenty-five teams competed against each other with Ube Bros recording the fastest track time of 1.599 seconds.

Special guests were Dr Michael Myers OAM, an engineer who established the Re Engineering Australia Foundation and who has spent over two decades inspiring young students in STEM, and former racing driver Adam Leung, who was the 2009 Formula Ford Rookie of The Year and 2010 Formula Ford National Champion.





GALSTON HIGH GRADUATE NAMED ONE OF THE NATION'S BEST

Galston High School recently announced Year 12 student Maddy Gleeson as the school's recipient of the 2019 Caltex Best All Rounder Award, one of Australia's most prestigious secondary school prizes.

Maddy joins a select group of secondary students around Australia who have received a Caltex Best All Rounder Award for excellence in their studies, on the sports field and for their work in the Galston community.

The Caltex Best All Rounder Award has been presented to thousands of final-year students around the country across its 34-year history and Maddy joins an exclusive list of Caltex Best All Rounders to have been recognised over the past three decades.

Galston High School principal Jillian Tourlas said Maddy was a worthy recipient of the nationallyrecognised award.

"The award recognises Maddy's contribution across several disciplines – she has been a wonderful asset to our school and the wider community, setting a terrific example for others to follow," Ms Tourlas said.

Caltex Australia Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Julian Segal, said the company was proud to have recognised generations of students like Maddy since the awards began in 1985.

"As a proud Australian company that's been part of local communities for more than a century, we are pleased to acknowledge the outstanding all-round contribution this year's winners have made to their schools and communities, along with their leadership abilities and the good example they set for others.

"I congratulate Maddy and wish her well as she moves into the next phase of her life," Mr Segal said.

Outstanding Success in Industrial Technology and Drama

Each year, the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA), the organisation responsible for HSC assessment, recognises excellence in achievement through various showcases of student work.

In 2019, two Galston High School students have been nominated for possible inclusion in such accolades.

Colby O'Mara's major work has been shortlisted for possible inclusion in InTech, the annual exhibition of outstanding Major Projects developed by HSC Industrial Technology students. Colby's major work consisted of a beautifully crafted, octagonal coffee table made from American black walnut that gives the impression of a floating top due to its sleek, contemporary leg design.

Damian Shahfazli's individual project has been selected for possible inclusion in the OnSTAGE exhibition in the foyer of the Seymour Centre. Damian's individual project consisted of a design portfolio based on his chosen text "The Visit" addressing the concept of sustainable fabrics and showcased a beautiful use of colour, intricate detail and design.





FANTASTIC FUTURES ARE BUILT ON BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

Starting big school is one of life's big adventures, and not just for the little ones! Arcadia Public School is known for the comprehensive and varied transition to school program we provide to our lovely little 'newbies'. We support the children and their families as they prepare for school, making them feel secure, connected and confident for their wonderful school career ahead. Whether it is getting into some drawing with their Year 4 buddies, enjoying a story and getting to know Mrs Crouch as she visits their preschool or milking a cow at our unique open day - Arcadia Agriculture Adventure, we care and work together to make starting school a positive, happy experience.

Becoming articulate, thoughtful communicators is a goal for each of our students. We start small, introducing public speaking in Kindergarten and building from there. Georgia and Amelie in Year 6 have excelled as outstanding debaters and award-winning speakers at the inaugural Lions Club of West Pennant Hills Public Speaking Event, sponsored by Galston Branch of Bendigo Bank and the YMCA. Congratulations Georgia and to Amelie who was awarded first place for her impromptu speech. The topic was, What are the 3 keys to success? With only 2 minutes to prepare, education, having people who believe in you and perseverance was the winning combination expressed by Amelie. Absolutely the foundations in the culture of Arcadia.

Arcadia Public School is incredibly fortunate to benefit from the generous sponsorship of the Galston Branch of Bendigo Bank. Their funding support, in conjunction with APS P&C has seen new large screen interactive whiteboards installed in every classroom this year - excellent learning tools accessible to every student. Our lovely students will perform Christmas carols outside the Galston branch on Thursday December 12 at 9.30am. Thank you Bendigo Bank!

To learn more about Arcadia PS we welcome you to visit our website www.arcadiaschool. com.au or phone 9653 1207 to arrange a school tour.





HILLS GRAMMAR CELEBRATE EXTRAORDINARY YEAR

The School has spent the year enjoying many activities, student accomplishments, and even hosted a Spring Fair.

Starting the year off on the right foot, the School held one of their annual Beat Festivals. This year's focus was on health. It included many active, informative and fun sessions that were all focused on the Wellbeing, Community and Fun that accompanies a healthier lifestyle.

Throughout the year, they welcomed in both the local and national media, and thoroughly enjoyed being selected to launch the Weet-Bix TRYathlon. Students participated in a morning of activity, while being fuelled by the various types of Weet-Bix that were on offer.

They also enjoyed celebrating their Early Childhood Education Centre turning 9. With double digits next year, they're sure to be planning something special.

As the year progressed, many of their students from the Pre K – 12 learning environment accessed some incredible opportunities. Throughout the year they hosted showcases, sports carnivals, drama performances, music ensembles, charity events, open days, incursions and excursions. Students from the Senior School were also invited to participate in their international tours, such as the European Classics Tour and the Japan Tour.

The opportunities didn't stop there, with two students being selected for international courses at the University College of London, and Harvard University. Further to their students success, the School also had a number of members in their community receive national recognition for their accomplishments.

With the end of the School year drawing to a close, students, staff, and the greater community, all came together to embrace a day of fun at their Spring Fair.

The sun was shining as the School welcomed thousands of people from near and far to their Fair. A car was auctioned off, there were non-stop rides, a petting zoo, reptile show and plenty of shopping and food options. The day was a huge success thanks to the extensive work and organisation of the Parents and Friends Association.

Now, as the year draws to a close, students from Year 12 are eagerly awaiting their

HSC results. While the School is preparing for the end of year celebrations including the Annual Presentation of Awards evening, and also a number of award ceremonies and presentations.

Congratulations Hills Grammar on another extraordinary year.





BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE COMING TO HILLSIDE IN 2020

The school community is very excited because next year we will be able to provide before and after school care for the students at Hillside. Norwest Community Childcare was the successful tender to provide the facility at Hillside. We look forward to the school being able to support our parents and students before and after school. A great addition to our school.

Steam room a huge success At the beginning of 2019, the school established a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) room to cater for all students. The room is constantly in use by all teaching staff to foster hands on learning, collaboration and creativity. Recently the older students buddied up with one of the younger students to

design and make a maze. It was wonderful to see the younger students totally engrossed with the planning and making of the maze with their older buddies. A wonderful learning experience for all students.

Hugely successful trivia night

A big thank you must go to the local community who supported Hillside's Trivia and Silent Auction Night held recently at Glenorie RSL. The money raised assisted in the provision of extra teaching days to ensure the school students are in small classes five days a week.

To Glenorie RSL, Woolworths, Riverside Oaks, Dan Murphy's, Del Rio Resort, Café Sasanqua, Bivianos, Nati Roses, Big W, Bean Everywhere, Snap Fitness, Allseal Specialist Flooring and Galston Aquatic and Leisure Centre a big thank you for supporting the school in our major fundraiser.

Harvesting

The students have enjoyed the bountiful harvest of potatoes and peaches that they have been cultivating in our orchard and vegetable garden. The potatoes were planted by the senior class during a science unit being studied earlier this year. The students harvested over 30kg of potatoes out of the one garden bed and shared them with all of the Hillside families and staff. The students also harvested the crop of peaches and enjoyed eating them during fruit break and taking them home to share with their families. Hands on learning at its best!

If you are looking for a caring school where your child is an

individual and not a number, then Hillside is your school! We can offer small class sizes, unique programs and individual learning plans for every child.

School News

Please visit our wonderful school. Contact the school office on 9652 1459 if you would like more information.



GLENORIE PUBLIC SCHOOL YEAR 6 GIFT 2019

Glenorie Public School Year 6 students worked hard this year raising money to pay for 2 murals on the external walls of their school. They employed local artist Belinda Nadwie, and what amazing murals she did. Well done Year 6 and well done Belinda. The larger mural can been seen when you drive past on Old Northern Road. The book mural is on the library wall.









GLENORIE FIELD DAY/WORKSHOP

The Hills to Hawkesbury & Hornsby areas. Healthy Soils & Integrated Weed Management for Improved Land Management. Sunday 8th December 2019



The day will provide an opportunity to bring along your problem weeds and have them identified by a specialist weed agronomist. Herbicides are rarely successful when used alone, and are often not the cheapest long-term option. And if you are organic, synthetic herbicides are not an option. So what is the best approach for managing weeds? It's called integrated weed management. Integrated weed management involves using a variety of methods to prevent weed entry and spread, make your farm environment stronger and specifically target the destruction of weeds. Integrated weed management is not only more effective but can be more profitable. The field day will demonstrate practical tools that you can use to monitor the health of your soil. You will be shown how to correctly take soil samples for nutrient testing plus a range of straightforward visual tests.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided

Please RSVP by Sunday 1st December 2019 and indicate any dietary constraints for catering purposes. Sunday 8th December 2019 9.30am for 10am to 3 pm Glenorie Memorial Hall, 1729 Old Northern Rd, Glenorie To register please contact **Glenda Steain** from Greater Sydney Landcare on 0418 244 418 or Pat Schwartz 0419 321 276 glenda.steain@greatersydneylandcare.org

The day will also look at why weeds are so successful, and what they may indicate about your soils and management. For example, high numbers of Fireweed or Paterson's Curse are indicators of poor ground cover; especially in autumn. Once established they produce large soil seed banks (up to 130 million per hectare) which can survive for up to 5 years. Knowing what makes weeds abundant gives you the tools to keep them under control. In addition, the Field Day will look at: • characteristics of weeds which make an integrated management approach essential • costs of weed control and how it changes with time since invasion • different methods available for control • examples of integrated weed management for specific weeds such as serrated tussock, lantana and fireweed · where to find information on the management of different weeds.





Department of Primary Industries

This project is supported by the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Landcare NSW through funding received from the Established Pest Animals and Weeds initiative, part of the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the government's plan for stronger farmers and a stronger economy



Landcare

New South Wales



THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

The Bromeliad Society of Australia will hold their next meeting at the Federation Pavilion, Castle Hill Showground on Saturday, 14 December with plant sales commencing at 11 am followed by the meeting at 12 noon. Access is via the Showground entrance off Showground Road into Doran Drive, Castle Hill, with plenty of parking on site.

As this is our final meeting for the year, it will also be your last opportunity to buy beautiful bromeliads direct from the local members and growers for Christmas.

Bromeliads make wonderful gifts and are perfect house plants to decorate your home for Christmas. Why not consider a membership to the Bromeliad Society of Australia for a friend or family member for Christmas? Membership is \$30 initially then \$25 annually. For further details email MembSec@bromeliad.org.au.

Following the formal part of the meeting it will be time to celebrate and share the goodwill and reflect on the successful year that the BSA has enjoyed.

BSA Meetings include plant sales, club news, raffles and competitions as well as providing an opportunity to meet with likeminded people in a friendly and inviting environment. Contact Ian Hook - mobile 0408202269, email:ianhook1@bigpond.com website: www.bromeliad.org.au







LEVEL 2 WATER **RESTRICTIONS**

From 10th December, new Level 2 water restrictions will apply:

- gardens can only be watered before 10am or after 4pm with a watering can or bucket
- smart and drip irrigation systems may only be used for 15 minutes before 10am or after 4pm
- the use of unattended hoses is no longer permitted
- hosing of hard surfaces is not permitted, unless in an emergency
- cars can only be washed with a bucket or at a commercial car wash
- a permit is required before filling a pool of any size.
- Fines of \$220 will apply for residents and \$550 for businesses who don't follow the restrictions.



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By Appointment 9653 2133 31 Arcadia Road, Galston, NSW 2159 (next to the Galston Club)

C HotDoc Online Appointments





STILL CREEK LANDCARE WHAT'S BIOSECURITY GOT TO DO WITH ME?

Australia is free of many of the pests, weeds and diseases found in other parts of the world. The government wants us all to help keep it that way to keep food supply and native animals and plants safe.

In this area, we are away from the main container terminals and airports, but pests can travel in many ways. Some have been here a long time like foxes, others are moving towards us like Red Imported Fire Ants, which are causing \$ billions of damage in the US.

Most people in this area don't like the foxes which kill the native animals and our poultry unless we lock them up at night. But some people here have been feeding foxes, how cute. There are websites and apps for reporting not only foxes, but a large range of other pests as well. Anyone seen any feral camels here? See: www.feralscan.org.au

FeralScan Pest Mapping app on Apple and Android

We can all contribute to periurban biosecurity by:

- Taking steps to prevent pests, diseases and weeds from coming in and spreading
- Not bringing things back from interstate or overseas that might create a risk
- · Keeping an eye out for pests, weeds and signs of disease
- · Protecting your own and your neighbour's properties
- Reporting anything unusual, if possible with a photo

Obviously the hard part is identifying the pests, who would recognise the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug or the Yellow Crazy Ant? These and others may be seen and reported on the NSW website: https:// www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity

Or report a pest or disease: www.agriculture.gov.au > pestsdiseases-weeds > report

Exotic Plant Pest Hotline: 1800 084 881 (plant pests and

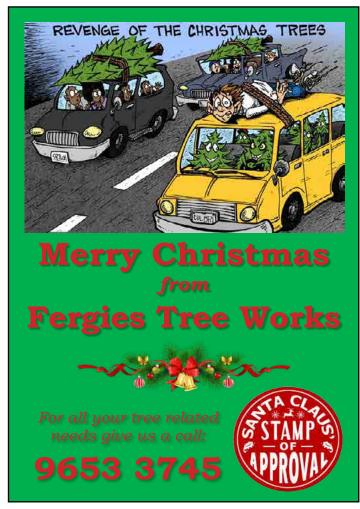
diseases, weeds and bees). **Emergency Animal Disease** Watch Hotline: 1800 675 888 For human pests, best to phone the police.

If you would like help or further information, contact Nick on 9653 2056, via email StillCreekLandcare@iinet.net.au or visit Still Creek Landcare at www.stillcreeklandcare.com.au and on Facebook.



Photo is of a Brown Marmorated Stink Bua





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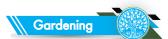
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Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au



GALSTON GARDEN CLUB

After a catastrophic day previously, it was a lovely Spring night to hold our last official meeting for the year. It has been a busy year with many rambles, great guest speakers who expanded our knowledge and of course the fabulous trip to Canberra. All these activities were arranged by our hard working and very diligent Social Committee. To finish up the year was our ever-popular Question and Answer evening, our panel this year comprised of Ken Turnidge, Elizabeth Swane and Alison Goodwin. The questions had flooded in; some amusing, some thought provoking as well as the usual "what flower, plant bush is that in my garden?!" So from how to make a stubborn wisteria flower, to whether you need to spray the aphids on roses (not necessary, if you wait about 7 days the lady beetles will come in and devour them, and if you don't have lady beetles did

you know you can purchase them from Bug for Bucks? Much safer for the bees as well) to how to propagate cycads (not easy), to growing a coffee plant and roasting the beans, then onto the importance of soil ph, to eradicating rogue plants, then there was what to do when gall appears on camellias and azaleas (clip off, place in a plastic bag in the sun and then put in the bin) as well as questions about aquatic plants and many more. When asked for the best gardening tip the one that received the most laughs was "pray and keep the water up!" This is always a hugely enjoyable and informative evening and we are very fortunate to have so many members who are more than willing to pass on their experience and knowledge.

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we announce that \$48,000 was passed on to 30 charities, from our Open Gardens Weekend. We would also like to thank the many wonderful people who came along to visit the gardens on a beautiful weekend, which made it so successful. There is real feeling of happiness and pleasure as you meet the various visitors to the gardens.

Our members Christmas dinner will be held in Dec and then the Club is in recess until 12th February 2020, which is also our Annual General Meeting. We always enjoy welcoming new people to the club, a knowledge of gardening is not a prerequisite, only a love of gardening and plants! Why not come and check us out in the new year. From all of us at Galston Garden Club we wish you a very Merry Christmas, our best wishes for the New Year and happy gardening. The Galston Garden Club meets on the 2nd Weds of the month at the Galston **Community Centre 37**

Arcadia Rd., Galston 7.30pm, new members and visitors are warmly welcomed, as well there is a lovely supper provided. For more information, visit our website: www.galstongardenclub.com.au



DURAL BOWLING CLUB

Diane Trovato was selected by Mitchell District to play in one of its six teams competing in the annual Mitchell/Nepean Challenge. She travelled out to Austral Bowling Club and played an important part in Mitchell District's win.

The DCC Drawn Triples Final was won by Margaret Holden, Judith Harris and Ruth Keene. Consistently skilful bowling by all three ladies secured the win. and Women's Clubs hosted a Bunnings barbecue – serving a steady stream of hungry customers all day...ten lady bowlers enjoyed a fish'n'chip lunch overlooking beautiful Berowra Waters...and a "winning" Melbourne Cup Day was enjoyed by all, with mixed social bowls in the morning,

followed by a scrumptious lunch in Fedele's Restaurant...with raffles and exciting sweeps! Pictured right is winning Triples Team.



On the very busy social side...both the Men's





Katrina, Leon & staff would like to wish everyone a

Merry Christmas and a safe & Healthy New Year

Thanks for your support throughout 2019.

Follow us on www.facebook.com/galstonnews



TO OUR NATION

By Corrie Bryne Hillslife Church

To our nation, rise. Stand up, step up, live lives of faith.

Our world needs hope, our cities need lights on a hill and we are in the Hills!

Where are the leaders? Where are the beacons of hope? Where are the Christians shining the bright, glorious, exuberant love of Christ?

Not judgmental, condemning, opinionated, biased, legalised Pharisees and Sadducees burdening non-believers with rules and obligations. But shining lights of God's grace, God's love and God's generosity and welcoming spirit.

As we enter into the Christmas season it may be a good reminder to remember who Jesus partied with ... who he spent time feasting with ... who flocked to be with him.

It was not the religious, the pious, the holy ... it was the sinners and tax collectors.

In Matthew 9 it captures the story of Jesus who calls Matthew - a tax collector. A man shunned from society as an outcast, a traitor! One who took advantage of his own people to put him in good standing with the oppressors, the Roman Empire and in doing so

made himself rich off the back off his own people.

This is who Jesus called to become one of the twelve apostles. This is who Jesus chose to dine with that night.

Matthew 9:10 - 13 says, "While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Jesus came to reach the lost, to show them that the way to a relationship with the Father was not through hundreds of rules and religious observations. No, that the way to the Father was through Him. That Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

So to those who profess to be Christian can I encourage you to step up, stand up, to be the beacon on the hill that appeals to the lost, the lonely, the broken. Not sit with condemning eyes wondering how they got themselves into that mess.

If there are those in your family and friends that are yet to find salvation, don't preach at them... serve them. Don't instruct them and judge them... love them. Be the open arms of Jesus this Christmas so they know there is a safe place, one that - while it may be uncomfortable for you - is shining the light of Jesus. Merry Christmas.

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST MEANS RELATIONSHIP **NOW & FOREVER**

Dee Valich - Glenorie Community Church

What does the word 'relationship' mean? One dictionary defines it as 'the way in which two or more people are connected and behave towards each other.

When considering then, the relationship between God and of a very old hymn come to mind: 'What a friend we have in Iesus.

All our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to carry O what needless pain we bear. Everything to God in prayer... And another part of the hymn so faithful?

Who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness

communicating with God. I speak and He listens; He speaks and I listen. That's a vital part of a healthy Then, when thinking about other keys to a healthy relationship, words such as forgiveness, faith and love come to mind.

1. FORGIVENESS: "So repent (change your mind & purpose); turn around and

return to God, that your sins may be erased (wiped clean) and times of refreshing may

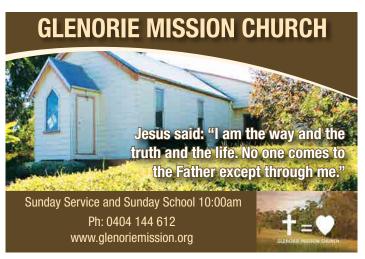
2. FAITH: "Without faith it is impossible to please God, exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." Hebrews 11:6

3. LOVE: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish For God did not send Jesus the world but that the world would be saved through Him. ' John 3:16-17.

We, the people who live in this world, are the ones whom God loves. He sent Jesus to us so we can have abundant life - through a healthy, loving relationship with Him - now and forever.







Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au

CRIKEY – CHRISTMAS ALREADY!

By Minister Rev Geoff Smith Galston Uniting Church

It's been a great year here at Galston Uniting Church and I want to take this opportunity to thank both my congregation as well as our fabulous community for your ongoing support – I have recently concluded my eighth year here and am hoping for quite a few more. We live in a magnificent part of the world.

I know it's been a tough year for many – I've been deeply privileged to journey with some of you during hard times. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to support you in whatever way I could.

When I arrived here in 2011, my son was in year 4. While he left school to commence an apprenticeship some time ago, his cohorts have just concluded their HSC – a milestone for them and I wish them all the very best for their future endeavours.

Christmas is, as ever, a very busy period for GUC. Hopefully you might be able to join us for some or all of our Christmas events. I hope that somewhere during your own Christmas you get the opportunity to reflect on the fact that our celebrations are all because of the birth of a child and as a result of God's love for us all. May your Christmas be a time of peace and joy. See you in 2020.

Cheers, Geoff



Galston Uniting Church Christmas Activities 2019

6th December - Galston Christmas Markets & Carols Galston High School 5pm 7th December - Achoired Voices Christmas

Galston Uniting 6pm

8th December – Worship with excerpts from 'Holy Boy' Oratorio Galston Uniting 10am

15th December – Christmas Messy Church Galston Uniting 10am

24th December – Christmas Eve Carols Service Galston Uniting 7pm

25th December – Christmas Day Service Galston Uniting 8am

A CHRISTMAS **MESSAGE**

By Reverend Ed Long Glenorie Mission Church

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, God's only Son, who came into the world to bridge the gap between God and mankind. Jesus came to give of himself, not for personal glory but to sacrifice himself. He was born into a lowly stable not into a palace. His birth was for one purpose, the road ahead of him led to one place, and that place was the cross. Jesus Christ was born to die on the cross, a perfect sacrifice so that through him we might have forgiveness for our sin and be brought back into a relationship with God - cleansed and forgiven, set free, restored.

When we remember the birth of Jesus Christ, we have to also recognize his life, his message, his death and resurrection. This realization stills our busy minds, unclutters our jumbled lives and enables us to approach Christmas in a more wholesome simple manner, humbly and with thanks giving.

The true message of Christmas is about giving instead of getting. It is about forgiveness and reconciliation. Most of all Christmas is about God's incredible love for mankind. Peace and joy should be our response. Christmas has become a frenzy of excess, a frenzy of spending and consuming. A time of

'getting' instead of 'giving'. We spend more than we can afford, we eat and drink more than we need and the whole experience leaves many families loaded with debt, exhausted and glad when it is finally all over. Our society, sadly has forgotten the true meaning of Christmas.

Let's unclutter our plans this Christmas, think about giving because Christ gave, share with our fellow man, make our homes havens of peace and joy and give thanks for the precious gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

You are invited each week to a Sunday service at 10:00 a.m and on Tuesdays at 7.30.pm a Bible study at Glenorie Mission Church 1409 Old Northern Rd Glenorie.

Christmas Day Service at 9 a.m Sunday 22nd December at 6 p.m Community Carols at Glenorie R.S.L. grounds.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COLLEEN AND ROSE

In November two of the St Benedict's catechists who teach in our local schools were presented with awards for their service. Congratulations to Colleen Appino for 40 years and Rose Granata for 15 years. Picture shows our Parish Priest Fr Bernard with Rose (left) and Colleen.

Christmas Spirit of Giving Dinner For the 10th year our parish will be hosting a Christmas Dinner for people who have no family or are away from family to share this special time and celebrate Christmas on Christmas night. Even if you are not religious it is enjoyable to spend time with other people. Christmas is all about giving, not just gifts, but giving of yourself to others in need. All are invited for Wednesday 25th December 2019 at 6pm, St Benedict's Parish Arcadia, cnr Fagans & Arcadia Road, Arcadia 2159. RSVP: 23rd December 2019 0423 078 282.

Christmas Mass times at St Benedict's

Christmas Eve - Children's Mass 7pm, Midnight Mass Christmas Day - Monastery Chapel 7am, Parish Church 9am, Latin Mass 11am.

Weekend Mass Times

St. Benedict's Catholic Church Arcadia; Mass at the Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, at 7am every morning. Mass at the Parish Centre, Corner Fagans Rd & Arcadia Rd 7pm Saturday, 9am Sunday. Parish website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/arcadia. News from St Benedict's



Follow us on www.facebook.com/galstonnews

2019 CHURCH SERVICES

DIRECTORY

Your Guide to Christmas Church Services in our Area

Arcadia

ST BENEDICTS CHURCH

121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia Weekend Mass Times - Mass at the Monastery 7am every morning. Mass at the Parish Centre, Corner Fagans Rd and Arcadia Rd 7pm Saturday and 9am Sunday **Christmas Celebrations** Christmas services begin with children's mass at 7pm on Christmas Eve in the Parish Centre 11:45pm Christmas carols followed by Midnight Mass. **Christmas Day masses** 7am in the Monastery Chapel 9am in the Parish Centre.

Glenorie

GLENORIE MISSION CHURCH

1409 Old Northern Rd. Glenorie 22nd December 6pm - Community Christmas Carols at Glenorie RSL 25th December 9 am - Christmas Service

GI ENORIE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

25th December 9-10am Christmas Service

Galston

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

49 Arcadia Road, Galston 22nd December11 am - Christmas Programme followed by a luncheon in the church hall. All welcome. Contact David McKibben 0474 - 493 793

GALSTON UNIING CHURCH

11 School Rd. Galston

HILLS LIFE CHURCH

6th December - Galston Christmas Markets & Carols Galston High School 5pm 7th December - A Choired Voices Christmas Galston Uniting 6pm 8th December - Worship with excerpts from 'Holy Boy' Oratorio Galston Uniting 10am 15th December - Christmas Messy Church Galston Uniting 10am 24th December - Christmas Eve Carols Service Galston Uniting 7pm

December 25th 9am - Christmas service will be held at Galston Public School.

We wish your family a Merry Christmas

25th December - Christmas Day Service Galston Uniting 8am

Cnr Arcadia Rd and School Rd, Galston



Dural

ST JUDE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Cnr Galston and Old Northern Roads Dural Phone 9651 1119 - www. duralanglican.org.au

Gingerbread House Events Friday 6th December - 6pm at Dural Saturday 7th December - 2pm at Kenthurst **Bookings Essential**

Sunday 8 December at 6pm - A Night of Carols

DARE Holiday Kids Event - Bookings Essential Thursday 19th and Friday 20th December

24th December - Christmas Eve 5:30pm - Christmas Celebration 8pm - Contemporary Outdoors 11pm Traditional Service

25th December - Christmas Day 8am - Traditional Service 9:30am - Christmas Celebration Christchurch Kenthurst: 9:30am - Christmas Service St Columb's Arcadia: 9:30am - Christmas Service

DURAL BAPTIST CHURCH

1 Pellitt Lane, Dural 24th December - 9.00pm 25th December - 9.30am



aChoired Voices Advent Concert **A Twilight Yuletide**

Saturday 7 December 2019

Galston Uniting Church 11 School Road, Galston 7:30 pm

ADULTS \$30.00 **CONCESSION** \$25.00 CHILDREN **12 YEARS & UNDER** \$15.00 FAMILY OF 4 \$75.00 Supper included

Tickets available at trybooking.com/BGIJM

and Happy New Year

Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au





MIDDLE DURAL NEWS By Jo Cameron

November was a very active start to the fire season with an unprecedented number of fires out of control and an emergency declared over most of the state. Many volunteer crews from The Hills took part in strike teams to the far north coast and then to the Gosper's Mountain Fire in Wollemi National Park.

We saved many assets, and lost some, which is inevitable in such awful circumstances. In the left hand window of this building, the dark area of flame is known as a flashover, where the built-up gases from burning materials in the room ignite almost explosively, compared with the pale flame below.

You often hear volunteer firefighters described as brave. I'd like to say that we are not brave. We do what we are trained to do. and we do it in as safe a manner as we can. There is a fine line between brave and foolhardy. In our basic firefighter course, we are taught not to be a hero, because that's foolhardy, and another firefighter may have to risk their life to save you. We may be community minded, or have joined up to be able to save our own homes. Some people do join for the challenge or excitement,

but that's not what the RFS wants. We need careful, hard-working, sensible volunteers!

In O'Hara's Creek Road on Monday 18th November, there was an extraordinary incident as a consequence of the RFS app, Fires Near Me showing a fire at no 12. This was a highly unusual system error, unlikely to be repeated, but it resulted in a chaotic log jam of traffic, as local residents flocked to the road to check the fire situation. There was no fire, but if there had been, a fire tanker would have been unable to access the fire and residents would have been unable to evacuate. Please do not react in this way by driving towards a potential bushfire. If there is a fire in your area, and it requires you to exercise caution or watchfulness, you will receive an SMS on your mobile phone, informing you of the possible level of emergency. This SMS is generated by the RFS via the communications tower, to every mobile phone in the affected area.

If you are concerned, and want further info information, please ring the RFS bushfire General Enquiry line: 1800 679 737. Of course, if you see flame or a plume of smoke, ring 000. While current fires are blanketing Sydney in smoke haze, it's difficult to ascertain the cause, and we would rather have false alarms than not. As always, the Middle Dural Captain, Len Best (0408 220 705) and Senior Deputy, Ken Middleton (0417 203 088), are happy to assist. If you have not already done so, we recommend that you download the free RFS app, Fires Near Me. It contains valuable information that will better prepare you, and also reassure you, in the coming months.



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MEDIA RELEASE PERMITS FOR OPEN BURNING ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED

20th November 2019

NSW Rural Fire Service is suspending all current fire safety permits for open burning activities, in the Hornsby / Ku-ring-gai and The Hills Rural Fire Districts.

Inspector Rolf Poole from Hornsby / Ku-ring-gai District said, "This step has be taken to reduce the potential of fire escapes at a time when drought conditions have meant there is an increased risk."

"With the current ongoing fire operations impacting on New South Wales communities, we need to ensure we are minimising the potential for new ignitions in our local area" Inspector Poole said.

The current local drought indexes issued by the Bureau of Meteorology are in the serious to extreme range. Residents who normally conducted open burning operations such as pile burns or agricultural burns are unable to conduct burning activities until conditions ease.

"Once drought indexes return to an average level, the issuing of fire safety permits will be reviewed. In the meantime residents who have vegetation for burning can either remove it mechanically or store it away from assets."

Inspector Poole said, "We are urging bush fire prone communities to share the responsibility of fire prevention by preparing around their properties, removing the potential fire hazards and eliminating potential ignition sources".

 Further information on ignition prevention and property preparedness can be found at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au



RFS REPORTS

GALSTON RURAL FIRE BRIGADE NEWS

By Kara Dubois

Bushfire Strike Teams

Galston firies have had a busy start to this year's fire season with crews fighting fires in strike teams all across NSW. The latest deployments have been to the out of control Gospers Mountain fire in the Wollemi National Park. The huge fire caused large amounts of smoke to blanket areas of Sydney and cause air quality to plummet. Firies backburnt close to properties in the areas around Wisemans Ferry, Webb Creek and Grey Gums in order to establish containment lines.

How Fireproof is your plan?

Planning to stay in a bush fire? Have you prepared your property? Do you have the right equipment? Ask yourself - how fireproof is your plan?

Find out in five minutes at www. myfireplan.com.au

The Annual Galston Village Santa Run and Free Santa photos

Santa Claus will be visiting Galston Village on Sunday 22nd December 2019.

This year we're also offering a chance for families to come and take a photo sitting with Santa in front of the firetruck from 12pm2pm at the Galston RFB station.

Then, from 4pm the much loved and anticipated Santa Run event will see Santa travel the streets of Galston riding on the big red firetruck greeting all the boys and girls.

BRIGADE CONTACT DETAILS

Duty mobile: 0491 119 152 Email: info@galstonrfb.org.au

This years' schedule

4pm

Santa Run Commences, From Galston Fire Brigade 4pm

Johnson Rd, Lackenwood Rd, Hansen Ave & Hakea Cres

5pm

Sylvan St, Devon Place, Forest Pl, Glen St & The Glade

6pm Gardiner, Martin Rd, Nancy Place 6:30pm The Galston Club (In the Playground Outside)

6:50pm Galston Village Shops (Carpark Outside the Thai Square Cuisine)











Top to bottom, left to right - Strike team in action & Santa helping out



RFS REPORTS

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT... FIRE SEASON!

Well, we have been shocked into the fire season very early this year. With our first catastrophic fire conditions on Tuesday 12th November, we certainly became aware of what was going on around us. With people being evacuated from their retirement villages (including my parents in Narrabeen), and children not going to school, we were all on high alert.

To help me understand what was happening in NSW, I downloaded an App called "FiresNearMeNSW". This App allowed me to see where the current fires were and what their status was.

I was also, able to set up a watch list adding Galston and a couple of areas where friends live. I was able to send a link for the App to friends overseas who were then able to understand what was happening here in NSW.

There are over 2 million Apps available. These are just a few that I have found throughout the years of helping people with their Apple devices and computers.

If you are struggling to understand your Apple device, please give me a call and we can discuss One on One sessions. Debbie on Mob: 0418296217 or email: info@debbiedoesit.com.au



HILL'S IRRIGATION GOES AUSSIE

With the worst fire season in history unfolding, farmers and homeowners, not just in Northern NSW but also the Hills and Hawkesbury area are suddenly realising that preparation is vital.

Hills Irrigation has been appointed a "Gold Distributor" for Aussie Pump products in the Hills District. Located on Gladstone Road, Castle Hill, the team at Hills Irrigation offer the full range of Aussie fire fighting pumps.

Hills Irrigation is primed with Aussie's popular Fire Chief. The Aussie Fire Chief was developed for Australian bushfire fighting conditions and is lauded internationally as the world's best lightweight fire pump. The Fire Chief has a genuine Honda engine and like all Aussie pumps is covered with a unique five year warranty.

"Even Sydney is subject to a catastrophic fire warning this week, fire fighting authorities are warning that resources are stretched," said Vince Barbatano, Owner of Hills Irrigation. "This summer is going to be long, hot and dangerous and the Hills District is a high risk area. We're urging customers to revolt against third world products and choose an Aussie Fire Chief to be prepared," he said.

Hills Irrigation can also supply free copies of the Aussie Bushfire Survival Guide. This guide outlines the essentials of bushfire protection, equipment checklists, fire drills and pump maintenance.

This year's guide has been expanded to include information to minimise the risk to livestock. END

Caption: Aussie Pump's Eddie

world's best portable fire pump.



Follow us on www.facebook.com/aalstonnews

FIRE FIGHTING TRAILERS FOR SALE BY: BSR CUSTOMS THE KENTHURST

1.5 TON SINGLE AXLE FARM UNITS (NO BRAKES) FROM \$2900

Genuine Honda GX200 single impeller 1.5 inch inlet pump. The hose is 19mm x 20m with fire nozzle. Swing up jockey wheel included.



This unit is a great multi purpose water cartage and fire fighting tool for any large property. It offers weed spraying, liquid fertalising and watering uses. The pump can run for around 4 hours on a tank of fuel, so if you hook it up to a large house tank and roof sprinkler system you can leave your property when a fire is coming.

For more information and custom unit guotes call Luke on 0430 068 800 OR email: luke@bsrcustoms.com

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FIRES NEAR

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GLENORIE RURAL FIRE BRIGADE NEWS

2019 Glenorie Santa Run Each year Glenorie and Hillside Brigades take Santa around Glenorie Village to see all the kids before he needs to go and deliver presents. The Santa Run will start at Timaru Street at 4:00pm and slowly move through the Eastern then Western side of Glenorie Village before ending at Glenorie Woolworths at 5:30pm. Listen out for the siren on our trucks so you know when he is coming. Once the Santa Run is finished the team at Glenorie Woolworths will vote which truck is best decorated. We will also be dropping Santa off at the Christmas Carols at Glenorie RSL on 22 Dec.

You Can Be a Fire Fighter Too! Thanks to everyone who came to our Fire Station for the recruitment information session. What a great turn out we had! If you weren't able to make it and would like to enquire about joining our wonderful team, give our Recruitment Coordinator a call on 0422 168 914. We will also be at the December Glenorie Growers Market so feel free to speak with any of our crew members there and they will be happy to assist.

Bush Fire Preparation

In light of the fires we have had in the area recently, in particular the Gospers Mountain Fire we have received a large number of enquiries from residents about how they can be prepared and what to do if a fire approaches. We urge everyone to make sure you have filled out a Bush Fire Survival Plan. We also recommend you download the Fires Near Me app and set a watch zone so you will be notified of fire activity in your area. If you haven't got a Bush Fire Survival Plan you can come and get one from our crew at the December Glenorie Growers Market. You can also download one at rfs. nsw.gov.au/resources/bushfire-survival-plan.

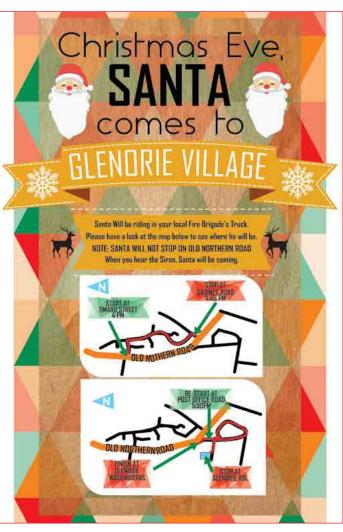
For further information go to www.rfs.nsw.gov.au or contact the Brigade: Station Phone: 9652 2017 (leave a message and someone will get back to

you) or call 0422 168 914. Facebook: Glenorie Rural Fire Brigade

Email: glenorierfs@outlook.com







What's on

1ST DECEMBER | SUNDAY 9:00AM - 3:30PM

FREE HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL CLEAN-OUT EVENT

The next free Household Chemical collection event in The Hills is on Saturday 30 November & Sunday 1 December 2019 between 9am and 3.30pm at the Castle Hill Showground

Venue: Castle Hill Showground,

Showground Road, Castle Hill 2154 Visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

1ST DECEMBER | SUNDAY 2:00PM - 5:00PM

KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Don't miss out on our fabulous Kids Christmas party. There will be a disco, face painting, cup cake decorating & a visit from Santa. Each child will receive a present. \$17 for members \$20 for non members

Venue: The Galston Club, 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston, 2159

Phone: 653 2017 Email: reception@galstonclub.com.au Visit www.facebook.com/pg/TheGalstonClub

1ST - 25TH DECEMBER | SUN - WED

1ST - 25TH DECEMBER | SUN - WED (1 - 18 DECEMBER 7:30PM - 10:30PM) (19 - 25 DECEMBER 10:30PM - 11:30PM)

SOFIA'S BATTLE 2019 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY

Sofia's Battle raises funds ever year for Heartkids and 22q Foundation Australia & New Zealand with their spectacular Christmas Lights Display.

Venue: Christmas Lights Display is located at, 136 Excelsior Avenue, Castle Hill 2154

Contact: SOFIA'S BATTL E Phone: 0418 232 572 Email: kings8@bigpond.net.au Visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

6 DECEMBER | FRIDAY 6:00PM-8:00PM

CAROLS AT WARRAH

Join us for a community Christmas celebration. Bringing voices together with the Christmas message, in the beautiful setting of Warrah. Carols led by St Pauls Ensemble Group. Light supper to follow the singing.

Venue: Warrah, 20 Harris Road, Dural 2158 Visit www.warrah.org

6 DECEMBER | FRIDAY 10:45AM

THE SYDNEY HILLS BRANCH OF THE ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT RETIREES

Will be holding their next meeting.Our guest speaker will be Angela MacDonald from The Hills Community Care. We also have an interesting line up of speakers, topics in relation to Travel, Health, Retirement, Technology Safety and others.

We Welcome Visitors and New Members, Come Along! Make New Friends

Venue: Beecroft Presbyterian Church Hall, Welham Street Beecroft Contact: Lauris Rennie

Phone: 9634 1186 Email: airsydneyhills@gmail.com

7TH DECEMBER | SATURDAY 7.30PM-11.30PM

BUSH MUSIC CLUB'S MONTHLY BEECROFT DANCE (CSA)

The Bush Music Club's 1st Saturday monthly (except January) Beecroft Family Dance to Australian & Folk tunes, this month played by BMC's own Concert Party Member's Dance Band.

*Singles, couples, families or 'parties' of any dance experience level are welcome. Dances are 'walked and called' by an experienced caller.

*Affordable entry: Adult \$19, \$17 conc, Member \$14, Family \$39, Parties by prior arrangement. Join BMC at door and save. Venue: Beecroft's Community Centre. Corner of Beecroft & Copeland Roads Contact: Sigrid | (02) 9980 7077 Wilma | 0413 673 339

Visit www.bushmusic.org.au

7TH DECEMBER | SATURDAY 8:00PM - 11:30PM

INTERNATIONAL ABBA TRIBUTE BAND

"Ring Ring why don't you give me a call.....this and many more hits from ABBASBACK! Don't miss out on this night full of music and dancing to all your favourite songs."

Venue: The Galston Club, 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston, 2159

Phone: 9653 2017 Email: reception@galstonclub.com.au Visit www.facebook.com/pg/TheGalstonClub

9TH DECEMBER | MONDAY 10:30AM - 11:30AM

CHRISTMAS STORYTIME AT DURAL LIBRARY

Celebrate the festive season and the end of another Storytime year at Dural Library with Christmas stories, carols and everyone's favourite - Christmas Craft! This session will consist of 30 minutes of storytime followed by craft. Venue: Dural Library, Pellit Lane, Dural 2158

Venue: Dural Library, Pellit Lane, Dural 2158 Visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

10TH DECEMBER | TUESDAY 10:30AM - 11:30AM

CHRISTMAS STORYTIME AT CASTLE HILL LIBRARY

Celebrate the festive season and the end of another Storytime year at Castle Hill Library with Christmas stories, carols and everyone's favourite - Christmas Craft! This session will consist of 30 minutes of storytime followed by craft.

Venue: Castle Hill Library , 14 Pennant Street, Castle Hill 2154

Visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

9TH DECEMBER | MONDAY 10:30AM - 11:30AM

CHRISTMAS STORYTIME AT DURAL LIBRARY

Celebrate the festive season and the end of another Storytime year at Dural Library with Christmas stories, carols and everyone's favourite - Christmas Craft! This session will consist of 30 minutes of storytime followed by craft.

Venue: Dural Library, Pellit Lane, Dural 2158 Visit www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

11TH DECEMBER | WEDNESDAY 4PM - 9PM

CHRISTMAS IN THE HILLS

Food stalls, rides, pre-show entertainment then Carols from 6.30pm followed by a spectacular fireworks display

Venue:Bella Vista Farm - Ticket entry only Tickets online at www.christmasinthehills. com.au

14TH DECEMBER | SATURDAY 5:00PM - 8:00PM

PAINT & WINE, LADIES NIGHT

Come Join us at the Galston Club to raise money for the Ovarian Cancer Foundation with a bit of paint and wine! Tickets are \$50 (\$20 of the ticket goes straight to charity)

Venue: The Galston Club, 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston, 2159

Phone: 9653 2017

Email: reception@galstonclub.com.au Visit www.facebook.com/pg/TheGalstonClub

14TH DECEMBER | SATURDAY 8:00AM - 12:00PM

THE HAWKESBURY HARVEST FARMERS & FINE FOOD MARKETS

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

Showground Road, Castle Hill 2154

Contact: Farmers & Fine Food Markets Enquiries

Phone: 0406 237 877 Email: markets@hawkesburyharvest.com.au Visit www.harvesttrailsandmarkets.com.au

19TH DECEMBER | THURSDAY 9:00AM - 5:00PM

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Venue: Castle Hill Showground, Castle Hill 2154 Contact: Tuff Nutterz Visit www.tuffnutterz.com

22ND DECEMBER | SUNDAY 9:00AM - 1:00PM

GLENORIE GROWER'S CHRISTMAS MARKETS

Join us & special guest Santa for our Christmas markets 2019. Get your last minutes gifts, stock up on the best quality, local produce, artisans, kids fun and more. Venue: 2658 Old Northern Road Glenorie Email: info@glenoriegrowersmarket.com.au Visit glenoriegrowersmarket.com.au

25TH DECEMBER | WEDNESDAY 12:00PM - 2:00PM

CHRISTMAS BUFFET LUNCH

Come and join us this Christmas day for a scrumptious Buffet Lunch. Tickets on sale now at Reception.

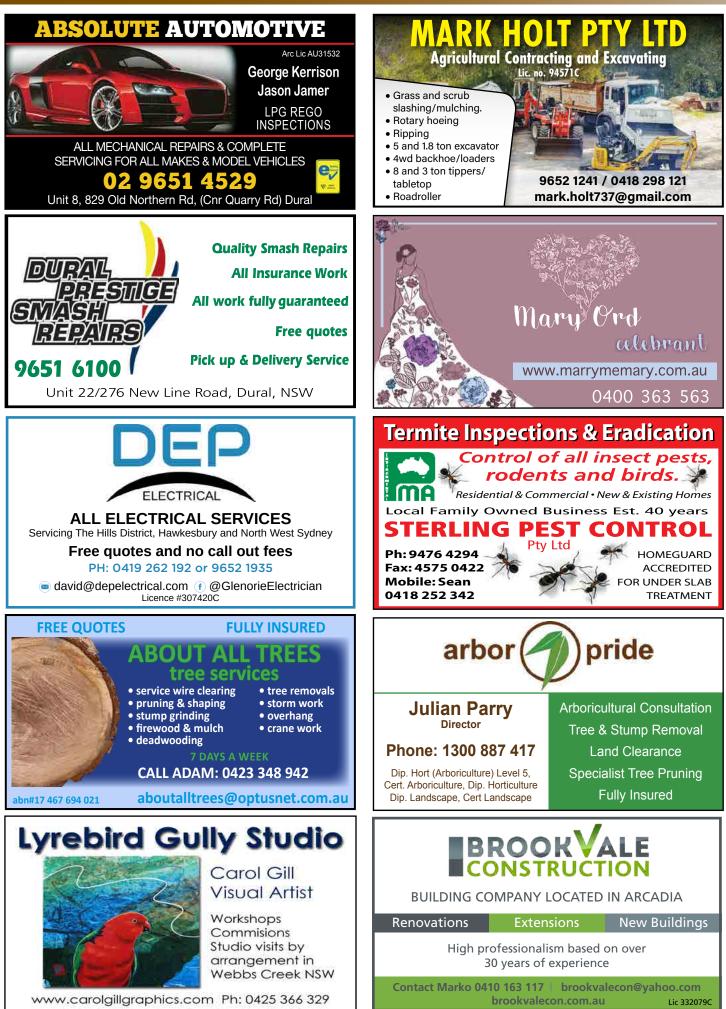
Venue: The Galston Club, 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston, 2159

Phone: 9653 2017

Email: reception@galstonclub.com.au Visit www.facebook.com/pg/TheGalstonClub

Local Business Directory





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Local Business Directory



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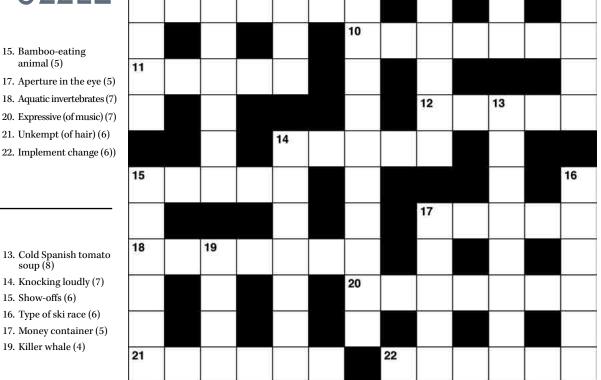
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ACROSS

- 1. Most pleasant (6)
- Amended (6) 4.
- Stately residence (7) 9.
- 10. Aperture or hole (7)
- 11. Reversed (5)
- 12. Fits of violent anger (5)
- 15. Bamboo-eating animal (5)
- 17. Aperture in the eye (5)
- 18. Aquatic invertebrates (7)
- 20. Expressive (of music) (7)
- 21. Unkempt (of hair) (6)
- 14. Uneven (of a surface) (5) 22. Implement change (6))



- 1. Type of rain cloud (6)
- Eg from Montreal (8) 2.
- Watched secretly (5) 3.
- 5. Mischief (7)
- Hired form of
- transport (4) Multiples of twelve (6)
- Without giving a name (11) 8

soup (8)

15. Show-offs (6)

19. Killer whale (4)

14. Knocking loudly (7)

16. Type of ski race (6)

Read online at www.galstoncommunity.com.au

Community Contacts

Avicultural Society of NSW Inc. Welcomes persons interested in Avicultural (bird keeping). The society holds monthly meetings which include presentations and talks on all aspects of bird keeping an breeding. For further information contact Paul Henry 9872464 or 0408 617 686

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 and 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.

Arcadia Community Hall 136 Arcadia Road, Arcadia.

Available for functions. Inspections welcome. Bookings call 9847 6504

Arcadian Ouilters

Meetings held at Galston Community Health and Resources Centre, 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays at 9.30am (day group) and on the 2nd and 4th Monday at 7.30pm (evening group). For further info 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. 9899 3179

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 and District Historical Society Inc

holds its lecture meetings on the 2nd 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 and Sundays. Enquiries to Michael Bell 9653 1365.

Dural and District Prostate

Cancer Support Group holds its meetings on the third Monday of each month at 7pm at Anglian Retirement Village, Glenhaven Green, 599-607 Old Northern Rd, Glenhaven on Blue Gum Centre. Inquiries Denis 9629 2645 or Maurice 9654 2138

Dural and Districts Senior Citizens' Club

Come along on any Wednesday at 11.00am to Dural Country Club to enjoy good fellowship with other senior citizens. Some play indoor bowls - beginners included - while others play Bingo and enjoy the prizes. Stay for lunch! For further information please call on 0417 99 5507 after hours.

Dural and Hills District Garden Club

Meetings 8pm on 1st Wednesday of each month at Mid Dural Fire Station, 57 Mid Dural Rd. Further info contact Di Glasgow 0409 909 161 or email duralgardenclub@yahoo.com.au

Dural Galston Probus Club We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 10am at the Galston Club 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston. Probus is a mixed club for retired and semi retired people who enjoy friendship, good speakers and occasional outings. Visitors are always welcome. Come along or contact Anne 9653 1004.

Dural-Glenorie Scout

Joeys (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 0419 280 967

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 0402 478 498. 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 Ian 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 3rd Thursday of the month at 8 pm (during school terms). Enquiries 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 Pam 9653 1036 or Jann 0439 222 217.

Galston Community Hall 37 Arcadia Rd, Galston available

for functions, air-conditioned, inspections welcome. Bookings call 9847 6050.

Galston Community Health Centre

This centre is an outreach of Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai Health Service and is situated at 17 Arcadia Road, Galston (cnr of The Glade). Enq. 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.

Galston View Club

will be holding its monthly Luncheon meetings at The Galston Club, 21-25 Arcadia Road Galston, on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Visitors will be very welcome. Bookings Vivien 9894 1189.

Girl Guide

Follow us on www.facebook.com/galstonnews

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. Junior Guides (age 6-9) meet Thursdays 4.30-6pm and Guides (age 10-14) meet Tuesdays 6-8pm at Galston Guide Hall, 414 Galston Road, Galston. Contact admin@ galstongirlguides.com for hall hire or enquiries about Girl Guides.

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 Memorial Hall Available for Hire. Seats up to 120 people. Tables and chairs available. Small kitchen/servery. To hire, call Pat Schwartz 0419 321 276

Glenorie Progress Association Meets 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:45pm at Glenorie RSL Club. Contact secretary@ glenorieprogress.org.au or 0418 432 587

Glenorie RSL Club

Glenorie RSL Sub-Branch meets on 2nd Tuesday of the month commencing at 7:00pm, at the Glenorie RSL Club. Enquiries to Graham Bruce, 0432 391 811

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' and **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

The NSW Justices Association

Hornsby Branch meets monthly (except January and June) on the 2nd Monday evening at 0700 pm, at MAGPIES WAITARA, formerly "Asquith Rugby League Club" opposite Waitara rail station. JP's welcome to attend. Varied programme. Enquiries John Tibbitts 9875 1383 or 0408 491 232.

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 0419 011 750 peteainscow@gmail.com

Probus Club of Round Corner Now has vacancies for new members. Join our club and enjoy new friendships, interesting meetings and a large variety of activities e.g. Walking Group; Mah-Jong Group; Theatre Group; Tennis Group; plus overseas and extended local tours and local day trips. We meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at 9.30am for 10am at The Galston Club 19 Arcadia Road, Galston. All enquiries to: The Secretary, PO Box 822, Round Corner. 2158 or come one month as a visitor.

Rowland Village Workshop Club

invites enquiries about the Club

The Hills District Pipe Band

We practice at Harvey Lowe Pavilion, CH every Tues 7.30-9pm. Welcomes new members and gig enquiries. Follow us on facebook or www.hillsdistrictpipebank.com.au 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. For more information Visit www. StillCreekLandcare.com.au or e-mail StillCreekLandcare@iinet.net.au or

Christ Church An Anglican church located at 26 Pitt Town Road, Kenthurst, has a service at 9.30.a.m. every Sunday morning. You are most welcome to join us. Phone. 9654 1627 or 8851 7428.

Galston Uniting Church Service times 10.00am. Children's programmes KUCA for children K-6, each Friday of the school term 5.00 to 6.30pm. #ThePower (Youth Group) for those in high school. Fridays of the school term 7.00pm to 8.30pm. CRAFT group Thursday evenings of the school te rm from 12 noon to 4.00pm. 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. 11 School Road Galston or visit www. galstonunitingchurch.com

Galston Seventh Day

Adventist Church Every Saturday 9.30am to 10.45am Bible Study, 11am to 12noon Church Service at 49 Arcadia Rd Galston. Contact Minister Pr. David McKibben 0474 493 793.

Glenorie Community Church Pentecostal and Evangelical – meets every Sunday at 10.00am. Ladies

Contact Nick on 9653 2056. The Hills Trefoil Guild

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. 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 Evelyn on 02 9634 4987.

CHURCHES

meeting at 10.30am last Tuesday of every month. All welcome. 1507 Old Northern Road, Glenorie. Pr Valich - Phone 0420 602 989 Church 9652 0577.

Glenorie Mission Church

Gienorie Mission Church Sunday Service 10:00 am. 1409 Old Northern Road (Cnr Muscios Rd), Glenorie. Enquiries 0414 584 303 or 0411 422 236.

Hillslife Church

Meets 10:00am every Sunday at Galston Public School. Pastor Corri Byrne Ph: 0416 233 629. For more info go to www.hillslife.com

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

St Benedict's Catholic Parish

Mass at the Monastery, 121 Arcadia Road, Arcadia at 7am every morning. Mass at the Parish Church, Cnr Fagans Rd and Arcadia Rd 7pm Saturday and 9am Sunday. Ph 9653 2312. Parish Priest Fr Bernard McGrath 0416 032 497

St Judes Anglican

Service Times: 8am Traditional: 10am Contemporary with Sunday Kids and Yr 5-9 Teen group; 6pm Evening church for youth and parents. 'Epic' kids club and Youth Group - Fridays

All enquiries to secretary. galstonnetballclub@gmail.com or

Glenorie Social Golf Club

0416 546 789

Di on 0418 432 587

Club

visit the website www.galstonnc.nsw. netball.com.au

Plays monthly, visit www.glenoriersl. com.au under 'Branch' for round dates and courses. Contact Stephen Osborne

Hills AUSSI Masters Swimming

Adults 18 years to 80 + are welcome to

swim with us every Tuesday at 7pm at Galston Aquatic Centre. Whether you

Hills Hawks Soccer Club

agminsulations@bigpond.com.

Hills Hawks Softball Club

Our competition is held during the

Hills Pumas Football Club

registrations, call Sarah Sumskas on 0430883385 or email registrar@

Registrations. Contact Sally Coppini

Tennis / Squash Social Group

Looking for new players. Call 9847 6050 or email tennisandsquash@live.

Tennis Court for Hire Galston

At rear of Galston Community Hall. Available Day or Night, Mobile Jane on

Tennis Court for Hire Glenorie

Les Shore Reserve. Available Day or Night. Phone 0404 600 460.

For information including

Kenthurst Netball Club

0407942986 mitre@tpg.com.au

hillshawks.softball.org.au.

hillspumasfc.com.au

com.au

9847 6050.

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want to swim laps for competition, fitness, or simply fun and friendship, ring

For season details and registrations call Michael Rosier on 0418 676 768 or

summer season (September to March, excluding school holidays) at Hayes Park,

Galston. We welcome new members! For

Postill on 0414 474 461 or visit our website

enquiries please contact our registrar Hazel

Galston Netball Club

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 0421 315 074 and 0411 375 580 to speak to one of our trained coaches.

Dural Country Club Fishing Club meet at Dural Country

Dural Rugby Club

rugbynet.com.au.

061 428.

439.

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

Enquiries, please contact the registran Eric Flanagan, email ef186029@

bigpond.net.au or phone 0412 230

Galston Glenorie Amateur

328 or visit our website http://dural.

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

Galston Glenorie Cricket Club

events, grades and registration, contact 0404 600 460. ggcc.nsw.cricket.com.au

Plays Monthly – Variety of courses. Contact - James Roberts 9653 2017 /

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.galstonequestrianclub.org.au.

For further details regarding season

Galston Club Golf Club

gm@galstonclub.com.au

Galston Equestrian Club

on 0407 950 939 or Bruce | 0428 970

Local PLAYGROUPS

GALSTON

Galston Kids Playgroup is located in the lower room of the Galston Community Health Centre. We have a fully stocked indoor/outdoor play area with sandpit, cubby, ride-on toys, craft supplies and more! Sessions span over a couple of hours and are unstructured, providing lots of time for kids to play while adults chat. Bring your own morning tea (nutfree).

New members are very welcome to drop in; the first two visits are free. Email galstonkidsplaygroup@gmail.com for info about current session times, or ask at the Galston Community Health Centre office.

GLENORIE

Glenorie Mission Church, Muscios Road, Glenorie. Every Thursday 9am-12pm bring allergy friendly snacks

ARCADIA

Located at Arcadia Public School, 140 Arcadia Rd. Every 2nd Thursday 9.30 to 11am. Contact Dale 0410 532 562. Parking in Community Centre next door.

Our playgroup has a very relaxed format. There is usually a craft activity, however, some kids choose not to participate in craft as they are having

too much fun in the enormous sandpit. Our toys and resources cater for all ages. We have playmats and toys for babies, musical/percussion instruments, water play and more. We request a gold coin donation when attending. All of our regular attendees become members of Playgroup NSW.

ARCADIA

Every Monday from 10am to 12noon during school terms. St Benedict's Parish, Cnr Fagans and Arcadia Roads, Arcadia. All children and their carers welcome!

DURAL/GALSTON

St Jude's Kids Crew .A playgroup for 0-5 year olds and their carers.

We meet Fridays 10am to 11:30am during term time for a great morning of play, crafts, fun activities, story time and singing. Free but please bring a piece of fruit to share.

Located at St Jude's Anglican Church, 965 Old Northern Rd Dural (plenty of on site parking).

KENTHURST

Thursdays, during school terms, 9.30am til 11.30 am at the Literary Institute 131-135 Kenthurst Rd, Kenthurst.



IMPORTANT LOCAL INFORMATION

HELP and INFORMATION SERVICES

General Emergencies	000
Energy Australia Emgy	13 13 88
Hornsby Hospital	9477 9123
Hills Shire Council	9843 0555
Hornsby Shire Council	9847 6666
Integral Energy	13 10 03
Lifeline (24 hours)	13 11 14
Poisons Information Line	13 11 26
Police - Hornsby	9476 9799
Police - Castle Hill	9680 5399
Sydney Water	13 20 90
Telstra Faults	13 22 03

LOCAL RURAL FIRE SERVICES

(Station phones are unmanned and will operate answer phone services only. Call **000** for Emergencies)

Hills Rural Fire Service District Office	9654 1244
Hornsby Rural Fire Service District Office	9883 2000
Arcadia Rural Fire Service Fire Captain DAVID BYRNE	9655 1656
Galston Rural Fire Service Fire Captain ROB SYMONS	0409 470 205
Glenorie Rural Fire Service Fire Captain GLYNN LLOYD	9652 2017
Hillside Rural Fire Service Fire Captain ANDREW BAILDON	9652 2245
Middle Dural Rural Fire Service Fire Captain LEN BEST	0408 220 705

LOCAL JP's Bendigo Bank Galston - 9653 2227, Cathy Vipond Hills Accounting, Glenorie - 9652 2400 Vicki Brownless - 0423 727 826 (South Maroota area), Cherrybrook Shopping Village, Shepherds Drive, every Saturday morning 10:00 AM to noon. There will be a JP at Dural Library Wednesdays

between 1:00 PM and 3:00 PM.



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SYDNEY PROPERTY MARKET FORECAST 2020

A s 2019 draws to a close, it's important to reflect on the property to market and look at where it's headed next. We've all read the headlines of the past 12 months where Sydney's property market hasn't flourish in previous years, however there is mild optimism amongst investors and analysts regarding the future. This is due to Sydney experiencing growth for the first time since its peak in mid 2017. This growth of 0.1% although slight, gives us a good indication that the worst is behind us and we have started to bottom out. Understandably due to the recent property market turbulence, there will still be hesitation amongst both buyers and sellers – Do I buy now before the market peaks again? Do I sell now before we hit tough times again or the market become saturated with competition?

Although no one has a crystal ball, here is a wrap up of what the leading economists expect 2020 to look like:

DOMAIN'S ECONOMIST TRENT WILTSHIRE:

We can expect property prices in Sydney not to fall any further - in fact, we may even experience a small period of growth. According to Wiltshire, modest growth can also be expected in 2020 with a 3-5% increase for houses and a 2-4% increase for units. Wiltshire believes Sydney properties will expect subdued growth for the foreseeable future.

CORELOGIC MOODY'S ANALYTICS:

Moody hasn't quite given such an optimistic view, stating that although apartments are tipped to slide less than houses in the short term, they may actually keep declining in some areas for years to come. Overall Moody's expects 3.6% growth in house values and 4.2% growth in unit values

▶ BIS OXFORD ECONOMIC'S DIRECTOR ANGIE ZIGOMANIS

Zigomanis' forecast has predicted a slower rebound, citing a recent home building surge. This extra supply of dwellings is touted to cap the market's bounce back. Going on to state that she predicts a 6% growth in house prices and 1% growth in unit prices between 2019-2022.

After comparing the experts notes, it's clear that most analysts seem optimist that the interest rate cuts and lending measures will do more to solidify an already growing consumer confidence. 2020 is tipped for slow growth and by 2021 the recover will be in full swing. If you'd like to know more about these housing predictions, please do not hesitate to contact Belle Property's Carolyn Wheatley for more info – 0407 120 483 or carolyn.wheatley@belleproperty.com.

CHRISTMAS WISHES FROM MY FAMILY TO YOURS...

l wish you a very merry and a very safe and happy festive season with your loved ones. We look forward to what is already shaping up to be a huge 2020 and cannot wait to see what the New Year brings for our rural community.

Kind Regards,

Carolyn



COLOURING COMPETITION

Name: ______ Age _____ Mum or Dad's Name: ______ Phone Number: ______ Address: _____

PLEASE POST TO: Belle Property Castle Hill, 10/3-9 Terminus Street, Castle Hill NSW 2154 OR TEXT: Carolyn Wheatley on 0407 120 483 to arrange collection



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10AM till 8PM* NO BISTRO

Normal Hours

Normal Hours

Normal Hours

Normal Hours

Normal Hours (OPEN TILL LATE)*

10AM till 8PM*

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FRIDAY THE 13TH \$2000

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DEC 24

DEC 25

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DEC 29

DEC 30

DEC 31

JAN 1



Lunch Specials Monday to Saturday Members \$9.90 Visitors \$11.90

WEO PLEASE CALL (02) 9653 20

10% Public Holiday surcharge applies

All **day speci**als Monday to Saturday

Members \$14,90 Visitors \$16.90 Includes a Schooner of Coopers or Glass of Chain of Fire Wine or Soft Drink 10% Public Holiday surcharge applies

Members Happy Hour Monday to Friday 4pm-5pm

Excludes Public Holiday

TUESDAY

• Tuesday nights Poker \$20 buy in rego starts at 7pm

WEDNESDAY

- Bingo ticket sales from 10am. Bingo starts 10.30am sharp
- Over \$700 in prizes to be won!
- Trivia 8pm
- Raffle tickets on sale 7pm
- Total Value of raffles \$500
- Joker Jackpot \$5200*

THURSDAY

- APL Poker Free Roll plus Jackpot*
- Pool Competition Max Prize \$200*

FRIDAY

- Monster raffle, 40 prizes to be won, tickets on sale 7pm
 - Total value of Raffles \$1500
- Spin n Win

SUNDAY

- Kids eat Free (1 x kid eat free/minimum spend per adult \$16.90), 12vears & under
- 10% Public Holiday surcharge applies

* Amount may vary at time of draw. Actual amount shown may have already been claimed at time of publication. Badge draw LTPS/18/25700 and Spin n Win LTPS/18/29513 information for members & their guests. ADDRESS: 21-25 Arcadia Road, Galston, 2159 PHONE: 9653 2017 WEBSITE: www.galstonclub.com.au



International ABBA Tribute Band

7th December

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